Perseus et Andromeda III

Perseus et Andromeda ad īnsulam Serīphum nāvigāvērunt. Ventus bonus erat, sed Andromeda fessa erat.



Andromeda

Estne procul īnsula?

rogāvit.

Perseus

Nōn procul. Mox mātrem meam vidēbis. Bonus amīcus quoque ibi habitat, nōmine Dictys. Ōlim mē et mātrem ē marī servāvit.

respondit Perseus.

Perseus paululum tacuit.



Andromeda

Et rēx? Estne bonus?

Perseus

Rēx multam pecūniam habet.

inquit

Andromeda

Nōn dē pecūniā rogāvī.

Perseus

Sciō.

respondit Perseus.

Ubi ad īnsulam advēnērunt, paucī nautae prope mare labōrābant. Ūnus ex eīs Perseum cōnspexit et statim ad eum cucurrit.



Nauta

Vīvis! Ā Polydecte mors tua nūntiāta est!

clāmāvit.

Perseus

Errāvit. Ubi est māter mea?

respondit Perseus.

Text by Sean Gabb, 2026 10 03

Perseus et Andromeda III I · Serīphus

Nauta circum sē spectāvit. Tum parvā vōce respondit.



Nauta

In vīllā rēgis. Captīva est. Dictys quoque captīvus est. Rēx īrātissimus erat quod māter tua eum nōn amābat. Dictys eam dēfendere temptāvit.

Perseus gladium tenuit. Andromedam cum nautā prope nāvem manēre iussit. Deinde ad vīllam cucurrit.



Nauta

Nōlī festīnāre. Ā multīs mīlitibus rēx dēfenditur.

inquit nauta.

Perseus

Bene. Hodiē multum labōrem habēbunt.

respondit Perseus.

Ante iānuam duo mīlitēs stābant. Ūnus dormiēbat; alter pānem cōnsūmēbat.



Perseus

Rēgem vidēre volō.

inquit Perseus.

Mīles

Rēx cēnat. Crās venī.

respondit mīles.

Perseus et Andromeda III



Perseus

Hodiē eum vidēre volō. Nunc eum vidēre volō.

Mīles

Omnēs rēgem vidēre volunt. Pecūniam habēs?

Perseus sacculum ostendit. Mīles sacculum spectāvit.



Perseus

Dōnum rēgī portō.

Mīles

Parvum est. Rēx dōna magna amat.

Perseus

Dōnum tamen pretiōsum est.

respondit Perseus.

Tum iānuam aperuit et intrāvit. Mīles amīcum excitāvit.



Mīles

Surge! Labōrem habēmus.

Mīles

Iterum?

respondit amīcus miser.

Perseus et Andromeda III

Intus Polydectēs cum amīcīs cēnābat. Cibus et vīnum in mēnsīs pōnēbantur. Vīnum ā servīs portābātur; mūsicī cantābant. Rēx iam multum vīnum biberat et magnā vōce rīdēbat. Amīcī rīsērunt.



Polydectēs

Perseus mortuus est! Medūsa eum cōnspexit. Nunc saxum est. Fortasse avēs in capite eius sedent!

clāmābat.

Rēx sē vertit. Pōculum in terram cecidit.



Perseus

Ego tamen adhūc ambulāre possum.

inquit Perseus.

Polydectēs

Tū!

clāmāvit.

Perseus

Ego. Māter mea ubi est?

respondit Perseus.

Polydectēs paululum tacuit. Deinde mīlitēs vocāvit.



Polydectēs

Capite eum! Statim! Capite! Necāte!

Perseus et Andromeda III

Duo mīlitēs gladiōs ēdūxērunt et ad iuvenem cucurrērunt. Perseus quoque gladium ēdūxit. Ūnus mīles eum oppugnāvit, sed Perseus sē celeriter mōvit et ventrem mīlitis vulnerāvit. Mīles clāmāvit et ad terram cecidit.



Alter hastam iēcit. Hasta Perseum nōn percussit; magnum pōculum in mēnsā frēgit. Vīnum per terram fluēbat. Perseus mīlitem gladiō occīdit. Nunc sanguis quoque per terram fluēbat.



Cēterī mīlitēs prope iānuam manēbant.



