Candaulēs et Gȳgēs

I

Croesus Lȳdus erat, rēx omnium gentium intrā flūmen Halyn, quod **ā** merīdiē fluit in Pontum Euxīnum. Croesus prīmus barbarōrum erat, dē quibus scīmus, quī aliōs Graecōs sub imperium redēgit, aliōs autem amīcōs fēcit. ante imperium Croesī, omnēs Graecī līberī fuerant.



Crœsus

Amīcī bonī sunt. Pecūnia quoque bona est.

Rēgnum Lȳdōrum, quod anteā ā dīversīs gentibus tenēbātur, ad genus Croesī sīc pervēnit. Hēraclīdae, quī erant **posterī** Herculis, per quīngentōs annōs Lȳdīs rēgnāvērunt, usque ad **Candaulem**. Candaulēs, uxōrem suam vehementer amāns, putābat eam esse pulcherrimam omnium.



Rēgīna

Iterum dē mē loquitur.

Candaulī erat minister quīdam nōmine Gȳgēs. huic rēx maxima negōtia dederat, et multa dē pulchritūdine uxōris suae dīcēbat. ōlim rēx (nam necesse erat Candaulī male perīre) dīxit Gȳgī:



Candaulēs

Gȳgēs, num mihi crēdis cum dē pulchritūdine uxōris meae loquor? **hominēs enim auribus minus crēdunt quam oculīs.** igitur eam nūdam vidēre dēbēs.

Candaulēs et Gȳgēs

Gȳgēs clāmāvit:



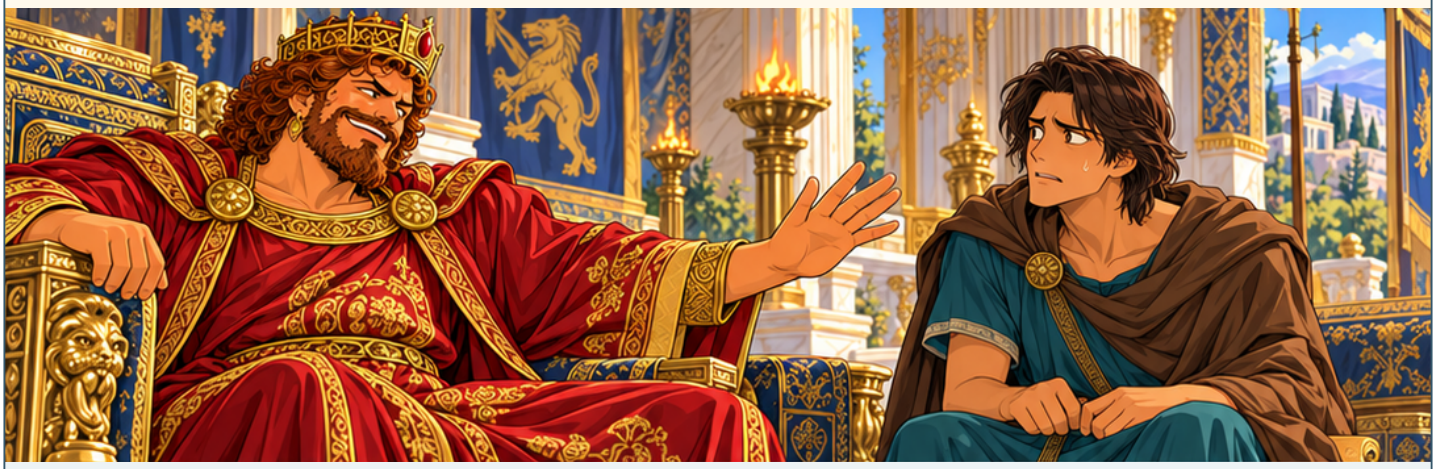
Gȳgēs

Domine, quid dīcis? mē iubēs dominam meam nūdam vidēre? simul cum veste etiam pudor tollitur. crēdō tibi. nōlī mē iubēre iniūstē agere.

