

Gesta Romanorum 5 de filia piratae

Rex quidam regnavit, in cuius imperio erat quidam iuvenis a piratis captus, qui scripsit patri suo pro redemptione. Pater noluit eum redimere sic, quod iuvenis multo tempore in carcere erat maceratus. Ille, qui eum in vinculis habebat, quandam pulchram filiam ac oculis hominum gratiosam genuerat, quae nutrita in domo erat, quousque viginti annos in aetate sua compleverat, quae saepius incarceratum visitatum ivit ac consolabatur. Sed ille in tantum desolatus erat, quod nullam consolationem recipere poterat, sed suspiria et gemitus continue emittebat.

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Accidit quodam die, quod, cum puella eum visitaret, ait iuvenis ei: “O bona puella, utinam velles pro mea liberatione laborare!” Quae ait: “Quomodo potero hoc attentare! Pater tuus, qui te genuit, non vult te redimere, ego vero, cum sim tibi extranea, quomodo deberem hoc cogitare! Et si te liberarem, offensionem patris mei incurrerem, quia tuam redemptionem

attentō (1) – try, attempt
carcer, eris – *m* – prison
compleō, ēre, ēvī, ētum – fill up, finish, complete
cōnsōlātiō, ōnis – *f* – comfort
cōnsōlor (1) – to console
continuē – *adv* – ceaselessly, continuously
ēmittō, ere, mīssī, mittum – utter, emit
extrāneus, a, um – *adj* – foreign
gemitus, ūs – *m* – groan
grātiōsus, a, um – *adj* – agreeable
incarcerō (1) – to imprison
incurrō, ere, (cu)currī, cursum – to run into, encounter
līberātiō, ōnis – *f* – release, liberation
līberō (1) – to free

mācerō (1) – to waste away
nūtrītius, a, um – *adj* – nourishing
ō – *interj* – oh
offēnsiō, ōnis – *f* – offense
pīrāta, ae – *m* – pirate
quod – *conj* – that
quōusque – *adv* – how long?
redemptiō, ōnis – *f* – redemption (particularly from captivity)
redimō, ere, emī, emptum – to buy back
rēgnō (1) – to rule
suspirium, ī – *n* – sigh
utinam – *adv* – if only (+subjunctive)
vīgintī – *adj number* – twenty
vīsītō (1) – to go to see, visit

1. *rēx quīdam... quīdam iuvenis* – all of the *Gesta* start this way. The *rēx* doesn't matter. The *iuvenis* does.
2. *multō tempore* – in classical Latin, this would be accusative (duration of time) rather than ablative— could also be analyzed as ablative of agent
3. *habēbat* – could be replaced with *tenēbat*
- ille... eum...* – *ille* is the pirate, *eum* is the *iuvenis*
- 3–4. *oculis hominum grātiōsa* – *oculis* is complement to *grātiōsa*
4. *licenciam* – medieval spelling of *licentiam*; this word also frequently has a negative connotation, though not here
5. *vīsītātum* – supine to show purpose with the verb of motion, *īvit*

- ille* – this time the *iuvenis*. *Ille, eum* and other pronouns can be unaltered in who is being referred to
6. *quod... poterat – ut... posset* in classical Latin; medieval Latin is full of this kind of innovation
 9. *utinam vellēs* – imperfect subjunctive to show that he wishes it were happening at the time he is talking; compare to present contrary-to-fact conditions
 - quae* – relative pronouns can stand independently at times in medieval Latin
 - ego* – subject of both of the following clauses despite being at the front of the sentence
 - cum* – concessive
 11. *līberārem... incurrerem* – present contrary to fact

perderet pater meus. Verumtamen mihi unum concede, et liberabo te.” Ait ille: “O bona puella, pete a me, quid tibi placuerit! Si mihi est possibile, ego concedam.” At illa: “Nihil aliud peto pro tua liberatione, nisi quod me in uxorem ducas tempore opportuno.” Qui ait: “Hoc tibi firmiter promitto.”

Statim puella, patre ignorante, ipsum a vinculis liberavit et cum eo ad patriam suam 5
fugit. Cum vero ad patrem suum venisset, ait ei pater: “O fili, de tuo adventu gaudeo. Sed dic mihi, qualis est ista puella, quam tecum duxisti!” Ait ille: “Filia regis est, quam in uxorem habeo.” Ait pater: “Sub poena amissionis hereditatis tuae nolo, ut eam in uxorem ducas.” Ait ille: “O pater, quid dicis! Plus ei teneor, quam tibi. Quando captus eram in manu inimici et fortiter vinculus, tibi pro mea redemptione scripsi, et noluit me redimere. Ipsa vero non 10 tantum a carcere, sed a periculo mortis me liberavit; ideo eam in uxorem ducere volo.” Ait pater: “Fili, probo tibi, quod non possis in eam confidere et per consequens nullo modo in uxorem ducere. Patrem proprium decepit, quando, ipso ignorante, te a carcere liberavit. Pro qua liberatione pater eius multa perdidit, quae pro tua redemptione habuisset. Ergo videtur, quod tu non possis in eam confidere et per consequens nullo modo in uxorem ducere. Item alia ratio est. 15