Polydectēs

Pugnāte! Cūr ibi stātis?

clāmāvit rēx.

Mīles

Quod hinc bene spectāre possumus.

respondit ūnus.

Polydectēs

Ignāvī estis!

Mīles

Sed adhūc vīvī sumus.

Text by Sean Gabb, 2026 10 03

Perseus et Andromeda III

Perseus ad rēgem accessit.



Perseus

Dōnum tuum habeō. Caput Medūsae.

inquit.

Polydectēs

Mendācium! Ostende mihi!

clāmāvit Polydectēs.

Ūnus servus statim sub mēnsam sē iēcit.



Perseus

Amīcī, nōlīte spectāre!

inquit Perseus

Servus

Ego nihil spectābō!

clāmāvit.

Perseus caput ē sacculō sustulit. Rēx id spectāvit. Subitō pedēs movēre nōn poterat. Bracchia quoque dūra erant. Clāmāre temptāvit, sed vōx eius iam nulla erat. Corpus rēgis saxum erat.



Perseus et Andromeda III

Perseus eum in terram iēcit. Caput saxeum in multās partēs frēgit. Diū omnēs tacēbant. Tum servus sub mēnsā rogāvit:



Servus

Estne cēna fīnīta?

Perseus mātrem et Dictyn līberāvit. Danaē ad fīlium cucurrit.



Danaē

Fīlī mī! Vīvis!

Perseus

Vīvō. Rēx autem nōn vīvit.

respondit Perseus.

Dictys sanguinem in gladiō cōnspexit.



Dictys

Difficilis erat cēna?

rogāvit.

Perseus

Paululum.

respondit Perseus.

Text by Sean Gabb, 2026 10 03

Perseus et Andromeda III

Mox Andromeda advēnit. Danaē eam laeta salūtāvit.



Perseus

Uxor mea est.

inquit Perseus.

Danaē

Uxor? Nūntium mihi nōn mīsistī!

exclāmāvit māter.

Perseus

Multum labōrem habēbam.

Dictys

Et nunc plūs labōris habēbis.

Dictys rīsit.

Posteā cīvēs ad vīllam convēnērunt. Mortem rēgis nōn diū dolēbant. Pecūniam enim et līberōs eōrum saepe cēperat. Nunc Dictyn rēgem habēre volēbant.



Cīvēs

Bonus vir est. Nōs nōn terrēbit.

inquiunt.

Dictys cēnam rēgis spectāvit.



Dictys

Prīmum mēnsās purgāte. Deinde cīvēs vocāte. Multus cibus adhūc adest.

inquit

Text by Sean Gabb, 2026 10 03

Perseus and Andromeda Part 3

Perseus Ultor Scelestī

Perseus et Andromeda ad īnsulam Serīphum nāvigāvērunt. Ventus bonus erat, sed Andromeda fessa erat.
‘Estne procul īnsula?’ rogāvit.
‘Nōn procul,’ respondit Perseus. ‘Mox mātrem meam vidēbis. Bonus quoque amīcus ibi habitat, nōmine Dictys. Ōlim mē et mātrem ē marī servāvit.’
‘Et rēx? Estne bonus?’
Perseus paululum tacuit.
‘Rēx,’ inquit, ‘multam pecūniam habet.’
‘Nōn dē pecūniā rogāvī.’
‘Sciō,’ respondit Perseus.

Ubi ad īnsulam advēnērunt, paucī nautae prope mare labōrābant. Ūnus ex eīs Perseum cōnspexit et statim ad eum cucurrit.
‘Vīvis!’ clāmāvit. ‘Ā Polydectē mors tua nūntiāta est!’
‘Errāvit,’ respondit Perseus. ‘Ubi est māter mea?’
Nauta circum sē spectāvit. Tum parvā vōce respondit.
‘In vīllā rēgis. Captīva est. Dictys quoque captīvus est. Rēx īrātissimus erat quod māter tua eum nōn amābat. Dictys eam dēfendere temptāvit.’

Perseus gladium tenuit.
‘Nōlī festīnāre,’ inquit nauta. ‘Ā multīs mīlitibus rēx dēfenditur.’
‘Bene,’ respondit Perseus. ‘Hodiē multum labōrem habēbunt.’
Andromedam cum nautā prope nāvem manēre iussit. Deinde ad vīllam cucurrit.

