Readings in Church Latin

CAESAR AND CICERO
read by Dr. Mario A. Pei

SIDE I, Band 1: Introduction

CAESAR

Gaius Julius Caesar (100-44 B.C.) was one of the greatest Roman military commanders. He subdued Gaul and launched the first Roman occupation of Britain. He also overthrew the tottering Roman Republic and made himself the first of the Roman dictator-emperors, though he never assumed the imperial title. His conquest of Gaul lasted from 58 to 49 B.C.

His memoirs of the Gallic campaign are masterpieces of direct, simple statement, and represent the best prose standards of his time. We have selected, from the First Book of his De Bello Gallico, the opening description of Gaul, its subdivisions and inhabitants, and the later description of his campaign against the Germans, led by Ariovistus, who had invaded Gaul from beyond the Rhine and were oppressing the local populations.

CAESAR'S GALLIC WAR.

SIDE I, Band 2: Sections 1 & 2


Horum omnium fortissimī sunt Belgae, propretēr quod ā cultū atque humanitātē provinciās longissimē absunt, minimēque ad eōs mercatorēs saepe commendent, atque ea, quae ad effeminandōs animōs pertinent, important; 10 proximēque sunt Germanīs, qui trans Rhēnum incolum, quibus cīvis continentem bellum gerunt. Quā dē causā Helvetii quoque reliquis Gallōs virtūte praeceudent, quod ferōs cotidiānōs proelīs cum Germanīs contendunt, cum aut suis finibus eōs prohibent, aut ipsī in eōrum finibus 15 bellum gerunt.

Eōrum āna pars, quam Gallōs obtinère dicitum est, inītium capiō ōmen Rhūdon; continētūr Garumna ōmen, Oceanō, finibus Belgārum; attingit etiam ab Sèquana et Helvetiīs ōmen Rhēnum; vēgit ad septentrionēs. Belgae ab extremīs Galliāe finibus orientur; pertinent ad inferiōrem partem ōmen Rhēnt; spectant in septentrionēm et orientem sōlem. Aquitaniam ā

CHAP. I.—All Gaul is divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, the Aquitani another, those who in their own language are called Celts, in ours Gauls, the third. All these differ from each other in language, customs and laws. The river Garonne separates the Gauls from the Aquitani; the Marne and the Seine separate them from the Belge. Of all these, the Belges are the bravest, because they are farthest from the civilization and refinement of [our] Province, and merchants least frequently resort to them, and import those things which tend to effeminate the mind; and they are the nearest to the Germans, who dwell beyond the Rhine, with whom they are continually waging war; for which reason Helveti praecepend are the Gauls in valor, as they contend with the Germans in almost daily battles, when they either repel them from their own territories or themselves wane on their frontiers. One part of these, which it has been said that the Gauls occupy, takes its beginning at the river Rhine; it is bounded by the river Garonne, the ocean, and the territories of the Belges; it borders, too, on the side of the Sequana and the Helveti, upon the river Rhine, and stretches towards the north. The Belges rise from the extreme frontier of Gaul, extend to the lower part of the river Rhine; and look towards the north and the rising sun. Aquitani extends from the river Garonne to the Pyrenean mountains and to that part of the ocean which is near Spain: it looks between the setting of the sun and the north star.
2. Apud Helvétios longè nobilissimus fuit et ditiissimus Orgetorix. Is, M. Metellus, M. Piso consulis, regnum cupiditatem inductus coniurationem nobilitatem fecit, et civitatem persuasit, ut de finibus suis cum omnibus copias extrent; perfacile esse, cum virtute omnibus praestarent, totius Galliae imperio potiri. Id hoc facilius etsi persuasit, quod unius loci nauta Helveticus continebatur:

15 una ex parte flumine Rhénō, látissimō atque altissimō, quia agrum Helvétium à Germanis dividit; altera ex parte monte Jūrā altissimō, quia inter Sēquanni et Helvétios; tertia, lacū Lemannō et flumino Rhōno, quae provinciam nostram ab Helvétii dividit. His rebus 20 sterbat, ut et minus látē vagarentur et minus facile finitimis bellum inferre possent. Qua ex parte homines bellandi cupidō magnō dolore afficiabantur. Prō multitūdine autem hominum et prō gloriā bella atque fortitudinis angustōs sē fines habere arbitrabantur, qui in longitūdinem milia passuum 25 quattuor, in lātitūdinem milia sex sipserant.

