BOOK ONE OF THE DIVINE COMEDY

INFERNO

BOOK ONE OF THE DIVINE COMEDY

INFERNO

DANTE ALIGHIERI

Translated by Joe Carlson

ROMAN ROADS PRESS

MOSCOW, IDAHO

Copyright page

Dante Alighieri (1265–1321)

CONTENTS

Canto I: The Dark Wood 3

Canto II: Dante and Virgil 19

Canto III: Neutrals and the Acheron 35

Canto IV: Virtuous Pagans 51

Canto V: Lustful 69

Canto VI: Gluttons 85

Canto VII: Avaricious and Wrathful 99

Canto VIII: The Gates of Dis 115

Canto IX: The Gates of Dis 131

Canto X: Heresiarchs 147

Canto XI: Discourse on the Structure of Hell 163

Canto XII: Tyrants and Robbers 177

Canto XIII: Suicides and Squanderers 193

Canto XIV: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers 211

Canto XV: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers 227

Canto XVI: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers 241

Canto XVII: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers 257

Canto XVIII: Seducers and Flatterers 273

Canto XIX: Simonists 289

Canto XX: Soothsayers and Magicians 305

Canto XXI: Barrators 321

Canto XXII: Barrators 337

Canto XXIII: Hypocrites 355

Canto XXIV: Thieves 373

Canto XXV: Thieves 391

Canto XXVI: False Counselors 409

Canto XXVII: False Counselors 425

Canto XXVIII: Schismatics 441

Canto XXIX: Falsifiers 457

Canto XXX: Falsifiers 473

Canto XXXI: The Ring of Giants 491

Canto XXXII: Caina and Antenora 509

Canto XXXIII: Antenora and Ptolomea 525

Canto XXXIV: Judecca 543

INFERNO

Canto I: The Dark Wood

1	Nel	mezzo	del	cammin	di	nostra	vita		
	In the	*middle*	*of the*	*course*	*of*	*our*	*life*		
2	mi	ritrovai	per	una	selva	oscura			
	me	*I found*	*in*	*a*	*wood*	*dark*			
3	ché	la	diritta	via	era	smarrita.			
	for	*the*	*right*	*way*	*was*	*lost.*			
4	Ahi	quanto	a	dir	qual	era	è	cosa	dura
	Ah,	*how*	*to*	*speak*	*what*	*it*	*was*	*is a thing*	*hard*
5	esta	selva	selvaggia	e	aspra	e	forte		
	this	*wood*	*savage*	*and*	*hard*	*and*	*strong*		
6	che	nel	pensier	rinova	la	paura!			
	that	*in the*	*thought*	*renews*	*the*	*fear!*			
7	Tant'	è	amara	che	poco	è	più	morte;	
	Such	*is the*	*bitterness*	*that*	*little*	*is*	*more*	*death;*	
8	ma	per	trattar	del	ben	ch'i'	vi	trovai,	
	but	*in order to*	*treat*	*of the*	*good*	*that I*	*there*	*found*	
9	dirò	de	l'altre	cose	ch'i'	v'ho	scorte.		
	I will speak	*of*	*the other*	*things*	*that I*	*there*	*saw.*		

In the middle of the course of our life I found myself in a dark wood, for the right way was lost. Ah, how to say what it was is a hard thing, this wood savage and hard and strong, so that in the very thought, it renews the fear! Such is the bitterness that death is little more; but in order to treat of the good that I found there I will speak of the other things that there I saw.

10 Io non so ben ridir com' i' v'intrai,
I do not know well to repeat how I there entered

11 tant' era pien di sonno a quel punto
so was I full of sleep at that point

12 che la verace via abbandonai.
that the true way I abandoned.

13 Ma poi ch'i' fui al piè d'un colle giunto,
But when that I had to the foot of a hill joined

14 là dove terminava quella valle
the place where terminated that valley

15 che m'avea di paura il cor compunto,
that me had with fear the heart punctured

16 guardai in alto, e vidi le sue spalle
I looked on high, and I saw its shoulders

17 vestite già de' raggi del pianeta
robed already with the rays of the planet

18 che mena dritto altrui per ogne calle.
that leads right others through every road.

I do not know well how to retell how I entered there, so full of sleep was I at that point where I abandoned the true way. But when I had come to the foot of a hill that brought an end to that valley that had punctured my heart with fear, I looked on high, and I saw its shoulders robed already with the rays of the planet that leads others aright along every road.

19 Allor fu la paura un poco queta
Then was the fear a little quieted

20 che nel lago del cor m'era durata
that the lake of my heart had endured

21 la notte ch'i' passai con tanta pieta.
the night that I passed with such piteousness.

22 E come quei che con lena affannata
And as that one that with labored breath

23 uscito fuor del pelago a la riva
comes out of the deep to the shore

24 si volge a l'acqua perigliosa e guata,
himself turns to the water dangerous and gazes,

25 così l'animo mio, ch'ancor fuggiva,
so too my soul, that still fled,

26 si volse a retro a rimirar lo passo
itself turned back to re-marvel the pass

27 che non lasciò già mai persona viva.
that not left before ever person alive.

Then was a little quieted the fear that the lake of my heart had endured the night that I passed with such piteousness. And as that one who with labored breath comes out of the deep to the shore, turns himself to the dangerous water and gazes, so too my soul, that still fled, turned itself back to re-marvel at the pass that never before left a person alive.

28 Poi ch'èi posato un poco il corpo lasso,
After that I had laid down a little the body weary,

29 ripresi via per la piaggia diserta,
I resumed the way through the shore deserted,

30 sì che 'l piè fermo sempre era 'l più basso.
such that the foot firm always was the lower.

31 Ed ecco, quasi al cominciar de l'erta,
And behold, near to the beginning of the steep slope,

32 una lonza leggera e presta molto,
a leopard light and swift very,

33 che di pel macolato era coverta;
that with a hide dappled was covered

34 e non mi si partia dinanzi al volto,
and not me it left from before the face,

35 anzi 'mpediva tanto il mio cammino,
rather it impeded so my course

36 ch'i' fui per ritornar più volte vòlto.
that I was to return more times it directed me.

After I had laid down a little my weary body, I resumed the way through the deserted shore, such that the firm foot was always the lower. And behold, near to the beginning of the steep slope, a leopard light and very swift, with dappled hide covered, did not leave from before my face, rather it impeded my way such that I was made to return more times.

37 Temp' era dal principio del mattino,
The hour it was from the first of the morning,

38 e 'l sol montava 'n sù con quelle stelle
and the sun was mounting above with those stars

39 ch'eran con lui quando l'amor divino
that were with it when the love divine

40 mosse di prima quelle cose belle;
moved from the first those things beautiful;

41 sì ch'a bene sperar m'era cagione
such that to good hope to me was cause

42 di quella fiera a la gaetta pelle
of that wild beast of the gay pelt

43 l'ora del tempo e la dolce stagione;
the hour of the time and the sweet season

44 ma non sì che paura non mi desse
but not such that fear not to me yielded

45 la vista che m'apparve d'un leone.
the sight that to me appeared of a lion.

It was the first hour of the morning, and the sun was mounting above with those stars that were with it when the divine Love moved from the first those things beautiful; such was the hour of the time and the sweet season to me a cause to good hope, despite the wild beast of the gay pelt, but not such that the sight of a lion that appeared to me did not yield me unto fear.

46	Questi	parea	che	contra	me	venisse
	This one	*appeared*	*that*	*against*	*me*	*about to come*
47	con	la test'	alta	e	con	rabbiosa	fame,
	with	*head*	*high*	*and*	*with*	*furious*	*hunger,*
48	sì	che	parea	che	l'aere	ne	tremesse.
	such	*that it*	*seemed*	*that*	*the air*	*about him*	*trembled.*
49	Ed	una	lupa,	che	di	tutte	brame
	And	*a*	*she-wolf,*	*that*	*from*	*all*	*craving*
50	sembiava	carca	ne	la sua	magrezza,	
	appeared	*charged*	*of*	*her*	*thinness,*	
51	e	molte	genti	fé	già	viver	grame,
	and	*many*	*people*	*has made*	*already*	*to live*	*wretchedly*
52	questa	mi	porse	tanto	di	gravezza
	this	*to me*	*gave*	*such*	*of*	*gravity*
53	con	la	paura	ch'uscia	di	sua vista,
	with	*the*	*fear*	*that emerged*	*at the*	*sight of her,*
54	ch'io	perdei	la speranza	de	l'altezza.
	that I	*lost*	*hope*	*of*	*the height.*

This one appeared about to come against me with head high and with furious hunger, such that it seemed the very air about him trembled. And a she-wolf, that from complete craving seemed charged by her leanness, a leanness that has made many already to live wretchedly, this gave to me such a heaviness that, with the fear that emerged at the sight of her, I lost hope of the height.

55 E qual è quei che volontieri acquista,
And as is the one who willingly acquires

56 e giugne 'l tempo che perder lo face,
and when the time that to lose comes

57 che 'n tutti suoi pensier piange e s'attrista;
that in all his thoughts weeping and sadness

58 tal mi fece la bestia sanza pace,
such me made the beast without peace,

59 che, venendomi 'ncontro, a poco a poco
that, coming me against, little by little

60 mi ripigneva là dove 'l sol tace.
me it drove to that place where the sun is silent.

61 Mentre ch'i' rovinava in basso loco,
While I was ruined back into the lower place

62 dinanzi a li occhi mi si fu offerto
in front of (my) eyes to me one offered himself

63 chi per lungo silenzio parea fioco.
who on account of a long silence seemed faint.

And as is the one who willingly buys and the time comes to lose, so that in all his thoughts is weeping and sadness, such a one that beast without peace made me, so that, coming against me, little by little, it drove me back to that place where the sun is silent. While I was being ruined back into the lower place, before my eyes one offered himself to me, who on account of the long silence seemed faint.

64 Quando vidi costui nel gran diserto,
When I saw this one in the great desert,

65 «Miserere di me», gridai a lui,
"Have mercy on me," I cried out to him,

66 «qual che tu sii, od ombra od omo certo!».
"whatsoever you are, whether shade or man alive!"

67 Rispuosemi: «Non omo, omo già fui,
He responded to me: "Not man, man formerly I was,

68 e li parenti miei furon lombardi,
and parents mine were Lombards,

69 mantoani per patrïa ambedui.
Mantua for fatherland both.

70 Nacqui sub Iulio, ancor che fosse tardi,
I was brought forth under Julius, still one that was late,

71 e vissi a Roma sotto 'l buono Augusto
and lived in Rome under the good Augustus

72 nel tempo de li dèi falsi e bugiardi.
in the time of the gods false and deceitful.

When I saw this one in the great desert, I cried out to him, "Miserere! Have mercy on me, whatsoever you are, whether shade or man alive!"

He responded to me, "Not man, man formerly was I, and my parents were Lombards, Mantua was for both a fatherland. I was brought forth under Julius, though late, and lived in Rome under the good Augustus in the time of the gods false and deceitful.

73 Poeta fui, e cantai di quel giusto
Poet was I, and I sang of that just

74 figliuol d'Anchise che venne di Troia,
son of Anchises that came from Troy

75 poi che 'l superbo Ilión fu combusto.
after that the proud Ilium was consumed by flame.

76 Ma tu perché ritorni a tanta noia?
But you, why do you return to such trouble?

77 perché non sali il dilettoso monte
Why do you not ascend the delightful mountain

78 ch'è principio e cagion di tutta gioia?».
that is the origin and cause of all joy?"

79 «Or se' tu quel Virgilio e quella fonte
"Then are you that Vergil and that fountainhead

80 che spandi di parlar sì largo fiume?»,
that spills over of speech such a wide stream?"

81 rispuos' io lui con vergognosa fronte.
answered I him with a timid brow.

Poet was I, and sang of that just son of Anchises that came from Troy after proud Ilium was consumed by flame. But you, why do you return to such trouble? Why do you not ascend the delightful mountain that is the origin and cause of all joy?"

"Then are you that Vergil and that fountainhead that spills over such a wide stream of speech?" answered I him with a timid brow.

82 «O de li altri poeti onore e lume
"O of the other poets honor and light

83 vagliami 'l lungo studio e 'l grande amore
sifts me the long study and great love

84 che m'ha fatto cercar lo tuo volume.
that me made to search your volume.

85 Tu se' lo mio maestro e 'l mio autore;
You are my master and my author

86 tu se' solo colui da cu' io tolsi
you are alone the one from whom I took

87 lo bello stilo che m'ha fatto onore.
the sweet style that for me made honor.

88 Vedi la bestia per cu' io mi volsi:
See the beast on account of which I myself turned back:

89 aiutami da lei, famoso saggio,
rescue me from her, famous sage,

90 ch'ella mi fa tremar le vene e i polsi».
she that makes me to tremble the veins and the pulses."

"O honor and light of the other poets—long study and great love sifts me, that made me to search your volume. You are my master and my authority, you alone are the one from whom I took the sweet style that made for me honor. See the beast on account of which I turned myself back: rescue me from her, famous sage, she that makes my veins and pulses tremble."

91 «A te convien tenere altro vïaggio»,
"You need to maintain another way,"

92 rispuose poi che lagrimar mi vide,
he answered after that weeping me he saw,

93 «se vuo' campar d'esto loco selvaggio;
"if you wish to carry on from this place savage;

94 ché questa bestia, per la qual tu gride,
for this beast, on account of which you cry out,

95 non lascia altrui passar per la sua via,
does not allow others to pass through her way,

96 ma tanto lo 'mpedisce che l'uccide;
but so impedes him that she kills him;

97 e ha natura sì malvagia e ria,
and [she] has a nature so malevolent and malign

98 che mai non empie la bramosa voglia,
that ever not sated (her) lustful craving,

99 e dopo 'l pasto ha più fame che pria.
and after the meal, she has more hunger than before.

"You need to keep to another way," he answered after he saw me weeping, "if you wish to carry on from this savage place; for this beast, on account of which you cry out, does not allow others to pass through her way, but so impedes him that she kills him. And she has a nature so malevolent and malign that her lustful craving is never sated. And after the meal, she has more hunger than before.

100 Molti son li animali a cui s'ammoglia,
Many are the animals to whom she weds herself,

101 e più saranno ancora, infin che 'l veltro
and more there will be still, until that the greyhound

102 verrà, che la farà morir con doglia.
will come, who will make her to die with labor pain.

103 Questi non ciberà terra né peltro,
This one will not feed on lands or pewter,

104 ma sapïenza, amore e virtute,
but on hope, love, and virtue,

105 e sua nazion sarà tra feltro e feltro.
and his dominion will be between Feltro and Feltro.

106 Di quella umile Italia fia salute
Of that humble Italy he will be salvation

107 per cui morì la vergine Cammilla,
for whom died the virgin Cammilla,

109 Eurialo e Turno e Niso di ferute.
Euryalus and Turnus and Nisus from wounds.

Many are the animals to whom she weds herself, and more still there will be, until that greyhound will come, who will make her to die with labor pain. This one will neither feed on lands nor money, but on hope, love, and virtue, and his dominion will be between Feltro and Feltro. Of that humble Italy he will be salvation, for whom died from wounds the virgin Cammilla, Euryalus and Turnus and Nisus.

109	Questi	la	caccerà	per	ogne	villa,	
	This one	*her*	*will hunt*	*through*	*every*	*village*	
110	fin che	l'avrà	rimessa	ne	lo	'nferno,	
	till	*he*	*returns*	*her*	*to*	*Hell,*	
111	là	onde	'nvidia	prima	dipartilla.		
	the	*place*	*whence*	*primal*	*envy loosed her.*		
112	Ond'	io	per	lo	tuo	me'	penso e discerno
	Wherefore	*I*	*for*	*this,*	*your*	*best,*	*think and discern*
113	che	tu	mi	segui,	e	io	sarò tua guida,
	that	*you*	*me*	*follow,*	*and*	*I*	*will be your guide,*
114	e	trarrotti	di	qui	per	loco	etterno,
	and	*drawing you*	*from*	*here*	*through*	*the place*	*eternal,*
115	ove	udirai	le	disperate	strida,		
	where	*you will hear*	*the*	*desperate*	*shrieking,*		
116	vedrai	li	antichi	spiriti	dolenti,		
	you will see	*the*	*ancient*	*spirits*	*sorrowful,*		
117	ch'a	la	seconda	morte	ciascun	grida;	
	that for	*the*	*second*	*death*	*each*	*cries out;*	

This one will hunt her through every village till he returns her to Hell, the place whence primal envy loosed her. Wherefore I think and discern for this, your best, that you follow me, and I will be your guide, and drawing you from here through the eternal place, where you will hear the desperate shrieking, you will see the ancient, sorrowful spirits, that because of the second death each cries out;

118	e	vederai	color	che	son	contenti			
	and	*you will see*	*those*	*that*	*are*	*content*			
119	nel	foco,	perché	speran	di	venire			
	in the	*fire,*	*because*	*they hope*	*to*	*come*			
120	quando	che	sia	a	le	beate	genti.		
	whenever	*that*	*should be,*	*to*	*the*	*blessed*	*people.*		
121	A	le quai	poi	se	tu	vorrai	salire,		
	To	*these*	*after*	*if*	*you*	*should desire*	*to ascend,*		
122	anima	fia a	ciò	più	di	me	degna:		
	a soul	*will be*	*of this*	*more*	*than*	*me*	*worthy:*		
123	con	lei	ti	lascerò	nel	mio	partire;		
	with	*her*	*you*	*I will leave*	*in*	*my*	*departure;*		
124	ché	quello	imperador	che	là	sù	regna,		
	for	*that*	*Emperor*	*that*	*there*	*over all*	*reigns,*		
125	perch'	i'	fu'	ribellante	a	la sua	legge,		
	because	*I*	*was*	*rebellious*	*to*	*his*	*law,*		
126	non	vuol	che	'n	sua	città	per	me	si	vegna.
	does not	*will*	*that*	*into*	*His*	*city*	*through*	*me*	*any*	*come.*

---

and you will see those that are content in the fire, because they hope to come, whenever that should be, to the blessed people. To these, if you should afterwards desire to ascend, a soul there will be more worthy of this than me: with her I will leave you in my departure; for that Emperor that there reigns over all, because I was rebellious to His law, does not will that through me, any come into His city.

127 In tutte parti impera e quivi regge;
In every part he reigns and there He rules;

128 quivi è la sua città e l'alto seggio:
there is His city and high seat:

129 oh felice colui cu' ivi elegge»!
oh happy the one who He elects (to be) yonder!"

130 E io a lui: «Poeta, io ti richeggio
And I to him, "Poet, I you ask again,

131 per quello Dio che tu non conoscesti,
on account of that God who you did not know,

132 acciò ch'io fugga questo male e peggio,
inasmuch as I might flee this evil and worse

133 che tu mi meni là dov'or dicesti,
that you me lead to that place whereof you spoke,

134 sì ch'io veggia la porta di san Pietro
so that I might see the gate of St Peter

135 e color cui tu fai cotanto mesti».
and those who you make to be so sorrowful."

136 Allor si mosse, e io li tenni dietro.
Then he set out, and I kept behind.

In every part He reigns and there He rules; there is His city and high seat: oh happy the one He elects to be there!"

And I to him, "Poet, I ask you again, on account of that God whom you did not know, inasmuch as I might flee this evil and worse, that you lead me to that place whereof you spoke, so that I might see the gate of St Peter and those who you make to be so very sorrowful." Then he set out and I kept behind.

Canto II: Dante and Virgil

1 Lo giorno se n'andava, e l'aere bruno
The day when left there, and the air dusky

2 toglieva li animai che sono in terra
removed the animals that are on earth

3 a le fatiche loro; e io sol uno
from labors their; and I just one

4 m'apparecchiava a sostener la guerra
set myself to shoulder the war

5 sì del cammino e sì de la pietate,
both of the course and of the pity ,

6 che ritrarrà la mente che non erra.
that will portray the mind that does not wander.

7 O muse, o alto ingegno, or m'aiutate;
O muse, o high ingenuity, now help me;

8 o mente che scrivesti ciò ch'io vidi,
O mind that wrote that which I saw

9 qui si parrà la tua nobilitate.
here indeed will appear your nobility.

When the day departed there, and the dusky air removed the animals that are on earth from their labors, and I, just one, set myself to shoulder the war both of the way and the pity of it, this the mind that does not wander will portray. O Muse, O high ingenuity, help me now; O Mind that wrote that which I saw, here indeed will appear Your nobility.

10 Io cominciai: «Poeta che mi guidi,
I began: "Poet, you who me would guide,

11 guarda la mia virtù s'ell' è possente,
look upon my virtue, if it is strong,

12 prima ch'a l'alto passo tu mi fidi.
before that to the high passage you me trust.

13 Tu dici che di Silvïo il parente,
You say that of Sylvius the parent,

14 corruttibile ancora, ad immortale
corruptible still, to the immortals

15 secolo andò, e fu sensibilmente.
the age went, and was by means of the senses.

16 Però, se l'avversario d'ogne male
Yet, if the adversary of all evil

17 cortese i (gli) fu, pensando l'alto effetto
kind him was, considering the high effect

18 ch'uscir dovea di lui e 'l chi e 'l quale
that to depart ought from him and the who and the which

I began: "Poet, you who guide me, look upon my virtue, if it is strong, before you trust me to the high passage. You say that the parent of Sylvius, still corruptible, to the immortals in this age went and was, by means of the senses. Yet if the adversary of all evil was kind to him, considering the high effect that must come forth from him, and the who and the what,

19 non pare indegno ad omo d'intelletto;
not seems unworthy for a man of intellect;

20 ch'e' fu de l'alma Roma e di suo impero
that he was of nurturing Rome and of her dominion

21 ne l'empireo ciel per padre eletto:
of that Empyrean heaven for father was elected:

22 la quale e 'l quale, a voler dir lo vero,
that and that, to wish to speak the truth,

23 fu stabilita per lo loco santo
was established for the place holy

24 u' siede il successor del maggior Piero.
where sits the successor of the better Peter.

25 Per quest' andata onde li dai tu vanto,
For this journey whence him give you praise

26 intese cose che furon cagione
he understood the things that were the cause

27 di sua vittoria e del papale ammanto.
of his victory and of the Papal mantle.

---

it seems not unworthy for a man of intellect, that he was, of nurturing Rome and of her dominion, elected as father from that Empyrean heaven: that and the other, to wish to speak the truth, were established for the sake of the holy place where sits the successor of the better Peter. For this journey, whence you give him praise, he understood the things that were the cause of his victory and the Papal mantle.

28 Andovvi poi lo Vas d'elezïone,
Went there after the vessel of election

29 per recarne conforto a quella fede
in order to bring from it comfort for that faith

30 ch'è principio a la via di salvazione.
that is the first step to the way of salvation.

31 Ma io, perché venirvi? o chi 'l concede?
But I, why approach there? Or who allows it?

32 Io non Enëa, io non Paulo sono;
I not Aeneas, I not Paul am;

33 me degno a ciò né io né altri 'l crede.
me worthy for this neither I nor others believe

34 Per che, se del venire io m'abbandono,
For this, if of to come I abandon myself

35 temo che la venuta non sia folle.
I fear that the coming lest is folly.

36 Se' savio; intendi me' (meglio) ch'i' non ragiono».
you are wise; you understand better what I cannot reason."

After, the Vessel of election went there in order to bring from there comfort for that faith that is the first step to the way of salvation. But I, why approach there? Or who allows it? I am not Aeneas, I am not Paul; neither I nor others believe me worthy for this. For this, if I abandon myself to come, I fear lest the coming is folly. You are wise; you understand better what I cannot argue."

37 E qual è quei che disvuol ciò che volle
And as is the one who unwills that which he willed

38 e per novi pensier cangia proposta,
and on account of new thoughts modifies a proposal

39 sì che dal cominciar tutto si tolle,
such that from the commencment totally himself draws

40 tal mi fec' ïo 'n quella oscura costa,
so I made me in that dark shore,

41 perché, pensando, consumai la 'mpresa
because, thinking, I consumed the enterprise

42 che fu nel cominciar cotanto tosta.
that I was in the commencing so much determined.

43 «S'i' ho ben la parola tua intesa»,
"If I have well word your understood,"

44 rispuose del magnanimo quell' ombra;
answered of the great-souled one the shade

45 «l'anima tua è da viltade offesa;
"the soul your is by cowardice abused;

And as is the one who unwills that which he willed, and on account of new thoughts modifies a proposal, such that he totally withdraws himself from the commencement, so I made me on that dark shore, because, thinking, I consumed the enterprise that I was so much determined of in the commencing.

"If I have well understood your speech," answered the shade of the great-souled one, "your soul is abused by cowardice;

46 la qual molte fïate l' omo ingombra
that which many times the man encumbers

47 sì che d'onrata impresa lo rivolve,
such that from the honorable endeavor he is turned back

48 come falso veder bestia quand' ombra.
just as a false seeing a beast when it is shadowed over.

49 Da questa tema acciò che tu ti solve,
From this fear so that you yourself may save

50 dirotti perch' io venni e quel ch'io 'ntesi
I will tell you why I came and that which I understood

51 nel primo punto che di te mi dolve.
in the first moment that for you it hurt me

52 Io era tra color che son sospesi,
I was amidst those that are suspended

53 e donna mi chiamò beata e bella,
and a lady me called blessed and beautiful,

54 tal che di comandare io la richiesi.»
such that to command I her urged.

---

that which many times encumbers the man such that from the honorable deed he is turned back, just as a false seeing turns back a beast when it is shadowed over. So that you may save yourself from this fear, I will tell you why I came and what I understood in the first moment that I ached for you. I was among those that are suspended and a lady, blessed and beautiful, called me, such that I urged her to command.

55 Lucevan li occhi suoi più che la stella;
Were shining eyes her more than the stars

56 e cominciommi a dir soave e piana,
and began to speak pleasing and plain

57 con angelica voce, in sua favella:
with angelic voice, in her way of speech:

58 "O anima cortese mantoana,
'O soul courteous Mantuan

59 di cui la fama ancor nel mondo dura,
of whom the fame still in the world endures

60 e durerà quanto 'l mondo lontana,
and will endure as long as the world goes on

61 l'amico mio, e non de la ventura,
friend my, and not of fortune,

62 ne la diserta piaggia è impedito
on the deserted shore is impeded

63 sì nel cammin, che volt' è per paura;
so in the course, that he has turned back for fear;

Her eyes were shining more than the stars and she began to speak, pleasingly and plain, with angelic voice, in her own way of speech:

'O courteous Mantuan soul, the fame of whom still in the world endures and will endure as long as the world goes on, my friend, and not of fortune, on the deserted shore is so impeded in the course, that he has turned back for fear;

64 e temo che non sia già sì smarrito,
and I fear that lest he is already so lost

65 ch'io mi sia tardi al soccorso levata,
that I have late to save risen

66 per quel ch'i' ho di lui nel cielo udito.
from that which I have of him in heaven heard.

67 Or movi, e con la tua parola ornata
Now move, and with your word ornamented

68 e con ciò c'ha mestieri al suo campare,
and with that which is necessary to his staying alive,

69 l'aiuta, sì ch'i' ne sia consolata.
help him, so that I in this might be consoled.

70 I' son Beatrice che ti faccio andare;
I am Beatrice that you makes to go

71 vegno del loco ove tornar disio;
I come from the place where to return I desire;

72 amor mi mosse, che mi fa parlare.
Love me moved, that me makes speak.

---

and I fear lest he is already so lost that I have risen too late to save him from that which I have of him in heaven heard. Now move, and with your ornamented word and with that which is necessary to his staying alive, help him, so that I in this might be consoled. I am Beatrice that makes you go, I come from the place where to return I desire; Love moved me, that makes me speak.

73 Quando sarò dinanzi al segnor mio,
When I am before Lord my,

74 di te mi loderò sovente a lui."
of you I will praise often to Him.'

75 Tacette allora, e poi comincia' io:
She fell silent then, and after began I:

76 "O donna di virtù, sola per cui
'O lady of virtue, alone through whom

77 l'umana spezie eccede ogne contento
the human species exceeds all the contentedness/happiness

78 di quel ciel c'ha minor li cerchi sui,
of that heaven that are smallest the circles of which

79 tanto m'aggrada il tuo comandamento,
so pleases me your commandment,

80 che l'ubidir, se già fosse, m'è tardi;
that to obey, if already had been, by me is late;

81 più non t'è uo' ch'aprirmi il tuo talento.
more not you is needed, than to open to me your inclination.

When I am before my Lord, I will often sing praise of you to Him.'

"Then she fell silent, and afterwards I began: 'O lady of virtue, through whom alone the human species surpasses all the contentedness of that heaven whose circles are the smallest, your commandment so pleases me that to obey, if it already had been, by me is late; more from you is not needed than to open to me your inclination.

82 Ma dimmi la cagion che non ti guardi
But tell me the reason that not you guard yourself

83 de lo scender qua giuso in questo centro
from the descent to here below, into this center,

84 de l'ampio loco ove tornar tu ardi."
from the vast place where to return you dare.'

85 "Da che tu vuo' saver cotanto a dentro,
'For that you wish to know so much from within,

86 dirotti brievemente," mi rispuose,
I will tell you briefly,' me she answered,

87 "perch' i' non temo di venir qua entro.
'why I do not fear to come this place within.

88 Temer si dee di sole quelle cose
To fear one ought to alone those things

89 c'hanno potenza di fare altrui male;
that have the power to make another's evil

90 de l'altre no, ché non son paurose.
of the other no, for nothing is frightening.

But tell me the reason that you do not guard yourself from the descent here below, into this center, from the vast place where you dare to return.'

"Since, from within, you wish to know so much, I will tell you briefly,' she answered me, 'why I do not fear to come within this place. One ought to fear alone those things that have the power to make another's evil; of the other no, for nothing else is frightening.

91 I' son fatta da Dio, sua mercé, tale,
I am made by God, His mercy, such,

92 che la vostra miseria non mi tange,
that your misery does not me touch,

93 né fiamma d'esto 'ncendio non m'assale.
nor the flame of this fire not me assail.

94 Donna è gentil nel ciel che si compiange
Lady there is gentle in the heaven that so empathizes

95 di questo 'mpedimento ov' io ti mando,
with this impediment where I you send

96 sì che duro giudicio là sù frange.
such that hard judgment there above is broken.

97 Questa chiese Lucia in suo dimando
This she asked for Lucy in her request

98 e disse: 'Or ha bisogno il tuo fedele
and said: 'Now has need your faithful one

99 di te, e io a te lo raccomando'.
of you, and I to you him recommend.'

I am made such by God, by His mercy, that your misery does not touch me, nor does the flame of this fire assail me. There is a gentle lady in heaven that so empathizes with this one's impediment where I send you, such that the hard judgment there above is undone. This one asked for Lucy in her request and said: 'Now your faithful one has need of you, and I recommend him to you.'

Lucia, nimica di ciascun crudele,
Lucy, enemy of every cruelty,

si mosse, e venne al loco dov' i' era,
herself moved, and came to the place where I was

che mi sedea con l'antica Rachele.
that me seated with the ancient Rachel.

Disse: 'Beatrice, loda di Dio vera,
She said: "Beatrice, praise of God true,

ché non soccorri quei che t'amò tanto,
why not you succor the one who you loved so much

ch'uscì per te de la volgare schiera?
that left for you from the vulgar crowd?

Non odi tu la pieta del suo pianto,
not hear you the pity of his weeping,

non vedi tu la morte che 'l combatte
not see you the death that him fights

su la fiumana ove 'l mar non ha vanto'?
on the torrent where the sea not have pride?"

Lucy, enemy of every cruelty, moved herself and came to the place where I was, where I was seated with the ancient Rachel. She said: 'Beatrice, true praise of God, why do you not succor the one who loved you so much, that left the vulgar crowd for you? Do you not hear the pity of his weeping, do you not see the death that fights him on the torrent where the sea has no boast?'

109 Al mondo non fur mai persone ratte
On the earth not were ever persons swift

110 a far lor pro o a fuggir lor danno,
to make their in favor or to flee their loss

111 com' io, dopo cotai parole fatte,
as I, after these words were made (spoken)

112 venni qua giù del mio beato scanno,
I came here down from my blessed seat,

113 fidandomi del tuo parlare onesto,
trusting to me of your words honest

114 ch'onora te e quei ch'udito l'hanno."
that honor you and those that heard them.'

115 Poscia che m'ebbe ragionato questo,
Thereafter that to me she had reasoned these

116 li occhi lucenti lacrimando volse,
the eyes shining weeping she turned

117 per che mi fece del venir più presto.
for that me she made to the going more quickly.

There were never persons on earth so swift to do for themselves or to flee their loss as I, after these words were spoken, came down here from my blessed seat, trusting me to your honest words that honor you and those that heard them.'

"Thereafter, having reasoned these things to me, weeping, she turned her shining eyes, so that she made me more quickly to go.

118 E venni a te così com' ella volse;
And I came to you just as she willed;

119 d'inanzi a quella fiera ti levai
from before that beast I have you removed

120 che del bel monte il corto andar ti tolse.
that of the good mountain the short passing you she deprived

121 Dunque: che è? perché, perché restai,
therefore: what is? why, why do you remain

122 perché tanta viltà nel core allette,
why does such cowardice in the heart attract

123 perché ardire e franchezza non hai,
why daring and frankness not you have

124 poscia che tai tre donne benedette
thereafter that such three ladies bless you

125 curan di te ne la corte del cielo,
nurse you in the court of heaven

126 e 'l mio parlar tanto ben ti promette»?
and my words such good to you promise?"

And I came to you just as she willed; I have removed you from before that beast that deprived you of the short passing to the good mountain. Therefore, what is this? Why, why do you remain, why does such cowardice attract in the heart, why have you not daring and frankness, after three such ladies bless you, nurse you in the court of heaven, and my words promise to you such good?"

127 Quali fioretti dal notturno gelo
As florets from the nocturnal chill

128 chinati e chiusi, poi che 'l sol li 'mbianca
bent and closed, after that the sun them whitens

129 si drizzan tutti aperti in loro stelo,
themselves straighten all open on their stem

130 tal mi fec' io di mia virtude stanca,
so me made I from my strength tired

131 e tanto buono ardire al cor mi corse,
and such good daring to heart my coursed

132 ch'i' cominciai come persona franca:
that I began as a person frank:

133 «Oh pietosa colei che mi soccorse!
"Oh compassionate she, that me succored!

134 e te cortese ch'ubidisti tosto
and you courteous that obeyed promptly

135 a le vere parole che ti porse!
to the true words that you she proffered!

As florets from the nocturnal chill bent and closed, after the sun whitens them, straighten themselves all open on their stem, so I made me from my tired strength, and such good daring coursed through my heart that I began as a person frank: "Oh compassionate one, she that succored me! And you courteous, that obeyed promptly the true words that she proffered you!

136 Tu m'hai con disiderio il cor disposto
You me have with desire the heart arranged

137 sì al venir con le parole tue,
such to come with words your,

138 ch'i' son tornato nel primo proposto.
that I am returned to the first purpose

139 Or va, ch'un sol volere è d'ambedue:
Now, go, that one same will is of both:

140 tu duca, tu segnore, e tu maestro».
you lead, you lord, and you master."

141 Così li dissi; e poi che mosso fue,
Thus to him I spoke; and after that went he

142 intrai per lo cammino alto e silvestro.
I entered through the course high and savage.

You have, with your words, so arranged my heart with desire to come, that I am returned to the first purpose. Now go, since one same will is of us both: you lead, you lord, and you master."

Thus to him I spoke; and after he went I entered by the high and savage course.

Canto III: Neutrals and the Acheron

1 ‘Per me si va ne la città dolente,
Through me one goes into the city aching

2 per me si va ne l’etterno dolore,
through me one goes into the eternal pain

3 per me si va tra la perduta gente.
through me one goes amongst the lost people

4 Giustizia mosse il mio alto fattore;
Justice moved my high Maker

5 fecemi la divina podestate,
made me the divine power

6 la somma sapïenza e ’l primo amore.
the highest wisdom and the primal love.

7 Dinanzi a me non fuor cose create
Before me not were things created

8 se non etterne, e io etterno duro.
if not eternal, and I eternal endure.

9 Lasciate ogne speranza, voi ch’intrate’.
Abandon all hope, you who enter.

“Through me one goes into the aching city, through me one goes into the eternal pain, through me one goes amongst the lost people. Justice moved my High Maker; the Divine Power, the Highest Wisdom, and the Primal Love made me. Before me were not created things, if not eternal, and I eternal endure. Abandon all hope, you who enter.”

10 Queste parole di colore oscuro
These words of color dark

11 vid' ïo scritte al sommo d'una porta;
saw I written on the top of a door

12 per ch'io: «Maestro, il senso lor m'è duro».
for this, I: "Master, the sense of these to me is hard."

13 Ed elli a me, come persona accorta:
And he to me, as a person watchful:

14 «Qui si convien lasciare ogne sospetto;
Here one needs to abandon all suspicion;

15 ogne viltà convien che qui sia morta.
all cowardice needs that here to be killed

16 Noi siam venuti al loco ov' i' t'ho detto
We have come to the place where I to you said

17 che tu vedrai le genti dolorose
that you would see the people anguished

18 c'hanno perduto il ben de l'intelletto».
who have lost the good of the intellect."

These words of dark color saw I written on the top of a door; for which, I: "Master, the sense of these words is hard to me." And he to me, as a person watchful: "Here one needs to abandon all suspicion; all cowardice needs there to be killed. We have come to the place where I told you that you would see the people anguished, who have lost the good of the intellect."

19 E poi che la sua mano a la mia puose
And then that his hand to mine he put

20 con lieto volto, ond' io mi confortai,
with cheerful countenance, whence I me comforted

21 mi mise dentro a le segrete cose.
me he led inside to the secret things.

22 Quivi sospiri, pianti e alti guai
There sighs, weeping and high troubles

23 risonavan per l'aere sanza stelle,
were resounding through the air without stars,

24 per ch'io al cominciar ne lagrimai.
on account of which I at the beginning there did weep.

25 Diverse lingue, orribili favelle,
Different tongues, horrible ways of speech

26 parole di dolore, accenti d'ira,
words of pain, accents of wrath,

27 voci alte e fioche, e suon di man con elle
Voices high and feeble, and the sound of [beating] hands with them

---

And, after he had put his hand on mine with cheerful countenance, whence I was comforted, he led me inside to the secret things. There sighs, weeping, and high troubles were resounding through the air without stars, on account of which I there at the beginning did weep. Different tongues, horrible ways of speech, words of pain, accents of wrath, voices high and feeble, and with them the sound of beating hands,

28 facevano un tumulto, il qual s'aggira
these made a tumult, the which themselves roamed

29 sempre in quell' aura sanza tempo tinta,
always in that air without time stained

30 come la rena quando turbo spira.
as the sand when blows the whirlwind.

31 E io ch'avea d'error la testa cinta,
And I that was by error the head encircled

32 dissi: «Maestro, che è quel ch'i' odo?
said: "Master, what is this that I hear?

33 e che gent' è che par nel duol sì vinta?».
and what people is it that seem in the pain so defeated?"

34 Ed elli a me: «Questo misero modo
And he to me: "This miserable manner

35 tegnon l'anime triste di coloro
holds the souls wretched of those

36 che visser sanza 'nfamia e sanza lodo.
who lived without infamy and without praise.

---

these made a tumult, the which roamed always in that stained air without time, as the sand when blows the whirlwind. And I, with head encircled by error, said, "Master, what is this that I hear? And what people is it that seem so defeated in the pain?" And he to me: "This miserable manner holds the wretched souls of those who lived without infamy and without praise.

37 Mischiate sono a quel cattivo coro
Mixed they to that base chorus

38 de li angeli che non furon ribelli
of the angels that not were rebellious

39 né fur fedeli a Dio, ma per sé fuoro.
nor were they faithful to God, but for themselves were.

40 Caccianli i ciel per non esser men belli,
Banish them the heavens for not to be less beautiful

41 né lo profondo inferno li riceve,
nor the deep hell them does receive,

42 ch'alcuna gloria i rei avrebber d'elli».
that some glory the guilty might have of them."

43 E io: «Maestro, che è tanto greve
I: "Master, what is so heavy

44 a lor che lamentar li fa sì forte?».
to them that the lamenting they make is so strong?"

45 Rispuose: «Dicerolti molto breve.
He answered: "I will tell you very briefly.

They are mixed into that base chorus of angels that were neither rebellious nor were they faithful to God, but were for themselves. The heavens banish them in order not to be less beautiful, neither does the deep hell receive them, lest the guilty should have some glory of them." I: "Master, what is so heavy to them that the lamenting they make is so strong?" He answered: "I will tell you very briefly.

46 Questi non hanno speranza di morte,
these do not have hope of death

47 e la lor cieca vita è tanto bassa,
and their blind life is so very low,

48 che 'nvidïosi son d'ogne altra sorte.
that they envious are of every other allotment.

49 Fama di loro il mondo esser non lassa;
Report of them the world to be does not allow

50 misericordia e giustizia li sdegna:
mercy and justice them reject:

51 non ragioniam di lor, ma guarda e passa».
let us not reason about them, but look and move on."

52 E io, che riguardai, vidi una 'nsegna
I, that looking again, saw an insignia

53 che girando correva tanto ratta,
that turning, hurried so rapidly,

54 che d'ogne posa mi parea indegna;
that of all repose it seemed to me incapable;

---

these do not have hope of death, and their blind life is so very low, that they are envious of every other allotment. The world does not allow there to be report of them, mercy and justice reject them: let us not reason about them, but look and move on." I, looking again, saw an insignia that turning, hurried so rapidly that of all repose it seemed to me incapable;

55 e dietro le venìa sì lunga tratta
and behind it came so long a train

56 di gente, ch'i' non averei creduto
of people, that I not could believe

57 che morte tanta n'avesse disfatta.
that death so many there had defeated.

58 Poscia ch'io v'ebbi alcun riconosciuto,
after that I there some recognized,

59 vidi e conobbi l'ombra di colui
I saw and knew the shade of him

60 che fece per viltade il gran rifiuto.
who made through cowardice the great refusal.

61 Incontanente intesi e certo fui
Immediately I understood and certain was

62 che questa era la setta d'i cattivi,
that this was the sect of the base,

63 a Dio spiacenti e a' nemici sui.
to God displeasing and to enemies his.

---

and behind it came so long a train of people, that I could not believe that death had there defeated so many. After I recognized some, I saw and knew the shade of him who made through cowardice the great refusal. Immediately I understood and was certain that this was the sect of the base, displeasing to God and to His enemies.

64 Questi sciaurati, che mai non fur vivi,
These wretches, that ever not were alive

65 erano ignudi e stimolati molto
were naked and inflamed much

66 da mosconi e da vespe ch'eran ivi.
by flies and by wasps that were there.

67 Elle rigavan lor di sangue il volto,
These lined of them with blood the face

68 che, mischiato di lagrime, a' lor piedi
which, mixed with tears, at their feet

69 da fastidiosi vermi era ricolto.
by irksome worms was gathered.

70 E poi ch'a riguardar oltre mi diedi,
and after that to look again beyond to me I gave

71 vidi genti a la riva d'un gran fiume;
I saw people on the shore of a great river

72 per ch'io dissi: «Maestro, or mi concedi
on account of which I said: "Master, now me grant

These wretches, that never were alive, were naked and much inflamed by flies and by wasps that were there. These lined the face of each with blood, which, mixed with tears, was gathered at their feet by irksome worms. And after that I gave me to again look beyond, I saw people on the shore of a great river, on account of which I said: "Master, grant me now

73 ch'i' sappia quali sono, e qual costume
that I may know who these are, and what custom

74 le fa di trapassar parer sì pronte,
them makes to cross over to appear so ready

75 com' i' discerno per lo fioco lume».
as I discern on account of this faint light?"

76 Ed elli a me: «Le cose ti fier conte
And he to me: "These things to you will be known

77 quando noi fermerem li nostri passi
when we stay our steps

78 su la trista riviera d'Acheronte».
on the wretched river of Acheron."

79 Allor con li occhi vergognosi e bassi,
Then with the eyes shameful and low,

80 temendo no 'l mio dir li fosse grave,
fearing lest my speaking was difficult,

81 infino al fiume del parlar mi trassi.
until the river, of words me withdrew.

---

that I may know who these are, and what custom makes them to appear so ready to cross over, as I discern on account of this faint light?" And he to me: "These things by you will be known, when we stay our steps on the wretched river of Acheron." Then with eyes shameful and low, fearing lest my speaking was difficult, I withdrew my words until the river.

82 Ed ecco verso noi venir per nave
And behold, toward us coming [across] by boat

83 un vecchio, bianco per antico pelo,
an old man, white through ancient hair

84 gridando: «Guai a voi, anime prave!
crying out: "woe to you, souls depraved!

85 Non isperate mai veder lo cielo:
No hope ever you to see the heaven

86 i' vegno per menarvi a l'altra riva
I come to deliver you to the other shore

87 ne le tenebre etterne, in caldo e 'n gelo.
into the darkness eternal, into heat and into bitter cold

88 E tu che se' costì, anima viva,
And you that are there, soul living,

89 pàrtiti da cotesti che son morti».
leave those there that are dead."

90 Ma poi che vide ch'io non mi partiva,
But after that he saw that I did not me leave

And behold, coming toward us by boat, an old man, white through ancient hair, crying out: "Woe to you, depraved souls! Never hope you to see heaven: I come to deliver you to the other shore, into the eternal darkness, into heat and into bitter cold. And you that are there, living soul, leave those there that are dead." But after he saw I did not leave,

91 disse: «Per altra via, per altri porti
he said: "By another way, by other ports

92 verrai a piaggia, non qui, per passare:
you will come to shore, not here, to pass over

93 più lieve legno convien che ti porti».
a more light bark needs must that you carry

94 E 'l duca lui: «Caron, non ti crucciare:
And the leader to him: "Charon, do not yourself worry:

95 vuolsi così colà dove si puote
it is willed thus there where what can be

96 ciò che si vuole, e più non dimandare».
this that is willed, and more not ask.

97 Quinci fuor quete le lanose gote
That made quiet the woolly cheeks

98 al nocchier de la livida palude,
of the pilot of the livid bog,

99 che 'ntorno a li occhi avea di fiamme rote.
that around the eyes had of flame wheels

---

he said: "By another way, by other ports, you will come to shore, not here, to pass over: a lighter bark needs must carry you." And the leader, to him: "Charon, do not worry yourself: it is willed thus where what can be, such is willed, and ask not more." That made quiet the woolly cheeks of the pilot of the livid bog, that around the eyes had wheels of flame.

100 Ma quell' anime, ch'eran lasse e nude,
But those souls, that were miserable and naked

101 cangiar colore e dibattero i denti,
changed color and chattered teeth

102 ratto che 'nteser le parole crude.
as soon as they understood the words cruel.

103 Bestemmiavano Dio e lor parenti,
They blasphemed God and their parents,

104 l'umana spezie e 'l loco e 'l tempo e 'l seme
The human species and the place and the time and the seed

105 di lor semenza e di lor nascimenti.
of their begetting and of their birth.

106 Poi si ritrasser tutte quante insieme,
Afterwards, they withdrew all there together

107 forte piangendo, a la riva malvagia
loudly weeping, to the shore contemptible

108 ch'attende ciascun uom che Dio non teme.
that awaits each man that God does not fear.

But those souls, which were miserable and naked, changed color and chattered teeth as soon as they understood the cruel words. They blasphemed God and their parents, the human species, and the place and the time and the seed of their begetting and of their birth. Afterwards, they withdrew all together there, weeping loudly, to the contemptible shore that awaits each man that fears not God.

109 Caron dimonio, con occhi di bragia
Charon demon, with eyes of embers

110 loro accennando, tutte le raccoglie;
them beckons, all them harvests;

111 batte col remo qualunque s'adagia.
he beats with oar whoever himself eases.

112 Come d'autunno si levan le foglie
As in autumn take themselves away the leaves

113 l'una appresso de l'altra, fin che 'l ramo
one after another, until that the branch

114 vede a la terra tutte le sue spoglie,
sees on the ground all its spoil

115 similemente il mal seme d'Adamo
similarly the wicked seed of Adam

116 gittansi di quel lito ad una ad una,
throw themselves to that shore by one by one,

117 per cenni come augel per suo richiamo.
at the signal as the bird at its call.

Demon Charon, with eyes of embers, beckons them, harvests them all; he beats whoever eases himself with the oar. As in autumn the leaves take themselves away, one after another, until the branch sees on the ground all its spoil, similarly the wicked seed of Adam throw themselves to that shore, one by one, at the signal, just as the bird at its call.

118 Così sen vanno su per l'onda bruna,
So they go over across the wave dark,

119 e avanti che sien di là discese,
and before that they have from there climbed down

120 anche di qua nuova schiera s'auna.
also of here new crowd themselves gather

121 «Figliuol mio», disse 'l maestro cortese,
"Son my," said the master courteous,

122 «quelli che muoion ne l'ira di Dio
"those that die in the wrath of God

123 tutti convegnon qui d'ogne paese;
all come together here from every nation

124 e pronti sono a trapassar lo rio,
And eager they are to pass over the river,

125 ché la divina giustizia li sprona,
because the divine justice them spurs

126 sì che la tema si volve in disio.
so that the fear itself turns into desire.

So they go over across the dark wave, and before they have climbed down from there, also here a crowd gathers itself together. "My son," said the courteous master, "those that die in the wrath of God all come together here from every nation; and eager they are to pass over the river, because the divine justice spurs them, so that the fear turns itself into desire.

127 Quinci non passa mai anima buona;
Thus no pass over ever a soul good

128 e però, se Caron di te si lagna,
and therefore, if Charon about you grumbles

129 ben puoi sapere omai che 'l suo dir suona».
well you are able to understand now that his spoken sounds."

130 Finito questo, la buia campagna
finished this, the dark country

131 tremò sì forte, che de lo spavento
trembled so powerfully, that of the terror

132 la mente di sudore ancor mi bagna.
the memory with sweat again me wets

133 La terra lagrimosa diede vento,
the earth tearful gave wind

134 che balenò una luce vermiglia
that flashing a light vermilion

135 la qual mi vinse ciascun sentimento;
the which my conquered every feeling

136 e caddi come l'uom cui sonno piglia.
and I fell like the man whom slee takes.

Thus no good soul ever passes over, and therefore, if Charon grumbles about you, you are now well able to understand the spoken sounds." This finished, the dark country trembled so powerfully, that the memory of the terror wets me again with sweat. The tearful earth gave wind, flashing a vermilion light, the which conquered my every feeling; and I fell like a man whom sleep takes.

Canto IV: Virtuous Pagans

1 Ruppemi l'alto sonno ne la testa
Broke my high sleep in the head

2 un greve truono, sì ch'io mi riscossi
a heavy thunderclap, so that I me stirred

3 come persona ch'è per forza desta;
as a person that is through force awakened

4 e l'occhio riposato intorno mossi,
and the eye rested around I moved

5 dritto levato, e fiso riguardai
straight standing, and intently I looked

6 per conoscer lo loco dov' io fossi.
to know the place where I was.

7 Vero è che 'n su la proda mi trovai
True it is that on the shore I found myself

8 de la valle d'abisso dolorosa
of the valley of the abyss painful

9 che 'ntrono accoglie d'infiniti guai.
that around embraced by infinite woes.

A heavy thunderclap broke the deep sleep in my head, so that I stirred myself as a person who is through force awakened; and my rested eye I moved around, standing straight and looked intently to know the place where I was. True it is that I found myself on the shore of the painful valley of the abyss, embraced around by infinite woes.

10 Oscura e profonda era e nebulosa
Dark and deep it was and shrouded

11 tanto che, per ficcar lo viso a fondo,
such that, to strain the face to the bottom

12 io non vi discernea alcuna cosa.
I did not there discern any thing.

13 «Or discendiam qua giù nel cieco mondo»,
"Now let us descend here down in the blind world"

14 cominciò il poeta tutto smorto.
began the poet all pale.

15 «Io sarò primo, e tu sarai secondo».
"I will be first, and you will be second."

16 E io, che del color mi fui accorto,
And I, that of the color by me was noticed

17 dissi: «Come verrò, se tu paventi
said, "how will I go, if you fear

18 che suoli al mio dubbiare esser conforto»?
that you are in the habit of to my doubting being comfort?"

Dark and deep it was and shrouded such that, straining the face to the bottom, I did not there discern any thing. "Now let us here descend down into the blind world," began the poet all pale. "I will be first, and you will be second." And I, his color noticed by me, said, "How will I go, if you fear, who are in the habit of being comfort to my doubting?"

19 Ed elli a me: «L'angoscia de le genti
And he to me, "The agony of the peoples

20 che son qua giù, nel viso mi dipigne
that are here below, in the face my paints

21 quella pietà che tu per tema senti.
that pity that you as fear sense

22 Andiam, ché la via lunga ne sospigne».
Let us go, for the road long of it urges us."

23 Così si mise e così mi fé intrare
Thus he went and thus me he made to enter

24 nel primo cerchio che l'abisso cigne.
in the first circle that the abyss girded.

25 Quivi, secondo che per ascoltare,
Here, following that according to listen to

26 non avea pianto mai che di sospiri,
no there was weeping ever that of sighs

27 che l'aura etterna facevan tremare;
that the air eternal they made to tremble.

And he to me, "The agony of the peoples that are here below, paints in my face the pity that you sense as fear. Let us go, for the long road urges us." Thus he went, and thus he made me to enter that first circle that girded the abyss. Here, as far as to be listened to, there was no weeping except that of sighs, which made the eternal air to tremble.

28 ciò avvenia di duol senza martìri,
These took place from aching without torture

29 ch'avean le turbe, ch'eran molte e grandi,
that bore the crowd, that were many and grand

30 d'infanti e di femmine e di viri.
of infants and of women and of men.

31 Lo buon maestro a me: «Tu non dimandi
The good master to me: "you do not ask

32 che spiriti son questi che tu vedi?
what spirits are here that you see?

33 Or vo' che sappi, innanzi che più andi,
Now I will that you know, before that more you go

34 ch'ei non peccaro; e s'elli hanno mercedi,
that they did not sin; and they have merit,

35 non basta, perché non ebber battesmo,
not enough, because not they had baptism

36 ch'è porta de la fede che tu credi;
that is the door of the faith that you believe;

These came from an aching without torture that the crowd bore, which was many and grand, of infants and of women and of men. The good master to me: "You do not ask what spirits are here that you see? Now I wish that you know, before you go further, that they did not sin; and they have merit—not enough, because they had not baptism, which is the door of the faith that you believe;

37 e s'e' furon dinanzi al cristianesmo,
and if they lived before the Christianity

38 non adorar debitamente a Dio:
not to adore duly to God

39 e di questi cotai son io medesmo.
and of these ones am I the same

40 Per tai difetti, non per altro rio,
for these defects, not for other faults

41 semo perduti, e sol di tanto offesi,
we are lost, and only as such hurt

42 che sanza speme vivemo in disio».
that without hope we live in desire."

43 Gran duol mi prese al cor quando lo 'ntesi,
Great aching me grasped at the heart when him I understood

44 però che gente di molto valore
for that people of much worth

45 conobbi che 'n quel limbo eran sospesi.
I knew that in that limbo were suspended.

---

and if they lived before Christianity they did not duly worship God: and of these ones am I the same. For these defects, not for other faults, we are lost, and only hurt in such a way that without hope we live in desire." Great aching grasped my heart when I understood him, for people of great worth I knew were in that limbo suspended.

«Dimmi, maestro mio, dimmi, segnore»,
"Tell me, master my, tell me, lord,"

comincia' io per voler esser certo
began I in order to wish to be certain

di quella fede che vince ogne errore:
of that faith that conquers every error

«uscicci mai alcuno, o per suo merto
did leave hence ever anyone, either through their merit

o per altrui, che poi fosse beato?».
or through another's, that then was blessed?"

E quei che 'ntese il mio parlar coverto,
And he who understood my speaking covert

rispuose: «Io era nuovo in questo stato,
answered: "I was new in this state,

quando ci vidi venire un possente,
when here I saw come one mighty,

con segno di vittoria coronato.
with the sign of victory crowned.

"Tell me, my master, tell me, lord," I began in order to wish to be certain of that faith that conquers every error: "Did any ever leave hence, either through his merit, or through another's, who then was blessed?" And he who understood my covert speaking answered, "I was new in this state, when I saw a mighty one come here, crowned with the sign of victory.

55 Trasseci l'ombra del primo parente,
He led hence the shade of the first parent

56 d'Abèl suo figlio e quella di Noè,
of Abel his son and that of Noah

57 di Moïsè legista e ubidente;
of Moses the lawgiver and obedient;

58 Abraàm patrïarca e Davìd re,
Abraham patriarch and David king

59 Israèl con lo padre e co' suoi nati
Israel with his father and with his sons

60 e con Rachele, per cui tanto fé;
and with Rachel, for whom much he did

61 e altri molti, e feceli beati.
and others many, and made them blessed.

62 E vo' che sappi che, dinanzi ad essi,
And I wish that you know that before these

63 spiriti umani non eran salvati».
spirits human not were saved."

He led hence the shade of the first parent, of Abel his son and that of Noah, of Moses the lawgiver and obedient; Abraham the patriarch and King David, Israel with his father and with his sons, and with Rachel, for whom he did much; and many others, and made them blessed. And I wish that you know that before these no human spirits were saved."

64 Non lasciavam l'andar perch' ei dicessi,
Not we abandon the going because he spoke

65 ma passavam la selva tuttavia,
but we were going through the wood nonetheless

66 la selva, dico, di spiriti spessi.
the wood, I say, of spirits thick

67 Non era lunga ancor la nostra via
Not was long even our way

68 di qua dal sonno, quand' io vidi un foco
from that place of the sleep, when I saw a fire

69 ch'emisperio di tenebre vincia.
that hemisphere of darkness conquered.

70 Di lungi n'eravamo ancora un poco,
of far of it we were still a little

71 ma non sì ch'io non discernessi in parte
but not so that I not discern in part

72 ch'orrevol gente possedea quel loco.
that honorable people possessed that place.

We did not abandon the going simply because he spoke, but were, nonetheless, going through the wood, the wood I say of crowding spirits. Our way was not even long from that place of sleep, when I saw a fire that conquered that hemisphere of darkness. We were still a little far from it, but not so that I could not discern in part that honorable people possessed that place.

73 «O tu ch'onori scïenzïa e arte,
"O you who honor knowledge and art

74 questi chi son c'hanno cotanta onranza,
these who are that have so much honor

75 che dal modo de li altri li diparte?».
that from the manner of these others are set apart

76 E quelli a me: «L'onrata nominanza
And he to me: "The honor the names

77 che di lor suona sù ne la tua vita,
that of their sound above in your life

78 grazïa acquista in ciel che sì li avanza».
grace obtains in heaven that they here advance."

79 Intanto voce fu per me udita:
Meanwhile a voice was by me heard:

80 «Onorate l'altissimo poeta;
"Honor the highest poet;

81 l'ombra sua torna, ch'era dipartita».
the shade his returns, that was departed"

"O you who honor knowledge and art, who are these that have so much honor that from the manner of these others are set apart?" And he to me, "The honor of their names that sound above in your life obtains grace in heaven that they here advance." Meanwhile a voice was heard by me, "Honor the highest poet; his shade returns, that was departed."

82 Poi che la voce fu restata e queta,
After that the voice was stayed and quieted

83 vidi quattro grand' ombre a noi venire:
I saw four grand shades to us come:

84 sembianz' avevan né trista né lieta.
the semblance was neither sad nor happy.

85 Lo buon maestro cominciò a dire:
The good master began to speak:

86 «Mira colui con quella spada in mano,
"Look at him with that sword in hand

87 che vien dinanzi ai tre sì come sire:
that comes before the three indeed as king

88 quelli è Omero poeta sovrano;
that one is Homer poet sovereign;

89 l'altro è Orazio satiro che vene;
the other is Horace satirist that comes

90 Ovidio è 'l terzo, e l'ultimo Lucano.
Ovid is the third, and last Lucan.

After the voice was stayed and quieted, I saw four grand shades come to us; the semblance was neither sad nor happy. The good master began to speak, "Look at him who with sword in hand comes before the three, indeed, as king; that one is Homer, poet sovereign; the other is Horace the satirist that comes; Ovid is the third, and the last, Lucan.

91 Però che ciascun meco si convene
For that each with me is joined

92 nel nome che sonò la voce sola,
in the name that sounded the voice single

93 fannomi onore, e di ciò fanno bene».
do me honor, and by this they do well."

94 Così vid' i' adunar la bella scola
Thus saw I gathered the beautiful school

95 di quel segnor de l'altissimo canto
of that lord of the highest song

96 che sovra li altri com' aquila vola.
that above the others like an eagle flies.

97 Da ch'ebber ragionato insieme alquanto,
From that they had reasoned together sufficiently

98 volsersi a me con salutevol cenno,
they turned themselves to me with salutation sign

99 e 'l mio maestro sorrise di tanto;
and my master smiled at this;

Because each with me is joined in the name that the single voice sounded, they do me honor, and by this they do well." Thus I saw gather the beautiful school of that lord of the highest song, that above the others like an eagle flies. After they had reasoned together sufficiently, they turned themselves to me with a sign of salutation, and my master smiled at this;

100 e più d'onore ancora assai mi fenno,
and furthermore honor still greater me they did

101 ch'e' sì mi fecer de la loro schiera,
that they indeed me made of their troop

102 sì ch'io fui sesto tra cotanto senno.
such that I was six between so much good sense.

103 Così andammo infino a la lumera,
So we walked unto the light

104 parlando cose che 'l tacere è bello,
speaking things of which the silence is beautiful

105 sì com' era 'l parlar colà dov' era.
just as it was to speak there where I was

106 Venimmo al piè d'un nobile castello,
We came to the foot of a noble castle,

107 sette volte cerchiato d'alte mura,
seven times encircled by a high wall

108 difeso intorno d'un bel fiumicello.
defended around by a lovely rivulet.

---

and furthermore, they did me a still greater honor, that they indeed made me of their troop, such that I was six between so much good sense. Thus we walked unto the light, speaking things of which silence is beautiful, just as it was to speak them there where I was. We came to the foot of a noble castle, seven times encircled by a high wall, defended around by a lovely rivulet.

109 Questo passammo come terra dura;
This we passed over as earth hard;

110 per sette porte intrai con questi savi:
through seven gates around with these sages;

111 giugnemmo in prato di fresca verdura.
we came to a lawn of fresh grass.

112 Genti v'eran con occhi tardi e gravi,
People there were with eyes slow and grave

113 di grande autorità ne' lor sembianti:
with grand authority in their semblance:

114 parlavan rado, con voci soavi.
they spoke rarely with voices pleasing.

115 Traemmoci così da l'un de' canti,
We drew there thus to one of the sides

116 in loco aperto, luminoso e alto,
in a place open, luminous and high

117 sì che veder si potien tutti quanti.
indeed that to see one was able all how many.

This we passed over as on hard earth; through seven gates around with these sages; we came to a lawn of fresh grass. People were there with eyes slow and grave, with grand authority in their semblance; they spoke rarely, with pleasing voices. Thus we drew there to one of the sides in an open place, luminous and high, such that one was able to see how many of all.

118 Colà diritto, sovra 'l verde smalto,
There directly, above the green glazed

119 mi fuor mostrati li spiriti magni,
to me were displayed the spirits great,

120 che del vedere in me stesso m'essalto.
that of the seeing in me myself I am exalted

121 I' vidi Eletra con molti compagni,
I saw Electra with many companions,

122 tra' quai conobbi Ettòr ed Enea,
between them I recognized Hector and Aeneas

123 Cesare armato con li occhi grifagni.
Caesar armed with the eyes griffinlike

124 Vidi Cammilla e la Pantasilea;
I saw Cammilla and Pantasilea

125 da l'altra parte vidi 'l re Latino
of the other part I saw the king Latinus

126 che con Lavina sua figlia sedea.
that with Lavinia his daughter sat.

Directly there, above the glazed green, were displayed to me the great spirits, that in seeing in me myself I am exalted. I saw Electra with many companions, among them I recognized Hector and Aeneas, Caesar armed with griffin-like eyes. I saw Cammilla and Pantasilea, of the other part I saw the king Latinus who with Lavinia his daughter sat.

127 Vidi quel Bruto che cacciò Tarquino,
I saw that Brutus that banished the Tarquins

128 Lucrezia, Iulia, Marzïa e Corniglia;
Lucretia, Julia, Marcia, and Cornelia;

129 e solo, in parte, vidi 'l Saladino.
and alone, in a part, I saw Saladin.

130 Poi ch'innalzai un poco più le ciglia,
After that I raised a little more the brow

131 vidi 'l maestro di color che sanno
I saw the master of those that know

132 seder tra filosofica famiglia.
sitting among a philosophic family

133 Tutti lo miran, tutti onor li fanno:
All at him gaze, all honor him they do:

134 quivi vid' ïo Socrate e Platone,
there I saw Socrates and Plato

135 che 'nnanzi a li altri più presso li stanno;
that in front of the others more nearer to him standing;

I saw that Brutus who banished the Tarquins, Lucretia, Julia, Marcia, and Cornelia; and alone, in a part, I saw Saladin. After I raised the brow a little more, I saw the master of those that know, sitting among a philosophic family. All gaze at him, all do him honor; there I saw Socrates and Plato, standing nearer to him in front of the others;

Democrito, che 'l mondo a caso pone,
Democritus, that the world to chance credits,

Dïogenès, Anassagora e Tale,
Diogenes, Anaxagoras, and Thales,

Empedoclès, Eraclito e Zenone;
Empedocles, Heraclitus, and Zeno;

e vidi il buono accoglitor del quale,
And I saw the good harvester of the qualities,

Dïascoride dico; e vidi Orfeo,
Dioscorides I say; and I saw Orpheus

Tulïo e Lino e Seneca morale;
Tullius and Linus and Seneca the moralist

Euclide geomètra e Tolomeo,
Euclid the geometer and Ptolemy

Ipocràte, Avicenna e Galïeno,
Hippocrates, Avicenna, and Galen

Averoìs, che 'l gran comento feo.
Averroes, that the grand commentary made.

Democritus, that the world to chance credits, Diogenes, Anaxagoras, and Thales, Empedocles, Heraclitus, and Zeno; And I saw the good harvester of the qualities, Dioscorides I say; and I saw Orpheus, Tullius and Linus and Seneca the moralist, Euclid the geometer and Ptolemy, Hippocrates, Avicenna, and Galen, Averroes, that made the grand commentary.

145 Io non posso ritrar di tutti a pieno,
I not able to sketch of all in full,

146 però che sì mi caccia il lungo tema,
for that indeed me hunts the long theme

147 che molte volte al fatto il dir vien meno.
that many times to the fact the telling comes less.

148 La sesta compagnia in due si scema:
The six company in two so diminished

149 per altra via mi mena il savio duca,
by another way me leads my wise leader

150 fuor de la queta, ne l' aura che trema.
out of the quiet, into the air that trembles

151 E vegno in parte ove non è che luca.
and I come into a part where nought is that shines.

I am not able to sketch all in full, for indeed the long theme hunts me, so that many times the telling comes less to the fact. The company of six diminished thus to two; by another way my wise leader leads me, out of the quiet, into the air that trembles. And I come into a part where nought is that shines.

Canto V: Lustful

1 Così discesi del cerchio primaio
So I descended from the circle first

2 giù nel secondo, che men loco cinghia
down into the second, that less place cinches

3 e tanto più dolor, che punge a guaio.
and so much more pain, that bites to trouble.

4 Stavvi Minòs orribilmente e ringhia:
Stands there Minos, horribly and snarling

5 essamina le colpe ne l'intrata;
he examines the faults in the entrance;

6 giudica e manda secondo ch'avvinghia.
he judges and sends according to how he clutches.

7 Dico che quando l'anima mal nata
I say that when the soul evil born

8 li vien dinanzi, tutta si confessa;
him stand before, all they confess;

9 e quel conoscitor de le peccata
and that connoisseur of sins

So I descended from the first circle down into the second, that girds a smaller space and so much more pain, that bites to trouble. Minos stands there horribly, and snarling; he examines the faults in the entrance; he judges and sends according to how he clutches. I saw that when the ill-born soul stands before him, all is thus confessed; and that connoisseur of sins

10 vede qual loco d'inferno è da essa;
sees which place of hell is for that one

11 cignesi con la coda tante volte
cinching itself with the tail so many times

12 quantunque gradi vuol che giù sia messa.
as many as the degrees he wishes that below he would send.

13 Sempre dinanzi a lui ne stanno molte:
Always before him stands a multitude:

14 vanno a vicenda ciascuna al giudizio,
going reciprocally each one to judgment,

15 dicono e odono e poi son giù volte.
they say they hear and then are down thrown.

