

Aeneid: Epic Mythomemology

Book One of the *Aeneid*

The narrator begins by briefly summarizing Aeneas' fate thus far and his future, as well as invoking the Muses, asking them to tell why Juno is so angry at the Trojans. It is revealed that Juno continues to harass the escaped Trojans after the Trojan war because she hears that a Trojan will one day destroy her cherished city of Carthage, and also because she was previously slighted during the Judgment of Paris.

After Aeneas and other ships containing Trojan refugees flee from Troy after the war, Juno complains Athena was allowed to wreak havoc and kill Ajax, while she is the Queen of the Heavens and is still not allowed to kill all of the Trojans because of fate. Angry, Juno goes to Aeolia, where the wind god Aeolus holds control of when to restrain and release the winds. She offers him the nymph Deiopeia as a wife to send the winds against the Trojans and kill them. Aeolus accepts, and releases the winds. A terrible storm descends on the Trojans—the winds crash ships against reefs, sucks them into whirlpools, ultimately killing a lot of them including Orontes. Neptune, at the bottom of the sea, feels the turmoil above and goes to check it out. He knows immediately this is Juno's doing, and reprimands the winds for encroaching onto his domain of the sea. He calms the waters, finally allowing Aeneas and the 7 remaining ships to land near Libya. The men wearily disembark and Aeneas kills 7 stags to feed his men. While they eat, Aeneas gives an uplifting speech to them while hiding his own fears and doubts.

Jupiter and Venus are observing the mortals. Venus complains to Zeus about Juno's treatment of her son and the other Trojans, reminding him that he promised that the Romans would one day descend from the Trojans and rule over Italy. Jupiter consoles Venus, saying that the Trojan fate has not changed. To settle her anxieties, Jupiter goes into detail about the Trojan lineage, continuing on from Aeneas to his son Ascanius, and then onto Romulus and Remus and eventually to Julius Caesar. He then sends Mercury to the city of Carthage, where the Queen Dido is fated to accept the Trojans into her land.

Aeneas and Achates go alone to scout the land and to find out where they are. Venus, disguised as a young huntress, approaches them and asks if they have seen her companions. Aeneas recognizes that she must be divine, and asks her to tell them what land they are on. She

tells them that they are on Tyrian territory, and tells them to just continue on their path to Carthage. Aeneas realizes her identity as she walks away, but Venus does not respond to his calls. Instead, she grants them invisibility by a cloud as they continue their journey to Carthage. They reach the city and are amazed at the prosperity there. They see a wall depicting the Trojan war, and Aeneas becomes emotional seeing the images of his comrades.

As Aeneas observes the images, Dido enters the temple and begins overseeing the people. From the crowd, three of Aeneas' Trojan comrades (Antheus, Sergestus, and Cloanthus) emerge and plead with Dido to allow their Trojan ships to dock on their land, insisting they don't have malicious intentions and are seeking Italy to settle. Dido, having long been admirable of the Trojan heroes, allows them to land and also offers to share her kingdom with them. Moved, Aeneas appears from the cloud and thanks Dido for her acceptance of the Trojans, praising her greatly. Dido responds by showing her admiration of Aeneas, she then makes all of the temples sacrifice in their honor, gives them a large quantity of livestock gifts, and prepares a banquet for them. Aeneas misses his son, and makes Achates return to the other men to bring back Ascanius as well as Trojan treasures to give to Dido. Venus, wary of Juno's influence over Carthage, is plotting again; this time she wants Cupid to take Ascanius' place in order to exert the power of eros over Dido. Cupid obeys, taking on Ascanius' appearance and goes to the extravagant banquet. Dido is moved by the Trojan gifts as well as by Cupid. Dido performs a libation, then everyone drinks wine and tells stories. Dido, curious about the Trojan war, asks Aeneas to tell them the whole story.

Trojans: *exist*

Juno:



The quote reveals how Juno is bent on tormenting the Trojans even after they have suffered so much, and feels no remorse as she asks others to fulfill her cruel requests.

*"It was to Aeolus that Juno came as a suppliant:
"Aeolus, by order of the Father of Gods and Men
You calm the waves or provoke them with wind.
A race I despise sails the Tyrrhenian Sea,
Bringing Ilium's conquered gods to Italy.
Hit them hard with a storm and sink their ships,
Or scatter the fleet and litter the sea with corpses."*

1.3 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Two of the *Aeneid*

Aeneas begins his account, starting with the Trojan's first sighting of the Trojan horse. From hindsight, Aeneas knows that there were Greeks hiding inside, and that the Greek ships are hidden at a nearby island. The Trojans, thinking that the Greeks had finally left, go to see the deserted Greek camps. Some people want to bring the Trojan horse into the city, while others want to destroy it. Laocoön urges the crowd to destroy the structure, and impales it with a spear. But, just then, a prisoner by the name of Sinon is dragged in. He is a Greek soldier who has purposefully let himself be captured in order to deceive the Trojans to accept the horse, and Aeneas detests the Grecian use of treachery. In Sinon's story, he angered Ulysses with threats of revenge after his friend was killed. When the Greeks wanted to go back to their homelands to get more supplies and soldiers, they received an oracle from Apollo saying that someone must be sacrificed in order for them to return safely. Ulysses forced the seer Calchas to say that the sacrifice being demanded was Sinon, but Sinon escaped from the altar and hid. Eventually the Greeks sailed away, and Sinon regrets not being able to see his family again. Priam takes pity on him, and accepts him into the Trojan community while asking him to reveal the use of the Trojan horse. Sinon lies and says that the horse is an offering to appease Athena after Ulysses stole the Palladium, according to Calchas' advice. Believing Sinon's story, the Trojans bring the horse within the walls of Troy. What seals this is that Laocoön, while attempting to sacrifice a bull to Neptune, is killed by twin serpents along with his two sons. The snakes find refuge in Athena's temple, therefore, the Trojans believe that Laocoön was punished for impaling the

wooden horse with his spear. The wooden horse is then brought through ceremony to the center of the city, even when Cassandra warns against it. When night falls, the Greek ships sail back to Troy and Sinon releases the men inside of the horse, and the fall of Troy begins. In a dream, Hector visits Aeneas, and warns him, and Aeneas wakes up. Along with his comrades, Aeneas joins the fight amidst the horrifying destruction of the city. Aeneas and his men kill the Greek Androgeos, who mistakes them for allies, then dons their Greek armor and continues on. They witness Cassandra being dragged by the Greeks, and attempt to rescue her. Only 2 of Aeneas' comrades are left with him when they reach Priam's house, which has just been invaded by Pyrrhus and his men. The Greeks force their way in in a massive display of force and cruelty. Priam straps on his old armor in a last-ditch attempt, and joins his wife and daughters under their sacred Laurel tree. Pyrrhus kills Polites, one of Priam's sons, right in front of his family, which enrages Priam. Priam makes a speech to the gods and Pyrrhus about the injustices that are being committed, then is killed by Pyrrhus. Seeing this, Aeneas thinks of his own father, wife, and young son.

