

THE AENEID

A DIRECT ENCOUNTER



Sofia Bongiovanni

First Edition

CONTENTS

WEEK 1	3
WEEK 2	6
WEEK 3	9
WEEK 4	12
WEEK 5	15
WEEK 6	18
WEEK 7	23
WEEK 8	26
WEEK 9	29
WEEK 10	32
WEEK 11	35
WEEK 12	38

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE AND WHAT TO EXPECT

This short book will guide you through the *Aeneid* over the course of 12 weeks. Your only task is to read the 12 books of the *Aeneid* — all other exercises and readings are optional.

That said, we encourage you to follow the guide's directions as you go. Writing summaries of each section as you read will not only help you consolidate understanding, but it will give you a way to keep track of your progress. If you're reading on the web, we've found this kind of progress-tracking indispensable.

The secondary readings will give you a deeper understanding of the *Aeneid* and provide a glimpse into contemporary conversations about it in the scholarly community. Reading these will greatly enhance your encounter with the *Aeneid*, and you shouldn't skip them if possible. Bring this guide to your local library where the librarian can help you locate these sources through interlibrary loan or by other means.

— Peyton Bowman, Tokyo 2022

A NOTE ON TRANSLATIONS

All translations of the *Aeneid* in this guide are from Theodore C. Williams' 1910 verse translation. For reading online, we recommend A. S. Kline's translation, which can be freely accessed [here](#). It's also available in book form.

If you decide to read another translation, line numbers might be slightly different from those listed on the primary reading pages. You can still use the summary tables on these pages, however — simply cross the line numbers column out with your pencil and write summaries of the poem as you go.

WEEK 1

*Arms and the man I sing, who first made way,
predestined exile, from the Trojan shore
to Italy, the blest Lavinian strand.*

*Smitten of storms he was on land and sea
by violence of Heaven, to satisfy
stern Juno's sleepless wrath; and much in war
he suffered, seeking at the last to found
the city, and bring o'er his fathers' gods
to safe abode in Latium; whence arose
the Latin race, old Alba's reverend lords,
and from her hills wide-walled, imperial Rome.*

AENEID, BOOK 1



BOOK 1: REFUGE FROM THE STORM

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-11	
12-49	
50-80	
81-123	
124-156	
157-222	
223-256	
257-296	
297-371	
372-417	
418-463	
464-493	
494-519	
520-560	
561-585	
586-612	
613-656	
657-694	
695-722	
723-756	



WEEK 1

SECONDARY READING

Duhigg, J. (1982).

“Notes on the Hexameter of Vergil.”

In *The Classical Outlook*,
59 (3), 77–79.

Bonus:
HOW TO SCAN LATIN POETRY

WEEK 2

*The night had passed, and to my friends once more
I made my way, much wondering to find
a mighty multitude assembled there
of friends new-come,—matrons and men-at-arms,
and youth for exile bound,— a doleful throng.
From far and near they drew, their hearts prepared
and their possessions gathered, to sail forth
to lands unknown, wherever o'er the wave
I bade them follow. Now above the crest
of loftiest Ida rose the morning-star,
chief in the front of day. The Greeks held fast
the captive gates of Troy. No help or hope
was ours any more. Then, yielding all,
and lifting once again my aged sire,
for refuge to the distant hills I fled.*

AENEID, BOOK 2



BOOK 2: THE FALL OF TROY

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-56	
57-144	
145-194	
195-227	
228-253	
254-297	
298-354	
355-401	
402-437	
438-485	
486-558	
559-587	
588-623	
624-670	
671-704	
705-729	
730-795	
796-804	



WEEK 2

SECONDARY READING

Lowe, D. (2019).

“Dust in the Wind: Late Republican History in the *Aeneid*.”

In Augustus and the destruction of history: The politics of the past in early imperial Rome,

Vol. 41, 223–238.

WEEK 3



Achaemenides and Polyphemus. Engraving by Giuseppe Zocchi, in *L'Eneide di Virgilio del commendatore Annibale Caro* (Paris, 1760).