16 «O tu che vieni al doloroso ospizio»,
"O you who come to the painful home"

17 disse Minòs a me quando mi vide,
said Minos to me when me he saw,

18 lasciando l'atto di cotanto offizio,
leaving the action of the so great office,

---

sees which place of hell is for that one; cinching itself with the tail so many times, as many as the degrees he wishes to send them below. Always before him stands a multitude; going reciprocally each one to judgment, they say, they hear, and then they are thrown down. "O you who come to the painful home," said Minos to me when he saw me, leaving the action of the so great office,

19 «guarda com' entri e di cui tu ti fide;
"consider how you enter and to whom you yourself entrust

20 non t'inganni l'ampiezza de l'intrare!».
not you deceive the ampleness of the entrance!"

21 E 'l duca mio a lui: «Perché pur gride?
And the leader my to him: "Why still shout?

22 Non impedir lo suo fatale andare:
do not impede his fated journey

23 vuolsi così colà dove si puote
willed this such there where one is able

24 ciò che si vuole, e più non dimandare».
that which one wills, and more not to ask."

25 Or incomincian le dolenti note
Now to begin the painful notes

26 a farmisi sentire; or son venuto
to make themselves to me known; now I came

27 là dove molto pianto mi percuote.
to that place where much wailing me strike.

"Consider how you enter and to whom you entrust yourself, do not be deceived by the ampleness of the entrance!" And my leader to him, "Why still shout? Do not impede his fated journey, this is so willed there where what one is able, that one wills, and more do not ask." Now the painful notes begin to make themselves known to me; now I came to that place where much wailing assaults me.

28 Io venni in loco d'ogne luce muto,
I came into a place of all light mute,

29 che mugghia come fa mar per tempesta,
that howls as does the sea through tempest,

30 se da contrari venti è combattuto.
if by contrary winds it is combatted.

31 La bufera infernal, che mai non resta,
The storm infernal, that ever not rests

32 mena li spirti con la sua rapina;
thrashes the spirits with its fury

33 voltando e percotendo li molesta.
turning and striking, them it molests

34 Quando giungon davanti a la ruina,
When they arrive in front of the ruin,

35 quivi le strida, il compianto, il lamento;
there the shrieks, the mourning, the lamenting;

36 bestemmian quivi la virtù divina.
they blaspheme there the power divine.

I came into a place mute of all light, that howls as does the sea in tempest, if by contrary winds it is combatted. The infernal storm, that never rests, thrashes the spirits with its fury; turning and striking, it molests them. When they arrive in front of the ruin, then the shrieks, the mourning, the lamenting; there they blaspheme the divine power.

37 Intesi ch'a così fatto tormento
I understood that to such made torment

38 enno dannati i peccator carnali,
are damned the sinners carnal,

39 che la ragion sommettono al talento.
who the reason subjugated to inclination.

40 E come li stornei ne portan l'ali
And as the starling brings the wings

41 nel freddo tempo, a schiera larga e piena,
in the cold season, to flocks large and full

42 così quel fiato li spiriti mali
so that wind the spirits wicked.

43 di qua, di là, di giù, di sù li mena;
of here, of there, of down, of up, them it thrashes

44 nulla speranza li conforta mai,
none hope them comforted ever

45 non che di posa, ma di minor pena.
not that of repose, nor of minor pain.

I understood that to such torment the carnal sinners are damned, who subjugate the reason to appetite. And as the wings bring the starling, in the cold season, to flocks large and full, so too that wind the wicked spirits. Here, there, down, up it thrashes them; no hope ever comforts them, neither of repose nor of less pain.

46 E come i gru van cantando lor lai,
And as the cranes go singing their lays

47 faccendo in aere di sé lunga riga,
making in air of themselves a long line

48 così vid' io venir, traendo guai,
so too saw I come, bringing woes,

49 ombre portate da la detta briga;
shades carried by the aforementioned trouble;

50 per ch'i' dissi: «Maestro, chi son quelle
on account of which I said, "Master, who are these

51 genti che l'aura nera sì gastiga?».
people that the air black castigates?"

52 «La prima di color di cui novelle
"The first of them of whom u the news

53 tu vuo' saper», mi disse quelli allotta,
you wish to know," to me said he then,

54 «fu imperadrice di molte favelle.
"was empress of many ways of speech.

And as the cranes go singing their lays, making of themselves a long line in the air, so too I saw come, bearing woes, shades carried by the aforementioned trouble; on account of which I said, "Master, who are these people that the black air castigates?" "The first of them the news of whom you wish to know," he then said to me, "was empress of many ways of speech.

55 A vizio di lussuria fu sì rotta,
By the vice of lust she was so broken

56 che libito fé licito in sua legge,
that license she made licit in her laws,

57 per tòrre il biasmo in che era condotta.
to remove the blame in what was done.

58 Ell' è Semiramìs, di cui si legge
She is Semiramis, of whom one reads

59 che succedette a Nino e fu sua sposa:
that she succeeded Nino and was his wife;

60 tenne la terra che 'l Soldan corregge.
she held the land that the Sultan governs.

61 L'altra è colei che s'ancise amorosa,
The other is she who herself slew amorous,

62 e ruppe fede al cener di Sicheo;
and broke faith with the ashes of Sichaeus

63 poi è Cleopatràs lussurïosa.
next is Cleopatra lustful.

She was so broken by the vice of lust that she made lechery licit in her laws, to remove the blame in what she had done. She is Semiramis, of whom one reads that she succeeded Nino and was his wife; she held the land that the Sultan governs. The other is she who, amorous, slew herself, and broke faith with the ashes of Sichaeus; next is lustful Cleopatra.

64 Elena vedi, per cui tanto reo
Helen see, for whom such guilty

65 tempo si volse, e vedi 'l grande Achille,
times themselves turned, and see the grand Achilles

66 che con amore al fine combatteo.
who with love to the end strove

67 Vedi Parìs, Tristano»; e più di mille
See Paris, Tristan"; and more than a thousand

68 ombre mostrommi e nominommi a dito,
shades he showed me and named to me by finger

69 ch'amor di nostra vita dipartille.
whom love from our life parted them

70 Poscia ch'io ebbi 'l mio dottore udito
Thereafter that I had my doctor heard

71 nomar le donne antiche e' cavalieri,
to name the ladies ancient and the cavaliers,

72 pietà mi giunse, e fui quasi smarrito.
pity me joined, and I was almost lost.

See Helen, for whom such guilty times turned, and see the grand Achilles who strove with love to the end. See Paris, Tristan…" and more than a thousand shades he showed me and named to me, pointing, whom love parted from our life. After I had heard my doctor name the ancient ladies and cavaliers, pity joined to me, and I was almost lost.

73 I' cominciai: «Poeta, volontieri
I began: "Poet voluntarily

74 parlerei a quei due che 'nsieme vanno,
I would speak to those two that together go

75 e paion sì al vento esser leggeri».
and seem so on the wind to be light

76 Ed elli a me: «Vedrai quando saranno
and he to me, "You will see when they are

77 più presso a noi; e tu allor li priega
more closer to us; and you then them plead

78 per quello amor che i mena, ed ei verranno».
on account of that love that them thrashes, and they will come."

79 Sì tosto come il vento a noi li piega,
So promptly as the wind to us them bent

80 mossi la voce: «O anime affannate,
I moved the voice, "O souls troubled

81 venite a noi parlar, s'altri nol niega!».
come to us to speak, if another does not deny it!"

I began, "Poet, voluntarily I would speak to those two that together go, and seem to be so light on the wind." And he to me, "You will see when they are closer to us; and then plead with them, on account of that love that thrashes them, and they will come." As soon as the wind bent them to us I moved my voice, "O troubled souls, come speak to us, if Another does not deny it!"

82 Quali colombe dal disio chiamate
As doves by the desire called

83 con l'ali alzate e ferme al dolce nido
with the wings lifted and still to the sweet nest

84 vegnon per l'aere, dal voler portate;
come across the air, by the will delivered;

85 cotali uscir de la schiera ov' è Dido,
so these left from the crowd where was Dido,

86 a noi venendo per l'aere maligno,
to us coming across the air malignant,

87 sì forte fu l'affettüoso grido.
such force was the affectionate cry

88 «O animal grazïoso e benigno
"O soul gracious and benign

89 che visitando vai per l'aere perso
that visiting go across the air lost,

90 noi che tignemmo il mondo di sanguigno,
to us that stained the world with blood,

As doves, called by desire, with wings lifted and still, to the sweet nest come across the air, delivered by their will, so too these left the crowd where Dido was, coming to us across the malignant air, such force had the affectionate cry. "O soul gracious and benign that visiting, goes across the lost air to us who stained the world with blood,

91 se fosse amico il re de l'universo,
if were friend the king of the universe,

92 noi pregheremmo lui de la tua pace,
we would pray to him for your peace

93 poi c'hai pietà del nostro mal perverso.
after that you have pity of our pain perverse.

94 Di quel che udire e che parlar vi piace,
of that which to hear and that to speak you it pleases

95 noi udiremo e parleremo a voi,
we will hear and we will speak to you

96 mentre che 'l vento, come fa, ci tace.
while that the wind, how it does, is silent.

97 Siede la terra dove nata fui
sits the land where born I was

98 su la marina dove 'l Po discende
on the shore where the Po descends

99 per aver pace co' seguaci sui.
to have peace with followers its.

---

if the king of the universe were a friend, we would pray to him for your peace, since you had pity on our perverse pain. Of that which it pleases you to hear and to speak, we will hear and we will speak to you, while the wind, as it happens, is here silent. I was born where sits the land on the shore where the Po descends to have peace with its followers.

100 Amor, ch'al cor gentil ratto s'apprende,
Love, that to the heart noble swiftly catches fire

101 prese costui de la bella persona
grasped this one for the beautiful person

102 che mi fu tolta; e 'l modo ancor m'offende.
that from me was removed; and the manner still me offends.

103 Amor, ch'a nullo amato amar perdona,
Love, that to none loved from loving pardons

104 mi prese del costui piacer sì forte,
me grasped of the of this one delight so strongly

105 che, come vedi, ancor non m'abbandona.
that as you see, still not me abandons

106 Amor condusse noi ad una morte.
Love conducted us to one death.

107 Caina attende chi a vita ci spense».
Caina waits, he who from life from us extinguished."

108 Queste parole da lor ci fuor porte.
These words from them to us were given.

Love, that in the noble heart swiftly catches fire, grasped this one for the beautiful person that was removed from me; and the manner still offends me. Love, that pardons no one loved from loving, grasped me for the delight of this one so strongly that, as you see, it still does not abandon me. Love conducted us to one death. Caina waits for him who extinguished the life from us." These words were given to us from them.

109 Quand' io intesi quell' anime offense,
When I understood those souls wretched

110 china' il viso, e tanto il tenni basso,
i bent the face, and so much it I held down

111 fin che 'l poeta mi disse: «Che pense?».
until that the poet to me said, "What are you thinking?"

112 Quando rispuosi, cominciai: «Oh lasso,
When I answered, I began, "Oh miserable,

113 quanti dolci pensier, quanto disio
how many sweet thoughts, how much desire

114 menò costoro al doloroso passo!».
delivered them to this painful passage!"

115 Poi mi rivolsi a loro e parla' io,
Then me I returned to them and said I,

116 e cominciai: «Francesca, i tuoi martìri
and began, "Francesca, your martyrdom

117 a lagrimar mi fanno tristo e pio.
to weeping me makes sad and pious.

When I understood those wretched souls, I bent my face, and held it down so much that the poet said to me, "What are you thinking?" When I answered, I began, "O miserable, how many sweet thoughts, how much desire delivered them to this painful passage!" Then I returned me to them and I said, and began, "Francesca, your martyrdom brings me, sad and pious, to weeping.

118 Ma dimmi: al tempo d'i dolci sospiri,
But tell me: at the time of the sweet sighs

119 a che e come concedette amore
by what and how grant you love

120 che conosceste i dubbiosi disiri?».
that you should know the dubious desires?"

121 E quella a me: «Nessun maggior dolore
And she to me: "No greater pain

122 che ricordarsi del tempo felice
than to be reminded of the times happy

123 ne la miseria; e ciò sa 'l tuo dottore.
in the misery; and of this knows your doctor.

124 Ma s'a conoscer la prima radice
But if to know the first root

125 del nostro amor tu hai cotanto affetto,
of our love you have so much affection

126 dirò come colui che piange e dice.
I will tell as one who weeps and speaks.

But tell me, at the time of the sweet sighs, by what and how did love grant that you should know the dubious desires?" And she to me, "No greater pain that to be reminded of the happy times in misery; and of this your doctor knows. But if you have so much affection to know the first roots of our love, I will speak as one who weeps and speaks.

127 Noi leggiavamo un giorno per diletto
We were reading one day for delight

128 di Lancialotto come amor lo strinse;
of Lancelot how love him grasped

129 soli eravamo e sanza alcun sospetto.
alone we were and without any suspicion.

130 Per più fïate li occhi ci sospinse
through many times the eyes our urged

131 quella lettura, e scolorocci il viso;
that reading, and turned pale the face;

132 ma solo un punto fu quel che ci vinse.
but only one point was that which us conquered.

133 Quando leggemmo il disïato riso
When we read the desired laugh

134 esser basciato da cotanto amante,
was kissed by so much a lover

135 questi, che mai da me non fia diviso,
he, that ever from me not will be divided,

We were reading one day for delight of Lancelot, how love grasped him; we were alone and without any suspicion. At many times that reading urged our eyes together, and turned the face pale; but only one moment there was that conquered us. When we read the desired laugh was kissed by such a lover, he, that never will be divided from me,

136 la bocca mi basciò tutto tremante.
the mouth my kissed all trembling.

137 Galeotto fu 'l libro e chi lo scrisse:
Galeotto was the book and he it wrote:

138 quel giorno più non vi leggemmo avante».
that day more not there we read on."

139 Mentre che l'uno spirto questo disse,
While that the one spirit this said

140 l'altro piangëa; sì che di pietade
the other wept, such that for pity

141 io venni men così com' io morisse.
I fainted just like I had died.

142 E caddi come corpo morto cade.
And I fell as a corpse dead falls.

---

kissed my mouth all trembling. Galeotto was the book and he wrote it; that day we read there not more." While the one spirit said this the other wept, such that for pity I fainted just like I had died. And I fell as a dead body falls.

Canto VI: Gluttons

1 Al tornar de la mente, che si chiuse
With the returning of the mind, that itself closed

2 dinanzi a la pietà d'i due cognati,
in the face of the pity for the two in-laws,

3 che di trestizia tutto mi confuse,
which with grief totally me confused,

4 novi tormenti e novi tormentati
new torments and new tormented

5 mi veggio intorno, come ch'io mi mova
me I see around, however that I me move

6 e ch'io mi volga, e come che io guati.
and that I me turn, and however that I look.

7 Io sono al terzo cerchio, de la piova
I am in the third circle, of the rain

8 etterna, maladetta, fredda e greve;
eternal, maledicted, cold, and heavy

9 regola e qualità mai non l'è nova.
rule and quality ever not is new.

With the return of the mind, that had closed itself in the face of pity for the two in-laws, which totally confused me with grief, new torments and tormented I see around me, however I move and turn, and however I look. I am in the third circle, of the eternal, maledicted, cold, and heavy rain, the rule and quality is never new.

10 Grandine grossa, acqua tinta e neve
Hailstones heavy, water filthy and snow

11 per l'aere tenebroso si riversa;
throughout the air dark themselves spill down

12 pute la terra che questo riceve.
reeks the earth that this receives.

13 Cerbero, fiera crudele e diversa,
Cerberus, beast cruel and divergent

14 con tre gole caninamente latra
with three throats dog-like barks

15 sovra la gente che quivi è sommersa.
over the people that there is submersed

16 Li occhi ha vermigli, la barba unta e atra,
The eyes are vermillion, the beard greased and black

17 e 'l ventre largo, e unghiate le mani;
and the belly large, and scratchers the hands

18 graffia li spirti ed iscoia ed isquatra.
he claws the spirits and flays and quarters.

Heavy hailstones, filthy water and snow throughout the dark air spill down, the earth reeks that receives this. Cerberus, the beast cruel and deviant, with three throats barks, doglike over the people that there is submersed. The eyes are vermillion, the beard greased and black, and the belly large, and the hands scratchers; he claws and flays and quarters the spirits.

19 Urlar li fa la pioggia come cani;
Howling, them makes the rain like dogs

20 de l'un de' lati fanno a l'altro schermo;
of the one of the sides they make of the other a screen

21 volgonsi spesso i miseri profani.
turning themselves often the miserable profane ones.

22 Quando ci scorse Cerbero, il gran vermo,
When us glimpsed Cerberus, the great worm

23 le bocche aperse e mostrocci le sanne;
the mouths he opened and showed us the fangs

24 non avea membro che tenesse fermo.
no he had member that he kept still.

25 E 'l duca mio distese le sue spanne,
And leader my stretched his hands

26 prese la terra, e con piene le pugna
took hold of the earth and with full fighters (fists)

27 la gittò dentro a le bramose canne.
it he threw within the ravenous throats.

Howling, the rain makes them like dogs; of one side they make a screen for the other; turning themselves often, the miserable profane ones. When Cerberus glimpsed us, the great worm opened the mouths and show us the fangs; he had no member that he kept still. And my leader stretched his hands, took hold of the earth and with full fighters (fists) he threw it within the ravenous throats.

28 Qual è quel cane ch'abbaiando agogna,
As is that dog that barking covets,

29 e si racqueta poi che 'l pasto morde,
and so is silent after that meal he bites

30 ché solo a divorarlo intende e pugna,
for alone to devour it he intends and struggles

31 cotai si fecer quelle facce lorde
these so were made those faces filthy

32 de lo demonio Cerbero, che 'ntrona
of the demon Cerberus, who howls over

33 l'anime sì, ch'esser vorrebber sorde.
the souls such that to be they wish deaf.

34 Noi passavam su per l'ombre che adona
We were passing over through the shades that beats down

35 la greve pioggia, e ponavam le piante
the heavy rain, and we placed the soles

36 sovra lor vanità che par persona.
over their emptiness that seemed a person.

As is that dog that covets, barking, and so is silent after he bites the meal, for to devour only he intends and struggles, so these were made, those filthy faces of the demon Cerberus, who howls over the souls such that they wish to be deaf. We were passing over through the shakes that the heavy rain beats down, and we placed the soles over their emptiness that seemed a person.

37 Elle giacean per terra tutte quante,
They were lying on the earth all there,

38 fuor d'una ch'a seder si levò, ratto
except for one that sitting himself raised up, swiftly

39 ch'ella ci vide passarsi davante.
that he us saw pass him before

40 «O tu che se' per questo 'nferno tratto»,
"O you who are through this hell led,"

41 mi disse, «riconoscimi, se sai:
to me he said, "recognize me, if you know:

42 tu fosti, prima ch'io disfatto, fatto».
you were, before that I was unmade, made."

43 E io a lui: «L'angoscia che tu hai
And I to him, "The anguish that you have

44 forse ti tira fuor de la mia mente,
perhaps you draws out from my mind,

45 sì che non par ch'i' ti vedessi mai.
such that not it seems that I you have seen ever.

They were all there, lying on the earth, except for one that sitting raised himself up, swiftly, as he saw us pass before him. "O you who are led through this Hell," to me he said, "recognize me, if you know; you were made before I was unmade." And I to him, "The anguish that you have perhaps draws you out from my mind, such that it seems I have never seen you.

46 Ma dimmi chi tu se' che 'n sì dolente
But tell me who you are that in such painful

47 loco se' messo, e hai sì fatta pena,
place are put, and have such a punishment

48 che, s'altra è maggio, nulla è sì spiacente».
that, if another is greater, none is so regretful."

49 Ed elli a me: «La tua città, ch'è piena
And he to me, "Your city, that is full

50 d'invidia sì che già trabocca il sacco,
of envy such that already it overflows the sack

51 seco mi tenne in la vita serena.
with her me kept in the life serene.

52 Voi cittadini mi chiamaste Ciacco:
You citizens me called Ciacco:

53 per la dannosa colpa de la gola,
on account of the damning guilt of the gullet

54 come tu vedi, a la pioggia mi fiacco.
as you see, by the rain me weaken.

But tell me who you are that in such a painful place are put, and have such a punishment that, if another is greater, none is so regretful." And he to me, "Your city, that is full of envy such that already it overflows the sack, with her kept me in the serene life. You citizens called me Ciacco; on account of the damning guilt of the gullet, as you see, by the rain I am weakened.

55 E io anima trista non son sola,
And I soul sad not am alone

56 ché tutte queste a simil pena stanno
for all these to similar penalty reside

57 per simil colpa». E più non fé parola.
for similar guilt." And more not did he speak.

58 Io li rispuosi: «Ciacco, il tuo affanno
I him answered: "Ciacco, your grief

59 mi pesa sì, ch'a lagrimar mi 'nvita;
me weighs on such, that to weep me invites

60 ma dimmi, se tu sai, a che verranno
but tell me, if you know, to what will come

61 li cittadin de la città partita;
the citizens of that city divided;

62 s'alcun v'è giusto; e dimmi la cagione
if anyone there is just and tell me the reason

63 per che l'ha tanta discordia assalita».
why it has such discord assailed."

And I, sad soul, am not alone, for all these reside for similar penalty, for similar guilt." And more he did not speak. I answered him, "Ciacco, your grief so weighs on me, that it invites me to weep; but tell me, if you know, what will come of the citizens of that divided city; if anyone there is just; and tell me the reason why such discord assailed it."

64 E quelli a me: «Dopo lunga tencione
And he to me, "After long contention

65 verranno al sangue, e la parte selvaggia
they will come to blood, and the sect savage

66 caccerà l'altra con molta offensione.
will drive out the other with much offending.

67 Poi appresso convien che questa caggia
Then next must needs that these fall

68 infra tre soli, e che l'altra sormonti
within three suns, and that the other surmounts

69 con la forza di tal che testé piaggia.
with the force of one such that just now straddles the shore.

70 Alte terrà lungo tempo le fronti,
High he will hold long time the brows,

71 tenendo l'altra sotto gravi pesi,
holding the others beneath heavy weights

72 come che di ciò pianga o che n'aonti.
how that of this one weeps or that in it is shamed.

And he to me, "After long contention they will come to blood, and the savage sect will drive out the other with much offending. Then next must needs that these fall within three suns, and that the other surmounts with the force of one that just now straddles the shore (claims neutrality). He will hold high the brows a long time, holding the others beneath heavy weights, however much this one weeps or that one in it is shamed.

73 Giusti son due, e non vi sono intesi;
Just are two, and not there are understood;

74 superbia, invidia e avarizia sono
pride, envy, and avarice are

75 le tre faville c'hanno i cuori accesi».
the three sparks that have the hearts set aflame."

76 Qui puose fine al lagrimabil suono.
Here he put an end to the whimpering sound.

77 E io a lui: «Ancor vo' che mi 'nsegni
And I to him: "Again, I wish that me you should teach

78 e che di più parlar mi facci dono.
and that of more speaking me make gift.

79 Farinata e 'l Tegghiaio, che fuor sì degni,
Farinata and Tegghiaio, that were so deserving,

80 Iacopo Rusticucci, Arrigo e 'l Mosca
Iacopo Rusticucci, Arrigo and Mosca

81 e li altri ch'a ben far puoser li 'ngegni,
and the others that to good set their ingenuity,

Two are just, and they are there no understood; pride, envy, and avarice are the three sparks that have set the hearts aflame." Here he put an end to the woeful sounds and I to him, "Again, I wish that you should teach me and that of more speaking make me a gift. Farinata and Tegghiaio, that were so deserving, Iacopo Rusticucci, Arrigo and Mosca and the others that set their ingenuity to good,

82 dimmi ove sono e fa ch'io li conosca;
tell me where they are and make that I them know

83 ché gran disio mi stringe di savere
for great desire me presses to know

84 se 'l ciel li addolcia o lo 'nferno li attosca».
if the heaven them sweetens or the inferno them poisons."

85 E quelli: «Ei son tra l'anime più nere;
And he: "They are among the souls more black;

86 diverse colpe giù li grava al fondo:
diverse guilts down them weigh down at the bottom;

87 se tanto scendi, là i potrai vedere.
if so much you descend, there they you will be able to see.

88 Ma quando tu sarai nel dolce mondo,
But when you are in the sweet world,

89 priegoti ch'a la mente altrui mi rechi:
I beg you that to the mind others me bring;

90 più non ti dico e più non ti rispondo».
more not to you I say and more not to you I answer."

---

tell me where they are and make that I know them, for great desire presses me to know if Heaven sweetens them or if Hell poisons them." And he, "They are among the souls more black; diverse guilt weighs them down at the bottom; if you descend so much, there you will be able to see. But when you are in the sweet world, I beg you that you bring me to others' mind; more to you I say not, and more to you I answer not."

91 Li diritti occhi torse allora in biechi;
The straight eyes turned then in sinister [ones];

92 guardommi un poco e poi chinò la testa:
looking at me a little and then bowed the head;

93 cadde con essa a par de li altri ciechi.
falling with that to equal of the other blind [ones].

94 E 'l duca disse a me: «Più non si desta
And the leader said to me, "More not he awakes

95 di qua dal suon de l'angelica tromba,
from here to the sound of the angelic trumpet,

96 quando verrà la nimica podesta:
when he will see the enemy Potentate;

97 ciascun rivederà la trista tomba,
each one will see again the sad tomb,

98 ripiglierà sua carne e sua figura,
take back his flesh and his figure,

99 udirà quel ch'in etterno rimbomba».
will hear that which in eternity thunders."

The straight eyes turned then into sinister ones; looking at me a little he then bowed his head; with that, falling to the equal of the other blind ones. And the leader said to me, "More he awakes not from here to the sound of the angelic trumpet, when he will see the enemy Potentate; each one will see again the sad tomb, take back his flesh and his figure, and will hear that which thunders in eternity."

100 Sì trapassammo per sozza mistura
So we passed away through filthy mixture

101 de l'ombre e de la pioggia, a passi lenti,
of the shades and the rain, with steps slow,

102 toccando un poco la vita futura;
touching a little the life future;

103 per ch'io dissi: «Maestro, esti tormenti
wherefore I said, "Master, these torments

104 crescerann' ei dopo la gran sentenza,
will increase they after the great Sentence,

105 o fier minori, o saran sì cocenti?».
or will they be less, or be so scorching?"

106 Ed elli a me: «Ritorna a tua scïenza,
And he to me, "Return to your science,

107 che vuol, quanto la cosa è più perfetta,
that wills, when the thing is more perfect

108 più senta il bene, e così la doglienza.
more it senses the good, and so the pain.

So we passed away through a filthy mixture of the shades and the rain, with slow steps, touching a little future life; wherefore I said, "Master, these torments, will they increase after the great Sentence, or will they be less, or be just as scorching?" And he to me, "Return to your science, that wills, when the things is more perfect more it senses the good, and so the pain.

109 Tutto che questa gente maladetta
All that these people maledicted

110 in vera perfezion già mai non vada,
in true perfection already ever not go,

111 di là più che di qua essere aspetta».
from that [place] more that from here to be they await."

112 Noi aggirammo a tondo quella strada,
We wandered by round that road,

113 parlando più assai ch'i' non ridico;
speaking more very that I not retell;

114 venimmo al punto dove si digrada:
we came to the point where it fell off:

115 quivi trovammo Pluto, il gran nemico.
there we found Plutus, the great enemy.

All that, these maledicted people already will never go into true perfection, they await to be more from that place, than from here." We wandered by that round road, speaking much more that I do not retell; we came to the point where it fell off; there we found Plutus, the great enemy.

Canto VII: Avaricious and Wrathful

1 «Pape Satàn, pape Satàn aleppe!»,
"Pape Satan, pape Satan, aleppe!"

2 cominciò Pluto con la voce chioccia;
began Plutus, with the voice clucking

3 e quel savio gentil, che tutto seppe,
and that sage gentle, that all knew,

4 disse per confortarmi: «Non ti noccia
said in order to comfort me, "Not you harm

5 la tua paura; ché, poder ch'elli abbia,
your fear; because the power that he may have

6 non ci torrà lo scender questa roccia».
not us take from descending this cliff."

7 Poi si rivolse a quella 'nfiata labbia,
After he turned to that inflamed lip

8 e disse: «Taci, maladetto lupo!
and said, "Silence, maledicted wolf!

9 Consuma dentro te con la tua rabbia.
Consume inside you with your rage.

"Pape Satan, pape Satan, aleppe!" began Plutus, with the clucking voice, and that gentle sage, that knew all, said in order to comfort me, "Do not let your fear harm you; for the power he may have will not keep us from descending this cliff." Then he turned to that inflamed face, and said, "Silence, maledicted wolf! Consume you within with your rage.

10 Non è sanza cagion l'andare al cupo:
Not is without reason the going to the darkness;

11 vuolsi ne l'alto, là dove Michele
willed it is on high, the place where Michael

12 fé la vendetta del superbo strupo».
accomplished the punishment of the haughty violation."

13 Quali dal vento le gonfiate vele
As by the wind the billowed sail

14 caggiono avvolte, poi che l'alber fiacca,
fall wrapped up, after that the mast worn out

15 tal cadde a terra la fiera crudele.
so fell to earth the beast cruel.

16 Così scendemmo ne la quarta lacca,
So we descended into the fourth hollow,

17 pigliando più de la dolente ripa
catching more of the doleful bank

18 che 'l mal de l'universo tutto insacca.
that the evil of the universe all packs.

Not without reason is the going to the darkness; it is willed on high, the place where Michael accomplished the punishment of the haughty violation." As by the wind the billowed sail falls, wrapped up, after which the mast wears out, so fell to earth the cruel beast. Thus we descended into the fourth hollow, catching more of the doleful riverbank, which packs in all the evil of the universe.

19 Ahi giustizia di Dio! tante chi stipa
Ah, justice of God! Such who squeezes

20 nove travaglie e pene quant' io viddi?
new travails and sufferings as I saw?

21 e perché nostra colpa sì ne scipa?
And why does our guilt so us curdle?

22 Come fa l'onda là sovra Cariddi,
As do the waves there above Charybdis

23 che si frange con quella in cui s'intoppa,
that themselves break with that in which themselves crash,

24 così convien che qui la gente riddi.
so must needs that here the people jumbled.

25 Qui vid' i' gente più ch'altrove troppa,
Here I saw the people more than elsewhere very much,

26 e d'una parte e d'altra, con grand' urli,
and of one part and of the other, with great screams,

27 voltando pesi per forza di poppa.
turning weights by force of breast.

Ah, justice of God! Who squeezes such new travails and sufferings as I saw? And why does our guilt so curdle us? As do the waves there above Charybdis, that break themselves with that on which they crash, so must needs that here the people jumbled. Here I saw people very much more than elsewhere, and of one part and of another, with great screams, turning weights by force of the breast.

28 Percotëansi ’ncontro; e poscia pur lì
They would strike themselves, meeting; and afterwards just there

29 si rivolgea ciascun, voltando a retro,
themselves directed to each one, turning round to behind

30 gridando: «Perché tieni?» e «Perché burli?».
shouting, “Why do you hold?” And “Why do you throw?”

31 Così tornavan per lo cerchio tetro
So they turned through the circle gloomy

32 da ogne mano a l’opposito punto,
by every hand to the opposite point,

33 gridandosi anche loro ontoso metro;
shouting themselves also their disgraceful meter;

34 poi si volgea ciascun, quand’ era giunto,
after themselves turned each one, when he was arrived

35 per lo suo mezzo cerchio a l’altra giostra.
through his half circle to the other jousting

36 E io, ch’avea lo cor quasi compunto,
And I, that have the heart almost pierced,

They would, meeting, strike one another; and afterwards just there, directing themselves to each one, turning round behind, shouting, “Why do you hold?” and “Why do you throw?” Thus they turned through the gloomy circle, by each hand to the opposite point, shouting themselves also their disgraceful meter; after, they turned themselves to each one, when he was arrived through his half circle to the other jousting. And I, my heart almost pierced,

37 dissi: «Maestro mio, or mi dimostra
said, "Master my, now to me demonstrate

38 che gente è questa, e se tutti fuor cherci
what people is this, and if all were clerics

39 questi chercuti a la sinistra nostra».
these tonsured ones to the left our."

40 Ed elli a me: «Tutti quanti fuor guerci
And he to me, "All these were one-eyed

41 sì de la mente in la vita primaia,
so of the mind in the life first,

42 che con misura nullo spendio ferci.
that with measure no spending formed.

43 Assai la voce lor chiaro l'abbaia,
Very the voices there clearly it bark,

44 quando vegnono a' due punti del cerchio
when they come to the two points of the circle

45 dove colpa contraria li dispaia.
where guilt contrary them divide.

---

said, "My Master, now demonstrate to me what this people is, and if all these were clerics, the tonsured ones to our left." And he to me, "All these were so cross-eyed of the mind in the first life, that no spending was formed with measure. The voices there very clearly bark it, when they come to the two points of the circle where the contrary guilt divides them.

46 Questi fuor cherci, che non han coperchio
These were clerics, that not have cover

47 piloso al capo, e papi e cardinali,
hairy to the head, and popes and cardinals

48 in cui usa avarizia il suo soperchio».
in whom uses avarice its excess."

49 E io: «Maestro, tra questi cotali
And I, "Master, among these kinds

50 dovre' io ben riconoscere alcuni
should I well recognize some

51 che furo immondi di cotesti mali».
that were foul by those evils."

52 Ed elli a me: «Vano pensiero aduni:
And he to me, "Vain thought you gather;

53 la sconoscente vita che i fé sozzi,
the unknowing life that them made filthy,

54 ad ogne conoscenza or li fa bruni.
to all knowing now them makes dark.

These were clerics, that have not a hairy cover to the head, and popes and cardinals in whom avarice uses its excess." And I, "Master, among these kinds I should well recognize some that were foul by those evils." And he to me, "You gather vain thought; the unknowing life that made them filthy, to all knowing now makes them dark.

55 In etterno verranno a li due cozzi:
Into eternity they will come to the two clashes

56 questi resurgeranno del sepulcro
these will rise from the sepulchers

57 col pugno chiuso, e questi coi crin mozzi.
with fist tight, and these with hair trimmed.

58 Mal dare e mal tener lo mondo pulcro
Bad giving and bad holding the world beautiful

59 ha tolto loro, e posti a questa zuffa:
removed them, and placed to this fracas;

60 qual ella sia, parole non ci appulcro.
that which this may be, words not it adorn.

61 Or puoi, figliuol, veder la corta buffa
Now you are able, my son, to see the brief buffoonery

62 d'i ben che son commessi a la fortuna,
of the goods that are committed to fortune,

63 per che l'umana gente si rabbuffa;
for which the human people themselves upbraid;

Into eternity they will come to the two clashes; these will rise from their sepulchers with tight fist, and these with manicured hair. Bad giving and bad holding removed the beautiful world from them, and placed them to this fracas; what it may be, no words adorn it. Now you are able my son to see the brief buffoonery of the goods that are committed to fortune, for which the human people upbraid each other;

64 ché tutto l'oro ch'è sotto la luna
for all the gold that is beneath the moon

65 e che già fu, di quest' anime stanche
and that always was, of these souls tired

66 non poterebbe farne posare una».
not could be able to do rest one.

67 «Maestro mio», diss' io, «or mi dì anche:
"Master my," said I, "now to me tell me also

68 questa fortuna di che tu mi tocche,
this fortune of which you to me touch,

69 che è, che i ben del mondo ha sì tra branche?».
what is it, that the goods of the world has so between the talons?"

70 E quelli a me: «Oh creature sciocche,
And he to me, "Oh creature foolish,

71 quanta ignoranza è quella che v'offende!
how much ignorance is that that you offends!

72 Or vo' che tu mia sentenza ne 'mbocche.
Now I will that you my wisdom on it feed.

---

for all the gold that is beneath the moon and that always was, for these tired souls could not be able to give one rest. "My master," I said, " now tell me also this fortune of which you touch to me, what is it, that has the goods of the world so between its talons?" And he to me, "Oh foolish creature, how much is that ignorance that harms you! Now I will that you feed on my wisdom.

73 Colui lo cui saver tutto trascende,
He whose wisdom all things transcends

74 fece li cieli e diè lor chi conduce
made the heavens and gave them conductors

75 sì, ch'ogne parte ad ogne parte splende,
such, that all parts to all parts shines,

76 distribuendo igualmente la luce.
distributing equally the light.

77 Similemente a li splendor mondani
Similarly to the splendor worldly

78 ordinò general ministra e duce
he ordained a general minister and leader

79 che permutasse a tempo li ben vani
that would exchange from time the good vain

80 di gente in gente e d'uno in altro sangue,
from people into people and of one into another family

81 oltre la difension d'i senni umani;
beyond the defense of the common sense of man;

He whose wisdom transcends all things made the heavens and gave them guides such that all parts shine to all parts, distributing the light equally. Similarly, to the worldly splendor he ordained a general minister and leader that would exchange from time the vain good of people to people and of one into another family, beyond the defense of the common sense of man;

per ch'una gente impera e l'altra langue,
for one people rules and another languishes,

seguendo lo giudicio di costei,
according to the judgment of her,

che è occulto come in erba l'angue.
that is hidden just as in grass the snake.

Vostro saver non ha contasto a lei:
Your knowledge not contest to her;

questa provede, giudica, e persegue
she foresees, judges, and pursues

suo regno come il loro li altri dèi.
her reign as theirs the other gods.

Le sue permutazion non hanno triegue:
Her permutations no have truce;

necessità la fa esser veloce;
necessity her makes to be quick,

sì spesso vien chi vicenda consegue.
so often come those whose turn he obtains.

---

for one people rules and another languishes, according to her judgment, that is hidden just like the snake in the grass. Your knowledge holds no contest to her; she foresees, judges, and pursues her reign as the other gods do theirs. Her permutations hold no truce; necessity makes her to be quick, so often come those who obtain the turn.

91 Quest' è colei ch'è tanto posta in croce
This is she who is still placed on a cross,

92 pur da color che le dovrien dar lode,
even from those that ought to give praise,

93 dandole biasmo a torto e mala voce;
giving her blame wrongful and bad voice;

94 ma ella s'è beata e ciò non ode:
but she herself is blessed and this one does not listen;

95 con l'altre prime creature lieta
with the other first creatures gladly

96 volve sua spera e beata si gode.
turns her sphere and blessedness herself is content.

97 Or discendiamo omai a maggior pieta;
Now let us descend at this point to greater pity;

98 già ogne stella cade che saliva
already every star falls that climbs

99 quand' io mi mossi, e 'l troppo star si vieta».
when I me advanced, and too much to stay is forbidden."

This is she who is still placed on a cross, even by those who ought to give praise, giving her wrongful blame and a bad voice; but she herself is blessed and this one does not listen; with the other first creatures she gladly turns her sphere and is content in blessedness. Now let us descend at this point to greater pity; already every star falls that climbs when I advanced, and too much stay is forbidden."

100 Noi ricidemmo il cerchio a l'altra riva
We crossed the circle to the other bank

101 sovr' una fonte che bolle e riversa
above a spring that boils and floods

102 per un fossato che da lei deriva.
through a channel that from it deviates.

103 L'acqua era buia assai più che persa;
The water was darker much more than purple;

104 e noi, in compagnia de l'onde bige,
and we, in company of the waves darkened,

105 intrammo giù per una via diversa
we entered down through a way different

106 in la palude va c'ha nome Stige
in the swamp was that named Styx,

107 questo tristo ruscel, quand' è disceso
this sad stream where it descends

108 al piè de le maligne piagge grige.
to the foot of the evil slopes grey.

We crossed the circle to the other bank above a spring that boils and floods through a channel that deviates from it. The water was darker much more than purple; and we, in company of the darkened waves, we entered down through a different way into the swamp that was named Styx, this sad stream where it descends to the foot of the evil grey slopes.

109 E io, che di mirare stava inteso,
And I, that to wonder was intent,

110 vidi genti fangose in quel pantano,
saw people muddy in that bog,

111 ignude tutte, con sembiante offeso.
naked all, with semblance offended.

112 Queste si percotean non pur con mano,
These themselves strike not only with hands,

113 ma con la testa e col petto e coi piedi,
but with the head and with the breast and their feet,

114 troncandosi co' denti a brano a brano.
ripping off themselves with teeth piece by piece.

115 Lo buon maestro disse: «Figlio, or vedi
The good master said, "Son, now see

116 l'anime di color cui vinse l'ira;
the souls of those whom conquered the wrath;

117 e anche vo' che tu per certo credi
and also I will that you with certainty believe

And I, that was intent to wonder, saw muddy people in that bog, all naked with offended faces. These strike themselves not just with their hands, but with the head and the breast and their feet, ripping off themselves with teeth, piece by piece. The good master said, "Son, now see the souls of those whom wrath conquered; and also I would that you believe with certainty

che sotto l'acqua è gente che sospira,
that beneath the water is a people that sigh,

e fanno pullular quest' acqua al summo,
and make overflow this water to the top,

come l'occhio ti dice, u' che s'aggira.
as the eye you tells, wherever that it wanders.

Fitti nel limo dicon: 'Tristi fummo
Fixed in the slime they say, 'Sad we were

ne l'aere dolce che dal sol s'allegra,
in the air sweet that by the sun is gladdened,

portando dentro accidïoso fummo:
bringing within the acidic fumes:

or ci attristiam ne la belletta negra'.
now we are anguished in the muck black.'

Quest' inno si gorgoglian ne la strozza,
This hymn they gurgle in the throat

ché dir nol posson con parola integra».
for to speak they are not able with words whole."

---

that beneath the water is a people that sigh, and make overflow this water to the top, as the eye tells you, wherever that it wanders. Fixed in the slime they say, 'Sad we were in the sweet air that is gladdened by the sun, bringing within the acidic fumes; Now we are anguished in the black muck.' This hymn they gurgle in the throat, for they are unable to speak with whole words."

127 Così girammo de la lorda pozza
So we skirted by the filthy puddle ,

128 grand' arco tra la ripa secca e 'l mézzo,
great arc between the bank arid and soft,

129 con li occhi vòlti a chi del fango ingozza.
with the eyes turned to those who of the muck feast.

130 Venimmo al piè d'una torre al da sezzo.
We came to the foot of a tower at last.

So we skirted by the filthy puddle, in a great arc between the bank arid and soft, with the eyes turned to those who feast of the muck. We came to the foot of a tower at last.

Canto VIII: The Gates of Dis

1 Io dico, seguitando, ch'assai prima
I say, continuing, that much before

2 che noi fossimo al piè de l'alta torre,
that we made to the foot of the high tower

3 li occhi nostri n'andar suso a la cima
the eyes our traveled up to the peak

4 per due fiammette che i vedemmo porre
on account of two small flames that there we saw put

5 e un'altra da lungi render cenno,
and another from far off answering signal

6 tanto ch'a pena il potea l'occhio tòrre.
such that struggling one it able the eye to catch.

7 E io mi volsi al mar di tutto 'l senno;
And I me turned to the sea of all sense;

8 dissi: «Questo che dice? E che risponde
I said: "What this says? And what responds

9 quell' altro foco? E chi son quei che 'l fenno?».
that other fire? And who are those that it making?"

I say, continuing, that much before we made it to the foot of the high tower, our eyes traveled up to the peak, for we saw two small flames that were put there, and another from far off answering the signal, such that, struggling, the eye was able to catch it. And I turned me round to the sea of all sense; I said, "What says this? And what responds that other fire? And who are those that are making it?"

10 Ed elli a me: «Su per le sucide onde
And he to me, "Above the filthy waves

11 già scorgere puoi quello che s'aspetta,
already catch sight of you can that which is awaited,

12 se 'l fummo del pantan nol ti nasconde».
if the fumes of the swamp not it from you conceal"

13 Corda non pinse mai da sé saetta
A bowstring not urged ever from itself an arrow

14 che sì corresse via per l'aere snella,
that so sped away through the air lively

15 com' io vidi una nave piccioletta
as I saw a boat small

16 venir per l'acqua verso noi in quella,
coming through the water toward us in that (moment)

17 sotto 'l governo d'un sol galeoto,
under the governing of a single oarsman

18 che gridava: «Or se' giunta, anima fella!».
that was shouting, "Now you are caught, soul cursed!"

And he to me, "Above the filthy waves already you can catch sight of that which is awaited, if the fumes of the swamp conceal it not from you." A bowstring not ever urged from itself an arrow that so sped away through the lively air, as I saw a small boat coming through the water toward us in that moment, under the governing of a single oarsman, that was shouting, "Now you are caught, cursed soul!"

19 «Flegïàs, Flegïàs, tu gridi a vòto»,
"Phlegyas, Phlegyas, you shout emptily,"

20 disse lo mio segnore «a questa volta:
said my lord, "at this time:

21 più non ci avrai che sol passando il loto».
more not us you will have that only passing the swamp."

22 Qual è colui che grande inganno ascolta
As is one who that a great deceit hears

23 che li sia fatto, e poi se ne rammarca,
that to him was done, and then it resents

24 fecesi Flegïàs ne l'ira accolta.
so was made Phlegyas, in the anger held.

25 Lo duca mio discese ne la barca,
The leader my descended into the boat

26 e poi mi fece intrare appresso lui;
and then me made to enter after him;

27 e sol quand' io fui dentro parve carca.
and only when I was within seem weighed down.

Phlegyas, Phlegyas, you shout emptily," said my lord, "at this time: more of us you will not have, than only passing the swamp." As is one who that hears great deceit that was done to him, and then resents it, so was made Phlegyas, in the anger held. My leader descended into the boat and then made me to enter after him; and only when I was within, it seemed weighed down.

28 Tosto che 'l duca e io nel legno fui,
As soon as that the leader and I in the wooden [boat] were

29 segando se ne va l'antica prora
cutting itself of it goes the ancient prow

30 de l'acqua più che **non suol** con altrui. *******
of the water more than with others.

31 Mentre noi corravam la morta gora,
While we were crossing the dead pond,

32 dinanzi mi si fece un pien di fango,
in front of me himself rose up one full of muck,

33 e disse: «Chi se' tu che vieni anzi ora?».
and said, "Who are you that come before time?"

34 E io a lui: «S'i' vegno, non rimango;
And I to him, "If I come, not I remain;

35 ma tu chi se', che sì se' fatto brutto?».
but you who are, that so was made ugly?"

36 Rispuose: «Vedi che son un che piango».
He answered, "You see that I am one who weeps."

As soon as that the leader and I were in the wooden boat, the ancient prow goes, itself cutting of the water more than […] with others. While we were crossing the dead pond, in front of me one full of muck rose himself up, and said, "Who are you that come before time?" And I to him, "If I come, I remain not; but who are you, that was made so ugly?" He answered, "You see that I am one who weeps."

37 E io a lui: «Con piangere e con lutto,
And I to him, "With weeping and with sorrow,

38 spirito maladetto, ti rimani;
spirit damned, you remain;

39 ch'i' ti conosco, ancor sie lordo tutto».
that I you know, even though you are filthy entirely."

40 Allor distese al legno ambo le mani;
Then he stretched to the boat both the hands

41 per che 'l maestro accorto lo sospinse,
for which the master watchful him pushed gently,

42 dicendo: «Via costà con li altri cani!».
saying, "Away there with the other dogs!"

43 Lo collo poi con le braccia mi cinse;
The neck then with the arms me he girded;

44 basciommi 'l volto, e disse: «Alma sdegnosa,
he kissed me the face, and said, "Soul superior,

45 benedetta colei che 'n te s'incinse!
blessed the one that with you became pregnant!

And I to him, "With weeping and with sorrow, damned spirit, you remain; I know you, even though you are entirely filthy." Then he stretched both hands to the boat; for which the watchful master him pushed gently, saying, "Away there with the other dogs!" My neck then with his arms he girded; he kissed my face and said, "Superior soul, blessed be the one that with you became pregnant!

46 Quei fu al mondo persona orgogliosa;
He was in the world a person proud

47 bontà non è che sua memoria fregi:
good thing not is that his memory decorates

48 così s'è l'ombra sua qui furïosa.
thus is shade his here furious.

49 Quanti si tegnon or là sù gran regi
How many themselves hold now there above great kings

50 che qui staranno come porci in brago,
that here will be as pigs in mud,

51 di sé lasciando orribili dispregi!».
for themselves leaving horrible contempt!"

52 E io: «Maestro, molto sarei vago
And I, "Master, more I would like

53 di vederlo attuffare in questa broda
to see him thrust under in this gruel

54 prima che noi uscissimo del lago».
before that we leave the lake."

He was in the world a proud person; there is no good thing that decorates his memory; thus is his shade here furious. How many now there above hold themselves great kings that here will be as pigs in mud, leaving for themselves horrible contempt." And I, "Master, more I would like to see him thrust under in this gruel before we leave the lake."

55 Ed elli a me: «Avante che la proda
And he to me, "Before that the shore

56 ti si lasci veder, tu sarai sazio:
you itself allows to see, you will be satisfied:

57 di tal disïo convien che tu goda».
concerning such a desire must needs that you be happy."

58 Dopo ciò poco vid' io quello strazio
After this a little saw I that the ripping apart

59 far di costui a le fangose genti,
of that one by the muddy people,

60 che Dio ancor ne lodo e ne ringrazio.
that God still for it I praise and for it I give thanks.

61 Tutti gridavano: «A Filippo Argenti!»;
All were shouting, "At Filippo Argenti!"

62 e 'l fiorentino spirito bizzarro
and the Florintine spirit volatile

63 in sé medesmo si volvea co' denti.
on himself the selfsame turned with teeth.

And he to me, "Before the shore allows you to see itself, you will be satisfied; concerning such a desire you it must needs that you be happy." After this a little I saw the ripping apart of that one by the muddy people, that I still praise God for it and for it I give thanks. All were shouting, "At Filippo Argenti!" And the volatile Florentine spirit on himself the selfsame turned with his teeth.

64 Quivi il lasciammo, che più non ne narro;
There him we left, that more not of it I narrate;

65 ma ne l'orecchie mi percosse un duolo,
but in the ears my struck a grief,

66 per ch' io avante l'occhio intento sbarro.
such that I ahead the eyes intent opened wide.

67 Lo buon maestro disse: «Omai, figliuolo,
The good master said, "Now, son,

68 s'appressa la città c'ha nome Dite,
we come to the city that has the name Dis,

69 coi gravi cittadin, col grande stuolo».
with grave citizens, with great multitude."

70 E io: «Maestro, già le sue meschite
And I, "Master, already its mosques

71 là entro certe ne la valle cerno,
there within clearly in the valley I discern

72 vermiglie come se di foco uscite [. . . fossero." (In. 73)]
vermillion as if from the fire left [. . . it had.]

There we left him, that of it more I will not narrate; but in my ears struck a grief, such that, intent ahead, I opened wide my eyes. The good master said, "Now, son, we come to the city that has the name Dis, with grave citizens, with a great multitude." And I, "Master, already its mosques there within in the valley, I clearly discern, vermillion as if it had left from the fire."

73 fossero». Ed ei mi disse: «Il foco etterno
it had." And he to me said, "The fire eternal

74 ch'entro l'affoca le dimostra rosse,
that within burns there demonstrates the red,

75 come tu vedi in questo basso inferno».
as you see in this deep Hell."

76 Noi pur giugnemmo dentro a l'alte fosse
We thus came within to the deep moats

77 che vallan quella terra sconsolata:
that fortified the city disconsolate.

78 le mura mi parean che ferro fosse.
The walls me seemed that iron was.

79 Non sanza prima far grande aggirata,
Not without first going a long way around

80 venimmo in parte dove il nocchier forte
we came into a place where the pilot loudly

81 «Usciteci», gridò: «qui è l'intrata».
"Get out," he shouted, "here is the entrance."

And he to me said, "The fire eternal that within burns there demonstrates the red, as you see in this lower Hell." We thus came within to the deep moats that fortified the city disconsolate. The walls seemed to me were iron. Not without first going a long way around we came into a place where the pilot loudly shouted, "Get out, here is the entrance."

82 Io vidi più di mille in su le porte
I saw more than a thousand in its gate

83 da ciel piovuti, che stizzosamente
from heaven having rained, that angrily

84 dicean: «Chi è costui che sanza morte
were saying, "Who is this that without death

85 va per lo regno de la morta gente?».
goes through the kingdom of the dead people?"

86 E 'l savio mio maestro fece segno
And the wise my master made sign

87 di voler lor parlar segretamente.
in order to wish them to speak secretly.

88 Allor chiusero un poco il gran disdegno,
Then they repressed a little the great disdain,

89 e disser: «Vien tu solo, e quei sen vada,
and said, "Come you alone, and him let be gone

90 che sì ardito intrò per questo regno.
that so daringly enters through this kingdom.

I saw more than a thousand in its gate having rained down from heaven, that angrily were saying, "Who is this that without death goes through the kingdom of the dead people?" And my wise master made a sign to wish to speak to them secretly. Then they repressed a little their great disdain, and said, "You come alone, and let him be gone, that so daringly enters through this kingdom.

91 Sol si ritorni per la folle strada:
Let him return along the foolish way;

92 pruovi, se sa; ché tu qui rimarrai
let him make trial, if he can; for you here will remain

93 che li ha' iscorta sì buia contrada».
that him have led across so dark a district."

94 Pensa, lettor, se io mi sconfortai
Consider, reader, if I me discomforted

95 nel suon de le parole maladette,
in the sound of the words damned

96 ché non credetti ritornarci mai.
for not did I believe to return here ever.

97 «O caro duca mio, che più di sette
"O dear leader my, who more than seven

98 volte m'hai sicurtà renduta e tratto *******
times me have kept secure and drawn

99 d'alto periglio che 'ncontra mi stette,
from high danger that against me stood,

Let him return along the foolish way; let him make trial, if he can; for you will remain here, that have led him across so dark and district." Consider, reader, if I discomforted me in the sound of the damned words, for I did not believe to return here ever. "O my dear leader, who more than seven times have kept me secure [. . .] and drawn from high danger that stood against me,

non mi lasciar», diss' io, «così disfatto;
not me do leave," said I, "as one undone;

e se 'l passar più oltre ci è negato,
and if the passing more beyond to us is denied,

ritroviam l'orme nostre insieme ratto».
let us find again the steps our together rapidly."

E quel segnor che lì m'avea menato,
And that lord that there me had delivered,

mi disse: «Non temer; ché 'l nostro passo
to me said, "Do not fear, for our passage

non ci può tòrre alcun: da tal n'è dato.
not here is able to remove any; by such it is given.

Ma qui m'attendi, e lo spirito lasso
But here me attend, and the spirit weary

conforta e ciba di speranza buona,
comfort and feed with hope good,

ch'i' non ti lascerò nel mondo basso».
that I not you will leave in the world lower."

---

do not leave me," said I, "as one undone; and if the passing more beyond is denied to us, let us find again our steps together rapidly." And that lord that had delivered me there, to me said, "Do not fear, for our passage here not any is able to remove; by such a One it is given. But here attend me, and your weary spirit comfort and feed with good hope, that I will not leave you in the lower world."

109 Così sen va, e quivi m'abbandona
So he goes, and there me abandons

110 lo dolce padre, e io rimagno in forse,
the sweet father, and I remain in doubt,

111 che sì e no nel capo mi tenciona.
that yes and no in the head my combat.

112 Udir non potti quello ch'a lor porse;
Hear not I could that to them he offered;

113 ma ei non stette là con essi guari,
but he not stood there with them much

114 che ciascun dentro a pruova si ricorse.
that each one within to compete themselves turned

115 Chiuser le porte que' nostri avversari
They closed the gate, those our adversaries

116 nel petto al mio segnor, che fuor rimase,
in the chest of my lord, who was left

117 e rivolsesi a me con passi rari.
and returned to me with steps uneven.

So he goes, and there me abandons, the sweet father, and I remain in doubt, that yes and no combat in my head. I could not hear that which he offered to them; but he did not stand with them there much, that each one competing with themselves turned within. They closed the gate, those our adversaries, in the chest of my lord, who was left, and returned to me with uneven steps.

Li occhi a la terra e le ciglia avea rase
The eyes to the earth and the brow having been shaved

d'ogne baldanza, e dicea ne' sospiri:
of all boldness, and said in sighing,

«Chi m'ha negate le dolenti case!».
"Who me has denied the sorrowful houses!"

E a me disse: «Tu, perch' io m'adiri,
And to me he said, "You, although I am angered,

non sbigottir, ch'io vincerò la prova,
do not be shocked, that I will conquer the trial,

qual ch'a la difension dentro s'aggiri.
however that to the defense within they hustle about

Questa lor tracotanza non è nova;
This their arrogance not is new;

ché già l'usaro a men segreta porta,
for before they used at a less secret gate

la qual sanza serrame ancor si trova.
that which without lock still is uncovered.

His eyes to the earth and his brow having been shaved of all boldness, and said in sighing, "Who has denied me the sorrowful houses!" And to me he said, "You, although I am angered, do not be shocked, I will conquer the trial, however they hustle about within to the defense. This their arrogance is not new; for before they used at a less secret gate that still is uncovered without lock.

127 Sovr' essa vedestù la scritta morta:
Above it saw you the writing dead:

128 e già di qua da lei discende l'erta,
and already this side of it descends the slope

129 passando per li cerchi sanza scorta,
passing through the circles without escort

130 tal che per lui ne fia la terra aperta».
such a one that by him to us will be the city opened."

Above it you saw the dead writing; and already this side of it descends the slope, passing through the circles without escort, such a one that by him the city will be opened to us."

Canto IX: The Gates of Dis

1 Quel color che viltà di fuor mi pinse
That color that cowardice to outside my pushed

2 veggendo il duca mio tornare in volta,
seeing the leader my return in time,

3 più tosto dentro il suo novo ristrinse.
more promptly inside his new (color) take in.

4 Attento si fermò com' uom ch'ascolta;
Attentive he was fixed as a man that listens

5 ché l'occhio nol potea menare a lunga
for the eye not able to drive long

6 per l'aere nero e per la nebbia folta.
through the air black and through the dense fog.

7 «Pur a noi converrà vincer la punga»,
"Still to us it will appropriate to win the fight,"

8 cominciò el, «se non . . . Tal ne s'offerse.
he commenced, "if not . . . such a one to us was offered.

9 Oh quanto tarda a me ch'altri qui giunga!».
Oh how slow to me that the other here should arrive!"

That color that cowardice pushed to my outside, seeing my leader return in time, more promptly did he take in his new (color). Attentive, he was fixed as a man that listens; for the eye was not able to drive long through the black air and through the dense fog. "Still, it will be appropriate for us to win the fight," he began, "if not . . . such a one to us was offered. Oh how slow to me that the other should arrive here!"

10 I' vidi ben sì com' ei ricoperse
I saw well indeed how he recovered

11 lo cominciar con l'altro che poi venne,
what he began with the other that after came

12 che fur parole a le prime diverse;
that were words from the first different;

13 ma nondimen paura il suo dir dienne,
but nonetheless fear the his speech I grew,

14 perch' io traeva la parola tronca
for I drew from the words truncated

15 forse a peggior sentenzia che non tenne.
perhaps a worse understanding that it did not hold.

16 «In questo fondo de la trista conca
"Into this bottom of the sad hollow

17 discende mai alcun del primo grado,
descend ever anyone from the first level

18 che sol per pena ha la speranza cionca?».
that only through suffering have the hope cut off?"

I saw well indeed how he recovered what he began with the other that came after, that were words different from the first; but nonetheless I grew fear from his speech, for I drew from the truncated words perhaps a worse understanding that it did not hold. "Into this bottom of the sad hollow did ever anyone descend from the first level that only through suffering hope having been cut off?"

19 Questa question fec' io; e quei «Di rado
This question made I; and he, "Rarely

20 incontra», mi rispuose, «che di noi
does it occur," me he answered, "that of us

21 faccia il cammino alcun per qual io vado.
make the journey anyone for which I go.

22 Ver è ch'altra fïata qua giù fui,
True it is that another time below I was,

23 congiurato da quella Eritón cruda
conjured by that Erichtho cruel

24 che richiamava l'ombre a' corpi sui.
that summoned the shades to bodies their.

25 Di poco era di me la carne nuda,
Of little was of me the flesh naked,

26 ch'ella mi fece intrar dentr' a quel muro,
that she me made enter inside to those walls

27 per trarne un spirto del cerchio di Giuda.
in order to return a spirit from the circle of Judas.

This question I made; and he, "Rarely does it occur," he answered me, "that any of us make the journey for which I go. It is true that another time I was below, conjured by that cruel Erictho who summoned the shades to their bodies. A little it was me naked of the flesh, when she made me enter inside those walls in order to bring back a spirit from the circle of Judas.

28 Quell' è 'l più basso loco e 'l più oscuro,
That is the most deep place and the most dark,

29 e 'l più lontan dal ciel che tutto gira:
and the more far from heaven that all things turns;

30 ben so 'l cammin; però ti fa sicuro.
well I know the way; therefore you make secure.

31 Questa palude che 'l gran puzzo spira
This marsh that the great stench blows about

32 cigne dintorno la città dolente,
circles round about the city doleful,

33 u' non potemo intrare omai sanz' ira».
where not we are able to enter now without wrath."

34 E altro disse, ma non l'ho a mente;
And other he said, but not it I have to mind;

35 però che l'occhio m'avea tutto tratto
because that the eyes me were all drawn (expectant)

36 ver' l'alta torre a la cima rovente,
towards the high tower to the peak fiery,

That is the deepest place and the darkest, and the furthest from the heaven that turns all things; well I know the way; therefore make you secure. This marsh that blows about the great stench, circles round about the doleful city, where we are not now able to enter without wrath." And other he said, but I have it not to mind; because the eyes were drawing me all towards the high tower to the fiery peak,

37 dove in un punto furon dritte ratto
where in a point there were straight up quickly

38 tre furïe infernal di sangue tinte,
three furies infernal of blood tinted,

39 che membra feminine avieno e atto,
that members feminine they had and gestures,

40 e con idre verdissime eran cinte;
and with hydras most green were girded;

41 serpentelli e ceraste avien per crine,
little serpents and horned snakes for hair,

42 onde le fiere tempie erano avvinte.
whence the fierce temples were bound.

43 E quei, che ben conobbe le meschine
And he, that well knew the handmaids

44 de la regina de l'etterno pianto,
of the queen of the eternal weeping,

45 «Guarda», mi disse, «le feroci Erine.
"Look," me he told, "the ferocious Erinyes.

---

where in a moment there were quickly, erect, three infernal furies tinted of blood, who had feminine members and gestures, and were girded with most green hydras; little serpents and horned snakes for hair, whence the fierce temples were bound. And he, that well knew the handmaids of the queen of the eternal weeping, "Look," he told me, "the ferocious Erinyes.

Quest' è Megera dal sinistro canto;
This is Megera on the left corner;

quella che piange dal destro è Aletto;
she that weeps on the right is Alecto,

Tesifón è nel mezzo»; e tacque a tanto.
Tisiphone is in the middle," and he fell silent at such.

Con l'unghie si fendea ciascuna il petto;
With the nails herself rip each one the breast;

battiensi a palme e gridavan sì alto,
themselves beat by palms and shrieked such high-pitched

ch'i' mi strinsi al poeta per sospetto.
that I me pressed to the poet from doubt.

«Vegna Medusa: sì 'l farem di smalto»,
"Let come Medusa: thus him we will make mortar,"

dicevan tutte riguardando in giuso;
they were saying all, looking again below;

«mal non vengiammo in Tesëo l'assalto».
"Evil not we avenged on Theseus the assault."

This is Megera on the left corner; she that weeps on the right is Alecto, Tisiphone is in the middle," and he fell silent at such. With the nails, each herself rips the breast; they beat themselves with the palms and shrieked so high-pitched that I pressed me to the poet from doubt. "Let come Medusa; thus him we will make mortar," they were all saying, looking again below; "Evil that we have not avenged on Theseus the assault."

55 «Volgiti 'n dietro e tien lo viso chiuso;
Turn you in back and hold the face closed;

56 ché se 'l Gorgón si mostra e tu 'l vedessi,
because if the Gorgon herself exhibits and you her see,

57 nulla sarebbe di tornar mai suso».
not would be able to return ever above."

58 Così disse 'l maestro; ed elli stessi
So spoke the master; and he the same

59 mi volse, e non si tenne a le mie mani,
me turned and not himself left to my hands,

60 che con le sue ancor non mi chiudessi.
that with his also not me closed.

61 O voi ch'avete li 'ntelletti sani,
O you that have the intellect sound,

62 mirate la dottrina che s'asconde
wonder at the doctrine that itself hides

63 sotto 'l velame de li versi strani.
beneath the veil of the verses strange.

"Turn you behind and hold the face closed; because if the Gorgon exhibits herself and you see her, you would not be able ever to return above." So spoke the master; and he himself turned me and left me not to my hands, so as not also with his hands closed me. O you that have sound intellect, wonder at the doctrine that hides itself beneath the veil of the strange verses.

64 E già venìa su per le torbide onde
And already came over the turbid waves

65 un fracasso d'un suon, pien di spavento,
a fracassing of a sound, full of fear

66 per cui tremavano amendue le sponde,
through which trembled both the banks,

67 non altrimenti fatto che d'un vento
not otherwise was made than of a wind

68 impetüoso per li avversi ardori,
impetuous through the hostile heats,

69 che fier la selva e sanz' alcun rattento
that injure the wood and without any resistance

70 li rami schianta, abbatte e porta fori;
the branches crashes, tears down and takes outside;

71 dinanzi polveroso va superbo,
in front dusty it goes proudly,

72 e fa fuggir le fiere e li pastori.
and makes to flee the beasts and the shepherds.

And already came over the turbid waves a fracassing of a sound, full of fear through which both the banks trembled, not otherwise made than of an impetuous wind through the hostile heats, that injure the wood and without any resistance, crashes the branches, tears down and takes outside; in front it goes proudly, dusty, and makes to flee the beasts and the shepherds.

73 Li occhi mi sciolse e disse: «Or drizza il nerbo
The eyes me he loosed and said, "Now straighten the nerve

74 del viso su per quella schiuma antica
of the face over through that froth ancient

75 per indi ove quel fummo è più acerbo».
through there where that smoke is most acerbic."

76 Come le rane innanzi a la nimica
As the frogs before the enemy

77 biscia per l'acqua si dileguan tutte,
snake through the water themselves vanish totally

78 fin ch'a la terra ciascuna s'abbica,
until that to the earth each itself takes,

79 vid' io più di mille anime distrutte
saw I more than thousand souls wrecked

80 fuggir così dinanzi ad un ch'al passo
fleeing so before one that in step

81 passava Stige con le piante asciutte.
passed through the Styx with the soles dry.

My eyes he loosed and said, "Now straighten the nerve of the face over through that ancient froth through there were that smoke is most acerbic." As the frogs before the enemy snake vanish themselves totally through the water until each takes itself to the earth, I saw more than a thousand wrecked souls so fleeing before one that in step passed through the Styx with dry soles.

82 Dal volto rimovea quell' aere grasso,
From the face he was removing that air greasy,

83 menando la sinistra innanzi spesso;
waving the left before frequently;

84 e sol di quell' angoscia parea lasso.
and only of that anguish he seemed tired.

85 Ben m'accorsi ch'elli era da ciel messo,
Well to me I realized that he was from heaven sent,

86 e volsimi al maestro; e quei fé segno
and I turned me to the master; and he made sign

87 ch'i' stessi queto ed inchinassi ad esso.
that I ought to be quiet and bow to him.

88 Ahi quanto mi parea pien di disdegno!
Ah how to me he appeared full of disdain!

89 Venne a la porta e con una verghetta
He came to the door and with a small scepter

90 l'aperse, che non v'ebbe alcun ritegno.
it he opened, that not there was any restraint.

From the face he was removing that greasy air, waving the left before frequently; and of that anguish alone he seemed tired. Well it was realized to me that he was sent from heaven, and I turned me to the master; and he made sign that I ought to be quiet and bow to him. Ah how to me he appeared full of disdain! He came to the door and with a small scepter he opened it, there was not any restraint.

91 «O cacciati del ciel, gente dispetta»,
"O hunted from heaven, people despised,"

92 cominciò elli in su l'orribil soglia,
began he on over the horrible threshold,

93 «ond' esta oltracotanza in voi s'alletta?
"whence this idignity in you itself entices?

94 Perché recalcitrate a quella voglia
Why balk at that will

95 a cui non puote il fin mai esser mozzo,
to which not able the ends ever to be cut short,

96 e che più volte v'ha cresciuta doglia?
and that more times to you has increased pain?

97 Che giova ne le fata dar di cozzo?
What use is it the fate against to butt?

98 Cerbero vostro, se ben vi ricorda,
Cerberus your, if well you remember,

99 ne porta ancor pelato il mento e 'l gozzo».
bears still skinned the chin and the gullet."

"O hunted from heaven, despised people," he began on over the horrible threshold, "whence this indignity entices itself in you? Why balk at that will the ends to which are never able to be cut short, and that more times has increased your pain? What use is it to butt against the fate? Your Cerberus, if you well remember, still bears the skinned chin and gullet."

100 Poi si rivolse per la strada lorda,
Then he himself turned along the way filthy

101 e non fé motto a noi, ma fé sembiante
and not made a word to us, but was resembling

102 d'omo cui altra cura stringa e morda
the man whom other cares press and bite

103 che quella di colui che li è davante;
than those of him that him is in front;

104 e noi movemmo i piedi inver' la terra,
and we moved the feet toward the land (city)

105 sicuri appresso le parole sante.
secure after the words holy.