Aeneas sees Helen hiding, and feels resentment against her, thinking her to be the cause of all this misfortune. Struggling between the thought of killing a woman and wanting to enact some sort of revenge for his people, Aeneas decides to kill her. Venus, Aeneas' mother, however, appears before him and stops him, urging him to think of his own family first. She says that this war is not Helen's fault, but rather the gods, and shows Aeneas how various gods are participating in the destruction of Troy. Venus guides Aeneas to Anchises' house, but Anchises initially refuses to run away from the war with the rest of the family. Distraught, Aeneas begs his father to no avail, then decides to rejoin the fighting to die. Creusa, Aeneas' wife, begs Aeneas to take her and their son Iulus with them so that they can die as a family. However, Iulus' hair alights with flame and Anchises shouts to heaven, asking Jupiter for a sign. Outside, there is thunder and a shooting star, and finally Anchises takes this as a sign of Zeus' favor for the piety, and agrees to escape with the whole family. Aeneas carries his father on his back to the temple of Ceres with Iulus at his side, but somewhere along the way they hear soldiers coming. Panicked, Aeneas runs but also loses sight of his wife Creusa, who was following from behind. Upon reaching the temple, he leaves his father and son with his comrades and goes back in search of his wife. He witnesses the fall of Troy, death, and destruction, all while risking his life to find Creusa. The ghost of Creusa appears, and calms Aeneas, telling him that fate has more in store for him and asks him to love Iulus. She leaves, and Aeneas rejoins his people only to find that there are many refugees there awaiting his leadership. Morning rises, and seeing that the Greeks have completely overrun Troy, lifts his father up and they start towards the mountains.

Sinon: the Greeks ran away
and the horse is an
offering :)

Trojans: *believe him*



The quote reveals how Sinon expertly gained the Trojan's trust with his deceitful tears, which will eventually lead to the fall of Troy.

“We spared him for his tears and pitied him
Of our own accord. Priam himself ordered
His shackles removed and spoke to him kindly:
Whoever you are, take no further thought
Of the Greeks. You are one of us now.
But tell me, and speak the whole truth:
Why did they erect this monstrous horse?
Who devised it, and to what purpose?
Is it a religious offering or an engine of war?*

Thus Priam. And Sinon, the consummate liar,
Lifting his unchained hands to the stars:
*Eternal fires of heaven, I summon you
And your inviolable Power to witness,
And you altars and nefarious blades
Which I escaped, and you consecrated fillets
Which as victim I wore: it is just for me

To break the sacred oaths of the Greeks,
Just to abhor those men, and to lay bare to the sky
Every secret they would conceal. I am bound
By no law of my country. But you, Troy,
Stand by your word and keep your faith,
If what I say proves to be your salvation.”

2.31 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Three of the *Aeneid*

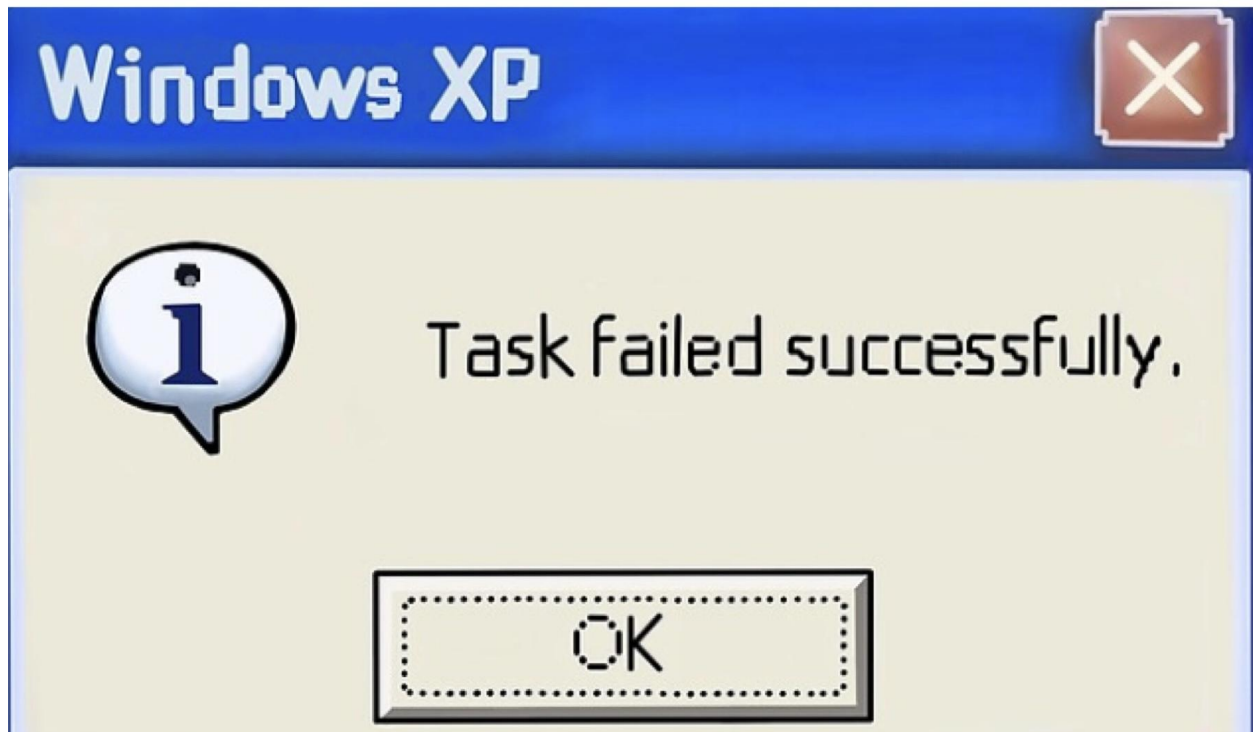
Aeneas, leading the displaced Trojans, sets sail to the land of the Thracians, who used to be allies with Troy. They found a city there, named Aenaedae, and are going to sacrifice to the gods. Aeneas bends down to pull some plants from the mound of earth near the altar, but is frightened when the roots seem to ooze blood. Confused, Aeneas keeps pulling but then a voice from the ground speaks and says that it is Polydorus. Polydorus was a Trojan sent by Priam to Thrace to ask for aid during the war, but Aeneas learns that the Thracian king betrayed their Trojan allies, killed Polydorus, and stole the golden offerings he held. Knowing that the Trojans can no longer stay welcomed in Thracian land, Aeneas sets sail once again after holding a funeral for Polydorus. The island of Delos welcomes them, and the Trojans pay homage to Apollo in his cities. At the temple, Aeneas prays to Apollo for advice on where to settle, and Apollo's answer is to seek their ancestral land. Anchises interprets this as meaning Crete, since this is where their ancestor Teucer came from. They sacrifice to Apollo, Neptune, the Storms, and the Winds, and then sail on their way in high spirits. Once they arrive, they found a city by the name of Pergamum, and begin to build houses and farms, when suddenly they are inflicted with a terrible plague that kills men and crops.