Gȳgēs

Hoc mihi nōn placet.

Gȳgēs haec dīxit, valdē timēns. sed Candaulēs respondit:



Candaulēs

Nōlī timēre, Gȳgēs, aut mē aut uxōrem meam. nōn enim tē temptāre volō. omnia faciam ut fēmina nōn intellegat sē ā tē vīsam esse.

Candaulēs et Gȳgēs



Candaulēs

necesse est tibi post iānuam apertam manēre in cubiculō nostrō. post mē uxor intrābit. vestīmenta sua singula dēpōnet. tunc poteris eam quiētē spectāre. cum ad lectum sē vertet, clam ēgrediēris.

Gȳgēs

Omnia parāta sunt. Omnia mala sunt.

Cum Gȳgēs fugere nōn posset, parātus erat facere quod rēx iusserat. cum tempus adfuisset, Candaulēs Gȳgem in cubiculum dūxit. paulō post rēx rediit, et post eum uxor. Gȳgēs eam vīdit intrantem et vestem dēpōnentem. cum autem uxor tergum vertisset et ad lectum īret, statim Gȳgēs ēgressus est.



sed uxor eum ēgredientem cōnspexerat.



Rēgīna

Nunc intellegō.

Candaulēs et Gȳgēs

Prīmō mulier nihil dīxit, quamquam sciēbat **Candaulem** auctōrem esse factī. sed posterō diē fidēlissimōs servōs convocāvit et Gȳgem arcessīvit. Gȳgēs statim vēnit, nihil malī suspicātus.



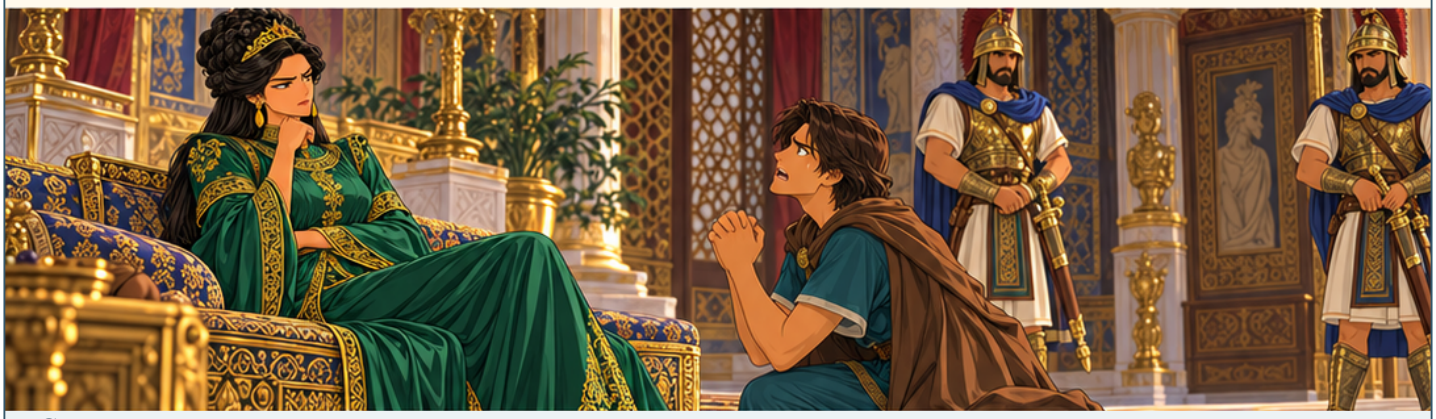
cum autem advēnisset, mulier dīxit:



Rēgīna

Duae viae tibi sunt. aut **Candaulem** occīde et mē ac rēgnum Lȳdōrum habē, aut ipse morere. **nam alteruter vestrum morī dēbet: aut is quī haec māchinātus est, aut tū, quī mē nūdam vīdistī.**

Gȳgēs prīmō verba mīrātus est, sed deinde ōrāvit nē sē cōgeret tālem ēlēctiōnem facere. cum autem eī persuādēre nōn posset, intellēxit aut sē aut **Candaulem** moritūrum esse; et ēlēgit vīvere.



