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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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"the God and Deliverer"<sup>74</sup>. And when some one of the seers arrived, I asked what "Deliverer" meant, whether it delivered something once and for all, or made it smaller instead of greater, and was a sign of delay. He seemed like one who did not at all believe very strongly<sup>75</sup> that it meant delivery once and for all, but he laid the responsibility on the climate, stars and such things.

And at this time, it was announced that the girl had died. Therefore it immediately seemed to those who heard it that it was a divine thing that I did not happen to be present at the misfortune, but had gone on ahead. It became still more clear from later oracles that all this did not take place without some divine agency.

December 29 For when I descended from the mountain two 21  
166 A.D. nights later, the following was seen — I stayed  
longer since the God continued to restrain me.  
Telesphorus was a muleteer. This man seemed to me to come back  
from there and to report oracles which had been given about Philumene, for this was the girl's name. He said that they had been given to Alcimus, the father of the girl. And he had a letter, either sealed or not, which he said that Alcimus, after he had heard about<sup>76</sup> her at night, noted and copied down; and it was marvellous in length and power, and pertained to me, so that I wondered how he even noted it down. But the sum was, that her whole trouble had been inscribed 23  
on the very body of Philumene and on her insides, just as on the entrails of sacrificial animals. There also seemed to be several intestinal tracts, and somehow I saw them at the same time. The upper parts were healthy and in good condition, but what was diseased was on the extreme lower end; and they were all exhibited by one who stood by, whoever he was. And I asked him, "What causes my hesitation and inability to exert myself?" He exhibited that place. The oracles were as follows. My name had been inscribed in the 24  
following way: "Aelius Aristides." And there was, almost at intervals, one title after another. "Sosimenes" (Safe-Abiding) had been added,

<sup>74</sup> V 20 Keil placed a lacuna after θεόν; but cf. Note 2 to Chapter I.

<sup>75</sup> V 20 Keil placed a lacuna after ἡγομένῃ. But this is an easy ellipsis.

<sup>76</sup> V 22 I emend περὶ for παρ' mss.

and other such things, which heralded safety and that Philumene had given a soul for a soul and a body for a body, hers for mine. And other things which pertained to the same were in the dream, all written in certain books, all of which Alcimus wrote and Telesphorus seemed to carry back in its entirety<sup>77</sup>. There was also in it advice of the doctor Porphyrio, as it were to her mother, particularly to bathe, but if not, to take nourishment. The brother of this girl was that 25  
Hermias, who, when the Goddess also appeared to me, died in the great plague and nearly, so to speak, instead of me. For he died, as I later learned, on the same day as I was freed of a fever of very long duration. Both were the children of my foster sister Callityche. And so much for this.

December 29 I stayed five days at the foot of the mountain, 26  
to and used the regimen which he<sup>78</sup> prescribed,  
January 2 but when he moved me on the sixth, I went to  
167 A.D. Pergamum.

January 3 And it was the Vows<sup>79</sup>, which the Romans  
167 A.D. celebrate as the first of the year. The winter was  
so violent, that I could not easily endure it, even  
when I stayed at home. And a most divine thing happened on the 27  
journey — for that saying of Homer was clear, that some one of the Gods led, whoever the God was (*Odyssey* 9. 142). A very cold north-wind was pressing from behind, and it drove along thick black clouds. On the right everything was covered with snow, on the left it was raining. And this was during the whole day's travel. Through the whole sky, one zone, as it were, extended right over the road and led to the Temple, and provided both shelter and light. And drawing far 28  
apart from the others, I went toward the Temple with one attendant, and ran no less than three hundred stades. It was the time after

<sup>77</sup> V 24 I emend <οἱ τοὺς> οἱ καθε for οἱ καθε mss.; cf. 45. 25 K; 30. 10 K; probably to be read in 27. 30. K.

<sup>78</sup> V 26 Keil added ὁ θεός after ὄς. But Apollo is clearly understood in any case.

<sup>79</sup> V 26 I emend <αἱ> ἐπευχαι for ἐπιβδαι mss.; cf. Note 14 to Chapter IV and Note 27 to Chapter V.



