

Seven Pieces on Roman Texts

O passi graviora, dabit deus his quoque finem.

O, you who have suffered such grievous events, even to this will the god give an end.

Publius Virgilius Naso

Mortalia facta peribunt.

Mortal deeds will perish.

Quintus Horatius Flaccus

Pallida mors aequo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas regumque tures.

Pale death with equal pace strikes down paupers' hovels and kingly towers.

Quintus Horatius Flaccus

Sed omnis una manet nox et calcanda semel via leti.

For one night remains to all, and but once we tread the path of death.

Quintus Horatius Flaccus

O miseras hominum mentes, o pectora caeca! Qualibus in tenebris vitae quantisque periculis degitur hoc aevi quod cumquest!

O, wretched minds of men, o blind hearts! In what darkness and great perils is passed your span of life!

Titus Lucretius Carus

Certa quidem finis vitae mortalibus adstat, nec devitari letum pote quin obeamus.

A sure end of life attends mortals, nor can we avoid death, rather let us go to meet.

Nil igitur mors est ad nos neque pertinet hulum, quandoquidem natura animi mortalis habetur.

Nothing, therefore, is death to us nor does it matter a bit, since the nature of the mind is held as mortal.

Multo mortem igitur minus ad nos esse putandunst, si minus esse potest quam quod nihil esse videmus.

Therefore death must be considered as less, if there can be less than which we see to be nothing.

Titus Lucretius Carus

Proinde licet quot vis vivendo condere saecla: Mors aeterna tamen nihilo minus illa manebit.

Therefore by living you may found as many generations as you will: yet not withstanding, eternal death will remain.

Nec minus ille diu iam non erit ex hodierno lumine qui finem vitae fecit et ille mensibus atque annis qui multis occidit ante.

No less long will he no longer be who makes his end by today's light than one who died many months and years before.

Natura videtur libera continuo dominis privata superbis ipsa sua per se sponte omnis dis agere expers.

Nature is seen to be free and rid of haughty lords. She herself by herself doing all of her own accord without the gods.

Titus Lucretius Carus