

I. Trebius' Cheap Cups

1. Juvenal, *Satire 5.24-29*

qualis cena tamen! vinum quod sucida nolit
lana pati: de conviva Corybanta videbis.
iurgia proludent, **sed mox et pocula torques**
saucius et rubra deterges vulnera mappa,
inter vos quotiens libertorumque cohortem
pugna **Saguntina** fervet commissa **lagona**.

But what a dinner! You get wine that fresh wool
doesn't want to endure: you will see Corybants from
guests. Disputes are the prelude, **but soon even you**
injured will hurl cups, and you will wipe your
wounds with a reddened napkin. How often battle
begins with a **Saguntine flask** and rages between you
and a cohort of freedmen.

2. Martial, *Epigram 10.45*

Si quid lene **mei** dicunt et dulce **libelli**,
si quid honorificum pagina blanda sonat,
hoc tu pingue putas et costum rodere mavis,
ilia Laurentis cum tibi demus apri.
Vaticana bibas, si delectaris aceto: 5
non facit ad stomachum **nostra lagona** tuum.

If **my little books** say something smooth and sweet,
if a flattering page sounds out an honorific, you
think that this is greasy fare, and you prefer to gnaw
on a rib when I give you loin of Laurentine boar.
Drink Vatican wine if you like vinegar; **my flask**
does not suit your stomach.

3. Martial, *Apophoreta 108 (14.108)*

Calices saguntini

Quae non sollicitus teneat servetque minister,
sume **Saguntino** pocula facta **luto**.

Saguntine cups

Take cups made of **Saguntine clay** which
your servant may hold and keep without anxiety.

4. Martial, *Epigram 4.46.14-17*

. . . et crasso figuli polita caelo
septenaria synthesis **Sagunti**, 15
Hispanae luteum rotae toreuma

. . . a seven-piece set of **Saguntine** tableware
polished with a potter's dull chisel, the muddy
embossed work of a Spanish wheel . . .

5. Martial, *Epigram 8.6.1-4, 15-16*

Archetypis vetuli nihil est odiosius Eucti
—**ficta Saguntino cymbia malo luto**—,
argenti fumosa sui cum stemmata narrat
garrulus et verbis mucida vina facit. . .
miratus fueris cum prisca toreumata multum, 15
in Priami calathis Astyanacta bibes.

Nothing is as annoying as old Euctus' originals (**I**
prefer cups shaped from Saguntine clay), when he
recounts the smoky pedigrees of his silver and makes
the wine moldy with his chatter . . . After you have
much admired the ancient embossed works, in
Priam's cups you will drink Astyanax.

6. Juvenal, *Satire 5.46-48*

tu **Beneventani sutoris** nomen habentem
siccabis **calicem nazorum quattuor** ac iam
quassatum et **rupto** poscentem **sulpura uitro**.

But you will drain **a cup with four noses** named
after the **Beneventan cobbler [i.e. Vatinius]**. It is
already cracked and demanding **sulphur matches**
in exchange for its **broken glass**.

7. Martial, *Apophoreta 96 (14.96)*

Calices Vatirii

Vilia **sutoris calicem** monumenta Vatini
accipe; sed **nasus** longior ille fuit.

Vatinian cups

Accept a **cup**, a cheap memorial of the
cobbler Vatinius, but that **nose** was longer.

8. Martial, *Epigram 10.3.1-6*

Vernaculorum dicta, sordidum dentem,
et foeda linguae probra circulatoricis,
quae **sulphurato** nolit empta ramento
Vatiniorum proxeneta **fractorum**,
poeta quidam clancularius spargit 5
et volt videri nostra . . .

The sayings of homegrown slaves, vulgar abuse,
and the ugly insults of a peddler's tongue, which a
dealer of **broken Vatinians** would not want to
buy for a **sulphur** match, **these a certain**
anonymous poet scatters around and wants
them to be seen as mine . . .

II. Virro's Expensive Cups

1. Juvenal, *Satire 5.37-45*

. . . Ipse capaces
Heliadum crustas et inaequales berullo
Virro tenet **phialas**: tibi non committitur **aurum**,
vel, si quando datur, custos adfixus ibidem, 40
qui numeret gemmas, ungues observet acutos.
da veniam: **praeclara illi laudatur iaspis**.
nam Virro, ut multi, gemmas ad pocula transfert
a digitis, **quas in vaginae fronte solebat**
ponere zelotypo iuvenis praelatus Iarbae. 45

Virro himself holds spacious **bowls encrusted**
with amber and rough with beryl. His **gold** isn't
entrusted to you, or if it is, a guard is stationed on
the spot who counts the gems and watches your
sharp nails. Don't blame him: **his splendid jasper**
is praised. For Virro, like many people, transfers
his jewels from his fingers to his cups—jewels
which the young man preferred to jealous
Iarbas was accustomed to place on the front of
his scabbard.