SIDE I, Band 3: Section 31

31. Eo conciliō dimissō idem principēs civitātūm, qui ante fuerant, ad Caesarem revertērunt petiēruntque, ut sibi sēcretō de suō omniumque salūte cum eō agere licēret. Ex re impletātā sēsē omnēs flentes Caesari ad pedēs procerōrum: Non minus sē id contendere et laborāre, nec ea, quae dixissent, ēuntūtārentur, quam uti ea, quae vellent, impletārentur, propeter quod, si ēuntūtātum esset, summum in cruciatūm sē ventūros vidērent.

Locutus est prō his Diviciācōs Haedūs: Galliāe tōtūs factionēs esse duās; hārum alterius principātum tenēre Haedūs, alterius Arvernās. Hī cum tantopere dē potentiātā inter sē multōs annōs contendenterent, factum esse, ut ab Arvernās Sēquannisque Germanī mercede aequarērentur. Hōrum prōmō cīvitātēs milia XV Rhēnō trānsisse; posteaquam agrōs et cultum et copias Gallōrum hominēs ferō ad barībarīs adamāssent, trāductos plārēse; nunc esse in Galliā ad centum et xx milium numerum.Cum hīs Haedūs cōrumque clientēs semel atque iterum armās x contendeisse; magnam calamitātem pulsōs accepisse, omnem nobilitātem, omnem senātum, omnem equitātūm amississe. Quibus proelīs calamitātibusque frāctōs, qui et suā virtūte et populo Rōmānī hospitio atque amicitia plārum ante in Galliā potuissent, coactōs esse Sēquannis 35 obsidis dare nobilitāsimos civitātēs et īrē jurandō civitātem obstringere, sēsē neque obsidis repetītūrūs neque auxiliōm à populo Rōmānō implorātūrūs, neque recūsātūrūs, quōque perpetuō sub illōrum diciōne atque imperiō essent. Unum sē esse ex omnī civitātē Haedūrum, qui addaxit sē non potuerit, ut īrāret aut liberōs suōsobsidis daret. Ob their territories with all their possessions, [saying] that it would be very easy, since they exerted all their valor, to acquire the supremacy of the whole of Gaul.
To this he more easily persuaded them, because the Helvetii are confined on every side by the nature of their situation; on one side by the Rhine, a very broad and deep river, which separates the Helvetic territory from the Germans; on a second side by the Jura, a very high mountain, which is situated between the Sequani and the Helvetii; on a third by the Lake of Geneva, and by the river Rhone, which separates our Province from the Helvetii. From these circumstances it resulted, that they could range less widely, and could less easily make war upon their neighbors; for which reason men fond of war [as they were] were affected with great regret. They thought, that considering the extent of their population, and their renown for warfare and bravery, they had but narrow limits, although they extended in length 249 and in breadth 180 [Roman] 1 miles.
eum rem sē ex εὐπόργισσαι et Rōmanam ad senātum
vēnisse auxilium postulātum, quod sōlus neque īure jārāndō
neque obsidibus tenērētur.

Sed pejus victōriūs Sēquanis quam Haeduī victīs acce-
disse, propōterē quod Ariovistus, rēx Germānōrum, in
cōrum finibus cōnsēdiisse tertiāque partem agrī Sēquānt,
quī esset optimus tōtīus Galliae, occupāvīsse, et nunc dē
alterā parte tertīā Sēquanōs dēcēdere jūrēbērent, propōterē
quod pāces mēnsibus ante Harādum mīlia hominum
XXXIII ad eum vēnissent, quibus locus at sēdēs parārēnt.
Futūrum esse pāces annās, ut omnēs ex Galliae finibus
pellerentur atque omnēs Germānīs Rhēnum trānsferent;
neque enim cōnferendum esse Gallicum cum Germānō-
rum agrō, neque hāne cōnsauētādinem victīs cum illā
compārandām.