At night, the sacred image of Penates speaks to Aeneas, and tells him that it is not Crete that Apollo meant when he told them to go to their ancestral land. The image tells Aeneas that the land they seek is called Hesperia, where their ancestor Dardanus was born. This greatly excites Aeneas, and he tells his father who admits he was confused by the fact that they have a twofold lineage. They leave the land, but are met with a storm that throws them off course and leaves them sailing blind for 3 days. On the fourth day, they reach the Strophades, where Celaeno and the Harpies reside. They find cows and goats there, killing them and setting up a feast for themselves. The harpies come and ruin their food twice, and when they try to kill the

Harpies with their swords, they remain uninjured. Celaeno, angered by their actions, speaks and foretells suffering and famine for the Trojans when they reach Italy. Scared, the Trojans immediately pray to the gods and set sail once more. They land on an island, sacrifice to the gods, and hold their Trojan sporting games. Aeneas leaves Abas' bronze shield there with an inscription, and then they set sail again. They reach Chaonian land, where they hear a rumor that Helenus, son of Priam, has become the king of Pyrrhus' kingdom, and that Andromache is his wife. Amazed, Aeneas ventures onto the land to see if these rumors are true, and encounters Andromache pouring libations for Hector. Upon seeing the Trojan men, she faints in surprise, and then emotionally questions Aeneas of his presence. Aeneas, also emotional, asks Andromache about what happened to her. She states that Pyrrhus, her husband after Hector, transferred her to Helenus after taking on Hermione. Pyrrhus was killed by Orestes, and then Helenus inherited part of Pyrrhus' kingdom and named it Chaon. Helenus then arrives, and joyfully welcomes them into the city, which has been built to be a replica of Troy. They celebrate, and after a few days Aeneas asks Helenus, who has prophetic abilities, how many more trials he must overcome to settle down in Italy. Helenus assures Aeneas that his fate is still favorable, and then gives him advice on how to journey there, including advice on how to avoid Charybdis and Scylla, how important it is to worship Juno, and how to seek help from the Sibyl in Sicily. Helenus gives them many gifts and men, and the Trojans reluctantly and emotionally part ways. Aeneas promises that if he ever does establish a city, then it will be sister to Helenus' kingdom, tied together by their shared ancestry and tragic background.

Using the stars as guides, they reach near the shores of Italy, where they sacrifice to the gods and see four white horses on the land. Seeing this omen, they pray to Minerva and also to Juno, following Helenus' advice. They sail once more, passing by famed places including Mt. Etna and Charybdis' whirlpool. Tired and lost, they drift onto the Cyclopes' island, where they spend the night in fear from the frightful noises. In the morning, they find a Greek soldier named Achaemenides, who surrenders to them and tells them of how Ulysses tricked Polyphemus and escaped without him. After this story, Polyphemus, who was blinded, now walks near them herding his sheep, and the Trojans leave quickly and quietly. They avoid Scylla's lair, and continue sailing as they pass by more famed lands. Along the way, Aeneas' father Anchises dies. This concludes Aeneas' tale as it is being told to Dido at Carthage.

- > Grecian Pyrrhus helps defeat Troy
- > Pyrrhus dies
- > Trojan Helenus inherits his kingdom
- > Marries his wife
- > Builds mini Troy



The quote reveals how after Andromache and Helenus were driven from Troy and subjected to Pyrrhus, fate still brought the Trojan people together in the end.

“Andromache lowered her voice and said:
'Priam's virgin daughter, Polyxena,
Was most fortunate of all, condemned to die
At an enemy's tomb beneath Troy's walls,
And never a slave in a conqueror's bed.
We, our city burnt, were taken overseas
And bore the disdainful pride of Achilles' son,
Giving birth in slavery. Later, he courted
Leda's Hermione and a Spartan marriage
And transferred me to Helenus,

A slave to a slave. Orestes, inflamed
With jealousy over his stolen bride
And hounded by the Furies, Eught Pyrrhus
Off guard and killed him at his father's altar.
Helenus inherited part of Pyrrhus' realm
And called it Chaonia after Chaon of Troy
And built upon its hill a Pergamum,
This Iliadic citadel.’”

3.64 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
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Book Four of the *Aeneid*

Since Cupid had previously charmed Dido into loving Aeneas, she is now sick with love. In the morning, she speaks with her sister, admitting that she is attracted to Aeneas but adamant that she cannot marry him because of her vows to her past husband, Sychaeus. But, Dido's sister Anna tells her that her first husband is already dead and gone, and that she shouldn't deny her attractions. She also mentions that aligning themselves with Troy through marriage would be beneficial to their city, as the threat of war is present from all directions. Anna's words succeed in persuading Dido. They go to the shrines and ask for divine approval for the marriage by performing sacrifices, especially to Juno. Dido is so madly in love with Aeneas that the construction of her city comes to a stop as she is distracted.

