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THE SACRED TALES: V

In summer time, my stomach was upset, and August I was thirsty night and day, and perspired un-165 A.D. speakably, and my body was weak, and scarcely would two or three men drag me from my bed, when I desired to get up. And while I was in Smyrna during this time, the God indicated a journey to me. And I had to leave immediately. And we went on the road to Pergamum. But while the carriages were being got together, noon arrived, and a clear, burning heat arose. Therefore we decided to stay in the suburbs and so pass the peak of the heat. We started out for Myrina, and the pack animals proceeded us here. But since the weather was stifling, and at the same time the place was delightful and there were certain business matters besides, we wasted a great part of the day, so that at sunset we only reached an inn before the Hermus. And I was at a loss as to what to do. Since upon entering I did not endure the disagreeableness of the rooms, and my servants were not present because I had sent them ahead, it seemed fitting to push on. And now that I had crossed the river, the night was clear, and a light and cool breeze struck me, and somehow my body recovered and my will power was imbued by a certain energy and high spirits, and I found the weather pleasant, and at the same time contrasted how much the present circumstances had changed from the

Now in the depths of evening, I came to Larissa, and I was happy to find that I had not caught up with the carriages and that the conditions of the inn were no better than those before, but that it remained necessary to hold to the road and persevere. And now it was midnight or still a little later, and we were in Cyme, and everything was closed, which was satisfactory as far as I was concerned. Exhorting my attendants, who were escorting me from my estate, to endure also the remaining distance, where everything would not be closed to them⁷³, and saying that it was very brief and it was not a little better

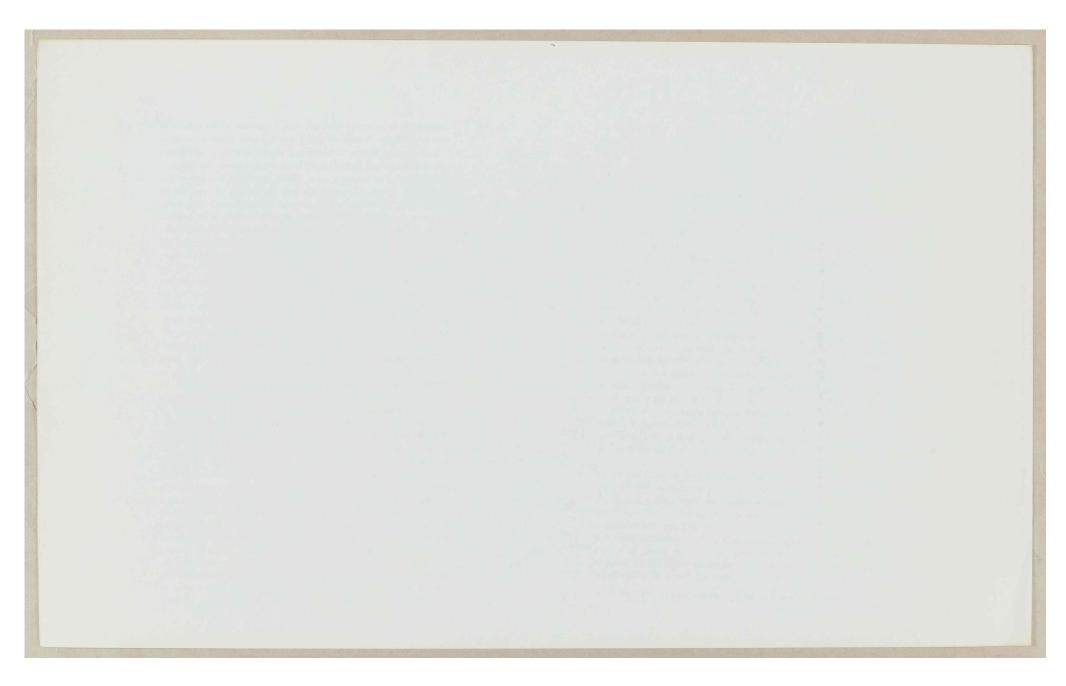
 73 V 5 I emend 60 междекобµечоv for одж віобµечоv mss.; cf. IV 97 and 30, p.

not to seem to go astray from our plan, I went out of the gates, and now the cold was damper, so that I required some means of warmth.

And reaching Myrina, at about cock crow, I saw my people before one of the inns, still packed up for the journey, because, as they said, they did not find anything open. There was a small couch at the 6 entrance of the inn. We passed the time moving this all over. For no matter where it was put, it was everywhere uncomfortable. There was no profit in knocking on the doors, either of friends or of any one at all. For no one heeded us. It was late when finally we found means of getting into the house of an acquaintance, but through the evil genius of the doorkeepers the fire went out and there was no other, either small or great. We entered in darkness, and were led by the hand, unseeing and unseen. While the fire was being brought and after it had been brought, while I intended to use it and to drink, the morning star arose and shone forth the light of day. I thought it best not to be soft and sleep, when it was day, but to pile work on work, and to walk to Gryneion, to the Temple of Apollo, as it was my custom to sacrifice to the God, both when I went and when I returned.

When I was at Gryneion, and had sacrificed to Apollo and spent 8 my time as usual, I came to Elaea and rested. And when I was in Pergamum on the following day, my intention was, as can be imagined, to delay there, but a dream came, whether right at that evening or a day or two later, and ordered me to press on and not do otherwise. "For they are in pursuit." And with this, the window shutters, which were very well closed, both inside and out, opened in a gust of wind, which had never happened before, and the door emitted a sound. When I awoke, I no longer lingered, but telling the servants to follow, I got in my carriage and drove until I reached my destination. And the northwind pressed hard, stirring up everything. During this time, my throat was bothersome, for it was pressed by a continuing lesion and was torn by everything which ever came in contact with it. Then although much sand was blown in my face by the wind and clouds of dust fell thickly from all sides, it happened that I was no more anxious than I was confident, partly, as it were, through a certain desperation and obstinance — for there was no escape - and partly since I endured contrary to all likelihood. The doctors before ordered gargling and prescribed very careful covering and such things. On the second or third day, I passed by our ancestral 10





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