Ariovistum autem, ut semel Gallōrum cópiās proelīō vi-
cerit, quod proelium factum sit ad Magetobrigam, superē
et crūdēlē imperāre, obsīdēs nōbilissimī cēsivāque libe-
rōs poscere et in eōs omnēs exempla cruciātāsque ēdere, si
qua rēs nōn ad nātum aut ad voluntātem ejus facētā sit.

Hominem esse barbarum, trācēndum, temerāriūm; nōn
posse ejus imperia dūtiām sustinēre. Nisi quid in Caes-
sare populūque Rōmanō sit auxili, omnēs Gallīs idem
esse faciēndum, quod Helvētī fēcerint, ut domō emigrent,
aliud dūcēdium, aliās sēdēs, remōtās ā Germānīs, petant
fortunāmque, quae sumque acediāt, expeciāntur. Hae si
cōnstitāta Ariovistō sint, nōn duītāre, quīm de omnēs
obsīdībus, qui apud eum sint, gravissimum supplicium
sumērē. Caesarēm vel auxūtātē suā atque exercitātē vel
recenti victoriā vel nōmine populi Rōmanī dētērēre
posse, nē major multitūdō Germānōrum Rhēnum trādō-
cētūr, Galliamque omnēm ab Ariovistī īnāriā posse
defendērē.

51. Postrēdī ejus dīēi Caesar præsidīō utrīsque castrīs,
quod sātis esse visum est, reliquit; omnēs ālāriōs in con-
spectū hostium pro castrīs minōrisōs constituit, quod
minus multitūdine milītum legiōnārīorum pro hostium
numerō valēbat, ut ad speciem ālāriōs āterērētur; ipsē tri-
pliē instructūs acēsque ad castra hostium accessit. Tum
dēmum necessāriō Germānīs suīs cópiās castrīs ēdīcērēnt
10 generātāmque constitūerent paribus intervallīs, Harādēs,
Marcomannōs, Tribocōs, Vangiones, Nemetēs, Sedusōs,
Sueōs omnesque aciem suam rēdēs et carrīs circūmde-
rērant, nē quā spēs in fugā relinquērētur. Eō multīs
impostūrē, quae ad proelium proficiērēntēs passīs ma-
15 tibus flētēs implōrēbant, nē sō in servītūm Rōmanī
trādērent.

52. Caesar singularīs legiōnībus singularōs légātōs et qua-
stōrem praefēcit, ut eōs testēs suae quisque virtūtēs ha-
bēret; ipsē ā dēxtrō corne, quod eam partem minimē
20 firmam hostium esse animādverērat, proelium commītīt.
Ita nostrī acriter in hostēs signō datō impetum fēcērunt,
itaque hostēs repente celeriterque prōcerūrēnt, ut spa-
tium pilā in hostēs coniciēndī nōn dārēt. Reiectīs

CHAP. L.—The day following, Caesar left what seemed
sufficient as a guard for both camps; [and then] drew
up all the auxiliaries in sight of the enemy, before the
lesser camp, because he was not very powerful in the
number of legionary soldiers, considering the number
of the enemy; that [thereby] he might make use of his
auxiliaries for appearance. He himself, having drawn
up his army in three lines, advanced to the camp of the
enemy. Then at last of necessity the Germans drew
their forces out of camp, and, as he himself set their
canton by canton, at equal distances, the Haradas, Marcomanni,
Triboci, Vangiones, Nemetes, Sedusi, Suevi; and
surrounded their whole army with their chariots and wag-
owns, that no hope might be left in flight. On these
they placed their women, who, with disheveled hair
and in tears, entreated the soldiers, as they went for-
ward to battle, not to deliver them into slavery to the
Romans.