BOOK 3: MANY TURNINGS

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-18	
19-68	
69-120	
121-171	
172-208	
209-277	
278-293	
294-355	
356-462	
463-505	
506-547	
548-587	
588-654	
655-691	
692-718	



WEEK 3

SECONDARY READING

Horsfall, N. (1989).

“Aeneas the Colonist.”

Vergilius (1959), 35, 8–27.

WEEK 4

*“Though for my death
no vengeance fall, O, give me death!” she cried.
“O thus! O thus! it is my will to take
the journey to the dark. From yonder sea
may his cold Trojan eyes discern the flames
that make me ashes! Be this cruel death
his omen as he sails!”*



AENEID, BOOK 4



BOOK 4: DIDO

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-53	
54-89	
90-128	
129-172	
173-197	
198-218	
219-278	
279-330	
331-361	
362-392	
393-449	
450-503	
504-553	
554-583	
584-629	
630-705	



WEEK 4

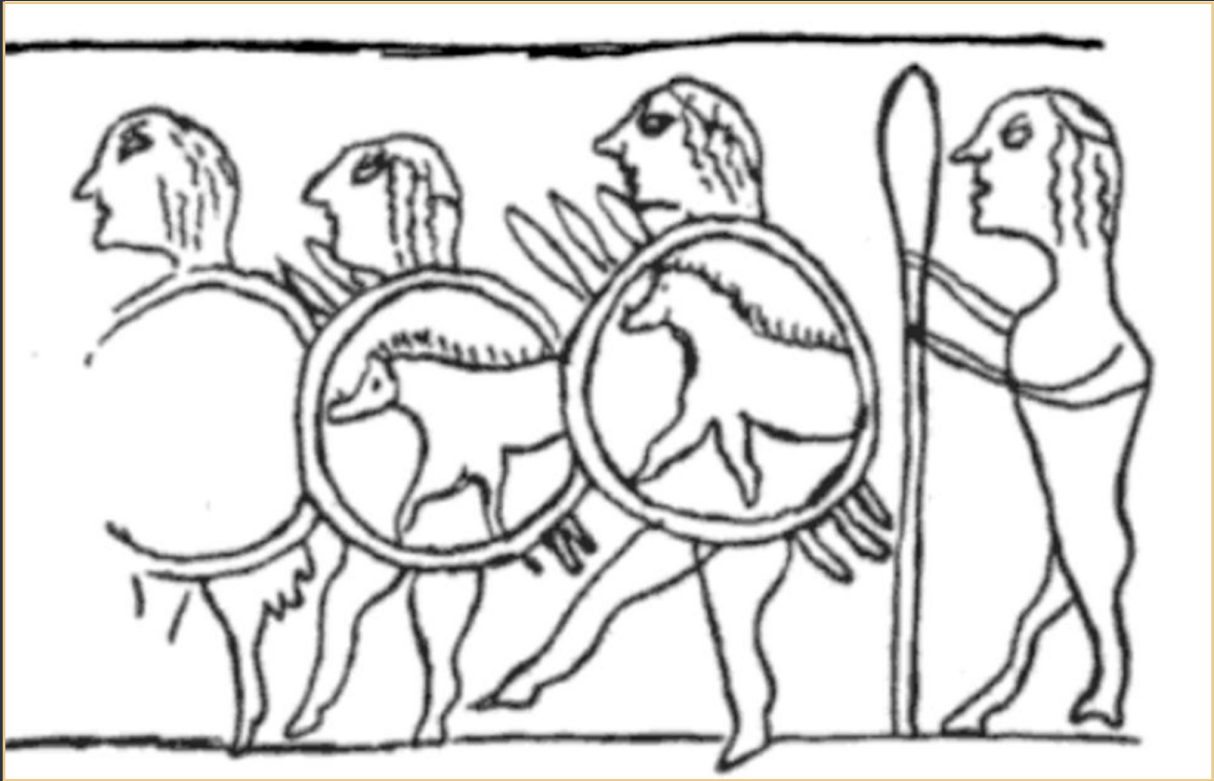
SECONDARY READING

Grebe, S. (2004).

