Class Notes 33-35

33

1 *pinna argentea*: *pinna* usually "feather"; toothpicks usually of wood but could be e.g metal. Silver for T..
dentes perfodit: "picked his teeth"
suave erat – impersonal construction.
sed ne ditius: see Smith ad loc for textual problems.
morae vobis: double dative: as a delay for you.
2 *permittis*: present used for future. Alternative for imperative. The verb *permittere* here takes accusative plus infinitive (late development)
lusum: games probably *ludus duodecum scriptorum* (bit like backgammon). Dice thrown to determine the moves. One of 4 games played by T. (see Horsfall, N. 1989.'The uses of literacy and the *Cena Trimalchionis*' *Greece and Rome* 36.1, 74-89, on p83f.)
tabula terebintha: "a table of terebinth wood" (hard, dark, expensive wood)
et crystallinis tesseris: the dice are made of (crystal) glass, instead of rock crystal.
rem ...delicatissimam: "absolute refinement" (Schmeling); cf. previous ref to him as *lautissimus*. Encolpius admiring?
pro calculis: "counters"
aureos... denarios: Schmeling says subject of *habebat* is the *puer* or we would see as early instance of impersonal *habet* with accusative.
omnium ...dicta: *textorum* corrupt? "All the expressions of weavers": why associate weavers with bad language? Various conjecture. See Smith.
repositorium: "tray". Apparently a second *gustatio*; eggs do feature in the *gustatio*.
4-5 see Smith for peacock and eggs as delicacies but not rare. T using imitation peahen/eggs (where delicacies figpeckers inside coated with egg-yolk, *vitellum*). Encolpius fooled by trick (until hitting what turns out to be pastry with spoon). Other pastries: see Smith ad loc. Other disguised foods: cf. e,g, 60.4; 69.8-9. Something Roman cooks did.
5 *scaenam*: "scene, tableau" (Smith); a dinner-theatre; Smith labels T. a theatre-producer.
sunt: ok to have indicative as here in indirect question.
6 *cochlearia*: "spoons"; with point at one end (for snails)and little cup on other (for eggs); note unusual weight here (showing off).
ovaque... pertundimus: E. beats eggs moulded of rich (probably of flour and oil) pastry.
7 E almost threw away but tipped off by a regular guest: what does that suggest about him?
8 *persecutus .... manu*: "I went over the shell with my hand" (Smith)
vitello "yolk of egg" (Smith); appropriate given hen. Fig-pecker= delicacy.

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1 *eadem omnia*: i.e. T wants all the same things guests had and he missed while playing the game.Trimalchio had delayed joining: rude?
feceratque potestam: here in sense of "give permission"
quis = aliquis.
mulsum : mulsum, mulsi (n)-: properly meal, honeyed wine (could be expensive); seems same as *promulsis* (=*gustatio*), during which this drink is served Guests could help themselves to appetizers more than once. Of course, E. not expecting the extent of food he will get.
symphonia …: music again; tasks done to music cf, 47.8. Reference to "chorus" of servants evokes idea of play.
paropsis, *paropsidis* (f): side-dish (word taken from Greek). Here falls (slaves carried trays on their heads). Why does T. get him to throw it again? Shows disposable wealth (silver)? Other things left e.g. balls (27).