CHAP. LII.—Cæsar appointed over each legion a lieu-
tenant and a questor, that every one might have them
as witnesses of his valor. He himself began the battle
at the head of the right wing, because he had that part
of the enemy to be the least strong. Accordingly our
men, upon the signal being given, vigorously
made an attack upon the enemy, and the enemy so
suddenly and rapidly rushed forward, that there was no
time for casting the javelins at them. Throwing aside
[therefore] their javelins, they fought with swords
hand to hand. But the Germans, according to their
custom, rapidly forming a phalanx, sustained the at-
tack of our swords. There were found very many of
our soldiers who leaped upon the phalanx, and with
pilis comminutis gladiis pugnātum est. At Germāniī 25
celeriter ex consúltātūrīn suā phalange facta impētus
gladiōrum exöpērunt. Reperti sunt complūrēs nostrī, qui in phalangem insilīrent et sōtā manibus revellerent
eō super vulnerārēnt. Cum hostium actēs à sinistrō
cornē pulsa atque in fugam conjuncta essent, à dextrō 30
cornē vehementer multitūdine suōrum nostrām aciem
premebant. Id cum animadvertisset Públius Crassus
adultūsēns, qui equitātū praerat, quod expeditōrēr erat
quam ēt, qui inter aciem versābantur, tertiam aciem labō-
5 rēbus nostrās subsidiō mītāt.

53. Ita proelium restitutum est, atque omnēs hostēs
terga vertērunt neque prīus fugere dēstātērunt, quam
ad rūm Rhēnum, milia passuum ex ēō locō circīt
quīndecim, pervānērunt. Ibi perpaucae aut viribus cōnfīnt
10 trānāre contenderunt aut linītribus inventūs sibi salūtēm
reperērunt. In hīs fuit Arioŭistus, qui nāvicularīm delī-
gātām ad rāpam nactus ēa profugit; reliquōs omnēs cōn
secūtī equitātē nostrī interfērērunt.

Duāe fuērunt Arioŭistī uxōrēs, ēnā Suebā nātōnē,
15 quam domō sēcum dēxerat, altera Nórica, regis Voci-
cōnōs sōrōr, quam in Gallīa dēxerat, ē frātrē mmāsām;
utraque in ēā fugā perītēt. Duāe filiāe hārüm altera
occīsā, altera capta est.

C. Valerius Procellus, cum ē castōbūsīs in fugā trīnīs
20 catēnās vincītūs trahērētur, in ipsum Caesarem hostīs equi-
tātā insequēntem incidit. Quae quidem rēs Caesari nōm
minōrem quam ipsa victōria volūptātem attulīt, quod
homīnem honestissīmum provinciās Gallīae, suum fami-
līarem et hospitēm, spērātūm sē manibus hostiūm, sībī
25 restitutum vīdēbat, neque ejus calamitātē dē tāntā
volūptātē et gratulātūnā quīquīquam fortūna dēminuerat.
Hīs sē praeestōne dē sē ter sortībus consūltūm dīcēbat,
utrum igni statim necātūtur an in aliud tempus reser-
vaētur; sortium beneficīō sē esse incolumēm. Item M.
Metius repertus et ad eum reductus est.

54. Hōc proelio trānīs Rhēnum nānētātē Suebīt, qui ad
ripās Rhēnī vēnerant, domum revertērunt; quōs,
Ubi quī proxīmi Rhēnum incolumēt, perterrītōs insecūtī
magnum ex hīs numerum occiderērunt.

Caesār, ānā aestātē duobus maxīmēs bellīs cōnfectīs, 40
mātrius paeūlō, quam tempus annī postulābat, in hīberna
in Sēquanōs exercītum dēdīxīt; hībernās Labēnum pre-
posuit; ipse in citerīōrem Galliām ad conventūs agendī
domestī est.

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Cicero

**SIDE II, Band 1: Introduction**

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.) was one of
Rome's greatest orators, statesmen and prose writers.
In addition to his orations, which were stenographically
recorded at the time of their utterance and later
transcribed, we also have his rhetorical and philosop-
phical works (his essays on Friendship and Old Age are
particularly inspiring), letters addressed to various
people, and even unsuccessful poetic attempts.

