

- 53 **attonitus, -a, -um**, *amazed, astonished.*  
\***admīrātiō, admīrātiōnis**, f., *admiration, wonder.*  
**ūniversī, ūniversōrum**, m. pl., *everyone.*  
**salvus, -a, -um**, *safe, well, sound.*  
\***sermō, sermōnis**, m., *talk, conversation, speech.*
- 54 \***quī, qua, quod**, indef. adj. [used after **sī, nisi, num**, and **nē**], *any.*  
\*\*\***fidēs, fidēi**, f., *faith; trust; credibility.*  
**ut**, exclamatory adv., *how!*  
\***pilus, -ī**, m., *hair.*  
**inhorrēscō, horrēscere, horrūī**, *to bristle, stand on end.*
- 55 **nūgæ, -ārum**, f. pl., *idle talk, nonsense.*  
\*\*\***immō**, particle, *nay, on the contrary, rather.*  
\***certus, -a, -um**, *fixed, determined; dependable, reliable.*
- 56 **minimē**, adv., *least of all, not at all.*  
\***linguōsus, -a, -um** [vulgar, found only here and at II.2.34, see pp. 245, 246], with an *idle/malicious/garrulous tongue* [**lingua, -ae**, f.], *loquacious.*  
**horribilis, -is, -e**, *terrible, fearful, dreadful.*
- 57 \***asinus, -ī**, m., *ass, donkey.*  
**tēgulae, -ārum**, f. pl., *roof-tiles.*

Trimalchio also decides to tell a ghost story

Attonitīs admirātiōne ūniversīs, "Salvō," inquit, "tuō sermōne," Trimalchiō, "sī qua fidēs est, ut mihi pilī inhorruērunt, quia sciō Nīcerōnem nihil nūgārum nārrāre: immō certus est et minimē linguōsus. Nam et ipse vōbīs rem horribilem nārrābō: asinus in tēgulīs.

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- 53 Attontīs admirātiōne ūniversīs: ablative absolute.

Salvō . . . tuō sermōne: ablative absolute, *your tale being sound = with all respect to the truth of your tale*; this would usually be said by someone about to correct a statement made by the other person. Trimalchio is instead trying (rather inelegantly) to make a transition to his own ghost story.

- 54 sī qua fidēs est: supply mihi, possessive dative, *if I have any credibility*, i.e., if you'll believe me.

ut mihi pilī inhorruērunt: i.e., as I listened to Niceros' story.

- 55 Nīcerōnem: Trimalchio declines the name incorrectly as if the nominative were Nīcerō and the genitive Nīcerōnis; the correct accusative form is Nīcerōtem (see lines 1 and 4 above and the note on Philerōnem, II.2.158) (see p. 243).

nihil nūgārum: *nothing of idle talk = no idle talk*.

- 57 asinus in tēgulīs: proverbial for a marvel or a portent—like a donkey that succeeded in getting onto the roof! Livy (36.37) records a portent of two head of cattle climbing a stairway to the roof of a house (*bovēs duōs . . . per scalās pervēnisse in tēgulīs aedificiī*).

- 58 \*\**capillātus, -a, -um, having long hair [capillus, -ī, m.]*.  
*Chīus, -a, -um, of Chios* (a Greek island).
- 59 *gerō, gerere, gessī, gestus, to bear; to behave; to conduct, carry on.*  
*ipsimus, -ī, m. [superlative of ipse, which may be used to mean master = the man himself], master.*  
*dēlicātus, -ī, m., favorite slave, sexual pet.*  
\**dēcēdō, dēcēdere, dēcessī, dēcessūrus, to go away; to die.*  
*margarīta, -ae, f., pearl; treasure.*  
*margarītum, vulgar, affected n. for f. (see p. 243).*
- 60 *catamītus, -ī, m. [from Etruscan Catmite, from Greek Ganymedes, Zeus's/Jupiter's cup-bearer and homosexual pet], homosexual pet.*  
*numerus, -ī, m., number; here, pl., the parts that form a whole.*  
*numerum, = numerōrum.*  
*misellus, -a, -um [dim. of miser, misera, miserum], wretched.*
- 61 \**plangō, plangere, plānxī, plānctus, to strike the breast; to bewail, mourn.*  
\*\**nostrum, gen. of nōs.*  
\**plūrēs, plūrum [compar. of multī], m./f., more; the majority; here, a number of us.*  
*trīstimōnium, -ī, n. [vulgar, see pp. 244, 246, = trīstitia, -ae, f.; cf. gaudimōnium, line 5], sadness, sorrow.*  
\*\*\**subitō, adv., suddenly.*  
*strīx, strīgis, f., screech-owl (which, according to ancient belief, sucked the blood of young children); vampire, witch.*  
*strīgæ, vulgar first declension variant of strigēs (see p. 243).*
- 62 *lepus, leporis, m., hare.*  
\*\**persequor, persequī, persecūtus sum, to follow after, pursue.*