colaphis: from colaphus, *i* (m)- punch, slap (word from Greek)
3 *supellecticarius*, *ii* (m) "slave in charge of dishes and furnishings" (Smith); textually sound? Is *lecticarius* ("litter-bearer") better (then E. could recognize the slave from the one carrying T. earlier)?
purgamenta, *orum* (n pl) - filth, trash
scopis: scopae, *arum* (f pl) – broom. This job would usually be done by the *scoparius*; perhaps in T's household, as elsewhere, slaves did different kinds of jobs.
verrere – sweep out; *everrere* has been conjectured.
4 *Aethiopes capillati:*: "long-haired Ethiopian boys" (Smith, who suggests it was meant to sound incongruous; but seems Ethiopians could have long hair; Courtney suggests T. uses long-haired pages common in Roman households with blackened faces).
utribus: *uter*, *utris* (m)- bag, skin
quales: a relative adjective "which sort", ref = *utres*; subject of *solent*.
Cleansing of floor: whilst dirty, manner suggestive of theatre/ spectacle.
harenam: *harena* - sand (was used as floor of gladiatorial show > arena)
vinum: previously guests had hands washed in water. Why wine? Show of expense? Does it make sense? No water in poor taste?
dedere = *dederunt* (form of 3rd perfect plural active indicative)
in manus: plus accusative here to indicate purpose, rather than dative.
5 *elegentias*: how do we read this?
aequum... amat: aequum used substsantive "fairness, equality"; alludes to idea that war is an equalizer: see the expression *aequo Marte pugnare* (Mars is impartial).
obiter .... facient: "incidentally even those stinking slaves won't make us so hot by crowding round" (Smith); contrast 70.10-12 (inconsistent in declared attitudes, though in practice does not harm any, probably due to his servile past); *putidus*, *a*, *um* = stinking, rotten (kitchen smells? Sweat?). Note previous derogatory reference to slaves. T. doesn't seem concerned by arrangement on grounds of having best entertainment for guests.
6 wine : really Opimian wine from 121BC (when Opimius was consul)? (and was T tricked by wine-seller into thinking old? Or trying to impress?). Plin *NH* 14.55 talks of this wine as curiosity and used to give body to younger wines. Schmeling comments ad loc: "By T'.s date... Opimianus was merely a generic description of a fine vintage (Martial 3.82.24 and passim)". For discussion, see Bicknell, P. 1968. 'Opimian Bitters or "Opimian" Wine' *AJP* 89: 347-9 (arguing fraud which Encolpius and Ascyltus spot). Courtney 2001:84 notes that T later claims he never buys wines but produces all he serves onhis own estate (48.2). Nb Romans drank through meal, unlike Greeks, and wine-drinking throughout the *Cena* (cf. 41.12 drunkenness; 65.8 T asks for bigger cup); wine mixed/poured for each non-slave (slaves get pre-mixed wine and water, 64.13).
vitreis: *vitreus*, *a*, *um* = glass (BUT glass not used commercially for wine export in this period)
diligenter gypsatae: "carefully sealed with gypsum" (Schmeling); *gypsatus*, *a*, *um*: covered/sealed with gypsum (sort of white plaster; usually sealed with pitch). Encolpius focuses on (and draws our attention to): seems to suspect.
pittacia: *pittacium*. *ii* = small bit of cloth, label (word from Greek). As E. probably knows, labels would give type of wine and name of consuls when bottled. Wine from Opimianus' consulship wouldn't have had label with provenance, like *Falernum*.
7 *complosit...manus*: clapping hands a trick of the stage according to Quinilian; see Panyotakis, C. 1995. *Theatrum Arbitri*: *Theatrical Elements in Petronius'* Cena Trimalchionis 1995: 40 for this as a gesture from mime.
eheu- "alas!"
homuncio, *ionis* (m) – wretched man
tangomenas faciamus: mysterious, repeated once more; "let's drink our fill"? First word may be from Greek for soak, Fits first line of a hexameter so may be a quotation; probably a proverbs (nb repeated 73.6)
vita vinum est: may be relevant that there was a Greek wine called "life". Thought linking wine-

drinking and living common: found e.g on inscriptions (cf, CLE 243 “While I lived, I enjoyed drinking; drink up, you who are alive”).
heri...: appears that T varies wine according to quality of guests (practice criticized at e.g. Plin. *Ep*. 2.6 and Juv. 5.24ff). T keeps getting it wrong, esp. by letting current guests know they are less respectable. T. implies he often entertains aristrocrats like Scaurus (77.5) and Pansa (47.2)
8: *lautitias*: cf. 26.9; recurring word. *mirantibus*: various expressions of wonder/admiration through the dinner.
A slave brings out a silver skeleton (>*carpe diem* idea): see Smith for parallels. Death/time obsession.
sic aptatam: “made so that its joints and backbone could be moved freely and turned in every direction” (Smith)
luxatae: reading adopted by Smith (textual problem); *laxatae* adopted by Schmeling (“being loosely fitted”).
9 *super mensam*: a reference to the table in the centre of the dining room
catenatio “mechanism” or “system of joints” (Schemling)> hence different poses of skeleton
10 epigram consisting of 2 hexameters and a pentameter (a common pattern for epitaphs): not very good but probably organized in advance as part of performance; 41.6 for more of T's poetry.
auferet: we should expect abstulerit.
Orcus: according to Schmeling here the death-demon of native tradition who carried people away to death.
esse bene: “enjoy ourselves” (Smith); pun on *esse* (infin also of *edo*, “eat”)? “In the *Satyricon*, everything lives and breathes, and the entire text grows out of the mischievous Latin pun of eating as being (*est* = he eats/he is).” (Rimell 2002: 9).

