

EPIC MYTHOMEMOLOGY EXTRA CREDIT

Book 1 of the *Aeneid*

The *Aeneid* begins with Virgil invoking the muses which gives us a glimpse of what the overall poem will be about. He references a war/arms (Aeneas fighting in Italy) and a man (Aeneas). We learn that the epic will tell the story of Aeneas (survivor of the Trojan war). Juno orders Aeolus to send a storm to Aeneas' ships in exchange for marriage to a nymph. Lots of ships begin to wreck due to the weather and Neptune becomes angry with Aeolus for sending the storm. The Trojans make it to land, but many ships are lost in the journey. Venus (Aeneas' mom) expresses to Jupiter that she wants the Trojans to live, and Jupiter eases her concerns by telling her about a prophecy. The prophecy is that Aeneas will win a war in Italy and will rule the land for 3 years, then his son will rule for 30. The prophecy also tells of a Trojan Caesar (Augustus). Aeneas runs into Venus in the woods and she tells him about Dido, the Queen of Carthage, who fled her homeland after lots of family issues. Aeneas and Achaetes go into Carthage where they find a temple to Juno and art that depicts the Trojan war. Dido welcomes the lost trojans and they reunite with Aeneas. Cupid makes Dido fall in love with Aeneas and she asks him to tell her about his journey.



This quote shows the mass destruction caused by the sea storm sent by Juno. The Trojans are described as being strewn throughout the water and their ships destroyed.

“The boat was whipped in three tight circles, And then the hungry whirlpool swallowed it. The endless sea showed scatterings of swimmers. Planks, gear, and Trojan treasure strewed the waves”

Aeneid Book 1 (116-119)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 2 of the *Aeneid*

The second book of the *Aeneid* begins with Aeneas telling Dido about his tragic journey. He begins the tale by telling about how the trojans were approached with a giant wooden horse during the trojan war. Laocoon warns that the horse is a trap. A Greek man named Sinon near the horse explains that the horse is an offering and the trojans must accept the gift, or they will be punished (he is lying). Two snakes appear and eat Laocoon's two sons as a punishment for him throwing an arrow at the horse. At night, the Greeks emerge out of the belly of the horse and begin to destroy the town of Troy. Aeneas continues to tell about the sack of Troy. Aeneas describes how he was awoken in the night by the ghost of Hector, who tells Aeneas to flee! Aeneas sees his city being destroyed and gets ready to go fight. He watches King Priam die, then sees Helen (the cause of the war) and tries to kill her. Venus prevents him from doing this, because it is not his fate. Aeneas flees to his father's house (Anchises), where after much convincing, agrees to flee with Aeneas. Aeneas loses his wife Creusa, and when searching for her realizes she has died and is visited by her ghost. The ghost reiterates that his fate is elsewhere and he must leave. Ultimately, Aeneas and other survivors flee into the mountains.



This quote describes the moment the Trojans bring the wooden horse into the city. The Trojans allow the horse to enter the city despite speculation and warnings that it could be a trap from the Greeks.

“Young boys and girls around it Sang hymns and touched the cables in their joy. It loomed into the middle of the town. Heroic walls of Ilium, the gods’ home, My country! Four times in the gate itself It halted—weapons clattered in its belly. We pushed on, blind with passion and distracted, And set the monster in our sacred stronghold.”

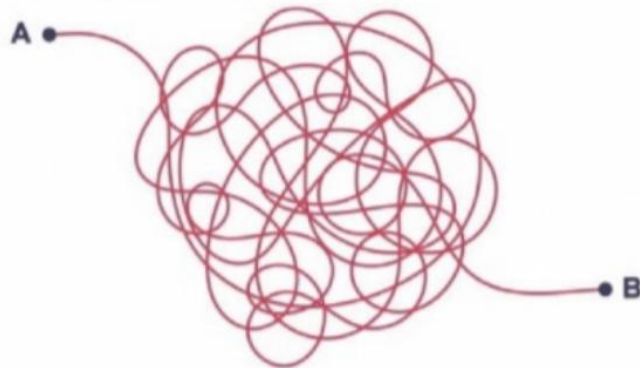
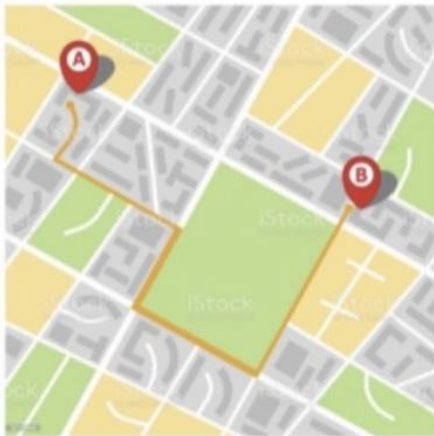
Aeneid Book 2 (238-245)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 3 of the *Aeneid*