*It happened when he was still a child.*

"Cum adhūc capillātus essem, nam ā puerō vītam Chīam 58  
gessī, ipsimī nostrī dēlicātus dēcessit, meherculēs margarītum, 59  
catamītus et omnium numerum. Cum ergō illum māter misella 60  
plangeret et nostrum plūrēs in trīstimōniō essēmus, subitō strī- 61  
gae coepērunt: putārēs canem leporem persequī. 62

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- 58 **Cum . . . essem:** circumstantial clause with imperfect subjunctive.  
**vītam Chīam:** the Chians were proverbial for effeminacy and soft-living.
- 60 **omnium numerum:** genitive of description, (a lad) *of all the parts* = a boy of every perfection, one in a thousand; cf. the phrase **omnibus numerīs perfectus**, *perfect in every detail*.
- Cum . . . plangeret . . . essēmus:** circumstantial clause with imperfect subjunctives.
- 61 **strīgae coepērunt:** supply **strīdere**, *to screech*.
- 62 **putārēs:** potential subjunctive, *you would have thought*.

- 63 **Cappadox, Cappadocis, Cappadocian** (proverbially husky people).  
\*validē, adv., *strongly, mightily, very.*  
valdē, syncopated variant (see p. 241).
- 64 **audāculus, -a, -um** [rare dim., see p. 245, of audāx, audācis, *bold*], *bold.*  
qui, exclamatory adv., *how!*  
valeō, -ēre, -uī, *to be strong.*  
\*bōs, bovis, m./f., *ox, bull, cow.*  
\*\*irātus, -a, -um, *angry.*
- 65 \*audācter, adv., *courageously, boldly, confidently.*  
\*stringō, stringere, strīnxī, strictus, *to draw (a sword).*  
\*gladius, -ī, m., *sword.*  
extrā, prep. + acc., *out, outside of.*  
ōstium, -ī, n., *door.*  
prōcurrō, prōcurrere, prōcucurri, prōcursūrus, *to run/rush forward.*  
\*involvō, involvere, involvī, involūtus, *to roll up, wrap up, cover.*  
\*sinister, sinistra, sinistrum, *left.*
- 66 cūriōsē, adv., *carefully; in a special way.*  
\*salvus, -a, -um, *safe, well, sound.*
- 67 \*tangō, tangere, tetigī, tāctus, *to touch.*  
\*\*medius, -a, -um, *middle, middle of.*  
\*trāiciō [trāns- + iaciō, *to throw*], trāicere, trāiēcī, trāiectus, *to pierce, stab.*  
gemitus, -ūs, m., *groan.*
- 68 \*\*mentior, -īrī, -ītus sum, *to lie.*

*A slave decides to act.*

"Habēbāmus tunc hominem Cappadocem, longum, valdē 63  
audāculum et quī valēbat: poterat bovem īrātum tollere. Hic 64  
audācter strictō gladiō extrā ūstium prōcucurrit, involūtā sinistrā 65  
manū cūriōsē, et mulierem tamquam hōc locō—salvum sit quod 66  
tangō—mediam trāiēcit. Audīmus gemitum, et—plānē nōn 67  
mentiar—ipsās nōn vīdimus. 68

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63 **valdē audāculum:** the colloquial abuse of diminutives is illustrated here where the diminutive (which has lost any real force) is modified by **valdē**, *very*.

64 **quī valēbat:** *quī* is here exclamatory, *how strong he was!*  
**bovem īrātum tollere:** i.e., he could outdo the feat of the legendary athlete Milo of Croton (6th century B.C.), who carried a heifer down the race course.

66 **cūriōsē:** *carefully* or *in a special way*—in either case as a protection against the witches.

**hōc locō:** Trimalchio touches his chest or stomach.

**salvum sit quod tangō:** a parenthetical wish to avert any magical effect of his having touched the same place where the witch was struck.