Juno approaches Venus, confronting her on Cupid's use of pathological eros on Dido. Juno suggests that instead of fighting, Venus and her should rule Carthage equally by uniting Dido and Aeneas in marriage. Venus believes that Juno is plotting to keep Aeneas from his destiny in Italy, but agrees. They plot to send a hailstorm upon Dido's hunting event the next day, leading Aeneas and Dido to seek shelter in the same cave, where Juno will be present to marry them.

The next morning, everyone rides out in the hunt, when suddenly a rainstorm comes and forces everyone to take shelter. Dido and Aeneas go to the same cave, and they have sex. Dido believes that they are married.

Soon after, Rumor sweeps through the land of how Dido and Aeneas ae joined in marriage now, and how they have been neglecting the ruling of the city in their lust for each other. King Iarbas, son of Jupiter, who Dido has rejected before, hears these rumors and

complains to his father. Iarbas thinks it is unfair that he spends all his time worshiping and honoring the gods but remains unrewarded, while Dido is given to Aeneas. Jupiter hears his son's prayer, and commands Mercury to go to Carthage and remind Aeneas of his fate in Italy. Mercury follows his orders, and flies down to earth, past Atlas, to Aeneas who is helping to build the city walls. Mercury tells Aeneas that he is neglecting his own people and city while helping others, and that Jupiter has commanded him to continue sailing for Italy. After Mercury disappears, Aeneas is stunned and he commands his men to quietly begin preparing to set sail. He is unsure about how to break the news to his lover Dido.

Dido hears rumors that the fleet is preparing to leave, and goes to confront Aeneas in anger. She yells at Aeneas, calling him a traitor and begging him to stay. She tries to tell Aeneas to wait for better weather, and she also tries to get him to pity her by talking about the threats of war on Carthage. Aeneas, conflicted, tells her that he is very grateful for her help, but that he must leave because the gods have commanded him to. Infuriated, Dido says that she regrets helping him and tells him to leave. She leaves, and they are both left disheartened. Like ants, the Trojans prepare everyday for their departure, and watching them makes Dido emotional. She begs her sister to go to Aeneas and ask him to delay his departure as one last favor, but Aeneas is unmoved.

Dido is certain that her death is near as she receives terrible omens when she performs her sacrifices. She also hears her dead husband's voice at night, and sees Aeneas abandoning her in her dreams. Determined to die, she tricks her sister into helping her prepare her own funeral pyre by disguising it as a way for her to cope with Aeneas' betrayal through black magic.

On the pyre that Anna built, Dido arranges mementos from Aeneas, and proceeds to perform a ceremony and pray to the gods. That night, Dido contemplates her life choices, saying that living will only bring herself and her people suffering. With the threat of war or remarriage on the horizon, Dido reconfirms her resolution to kill herself to atone for breaking her vows of faith with her dead husband. Aeneas is woken by Mercury, who warns him to set sail before dawn as Dido is planning something treacherous. Shaken, Aeneas complies and orders his men to set sail immediately.

At dawn, Dido can see that Aeneas has already sailed away, and laments angrily. In a fit of darkness, she contemplates what she could do and what she could have done to take revenge on Aeneas. Turning to the gods, she prays to them, cursing Aeneas to undergo many sufferings and to die an unfruitful death. She tells her people to forever hold a grudge against whatever civilization Aeneas will establish. After sending for her sister, she climbs the pyre and stabs herself with the sword Aeneas left behind. The city itself is in disarray as rumors fly and fires

burn. Anna, distraught, stays by Dido's side as she dies. Juno in heaven pities Dido, and sends Iris down to free her soul from her body, which she does.



This quote reveals how jealous Iarbas employs a common strategy used by demigods to get their way: by calling on their divine parents.

“As Iarbas, they say, insane with jealousy at Rumor's
Bitter news, knelt at these altars surrounded by gods,
Upraised his palms and prayed, prayed to his Father:
"Almighty Jupiter, to whom the Moors now offer
Libations of wine as they feast on brocaded couches-
Do you see these things? Why should we shudder
At you, Father, when you hurl your thunderbolts,
Or when lightning flashes blindly in the clouds
And stammering thunder rolls through the sky?
This woman, a vagrant in my land, who established
Her little town on a strip of coast we sold to her,
With acreage on lease this woman has spurned
My offers of marriage and embraced Aeneas as her lord.”

Book Five of the *Aeneid*

On the sea, Aeneas sees the fires in Carthage from afar and feels terrible. A storm comes and forces the ships to land at Sicily, where Anchises is buried and Aeneas' half-brother Eryx rules. Acestes, from the land, sees them coming and is overjoyed, and welcomes them. The next day, Aeneas gathers his men and proclaims a feast to honor the gods and also his father, whose death anniversary is near. Acestes provides the animals to be used in sacrifice. Together, the trojans pour libations to the gods, and Aeneas calls upon his father's spirit. A huge serpent comes and tastes the offerings, then slithers away, much to the awe of the Trojans. With renewed vigor, Aeneas and his men slaughter animals and give gifts at the altar.

After nine days of performing ceremonies, Aeneas holds Trojan athletic games in his fathers honor. People from the country as well as the Trojan men compete for prizes and honor. The first contest is ship racing, where Mnestheus, Gyas, Sergestus, and Cloanthus compete. Gyas throws his pilot, Menoetes, overboard when he makes a mistake that causes their ship to lose first place. Sergentus crashes his boat, and Mnestheus comes into second place. Seeing that Mnestheus is about to overtake him, Cloanthus prays and promises the gods of the sea many sacrifices in exchange for their help. The sea gods hear this, and Portunus himself leads Cloanthus' boat to victory. Aeneas crowns the victor and everyone receives gifts. Next, there is a foot race, competed by Nisus, Euryalus, Diore (son of Priam), Salius, Helymus, and others. After promising prizes for all, Aeneas starts the race. Nisus is about to win when he slips and falls on the blood of sacrificed oxen, but uses this chance to trip Salius, who was in second place. This allows Euryalus, Nisus' friend, to win first place, Helymus second, and Diore third. Salius complains that he has been cheated, and Aeneas graciously gifts him a lion's hide as a consolation prize. Seeing this, Nisus also complains of his bad luck and so Aeneas gives him a splendid shield as a prize. Then Aeneas offers many prizes for the winner of the next competition, a boxing match. At first, no one wanted to compete against Dares, a celebrated wrestler. However, Acestes encourages old Entellus, who was once a very good wrestler, to challenge Dares. Entellus shows the crowd his impressive gloves, which once belonged to Eryx and was used by him to fight Hercules. Dares and Entellus begin to fight (without special gloves), and Dares uses his youth, gaining advantage over Entellus. Entellus falls, but is unfazed and proceeds to beat Dares to pulp. Aeneas stops the fight, declaring Entellus the winner, and gives him a fine bull as a prize. Entellus then crushes the bull's skull in a show of strength and