The third book of the *Aeneid* begins with a continuation of the story of the fall of Troy, according to Aeneas. The surviving trojans find refuge in a mountain where they build new ships and sail to Thrace (supposed allies of Troy). Aeneas is preparing to sacrifice to Venus, however when he goes to pull out roots to put on the altar, blood squirts out of the ground. Polydorus' voice speaks from the tree and the Trojans sail away to Delos. Once in Delos, Aeneas receives a prophecy that they must return to the land of their ancestors and they will become powerful rulers (Anchises thinks this land is Crete). The Trojans land in Crete and a plague hits, everyone starts to die. Aeneas is visited by the Gods of Troy in a dream and realizes that the Trojans need to travel to Italy, not Crete. While traveling to Italy, the Trojans get caught in a storm and must land in Strophades. In Strophades, the Trojans slaughter livestock and host a feast, which causes the Harpies to attack. After a few more stops, the Trojans land in Chaonia where Helenus advises Aeneas on the rest of their journey (which sounds super complicated). The Trojans depart (again!) and land in Sicily, where they find Achamenides who warns of the Cyclopes, and the Trojans quickly escape. Finally they land in Drepanum and Anchises dies, everyone is very sad.

THE PROPHECIES TELLING THE TROJANS TO GO TO ITALY



VS HOW THE TROJANS SEE THE MAP

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This quote reveals the prophecy that the Trojans need to travel to Italy to found their city. However, the Trojans made several stops along the way, delaying their arrival in Italy.

"It came from the almighty father; I, greatest of the Furies, now reveal it. You'll call the wind to sail to Italy. When you arrive you'll find an open harbor, But walls will never ring your promised city. Until this crime against us and your hunger Drive you to grind your tables in your jaws."

Aeneid Book 3 (251-257)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 4 of the *Aeneid*

The fourth book of the *Aeneid* begins with Dido becoming increasingly in love with Aeneas. Dido sacrifices to a lot of the Gods, in the hopes she will receive a good omen that she should marry Aeneas. Dido takes Aeneas all around Carthage and keeps asking him to tell her more stories. Juno wants Venus to help Aeneas and Dido get married, in attempts to delay Aeneas. Rumors start to spread of their marriage and Iarbus (a suitor) gets angry. Iarbus complains to Jupiter, who sends Mercury to tell Aeneas to hurry up and get on with his journey. Aeneas tells Dido he needs to leave and Dido goes on a rampage. Dido tells her sister that she plans on killing herself in a fire, along with Aeneas' belongings. Aeneas leaves in secret and Dido kills herself in the fire.

AENEAS BE LIKE:



Worst Boyfriend EVER

This quote shows Dido's reaction when Aeneas flees Carthage without saying goodbye. This illustrates Aeneas' poor relationship skills as he did not say goodbye to the woman he was supposedly "in love with".

"If Trojan ships had never touched these shores." She kissed the bed. "I die without revenge— But let me die. I like this path to darkness. Let the cruel Trojan's eyes take in these flames. The omen of my death will go with him."

Aeneid Book 4 (669-662)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 5 of the *Aeneid*:

The fifth book of the *Aeneid* begins with the Trojans sailing away and seeing the fire started by Dido. A storm hits and the Trojans land in the area where Anchises died. Ancestes welcomes the Trojans and Aeneas announces a feast celebration in remembrance of his father. On the last day of the celebration Aeneas hosts a day of competitive games. There is a big ship race, footrace, boxing fight, and bird shooting. Meanwhile, Juno is still upset at the Trojans and orders their ships to be set on fire. The ships burn, but rain comes down to put out the flames. The ghost of Anchises tells Aeneas to listen to Nautes. The Trojans depart and Venus begs Neptune to let them arrive in Italy safely. He agrees, but only if one crew member dies along the journey.