67 **nōn mentiar:** potential subjunctive, *I wouldn't lie.*

- 69 **bārō, bārōnis**, m. [vulgar word-formation with ending in -ō, see p. 244; probably from Etruscan], *blockhead, simpleton*.  
**intrōversus**, adv., *towards the inside, back inside, within the house*.  
**\*prōiciō** [**prō-** + **iaciō, to throw**], **prōicere, prōiēcī, prōiectus, to throw (forth), hurl.**  
**\*\*lectus, -ī, m., bed.**  
**corpus, corporis, n., body.**
- 70 **līvidus, -a, -um, leaden-colored, black and blue.**  
**\*quasi, conj., as if.**  
**flagellum, -ī, n., whip.**  
**\*\*caedō, caedere, cecidī, caesus, to cut; to strike, beat.**  
**claudō, claudere, clausī, clausus, to shut.**  
**clūsō, vulgar for clausō (see p. 240).**  
**\*ōstium, -ī, n., door.**
- 71 **\*\*redeō, redīre, rediī, redditūrus, irreg., to go/come back, return.**  
**iterum, adv., again, a second time.**  
**\*\*\*officium, -ī, n., duty, task.**  
**amplexor, -ārī, -ātus sum, to embrace.**  
**amplexāret, vulgar active for deponent (see p. 243).**  
**\*corpus, corporis, n., body.**
- 72 **\*\*tangō, tangere, tetigī, tāctus, to touch.**  
**maniceolum, -ī, n. or -us, -ī, m. [unattested variant of **maniculus, -ī, m., handful, bundle, from manus, -ūs, f., hand**], little handful, bundle.**  
**manuciolum, vulgar variant with *u* instead of *i* and *i* instead of *e* (see pp. 240, 241, 246).**  
**strāmentum, -ī, n., straw.**
- 73 **\*cor, cordis, n., heart.**  
**intestīna, -ōrum, n. pl., guts, intestines.**  
**quisquam, quisquam, quidquam/quicquam, indef. pron., somebody, anybody, something, anything.**  
**\*scīlicet, particle, of course, certainly, evidently.**
- 74 **\*strīx, strīgis, f., screech-owl (which, according to ancient belief, sucked the blood of young children); vampire, witch.**  
**strīgāe, vulgar first declension variant of **strīgēs** (see p. 243).**  
**\*involō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus, to fly at, rush upon (to steal), seize upon.**  
**\*suppōnō [sub- + pōnō], suppōnere, supposūī, suppositus, to put under; to put in the place of, substitute.**  
**strāmentīcius, -a, -um, made of straw [strāmentum, -ī, n.].**  
**vavatō, vavatōnis, m. [vulgar word-formation with ending in -ō, see p. 244, found only here, see p. 246; based on baby syllables *va, va*], doll, puppet.**

*But he fails.*

"Bārō autem noster intrōversus sē prōiēcit in lectum, et cor- 69  
pus tōtum līvidum habēbat quasi flagellīs caesus. Nōs clūsō ōs- 70  
tiō redīmus iterum ad officium, sed dum māter amplexāret cor- 71  
pus filii sui, tangit et videt manuciolum dē strāmentīs factum. 72  
Nōn cor habēbat, nōn intestīna, nōn quicquam: scīlicet iam 73  
puerum strīgæ involāverant et supposuerant strāmentīcium va- 74  
vatōnem. 75

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70 **clūsō ōstiō:** i.e., as soon as the door was closed.

71 **ad officium:** i.e., to our task of lamenting the dead boy.

**dum . . . amplexāret:** vulgar use of active for deponent and af-  
fected use of the imperfect subjunctive instead of the usual pre-  
sent indicative (see pp. 243, 250).

73 **Nōn . . . nōn . . . nōn:** anaphora (see p. 251).

- 76 \*\*\***oportet**, -ēre, -uit, impersonal + subjn. without *ut*, *it is proper/right; ought.*  
\*\*\***crēdō**, *crēdere, crēdidī, crēditus*, *to trust; to believe.*  
**plūsscius**, -a, -um [vulgar, found only here, see p. 246; **plūs**, adv., *more + sciō, scīre, to know*], *who know more (than we do), otherwise, uncanny*
- 77 **Nocturna**, -ae, f., *woman of the night* [**nox**, **noctis**, **noctium**, f.], *witch.*  
**sūrsum**, adv., *up, upward.*  
**deorsum**, adv., *down, downward.*  
\***bārō**, **bārōnis**, m. [vulgar word-formation with ending in -ō, see p. 244; probably from Etruscan], *blockhead, simpleton.*
- 78 **post**, prep. + acc., *after.*  
**factum**, -ī, n., *happening, event.*  
**color**, **colōris**, m., *color.*  
\***post**, prep. + acc., *after.*
- 79 **paucī**, -ae, -a, *few.*  
**phrenēticus**, -a, -um [Greek loan word], *mad, delirious.*
- 80 **pereō**, *perīre, periī, peritūrus*, irreg., *to pass away, die.*  
\***pariter**, adv., *equally; at the same time, together.*  
**ōsculor**, -ārī, -ātus sum, *to kiss.*
- 81 \***Nocturna**, -ae, f., *woman of the night* [**nox**, **noctis**, **noctium**, f.], *witch.*  
\*\*\***redeō**, *redīre, redīī, redditūrus*, irreg., *to go/come back, return.*

*Witches do exist!*

"Rogō vōs, oportet crēdātis, sunt mulierēs plūssiae, sunt  
Nocturnae, et quod sūrsum est, deorsum faciunt. Cēterum bārō  
ille longus post hoc factum numquam colōris suī fuit, immō post  
paucōs diēs phrenēticus periit." 76

Mīrāmur nōs et pariter crēdimus, ūsculātīque mēnsam rogā-  
mus Nocturnās ut suīs sē teneant, dum redīmus ā cēnā. 77

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77 **sunt . . . sunt**: anaphora (see p. 251).

78 **quod sūrsum est, deorsum faciunt**: i.e., they turn things upside  
down, topsy turvy.

79 **colōris suī**: genitive of description; he never got his color back  
again.

81 **ut suīs sē teneant**: subjunctive in indirect command. **suīs**: that  
they keep themselves *to their own* (and not bother us).