Cicero's Orations Against Catiline were pronounced in
connection with a plot to overthrow the Roman state.
Catiline, leader of the conspiracy, had remained in
Rome even though his fellow conspirators had already
taken the field. Cicero, who as Consul had summoned
the Senate to an emergency meeting, was amazed at
Catiline's brazen appearance at that meeting. The
discussion he had prepared turned into a violent
invective directed at the chief conspirator. The beginning of this impassioned piece of oratory is offered here. It is followed by a fragment of his Third Oration Against Catiline, pronounced in the open Forum to the Roman citizenry, in which he presents the details of the latest occurrences. The passage is of particular interest because in it Cicero expresses his hope of immortality through the grateful remembrance of the people he has saved from the horrors of civil war.

The same hope of immortality in the memory of posterity is expressed toward the close of his Oration on Behalf of Archias the Poet. Archias, born in Antioch, had come to Rome many years before and had obtained Roman citizenship. When his citizenship was questioned, some twenty-seven years later,

Cicero rushed to his defense with an oration, pronounced before the court and jury, which is largely a glorification of the pursuit of letters and the art of poetry. In the passage we have selected, Cicero confesses to a selfish motive in undertaking Archias’ defense. The poet has promised to immortalize Cicero in verse if the case is won, and Cicero frankly avows his longing to be thus acclaimed to posterity. It is ironical that were it not for Cicero’s oration we would have no knowledge whatsoever of Archias, whereas Cicero’s memory would have been transmitted to modern times by his many other works that have come down to us.

Cicero’s oratory is forcible, brilliant, clear, logical, highly convincing, though at times verbose. He is a master of wit, pathos and invective.

SIDE II, Band 2: First Oration Against Catiline (1-6)


3. An vērō vir amplissimus, P. Scipio, pontifex maximus, Tu, Gracchum mediocrer labefactantem statum rei pūblīcæ privātus interfīcēt; Catilinam ortim terrae caele atque incendiis vīstāre cupiēntem nōs cōnsules perehēmus? Nam illa nīmis antiqua praeterea, quod C. Servilius Ahāla & M. Acilius novus rēbus studēntem 8 manīs suās occidit. Fuit, fuit īsta quondam in hāc rē pūblīcæ virtūs, ut viri fortēs aēriōrisi supplicīs cīvēmin pericīcīosum quam acerbiōssum hostem coercērēnt. Ha-bēmus senātūs cōnsultiūn tī, Catilīna, vehēmēns et grave; nōn deest rei pūblīcæ cōnsilium quae auctōriātās 10 hūjus ordīnis; nōs, nōs, dicēs apertē, cōnsules désimus.

II. 4. Dēcērēvit quondam senātūs, ut L. Opinius cōnsul vīdēret, nē quid rēs pūblīca dētrīmenti caperet; nōx nōlla intercessit; interflectus est propter quās dēcisionēm suspicioēns C. Gracchus, clārissimō patre, avō, 15 maiōritūs; oceelus est cum libertēs M. Fulvius cōnsulīs. Similī senātūs cōnsultō L. Māriō et L. Valerio cōnsulantibus est permissa rēs pūblīcā; num ūnum diem postērō L. Saturnīnum tribūnām plēbis et C. Servilius praetōrem mōrō ac rei pūblīcæ poena remorātā est?

20 At nōs viēsīnām jam diem patimur helēsēre aciem
hōrum auctōritātēs. Hābēmus enim hūjusce modi senā-
tūs cōnsultum, vērum incisūm in tabulis tamquam in
vāginā reconditum, quō ex senātūs cōnsultō cōnfestim tē
interfectum esse, Cātillīna, convēnit. Vīvis, et vivis nōn
23 ad dēpōnendam, sed ad cōnfirmandam audāciām. Ĉupiō,
patriē qōnscriptī, mē esse clāmentem, ĉupiō in tantūs rei
pūlicae perīcullīs mē nōn dissolūtum vidēri, sēlīnā me
ipse inertiāe nēquitiaeque condemnō. 5 Cœstra sunt
in Italīa contra pōnulum Rōmānum in Etrūriācā faecibus
collocāta; crēscēt in diēs singulōs hostium numerus,
cērūm autem castrōrum imperātōrem ducemque hostium
intra moenia atque adeō in senātūs vidēmus īntestīnām
aliqnam cōtīdio perriciem rei pūlicae mōlientēm. Si
tē jam, Cātillīna, comprehendi, si interīci ĵussētō, crēdō, 5
erit verendum mihi, nē nōn potius hōc omnēs bonā sērius
ā mē quam quām quisquām crudēlus factum esse dicat.