This quote shows Aeneas declaring a nine day celebration in remembrance of his father's death. He plans a feast and various competitions where the Trojans are able to compete for prizes. While this celebration is not technically a funeral, it is a celebration for Anchises death-a-versary.

"Invite our home gods, Our country's, and our host's to share the feast. But when the ninth dawn brings the nurturing day To mortals, and its beams light up the globe, I'll hold a race for speedy Trojan ships. Then any powerful runners, anyone Challenging with a javelin or arrows, Any bold boxers with their rawhide thongs, Can step up. Victory will bring you prizes."

Aeneid Book 5 (62-70)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 6 of the *Aeneid*:

The sixth book of the *Aeneid* begins with the Trojans sailing to Cumae to find Sibyl. Aeneas prays to Apollo and promises to make him a temple, he also makes several animal sacrifices. A priestess warns Aeneas there will be more battles in Italy and conflict with Juno. Aeneas also learns that the Trojans will reach and rule in Italy, but they must first fight a terrible war. Aeneas asks Sibyl if he can travel into the underworld to visit with Anchises. In order to go to the underworld Aeneas must find a golden branch. Venus sends Aeneas two doves to help him find the branch and eventually Aeneas makes it to the underworld. While in the underworld Aeneas sees Dido, Palinurus, dead Trojans, and Deiphobus. Finally Aeneas is able to find Anchises, who shows him the river of Lethe. Next comes the parade of descendants (this shows what will become of the Trojan descendants). We learn from this parade that those who refuse to stop fighting will be killed by the Romans. After this, Aeneas leaves the underworld and reunites with his fellow Trojans.



One of the main events in book 6 is Aeneas traveling to the underworld to visit his father, Anchises. However while he is there he runs into Dido, his former lover.

“He wept and spoke to her in tender love: “Poor Dido, then the messenger was right— You stabbed yourself and brought about your own end? And it was my fault? By the stars, the high gods, And any truth below the earth: my queen, It was against my will I left your country, And by the orders of the gods, who now Compel me to pass through this shadowed squalor, These depths of night. No, I did not believe That I would bring you so much pain by leaving.”

Aeneid Book 6 (455-464)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 7 of the *Aeneid*:

Book seven of the *Aeneid* begins with Aeneas and the Trojans sailing to the Tiber River. Here they meet Latinus, who is about to marry off his daughter (to Turnus). Latinus gets swarmed by bees, which some see as a bad omen that a stranger is about to come into the city. Latinus asks Faunus what is happening and he says he must marry his daughter to someone else, a foreigner. The trojans are having a feast and are able to eat the tables, so they think the prophecy is coming true. Aeneas sends men to Latinus and begins to start building the city. Ilioneus tells Latinus that they have similar lineage and will help bring Latinus fame. Meanwhile, Juno is angry that the Trojans have made it to Italy, despite all of the obstacles she sent them. Juno sends Allecto to make Turnus mad, who destroys his house and declares war on Aeneas. An entire war breaks out and Virgil lists a catalog of enemies.



While in the underworld, Anchises told Aeneas that he will know where to establish his city when the Trojans are able to eat the tables. The Trojans being able to eat the tables at this feast cause them great excitement, as they have finally reached their right location.