adventus, ūs – *m* – arrival

āmissiō, ōnis – *f* – deprivation

carcer, eris – *m* – prison

cōnfidō, ere, cōnfisus sum – + *dat* to have faith in

dēcipiō, ere, cēpī, ceptum – to cheat, deceive

firmiter – *adj* – strongly

hērēditās, tātis – *f* – inheritance

īgnōrāns, antis – *adj* – unknowing

līberātiō, ōnis – *f* – release, liberation

1. *perderet* – continuing with present contrary to fact

3. *quī* – again the relative pronoun without antecedent

mē in uxōrem dūcās – standard idiom for getting married

5. *patre īgnōrante* – ablative absolute

6. *vēro* – postpositive conjunction meaning *but*

dē tuō adventū – could also have been *tuum adventum*

7. *in uxōrem* – again referring to the promised marriage

8. *sub poenā āmissiōnis hērēditātis tuae* – *āmissiōnis* is genitive on *poenā*, *hērēdetātis tuae* is genitive on *āmissiōnis*

līberō (1) – to free

ō – *interj* – oh

opportūnus, a, um – *adj* – suitable, useful

possibilis, e – *adj* – possible

quod – keep if complementizer

redemptiō, ōnis – *f* – redemption (partucuarly from captivity)

redimō, ere, emī, emptum – to buy back

vērūmtamen – *conj* – however, notwithstanding

vinculō (1) – to chain up

9. *plūs* – treat like an adverb here

quandō – treat like *cum* (i.e. *when*)

9–10. *nōn tantum* – sets up the *sed* for contrast

12. *quod* – introduces indirect speech; instead of *acc + inf per cōnsequēns* – *consequently*; more literally “through the thing following”

13. *quandō* – again, treat like *cum* (i.e. *when*)

ipsō – intensifying the missing *patre*

14. *pater ēius* – not *ēius multa*

quod – introduces indirect speech

Ista licet te liberavit, hoc fuit causa libidinis, ut posset te in virum habere, et ideo quia eius libido erat causa liberationis tuae, non mihi videtur, quod uxor tua erit.”

Puella audiens istas rationes ait: “Ad primam respondeo, quando dicis, quod ego decepi patrem meum proprium, quod non est verum. Ille decipitur, qui in aliquo bono diminuitur. Sed pater meus tam locuples est, quod alicuius auxilio non indiget. Cum hoc perpendi, iuvenem 5 istum a carcere liberavi, ei si pater meus pro eo redemptionem accepisset, non multum propter hoc ditior fuisset, et tu per redemptionem depauperatus esses. Ergo in isto actu te salvavi, quod redemptionem non dedisti, et patri meo nullam iniuriam feci. Ad aliam rationem, quando dicis, quod ego ex libidine hoc feci, respondeo: hoc nullo modo potest fieri, quia libido aut est propter pulchritudinem aut propter divitias aut propter fortitudinem. Sed filius tuus nullum istorum 10 habuit, quia pulchritudo eius per carcerem erat annihilata; nec dives fuit, quia non habuit, unde se ipsum redimeret; nec fortis, quia fortitudinem perdidit per carceris macerationem. Ergo sola pietas me movebat, quod ipsum liberavi.”

āctus, ūs – *m* – deed
annihilō (1) – to bring to nothing
carcer, eris – *m* – prison
cōnfīdō, ere, cōnfīsus sum – + *dat* to have faith in
dēpauperō (1) – to impoverish
dīminuō, ere, uī, utum – to outrage
fortitūdō, inis – *f* – strength
īgnōrāns, antis – *adj* – unknowing
indigeō, ēre, uī – to lack, desire
līberātiō, ōnis – *f* – release, liberation

līberō (1) – to free
locuplēs, ētis – *adj* – wealthy, rich
mācerātiō, ōnis – *f* – thinness
perpendō, ere, perpendī, perpēnsūm – to weigh, consider
pulchritūdō, dinis – *f* – beauty
quod – *conj* – that
redemptiō, ōnis – *f* – redemption (partucuarly from captivity)
redimō, ere, emī, emptum – to buy back
salvō (1) – to save

1. *licet* – although
causā libīdinis – *causā* + *gen* shows cause in a way similar to *propter* + *acc*
in virum – *virum* here means husband; compare to *in uxōrem*, previous page, line 3
2. *causā līberātiōnis* – like the prvious line
quod... erit – subordinate to *mihi vidētur*; very much medieval Latin structure
3–4. *quod* – again, used much like the English *that* for subordination
4–5. *Ille dēcipitur... sed pater...* – The *ille* of the first sentence is the pirate's daughter speaking generally. The *sed* sets up the contras with her father.

5. *auxiliō indiget* – *indiget* can take a complement in the ablative, like here
6–7. *accepisset... fuisset... essēs...* – first two pluperfect subjunctives are past contrary to fact conditions, final imperfect subjunctive is present contrary to fact
7. *quod* – here more like *because*
9. *quod* – and back to acting more like *that est* – supply this after the next two instances of *propter*
12. *redimieret* – subjunctive to show contrary to fact condition, imperfect to follow sequence of tenses

Pater hoc audiens non potuit filium arguere ulterius. Filius ergo cum magna solennitate
eam in uxorem duxit et in pace vitam finivit.

arguō, ere, uī, ūtum – declare (usually false)
fīniō (4) – to finish

solennitās, tātis – f – solemnity, formality