offers the animal to Eryx. The final contest is an archery contest, where the goal is to hit a dove tied to a cord to the top of a ship's mast. Hippocoön goes first, and he hits the mast of the ship. Mnestheus goes next, and he shoots the cord, setting the bird free. Eurytion, brother of Pandarus, shoots the bird as it flies off to the sky, killing it. Acestes, knowing he can't win anymore, shoots an arrow into the sky, and it catches fire in the sky. Aeneas, seeing this as a good omen, lavishes Acestes with gifts, as well as the other archers. Then the young Trojan boys, including Iulus, parade around on horses in front of their parents. They perform ceremonial maneuvers, and this tradition is said to have been preserved in Rome.

Juno sends Iris down to the Trojan fleet, where the Trojan women were lamenting their journey still far from completion. Iris disguises herself as Beroe, an honorable Trojan wife, and mingles with the women, urging them to set fire to the Trojan ships so that they can settle in the land they are in currently. The Trojan women are uncertain, and elderly Pyrgo warns the others that the person called Beroe in front of them is actually a goddess in disguise. Iris uses her powers to drive the women mad, and they begin to set fire to the ships in a frenzy. Seeing the smoke from the games, the Trojan men rush to the scene quickly. The women are released from their temporary madness, and are ashamed, but the damage has been done. The men try to put out the flames, and Aeneas prays to Jupiter, asking him to put out the flames so that the Trojans can continue to their fate. Instantly, Jupiter sends rain which douses the fires and saves the large majority of the ships. Aeneas, however, is still shaken, and contemplates settling in the friendly land. Old Nautes comes to Aeneas and comforts him, advising Aeneas to leave behind the unwilling and afraid, so that they can build a city with Acestes. Aeneas is still anxious, though, so his father visits him at night in a vision and tells his son to follow Nautes' advice, and also tell him to come visit him in the Fields of Elysium with the help of the Sibyl. Aeneas listens, and discusses the plans with the others. The Trojans repair their ships, and build a city for the people who wish to stay to live in. After they finish, they feast for nine days and then emotionally depart from each other. After performing sacrifices, Aeneas and his willing men set out to sea again.

Venus, worried about her son, approaches Neptune and complains about Juno's actions which have invaded Neptune's realm of power. Venus asks Neptune to keep her son safe and to grant them safe passage on the seas. Neptune assures Venus that he is on Aeneas' side, having saved him once before already in the Trojan war, and promises that their ships will reach Avernus safely. Acting on this promise, he goes and calms the seas for Aeneas. Palinurus, the ship's pilot, gets thrown overboard by Sleep. Aeneas laments the loss of his friend.

Juno & Iris: *makes the Trojan women set fire to their own ships*



This quote reveals how Iris, under Juno's wishes to torment the Trojans, forces the Trojan women to commit an act of madness and frenzy.

“At first the women were uncertain and gazed
Upon the ships with angry eyes, wavering
Between wretched love for the present land
And kingdoms calling with the voice of Fate.
Then the goddess rose through the air on wings
And cut a huge rainbow beneath the clouds.
Now the women, frenzied by this portent,
Began to shriek and scream. They ransacked
The camp's hearth-fires, despoiled the altars,
And hurled torches made of twigs and branches.
Vulcan raged unbridled through the pine benches,
The banks of oars, and the painted sterns.”

4.122

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Book Six of the Aeneid

The crew sails and lands in Cumae, and Aeneas goes to the cave where the Sibyl, Apollo's priestess, is. On the doors of the temple are carvings of Theseus's story by Daedalus. Deiphobe, a priestess, tells Aeneas to sacrifice animals; Aeneas does this and meets the Sibyl. Aeneas prays to Apollo, asking to be granted mercy for the Trojan race. In a frenzied display, the Sibyl channels Apollo and tells Aeneas of his fate, including another war they must suffer. Aeneas is not surprised and asks the Sibyl to guide him through the Underworld to meet his father. The Sibyl instructs Aeneas to find the golden bough in the woods, as well as to properly bury one of the Trojan soldiers. Aeneas obeys, holds a funeral for Misenus, and finds the bough with his mother's help. The Sibyl brings Aeneas to the cave of Avernus, and they enter alone.

The gods of the underworld are invoked. The Sibyl and Aeneas encounter gods of suffering, monsters, and come to the Acheron. The Sibyl explains the presence of the unburied along the shore to Aeneas, and they encounter Palinurus' spirit. Palinurus explains his death and the Sibyl assures him he will be honored. Charon angrily questions Aeneas and the Sibyl's presence, but then takes them across the river once they show him the golden bough. Then, the Sibyl sedates Cerberus with a drugged cake and they pass by Minos acting as judge. They then pass the spirits who committed suicide, and Aeneas tries to talk to Dido, although Dido remained unmoved. They meet Deiphobus, son of Priam. Deiphobus talks about his death, but the Sibyl urges Aeneas on. They continue, and the Sibyl explains the Gates of Hell, Tartarus, and their inhabitants. They arrive at the Blissful Groves, and Anchises reunites with his son. Anchises explains that the spirits are drinking from the Lethe in order to be reborn, and tells Aeneas about the future heroes from their family, who are currently in the process of being reborn. Most notably is Augustus Caesar, who is praised greatly. Anchises then tell his son about what awaits him, and they part. Aeneas returns to the ships and they set sail.



This quote reveals how Charon, after refusing Aeneas and Sibyl passage across the river Styx, reverses his decision upon seeing the golden bough they carry.

“...If this picture of piety in no way moves you,
Yet this bough" (she showed it under her robe)
«You must acknowledge.
Charon's engorged rage
Subsided. No more was said. Marveling
At the venerable gift, the fateful bough
So long unseen, he turned the dark-blue prow
Toward shore. There he cleared the deck,
Pushed the shades from the benches, and laid out
The gangplank. He took aboard his hollow boat
Huge Aeneas. Groaning under his weight,
The ragtag craft took on water. At last,
The swamp crossed, the ferryman disembarked
Hero and seer unharmed in the muddy sedge.”