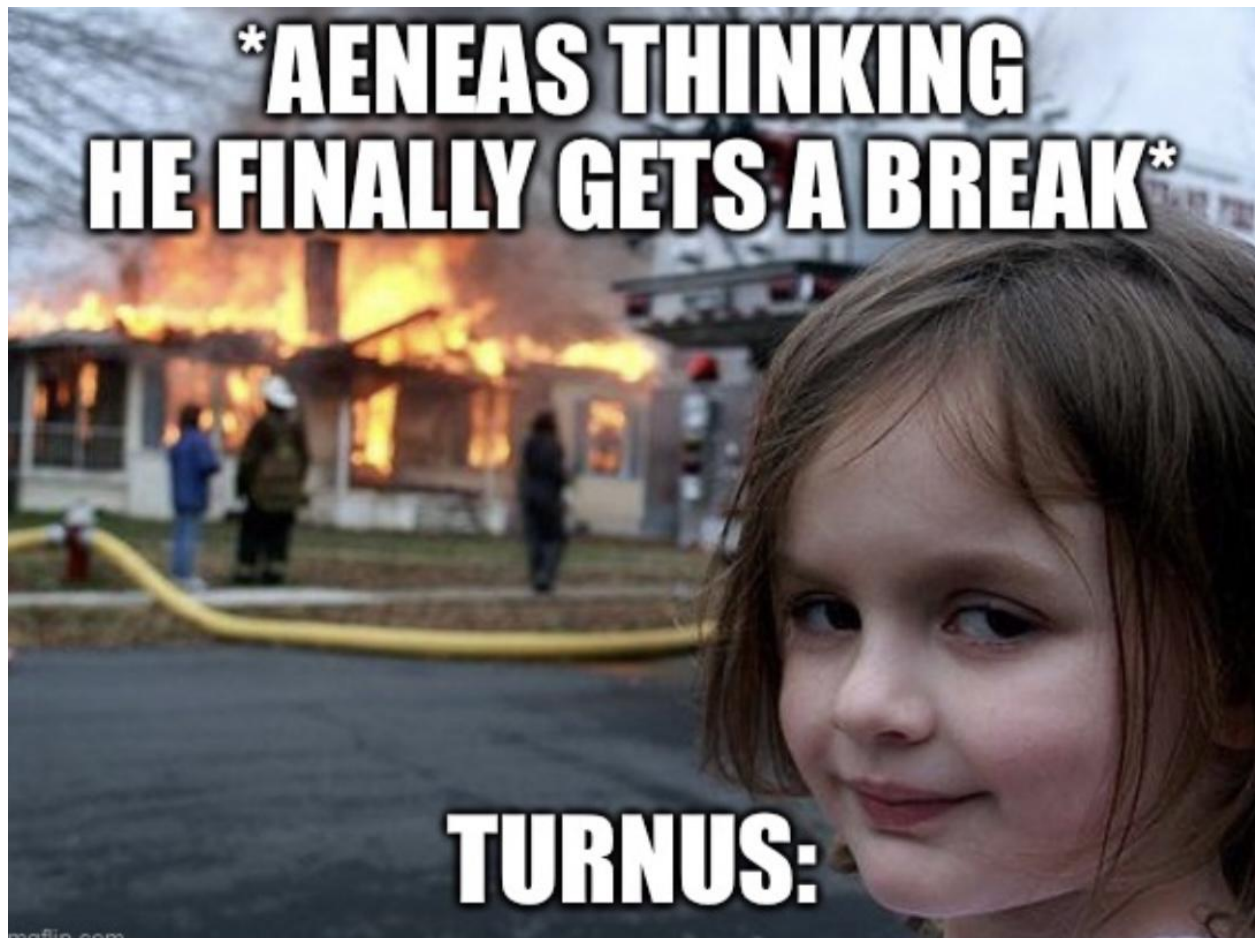
“Iulus said, “Look at us, eating our tables!”— A mere joke, but those words were the first portent Of hardships’ end. His father seized on them And silenced him, stunned by the miracle, And cried at once, “Hail, country, pledged by fate! Hail, faithful guardian gods of Troy as well!”

Aeneid Book 7 (116-121)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 8 of the *Aeneid*:

Book eight of the *Aeneid* begins with Turnus starting to sack Latium as the war progresses. Turnus sends Venulus to Diomedes to ask the people to help fight in the war. Aeneas is shocked and stressed at the sight of the war, since he just got out of one (Trojan war). Aeneas is visited by the river god while sleeping by the Tiber river. The god gives a prophecy that Aeneas will see a pig with 30 piglets which means the Trojans survive to found the city of Alba. The god also tells Aeneas to try to sacrifice to Juno, in order to ease her anger. In the morning Aeneas sees the pig, which is a good sign. Aeneas travels to Arcadia to try to form an alliance with the people. The Arcadians and Trojans have a feast and Evander explains the story of the Hercules Rites. Meanwhile, Venus consults her husband about providing armor for Aeneas to fight in the war. Back in Arcadia, Evander rallies troops to help Aeneas, and the army marches all day. That night, Venus awards Aeneas with the armor, which has depictions on it of the Roman glory that awaits in Italy.



In book 8 Aeneas thinks he finally gets a break from war, however Turnus proves him wrong. This quote illustrates Turnus declaring war on the Trojans.

“The trumpets gave a harsh blare. Turnus raised The war sign from the tower of Laurentum, And whipped his horses up, and clashed his weapons. Instantly all of Latium joined in frenzy And panic.”