Vērum ego hōc, quod jam āridem factum esse oport-
tūt, certā dē causā nōndum addōcūs ut faciam. Tum
dēnicē intericiēre, cum jam nēmō tam improbus, tam tē
perditus, tam tū similīs īnnervē poterit, qui id nōn ĵūre
factum esse fāteātur.

6. Quandūs quisquam erit, qui tē dēfendere audēat,
vīves, et vivēs īta ut vivēs, multīs meis et ēmīs præsid-
diis obsessus, nē commovēre tē contra rem pūlicam possīs. 15
Multōrūm tē etiam oculti et aurēs nōn sentientem, sicut
adhuc fēcērunt, speculābuntur atque cūstōdient.

III. Etenim quid est, Cātillīna, quod jam amplius ex-
spectēs, si neque nos tenebris obscūrāre cōtēs nefāriōs
nec privāta domus parietibus continēre vocēs conjurā-
20 tīōnis tuae potest, si illiāstrantur, si ēruptunt omnia?
Mūtē jam ĵām mentem; mihi crēde, obliviscē caedis
atque incendiōrum. Tēnēris undīque; lūce sunt clāriōr
nōbis tua cōnsilia omnīa; quae ĵām mēcum licet recog-
nōscēs.

SIDE II, Band 3: Third Oration Against Cataline (26)

XI. 26. Quibus prō tantīs rēbus, Quiritīs, nūllum
ego ā vōbis præmium virtūtīs, nūllum insigne hōnōris,
nūllum monumentum laudis postulō praeterquam hūjus
dēi memoriam sempiternam. In animīs ego vestrīs dignity of this senatorial body. We, we alone,
— I say it openly, — we, the consuls, are want-
ing in our duty.

II. The senate once passed a decree that Lu-
cius Opimius, the consul, should take care that
the republic suffered no injury. Not one night
elapsed. There was put to death, on some mere
suspicion of disaffection, Caius Gracchus, a man
whose family had borne the most unblemished
reputation for generations. There was slain
Marcus Fulvius, a man of consul rank, and all
his children. By a like decree of the senate
the safety of the republic was entrusted to Caius
Marius and Lucius Valerius, the consuls. Did
not the vengeance of the republic, did not exé-
cution overtake Lucius Saturninus, a tribune of
the people, and Caius Servilius, the praetor,
without the delay of one single day? But we,
for these twenty days, have been allowing the
edge of the senate's authority to grow blunt, as
it were. For we are in possession of a similar
decree of the senate, but we keep it locked up
in its parchment—buried, I may say, in the
sheath; and according to this decree you ought,
O Catiline, to be put to death this instant. You
live, — and you live, not to lay aside, but to per-
sist in your audacity.

I wish, O conscript fathers, to be merciful; I
wish not to appear negligent amid such danger
to the state; but I do now accuse myself of re-
missness and culpable inactivity. A camp is
pitched in Italy, at the entrance of Etruria, in
hostility to the republic; the number of the
enemy increases every day; and yet the general
of that camp, the leader of those enemies, we
see within the walls — aye, and even in the sen-
ate—planning every day some internal injury
to the republic. If, O Catiline, I should now
order you to be arrested, to be put to death, I
should, I suppose, have to fear lest all good men
should say that I had acted tardily, rather than
that any one should affirm that I acted cruelly.
But yet this, which ought to have been done
long since, I have good reason for not doing as
yet; I will put you to death, then, when there
shall be not one person possible to be found so
wicked, so abandoned, so like yourself, as not to
allow that it has been rightly done. As long as
one person exists who can dare to defend you,
you shall live; but you shall live as you do
now, surrounded by my many and trusty guards,
so that you shall not be able to stir one finger
against the republic: many eyes and ears shall
still observe and watch you, as they have hith-
erto done, though you shall not perceive them.