Gȳgēs

Vīvere volō.

rogāvit ergō mulierem:



Gȳgēs

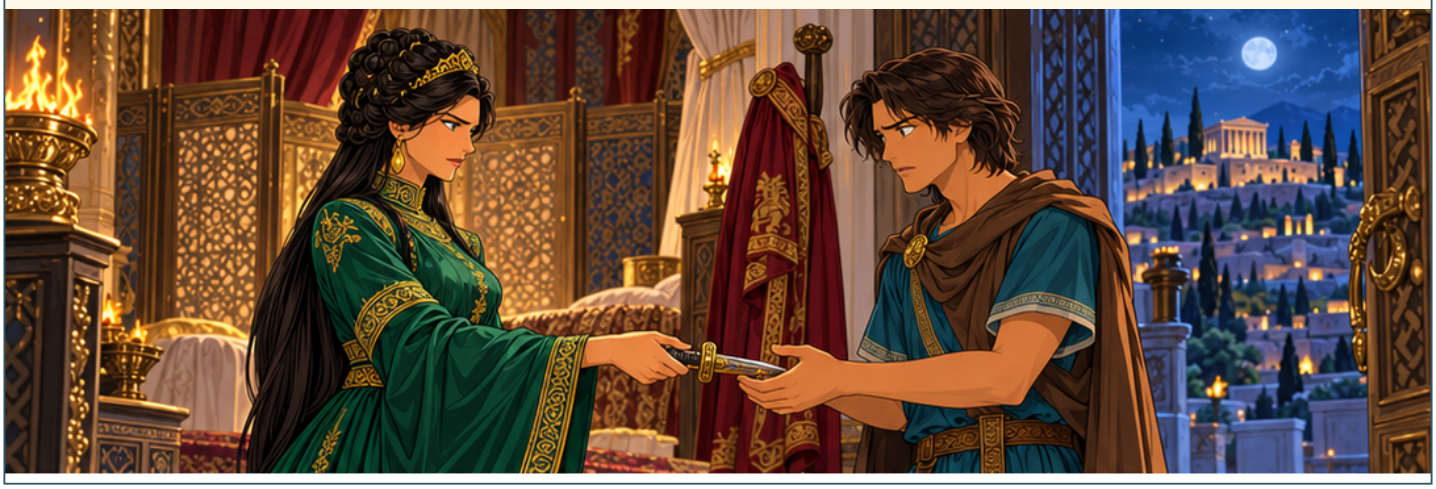
quod mē cōgis dominum occīdere, dīc quōmodo id faciam.

Rēgīna

Id in eōdem locō fīet. eum dormientem interficere dēbēs.

illa respondit:

Postquam haec cōnsilia parāvērunt, nocte Gȳgēs (nōn enim fugere poterat) cum muliere in cubiculum īvit. illa **eī** gladium parvum dedit et **ipsum** post eandem iānuam abscondit.



deinde Gȳgēs Candaulem dormientem occīdit, et mulierem ac rēgnum Lȳdōrum cēpit.



Rēgīna

Nunc tacet.

Multī Lȳdōrum propter mortem Candaulis īrātī arma cēpērunt; aliī autem Gȳgem honōrābant. tandem omnēs cōnsēnsērunt **ōrāculum Delphicum** cōnsulere et deō pārēre.



deus Gȳgem ēlēgit; sīc Gȳgēs Lȳdīs rēgnāvit. sed **Pȳthia etiam dīxit Hēraclīdās** ultiōnem habitūrōs esse post quīnque generātiōnēs. **hoc** tamen **respōnsum** nec Lȳdī nec rēgēs magnī aestimābant, **dōnec ēvēnit**.