Aeneid Book 8 (1-5)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 9 of the *Aeneid*:

Book nine of the *Aeneid* begins with Juno sending Iris to Turnus in an attempt to sabotage Aeneas, since she is still angry. Turnus plans to attack the Trojans while Aeneas is away. The Trojans prepare to defend themselves and Turnus decides to light the Trojans ships on fire. The ships do not burn because Jupiter blessed the wood. Cybele saves the ships and they return as nymphs. Turnus realizes the Trojans cannot escape because the ships are now nymphs, so he continues to fight. Nisus and Euryalus venture into the night to contact Aeneas about the ongoing attacks and are applauded for their bravery. However, once they make it out of the gates towards the forest, both are killed. Then the Latins attack the walls, they are able to light a tower on fire, killing many Trojans. Remelus shouts at the Trojans and the Trojans fight back harder. Turnus is able to enter the gates and kill many Trojans. Jupiter sends Iris to Juno to stop the fighting and Turnus gives up.



This quote shows the relentless rage Juno has towards Aeneas. Throughout the entire book, Juno looks for every opportunity to hinder Aeneas from success. I compared this relationship to the hatred Kanye has towards Pete Davidson.

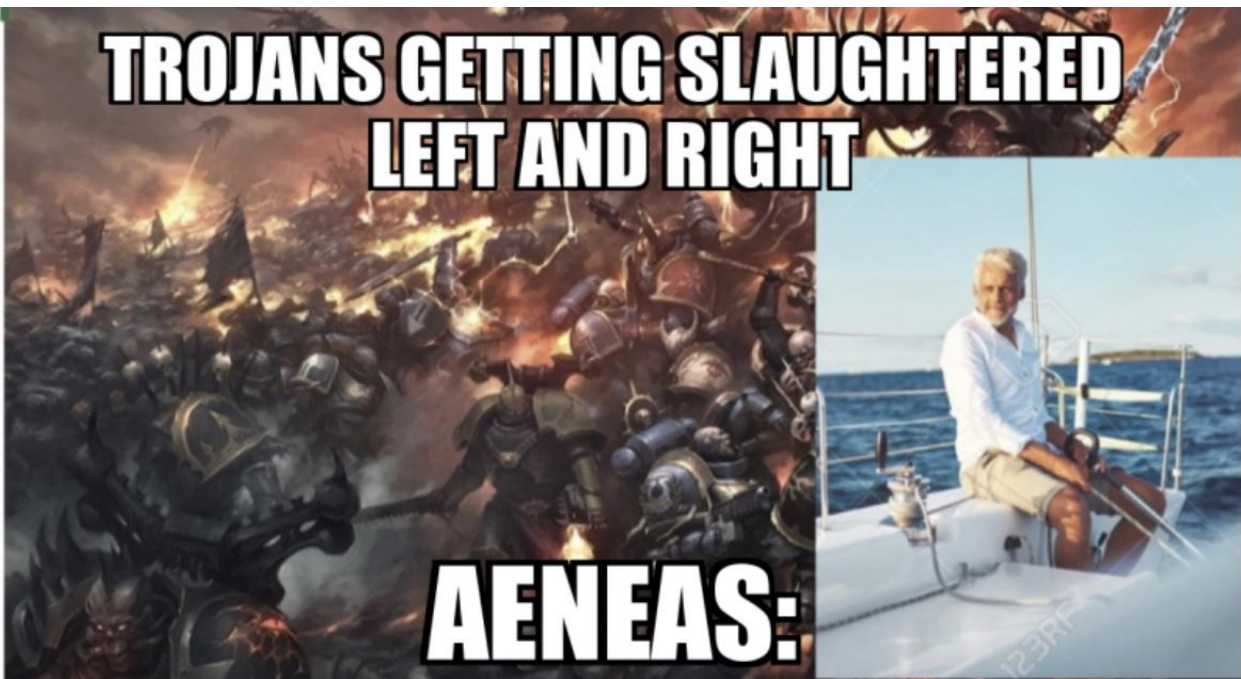
“He caught Phaleris and Gyges first—he hamstrung Gyges— Seized both their spears and thrust them in the backs Of men he chased—with strength and nerve from Juno— Halys and shield-pierced Phegeus joined the dead, Then Halius, Prytanis, Noëmon, Alcander, Incautious on the walls, rallying others.”