III. For what is there, O Catiline, that you
can still expect, if night is not able to veil your
nefarious meetings in darkness, and if private
houses cannot conceal the voice of your conspir-
acy within their walls, — if everything is seen
and displayed? Change your mind; trust me;
forget the slaughter and configuration you are
meditating. You are hemmed in on all sides;
all your plans are clearer than the day to us;
let me remind you of them.
omnēs triumphōs mōs, omnia āmnāmenta honōris, mon-
umenta gloriae, laudis insignia condit et collocāri volū.
Nīhī mē mūtum potest délectāre, nīhī tacitum, nīhī s
dēnique ejus modi, quod etiam minus digni assequi pos-
sint. Memoriae vestrā, Quirítēs, nostrae rēs alentur, ser-
mōnibus crēscit, litterārum monumentis inverterāsent
et corōborābuntur; eandemque diem intellegō, quam
spērō aeternam fore, prāpāgātam esse et ad salutem urbīs
et ad memoriam consūlātūs mei, ūnōque tempore in hāc
rē públicā duōs civis exstitisse, quōrum alter finis vestri
imperi nōn terrae, sed caeli regionibus termināret, alter
ejusdem imperi domicilium sēdēsque servāret.

SIDE II, Band 4: Oration on Behalf of Archias the Poet (XI)

XI. Neque enim est hōc dissimulandum, quod obscūrāri
nōn potest, sed prae nóobbies serendum: Tramhur omnēs
studio laudis, et optimus quīisque maximē gloriā dūcitur.
Ipsi īlli philosophī etiam in eis libellīs, quōs dē con-
temnendā gloria scribunt, nōmen suum inscribunt; in eō
ipse, in quō praedicatorīem nōbilitātemque dēspiciunt,
praedicatorī dē sē ac nōmināri volunt. 27. Decimus 25
quidem Brūtus, summus vir et imperātor. Ācē, amīssimī
sui, carminibus templōrum ac monumentōrum adītōs ex-
ōnāvit suōrum. Jam 15cēs ille, qui cum Aetōlis, Enniō
conīte, bellāvīt, Fulvius nōn dubitāvit Mārtis manubias
Mūsās consēcārē. Quārē, in quō urbe imperātōres prope
armāti poētārum nōmen et Mūsārum délibra coluērunt,
in eā nōn dēbent togātā jūdiciēs ā Mūsārum honōre et ā
poētārum salūte abhorrēre.

5 28. Atque ut id libentius faciātis, jam mē vôbis, jū-
diciēs, indicābō et dē meō amōrē gloriae, nīmis
ācī fortasse, vērum tamen honestō, vôbis cōnitēbor.
Nam, quās rēs nōs in consūlātū nostrō vôlācīum simul
prō salūte hūjus urbīs atque imperāti prō vitā cīvīum
prōque ūniversār re públicā gessimus, attigit hic versibus
atque incohāvit. Quibus audītis, quod nīhi magna rēs
et jīcunda visa est, hunc ad periciendum adhortātus
sum.

Nūllam enim virtūs aliām mercēdem labōrum peri-
15 culōrumque dēsiderat praeter hanc laudis et gloriae; quā
quidem dētrāctā, jūdiciēs, quid est, quod in hōc tam exilī-
guō vitāe curculō et tam brevi tantis nōs in labōribus
exercēmus? 29. Certē, sī nīhi animus praeentīreg
in posterum, et sī, quibus regionibus vitāe spatiōm cīr-
20 cum scripserunt est, cīdem omnēs cogitationēs termināret
suās, nec tantis sē labōribus frangeret neque tot ċūris
vigilīisque angerētur nec totiēs dē īpsā vitā dimicāret.
Nunc insedit quaedam in optimō quōque virtūs, quae
notēs ac diēs animum gloriae stimulīs concitat atque
25 admonet nōn cum vitāe tempore esse dimittendam com-
memorātiōnem nōminis nostrī, sed cum omni posteriōrē
adaequandam. XII. 30. An vērō tam parvi animi vidē-
āmur esse omnēs, quō in rē públicā atque in his vitāe
periculis labōribusque versāmur, ut, cum ūisque ad extrē-