6.144 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Seven of the *Aeneid*

Aeneas' nurse dies and they bury her. Neptune guides the Trojan ships away from Circe's dangerous island. They see the Tiber and land in Italy. The muse Erato is invoked.

Latinus is king of Italy, and he only has one daughter, Lavinia. Amata, queen of Italy, wishes that the great warrior Turnus be wed to Lavinia, but the oracles have foretold that an outsider will one day rule the land. This oracle is supported with divine omens such as the princess' hair catching fire. Latinus' prophetic father Faunus even foretold that Lavinia is destined to marry a foreigner who will bring glory to the land, not a man from a Latin family. Meanwhile, Aeneas and his men are so hungry they eat the flatbreads that were serving as their tables. After Iulus remarks this, Aeneas realizes that they are in their destined land as the prophecy has foretold. They celebrate and pray, and the next day they start building their city. Aeneas also sends a peace envoy to nearby Latinus, and Latinus realizes that the foreigner son-in-law that the oracle referred to previously was Aeneas. In joy, he sends back the envoy with great gifts and a marriage alliance offered to Aeneas.

Juno watches and is infuriated that her efforts are being thwarted by fate. Determined to delay fate and bring suffering to the Trojans, she asks Allecto to go to the city and sow the seeds of war in the Latins. Allecto agrees, and uses her power to charm Amata, who goes to her husband to demand Lavinia's marriage to Turnus. When Latinus is unmoved, she goes crazy and encourages other Latium mothers to join her Bacchic exploits. Allecto then goes to Turnus and encourages him to wage war with the Trojans for Lavinia's hand. At first, Turnus refuses, but Allecto turns him mad for war. She then makes Iulus' hunting dogs go after Sylvia's beloved stag, which Iulus shoots dead. Enraged, Sylvia's father Tyrrhus goes in search of the hunter until the conflict has escalated into a real fight between the trojans and the Latiums. The Latiums lobby Latinus to declare war, and Latinus sees his efforts are useless in the face of Juno's will. He hesitates to open the Gates of War to formally declare war, but Juno herself comes and pushes them wide. Everyone begins preparing.

The muses are invoked. The Latium warriors and their nobility are described in detail. Turnus, the leader, wears nice armor, including a shield with images. The Latium soldiers line up on the field, and Camilla the Volscian, a warrior princess, has also come to aid the Latium cause.



This quote reveals how Juno continuously turns to the aid of others to help her inflict continual suffering onto the Trojans.

“But I,

Jove's great consort, who have left nothing
Undared, have tried every trick and turn,
Am bested by Aeneas! But if my powers
Are not great enough, why should I hesitate
To seek help from any source whatever?
If I cannot sway Heaven, I will awaken Hell!"

...

With these words Juno descended to earth,
A terrifying presence, and called forth Allecto
From the home of the Dread Goddesses
And the shadows below, gruesome Allecto
Whose heart is set on war and wrath,
Intrigues and crime."

7.172

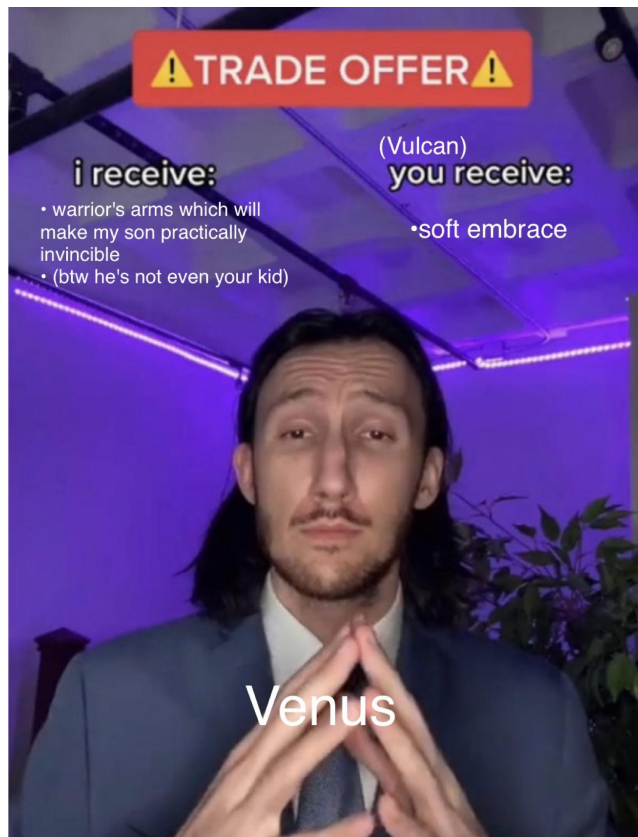
The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Eight of the *Aeneid*

The war begins between the Latins and the Trojans. That night, Tiberus, river god of the Tiber, visits Aeneas in his dream. He encourages Aeneas, and tells him that he will find a white mother heifer in accordance to the prophecy Aeneas had previously received. He also tells Aeneas that he should seek the aid of King Evander, who is enemies with Latium. When Aeneas awakes he finds the white cow and sacrifices it to Juno. At night, they sail up the calm Tiber to Evander's kingdom, where his son Pallas welcomes them. Aeneas meets with Evander, and they recall how their families are related and how Evander admired Anchises. They eat together, and Evander tells the tale of Cacus, a fire-breathing half-human monster, and Hercules. Cacus had stolen Geryon's cattle from Hercules, but his place of hiding was revealed by accident. Hercules then killed Cacus in a massive display of power, prompting the formation of an altar and festival there. They finish the rites celebrating Hercules and his story. Evander tells Aeneas about how Saturn started the ages of men in the area, and other stories.

Venus requests Vulcan's aid for Aeneas by seducing him. Vulcan agrees and goes to his forges at Aetna, and tells the cyclopes to quickly make arms for Aeneas. In the morning, Evander tells Aeneas to lead the Italians and Trojans in war, as according to a prophecy Evander received. He offers his son Pallas to Aeneas' side, along with lots of men. Venus sends a signal to Aeneas from the sky, and Aeneas, recognizing his mother's promise, knows that his mother has

gifted him arms crafted by Vulcan. They perform sacrifices and Evander tearfully parts with Pallas, begging him to be safe. The Trojan and Italian forces ride off, sparking fear where they go. Venus brings the beautiful weapons to Aeneas while encouraging him, and they embrace. The shield Aeneas receives has images of the future of Rome, including the figures and stories of Romulus, Remus, the she-wolf, Caesar Augustus, Agrippa, and Antony. Aeneas is overjoyed at the gift.