“Augustus’ Divine Authority
and Vergil’s ‘Aeneid.’”

Vergilius (1959), 50, 35–62.

WEEK 5



From an Etruscan *oinochoë* (wine-server), late 7th-century BC, from near Caere. It is thought that the image depicts an aspect of the *Lusus Troiae*, or “Troy game.”



BOOK 5: THE FUNERAL GAMES

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-41	
42-103	
104-150	
151-243	
244-285	
286-361	
362-484	
485-544	
545-603	
604-663	
664-699	
700-745	
746-778	
779-834	
835-871	



WEEK 5

SECONDARY READING

Tarrant, R. (1997).

“Poetry and power: Virgil’s poetry in contemporary context.”

In *The Cambridge Companion to Virgil*, 169-187.

WEEK 6

*Ye gods! who rule the spirits of the dead!
Ye voiceless shades and silent lands of night!
O Phlegethon! O Chaos! let my song,
If it be lawful, in fit words declare
What I have heard; and by your help divine
Unfold what hidden things enshrouded lie
In that dark underworld of sightless gloom.
They walked exploring the unpeopled night,
Through Pluto's vacuous realms, and regions void,
As when one's path in dreary woodlands winds
Beneath a misty moon's deceiving ray,
When Jove has mantled all his heaven in shade,
And night seals up the beauty of the world.*

AENEID, BOOK 6



BOOK 6: DESCENT TO THE UNDERWORLD

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-55	
56-97	
98-155	
156-182	
183-235	
236-263	
264-294	
295-336	
337-383	
384-416	
417-439	
440-476	
477-534	
535-627	
628-678	





BOOK 6: DESCENT TO THE UNDERWORLD

Line Numbers	Summary
679-702	
703-723	
724-751	
752-776	
777-807	
808-853	
854-885	
886-901	



WEEK 6

SECONDARY READING

Clark, R. J. (2001).

“How Vergil Expanded the Underworld in Aeneid 6.”

In *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society*, 47, 103–116.



Aeneas and the Sibyl in the Underworld by Jan Brueghel the Younger

WEEK 7



Aeneas at the Court of Latinus by Ferdinand Bol;
Rijksmuseum Amsterdam.



BOOK 7: ARRIVAL IN ITALY AND THE BEGINNING OF WAR

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-36	
37-106	
107-147	
148-191	
192-248	
249-285	
286-341	
341-405	
406-474	
475-539	
540-571	
572-600	
601-640	
641-782	
783-817	



WEEK 7

SECONDARY READING

Spence, S. (1988).

“Juno’s Desire.”

In *Rhetorics of Reason and Desire: Vergil, Augustine, and the Troubadours*. 22–52.

WEEK 8

*Then Saturn from Olympian realms came down,
in flight from Jove's dread arms, his sceptre lost,
and he an exiled King. That savage race
he gathered from the mountain slopes; and gave
wise laws and statutes; so that latent land
was Latium, 'hid land', where he hid so long.*

AENEID, BOOK 8



BOOK 8: THE SITE OF FUTURE ROME AND THE SHIELD OF AENEAS

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-25	
26-65	
66-101	
102-151	
152-183	
184-305	
306-369	
370-406	
407-453	
454-519	
520-584	
585-625	
626-670	
671-713	
714-731	



WEEK 8

SECONDARY READING

Wood, B. (2020).

“The Legendary Founding of Rome.

In *Invented History, Fabricated Power: Narratives Shaping Civilizations*, 139–148.

WEEK 9

*In horror and amaze the Trojans all
dispersed and fled; had but the conqueror thought
to break the barriers of the gates and call
his followers through, that fatal day had seen
an ending of the Teucrians and their war.
But frenzied joy of slaughter urged him on,
infuriate, to smite the scattering foe.*

AENEID, BOOK 9



BOOK 9: SIEGE

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-24	
25-76	
77-106	
107-122	
123-167	
168-223	
224-313	
314-366	
367-459	
460-524	
525-589	
590-637	
638-671	
672-716	
717-755	
756-787	
788-818	



WEEK 9

SECONDARY READING

Rabel, R. J. (1978).

