

## Quo. Musa. tendis?

Martha A. Davis, Pacific Rim Seminar 2001

1. has pater in sedes **aeternaque moenia** natum  
inducitque nurum. (1. 847-8)      Into this home and these eternal walls the  
father leads his wife and son.
2. Under our axis, cut off from affairs in the upper world sits the hall of the Tartarean Father. It would not be associated with a collapsing pole, not if the mass of created things were overcome and rolling... [Here] lies Chaos with its huge gaping mouth, which could consume matter worn out by its own weight, and a slipping universe as well. Here there are twin gates, of which one is always open by firm law and receives peoples and kings. But it is *nefas* to attempt the other and to push against it: it opens infrequently and of its own accord, whenever a leader bearing honorable wounds in his chest comes along, who has a house fixed with helmets and chariot wheels, or a person whose effort was to banish mortal cares, whose **fides** was constantly cultivated and from whom fear was far removed and to whom greedy desire was unknown; or if a priest comes in fillets and pure vestments. All these are those whom the son of Atlas with bobbing torch in hand and unhurried steps leads in. The path gleams far and wide with the fire of the god, until these persons arrive at the forests and pleasant meadows of the righteous, where the sun and a sunny day endure throughout the year, and the sanctified bands and dancing troops of men endure, and songs, and things for which there is no longing among the general public now. (1.827-46.)
3. it pariter propulsa ratis, stant litore matres....  
(1.494)      With the oars moving in rhythm, the ship  
is propelled [out to sea], the mothers stand on  
the shore.
4. **moenia** tum viresque loci veteresque parentum  
iactat opes. (2. 340-1)      Then she proudly points out the fortification  
walls, the strong features of the place, and  
her ancestral wealth.
5. neque enim tam lata videbam  
pectora, Neptunus **muros** cum iungeret astris,  
nec tales umeros pharetramque gerebat Apollo.  
(2. 490-2)      nor did I see such abs when Neptune was  
joining our walls together nor did Apollo  
have such shoulders and carry such a quiver.
6. verum age nunc socios **fraternis moenibus** infer:  
crastina lux biiuges stabulis ostendat apertis.  
(2.565-6)      Come now, bring your companions inside  
our brotherly walls; tomorrow's dawn will  
reveal the horses in open stables.
7. rarior hinc tellus atque ingens undique caelum  
rursus et incipiens alium prospectus in orbem  
terra sinu medio Pontum iacet inter et Hellen  
ceu fundo prolata maris: namque improba caecis  
intulit arva vadis longoque per aequora dorso  
litus agit: tenet hinc veterem confinibus oris  
pars Phrygiam, pars discreti iuga pinea montis,  
nec procul ad tenuis surgit confinia ponti  
urbs placidis demissa iugis: rex divitis agri  
Cyzicus, Haemoniae qui tum nova signa carinae  
ut videt, ipse ultro primas procurrit ad undas  
miraturque viros dextramque amplexas et haerens  
incipit:      "O terris nunc primum cognita nostris  
Aemathiae manus et fama mihi maior imago,  
non tamen haec adeo semota neque ardua tellus  
regnaque iam populis impervia lucis eoae,  
cum tales intrasse duces, tot robora cerno,  
nam licet hinc saevas tellus alat horrida gentes  
meque fremens tumido circum fluat ora Propontis  
vestra **fides** ritusque pares et mitis cultu  
his etiam mihi corda locis: procul effera **virtus**  
Bebrycis et Scythici procul **inclementia** sacri."  
(2.627-48)
8. vox omnes super una tubas, qua conus et enses,  
qua trepidis auriga rotis nocturnaue muris  
claustra cadunt.... (3.51-3)      [Pan's] voice alone above the war trumpets,  
the voice at sound of which fall helmets and  
swords, at sound of which the charioteer falls

from his shaking wheels and bolts slammed shut  
at night slip from the **walls**.

9. saevit acerba fremens tardumque **moenibus** agmen [Cyzicus] rages, shouting harsh words, and  
incredulitas.... (3.229-30) shakes his slow war-band out of the walls....
10. quod si tanta lues seros durasset in ortus. But if such great slaughter had lasted into the  
extinctum genus et solas per **moenia** matres later part of the morning, then the day would have  
vidisset stratamque dies in litore gentem. seen a nation made extinct, and mothers only  
standing along the walls and the male population strewn, so many corpses, along the shore.  
(3.246-8)
11. Proxima Bebrycii panduntque litora regni  
pingue solum et duris regio non invida tauris.  
rex Amycus; regis fatis et numine freti  
non **muris** cinxere domos, non foedera legum  
ulla colunt placidas aut iura tenentia mentes.  
(4.99-113)
12. mitte Asiae, mitte Atgolicis mandata colonis,  
ne trepident; numquam has hiemes, haec saxa relinquam  
Martis agros, ubi tam saevo duravimus amne  
progeniem natosque rudes, ubi coepia leti  
tantaviris. sic in patriis bellare pruinis  
praedarique iuvat, talemque hanc accipe dextram.  
(6.334-9)