This quote reveals how Venus uses her powers to seduce her husband Vulcan, persuading him to craft for Aeneas the best weapons and armor that a warrior could hope for.

“Now, therefore,
I come, as suppliant to your sacred power,
Begging arms, a mother for her son. Thetis
Could sway you with tears, and Aurora.
See the nations mustering, the walled cities
Whetting steel to destroy my people!”
Vulcan hesitated, but when the goddess
Wrapped her snowy arms around him

And fondled him in her soft embrace...”

8.202

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Nine of the *Aeneid*

Iris, sent by Juno, goes to Turnus and urges him to quickly go to war. Turnus obeys this omen, and the Teucrians, Aeneas absent, retreat inside their gates when they see Turnus’ army approaching. Turnus is angry that the Trojans refuse to leave the city and attempts to set their fleet on fire, but Vulcan diverts the flames. The muses are invoked, and the Trojan ships are revealed to have been made from wood sacred to the mother of the gods, presumably Rhea. This earth goddess asks her son Jupiter to protect the ships, which he obliges by promising to turn the ships into immortal goddesses of the sea when the time comes. Now, the goddess speaks to everyone from the sky and the ships swim away like dolphins. Seeing this, Turnus’ troops are shaken, but Turnus attempts to lift morale by giving a speech. They camp for the night.

Meanwhile, two Trojans, Nisus and young Euryalus, decide to ambush the enemy camp after observing them drunk and sleeping. They will also try to bring news to Aeneas. Nisus doesn’t want Euryalus to join him, but Euryalus insists. First they go to Iulus, to tell him of their plans. Iulus is moved, and promises them and their family great rewards. The two men leave and slaughter Rhamnes and all of his men while they sleep. Euryalus wears Rhamnes’ helmet as a spoil of war, but the morning light reflecting off of it gives away their position to other Latium troops. Euryalus gets captured, and Nisus doubles back to save his friend. While Nisus manages to kill some Latiums, they both get killed in the end. The Latiums are enraged upon finding Rhamnes’ camp, and they put the two Trojan’s heads on spears. This causes Euryalus’ mother to weep. The Latium troops begin their siege on the Trojan walls.

The muse Calliope is invoked. The Trojans defend themselves by throwing things off the walls, but when they panic, the Latiums are able to breach their city. Both sides lose many honorable men. Iulus shoots Remulus, Turnus’ brother-in-law, with the help of Jupiter after he calls the Trojans pussies. Apollo, impressed, comes to Iulus under disguise and tells him to stay out of the fight from now on. Although disappointed, Iulus obeys Apollo. The battle continues, and Mars sides with the Latiums; Juno helps Turnus kill Pandarus. Turnus continues on his rampage in the Teucrian camp, and cajools the Trojans into fighting by calling them cowards. Turnus reaches his limit by the will of Jupiter, and escapes via the Tiber.



This quote shows how even though the heavens have shown a clear favoring of Aeneas and the Trojans through an impressive divine act, Turnus chooses to ignore this sign and focuses on continuing the war.

“Awe shriveled the Rutulians' souls. Even
 Messapus panicked, and his horses shied,
 Wide-eyed with fear. The river itself fell silent
 As Father Tiber stepped back from the sea.
 But Turnus did not lose his nerve. He responded
 By seizing this chance to steel his men's spirits:
 "It is the Trojans these portents are meant for!
 Jupiter himself has taken away

Their usual crutch. They're as good as dead,
Even without Rutulian sword and fire.
With no escape by sea, no hope of flight,
They have lost half the world, and we hold
The other half, the land, with so many thousands
Of Italy's people taking up arms!"

9.219

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Ten of the *Aeneid*

Jupiter calls the gods to a council, and tells them to stop fighting. Venus then complains about everything Juno has done to thwart the Trojans. She asks Jupiter to at least allow her to save Iulus. Juno, angry at the accusations, basically denies everything and blames Aeneas. Jupiter takes a neutral stance, leaving everything to fate.

The Rutulians continue to batter the Trojan walls while the Trojans try to defend themselves. Meanwhile, Aeneas is up the Tiber recruiting allies such as the Tuscans, Lydians, and Evander's people. They sail back to the Trojans together with many honorable warriors. The muses are invoked. At night, Aeneas sees the Trojan ships which had transformed into sea deities. The nymphs then tell Aeneas about the entrapment of the Trojans by Turnus, and guide the ship down the river. Both Aeneas and Turnus mentally prepare with their men for battle. Once the Trojans land, Aeneas immediately goes on a killing spree in an immense display of strength. Pallas inspires the Arcadians by charging into the fray and killing many. The Arcadians then face Lausus' army, and Turnus' sister Juturna warns him to go give his aid to Lausus. Turnus arrives, and he faces Pallas one-on-one. Pallas prays to Hercules, who sheds tears knowing Pallas' fate. Turnus kills the boy and takes as spoils Pallas' belt. Aeneas then returns to help his men, sees Pallas' corpse, then continues on his merciless rampage in grief.

Juno asks Jupiter to let her save Turnus, and Jupiter indulges her while still warning her that Turnus' fate is unchanged. Juno goes to earth and disguises herself as Aeneas, tricking Turnus into boarding a ship; the ship sails away. Turnus, distraught, tries to jump overboard or kill himself, but Juno restrains him and brings the ship back to his home. Compelled by Jupiter, Mezentius kills many Trojans while the gods watch from above. Aeneas impales Mezentius with a spear, and Mezentius' son Lausus rushes in to fight Aeneas while his father retreats. After a storm, Aeneas kills Lausus but commends his devotion to his father. Injured Mezentius weeps at

the news of his son's death, and pursues Aeneas for revenge. Mezentius fails to pierce through Aeneas' shield, and dies by the Trojan's hand. With his dying breath he asks to be buried with his son.



This quote shows how Turnus' fate is already set, despite Juno's attempts to save Turnus by removing him from battle.

