

LATIN RECITATION (BOYS) LEVEL II – (LOW) INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Language Fair 2016

Numa Becomes Rome's Second King

Numa Pompilius, Sabīnus, rēx Rōmae dēlēctus est, sed prīmō regere recūsābat. “Vītā amoenam agō; periculōsum est accipere hoc rēgnum urbis Rōmae.” Tandem Numae pater dīxit, “Quamquam neque dīvitias neque fāmam cupis, crēde mihi hoc rēgnum certē esse officium tibi ā deīs datum. Dī ipsī iūstitiam et sapientiam tuam prō patriā tuā postulant.” Numa respondit, “Primum deīs sacrificia faciam. Sī ōmina bona erunt, rēx erō.” Ascendit Capitōlinum atque sacrificia fēcit. Ōmine bonō mox vīsō, Numa scīvit sē certē nōn solum ā Rōmānīs et Sabīnīs sed etiam ā deīs rēgem dēlēctum esse.

Using Latin II (1955), p. 29 (abridged)

Numa Pompilius, a Sabine, was chosen Rome's king, but at first he refused to rule. “I live a pleasant life; it is dangerous to accept this rule of the city Rome.” Finally Numa's father said to him, “Although you desire neither riches nor fame, believe me that this rule is surely a duty given to you by the gods. The gods themselves demand your justice and wisdom for your country.” Numa replied, “First I will make sacrifices to the gods. If the omens are good, I will be king.” He climbed the Capitoline Hill and made sacrifices. After a good omen was soon seen, Numa knew that he certainly had been chosen king not only by the Romans and Sabines, but also by the gods.

LATIN RECITATION (GIRLS) LEVEL II – (LOW) INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

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The Sacrifice of Iphigenia

Clytemnestra sēnsit Īphigenīam ā mīlitibus arcessītam esse. Īphigenīa mātērī maestae dīxit, “Māter amāta, nūllō tempore pater meus mē sacrificāre dēsiderāvit; iniūriam nōn facit; est voluntās deōrum. Nōn erō ignāva. Cupiō mīlitēs nostrōs contrā fortūnam malam dēfendī. Brevī tempore exercitūs Graecī ā portū ventīs secundīs nāvigābunt et victōriam habēbunt. Omnēs scient mē prō patriā occīsam esse.” Ubi Agamemnōn filiā ad āram dūxit, puella fortis mīlitibus dīxit, “Sentiō deōs mortem meam cupere. Mortem nōn recūsābō.” Subitō magnus clāmor audītus est. Dea Diāna aderat et puellam ad locum longinquum portāvit.

Using Latin I, 1954, p. 311 (abridged)

Clytemnestra realized that Iphigenia had been summoned by the soldiers. Iphigenia said to her grieving mother, “Beloved mother, at no time has my father desired to sacrifice me; he does no injustice; it is the will of the gods. I will not be cowardly. I want our soldiers to be defended against bad fortune. In a short time Greek armies will sail from port with favorable winds and will have victory. Everyone will know that I was killed for my country.” When Agamemnon led his daughter to the altar, the brave girl said to the soldiers, “I feel that the gods desire my death. I shall not refuse death.” Suddenly a great uproar was heard. The goddess Diana was present and took the girl to a faraway place.