Lȳdus

Quīnque generātiōnēs? Nōn hodiē!

Vocabulary

ā, ab (prep. + abl.) – from; by (a person, with a passive verb)
abscondō, abscondere, abscondī, absconditum – hide
ac (conj.) – and
ad (prep. + acc.) – to, towards
adsum, adesse, adfuī – be present; (of time) come, arrive
adveniō, advenīre, advēnī, adventum – arrive
aestimō, aestimāre, aestimāvī, aestimātum – value; magnī aestimāre – value highly, take seriously
agō, agere, ēgī, āctum – do, act
alius, alia, aliud – other; aliī … aliī – some … others
alteruter, alterutra, alterutrum – one or the other (of two)
amīcus, amīcī, m. – friend
amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum – love
annus, annī, m. – year
ante (prep. + acc.) – before
anteā (adv.) – before, previously
apertus, aperta, apertum – open
arcessō, arcessere, arcessīvī, arcessītum – send for, summon
arma, armōrum, n. pl. – weapons, arms; arma capere – take up arms
auctor, auctōris, m. – instigator, person responsible
auris, auris, f. – ear
aut (conj.) – or; aut … aut – either … or
autem (conj., placed second) – however, but, and
barbarus, barbarī, m. – barbarian (anyone who was not Greek)
Candaulēs, Candaulis, m. – Candaules, king of Lydia
capiō, capere, cēpī, captum – take, seize
clam (adv.) – secretly
clāmō, clāmāre, clāmāvī, clāmātum – shout, cry out
cōgō, cōgere, coēgī, coāctum – force, compel
cōnsentiō, cōnsentīre, cōnsēnsī, cōnsēnsum – agree
cōnsilium, cōnsiliī, n. – plan
cōnspiciō, cōnspicere, cōnspexī, cōnspectum – catch sight of, notice
cōnsulō, cōnsulere, cōnsuluī, cōnsultum – consult (+ acc.)
convocō, convocāre, convocāvī, convocātum – call together
crēdō, crēdere, crēdidī, crēditum (+ dat.) – believe, trust
Croesus, Croesī, m. – Croesus, king of Lydia
cubiculum, cubiculī, n. – bedroom
cum (conj.) – when; since
cum (prep. + abl.) – with
dē (prep. + abl.) – about, concerning
dēbeō, dēbēre, dēbuī, dēbitum – must, ought
deinde (adv.) – then, next
Delphicus, Delphica, Delphicum – at Delphi, Delphic
dēpōnō, dēpōnere, dēposuī, dēpositum – put down, take off
deus, deī, m. – god
dīcō, dīcere, dīxī, dictum – say, tell (imperative dīc)
diēs, diēī, m. – day; posterō diē – on the next day
dīversus, dīversa, dīversum – different, various
dō, dare, dedī, datum – give
domina, dominae, f. – mistress
dominus, dominī, m. – master, lord
dōnec (conj.) – until
dormiō, dormīre, dormīvī, dormītum – sleep
dūcō, dūcere, dūxī, ductum – lead
duo, duae, duo – two
ego, meī – I (acc. mē, dat. mihi)
ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus sum – go out
ēlēctiō, ēlēctiōnis, f. – choice