"The Lord of Olympus briefly replied:
"If you are requesting a reprieve from death
For this doomed youth, in complete awareness

It is a respite only, with no further illusions,
Take Turnus away from Fate and Doom
There is this much room for indulgence. However,
If your prayers conceal an ulterior motive
And you think the course of the war can be changed,
You are badly mistaken."

10.265 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Eleven of the *Aeneid*

At dawn, Aeneas dedicates the spoils of Mezentius to Mars. They then bury the dead and send Pallas' corpse back to his father; Aeneas gives him many honors and sacrifices at his funeral. Aeneas grants the Latium forces a six-day truce so that they can bury their dead, and both Aeneas and Drances lament the war. Evander is torn at the arrival of his son's corpse, and begs Aeneas to kill Turnus in revenge.

Both sides of the war perform rituals for the dead, and the Latium mothers and widows blame Turnus for their misfortunes. As a cherry on top, a Latium envoy arrives bearing news that Diomedes has refused an alliance with them. Latinus, exhausted, calls a council to hear Diomedes' reply as conveyed through the envoy. Diomedes said that all those who committed transgressions against Troy were severely punished, he himself was unable to return to his homeland. Diomedes advises the Italians to join the Trojans in peace, and not to wage war with Aeneas, who he holds in high regard for his strength. Latinus, losing hope, suggests that they surrender. Drances also speaks, blaming Turnus for their misfortunes, and suggests the offering of Lavinia's hand for peace. He then angrily begs Turnus not to selfishly demand more Latium lives. Turnus, enraged, calls Drances a wuss and then tells Latinus that they still have a chance to win. He even agrees to meet Aeneas in one-to-one combat if he so demands. A messenger comes with news that the Trojans are on the move; this causes general panic that Turnus capitalizes on. Turnus mobilizes his troops and the city begins preparing by digging trenches and performing sacrifices.

Camilla, the Volscian warrior princess enters the front lines and everyone sets off. Diana in the sky tells her beloved Camilla's tale: she is the precious daughter of king Metabus, who offered Camilla up to Diana's service while they were vanquished from their kingdom. Metabus

raised his daughter by himself in the woods, and she grew up to be an exceptional huntress under Diana. Diana promises to take care of Camilla's body if she dies and to avenge her. The Trojans meet the Latins on the field many times as they chase each other back and forth. At the center of everything, Camilla lays waste on the Trojan troops. Jupiter fills Tarchon with spite, and his rage inspires Arruns, who stealthily followed Camilla. Camilla follows Chloreus, wanting his golden armor, and when she begins to hunt him Arruns prays to Apollo to help him defeat Camilla. Apollo grants this, but knows that his body will not return to his homeland. Arruns' spear pierces Camilla, and with her last words she wishes Turnus to take her place. Opis, sent by Diana, shoots Arruns dead for killing Camilla. Turnus receives Camilla's message, and goes to the frontlines. Aeneas heads there also.



This quote reveals how, despite popular protest against the war, Turnus aggressively convinces the Latiums into continuing by claiming they still have a chance against the Trojans.

“But if we still have resources, and sound troops,
And the cities of Italy are still behind us,
If the Trojans too have paid for glory in blood
(They too have suffered casualties, the storm
Was the same for everyone), why do we falter
So ingloriously at the first steps? Why do we
Tremble before the trumpet sounds? Time
And the shifting tide of events have improved
Many situations. Fortune revisits many a man,
First mocking him and then setting him

Upon firmer ground.”

11.290 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.

Book Twelve of the *Aeneid*

Turnus, seeing the dismal conditions of his army, goes to Latinus and tells him to draw up a truce with the Trojans, so that he and Aeneas can duel one on one. Amata and Latinus both try to dissuade him, but eventually Latinus agrees. At dawn, the Trojans and the Latins meet on the altar in the middle of the war ground and begin to settle the terms of truce. Juno sees this and tells Juturna, immortal nymph and Turnus’ sister, to go help her brother as his death approaches. Juturna is distressed, but she disguises herself as a Latin warrior and urges the Latin crowd to take up arms again. She succeeds, and the Latins break the truce by attacking the Trojans. Chaos ensues as the fighting restarts, and Aeneas tries to calm everyone to no avail. Turnus brutally kills lots of Trojans. Aeneas is hit by an unknown arrow, and withdraws to seek medical care from Iapyx. Iapyx’s herbs have no effect, but Venus intervenes and gives them an herb that cures Aeneas. Aeneas rejoins the battle and kills many. Juturna disguises herself again and takes control of Turnus’ chariot so that Aeneas and Turnus never meet in battle. At night, Venus tells Aeneas to directly attack the city, and Aeneas follows her advice. The Trojans invade the city, throwing it into chaos, and Amata kills herself. Turnus decides to return to the city and help, against his sister’s pleas.

Turnus arrives at the city and engages in one-on-one combat with Aeneas, much to the awe of everyone else. Turnus’ efforts are in vain, however, as his weapon breaks; he chooses to flee on his chariot. Aeneas pursues him, and his mother aids him, while Juturna aids her brother by giving him another weapon. Jupiter tells Juno to accept Turnus’ fate and to stop intervening, and Juno relents on the request that the future city retains Latin traditions. Jupiter agrees, and sends one of the Dirae down to warn Juturna not to intervene anymore. The Dirae transforms into an owl and goes to Turnus, and Juturna understands Jupiter’s order. Aeneas and Turnus face off, and Turnus’ last ditch attempt is thwarted by the gods. Aeneas injures Turnus with a spear, and refuses Turnus’ last request for mercy after seeing Pallas’ belt on him. Aeneas kills Turnus by stabbing him.



This quote reveals how Turnus, in the last-ditch attempt for his life, throws a boulder at Aeneas to a rather pathetic conclusion.

“Turnus said no more.
Looking around he saw a huge stone
Lying on the plain, a stone ancient and huge
Set in place to settle boundary disputes.
Twelve chosen men could scarcely lift it
Onto their shoulders, as men are now,
But the hero scooped it up quickly, rose
To his full height, and with a burst of speed
Hurled it at his adversary. But as he ran
He did not know himself, did not know who he was
As he moved toward the immense stone, lifted it,
And sent it flying. His knees buckled,
His blood was like ice. The stone itself,

Rolling through empty air, fell short
And did not deliver its blow.”

12.339 ff

The Aeneid, English Translation by Lombardo S, Johnson W. Aeneid. Indianapolis:
Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.; 2005.