<u>35</u>
1 “praise that followed the recitation” (Schmeling): praise cf. 34.5; 39.6; 41.8; 48.7; 52.8. Cf. funeral praise?
1-2: First course (2nd: 40.3; 3rd: 49.1; 4th: 59.6). Circular tray (with lid) with different food symbolizing the 12 zodiac signs in 12 sections. Cf. 39.5ff (food corresponds to kind of person born under the sign or things associated with it). Is the motif of link of Zodiac with death found on sarcophagi relevant? There are some examples of Zodiac dishes (cf. Smith) so the novelty mentioned by Encolpius may be an example of his own interpretative fallibility. Fairly everyday food. On the course/riddle and textual problems, see Rose and Sullivan 1968, 'Trimalchio's Zodiac Dish (Petronius, Sat. 35. 1-5)', *CQ* 18.1: 180-184 (e.g. on food being edible, deliberately inspid and in natural state).
Trimalchio likes astrology > chef pleasing him through astrological dish. T explains. “The characterisation of Trimalchio as astrologer may owe something to the themes of the popular stage; several literary mimes are named after the signs of the Zodiac” (Walsh 1970: 26) (see e.g. Laberius' mimes: *Aries*, *Cancer*, *Gemelli*, *Taurus*, *Virgo*)
signa: signs (on circumference)
structor: whose job was to arrange dishes and carve meat.
3 *super... Arietinum*: “over Ares, chickpeas shaped like a ram's head” (Schmeling)
super ... frustrum: “over Taurus a slice of beef” (Schmeling)
super geminos ... rienes: “over Gemini testicles and kidneys” (Schmeling): link is the idea of things in twos. As Smith notes, *gemini* could be used in sense “testicles”.
super cancrum coronam: “over Cancer a chaplet” (Schmeling). cf. 39.8. In astrology when cancer is rising, Corona is setting and vice versa.
super ... ficum: “over Leo, an African fig” (Schmeling). Lions and figs= from Africa; sun enters Leo on 23rd July, hottest time of year when early figs ripen.
4 *super .... steriliculam*: “over Virgo the womb of a barren sow” (Schmeling).
scriblita: cake like, with cheese; eaten hot.
placenta: “honey cheese cake”. Connection to Libra through scales supporting the dishes.

super scorpionem...: textual issues over what is over Scorpio? A little fish? (some fish resemble the scorpio).
super sagittarium oclopetam: raven? Crow? (pecking at eye)
super capricornum locustam marinam: “over capricorn a lobster” (Schmeling)
5 *super aquarium anserem*: “over Aquarius a goose” (Schmeling); goose= aquatic bird.
super pisces duos mullos: “over Pisces two mullets” (Schmeling)
6-7: see Smith's discussion of textual issues.
6 *clibano*: “portable silver oven”; nb hot food and expense.
de Laserpiciario mimo: this mime (*The Silphium-Gatherer*) unknown to us; mime/spectacle motif.
7 *tristiores*: “with rather sour faces” (Schmeling)
viles: see Rose/Sullivan 1968: p183 (some delicacies; E's sneering; dish removed and surprise course- with sauces etc); Schmeling comments ad loc: “This course is prepared more to enance T.'s reputation as a mathematicus than to appeal to his guests' tastes. Such an interpretation (*pace* Smith 1975) is confirmed by T. at 39.3 *me putatis illa cena contentum, quam in theca repositorii videratis?*”
ius cenae: pun: “this is the sauce of the dinner”/ “this is the rule of the feast” (|Schmeling).