106 Dentro li 'ntrammo sanz' alcuna guerra;
Within it we entered without any war;

107 e io, ch'avea di riguardar disio
and I, that was to look closely desiring

108 la condizion che tal fortezza serra,
the conditions that such a fortress bolted,

Then he turned himself along the filthy way and made not a word to us, but was resembling the man whom other cares press and bite (more) than those of the one that is before him; and we moved the feet toward the city, secure after the holy words. Within it we entered without any war; and I, that was desiring to look closely the conditions that such a fortress bolted in,

com' io fui dentro, l'occhio intorno invio:
just as I was inside, the eye around sent:

e veggio ad ogne man grande campagna,
and I see to every hand a great plain

piena di duolo e di tormento rio.*****
full of pain and of torment (river??)

Sì come ad Arli, ove Rodano stagna,
Such as at Arles, where the Rhone stagnates,

sì com' a Pola, presso del Carnaro
such as at Pola, near the Carnaro

ch'Italia chiude e suoi termini bagna,
that Italy closes and her boundaries soaks,

fanno i sepulcri tutt' il loco varo,
make the graves all the place varied

così facevan quivi d'ogne parte,
so they did here of every side,

salvo che 'l modo v'era più amaro;
except that the manner there was more bitter;

---

just as I was inside, the eye sent around: and I see to every hand a great plain, full of pain and torment. Such as at Arles, where the Rhone stagnates, such as at Pola, near the Carnaro that closes Italy and soaks her boundaries, the graves making all the place varied so too they did here of every side, except that the manner here was more bitter;

118 ché tra li avelli fiamme erano sparte,
for among the tombs flames were spattered

119 per le quali eran sì del tutto accesi,
by which they were so very entirely fired,

120 che ferro più non chiede verun' arte. *******
that iron more not asks hot art.

121 Tutti li lor coperchi eran sospesi,
All their covers were suspended,

122 e fuor n'uscivan sì duri lamenti,
and were from there exiting such hard laments,

123 che ben parean di miseri e d'offesi.
that well seemed of the miserable ones and of the pained.

124 E io: «Maestro, quai son quelle genti
And I, "Master, what are these people

125 che, seppellite dentro da quell' arche,
that, interred within these arks,

126 si fan sentir coi sospiri dolenti?».
that make to hear with sighs painful?"

---

for among the tombs flames were spattered by which they were so very entirely fired, that no art asks for iron more hot. All their covers were suspended, and from there were exiting such hard laments, that well seemed of the miserable ones and of the pained. And I, "Master, what are these people that, interred within these arks, that make to hear with painful sighs?"

127 E quelli a me: «Qui son li eresïarche
And he to me, "Here are the heresiarchs

128 con lor seguaci, d'ogne setta, e molto
with their followers, of every sect, and much

129 più che non credi son le tombe carche.
more that not you believe the tombs laden.

130 Simile qui con simile è sepolto,
Like here with like is buried,

131 e i monimenti son più e men caldi».
and the monuments are more and less hot."

132 E poi ch'a la man destra si fu vòlto,
And then that to the hand right himself he had turned,

133 passammo tra i martìri e li alti spaldi.
we passed between the martyrs and the high fortifications.

And he to me, "Here are the heresiarchs with their followers, of every sect, and much more that you (would) not believe laden the tombs. Like here with like is buried, and the monuments are more and less hot." And then, having turned himself to the right hand, we passed between the martyrs and the high fortifications.

Canto X: Heresiarchs

1 Ora sen va per un secreto calle, ********
Now goes along a secret path

2 tra 'l muro de la terra e li martìri,
between the wall of the city and the martyrs,

3 lo mio maestro, e io dopo le spalle.
my master, and I behind the shoulder.

4 «O virtù somma, che per li empi giri
"O virtue highest, that through the impious circles

5 mi volvi», cominciai, «com' a te piace,
me turn," I began, "as to you it pleases,

6 parlami, e sodisfammi a' miei disiri.
tell me, and satisfy me to my desires.

7 La gente che per li sepolcri giace
The people that in the tombs lie,

8 potrebbesi veder? già son levati
might they be able to be seen? Already they removed

9 tutt' i coperchi, e nessun guardia face».
all the lids, and on one guard makes."

Now goes along a secret path, between the wall of the city and the martyrs, my master, and I behind his shoulder. "O highest virtue, that through the impious circles turns me," I began, "as it pleases you, tell me, and satisfy my desires. The people that lie in the tombs, might they be able to be seen? Already they removed all the lids, and no one makes guard."

10 E quelli a me: «Tutti saran serrati
And he to me: "All will be bolted

11 quando di Iosafàt qui torneranno
when from Jehoshaphat here they return

12 coi corpi che là sù hanno lasciati.
with bodies that there up they left.

13 Suo cimitero da questa parte hanno
Their cemetery on this side they have

14 con Epicuro tutti suoi seguaci,
with Epicurus all his followers,

15 che l'anima col corpo morta fanno.
that the soul with the body dies they make.

16 Però a la dimanda che mi faci
Therefore to the question that to me you make

17 quinc' entro satisfatto sarà tosto,
thus within satisfied it will be promptly,

18 e al disio ancor che tu mi taci».
and to the desire still that you to me keep quiet."

And he to me, "All will be bolted when from Jehoshaphat (valley of Judgment) they return here with the bodies that they left up there. Their cemetery on this side they have with Epicurus and all his followers, that make the body die with the soul. Therefore to the question that to me you make, thus within it will be promptly satisfied, and to the desire that you still keep quiet to me."

19 E io: «Buon duca, non tegno riposto
And I: "Good leader, not I hold hidden

20 a te mio cuor se non per dicer poco,
from you my heart if not through to speak little,

21 e tu m'hai non pur mo a ciò disposto».
and you me have not in order to now to this inclined."

22 «O Tosco che per la città del foco
"Oh Tuscan, that through the city of the fire

23 vivo ten vai così parlando onesto,
alive, along going thus speaking honest,

24 piacciati di restare in questo loco.
let it please you to remain in this place.

25 La tua loquela ti fa manifesto
Your speech you makes manifest

26 di quella nobil patrïa natio
of that noble fatherland native

27 a la qual forse fui troppo molesto».
to that perhaps I was too tedious."

And I, "Good leader, I did not hold hidden from you my heart, if not so as to speak little, and you have to this inclined, and not only now." "O Tuscan, that through the city of the fire alive goes along thus speaking honest, let it please you to remain in this place. Your speech makes manifest you are a native of that noble fatherland to which perhaps I was too tedious."

28 Subitamente questo suono uscìo
Suddenly this sound left

29 d'una de l'arche; però m'accostai,
from one of the arks; therefore myself I pulled

30 temendo, un poco più al duca mio.
fearing, a little more toward the leader my.

31 Ed el mi disse: «Volgiti! Che fai?
And he to me said, "Turn you! What do you?

32 Vedi là Farinata che s'è dritto:
See there Farinata that himself is straight up;

33 da la cintola in sù tutto 'l vedrai».
from the waist up the whole him you will see."

34 Io avea già il mio viso nel suo fitto;
I had already my face in his fixed;

35 ed el s'ergea col petto e con la fronte
and he himself was rising with breast and with brow

36 com' avesse l'inferno a gran dispitto.
as if he held Hell in great despite.

Suddenly this sound left from one of the arks; therefore I pulled myself, fearing, a little more toward my leader. And he said to me, "Turn you! What are you doing? See there Farinata that straightens himself; from the waist up the whole of him you will see." I had already fixed my face in his; and he himself was rising with breast and with brow, as if he held Hell in great despite.

37 E l'animose man del duca e pronte
And the daring hands of the leader and prompt

38 mi pinser tra le sepulture a lui,
me pushed between the tomb and him

39 dicendo: «Le parole tue sien conte».
saying, "The words your let be appropriate."

40 Com' io al piè de la sua tomba fui,
As I to the foot of his tomb was

41 guardommi un poco, e poi, quasi sdegnoso,
he gazed at me a little, and then, as if disdainful,

42 mi dimandò: «Chi fuor li maggior tui?».
to me he asked, "Who were the betters your?"

43 Io ch'era d'ubidir disideroso,
I that was to obey desiring

44 non gliel celai, ma tutto gliel' apersi;
not to him concealed, but all to him opened;

45 ond' ei levò le ciglia un poco in suso;
whence he raised the eyebrows a little in above

And the daring and prompt hands of my leader pushed me between the tomb and him, saying, "Let your words be appropriate." As I was at the foot of his tomb, he gazed at me a little, and then, as if disdainful, he asked me, "Who were your elders?" I, who was desiring to obey, did not conceal from him, but opened all to him; whence he raised up his eyebrows a little.

poi disse: «Fieramente furo avversi
then said, "Fiercely they were hostile

a me e a miei primi e a mia parte,
to me and to my priors and to my party,

sì che per due fïate li dispersi».
such that through two times them I dispersed."

«S'ei fur cacciati, ei tornar d'ogne parte»,
"If they were expelled, they returned of every side,"

rispuos' io lui, «l'una e l'altra fïata;
responded I to him, "the one and the other time;

ma i vostri non appreser ben quell'arte».
but you not did learn well that art."

Allor surse a la vista scoperchiata
Then arose to the sight uncovered

un'ombra, lungo questa, infino al mento:
a shade, long this one until to the chin;

credo che s'era in ginocchie levata.
I believe that himself was on knees risen.

---

then said, "Fiercely were they hostile to me and to my forebears and to my party, such that twice I dispersed them." "If they were expelled, they returned on every side," I responded to him, "the one and the other time; but you all did not learn that art well." Then arose to uncovered sight a shade, as far as to the chin; I believe that he had raised himself on his knees.

55 Dintorno mi guardò, come talento
Around me it gazed, as desire

56 avesse di veder s'altri era meco;
he had to see if another was with me;

57 e poi che 'l sospecciar fu tutto spento,
and after that the surmise was totally spent,

58 piangendo disse: «Se per questo cieco
weeping said, "If through this blind

59 carcere vai per altezza d' ingegno,
prison you go on account of height of ingenuity,

60 mio figlio ov' è? e perché non è teco?».
my son where is? And why not he with you?"

61 E io a lui: «Da me stesso non vegno:
And I to him, "Of me myself not I come;

62 colui ch'attende là, per qui mi mena
he that awaits there, through here me he leads,

63 forse cui Guido vostro ebbe a disdegno».
perhaps one Guido your had held in disdain."

It gazed around me, as having desire to see if another was with me; and after that the surmising was totally spent, weeping it said, "If through this blind prison you go on account of height of ingenuity, where is my son? And why is he not with you?" And I to him, "Of me myself I do not come; he that awaits there, through here he leads me, perhaps one your Guido had held in disdain."

64 Le sue parole e 'l modo de la pena
The his words and the manner of the suffering

65 m'avean di costui già letto il nome;
to me had of him already read the name;

66 però fu la risposta così piena.
therefore was the response so full.

67 Di sùbito drizzato gridò: «Come
Of a sudden straight up he cried, "How

68 dicesti "elli ebbe"? non viv' elli ancora?
did you say "he had"? Not lives he still?

69 non fiere li occhi suoi lo dolce lume?».
Not strike the eyes his that sweet light?"

70 Quando s'accorse d'alcuna dimora
When himself he noticed of some pause

71 ch'io facëa dinanzi a la risposta,
that I made before the response,

72 supin ricadde e più non parve fora.
supine he again fell back and more not appeared outside.

His words and the manner of his suffering had already to me read the name of him; therefore my response was so full. Of a sudden straight up, he cried, "How did you say "he had"? Does he not still live? Does not that sweet light strike his eyes?" When he himself noticed some pause that I made before the response, supine he again fell back and appeared not more outside.

73 Ma quell' altro magnanimo, a cui posta
But that other great-soul, at whose request

74 restato m'era, non mutò aspetto,
remained me I had, not changed aspect,

75 né mosse collo, né piegò sua costa;
nor moved neck, nor bend his side;

76 e sé continüando al primo detto,
and himself continuing the first saying,

77 «S'elli han quell' arte», disse, «male appresa,
"If they have that art," he said, "badly learned,

78 ciò mi tormenta più che questo letto.
that to me torments more than this bed.

79 Ma non cinquanta volte fia raccesa
But not fifty times will be rekindled

80 la faccia de la donna che qui regge,
the face of the lady that here reigns

81 che tu saprai quanto quell' arte pesa.
that you will know how that art weighs.

But that other great-soul, at whose request I had kept myself back, had not changed aspect, nor moved his neck, nor bent his side; and himself continuing the first saying, "If they have that art," he said, "badly learned, that is to me more torment than this bed. But not fifty times will the face of the lady that reigns here[1] be rekindled that you will know how that art weighs.

1 (Proserpina, goddess of the moon, queen of hades

82 E se tu mai nel dolce mondo regge,
And if you ever in the sweet world return,

83 dimmi: perché quel popolo è sì empio
tell me, why that people is so impious

84 incontr' a' miei in ciascuna sua legge?».
against my in each of its laws?"

85 Ond' io a lui: «Lo strazio e 'l grande scempio
Whence I to him, "The massacre and the great slaughter

86 che fece l'Arbia colorata in rosso,
that made the Arbia colored in red,

87 tal orazion fa far nel nostro tempio».
such orations (causes) to be made in our temple."

88 Poi ch'ebbe sospirando il capo mosso,
After that he was sighing the head moving,

89 «A ciò non fu' io sol», disse, «né certo
"To this not was I alone," he said, "nor certainly

90 sanza cagion con li altri sarei mosso.
without reason with the others I would have moved.

And if you ever return to the sweet world, tell me, why is that people so impious against my (people) in each of its laws?" Whence I to him, "The massacre and the great slaughter that colored the Arbia red, caused such orations to be made in our temple." After that he moved his head, sighing, "To this I was not alone," he said, "nor certainly without reason would I have moved with the others.

91 Ma fu' io solo, là dove sofferto
But it was I alone, there where suffered

92 fu per ciascun di tòrre via Fiorenza,
from each one to torture the manner Florentine,

93 colui che la difesi a viso aperto».
the one who her I defended with face open."

94 «Deh, se riposi mai vostra semenza»,
"Ah, may rest ever your seed,"

95 prega' io lui, «solvetemi quel nodo
begged I him, "untie you to me this knot

96 che qui ha 'nviluppata mia sentenza.
that here has enveloped my judgment.

97 El par che voi veggiate, se ben odo,
It seems that you all see, if well I hear,

98 dinanzi quel che 'l tempo seco adduce,
ahead that which the time with it puts forward,

99 e nel presente tenete altro modo».
and in the present you keep to another way."

But it was I alone, there where each one would have suffered the Florentine manner to torture, I was the one who defended her boldly." "Ah, may your seed ever rest;" I begged him, "Untie to me this knot, that here as shrouded my judgment. It seems that you all see, if I well hear, ahead that which the time puts forth with it, and in the present you keep to another way."

«Noi veggiam, come quei c'ha mala luce,
"We see, as one that has bad light,

le cose», disse, «che ne son lontano;
the things," he said, " that from us are distant;

cotanto ancor ne splende il sommo duce.
so much still for us shines the highest leader.

Quando s'appressano o son, tutto è vano
When they approach or are, all is vain

nostro intelletto; e s'altri non ci apporta,
our intellect; and if another not to us bring (report),

nulla sapem di vostro stato umano.
nothing we know of your state human.

Però comprender puoi che tutta morta
Therefore comprehend you can that all death

fia nostra conoscenza da quel punto
will be our knowledge from that point

che del futuro fia chiusa la porta».
that of the future will closed the door."

"We see, as one that has bad light the things," he said, "that from us our distant; so much the highest leader still shines for us. When they approach or are, our intellect is all vain; and if another does not bring (report) to us, we know nothing your human state. Therefore you can comprehend that our knowledge will be all death from that point that the future will have closed the door."

Allor, come di mia colpa compunto,
Then, as of my blame repenting

dissi: «Or direte dunque a quel caduto
I said, "Now tell you therefore to that fallen

che 'l suo nato è co' vivi ancor congiunto;
that his son is with the living still united;

e s'i' fui, dianzi, a la risposta muto,
and if I was, before, to the answer mute,

fate i saper che 'l fei perché pensava
make him to know that that I did because I thought

già ne l'error che m'avete soluto».
already in the error that to me you have solved."

E già 'l maestro mio mi richiamava;
And already the master my to me calling back;

per ch'i' pregai lo spirto più avaccio
therefore I begged the spirit more vigorously

che mi dicesse chi con lu' istava.
that to me he should tell who with him was.

Then, as repenting of my blame, I said, "Now tell therefore that fallen one that his son is united still with the living; and if I was mute to answer before, make him to know that I did so because I thought already in the error that to me you have solved." And already my master was calling back to me; therefore I begged the spirit more vigorously that to me he should tell who was with him.

Dissemi: «Qui con più di mille giaccio:
He said to me, "Here with more than a thousand I lie;

qua dentro è 'l secondo Federico,
here within is the second Frederick,

e 'l Cardinale; e de li altri mi taccio».
and the Cardinal; and of the others I keep silent."

Indi s'ascose; e io inver' l'antico
Then himself he hid; and I inverted the ancient

poeta volsi i passi, ripensando
poet turned the steps, rethinking

a quel parlar che mi parea nemico.
to those words that to me seemed inimical.

Elli si mosse; e poi, così andando,
He thus moved; and then, while walking,

mi disse: «Perché se' tu sì smarrito?».
to me he said, "Why are you thus dismayed?"

E io li sodisfeci al suo dimando.
And I made satisfaction to his question.

He said to me, "Here with more than a thousand I lie; here within is the second Frederick, and the Cardinal; and of the others I keep silent." Then he hid himself; and I turned my inverted steps to the ancient poet, rethinking about those words that to me seemed inimical. He moved thus; and then, while walking, he said to me, "Why are you thus dismayed?" And I made satisfaction to his question.

127 «La mente tua conservi quel ch'udito
"The mind your let keep that which you heard

128 hai contra te», mi comandò quel saggio;
have against you," me commanded that sage;

129 «e ora attendi qui», e drizzò 'l dito:
"and now attend here," and he raised the finger;

130 «quando sarai dinanzi al dolce raggio
"when you are before the sweet sunbeam

131 di quella il cui bell' occhio tutto vede,
of her whose beautiful eyes all see,

132 da lei saprai di tua vita il vïaggio».
from her you will know of your life the journey."

133 Appresso mosse a man sinistra il piede:
After he moved to the hand left the foot;

134 lasciammo il muro e gimmo inver' lo mezzo
we left the wall and went toward the middle

135 per un sentier ch'a una valle fiede,
along a trail that to a valley leads,

136 che 'nfin là sù facea spiacer suo lezzo.
who lastly there up made to be sorry its stench.

"Let your mind keep that which you heard against you," that sage commanded me; "And now attend here,"and he raised a finger; "When you are before the sweet sunbeam of her whose beautiful eyes see all, from her you will know of the journey of your life." After he moved his foot to the left; we left the wall and went toward the middle along a trail that leads to a valley, its stench even up there made to be sorry.

Canto XI: Discourse on the Structure of Hell

1 In su l'estremità d'un'alta ripa
Upwards the extremity of a high cliff

2 che facevan gran pietre rotte in cerchio,
that made great rocks coursed in a circle

3 venimmo sopra più crudele stipa;
we came upon more cruel packing;

4 e quivi, per l'orribile soperchio
and there, through the horrible excess

5 del puzzo che 'l profondo abisso gitta,
of the stench that the deep abyss cast up

6 ci raccostammo, in dietro, ad un coperchio
us return in back to a cover

7 d'un grand' avello, ov' io vidi una scritta
of a grand tomb where I saw a writing

8 che dicea: 'Anastasio papa guardo,
that said: "Anastasius father I guard,

9 lo qual trasse Fotin de la via dritta'.
he whom drew Photinus from the way straight."

Above the extremity of a high cliff made by great rocks coursed in a circle, we came upon a more cruel pack; and there, through the horrible excess of the stench cast up by the deep abyss, turned us behind to a cover of a grand tomb where I saw a script, that said, "Pope Anastasius I guard, he whom Photinus drew from the straight way."

«Lo nostro scender conviene esser tardo,
"Our descent must needs be delayed,

sì che s'ausi un poco in prima il senso
such that itself might be accustomed a little before the sense

al tristo fiato; e poi no i fia riguardo».
to the nasty breath; and then it will pay no attention."

Così 'l maestro; e io «Alcun compenso»,
So the master; and I, "Some compensation,"

dissi lui, «trova che 'l tempo non passi
I said to him, "find that the time might not pass

perduto». Ed elli: «Vedi ch'a ciò penso».
lost." And he: "You see that this I am considering."

«Figliuol mio, dentro da cotesti sassi»,
"Son my, within the broken rocks,"

cominciò poi a dir, «son tre cerchietti
he began then to say, "are three smaller circles

di grado in grado, come que' che lassi.
from degree to degree, like those that you leave.

"Our descent must needs be delayed, such that the sense itself might be accustomed a little beforehand to the nasty breath; and then it will pay no attention." So the master; and I, "Some compensation," I said to him, "find, that the time might not pass lost." And he, "You see that I am considering this. My son, within the broken rocks," he began then to say, "are three smaller circles from degree to degree, like those that you leave.

19 Tutti son pien di spirti maladetti;
All are full of spirits maledicted

20 ma perché poi ti basti pur la vista,
but because then you it might suffice just the sight,

21 intendi come e perché son costretti.
understand how and why they are constrained.

22 D'ogne malizia, ch'odio in cielo acquista,
Of every malice, that the hatred of heaven acquires,

23 ingiuria è 'l fine, ed ogne fin cotale
injustice is the end, and every end such

24 o con forza o con frode altrui contrista.
either with force or with fraud someone grieves.

25 Ma perché frode è de l'uom proprio male,
But because fraud is to the human proper evil

26 più spiace a Dio; e però stan di sotto
more displeasing to God; and therefore they stay underneath

27 li frodolenti, e più dolor li assale.
the fraudulent, and more pain them assails.

All are full of maledicted spirits; but so that just the sight then might suffice you, understand how and why they are constrained. Of every malice, that acquires the hatred of heaven, injustice is the end, and every such end either with force or with fraud grieves someone. But because fraud is evil proper to the human, it is more displeasing to God; and therefore the fraudulent stay underneath, and more pain assails them.

28 Di vïolenti il primo cerchio è tutto;
Of the violent the first circle is all;

29 ma perché si fa forza a tre persone,
but because one does force to three persons,

30 in tre gironi è distinto e costrutto.
in three wheels it is distinguished and construed.

31 A Dio, a sé, al prossimo si pòne
To God, to oneself, to neighbor one can

32 far forza, dico in loro e in lor cose,
do force, I say to them and to their things,

33 come udirai con aperta ragione.
as you will hear with open reason.

34 Morte per forza e ferute dogliose
Death through force and injuries painful

35 nel prossimo si danno, e nel suo avere
on the neighbor one gives, and on his possessions

36 ruine, incendi e tollette dannose;
ruin, fires and extortions prejudicial;

Of the violent the first circle is all; but because one does force to three persons, in three wheels it is distinguished and construed. To God, to oneself, to neighbor one can do force, I say to them and to their things, as you will hear with open reason. Death through force and painful injuries one gives to the neighbor, and on his possessions ruin, fires, and prejudicial extortions;

37 onde omicide e ciascun che mal fiere,
whence homicides and each one that wrongfully wounds,

38 guastatori e predon, tutti tormenta
saboteurs and marauders, all are tormented

39 lo giron primo per diverse schiere.
the wheel first per different ranks.

40 Puote omo avere in sé man vïolenta
Can one have toward oneself a hand violent

41 e ne' suoi beni; e però nel secondo
and toward ones own goods; and therefore in the second

42 giron convien che sanza pro si penta
wheel must needs that without avail one repents

43 qualunque priva sé del vostro mondo,
whoever deprives oneself of your world,

44 biscazza e fonde la sua facultade,
gambles and melts his faculties (means)

45 e piange là dov' esser de' giocondo.
and weeps there where he to be ought light-hearted.

---

whence homicides and each one that wrongfully wounds, saboteurs and marauders, all are tormented through different ranks in the first wheel. One can have a violent hand toward oneself and toward one's own goods; and therefore in the second wheel must needs that one repents without avail, whoever deprives oneself of your world, gambles and melts his faculties (means) and weeps there where he ought to be light-hearted.

46 Puossi far forza nella deïtade,
One can do force toward the Diety

47 col cor negando e bestemmiando quella,
with the heart denying and blaspheming it,

48 e spregiando natura e sua bontade;
and despising nature and her bounty;

49 e però lo minor giron suggella
and therefore the smallest wheel seals

50 del segno suo e Soddoma e Caorsa
of its sign both Sodom and Cahors

51 e chi, spregiando Dio col cor, favella.
and he who, despising God with the heart, speaks.

52 La frode, ond' ogne coscïenza è morsa,
The fraud, which every conscience grasps,

53 può l'omo usare in colui che 'n lui fida
can a man use toward one that in him trusts

54 e in quel che fidanza non imborsa.
and toward him that trust not places.

One can do force toward the Diety, with the heart denying and blaspheming it, and despising nature and her bounty; and therefore the smallest wheel seals of its sign both Sodom and Cahors and he who speaks, despising God with the heart. Fraud, which grasps every conscience, man can use toward one that trusts him and toward him that no trust in him places.

55 Questo modo di retro par ch'incida
This mode latter seems that cuts

56 pur lo vinco d'amor che fa natura;
just the bond of love that makes nature;

57 onde nel cerchio secondo s'annida
whence in the circle second nest themselves

58 ipocresia, lusinghe e chi affattura,
hypocrisy, pandering and he who tells fortunes,

59 falsità, ladroneccio e simonia,
falsifiers, thievery and simony,

60 ruffian, baratti e simile lordura.
sycophants, barrators, and similar filth.

61 Per l'altro modo quell' amor s'oblia
By the other mode that love forgets

62 che fa natura, e quel ch'è poi aggiunto,
that makes nature, and that which is after added,

63 di che la fede spezïal si cria;
from which the faith special is created;

This latter mode seems that which cuts just the bond of love that nature makes; whence in the second circle nest themselves hypocrisy, pandering and he who fortune tells, falsifiers, thievery and simony, sycophants, barrators, and similar filth. By the other mode, one forgets that love that nature makes, and that which is after added, from which the special faith is created;

64 onde nel cerchio minore, ov' è 'l punto
whence in the circle smallest, where is the point

65 de l'universo in su che Dite siede,
of the universe in on that Dis sits

66 qualunque trade in etterno è consunto».
whoever betrays in eternity is consumed."

67 E io: «Maestro, assai chiara procede
And I, " Master, very clearly proceeds

68 la tua ragione, e assai ben distingue
the your reason, and very well distinguishes

69 questo baràtro e 'l popol ch'e' possiede.
this chasm and the people that it possesses.

70 Ma dimmi: quei de la palude pingue,
But tell me: those of the swamp festering,

71 che mena il vento, e che batte la pioggia,
who throws the wind, and who beats the rain,

72 e che s'incontran con sì aspre lingue,
and that collide with such sour tongues,

---

whence in the smallest circle, where is the point of the universe in which Dis sits, whoever betrays is consumed in eternity." And I, "Master, your reason very clearly proceeds, and very well distinguishes this chasm and the people that it possesses. But tell me: those of the festering swamp, who the wind throws, and who the rain beats, and that collide with such sour tongues,

perché non dentro da la città roggia
why not within the city fiery red

sono ei puniti, se Dio li ha in ira?
are they punished, if God them holds in wrath?

e se non li ha, perché sono a tal foggia?».
And if not them he holds, why are they so shaped?"

Ed elli a me «Perché tanto delira»,
And he to me, "Why so does rave,"

disse, «lo 'ngegno tuo da quel che sòle?
he said, "the intelligence your from that which it is use to?

o ver la mente dove altrove mira?
Or true the mind where elsewhere watch?

Non ti rimembra di quelle parole
Is it not to you remembered of those words

con le quai la tua Etica pertratta
with which your Ethics treats

le tre disposizion che 'l ciel non vole,
the three dispositions that Heaven does not desire,

---

why are they not punished within the fiery red city, if God holds them in wrath? And if he holds them not, why are they so shaped?" And he to me, "Why does so rave," he said, "your intelligence from that which it is used to? Or where elsewhere from the truth the mind watches? Is it not to you remembered of those words with which your Ethics treats the three dispositions that Heaven does not desire,

incontenenza, malizia e la matta
incontinence, malice and the reckless

bestialitade? e come incontenenza
bestiality? And as incontinence

men Dio offende e men biasimo accatta?
less God offends and less reproach pleads?

Se tu riguardi ben questa sentenza,
If you consider well this sentence

e rechiti a la mente chi son quelli
and bring you to the mind who are those

che sù di fuor sostegnon penitenza,
that above, outside shoulder suffering,

tu vedrai ben perché da questi felli
you will see well why from these wicked

sien dipartiti, e perché men crucciata
they are separated, and why less painfully

la divina vendetta li martelli».
the divine punishment them hammers."

---

incontinence, malice and the reckless bestiality? And as incontinence offends God less and pleads less reproach? If you consider well this sentence and bring to mind who are those that above, outside (these walls), shoulder suffering, you will see well why from these wicked they are separated, and why less painfully the divine punishment hammers them."

91 «O sol che sani ogni vista turbata,
"O sun that heals every sight agitated,

92 tu mi contenti sì quando tu solvi,
you me content indeed when you solve

93 che, non men che saver, dubbiar m'aggrata.
that not less pleasing, doubting to me knowing.

94 Ancora in dietro un poco ti rivolvi»,
Again, in behind a little you turn,"

95 diss' io, «là dove di' ch'usura offende
said I, "to that place where you say that usury offends

96 la divina bontade, e 'l groppo solvi».
the divine bounty, and the knot dissolve."

97 «Filosofia», mi disse, «a chi la 'ntende,
"Philosophy," to me he said, "to him who it understands,

98 nota, non pure in una sola parte,
notes, not even in one only place,

99 come natura lo suo corso prende
how nature her course takes

"O sun that heals every agitated sight, you indeed content me when you solve that not doubting is not less pleasing to me than knowing. Again, turn back a little," said I, "to that place where you say that usury offends the divine bounty, and dissolve the knot." "Philosophy," to me he said, "to him who understands it, notes, not even in only one place, how nature takes her course

100 dal divino 'ntelletto e da sua arte;
from the divine intellect and from His art

101 e se tu ben la tua Fisica note,
and if you well your Physics note,

102 tu troverai, non dopo molte carte,
you will find, not after many pages,

103 che l'arte vostra quella, quanto pote,
that the art your that (nature), as much as is able,

104 segue, come 'l maestro fa 'l discente;
follows, like the master does the disciple;

105 sì che vostr' arte a Dio quasi è nepote.
such that your art to God nearly is grandchild.

106 Da queste due, se tu ti rechi a mente
From these two, if you you bring to mind

107 lo Genesì dal principio, convene
the Genesis of the beginning, must needs

108 prender sua vita e avanzar la gente;
draw one's life and advance the people;

---

from the divine intellect and from His art and if you note your Physics well, you will find, not after many pages, that your art, as much as is able, follows that (nature), like the disciple does the master; such that your art to God is nearly a grandchild. From these two, if you bring you to mind, Genesis, of the beginning, must needs draw one's life and advance the people;

109 e perché l'usuriere altra via tene,
and because the usurer another way holds,

110 per sé natura e per la sua seguace
in herself nature and in her follower

111 dispregia, poi ch'in altro pon la spene.
he disparages, then that in another puts the hope.

112 Ma seguimi oramai, che 'l gir mi piace;
But follow me at the hour, that the rotation me pleases;

113 ché i Pesci guizzan su per l'orizzonta,
for the Fishes are darting up across the horizon

114 e 'l Carro tutto sovra 'l Coro giace,
and the Great Bear above the Northwest wind lies,

115 e 'l balzo via là oltra si dismonta».*********
And the jump away to that other one dismounts.
(Over there a ways is where one climbs down).

---

and because the usurer holds another way, nature in herself and in her follower he disparages, after that he puts hope in another. But follow me at this point, for the rotation pleases me; for the Fishes are darting up across the horizon and the Great Bear above Corus (the Northwest Wind) lies, and over there a ways is where one climbs down.

Canto XII: Tyrants and Robbers

1 Era lo loco ov' a scender la edge
Was the place where to descend the cliff

2 venimmo, alpestro, e per quel che v'er' anco,
we came, mountainous, and on account of what there was also

3 tal, ch'ogne vista ne sarebbe schiva.
such, that all sight of it would avoid.

4 Qual è quella ruina che nel fianco
Like that ruin that in the side

5 di qua da Trento l'Adice percosse,
of here from Trent the Adige struck,

6 o per tremoto o per sostegno manco,
or on account of the earthquake or on account of support lacking,

7 che da cima del monte, onde si mosse,
that from the peak of the mountain, where one moved

8 al piano è sì la roccia discoscesa,
to the plain is so the cliff shattered,

9 ch'alcuna via darebbe a chi sù fosse:
that some way it should provide to one who was above:

The place where we came to descend the cliff was mountainous, and because of what was also there such that every sight would avoid it. Like that ruin that struck in the side of the Adige this side of Trent, either because of the earthquake, or because of lacking support, that from the peak of the mountain, where one moved to the plain the cliff is so shattered, that some way it should provide to one who was above;

10 cotal di quel burrato era la scesa;
so of that chasm was the slope;

11 e 'n su la punta de la rotta lacca
and upward the point (edge) of the broken hollow

12 l'infamïa di Creti era distesa
the infamy of Crete was spread out

13 che fu concetta ne la falsa vacca;
that was conceived in the false cow;

14 e quando vide noi, sé stesso morse,
and when he saw us, himself same he grasped

15 sì come quei cui l'ira dentro fiacca.
such as he whose anger within broken.

16 Lo savio mio inver' lui gridò: «Forse
The sage my toward him shouted, "Perhaps

17 tu credi che qui sia 'l duca d'Atene,
you believe that here is the duke of Athens,

18 che sù nel mondo la morte ti porse?
that up in the world the death you he put?

---

such was the slope of that chasm; and upward the edge of the broken hollow the infamy of Crete was spread out, he that was conceived in the false cow; and when he saw us, he clutched himself such as one who was broken within by anger. My sage shouted toward him, "Perhaps you believe that the duke of Athens is here, who up in the world put you to death?

19 Pàrtiti, bestia, ché questi non vene
Leave, beast, for this one not comes

20 ammaestrato da la tua sorella,
trained by your sister,

21 ma vassi per veder le vostre pene».
but goes himself in order to see your punishments."

22 Qual è quel toro che si slaccia in quella
Like is that bull that is unhooked in that (hour)

23 c'ha ricevuto già 'l colpo mortale,
that suffers already the blow lethal,

24 che gir non sa, ma qua e là saltella,
that to go not knows, but here and there skips,

25 vid'io lo Minotauro far cotale;
saw I the Minotaur do such;

26 e quello accorto gridò; «Corri al varco:
and that watchful one shouted, "Run to the gap!

27 mentre ch'e' 'nfuria, è buon che tu ti cale».
while that he is raging, it is good that you yourself take down."

Leave, beast, for this one comes not trained by your sister, but goes himself in order to see your punishments." Like a bull that comes unhooked in that hour that suffers already the lethal blow, that knows not to go, but skips here and there, such I saw the Minotaur do; and that watchful one shouted, "Run to the gap! While he is raging, it is good that you take yourself down."

28 Così prendemmo via giù per lo scarco
Thus we took the way down through the dump

29 di quelle pietre, che spesso moviensi
of that rock, that same was itself moving

30 sotto i miei piedi per lo novo carco.
underneath my feet on account of the new burden.

31 Io gia pensando; e quei disse: «Tu pensi
I walked thinking; and he said: "You are thinking

32 forse a questa ruina, ch'è guardata
perhaps of this ruin, that is guarded

33 da quell' ira bestial ch'i' ora spensi.
by that wrath bestial that I now extinguished.

34 Or vo' che sappi che l'altra fïata
Now I will that you know that the other time

35 ch'i' discesi qua giù nel basso inferno,
that I descended here down into deep hell,

36 questa roccia non era ancor cascata.
this cliff not was yet fallen.

Thus we took the way down through the dump of that rock, the same was itself moving under my feet on account of the new burden. I walked, thinking; and he said, "You are thinking perhaps of this ruin that is guarded by the bestial wrath that I now extinguished. Now I will that you know that the other time that I descended here down into deep hell, this cliff was not yet fallen.

37 Ma certo poco pria, se ben discerno,
But certainly a little before, if well I discern,

38 che venisse colui che la gran preda
that he came who that the grand plunder

39 levò a Dite del cerchio superno,
he removed from Dis of the circle highest,

40 da tutte parti l'alta valle feda
from every part the high valley vile

41 tremò sì, ch'i' pensai che l'universo
trembled so, that I thought that the universe

42 sentisse amor, per lo qual è chi creda
might be feeling love, by that which some believe

43 più volte il mondo in caòsso converso;
more times the world into chaos has converted;

44 e in quel punto questa vecchia roccia
and in that point this ancient cliff,

45 qui e altrove, tal fece riverso.
here and elsewhere, such was made rubble.

But certainly a little before, if I well discern, he came, who removed from Dis the grand plunder of the highest circle, from every part the high, vile valley so trembled that I thought the universe might be feeling love, by which some believe the world has more times been converted into chaos; and in that moment this ancient cliff, here and elsewhere, was made such rubble.

46 Ma ficca li occhi a valle, ché s'approccia
But thrust the eyes downwards, for one approaches

47 la riviera del sangue in la qual bolle
the river of blood in the which boil

48 qual che per vïolenza in altrui noccia».
him who through violence toward another does harm."

49 Oh cieca cupidigia e ira folle,
Oh blind cupidity and wrath insane,

50 che sì ci sproni ne la vita corta,
that so us spur in the life short,

51 e ne l'etterna poi sì mal c'immolle!
and in the eternal after so wickedly us steep!

52 Io vidi un'ampia fossa in arco torta,
I saw an ample ditch in arch bend

53 come quella che tutto 'l piano abbraccia,
like one that the whole plain embraces,

54 secondo ch'avea detto la mia scorta;
according that had said my escort;

But thrust the eyes downwards, for one approaches the river of blood in which boils him who through violence does harm to another." Oh blind cupidity and insane wrath, that so spur us in the short life, and in the eternal one after so wickedly steep us! I saw an ample ditch bent in an arch like one that the whole plain embraces, according to what my escort had said;

55 e tra 'l piè de la ripa ed essa, in traccia
and between the foot of the cliff and it, in troop

56 corrien centauri, armati di saette,
were running centaurs, armed with arrows,

57 come solien nel mondo andare a caccia.
as they were accustomed in the world to go to the hunt.

58 Veggendoci calar, ciascun ristette,
Seeing us descend, each one rested

59 e de la schiera tre si dipartiro
and of the rank three themselves departed

60 con archi e asticciuole prima elette;
with bows and shafts previously chosen;

61 e l'un gridò da lungi: «A qual martiro
and the one shouted from far off, "To what punishment

62 venite voi che scendete la costa?
come you that you descend the bank?

63 Ditel costinci; se non, l'arco tiro».
You speak from where you are; if not, the bow I draw."

---

and between the foot of the cliff and it, in a troop were running centaurs, armed with arrows, as they were accustomed in the world to go to the hunt. Seeing us descend, each one rested and from the rank three took themselves with bows and shafts previously chosen; and one shouted from far off, "To what punishment come you, that you descend the bank? You speak from where you are; if not, I draw the bow."

64 Lo mio maestro disse: «La risposta
My master said: "The response

65 farem noi a Chirón costà di presso:
we will make to Chiron there beside you:

66 mal fu la voglia tua sempre sì tosta».
to your hurt was the will your always so hasty."

67 Poi mi tentò, e disse: «Quelli è Nesso,
Then me he nudged, and said, "That is Nessus,

68 che morì per la bella Deianira
that died on account of the beautiful Deianira

69 e fé di sé la vendetta elli stesso.
and made for himself the revenge to his own.

70 E quel di mezzo, ch'al petto si mira,
And that one of the middle, that to the breast himself gazes,

71 è il gran Chirón, il qual nodrì Achille;
is the grand Chiron, him who taught Achilles;

72 quell' altro è Folo, che fu sì pien d'ira.
that other is Pholus, who was so full of anger.

My master said, "The response we will make to Chiron, there beside you; to your hurt was your will always so hasty." Then he nudged me and said, "That is Nessus, that died on account of the beautiful Deianira and made for himself his own revenge. And that one in the middle, that himself gazes on his breast, is the grand Chiron, who taught Achilles; that other is Pholus, who was so full of anger.

73 Dintorno al fosso vanno a mille a mille,
Around the trench they go from thousand to thousand,

74 saettando qual anima si svelle
shooting arrows at that soul that itself uproots

75 del sangue più che sua colpa sortille».
from the blood more than their blame accords."

76 Noi ci appressammo a quelle fiere isnelle:
We there approached to those beasts lean;

77 Chirón prese uno strale, e con la cocca
Chiron took an arrow, and with the notch

78 fece la barba in dietro a le mascelle.
he made the beard in behind the jaw.

79 Quando s'ebbe scoperta la gran bocca,
When it had been the discovered the great mouth,

80 disse a' compagni: «Siete voi accorti
he said to companions, "Are you watchful

81 che quel di retro move ciò ch'el tocca?
that he from behind moves that which he touches?

Around the trench they go thousand by thousand, shooting arrows at that soul that uproots itself from the blood more than their blame accords." We approached there to those lean beasts; Chiron took an arrow, and with the notch he made the beard in behind the jaw. When the great mouth had been discovered, he said to the companions, "Are you watchful that he from behind moves that which he touches?"

82 Così non soglion far li piè d'i morti».
Such not in the habit to do the feet of the dead."

83 E 'l mio buon duca, che già li er' al petto,
And my good leader, that already he was at the breast,

84 dove le due nature son consorti,
where the two natures were conjoined,

85 rispuose: «Ben è vivo, e sì soletto
answered: "Indeed he is alive, and thus alone

86 mostrar li mi convien la valle buia;
to demonstrate to him me it must needs the valley dark;

87 necessità 'l ci 'nduce, e non diletto.
necessity us induces, and not delight.

88 Tal si partì da cantare alleluia
So did one leave off from singing alleluia

89 che mi commise quest' officio novo:
that to me commit this duty unusual;

90 non è ladron, né io anima fuia.
not is he a thief, nor I a soul thievish.

The feet of the dead are not in the habit of such." And my good leader, that already was at the breast where the two natures were conjoined, answered, "Indeed, he is alive, and thus alone I must needs demonstrate to him the dark valley; necessity induces us, and not delight. So did one leave off singing alleluia so as to commit this unusual duty to me; he is not a thief, nor I a thievish soul.

91 Ma per quella virtù per cu' io movo
But on account of that Power by which I move

92 li passi miei per sì selvaggia strada,
the steps my through such a savage path,

93 danne un de' tuoi, a cui noi siamo a provo,
give to us one of yours, with whom we may be in company,

94 e che ne mostri là dove si guada
and that us he might show that place where one might ford

95 e che porti costui in su la groppa,
and that he might place this one upwards the back,

96 ché non è spirto che per l'aere vada».
for not he is spirit that through the air goes."

97 Chirón si volse in su la destra poppa,
Chiron himself turned upwards the right breast,

98 e disse a Nesso: «Torna, e sì li guida,
and said to Nessus, "Turn back, and so the guide,

99 e fa cansar s'altra schiera v'intoppa».
and make them stand aside, another troop make you stumble."

But on account of that Power by which I move my steps through such a savage path, give to us one of yours, with whom we may be in company, and that he might place this one upon the back, for he is not a spirit that goes through the air." Chiron himself turned upon the right breast, and said to Nessus, "Turn back, and so be the guide, and should another troop make you stumble, make them stand aside."

Or ci movemmo con la scorta fida
Now, we move with the escort faithful

lungo la proda del bollor vermiglio,
beside the bank of the boiling vermillion,

dove i bolliti facieno alte strida.
where the boiled ones made high shrieks.

Io vidi gente sotto infino al ciglio;
I saw people under until the eyelash;

e 'l gran centauro disse: «E' son tiranni
and the grand centaur said, "They are tyrants

che dier nel sangue e ne l'aver di piglio.
that lay in the blood and in their things hold of.

Quivi si piangon li spietati danni;
There they weep the cruel harms;

quivi è Alessandro, e Dionisio fero,
there is Alexander, and Dionysus ferocious,

che fé Cicilia aver dolorosi anni.
that made Sicily have painful years.

Now, we move with the faithful escort beside the bank of the boiling vermillion, where the boiled ones made high shrieks. I saw people under until the eyelash; and the grand centaur said, "They are tyrants that laid hold of the blood and the possessions. There they weep the cruel harms; there is Alexander and the ferocious Dionysus, that made Sicily have painful years.

109 E quella fronte c'ha 'l pel così nero,
And that forehead that has hair so black

110 è Azzolino; e quell' altro ch'è biondo,
is Azzolino; and that other that is blond

111 è Opizzo da Esti, il qual per vero
is Obizzo da Este, he that by truth

112 fu spento dal figliastro sù nel mondo».
was extinguished by the stepson up in the world."

113 Allor mi volsi al poeta, e quei disse:
Then me I turned to the poet, and he said:

114 «Questi ti sia or primo, e io secondo».
"Him to you let be now first, and I second."

115 Poco più oltre il centauro s'affisse
A little more beyond the centaur himself posted

116 sovr' una gente che 'nfino a la gola
over a people that until to the throat

117 parea che di quel bulicame uscisse.
seemed that from that boiling stream came out.

And that forehead that has such black hair is Azzolino; and that other that is blond is Obizzo da Este, he that by truth was extinguished by the stepson up in the world." Then I turned me to the poet, and he said, "Let him now be to you first, and I second." A little more beyond the centaur posted himself over a people that seemed to come out from that boiling stream to the throat.

Mostrocci un'ombra da l'un canto sola,
He pointed out a shade from one corner alone

dicendo: «Colui fesse in grembo a Dio
saying, "That one split in the womb of God

lo cor che 'n su Tamisi ancor si cola».
the heart that upwards the Thames still itself drains."

Poi vidi gente che di fuor del rio
Then I saw people that from out of the river

tenean la testa e ancor tutto 'l casso;
held the head and then all the torso;

e di costoro assai riconobb' io.
and from those people many recognized I.

Così a più a più si facea basso
So more and more itself made shallow

quel sangue, sì che cocea pur li piedi;
that blood, such that it cooked only the feet;

e quindi fu del fosso il nostro passo.
and there was of the ditch our passage.

He pointed out a shade alone in one corner saying, "That one split in the womb of God the heart that above the Thames still drains itself." Then I saw people that from out of the river held the head and then all the torso; and of those people I recognized many. So that blood made itself shallow more and more, such that it cooked only the feet; and there was our passage from the ditch.

127 «Sì come tu da questa parte vedi
"Indeed as you from this side see

128 lo bulicame che sempre si scema»,
the boiling stream that always it diminishes,"

129 disse 'l centauro, «Voglio che tu credi
said the centaur, "I wish that you believe

130 che da quest' altra a più a più giù prema
that from this other more and more down it pushes

131 lo fondo suo, infin ch'el si raggiunge
the bottom its, until that it arrives

132 ove la tirannia convien che gema.
where the tyranny must needs that it suffer.

133 La divina giustizia di qua punge
The divine justice from here punctures

134 quell' Attila che fu flagello in terra,
that Attila who was scourge on earth,

135 e Pirro e Sesto; e in etterno munge
and Pyrrhus and Sextus; and in eternity milks

"Indeed as you see from this side that the boiling stream always diminishes," said the centaur, "I wish that you believe that from this other side it pushes its bottom down more and more lower, until it arrives where tyranny must needs suffer. The divine justice here punctures that Attila who was a scourge on earth, and Pyrrhus and Sextus; and in eternity milks

136 le lagrime, che col bollor diserra,
the tears, that with the boiling unlocks,

137 a Rinier da Corneto, a Rinier Pazzo,
from Rinier da Corneto and Rinier Pazzo,

138 che fecero a le strade tanta guerra».
that made to the roads such war."

139 Poi si rivolse e ripassossi ’l guazzo.
Then himself he turned and himself passed back over the ford.

---

the tears, unlocked with boiling, from Rinier da Corneto and Rinier Pazzo, who made such war to on the roads." Then he turned himself and passed himself back over the ford.

Canto XIII: Suicides and Squanderers

1 Non era ancor di là Nesso arrivato,
Not was still of there Nessus arriving,

2 quando noi ci mettemmo per un bosco
when we ourselves led through a wood

3 che da neun sentiero era segnato.
that from not any path was marked.

4 Non fronda verde, ma di color fosco;
Not frond green, but of color dark;

5 non rami schietti, ma nodosi e 'nvolti;
not branches straight, but knotty and bundled;

6 non pomi v'eran, ma stecchi con tòsco.
no apples there were, but splinters with poison.

7 Non han sì aspri sterpi né sì folti
Not has such sour brushwood nor such thick

8 quelle fiere selvagge che 'n odio hanno
those beasts savage that in hatred have

9 tra Cecina e Corneto i luoghi cólti.
between Cecina and Corneto the places cultured.

Nessus was still not arriving there, when we led ourselves through a wood that was not marked from any path. No frond green, but of dark color; not straight branches, but knotty and bundled; there were no apples, but splinters with poison. No such sour brushwood nor so thick have those beasts that have hatred in the cultured places between Cecina and Corneto.

10 Quivi le brutte Arpie lor nidi fanno,
There the brutish Harpies their nests make,

11 che cacciar de le Strofade i Troiani
that hunted from the Strophades the Trojans

12 con tristo annunzio di futuro danno.
with wretched announcement of future harm.

13 Ali hanno late, e colli e visi umani,
Wings they have broad, and necks and faces human,

14 piè con artigli, e pennuto 'l gran ventre;
feet with talons, and feathered the great belly;

15 fanno lamenti in su li alberi strani.
they make laments upwards the trees strange.

16 E 'l buon maestro «Prima che più entre,
The good master, "Before that more you enter,

17 sappi che se' nel secondo girone»,
know that you are in the second wheel,"

18 mi cominciò a dire, «e sarai mentre
to me he commenced to say, "and will be until

There the brutish Harpies make their nests, who hunted the Trojans from the Strophades, with wretched announcement of future harm. They have broad wings, and human faces and necks, feet with talons, and the great belly feathered; they make laments up in the strange trees. The good master, "Before you enter more, know that you are in the second wheel," to me he commenced to say," and will be until

19 che tu verrai ne l'orribil sabbione.
that you come into the horrible sands.

20 Però riguarda ben; sì vederai
Therefore regard well; indeed you will see

21 cose che torrien (torrebbero) fede al mio sermone». ***
things that would discredit faith in my discourse."

22 Io sentia d'ogne parte trarre guai
I heard from every part uttered wails

23 e non vedea persona che 'l facesse;
and not saw person that them made;

24 per ch'io tutto smarrito m'arrestai.
so that I, all dismayed, me I arrested.

25 Cred' ïo ch'ei credette ch'io credesse
Believe I that he believed that I ought to believe

26 che tante voci uscisser, tra quei bronchi,
that so many voices came out, between those brambles,

27 da gente che per noi si nascondesse.
from people that from us they were hidden.

---

you come to the horrible sands. Therefore regard well; indeed you will see things that would discredit faith in my discourse." I heard uttered wails from every part and saw no person that made them; so that I, all dismayed, arrested me. I believe that he believed that I believed that so many voices came out, between those brambles, from people that were from us hidden.

28 Però disse 'l maestro: «Se tu tronchi
Therefore said the master, "If you break off

29 qualche fraschetta d'una d'este piante,
some small branch from one of these plants,

30 li pensier c'hai si faran tutti monchi».
the thoughts that you have will be all lopped off."

31 Allor porsi la mano un poco avante
Then I placed the hand a little ahead

32 e colsi un ramicel da un gran pruno;
and picked a twig from a great blackthorn;

33 e 'l tronco suo gridò: «Perché mi schiante?».
and the stub its cried, "Why me do you tear?"

34 Da che fatto fu poi di sangue bruno,
From that made was then of blood dark,

35 ricominciò a dir: «Perché mi scerpi?
it began again to speak, "Why me do you rend?

36 non hai tu spirto di pietade alcuno?
Not have you spirit of pity any?

Therefore said the master, "if you break off some small branch from one of these plants, the thoughts that you have will all be lopped off." Then I placed the hand a little ahead and picked a twig from a great blackthorn; and its stub cried, "Why do you tear me?" From that which was made was then dark blood, it began again to speak, "Why do you rend me? Have you not a spirit of any pity?

37 Uomini fummo, e or siam fatti sterpi:
Men we were, and now we have become brushwood;

38 ben dovrebb' esser la tua man più pia,
well ought to be your hand more charitable,

39 se state fossimo anime di serpi».
if we had been souls of serpents."

40 Come d'un stizzo verde ch'arso sia
As of one brand green that burnt is

41 da l'un de' capi, che da l'altro geme
of one of the ends, that from the other groans

42 e cigola per vento che va via,
and creaks through wind that makes way,

43 sì de la scheggia rotta usciva insieme
so from the splinter cracked came together

44 parole e sangue; ond' io lasciai la cima
words and blood; whence I let the tip

45 cadere, e stetti come l'uom che teme.
fall, and stood as the man who fears.

Men we were, and now we have become brushwood; well ought your hand to be more charitable, if we had been souls of serpents." As of one green brand that is burnt at one of the ends, from the other groans and creaks through the wind that makes way, so from the cracked splinter came together words and blood; whence I let the tip fall, and stood as the man who fears.

46 «S'elli avesse potuto creder prima»,
"If he had been able to believe before,"

47 rispuose 'l savio mio, «anima lesa,
answered the sage my, "soul aggrieved,

48 ciò c'ha veduto pur con la mia rima,
that that he has seen only with my rhyme,

49 non averebbe in te la man distesa;
not he would have toward you the hand stretched out;

50 ma la cosa incredibile mi fece
but the thing incredible me made

51 indurlo ad ovra ch'a me stesso pesa.
induced him to do what to me the same weighs.

52 Ma dilli chi tu fosti, sì che 'n vece
Bu tell him who you were, so that in place

53 d'alcun' ammenda tua fama rinfreschi
of some amends your fame he may refresh

54 nel mondo sù, dove tornar li lece».
in the world above, where to return he is permitted."

"If he had been able to believe before," my sage answered, "aggrieved soul, that which he has seen only with my rhyme. He would not have stretched out his hand toward you; but the incredible thing made me induce him to do what weighs the same on me. But tell him who you were, so that in place of some amends he may refresh your fame in the world above, where he is permitted to return."

55 E ’l tronco: «Sì col dolce dir m’adeschi,
And the stub, “Such with sweet speech me you lure

56 ch’i’ non posso tacere; e voi non gravi
that I not am able to stay silent; and to you not let it be burden

57 perch’ ïo un poco a ragionar m’inveschi.
that I a little to reflect am ensnared.

58 Io son colui che tenni ambo le chiavi
I am he that held both the keys

59 del cor di Federigo, e che le volsi,
of the heart of Frederick, and that them turned,

60 serrando e diserrando, sì soavi,
locking and unlocking, so pleasingly,

61 che dal secreto suo quasi ogn’ uom tolsi;
that of the secrets (confidence) his almost every man I removed;

62 fede portai al glorïoso offizio,
faith I brought to the glorious office,

63 tanto ch’i’ ne perde’ li sonni e ’ polsi.
such that I from it lost sleep and strength.

And the stub, “With such sweet speech you lure me that I am not able to keep silent; and let it not be a burden to you that I am ensnared to reflect a little. I am he that held both keys of the heart of Frederick, and that turned them, locking and unlocking, so pleasingly, that from his secrets I removed almost every man; I brought faith to the glorious office, such that from it I lost sleep and strength.

64 La meretrice che mai da l'ospizio
The whore (envy) that ever from the house

65 di Cesare non torse li occhi putti,
of Caesar not turns the eyes naked,

66 morte comune e de le corti vizio,
death common and of the courts vice,

67 infiammò contra me li animi tutti;
inflamed against me the souls all;

68 e li 'nfiammati infiammar sì Augusto,
and those inflamed inflamed so Augustus

69 che' lieti onor tornaro in tristi lutti.
that happy honors turned into sad sorrow.

70 L'animo mio, per disdegnoso gusto,
The soul my, through disdain tasting,

71 credendo col morir fuggir disdegno,
believing with death to flee disdain,

72 ingiusto fece me contra me giusto.
unjust self made me against my just self.

The whore that never from the house of Caesar turns the naked eyes, common death and vice of the courts, inflamed against me all the souls; and those inflamed so inflamed Augustus that happy honors turned into sad sorrow. My soul, through tasting disdain, believing to flee disdain with death, turned my unjust self against my just self.

73 Per le nove radici d'esto legno
By the new roots of this wood

74 vi giuro che già mai non ruppi fede
to you I swear that truly ever not ruptured faith

75 al mio segnor, che fu d'onor sì degno.
to my lord, that was of honor so worthy.

76 E se di voi alcun nel mondo riede,
And if of you any in the world returns,

77 conforti la memoria mia, che giace
let him confirm the memory my, that lies

78 ancor del colpo che 'nvidia le diede».
beneath the guilt that envy it gave."

79 Un poco attese, e poi «Da ch'el si tace»,
A little he waited, and then, "Since that he is silent,"

80 disse 'l poeta a me, «non perder l'ora;
said the poet to me, "do not lose the hour;

81 ma parla, e chiedi a lui, se più ti piace».
but speak, and ask of him, if more to you it pleases."

By the new roots of this wood I swear to you that truly I never ruptured faith to my lord, who was so worthy of honor. And if any of you returns to the world, let him confirm my memory, that lies beneath the guilt that envy gave it." A little he waited, and then, "Since that he is silent," said the poet to me, "do not lose the hour; but speak, and ask of him, if it pleases you more."

82 Ond' ïo a lui: «Domandal tu ancora
Whence I to him, "Question you again

83 di quel che credi ch'a me satisfaccia;
of him that which you believe that me satisfy;

84 ch'i' non potrei, tanta pietà m'accora».
that I not am able, such pity me grieves."

85 Perciò ricominciò: «Se l'om ti faccia
Therefore he recommenced, "So may the man to you do

86 liberamente ciò che 'l tuo dir priega,
liberally this that your speech pleads,

87 spirito incarcerato, ancor ti piaccia
spirit imprisoned, still you let it please

88 di dirne come l'anima si lega
to tell how the soul itself tethers

89 in questi nocchi; e dinne, se tu puoi,
in these knots; and tell us, if you are able,

90 s'alcuna mai di tai membra si spiega».
if any ever from such members itself unfolds."

Whence I to him, "You question again of him that which you believe to satisfy me; I am not able, such pity grieves me." There he recommenced, "So may the man do to you liberally this that your speech pleads, spirit imprisoned, let it please you still to tell how the soul tethers itself in these knots; and tell us, if you are able, if any ever from such members unfolds itself."

91 Allor soffiò il tronco forte, e poi
Then sputtered the stub strongly, and after

92 si convertì quel vento in cotal voce:
itself converted that wind into this sound:

93 «Brievemente sarà risposto a voi.
"Briefly will it be answered to you.

94 Quando si parte l'anima feroce
When itself parts the soul savage

95 dal corpo ond' ella stessa s'è disvelta,
from the body whence it same itself was uprooted,

96 Minòs la manda a la settima foce.
Minos it sends to the seventh mouth.

97 Cade in la selva, e non l'è parte scelta;
It falls into the wood, and not there is part chosen;

98 ma là dove fortuna la balestra,
but that place where fortune it shoots,

99 quivi germoglia come gran di spelta.
there it germinates as a grain of spelt.

Then strongly sputtered the stub, and after that wind converted itself into this sound: "Briefly will it be answered to you. When the savage soul parts itself from the body, the same whence it uprooted itself, Minos sends it to the seventh mouth. It falls into the wood, and not for it is a place chosen; but that place where fortune shoots it, there it germinates as a grain of spelt.

100 Surge in vermena e in pianta silvestra:
It rises into a tender sprout and into plant woody;

101 l'Arpie, pascendo poi de le sue foglie,
the Harpies, grazing then of its foliage,

102 fanno dolore, e al dolor fenestra.
make pain, and to the pain a window.

103 Come l'altre verrem per nostre spoglie,
Like the others we will come for our remains,

104 ma non però ch'alcuna sen rivesta,
but not however that any might redress,

105 ché non è giusto aver ciò ch'om si toglie.
for not it is just to have that which man himself removes.

106 Qui le strascineremo, e per la mesta
Here them we will drag, and through the miserable

107 selva saranno i nostri corpi appesi,
wood they will our corpses be hung,

108 ciascuno al prun de l'ombra sua molesta».
each one to the blackthorn of the shade it molested."

It rises into a tender sprout and into a woody plant; the Harpies, grazing after on its foliage, make pain, and for the pain an outlet. Like the others, we will come for our remains, but, though, not that any might redress, for it is not just to have that which man himself removes. Here we will drag them, and through the miserable wood our corpses will be hung, each one on the blackthorn of the shade that molested it."

109 Noi eravamo ancora al tronco attesi,
We were still to the stub attending,

110 credendo ch'altro ne volesse dire,
believing that other it desired to say,

111 quando noi fummo d'un romor sorpresi,
when we were by a noise surprised,

112 similemente a colui che venire
similarly to the one that the approach

113 sente 'l porco e la caccia a la sua posta,
hears the boar and the hunt to its ambush,

114 ch'ode le bestie, e le frasche stormire.
that hears the beasts and the branches rustling.

115 Ed ecco due da la sinistra costa,
And behold two from the left side,

116 nudi e graffiati, fuggendo sì forte,
naked and scratched, fleeing so intensely

117 che de la selva rompieno ogne rosta.
that of the wood they were breaking every branch.

We were still attending to the stub, believing that it desired to say more, when we were surprised by a noise, like to the one that hears the boar and the hunt approach to its ambush, that hears the beasts and the branches rustling. And behold, two from the left side, naked and scratched, fleeing so intensely that they were breaking every branch of the wood.

Quel dinanzi: «Or accorri, accorri, morte!».
The one in front: "Now hasten, hasten, death!"

E l'altro, cui pareva tardar troppo,
And the other, to whom it seemed tardy too much,

gridava: «Lano, sì non furo accorte
cried: "Lano, so not were watchful

le gambe tue a le giostre dal Toppo!».
the legs your at the jousts of Toppo!"

E poi che forse li fallia la lena,
And then that perhaps his was failing the energy,

di sé e d'un cespuglio fece un groppo.
of himself and of one bush he made one knot.

Di rietro a loro era la selva piena
From behind to them was the wood full

di nere cagne, bramose e correnti
of black bitches, voracious and running

come veltri ch'uscisser di catena.
like greyhounds that loosed from the chain.

The one in front, "Now hasten, hasten, death!" And the other, who to himself seemed too much tardy, cried, "Lano, not so watchful were your legs at the jousts of Toppo!" And then, perhaps his energy was failing, of himself and of a bush he made one knot. From behind them the wood was full of black bitches, voracious and running, like greyhounds loosed from the chain.

127 In quel che s'appiattò miser li denti,
In him that himself flattened they set the teeth,

128 e quel dilaceraro a brano a brano;
and him they tore apart from piece to piece;

129 poi sen portar quelle membra dolenti.
then they bore away those members sorrowful.

130 Presemi allor la mia scorta per mano,
Took me then my escort by the hand,

131 e menommi al cespuglio che piangea
and led me to the bush that wept

132 per le rotture sanguinenti in vano.
through the wreckage bleeding in vain.

133 «O Iacopo», dicea, «da Santo Andrea,
"O Jacobo," it was saying, "da Santo Andrea,

134 che t'è giovato di me fare schermo?
that to you was beneficial of me to make a screen?

135 che colpa ho io de la tua vita rea?».
That blame have I from your life guilty?"

In him that flattened himself they set their teeth, and tore him apart, piece by piece; then they bore away those sorrowful members. My escort took me then by the hand and led me to the bush that wept in vain through the bleeding wreckage. "O Jacobo," it was saying, "di Santo Andrea, what to you was beneficial to make a screen of me? That I have blame of your guilty life?"

136 Quando 'l maestro fu sovr' esso fermo,
When the master was above him halted,

137 disse: «Chi fosti, che per tante punte
he said, "Who were you, that through such tips

138 soffi con sangue doloroso sermo?».
you breath with blood sorrowful speech?"

139 Ed elli a noi: «O anime che giunte
And he to us, "O souls that come

140 siete a veder lo strazio disonesto
have to see the mangling dishonest (obscene)

141 c'ha le mie fronde sì da me disgiunte,
that has my fronds so from me separated,

142 raccoglietele al piè del tristo cesto.
collect these at the foot of the sad basket.

143 I' fui de la città che nel Batista
I was of the city that for the Baptist

144 mutò 'l primo padrone; ond' ei per questo
changed the first patron; whence he for this

When the master was stopped above him, he said, "Who were you, that through such tips (wounds) you breath with blood the sorrowful speech?" And he to us, "O souls that have come to see the dishonest (obscene) mangling that has so separated my fronds from me, collect these at the foot of the sad basket (shrub). I was of the city that for the Baptist changed the first patron; whence for this

145 sempre con l'arte sua la farà trista;
always with the art his her he will make sad;

146 e se non fosse che 'n sul passo d'Arno
and if not it were that upwards the passage of the Arno

147 rimane ancor di lui alcuna vista,
there remains still of him some sight,

148 que' cittadin che poi la rifondarno
those citizens that then it refounded

149 sovra 'l cener che d'Attila rimase,
above the ashes that of Attila remained,

150 avrebber fatto lavorare indarno.
they would have made to labor in vain.

151 Io fei gibetto a me de le mie case».
I made a gibbet for myself of my houses."

---

he will always with his art make her sad; and if it were not that upwards the passage of the Arno there still remains some sight of him, those citizens that then refounded it above the ashes that of Attila remained, they would have made to labor in vain. I made gibbet for myself of my houses."

Canto XIV: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers

1 Poi che la carità del natio loco
Then that the charity of the birth place

2 mi strinse, raunai le fronde sparte
me pressed, I gathered the fronds scattered

3 e rende'le a colui, ch'era già fioco.
and gave them back to him, that was already weak.

4 Indi venimmo al fine ove si parte
Thence we came to the end where itself divides

5 lo secondo giron dal terzo, e dove
the second wheel from the third, and where

6 si vede di giustizia orribil arte.
one sees of justice a horrible art.

7 A ben manifestar le cose nove,
To well manifest the things new,

8 dico che arrivammo ad una landa
I say that we arrived to a wasteland

9 che dal suo letto ogne pianta rimove.
that from its bed every plant removes.

After the charity for the place of my birth pressed me, I gathered the scattered fronds and gave them back to him who was already weak. Thence we came to the end where itself divides the second wheel from the third, and where one sees a horrible art of justice. To manifest well the new things, I say that we arrived at a wasteland that removes every plant from its bed.

10 La dolorosa selva l'è ghirlanda
The sorrowing wood it is a garland

11 intorno, come 'l fosso tristo ad essa;
around, like the trench sad to it (the wood);

12 quivi fermammo i passi a randa a randa.
there we halted the steps at the edge of the edge.

13 Lo spazzo era una rena arida e spessa,
The ground was a sand barren and thick,

14 non d'altra foggia fatta che colei
not of other fashion was made that it (the sand)

15 che fu da' piè di Caton già soppressa.
that was by the feet of Cato formerly suppressed.

16 O vendetta di Dio, quanto tu dei
O vengeance of God, how you ought

17 esser temuta da ciascun che legge
to be feared by everyone that reads

18 ciò che fu manifesto a li occhi mei!
that which was manifest to the eyes my!

The sorrowing wood is a garland around it, like the miserable trench to the wood. There we halted our steps at the very edge. The ground was a sand, barren and thick, it not made of other fashion than that which formerly by the feet of Cato was trodden. O vengeance of God, how you ought to be feared by everyone that reads that which was made manifest to my eyes!

19 D'anime nude vidi molte gregge
Of souls naked I saw many flocks

20 che piangean tutte assai miseramente,
that weeping all extremely miserably,

21 e parea posta lor diversa legge.
and appear set them diverse laws.

22 Supin giacea in terra alcuna gente,
Supine were lying on the earth some people,

23 alcuna si sedea tutta raccolta,
some themselves sat all hunched up,

24 e altra andava continüamente.
and some walked continuously.

25 Quella che giva 'ntorno era più molta,
That that moved around was more much

26 e quella men che giacëa al tormento,
and that less that laid to the torment,

27 ma più al duolo avea la lingua sciolta.
but more to the grief have the tongue loosed.

Of naked souls I saw many flocks all weeping extremely miserably, and it appeared that diverse laws set them. Some people were lying supine on the earth (the blasphemers), some sat themselves all hunched up (the usurers), and some walked continuously (the sodomites). Those that moved around were much more, and those that laid to the torment less, but their tongues were loosed more to the grief.