Ante iānuam duo mīlitēs stābant. Ūnus dormiēbat; alter pānem cōnsūmēbat.
‘Rēgem vidēre volō,’ inquit Perseus.
‘Rēx cēnat,’ respondit mīles. ‘Crās venī.’
‘Hodiē eum vidēre volō. Nunc eum vidēre volō.’
‘Omnēs rēgem vidēre volunt. Pecūniam habēs?’
Perseus sacculum ostendit.
‘Dōnum rēgī portō.’
Mīles sacculum spectāvit.
‘Parvus est. Rēx dōna magna amat.’
‘Dōnum tamen nōtum est,’ respondit Perseus.

Tum iānuam aperuit et intrāvit. Mīles amīcum excitāvit.
‘Surge! Labōrem habēmus.’
‘Iterum?’ respondit amīcus miser.

Intus Polydectēs cum amīcīs cēnābat. Cibus et vīnum in mēnsīs pōnēbantur. Vīnum ā servīs portābātur; mūsicī cantābant. Rēx iam multum vīnum biberat et magnā vōce rīdēbat.
‘Perseus mortuus est!’ clāmābat. ‘Medūsa eum cōnspexit. Nunc saxum est. Fortasse avēs in capite eius sedent!’
Amīcī rīsērunt.
‘Ego tamen adhūc ambulāre possum,’ inquit Perseus.

Rēx sē vertit. Pōculum in terram cecidit.
‘Tū!’ clāmāvit.
‘Ego,’ respondit Perseus. ‘Māter mea ubi est?’
Polydectēs paulum tacuit. Deinde mīlitēs vocāvit.
‘Capite eum! Statim! Capite! Necāte!’

Duo mīlitēs gladiōs ēdūxērunt et ad iuvenem cucurrērunt. Perseus quoque gladium ēdūxit. Ūnus mīles eum oppugnāvit, sed Perseus sē celeriter mōvit et ventrem mīlitis vulnerāvit. Mīles clāmāvit et ad terram cecidit.
Alter hastam iēcit. Hasta Perseum nōn percussit; magnum pōculum in mēnsā frēgit. Vīnum per terram fluēbat.
Perseus mīlitem gladiō occīdit. Nunc sanguis quoque per terram fluēbat.

Cēterī mīlitēs prope iānuam manēbant.
‘Pugnāte!’ clāmāvit rēx. ‘Cūr ibi stātis?’
‘Quod hinc bene spectāre possumus,’ respondit ūnus.
‘Ignāvī estis!’
‘Sed adhūc vīvī sumus.’

Perseus ad rēgem accessit.
‘Dōnum tuum habeō,’ inquit. ‘Caput Medūsae.’
‘Mendācium!’ clāmāvit Polydectēs. ‘Ostende mihi!’
‘Amīcī,’ inquit Perseus, ‘nōlīte spectāre!’
Ūnus servus statim sub mēnsam sē iēcit.
‘Ego nihil spectābō!’ clāmāvit.

Perseus caput ē sacculō sustulit. Rēx id spectāvit.
Subitō pedēs movēre nōn poterat. Bracchia quoque dūra erant. Clāmāre temptāvit, sed vōx eius iam nulla erat. Corpus rēgis saxum erat.
Perseus eum in terram iēcit. Caput saxeum in multās partēs frēgit.

Diū omnēs tacēbant. Tum servus sub mēnsā rogāvit:
‘Estne cēna fīnīta?’

Perseus mātrem et Dictyn līberāvit. Danaē ad fīlium cucurrit.
‘Fīlī mī! Vīvis!’
‘Vīvō,’ respondit Perseus. ‘Rēx autem nōn vīvit.’
Dictys sanguinem in gladiō cōnspexit.

‘Difficilis erat cēna?’ rogāvit.
‘Paululum,’ respondit Perseus.

Mox Andromeda advēnit. Danaē eam laeta salūtāvit.
‘Uxor mea est,’ inquit Perseus.
‘Uxor?’ exclāmāvit māter. ‘Nūntium mihi nōn mīsistī!’
‘Multum labōrem habēbam.’
Dictys rīsit. ‘Et nunc plūs labōris habēbis.’