Aeneid Book 9 (761-767)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 10 of the *Aeneid*:

Book ten of the *Aeneid* begins with Jupiter hosting a meeting with the Gods to discuss the carthage in Italy. Venus blames Juno for the destruction, however Juno fights back claiming she did not force the Trojans to travel to Italy. Venus and Juno continue to argue, angering Jupiter. Jupiter declares he will not side with either party, leaving their fate to the men fighting. Meanwhile the Trojans are still fighting the Latins and Aeneas is traveling back to battle. The nymphs (former ships) approach Aeneas and tell him his son is in danger and the Trojans are struggling in battle. Aeneas arrives back with the Trojans and Turnus rallies his men for battle. The fighting begins and Aeneas is able to kill several of Turnus' men. Turnus is able to stab Pallas, killing him. News of Pallas' death reaches Aeneas and he seeks vengeance against Turnus. Aeneas kills several members of Turnus' army and the war gets more chaotic. Juno sees Turnus is losing the battle and asks Jupiter if she can save him. Juno saves Turnus by luring him onto a ship and sending him out to sea, away from the battle. Aeneas is able to kill Mezentius' son, winning the war for the Trojans.



This quote shows how Aeneas is sailing back to Italy completely unaware of the bloodshed that awaits him.

“Without benefit of walls, The Teucrians now fight within their gates, Within their earthworks, filling moats with blood; Aeneas is far off and unaware. When will you end these sieges? A new army Looms at Troy’s walls and stifles her rebirth.”

Aeneid Book 10 (22-27)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 11 of the *Aeneid*:

Book 11 of the *Aeneid* begins with Aeneas paying respects to the gods in respect for his victory over the Latins. Aeneas goes to mourn Pallas and feels sad and responsible for his death. He sends Pallas away in a celebratory procession. Latium people approach Aeneas and they exchange olive branches, symbolizing peace (but not for long). They have a 12 days truce to remember all of the dead warriors. Evander is incredibly sad about Pallas' death and no longer wishes to live. The Latins and Trojans bury the dead and the Latins curse Turnus for causing this war. Turnus continues to defend his actions. The Trojans march towards the Latins and the Latins rush into battle, ready to defend themselves.

LAVINIA KNOWING SHE CAUSED A MASS WAR



In Book 11 many Latins begin to point fingers at Turnus for causing this destructive battle with the Trojans. However the ultimate cause of this war was Turnus' undying love for Lavinia. Her awareness of this situation is exhibited in the following quote:

"Everyone came out: mothers and their children Stood on the walls in an uneven line. To Pallas' temple on the heights the queen drove With offerings, and matrons thronged around her. Beside her was the girl Lavinia (Cause of the crisis), looking down with fine eyes. Women climbed to the shrine with gifts of incense, And their grief echoed from the lofty door"

Aeneid Book 11 (475-482)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). The Aeneid Vergil ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>

Book 12 of the *Aeneid*:

Book 12 of the *Aeneid* begins with Turnus realizing the odds are against the Latins. Turnus declares a battle against Aeneas to settle the war once and for all. Latinus tries to talk him out of it, stressing that Turnus already has enough allies and several other potential suitors. Turnus declares he is unstoppable. Juno becomes worried that Turnus will lose against Aeneas, so she summons Juturna to watch out for him. During the battle, one of the men from Turnus' troop breaks the treaty and throws an unprovoked arrow at the Trojans. This ignites both sides into battle. Aeneas exits the field after being struck with an arrow, giving Turnus hope. Venus, looking out for Aeneas, heals his wound so he can return to battle. Aeneas realizes the city of Latinus is not guarded and goes to attack. Turnus sees the chaos in Latinus and calls for the battle to end and duel to resume. Turnus begins to lose the duel and Juno agrees to lift her grudge against Aeneas, if they take the name of the Latins. Jupiter sends down a furie to scare Turnus and weaken him. In his weakness, Aeneas sees Turnus wearing Pallas' belt and kills him.



While in battle with Turnus, Aeneas sees him wearing Pallas' belt and decides he must kill Turnus.

"Then he saw, on that tall body, The belt with shining studs his young friend Pallas Had once worn. Turnus, who had cut him down, Displayed the hateful token on his shoulder. Aeneas stared—the spoils commemorated. His wild grief, and he burned with hideous rage."

Aeneid Book 12 (942-946)

Virgil., & Ruden, S. (2008). *The Aeneid Vergil* ; translated by Sarah Ruden. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.12987/9780300148299>