28 Sovra tutto 'l sabbion, d'un cader lento,
Above all the sand, of a falling slow,

29 piovean di foco dilatate falde,
were raining of fire swollen layers

30 come di neve in alpe sanza vento.
as of snow in mountains without wind.

31 Quali Alessandro in quelle parti calde
Such as Alexander in those parts hot

32 d'Indïa vide sopra 'l süo stuolo
of India saw over his army,

33 fiamme cadere infino a terra salde,
flames falling until to earth firm,

34 per ch'ei provide a scalpitar lo suolo
for that he provided to stamp out the ground

35 con le sue schiere, acciò che lo vapore
with his troops, inasmuch as the steam

36 mei si stingueva mentre ch'era solo:
better it was extinguished while that it was alone:

Above all the sand, of a slow falling, swollen layers of fire were raining, as snow in the mountains without wind. Such as Alexander saw in those hot parts of India over his army, flames falling firm until the earth, on account of which he provided with his troops to stamp out the ground, inasmuch as it was better extinguished while it was alone:

37 tale scendeva l'etternale ardore;
thus descended the eternal heat

38 onde la rena s'accendea, com' esca
whence the sand itself ignited, as kindling

39 sotto focile, a doppiar lo dolore.
beneath flint, to double the sorrow.

40 Sanza riposo mai era la tresca
Without repose ever was the dancing

41 de le misere mani, or quindi or quinci
of the miserable hands, now here now there,

42 escotendo da sé l'arsura fresca.
brushing from themselves the scorching heat fresh.

43 I' cominciai: «Maestro, tu che vinci
I began, "Master, you that conquer

44 tutte le cose, fuor che' demon duri
all the things, except those demons hard

45 ch' a l'intrar de la porta incontra uscinci,
that from the entrance of the gate against us came out,

---

thus the eternal heat descended whence the sand itself was ignited, as kindling beneath a flint, to double the sorrow. The dancing of the miserable hands was ever without repose, now here now there, brushing from themselves the fresh scorching heat. I began, "Master, you that conquer all things, except those hard demons that came out against us from the entrance of the gate,

46 chi è quel grande che non par che curi
who is that grand one that not seems that to notice

47 lo 'ncendio e giace dispettoso e torto,
the fire and lies scornful and scowling,

48 sì che la pioggia non par che 'l marturi?».
such that the rain not seems that him to ripen (humble)?"

49 E quel medesmo, che si fu accorto
And he the same, that himself was aware

50 ch'io domandava il mio duca di lui,
that I questioned my leader about him,

51 gridò: «Qual io fui vivo, tal son morto.
cried out, "That I was living, such I am dead.

52 Se Giove stanchi 'l suo fabbro da cui
If Jove should wear out his smith from whom

53 crucciato prese la folgore aguta
incensed he took the lightning sharp

54 onde l'ultimo dì percosso fui;
whence the final day struck I was;

---

who is that grand one who seems not to notice the fire and lies scornful and scowling, such that the rain does not seem to ripen (humble) him?" And he the same, himself aware that I questioned my leader about him, cried out, "As I was living, such am I dead. If Jove should wear out his blacksmith from whom he, incensed, took the sharp lightning bolt with which I was struck that final day;

55 o s'elli stanchi li altri a muta a muta
or if he should wear out the others in relays

56 in Mongibello a la focina negra,
in Mongibello, at the forge black,

57 chiamando "Buon Vulcano, aiuta, aiuta!",
calling out, "Good Vulcan, help, help!",

58 sì com' el fece a la pugna di Flegra,
such as he did at the battle of Phlegra,

59 e me saetti con tutta sua forza:
and me shoot with all his force;

60 non ne potrebbe aver vendetta allegra».
not of it could have had vengeance happy."

61 Allora il duca mio parlò di forza
Then the leader my spoke with force

62 tanto, ch'i' non l'avea sì forte udito:
so much, that I not him have so strong heard:

63 «O Capaneo, in ciò che non s'ammorza
"O Capaneus, in whom that not itself dampened

---

or if he should wear out the others in relays in Mongibello, at the black forge, calling out, 'Good Vulcan, help, help!' such as he did at the battle of Phlegra, and shoot me with all his force; he could not have of it happy vengeance." Then my leader spoke with so much force, that I had not heard him so strong: O Capaneus, in whom (your pride) has not itself dampened

64 la tua superbia, se' tu più punito;
your pride, are you more punished;

65 nullo martiro, fuor che la tua rabbia,
no torment, other than your rage,

66 sarebbe al tuo furor dolor compito».
would be to your fury suffering fit."

67 Poi si rivolse a me con miglior labbia,
Then himself he turned to me with better aspect,

68 dicendo: «Quei fu l'un d'i sette regi
saying, "This was one of the seven kings

69 ch'assiser Tebe; ed ebbe e par ch'elli abbia
that besieged Thebes; and he held, and seems that he holds

70 Dio in disdegno, e poco par che 'l pregi;
God in disdain, and little seems that he honors;

71 ma, com' io dissi lui, li suoi dispetti
but, as I said to him, his spites

72 sono al suo petto assai debiti fregi.
are to his chest rather appropriate decorations.

---

you are punished more; no torment, other than your rage, would be fit suffering to your fury." Then he turned himself to me with better aspect, saying, "This was on of the seven kings that besieged Thebes; and he held, and seems that he holds God in disdain, and seems to honor him little; but, as I said to him, his spites are rather appropriate decorations for his chest.

73 Or mi vien dietro, e guarda che non metti,
Now me come behind, and guard that not you place

74 ancor, li piedi ne la rena arsiccia;
hereafter, the feet on the sand burning;

75 ma sempre al bosco tien li piedi stretti».
but always to the forest hold the feet tight."

76 Tacendo divenimmo là 've spiccia
Silent we came to the place where spurts

77 fuor de la selva un picciol fiumicello,
out of the wood a small rivulet,

78 lo cui rossore ancor mi raccapriccia.
the of which redness still me horrifies.

79 Quale del Bulicame esce ruscello
As from the Bulicame flows a brook

80 che parton poi tra lor le peccatrici,
that share then between themselves the prostitutes,

81 tal per la rena giù sen giva quello.
such through the sand down did go this one.

Now come behind me, and look hereafter that you do not place your feet on the burning sand; but always hold tight your feet to the forest." Silent we came to the place where spurts out of the wood a small rivulet, the redness of which horrifies me still. As from the Bulicame flows a brook that the prostitutes share then between themselves, so down across the sand did this one go.

82 Lo fondo suo e ambo le pendici
The bottom its and both the slopes

83 fatt' era 'n pietra, e' margini dallato;
made were in rock, and the margins (tops of banks) from the side

84 per ch'io m'accorsi che 'l passo era lici.
so that I myself noticed that the passage was there.

85 «Tra tutto l'altro ch'i' t'ho dimostrato,
"Between all the other that I to you have demonstrated

86 poscia che noi intrammo per la porta
thereafter that we entered through the gate

87 lo cui sogliare a nessuno è negato,
that which threshold to no one is denied,

88 cosa non fu da li tuoi occhi scorta
thing no was from your eyes seeing

89 notabile com' è 'l presente rio,
notable as is the present stream,

90 che sovra sé tutte fiammelle ammorta».
that over itself all flames quenches.

Its bottom and both the banks were made in rock, and the margins of the sides; so that I myself noticed that the passage was there. "Between all the other (things) that I have demonstrated to you thereafter we entered through the gate, the threshold of which is denied to none, nothing that your eyes were seeing was as notable as the present stream, over which it quenches all flames ."

91 Queste parole fuor del duca mio;
These words were of the leader my;

92 per ch'io 'l pregai che mi largisse 'l pasto
so that I him begged that to me he might bestow the meal

93 di cui largito m'avëa il disio.
of which bestowed to me was the desire.

94 «In mezzo mar siede un paese guasto»,
"In the middle sea sits a land waste (wasteland),"

95 diss' elli allora, «che s'appella Creta,
said he then, "that is labeled Crete,

96 sotto 'l cui rege fu già 'l mondo casto.
under the whose king was before the world chaste.

97 Una montagna v'è che già fu lieta
A mountain there is that before was happy,

98 d'acqua e di fronde, che si chiamò Ida;
of water and of fronds, that was called Ida;

99 or è diserta come cosa vieta.
now it is deserted as thing decayed.

These were the words of my leader; such that I begged that he might bestow on me the meal of which the desire to me was bestowed. "In the middle of the sea sits a wasteland," he then said, "that is called Crete, under whose king the world before was chaste. There is a mountain there that before was happy, of water and fronds, that was called Ida; now it is deserted as a thing decayed.

100 Rëa la scelse già per cuna fida
Rhea it selected before for the cradle trusty

101 del suo figliuolo, e per celarlo meglio,
of her son, and to hide him better,

102 quando piangea, vi facea far le grida.
when he wept, there made to make the shouting.

103 Dentro dal monte sta dritto un gran veglio,
Within the mountain stands straight up a grand aged one,

104 che tien volte le spalle inver' Dammiata
who holds turned the back against Damietta,

105 e Roma guarda come süo speglio.
and Rome he gazes as his mirror.

106 La sua testa è di fin oro formata,
His head is of fine gold formed,

107 e puro argento son le braccia e 'l petto,
and pure silver are the arms and the breast,

108 poi è di rame infino a la forcata;
then is of brass until to the fork;

Rhea selected it before for the trusty cradle of her son, and, to hide him better when he wept, there made to be made the shouting. Within the mountain stands straight up a grand aged one, who holds his back turned against Damietta, and gazes at Rome as his mirror. His head is of fine gold formed, and pure silver are the arms and the breast, the he is of brass until the fork;

109 da indi in giuso è tutto ferro eletto,
from there in downward he is all iron choice,

110 salvo che 'l destro piede è terra cotta;
save that the right foot is terra cotta;

111 e sta 'n su quel, più che 'n su l'altro, eretto.
and he stands in on that one, mor than on the other, erect.

112 Ciascuna parte, fuor che l'oro, è rotta
Each part, other than the gold, is broken

113 d'una fessura che lagrime goccia,
of a fissure that tears drips,

114 le quali, accolte, fóran quella grotta.
the which, collected, pierce that grotto.

115 Lor corso in questa valle si diroccia;
Their course in this valley they cascade;

116 fanno Acheronte, Stige e Flegetonta;
they make the Acheron, Styx, and Phlegethon;

117 poi sen van giù per questa stretta doccia,
then they go below through this narrow gutter,

---

from there downward he is all choice iron, save that the right foot is terra cotta; and he stands erect on that one, more than on the other. Each part, other than the gold, is broken of a fissure that drips tears, the which, collected, pierce that grotto. Their course into this valley cascades; they make the Acheron, Styx, and Plegethon; then they go below through this narrow gutter,

118 infin, là ove più non si dismonta,
until that place where more not dismounts,

119 fanno Cocito; e qual sia quello stagno
they make Cocytus; and what is that stagnation (pool)

120 tu lo vedrai, però qui non si conta».
you it will see, therefore here not I it consider."

121 E io a lui: «Se 'l presente rigagno
And I to him, "If the present rill

122 si diriva così dal nostro mondo,
itself descends thus from our world,

123 perché ci appar pur a questo vivagno?».
why it appears just at this border?"

124 Ed elli a me: «Tu sai che 'l loco è tondo;
And he to me, "You know that the place is round;

125 e tutto che tu sie venuto molto,
and all that you came much,

126 pur a sinistra, giù calando al fondo,
just to the left, down going to the bottom,

---

until that place where it not more dismounts (goes down no further), they make Cocytus; and what that stagnation is you will see, therefore I do not consider it here." And I to him, " If the present rill descends itself thus from our world, why does it appear just at this border?" And he to me, "You know that the place is round; and all that you have gone much, just to the left, going down to the bottom,

127 non se' ancor per tutto 'l cerchio vòlto;
not you still through all the circle have turned;

128 per che, se cosa n'apparisce nova,
for, if a thing to us appear new,

129 non de' addur maraviglia al tuo volto».
not should bring to marveling to your face."

130 E io ancor: «Maestro, ove si trova
And I again, "Master, where does one find

131 Flegetonta e Letè? ché de l'un taci,
Phlegethon and Lethe? For of the one you are silent,

132 e l'altro di' che si fa d'esta piova».
and of the other you say that itself it makes of the falling tears."

133 «In tutte tue question certo mi piaci»,
"In all your questions certainly me you please"

134 rispuose, «ma 'l bollor de l'acqua rossa
he responded, "but the boiling of the water red

135 dovea ben solver l'una che tu faci.
ought well to solve one that you make.

---

you still through all the circle have not turned; for it a new thing appears to us, it should not bring marveling to your face." And I again, "Master, where does one find Phlegethon and Lethe? For of the one you are silent, and of the other you say that it makes itself from the falling tears." "In all your questions, certainly, you please me," he responded, "but the boiling of the red water ought well to solve one that you make.

136 Letè vedrai, ma fuor di questa fossa,
Lethe you will see, but out of this ditch,

137 là dove vanno l'anime a lavarsi
the place where come the souls to be washed

138 quando la colpa pentuta è rimossa».
when the guilt repented is taken away."

139 Poi disse: «Omai è tempo da scostarsi
Then he said, "Now is time to move

140 dal bosco; fa che di retro a me vegne:
from the wood; make that from behind me you come;

141 li margini fan via, che non son arsi,
the margins make a way, that not are burned,

142 e sopra loro ogne vapor si spegne».
and above them all flame (the incendiary vapor) is spent.

Lethe you will see, but outside of this ditch, the place where the souls come to be washed, when repented guilt is taken away." Then he said, "Now it is time to move from the wood; make that you come behind me; the margins make a way, that are not burned, and above them all flame is spent.

Canto XV: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers

1 Ora cen porta l'un de' duri margini;
Now us carries one of the hard margins;

2 e 'l fummo del ruscel di sopra aduggia,
and the fume of the brook from above gives shade

3 sì che dal foco salva l'acqua e li argini.
such that from the fire it protects the water and the banks.

4 Quali Fiamminghi tra Guizzante e Bruggia,
As the Flemmings between Wissant and Bruges,

5 temendo 'l fiotto che 'nver lor s'avventa,
fearing the lapping that against them itself pounces,

6 fanno lo schermo perché 'l mar si fuggia;
make the screen in order to the sea they flee;

7 e quali Padoan lungo la Brenta,
and as Paduans along the Brenta,

8 per difender lor ville e lor castelli,
in order to defend their villas and their castles,

9 anzi che Carentana il caldo senta:
before that Carinthia the heat feels:

Now one of the hard margins carries us on; and the fume of the brook gives shade from above such that its protects the water and the banks from the fire. As the Flemmings between Wissant and Bruges, fearing the tide that mounts against them, make the dyke in order to avoid the sea; and as do the Paduans along the Brenta, in order to defend their villas and their castles, before the Carinthia feels the warmth (thaw):

10 a tale imagine eran fatti quelli,
to such an image was made these,

11 tutto che né sì alti né sì grossi,
all that neither so high nor so large

12 qual che si fosse, lo maestro félli.
whoever that he might have been, the master made them.

13 Già eravam da la selva rimossi
Already we were from the wood removed

14 tanto, ch'i' non avrei visto dov' era,
such that I not would have seen where it was,

15 perch' io in dietro rivolto mi fossi,
since I in back turned me had

16 quando incontrammo d'anime una schiera
when we met of souls a host

17 che venian lungo l'argine, e ciascuna
that were coming beside the bank and each one

18 ci riguardava come suol da sera
us regarded as in the evening

---

these were made according to such an image, although neither so high nor so large, whoever he might have been, the master made them. Already we were removed from the wood such that I would not have seen where it was, even if I had turned me around, when we met a host of souls that were coming beside the bank, and each one regarded us as in the evening

19 guardare uno altro sotto nuova luna;
gazing one another under new moon;

20 e sì ver' noi aguzzavan le ciglia
and such toward us they sharpened the brows

21 come 'l vecchio sartor fa ne la cruna.
as the old tailor makes in the eye.

22 Così adocchiato da cotal famiglia,
So noticed by this family,

23 fui conosciuto da un, che mi prese
I was noticed by one, that me grabbed

24 per lo lembo e gridò: «Qual maraviglia!».
by the hem and cried, "What a marvel!"

25 E io, quando 'l suo braccio a me distese,
And I, when his arm to me stretched,

26 ficcaï li occhi per lo cotto aspetto,
thrust the eye through the cooked aspect,

27 sì che 'l viso abbrusciato non difese
such that the face burnt did not defend

---

to gaze at one another under the new moon; and such toward us they sharpened (pointed) their brows as the old tailor does toward the eye (of the needle). So eyed by this family, I was noticed by one, that grabbed me by the hem and cried, "What a marvel!" And I, when his arm stretched toward me, thrust the eye through the cooked aspect, such that the burnt face did not fend off

28 la conoscenza süa al mio 'ntelletto;
the knowledge of him to my intellect;

29 e chinando la mano a la sua faccia,
and stooping the hand to his face,

30 rispuosi: «Siete voi qui, ser Brunetto?».
answered, "Are you here, ser Brunetto?"

31 E quelli: «O figliuol mio, non ti dispiaccia
And he, "O son my, not you let it displease

32 se Brunetto Latino un poco teco
if Brunetto Latino a little with you

33 ritorna 'n dietro e lascia andar la traccia».
turns back in behind and leaves walking the band."

34 I' dissi lui: «Quanto posso, ven preco;
I said to him, "As much as I am able, of you I beg;

35 e se volete che con voi m'asseggia,
and if you wish that with you myself I sit down

36 faròl, se piace a costui che vo seco».
I will so, if it is pleasing to him that I go with."

---

the knowledge of him to my intellect; and stooping the hand to his face, I answered, "Are you here, ser Brunetto?" And he, "O my son, let it not displease you if Brunetto Latino turns back behind a little with you and leave the walking band." I said to him, "As much as I am able, I beg of you; and if you wish that I sit myself down with you I will so do, if it is pleasing to him with whom I go."

37 «O figliuol», disse, «qual di questa greggia
"O son," he said, "who of this flock

38 s'arresta punto, giace poi cent' anni
himself halts a point, he lie then one hundred years

39 sanz' arrostarsi quando 'l foco il feggia.
without brushing himself off when the fire him wounds.

40 Però va oltre: i' ti verrò a' panni;
Therefore go further; I your will go at fringes;

41 e poi rigiugnerò la mia masnada,
and then will rejoin my troop

42 che va piangendo i suoi etterni danni».
that go weeping their eternal losses."

43 Io non osava scender de la strada
I not dared descend from the road

44 per andar par di lui; ma 'l capo chino
in order to walk on par with him; but the head bowed

45 tenea com' uom che reverente vada.
I held as a man that reverently goes.

"O son," he said, "who of this flock halts himself a point, he lies then one hundred years without brushing himself off when the fire wounds him. Therefore you go further; I will go at your fringes; and then will rejoin my troop that go weeping their eternal losses." I dared not descend from the road to walk on par with him; but I held the head bowed, as a man that goes reverently.

46 El cominciò: «Qual fortuna o destino
He began, "What fortun or destiny

47 anzi l'ultimo dì qua giù ti mena?
before the ultimate day here down you leads?

48 e chi è questi che mostra 'l cammino?».
and who is this that showing the way?"

49 «Là sù di sopra, in la vita serena»,
"There on from above, in the life serene,"

50 rispuos' io lui, «mi smarri' in una valle,
answered I to him, "me I lost in a valley

51 avanti che l'età mia fosse piena.
before that the age my was full.

52 Pur ier mattina le volsi le spalle:
Only yesterday morning to it I turned the back;

53 questi m'apparve, tornand' ïo in quella,
this one to me appeared, as turning I to that,

54 e reducemi a ca per questo calle».
and returning me to home by this way."

He began, "What fortune or destiny leads you down here before he ultimate day? And who is this that is showing the way?" "There above, in the serene life," I answered him, "I lost myself in a valley before my age was full. Only yesterday morning I turned the back to it; this one appeared to me, as I was turning to that, and is returning me home by this way."

55 Ed elli a me: «Se tu segui tua stella,
And he to me, "If you follow your star,

56 non puoi fallire a glorïoso porto,
not able to fail to glorious port,

57 se ben m'accorsi ne la vita bella;
if well I realized in the life beautiful;

58 e s'io non fossi sì per tempo morto,
and if I not had so before (my) time died,

59 veggendo il cielo a te così benigno,
seeing the heaven to you so kind,

60 dato t'avrei a l'opera conforto.
given to you I would have to the work comfort.

61 Ma quello ingrato popolo maligno
But that ungrateful population malignant

62 che discese di Fiesole ab antico,
that descended from Fiesole from antique times

63 e tiene ancor del monte e del macigno,
and hold still of the mountain and the boulder,

And he to me, "if you follow your star, you will not be able to fail to a glorious port, if I well realized in the beautiful life; and if I had not so died in time, seeing heaven so kind to you, I would have given comfort to your work. But that ungrateful, malignant population that descended from Fiesole from antique times and still holds of the mountain and the boulder,

64 ti si farà, per tuo ben far, nimico;
to you will become, on account of your good doings, enemy;

65 ed è ragion, ché tra li lazzi sorbi
and it is reasonable, for between the sour sorbs,

66 si disconvien fruttare al dolce fico.
it is not appropriate to fruit for the sweet fig.

67 Vecchia fama nel mondo li chiama orbi;
Ancient reputation in the world them calls blind;

68 gent' è avara, invidiosa e superba:
people are avaricious, envious, and proud;

69 dai lor costumi fa che tu ti forbi.
from their customs make that you yourself furbish.

70 La tua fortuna tanto onor ti serba,
Your fortune such honor for you saves,

71 che l'una parte e l'altra avranno fame
that one part and the other will hunger

72 di te; ma lungi fia dal becco l'erba.
for you; but long let be from the beak the grass.

---

will become to you an enemy, on account of your good doings; and it is reasonable, for between the sour sorbs, it is not appropriate for the sweet fig to fruit. Ancient reputation in the world calls them blind; people are avaricious, envious, and proud; from their customs, make that your furbish yourself (keep yourself clean). Your fortune saves such honor for you, that one part and the other will hunger for you; but let the grass be (far) from the beak.

73 Faccian le bestie fiesolane strame
Let them make the beasts Fiesolan straw

74 di lor medesme, e non tocchin la pianta,
of themselves the same, and not touch the plant,

75 s'alcuna surge ancora in lor letame,
if any rise still in their muck,

76 in cui riviva la sementa santa
in which revives the seed holy

77 di que' Roman che vi rimaser quando
of those Romans that there remained when

78 fu fatto il nido di malizia tanta».
was made the nest of malice such."

79 «Se fosse tutto pieno il mio dimando»,
"If were all-the-way sated my question,"

80 rispuos' io lui, «voi non sareste ancora
answered I to him, "you not would yet

81 de l'umana natura posto in bando;
of the human nature placed in ban;

Let the Fiesolan beasts make straw of (rend) themselves the same, and not touch the plant, if any still rise in their muck, in which lives again the holy seed of those Romans that remained there when it was made the nest of such malice." "If my request were all the way satisfied, "I answered him, "you would not yet be placed in ban of human nature;

82 ché 'n la mente m'è fitta, e or m'accora,
for in the mind my it is fixed, and now to me it grieves,

83 la cara e buona imagine paterna
the dear and good image paternal

84 di voi quando nel mondo ad ora ad ora
of you when in the world from hour to hour

85 m'insegnavate come l'uom s'etterna:
me you were teaching how the man himself eternal;

86 e quant' io l'abbia in grado, mentr' io vivo
and how I have in gratitude, until I live

87 convien che ne la mia lingua si scerna.
must needs that in my language itself be discerned.

88 Ciò che narrate di mio corso scrivo,
That which you narrate of my course I write,

89 e serbolo a chiosar con altro testo
and I store to be glossed with another text

90 a donna che saprà, s'a lei arrivo.
by a lady that will know, if to her I arrive.

---

for in my mind it is fixed, and now it grieves me, the dear and good paternal image of you when in the world from hour to hour you were teaching me how the man himself eternal; and how I have in gratitude, as long as I live must needs itself be discerned in my language. That which you narrate of my course I write, and store to be glossed with another text by a lady that will know, if to her I arrive.

91 Tanto vogl' io che vi sia manifesto,
So much wish I that to you I would make manifest,

92 pur che mia coscïenza non mi garra,
as long as that my conscience not me chirps,

93 ch'a la Fortuna, come vuol, son presto.
that to Fortune, how it will, I am ready.

94 Non è nuova a li orecchi miei tal arra:
Not is new to the ear my such pledge

95 però giri Fortuna la sua rota
therefore let turn Fortune her wheel

96 come le piace, e 'l villan la sua marra».
how her it pleases, and farmer his hoe."

97 Lo mio maestro allora in su la gota
My master then in his cheek

98 destra si volse in dietro, e riguardommi;
right himself turned in behind, and regarded me;

99 poi disse: «Bene ascolta chi la nota».
then he said, "Well he listens who this notes."

This much at least I desire that I would make manifest to you, as long as my conscience does not chirp at me, that for Fortune, however it will, I am ready. Such a pledge is not new to my ear, therefore let Fortune turn her wheel how it pleases her, and the farmer his hoe." My master then turned himself behind on his right cheek, and regarded me; then he said, "Well he listens who notes this."

100 Né per tanto di men parlando vommi
Nevertheless, speaking I move me

101 con ser Brunetto, e dimando chi sono
with ser Brunetto, and asking who are

102 li suoi compagni più noti e più sommi.
his companions more noteworthy and more great.

103 Ed elli a me: «Saper d'alcuno è buono;
And he to me, "To know of some is good;

104 de li altri fia laudabile tacerci,
of the others would be laudable silence,

105 ché 'l tempo saria corto a tanto suono.
for the time would be short for such sound.

106 In somma sappi che tutti fur cherci
In sum, know that all were clerks

107 e litterati grandi e di gran fama,
and men of letters, grand and of great fame,

108 d'un peccato medesmo al mondo lerci.
of a sin the same in the world filthy.

Nevertheless, speaking I move me with ser Brunetto, and asking who are his more noteworthy and more great companions. And he to me, "To know of some is good; of the others silence would be laudable, for the time would be short for such sound. In sum, know that all were clerks and literary men, grand and of great fame, filthy in the world from the same sin.

109 Priscian sen va con quella turba grama,
Priscian along goes with that crowd miserable,

110 e Francesco d'Accorso anche; e vedervi,
and Francesco d'Accorso as well; and see there,

111 s'avessi avuto di tal tigna brama,
if you would have of such scurf yearning,

112 colui potei che dal servo de' servi
him you could that from the servant of servants

113 fu trasmutato d'Arno in Bacchiglione,
was transmuted from Arno to Bacchiglione,

114 dove lasciò li mal protesi nervi.
where he left the ill-stretched sinews.

115 Di più direi; ma 'l venire e 'l sermone
Of more I would say; but to walk and to discourse

116 più lungo esser non può, però ch'i' veggio
more longer to be it is not able, for that I see

117 là surger nuovo fummo del sabbione.
there rising new fume from the sand.

Priscian goes along with that miserable crowd, and Francesco d'Accorso as well; and you could see there, if you would have yearning for such scurf, him that by the servant of servants was transmuted from Arno to Bacchiglione, where he left the ill-stretched sinews. Of more I would say, but to walk and to discourse longer it is not able to be, for I see there new fume rising from the sand.

118 Gente vien con la quale esser non deggio.
People come with the which to be not I ought.

119 Sieti raccomandato il mio Tesoro
Let be to you recommended my Tesoro

120 nel qual io vivo ancora, e più non cheggio».
in the which I live still, and more not I ask."

121 Poi si rivolse, e parve di coloro
Then himself he turned, and seemed of those

122 che corrono a Verona il drappo verde
who race at Verona the banner green

123 per la campagna; e parve di costoro
through the fields; and he seemed of those who

124 quelli che vince, non colui che perde.
the one that wins, not him that looses.

People come with whom I ought not be. Let my *Tesoro* be recommended to you, in which I still live, and more I ask not." Then he turned himself and seemed of those who at Verona race for the green banner through the fields; and of those he seemed the one that wins, not him that looses.

Canto XVI: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers

1 Già era in loco onde s'udìa 'l rimbombo
Already I was in the place where one heard the rumbling

2 de l'acqua che cadea ne l'altro giro,
of the water that fell in the other circle

3 simile a quel che l'arnie fanno rombo,
like to that that the beehive makes rumble,

4 quando tre ombre insieme si partiro,
when three shades together themselves departed

5 correndo, d'una torma che passava
running, from a crowd that was passing

6 sotto la pioggia de l'aspro martiro.
under the rain of the bitter torment.

7 Venian ver noi, e ciascuna gridava:
They were coming toward us, and each one cried out:

8 «Sòstati tu ch'a l'abito ne sembri
"Hold on you who of the gown of it appear

9 esser alcun di nostra terra prava».
to be one of our city depraved."

Already I was in the place where one heard the rumbling of the water that fell in the other wheel, like the rumble the beehive makes, when three shades set themselves apart, running, from a crowd that was passing under the rain of the bitter torment. They were coming toward us, and each one cried out: "Hold on you who appear from the gown to be one of our depraved city."

10 Ahimè, che piaghe vidi ne' lor membri,
Ah me, that lesions I saw in their members,

11 ricenti e vecchie, da le fiamme incese!
recent and old, from the flames burned!

12 Ancor men duol pur ch'i' me ne rimembri.
Still to me it hurts if only that to me of it I remember.

13 A le lor grida il mio dottor s'attese;
At their cries my doctor himself waited;

14 volse 'l viso ver me, e: «Or aspetta»,
he turned the face toward me, and "Now wait,"

15 disse «a costor si vuole esser cortese.
he said, "to these people one desires to be courteous.

16 E se non fosse il foco che saetta
And if not were the fire that shoots

17 la natura del loco, i' dicerei
the nature of the place, I would say

18 che meglio stesse a te che a lor la fretta».
that more would be appropriate to you that to them the haste."

Ah me, the lesions I saw in their members, recent and old, burned from the flames! It hurts me still if only I remember it to me. At their cries my doctor waited; he turned his face to me and, "Now wait," he said, " one desires to be courteous to these people. And if it were not for the fire that the nature of the place shoots down, I would say that haste would be more appropriate to you than to them." (for you to hurry to them than for them to hurry to you)

19 Ricominciar, come noi restammo, ei
They recommenced, as we rested, their

20 l'antico verso; e quando a noi fuor giunti,
old verse; and when to us they were joined,

21 fenno una rota di sé tutti e trei.
they made a wheel of themselves all and three.

22 Qual sogliono i campion far nudi e unti,
As it is the habit the champion made nude and oiled,

23 avvisando lor presa e lor vantaggio,
apprising their grip and their advantage,

24 prima che sien tra lor battuti e punti,
before that they are between their blows and jabs,

25 così rotando, ciascuno il visaggio
so they wheeled, each one the face

26 drizzava a me, sì che 'n contraro il collo
straightened toward me, such that in contrary the neck

27 faceva ai piè continüo vïaggio.
were made with the feet continual going.

They recommenced, as we rested, their old verse (lamentation); and when they were joined to us, they made a wheel of all themselves and three. As it is the habit of the champions made nude and oiled, apprising their grips and their advantage before they are between their blows and jabs, so they wheeled, each one straightened his face toward me, such that the neck contrary to the feet was made a continual going.

28 E «Se miseria d'esto loco sollo
And, "If misery of this place yielding

29 rende in dispetto noi e nostri prieghi»,
renders into disdain us and our prayers,"

30 cominciò l'uno «e 'l tinto aspetto e brollo,
began one, "and the darkened aspect and scorched,

31 la fama nostra il tuo animo pieghi
the fame our your soul let bend

32 a dirne chi tu se', che i vivi piedi
to tell us who you are, that the living feet

33 così sicuro per lo 'nferno freghi.
so secure through the Hell rub.

34 Questi, l'orme di cui pestar mi vedi,
This one, the footsteps of which to pound me you see,

35 tutto che nudo e dipelato vada,
even though nude and hairless he goes,

36 fu di grado maggior che tu non credi:
was of degree better than you not believe:

And, "If the misery of this shifting place renders us and our prayers into disdain," one began, "and the darkened and scorched aspect, let our fame bend your soul to tell us who you are, that so secure rub the living feet through Hell. This one, the footsteps of which you see me pound, even though he goes nude and hairless, was of better degree that you not believe.

37 nepote fu de la buona Gualdrada;
grandson he was of the good Gualdrada

38 Guido Guerra ebbe nome, e in sua vita
Guido Guerra was his name, and in his life

39 fece col senno assai e con la spada.
made with sense much and with the sword.

40 L'altro, ch'appresso me la rena trita,
The other, that next to me the sand threshes,

41 è Tegghiaio Aldobrandi, la cui voce
is Tegghiaio Aldobrandi, whose voice

42 nel mondo sù dovrìa esser gradita.
in the world above ought to have been appreciated.

43 E io, che posto son con loro in croce,
And I, that posted am with them in the cross,

44 Iacopo Rusticucci fui, e certo
Iacopo Rusticucci was, and certainly

45 la fiera moglie più ch'altro mi nuoce».
the wild wife more that other me harms."

---

he was grandson of the good Gualdrada, Guido Guerra was his name, and in his life made much with sense and with the sword. The other, that next to me grinds sand, is Tegghiaio Aldobrandi, whose voice in the world above ought to have been appreciated. And I, that am posted with them on the cross, was Iacopo Rusticucci, and certainly the wild wife harms me more than the other."

46 S'i' fossi stato dal foco coperto,
If I had been from the fire covered,

47 gittato mi sarei tra lor di sotto,
cast me would have between them of below,

48 e credo che 'l dottor l'avrìa sofferto;
and I believe that the doctor would have suffered;

49 ma perch' io mi sarei brusciato e cotto,
but because I me would have been burned and cooked,

50 vinse paura la mia buona voglia
conquered fear my good will

51 che di loro abbracciar mi facea ghiotto.
that of them to embrace me made eager.

52 Poi cominciai: «Non dispetto, ma doglia
Then I commenced, "Not disdain, but pain

53 la vostra condizion dentro mi fisse,
your condition within me was fixed,

54 tanta che tardi tutta si dispoglia,
such that it might be late to entirely of itself dispose,

If I had been covered from the fire, I would have cast me there below between them, and I believe that the doctor would have suffered it; but because I would have been burned and cooked, fear conquered my good will that made me eager to embrace them. Then I commenced, "Not disdain, but pain your condition fixed within me, such that it might be late to entirely dispose of itself,

55 tosto che questo mio segnor mi disse
as soon as that this my lord to me said

56 parole per le quali i' mi pensai
words on account of these I to me thought

57 che qual voi siete, tal gente venisse.
that such as you are, such people were coming.

58 Di vostra terra sono, e sempre mai
Of your city I am, and always ever

59 l'ovra di voi e li onorati nomi
the works of you and the honored names

60 con affezion ritrassi e ascoltai.
with affection were told and heard.

61 Lascio lo fele e vo per dolci pomi
I am leaving the bitter and go to sweet fruits

62 promessi a me per lo verace duca;
promised to me by the truthful leader;

63 ma 'nfino al centro pria convien ch'i' tomi».
but unto to the center before must need that I fall headlong

---

as soon as this my lord said to me words on account of these, I thought people such as yourself were coming. I am of your city, and always ever your works and honored names were told and heard with affection. I am leaving the bitter and go to the sweet fruit promised to me by the truthful leader; but first unto the center I must needs fall headlong."

64 «Se lungamente l'anima conduca
"May at length the soul conducts

65 le membra tue», rispuose quelli ancora,
the members your," responded he then,

66 «e se la fama tua dopo te luca,
and may the fame your after you shine,

67 cortesia e valor dì se dimora
courtesy and valor tell whether dwell

68 ne la nostra città sì come suole,
in our city such as was the habit

69 o se del tutto se n'è gita fora;*******
or if of it entirely they gone;

70 ché Guiglielmo Borsiere, il qual si duole
because Guiglielmo Borsiere, who himself aches

71 con noi per poco e va là coi compagni,
with us for little and goes there with the companions,

72 assai ne cruccia con le sue parole».
greatly us afflicts with his words."

"May the your soul conduct at length your members," he then responded, "and may your fame shine after you, tell whether courtesy and valor dwell in our city such as was their habit, or if they are entirely gone from it; because Guiglielmo Borsiere, who himself has ached with us (only) a little, and goes there with the companions, greatly afflicts us with his words."

73 «La gente nuova e i sùbiti guadagni
"The people new and the rapid profits

74 orgoglio e dismisura han generata,
pride and excess have generated,

75 Fiorenza, in te, sì che tu già ten piagni».
Florence, in you, such that you already for it weep."

76 Così gridai con la faccia levata;
Thus I cried with the face lifted;

77 e i tre, che ciò inteser per risposta,
and the three, that which understood for response,

78 guardar l'un l'altro com' al ver si guata.
gazed one to another as at the truth one gazes.

79 «Se l'altre volte sì poco ti costa»,
"If the other times such little you costs,"

80 rispuoser tutti «il satisfare altrui,
responded all, "to satisfy others,

81 felice te se sì parli a tua posta!
happy you are such you speak to your liking!

"The new people and the rapid profits have generated pride and excess, in you, Florence, such that you already weep for it." Thus I cried with the face lifted; and the three, which understood that as a response, gazed one to another as one gazes at the truth. "If the other times costs you so little," they all responded, "to satisfy others, happy are you, you so speak to your liking!

82 Però, se campi d'esti luoghi bui
Therefore, if you manage of these places dark

83 e torni a riveder le belle stelle,
and return to see again the beautiful stars,

84 quando ti gioverà dicere "I' fui",
when to you it will be pleasant to say, "I was,"

85 fa che di noi a la gente favelle».
make that you of us to the people speak."

86 Indi rupper la rota, e a fuggirsi
Then they ruptured the ring, and to their flight

87 ali sembiar le gambe loro isnelle.
wings seemed the legs their lean.

88 Un amen non saria potuto dirsi
An amen not could have been said

89 tosto così com' e' fuoro spariti;
promptly as how they were vanishing;

90 per ch'al maestro parve di partirsi.
on account of which the master seemed good to depart.

Therefore, if you manage these dark places and return to see again the beautiful stars, when it will be pleasant to you to say, "I was," make (sure) that you speak of us to the people." Then they ruptured the ring, and their lean legs seemed wings to their flight. An amen could not have been said as promptly as how they were vanishing; so the master seemed good to depart.

91 Io lo seguiva, e poco eravam iti,
I him was following, and little we had gone,

92 che 'l suon de l'acqua n'era sì vicino,
that the sound of the water us was so close,

93 che per parlar saremmo a pena uditi.
that to speak we would have agonized to hear.

94 Come quel fiume c'ha proprio cammino
As that river that has signature course

95 prima dal Monte Viso 'nver' levante,
first from the Monte Viso opposite the east,

96 da la sinistra costa d'Apennino,
on the left coast of the Apennines,

97 che si chiama Acquacheta suso, avante
that is called Acquacheta above, before

98 che si divalli giù nel basso letto,
that itself falls down into the deep bed,

99 e a Forlì di quel nome è vacante,
and at Forli of that name is vacant,

I was following him, and we had gone little when the sound of the water was so close to us, that to speak would have been agonizing to hear. As that river that is first to have its signature course from Monte Viso opposite the east, on the left coast of the Apennines, that is called Acquacheta above, before it flows itself down into the deep bed, and at Forli is vacant of that name,

100 rimbomba là sovra San Benedetto
it rumbles there above San Benedetto

101 de l'Alpe per cadere ad una scesa
de l'Alpe to fall at one descent

102 ove dovea per mille esser recetto;********
where it ought to thousand have been

103 così, giù d'una ripa discoscesa,
so, down from a cliff sheered off,

104 trovammo risonar quell'acqua tinta,
we found to resound that water tinted,

105 sì che 'n poc' ora avria l'orecchia offesa.
such that in a little hour it would have the ears offended.

106 Io avea una corda intorno cinta,
I had a cord around wrapped,

107 e con essa pensai alcuna volta
and with this I had thought sometime

108 prender la lonza a la pelle dipinta.
to catch the leopard with the pelt spotted.

---

it rumbles there above the San Benedetto de l'Alpe to fall at one descent where it out to have a thousand; so down from a sheered off cliff we found that tinted water to resound such that in a little bit it would have offended (hurt) the ears. I had a cord wrapped around and with this I had sometime thought to catch the leopard with the spotted pelt.

109 Poscia ch'io l'ebbi tutta da me sciolta,
After that I it had all from me loosed,

110 sì come 'l duca m'avea comandato,
as how the leader me had commanded,

111 porsila a lui aggroppata e ravvolta.
I gave it to him knotted and wrapped.

112 Ond' ei si volse inver' lo destro lato,
Whence he it turned opposite the right side,

113 e alquanto di lunge da la sponda
and somewhat from long from the edge

114 la gittò giuso in quell' alto burrato.
it he threw down into that deep chasm.

115 «E' pur convien che novità risponda»,
"Some yet must needs change respond,"

116 dicea fra me medesmo, «al novo cenno
I was saying among myself, "the new sign

117 che 'l maestro con l'occhio sì seconda».
that the master with the eyes indeed follows."

After I had loosed it all from me, as the leader had commanded me, I gave it to him knotted and wrapped. Whence he himself turned opposite the right side, and some length from the edge threw it down into that deep chasm. "Some change must needs yet respond," I was saying to myself, "the new (unusual) sign that the master indeed follows with the eyes."

118 Ahi quanto cauti li uomini esser dienno
Ah how cautious men to be ought

119 presso a color che non veggion pur l'ovra,
near to those that not see only our works,

120 ma per entro i pensier miran col senno!
but to within the thoughts observe with sense!

121 El disse a me: «Tosto verrà di sovra
He said to me, "At once it will come in above

122 ciò ch'io attendo e che il tuo pensier sogna:
that which I await, and which your thoughts imagine:

123 tosto convien ch'al tuo viso si scovra».
at once must needs that to your sight itself it will discover."

124 Sempre a quel ver c'ha faccia di menzogna
Always to that truth that has the face of a lie

125 de' l'uom chiuder le labbra fin ch'el puote,
ought the man to shut the lips until that he is able,

126 però che sanza colpa fa vergogna;
for that without guilt it makes shame;

Ah how cautious men ought to be near those who see not only our works, but observe with sense thoughts within! He said to me, "At once it will come up, that which I await and which your thoughts imagine; at once it must needs discover itself to your sight." Always to that truth that has the face of a lie ought man to shut the lips as long as he is able, for without guilt it makes shame;

127	ma	qui	tacer	nol	posso;	e	per	le	note
	but	*here*	*to stay silent*	*is not*	*possible;*	*and*	*by*	*the*	*strains*
128	di	questa	comedìa,	lettor,	ti	giuro,			
	of	*this*	*comedy,*	*reader,*	*to you*	*I swear,*			
129	s'elle	non	sien	di	lunga	grazia	vòte,		
	so they	*not*	*may be*	*of*	*long*	*favor*	*lacking,*		
130	ch'i'	vidi	per	quell'	aere	grosso	e	scuro	
	that I	*saw*	*through*	*that*	*air*	*thick*	*and*	*dark*	
131	venir	notando	una	figura	in	suso,			
	to come	*swimming*	*a*	*figure*	*in*	*up,*			
132	maravigliosa	ad	ogne	cor	sicuro,				
	marvelous	*to*	*every*	*heart*	*secure (confident),*				
133	sì	come	torna	colui	che	va	giuso		
	as	*how*	*returns*	*him*	*who*	*goes*	*down*		
134	talora	a	solver	l'àncora	ch'aggrappa				
	sometimes	*to*	*solve*	*the anchor*	*that clings to*				
135	o	scoglio	o	altro	che	nel	mare	è	chiuso,
	either a	*rock*	*or*	*other*	*that*	*in the*	*sea*	*is*	*stuck,*
136	che 'n	sù	si	stende	e	da	piè	si	rattrappa.
	that in	*above*	*one*	*extends*	*and*	*of*	*feet*	*one*	*contracts.*

---

but to stay silent here is no possible; and by the strains of this comedy, reader, I swear to you, so that they may not be lacking of long favor, that I saw through that thick and dark air, a figure to come swimming up, marvelous to every confident heart, as he returns who sometimes goes down to solve the anchor that clings to either a rock or other thing that in the sea is stuck, who extends above and contracts the feet.

Canto XVII: Blasphemers, Sodomites, and Usurers

1 «Ecco la fiera con la coda aguzza,
"Behold the beast with the tail sharp,

2 che passa i monti, e rompe i muri e l'armi!
that passes mountains, and breaks walls and weapons!

3 Ecco colei che tutto 'l mondo appuzza!».
Behold him who all the world makes to stink!"

4 Sì cominciò lo mio duca a parlarmi;
Thus began my leader to speak to me;

5 e accennolle che venisse a proda
and he signaled to it that he should come to shore

6 vicino al fin d' i passeggiati marmi.
near to the end of the passageway marble.

7 E quella sozza imagine di froda
And that filthy image of fraud

8 sen venne, e arrivò la testa e 'l busto,
came on, and beached the head and chest,

9 ma 'n su la riva non trasse la coda.
but in on the river it did not pull the tail.

"Behold the beast with the sharp tail, the passes mountains, and breaks walls and weapons! Behold him who makes all the world to stink!" Thus began my leader to speak to me; and he signaled to it that he should come to shore near to the end of the marble passageway. And that filthy image of fraud came on, and beached its head and chest, but did not pull its tail in upon the river.

10 La faccia sua era faccia d' uom giusto,
The face its was the face of a man just,

11 tanto benigna avea di fuor la pelle,
such kindness it had of out the skin,

12 e d'un serpente tutto l'altro fusto;
and of a serpent all the remaining trunk;

13 due branche avea pilose insin l'ascelle;
two clawed feet it had hairy up to the armpit;

14 lo dosso e 'l petto e ambedue le coste
the back and the breast and both the sides

15 dipinti avea di nodi e di rotelle.
were painted with knots and with small bucklers.

16 Con più color, sommesse e sovraposte
With more color, groundwork and embroidery

17 non fer mai drappi Tartari né Turchi,
not made ever cloth Tartars nor Turks,

18 né fuor tai tele per Aragne imposte.
nor were such webs by Arachne placed on the loom.

Its face was the face of a just man, it had such kindness in its skin, and all the remaining trunk of a serpent; it had two clawed feet, hairy up to the armpit; the back and the breast and both sides were painted with knots and small bucklers. With more color, in groundwork and embroidery, neither the Tartars nor the Turks ever made cloth, nor were such webs by Arachne placed upon the loom.

19 Come talvolta stanno a riva i burchi,
As sometimes stand at the river the punts,

20 che parte sono in acqua e parte in terra,
that partly are in water and partly on land,

21 e come là tra li Tedeschi lurchi
and as there between the Germans gluttonous

22 lo bivero s'assetta a far sua guerra,
the beaver itself sets to make its war,

23 così la fiera pessima si stava
so the beast awful itself was staying

24 su l'orlo ch'è di pietra e 'l sabbion serra.
on the edge that is of rock and the sand blocks.

25 Nel vano tutta sua coda guizzava,
In the void all its tail was darting,

26 torcendo in sù la venenosa forca
twisting upwards the venomous fork

27 ch' a guisa di scorpion la punta armava.
that in the manner of the scorpion the point was armed.

As sometimes the punts moored at the river, are partly in water and partly on land, and as there between the gluttonous Germans the beaver settles itself to make its war, so the awful beast was staying itself on the edge that is of rock and blocks the sand. In the void all its tail was darting, twisting upwards the venomous fork like the scorpion that armed its tip.

28 Lo duca disse: «Or convien che si torca
The leader said, "Now must needs that itself bend

29 la nostra via un poco insino a quella
our way a little up to that

30 bestia malvagia che colà si corca».
beast malevolent that there itself lays down."

31 Però scendemmo a la destra mammella,
Therefore we descended to the right breast,

32 e diece passi femmo in su lo stremo,
and ten steps we made upwards the end,

33 per ben cessar la rena e la fiammella.
to well avoid the sand and the flame.

34 E quando noi a lei venuti semo,
And when we to it had come,

35 poco più oltre veggio in su la rena
little more beyond I see upon the sand

36 gente seder propinqua al loco scemo.
people sitting near to the place waning.

The leader said, "Now must needs our way bend itself a little up to that malevolent beast, that lays itself down there." Therefore we descended to the right breast, and we made ten steps up to the end, to well avoid the sand and the flame. And when we had come to it, a little more beyond I see upon the sand people sitting near to the waning place.

37 Quivi 'l maestro «Acciò che tutta piena
There the master, "So that all full

38 esperïenza d'esto giron porti»,
experience of this wheel you may carry

39 mi disse, «va, e vedi la lor mena.
to me he said, "go, and see their condition.

40 Li tuoi ragionamenti sian là corti;
Your reasonings let be there short;

41 mentre che torni, parlerò con questa,
until that you return, I will speak with this (beast),

42 che ne conceda i suoi omeri forti».
that us it may allow its shoulders strong."

43 Così ancor su per la strema testa
So again on through the end outermost

44 di quel settimo cerchio tutto solo
of that seventh circle all alone

45 andai, dove sedea la gente mesta.
I walked, where were sitting the people miserable.

There the master, "So that you may carry away a totally full experience of this wheel," to me he said, "go, and see their condition. Let your reasonings there be short; until you return, I will speak with this beast, that it may allow us its strong shoulders." So again on through the outermost end of that seventh circle I walked all alone, where the miserable people were sitting.

46 Per li occhi fora scoppiava lor duolo;
Through the eyes outward burst their grief;

47 di qua, di là soccorrien con le mani
of here, of there they helped with the hands

48 quando a' vapori, e quando al caldo suolo:
sometimes against the fire-wind, and sometimes against the hot ground;

49 non altrimenti fan di state i cani
not otherwise do of summer the dogs

50 or col ceffo, or col piè, quando son morsi
now with snout, now with foot, sometimes they are bitten

51 o da pulci o da mosche o da tafani
either by fleas or by flies or by horseflies.

52 Poi che nel viso a certi li occhi porsi,
Then that in the face of certain ones the eyes I placed,

53 ne' quali 'l doloroso foco casca,
on which the painful fire descends,

54 non ne conobbi alcun; ma io m' accorsi
not of them I knew one; but I to myself noticed

Through the eyes burst outward their grief; of here, of there, they helped with their hands sometimes against the fire-wind, and sometimes against the hot ground; not otherwise do the dogs in summer, now with the snout, now with the foot, sometimes they are bitten either by fleas or by flies or by horseflies. Then I placed my eyes in the face of certain ones, on which the painful fire descends, I knew not one of them; but I noticed

55 che dal collo a ciascun pendea una tasca
that from the neck of each one was hanging a pouch

56 ch'avea certo colore e certo segno,
that had a certain color and certain sign,

57 e quindi par che 'l loro occhio si pasca.
and thus seemed that their eyes on it fed.

58 E com' io riguardando tra lor vegno,
And as I regarding among them I come,

59 in una borsa gialla vidi azzurro
on a pouch yellow I saw azure

60 che d' un leone avea faccia e contegno.
that of a lion it had face and demeanor.

61 Poi, procedendo di mio sguardo il curro,
Then proceeding of my gaze the course,

62 vidine un' altra come sangue rossa,
I saw another as blood red

63 mostrando un'oca bianca più che burro.
demonstrating a goose white more than butter.

---

that from the neck of each one was hanging a pouch that had a certain color and a certain sign, and thus it seemed that their eyes fed on it. And as I come regarding among them, I saw azure on a pouch of yellow that had the face and demeanor of a lion. Then proceeding the course of my gaze, I saw another red as blood demonstrating a goose more white than butter.

64 E un che d'una scrofa azzurra e grossa
And one that of a sow azure and pregnant

65 segnato avea lo suo sacchetto bianco,
marked had his little sack white,

66 mi disse: «Che fai tu in questa fossa?
to me said, "What do you in this ditch?

67 Or te ne va; e perché se' vivo anco,
Now you leave; and because you are alive also,

68 sappi che 'l mio vicin Vitaliano
know that my fellow townsman Vitaliano

69 sederà qui dal mio sinistro fianco.
will sit here at my left hip.

70 Con questi Fiorentin son padoano:
With these Florentines I am a Paduan;

71 spesse fïate mi 'ntronan li orecchi
frequently they speak me deafening the ears

72 gridando: "Vegna 'l cavalier sovrano,
crying, "Let come the cavalier sovereign,

And one that had his little white sack marked with a pregnant azure sow said to me, "What do you in this ditch? Now leave; and because you are also alive, know that my neighbor Vitaliano will sit here at my left hip. With these Florentines I am a Paduan; they frequently speak deafening my ears, crying, "Let come the sovereign cavalier,

73 che recherà la tasca con tre becchi!”».
that will bring the pouch with the three goats!”

74 Qui distorse la bocca e di fuor trasse
Here twisted the mouth and of outward stuck

75 la lingua, come bue che ’l naso lecchi.
the tongue, as an ox that the nose licks.

76 E io, temendo no ’l più star crucciasse
And I, fearing lest the more staying might pain

77 lui che di poco star m’ avea ’mmonito,
him that of little stay me he had cautioned,

78 torna’ mi in dietro da l’ anime lasse.
I returned me back from the souls unhappy.

79 Trova’ il duca mio ch’era salito
I found the leader my that had climbed

80 già su la groppa del fiero animale,
already on the back of the fierce animal,

81 e disse a me: «Or sie forte e ardito.
and he said to me, “Now be strong and courageous.

---

that will bring the pouch with the three goats!” Here he twisted the mouth and stuck out the tongue, as an ox that licks the nose. And I, fearing lest more staying might pain him, who had cautioned me of little stay, I returned me back from the unhappy souls. I found that my leader had climbed already on the back of the fierce animal, and he said to me, “Now be strong and courageous.

82 Omai si scende per sì fatte scale;
Hence we descend by such sort stairs;

83 monta dinanzi, ch' i' voglio esser mezzo,
mount in front, that I wish to be in between,

84 sì che la coda non possa far male».
such that the tail not is able to do evil."

85 Qual è colui che sì presso ha 'l riprezzo
Like is one that so near has the shivers

86 de la quartana, c'ha già l'unghie smorte,
of the quartan fever, that has already the nails pale,

87 e triema tutto pur guardando 'l rezzo,
and trembles at the merest glimpse of the shade,

88 tal divenn' io a le parole porte;
thus became I at the words offered;

89 ma vergogna mi fé le sue minacce,
but shame to me made its threats,

90 che innanzi a buon segnor fa servo forte.
that before the good lord makes a servant strong.

Hence we descend by stairs of such sort; mount in front, for I wish to be in between, so that the tail is not able to do evil." Like one that has the shivers of the quartan fever so near, that already has the pale nails, and trembles at the merest glimpse of the shade, thus I became at the offered words; but shame made its threats to me, that makes a servant strong before a good lord.

91 I' m'assettai in su quelle spallacce;
I myself settled upon those huge shoulders;

92 sì volli dir, ma la voce non venne
"Yes," I wanted to say, but the voice did not come

93 com' io credetti: «Fa che tu m' abbracce».
as I believed: "Make that you me embrace."

94 Ma esso, ch' altra volta mi sovvenne
But he, that other time me helped

95 ad altro forse, tosto ch' i' montai
to other perils, as soon as that I mounted

96 con le braccia m' avvinse e mi sostenne;
with the arms me bound and me held up;

97 e disse: «Gerïon, moviti omai:
and said, "Geryon, move now:

98 le rote larghe, e lo scender sia poco:
the wheels large, and the descent let be little;

99 pensa la nova soma che tu hai».
think on the new burden that you have."

I settled myself upon those huge shoulders; "Yes" I wanted to say, but the voice did not come as I believed; "Make sure you embrace me." But he, that other times helped me in other perils, as soon as I mounted, bound me with the arms and held me up; and said, "Geryon, now move; the wheels large, and the descent let be little; think on the new burden you have."

100 Come la navicella esce di loco
As the little boat leaves from its place (berth)

101 in dietro in dietro, sì quindi si tolse;
in behind in behind, so thence he left;

102 e poi ch'al tutto si sentì a gioco,
and after that to all himself felt at large,

103 là 'v' era 'l petto, la coda rivolse,
there where was the chest, the tail he turned,

104 e quella tesa, come anguilla, mosse,
and that he outstretched, as an eel, moves,

105 e con le branche l'aere a sé raccolse.
and with the clawed feet the air to himself gathered.

106 Maggior paura non credo che fosse
Greater fear not I believe that was

107 quando Fetonte abbandonò li freni,
when Phaethon abandoned the reins,

108 per che 'l ciel, come pare ancor, si cosse;
so that the heavens, as appears still, itself roasted;

As the little boat leaves its berth behind, behind, so thence he left; and after he felt himself entirely at large, there where the chest was, he turned the tail, and outstretched it, moving as an eel, and with the clawed feet gathered the air to himself. I believe there was no greater fear than when Phaethon abandoned the reins, so that the heavens, as it still appears, roasted itself;

109 né quando Icaro misero le reni
nor when Icarus miserable the kidneys

110 sentì spennar per la scaldata cera,
felt fleeced by the warmed wax,

111 gridando il padre a lui «Mala via tieni!»,
crying the father to him, "Evil way you hold!"

112 che fu la mia, quando vidi ch' i' era
than was mine, when I saw that I was

113 ne l'aere d' ogne parte, e vidi spenta
in the air of every part, and seeing extinguished

114 ogne veduta fuor che de la fera.
every view outside that of the beast.

115 Ella sen va notando lenta lenta:
It on goes swimming slowly, slowly;

116 rota e discende, ma non me n' accorgo
it turns and descends, but not me of it notice

117 se non che al viso e di sotto mi venta.
if not that the face and of below to me wind.

---

nor when miserable Icarus felt the kidneys fleeced by the warmed wax, his father crying to him, "You hold an evil way!" than was mine, when I saw that I was in the air on every side, and seeing extinguished every view outside of the beast. It goes on swimming, slowly, slowly; it turns and descends, but of it none is noticed to me if not the wind on my face from below.

118 Io sentia già da la man destra il gorgo
I was hearing already of the hand right the whirlpool

119 far sotto noi un orribile scroscio,
making below us a horrible thundering,

120 per che con li occhi 'n giù la testa sporgo.
on account of which with the eyes in below, the head I stick out.

121 Allor fu' io più timido a lo stoscio,
Then was I more timid of the fall,

122 però ch' i' vidi fuochi e senti' pianti;
because that I saw fires and heard weeping;

123 ond' io tremando tutto mi raccoscio.
whence I trembling all grip with my thighs

124 E vidi poi, ché nol vedea davanti,
And I saw then, that not I was seeing before

125 lo scendere e 'l girar per li gran mali
the descending and the turning through the great evils

126 che s'appressavan da diversi canti.
that themselves approached from different corners.

I was already hearing on the right hand the whirlpool below us making a horrible thundering, on account of which I stick out my head, with the eyes below. Then I was more timid of the descent, because I saw fires and heard weeping; whence I all trembling gripped with my thighs. And then I saw what I was not seeing before, the descending and the turning through the great evils that approached themselves from different corners.

127 Come 'l falcon ch' è stato assai su l' ali,
As the falcon that has been long on the wing,

128 che sanza veder logoro o uccello
that without seeing lure or bird

129 fa dire al falconiere «Omè, tu cali!»,
makes to say of the falconer, "O me, you fall!"

130 discende lasso onde si move isnello,
descends exhausted whence itself it moves swiftly

131 per cento rote, e da lunge si pone
through a hundred turnings, and from long itself lands

132 dal suo maestro, disdegnoso e fello;
from its master, disdainful and spite;

133 così ne puose al fondo Gerione
so us set down on the bottom Geryon

134 al piè al piè de la stagliata rocca,
at the very foot of the sheer cliff,

135 e, discarcate le nostre persone,
and, unburdening our persons,

136 si dileguò come da corda cocca.
himself vanished as from (bow)string the notch.

As the falcon that has been long on the wing without seeing lure or bird makes the falconer to say, "O me, you fall!" descends exhausted whence it moves itself swiftly through a hundred turnings, and lands itself at a length from its master, disdainful and spiteful; so Geryon set us down on the bottom, at the very foot of the sheer cliff, and, unburdening our persons, vanished himself as the notch from a bowstring.

Canto XVIII: Seducers and Flatterers

1 Luogo è in inferno detto Malebolge,
A location there is in Hell known as Malebolge,

2 tutto di pietra di color ferrigno,
all of rock of color iron

3 come la cerchia che dintorno il volge.
as the circle that around it surrounds.

4 Nel dritto mezzo del campo maligno
in the straight middle of the field evil

5 vaneggia un pozzo assai largo e profondo,
there raves a pit very broad and deep,

6 di cui suo loco dicerò l'ordigno.
of which its place I will speak construction.

7 Quel cinghio che rimane adunque è tondo
That band that remains then is round

8 tra 'l pozzo e 'l piè de l'alta ripa dura,
between the pit and the foot of the high bank hard,

9 e ha distinto in dieci valli il fondo.
and is divided in ten valleys the bottom.

There is a location in Hell known as Malebolge, all of rock of iron color, as the circle that surrounds it around. In the exact middle of the evil field there raves a pit very broad and deep, of which construction in its place I will speak of. That band that remains then is round, between the pit and the foot of the high hard cliff, and the bottom is divided in ten valleys.

10 Quale, dove per guardia de le mura
Which, where to guard the walls

11 più e più fossi cingon li castelli,
more and more moats encircle castles,

12 la parte dove son rende figura,
the side where they make figure,

13 tale imagine quivi facean quelli;
such an image there they made these;

14 e come a tai fortezze da' lor sogli
and as of such fortresses from their thresholds

15 a la ripa di fuor son ponticelli,
to the edge outward there are little drawbridges,

16 così da imo de la roccia scogli
so from the lowest of the stone reefs

17 movien che ricidien li argini e' fossi
moved that traversed the bank and the moats

18 infino al pozzo che i tronca e raccogli.
until the pit that it breaks off and harvests.

Which figure make the side, where more and more moats encircle castles to guard the walls, such an image these made there; and as there are little drawbridges from their thresholds to the outward edge of such fortresses, so from the lowest of the stone reefs moved that traversed the banks and the moats up to the pit that breaks them off and takes them in.

19 In questo luogo, de la schiena scossi
In this location, from the back shaken

20 di Gerïon, trovammoci; e 'l poeta
of Geryon, we found ourselves; and the poet

21 tenne a sinistra, e io dietro mi mossi.
held to the left, and I behind myself sent.

22 A la man destra vidi nova pieta,
To the hand right I saw new pity,

23 novo tormento e novi frustatori,
new torment and new scourgers,

24 di che la prima bolgia era repleta.
of that the first ditch was full.

25 Nel fondo erano ignudi i peccatori;
In the bottom were naked the sinners;

26 dal mezzo in qua ci venien verso 'l volto,
from the middle in here to us they came turned the face,

27 di là con noi, ma con passi maggiori,
from there with us, but with steps greater,

In this location, shaken from the back of Geryon, we found ourselves; and the poet held to the left, I sent myself behind. To the right hand, I saw new pity, new torment, and new scourgers, of which the first ditch was full. In the bottom were the naked sinners; from the middle in here toward us, they came, having turned the face, from there with us (they went), but with greater steps,

28 come i Roman per l'essercito molto,
as the Romans, on account of the host great,

29 l'anno del giubileo, su per lo ponte
the year of Jubilee, on across the bridge

30 hanno a passar la gente modo colto,
have to pass the people a way seized upon

31 che da l'un lato tutti hanno la fronte
that from the one side all have the brow

32 verso 'l castello e vanno a Santo Pietro,
toward the castle and they go to Saint Peter,

33 da l'altra sponda vanno verso 'l monte.
from the other bank they go toward the mountain.

34 Di qua, di là, su per lo sasso tetro
From here, from there, on along the rock dark

35 vidi demon cornuti con gran ferze,
I saw demons horned with great whips

36 che li battien crudelmente di retro.
that them were beating cruelly from behind.

---

as the Romans, on account of the great host, the year of Jubilee, have seized upon a way to pass the people on across the bridge, that from the one side all have the brow toward the castle and go to Saint Peter, from the other bank they go toward the mountain. From here, from there, on along dark rock I saw horned demons with great whips who were beating them cruelly from behind.

37 Ahi come facean lor levar le berze
Ah how they made their to lift the heels

38 a le prime percosse! già nessuno
to the first hit! already none

39 le seconde aspettava né le terze.
the second waited neither the third.

40 Mentr' io andava, li occhi miei in uno
While I was walking, the eyes my on one

41 furo scontrati; e io sì tosto dissi:
collided; and I so promptly said:

42 «Già di veder costui non son digiuno».
"Indeed for to look of him not I am fasting."

43 Per ch'ïo a figurarlo i piedi affissi;
Therefore to describe him the feet I affixed;

44 e 'l dolce duca meco si ristette,
and the sweet leader with me himself rested,

45 e assentio ch'alquanto in dietro gissi.
and assented that somewhat in behind I might go.

Ah, how they made them to lift their heels at the first hit! Already none waited for the second, nor the third. While I was walking, my eyes fell on one; and I so promptly said: "Indeed, I am not fasting to look at him." Therefore to describe him I fixed my feet; and the sweet leader rested himself with me, and assented that I might go somewhat back.

46 E quel frustato celar si credette
And that scourged one to conceal himself believed

47 bassando 'l viso; ma poco li valse,
lowering the face; but little it was worth,

48 ch'io dissi: «O tu che l'occhio a terra gette,
that I said, "O you that the eyes to the ground throw,

49 se le fazion che porti non son false,
if the fashion that you bear not be false,

50 Venedico se' tu Caccianemico.
Venedico are you Caccianemico.

51 Ma che ti mena a sì pungenti salse?».
But what you leads to such pungent sauces?"

52 Ed elli a me: «Mal volentier lo dico;
And he to me, "Bad willingly it I say;

53 ma sforzami la tua chiara favella,
but forces me your clear way of speech,

54 che mi fa sovvenir del mondo antico.
that to me makes to come to mind of the world old.

And that scourged one believed to conceal himself, lowering the face; but little it was worth, that I said, "O you that throw the eyes to the ground, if the fashion that you bear be not false, you are Venedico Caccianemico. But what leads you to such pungent sauces?" And he to me, "Unwillingly I say it; but your clear way of speech forces me, that it makes to remind me of the old world.

55 I' fui colui che la Ghisolabella
I was one that the Ghisolabella

56 condussi a far la voglia del marchese,
I brought to do the desire of the Marquis,

57 come che suoni la sconcia novella.
how that sounds the obscene story.

58 E non pur io qui piango bolognese;
And not just I here weep Bolognese;

59 anzi n'è questo luogo tanto pieno,
in fact of us is this location so full,

60 che tante lingue non son ora apprese
that many tongues not are now learned

61 a dicer 'sipa' tra Sàvena e Reno;
to say "sipa" between Savena and Reno;

62 e se di ciò vuoi fede o testimonio,
and if of this you want evidence or testimony

63 rècati a mente il nostro avaro seno».
bring to mind our avaricious heart."

I was one that brought Ghisolabella to do the desire of the Marquis, however sounds the obscene story. And not just I here weep from Bologna; actually this location is so full of us, that not many tongues have now learned to say "sipa" between Savena and Reno; and if of this you want evidence or testimony bring to mind our avaricious heart."

64 Così parlando il percosse un demonio
Thus, speaking him struck a demon

65 de la sua scurïada, e disse: «Via,
with his horsewhip, and said, "Away,

66 ruffian! qui non son femmine da conio».
pimp! here not are females to coin."

67 I' mi raggiunsi con la scorta mia;
I myself joined with the escort my;

68 poscia con pochi passi divenimmo
thereafter with little steps we came

69 là 'v' uno scoglio de la ripa uscia.
there where a rock from the bank jutted.

70 Assai leggeramente quel salimmo;
Very lightly that we climbed up;

71 e vòlti a destra su per la sua scheggia,
and turning to the right along its chip,

72 da quelle cerchie etterne ci partimmo.
of those circles eternal we departed.

Thus, speaking, a demon struck him with his horsewhip, and said, "Away, pimp! Here are no females to coin." I joined myself with my escort; thereafter with little steps we came there where a rock jutted from the bank. Very lightly we climbed up that; and turning to the right along its chip (spine), we departed those eternal circles.

73 Quando noi fummo là dov' el vaneggia
When we were there where the raving (pit)

74 di sotto per dar passo a li sferzati,
from below to give passage to the whipped,

75 lo duca disse: «Attienti, e fa che feggia
the leader said, "Wait, and make that wound

76 lo viso in te di quest' altri mal nati,
the face in you of these other evil born,

77 ai quali ancor non vedesti la faccia
to these still not you have seen the face

78 però che son con noi insieme andati».
because that they were with us the same walking."

79 Del vecchio ponte guardavam la traccia
From the old bridge we gazed at the troop

80 che venìa verso noi da l' altra banda,
that came toward us from the other band,

81 e che la ferza similmente scaccia.
and that the lash similarly drives.