2. Vergil, *Aeneid 4.259-4*

ut primum alatis tetigit magalia plantis,
Aenean fundantem arces ac tecta nouantem 260
conspicit. atque **illi stellatus iaspide fulua**
ensis erat Tyrioque ardebat murice laena
demissa ex umeris, diues quae munera Dido
fecerat, et tenui telas discreuerat auro.

So soon as [Mercury] touched the huts with
winged feet, he sees Aeneas founding towers and
renovating houses. And now **his sword was**
sparkling with yellow jasper, and a cloak hung
from his shoulders was burning with Tyrian
purple, a gift that rich Dido had made, and she had
separated the web with thread of gold.

3. Pliny the Elder, *Natural History 37.30-31*

Proximum locum in deliciis, **feminarum tamen adhuc tantum, sucina** optinent, eandemque omnia haec
quam gemmae auctoritatem; sane priora illa aliquis de causis, crystallina frigido potu, myrrhina utroque;
in sucinis causam ne deliciae quidem adhuc excogitare potuerunt. Occasio est **vanitatis Graecorum**
detegendae: legentes modo aequo perpetiantur animo, cum hoc quoque intersit vitae scire, non quidquid
illi prodidere mirandum.

The next place among luxuries, **although up to this point only of women**, is held by **amber**. All these
substances now under discussion have the same prestige as gems; but while the two former ones have
proper reasons for this, since crystal vessels are used for cold drinks and myrrhine ware are used for both
hot and cold, **not even luxury has been able to invent a reason for using amber**. Here is an opportunity
for exposing the **falsehoods of the Greeks**. May the readers endure these with a level mind since it is
important for mankind to know that not everything which the Greeks have recounted ought to be admired.

4. Pliny the Elder, *Natural History 37.76-79*

Poliuntur omnes sexangula figura artificum ingeniis, quoniam hebes unitate surda color **repercussu**
angulorum excitetur . . . Indi mire gaudent longitudine eorum solosque gemmarum esse praedicant qui
carere auro malint . . . Indi et alias quidem gemmas crystallum tinguendo **adulterare invenerunt**, sed
praecipue berullos.

All [beryls] are polished into a hexagonal shape by skilled artists, since the color, which is dull from a blunt unified form, **is excited by the reflection of angles**. . . Indians rejoice greatly in elongated beryls, and they declare that these alone of the gemstones **prefer to lack a gold setting**. . . The Indians have also **discovered how to counterfeit** various gemstones, but **beryls in particular**, by staining rock crystal.

5. Maecenas to Horace (Courtney fr. 2)

Lucentes, mea vita, nec smaragdus
beryllos neque, Flacce mi, nitentes
<nec> percandida margarita quaero
nec quos Tunnica lima perpolivit
anellos nec **iaspios** lapillos.

Neither shining emeralds, my life, nor, my
Flaccus, gleaming **beryls**, nor resplendent
pearls do I seek, nor the little rings polished
by Thynian file, nor **jaspery** stonelets.
(trans. Petrain)

6. Augustus to Maecenas (=Macrobius, *Sat.* 2.4.12)

Vale meli gentium, †meculle, ebur ex Etruria, lasar Arretinum, adamas supernas, Tiberinum margaritum,
Cilneorum zmaragde, **iaspi** figulorum, **berulle** Porsenae, carbunculum habeas, ἵνα συντέμω πάντα,
μάλαγμα moecharum.

Farewell sweetheart of the world, sweetie, ivory from Etruria, silphium from Arezzo, diamond from up
north, Tiberine pearl, the Cilnian's emerald, **jasper** of the potters, **beryl** of Porsenna, carbuncle . . . hope
you get one!—to sum it all up, you emollient of adulteresses. (trans. Petrain)

III. Correspondence with Martial's *Apophoreta*

1. Martial, *Apophoreta* 95-96 (14.95-96)

Phiala aurea caelata

Quamvis Callaïco rubeam generosa metallo,
glorior arte magis: nam Myos iste labor.

A chased gold bowl

Although I, noble, redden with Galician metal,
I glory more in my craft, for that is the work of Mys.

Calices Vatinius

Vilia **sutoris calicem** monumenta **Vatini**
accipe; sed nasus longior ille fuit.

Vatinian cups

Accept a **cup**, a cheap memorial of the
cobbler Vatinius, but that nose was longer.

2. Martial, *Apophoreta* 108-109 (14.108-109)

Calices saguntini

Quae non sollicitus teneat servetque minister,
sume Saguntino pocula facta luto.

Saguntine cups

Take cups made of Saguntine clay which
your servant may hold and keep without anxiety.

Calices gemmati

Gemmatum Scythicis ut luceat ignibus aurum,
aspice. Quot digitos exiit iste calix!

Jeweled cups

See how the jeweled gold is alight with Scythian
fires. How many fingers has this cup despoiled!

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