Posteā cīvēs ad vīllam convēnērunt. Mortem rēgis nōn diū dolēbant. Pecūniam enim et līberōs eōrum saepe cēperat. Nunc Dictyn rēgem habēre volēbant.
‘Bonus vir est,’ inquiunt. ‘Nōs nōn terrēbit.’
Dictys cēnam rēgis spectāvit.
‘Prīmum,’ inquit, ‘mēnsās purgāte. Deinde cīvēs vocāte. Multus cibus adhūc adest.’

Complete Alphabetical Vocabulary

The vocabulary gives dictionary forms and, where useful, explains the form found in the story.

ā/ab + ablative — from, away from; by (with a passive verb)

accedō, accedere, accessī, accessum — I approach; accessit = he approached

ad + accusative — to, towards

adsum, adesse, adfuī — I am present, am here; adest = is present, remains

adhūc — still, up to now

adveniō, advenīre, advēnī, adventum — I arrive; advēnit = she arrived

alter, altera, alterum — the other, the second (of two)

ambulō, ambulāre, ambulāvī, ambulātum — I walk

amīcus, amīcī (m.) — friend

amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum — I love, like

Andromeda, Andromedae (f.) — Andromeda

ante + accusative — before, in front of

aperiō, aperīre, aperuī, apertum — I open; aperuit = he opened

avis, avis (f.) — bird

autem — however, but

bene — well

bibō, bibere, bibī — I drink; biberat = he had drunk

bonus, -a, -um — good

bracchium, bracchiī (n.) — arm; bracchia = arms

cantō, cantāre, cantāvī, cantātum — I sing

capiō, capere, cēpī, captum — I take, capture; capite = seize!; cēperat = he had taken

caput, capitis (n.) — head

captīvus, -a, -um — captive, prisoner

cecidī — see cadō

cadō, cadere, cecidī, cāsum — I fall; cecidit = fell

celeriter — quickly

cēna, cēnae (f.) — dinner, meal

cēnō, cēnāre, cēnāvī, cēnātum — I dine, eat dinner

cēterī, -ae, -a — the rest, the others

cibus, cibī (m.) — food

circum + accusative — around

cīvis, cīvis (m./f.) — citizen

clāmō, clāmāre, clāmāvī, clāmātum — I shout

cōnspiciō, cōnspicere, cōnspexī, cōnspectum — I catch sight of, see

cōnsūmō, cōnsūmere, cōnsūmpsī, cōnsūmptum — I consume, eat

conveniō, convenīre, convēnī, conventum — I come together, assemble

corpus, corporis (n.) — body

crās — tomorrow

cum + ablative — with

currō, currere, cucurrī, cursum — I run

cūr — why?

Danaē, Danaēs (f.) — Danaë, mother of Perseus

dē + ablative — about, concerning; down from

dēfendō, dēfendere, dēfendī, dēfēnsum — I defend; dēfenditur = he is defended

deinde — then, next

Dictys, Dictyos/Dictyis (m.) — Dictys; Dictyn = Dictys (accusative)

difficilis, difficile — difficult

diū — for a long time

doleō, dolēre, doluī — I grieve, mourn

dōnum, dōnī (n.) — gift

dormiō, dormīre, dormīvī, dormītum — I sleep

duo, duae, duo — two

dūrus, -a, -um — hard

ē/ex + ablative — out of, from

ēdūcō, ēdūcere, ēdūxī, ēductum — I draw out; ēdūxit = he drew out

ego — I

enim — for, indeed

errō, errāre, errāvī, errātum — I make a mistake; errāvit = he was wrong

et — and

excītō, excitāre, excitāvī, excitātum — I wake, rouse

exclāmō, exclāmāre, exclāmāvī, exclāmātum — I exclaim, shout out

feriō — not used here; see percutiō for 'strike'

fessus, fessa, fessum — tired

festīnō, festīnāre, festīnāvī, festīnātum — I hurry; nōlī festīnāre = do not hurry

fīlius, fīliī (m.) — son; fīlī = O son!