When we were there where the raving (pit) below to give passage to the whipped, the leader said, "Wait, and let the face of these other evil-born wound you, for these you still have not seen the face, because they were the same walking with us." From the old bridge we gazed at the troop that came toward us from the other band, and that the lash similarly drives.

82 E 'l buon maestro, sanza mia dimanda,
And the good master, without my asking,

83 mi disse: «Guarda quel grande che vene,
to me said, "Look at that grand one that comes,

84 e per dolor non par lagrime spanda:
and for the pain not seems to tears be spilling;

85 quanto aspetto reale ancor ritene!
how aspect royal still he retains!

86 Quelli è Iasón, che per cuore e per senno
That is Jason, that through heart and through sense

87 li Colchi del monton privati féne.
the Colchians of the ram he deprived.

88 Ello passò per l'isola di Lenno,
He passed through the island of Lemnos

89 poi che l'ardite femmine spietate
after that the daring women ruthless

90 tutti li maschi loro a morte dienno.
all the males their to death they handed over.

And the good master, without my asking, said to me, "Look at that grand one that comes, and for the pain seems not to be spilling tears; how royal an aspect he still retains! That is Jason, that through heart and through sense deprived the Colchians of the ram. He passed through the island of Lemnos after the daring, ruthless women handed over all their males to death.

91 Ivi con segni e con parole ornate
There with signs and with words ornate

92 Isifile ingannò, la giovinetta
Hypsipyle he deceived, the young girl

93 che prima avea tutte l' altre ingannate.
who first had all the others deceived.

94 Lasciolla quivi, gravida, soletta;
He left her there, pregnant, alone;

95 tal colpa a tal martiro lui condanna;
such blame to such torment him condemns;

96 e anche di Medea si fa vendetta.
and also for Medea is made vengeance.

97 Con lui sen va chi da tal parte inganna:
With him go on those of such part deceive;

98 e questo basti de la prima valle
and this let suffice of the first valley

99 sapere e di color che 'n sé assanna».
to know and of whom that in itself mauls."

There with signs and ornate words he deceived Hypsipyle, the young girl who had first deceived all the others. He left her there pregnant, alone; such blame condemns him to such torment; and also for Medea is vengeance made. With him go those that deceive in such a way; and let this suffice to know of the first valley and of whom it mauls in itself."

100 Già eravam là ’ve lo stretto calle
Already we were there where the narrow alley

101 con l’ argine secondo s’incrocicchia,
with the bank second itself intersects,

102 e fa di quello ad un altr’ arco spalle.
and makes of it to another arch a shoulder.

103 Quindi sentimmo gente che si nicchia
Then we heard people that were moaning

104 ne l’altra bolgia e che col muso scuffa,
in the other ditch and that with the snout snuffling,

105 e sé medesma con le palme picchia.
and themselves the same with the palms punched.

106 Le ripe eran grommate d’una muffa,
The banks were caked of a mold

107 per l’alito di giù che vi s’appasta,
from the breath from below that there itself infects

108 che con li occhi e col naso facea zuffa.
that with the eyes and with the nose makes a fight.

Already we were there where the narrow alley intersects itself with the second bank, and makes of it a shoulder to another arch. Then we heard people that were moaning in the other ditch, and snuffs with the snout, and the same punched themselves with the palms. The banks were caked of a mold from the breath from below that there infects itself that with the eyes and with the nose it makes a fight.

109 Lo fondo è cupo sì, che non ci basta
The bottom is deep such that not it suffices

110 loco a veder sanza montare al dosso
place to see without climbing on the hump

111 de l'arco, ove lo scoglio più sovrasta.
of the arch, where the rock most towers.

112 Quivi venimmo; e quindi giù nel fosso
There we came; and then below in the trench

113 vidi gente attuffata in uno sterco
I saw people thrust in an excrement

114 che da li uman privadi parea mosso.
that from the human privies seemed to have come.

115 E mentre ch'io là giù con l'occhio cerco,
And while that I there below with the eyes looking,

116 vidi un col capo sì di merda lordo,
I saw one with the head so from shit filthy,

117 che non parëa s'era laico o cherco.
that not it appear if he was lay or clerk.

The bottom is deep such that the place to see suffices not without climbing on the hump of the arch, where the rock towers most. There we came; and then below in the trench I saw people thrust in an excrement that seemed to have come from human privies. And while I was looking there below with the eyes, I saw one with a head so filthy with shit, that it did not appear if he was lay or clerk.

Quei mi sgridò: «Perché se' tu sì gordo
He to me angrily shouted: "Why are you so gluttonous

di riguardar più me che li altri brutti?».
to regard more me that the other ugly ones?"

E io a lui: «Perché, se ben ricordo,
And I to him, "Because, if well I remember,

già t'ho veduto coi capelli asciutti,
already you I have seen with hair dry,

e se' Alessio Interminei da Lucca:
and you are Alessio Interminei of Lucca;

però t'adocchio più che li altri tutti».
therefore you I notice more than the others all."

Ed elli allor, battendosi la zucca:
And he then, beating his gourd:

«Qua giù m'hanno sommerso le lusinghe
"Here below me they submerged the flatteries

ond'io non ebbi mai la lingua stucca».
of which I not was ever the tongue plastered."

He angrily shouted at me, "Why are you so gluttonous to regard me more than the other ugly ones?" And I to him, "Because if I well remember, already I have seen you with dry hair, and you are Allesio Interminei of Lucca; therefore I noticed you more than all the others." And he then, beating his gourd: "Here below flatteries submerged me, with which I never plastered my tongue."

127 Appresso ciò lo duca «Fa che pinghe»,
After that the leader, "Make that you push,"

128 mi disse «il viso un poco più avante,
to me he said, "the visage a little more ahead,

129 sì che la faccia ben con l'occhio attinghe
such that the face well with the eyes attains

130 di quella sozza e scapigliata fante
of that filthy and disheveled wench

131 che là si graffia con l'unghie merdose,
that there herself claws with the nails shitty,

132 e or s'accoscia e ora è in piedi stante.
and now herself squats and now is on feet standing.

133 Taïde è, la puttana che rispuose
Thais she is, the whore who answered

134 al drudo suo quando disse "Ho io grazie
to the lover her when he said, "Do I have favor

135 grandi apo te?": "Anzi maravigliose!".
great with you?", "In fact marvelous!"

136 E quinci sien le nostre viste sazie».
And thus let be our sight satisfied."

After that the leader, "Make that you push," he said to me, "the visage a little more ahead, such that the face with the eyes will attains that filthy and disheveled wench that there claws herself with the shitty nails, and now squats herself and now stands on feet. She is Thais, the whore who answered her lover when he said, "Do I have great favor with you?", (with) "In fact, marvelous!" And thus let our sight be satisfied."

Canto XIX: Simonists

1 O Simon mago, o miseri seguaci
O Simon Magus, O miserable disciples

2 che le cose di Dio, che di bontate
that the things of God, that to goodness

3 deon essere spose, e voi rapaci
ought to be married, and you rapaciously

4 per oro e per argento avolterate,
for gold and for silver adulterate,

5 or convien che per voi suoni la tromba,
now must needs that for you sounds the trumpet,

6 però che ne la terza bolgia state.
because that in the third ditch you all are.

7 Già eravamo, a la seguente tomba,
Already we were, to the following tomb,

8 montati de lo scoglio in quella parte
straddling the rock in that part

9 ch'a punto sovra mezzo 'l fosso piomba.
that to the point above the middle of the trench turns up.

O Simon Magus, O miserable disciples, that ought to be married to goodness, you who rapaciously adulterate the things of God for gold and for silver, now must needs the trumpet sound for you, because you are all in the third ditch. Already we were, to the following tomb, straddling the rock in that part that turns up at the point above the middle of the trench.

10 O somma sapïenza, quanta è l'arte
O highest wisdom, how much is the art

11 che mostri in cielo, in terra e nel mal mondo,
that you show in heaven, on the earth and in the evil world,

12 e quanto giusto tua virtù comparte!
and how much justice your Power apportions!

13 Io vidi per le coste e per lo fondo
I saw through the bank and through the bottom

14 piena la pietra livida di fóri,
full the stone iron colored punctured,

15 d'un largo tutti e ciascun era tondo.
of large all and each was round.

16 Non mi parean men ampi né maggiori
Not to me they seemed less ample nor better

17 che que' che son nel mio bel San Giovanni,
that those that were in my beautiful San Giovanni,

18 fatti per loco d'i battezzatori;
made for a place for the baptized;

O highest wisdom, how much is the art that you show in heaven, on the earth and in the evil world, and how much justice your Power apportions! I saw through the bank and through the bottom punctured full the iron grey stone, all large and each was round. They did not seem to me less ample or greater than those that were in my beautiful San Giovanni, made for a place for the baptized;

19 l'un de li quali, ancor non è molt' anni,
one of the which, still not is many years,

20 rupp' io per un che dentro v'annegava:
broke I for one that inside it was drowning;

21 e questo sia suggel ch'ogn'omo sganni.
and this let be a seal that to all men undeceive.

22 Fuor de la bocca a ciascun soperchiava
Outward from the mouth of each one protruded

23 d'un peccator li piedi e de le gambe
of a sinner the feet and the legs

24 infino al grosso, e l'altro dentro stava.
until the bulk (calf/thigh), and the other inside was.

25 Le piante erano a tutti accese intrambe;
The soles were all fired both;

26 per che sì forte guizzavan le giunte,
for that so strong writhing the joints,

27 che spezzate averien ritorte e strambe.
that broken would have twisted strands and cords.

---

one of which, still it is not many years, I broke for one that was drowning inside it; and let this be a seal to undeceive all men. Outward from the mouth of each one protruded the feet and the legs of a sinner, until the bulk, and the other (rest) was inside. Both soles were all aflame; for that so forcefully writhing the joints, that it would have broken twisted strands and cords.

28 Qual suole il fiammeggiar de le cose unte
As is the habit the flaming of the things oily

29 muoversi pur su per la strema buccia,
to move themselves until up through the outermost rind,

30 tal era lì dai calcagni a le punte.
so as there from the heels to the tips.

31 «Chi è colui, maestro, che si cruccia
"Who is this, master, who shows his pain

32 guizzando più che li altri suoi consorti»,
writhing more than the others of his consort,"

33 diss' io, «e cui più roggia fiamma succia?».
said I, "and whom a more reddish flame sucks at?"

34 Ed elli a me: «Se tu vuo' ch'i' ti porti
And he to me, "If you will that I you carry

35 là giù per quella ripa che più giace,
there below along that shore that less slopes,

36 da lui saprai di sé e de' suoi torti».
from him you will know of him and of his wrongdoing."

As is the habit of the flaming of oily things to move themselves up through until the outermost rind, so it was there, from the heels to the tips (of their toes). "Who is this one, master, who shows his pain writhing more than the others of his consort," said I, "and whom a more reddish flame sucks at?" And he to me, "If oyu will that I carry you there below along that shore that slopes less, from him you will learn of him and of his wrongdoings."

37 E io: «Tanto m'è bel, quanto a te piace:
And I: "So much to me it is well, how much to you it pleases;

38 tu se' segnore, e sai ch'i' non mi parto
you are lord, and you know that I not myself part

39 dal tuo volere, e sai quel che si tace».
from your will, and you know what one conceals."

40 Allor venimmo in su l'argine quarto;
Then we came upwards the bank fourth;

41 volgemmo e discendemmo a mano stanca
we turned towards and descended to the hand left

42 là giù nel fondo foracchiato e arto.
there below in the bottom punctured and narrow.

43 Lo buon maestro ancor de la sua anca
The good master until from his hip

44 non mi dipuose, sì mi giunse al rotto
did not me put down, indeed me brought up to the hole

45 di quel che sì piangeva con la zanca.
of him who so was weeping with the shanks.

And I: "So much to me it is well, however much it is pleasing to you; you are lord, and you know that I part not myself from your will, and you know what one conceals." Then we came upward the fourth bank; we turned towards and descended to the left hand there below into the punctured and narrow bottom. The good master from his hip did not put me down, indeed until he brought me up to the hole of him who was so weeping with the shanks.

46 «O qual che se' che 'l di sù tien di sotto,
"O what that you are that of the up you hold of underneath

47 anima trista come pal commessa»,
soul sad like a reed planted,"

48 comincia' io a dir, «se puoi, fa motto».
began I to say, "if you are able, form a word."

49 Io stava come 'l frate che confessa
I stood like the friar that confesses

50 lo perfido assessin, che, poi ch'è s,
the perfidious assassin, that, after that he is crammed,

51 richiama lui per che la morte cessa.
recalls him so by which the death he delays.

52 Ed el gridò: «Se' tu già costì ritto,
And he cried, "Are you already up there standing,

53 se' tu già costì ritto, Bonifazio?
are you already up there standing, Boniface?

54 Di parecchi anni mi mentì lo scritto.
By several years to me lied the writing.

"O whatever you are that of the up you hold underneath, sad soul planted like a reed," I began to say, "if you are able, form a word." I stood like the friar that confesses the perfidious assassin, that, after he is crammed, recalls him by which he delays the death. And he cried, "Are you already standing up there, are you already standing up there, Boniface? The writing lied to me by several years.

55 Se' tu sì tosto di quell' aver sazio
Are you so quickly of that satisfied

56 per lo qual non temesti tòrre a 'nganno
for that which not you did fear to take by deceit

57 la bella donna, e poi di farne strazio?».
the beautiful lady, and then to make massacre?"

58 Tal mi fec' io, quai son color che stanno,
Such me made I, like those that are,

59 per non intender ciò ch'è lor risposto,
by not understanding that which is to them answered,

60 quasi scornati, e risponder non sanno.
almost mocked, and answering not they know.

61 Allor Virgilio disse: «Dilli tosto:
Then Vergil said, "Tell him quickly:

62 "Non son colui, non son colui che credi"»;
Not I am the one, not I am the one that you believe,"

63 e io rispuosi come a me fu imposto.
and I answered as to me it was told.

Are you so quickly satisfied of that for which you did not fear to take by deceit the beautiful lady, and then to make massacre?" Such I made me, like those that are, by not understanding that which is answered them, almost mocked, and answering they know not. Then Vergil said, "Tell him quickly: I am not the one, I am not the one you believe"; and I answered as it was told to me.

64 Per che lo spirto tutti storse i piedi;
Therefore the spirit all twisted the feet;

65 poi, sospirando e con voce di pianto,
then, sighing and with voice of tears,

66 mi disse: «Dunque che a me richiedi?
to me it said, "Then what of me do you request?

67 Se di saper ch'i' sia ti cal cotanto,
If to know who I am to you it matters so much,

68 che tu abbi però la ripa corsa,
that you have therefore this bank run down,

69 sappi ch'i' fui vestito del gran manto;
know that I was vested of the great mantle;

70 e veramente fui figliuol de l'orsa,
and truly I was son of the mother bear,

71 cupido sì per avanzar li orsatti,
lustful so to advance the cubs,

72 che sù l'avere e qui me misi in borsa.
that above it possessions and here me I placed in purse.

Therefore the spirit twisted all of the feet; then, sighing and with a voice of tears, it said to me, "Then what of me do you request? If it matters so much to you to know who I am, that you have thus run down this bank, know that I was vested with the great mantle; and truly I was a son of the mother bear, so lustful to advance the cubs, that possessions above and me here I placed in a purse.

73 Di sotto al capo mio son li altri tratti
From under the head my are the other thrusted ones

74 che precedetter me simoneggiando,
that proceeded me practicing simony,

75 per le fessure de la pietra piatti.
through the fissures of the rock mashed.

76 Là giù cascherò io altresì quando
There below will fall I also when

77 verrà colui ch'i' credea che tu fossi,
he comes who that I believed that you were,

78 allor ch'i' feci 'l sùbito dimando.
when that I made the sudden questioning.

79 Ma più è 'l tempo già che i piè mi cossi
But more is the time already that the feet my roast

80 e ch'i' son stato così sottosopra,
and that I have been like this upside down,

81 ch'el non starà piantato coi piè rossi:
that he not will be planted with feet red;

From under my head are the other thrusted ones that proceeded me practicing simony, mashed through the fissures of the rock. There below I also will fall when he comes whom I believed you were, when I made the sudden questioning. But already more is the time that my feet roast and that I have been like this upside down, than not he will be planted with red feet;

82 ché dopo lui verrà di più laida opra,
therefore after him will arrive of more filthy works,

83 di ver' ponente, un pastor sanza legge,
from towards the west, a shepherd without law,

84 tal che convien che lui e me ricuopra.
such that he must needs that him and me will cover.

85 Nuovo Iasón sarà, di cui si legge
New Jason he will be, of whom one reads

86 ne' Maccabei; e come a quel fu molle
in the Maccabees; and as to him was soft

87 suo re, così fia lui chi Francia regge».
his king, so will be to him who of France rules."

88 Io non so s'i' mi fui qui troppo folle,
I do not know if I me was here too crazy,

89 ch'i' pur rispuosi lui a questo metro:
but I then answered him in this meter:

90 «Deh, or mi dì: quanto tesoro volle
"Ah, now to me say: how much treasure desired

---

therefore after him will arrive one of more filthy works, from the west a shepherd without law, such that it must needs he will cover him and me. A new Jason he will be, of whom one reads in the Maccabees; and as his king was soft to him, so will be to him the one who rules France." I do not know if I was here too crazy, but I then answered him in this meter: "Ah, now say to me, how much treasured desired

91 Nostro Segnore in prima da san Pietro
Our Lord before of Saint Peter

92 ch'ei ponesse le chiavi in sua balìa?
that he placed the keys in his keeping?

93 Certo non chiese se non "Viemmi retro".
Certainly not he asked if not "Come me after."

94 Né Pier né li altri tolsero a Matia
Neither Peter nor the others took from Matthias

95 oro od argento, quando fu sortito
gold or silver, when he was chosen

96 al loco che perdé l'anima ria.
to the place that was lost by the soul wicked.

97 Però ti sta, ché tu se' ben punito;
But yourself stay, for you are well punished;

98 e guarda ben la mal tolta moneta
and watch over well the evil taken coin

99 ch'esser ti fece contra Carlo ardito.
that to be you made against Charles daring.

Our Lord of Saint Peter before he placed the keys in his keeping? Certainly he did not ask if not "Come after me." Neither Peter nor the others took from Matthias gold or silver, when he was chosen to the place that was lost by the wicked soul. But stay you, for you are well punished; and watch over well that evil-taken coin that made you to be daring against Charles.

100 E se non fosse ch'ancor lo mi vieta
And if not it were that even now it me is forbidden

101 la reverenza de le somme chiavi
the reverence for the highest keys

102 che tu tenesti ne la vita lieta,
that you held in the life happy,

103 io userei parole ancor più gravi;
I would use words still more grave;

104 ché la vostra avarizia il mondo attrista,
for you all's avarice the world saddens,

105 calcando i buoni e sollevando i pravi.
treading down the good and raising up the depraved.

106 Di voi pastor s'accorse il Vangelista,
Of you shepherds noticed the Evangelist,

107 quando colei che siede sopra l'acque
when she that sits above the waters

108 puttaneggiar coi regi a lui fu vista;
whoring with kings by him it was seen;

And if it were not that even now it is forbidden me by a reverence for the highest keys, which you held in the happy life, I would use words still more grave; for your avarice saddens the world, treading down the good and raising up the depraved. Of you shepherds the Evangelist noticed, when she that sits above the waters whoring with kings was seen by him;

quella che con le sette teste nacque,
she that with the seven heads was born,

e da le diece corna ebbe argomento,
and from the ten horns gained order,

fin che virtute al suo marito piacque.
so long as that virtue to her husband it pleased.

Fatto v'avete dio d'oro e d'argento;
Made you have god of gold and of silver;

e che altro è da voi a l'idolatre,
and what difference is from you all to the idolator,

se non ch'elli uno, e voi ne orate cento?
if not that he to one, and you all pray to a hundred?

Ahi, Costantin, di quanto mal fu matre,
Ah, Constantine, of how much evil was the mother,

non la tua conversion, ma quella dote
not your conversion, but that dowry

che da te prese il primo ricco patre!».
that from you took the first rich father!"

---

she that with the seven heads was born, and from the ten horns gained order, so long as virtue was pleasing to her husband. You have made a god of gold and silver; and what difference is there from you all to the idolator, if not that he to one and you all pray to a hundred? Ah, Constantine, of how much evil was the mother, not your conversion, but that dowry that the first rich father took from you!"

118 E mentr' io li cantava cotai note,
And while I these was singing to him notes,

119 o ira o coscïenza che 'l mordesse,
either wrath or conscience that him was stinging,

120 forte spingava con ambo le piote.
strongly kicked with both the feet.

121 I' credo ben ch'al mio duca piacesse,
I believe well that to my leader this was pleasing,

122 con sì contenta labbia sempre attese
with such contented aspect continually attended

123 lo suon de le parole vere espresse.
the sound of the words true expressed.

124 Però con ambo le braccia mi prese;
Therefore with both the arms me he pressed;

125 e poi che tutto su mi s'ebbe al petto,
and then that all up me himself he held to the breast,

126 rimontò per la via onde discese.
he remounted along the way whence he descended.

And while I was singing these notes to him, either wrath or conscience that was stinging him, he strongly kicked with both the feet. I well believe that this was pleasing to my leader, with such contented aspect he continually attended the sound of the true words expressed. Therefore with both the arms he pressed me; and then he held all me up to the breast, he remounted along the way whence he descended.

127 Né si stancò d'avermi a sé distretto,
Nor did he tire of holding me to himself closely clasped,

128 sì men portò sovra 'l colmo de l'arco
until me of he carried over the peak of the arch

129 che dal quarto al quinto argine è tragetto.
that of the fourth to the fifth bank is crossing.

130 Quivi soavemente spuose il carco,
There he gently set down the load,

131 soave per lo scoglio sconcio ed erto
gently because of the rock filthy and steep

132 che sarebbe a le capre duro varco.
that would be to the nanny goats hard pass.

133 Indi un altro vallon mi fu scoperto.
From there another valley to me was discovered.

Nor did he tire of holding me to himself, closely clasped, until he carried me over the peak of the arch that crosses from the fourth to the fifth bank. There he gently set down the load, gently because of the filthy and steep rock that would be a hard pass to for the nanny goats. From there another valley was discovered to me.

Canto XX: Soothsayers and Magicians

1 Di nova pena mi conven far versi
Of new pain by me it must needs to make verses

2 e dar matera al ventesimo canto
and to give material to the twentieth canto

3 de la prima canzon ch'è d'i sommersi.
of the first canzone that is of the submerged.

4 Io era già disposto tutto quanto
I was already willing all how much completely

5 a riguardar ne lo scoperto fondo,
to examine of the uncovered bottom

6 che si bagnava d'angoscioso pianto;
that itself bathed in anguished weeping,

7 e vidi gente per lo vallon tondo
and I saw people through the valley round

8 venir, tacendo e lagrimando, al passo
coming, keeping quiet and weeping, to the pace

9 che fanno le letane in questo mondo.
that made the litanies in this world.

Of new/strange pain I must needs make verses and give material for the twentieth canto of the first canzone that is of the submerged. I was already altogether willing to examine the uncovered bottom that bathed itself in anguished tears, and I saw people coming through the round valley, keeping quiet and weeping, at the pace that made the litanies of this world.

10 Come 'l viso mi scese in lor più basso,
As the vision my descended on them more low,

11 mirabilmente apparve esser travolto
marvelously appeared to be twisted

12 ciascun tra 'l mento e 'l principio del casso;
each between the chin and the beginning of the chest;

13 ché da le reni era tornato 'l volto,
for toward the back was turned round the face,

14 e in dietro venir li convenia,
and in behind to come each must needs,

15 perché 'l veder dinanzi era lor tolto.
because the seeing in front was from them removed.

16 Forse per forza già di parlasia
Perhaps by force already of paralysis

17 si travolse così alcun del tutto;
so was overwhelmed thus someone completely,

18 ma io nol vidi, né credo che sia.
but I not have seen, nor I believe that it could be.

As my vision descended lower on them, each appeared marvelously to be twisted between the chin and the beginning of the chest; for the face was turned round toward the back, and each must needs come in behind, because the seeing in front was removed from them. Perhaps by the force of paralysis someone was thus so completely overwhelmed, but I have not seen it, nor do I believe that it could be.

19 Se Dio ti lasci, lettor, prender frutto
If God you allows, reader, to take fruit

20 di tua lezione, or pensa per te stesso
from you reading, now think for you yourself

21 com' io potea tener lo viso asciutto,
how I was able to hold the face dry,

22 quando la nostra imagine di presso
when our image from near

23 vidi sì torta, che 'l pianto de li occhi
I saw so twisted, that the tears from the eyes

24 le natiche bagnava per lo fesso.
the buttocks bathed along the crack.

25 Certo io piangea, poggiato a un de' rocchi
Certainly I was weeping, leaning against one of the rocks

26 del duro scoglio, sì che la mia scorta
of the hard ridge, so that my escort

27 mi disse: «Ancor se' tu de li altri sciocchi?
to me said, "Still are you of the other idiots?

If God allows you, reader, to take fruit from your reading, think now for yourself, how I was able to keep the face dry, when from close by I saw our image so twisted, that the tears from the eyes bathed the buttocks along the crack. Certainly I was weeping, leaning against one of the rocks of the hard ridge, so that my escort said to me, "Are you still one of the other idiots?

28 Qui vive la pietà quand' è ben morta;
Here lives the piety/pity when it is well dead;

29 chi è più scellerato che colui
who is more wicked (impious) than the one

30 che al giudicio divin passion comporta?
that to the judgment divine passion reacts?

31 Drizza la testa, drizza, e vedi a cui
Straighten the head, straighten, and look at that one for whom

32 s'aperse a li occhi d'i Teban la terra;
itself opened before the eyes of the Theban the earth;

33 per ch'ei gridavan tutti: "Dove rui,
therefore they cried all: "Where are you rushing,

34 Anfïarao? perché lasci la guerra?".
Amphiaraus? Why are you leaving the war?"

35 E non restò di ruinare a valle
And not he rest from rushing downwards

36 fino a Minòs che ciascheduno afferra.
until to Minos that each one seizes.

Here lives pity when it is well dead; who is more impious that the one that reacts with passion to the divine judgment? Straighten the head, straighten, and look to the one for whom the earth opened itself before the eyes of the Thebans; therefore they all cried, "Where are you rushing, Amphiaraus? Why are you leaving the war?" An he did not rest from rushing downwards until to Minos, who seizes each one.

37 Mira c'ha fatto petto de le spalle:
Look that he made breast of the back;

38 perché volle veder troppo davante,
because he wished to see too much in front,

39 di retro guarda e fa retroso calle.
of behind he gazes and makes backward way.

40 Vedi Tiresia, che mutò sembiante
See Tiresias, that changed appearance

41 quando di maschio femmina divenne
when from male female he became

42 cangiandosi le membra tutte quante;
changing the members completely (all how much);

43 e prima, poi, ribatter li convenne
and before, then, beat again he it was fitting

44 li duo serpenti avvolti, con la verga,
the two serpents twisted, with the stick,

45 che riavesse le maschili penne.
that he could regain the manly plumes.

Look, who made a breast of the back; because he wished to see too much in front, he gazes behind and makes a backwards way. See Tiresias, that changed appearance when from male he became female, completely changing his members; and then, it was fitting for him to beat again the two twisted serpents with the stick before that he could regain the manly plumes.

46 Aronta è quel ch'al ventre li s'atterga,
Aruns is that one that to the belly there himself backs up,

47 che ne' monti di Luni, dove ronca
that in the mountains of Luni, where works

48 lo Carrarese che di sotto alberga,
the Carrarese that of below dwells,

49 ebbe tra' bianchi marmi la spelonca
he had between the white marble the cave

50 per sua dimora; onde a guardar le stelle
for his dwelling; whence to gaze at the stars

51 e 'l mar no li era la veduta tronca.
and the sea not to him was the view cut off.

52 E quella che ricuopre le mammelle,
And she that covers the breasts

53 che tu non vedi, con le trecce sciolte,
that you do not see, with tresses loose,

54 e ha di là ogne pilosa pelle,
and has of there every hairy hide,

Aruns is that one, that backs himself up there to his belly, that in the mountains of Luni, where works the Carrarese that dwells below, he had, between the white marble, a cave for his dwelling; whence to gaze at the stars and the sea, the view was not for him cut off. And she that covers the breasts, that you do not see, with loose tresses, and has of there (that side) every hairy hide,

55 Manto fu, che cercò per terre molte;
Manto was, that searched through lands many;

56 poscia si puose là dove nacqu' io;
thereafter herself settled there where was born I,

57 onde un poco mi piace che m'ascolte.
wherefore a little to me it is pleasing that to me you listen.

58 Poscia che 'l padre suo di vita uscìo
Thereafter that the father her from life left

59 e venne serva la città di Baco,
and became slave the city of Bacchus,

60 questa gran tempo per lo mondo gio.
she great time through the world went.

61 Suso in Italia bella giace un laco,
Up in Italy beautiful lies a lake,

62 a piè de l'Alpe che serra Lamagna
at the foot of the Alps that forms Germany

63 sovra Tiralli, c'ha nome Benaco.
above the Tyrol, that is named Benaco.

---

was Manto, that searched through many lands; thereafter she settled herself there where I was born, wherefore it is pleasing to me that you listen to me a little. After her father left from life and the city of Bacchus became a slave, she went a great time through the world. Up in beautiful Italy lies a lake, at the foot of the Alps that forms Germany above the Tyrol, that is named Benaco.

64 Per mille fonti, credo, e più si bagna
By a thousand founts, I believe, and more itself bathes

65 tra Garda e Val Camonica e Pennino
between Garda and Val Camonica and Pennino

66 de l'acqua che nel detto laco stagna.
from the water that in the aforementioned lake collects (stagnates).

67 Loco è nel mezzo là dove 'l trentino
The place is in the middle there where the Trentine

68 pastore e quel di Brescia e 'l veronese
shepherd and that of Brescia and the Veronese,

69 segnar poria, s'e' fesse quel cammino.
to give a blessing would be able, if he made that journey.

70 Siede Peschiera, bello e forte arnese
Sits Peschiera, handsome and strong stronghold

71 da fronteggiar Bresciani e Bergamaschi,
to confront the Brescians and the Bergamasques,

72 ove la riva 'ntorno più discese.
where the shore around more descended.

By a thousand founts, I believe, and more, (that region) between Garda and Val Camonica and Peninno bathes itself from the water that collects in the aforementioned lake. There is a place in the middle there where the Trentine shepherd (pastor) and that of Brescia and the Veronese, would be able to give a blessing, if he made that journey. There sits Peschiera, a handsome and strong fortress to confront the Brescians and the Bergamasques, where the shore around descended more.

73 Ivi convien che tutto quanto caschi
Yonder must needs that completely fall

74 ciò che 'n grembo a Benaco star non può,
that which in the womb of Benaco to stay is not able,

75 e fassi fiume giù per verdi paschi.
and becomes a river below through green fields.

76 Tosto che l'acqua a correr mette co,
Promptly that the water to run has its head

77 non più Benaco, ma Mencio si chiama
not more Benaco, but Mencio is called

78 fino a Governol, dove cade in Po.
until Governolo, where it falls into the Po.

79 Non molto ha corso, ch'el trova una lama,
Not much it flowed, that it found a lowland

80 ne la qual si distende e la 'mpaluda;
in the which itself it stretches and it becomes a swamp;

81 e suol di state talor essere grama.
and is wont of summer sometimes to be toxic.

Yonder must needs completely fall that which is not able to stay in the womb of Benaco, and becomes a river below through green fields. Promptly the water finds its head (begins) to run, called no more Benaco, but Mencio, until Governolo, where it falls into the Po. It did not flow far, that it found a lowland in which it stretches itself out and becomes a swamp; and is wont of summer sometimes to be toxic.

82 Quindi passando la vergine cruda
Therefore passing the virgin crude

83 vide terra, nel mezzo del pantano,
saw earth, in the middle of the swamp,

84 sanza coltura e d'abitanti nuda.
without cultivation and of inhabitants naked.

85 Lì, per fuggire ogne consorzio umano,
There, by fleeing every consortium human,

86 ristette con suoi servi a far sue arti,
she rested with her servants to do her arts,

87 e visse, e vi lasciò suo corpo vano.
and lived, and there left her body empty.

88 Li uomini poi che 'ntorno erano sparti
The men then that around were separate

89 s'accolsero a quel loco, ch'era forte
themselves accommodated to that place, that was strong

90 per lo pantan ch'avea da tutte parti.
by the swamp that held of every part.

Therefore the crude virgin passing, in the middle of the swamp, saw earth without cultivation and naked of inhabitants. There, by fleeing every human consortium, she rested with her servants to do her arts, and lived, and there left her empty body. The men from around that were separate accommodated themselves to that place, that was strong by the swamp that held every part.

91 Fer la città sovra quell' ossa morte;
They made the city over that bone dead,

92 e per colei che 'l loco prima elesse,
and because of her the place before had chosen,

93 Mantüa l'appellar sanz' altra sorte.
Mantua it they named without other divination.

94 Già fuor le genti sue dentro più spesse,
Formerly were the people her inside more thick (numerous)

95 prima che la mattia da Casalodi
before that the foolishness of Casalodi

96 da Pinamonte inganno ricevesse.
by Pinamonte deceit suffered.

97 Però t'assenno che, se tu mai odi
Therefore you I admonish that if you ever hear

98 originar la mia terra altrimenti,
originate my land otherwise

99 la verità nulla menzogna frodi».
the truth no lie let cheat."

They made the city over that dead bone, and because the place had been chosen before by her, Mantua they named it without other divination. Formerly the people inside her were more thick (numerous) before the foolishness of Casalodi suffered deceit by Pinamonte. Therefore I admonish you that if you ever hear my originate otherwise, let no lie cheat the truth."

E io: «Maestro, i tuoi ragionamenti
And I, "Master, your reasonings

mi son sì certi e prendon sì mia fede,
to me are so certain and gets so my faith,

che li altri mi sarien carboni spenti.
that the others to me would be coals spent.

Ma dimmi, de la gente che procede,
But tell me, of the people that proceed,

se tu ne vedi alcun degno di nota;
if you of them see any worthy of note;

ché solo a ciò la mia mente rifiede».
because alone to that my mind reverts."

Allor mi disse: «Quel che da la gota
Then to me he said, "That one who from the cheek

porge la barba in su le spalle brune,
extends the beard in over the shoulders dark,

fu—quando Grecia fu di maschi vòta,
was—when Greece was of males emptied

And I, "Master, your reasonings are so certain to me and so gets my faith, that the others would be to me spent coals. But tell me, of the people that proceed, if you see of them and worthy of note; for to that alone my mind reverts." Then to me he said, "That one who from the cheek extends the beard in over the dark shoulders, was, when Greece was emptied of males

109 sì ch'a **pena** rimaser per le cune—*******
such that hardly to remain by the cradle—

110 augure, e diede 'l punto con Calcanta
augur, and he gave the point with Calchas

111 in Aulide a tagliar la prima fune.
in Aulis to sever the first rope.

112 Euripilo ebbe nome, e così 'l canta
Eurypylus was his name, and so him sings

113 l'alta mia tragedìa in alcun loco:
high my tragedy in some place;

114 ben lo sai tu che la sai tutta quanta.
well it know you that it you know completely.

115 Quell' altro che ne' fianchi è così poco,
That other that in the sides is so little,

116 Michele Scotto fu, che veramente
Michael Scot was, that truly

117 de le magiche frode seppe 'l gioco.
of the magic frauds knew the game.

---

such that hardly one remained by the cradle—augur, and with Calchas he gave the point in Aulis to sever the first rope. Eurypylus was his name, and my high tragedy sings him in some place; well you know it, for you know it completely. That other who in the sides is so little, was Michael Scot, that truly knew the game of the magic frauds.

118 Vedi Guido Bonatti; vedi Asdente,
See Guido Bonatti; see Asdente,

119 ch'avere inteso al cuoio e a lo spago
that he minded to the leather and to the twine

120 ora vorrebbe, ma tardi si pente.
now could wish, but late himself repents.

121 Vedi le triste che lasciaron l'ago,
See the sad ones that left the needle

122 la spuola e 'l fuso, e fecersi 'ndivine;
the loom and the spindle, and made themselves soothsayers;

123 fecer malie con erbe e con imago.
they made charms with herbs and with images.

124 Ma vienne omai, ché già tiene 'l confine
But come away now, for already holds the boundaries

125 d'amendue li emisperi e tocca l'onda
of both the hemispheres and touches the wave

126 sotto Sobilia Caino e le spine;
below Seville Cain and the thorns;

See Guido Bonatti; See Asdente, who now could wish he minded the leather and the twine, but repents himself (too) late. See the sad ones that left the needle the loom and the spindle, and made themselves soothsayers; they made charms with herbs and with images. But come away now, for already Cain and the thorns holds the boundaries of both the hemispheres and touches the wave below Seville;

127 e già iernotte fu la luna tonda:
and already yesternight was the moon full:

128 ben ten de' ricordar, ché non ti nocque
well you must of it remember, for not you it did harm

129 alcuna volta per la selva fonda».
some time through the wood thick."

130 Sì mi parlava, e andavamo introcque.
Such to me he spoke, and we walked meanwhile.

---

and already yesternight was the moon full; you must remember it well, for it did not harm you at some time through the thick wood." Such to me he spoke, and we walked meanwhile.

Canto XXI: Barrators

1 Così di ponte in ponte, altro parlando
So from bridge to bridge, other speaking

2 che la mia comedìa cantar non cura,
that my comedy to sing is not concerned,

3 venimmo; e tenavamo 'l colmo, quando
we went; and we held the ridge, when

4 restammo per veder l'altra fessura
we rested to see the other fissure

5 di Malebolge e li altri pianti vani;
of Malebolge and the other tears useless

6 e vidila mirabilmente oscura.
and I saw there wondrously dark.

7 Quale ne l'arzanà de' Viniziani
As in the arsenal of the Venetians

8 bolle l'inverno la tenace pece
it boils the winter the tenacious pitch

9 a rimpalmare i legni lor non sani,
to recoat the boats their not healthy,

So from bridge to bridge, speaking other things that my comedy is not concerned to sing, we went; and we held the ridge, when we rested to see the other fissure of Malebolge and the other useless tears; and I saw there wondrously dark. As in the arsenal of the Venetians in winter it boils the tenacious pitch to recoat their unhealthy boats,

10 ché navicar non ponno—in quella vece
for to sail they are not able — in which instead

11 chi fa suo legno novo e chi ristoppa
this one makes his vessel new and this one recaulks

12 le coste a quel che più vïaggi fece;
the ribs of that which that more voyages has made,

13 chi ribatte da proda e chi da poppa;
this one hammering away at the prow and this one at the poop

14 altri fa remi e altri volge sarte;
others make oars, and others twist the tackle;

15 chi terzeruolo e artimon rintoppa:
this one foresail and mainsail patches;

16 tal, non per foco, ma per divin' arte,
so, not by fire, but by divine art,

17 bollia là giuso una pegola spessa,
boils there below a pitch thick

18 che 'nviscava la ripa d'ogne parte.
that pasted the bank of every part.

---

for they are not able to sail—instead of which this one makes his vessel new and this one recaulks the ribs of that which has made more voyages, this one hammering away at the prow, and this one at the poop, others make oars, and others twist the tackle; this one patches foresail and mainsail; so not by fire, but by divine art there below boils a thick pitch that pasted the bank of every part.

19 I' vedea lei, ma non vedëa in essa
I saw it, but not saw in it

20 mai che le bolle che 'l bollor levava,
ever that the bubbles that the boiling raised up,

21 e gonfiar tutta, e riseder compressa.
and swelling all, and settled compressed.

22 Mentr' io là giù fisamente mirava,
While I there already fixedly was gazing,

23 lo duca mio, dicendo «Guarda, guarda!»,
the leader my, saying, "Look out, look out!"

24 mi trasse a sé del loco dov' io stava.
me pulled back to himself from the place where I was standing.

25 Allor mi volsi come l'uom cui tarda
Then me I turned as the man to whom it is slow

26 di veder quel che li convien fuggire
to see that which one must needs to flee

27 e cui paura sùbita sgagliarda,
and to whom fear sudden makes weak,

I saw it, but did not see in it ever but the bubbles that the boiling raised up, and swelling all, and settled compressed. While I was already there gazing fixedly, my leader, saying "Look out, look out!" pulled me back to himself from the place where I was standing. Then I turned me as the man for whom it is slow to see that which one must needs flee and to whom fear suddenly makes weak,

28 che, per veder, non indugia 'l partire:
who, though he sees, does not hesitate the leaving;

29 e vidi dietro a noi un diavol nero
and I saw behind to us a devil black

30 correndo su per lo scoglio venire.
running up along the ridge to come.

31 Ahi quant' elli era ne l'aspetto fero!
Ah how he was in the aspect haughty!

32 e quanto mi parea ne l'atto acerbo,
and how to me he appeared in the gesture bitter,

33 con l'ali aperte e sovra i piè leggero!
with the wings opened and above the feet light!

34 L'omero suo, ch'era aguto e superbo,
The upper arm his, that was sharp and high,

35 carcava un peccator con ambo l'anche,
encumbered a sinner with both the haunches

36 e quei tenea de' piè ghermito 'l nerbo.
and which held of the feet grasping the sinew.

---

who, though he sees, does not hesitate in the leaving; and I saw behind us a black devil to come, running up along the ridge. Ah how he was haughty in aspect! and how he appeared to me bitter in gesture with wings opened and above light feet! His upper arm, that was sharp and high, encumbered by a sinner with both the haunches, and which held the feet grasping the sinew.

37 Del nostro ponte disse: «O Malebranche,
From the our bridge he said, "O Evil Claws,

38 ecco un de li anzïan di Santa Zita!
behold one of the rectors of Santa Zita!

39 Mettetel sotto, ch'i' torno per anche
Put him beneath, for I am going back again (for another)

40 a quella terra che n'è ben fornita:
to that city that of them is well equipped;

41 ogn' uom v'è barattier, fuor che Bonturo;
every man there is a barrator, except Bonturo;

42 del no, per li denar vi si fa ita».
of the no, concerning the money there one makes yes."

43 Là giù 'l buttò, e per lo scoglio duro
There below him he pitched, and along the ridge hard

44 si volse; e mai non fu mastino sciolto
himself he turned; and ever not was mastiff loosed

45 con tanta fretta a seguitar lo furo.
with such urgency to follow the thief.

From our bridge he said, "O Evil Claws, behold one of the rectors of Santa Zita! Put him beneath, for I am going back again to that city that is well equipped of them; every man there is a barrator, except Bonturo; concerning money, there of the 'no' one makes a 'yes.'" There below he pitched him, and along the hard ridge he turned himself; and not ever was mastiff loosed with such urgency to follow the thief.

46 Quel s'attuffò, e tornò sù convolto;
He himself plunged, and came back up doubled over;

47 ma i demon che del ponte avean coperchio,****
but the demons that of the bridge have the lid,

48 gridar: «Qui non ha loco il Santo Volto:
cried, "Here no has a place the Holy Face:

49 qui si nuota altrimenti che nel Serchio!
here one swims otherwise than in the Serchio!

50 Però, se tu non vuo' di nostri graffi,
Therefore, if you not wish of our clawing,

51 non far sopra la pegola soverchio».
not make above the pitch excessive."

52 Poi l'addentar con più di cento raffi,
After they bit into with more than a hundred hooked spears,

53 disser: «Coverto convien che qui balli,
they said, "Covered must needs that here you dance,

54 sì che, se puoi, nascosamente accaffi».
so that, if you can, furtively you seize."

He plunged himself, and came back up doubled over; but the demons that of the bridge have the lid, cried, "Here the Holy Face has no place; here one swims otherwise than in the Serchio! Therefore, if you wish not of our clawing, do not make excessive above the pitch." After they bit into with more than a hundred hooked spears, they said, "Covered must needs that you dance here, so that, if you can, you can furtively seize."

55 Non altrimenti i cuoci a' lor vassalli
Not otherwise the cooks to their vassals

56 fanno attuffare in mezzo la caldaia
make to plunge in the midst the boiling water

57 la carne con li uncin, perché non galli.
the meat with the hook, so that it not floats.

58 Lo buon maestro «Acciò che non si paia
The good master, "So that not it may appear

59 che tu ci sia», mi disse, «giù t'acquatta
that you here are," to me he said, "below you crouch down

60 dopo uno scheggio, ch'alcun schermo t'aia;
behind a splinter, that some screen you might have;

61 e per nulla offension che mi sia fatta,
and by no offense that to me might be made

62 non temer tu, ch'i' ho le cose conte,
not fear you, that I am of these things aware,

63 perch' altra volta fui a tal baratta».
for another time I was at such bartering."

Not otherwise do the cooks make their vassals plunge in the midst of the boiling water the meat with the hook, so that it floats not. The good master, "So that it may not appear that you are here," to me he said, "crouch you down below this splinter (of rock—jag), that you might have some screen; and do not you fear any offense that to me might be made, I am of these things aware, for another time I was at such bartering."

64 Poscia passò di là dal co del ponte;
Then he passed to there to the head of the bridge;

65 e com' el giunse in su la ripa sesta,
and as he arrived upwards the bank sixth,

66 mestier li fu d'aver sicura fronte.
job his was to have confident brow.

67 Con quel furore e con quella tempesta
With that fury and with that tempest

68 ch'escono i cani a dosso al poverello
with which erupt the dogs from behind of the poor man

69 che di sùbito chiede ove s'arresta,
that of sudden begs where himself stops,

70 usciron quei di sotto al ponticello,
left they from under the small bridge,

71 e volser contra lui tutt' i runcigli;
and turned against him all the hooks;

72 ma el gridò: «Nessun di voi sia fello!
but he cried out, "No one of you let do harm!

Then he passed to there to the head of the bridge; and as he arrived upwards the sixth bank, his job was to have the confident brow. With that fury and that tempest with which erupt the dogs from behind a poor man that of a sudden begs where he stops himself, left they from under the small bridge, and turned against him all the hooks; but he cried out, "let not one of you do harm!

73 Innanzi che l'uncin vostro mi pigli,
Before that the hooks your me grab,

74 traggasi avante l'un di voi che m'oda,
draw himself let one of you to me hear,

75 e poi d'arruncigliarmi si consigli».
and then to hook me yourselves take counsel."

76 Tutti gridaron: «Vada Malacoda!»;
All cried out, "Go Evil Tail!

77 per ch'un si mosse—e li altri stetter fermi—
at that one himself advanced—and the others stayed fixed—

78 e venne a lui dicendo: «Che li approda?».
and he came to him saying, "What to him be advantage?"

79 «Credi tu, Malacoda, qui vedermi
"Believe you, Evil Tail, here to see me

80 esser venuto», disse 'l mio maestro,
to be coming," said my master,

81 «sicuro già da tutti vostri schermi,
safe already from all your hindrances,

Before you grab me with your hooks, let one of you draw himself near to hear me, and then take counsel with yourselves to hook me." All cried out, "Go Evil Tail!" At that one advanced himself—and the other stayed fixed—and he came to him saying, "What to him is the advantage?" "Believe you, Evil Tail, to see me here to be coming," said my master, "safe already from all your hindrances,

82 sanza voler divino e fato destro?
without will divine and fate clever?

83 Lascian' andar, ché nel cielo è voluto
Allow to walk, for in the heaven it is willed

84 ch'i' mostri altrui questo cammin silvestro».
that I show another this way savage."

85 Allor li fu l'orgoglio sì caduto,
Then his was the pride so falling

86 ch'e' si lasciò cascar l'uncino a' piedi,
that he it allowed to fall the hook at the feet

87 e disse a li altri: «Omai non sia feruto».
and said to the others, "Now not let injuries be done."

88 E 'l duca mio a me: «O tu che siedi
And the leader my to me, "O you that sit

89 tra li scheggion del ponte quatto quatto,
between the jag of the bridge undetected,

90 sicuramente omai a me ti riedi».
safely now to me you may return."

---

without divine will and clever fate? Allow us to walk, for in heaven it is willed that I show another this savage way." Then his pride was so falling that he allowed the hook to fall at the feet and said to the others, "Now let no injuries be done." And my leader to me, "O you that sit between the jag of the bridge undetected, safely now you may return to me."

91 Per ch'io mi mossi, e a lui venni ratto;
Therefore I myself moved, and to him I went quickly;

92 e i diavoli si fecer tutti avanti,
and the devils themselves made all ahead,

93 sì ch'io temetti ch'ei tenesser patto;
such that I feared that they would not hold the pact

94 così vid' ïo già temer li fanti
as saw I before to fear the infantrymen

95 ch'uscivan patteggiati di Caprona,
that were leaving negotiated from Caprona,

96 veggendo sé tra nemici cotanti.
seeing themselves amongst enemies so many.

97 I' m'accostai con tutta la persona
I myself put near with all the person

98 lungo 'l mio duca, e non torceva li occhi
beside my leader, and not was twisting the eyes

99 da la sembianza lor ch'era non buona.
from the semblance their that was not good.

Therefore I moved myself, and I went quickly to him; and the devils made themselves all ahead, such that I feared that they would not hold the pact; as I saw before to fear the infantrymen that were leaving, negotiated (under safe passage), from Caprona, seeing themselves amongst so many enemies. I put myself near with all the person beside my leader, and did not twist the eyes from their semblance that was not good.

100 Ei chinavan li raffi e «Vuo' che 'l tocchi»,
They lowered the hooked spears and "Wish that him I touch,"

101 diceva l'un con l'altro, «in sul groppone?».
said one with the other, "on his ass?"

102 E rispondien: «Sì, fa che gliel' accocchi».
And he responded, "Indeed, make that you let him have it."

103 Ma quel demonio che tenea sermone
But that demon that held discourse

104 col duca mio, si volse tutto presto
with leader my, himself turned all swiftly

105 e disse: «Posa, posa, Scarmiglione!».
and said, "Put it down, put it down, Messy Face!"

106 Poi disse a noi: «Più oltre andar per questo
Then he said to us, "More beyond to go by this

107 iscoglio non si può, però che giace
ridge not one is able, for that lies

108 tutto spezzato al fondo l'arco sesto.
all crumbled at the bottom the arch sixth.

They lowered the hooked spears and "Wish that I touch him," said one with the other, "on his ass?" And he responded, "Indeed, make that you let him have it." or "make that in his crotch" But that demon that held discourse with my leader, himself turned all swiftly and said, "Put it down, put it down, Messy Face!" Then he said to us, "To go more beyond this ridge one is not able, for the sixth arch lies all crumbled at the bottom.

109 E se l'andare avante pur vi piace,
And if to go forward still you it pleases,

110 andatevene su per questa grotta;
walk up by this grotto;

111 presso è un altro scoglio che via face.
near is one other ridge that way makes.

112 Ier, più oltre cinqu' ore che quest' otta,
Yesterday, more other five hours that this hour,

113 mille dugento con sessanta sei
one thousand two hundred with sixty six

114 anni compié che qui la via fu rotta.
years were completed that here the way was fractured.

115 Io mando verso là di questi miei
I sending towards there of these my

116 a riguardar s'alcun se ne sciorina;
to consider themselves any if are drying;

117 gite con lor, che non saranno rei».
go with them, who not they will be offenders."

And if it pleases you still to go forward, walk up by this grotto; near is one other ridge that makes a way. Yesterday, more than five hours than this hour, one thousand two hundred with sixty–six years were completed that here was the way fractured. I am sending towards there of my these (troop) to consider themselves if any are drying (out of the pitch); go with them, they will not be offenders."

118 «Tra'ti avante, Alichino, e Calcabrina»,
"Bring yourself forward, Bent Wing and Tread Frost,"

119 cominciò elli a dire, «e tu, Cagnazzo;
began he to say, "and you, Nasty Bitch;

120 e Barbariccia guidi la decina.
and Curly Beard lead the ten.

121 Libicocco vegn' oltre e Draghignazzo,
Honey Sucker let come also and Nasty Dragon,

122 Cirïatto sannuto e Graffiacane
Wild Pig tusked and Scratching Dog

123 e Farfarello e Rubicante pazzo.
and Little Coltsfoot and Pink Noise crazy.

124 Cercate 'ntorno le boglienti pane;
Look for around the boiling paste;

125 costor sian salvi infino a l'altro scheggio
these let be safe until to the other ridge

126 che tutto intero va sovra le tane».
that all whole goes over the burrows."

"Bring yourself forward Bent Wing and Tread Frost," he began to say, "and you Nasty Bitch; and Curly Beard lead the ten. Let Honey Sucker come also and Nasty Dragon, Wild Pig tusked, and Scratching Dog, and Little Coltsfoot and crazy Pink Noise. Search out around the boiling paste; let these be safe until the other ridge that all whole goes over the burrows."

127 «O mè, maestro, che è quel ch'i' veggio?»,
"O me, master, what is that that I see?"

128 diss' io, «deh, sanza scorta andianci soli,
said I, "Ah, without escort, let us move ourselves alone,

129 se tu sa' **ir**; ch'i' per me non la cheggio.****
if you know how; that I for me not it I ask.

130 Se tu se' sì accorto come suoli,
If you are so wary as has been your custom,

131 non vedi tu ch'e' digrignan li denti,
not see you that they gnash the teeth,

132 e con le ciglia ne minaccian duoli?».
and with the brows they threaten pain?

133 Ed elli a me: «Non vo' che tu paventi;
And he to me, "Not I wish that you dread;

134 lasciali digrignar pur a lor senno,
allow them to gnash still to their sense,

135 ch'e' fanno ciò per li lessi dolenti».
that they do this to those boiled sorrowful ones."

"O me, master, what is that that I see?" said I, "Ah, without escort, let us move ourselves alone, if you know how; I do not ask it for me. If you are so wary as has been your custom, see you not that they gnash the teeth, and with the brows they threaten pain?" And he to me, "I do not wish that you dread; allow them to gnash still to their sense, they do this to those sorrowful, boiled ones."

136 Per l'argine sinistro volta dienno;
By the bank left face they faced;

137 ma prima avea ciascun la lingua stretta
but first they had each one the tongue squeezed

138 coi denti, verso lor duca, per cenno;
with their teeth, toward their leader, for signal;

139 ed elli avea del cul fatto trombetta.
and he had of the ass made a trumpet.

By the left bank they faced their face; but first they had each one squeezed the tongue with their teeth, toward their leader, for signal; and he had made of the ass a trumpet.

Canto XXII: Barrators

1 Io vidi già cavalier muover campo,
I saw before the cavalry move camp,

2 e cominciare stormo e far lor mostra,
and begin formation and make their exhibition,

3 e talvolta partir per loro scampo;
and sometimes leaving for their safety;

4 corridor vidi per la terra vostra,
light cavalry I saw through the city your,

5 o Aretini, e vidi gir gualdane,
O Aretines, and I saw go raiders,

6 fedir torneamenti e correr giostra;
wounding tournaments and running jousts;

7 quando con trombe, e quando con campane,
sometimes with bugles, and sometimes with bells,

8 con tamburi e con cenni di castella,
with drums and with signals from castles

9 e con cose nostrali e con istrane;
and with things our own and with (things) foreign;

I saw before the cavalry move camp and begin formation and make their exhibition, and sometimes leaving for their safety; I saw light cavalry through your city, O Aretines, and I saw raiders go, tournaments wounding, and jousts running; sometimes with bugles, and sometimes with bells, with drums and with signals from castles, and with things our own, and with things foreign;

10 né già con sì diversa cennamella
never truly with such different a pipe

11 cavalier vidi muover né pedoni,
cavalry I saw move nor foot soldiers,

12 né nave a segno di terra o di stella.
nor ships to signal from land or from star.

13 Noi andavam con li diece demoni.
We were walking with the ten demons.

14 Ahi fiera compagnia! ma ne la chiesa
Ah fierce company! but in the church

15 coi santi, e in taverna coi ghiottoni.
with saints, and in the tavern with gluttons.

16 Pur a la pegola era la mia 'ntesa,
Only to the pitch was my attention given,

17 per veder de la bolgia ogne contegno
to see of the ditch every behavior

18 e de la gente ch'entro v'era incesa.
and of the people that within it were kindled.

---

never truly with such a different pipe did I see cavalry move, nor foot soldiers, nor ships to signal from land or from star. We were walking with the ten demons. Ah fierce company! but (as) with saints in the church, and (so) with gluttons in the tavern. Only to the pitch was my attention given, to see every behavior of the ditch and of the people that within it were kindled.

19 Come i dalfini, quando fanno segno
As the dolphins, when they make signal

20 a' marinar con l'arco de la schiena
to sailors with the arch of the back

21 che s'argomentin di campar lor legno,
that themselves order to keep alive their boat,

22 talo così, ad alleggiar la pena,
at times so, to alleviate the pain,

23 mostrav' alcun de' peccatori 'l dosso
were showing some of the sinners the back

24 e nascondea in men che non balena.
and were concealing in less than not flashing.

25 E come a l'orlo de l'acqua d'un fosso
And as to the edge of the water of a trench

26 stanno i ranocchi pur col muso fuori,
stays the frogs only with snout outward,

27 sì che celano i piedi e l'altro grosso,
suc that they conceal the feet and the other bulk,

As the dolphins, when they make signal to sailors with the arch of the back that order themselves to keep their boat alive, at times so, to alleviate the pain, the sinners were showing some of the back and were concealing in less than a flash. And as to the edge of the water of a trench the frog stays only with the snout outward, such that they conceal the feet and the other bulk,

28 sì stavan d'ogne parte i peccatori;
so stayed at every part the sinners,

29 ma come s'appressava Barbariccia,
but as himself drew near Curly Beard,

30 così si ritraén sotto i bollori.
like such they retreated beneath the boiling.

31 I' vidi, e anco il cor me n'accapriccia,
I saw, and still the heart me from it makes shudder,

32 uno aspettar così, com' elli 'ncontra
one to wait so, as it happens

33 ch'una rana rimane e l'altra spiccia;
that a frog remains and the other hurries;

34 e Graffiacan, che li era più di contra,
and Scratching Dog, that to him was more in front of,

35 li arrunciglìò le 'mpegolate chiome
him hooked the impitched mane

36 e trassel sù, che mi parve una lontra.
and drew it up, that to me he seemed an otter.

---

so stayed the sinners on every side, but as Curly Beard drew himself near, like such they retreated beneath the boiling. I saw, and still the heart makes shudder from it, one to so wait, as it happens that a frog remains and the other hurries; and Scratching Dog, that was more in front of him, hooked the impitched mane and drew it up, that he seemed to me an otter.

37 I' sapea già di tutti quanti 'l nome,
I learned already of all how the name,

38 sì li notai quando fuorono eletti,
truly them I noticed when they were chosen,

39 e poi ch'e' si chiamaro, attesi come.
and then that they themselves called how.

40 «O Rubicante, fa che tu li metti
"O Pink Noise, make that you him place

41 li unghioni a dosso, sì che tu lo scuoi!»,
the nails to back, such that you him flay!"

42 gridavan tutti insieme i maladetti.
they shouted all together the damned.

43 E io: «Maestro mio, fa, se tu puoi,
And I, "Master my, make, if you are able,

44 che tu sappi chi è lo sciagurato
that you know who is the unfortunate

45 venuto a man de li avversari suoi».
coming to the hands of the adversary his."

I learned already of how all were named, truly I noticed them when they were chosen, and then how that they called themselves. "O Pink Noise, make that you place the nails to his back, such that you flay him!" The damned shouted all together. And I, "My master, make, if you are able, that you know who is the unfortunate coming into the hands of his adversary."

46 Lo duca mio li s'accostò allato;
The leader my him himself drew together beside;

47 domandollo ond' ei fosse, e quei rispuose:
asking him whence he was, and he answered:

48 «I' fui del regno di Navarra nato.
"I was of the kingdom Navarre born.

49 Mia madre a servo d'un segnor mi puose,
My mother to the service of a lord me placed,

50 che m'avea generato d'un ribaldo,
she me had generated of a scoundrel,

51 distruggitor di sé e di sue cose.
destroyer of himself and of his things.

52 Poi fui famiglia del buon re Tebaldo;
Then I was (of the) family of the good king Theobald;

53 quivi mi misi a far baratteria,
there me I took to do barratry,

54 di ch'io rendo ragione in questo caldo».
of that I render an accounting in this heat."

My leader drew himself together beside him; asking him whence he was, and he answered, "I was born of the kingdom Navarre. My mother placed me to the service of a lord, she had generated me of a scoundrel, destroyer of himself and of his things. Then I was of the family of the good king Theobald; there I took me to do barratry, of that I render an accounting in this heat."

55 E Cirïatto, a cui di bocca uscia
And Wild Pig, from whom of mouth left

56 d'ogne parte una sanna come a porco,
on either side a tusk like a hog,

57 li fé sentir come l'una sdruscia.
him made to feel how one opens the seams.

58 Tra male gatte era venuto 'l sorco;
Between evil cats arrived the mouse;

59 ma Barbariccia il chiuse con le braccia
but Curly Beard him enclosed with the arms

60 e disse: «State in là, mentr' io lo 'nforco».
and said, "Stay in there, while I him have enforked."

61 E al maestro mio volse la faccia;
And to the master my he turned the face;

62 «Domanda», disse, «ancor, se più disii
"Ask," he said, "again, if more you desire

63 saper da lui, prima ch'altri 'l disfaccia».
to know from him, before that another him unmake."

And Wild Pig, from the mouth of whom left on either side a tusk like a hog, made him to feel how one opens the seams (how one of the tusks could tear). The mouse arrived between the evil cats; but Curly Beard enclosed him with the arms and said, "Stay in there, while I have him enforked." And to my master he turned the face; "Ask," he said, "again, if you desire to know more from him, before another unmakes him."

64 Lo duca dunque: «Or dì: de li altri rii
The leader therefore, "Now speak, of the other guilty

65 conosci tu alcun che sia latino
know you any that are Italian

66 sotto la pece?». E quelli: «I' mi partii,
under the pitch?" And he, "I me left

67 poco è, da un che fu di là vicino.
a short time ago, from one that was from there near.

68 Così foss' io ancor con lui coperto,
How were I still with him covered,

69 ch'i' non temerei unghia né uncino!».
that I not fear nail nor hook!"

70 E Libicocco «Troppo avem sofferto»,
And Honey Sucker, "Too much we have suffered,"

71 disse; e preseli 'l braccio col runciglio,
he said; and grasped him the arm with the hook

72 sì che, stracciando, ne portò un lacerto.
such that, ripping, of it he brought out a sinew.

The leader therefore, "Now speak, of the other guilty know you any under the pitch that are Italian?" And he, "I left me a short time ago, from one that was from near there. How were I still with him covered, that I might fear neither nail nor hook!" And Honey Sucker, "Too much we have borne," he said, and grasped him in the arm with the hook such that, ripping, of it he brought out a sinew.

73 Draghignazzo anco i volle dar di piglio
Nasty Dragon also him wished to lay hold of

74 giuso a le gambe; onde 'l decurio loro
below at the legs; whence the captain their

75 si volse intorno intorno con mal piglio.
himself turned around around with frowning expression.

76 Quand' elli un poco rappaciati fuoro,
When they a little pacified were,

77 a lui, ch'ancor mirava sua ferita,
of him, that still marveled at his wound,

78 domandò 'l duca mio sanza dimoro:
asked the leader my without pause:

79 «Chi fu colui da cui mala partita
"Who was he of whom reluctantly you left

80 di' che facesti per venire a proda?».
you say so that you made to come to the shore?"

81 Ed ei rispuose: «Fu frate Gomita,
And he answered, "He was Brother Gomita,

Nasty Dragon also wished to lay hold of him below at the legs; whence the captain turned himself around, around, with frowning expression. When they were a little pacified, of him that still marveled at his wound, my leader asked without pause, "Who was he of whom you say you reluctantly left so that you made to come to the shore?" And he answered, "He was Brother Gomita,

82 quel di Gallura, vasel d'ogne froda,
he from Gallura, vessel of every fraud,

83 ch'ebbe i nemici di suo donno in mano,
that had the enemies of his lord in hand,

84 e fé sì lor, che ciascun se ne loda.
and did (treated) so them, that each one to him gives praise.

85 Danar si tolse, e lasciolli di piano,
Money to himself he took, and let them go on the level (quietly),

86 sì com' e' dice; e ne li altri offici anche
thus as he says; and in the other duties as well

87 barattier fu non picciol, ma sovrano.
barrator was not small, but king.

88 Usa con esso donno Michel Zanche
Consorts with he Michel Zanche

89 di Logodoro; e a dir di Sardigna
of Logudoro; and to speak of Sardinia

90 le lingue lor non si sentono stanche.
the tongues their not they feel tired.

---

he from Gallura, vessel of every fraud, who had the enemies of his lord in hand, and teated them so, that each one gives him praise. Money he took to himself, and let them go quietly, so as he says; and in the other duties as well he was not a small barrator, but a king. Lord Michel Zanche of Logudoro consorts with him; and to speak of Sardinia their tongues never feel tired.

91 Omè, vedete l'altro che digrigna;
O me, see the other that gnashes;

92 i' direi anche, ma i' temo ch'ello
I would say more, but I fear that he

93 non s'apparecchi a grattarmi la tigna».
not himself readies to scratch my scurf."

94 E 'l gran proposto, vòlto a Farfarello
And the grand provost, turned to Little Coltsfoot

95 che stralunava li occhi per fedire,
that opened wide the eyes to injure,

96 disse: «Fatti 'n costà, malvagio uccello!».
said, "Make to the side, wicked bird!"

97 «Se voi volete vedere o udire»,
"If you wish to see or hear,"

98 ricominciò lo spaürato appresso
recommenced the frightened one then

99 «Toschi o Lombardi, io ne farò venire;
"Tuscans or Lombards, I of them will make to come;

O me, see the other that gnashes; I would say more, but I fear lest he readies himself to scratch my scurf." And the grand provost, turned to Little Coltsfoot, who opened wide the eyes to injure, said, "Make to the side, wicked bird!" "If you wish to see or hear," the frightened one then recommenced, "Tuscans or Lombards, I will make them to come;

100 ma stieno i Malebranche un poco in cesso,
but let stand the Evil Claws a little aside,

101 sì ch'ei non teman de le lor vendette;
such that they not fear of their vendetta;

102 e io, seggendo in questo loco stesso,
and I, sitting in this place same

103 per un ch'io son, ne farò venir sette
by one that I am, of them I will make to come seven

104 quand' io suffolerò, com' è nostro uso
when I will whistle, as is our habit

105 di fare allor che fori alcun si mette».
to do when that out someone himself places."

106 Cagnazzo a cotal motto levò 'l muso,
Nasty Bitch at that quip raised the snout,

107 crollando 'l capo, e disse: «Odi malizia
shaking the head, and said, "Listen knavery

108 ch'elli ha pensata per gittarsi giuso!».
that he has thought to throw himself down!"

---

but let the Evil Claws stand a little aside, such that they not fear of their vendetta; and I, sitting in this same place by the one that I am, of them I will make to come seven when I whistle, as is our habit to do when someone places himself out." Nasty Bitch at that quip raised the snout, shaking the head, and said, "Listen (to this) knavery that he has thought to throw himself down!"

109 Ond' ei, ch'avea lacciuoli a gran divizia,
Whence he, that had snares a great abundance,

110 rispuose: «Malizioso son io troppo,
answered, "Malicious am I very

111 quand' io procuro a' mia maggior trestizia».
when I procure for my own even more suffering."

112 Alichin non si tenne e, di rintoppo
Bent Wing not himself did hold and, in opposition

113 a li altri, disse a lui: «Se tu ti cali,
to the others, said to him, "If you yourself lower,

114 io non ti verrò dietro di gualoppo,
I not you will come behind at a gallop,

115 ma batterò sovra la pece l'ali.
but will beat above the pitch the wings.

116 Lascisi 'l collo, e sia la ripa scudo,
Let one leave the ridge, and let be the shore shield,

117 a veder se tu sol più di noi vali».
to see if you alone more than us are worthy."

Whence he, that had a great abundance of snares, answered, "I am very malicious when I procure even more suffering for my own." Bent Wing did not hold himself and, in opposition to the others, said to him, "If you lower yourself, I will not come behind at a gallop, but will beat the wings above the pitch. Let one leave the ridge, and let the shore shield; to see if you alone are more worthy than us."

O tu che leggi, udirai nuovo ludo:
O you that read, you will hear strange game;

ciascun da l'altra costa li occhi volse,
each one to the other shore the eyes turned,

quel prima, ch'a ciò fare era più crudo.
he first, that to this who had been more indisposed.

Lo Navarrese ben suo tempo colse;
The Navarrese well his time picked;

fermò le piante a terra, e in un punto
fixed the soles to the ground, and in one moment

saltò e dal proposto lor si sciolse.
leapt and from the proposal their himself released.

Di che ciascun di colpa fu compunto,
From that each one of negligence was remorseful,

ma quei più che cagion fu del difetto;
but he more so that the cause of was of the flaw;

però si mosse e gridò: «Tu se' giunto!».
therefore himself he moved and cried, "You are caught!"

