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## [The Sacred Tales - suite]

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### Présentation de la fiche

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### Références éditoriales

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August 21 After he cured my difficulty in breathing, he  
148 A.D. immediately healed in the following way the trouble  
above<sup>44</sup> my throat and the pressure in my ears and  
the recurvation of the spine, which was now fully developed. *He said*  
*that is was a royal ointment*<sup>19</sup>. *It was necessary to get it from his*  
*wife. And somehow after this, a servant of the palace, clad in white*  
*and girdled, appeared at Telesphorus' Temple and statue, and escorted*  
*by a herald, went out by the doors where the statue of Artemis is,*  
*and bore the remainder of the ointment to the Emperor.* This more or  
less was the dream, to recollect it unclearly. When I went to the 22  
Temple and was walking about the statue of Telesphorus, the temple  
warden Asclepiacus came up to me. And while he happened to stand  
by the statue, I told him the vision which I had, and I asked him  
what the ointment was, or who should use it. But when he listened  
and marvelled, as he was accustomed, he said, "the search is not long  
nor need there be much travelling, but I bring it to you right from  
here. For it lies by the feet of Hygieia, since Tyche just now put it  
there, as soon as the Temple was opened." Tyche was a noble lady.  
And going to the Temple of Hygieia, he brought the ointment. And  
I anointed myself, where I happened to stand. The ointment also had a  
wonderful smell, and its power was immediately manifest. For faster 23  
than I have said it, the pressure relaxed. Later after asking the temple  
warden, I learned that the purgative<sup>45</sup> was compounded of three  
ingredients, of fig sap, with which I anointed myself, of myrrh of  
nard, and of another expensive myrrh, named, I believe, after its leaf  
(malobathrum). Thus I made a preparation of it and used it in the  
future, and all those symptoms abated. And at night, *Telesphorus also*  
*appeared dancing about my neck, and a light shone on the opposite*  
*wall, as if from the sun.*

About this time, I had the following dream, either when I had 24  
now begun the practice of vomiting at evening, or the vomiting had  
not yet taken place. *On arising from bed, I had*<sup>46</sup> *to eat nuts, dried*

<sup>44</sup> III 21 I accept ὑπέρ mss. Keil emended περί. But Aristides refers to III 16,  
not to the later III 23.

<sup>45</sup> III 23 I accept καθαροίς mss. Keil emended καθαίς.

<sup>46</sup> III 24 I emend ἔδει: τὸ ἐξ εὐνῆς for ἐδείτο ἐξ εὐνῆς mss.; cf. τὸ εἰς εὐνὴν,  
II 22, τὸ ἐξ ἀρχῆς, III 41.

*figs, date nut, and some bread in addition to these things.* Afterwards  
I used these things beside the ointment<sup>47</sup>.

He also gave me a drug for my stomach, abdomen, and this general 25  
region, which, I think, was plastered above these places. He gave it by  
providing the following sight: *I dreamed that the doctor Asclepiacus*  
*visited me and upon examining me, made a poultice of a drug called*  
*by the name dittany, and at the same time prescribed that I use it for*  
*thirty days.* I used it, and the thirtieth night came, and again I  
*dreamed that Asclepiacus came and removed the poultice.*

Later he applied something, which he compounded of four ingre- 26  
dients, of which I remember two, pitch from wine and sheep's wool  
grease, and we shall add the other two, if ever the dreams turn up.  
And concerning the drinking of the antidote, I remember the follow- 27  
ing. I happened, on the whole<sup>48</sup>, to eat only after much of the day  
had passed. *But he ordered me, upon getting up, to dine and drink this*  
*drug.* And this continued for five days, when I knew that the doctors  
ordered the opposite: whenever one intended to drink the drug, not  
to dine; and up to this time, this had been my wont. *Again he ordered* 28  
*me to eat this same drug with bread,* and I ate it at the Sacred Tripod,  
and made this a start for my health.

There is, I believe, a certain mixture of Philo. Formerly I was not 29  
even able to smell this. But when the God gave me signs that I should  
use it, and at the same time the hour when it was necessary, I not  
only drank it with pleasure, but after I drank it, I was immediately  
more comfortable and easier.

Then it would be possible to tell countless other things, pertaining 30  
to drugs, some of which he compounded himself, some public and  
known, which he gave as a cure for my body, however things stood on  
each occasion. When I had frequent catarrhs and my palate was  
seared, and my uvula appeared swollen, and my veins did not cease  
to throb, *I thought that I read an excellent book, the particulars of*  
*which — for I shall say the same thing again — I would not be able*  
*to tell. How could I so much later, especially since my record removed*  
*the need to memorize them? But at the end of the book, there was,* 31

<sup>47</sup> III 24 Keil placed a lacuna after χρίματι. But he has misunderstood the  
construction; for ἐχρώμην τε, cf. ἐγὼ τε ὦς, I 75.

<sup>48</sup> III 27 I emend τοῖς ἀπαοιν for ἀπαξ AST, ἀπαξ D; cf. I 68, IV 15.