ēligō, ēligere, ēlēgī, ēlēctum – choose
enim (conj., placed second) – for
eō, īre, iī or īvī, itum – go
ergō (adv.) – therefore, so
et (conj.) – and
etiam (adv.) – also, even
ēveniō, ēvenīre, ēvēnī, ēventum – happen, come true
Euxīnus, Euxīna, Euxīnum – Euxine; Pontus Euxīnus – the Black Sea
faciō, facere, fēcī, factum – do, make
factum, factī, n. – deed
fēmina, fēminae, f. – woman
fidēlis, fidēle – loyal, faithful (superlative fidēlissimus)
fīō, fierī, factus sum – be done, happen, become
flūmen, flūminis, n. – river
fluō, fluere, flūxī, flūxum – flow
fugiō, fugere, fūgī, fugitum – flee, escape
generātiō, generātiōnis, f. – generation
gēns, gentis, f. – people, nation; family, clan
genus, generis, n. – family, line, race
gladius, gladiī, m. – sword; gladius parvus – dagger
Graecus, Graecī, m. – a Greek
Gȳgēs, Gȳgis, m. – Gyges (vocative Gȳgēs)
habeō, habēre, habuī, habitum – have, hold, possess
Halys, Halyos, m. (acc. Halyn) – the River Halys
Hēraclīdae, Hēraclīdārum, m. pl. (acc. Hēraclīdās) – the Heraclidae, descendants of Hercules
Herculēs, Herculis, m. – Hercules
hic, haec, hoc – this; (as a pronoun) he, she, it
homō, hominis, m. – human being, man; (pl.) people
honōrō, honōrāre, honōrāvī, honōrātum – honour
iānua, iānuae, f. – door
īdem, eadem, idem – the same
igitur (adv.) – therefore
ille, illa, illud – that; (as a pronoun) he, she, it
imperium, imperiī, n. – rule, power, control; sub imperium redigere – bring under control
in (prep. + acc.) – into; (+ abl.) in
iniūstē (adv.) – unjustly, wrongly
intellegō, intellegere, intellēxī, intellēctum – understand, realise
interficiō, interficere, interfēcī, interfectum – kill
intrā (prep. + acc.) – within, on this side of
intrō, intrāre, intrāvī, intrātum – enter, come in
ipse, ipsa, ipsum – himself, herself, itself (emphatic)
īrātus, īrāta, īrātum – angry
is, ea, id – he, she, it; that
iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussum – order (+ acc. and infinitive)
lectus, lectī, m. – bed
līber, lībera, līberum – free
locus, locī, m. – place
loquor, loquī, locūtus sum – speak
Lȳdus, Lȳdī, m. – a Lydian
māchinor, māchinārī, māchinātus sum – plot, contrive
magnus, magna, magnum – great, big (superlative maximus); magnī aestimāre – value highly
male (adv.) – badly
malum, malī, n. – harm, evil; nihil malī – no harm
maneō, manēre, mānsī, mānsum – stay, remain
merīdiēs, merīdiēī, m. – midday; the south
meus, mea, meum – my
minister, ministrī, m. – servant, attendant
minus (adv.) – less
mīror, mīrārī, mīrātus sum – be amazed at, wonder at