O you that read, you will hear a strange game; each one turned the eyes to the other shore, he first, who had been more indisposed to this. The Navarrese picked his time well; he fixed the soles to the ground, and in one moment leapt and released himself from their proposal. From this each one was remorseful of the negligence, but he more so that was the cause of the flaw; therefore he moved himself and cried, "You are caught!"

127 Ma poco i valse: ché l'ali al sospetto
But little it was worth; for the wings to the suspicion

128 non potevo avanzar; quelli andò sotto,
not was able to move forward; he went down,

129 e quei drizzò volando suso il petto:
and he straightened up flying his the chest;

130 non altrimenti l'anitra di botto,
not otherwise the duck suddenly,

131 quando 'l falcon s'appressa, giù s'attuffa,
when the falcon himself draws near, below himself plunges,

132 ed ei ritorna sù crucciato e rotto.
and he returns above troubled and flouted.

133 Irato Calcabrina de la buffa,
Furious Tread Frost from the prank,

134 volando dietro li tenne, invaghito
flying behind him kept, delighted

135 che quei campasse per aver la zuffa;
that he might have escaped to have the fight;

But it was worth little; for the wings he was not able to move forward past the suspicion; he went down, and he straightened up his chest, flying; not otherwise the duck suddenly plunges himself below, when the falcon draws himself near, and returns above troubled and flouted. Furious Tread Frost, furious from the prank, kept flying behind him, that he might have escaped delighted to have the fight;

136 e come 'l barattier fu disparito,
and as the barrator was disappeared,

137 così volse li artigli al suo compagno,
thus he turned the talons to his companion,

138 e fu con lui sopra 'l fosso ghermito.
and was with him above the trench clasping.

139 Ma l'altro fu bene sparvier grifagno
But the other was really a full grown hawk

140 ad artigliar ben lui, e amendue
to claw well him, and both

141 cadder nel mezzo del bogliente stagno.
fell into the middle of the boiling swamp.

142 Lo caldo sghermitor sùbito fue;
The heat an un-clasper suddenly was

143 ma però di levarsi era neente,
but for to raise themselves was nothing

144 sì avieno inviscate l'ali sue.
such they pasted wings their.

---

and as the barrator was disappeared, he thus turned the talons to his companion, and was clasping with him above the trench. But the other was really a full grown hawk, to claw him well, and both fell into the middle of the boiling swamp. The head was suddenly an un-clasper; but however there was nothing to raise themselves, they had so pasted their wings.

145 Barbariccia, con li altri suoi dolente,
Curly Beard, with the others his pained

146 quattro ne fé volar da l'altra costa
four of them made to fly to the other shore

147 con tutt' i raffi, e assai prestamente
with all the hooked spears, and very quickly

148 di qua, di là discesero a la posta;
from here, from there they descended to the post;

149 porser li uncini verso li 'mpaniati,
they extended the hooks toward the snared,

150 ch'eran già cotti dentro da la crosta.
that were already cooked within of the shell.

151 E noi lasciammo lor così 'mpacciati.
And we left them so obstructed.

Curly Beard, pained with his others, made four of them to fly to the other shore with all the hooked spears, and very quickly from here, from there they descended to the post; they extended the hooks toward the snared, that were already cooked within the shell. And we left them so obstructed.

Canto XXIII: Hypocrites

1 Taciti, soli, sanza compagnia
Silent, alone, without company

2 n'andavam l'un dinanzi e l'altro dopo,
we were walking one before and the other after,

3 come frati minor vanno per via.
like Friars Minor go by the way.

4 Vòlt' era in su la favola d'Isopo
Turned had upwards the fable of Aesop

5 lo mio pensier per la presente rissa,
my thoughts on account of the present scrap,

6 dov' el parlò de la rana e del topo;
where he spoke of the frog and the rat;

7 ché più non si pareggia 'mo' e 'issa'
for more not one equates 'mo' and 'issa'

8 che l'un con l'altro fa, se ben s'accoppia
that the one with the other made, if well one pairs

9 principio e fine con la mente fissa.
beginning and end with the mind rapt.

Silent, alone, without company we were walking, one before and the other after, like Friar Minors go by the way. My thoughts had turned toward the fable of Aesop on account of the present scrap, where he spoke of the frog and the rat; for one equates 'mo' and 'issa' not more than the one with the other is made, if well one pairs the beginning and the end with a rapt mind.

10 E come l'un pensier de l'altro scoppia,
And as a thought from the other bursts,

11 così nacque di quello un altro poi,
so was born from that one another after,

12 che la prima paura mi fé doppia.
that the first fear my made double.

13 Io pensava così: 'Questi per noi
I was thinking such: "These by us

14 sono scherniti con danno e con beffa
have been sneered at with pain and with prank

15 sì fatta, ch'assai credo che lor nòi.
so made that really I believe that them it vexes.

16 Se l'ira sovra 'l mal voler s'aggueffa,
If the wrath over the bad will itself winds,

17 ei ne verranno dietro più crudeli
they for us will come behind more cruel

18 che 'l cane a quella lievre ch'elli acceffa'.
than the dog to that hare that he yaps at."

And as a thought bursts from another, so was born from that one another after it, that made double my first fear. I was thinking such: "These have been sneered at by us with pain and with prank so made, that I believe it really vexes them. If the wrath winds itself over the bad will, they will come for us behind more cruel than the dog to the hare that he yaps at.

19 Già mi sentia tutti arricciar li peli
Already my I felt all crinkle the hairs

20 de la paura e stava in dietro intento,
from the fear and I was staying in behind intent,

21 quand' io dissi: «Maestro, se non celi
when I said, "Master if not you hide

22 te e me tostamente, i' ho pavento
you and me quickly, I have dread

23 d'i Malebranche. Noi li avem già dietro;
of the Evil Claws. Us them I have already behind;

24 io li 'magino sì, che già li sento».
I them imagine so, that already them I hear."

25 E quei: «S'i' fossi di piombato vetro,
And he, "If I were made of leadened glass,

26 l'imagine di fuor tua non trarrei
the image of outward your not I would catch

27 più tosto a me, che quella dentro 'mpetro.
more quickly to me than the one inner I obtain.

Already I felt all my hairs crinkle from the fear and I was staying behind, intent, when I said, "Master if you do not hide yourself and me quickly, I have dread of the Evil Claws. I have them already behind us; I imagine them so, that I already I hear them." And he, "If I were made of leadened glass, your outward image I would not draw more quickly to myself, than I obtain the inner one.

28 Pur mo venieno i tuo' pensier tra' miei,
Even now come your thoughts between mine,

29 con simile atto e con simile faccia,
with like action and with like face,

30 sì che d'intrambi un sol consiglio fei.
such that of both one only suggestion I have made.

31 S'elli è che sì la destra costa giaccia,
If it is that such the right bank slopes

32 che noi possiam ne l'altra bolgia scendere,
that we are able from it the other ditch descend,

33 noi fuggirem l'imaginata caccia».
we will flee the imagined hunt."

34 Già non compié di tal consiglio rendere,
Already not had completed of such suggestion the making

35 ch'io li vidi venir con l'ali tese
that I them saw coming with the wings outstretched

36 non molto lungi, per volerne prendere.
not very far, wishing us to fetch.

Even now your thoughts come between mine, with like action (bearing) and with like face, such that for both I have made only one suggestion. If it is that the right bank slopes such that we are able to descend to the other ditch from it, we will flee the imagined hunt." Already he had not completed the making of such suggestion when I saw them coming with the wings outstretched not very far, wishing to fetch us.

37 Lo duca mio di sùbito mi prese,
The leader my of sudden me pressed,

38 come la madre ch'al romore è desta
as the mother that at the cries is awake

39 e vede presso a sé le fiamme accese,
and sees near to herself the flames burning,

40 che prende il figlio e fugge e non s'arresta,
that takes up the son and flees and not herself stops

41 avendo più di lui che di sé cura,
having more for him than for herself care

42 tanto che solo una camiscia vesta;
so much that only a camisole she might wear;

43 e giù dal collo de la ripa dura
and below from the neck of the shore hard

44 supin si diede a la pendente roccia,
supine himself he gave to the sloping stone,

45 che l'un de' lati a l'altra bolgia tura.
that the one of the sides to the other ditch stops up.

My leader pressed me of a sudden, as the mother that at the cries is awake and sees near to herself the flames burning, who takes up the son and flees and, having more care for him than for herself, does not stop herself so much that only a camisole she might wear; and below from the neck of the hard shore, he gave himself supine to the sloping stone, that stops up one of the sides other ditch.

46 Non corse mai sì tosto acqua per doccia
Not coursed ever such speed water by canal

47 a volger ruota di molin terragno,
to turn the wheel of the mill land,

48 quand' ella più verso le pale approccia,
when it more towards the blades approaches

49 come 'l maestro mio per quel vivagno,
as the master my by that bank

50 portandosene me sovra 'l suo petto,
delivering me above his breast,

51 come suo figlio, non come compagno.
as his son, not as companion.

52 A pena fuoro i piè suoi giunti al letto
Scarcely had the feet his arrived to the bed

53 del fondo giù, ch'e' furon in sul colle
of the bottom below, that they were in on the neck

54 sovresso noi; ma non lì era sospetto:
directly over us; but not there was dubious;

Water never coursed with such speed by canal to turn the wheel of the land mill, when it approaches more toward the blades, as my master by that bank delivering me upon his breast, as his son, not as a companion. Scarcely had his feet arrived to the bed of the bottom below, that they were on the neck directly over us; but there was nothing fearful;

55 ché l'alta provedenza che lor volle
for the high providence that them willed

56 porre ministri de la fossa quinta,
to place ministers of the ditch fifth,

57 poder di partirs' indi a tutti tolle.
the ability to leave there from all he takes.

58 Là giù trovammo una gente dipinta
There below we found a people painted

59 che giva intorno assai con lenti passi,
that went around very with slow steps,

60 piangendo e nel sembiante stanca e vinta.
weeping and in the semblance tired and defeated.

61 Elli avean cappe con cappucci bassi
They had cowls with hoods low

62 dinanzi a li occhi, fatte de la taglia
in front of the eyes, made of the style

63 che in Clugnì per li monaci fassi.
that in Cluny for the monks is made.

---

for the high providence that willed to place them as ministers of the fifth ditch, entirely takes from them the ability to leave. There below we found a painted people that went around with very slow steps, weeping and tired and defeated in the semblance. They had cowls with low hoods in front of the eyes, made of the style that is made for the monks in Cluny.

64 Di fuor dorate son, sì ch'elli abbaglia;
Of the outside gilded they are, such that it blinds

65 ma dentro tutte piombo, e gravi tanto,
but within all lead, and heavy very much,

66 che Federigo le mettea di paglia.
that Frederick them he placed of straw.

67 Oh in etterno faticoso manto!
Oh in eternity ponderous mantle!

68 Noi ci volgemmo ancor pur a man manca
We ourselves turned as usual to the hand left

69 con loro insieme, intenti al tristo pianto;
with them themselves, intent to their sad weeping;

70 ma per lo peso quella gente stanca
but on account of the weight those people exhausted

71 venìa sì pian, che noi eravam nuovi
was coming so slowly, that we were new

72 di compagnia ad ogne mover d'anca.
of companions to every move of the hip.

They are gilded on the outside, such that it blinds, but within all lead, and very much heavy, that Frederick placed on them ones of straw. Oh eternally ponderous mantle! We ourselves turned as usual to the left hand with them themselves, intent to their sad weeping; but on account of the weight those exhausted people were coming so slowly, that we were new of companions with every move of the hip.

73 Per ch'io al duca mio: «Fa che tu trovi
Therefore I to the leader my, "Make that you find

74 alcun ch'al fatto o al nome si conosca,
someone that by deed or by name is known,

75 e li occhi, sì andando, intorno movi».
and the eyes, so walking, around you move."

76 E un che 'ntese la parola tosca,
And one that understood the word Tuscan,

77 di retro a noi gridò: «Tenete i piedi,
from behind to us cried, "Hold the feet,

78 voi che correte sì per l'aura!
you that run such through the air gloomy!

79 Forse ch'avrai da me quel che tu chiedi».
Perhaps that you will have of me that which you ask."

80 Onde 'l duca si volse e disse: «Aspetta,
Whence the leader himself turned and said, "Wait,

81 e poi secondo il suo passo procedi».
and then follow his steps proceeding."

Therefore I to my leader, "Make that you find someone that is known by deed or by name, and move the eyes around, while walking." And on that understood the Tuscan word, from behind us cried, "Hold the feet, you that run thus through the gloomy air! Perhaps you will have of me what you ask." Whence the leader turned himself and said, "Wait, and then, proceeding, follow his steps."

Ristetti, e vidi due mostrar gran fretta
I stopped, and saw two demonstrating great haste

de l'animo, col viso, d'esser meco;
of the soul, with face, to be with me;

ma tardavali 'l carco e la via stretta.
but slowed them the burden and the way narrow.

Quando fuor giunti, assai con l'occhio bieco
When they were arrived, very with the eyes cocked

mi rimiraron sanza far parola;
me they observed without making word;

poi si volsero in sé, e dicean seco:
then themselves they turned to each other, and spoke with themselves;

«Costui par vivo a l'atto de la gola;
"This one seems alive by the action of the throat;

e s'e' son morti, per qual privilegio
and if they are dead, by what privilege

vanno scoperti de la grave stola?».
they go uncovered of the heavy stole?"

I stopped, and saw two, with the face, showing great haste of the soul to be with me; but the burden and the narrow way slowed them. When they had arrived, with very cocked eyes they observed me without making a word; then they turned themselves to each other, and spoke with themselves; "this one seems alive by the action of the throat; and if they are dead, by what privilege do they go uncovered with the heavy stole?"

91 Poi disser me: «O Tosco, ch'al collegio
Then they said to me, "O Tuscan, that to the college

92 de l'ipocriti tristi se' venuto,
of the hypocrites sad have come,

93 dir chi tu se' non avere in dispregio».
to say who you are do not hold in contempt."

94 E io a loro: «I' fui nato e cresciuto
And I to them, "I was born and raised

95 sovra 'l bel fiume d'Arno a la gran villa,
above the beautiful river of Arno by the grand town,

96 e son col corpo ch'i' ho sempre avuto.
and am with the body that I have always had.

97 Ma voi chi siete, a cui tanto distilla
But you who are, whose very much distills

98 quant' i' veggio dolor giù per le guance?
how I see pain down along the cheeks?

99 e che pena è in voi che sì sfavilla?».
and that suffering is in you that so sparkles?"

Then they said to me, "O Tuscan, who have come to the college of the sad hypocrites, do not hold in contempt to say who you are." And I to them, "I was born and raised above the beautiful river of Arno, by the grand town, and am with the body that I have always had. But who are you, whose extreme pain I see distills down along the cheeks? and that suffering in you that so sparkles?"

100 E l'un rispuose a me: «Le cappe rance
And one responded to me, "The cowls orange

101 son di piombo sì grosse, che li pesi
are from lead so heavy, that the weight

102 fan così cigolar le lor bilance.
makes so to squeak their scales.

103 Frati godenti fummo, e bolognesi;
Friars Jovial we were, and Bolognese;

104 io Catalano e questi Loderingo
I Catalano and this one Loderingo

105 nomati, e da tua terra insieme presi
named, and from your city together were taken

106 come suole esser tolto un uom solingo,
as one is in the habit to be removed one man lonely,

107 per conservar sua pace; e fummo tali,
in order to conserve its peace; and we were such

108 ch'ancor si pare intorno dal Gardingo».
that still it appears around of the Gardingo."

And one responded to me, "The orange cowls are from lead so heavy, that the weight thus makes their scales to squeak. Friars Jovial we are, and Bolognese; I am named Catalano, and this one Loderingo, and were taken from your city together where one is in the habit of removing one man by himself, to conserve its peace; and we were such that it still appears around the Gardingo."

109 Io cominciai: «O frati, i vostri mali . . .»;
I began, "O Friars, your evil . . ."

110 ma più non dissi, ch'a l'occhio mi corse
but more not I said, that to the eyes my ran

111 un, crucifisso in terra con tre pali.
one, crucified on the earth with three stakes.

112 Quando mi vide, tutto si distorse,
When me he saw, entirely himself he distorted,

113 soffiando ne la barba con sospiri;
blowing in the beard with sighs;

114 e 'l frate Catalan, ch'a ciò s'accorse,
and the brother Catalan, that of it noticed,

115 mi disse: «Quel confitto che tu miri,
to me said, "That one staked that you gaze at,

116 consigliò i Farisei che convenia
advised the Pharisees that was useful

117 porre un uom per lo popolo a' martìri.
to place one man for the people to martyrdom.

I began "O Friars, your evil . . ." but I did not say more, for my eyes ran to one, crucified on the earth with three stakes. When he saw me, he entirely distorted himself, blowing the beard with sighs; and brother Catalano, who noticed it said to me, "That one staked that you gaze at, advised the Pharisees that it was useful they place one man to martyrdom for the people.

118 Attraversato è, nudo, ne la via,
To be walked on he is, naked, in the way,

119 come tu vedi, ed è mestier ch'el senta
as you see, and it is necessary that he feels

120 qualunque passa, come pesa, pria.
any that pass, as weighing, first.

121 E a tal modo il socero si stenta
And to such manner the father in law

122 in questa fossa, e li altri dal concilio
in this trench, and the other of the council

123 che fu per li Giudei mala sementa».
that did for the Jews evil sow."

124 Allor vid' io maravigliar Virgilio
Then saw I marveling Vergil

125 sovra colui ch'era disteso in croce
above him that was stretched out in the cross

126 tanto vilmente ne l'etterno essilio.
so disgracefully in the eternal exile.

Stretched to be walked on he is, naked, in the way, as you see, and it is necessary that he feels first, as weighing, any that pass. And in such manner in this trench, the father in law and the other of the council that did sow evil for the Jews." Then I saw Vergil marveling above him that was stretched out on the cross so disgracefully in the eternal exile.

127 Poscia drizzò al frate cotal voce:
Then he raised to the brother his voice:

128 «Non vi dispiaccia, se vi lece, dirci
"Not let it be displeasing, if it is permitted, to tell us

129 s'a la man destra giace alcuna foce
if to the hand right slope some opening

130 onde noi amendue possiamo uscirci,
whence we both would be able to leave

131 sanza costrigner de li angeli neri
without constraining of the angels black

132 che vegnan d'esto fondo a dipartirci».
that to come to this bottom to depart us."

133 Rispuose adunque: «Più che tu non speri
He responded then, "More that you not hope

134 s'appressa un sasso che de la gran cerchia
one approaches a rock that from the grand circle

135 si move e varca tutt' i vallon feri,
itself moves and crosses all the valleys ferocious,

Then he raised his voice to the brother, "Let it not be displeasing, if it is permitted, to tell us if to the right hand slope some opening whence we both would be able to leave without constraining the black angels to come to this bottom to take us back." He responded then, "Not more than you hope, one approaches a stone that moves itself from the grand circle and crosses all the ferocious valleys,

136 salvo che 'n questo è rotto e non coperchia;
save that in this is broken and not a cover;

137 montar potrete su per la ruina,
to mount you will be able above by the ruin

138 che giace in costa e nel fondo soperchia».
that slopes in the shore and in the bottom it rises."

139 Lo duca stette un poco a testa china;
The leader stayed a little to head bent;

140 poi disse: «Mal contava la bisogna
then said, "Wickedly did he set forth the business

141 colui che i peccator di qua uncina».
he that the sinners of here hooks."

142 E 'l frate: «Io udi' già dire a Bologna
And the brother, "I heard once tell in Bologna

143 del diavol vizi assai, tra' quali udi'
of the devil vices many, among which I heard

144 ch'elli è bugiardo, e padre di menzogna».
that he is a liar, and the father of lies."

---

save that in this one it is broken and not a cover; you will be able to mount above by the ruin that slopes in the side and rises in the bottom." The leader stayed a little with head bent; then said, "He that hooks the sinners here, set forth the business wickedly." And the brother, "I heard tell once in Bologna the many vices of the devil, among which I heard that he is a liar and the father of lies."

145 Appresso il duca a gran passi sen gì,
Then the leader to great steps he went,

146 turbato un poco d'ira nel sembiante;
agitated a little from anger in the semblance;

147 ond' io da li 'ncarcati mi parti'
whence I from the burdened me divided

148 dietro a le poste de le care piante.
behind to the prints of the beloved soles.

Then the leader went with great steps, a little agitated, in the semblance, from anger; whence I divided me from the burdened, behind to the prints of the beloved soles.

Canto XXIV: Thieves

1 In quella parte del giovanetto anno
In that part of the young year

2 che 'l sole i crin sotto l'Aquario tempra
that the sun his rays beneath the Aquarius tempers

3 e già le notti al mezzo dì sen vanno,
and already the nights to half the day move,

4 quando la brina in su la terra assempra
when the frost on the earth copies collected

5 l'imagine di sua sorella bianca,
the image of her sister white,

6 ma poco dura a la sua penna tempra,
but little lasts to his quill sharpness,

7 lo villanello a cui la roba manca,
the peasant, whose stuff is lacking,

8 si leva, e guarda, e vede la campagna
himself raises, and looks, and sees the countryside

9 biancheggiar tutta; ond' ei si batte l'anca,
whitened all over; whence he beats the thigh,

In that part of the young year, when the sun tempers his rays beneath the Aquarius and already the nights move to half the day, when the frost on earth copies the image of her white sister, but sharpness to her quill lasts little, the peasant, whose stuff is lacking, raises himself, and looks, and sees the countryside all whitened over; whence he beats the thigh,

10 ritorna in casa, e qua e là si lagna,
he returns into house, and here and there he grumbles,

11 come 'l tapin che non sa che si faccia;
like the wretch that does not know what he should do;

12 poi riede, e la speranza ringavagna,
then goes out, and the hope puts back in his basket,

13 veggendo 'l mondo aver cangiata faccia
seeing the world has changed face

14 in poco d'ora, e prende suo vincastro,
in little of time, and takes his staff

15 e fuor le pecorelle a pascer caccia.
and out the little sheep to pasture he leads.

16 Così mi fece sbigottir lo mastro
So me was made to be shocked the master

17 quand' io li vidi sì turbar la fronte,
when I his saw so disturbed the brow,

18 e così tosto al mal giunse lo 'mpiastro;
and just as promptly to the evil joined the medicine.

---

he returns into the house, and here and there he grumbles, like the wretch that does not know what he should do; then goes out, and puts hope back into his basket, seeing the world has changed face in a little time, and takes his staff and leads the little sheep out to pasture. So the master made me to be shocked when I saw his brow so disturbed, and just as promptly joined the medicine to the evil.

19 ché, come noi venimmo al guasto ponte,
for, as we came to the broken bridge,

20 lo duca a me si volse con quel piglio
the leader to me himself turned with that attitude

21 dolce ch'io vidi prima a piè del monte.
sweet that I saw before at the foot of the mountain.

22 Le braccia aperse, dopo alcun consiglio
The arms opened, after some advice

23 eletto seco riguardando prima
he took with himself regarding first

24 ben la ruina, e diedemi di piglio.
well the ruin, and gave to me and took up.

25 E come quei ch'adopera ed estima,
And like those that strive and estimate,

26 che sempre par che 'nnanzi si proveggia,
that always seems that ahead he scopes out,

27 così, levando me sù ver' la cima
so, lifting me up toward the summit

---

for, as we came to the broken bridge, the leader turned himself to me with that sweet attitude that I saw before at the foot of the mountain. After he took with himself some advice, regarding well first the ruin, he gave to me the opened arms and took (me) up. And like those that strive and estimate, that always seems that he scopes out ahead, so, lifting me up toward the summit

d'un ronchione, avvisava un'altra scheggia
of one rock, he advised of another splinter

dicendo: «Sovra quella poi t'aggrappa;
saying, "Above that then you take hold;

ma tenta pria s'è tal ch'ella ti reggia».
but attempt first if it is such that it you might support."

Non era via da vestito di cappa,
Not was the way for one dressed of cloak,

ché noi a pena, ei lieve e io sospinto,
for we by pain, he light and I pushed up,

potavam sù montar di chiappa in chiappa.
were able above to mount from jag to jag.

E se non fosse che da quel precinto
And if not were that of that boundary

più che da l'altro era la costa corta,
more that of the other was the edge short,

non so di lui, ma io sarei ben vinto.
not I know of him, but I would have been well conquered.

---

of one rock, he advised me of another splinter saying, "Take you hold then above, but first attempt if it is such that it might support you." It was not the way for one dressed in a cloak, for by pain, he light and I pushed upwards, we were able to mount from jag to jag. And if it were not that of that boundary more than of the other the edge was short, I know not about him, but I would have been well conquered.

37 Ma perché Malebolge inver' la porta
But because Malebolge opposite the opening

38 del bassissimo pozzo tutta pende,
of the deepest pit all slopes,

39 lo sito di ciascuna valle porta
the site of each valley requires

40 che l'una costa surge e l'altra scende;
that one side rises above and the other descends;

41 noi pur venimmo al fine in su la punta
we just had come finally upward the point

42 onde l'ultima pietra si scoscende.
whence the last rock itself breaks away.

43 La lena m'era del polmon sì munta
The energy my was of the lungs so milked

44 quand' io fui sù, ch'i' non potea più oltre,
when I was above, that I not able more beyond,

45 anzi m'assisi ne la prima giunta.
rather me sat down in the first arriving.

But because all Malebolge slopes opposite the opening of the deepest pit, the site of each valley requires that one side rises above and the other descends; we had just come finally upward the point whence the last rock breaks itself away. My energy was so milked of the lungs when I was above, that I was not able more beyond, rather I sat me down in the first arriving.

46 «Omai convien che tu così ti spoltre»,
"Now must needs that you thus yourself rid of idleness"

47 disse 'l maestro; «ché, seggendo in piuma,
said the master, "for, sitting in down,

48 in fama non si vien, né sotto coltre;
into fame not one comes, nor under blanket;

49 sanza la qual chi sua vita consuma,
without that he who his life consumes

50 cotal vestigio in terra di sé lascia,
this vestige in the land of himself he leaves

51 qual fummo in aere e in acqua la schiuma.
like smoke in air and in water the foam.

52 E però leva sù; vinci l'ambascia
And therefore rise up; conquer the panting

53 con l'animo che vince ogne battaglia,
with the soul that conquers every battle,

54 se col suo grave corpo non s'accascia.
if with its heavy body not itself collapse.

"Now must needs that you thus rid yourself of idleness," said the master, "for no one comes into fame sitting on down nor under the blanket; he who consumes his life without that (fame) leaves this vestige of himself in the land, like smoke in air and the foam in water. And therefore, rise up; conquer the panting with the soul that conquers every battle, if with its heavy body it does not itself collapse.

55 Più lunga scala convien che si saglia;
More long ladder must needs that one climb;

56 non basta da costoro esser partito.
not it is enough from those people to be parted.

57 Se tu mi 'ntendi, or fa sì che ti vaglia».
If you me understand, now make such that you yourself examine."

58 Leva'mi allor, mostrandomi fornito
I rose myself then, showing myself supplied

59 meglio di lena ch'i' non mi senta,
better of energy that I not me felt,

60 e dissi: «Va, ch'i' son forte e ardito».
and said, "Go, that I am strong and courageous."

61 Su per lo scoglio prendemmo la via,
Up along the ridge we took the way

62 ch'era ronchioso, stretto e malagevole,
that was rocky, narrow, and difficult,

63 ed erto più assai che quel di pria.
and steep more much that the one from before.

Must needs that one climb a longer ladder; it is not enough to be parted from those people. If you understand me, now make such that you examine yourself." I rose myself then, showing myself supplied better of energy that I felt me not, and said, "Go, I am strong and courageous." Up along the ridge we took the way that was rocky, narrow, and difficult, and steep much more than the one from before.

64 Parlando andava per non parer fievole;
Speaking I was going along not to seem feeble;

65 onde una voce uscì de l'altro fosso,
whence a voice left from the other trench,

66 a parole formar disconvenevole.
to words to form unsuitable.

67 Non so che disse, ancor che sovra 'l dosso
Not I know what it said, still that over the crown

68 fossi de l'arco già che varca quivi;
I was of the arch already that crosses there;

69 ma chi parlava ad ire parea mosso.
but he who spoke to go seemed moved.

70 Io era vòlto in giù, ma li occhi vivi
I was turned in down, but the eyes living

71 non poteano ire al fondo per lo scuro;
not able to go to the bottom on account of the dark;

72 per ch'io: «Maestro, fa che tu arrivi
therefore I, "Master, make that you come to

Speaking I was going along to not seem feeble; whence a voice left from the other trench, unsuitable to form words. I know not what it said, still I was over the crown of the arch already that crosses there; but he who spoke seemed moved to be going. I was turned downward, but the living eyes were not able to go to the bottom on account of the dark; therefore I, "Master make that you come to

73 da l'altro cinghio e dismontiam lo muro;
of the other band and dismount the wall;

74 ché, com' i' odo quinci e non intendo,
for, as I hear hence and not understand,

75 così giù veggio e neente affiguro».
so below I see and nothing can illustrate."

76 «Altra risposta», disse, «non ti rendo
"Another answer," he said, "not you I render

77 se non lo far; ché la dimanda onesta
if not this to do; for the question honest

78 si de' seguir con l'opera tacendo».
one ought to carry out with the work keeping silent."

79 Noi discendemmo il ponte da la testa
We descended the point of the head

80 dove s'aggiugne con l'ottava ripa,
where itself it joins with the eighth bank,

81 e poi mi fu la bolgia manifesta:
and then to me was made the ditch manifest;

---

the other band and dismount the wall; for, as I hear hence and not understand, so below I see and can illustrate nothing." "Another answer," he said, "I render you not if not to do this; for the honest question one ought to carry out with the work keeping silent." We descended the point of the head where it joins itself with the eighth bank, and then the ditch was made manifest to me;

82 e vidivi entro terribile stipa
and I saw within terrible crushing

83 di serpenti, e di sì diversa mena
of serpents, and of such different species

84 che la memoria il sangue ancor mi scipa.
that the memory the blood still to me turns.

85 Più non si vanti Libia con sua rena;
More not let boast Libya with its sand;

86 ché se chelidri, iaculi e faree
for if the chelydri, jaculi, and phareae

87 produce, e cenchri con anfisibena,
it produces, and chenchres with amphisbaenae,

88 né tante pestilenzie né sì ree
neither so many pestilential animals nor so offensive

89 mostrò già mai con tutta l'Etïopia
did it show before ever with all Ethiopoa

90 né con ciò che di sopra al Mar Rosso èe.
nor with that which beyond the Sea Red is.

---

and I saw within a terrible crushing of serpents, and of such different species that the memory still to me turns the blood. Let not Libya boast more with its sand; for if it produces the chelydri, jaculi, and phareae, and chenchres with amphisbaenae, neither so many pestilential animals nor so offensive did it show before ever with all Ethiopia nor with that which is beyond the Red Sea.

91 Tra questa cruda e tristissima copia
Amidst this coarse and most wretched profusion

92 corrëan genti nude e spaventate,
were running people naked and frightened,

93 sanza sperar pertugio o elitropia:
without hope of a hole or a heliotrope;

94 con serpi le man dietro avean legate;
with serpents the hands behind were tethered;

95 quelle ficcavan per le ren la coda
these thrust through the kidneys the tail

96 e 'l capo, ed eran dinanzi aggroppate.
and the head, and was in front knotted.

97 Ed ecco a un ch'era da nostra proda,
And behold to one that was of our bank,

98 s'avventò un serpente che 'l trafisse
itself brought a serpent that him pierced

99 là dove 'l collo a le spalle s'annoda.
there where the neck and the shoulder itself knots.

Amidst this coarse and most wretched profusion, were people running, naked and frightened, without hope of a hole or a heliotrope; the hands were tethered behind with serpents; these thrust through the kidneys the tail and the head and was knotted in front. And behold, to one that was of our bank, a serpent brought itself that pierced him there where the neck and the shoulder knots itself.

100 Né O sì tosto mai né I si scrisse,
Neither O so promptly nor I was written

101 com' el s'accese e arse, e cener tutto
as he was ignited and burned, and ashes all together

102 convenne che cascando divenisse;
he must needs that falling, became;

103 e poi che fu a terra sì distrutto,
and then that he was to the ground so destroyed,

104 la polver si raccolse per sé stessa
the dust collected by itself own (by its own self)

105 e 'n quel medesmo ritornò di butto.
and in that selfsame returned suddenly.

106 Così per li gran savi si confessa
So by the great sages it is confessed

107 che la fenice more e poi rinasce,
that the phoenix dies and then born again,

108 quando al cinquecentesimo anno appressa;
when to the five hundredth year it appears,

Neither O nor I was so promptly written as he was ignited and burned, and, that he must needs be falling, became all together ashes; and then he was so destroyed to the ground, the dust collected by its own self and in that selfsame returned suddenly. So by the great sages it is confessed that the Phoenix dies and then is born again, when to the five hundredth year it appears,

109 erba né biado in sua vita non pasce,
grass neither fodder in its life not feed

110 ma sol d'incenso lagrime e d'amomo,
but only of incense tears and of balsam,

111 e nardo e mirra son l'ultime fasce.
and nard and myrrh are the final band (burial shroud)

112 E qual è quel che cade, e non sa como,
And that is he that falls, and not knows how,

113 per forza di demon ch'a terra il tira,
by force of demon that to earth him casts,

114 o d'altra oppilazion che lega l'omo,
or of other stoppage that restricts the man,

115 quando si leva, che 'ntorno si mira
when one rises, that around one looks

116 tutto smarrito de la grande angoscia
all lost of the great anguish

117 ch'elli ha sofferta, e guardando sospira:
that he has suffered, and gazing sighs;

---

in its life it feeds not (on) grass nor fodder, but only of incense tears and of balsam, and nard and myrrh are the burial shroud. And he that is that falls, and not knows how, by force of demon that casts him to the earth, or of other stoppage that restricts the man, when one rises, that looks around totally lost by the great anguish that he has suffered, and gazing sighs;

tal era 'l peccator levato poscia.
so was the sinner rising thereafter.

Oh potenza di Dio, quant' è severa,
Oh power of God, how it is severe,

che cotai colpi per vendetta croscia!
that such strikes for punishment pours down!

Lo duca il domandò poi chi ello era;
The leader him asked then who he was;

per ch'ei rispuose: «Io piovvi di Toscana,
therefore he answered, "I rained down from Tuscany,

poco tempo è, in questa gola fiera.
little time is, into this gulch fierce.

Vita bestial mi piacque e non umana,
Life bestial to me it was pleasing and not human,

sì come a mul ch'i' fui; son Vanni Fucci
such as the mule that I was; I am Vanni Fucci

bestia, e Pistoia mi fu degna tana».
beast, and Pistoia to me was worthy nest."

---

so was the sinner rising thereafter. Oh power of God, how it is severe, that pours down such strikes for punishment! The leader asked him then who he was; therefore he answered, "I rained down from Tuscany, a little time it is, into this fierce gulch. Bestial life was pleasing to me and not human, such as the mule was I; I am Vanni Fucci beast, and Pistoia was a worthy nest to me."

127 E ïo al duca: «Dilli che non mucci,
And I to the leader, "Tell him that not escape

128 e domanda che colpa qua giù 'l pinse;
and ask that guilt here below him shoved;

129 ch'io 'l vidi uomo di sangue e di crucci».
that I him saw man of blood and of indignation."

130 E 'l peccator, che 'ntese, non s'infinse,
And the sinner, that understood, not did feign

131 ma drizzò verso me l'animo e 'l volto,
but straightened toward me the soul and the face

132 e di trista vergogna si dipinse;
and of sad shame itself painted;

133 poi disse: «Più mi duol che tu m'hai colto
then he said, "More to me it pains that you me have caught

134 ne la miseria dove tu mi vedi,
in the misery where you me see,

135 che quando fui de l'altra vita tolto.
that when I was from the other life taken.

And I to the leader, "Tell him not to escape and ask what guilt shoved him here below; that I saw the man of blood and of indignation." And the sinner, that understood, did not feign but straightened toward me the soul and the face and painted itself of sad shame; then he said, "It pains me more that you have caught me in the misery where you see me, than when I was taken from the other life.

136 Io non posso negar quel che tu chiedi;
I not able to deny that which you ask;

137 in giù son messo tanto perch' io fui
in below I am placed such because I was

138 ladro a la sagrestia d'i belli arredi,
thief to the sacristy of the beautiful furniture,

139 e falsamente già fu apposto altrui.
and falsely already was placed to others

140 Ma perché di tal vista tu non godi,
But so that of such view you not be content,

141 se mai sarai di fuor da' luoghi bui,
if ever you are of out from places dark,

142 apri li orecchi al mio annunzio, e odi.
open the ears to my announcement, and listen.

143 Pistoia in pria d'i Neri si dimagra;
Pistoia in first of the Blacks itself trims;

144 poi Fiorenza rinova gente e modi.
then Florence renews people and customs.

I am not able to deny what you ask; I am placed so down below because I was thief of the beautiful furniture to the sacristy, and already falsely it was placed to others. But so that of such view you be not content, if ever you are out from dark places, open the ears to my announcement and listen. Pistoia trims itself first of the Blacks; the Florence renews people and customs.

145 Tragge Marte vapor di Val di Magra
Draws Mars vapor from Val di Magra

146 ch'è di torbidi nuvoli involuto;
that is from turbid clouds involute;

147 e con tempesta impetüosa e agra
and with tempest impetuous and sour

148 sovra Campo Picen fia combattuto;
above Camp Piceno one will combat;

149 ond' ei repente spezzerà la nebbia,
whence it suddenly will break the cloud,

150 sì ch'ogne Bianco ne sarà feruto.
such that all Whites of it will be wounded.

151 E detto l'ho perché doler ti debba!».
And spoken I have so to pain you should!"

Mars draws vapor from the Val di Magra that is involute from turbid clouds; and with impetuous tempest and sour, above Camp Piceno one will combat; whence it suddenly will break the cloud, such that all the Whites will be wounded by it. And I have spoken in order that you should be pained.

Canto XXV: Thieves

1 Al fine de le sue parole il ladro
At the end of his words the thief

2 le mani alzò con amendue le fiche,
the hands raised with both the figs,

3 gridando: «Togli, Dio, ch'a te le squadro!».
crying, "Take them, God, that to you them I level!"

4 Da indi in qua mi fuor le serpi amiche,
From then on now to me become the serpents friends,

5 perch' una li s'avvolse allora al collo,
for one him itself wrapped then the neck,

6 come dicesse 'Non vo' che più diche';
so as to say, "Not I will that more you say";

7 e un'altra a le braccia, e rilegollo,
and another to the arms, and bound him,

8 ribadendo sé stessa sì dinanzi,
riveting itself the same so in front,

9 che non potea con esse dare un crollo.
that not he was able with them to give a shake.

At the end of his words, the thief raised the hands with both the figs, crying, "Take them, God, I level them at you!" From then on the serpents now have become friends to me, for one then wrapped itself around the neck, so as to say, "I will that you not say more;" and another around the arms, and bound him, so riveting itself the same in front, that he was not able to give a shake with them.

10 Ahi Pistoia, Pistoia, ché non stanzi
Ah Pistoia, Pistoia, why not you officially decree

11 d'incenerarti sì che più non duri,
to incinerate yourself, such that more not you may endure,

12 poi che 'n mal fare il seme tuo avanzi?
after that in evil to make the seed your you advance?

13 Per tutt' i cerchi de lo 'nferno scuri
Through all the circles of the Hell dark

14 non vidi spirto in Dio tanto superbo,
not I saw spirit against God so proud,

15 non quel che cadde a Tebe giù da' muri.
not that one that fell at Thebes down from the wall.

16 El si fuggì che non parlò più verbo;
He fled that not spoke more word;

17 e io vidi un centauro pien di rabbia
and I saw a centaur full of rage

18 venir chiamando: «Ov' è, ov' è l'acerbo?».
come calling out, "Where is he, where is the green one?

Ah Pistoia, Pistoia, why do you not officially decree to incinerate yourself, such that you may not endure more, after you advance your seed in making evil? Through all the dark circles of the Hell I saw no spirit so proud against God, not that one that fell down from the wall at Thebes. He fled that spoke not more words; and I saw a centaur full of rage come, calling out, "Where is he, where is the green one?"

19 Maremma non cred' io che tante n'abbia,
Maremma not believe I that so many has,

20 quante bisce elli avea su per la groppa
how many water snakes he had on along the saddle

21 infin ove comincia nostra labbia.
till where begins our aspect.

22 Sovra le spalle, dietro da la coppa,
Above the back, behind the nape

23 con l'ali aperte li giacea un draco;
with the wings opening it was lying a dragon;

24 e quello affuoca qualunque s'intoppa.
and that burns whoever it meets.

25 Lo mio maestro disse: «Questi è Caco,
My master said, "This is Cacus,

26 che, sotto 'l sasso di monte Aventino,
that, beneath the stone of Mount Aventine,

27 di sangue fece spesse volte laco.
of blood made often times pool.

I do not believe Maremma has so many, how many water snakes he had along the saddle till where begins our aspect. Above the back, behind the nape a dragon was lying with the wings opening; and that one burns whoever it meets. My master said, "This is Cacus, that, beneath the stone of Mount Aventine, often times made a pool of blood.

28 Non va co' suoi fratei per un cammino,
Not goes with his brothers along a path,

29 per lo furto che frodolente fece
for the theft that fraudulently he made

30 del grande armento ch'elli ebbe a vicino;
from the grand herd that to him were nearby;

31 onde cessar le sue opere biece
whence ceased his works crooked

32 sotto la mazza d'Ercule, che forse
beneath the club of Hercules, that perhaps

33 gliene diè cento, e non sentì le diece».
to about he gave a hundred, and not he felt the ten."

34 Mentre che sì parlava, ed el trascorse,
While that so he was speaking, and he passed by,

35 e tre spiriti venner sotto noi,
and three spirits came beneath us,

36 de' quai né io né 'l duca mio s'accorse,
of whom neither I nor the leader my noticed,

He goes not with his brothers along a path, for the theft that he fraudulently made from the grand herd, they that were nearby; whence ceased his crooked works beneath the club of Hercules, that perhaps he gave about a hundred, and he felt not the ten." While he was so speaking, and he passed by, and three spirits came beneath us, whom neither I nor my leader noticed,

37 se non quando gridar: «Chi siete voi?»;
if not when they cried, "Who are you?";

38 per che nostra novella si ristette,
for that our discourse itself ceased,

39 e intendemmo pur ad essi poi.
and we attended just to them then.

40 Io non li conoscea; ma ei seguette,
I not them did know; but it followed

41 come suol seguitar per alcun caso,
as usually it follows by some chance

42 che l'un nomar un altro convenette,
that the one to name another must needs,

43 dicendo: «Cianfa dove fia rimaso?»;
saying, "Cianfa where could he be staying?"

44 per ch'io, acciò che 'l duca stesse attento,
Therefore I, so that the leader might attend,

45 mi puosi 'l dito su dal mento al naso.
my I placed the finger up from the chin to the nose.

---

if not when they cried, "Who are you?"; for that our discourse ceased, and we then attended just to them. I did not know them; but it followed as usually it follows by some chance that the one must needs name the other, saying, "Where could Cianfa be staying?" Therefore I, so that the leader might attend, I placed the finger up from the chin to the nose.

Se tu se' or, lettore, a creder lento
If you are now, reader, to believe slow

ciò ch'io dirò, non sarà maraviglia,
that that I will say, not will be a marvel,

ché io che 'l vidi, a pena il mi consento.
for I that it saw, scarcely it to me I consent.

Com' io tenea levate in lor le ciglia,
As I was holding raised toward them the brows,

e un serpente con sei piè si lancia
and a serpent with six feet itself hurled

dinanzi a l'uno, e tutto a lui s'appiglia.
before to the one, and totally to him clings.

Co' piè di mezzo li avvinse la pancia
With the feet of the middle he griped the belly

e con li anterïor le braccia prese;
and with the forefeet the arms it grasped;

poi li addentò e l'una e l'altra guancia;
then him it bit and the one and the other cheek;

If you are now, reader, slow to believe that which I will say, it will not be a marvel, for I that saw it, I scarcely consent it to me. As I was holding toward them raised brows, a serpent with six feet hurls itself before the one, and clings to him completely. With the middle feet he griped the belly and with the forefeet it grasped the arms; then it bit him, the one and the other cheek;

55 li diretani a le cosce distese,
the hindfeet to the thighs it stretched,

56 e miseli la coda tra 'mbedue
and he placed the tail between both

57 e dietro per le ren sù la ritese.
and behind along the kidneys above them he curled.

58 Ellera abbarbicata mai non fue
Ivy rooted ever not did

59 ad alber sì, come l'orribil fiera
to a tree so, as the horrible beast

60 per l'altrui membra avviticchiò le sue.
along the other members vining his.

61 Poi s'appiccar, come di calda cera
After melding, as of hot wax

62 fossero stati, e mischiar lor colore,
they had been, and mixed their colors,

63 né l'un né l'altro già parea quel ch'era:
neither the one nor the other before seemed that which was;

---

the hindfeet he stretched to the thighs, and he placed the tail between both and behind along above the kidneys he curled them. Ivy never did root to a tree so, as the horrible beast was vining along the other members. After melding, like they had been of hot wax, and mixed their colors, neither the one nor the other seemed that which it was before;

64 come procede innanzi da l'ardore,
as proceeds before to the heat

65 per lo papiro suso, un color bruno
along the paper up, a color dark

66 che non è nero ancora e 'l bianco more.
that not is black still and the white disappears.

67 Li altri due 'l riguardavano, e ciascuno
The other two it regarded, and each one

68 gridava: «Omè, Agnel, come ti muti!
cried out, "O me, Agnel, how you change!

69 Vedi che già non se' né due né uno».
See that already not you are neither two nor one."

70 Già eran li due capi un divenuti,
Already had the two heads one become,

71 quando n'apparver due figure miste
when they appeared two figures mixed

72 in una faccia, ov' eran due perduti.
in one face, where were two lost.

---

as a dark color proceeds before the heat up along the paper, that is not still black and the white disappears. The other two regarded it, and each one cried out, "O me, Agnel, how you change! See, already you are neither two nor one." Already the two heads had become one, when two mixed figures appeared in one face, where two were lost.

73 Fersi le braccia due di quattro liste;
Became the arms two from four stripes;

74 le cosce con le gambe e 'l ventre e 'l casso
the thighs with the legs and the belly and the chest

75 divenner membra che non fuor mai viste.
became members that not were ever seen.

76 Ogne primaio aspetto ivi era casso:
Every former aspect there was annulled;

77 due e nessun l'imagine perversa
two and none the image perverse

78 parea; e tal sen gio con lento passo.
seemed; and such it moved with slow steps.

79 Come 'l ramarro sotto la gran fersa
As the green lizard beneath the grand heat

80 dei dì canicular, cangiando sepe,
of the days dog, changing hedges,

81 folgore par se la via attraversa,
flash seems when the way it crosses,

The arms became two from four stripes; the thighs with the legs, and the belly and the chest became members that were never seen. Every former aspect was there annulled; two and none the perverse image seemed; and such it moved with slow steps. As the green lizard beneath the grand heat of the dog days, changing hedges, seems a flash when it crosses the way,

82 sì pareva, venendo verso l'epe
so seemed, coming toward the bellies

83 de li altri due, un serpentello acceso,
of the other two, a small serpent burning,

84 livido e nero come gran di pepe;
livid and black as a grain of pepper

85 e quella parte onde prima è preso
and that part where first is taken

86 nostro alimento, a l'un di lor trafisse;
our food, to the one of them pierced;

87 poi cadde giuso innanzi lui disteso.
then it fell down before him stretched.

88 Lo trafitto 'l mirò, ma nulla disse;
The pierced one him gaped at, but nothing said;

89 anzi, co' piè fermati, sbadigliava
rather, with feet stopped, he yawned

90 pur come sonno o febbre l'assalisse.
just as sleep or fever him might have assailed.

---

so seemed a small burning serpent, livid and black as a grain of pepper, coming toward the bellies of the other two; and it pierced one of them at that part where our food is first taken; then it fell down stretched before him. The pierced one gaped at him, but said nothing; rather, with feet stopped, he yawned just as sleep or fever might have assailed him.

91 Elli 'l serpente e quei lui riguardava;
He the serpent and it him were regarding;

92 l'un per la piaga e l'altro per la bocca
the one through the wound and the other through the mouth

93 fummavan forte, e 'l fummo si scontrava.
smoking strongly, and the smoke converged.

94 Taccia Lucano ormai là dov' e' tocca
Let be silent Lucan now there where he touches

95 del misero Sabello e di Nasidio,
of the miserable Sabellus and of Nasidius

96 e attenda a udir quel ch'or si scocca.
and let him attend to listen to that that now is shot forth.

97 Taccia di Cadmo e d'Aretusa Ovidio,
Let be silent concerning Cadmus and concerning Arethusa Ovid,

98 ché se quello in serpente e quella in fonte
for if him into a serpent and she into a fountain

99 converte poetando, io non lo 'nvidio;
he converts, poetizing, I not him envy;

He was regarding the serpent, and it was regarding him; the one through the wound and the other through the mouth was smoking strongly, and the smoke converged. Let Lucan now be silent there where he touches on the miserable Sabellus and of Nasidius and let him attend to listen to that which is now shot forth. Let Ovid be silent concerning Cadmus and concerning Arethusa, for if he converts him into a serpent and her into a fountain, poetizing, I envy him not;

100 ché due nature mai a fronte a fronte
for two natures ever from brow to brow

101 non trasmutò sì ch'amendue le forme
not he transmuted such that both the forms

102 a cambiar lor matera fosser pronte.
to switch their matter were ready.

103 Insieme si rispuosero a tai norme,
Together themselves they answer to such a rule,

104 che 'l serpente la coda in forca fesse,
that the serpent the tail into a fork split,

105 e 'l feruto ristrinse insieme l'orme.
and the wounded one took in together the feet.

106 Le gambe con le cosce seco stesse
The legs with the thighs to each other

107 s'appiccar sì, che 'n poco la giuntura
themselves melded so, that in little (time) the joining

108 non facea segno alcun che si paresse.
not made mark any that appeared.

---

for two natures never, from brow to brow, did he transmute such that both the forms (souls) were ready to switch their matter. Together they answered themselves to such a rule, that the serpent split the tail into a fork, and the wounded one took in together the feet. The legs with the thighs melded themselves to each other so, that in little (time) the joining made not any mark that appeared.

109	Togliea	la	coda	fessa	la	figura	
	Removed	*the*	*tail*	*split*	*the*	*figure*	
110	che	si	perdeva	là,	e	la sua	pelle
	that	*was*	*being lost*	*there,*	*and*	*his*	*skin*
111	si	facea	molle,	e	quella	di	là dura.
	itself	*made*	*soft,*	*and*	*that*	*of*	*there hard.*
112	Io	vidi	intrar	le	braccia	per	l'ascelle,
	I	*saw*	*enter*	*the*	*arms*	*through*	*the armpits,*
113	e	i	due	piè	de	la	fiera, ch'eran corti,
	and	*the*	*two*	*feet*	*of*	*the*	*beast, that were short,*
114	tanto	allungar	quanto	accorciavan	quelle.		
	so much	*lengthen*	*as much as*	*were shortening*	*those ones.*		
115	Poscia	li	piè	di	rietro,	insieme	attorti,
	Then	*the*	*feet*	*of*	*behind,*	*together*	*twisted,*
116	diventaron	lo	membro	che	l'uom	cela,	
	became	*the*	*member*	*that*	*man*	*conceals,*	
117	e	'l	misero	del	suo	n'avea	due porti.
	and	*the*	*miserable one*	*from*	*his*	*two (feet)*	*extended.*

The split tail removed the figure that there was being lost, and made its skin soft, and that of there (it made) hard. I saw the arms enter through the armpits, and the two feet of the beast, that were short, so much lengthen as much as those ones were shortening. Then the feet from behind, together twisted, became the member that man conceals, and the miserable one, from his two extended.

118 Mentre che 'l fummo l'uno e l'altro vela
While that the smoke the one and the other veils

119 di color novo, e genera 'l pel suso
of color new, and generates the hair above

120 per l'una parte e da l'altra il dipela,
along the one part and from the other removes,

121 l'un si levò e l'altro cadde giuso,
the one itself raises and the other falls below,

122 non torcendo però le lucerne empie,
not turning away but the lanterns impious,

123 sotto le quai ciascun cambiava muso.
below the which each one was changing face.

124 Quel ch'era dritto, il trasse ver' le tempie,
That one that was upright, he drew toward the temples

125 e di troppa matera ch'in là venne
and of extra material that in there came

126 uscir li orecchi de le gote scempie;
emerged the ears from the cheeks flat;

While the smoke veils the one and the other with a new color, and generates the hair above along the one part and from the other removes, the one raises itself up and the other falls below, not turning away but the impious lanterns, below the which each on was changing face. That one that was upright, he drew toward the temples and of the extra material that came in there emerged the ears from the flat cheeks;

127 ciò che non corse in dietro e si ritenne
that that not ran in behind and stayed back

128 di quel soverchio, fé naso a la faccia
of that excess, made nose to the face

129 e le labbra ingrossò quanto convenne.
and the lips fattened as much as was appropriate.

130 Quel che giacëa, il muso innanzi caccia,
He that was lying down, the face in front extends

131 e li orecchi ritira per la testa
and the ears retire along the head

132 come face le corna la lumaccia;
as it makes the horns the slug;

133 e la lingua, ch'avëa unita e presta
and the tongue, that was united and ready

134 prima a parlar, si fende, e la forcuta
before to speak, itself splits, and the forked

135 ne l'altro si richiude; e 'l fummo resta.
of the other itself closes again; and the smoke is still.

---

that which from the excess ran not behind and stayed back, made nose to the face and fattened the lips as much as was appropriate. He that was lying down, extends the face in front and the ears retire along the head as the slug makes the horns; and the tongue, that was united and ready before to speak, splits itself, and the forked of the other closes itself again; and the smoke is still.

136 L'anima ch'era fiera divenuta,
The soul that had a beast become,

137 suffolando si fugge per la valle,
hissing it fled through the valley,

138 e l'altro dietro a lui parlando sputa.
and the other behind to him speaking sputtered.

139 Poscia li volse le novelle spalle,
Then to him he turned the new back,

140 e disse a l'altro: «I' vo' che Buoso corra,
and said to the other, "I wish that Buoso to run,

141 com' ho fatt' io, carpon per questo calle».
as was made I, on all sixes through this alley."

142 Così vid' io la settima zavorra
So saw I the seventh ballast

143 mutare e trasmutare; e qui mi scusi
to mutate and transmute; and here me excuse

144 la novità se fior la penna abborra.
the novelty if somewhat the pen goes wrong.

The soul that had become a beast, fled through the valley hissing, and the other behind sputtered, speaking, to him. Then to him he turned the new back, and said to the other, "I wish Buoso to run, as I was made, on all sixes through this alley." So saw I the seventh ballast (dead weight/rubbish) to mutate and transmute; and here excuse the novelty if the pen goes somewhat wrong.

E avvegna che li occhi miei confusi
And though that the eyes my confused

fossero alquanto e l'animo smagato,
were somewhat and the soul bewildered

non poter quei fuggirsi tanto chiusi,
not were able those to flee so secretly,

ch'i' non scorgessi ben Puccio Sciancato;
that I not could glimpse well Puccio Sciancato;

ed era quel che sol, di tre compagni
and was he that alone, of three companions

che venner prima, non era mutato;
that came before, not was changed;

l'altr' era quel che tu, Gaville, piagni.
the other was he that you, Gaville, weep.

And though my eyes were somewhat confused and the soul was bewildered, those were not able to flee so secretly that I could not well glimpse Puccio Sciancato; and he alone of the three companions that came before, was not changed; the other was he that you, Gaville, weep.

Canto XXVI: False Counselors

1 Godi, Fiorenza, poi che se' sì grande
Rejoice, Florence, after that you are so grand

2 che per mare e per terra batti l'ali,
that through sea and through land you beat the wings

3 e per lo 'nferno tuo nome si spande!
and through Hell your name itself diffuses!

4 Tra li ladron trovai cinque cotali
Between the thieves I found five such

5 tuoi cittadini onde mi ven vergogna,
your citizens whence to me comes shame,

6 e tu in grande orranza non ne sali.
and you in great honor not there you climb up.

7 Ma se presso al mattin del ver si sogna,
But if near to the morning of the truth one dreams,

8 tu sentirai, di qua da picciol tempo,
you will feel, from here of short time,

9 di quel che Prato, non ch'altri, t'agogna.
of that that Prato, not that others, for you wishes.

Rejoice, Florence, since you are so grand that through sea and through land you beat the wings and through Hell your name diffuses itself! Between the thieves I found five such citizens of yours whence shames comes to me, and there you do not climb up in great honor. But if near to the morning on dreams of the truth, you will feel, a short time from here, that which Prato, (as well as) others, wishes for you.

10 E se già fosse, non saria per tempo.
And if already it had been, not would it before time.

11 Così foss' ei, da che pur esser dee!
So was it, from that since to be it must!

12 ché più mi graverà, com' più m'attempo.
for more to me it will weigh, the more I grow old.

13 Noi ci partimmo, e su per le scalee
We there left, and above along the steps

14 che n'avean fatto i borni a scender pria,
that for us were made the spurs for to descend previously,

15 rimontò 'l duca mio e trasse mee;
mounted the leader my and pulled me;

16 e proseguendo la solinga via,
and continuing the lonely way,

17 tra le schegge e tra' rocchi de lo scoglio
between the splinters and between the rocks of the ridge

18 lo piè sanza la man non si spedia.
the foot without the hand not itself send.

And if it already had been, it would not be before time. So it was, since that to be it must! for it will weigh more on me, the more I grow old. We left there, and along the steps above that were made for us by the spurs to descend previously, my leader mounted and pulled me; and continuing the lonely way, between the splinters and between the rocks of the ridge, the foot was unable to make its way without the hand.

19 Allor mi dolsi, e ora mi ridoglio
Then I ached, and now I ache again

20 quando drizzo la mente a ciò ch'io vidi,
when I straighten the mind to that which I saw,

21 e più lo 'ngegno affreno ch'i' non soglio,
and more the understanding I draw in that I not am accustomed,

22 perché non corra che virtù nol guidi;
so that not I might rush that virtue it guiding;

23 sì che, se stella bona o miglior cosa
such that, if star good or better thing

24 m'ha dato 'l ben, ch'io stessi nol m'invidi.
to me has given the good, that I myself not it to me grudge.

25 Quante 'l villan ch'al poggio si riposa,
How much the peasant that on the knoll himself rests

26 nel tempo che colui che 'l mondo schiara
in the time that he that the world lights

27 la faccia sua a noi tien meno ascosa,
the face its to us holds least concealed,

Then I ached, and now I ache again, when I straighten the mind to that which I saw, and I draw in the understanding (genius) more, in that I am not accustomed, so that I might not rush the virtue guiding it; such that, if good star, or a better thing has given the good to me, I might not deprive myself of it. How much the peasant that rests himself on the knoll in the time that he that lights the world holds to us its face least concealed,

28 come la mosca cede a la zanzara,
as the fly cedes to the mosquito,

29 vede lucciole giù per la vallea,
he sees fireflies below along the valley,

30 forse colà dov' e' vendemmia e ara:
perhaps there where he harvests and plows;

31 di tante fiamme tutta risplendea
of so many flames all was shining

32 l'ottava bolgia, sì com' io m'accorsi
the eighth ditch, such as I noticed

33 tosto che fui là 've 'l fondo parea.
promptly that I was there where the bottom appeared.

34 E qual colui che si vengiò con li orsi
And he who that himself avenged with the bears

35 vide 'l carro d'Elia al dipartire,
saw the chariot of Elijah to depart,

36 quando i cavalli al cielo erti levorsi,
when the horses to the heaven steeply rose up,

---

as the fly cedes to the mosquito, he sees fireflies below along the valley, perhaps there where he harvests and plows; of so many flames all the eighth ditch was shining, such as I noticed it as soon as I was there where the bottom appeared. And he who with the bears avenged himself saw the chariot of Elijah to depart, when the horses steeply rose up to the heaven,

37 che nol potea sì con li occhi seguire,
that not he was able such with the eyes to follow

38 ch'el vedesse altro che la fiamma sola,
that he could see other than the flame alone,

39 sì come nuvoletta, in sù salire:
such as a little cloud, upwards to rise;

40 tal si move ciascuna per la gola
so itself moves each one along the throat

41 del fosso, ché nessuna mostra 'l furto,
of the trench, for none shows the theft,

42 e ogne fiamma un peccatore invola.
and every flame a sinner steals.

43 Io stava sovra 'l ponte a veder surto,
I was standing over the bridge, to see rising

44 sì che s'io non avessi un ronchion preso,
such that if I not had a rock caught hold of,

45 caduto sarei giù sanz' esser urto.
fallen I would have below without being hit.

---

that he was not able to follow with the eyes such that he could see other than the flame alone, like a little cloud, to rise upwards; so each one moves itself along the throat of the trench, for none shows the theft, and every flame steals a sinner. I was standing over the bridge, rising to see such that if I hand not caught hold of a rock, I would have fallen below without being pushed.

46 E 'l duca che mi vide tanto atteso,
And the leader that me saw so much intent,

47 disse: «Dentro dai fuochi son li spirti;
said, "Inside the fires are the spirits;

48 catun si fascia di quel ch'elli è inceso».
each one itself wraps of that which it kindles."

49 «Maestro mio», rispuos' io, «per udirti
"Master my," responded I, "by hearing you

50 son io più certo; ma già m'era avviso
am I more certain; but already to me it is noticed

51 che così fosse, e già voleva dirti:
that such was, and already I was wishing to tell you:

52 chi è 'n quel foco che vien sì diviso
who is in that fire that comes so divided

53 di sopra, che par surger de la pira
of above, that he seems to rise from the pyre

54 dov' Eteòcle col fratel fu miso?».
where Eteocles with brother was placed?"

And the leader that saw me so very intent, said, "Inside the fires are spirits; each one wraps itself of that which kindles it." My master," I responded, "I am the more certain by hearing you; but already it is noticed to me that such was, and already I was wishing to tell you: who is in that fire that comes so divided above, that he seems to rise from the pyre where Eteocles was placed with the brother?"

55 Rispuose a me: «Là dentro si martira
He answered to me: "There within are martyred

56 Ulisse e Dïomede, e così insieme
Ulysses and Diomedes, and thus together

57 a la vendetta vanno come a l'ira;
to the vengeance they go as to the wrath;

58 e dentro da la lor fiamma si geme
and within from their flame one groans

59 l'agguato del caval che fé la porta
the ambush of the horse that made the gate

60 onde uscì de' Romani il gentil seme.
whence left of the Roman's courteous seed.

61 Piangevisi entro l'arte per che, morta,
There one weeps within the art for that, dead,

62 Deïdamìa ancor si duol d'Achille,
Deidamia still she aches for Achilles,

63 e del Palladio pena vi si porta».
and for Palladium pain there one bears."

He answered to me, "There within are martyred Ulysses and Diomedes, and thus together they go to the vengeance as to the wrath; and from within their flame one groans the ambush of the horse that made the gate whence left the Roman's courteous seed. There within one weeps the art for which Deidamia, dead, still aches for Achilles, and there one bears pain for the Palladium."

64 «S'ei posson dentro da quelle faville
"If they are able within of these sparks

65 parlar», diss' io, «maestro, assai ten priego
to speak," said I, "master, very much I hold prayer

66 e ripriego, che 'l priego vaglia mille,
and pray again, that the prayer is valued a thousand,

67 che non mi facci de l'attender niego
that not to me might be made of the attending denial

68 fin che la fiamma cornuta qua vegna;
until that the flame horned here might come;

69 vedi che del disio ver' lei mi piego!».
see that of the desire toward it me I bend!"

70 Ed elli a me: «La tua preghiera è degna
And he to me, "Your prayer is worthy

71 di molta loda, e io però l'accetto;
of much praise, and I therefore it approve;

72 ma fa che la tua lingua si sostegna.
but make that your tongue itself holds back.

"If they are able within these sparks to speak," I said, "master, I very much hold prayer and pray again, that the prayer is valued a thousand, that you do not make denial to me of the attending until the horned flame might come here; see that I bend toward it with desire!" And he to me, "Your prayer is worthy of much praise, and I therefore approve it; but make that your tongue holds itself back.

73 Lascia parlare a me, ch'i' ho concetto
Leave to speak to me, that I have conceived

74 ciò che tu vuoi; ch'ei sarebbero schivi,
that which you wish; that they might reject,

75 perch' e' fuor greci, forse del tuo detto».
because they were Greeks, perhaps of your saying."

76 Poi che la fiamma fu venuta quivi
After that the flame had come there

77 dove parve al mio duca tempo e loco,
where it seemed to my leader time and place,

78 in questa forma lui parlare audivi:
in this form him to speak I heard:

79 «O voi che siete due dentro ad un foco,
"O you that are two within to one fire,

80 s'io meritai di voi mentre ch'io vissi,
if I merited of you while that I lived,

81 s'io meritai di voi assai o poco
if I merited of you much or little

Leave it to me to speak, I have conceived that which you wish; perhaps they might reject of your saying, because they were Greeks." After that the flame had come there where it seemed to my leader time and place, in this form I heard him to speak: "O you that are two within to one fire, if I merited of you while that I lived, if I merited of you much or little

82 quando nel mondo li alti versi scrissi,
when in the world the high verses I wrote,

83 non vi movete; ma l'un di voi dica
not there move you; but one of you tell

84 dove, per lui, perduto a morir gissi».
where by him, lost to die went."

85 Lo maggior corno de la fiamma antica
The greater horn of the flame ancient

86 cominciò a crollarsi mormorando,
began to itself shake murmuring,

87 pur come quella cui vento affatica;
just as that who the wind wearies;

88 indi la cima qua e là menando,
there the peak here and there wagging,

89 come fosse la lingua che parlasse,
as it were the tongue that was speaking,

90 gittò voce di fuori e disse: «Quando
it threw voice from out and said, "When

---

when in the world I wrote the high verses, move you not there; but one of you tell where, lost, he went to die." The greater horn of the ancient flame began itself to shake murmuring, just as that who the wind wearies; there the peak, wagging here and there, as it were the tongue that was speaking, threw a voice outward and said, "When

91 mi diparti' da Circe, che sottrasse
me departed from Circe, who stole

92 me più d'un anno là presso a Gaeta,
me more from one year there near to Gaeta

93 prima che sì Enëa la nomasse,
before that such Aeneas it named,

94 né dolcezza di figlio, né la pieta
neither the sweetness of a son, nor the piety

95 del vecchio padre, né 'l debito amore
for the old father, nor the due love

96 lo qual dovea Penelopè far lieta,
which ought to have Penelope made content,

97 vincer potero dentro a me l'ardore
conquer could within to me the ardor

98 ch'i' ebbi a divenir del mondo esperto
that I had to become of the world expert

99 e de li vizi umani e del valore;
and of the vices human and of the value;

I departed me from Circe, who stole me more than one year there near to Gaeta before Aeneas named it such, neither the sweetness of a son, nor the piety for the old father, nor the due love which ought to have made Penelope content, could conquer within me the ardor that I had to become expert of the world and of the human vices and of the value;

100 ma misi me per l'alto mare aperto
but I placed me on the high sea open

101 sol con un legno e con quella compagna
alone with one boat and with that company

102 picciola da la qual non fui diserto.
small by which not I was deserted.

103 L'un lito e l'altro vidi infin la Spagna,
The one shore and the other I saw until Spain,

104 fin nel Morrocco, e l'isola d'i Sardi,
until Morocco, and the island of the Sardinians,

105 e l'altre che quel mare intorno bagna.
and the others that that sea around bathes.

106 Io e' compagni eravam vecchi e tardi
I and the companions were old and slow

107 quando venimmo a quella foce stretta
when we came to that outlet narrow

108 dov' Ercule segnò li suoi riguardi
where Hercules marked his boundary lines

---

but I placed me on the high, open sea alone with one boat and with that small company by which I was not deserted. The one shore and the other I saw until Spain, until Morocco, and the island of the Sardinians, and the others that the sea bathes around. I and the companions were old and slow when we came to that narrow outlet where Hercules marked his boundary lines

109 acciò che l'uom più oltre non si metta;
so that man more beyond not himself place;

110 da la man destra mi lasciai Sibilia,
from the hand right me I left Seville,

111 da l'altra già m'avea lasciata Setta.
from the other already me I had left Ceuta.

112 "O frati", dissi, "che per cento milia
'O brothers,' I said, 'that through hundred thousand

113 perigli siete giunti a l'occidente,
perils have arrived to the west,

114 a questa tanto picciola vigilia
to this so much small vigil brief

115 d'i nostri sensi ch'è del rimanente
of our senses that is of the remainder

116 non vogliate negar l'esperïenza,
do not wish to negate the experience

117 di retro al sol, del mondo sanza gente.
of behind the sun, of the world without people.