XI. For this should not be concealed, which
cannot possibly be kept in the dark, but it might
be avowed openly: we are all influenced by a
desire of praise, and the best men are the most
especially attracted by glory. Those very philo-
osophers even in the books which they write
about despising glory, put their names on the
title-page. In the very act of recording
their contempt for renown and notoriety, they
desire to have their own names known and talked
of. Decimus Brutus, that most excellent citizen
and consummate general, adorned the approaches
to his temples and monuments with the verses of
Attius. And lately that great man Fulvius,
who fought with the Etruscans, having Ennius
for his companion, did not hesitate to devote
the spoils of Mars to the Muse. Wherefore, in
a city in which generals, almost in arms, have paid
respect to the name of poets and to the temples
of the Muses, these judges in the garb of peace
ought not to act in a manner inconsistent with
the honour of the Muses and the safety of poeta-

And that you may do that which is more willingly,
I will now reveal my own feelings to you, O
judges, and I will make a confession to you of
my own love of glory, — too eager perhaps, but
still honourable. For this man who has in his verses
touchèd upon and begun the celebration of the
deeds which we in our consulship did in union
with you, for the safety of our city and empire,
in defence of the life of the citizens and of
the whole republic. And when I had heard of his
commencement, because it appeared to me to be
a great subject and at the same time an agree-
able one, I encouraged him to complete his
work. For virtue seeks no other reward for its labours
and its dangers beyond that of praise and renown;
and if that be denied to us, what reason is there.
O judges, why in so small and brief a course of
life as is allotted to us, we should impose such
labours on ourselves? Certainly, if the mind
had no anticipations of posterity, and if it were
to confine all its thoughts within the same limits
as those by which the space of our lives is
bounded, it would neither break with such
severe labours, nor would it be tormented with
such cares and sleepless anxiety. nor would it so
often have to fight for its very life. At present
there is a certain virtue in every good man,
which night and day stirs up the mind with the
stimulus of glory, and reminds it that all men-
tion of our name will not cease at the same time
with our lives, but that our fame will endure to
all posterity.
II. Do we all who are occupied in the affairs of the state, and who are surrounded by such perils and dangers in life, appear to be so narrow-minded as, though to the last moment of our lives we have never one tranquil or easy moment, to think that everything will perish at the same time as ourselves? Ought we not, when many most illustrious men have with great care collected and left behind them statues and images, representations not of their minds but of their bodies, much more to desire to leave behind us a copy of our counsels and of our virtues, wrought and elaborated by the greatest genius? I thought, at the very moment of performing them, that I was scattering and disseminating all the deeds which I was performing all over the world for the eternal recollection of nations. And whether that delight is to be denied to my soul after death, or whether, as the wise men have thought, it will affect some portion of my spirit, at all events, I am at present delighted with some such idea and hope.

Preserve, then, O judges, a man of such virtue as that of Archias, which you see testified to you not only by the worth of his friends, but by the length of time during which they have been such to him; and of such genius as you ought to think is his, when you see that it has been sought by most illustrious men. And his cause is one which is approved of by the benevolence of the law, by the authority of his municipality, by the testimony of Lucullus, and by the documentary evidence of Metullus. And, as this is the case, we do entreat you, O judges, if there may be any weight attached, I will not say to human, but even to divine recommendation, in such important matters, to receive under your protection that man who has at all times done honour to your generals and to the exploits of the Roman people; who, even in these recent perils of our own, and in your domestic dangers, promises to give an eternal testimony of praise in our favour, and who forms one of that band of poets who have at all times and in all nations been considered and called holy, so that he may seem relieved by your humanity rather than overwhelmed by your severity.

The things which, according to my custom, I have said briefly and simply, O judges, I trust have been approved by all of you. Those things which I have spoken, without regarding the habits of the forum or judicial usage, both concerning the genius of the man and my own zeal in his behalf, I trust have been received by you in good part. That they have been so by him who presides at this trial, I am quite certain.

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Professor Pei has written articles for The New York Times Magazine, This Week, Good Housekeeping, Saturday Review, Think, Coronet, This Month, The New Leader, The Saturday Evening Post, Holiday, Reader's Digest, Tomorrow, and Town and Country, in addition to most of the major professional journals in this country and abroad.