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*Nec omnia rupit vincula*: Imagined Warfare in Lucan and *Game of Thrones* (2011-2019)

**Slide 7 - Beautiful, heroic deaths**

"He bent, drooping his head to one side, as a garden poppy

bends beneath the weight of its fruit and the rains of springtime;

so his head bent slack to one side beneath the helm's weight."

Homer, *Iliad* 8.306-8, from Lovatt 2013

μήκων δ' ὡς ἑτέρωσε κάρη βάλεν, ἥ τ' ἐνὶ κήπῳ,

καρπῷ βριθομένη νοτίῃσί τε εἰαρινῇσιν,

ὣς ἑτέρωσ' ἤμυσε κάρη πήληκι βαρυνθέν.

The flying spear, where by chance the nine most beautiful

bodies of brothers had stood opposite, so many which one faithful

Tuscan wife had given life for Arcadian Gylippus,

to one of these in the middle, where the sewn belt rubs the belly

and the clasp joining the sides bites,

a young man outstanding in appearance and in shining armour,

pierced through his ribs and poured him out on the tawny sand."

Vergil, *Aeneid* 12.270-276 from Lovatt 2013

*hasta uolans, ut forte nouem pulcherrima fratrum*

*corpora constiterant contra, quod fida crearat*

*una tot Arcadio coniunx Tyrrhena Gylippo,*

*horum unum ad medium, teritur qua sutilis aluo*

*balteus et laterum iuncturas fibula mordet,*

*egregium forma iuuenem et fulgentibus armis,*

*transadigit costas fuluaque effundit harena.*

**Slide 8 - Lucan's narrator resists heroizing**

"When the world is dying I feel shame to spend my tears

on the innumerable deaths and to follow individuals' destinies

questioning, whose guts did the fatal wound

pass through? who trampled on his vitals spilling on the ground?

who faced the enemy and, dying, forced out with his breath

the sword thrust into throat? who collapsed when struck?

who stood firm while his limbs fell about him? who lets the weapons pass

right through the breast? or who was pinned by spear to the plain?

whose veins were drained of blood which split the air

and falls upon the armour of his enemy? who strikes his brother's

breast, cuts off the head and throws it far away

so he can plunder the familiar corpse? who mangles

his father's face and proves to those who watch by his excessive wrath

that the man he slaughters is not his father? No death deserves

its own lament; we have no space to grieve for individuals."

Lucan, *Bellum Civile* 7.617-631, trans. Braund

*inpendisse pudet lacrimas in funere mundi*

*mortibus innumeris, ac singula fata sequentem*

*quaerere letiferum per cuius uiscera uolnus*

*exierit, quis fusa solo uitalia calcet,*

*ore quis aduerso demissum faucibus ensem*

*expulerit moriens anima, quis corruat ictus,*

*qui steterit dum membra cadunt, qui pectore tela*

*transmittant aut quos campis adfixerit hasta,*

*quis cruor emissis perruperit aera uenis*

*inque hostis cadat arma sui, quis pectora fratris*

*caedat et, ut notum possit spoliare cadauer,*

*abscisum longe mittat caput, ora parentis*

*quis laceret nimiaque probet spectantibus ira*

*quem iugulat non esse patrem. mors nulla querella*

*digna sua est, nullosque hominum lugere uacamus.*

**Slide 9 - Gory over Glory**

"A Roman ship hemmed in by Phocaean vessels

defends right and left side with strength divided

and equal fighting. While from its high stern

**Catus fights**, boldly holding on to Greek post,

at one moment **he is pierced in his back and chest alike**

**by weapons shot together: the steel meets in the middle of his body**

**and the blood stood still, unsure from which wound to flow,**

**until at one moment a flood of gore drove out both spears,**

**split his life, and dispersed death into the wounds.**"

Lucan, *Bellum Civile* 3.583-599, trans. Braund

*Phocaeis Romana ratis uallata carinis*

*robore diducto dextrum laeuumque tuetur*

*aequo Marte latus; cuius dum pugnat ab alta*

*puppe Catus Graiumque audax aplustre retentat,*

*terga simul pariter missis et pectora telis*

*transigitur: medio concurrit corpore ferrum,*

*et stetit incertus, flueret quo uolnere, sanguis,*

*donec utrasque simul largus cruor expulit hastas*

*diuisitque animam sparsitque in uolnera letum.*

**Slide 14 - Heaps**

"Those words aroused a frenzy greater

than the trumpet-calls ignite at their first blast;

astonished at the warrior and keen to watch, the soldiers

follow to discover whether valour caught by numbers and position

could achieve something more than death. **On the tumbling ramp**

**he takes his stand and first rolled out the corpses from the towers**

**full of them and, as the enemy approached, he buried them**

**with bodies; and all the ruined mass provides the warrior with weapons:**

**with timbers, boulders, with himself, he menaces the enemy**. "

Lucan, *Bellum Civile* 6.165-173, trans. Braund

*mouit tantum uox illa furorem,*

*quantum non primo succendunt classica cantu,*

*mirantesque uirum atque auidi spectare secuntur*

*scituri iuuenes, numero deprensa locoque*

*an plus quam mortem uirtus daret. ille ruenti*

*aggere constitit, primumque cadauera planis*

*turribus euoluit subeuntisque obruit hostis*

*corporibus, totaeque uiro dant tela ruinae,*

*roboraque et moles hosti seque ipsae minatur.*

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