---

so that man might not place himself more beyond; from the right hand I left Seville, and the other already I had left me Ceuta. "O brothers," I said, "that through hundred thousand perils have arrived to the west, to this so small vigil of our senses that is of the remainder, do not wish to negate the experience of behind the sun, of the world without people.

118 Considerate la vostra semenza:
Consider you your seed;

119 fatti non foste a viver come bruti,
made not you were to live as brutes,

120 ma per seguir virtute e canoscenza".
but to follow virtue and knowledge.'

121 Li miei compagni fec' io sì aguti,
My companions made I so sharp

122 con questa orazion picciola, al cammino,
with this oration small, to the journey,

123 che a pena poscia li avrei ritenuti;
that barely thereafter them I could have restrained;

124 e volta nostra poppa nel mattino,
and turning our poop (stern) to the morning,

125 de' remi facemmo ali al folle volo,
of oars we made wings to insane flight,

126 sempre acquistando dal lato mancino.
always acquiring of the side left-handed.

Consider you your seed (origin); you were not made to live as brutes, but to follow virtue and knowledge." I made my companions so sharp (keen) with this small oration, to the journey, that thereafter I could barely have restrained them; and turning our poop to the morning, of oars we made wings to the insane flight, always acquiring of the left-hand side.

127 Tutte le stelle già de l'altro polo
All the stars already of the other pole

128 vedea la notte, e 'l nostro tanto basso,
saw the night, and our so low

129 che non surgëa fuor del marin suolo.
that not it rose out of the marine ground.

130 Cinque volte racceso e tante casso
Five times rekindled and as much gone out

131 lo lume era di sotto da la luna,
the light was from under of the moon,

132 poi che 'ntrati eravam ne l'alto passo,
after that entered we had in the high pass,

133 quando n'apparve una montagna, bruna
when to us there appeared a mountain, dark

134 per la distanza, e parvemi alta tanto
on account of the distance, and it seemed to me high so much

135 quanto veduta non avëa alcuna.
as seen not I had any.
(and it seemed to me I had not seen any as high)

All the stars already of the other pole the night saw, and our (pole was) so low that it rose not out of the marine ground. Five times rekindled and as many gone out was the light from the underside of the moon, after we had entered through the high pass, when to us there appeared a mountain, dark on account of the distance, and it seemed to me I had not seen any as high.

136 Noi ci allegrammo, e tosto tornò in pianto;
We ourselves cheered, and (but) promptly it turned into weeping;

137 ché de la nova terra un turbo nacque
for from the new land a disturbance was born

138 e percosse del legno il primo canto.
and struck of the boat first corner (the prow).

139 Tre volte il fé girar con tutte l'acque;
Three times it made to turn with all the waters

140 a la quarta levar la poppa in suso
to the fourth to raise the poop (stern) upwards

141 e la prora ire in giù, com' altrui piacque,
and the prow to go downwards, as another it pleased,

142 infin che 'l mar fu sovra noi richiuso».
until that the sea was over us closing again."

We cheered ourselves, but promptly it turned into weeping; for from the new land a disturbance was born and struck the prow of the boat. Three times it made it to turn with all the waters to the fourth to raise to the poop upwards and the prow to go downwards, as it pleased another, until the sea was again closed over us."

Canto XXVII: False Counselors

1 Già era dritta in sù la fiamma e queta
Already was straight upwards the flame and quiet

2 per non dir più, e già da noi sen gia
through not speaking more, and already from us was leaving

3 con la licenza del dolce poeta,
with the license of the sweet poet,

4 quand' un'altra, che dietro a lei venìa,
when another, that behind to it was coming,

5 ne fece volger li occhi a la sua cima
us made to turn the eyes to its tip

6 per un confuso suon che fuor n'uscia.
on account of a confused sound that outward was emerging.

7 Come 'l bue cicilian che mugghiò prima
As the bull Sicilian that bellowed first

8 col pianto di colui, e ciò fu dritto,
with weeping from him, and this was straight,

9 che l'avea temperato con sua lima,
that it had tempered with his file,

Already the flame was straight upwards and quiet through not speaking more, and already from us was leaving with the license of the sweet poet, when another, that behind was coming to it, made us to turn the eyes to its tip on account of a confused sound that outward was emerging. As the Sicilian bull that first bellowed with weeping from him, and this was right, who had tempered it with his file,

10 mugghiava con la voce de l'afflitto,
was bellowing with the voice of the afflicted

11 sì che, con tutto che fosse di rame,
such that, with all that was made of copper,

12 pur el pareva dal dolor trafitto;
still it seemed of the pain pierced;

13 così, per non aver via né forame
so, through not having way nor outlet

14 dal principio nel foco, in suo linguaggio
from the principle in the fire, in its language

15 si convertïan le parole grame.
themselves converted the words wretched.

16 Ma poscia ch'ebber colto lor vïaggio
But thereafter that they had gathered their way

17 su per la punta, dandole quel guizzo
up along the point, giving it a twist,

18 che dato avea la lingua in lor passaggio,
that given had the tongue in their passage,

---

was bellowing with the voice of the afflicted such that with all that was made of copper, still it seemed pierced with the pain; so, through not having way or outlet from the principle (essence) in the fire, the wretched words converted themselves into its language. But thereafter they (the words) had gathered their way up along the point, giving it a twist, that the tongue had given in their passage,

19 udimmo dire: «O tu a cu' io drizzo
we heard spoken, "O you to whom I straighten

20 la voce e che parlavi mo lombardo,
the voice and that was speaking now Lombard,

21 dicendo "Istra (Issa) ten va, più non t'adizzo",
saying, 'Now your go, more not you I provoke,"

22 perch' io sia giunto forse alquanto tardo,
because I have arrived perhaps somewhat late,

23 non t'incresca restare a parlar meco;
not you let it regret to stop to speak with me;

24 vedi che non increscе a me, e ardo!
you see that not it does not regret to me, and I am burning!

25 Se tu pur mo in questo mondo cieco
If you just now into this world blind

26 caduto se' di quella dolce terra
fall did from that sweet earth

27 latina ond' io mia colpa tutta reco,
Italian whence I my guilt all I bring,

---

we heard spoken, "O you to whom I straighten the voice and that was just now speaking Lombard, saying, 'Now go your (way), I provoke you no more,' because I have arrived perhaps somewhat late, let it not make you sorry to stop to speak with me; you see that it does not make me sorry, and I am burning! If you just now did fell into this blind world from that sweet Italian earth whence I bring all my guilt,

28 dimmi se Romagnuoli han pace o guerra;
tell me if the Romagnese have peace or war;

29 ch'io fui d'i monti là intra Orbino
that I was from the mountains there between Orbino

30 e 'l giogo di che Tever si diserra».
and the saddle from which Tiber issues."

31 Io era in giuso ancora attento e chino,
I was in below still attentive and bent over,

32 quando il mio duca mi tentò di costa,
when my leader to me nudged of the side,

33 dicendo: «Parla tu; questi è latino».
saying, "Speak you, this one is Italian."

34 E io, ch'avea già pronta la risposta,
And I, that had already ready the response,

35 sanza indugio a parlare incominciai:
without delay to speak I commenced:

36 «O anima che se' là giù nascosta,
"O soul that is there below concealed,

---

tell me if the Romagnese have peace or war; I was from the mountains there between Orbino and the saddle from which the Tiber issues." I was still attentive to below and bent over, when my leader nudged me in the side, saying, "You speak, this one is Italian." And I, that had already the response ready, to speak without delay, commenced, "O soul that is concealed there below,

37 Romagna tua non è, e non fu mai,
Romagna your not is, and not was ever,

38 sanza guerra ne' cuor de' suoi tiranni;
without war in the hearts of its tyrants,

39 ma 'n palese nessuna or vi lasciai.
but in clear none now there I left.

40 Ravenna sta come stata è molt' anni:
Ravenna is as it has been many years;

41 l'aguglia da Polenta la si cova,
the eagle of Polenta it broods over,

42 sì che Cervia ricuopre co' suoi vanni.
such that Cervia recovering with its wings.

43 La terra che fé già la lunga prova
The city that made already the long trial

44 e di Franceschi sanguinoso mucchio,
and of the French bloody heap,

45 sotto le branche verdi si ritrova.
below the talons green itself finds.

---

your Romagna is not, and never was, without war in the hearts of its tyrants, but in clear (war) I left there now none. Ravenna is as it has been many years; the eagle of Polenta broods over it, such that, covering again Cervia with its wings. The city that already made the long trial and a bloody heap of the French, finds itself below the green talons.

46 E 'l mastin vecchio e 'l nuovo da Verrucchio,
And the mastiff old and the new from Verrucchio

47 che fecer di Montagna il mal governo,
that made of Montagna the bad government,

48 là dove soglion fan d'i denti succhio.
there where they are accustomed, they make of the teeth an auger.

49 Le città di Lamone e di Santerno
The cities of Lamone and Santerno

50 conduce il lïoncel dal nido bianco,
lead the Little Lion of nest white,

51 che muta parte da la state al verno.
that changes sides from the summer to the winter.

52 E quella cu' il Savio bagna il fianco,
And that city which the Savio bathes the flanks,

53 così com' ella sie' tra 'l piano e 'l monte
just as it is between the plain and the mountain

54 tra tirannia si vive e stato franco.
between tyranny itself lives state free.

The old mastiff and the new from Verrucchio that made bad government of Montagna, there where they are accustomed, they make an auger of the teeth (govern cruelly). The Little Lion of the white nest leads the cities of Lamone and Santerno, that changes sides from summer to winter. And that city the flanks of which the Savio bathes, just as it is between the plain and the mountain lives itself between tyranny and the free state.

55 Ora chi se', ti priego che ne conte;
Now who are you, you I beg that to us you recount;

56 non esser duro più ch'altri sia stato,
not to be hard more than others have been

57 se 'l nome tuo nel mondo tegna fronte».
if the name your in the world would hold forehead."

58 Poscia che 'l foco alquanto ebbe rugghiato
Thereafter that the fire somewhat had roared

59 al modo suo, l'aguta punta mosse
to mode its, the sharp tip moved

60 di qua, di là, e poi diè cotal fiato:
from here to there, and then gave this breath:

61 «S'i' credesse che mia risposta fosse
"If I believed that my reply were

62 a persona che mai tornasse al mondo,
to a person that ever would return to the world,

63 questa fiamma staria sanza più scosse;
this flame would stay without more shaking;

Now who are you, I beg you that you recount to us; not to be more hard than others have been if your name in the world would hold its forehead." Thereafter the fire had roared somewhat after its manner, the sharp tip moved from here to there, and then gave this breath: "If I believed that my reply were to a person that would ever return to the world, this flame would stay without more shaking;

64 ma però che già mai di questo fondo
but since that heretofore ever from this bottom

65 non tornò vivo alcun, s'i' odo il vero,
not returned alive anyone, if I hear the truth,

66 sanza tema d'infamia ti rispondo.
without fear of infamy to you I respond.

67 Io fui uom d'arme, e poi fui cordigliero,
I was a man of arms, and then was a Franciscan friar,

68 credendomi, sì cinto, fare ammenda;
believing me, so strapped, to make amends;

69 e certo il creder mio venìa intero,
and certainly the faith my would have come whole,

70 se non fosse il gran prete, a cui mal prenda!,
if not were the high priest, to him evil may take!

71 che mi rimise ne le prime colpe;
that me sent again into the first faults;

72 e come e quare, voglio che m'intenda.
and how and quare, I wish that by me you understand.

---

but since that heretofore never from this bottom anyone returned alive, if I hear the truth, without fear of infamy I respond to you. I was a man of arms, and then was a Franciscan friar, believing me, so strapped, to make amends; and certainly my faith would have come whole, were it not for the high priest, may evil take him! that sent me against into the first faults; how and quare (Latin for "why"), I wish that by me you understand.

73 Mentre ch'io forma fui d'ossa e di polpe
While that I the form was of bone and of pulp

74 che la madre mi diè, l'opere mie
that the mother me gave, the works my

75 non furon leonine, ma di volpe.
not were leonine, but of the fox.

76 Li accorgimenti e le coperte vie
The tricks and the covert ways

77 io seppi tutte, e sì menai lor arte,
I knew all, and so I delivered their art,

78 ch'al fine de la terra il suono uscie.
that to the end of the earth the sound went forth.

79 Quando mi vidi giunto in quella parte
When me I saw arrived in that part

80 di mia etade ove ciascun dovrebbe
of my age where each one ought

81 calar le vele e raccoglier le sarte,
to lower the sails and gather the ropes,

While I was the form of bone and pulp (flesh) that the mother gave me, my works were not leonine but of the fox. I knew all the tricks and covert ways, and I so delivered their art that the sound went forth to the end of the earth. When I saw me arrived in that part of my age where each one ought to lower the sails and gather the ropes,

82 ciò che pria mi piacëa, allor m'increbbe,
what that before to me was pleasing, then me made sorry,

83 e pentuto e confesso mi rendei;
and repenting and confessing myself I gave up.

84 ahi miser lasso! e giovato sarebbe.
Ah wretch miserable! and helped it would have.

85 Lo principe d'i novi Farisei,
The prince of the new Pharisees,

86 avendo guerra presso a Laterano,
having war near to the Lateran,

87 e non con Saracin né con Giudei,
and not with Saracens nor with Jews,

88 ché ciascun suo nimico era cristiano,
for each one his enemies was Christian,

89 e nessun era stato a vincer Acri
and none had been to conquer Acre

90 né mercatante in terra di Soldano,
nor merchant in the land of the Sultan,

---

what was pleasing to me before, then made me sorry, and repenting and confessing, I gave myself up (became a monk). Ah miserable wretch! it would have helped. The prince of the new Pharisees, having war near to the Lateran, and not with the Saracens nor with the Jews, for each one of his enemies was a Christian, and not had been to conquer Acre nor the merchant in the land of the Sultan,

91 né sommo officio né ordini sacri
nor highest office nor orders holy

92 guardò in sé, né in me quel capestro
he regarded in himself, nor in me that girdle

93 che solea fare i suoi cinti più macri.
that used to make its wrapped ones more thin.

94 Ma come Costantin chiese Silvestro
But as Constantine asked Silvestro

95 d'entro Siratti a guerir de la lebbre,
from within Soracte to cure from the leprosy,

96 così mi chiese questi per maestro
so me asked this one as physician

97 a guerir de la sua superba febbre;
to cure from his pride fever;

98 domandommi consiglio, e io tacetti
he asked my counsel and I kept silent

99 perché le sue parole parver ebbre.
for his words seemed inebriated.

---

neither the highest office, nor holy orders he regarded in himself, nor in me that girdle that used to make its wrapped ones more thin. But as Constantine asked Silvestro from within Soracte to cure (him) from the leprosy, so this one asked me as physician to cure from his pride fever; he asked my counsel and I kept silent, for his words seemed inebriated.

100 E' poi ridisse: "Tuo cuor non sospetti;
And then he said again, 'Your heart not let be suspicious;

101 finor t'assolvo, e tu m'insegna fare
up until now you I absolve, and now you me teach to make

102 sì come Penestrino in terra getti.
such how Palestrina in the ground razing.

103 Lo ciel poss' io serrare e diserrare,
The heaven able I am to bolt and unbolt

104 come tu sai; però son due le chiavi
as you know; for are two the keys

105 che 'l mio antecessor non ebbe care".
that my predecessor not held dear.'

106 Allor mi pinser li argomenti gravi
Then me compelled the arguments weighty

107 là 've 'l tacer mi fu avviso 'l peggio,
there where the silence my was counsel the worse,

108 e dissi: "Padre, da che tu mi lavi
and I said, 'Father, of that (since) you me cleanse

And then he said again, 'Let not your heart be suspicious; I absolve you up until now (to the end), and now teach me to make such how razing Palestrina to the ground. I am able to bolt and unbolt heaven as you know; for two are the keys that my predecessor did not hold dear.' Then the weighty arguments compelled me there where my silence was the worse counsel, and I said, 'Father, since you cleanse me

109 di quel peccato ov'io mo cader deggio,
of that sin where I now to fall must,

110 lunga promessa con l'attender corto
long promise with the attending short

111 ti farà trïunfar ne l'alto seggio".
you will make triumph on the high throne.'

112 Francesco venne poi com' io fu' morto,
Francis came then when I was dead

113 per me; ma un d'i neri cherubini
for me; but one of the black cherubim

114 li disse: "Non portar: non mi far torto.
to him said, 'Not take away; not to me do an injustice.

115 Venir se ne dee giù tra ' miei meschini
To come he in must below between my minions

116 perché diede 'l consiglio frodolente,
for he gave the counsel fraudulent,

117 dal quale in qua stato li sono a' crini;
of that in here been I have to hairs;

---

of that sin wherein I must now fall, a long promise with short attending will make you triumph on the high throne.' Then Francis came for me when I was dead; but one of the black cherubim said to him, 'Take (him) not away; do not an injustice to me. He must come down below amongst my minions for he gave the fraudulent counsel, since to here I have been to (his) hairs (from then till now I have been waiting for him);

118 ch'assolver non si può chi non si pente,
that to be absolved not one is able that not himself repents,

119 né pentere e volere insieme puossi
nor repent and wish together can one

120 per la contradizion che nol consente".
on account of the contradiction that not to it consents.'

121 Oh me dolente! come mi riscossi
Oh me miserable! how I shuddered

122 quando mi prese dicendomi: "Forse
when me he grabbed saying to me, 'Perhaps

123 tu non pensavi ch'io löico fossi!".
you not did think that I logician was!'

124 A Minòs mi portò; e quelli attorse
To Minos me he bore; and that one twisted

125 otto volte la coda al dosso duro;
eight times the tail to the hump hard;

126 e poi che per gran rabbia la si morse,
and then that through grand rage it himself he bit,

---

one is not able to be absolved that does not repent, nor can one repent and wish together on account of the contradiction that consents not to it.' Oh miserable me! How I shuddered when he grabbed me saying to me, 'Perhaps you did not think I was a logician!' To Minos he bore me; and that one twisted the tail eight times to the hard hump; and then he himself bit it through grand rage,

127 disse: "Questi è d'i rei del foco furo";
he said, 'This one is of the offenders of the fire thievish'

128 per ch'io là dove vedi son perduto,
therefore I there where you see am lost,

129 e sì vestito, andando, mi rancuro».
and so clothed, going, myself I rue."

130 Quand' elli ebbe 'l suo dir così compiuto,
When it had its speaking thus finished,

131 la fiamma dolorando si partio,
the flame, aching, itself departed,

132 torcendo e dibattendo 'l corno aguto.
twisting and thrashing the horn sharp.

133 Noi passamm' oltre, e io e 'l duca mio,
We passed beyond, both I and the leader my,

134 su per lo scoglio infino in su l'altr' arco
up along the ridge until upwards the other arch,

135 che cuopre 'l fosso in che si paga il fio
that covers the ditch in that is paid the penalty

136 a quei che scommettendo acquistan carco.
to those that pulling apart acquire burden.

---

he said, 'This one is of the offenders of the thievish fire;' therefore I am lost there where you see, and so clothed, going, I rue myself." When it had thus finished speaking, the flame took itself away, aching, twisting and thrashing the sharp horn. We passed beyond, both I and my leader, up along the ridge until upwards the other arch, that covers the ditch in which the penalty is paid to those that acquire burden pulling apart (creating division).

Canto XXVIII: Schismatics

1 Chi poria mai pur con parole sciolte
Who could ever even with words loose

2 dicer del sangue e de le piaghe a pieno
to speak of the blood and of the wounds to the full

3 ch'i' ora vidi, per narrar più volte?
that I now saw, for telling many times?

4 Ogne lingua per certo verria meno
Every tongue for certain would come less

5 per lo nostro sermone e per la mente
for the our lecture (language) and for the mind (memory)

6 c'hanno a tanto comprender poco seno.
have to so much to comprehend little hollow.

7 S'el s'aunasse ancor tutta la gente
If one gathered again all the people

8 che già, in su la fortunata terra
that already, in on the fateful earth

9 di Puglia, fu del suo sangue dolente
of Apulia, was of their blood aching

Who could ever even with loose words speak to the full of the blood and of the wounds that I now saw, though he was telling many times? Every tongue for certain would come less (come up short) for our language and our memory have little hollow (room) to comprehend so much. If one himself gathered again all the people that already, on the fateful earth of Apulia, aching from their blood

10 per li Troiani e per la lunga guerra
on account of the Trojans and for the long war

11 che de l'anella fé sì alte spoglie,
that of the rings made such high spoils

12 come Livïo scrive, che non erra,
as Livy writes, that does not err,

13 con quella che sentio di colpi doglie
with those that felt from blows contractions

14 per contastare a Ruberto Guiscardo;
by opposing to Robert Guiscard;

15 e l'altra il cui ossame ancor s'accoglie
and the others whose pile of bones still are picked up

16 a Ceperan, là dove fu bugiardo
at Ceperano, there where was a liar

17 ciascun Pugliese, e là da Tagliacozzo,
each one Apulian, and there at Tagliacozzo,

18 dove sanz' arme vinse il vecchio Alardo;
where without arms conquered the old Elard;

---

on account of the Trojans and for the long war that made such high spoils as Livy writes, that does not err, with those that felt contractions from blows by opposing Robert Guiscard; and the others whose pile of bones are still picked up at Ceperano, there where each Apulian was a liar, and there at Tagliacozzo, where the old Elard conquered without arms;

19 e qual forato suo membro e qual mozzo
and this one pierced his members and this one cut off

20 mostrasse, d'aequar sarebbe nulla
showed, to equal would nothing

21 il modo de la nona bolgia sozzo.
the mode of the ninth ditch filthy.

22 Già veggia, per mezzul perdere o lulla,
Surely a barrel, from midboard to lose or sideboard,

23 com' io vidi un, così non si pertugia,
as I saw one, thus not so torn,

24 rotto dal mento infin dove si trulla.
broken from the chin until where one farts.

25 Tra le gambe pendevan le minugia;
Between the legs, was hanging the entrails;

26 la corata pareva e 'l tristo sacco
the vitals was apparent and the sad pouch

27 che merda fa di quel che si trangugia.
that shit makes of that that one gulps.

---

and this one showed his pierced members, this one his cut off members, nothing would equal the filthy mode of the ninth ditch. Surely a barrel, from a lost midboard or sideboard, thus not so torn, as I saw one, broken from the chin until where one farts. Between the legs, was hanging the entrails, the vitals were apparent and the sad pouch that makes shit of the which one gulps.

28 Mentre che tutto in lui veder m'attacco,
While that all in him to see me attacked,

29 guardommi e con le man s'aperse il petto,
he was gazing at me and with the hands himself opened the breast,

30 dicendo: «Or vedi com' io mi dilacco!
saying, "Now see how I me spread open!

31 vedi come storpiato è Mäometto!
see how mangled is Mohammed!

32 Dinanzi a me sen va piangendo Alì,
Before me goes weeping Ali,

33 fesso nel volto dal mento al ciuffetto.
split in the face from the chin to the forelock.

34 E tutti li altri che tu vedi qui,
And all the others that you see here,

35 seminator di scandalo e di scisma
sowers of scandal and of schism

36 fuor vivi, e però son fessi così.
were (while) living, and therefore they are split thus.

While the whole sight of him attacked me, he was gazing at me, and with the hands himself opened the breast, saying, "Now see how I spread me open! See how mangled is Mohammed! Before me Ali goes weeping, split in the face from the chin to the forelock. And all the others that you see here, were, (while) living, sowers of scandal and of schism, and there they are thus split.

37 Un diavolo è qua dietro che n'accisma
A devil is here behind that us adorns

38 sì crudelmente, al taglio de la spada
so cruelly, to the edge of the sword

39 rimettendo ciascun di questa risma,
replacing each on of this kind,

40 quand' avem volta la dolente strada;
when we have turned the aching road,

41 però che le ferite son richiuse
because that the wounds have closed again

42 prima ch'altri dinanzi li rivada.
before that others before him return.

43 Ma tu chi se' che 'n su lo scoglio muse,
But you who are that upwards the rock loiter,

44 forse per indugiar d'ire a la pena
perhaps to postpone to go to the penalty

45 ch'è giudicata in su le tue accuse?».
that is judged in on your charges?"

A devil is here behind that adorns us so cruelly, placing again each of this kind to the edge of the sword, when we have turned the aching road, because the wounds have closed again before others return before him. But who are you that loiter upwards the rock, perhaps to postpone to go to the penalty that is judged on your charges (self-accusation)?"

46 «Né morte 'l giunse ancor, né colpa 'l mena»,
"Neither death him has joined yet, nor guilt him sends,",

47 rispuose 'l mio maestro, «a tormentarlo;
responded my master, "to torment him;

48 ma per dar lui esperïenza piena,
but to give him experience full,

49 a me, che morto son, convien menarlo
by me, who dead am, must needs be led he

50 per lo 'nferno qua giù di giro in giro;
through the inferno here below from wheel to wheel;

51 e quest' è ver così com' io ti parlo».
and this is true as how I to you speak."

52 Più fuor di cento che, quando l'udiro,
More they were of a hundred that, when him hearing,

53 s'arrestaron nel fosso a riguardarmi
themselves arrested in the trench to regard me

54 per maraviglia, oblïando il martiro.
as a marvel, forgetting the suffering.

"Neither death has joined to him yet, nor does guilt send him," responded my master, " to torment him; but to give him full experience, by me who am dead, he must needs be led through the Hell here below from wheel to wheel; and this is true as how I speak to you." They were more than a hundred that, when hearing him, arrested themselves in the trench to regard me as a marvel, forgetting the suffering.

55 «Or dì a fra Dolcin dunque che s'armi,
"Now you tell to brother Dolcino therefore himself arm,

56 tu che forse vedra' il sole in breve,
you that perhaps will see the sun in brief,

57 s'ello non vuol qui tosto seguitarmi,
if he not wishes here promptly to follow me,

58 sì di vivanda, che stretta di neve
so with victuals, that mass of snow

59 non rechi la vittoria al Noarese,
not may bring the victory to the Novarese,

60 ch'altrimenti acquistar non saria leve».
that otherwise to acquire not would be light."

61 Poi che l'un piè per girsene sospese,
Then that the one foot by holding suspended

62 Mäometto mi disse esta parola;
Mohammed to me spoke this word;

63 indi a partirsi in terra lo distese.
thence to take himself away on the ground it he extended.

Now, tell brother Dolcino, therefore, to arm himself, you that perhaps will soon see the sun, if he does not wish to soon follow me here, so with victuals, that the mass of snow may not bring the victory to the Novarese, that otherwise would not be light to acquire." Then by holding suspended the one foot Mohammed spoke this word to me; thence to take himself away he extended it to the ground.

64 Un altro, che forata avea la gola
One other, that pierced was the throat

65 e tronco 'l naso infin sotto le ciglia,
and cut off the nose until above the brow,

66 e non avea mai ch'una orecchia sola,
and not had ever that one ear only,

67 ristato a riguardar per maraviglia
standing again to regard as a marvel

68 con li altri, innanzi a li altri aprì la canna,
with the others, before the others opened the pipe

69 ch'era di fuor d'ogne parte vermiglia,
that was of every part vermillion,

70 e disse: «O tu cui colpa non condanna
and said, "O you who guilt not condemn,

71 e cu' io vidi su in terra latina,
and who I saw up on land Latin (in Italy),

72 se troppa simiglianza non m'inganna,
if too much similarity not me mislead,

Another, that the throat was pierced and the nose cut off until above the brow, and never had but one ear only, standing again to regard as a marvel with the others, before the others opened the pipe that was of every part vermillion, and said, "O you who guilt does not condemn, and who I saw up in Italy, if too much similarity does not mislead me,

73 rimembriti di Pier da Medicina,
remember you of Pier da Medicina,

74 se mai torni a veder lo dolce piano
if ever you return to see the sweet plain

75 che da Vercelli a Marcabò dichina.
that from Vercelli to Marcabo slopes down.

76 E fa saper a' due miglior da Fano,
And make to know to two better of Fano,

77 a messer Guido e anco ad Angiolello,
to messers Guido and Angiolello,

78 che, se l'antiveder qui non è vano,
that, if the foresight here not is useless,

79 **gittati** saran fuor di lor vasello****
thrown they will be from their vessel

80 e mazzerati presso a la Cattolica
and thrown overboard near to the Cattolica

81 per tradimento d'un tiranno fello.
by treason of one tyrant spiteful.

---

remember Pier da Medicina, if ever you return to see the sweet plain that slopes down from Vercelli to Marcabo. And make to know to the two better ones of Fano, to messers Guido and Angiolello, that, if the foresight here is not useless, they will be thrown from their vessel and thrown overboard (sealed in a weighted sack) near to the Cattolica by treason of one spiteful tyrant.

82 Tra l'isola di Cipri e di Maiolica
Between the islands of Cyrpus and Maiolica

83 non vide mai sì gran fallo Nettuno,
not saw ever such great fault Neptune,

84 non da pirate, non da gente argolica.
not from pirates, not from people Argolian.

85 Quel traditor che vede pur con l'uno,
That traitor that sees then with the one,

86 e tien la terra che tale qui meco
and holds the city that a certain one here with me

87 vorrebbe di vedere esser digiuno,
could wish of the sight to be lacking of,

88 farà venirli a parlamento seco;
will have to come them to parley with him;

89 poi farà sì, ch'al vento di Focara
then will be such, that to the wind of Focara

90 non sarà lor mestier voto né preco».
neither will be their necessary vows nor prayers."

Between the islands of Cyprus and Maiolica Neptune never saw such great fault, not from pirates, no from the people of Argos. That traitor that sees then with the one, and holds the city that a certain one here with me could wish to be lacking of the sight, will have them to come to parley with him; then such will be that neither their vows nor their prayers will be necessary against the wind of Focara."

91 E io a lui: «Dimostrami e dichiara,
And I to him, "Show me and declare,

92 se vuo' ch'i' porti sù di te novella,
if you wish that I bear up of you news,

93 chi è colui da la veduta amara».
who is that one of the sight bitter."

94 Allor puose la mano a la mascella
Then he put the hand to the jawbone

95 d'un suo compagno e la bocca li aperse,
of one his companion and the mouth he opened,

96 gridando: «Questi è desso, e non favella.
crying, "This one is himself, and not does speak.

97 Questi, scacciato, il dubitar sommerse
This one, shunned, the doubts submerged,

98 in Cesare, affermando che 'l fornito
in Caesar, affirming that the equipped one

99 sempre con danno l'attender sofferse».
always with damage the waiting suffered."

And I to him, "Show me and declare, if you wish that I bear news of you upwards, who that one is of the bitter sight." Then he put his hand to the jawbone of one of his companions and opened the mouth, crying, "This one is himself, and does not speak. This one, shunned, submerged the doubts, in Caesar, affirming that the equipped one always suffered the delay with damage."

Oh quanto mi pareva sbigottito
Oh how to me seemed dismayed

con la lingua tagliata ne la strozza
with the tongue cut in the throat

Curïo, ch'a dir fu così ardito!
Curio, that to speak was so bold!

E un ch'avea l'una e l'altra man mozza,
And one that has the one and the other hand cut off,

levando i moncherin per l'aura fosca,
raising the stumps through the atmosphere grim,

sì che 'l sangue facea la faccia sozza,
such that the blood was making the face filthy,

gridò: «Ricordera'ti anche del Mosca,
cried, "You will remember also of the Mosca,

che disse, lasso!, "Capo ha cosa fatta",
that said, alas!, 'the end is a thing done,'

che fu mal seme per la gente tosca».
that was evil seed for the people Tuscan."

Oh how Curio seemed dismayed to me, with the tongue cut in the throat, that was so bold to speak! And one that has the one and the other hand cut off, raising the stumps through the grim atmosphere, such that the blood was making the face filthy, cried, "You will remember also Mosca, that said, alas!, 'the thing done is the end,' that was evil seed for the Tuscan people."

109 E io li aggiunsi: «E morte di tua schiatta»;
And I him added, "And death of your lineage";

110 per ch'elli, accumulando duol con duolo,
by that he, accumulating grief with grief,

111 sen gio come persona trista e matta.
went as a person sad and demented.

112 Ma io rimasi a riguardar lo stuolo,
But I remained to regard the group,

113 e vidi cosa ch'io avrei paura,
and I saw thing that I would fear

114 sanza più prova, di contarla solo;
without more proof, to consider it just;

115 se non che coscïenza m'assicura,
if not that conscience me assures,

116 la buona compagnia che l'uom francheggia
the good companion that the man fortifies

117 sotto l'asbergo del sentirsi pura.
under the breastplate of knowing itself pure.

And I added to him, "And death to your lineage"; by that he, accumulating grief with grief, went as a person sad and demented. But I remained to regard the group, and I saw a thing that I would fear without more proof, just to consider it; if not that conscience assures me, the good companion that fortifies the man under the breastplate of knowing itself pure.

118 Io vidi certo, e ancor par ch'io 'l veggia,
I saw certainly, and still it seems that I it see,

119 un busto sanza capo andar sì come
a bust without a head walking such as

120 andavan li altri de la trista greggia;
were going the others of the sad flock;

121 e 'l capo tronco tenea per le chiome,
and the head cut off he was holding by the hair,

122 pesol con mano a guisa di lanterna:
hanging with the hand in the manner of a lantern;

123 e quel mirava noi e dicea: «Oh me!».
and that one was gazing at us and said, "Oh me!"

124 Di sé facea a sé stesso lucerna,
Of himself he was making to himself the same a lamp,

125 ed eran due in uno e uno in due;
and they were two in one and one in two;

126 com' esser può, quei sa che sì governa.
how to be it can, he knows that so governs.

I certainly saw, and still it seems that I see it, a bust without a head walking such as the others of the sad flock were going; and the cut off head he was holding by the hair, hanging with the hand in the manner of a lantern; and that one was gazing at us and said, "Oh me!" Of himself he was making to himself a lamp, and they were two in one and one in two; how it can be, he knows that so governs.

127 Quando diritto al piè del ponte fue,
When directly to the foot of the bridge he was,

128 levò 'l braccio alto con tutta la testa
he raised the arm high with all the head,

129 per appressarne le parole sue,
to bring near the words his,

130 che fuoro: «Or vedi la pena molesta,
that were, "Now see the penalty maddening,

131 tu che, spirando, vai veggendo i morti:
you that, breathing, go seeing the dead:

132 vedi s'alcuna è grande come questa.
see if any is grand as this.

133 E perché tu di me novella porti,
And so that you of me news may bring,

134 sappi ch'i' son Bertram dal Bornio, quelli
know that I am Bertran de Born, he

135 che diedi al re giovane i ma' conforti.
that gave to the king young the bad comfort.

When he was directly to the foot of the bridge, he raised the arm high with all the head, to bring his words near, that were, "Now see the maddening penalty, you that, breathing, go seeing the dead; see if any is as grand as this. And so that you may bring news of me, know that I am Bertran de Born, he that gave the young king bad comfort.

136 Io feci il padre e 'l figlio in sé ribelli;
I made the father and the son to themselves hostile;

137 Achitofèl non fé più d'Absalone
Achitophel not did more for Absalom

138 e di Davìd coi malvagi punzelli.
and for David with wicked instigations.

139 Perch' io partì' così giunte persone,
Because I divided thus joined persons,

140 partito porto il mio cerebro, lasso!,
divided I bear my cerebrum, alas!

141 dal suo principio ch'è in questo troncone.
from its origin that is in this trunk.

142 Così s'osserva in me lo contrapasso».
Thus one observes in me the retaliation."

I made the father and the son hostile to themselves; Ahithophel did not do more for Absalom and for David with wicked instigations. Because I thus divided joined persons, divided I bear my cerebrum, alas! from its origin that is in this trunk. Thus one observes in me the retaliation."

Canto XXIX: Falsifiers

1 La molta gente e le diverse piaghe
The many people and the diverse wounds

2 avean le luci mie sì inebrïate,
did the lights my so inebriated,

3 che de lo stare a piangere eran vaghe.
that they to stay to weep did long

4 Ma Virgilio mi disse: «Che pur guate?
But Virgil to me said, "What still are you looking at?

5 perché la vista tua pur si soffolge
Why the sight your still itself rivets

6 là giù tra l'ombre triste smozzicate?
there below between the shades sad maimed?

7 Tu non hai fatto sì a l'altre bolge;
You not were doing so at the other ditches;

8 pensa, se tu annoverar le credi,
think, if you to number them believe,

9 che miglia ventidue la valle volge.
that miles twenty two the valley turns.

The many people and the diverse wounds did so inebriate my lights (eyes), that they longed to stay to weep. But Virgil said to me, "What are you still looking at? Why does your sight still rivet itself there below between the sad, maimed shades? You were not doing so at the other ditches; think, if you believe to number them, that they valley turns twenty-two miles.

10 E già la luna è sotto i nostri piedi;
And already the moon is below our feet,

11 lo tempo è poco omai che n'è concesso,
the time is little now that to us is granted,

12 e altro è da veder che tu non vedi».
and else is given to see that you do not see."

13 «Se tu avessi», rispuos' io appresso,
"If you had," answered I then,

14 «atteso a la cagion per ch'io guardava,
awaited to the reason for that I was gazing,

15 forse m'avresti ancor lo star dimesso».
perhaps me you would still to stay allow."

16 Parte sen giva, e io retro li andava,
Meanwhile went on, and I behind him was walking,

17 lo duca, già faccendo la risposta,
the leader, already making the response,

18 e soggiugnendo: «Dentro a quella cava
and adding, "Within that pit

And already the moon is below our feet, the time is little now that to us is granted, and else is given to see that you do not see." "If you had," I then answered, "awaited the reason I was gazing, perhaps you will still allow me to stay." Meanwhile the leader went on, and I was walking behind him, already making the response, and adding, "Within that pit

19 dov' io tenea or li occhi sì a posta,
where I held now the eyes so deliberately,

20 credo ch'un spirto del mio sangue pianga
I believe that a spirit of my blood weeps

21 la colpa che là giù cotanto costa».
the guilt that there below so much costs."

22 Allor disse 'l maestro: «Non si franga
Then said the master, "Not itself let break

23 lo tuo pensier da qui innanzi sovr' ello.
your thought from here onward over him.

24 Attendi ad altro, ed ei là si rimanga;
Attend to another (thing), and him there let himself keep;

25 ch'io vidi lui a piè del ponticello
that I saw him at foot of the bridge

26 mostrarti e minacciar forte col dito,
pointing at you and threatening strongly with finger

27 e udi' 'l nominar Geri del Bello.
and I heard him named Geri del Bello.

---

where I now so deliberately held the eyes, I believe that a spirit of my blood weeps the guilt that there below costs so much." Then the master said, "Let not your thought break itself from here onward over him. Attend to another thing, and let him keep himself; I saw him at the foot of the bridge at you and strongly threatening with the finger and I heard him named Geri del Bello.

28 Tu eri allor sì del tutto impedito
You were then so of entirely impeded

29 sovra colui che già tenne Altaforte,
over him that onetime held Hautefort,

30 che non guardasti in là, sì fu partito».
that not you did gaze in there, so he departed."

31 «O duca mio, la vïolenta morte
"O leader my, the violent death

32 che non li è vendicata ancor», diss' io,
that not him is avenged still," said I,

33 «per alcun che de l'onta sia consorte,
"by anyone that of the shame might be a partner

34 fece lui disdegnoso; ond' el sen gio
made him disdainful; whence he went on

35 sanza parlarmi, sì com' ïo estimo:
without speaking to me, such as I estimate;

36 e in ciò m'ha el fatto a sé più pio».
and by that me has he made to him more pious."

You were then so entirely impeded over him that onetime held Hautefort, that you did not gaze in there, so he departed." "O my leader, the violent death that is still not avenged him," said I, "by anyone that might be a partner of the shame made him disdainful; whence he went on without speaking to me, such as I estimate; and by that he has made me more pious (charitable) to him."

37 Così parlammo infino al loco primo
Thus we talked until to the place first

38 che de lo scoglio l'altra valle mostra,
that of the ridge the other valley showed,

39 se più lume vi fosse, tutto ad imo.
if more light there had been, entirely to the low.

40 Quando noi fummo sor l'ultima chiostra
When we were above the ultimate cloister

41 di Malebolge, sì che i suoi conversi
of Malebolge, such that its laymen

42 potean parere a la veduta nostra,
could appear to the sight our,

43 lamenti saettaron me diversi,
laments shot at me strange,

44 che di pietà ferrati avean li strali;
that of pity ironed were the darts;

45 ond' io li orecchi con le man copersi.
whence I the ears with the hands covered.

Thus we talked until the first place of the ridge that showed the other valley, if more light there had been, entirely to the low (bottom). When we were above the ultimate cloister of Malebolge, such that its laymen could appear to our sight, strange laments shot at me, which darts were ironed with pity; whence I covered the ears with the hands.

46 Qual dolor fora, se de li spedali
What pain would be, if of the hospitals

47 di Valdichiana tra 'l luglio e 'l settembre
of Valdichiana between July and September

48 e di Maremma e di Sardigna i mali
and from Maremma and Sardinia the ill

49 fossero in una fossa tutti 'nsembre,
were in one ditch all together,

50 tal era quivi, e tal puzzo n'usciva
such was there, and such reek from there was escaping

51 qual suol venir de le marcite membre.
such as is accustomed to come from the rotting members.

52 Noi discendemmo in su l'ultima riva
We descended upon the ultimate bank

53 del lungo scoglio, pur da man sinistra;
from the long ridge, still by hand left;

54 e allor fu la mia vista più viva
and then was my sight more lively

What pain would be, if of the hospitals of Valdichiana between July and September and from Maremma and Sardinia the ill were in on ditch all together, such was there, and such reek was escaping from there, such as is accustomed to come from the rotting members. We descended upon the ultimate bank, from the long ridge, still by the left hand; and then my sight was more lively

55 giù ver' lo fondo, la 've la ministra
below toward the bottom, the where the minister

56 de l'alto Sire infallibil giustizia
of the high Lord, infallible justice

57 punisce i falsador che qui registra.
punishes the falsifiers that here registers.

58 Non credo ch'a veder maggior tristizia
Not I believe that to see greater sadness

59 fosse in Egina il popol tutto infermo,
was in Aegina the people wholly sick,

60 quando fu l'aere sì pien di malizia,
when was the air so full of malice,

61 che li animali, infino al picciol vermo,
that the animals, until to the little worm,

62 cascaron tutti, e poi le genti antiche,
fell all, and then the people ancient,

63 secondo che i poeti hanno per fermo,
according that the poets hold through firmness,

---

below toward the bottom, where the minister of the high Lord, infallible justice, punishes the falsifiers that it registers here. I do not believe that it was a greater sadness to see the people wholly sick in Aegina, when the air was so full of malice, that the animals, even to the little worm, all fell, and then the ancient people, according to what the poets hold through firmness,

64 si ristorar di seme di formiche;
were restored from seed from ants;

65 ch'era a veder per quella oscura valle
than it was to see through that dark valley

66 languir li spirti per diverse biche.
languishing the spirits by diverse shocks.

67 Qual sovra 'l ventre e qual sovra le spalle
This one over the stomach and that one over the shoulders

68 l'un de l'altro giacea, e qual carpone
the one of the other sprawled, and this one crawling

69 si trasmutava per lo tristo calle.
himself transmuted along the wretched road.

70 Passo passo andavam sanza sermone,
Step by step (Slowly) we walked without discourse,

71 guardando e ascoltando li ammalati,
gazing and listening to the sick ones,

72 che non potean levar le lor persone.
that not were able to raise their persons.

---

were restored from the seed of ants; that it was to see through that dark valley the spirits languishing by diverse shocks. This one over the stomach, that one over the shoulders, the one sprawled on the other, and this one crawling, himself transmuted, along the wretch road. Slowly we walked without discourse, gazing and listening to the sick ones, that were not able to raise their persons.

73 Io vidi due sedere a sé poggiati,
I saw two sitting to themselves placed,

74 com' a scaldar si poggia tegghia a tegghia,
as to dry one places pan to pan,

75 dal capo al piè di schianze macolati;
from the head to the foot of scabs spotted;

76 e non vidi già mai menare stregghia
and not I saw yet ever to wield a curry comb

77 a ragazzo aspettato dal segnorso,
by a boy awaited of his master,

78 né a colui che mal volontier vegghia,
nor by one that ill willingly keeps awake,

79 come ciascun menava spesso il morso
as each one wielded frequently the bite

80 de l'unghie sopra sé per la gran rabbia
of the nails over himself for the grand rage

81 del pizzicor, che non ha più soccorso;
of the itching, that not has more succor.

I saw two sitting placed to themselves, as one places pan to pan to dry, from the head to the foot spotted with scabs; and I never yet saw curry comb wielded by a boy awaited by his master, nor by one that unwillingly stays awake, as each one frequently wielded the bite of the nails over himself for the grand rage of the itching, that has not more succor;

82 e sì traevan giù l'unghie la scabbia,
and they were pulling down the nails the scabs

83 come coltel di scardova le scaglie
as a knife of carp the scales

84 o d'altro pesce che più larghe l'abbia.
or of another fish that more large might have.

85 «O tu che con le dita ti dismaglie»,
"Oh you that with the fingers yourself unmail,"

86 cominciò 'l duca mio a l'un di loro,
began the leader my to one of them,

87 «e che fai d'esse talvolta tanaglie,
"and that make of them sometimes pincers,

88 dinne s'alcun Latino è tra costoro
tell us if anyone Italian is among these

89 che son quinc' entro, se l'unghia ti basti
that are here within, so nail your may suffice

90 etternalmente a cotesto lavoro».
eternally to this work."

---

and their nails were pulling down the scabs as a knife the scales of carp or of another fish that have larger (scales). "O you that with the fingers unmail yourself," began my leader to one of them, "and that sometimes make of them pincers, tell us if anyone Italian is among these that are here within, so may your nail eternally suffice for this work."

«Latin siam noi, che tu vedi sì guasti
"Italians are we, that you see so broken

qui ambedue», rispuose l'un piangendo;
here both," responded one weeping;

«ma tu chi se' che di noi dimandasti?».
"but you who are that of us have asked?

E 'l duca disse: «I' son un che discendo
And the leader said, "I am one that descending

con questo vivo giù di balzo in balzo,
with this one living below from rampart to rampart,

e di mostrar lo 'nferno a lui intendo».
and to show the Hell to him I intend."

Allor si ruppe lo comun rincalzo;
Then itself broke the mutual support;

e tremando ciascuno a me si volse
and trembling each one to me himself turned

con altri che l'udiron di rimbalzo.
with others that it heard by (rebound) echo.

"We are both Italians, that you see so broken here," responded one weeping; "but who are you that have asked of us?" And the leader said, "I am one that with this living one descending below from rampart to rampart, and I intend to show him Hell." Then the mutual support broke itself; and trembling each one turned himself to me with the others that heard it by echo.

Lo buon maestro a me tutto s'accolse,
The good master to me all himself gathered,

dicendo: «Dì a lor ciò che tu vuoli»;
saying, "Speak to them that that you wish;"

e io incominciai, poscia ch'ei volse:
and I began, since that he wished;

«Se la vostra memoria non s'imboli
"May your memory not be stolen

nel primo mondo da l'umane menti,
in the first world from the human minds,

ma s'ella viva sotto molti soli,
but may it live beneath many suns,

ditemi chi voi siete e di che genti;
tell me who you are and of what people;

la vostra sconcia e fastidiosa pena
your obscene and bothersome pain

di palesarvi a me non vi spaventi».
to reveal yourselves to me not you let deter."

The good master gathered all of himself to me, saying "Speak to them what you wish," and I began, since he wished that; "May your memory no be stolen in the first world from human minds, but may it live beneath many suns, tell me who you are and of what people; let not your obscene and bothersome pain deter you to reveal yourselves to me."

109 «Io fui d'Arezzo, e Albero da Siena»,
"I was from Arezzo, and Albero of Siena,"

110 rispuose l'un, «mi fé mettere al foco;
responded one, "me made to place to the fire;

111 ma quel per ch'io mori' qui non mi mena.
but that for which I died here not me placed.

112 Vero è ch'i' dissi lui, parlando a gioco:
True it is that I told him, speaking in jest;

113 "I' mi saprei levar per l'aere a volo";
'I me know how to raise through the air in flight";

114 e quei, ch'avea vaghezza e senno poco,
and he, that had longing but sense little,

115 volle ch'i' li mostrassi l'arte; e solo
wished that I him show the art; and only

116 perch' io nol feci Dedalo, mi fece
because I not him make Daedalus, me he made

117 ardere a tal che l'avea per figliuolo.
to burn by such that him held as a son.

"I was from Arezzo, and Albero of Siena," responded one, "made to place me in the fire; but that for which I died does not place me here. True it is I told him, speaking in jest, "I know how to raise me through the air in flight"; and he, that hand longing but little sense, wished that I show him the art; and only because I did not make him Daedalus, he made me to burn by such that held him as a son.

118	Ma	ne	l'ultima	bolgia	de	le	diece
	But	*in*	*the ultimate*	*ditch*	*of*	*the*	*ten*
119	me	per	l'alchìmia	che	nel	mondo	usai
	me	*for*	*alchemy*	*that*	*in the*	*world*	*I employed*
120	dannò	Minòs,	a	cui	fallar	non	lece».
	condemned	*Minos,*	*for*	*whom*	*to fail*	*not*	*is not lawful."*
121	E	io	dissi	al	poeta:	«Or	fu	già	mai
	And	*I*	*said*	*to the*	*poet,*	*"Now*	*was*	*already*	*ever*
122	gente	sì	vana	come	la	sanese?
	people	*so*	*vain*	*as*	*the*	*Sienese?*
123	Certo	non	la	francesca	sì	d'assai!».
	Certainly	*not*	*the*	*French,*	*so*	*by far!"*
124	Onde	l'altro	lebbroso,	che	m'intese,
	Whence	*the other*	*leper,*	*that*	*me understood,*
125	rispuose	al	detto	mio:	«Tra'mene		Stricca
	responded	*to*	*saying*	*my,*	*"Take away from me of them (except for)*		*Stricca*
126	che	seppe	far	le	temperate	spese,
	that	*knew*	*to make*	*the*	*temperate*	*spending,*

But in the ultimate ditch of the ten, for alchemy that I employed in the world Minos condemned me, for whom it is not lawful to fail." And I said to the poet, "Now was there ever yet such a vain people as the Sienese? Certainly not the French, so by far!" Whence the other leper, that understood me, responded to my saying, "Except for Stricca who knew to make the temperate spending,

127 e Niccolò che la costuma ricca
and Niccolo that the custom rich

128 del garofano prima discoverse
of the clove first discovered

129 ne l'orto dove tal seme s'appicca;
in the garden where such seed itself roots;

130 e tra'ne la brigata in che disperse
and (except for) the group in that scattered

131 Caccia d'Ascian la vigna e la gran fonda,
Caccia d'Asciano the vineyard and the grand acreage,

132 e l'Abbagliato suo senno proferse.
and the Abbagliato (Bedazzled) his sense uttered.

133 Ma perché sappi chi sì ti seconda
But so that you may know who so you follows

134 contra i Sanesi, aguzza ver' me l'occhio,
against the Sienese, sharpen toward me the eye,

135 sì che la faccia mia ben ti risponda:
such that the face my well you respond;

---

and Niccolo that first discovered the rich custom of the clove in the garden where such seeds roots itself; and except for the group in which Caccia d'Asciano scattered the vineyard and the grand acreage, and Abbagliato (Bedazzled) uttered his sense. But so that you may know who so follows you against the Sienese, sharpen the eye toward me, such that my face may well answer you;

136 sì vedrai ch'io son l'ombra di Capocchio,
so you will see that I am the shade of Capocchio,

137 che falsai li metalli con l'alchìmia;
that falsified the metals with alchemy;

138 e te dee ricordar, se ben t'adocchio,
and you one ought to remind, if well you I eye,

139 com' io fui di natura buona scimia».
how I was of nature good ape.

---

so you will see that I am the shake of Capocchio, that falsified the metals with alchemy; and one ought to remind you, if I eye you well, how a good ape of nature I was.

Canto XXX: Falsifiers

1 Nel tempo che Iunone era crucciata
In the time that Juno was tormented

2 per Semelè contra 'l sangue tebano,
on account of Semele against the blood Theban

3 come mostrò una e altra fïata,
as she showed one and another occasion,

4 Atamante divenne tanto insano,
Athamas became so much insane

5 che veggendo la moglie con due figli
that seeing the wife with two sons

6 andar carcata da ciascuna mano,
walking bearing of each one hand,

7 gridò: «Tendiam le reti, sì ch'io pigli
he cried, "Spread the nets, such that I may take

8 la leonessa e' leoncini al varco»;
the lioness and lioncubs at the passage";

9 e poi distese i dispietati artigli,
and then he stretched the pitiless claws,

In the time that Juno was tormented on account of Semele against the Theban blood as she showed on one and another occasion, Athamas became so insane that seeing the wife with two sons walking, bearing each one on a hand, he cried, "Spread the nets, such that I may take the lioness and lioncubs at the passage." And then he stretched the pitiless claws,

10 prendendo l'un ch'avea nome Learco,
taking the one that was named Learchus,

11 e rotollo e percosselo ad un sasso;
and spun and struck him to a rock;

12 e quella s'annegò con l'altro carco.
and she herself drowned with the other load.

13 E quando la fortuna volse in basso
And when the fortune brought to the deep

14 l'altezza de' Troian che tutto ardiva,
the stature of the Trojans that all- daring,

15 sì che 'nsieme col regno il re fu casso,
such that together with the kingdom the king was undone,

16 Ecuba trista, misera e cattiva,
Hecuba sad, miserable and captive,

17 poscia che vide Polissena morta,
thereafter that saw Polyxena dead,

18 e del suo Polidoro in su la riva
and of her Polydorus upon the shore

---

taking the one that was named Learchus and spun and stuck him to a rock; and she drowned herself with the other load. And when the fortune brought to the deep the stature (pride) of the all-daring Trojans, such that together with the kingdom the king was undone, Hecuba, sad, miserable, and captive, thereafter saw Polyxena dead, and her Polydorus upon the shore

19 del mar si fu la dolorosa accorta,
of the sea she was anguishing noticing,

20 forsennata latrò sì come cane;
frenzied she barked just as a dog;

21 tanto il dolor le fé la mente torta.
so much the pain her made mind twisted.

22 Ma né di Tebe furie né troiane
But neither by Theban furies nor Trojan

23 si vider mäi in alcun tanto crude,
was seen ever in anyone so brutal,

24 non punger bestie, nonché membra umane,
not to wound beasts, as well as members human,

25 quant' io vidi in due ombre smorte e nude,
as I saw in two shades wan and naked,

26 che mordendo correvan di quel modo
that biting ran of that manner

27 che 'l porco quando del porcil si schiude.
that the pig when of the sty opens up.

---

of the sea, she was noticing, anguishing, frenzied she barked just like a dog; so much her pain made the mind twisted. But neither by Theban furies nor Trojan was ever seen in anyone so brutal, not in wounding beasts, as well as human members, as I saw in two wan and naked shades, that biting ran in that manner that the pig when the sty opens up.

28 L'una giunse a Capocchio, e in sul nodo
The one arrived at Capocchio, and on the knot

29 del collo l'assannò, sì che, tirando,
of the neck him mauled, such that, pulling

30 grattar li fece il ventre al fondo sodo.
to grate him he made the belly on the bottom hard.

31 E l'Aretin che rimase, tremando
And the Aretine, that remained, trembling

32 mi disse: «Quel folletto è Gianni Schicchi,
to me said, "That imp is Gianni Schicchi,

33 e va rabbioso altrui così conciando».
and he goes rabid others so dressing."

34 «Oh», diss' io lui, «se l'altro non ti ficchi
"Oh," said I to him, "so may the other not you stick

35 li denti a dosso, non ti sia fatica
the teeth on, not you let it strain

36 a dir chi è, pria che di qui si spicchi».
to tell who that is, before that from here itself it separates."

The one arrived at Capocchio, and on the knot of the neck mauled him, such that pulling he made to grate his belly on the hard bottom. And the Aretine, that remained, trembling, said to me, "That imp is Gianni Schicchi, and he goes rabid so dressing others." "Oh," I said to him, "so may the other not stick the teeth on you, let it not strain you to tell who that is, before it separates itself from here."

37 Ed elli a me: «Quell' è l'anima antica
And he to me, "That one is the soul ancient

38 di Mirra scellerata, che divenne
of Myrrha wicked, that became

39 al padre, fuor del dritto amore, amica.
to the father, outside of the right love, lover.

40 Questa a peccar con esso così venne,
She to sin with him so came,

41 falsificando sé in altrui forma,
falsifying herself in another form,

42 come l'altro che là sen va, sostenne,
as the other that there went off, maintaining

43 per guadagnar la donna de la torma,
to earn the lady of the herd,

44 falsificare in sé Buoso Donati,
to falsify in himself Buoso Donati,

45 testando e dando al testamento norma».
making a will and giving to the testament legal form."

And he to me, "That one is the ancient soul of wicked Myrrha, that became lover to the father, outside of right love. She so came to sin with him, falsifying herself in another form, as the other that went off, maintaining to earn the lady of the herd, to falsify in himself Buoso Donati, making a will and giving the testament legal form."

46 E poi che i due rabbiosi fuor passati
And after that the two rabid ones had passed

47 sovra cu' io avea l'occhio tenuto,
on whom I had the eye held,

48 rivolsilo a guardar li altri mal nati.
I turned to him to gaze at the other evil born.

49 Io vidi un, fatto a guisa di lëuto,
I saw one, made to the guise of a lute

50 pur ch'elli avesse avuta l'anguinaia
just if that he had had the groin

51 tronca da l'altro che l'uomo ha forcuto.
cut off from the other that the man is forked.

52 La grave idropesì, che sì dispaia
The heavy dropsy, that so disproportions

53 le membra con l'omor che mal converte,
the members with the humor that ill it converts,

54 che 'l viso non risponde a la ventraia,
that the visage does not answer to the belly,

And after the two rabid ones had passed, on whom I had held the eye, I turned to him to gaze at the other evil-born ones. I saw one, made to the guise of a lute even if he had had the groin cut off from the other (where) the man is forked. The heavy dropsy, that so disproportions the members with the humor that it ill converts, that the visage does not answer to the belly,

55 faceva lui tener le labbra aperte
was making him to hold the lips open

56 come l'etico fa, che per la sete
as the hectic fever does, that by the thirst

57 l'un verso 'l mento e l'altro in sù rinverte.
the one toward the chin and the other upward turns.

58 «O voi che sanz' alcuna pena siete,
"O you that without any punishment are,

59 e non so io perché, nel mondo gramo»,
and not know I why, in the world wretched,"

60 diss' elli a noi, «guardate e attendete
said he to us, "gaze and attend

61 a la miseria del maestro Adamo;
to the misery of the master Adam;

62 io ebbi, vivo, assai di quel ch'i' volli,
I had, alive, much of that that I desired,

63 e ora, lasso!, un gocciol d'acqua bramo.
and now, alas! a drop of water I crave.

---

was making him to hold the lips open as the hectic fever does, that by the thirst one turns toward the chin, and the other upwards. "Oh you that are without any punishment, I do not know why, in the wretched world," he said to us, "gaze and attend to the misery of Master Adam; alive, I had much of what I desired, and now, alas! I crave a drop of water.

64 Li ruscelletti che d'i verdi colli
The little streams that from the green hills

65 del Casentin discendon giuso in Arno,
of the Casentino descend below into the Arno,

66 faccendo i lor canali freddi e molli,
making their channels cold and tender

67 sempre mi stanno innanzi, e non indarno,
always me stand in front of, and not in vain,

68 ché l'imagine lor vie più m'asciuga
for the image their more and more me dries

69 che 'l male ond' io nel volto mi discarno.
than the evil whence I in the face me discarnate.

70 La rigida giustizia che mi fruga
The rigid justice that me ransacks

71 tragge cagion del loco ov' io peccai
draws a reason from the place where I sinned

72 a metter più li miei sospiri in fuga.
to set more my sighs in flight.

The little streams that from the green hills of the Casentino descend below into the Arno, making their channels cold and tender, always stand in front of me, and not in vain, for their image dries me more and more than the evil whence I discarnate me in the face. The rigid justice that ransacks me draws a reason from the place where I sinned to set my sighs in more (faster) flight.

73 Ivi è Romena, là dov' io falsai
Yonder is Romena, there where I falsified

74 la lega suggellata del Batista;
the alloy sealed with the Baptist;

75 per ch'io il corpo sù arso lasciai.
for which I the body above burned left.

76 Ma s'io vedessi qui l'anima trista
But if I might see here the soul sad

77 di Guido o d'Alessandro o di lor frate,
of Guido or of Alessandro or of their brother

78 per Fonte Branda non darei la vista.
for Fonte Branda not I would give the sight.

79 Dentro c'è l'una già, se l'arrabbiate
Within this is the one already, if the angered

80 ombre che vanno intorno dicon vero;
shades that move about speak truth;

81 ma che mi val, c'ho le membra legate?
but what to me the worth, that have the members tethered?

Yonder is Romena, there where I falsified the alloy sealed with the Baptist; for which I left the body burned above. But if I might see here the sad soul of Guido or of Alessandro or of their brother I would not give the sight for Fonte Branda. Within this (place) the one is already, if the angered shakes that move about speak truth; but what to me (is) the worth, that have the members tethered?

82 S'io fossi pur di tanto ancor leggero
If I were just of such again light

83 ch'i' potessi in cent' anni andare un'oncia,
that I could be able in a hundred years to walk one inch,

84 io sarei messo già per lo sentiero,
I would have gone already along the path,

85 cercando lui tra questa gente sconcia,
looking for him among these people obscene,

86 con tutto ch'ella volge undici miglia,
with all that it turns eleven miles

87 e men d'un mezzo di traverso non ci ha.
and less of a half (a mile) of the transverse not there is.

88 Io son per lor tra sì fatta famiglia;
I am on account of them among such made a family;

89 e' m'indussero a batter li fiorini
they me induced to strike the florins

90 ch'avevan tre carati di mondiglia».
that have three carats of dross."

If I were again just of such light that I could be able to walk one inch in a hundred years, I would already have gone along the path, looking for him among these obscene people, with all that it turns eleven miles and there is not less than a half (a mile) of the transverse. I am on account of them made among such a family; they induced me to strike the florins that have three carats of dross."

91 E io a lui: «Chi son li due tapini
And I to him, "Who are the two wretched ones

92 che fumman come man bagnate 'l verno,
that smoke like hands wet in winter,

93 giacendo stretti a' tuoi destri confini?».
lying tightly to your right border?"

94 «Qui li trovai—e poi volta non dierno—»,
"Here them I found — and after a turn not they gave,"

95 rispuose, «quando piovvi in questo greppo,
he answered, "when I rained down on this steep slope,

96 e non credo che dieno in sempiterno.
and not I believe that they will give for eternity.

97 L'una è la falsa ch'accusò Gioseppo;
The one is the false woman that accused Joseph;

98 l'altr' è 'l falso Sinon greco di Troia:
the other is the false Sinon Greek of Troy;

99 per febbre aguta gittan tanto leppo».
on account of the fever acute they throw out such stench."

And I to him, "Who are the two wretched ones that smoke like wet hands in winter, lying tightly against your right border?" "Here I found them, and after that they gave not a turn," he answered, "when I rained down on this steep slope, and I do not believe that they will give (a turn) for eternity. This one is the false woman that accused Joseph; the other is the false Sinon, the Greek of Troy; on account of the acute fever they throw out such a stench."

E l'un di lor, che si recò a noia
And the one of them, that himself brought annoyance (became annoyed)

forse d'esser nomato sì oscuro,
perhaps to be named so darkly,

col pugno li percosse l'epa croia.
with fist him he struck the belly hard.

Quella sonò come fosse un tamburo;
That resounded as if it were a drum;

e mastro Adamo li percosse il volto
and master Adam him struck his face

col braccio suo, che non parve men duro,
with arm his, that not seemed less hard,

dicendo a lui: «Ancor che mi sia tolto
saying to him, "Although to me it is deprived

lo muover per le membra che son gravi,
the movement by the members that are heavy,

ho io il braccio a tal mestiere sciolto».
have I the arm to such vocation loose."

And the one of them, that brought himself annoyance (became annoyed), perhaps to be named so darkly, with a fist he struck the hard belly. That resounded as if it were a drum; and Master Adam struck him in his face with his arm, that seemed not less hard, saying to him, "Although the movement by the members that are heavy is deprived to me, I have the arm loose for such a vocation."

Ond' ei rispuose: «Quando tu andavi
Whence he answered, "When you were going

al fuoco, non l'avei tu così presto;
to the fire, not it have you so ready;

ma sì e più l'avei quando coniavi».
but such and more it you had when you were coining."

E l'idropico: «Tu di' ver di questo:
And the dropsical one, "You say true of this;

ma tu non fosti sì ver testimonio
but you not were so true witness

là 've del ver fosti a Troia richesto».
there where for the truth you were at Troy asked."

«S'io dissi falso, e tu falsasti il conio»,
"If I spoke false, and you falsified the coining,"

disse Sinon; «e son qui per un fallo,
said Sinon, "and I am here for one fault,

e tu per più ch'alcun altro demonio!».
and you on account of more than any other demon!"

Whence he answered, "When you were going to the fire, you did not have it so ready, but such and more you had it when you were coining." And the dropsical one, "You say true of this; but you were not such a true witness there where for the truth you were asked at Troy." "If I spoke false, and you falsified the coining," said Sinon, "and I am here for the one fault, and you on account of more than any other demon!"

118 «Ricorditi, spergiuro, del cavallo»,
"May one remind you, perjurer, of the horse,"

119 rispuose quel ch'avëa infiata l'epa;
answered that one that had inflamed the belly;

120 «e sieti reo che tutto il mondo sallo!».
"and let it be to you a torment that the whole world knows it!"

121 «E te sia rea la sete onde ti crepa»,
"And to you let be a torment the thirst when you cracks,"

122 disse 'l Greco, «la lingua, e l'acqua marcia
said the Greek, "the tongue, and the water putrid

123 che 'l ventre innanzi a li occhi sì t'assiepa!».
that the belly before to the eyes so you makes a hedge!"

124 Allora il monetier: «Così si squarcia
Then the minter: "So itself rends

125 la bocca tua per tuo mal come suole;
the mouth your on account of your evil as is usual;

126 ché, s'i' ho sete e omor mi rinfarcia,
for, if I have thirst and humor me pads

"May one remind you, perjurer, of the horse," answered that one that hand the inflamed belly; "and let it be to you a torment that the whole world know it!" "And let the thirst be a torment to you when it cracks you," said the Greek, "the tongue, and the putrid water that so makes a hedge of your belly before the eyes!" Then the minter, "So your mouth rends itself on account of your evil, as is usual; for, if I have thirst and the humor pads me,

127 tu hai l'arsura e 'l capo che ti duole,
you have the burning heat and the head that you pains,

128 e per leccar lo specchio di Narcisso,
and to lick the mirror of Narcissus,

129 non vorresti a 'nvitar molte parole».
not you would wish to be invited many words."

130 Ad ascoltarli er' io del tutto fisso,
To listen to them was I of the wholly fixed,

131 quando 'l maestro mi disse: «Or pur mira,
when the master to me said, "Now still look,

132 che per poco che teco non mi risso!».
that for little that with you not me I brawl!"

133 Quand' io 'l senti' a me parlar con ira,
When I him heard to me speak with anger,

134 volsimi verso lui con tal vergogna,
I turned me toward him with such shame,

135 ch'ancor per la memoria mi si gira.
that even now through the memory my it circles.

---

you have the burning heat and the head that pains you, and to lick the mirror of Narcissus you would not wish many words to be invited." I was wholly fixed to listen to them, when the master said to me, "Now still look, because for little to me I brawl with you!" When I heard him speak to me with anger, I turned me toward him with such shame, that even now it circles through my memory.

136 Qual è colui che suo dannaggio sogna,
Such as is that one that his damage dreams,

137 che sognando desidera sognare,
that dreaming was desiring to dream

138 sì che quel ch'è, come non fosse, agogna,
such that for that that is, as if not it were, he yearns,

139 tal mi fec' io, non possendo parlare,
so too me made I, not being able to speak,

140 che disïava scusarmi, e scusava
that I was desiring to excuse myself, and was excusing

141 me tuttavia, e nol mi credea fare.
myself nevertheless, and not me I was believing to do.

142 «Maggior difetto men vergogna lava»,
"Greater flaw less shame washes,"

143 disse 'l maestro, «che 'l tuo non è stato;
said the master, "that yours not has been;

144 però d'ogne trestizia ti disgrava.
therefore of all sadness yourself unburden.

Such as is that one that dreams his damage, that dreaming was desiring to dream such that he years for what is, as if it were not, so too I made me, not being able to speak, that I was desiring to excuse myself, and I was excusing myself nevertheless, and I was not believing me to do. "Less shame washes a greater flaw," said the master, "that yours has not been; therefore unburden yourself of all sadness.

145 E fa ragion ch'io ti sia sempre allato,
And know that I you be always beside,

146 se più avvien che fortuna t'accoglia
if more it should happen that fortune you greets

147 dove sien genti in simigliante piato:
where are people in similar dispute;

148 ché voler ciò udire è bassa voglia».
for to wish that to hear is a base desire."