“The Iliadic Nature of
‘Aeneid’ 9.”

Vergilius (1959), 24, 37–44.

WEEK 10



Ille pedem referens, & inutilis, inque ligatus
 Cedebat, clypeum inimicum hastile trahēbat.
 Proripuit tunc, seseque immiscuit armis;
 Iamque assurgens dextra plaquamque ferentis
 Eneas subit mucronem, ipsūque mirando
 Sustulit, soci magno clamore sequētur;
 Dum genitor quāti parvus protectus abiret:
 Fallit te incultum pietas tua, Nec minus ille

Richardo Atkins de Mich Fladdam. in Com:



Exultat demens, saeva jamque altius ira
 Dardanio surgunt ductori, extremaque Lauso
 Parex filii sequuntur, validum namque ensē
 Per medium Eneas juvenem, totūque recondit.
 Transit & parmam mucro, levia arma minacis,
 Et tunicam, molli mater quam reverat auro:
 Implevitque sinum sanguis, tum vita perennis
 Cessavit morsa, ad manū, corpusque reliquit.

Hartfordiae Arn: Tabula merito votius,

Aeneas versus Mezentius and Lausus by Wenceslaus Hollar.



BOOK 10: BATTLE BEGINS

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-95	
96-117	
118-162	
163-214	
215-259	
260-307	
308-425	
426-509	
510-605	
606-688	
689-754	
755-832	
833-908	



WEEK 10

SECONDARY READING

Nielson, K. P. (1983).
“The ‘Tropaion’ in the
‘Aeneid.’”
Vergilius, 29, 27–33.

WEEK 11

*Swift through the midmost slaughter proudly strides
the quiver-girt Camilla, with one breast
thrust naked to the fight, like Amazon.
Oft from her hand her pliant shafts she rains,
or whirls with indefatigable arm
a doughty battle-axe; her shoulder bears
Diana's sounding arms and golden bow.
Sometimes retreating and to flight compelled,
the maiden with a rearward-pointing bow
shoots arrows as she flies.*

AENEID, BOOK 11



BOOK 11: AGAINST CAMILLA

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-99	
100-138	
139-181	
182-224	
225-295	
296-335	
336-375	
376-444	
445-531	
532-596	
597-647	
648-724	
725-767	
768-835	
836-915	



WEEK 11

SECONDARY READING

Hardie, P. (2014).

“The Many Faces of Aeneas.”

In *The Last Trojan Hero: A Cultural History of Virgil's Aeneid*, 77–92.

WEEK 12

*Meanwhile th' Olympian sovereign supreme
to Juno speaks, as from an amber cloud
the strife she views: "My Queen, what end shall be?
What yet remains? Thou seest Aeneas' name
numbered with tutelary gods of power;
and well thou know'st what station in the sky
his starward destiny intends. What scheme
vexes thy bosom still? What stubborn hope,
fostered in cloud and cold? O, was it well
to desecrate a god with mortal wound;*

AENEID, BOOK 12



BOOK 12: THE END OF WAR

Click [here](#) for this week's reading. Your goal will be to complete this week's book. Keep track of your reading by writing a brief summary or subtitle for each of the sections outlined below.

Line Numbers	Summary
1-53	
54-80	
81-112	
113-160	
161-215	
216-265	
266-310	
311-382	
383-467	
468-499	
500-553	
554-592	
593-613	
614-696	
697-765	
766-790	
791-842	
843-886	
887-952	



WEEK 12

SECONDARY READING

Anon (2010).

“Vergil in Dante.”

Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World: A Companion to Vergil's Aeneid and its Tradition, 147-157.



| *Aeneas' defeat of Turnus* by Luca Giordano.

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