morior, morī, mortuus sum – die (future participle moritūrus; imperative morere)
mors, mortis, f. – death
mulier, mulieris, f. – woman; wife
multus, multa, multum – much; (pl.) many
nam (conj.) – for
nē (conj. + subj.) – that … not, not to (in indirect commands)
nec (conj.) – and not, nor; nec … nec – neither … nor
necesse (indeclinable adj.) – necessary; necesse est (+ dat. + infinitive) – it is necessary for (someone) to …
negōtium, negōtiī, n. – business, affair
nihil (indeclinable) – nothing
nōlō, nōlle, nōluī – be unwilling, not want; nōlī (+ infinitive) – do not …
nōmen, nōminis, n. – name; nōmine – by name, called
nōn (adv.) – not
noster, nostra, nostrum – our
nox, noctis, f. – night; nocte – at night
nūdus, nūda, nūdum – naked
num (interrogative particle) – introduces a question expecting the answer "no"
occīdō, occīdere, occīdī, occīsum – kill
oculus, oculī, m. – eye
ōlim (adv.) – once, one day
omnis, omne – all, every
ōrāculum, ōrāculī, n. – oracle
ōrō, ōrāre, ōrāvī, ōrātum – beg, pray
parātus, parāta, parātum – ready, prepared
pāreō, pārēre, pāruī (+ dat.) – obey
parō, parāre, parāvī, parātum – prepare
parvus, parva, parvum – small
paulō (adv.) – by a little; paulō post – a little later
per (prep. + acc.) – through; (of time) for, throughout
pereō, perīre, periī, peritum – perish, die
persuādeō, persuādēre, persuāsī, persuāsum (+ dat.) – persuade
perveniō, pervenīre, pervēnī, perventum – reach, come to, pass to
Pontus, Pontī, m. – the sea; Pontus Euxīnus – the Black Sea
possum, posse, potuī – be able, can
post (prep. + acc.) – after; behind; (adv.) afterwards, later
posterī, posterōrum, m. pl. – descendants
posterus, postera, posterum – next, following
postquam (conj.) – after
prīmō (adv.) – at first
prīmus, prīma, prīmum – first
propter (prep. + acc.) – because of
pudor, pudōris, m. – modesty, sense of shame
pulcher, pulchra, pulchrum – beautiful (superlative pulcherrimus)
pulchritūdō, pulchritūdinis, f. – beauty
putō, putāre, putāvī, putātum – think
Pȳthia, Pȳthiae, f. – the Pythia, Apollo's priestess at Delphi
quam (conj.) – than
quamquam (conj.) – although
quī, quae, quod – who, which
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam – a certain, a
quiētē (adv.) – quietly, at leisure
quīngentī, quīngentae, quīngenta – five hundred
quīnque (indeclinable) – five
quis, quid – who? what?
quod (conj.) – because, since
quōmodo (adv.) – how
redeō, redīre, rediī, reditum – go back, return
redigō, redigere, redēgī, redāctum – bring back, reduce; sub imperium redigere – bring under control
rēgnō, rēgnāre, rēgnāvī, rēgnātum – reign, rule
rēgnum, rēgnī, n. – kingdom
respondeō, respondēre, respondī, respōnsum – reply
respōnsum, respōnsī, n. – reply; (of an oracle) prophecy
rēx, rēgis, m. – king
rogō, rogāre, rogāvī, rogātum – ask
sciō, scīre, scīvī, scītum – know
sē (suī, sibi, sē) – himself, herself, themselves (reflexive)
sed (conj.) – but
servus, servī, m. – slave, servant
sīc (adv.) – thus, in this way
simul (adv.) – at the same time, together
singulī, singulae, singula – one at a time, one by one
spectō, spectāre, spectāvī, spectātum – watch, look at
statim (adv.) – at once, immediately
sub (prep. + acc.) – under (with a verb of motion); (+ abl.) under
sum, esse, fuī – be
suspicor, suspicārī, suspicātus sum – suspect
suus, sua, suum – his own, her own, their own (reflexive)
tālis, tāle – such, of such a kind
tamen (adv.) – however, nevertheless
tandem (adv.) – at last
temptō, temptāre, temptāvī, temptātum – test, try
tempus, temporis, n. – time
teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentum – hold
tergum, tergī, n. – back; tergum vertere – turn one's back
timeō, timēre, timuī – fear, be afraid
tollō, tollere, sustulī, sublātum – raise; take away, remove
tū, tuī – you (singular; acc. tē, dat. tibi)
tunc (adv.) – then
ultiō, ultiōnis, f. – vengeance, revenge
usque (adv.) – all the way; usque ad – right up to, until
ut (conj. + subj.) – so that, that
uxor, uxōris, f. – wife
valdē (adv.) – very, greatly
vehementer (adv.) – passionately, intensely
veniō, venīre, vēnī, ventum – come
verbum, verbī, n. – word
vertō, vertere, vertī, versum – turn; sē vertere – turn (oneself)
vestīmentum, vestīmentī, n. – garment; (pl.) clothes
vestis, vestis, f. – clothing, dress
via, viae, f. – road, way, path
videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsum – see
vīvō, vīvere, vīxī, vīctum – live
volō, velle, voluī – want, wish
vōs, vestrum or vestrī – you (plural); alteruter vestrum – one or other of you