---

and know that I be always beside you, if it should happen more that fortune greets (finds) where people are in similar dispute; for to wish to hear that is a base desire."

Canto XXXI: The Ring of Giants

1 Una medesma lingua pria mi morse,
One same tongue before me bit

2 sì che mi tinse l'una e l'altra guancia,
such that me it tinged the one and the other cheek,

3 e poi la medicina mi riporse;
and then the medicine to me again extended;

4 così od' io che solea far la lancia
so hear I that use to make the spear

5 d'Achille e del suo padre esser cagione
of Achilles and of his father to be reason

6 prima di trista e poi di buona mancia.
first of sadness and then of good gift.

7 Noi demmo il dosso al misero vallone
We gave the back to the miserable ravine

8 su per la ripa che 'l cinge dintorno,
up along the bank that encircles it around,

9 attraversando sanza alcun sermone.
crossing over without any discourse.

One same tongue bit me before such that it tinged me, one and the other cheek, and then he extended the medicine again to me; so I hear that the spear of Achilles and of his father used to make to be the reason first of sadness and then of a good gift. We gave the back to the miserable ravine up along the bank that encircles it around, crossing over without any discourse.

10 Quiv' era men che notte e men che giorno,
Here it was less than night and less than day,

11 sì che 'l viso m'andava innanzi poco;
such that the my sight went ahead little;

12 ma io senti' sonare un alto corno,
but I heard sounding one high horn,

13 tanto ch'avrebbe ogne tuon fatto fioco,
so much so that it would have all thunder made weak,

14 che, contra sé la sua via seguitando,
that, against itself its path following,

15 dirizzò li occhi miei tutti ad un loco.
straightened the eyes my all to one place.

16 Dopo la dolorosa rotta, quando
After the agonizing retreat, when

17 Carlo Magno perdé la santa gesta,
Charlemagne lost the holy deeds,

18 non sonò sì terribilmente Orlando.
not did sound so terribly.

Here it was less than night and less than day, such that my sight went ahead little; but I heard one high horn sounding, so much so that it would have made all thunder weak, that, following the path against itself, my eyes straightened all to one place. After the agonizing course, when Charlemagne lost the holy deeds (wars), Roland did not sound (a trumpet) so terribly.

19 Poco portäi in là volta la testa,
Little I had held in there turned the head

20 che me parve veder molte alte torri;
that to me seemed to see many high towers;

21 ond' io: «Maestro, dì, che terra è questa?».
whence I, "Master, say, what city is this?

22 Ed elli a me: «Però che tu trascorri
And he to me, "Because that you pass on (with the eyes)

23 per le tenebre troppo da la lungi,
through the darkness too much from afar,

24 avvien che poi nel maginare abborri.
it happens that then in the imagination you go wrong.

25 Tu vedrai ben, se tu là ti congiungi,
You will see well, if you there to you conjoin,

26 quanto 'l senso s'inganna di lontano;
how much the sense itself deceives concerning distance;

27 però alquanto più te stesso pungi».
therefore somewhat more you yourself you spur."

I had little held the head turned there that it seemed to me to see many high towers; whence I, "Master, say, what city is this?" And he to me, "Because you pass on (with the eyes through the darkness from too far away, it happens that you go wrong in the imagination. You will see well, if you join yourself to there, how much the sense deceives itself concerning the distance; therefore spur yourself somewhat more."

28 Poi caramente mi prese per mano
Then affectionately me took by hand

29 e disse: «Pria che noi siam più avanti,
and said, "Before that we are more forward,

30 acciò che 'l fatto men ti paia strano,
so that the fact less to you might seem strange,

31 sappi che non son torri, ma giganti,
know that not they are towers, but giants,

32 e son nel pozzo intorno da la ripa
they are in the pit around of the bank

33 da l'umbilico in giuso tutti quanti».
from the navel in downward all these."

34 Come quando la nebbia si dissipa,
As when the cloud itself disperses,

35 lo sguardo a poco a poco raffigura
the gaze little by little describes

36 ciò che cela 'l vapor che l'aere stipa,
what that conceals the vapor that the air thickens,

Then he affectionately took me by the hand and said, "Before we are more forward, so that the fact might seem to you less strange, know that they are not towers, but giants, they are in the pit around the bank, all these from the navel downward." As when the cloud disperses itself, the gaze little by little describes what the vapor thickening the air conceals,

37 così forando l'aura grossa e scura,
so piercing the air heavy and dark,

38 più e più appressando ver' la sponda,
more and more drawing near toward the shore,

39 fuggiemi errore e cresciemi paura;
fled my error and grew my fear;

40 però che, come su la cerchia tonda
for that, as above the circling round

41 Montereggion di torri si corona,
Montereggione with towers is crowned,

42 così la proda che 'l pozzo circonda
so the shore that the puddle encircling

43 torreggiavan di mezza la persona
was towering with half the person

44 li orribili giganti, cui minaccia
the horrible giants, whom threatens

45 Giove del cielo ancora quando tuona.
Jove from the heaven still when he thunders.

---

so piercing the heavy and dark air, more and more drawing near toward the shore, my error fled and my fear grew; for that as above the circling round (wall) Montereggione is crowned with towers, so towered over the shore encircling the well, the horrible giants with half the person, whom Jove still threatens from heaven when he thunders.

46 E io scorgeva già d'alcun la faccia,
And I was glimpsing already of one the face,

47 le spalle e 'l petto e del ventre gran parte,
the shoulders and the breast and of the belly great part,

48 e per le coste giù ambo le braccia.
and along the ribs downward both the arms.

49 Natura certo, quando lasciò l'arte
Nature certainly, when she left the art

50 di sì fatti animali, assai fé bene
of such making animals, very did well

51 per tòrre tali essecutori a Marte.
to deprive such executors to Mars.

52 E s'ella d'elefanti e di balene
And if she of elephants and of whales

53 non si pente, chi guarda sottilmente,
not herself repent, he who looks subtly,

54 più giusta e più discreta la ne tene;
more just and more discrete her for it will hold;

And I was glimpsing already of one face, the shoulders and the breast and part of the great belly, and along the ribs down both the arms. Nature certainly, when it left the art of making such animals, did very well to deprive Mars of such executors. And if she does not repent herself of elephants and of whales, he who looks subtly, will hold her more just and more discrete for it;

55 ché dove l'argomento de la mente
for where the argument of the mind

56 s'aggiugne al mal volere e a la possa,
itself joins to evil will and to the power,

57 nessun riparo vi può far la gente.
no refuge there is able to make mankind.

58 La faccia sua mi parea lunga e grossa
The face his to me appeared long and heavy

59 come la pina di San Pietro a Roma,
as the pinecone of Saint Peter in Rome,

60 e a sua proporzione eran l'altre ossa;
and to its proportion were the other bones;

61 sì che la ripa, ch'era perizoma
such that the bank, that was loin cloth

62 dal mezzo in giù, ne mostrava ben tanto
from the middle on down, of him was displaying well so much

63 di sovra, che di giugnere a la chioma
of above, that to arrive to the mane

---

for where the argument (faculty) of the mind joins itself to an evil will and to power, there is no refuge mankind is able to make. His face appeared to me long and heavy as the pinecone of Saint Peter in Rome, and to its proportion were the other bones; such that the bank, that was a loin cloth (implied: fig leaves) from the middle on down, was displaying well so much of him of above, that to arrive to the mane

64 tre Frison s'averien dato mal vanto;
three Frisians themselves would had given bad pride;

65 però ch'i' ne vedea trenta gran palmi
for that I there was seeing thirty grand spans

66 dal loco in giù dov' omo affibbia 'l manto.
from the place on below where man fastens the mantle.

67 «Raphèl maì amècche zabì almi»,
"Raphèl maì amècche zabì almi"

68 cominciò a gridar la fiera bocca,
began to cry the fierce mouth,

69 cui non si convenia più dolci salmi.
which not it suitable more sweet psalms.

70 E 'l duca mio ver' lui: «Anima sciocca,
And the leader my toward him, "Soul foolish,

71 tienti col corno, e con quel ti disfoga
hold you with the horn, and with that yourself give vent

72 quand' ira o altra passïon ti tocca!
when wrath or another passion you beats!

---

three Frisians would have given themselves bad pride (boasting); for I was seeing there thirty grand spans from the place where man fastens the mantle on below. "Raphèl maì amècche zabì almi," began to cry the fierce mouth, which is not suitable for psalms more sweet. And my leader toward him, "Foolish soul, hold you (be content) with the horn, and with that give yourself vent when wrath or another passion beats you!

73 Cércati al collo, e troverai la soga
Search you at the neck, and you will find the rope

74 che 'l tien legato, o anima confusa,
that it holds tied, O soul confused,

75 e vedi lui che 'l gran petto ti doga».
and see it that the grand breast your decorates."

76 Poi disse a me: «Elli stessi s'accusa;
Then said to me, "He himself accuses,

77 questi è Nembrotto per lo cui mal coto
this is Nimrod, by him whose evil thought

78 pur un linguaggio nel mondo non s'usa.
just one language in the world not uses

79 Lasciànlo stare e non parliamo a vòto;
Let us leave him standing and not speak emptily;

80 ché così è a lui ciascun linguaggio
for thus is to him each one's language

81 come 'l suo ad altrui, ch'a nullo è noto».
like his to others, that to none is known."

Search you at the neck, and you will find the rope that holds it tied, O confused soul, and see it that decorates your grand breast." Then he said to me, "He accuses himself, this is Nimrod, by him whose evil thought not just one language in the world is used. Let us leave him standing and not speak emptily; for thus is to him each one's language like his to others, that is known to none."

82 Facemmo adunque più lungo vïaggio,
We made therefore more long way

83 vòlti a sinistra; e al trar d'un balestro
turning to the left; and to the pull of a crossbow

84 trovammo l'altro assai più fero e maggio.
we found the next very more fierce and bigger.

85 A cigner lui qual che fosse 'l maestro,
To bind him who that would be the master,

86 non so io dir, ma el tenea soccinto
not know I to say, but he held bound

87 dinanzi l'altro e dietro il braccio destro
in front of the other and behind the arm right

88 d'una catena che 'l tenea avvinto
from a chain that him held bound

89 dal collo in giù, sì che 'n su lo scoperto
from the neck on down, such that upon the exposed

90 si ravvolgëa infino al giro quinto.
itself it wrapped until to loop fifth.

We therefore made a longer way turning to the left; and, to the pull of a crossbow, we found the next much more fierce and bigger. Who would be the master to bind him, I know not to say, but he was held bound in front the other (the left arm), and behind the right arm from by a chain that held him bound from the neck on down, such that on the exposed (part) it wrapped itself up to the fifth loop.

91 «Questo superbo volle esser esperto
"This proud wished to be expert

92 di sua potenza contra 'l sommo Giove»,
of his power against highest Jove,"

93 disse 'l mio duca, «ond' elli ha cotal merto.
said my leader, "whence he has such reward.

94 Fïalte ha nome, e fece le gran prove
Ephialtes he is named, and made the grand attempt

95 quando i giganti fer paura a' dèi;
when the giants made fear to the gods;

96 le braccia ch'el menò, già mai non move».
the arm that he fought, already ever not he moves."

97 E io a lui: «S'esser puote, io vorrei
And I to him, "If to be it is able, I could wish

98 che de lo smisurato Brïareo
that of the immeasurable Briareus

99 esperïenza avesser li occhi mei».
experience to have the eyes my."

"This proud one wished to be expert of his power against highest Jove," said my leader, "whence he has such reward. Ephialtes he is named, and made the grand attempt when the giants made the gods to fear; the arm that he fought (with) already he never moves." And I to him, "If it is able to be, I could wish my eyes to have the experience of the immeasurable Briareus."

Ond' ei rispuose: «Tu vedrai Anteo
Whence he answered, "You will see Antaeus

presso di qui che parla ed è disciolto,
near to here that speaks and is disbanded,

che ne porrà nel fondo d'ogne reo.
that us he will place in the bottom of the all guiltiness.

Quel che tu vuo' veder, più là è molto
He that you wish to see, more there is much

ed è legato e fatto come questo,
and is bound and made like this one,

salvo che più feroce par nel volto».
save that more fierce he appears in the face."

Non fu tremoto già tanto rubesto,
Not was a tremor before so vigorous

che scotesse una torre così forte,
that could shake a tower so strongly,

come Fïalte a scuotersi fu presto.
as Ephialtes to shake himself was quick.

Whence he answered, "You will see Antaeus near to here, that speaks and is unbound, he will place us in the bottom of the all guiltiness. Him that you wish to see, is much more there (much further on), and is bound and made like this one, save that he appears more fierce in the face." Not was tremor before so vigorous that could shake a tower so strongly, as Ephialtes was quick to shake himself.

Allor temett' io più che mai la morte,
Then feared I more than ever the death

e non v'era mestier più che la dotta,
and not there was needed more than the scare,

s'io non avessi viste le ritorte.
if I not had seen the chains.

Noi procedemmo più avante allotta,
We proceeded more ahead then,

e venimmo ad Anteo, che ben cinque alle,
and we came to Antaeus, that well five ells,

sanza la testa, uscia fuor de la grotta.
without the head, leaving outward of the grotto.

«O tu che ne la fortunata valle
"O you that in the fortunate valley

che fece Scipïon di gloria reda,
that made Scipio of glory heir,

quand' Anibàl co' suoi diede le spalle,
when Hannibal with his gave the shoulder,

Then I feared death more than ever and more there than the fear was not needed, if I had not seen the chains. We proceeded more ahead, then, and we came to Antaeus, that well five ells (was a good five ells, or spans), without the head, was leaving outward from the grotto. "O you that in the fortunate (fateful) valley that made Scipio the heir of glory, when Hannibal gave the shoulder with his (host),

118 recasti già mille leon per preda,
you brought before a thousand lions as plunder,

119 e che, se fossi stato a l'alta guerra
and that, if you had been to the high war

120 de' tuoi fratelli, ancor par che si creda
of your brothers, still it seems that one believes

121 ch'avrebber vinto i figli de la terra:
that would have been victorious the sons of the earth;

122 mettine giù, e non ten vegna schifo,
set us down, and not you of it let come disgust,

123 dove Cocito la freddura serra.
where Cocytus the cold locks up.

124 Non ci fare ire a Tizio né a Tifo:
Not us make to go to Tityos nor to Typhon;

125 questi può dar di quel che qui si brama;
this one is able to give of that that here is longed for;

126 però ti china e non torcer lo grifo.
therefore you bend down and not twist the snout.

---

you before brought a thousand lions as plunder, and that, if you have been to the high war of your brothers, still it seems that one believes that the sons of earth would have been victorious; set us down, and of it let it not come disgust to you, where the cold locks up Cocytus. Do not make us go to Tityos or to Typhon; this one is able to give of that that is here longed for; therefore bend you down and do not twist the snout.

127 Ancor ti può nel mondo render fama,
Still you he is able in the world to render fame,

128 ch'el vive, e lunga vita ancor aspetta
that he lives, and long life still expects,

129 se 'nnanzi tempo grazia a sé nol chiama».
if before time grace to him not does call."

130 Così disse 'l maestro; e quelli in fretta
Thus spoke the master and he in haste

131 le man distese, e prese 'l duca mio,
the hands extended, and took the leader my,

132 ond' Ercule sentì già grande stretta.
which Hercules felt before great grip.

133 Virgilio, quando prender si sentio,
Vergil, when taken up himself he felt,

134 disse a me: «Fatti qua, sì ch'io ti prenda»;
said to me, "Make here, such that I you may take up";

135 poi fece sì ch'un fascio era elli e io.
then made such that one bundle was he and I.

Still, he is able in the world to render you fame, for he lives, and long life still expects, if grace does not call him before time." Thus spoke the master and he in haste extended the hands, the great grip which Hercules felt before, and took up my leader. Vergil, when he felt himself taken up, said to me, "Make here, such that I may take you up"; then made such that he and I were one bundle.

136 Qual pare a riguardar la Carisenda
As seems to look the Garisenda

137 sotto 'l chinato, quando un nuvol vada
below the leaning side, when a cloud goes

138 sovr' essa sì, ched ella incontro penda:
over it such that it toward it slopes;

139 tal parve Antëo a me che stava a bada
so seemed Antaeus to me that was on the wait

140 di vederlo chinare, e fu tal ora
to see him lean, and was that hour

141 ch'i' avrei voluto ir per altra strada.
that I would have wished to go along another path.

142 Ma lievemente al fondo che divora
But lightly to the bottom that devours

As the Garisenda seems to look (from) beneath the leaning side, when a cloud goes over it such that it slopes toward it; so seemed Antaeus to me, who was on the wait to see him lean, and it was that hour that I would have wished to go along another path. But lightly to the bottom that devours

143 Lucifero con Giuda, ci sposò;
Lucifer with Judas, us he set down;

144 né, sì chinato, lì fece dimora,
nor, such leaning, he made dwelling,

145 e come albero in nave si levò.
and like mast on ship himself he raised.

Lucifer with Judas, he set us down; nor, such leaning, he made a dwelling, but like a mast on a ship he raised himself.

Canto XXXII: Caina and Antenora

1 S'ïo avessi le rime aspre e chiocce,
If I had rhymes rugged and grating

2 come si converrebbe al tristo buco
as would be fitting to the sad pit

3 sovra 'l qual pontan tutte l'altre rocce,
upon the which thrust upon all the other rocks,

4 io premerei di mio concetto il suco
I would squeeze out of my idea the juice

5 più pienamente; ma perch' io non l'abbo,
more fully; but because I do not have,

6 non sanza tema a dicer mi conduco;
not without fear to speak myself I compel;

7 ché non è impresa da pigliare a gabbo
for not is undertaking to take in jest

8 discriver fondo a tutto l'universo,
to describe the bottom of the whole universe,

9 né da lingua che chiami mamma o babbo.
nor for tongue that calls mama or daddy.

If I had rhymes rugged and grating as would be fitting to the sad pit upon which all the other rocks thrust in upon, I would squeeze the juice out of my idea more fully; but because I do not have (such rhymes), not without fear do I compel myself to speak; for it is not an undertaking to take in jest to describe the bottom of the whole universe, nor for a tongue that calls out mama or daddy.

10 Ma quelle donne aiutino il mio verso
But those women let help my verse

11 ch'aiutaro Anfione a chiuder Tebe,
that helped Amphion to enclose Thebes

12 sì che dal fatto il dir non sia diverso.
such that to the fact to speak not might be different.

13 Oh sovra tutte mal creata plebe
Oh above all ill- made plebs

14 che stai nel loco onde parlare è duro,
that you stay in the place of which to speak is hard,

15 mei foste state qui pecore o zebe!
better had you been here sheep or goats!

16 Come noi fummo giù nel pozzo scuro
As we were down in the reservoir dark

17 sotto i piè del gigante assai più bassi,
below the feet of the giants very much more deep

18 e io mirava ancora a l'alto muro,
and I was gazing again to the high wall,

But let those women help my verse that helped Amphion to enclose Thebes such that to speak to the fact might not be different. Oh above all ill-made plebs that stay in the place of which to speak is hard, better had you been here sheep or goats! As we were down in the dark reservoir very much more deep below the feet of the giants and I was gazing again to the high wall,

19 dicere udi'mi: «Guarda come passi:
to say I heard to me, "Look how you go;

20 va sì, che tu non calchi con le piante
go such, that you not you might not tread with the soles

21 le teste de' fratei miseri lassi».
the heads of the brothers miserable exhausted."

22 Per ch'io mi volsi, e vidimi davante
For that I me turned, and saw me in front of

23 e sotto i piedi un lago che per gelo
and below the feet a lake that on account of the bitter cold

24 avea di vetro e non d'acqua sembiante.
it had of glass and not of water the appearance.

25 Non fece al corso suo sì grosso velo
Not made to the course its such heavy veil

26 di verno la Danoia in Osterlicchi,
of winter the Danube in Austria,

27 né Tanaï là sotto 'l freddo cielo,
nor the Don there below the freezing sky,

I heard one say to me, "Look how you go; go such that you might not tread with the soles the heads of the miserable and exhausted brothers." For that I turned me, and saw in front of me and below the feet a lake that on account of the bitter cold it had the appearance of glass and not of water. Such heavy veil was not make to the course of the Danube in Austria in winter, nor the Don there below the freezing sky,

28 com' era quivi; che se Tambernicchi
as it was here; that if Tambura

29 vi fosse sù caduto, o Pietrapana,
there should on fall, or Pania della Croce

30 non avria pur da l'orlo fatto cricchi.
not would even of the edge made crack.

31 E come a gracidar si sta la rana
And as to squawk itself stays the frog

32 col muso fuor de l'acqua, quando sogna
with the snout outward from the water, when dreams

33 di spigolar sovente la villana,
of gleaning often the peasant woman,

34 livide, insin là dove appar vergogna
livid, until there where appear shame,

35 eran l'ombre dolenti ne la ghiaccia,
were the shades aching in the ice,

36 mettendo i denti in nota di cicogna.
setting the teeth in the note of the stork.

---

as it was here; that if Tambura should fall on there, or Pania della Croce not even would the edge make a crack. And as the frog stays to squawk itself with the snout outward from the water, when the peasant woman often dreams of gleaning, aching shades, livid, were in the ice until there were shame appears, setting the teeth to the note of the stork.

37 Ognuna in giù tenea volta la faccia;
Each one in below held turned the face;

38 da bocca il freddo, e da li occhi il cor tristo
from the mouth the coldness, and from the eyes the heart wretched

39 tra lor testimonianza si procaccia.
between them testimony procures.

40 Quand' io m'ebbi dintorno alquanto visto,
When I me had around somewhat looked,

41 volsimi a' piedi, e vidi due sì stretti,
I turned myself to the feet, and saw two so tight

42 che 'l pel del capo avieno insieme misto.
that the hair of the head was together mixed.

43 «Ditemi, voi che sì strignete i petti»,
"Tell me, you who so embrace the breasts"

44 diss' io, «chi siete?». E quei piegaro i colli;
said I, "who are you?" And they bent the necks

45 e poi ch'ebber li visi a me eretti,
and then that they had the faces to me raised,

Each one held their face turned below; from the mouth the freezing, and from the eyes the wretched heart, procures testimony between them. When I had somewhat looked around me, I turned myself to the feet and saw two so tight that the hair of the head was mixed together. "Tell me, you who so embrace the breasts" said I, "who are you?" And they bent the necks and then they had raised the faces to me,

46 li occhi lor, ch'eran pria pur dentro molli,
the eyes their, that were before just within wet,

47 gocciar su per le labbra, e 'l gelo strinse
beaded above along the brim, and the cold tightened

48 le lagrime tra essi e riserrolli.
the tears between them and locked them.

49 Con legno legno spranga mai non cinse
With plank plank secure ever not wrapped

50 forte così; ond' ei come due becchi
strongly so; whence they like two billygoats

51 cozzaro insieme, tanta ira li vinse.
butt heads together, such wrath them conquered.

52 E un ch'avea perduti ambo li orecchi
And one that had lost both the ears

53 per la freddura, pur col viso in giùe,
on account of the freezing, still with the face in below,

54 disse: «Perché cotanto in noi ti specchi?
said, "Why so much in us you mirror (gaze on)?

---

their eyes, that were before just wet within, beaded above along the brim, and the cold tightened (froze) the tears between them and locked them. Plank with plank never wrapped secure so strongly; whence they like two billygoats butted heads together, such that wrath conquered them. And one that had lost both the ears on account of the freezing, still with the face below, said, "Why do you mirror (gaze on) us so much?

55 Se vuoi saper chi son cotesti due,
If you wish to know who are those two,

56 la valle onde Bisenzo si dichina
the valley whence the Bisenzio itself slopes down

57 del padre loro Alberto e di lor fue.
of the father their Albert and of them was.

58 D'un corpo usciro; e tutta la Caina
Of one body they emerged; and all the Caina

59 potrai cercare, e non troverai ombra
you could search, and not find a shade

60 degna più d'esser fitta in gelatina:
worthy more to be fixed in the gelatin;

61 non quelli a cui fu rotto il petto e l'ombra
not that one to whom was broken the breast and the shade

62 con esso un colpo per la man d'Artù;
with itself one blow from the hand of Arthur;

63 non Focaccia; non questi che m'ingombra
not Focaccia; not this one that me obstructs

If you wish to know who those two are, the valley whence the Bisenzio slopes itself down, was of their father Albert and of them. They emerged from one body; and you could search all the Caina and not find a shade more worthy to be fixed in the gelatin; not that one to whom the breast and the shadow was broken with one and the same blow from the hand of Arthur; not Focaccia; not this one that obstructs me

64 col capo sì, ch'i' non veggio oltre più,
with the head so, that I not see beyond more,

65 e fu nomato Sassol Mascheroni;
and was named Sassol Mascheroni;

66 se tosco se', ben sai omai chi fu.
if Tuscan you are, well you know now who he was.

67 E perché non mi metti in più sermoni,
And so that not me you set in more speeches,

68 sappi ch'i' fu' il Camiscion de' Pazzi;
know that I was Camiscion de Pazzi;

69 e aspetto Carlin che mi scagioni».
and I await Carlino that me to exonerate."

70 Poscia vid' io mille visi cagnazzi
Then saw I thousand faces purple

71 fatti per freddo; onde mi vien riprezzo,
made by the cold; whence to me it comes shivering,

72 e verrà sempre, de' gelati guazzi.
and it will come always, of frozen fords.

---

with the head so that I do not see more beyond, and was named Sassol Mascheroni; if you are Tuscan, you now well know who he was. And so that you set me not in more speeches, know that I was Camiscion de Pazzi; and I await Carlino, to exonerate me." Then I saw a thousand faces made purple by the cold; whence to me it comes shivering, and it will always come, at frozen fords.

73 E mentre ch'andavamo inver' lo mezzo
And meanwhile that we were going toward the middle

74 al quale ogne gravezza si rauna,
to that whence heaviness itself gathers,

75 e io tremava ne l'etterno rezzo;
and I was trembling in the eternal chill;

76 se voler fu o destino o fortuna,
if wish it was or destiny or fortune

77 non so; ma, passeggiando tra le teste,
not I know; but ambling between the heads

78 forte percossi 'l piè nel viso ad una.
strongly I struck the foot in the face to one.

79 Piangendo mi sgridò: «Perché mi peste?
Weeping me it scolded, "Why me do you step on?

80 se tu non vieni a crescer la vendetta
if you not did come to increase the vengeance

81 di Montaperti, perché mi moleste?».
for Montaperti, why me molest?

And meanwhile we were going toward the middle to that whence heaviness gathers itself, and I was trembling in the eternal chill; if it was wish or destiny or fortune I know not; but ambling about between the heads I strongly struck the foot in the face to one. Weeping it scolded me, "Why do you step on me? If you did not come to increase the vengeance for Montaperti, why molest me?"

82 E io: «Maestro mio, or qui m'aspetta,
And I, "Master my, now here for me wait,

83 sì ch'io esca d'un dubbio per costui;
such that I might escape from a doubt by this one;

84 poi mi farai, quantunque vorrai, fretta».
then me you will make, however much you will want, haste."

85 Lo duca stette, e io dissi a colui
The leader stayed, and I said to that one

86 che bestemmiava duramente ancora:
that was cursing harshly still;

87 «Qual se' tu che così rampogni altrui?».
"What are you that so reprimand others?"

88 «Or tu chi se' che vai per l'Antenora,
"Now you who are that go through Antenora

89 percotendo», rispuose, «altrui le gote,
striking," he replied, "others the cheeks,

90 sì che, se fossi vivo, troppo fora?».
such that, if you were alive, too much you were drilling?"

And I, "My master, now wait for me here, such that I might escape from a doubt by this one; then you will make me haste, however much you will want." The leader stayed, and I said to that one that was still cursing harshly, "What are you that so reprimand others?" "Now who are you that go through Antenora striking," he replied, "the cheeks of others, such that, if you were alive, you were drilling too much?"

91 «Vivo son io, e caro esser ti puote»,
Alive am I, and dear to be to you it is able"

92 fu mia risposta, «se dimandi fama,
was my response, "if you ask for fame

93 ch'io metta il nome tuo tra l'altre note».
that I set the name your between the other notes."

94 Ed elli a me: «Del contrario ho io brama.
And he to me, "Of the opposite do I crave.

95 Lèvati quinci e non mi dar più lagna,
Rise up from here and not me give more annoyance,

96 ché mal sai lusingar per questa lama!».
for ill you know to flatter along this swamp!"

97 Allor lo presi per la cuticagna
Then him I took up by the nape

98 e dissi: «El converrà che tu ti nomi,
and said, "It will be useful that you yourself name,

99 o che capel qui sù non ti rimagna».
or that hair here upon not to you will remain."

"Alive I am, and it is able to be dear to you," was my response, "if you ask for fame that I set your name between the other notes." And he to me, "Of the opposite do I crave. Rise up from here and do not give me more annoyance, of ill you know to flatter along this swamp!" Then I took him by the nape and said, "It will be useful that you name yourself, or that hair here will not remain to you up."

100 Ond' elli a me: «Perché tu mi dischiomi,
Whence he to me, "As much as you me may un-hair,

101 né ti dirò ch'io sia, né mosterrolti,
neither you I will tell who I am, nor show you

102 se mille fiate in sul capo mi tomi».
if a thousand times in upon the head my you jump."

103 Io avea già i capelli in mano avvolti,
I was already the hairs in hand curling

104 e tratti glien' avea più d'una ciocca,
and pulled of it had more of one lock,

105 latrando lui con li occhi in giù raccolti,
barking he with the eyes in below fixedly turned,

106 quando un altro gridò: «Che hai tu, Bocca?
when one other cried, "What do you have, Bocca?

107 non ti basta sonar con le mascelle,
is it not to you enough to chatter the jaw,

108 se tu non latri? qual diavol ti tocca?».
if you not bark? what devil you touches?"

Whence he to me, "As much as you may un-hair (scalp) me, neither will I tell you who I am nor show you if a thousand times you jump upon my head." I was already curling the hairs in hand and had pulled of it more of one lock, he with the eyes fixedly turned below, barking, when another cried, "What do you have, Bocca? Is it not enough to chatter the jaw, if you do not bark? What devil touches you?"

109 «Omai», diss' io, «non vo' che più favelle,
"Now" said I, "not I want that more you say,

110 malvagio traditor; ch'a la tua onta
wicked traitor; that to your shame

111 io porterò di te vere novelle».
I will carry of you true news."

112 «Va via», rispuose, «e ciò che tu vuoi conta;
"Go away," he answered, "and him that you wish tell;

113 ma non tacer, se tu di qua entro eschi,
but do not be silent, if you from here within emerge,

114 di quel ch'ebbe or così la lingua pronta.
of him that was now so the tongue ready.

115 El piange qui l'argento de' Franceschi:
He weeps here the silver of the French;

116 "Io vidi", potrai dir, "quel da Duera
'I saw,' you can say, 'him of Duera

117 là dove i peccatori stanno freschi".
there where the sinners stay cool.'

"Now," said I, "I want that you say no more, wicked traitor; that to your shame I will carry of you true news." "Go away," he answered, "and he that you wish to tell; but do not be silent , if you emerge from within here, of him whose tongue was now so ready. He weeps here the silver of the French; 'I saw,' you can say, 'him of Duera there where the sinners stay cool.'

Se fossi domandato “Altri chi v’era?”,
If you were asked, ‘Others which there were?’

tu hai dallato quel di Beccheria
you have from the side that one of Beccheria

di cui segò Fiorenza la gorgiera.
of whose sawed Florence the gorget.

Gianni de’ Soldanier credo che sia
Gianni de’ Soldanier I believe that is

più là con Ganellone e Tebaldello,
more there with Ganelon and Tebaldello

ch’aprì Faenza quando si dormia».
that opened Faenza when one slept.”

Noi eravam partiti già da ello,
We were departing already from him

ch’io vidi due ghiacciati in una buca,
that I saw two frozen in one hole,

sì che l’un capo a l’altro era cappello;
such that the one head to the other was cap;

If you were asked, ‘Which others were there?’ you have from the side that one of Beccheria, whose gorget Florence sawed. Gianni de’ Soldanier I believe that is more there (further on) with Ganelon and Tebaldello, that opened Faenza when one slept.” We were already departing from him that I saw two frozen in one hole, such that the one head was cap to the other;

127 e come 'l pan per fame si manduca,
and as the bread by the famished is eaten,

128 così 'l sovran li denti a l'altro pose
so the one above the teeth to the other was putting

129 là 've 'l cervel s'aggiugne con la nuca:
there where the brain itself joins with the nape;

130 non altrimenti Tidëo si rose
not othewise Tydeus gnaw

131 le tempie a Menalippo per disdegno,
the temples of Menalippus in contempt,

132 che quei faceva il teschio e l'altre cose.
than this one was doing the skull and the other things.

133 «O tu che mostri per sì bestial segno
"O you that show by such bestial sign

134 odio sovra colui che tu ti mangi,
hatred over him that you yourself consume,

135 dimmi 'l perché», diss' io, «per tal convegno,
tell me why," said I, "by such coming together,

---

and as the bread by the famished is eaten, so the one above was putting the teeth to the other, there were the brain joins itself with the nape; not otherwise Tydeus did gnaw the temples of Menalippus in contempt, that this one was doing of the skull and the other things. "O you that show by such bestial sign hatred over him that you yourself consume, tell me why," said I, " by such coming together (agreement),

136 che se tu a ragion di lui ti piangi,
that if you to right of him you yourself weep,

137 sappiendo chi voi siete e la sua pecca,
knowing who you are and his sin,

138 nel mondo suso ancora io te ne cangi,
in the world above still I you of it may exchange,

139 se quella con ch'io parlo non si secca».
if that with which I speak not is dried up."

---

that if you weep yourself of him rightly, knowing who you are and his sin, I may still exchange it for you in the world above, if that with which I speak is not dried up."

Canto XXXIII: Antenora and Ptolomea

1 La bocca sollevò dal fiero pasto
The mouth lifted from the ghastly repast

2 quel peccator, forbendola a' capelli
that sinner, polishing it to the hair

3 del capo ch'elli avea di retro guasto.
of the head that he was from behind spoiling.

4 Poi cominciò: «Tu vuo' ch'io rinovelli
Then he commenced, "You wish that I renew

5 disperato dolor che 'l cor mi preme
desperate pain that the heart my crushes

6 già pur pensando, pria ch'io ne favelli.
already even thinking, before that I of it speak.

7 Ma se le mie parole esser dien seme
But if my words to be need seed

8 che frutti infamia al traditor ch'i' rodo,
that bear the fruit (of) infamy to the traitor that I gnaw,

9 parlar e lagrimar vedrai insieme.
to speak and to weep you will see together.

That sinner lifted the mouth from the ghastly repast, polishing it on the hair of the head that he was spoiling from behind. Then he commenced, "You wish that I renew the desperate pain that already crushes my heart even thinking (of it), before I speak of it. But if my words need to be seed that bear the fruit of infamy to the traitor I gnaw, to speak and to weep together you will see.

10 Io non so chi tu se' né per che modo
I not know who you are nor by what mode

11 venuto se' qua giù; ma fiorentino
come you have here below, but Florentine

12 mi sembri veramente quand' io t'odo.
to me you seem truly when I you hear.

13 Tu dei saper ch'i' fui conte Ugolino,
You ought to know that I was Count Ugolino

14 e questi è l'arcivescovo Ruggieri:
and this one is the Archbishop Ruggieri;

15 or ti dirò perché i son tal vicino.
now you I will tell why I am so intimate.

16 Che per l'effetto de' suo' mai pensieri,
That by the effect of his wicked thoughts,

17 fidandomi di lui, io fossi preso
trusting myself to him, I was taken

18 e poscia morto, dir non è mestieri;
and then killed, to speak not is need;

I know not who you are nor by what mode you have come here below, but truly, you seem to me Florentine when I hear you. You ought to know that I was Count Ugolino and this one is the Archbishop Ruggieri; now I will tell you why I am so intimate (with him). That by the effect of his wicked thoughts, trusting myself to him, I was taken and then killed, there is no need to speak;

19 però quel che non puoi avere inteso,
but what that not you can have heard,

20 cioè come la morte mia fu cruda,
that is, how the death my was cruel,

21 udirai, e saprai s'e' m'ha offeso.
you will hear, and you will know if he me has injured.

22 Breve pertugio dentro da la Muda,
Short window within of the mew (loft),

23 la qual per me ha 'l titol de la fame,
the which because of me has the title of the Hunger,

24 e che conviene ancor ch'altrui si chiuda,
and that must needs still that others are shut,

25 m'avea mostrato per lo suo forame
to me had shown through its foramen

26 più lune già, quand' io feci 'l mal sonno
more moons already, when I made the evil dream

27 che del futuro mi squarciò 'l velame.
that of the future to me tore the veil.

---

but what you cannot have heard, that is, how cruel my death was, you will hear, and you will know if he has injured me. A short window within the mew (loft), the one that because of me has the title of Hunger, and it must needs still that others are shut (in there), to me many moons had already shown through its foramen (hole), when I made (dreamt) the evil dream that tore the veil of the future to me.

28 Questi pareva a me maestro e donno,
This one appeared to me master and lord,

29 cacciando il lupo e' lupicini al monte
hunting the wolf and wolf cubs to the mountain

30 per che i Pisan veder Lucca non ponno.
by that the Pisans to see Lucca not are able.

31 Con cagne magre, studïose e conte
With bitches lean, keen, and trained

32 Gualandi con Sismondi e con Lanfranchi
Gualandi with Sismondi and with Lanfranchi

33 s'avea messi dinanzi da la fronte.
he had put in front of the front.

34 In picciol corso mi parieno stanchi
In little course to me they seemed tired,

35 lo padre e' figli, e con l'agute scane
the father and the sons, and with sharp fangs

36 mi parea lor veder fender li fianchi.
to me seemed their to see cleave the flanks.

This one appeared to me master and lord, hunting the wolf and wolf cubs on the mountain because of which the Pisans cannot see Lucca. With lean, keen, and trained bitches he had put Gualandi with Sismondi and Lanfranchi in front of the front (pack). In little course the father and the sons seemed to me tired, and it seemed to me to see their flanks cleaved with sharp fangs.

37 Quando fui desto innanzi la dimane,
When I was awake before the tomorrow

38 pianger senti' fra 'l sonno i miei figliuoli
weeping I heard midst the sleep my sons

39 ch'eran con meco, e dimandar del pane.
that were with me, and asking for bread.

40 Ben se' crudel, se tu già non ti duoli
Surely you are cruel, if you already not yourself ache

41 pensando ciò che 'l mio cor s'annunziava;
thinking that that my heart was itself announcing;

42 e se non piangi, di che pianger suoli?
and if not you weep, for what to weep are you accustomed?

43 Già eran desti, e l'ora s'appressava
Already they were awake, and the hour was drawing near

44 che 'l cibo ne solëa essere addotto,
that the food to us was used to be put forward,

45 e per suo sogno ciascun dubitava;
and on account of his dream each one was doubting;

When I was awake before the tomorrow (dawn) I heard weeping midst the sleep of my sons who were with me, and asking for bread. Surely you are cruel, if you already do not ache yourself, thinking what my heart was itself announcing; and if you do not weep, for what are you accustomed to weep? They were already awake, and the hour was drawing near that the food was used to be put forward to us, and each one, on account of his dream, was doubting;

46 e io senti' chiavar l'uscio di sotto
and I heard to nail the door of below

47 a l'orribile torre; ond' io guardai
to the horrible tower; whence I looked

48 nel viso a' mie' figliuoi sanza far motto.
in the face to my sons without making word.

49 Io non piangëa, sì dentro impetrai:
I not was weeping, so within I had turned to stone;

50 piangevan elli; e Anselmuccio mio
were weeping they, and Anselmuccio my

51 disse: "Tu guardi sì, padre! che hai?".
said, "You look so, father! what have you?

52 Perciò non lagrimai né rispuos' io
Therefore not I shed tears nor answered I

53 tutto quel giorno né la notte appresso,
all that day nor the night after,

54 infin che l'altro sol nel mondo uscìo.
until that the other sun in the world rose.

---

and I heard nailed the door below to the horrible tower; whence I looking in the face of my sons without making a word. I was not weeping, so within had I turned to stone; they were weeping, and my Anselmuccio said, "You look so, father! What have you?" Therefore I did not shed tears, nor answered I all that day nor the night after, until the other sun rose in the world.

55 Come un poco di raggio si fu messo
As a little of ray itself placed

56 nel doloroso carcere, e io scorsi
in the sorrowful prison, and I glimpsed

57 per quattro visi il mio aspetto stesso,
across four faces my aspect same,

58 ambo le man per lo dolor mi morsi;
both the hands for the pain myself I bit;

59 ed ei, pensando ch'io 'l fessi per voglia
and they, thinking that I was doing on account of craving

60 di manicar, di sùbito levorsi
to eat, of a sudden raised themselves

61 e disser: "Padre, assai ci fia men doglia
and said, "Father, very much us will it be less painful

62 se tu mangi di noi: tu ne vestisti
if you eat of us; you us clothed

63 queste misere carni, e tu le spoglia".
this miserable flesh, and you it spoil."

As a little ray placed itself in the sorrowful prison, and I glimpsed my same aspect across four faces, I myself bit both my hands for the pain; and they, thinking that I was doing so on account of craving to eat, of a sudden raised themselves and said, "Father, it will be very much less painful to us if you eat of us; you clothed us in this miserable flesh, and you spoil it."

64 Queta'mi allor per non farli più tristi;
I quieted myself then for not to make them more sad;

65 lo dì e l'altro stemmo tutti muti;
the day and the other we stayed all was mute;

66 ahi dura terra, perché non t'apristi?
ah, hard earth, why not yourself you open?

67 Poscia che fummo al quarto dì venuti,
Then that we had to the fourth day come,

68 Gaddo mi si gittò disteso a' piedi,
Gaddo to me himself threw stretched out to the feet,

69 dicendo: "Padre mio, ché non m'aiuti?".
saying, "Father my, why not me you help?"

70 Quivi morì; e come tu mi vedi,
There he died; and as you me see,

71 vid' io cascar li tre ad uno ad uno
saw I to fall the three one by one

72 tra 'l quinto dì e 'l sesto; ond' io mi diedi,
between the fifth day and the sixth; whence I myself gave

I quieted myself then, to not make them more sad; the day and the other we all stayed mute; ah, hard earth, why did you not open yourself? Then, when we had come to the fourth day, Gaddo threw himself to me, stretched out to the feet, saying, "My father, why do you not help me?" There he died; and as you see me, I saw fall the three, one by one, between the fifth day and the sixth; when I gave myself

73 già cieco, a brancolar sovra ciascuno,
already blind, to groping over each one,

74 e due dì li chiamai, poi che fur morti.
and two days them I called, after that they were dead.

75 Poscia, più che 'l dolor, poté 'l digiuno».
Then more than the pain, had the power the hunger."

76 Quand' ebbe detto ciò, con li occhi torti
When he had said that, with the eyes twisted

77 riprese 'l teschio misero co' denti,
he again took up the skull miserable with the teeth,

78 che furo a l'osso, come d'un can, forti.
that was to the bone, as of a dog, strong.

79 Ahi Pisa, vituperio de le genti
Ah Pisa, disgrace of the people

80 del bel paese là dove 'l sì suona,
of the beautiful country there where the sì is sounded,

81 poi che i vicini a te punir son lenti,
after that the neighbors to you condemn are slow,

---

already blind, to groping over each one, and two days I called them, after they were dead. Then, more than the pain, fasting had the hungerd." When he had said that, with the eyes twisted, he again took up the miserable skull with the teeth, that was, as of a dog, strong to the bone. Ah Pisa, disgrace of the people of the beautiful country where the sì is sounded, since the neighbors are slow to condemn you,

82 muovasi la Capraia e la Gorgona,
let move Capraia and Gorgona

83 e faccian siepe ad Arno in su la foce,
and make hedge to Arno in upon the mouth

84 sì ch'elli annieghi in te ogne persona!
such that it might drown in you every person!

85 Che se 'l conte Ugolino aveva voce
That if the count Ugolino had the voice

86 d'aver tradita te de le castella,
to have betrayed you of the castles,

87 non dovei tu i figliuoi porre a tal croce.
not ought you the sons to have placed to such cross.

88 Innocenti facea l'età novella,
Innocent made the age tender,

89 novella Tebe, Uguiccione e 'l Brigata
new Thebes, Uguiccione and Brigata

90 e li altri due che 'l canto suso appella.
and the other two that the song above names.

---

let Capraia and Gorgona move and make a hedge to the Arno, in upon the mouth such that it might drown in you every person! That if Count Ugolino had the voice to have betrayed you of the castles, you ought not to have placed the sons on such a cross. The tender age, new Thebes, made Uguiccione and Brigata innocent, and the other two that the song names above.

91 Noi passammo oltre, là ’ve la gelata
We passed beyond, there where the freezing

92 ruvidamente un’altra gente fascia,
roughly another people wraps round,

93 non volta in giù, ma tutta riversata.
not turned in below, but all thrown back.

94 Lo pianto stesso lì pianger non lascia,
The tears same them to weep do not allow,

95 e ’l duol che truova in su li occhi rintoppo,
and the aching that finds upon the eyes opposition,

96 si volge in entro a far crescer l’ambascia;
itself turns back within to make to increase the anguish;

97 ché le lagrime prime fanno groppo,
for the tears first made a knot

98 e sì come visiere di cristallo,
and such like visors of crystal,

99 rïempion sotto ’l ciglio tutto il coppo.
fill up below the brow all the cup.

We passed beyond, there where the freezing roughly wraps another people round, not turned in below, but all thrown back. The same tears do not allow them to weep, and the aching that finds on the eyes opposition, turns itself back within to make to increase the anguish; for the first tears made a knot and such like visors of crystal, fill up all the cup (eye) below the brow.

E avvegna che, sì come d'un callo,
And it happened that, such as of one callus

per la freddura ciascun sentimento
on account of the cold each one feeling

cessato avesse del mio viso stallo,
ended had on my face stay,

già mi parea sentire alquanto vento;
yet to me it seemed to feel some wind;

per ch'io: «Maestro mio, questo chi move?
therefore I, "Master my, this who moves?

non è qua giù ogne vapore spento?».
not is here below every vapor spent?"

Ond' elli a me: «Avaccio sarai dove
Whence he to me, "Soon you will be where

di ciò ti farà l'occhio la risposta,
of that to you will make the eye the answer,

veggendo la cagion che 'l fiato piove».
seeing the reason that the breath rains down."

And it happened that, such as of one callus on account of the cold, each one feeling had ended stay on my face (every feeling had ceased its stay on my face—i.e. my face was numb), yet it seemed to me to feel some wind; therefore I, "My master, who moves this? Is not every vapor here below spent?" Whence he to me, "Soon you will be where the answer of that the eye will make to you, seeing the reason that the breath rains down."

109 E un de' tristi de la fredda crosta
And one of the sad of the frozen crust

110 gridò a noi: «O anime crudeli
he cried to us, "O souls cruel

111 tanto che data v'è l'ultima posta,
so that given you was the ultimate post,

112 levatemi dal viso i duri veli,
raise from me from the face the hard veils,

113 sì ch'ïo sfoghi 'l duol che 'l cor m'impregna,
such that I might give vent the pain that heart my impregnates,

114 un poco, pria che 'l pianto si raggeli».
a little, before that the tears themselves freeze."

115 Per ch'io a lui: «Se vuo' ch'i' ti sovvegna,
Therefore I to him, "If you wish that I you assist,

116 dimmi chi se', e s'io non ti disbrigo,
tell me who you are, and if I not you settle,

117 al fondo de la ghiaccia ir mi convegna».
to the bottom of the ice to go for me may it be necessary."

And one of the sad of the frozen crust cried to us, "O cruel souls, so that the ultimate post was given you, raise from me the hard veils from the face, such that I might give the pain vent that impregnates my heart, a little, before the tears freeze themselves." There I to him, "If you wish that I assist you, tell me who you are, and if I do not settle you, may it be necessary for me to go to the bottom of the ice."

118 Rispuose adunque: «I' son frate Alberigo;
He answered therefore, "I am brother Alberigo;

119 i' son quel da le frutta del mal orto,
I am that one of the fruit of the evil garden,

120 che qui riprendo dattero per figo».
that here gets back date for fig." (dates more dear than figs)

121 «Oh», diss' io lui, «or se' tu ancor morto?».
"Oh," said I to him, "now are you already dead?"

122 Ed elli a me: «Come 'l mio corpo stea
And he to me, "How my body may be

123 nel mondo sù, nulla scïenza porto.
in the world above, no knowledge I carry.

124 Cotal vantaggio ha questa Tolomea,
Such advantage has this Ptolomea

125 che spesse volte l'anima ci cade
that often times the soul here falls

126 innanzi ch'Atropòs mossa le dea.
before that Atropos moves the goddess.

Therefore he answered, "I am brother Alberigo; I am that one of the fruit of the evil garden, that here gets back date for fig." "Oh," I said to him, "you are now already dead?" And he to me, "How my body may be in the world, I carry no knowledge. Such advantage has this Ptolomea that often times the soul falls here before Atropos the goddess moves.

127 E perché tu più volentier mi rade
And so that you more willingly me shave

128 le 'nvetrïate lagrime dal volto,
the glassy tears from the face,

129 sappie che, tosto che l'anima trade
know that, so soon that the soul betrays

130 come fec' ïo, il corpo suo l'è tolto
as did I, the body its is taken away

131 da un demonio, che poscia il governa
by a demon, that then it governs

132 mentre che 'l tempo suo tutto sia vòlto.
while that the time its all has turned.

133 Ella ruina in sì fatta cisterna;
She was wrecking in such made cistern;

134 e forse pare ancor lo corpo suso
and perhaps appears still the body above

135 de l'ombra che di qua dietro mi verna.
of the shade that of here behind me is wintering.

And so that you more willingly shave the glassy tears from the face, know that, so soon that the soul betrays as I did, its body is taken away by a demon, that then governs it while all its time has turned. She (the soul) was wrecking in such made cistern; and perhaps the body still appears above of the shade that here behind me is wintering.

136 Tu 'l dei saper, se tu vien pur mo giuso:
You him you ought to know, if you are coming just now down

137 elli è ser Branca Doria, e son più anni
he is ser Branca Doria, and have more years

138 poscia passati ch'el fu sì racchiuso».
since passed that he was so contained."

139 «Io credo», diss' io lui, «che tu m'inganni;
"I believe," said I to him, "that you me are deceiving;

140 ché Branca Doria non morì unquanche,
for Branca Doria not is dead never yet,

141 e mangia e bee e dorme e veste panni».
and he eats and drinks and sleeps and wears clothes."

142 «Nel fosso sù», diss' el, «de' Malebranche,
"In the ditch above," said he, "of the Evil Claws,

143 là dove bolle la tenace pece,
there where bubbles the tenacious pitch,

144 non era ancora giunto Michel Zanche,
not had yet arrived Michel Zanche,

You ought to know him, if you just now are coming down; he is ser Branca Doria, and more years have passed since he was so contained." "I believe," said I to him, "that you are deceiving me; for Branca Doria is not yet dead, and he eats and drinks and sleeps and wears clothes." "In the ditch above," said he, "of the Evil Claws, there where bubbles the tenacious pitch, Michel Zanche had not yet arrived,

che questi lasciò il diavolo in sua vece
that this one left the devil in its place

nel corpo suo, ed un suo prossimano
in the body his, and one his relative

che 'l tradimento insieme con lui fece.
that the betrayal together with him made.

Ma distendi oggimai in qua la mano;
But stretch out now in here the hand

aprimi li occhi». E io non gliel' apersi;
open the eyes." And I not them opened;

e cortesia fu lui esser villano.
and courtesy it was to him to be boorish.

Ahi Genovesi, uomini diversi
Ah Genoese, men alien

d'ogne costume e pien d'ogne magagna,
to every custom and full of every vice,

perché non siete voi del mondo spersi?
why not are you from the world dispatched?

---

when this one left the devil in its place in his body, and one of his relative's, that made the betrayal together with him. But stretch out now the hand in here; open the eyes." And I did not open them; and it was a courtesy to him to be rude. Ah Genoese, men alien to every (good) custom and full of every vice, why are you not dispatched from the world?

Ché col peggiore spirto di Romagna
For with worst spirit of Romagna

trovai di voi un tal, che per sua opra
I found of you one such that for his works

in anima in Cocito già si bagna,
in soul in Cocytus already himself he bathes,

e in corpo par vivo ancor di sopra.
and in the body seems alive still of above.

For with the worst spirit of Romagna, I found of you one such that for his works, in soul he already bathes himself in Cocytus, and in the body seems still alive above.

Canto XXXIV: Judecca

1 «Vexilla regis prodeunt inferni
"Vexilla regis prodeunt inferni
(The banners of the king advance of Hell)

2 verso di noi; però dinanzi mira»,
toward to us; therefore in front look",

3 disse 'l maestro mio, «se tu 'l discerni».
said the master my, "if you him discern."

4 Come quando una grossa nebbia spira,
As when a heavy fog breathes,

5 o quando l'emisperio nostro annotta,
or when the hemisphere our grows dark,

6 par di lungi un molin che 'l vento gira,
appears from far off a mill that the wind spins,

7 veder mi parve un tal dificio allotta;
to see to me it was seeming one such edifice at that time;

8 poi per lo vento mi ristrinsi retro
after on account of the wind me I shrank behind

9 al duca mio, ché non lì era altra grotta.
the leader my, for not there was other grotto.

"Vexilla regis prodeunt inferni (The banners of the king advance of Hell) toward to us; therefore look in front" said my master, "if you discern him." As, when a heavy fog breathes, or when our hemisphere grows dark, a mill appears from far off that the wind spins, it was seeming to me to see on such edifice at that time; after, on account of the wind I shrank me behind my leader, for there was no other grotto

10 Già era, e con paura il metto in metro,
Already I was and with fear it I place in meter,

11 là dove l'ombre tutte eran coperte,
there where the shades all were covered,

12 e trasparien come festuca in vetro.
and they were visible like straw in glass.

13 Altre sono a giacere; altre stanno erte,
Some are lying down; some stand erect,

14 quella col capo e quella con le piante;
this one with head and that with the feet;

15 altra, com' arco, il volto a' piè rinverte.
some, like bows, the face to the feet invert.

16 Quando noi fummo fatti tanto avante,
When we made so much ahead,

17 ch'al mio maestro piacque di mostrarmi
that to my master it pleased to show me

18 la creatura ch'ebbe il bel sembiante,
the creature that had the beautiful appearance,

Already I was, and with fear I place it in meter, there where the shades were covered and they were visible like straw in glass. Some are lying down; some stand erect, this one with the head (up) and that with the feet; some, like bows, the face to the feet invert. When we made so much ahead, that to my master it was pleasing to show me the creature that had the beautiful appearance,

19 d'innanzi mi si tolse e fé restarmi,
from in front of me himself he removed and made to be still me,

20 «Ecco Dite», dicendo, «ed ecco il loco
"Behold Dis," saying, "and behold the place

21 ove convien che di fortezza t'armi».
where must needs that of fortitude yourself you arm."

22 Com' io divenni allor gelato e fioco,
How I became then frozen and faint,

23 nol dimandar, lettor, ch'i' non lo scrivo,
do not ask, reader, that I not it write,

24 però ch'ogne parlar sarebbe poco.
for that all speaking would be little.

25 Io non mori' e non rimasi vivo;;
I not did die, and not I did remain alive

26 pensa oggimai per te, s'hai fior d'ingegno,
think right now for yourself, if you have somewhat of genius,

27 qual io divenni, d'uno e d'altro privo.
what I became, of one and the other deprived.

---

from in front of me he removed himself and made be to be still, saying, "Behold Dis, and behold the place where it must needs that you arm yourself with fortitude." How I became then frozen and faint, do not ask, reader, I do not write it, for all speaking would be too little. I did not die, and I did not remain alive; think now for yourself, if you have somewhat of genius, what I became, of one and the other deprived.

28 Lo 'mperador del doloroso regno
The emperor of the sorrowful kingdom

29 da mezzo 'l petto uscia fuor de la ghiaccia;
from the middle the breast was leaving outward of the ice;

30 e più con un gigante io mi convegno,
and more with a giant I me in conference

31 che i giganti non fan con le sue braccia:
that the giants not make with his arm;

32 vedi oggimai quant' esser dee quel tutto
see right now how to be must that whole

33 ch'a così fatta parte si confaccia.
that to such a part is proportioned.

34 S'el fu sì bel com' elli è ora brutto,
If he was so beautiful as he is now ugly,

35 e contra 'l suo fattore alzò le ciglia,
and against his maker lifted the brow,

36 ben dee da lui procedere ogne lutto.
well ought from him to proceed all grief.

The emperor of the sorrowful kingdom, from the middle of the breast, was leaving outward from the ice; and I am more in conference (similar in size) with a giant, than the giants make with his arm; see right now how that whole must be that to such a part is proportioned. If he was so beautiful as he is now ugly, and against his maker lifted the brow (in pride), well must all grief from him proceed.

37 Oh quanto parve a me gran maraviglia
Oh how it appeared to me grand marvel

38 quand' io vidi tre facce a la sua testa!
when I saw three faces to his head!

39 L'una dinanzi, e quella era vermiglia;
The one in front, and that was vermillion.

40 l'altr' eran due, che s'aggiugnieno a questa
the other were two, that themselves joined to this one

41 sovresso 'l mezzo di ciascuna spalla,
above the middle of each shoulder,

42 e sé giugnieno al loco de la cresta:
and themselves joined to the place of the crest;

43 e la destra parea tra bianca e gialla;
and the right appeared between white and yellow;

44 la sinistra a vedere era tal, quali
the left to see was such, those

45 vegnon di là onde 'l Nilo s'avvalla.
coming from there whence the Nile flows down.

Oh how it appeared to me a grand marvel, when I saw three faces to his head! The one in front, and that was vermillion. The other two were, that joined themselves to this one, above the middle of each shoulder, and joined themselves to the place of the crest; and the right appeared between white and yellow; the left was such to see, those coming from there whence the Nile flows down.

46 Sotto ciascuna uscivan due grand' ali,
Beneath each one was leaving two grand wings,

47 quanto si convenia a tanto uccello:
as much as was appropriate to so much a bird;

48 vele di mar non vid' io mai cotali.
sails of the sea not saw I ever so much.

49 Non avean penne, ma di vispistrello
Not they had feathers, but of a bat

50 era lor modo; e quelle svolazzava,
was their mode; and them he was fluttering,

51 sì che tre venti si movean da ello:
such that three winds were moving from him;

52 quindi Cocito tutto s'aggelava.
therefore Cocytus all was frozen.

53 Con sei occhi piangëa, e per tre menti
With six eyes he was weeping, and along three chins

54 gocciava 'l pianto e sanguinosa bava.
dripped the tears and bloody drool.

Beneath each one was leaving two grand wings, as much as was appropriate to so much a bird; sails of the sea I never saw so much. They had not feathers, but of a bat was their mode; and he was fluttering them, such that three winds were moving from him; therefore all Cocytus was frozen. With six eyes he was weeping, and along three chins dripped the tears and bloody drool.

55 Da ogne bocca dirompea co' denti
From every mouth he was breaking with teeth

56 un peccatore, a guisa di maciulla,
a sinner, to the manner of a scutcher,

57 sì che tre ne facea così dolenti.
such that three of them he made so aching.

58 A quel dinanzi il mordere era nulla
To that one in front the biting was nothing

59 verso 'l graffiar, che talvolta la schiena
with respect to the scratching, that sometimes the back

60 rimanea de la pelle tutta brulla.
was remaining of the skin totally barren.

61 «Quell' anima là sù c'ha maggior pena»,
"That soul there above that has the greater punishment"

62 disse 'l maestro, «è Giuda Scarïotto,
said the master, "is Judas Iscariot,

63 che 'l capo ha dentro e fuor le gambe mena.
that the head has inside and outward the legs thrash.

From every mouth he was breaking with teeth a sinner, to the manner of a scutcher (flax breaker), such that three of them were made so aching. To that one in front, the biting was nothing with respect to the scratching, that sometimes the back was remaining totally barren of the skin. "That soul there above that has the greater punishment" said the master, "is Judas Iscariot, the head he has inside and outward thrash the legs.

64 De li altri due c'hanno il capo di sotto,
Of the other two who have the head of below,

65 quel che pende dal nero ceffo è Bruto:
that one that hangs from the black muzzle is Brutus;

66 vedi come si storce, e non fa motto!;
see how himself he twists, and not makes a word!

67 e l'altro è Cassio, che par sì membruto.
the other is Cassius, that appears so strong-limbed.

68 Ma la notte risurge, e oramai
But the night rises again, and now

69 è da partir, ché tutto avem veduto».
is to depart, for all we have seen."

70 Com' a lui piacque, il collo li avvinghiai;
As to him it was pleasing, the neck his I clutched;

71 ed el prese di tempo e loco poste,
and he seized for time and place to watch

72 e quando l'ali fuoro aperte assai,
and when the wings were open enough,

Of the other two who have the head below, that one that hangs from the black muzzle is Brutus; see how he twists himself and not makes a word! The other is Cassius, that appears so large of limb. But the night rises again, and now it is to depart, for we have seen all." As it was pleasing to him, I clutched his neck; and he seized to watch for time and place and when the wings were open very much,

73 appigliò sé a le vellute coste;
he clung himself to the velvet sides;

74 di vello in vello giù discese poscia
from clump to clump below he descended then

75 tra 'l folto pelo e le gelate croste.
between the bushy hair and the frozen crust.

76 Quando noi fummo là dove la coscia
When we were there where the thigh

77 si volge, a punto in sul grosso de l'anche,
turns, to the point in on the large of the hip,

78 lo duca, con fatica e con angoscia,
the leader, with exertion and with anguish,

79 volse la testa ov' elli avea le zanche,
turned the head where he was holding the shanks,

80 e aggrappossi al pel com' om che sale,
and held on to the hair as a man that climbs up,

81 sì che 'n inferno i' credea tornar anche.
such that into Hell I was believing to return again.

---

he clung himself to the velvet sides; from clump to clump he then descended below between the bushy hair and the frozen crust. When we were there where the thigh turns, to the point on the large of the hip, the leader, with exertion and with anguish, turned the head where he was holding the shanks, and held on to the hair as a man that climbs up, such that I was believing to return again into Hell.

82 «Attienti ben, ché per cotali scale»,
"Maintain you well, for by such stairs,"

83 disse 'l maestro, ansando com' uom lasso,
said the master, gasping like a man tired,

84 «conviensi dipartir da tanto male».
"one must needs to depart from so much evil."

85 Poi uscì fuor per lo fóro d'un sasso
Then he left outward through the hole of a rock

86 e puose me in su l'orlo a sedere;
and placed me upon the edge to sit;

87 appresso porse a me l'accorto passo.
next he extended to me the wary step.

88 Io levai li occhi e credetti vedere
I raised the eyes and believing to see

89 Lucifero com' io l'avea lasciato,
Lucifer as I him had left,

90 e vidili le gambe in sù tenere;
and I saw him the legs upwards holding;

"Maintain you well, for by such stairs," said the master, grasping like a man tired, "one must needs to depart from so much evil." Then he left outward through the hole of a rock and placed me upon the edge of it to sit; next he extended to me the wary step. I raised the eyes and believing to see Lucifer as I had left him, and I saw him holding the legs upward;

91 e s'io divenni allora travagliato,
and if I became then troubled,

92 la gente grossa il pensi, che non vede
the people coarse it let think, that not see

93 qual è quel punto ch'io avea passato.
what is that point that I was passing.

94 «Lèvati sù», disse 'l maestro, «in piede:
"Rise up," said the master, "on feet;

95 la via è lunga e 'l cammino è malvagio,
the way is long and the journey is wicked,

96 e già il sole a mezza terza riede».
and already the sun to middle tierce returns."

97 Non era camminata di palagio
Not was stroll-way of palace (palace hallway)

98 là 'v' eravam, ma natural burella
there where we were, but a natural cellar

99 ch'avea mal suolo e di lume disagio.
that had broken ground and of light need.

---

and if I became troubled then, let the coarse people think (about) it, that do not see what that point is that I was passing. "Rise up," said the master, "on feet; the way is long and the journey is wicked, and already the sun returns to the middle tierce." That was no stroll-way of palace (palace hallway), there where we were, but a natural cellar that had broken ground and need of light.

«Prima ch'io de l'abisso mi divella,
"Before that I from the abyss myself uproot,

maestro mio», diss' io quando fui dritto,
master my," said I when I was straight up,

«a trarmi d'erro un poco mi favella:
"to draw me from error a little, to me speak;

ov' è la ghiaccia? e questi com' è fitto
where is the ice? and this one how is he fixed

sì sottosopra? e come, in sì poc' ora,
so upside down? and how, in such little time,

da sera a mane ha fatto il sol tragitto?».
from evening to morning has made the sun journey?"

Ed elli a me: «Tu imagini ancora
And he to me, "You imagine still

d'esser di là dal centro, ov' io mi presi
to be of there from the center, where I me pressed

al pel del vermo reo che 'l mondo fóra.
to the hair of the worm wretched that the world bores through.

"Before I uproot myself from the abyss, my master," I said when I was straight up, "speak to me to draw me a little from error; where is the ice? and this one, how is he fixed so upside down? And how, in such little time, from evening to morning has the sun made the journey?" And he to me, "You imagine still to be of there from (that side of) the center, where I pressed me to the hair of the wretched worm that bores through the world.

109 Di là fosti cotanto quant' io scesi;
Of there you were for as long as I descended;

110 quand' io mi volsi, tu passasti 'l punto
when I myself turned, you passed through the point

111 al qual si traggon d'ogne parte i pesi.
to which is pulled from every part the mass.

112 E se' or sotto l'emisperio giunto
And you have now beneath the hemisphere arrived

113 ch'è contraposto a quel che la gran secca
that is opposite to that one that the grand dry land

114 coverchia, e sotto 'l cui colmo consunto
covered, and under whose summit consumed

115 fu l'uom che nacque e visse sanza pecca;
was the man that was born and lived without sin;

116 tu haï i piedi in su picciola spera
you have the feet in on a little sphere

117 che l'altra faccia fa de la Giudecca.
that the other face was of the Judecca.

Of there you were, for as long as I descended; when I turned myself, you passed through the point to which is pulled the mass from every part. And you have now arrived beneath the hemisphere that is opposite to that one that the grand dry land covered, and under whose summit was consumed the man that was born and lived without sin; you have the feet in on a little sphere, that the other face was of the Judecca.

Qui è da man, quando di là è sera;
Here is of morning, when of there it is evening;

e questi, che ne fé scala col pelo,
and this one, that for us made ladder with the hair,

fitto è ancora sì come prim' era.
fixed is still such as before he was.

Da questa parte cadde giù dal cielo;
On this part he fell down from the heaven;

e la terra, che pria di qua si sporse,
and the earth, that before of here itself protruded,

per paura di lui fé del mar velo,
for fear of him made of the sea a veil,

e venne a l'emisperio nostro; e forse
and came to the hemisphere our; and perhaps

per fuggir lui lasciò qui loco vòto
to flee him left here the place empty

quella ch'appar di qua, e sù ricorse».
that that appeared of here, and upward fled."

Here is of morning, when of there it is evening; and this one, that for us made a ladder with the hair, is still fixed such as he was before. On this part he fell down from the heaven; and the earth, that before protruded itself here, for fear of him made of the sea a veil, and came to our hemisphere; and perhaps to flee him, that which appears from here left here the place empty, and fled upward."

127 Luogo è là giù da Belzebù remoto
Place is there below from Beelzebub removed

128 tanto quanto la tomba si distende,
as far as the tomb is distended,

129 che non per vista, ma per suono è noto
that not by sight, but by sound is known

130 d'un ruscelletto che quivi discende
of a little stream that there descends

131 per la buca d'un sasso, ch'elli ha roso,
along the hollow of a rock, that it eroded,

132 col corso ch'elli avvolge, e poco pende.
with the course that it twists, and little slopes.

133 Lo duca e io per quel cammino ascoso
The leader and I along that way hidden

134 intrammo a ritornar nel chiaro mondo;
entered to return in the bright world;

135 e sanza cura aver d'alcun riposo,
and without care having for any rest,

There is a place below from Beelzebub removed as far as the tomb distends itself, that is known not by sight but by sound, of a little stream that there descends along the hollow of a rock that it eroded, with the course that twists it, and little slopes. The leader and I entered along that hidden way to return into the bright world; and without having care to for any rest,

136 salimmo sù, el primo e io secondo,
we climbed up, he first and I second,

137 tanto ch'i' vidi de le cose belle
until that I saw of the things beautiful

138 che porta 'l ciel, per un pertugio tondo.
that bears the heaven, through a hole round.

139 E quindi uscimmo a riveder le stelle.
And then we emerged to see again the stars.

---

we climbed up, he first and I second, until I saw of the beautiful things that the heaven bears, through a round hole. And then we emerged to see again the stars.