

The Fall of Troy in Later Greek Epic [Unit 10]

Primary Reading: Vergil, *Aeneid* book 2
Quintus Smyrnaeus, *Posthomerica* books 12-13
Tryphiodorus, *The Taking of Ilios*

Secondary Reading:

- Bowie, A. M. 'The Death of Priam. Allegory and History in the *Aeneid*', *CQ* 40, 1990, 470-81. [Moodle]
- Campbell, M. *A Commentary on Quintus Smyrnaeus Posthomerica XII*. Leiden: Brill, 1981. [Library]
- Duckworth, G. E. 'Foreshadowing and Suspense in the *Posthomerica* of Quintus of Smyrna', *AJPh* 57, 1939, 58-86. [Moodle]
- Gransden, K. W. 'The Fall of Troy', *G&R* 32, 1985, 60-72. [Moodle]
- Harrison, E. L. 'Divine Action in *Aeneid* Book 2', in S. J. Harrison (ed.) *Oxford Readings in Vergil's Aeneid*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990, 46-59. [Library]
- Hopkinson, N. (ed.) *Greek Poetry of the Imperial Period: An Anthology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994. [Library]
- James, A. 'Quintus of Smyrna', in J. M. Foley (ed.) *A Companion to Ancient Epic*. Oxford: Blackwells, 2005, 364-73. [Moodle]
- Johnson, W. R. 'Dis Aliter Visum. Self-Telling and Theodicy in *Aeneid* 2', in C. G. Perkell (ed.) *Vergil's Aeneid: an Interpretive Guide*. Norman University of Oklahoma Press, 1999, 50-63. [Moodle]
- Jones, J. W. 'Trojan Legend: Who is Sinon?', *CJ* 61, 1965, 122-8. [Moodle]
- Knight, W. F. J. 'Iliupersides', *CQ* 26, 1932, 178-89. [Moodle]
- Knight, W. F. J. 'The Wooden Horse at the Gate of Troy', *CJ* 28, 1933, 254-62. [Moodle]
- Knox, B. M. W. 'The Serpent and the Flame. Images of the Second Book of the *Aeneid*', *AJPh* 71, 1950, 379-400. [Moodle]

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Discussion Points

1. What similarities are there between all the accounts? In what ways do these similarities aid our interpretations?
2. Which core elements of the myth do all versions contain? What can this tell us about the myths?
3. In what way do they differ from each other? What might this contribute to our interpretation?
4. How do they emphasise the horror of war? Why?
5. In what ways and to what extent do the two imperial writers use the Vergilian text? To what effect?

Presentations

Please select a motif from the Fall of Troy which is covered by all three authors (e.g. the role of Sinon or the description of the wooden horse) and present on this, using the discussion points above to guide you.