fīniō, fīnīre, fīnīvī, fīnītum — I finish; fīnīta = finished

fluō, fluere, flūxī, flūxum — I flow; fluēbat = was flowing

fortasse — perhaps

frangō, frangere, frēgī, frāctum — I break; frēgit = broke

gladius, gladiī (m.) — sword

habeō, habēre, habuī, habitum — I have

habitō, habitāre, habitāvī, habitātum — I live, dwell

hasta, hastae (f.) — spear

hic (adverb) — here; hinc = from here

hodiē — today

iaciō, iacere, iēcī, iactum — I throw; iēcit = threw

iam — now, already

iānua, iānuae (f.) — door

ibi — there

id — it; see is, ea, id

ignāvus, -a, -um — cowardly, lazy; ignāvī = cowards/cowardly men

in + ablative — in, on

in + accusative — into, onto

inquam — I say; inquit = he/she says or said; inquiunt = they say

intrō, intrāre, intrāvī, intrātum — I enter

intus — inside

is, ea, id — he, she, it; that; eīs = them; eius = his/her; eōrum = their

iterum — again

iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussum — I order; iussit = he ordered

iuvenis, iuvenis (m.) — young man

labor, labōris (m.) — work, labour; plūs labōris = more work

labōrō, labōrāre, labōrāvī, labōrātum — I work

laetus, -a, -um — happy, glad

līberī, līberōrum (m. pl.) — children

līberō, līberāre, līberāvī, līberātum — I free, release

magnus, -a, -um — big, great; magnā vōce = in a loud voice

maneō, manēre, mānsī, mānsum — I remain, stay

mare, maris (n.) — sea

māter, mātris (f.) — mother

Medūsa, Medūsae (f.) — Medusa

mendācium, mendāciī (n.) — lie, falsehood

mēnsa, mēnsae (f.) — table

mīles, mīlitis (m.) — soldier

miser, misera, miserum — wretched, miserable

mittō, mittere, mīsī, missum — I send; mīsistī = you sent

mors, mortis (f.) — death

mortuus, -a, -um — dead

moveō, movēre, mōvī, mōtum — I move

mox — soon

multus, -a, -um — much, many; multum = much/a lot

mūsicus, mūsicī (m.) — musician

nauta, nautae (m.) — sailor

nāvigō, nāvigāre, nāvigāvī, nāvigātum — I sail

nāvis, nāvis (f.) — ship

necō, necāre, necāvī, necātum — I kill; necāte = kill!

nihil — nothing

nōlī / nōlīte + infinitive — do not... (singular/plural command)

nōmen, nōminis (n.) — name; nōmine = by name

nōn — not

nōtus, -a, -um — known, famous

nullus, -a, -um — no, none

nunc — now

nūntiō, nūntiāre, nūntiāvī, nūntiātum — I announce, report; nūntiāta est = was announced

nūntium, nūntiī (n.) — message, news

occīdō, occīdere, occīdī, occīsum — I kill; occīdit = he killed

ōlim — once, formerly

omnis, omne — all, every; omnēs = everyone/all

oppugnō, oppugnāre, oppugnāvī, oppugnātum — I attack

ostendō, ostendere, ostendī, ostentum — I show; ostende = show!

pānis, pānis (m.) — bread

pars, partis (f.) — part

parvus, -a, -um — small

paucī, -ae, -a — few

paululum — a little, for a short time

pecūnia, pecūniae (f.) — money

per + accusative — through, across

percutiō, percutere, percussī, percussum — I strike, hit; percussit = struck

Perseus, Perseī (m.) — Perseus

pēs, pedis (m.) — foot; pedēs = feet

plūs, plūris — more; plūs labōris = more work

Polydectēs, Polydectis (m.) — Polydectes, king of Seriphos; ā Polydectē = by Polydectes

pōculum, pōculī (n.) — cup, drinking-cup

pōnō, pōnere, posuī, positum — I put, place; pōnēbantur = were being placed

portō, portāre, portāvī, portātum — I carry

possum, posse, potuī — I can, am able

posteā — afterwards

prīmum — first, first of all

procul — far away

prope + accusative — near

pugnō, pugnāre, pugnāvī, pugnātum — I fight; pugnāte = fight!

purgō, purgāre, purgāvī, purgātum — I clean; purgāte = clean!

