

Unseen: pseudo-Vergilian *Culex* 230-242 (the killed gnat makes a speech of complaint in the underworld)

poena sit exitium, modo sit dum grata voluntas.
exsistat par officium, feror avia carpens,
avia Cimmerios inter distantia lucos,
quem circa tristes densentur in omnia poenae.
nam vinctus sedet immanis serpentibus Otos,
devinctum maestus procul aspiciens Ephialten, 235
conati quondam cum sint inscendere mundum;
et Tityos, Latona, tuae memor anxius irae
(implacabilis ira nimis) iacet alitis esca.
terreor, a, tantis insistere, terreor, umbris,
ad Stygias revocatus aquas! vix ultimus amni 240
exstat nectareas divum qui prodidit escas,
gutturis arenti revolutus in omnia sensu.

Vocab

poena, ae (f): penalty

carpo, ere: to pluck; to pass (places)

avius, a, um: trackless

disto, are: to be at a distance

Cimmerius, a, um: Cimmerian; (applied to groves and lakes in the underworld)

denso, are: to thicken; to crowd together

immanis, is, e: savage, frightful, vast

aspicio, cere, exi, ectum: catch sight of, gaze at

inscendo, ere: to climb up or into; mount

mundus, i (m): heavens, sky; earth

esca, ae (f): food

ales, it is (m/f): large bird

insisto, ere, institi: to stand on, plant oneself on

prodo, ere, didi, itum: betray

guttur, uris (n): throat

areo, ere: to be dry, parched