Julia 37



Mūsae, simul āc in vallem descendērunt, carmina mīra et dīvīna cecinērunt. Argūtae sunt Mūsārum võces, nec per tōtum orbem terrārum dulcior est sonitus quam cantus Deārum; nōn tam suāviter aves in summis arboribus canunt, ubi vēre āera cantibus mulcent.

Mīro sonitu dēlectāti sunt incolae. Diū Mūsae canēbant; diū incolae, cēterārum rērum immemores, stupēbant; nec ad cibum nec ad quiētem tempus capiēbant. Multos diēs, multas noctes Deae canēbant, et māne, ubi Aurōra croceum Tīthōni lectum relinquit, et sērō, ubi vesper stellas in caelum redūcit. Ita incolae cēnae prandiīque immemores, mīrum sonitum audiēbant. Itaque propter carminum dīvīnōrum amōrem indiēs languescēbant.

Tandem Mūsae incolas iam tenuissimos animadvertērunt, et misericordiae plēnae in cicādas virides convertērunt. Cicādae igitur, etiam nunc carminum dīvīnōrum memores, tōtum diem cantant. āēr, āeris, m. (acc. : āera)—air. Aurora, -ae, f.—Aurora, goddess of the dawn. avis, -is, f.—bird. cano, 3, cecini, cantum—I sing. cantus, -ūs, m .- song. capio, capere, cepi, captum-I take. diēs, -ēi, m.—day: indiēs—from day to day. immemor, -oris-unmindful, forgetful. languesco, 3, -ui-I languish, faint. mulceo, 2, mulsi, mulsum—I soothe. quiës, quiëtis, f.—rest, quiet. relinquo, 3, -liqui, -lictum-I leave. sērō—late. sonitus, -ūs, m.—sound.

stupeo, 2, -ui—I am amazed.
suāviter—sweetly.
tempus, -oris, n.—time.
tenuis, -e—thin.
Tithōnus, -i, m.—Tithonus, husband of the dawn goddess.
vesper, -eris, m.—evening.

Look out for the passive voice again. Remember how to translate et... et....

Stupeo is a verb which is passive in English "I am amazed" but in Latin *stupere* is the active form and there is no passive.

Translate and check with my attempt over the page.

The muses, as they descended into the valley, sang wonderful and divine songs. The voices of the muses are clear, nor is there a sweeter sound than the song of the goddesses. The birds in the tree tops do not sing so sweetly when indeed the air is soothed [when the very air is soothed] by their songs.

The inhabitants were delighted with the wonderful song. The muses sang for a long time, for a long time the inhabitants were amazed, forgetting everything else; they either took food nor time to rest. The goddesses sang for any days, many nights, both in the morning when the yellow dawn left the couch of Tithonus and late when the evening brought back the stars into the sky. Thus the inhabitants, forgetting dinner and lunch, listened to the wonderful sound. Thus because of love of the divine songs they were languishing from day to day.

At length the muses noticed the now thin inhabitants, and, full of pity, turned them into green grasshoppers. Grasshoppers, therefore, even now, mindful of the divine songs sing all day.