quod — because; also 'which/that' depending on context

quoque — also, too

rēx, rēgis (m.) — king

rīdeō, rīdēre, rīsī, rīsum — I laugh; rīsērunt = they laughed

rogō, rogāre, rogāvī, rogātum — I ask

sacculus, sacculī (m.) — small bag, pouch

saepe — often

salūtō, salūtāre, salūtāvī, salūtātum — I greet

sanguis, sanguinis (m.) — blood

saxum, saxī (n.) — rock, stone

saxeus, -a, -um — made of stone, stony

sciō, scīre, scīvī, scītum — I know

sed — but

sedeō, sedēre, sēdī, sessum — I sit

Serīphus, Serīphī (f.) — Seriphos, the island ruled by Polydectes

servō, servāre, servāvī, servātum — I save

servus, servī (m.) — slave, servant

spectō, spectāre, spectāvī, spectātum — I look at, watch

stō, stāre, stetī, statum — I stand; stābant = were standing; stātis = you stand

statim — immediately

sub + accusative — under (with movement); sub mēnsam = under the table

sub + ablative — under (position); sub mēnsā = under the table

subitō — suddenly

surgō, surgere, surrēxī, surrēctum — I rise, get up; surge! = get up!

sustollō, sustollere, sustulī, sublātum — I lift up; sustulit = he lifted

taceō, tacēre, tacuī, tacitum — I am silent

tamen — however, nevertheless

temptō, temptāre, temptāvī, temptātum — I try, attempt

teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentum — I hold

terra, terrae (f.) — ground, earth, land

terreō, terrēre, terruī, territum — I frighten; terrēbit = he will frighten

tum — then

tū — you (singular)

tuus, -a, -um — your

ubi — where?; when

ūnus, -a, -um — one

ut — as; so that, in order that

uxor, uxōris (f.) — wife

veniō, venīre, vēnī, ventum — I come; venī = come!

venter, ventris (m.) — belly, stomach

vertō, vertere, vertī, versum — I turn

videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsum — I see

vīlla, vīllae (f.) — house, country house, villa

vīnum, vīnī (n.) — wine

vir, virī (m.) — man

vīvō, vīvere, vīxī, vīctum — I live; vīvis = you are alive; vīvī = alive

vocō, vocāre, vocāvī, vocātum — I call

volō, velle, voluī — I want, wish

vōx, vōcis (f.) — voice

vulnerō, vulnerāre, vulnerāvī, vulnerātum — I wound

Particularly Useful Forms and Constructions

nōmine Dictys — literally ‘by name Dictys’: nōmine is an ablative used in the expression ‘by name’.

ā Polydectē mors tua nūntiāta est — ‘your death was announced by Polydectes’. The person doing the action with a passive verb is expressed by ā + ablative.

quod māter tua eum nōn amābat — ‘because your mother did not love him’. Here quod introduces the reason.

nōlī festīnāre — ‘do not hurry’. nōlī + infinitive gives a negative command to one person.

Andromedam … manēre iussit — ‘he ordered Andromeda to remain’. iubeō takes an accusative for the person ordered and an infinitive for the action.

cibus et vīnum … pōnēbantur / vīnum … portābātur — These are imperfect passive forms: ‘food and wine were being placed’; ‘wine was being carried’.

Perseus mortuus est — ‘Perseus is dead’. mortuus is an adjective here, not a perfect passive verb.

capite eum! … necāte! — Plural imperatives: ‘seize him!’ and ‘kill him!’

hasta Perseum nōn percussit — ‘the spear did not hit Perseus’. Perseum is the direct object.

mīlitem gladiō occīdit — ‘he killed the soldier with his sword’. gladiō is ablative of means.

quod hinc bene spectāre possumus — ‘because we can watch well from here’. hinc means ‘from here’.

nōlīte spectāre — ‘do not look’. nōlīte + infinitive gives a negative command to more than one person.

sub mēnsam sē iēcit — ‘he threw himself under the table’. Movement towards a place takes sub + accusative; later sub mēnsā uses the ablative because the servant is already there.

pedēs movēre nōn poterat — ‘he could not move his feet’. possum is followed by an infinitive.

caput saxeum in multās partēs frēgit — ‘he broke the stone head into many pieces’. in + accusative expresses the resulting division.

plūs labōris — ‘more work’. labōris is a partitive genitive after plūs.

mortem rēgis nōn diū dolēbant — ‘they did not mourn the king’s death for long’. mortem is the object of dolēbant.