

Emerging from the Mist: Eugenia as Eurydice in Unamuno's *Niebla*

“Ésta Cerbera aguarda -se dijo- que le pregunte por el nombre y circunstancias de esta señorita a que he venido siguiendo” (87) [“This Cerberus is waiting,” he said to himself, “for me to ask her for the name and circumstances of this Miss whom I have come following].¹

“Luego hizo Augusto que se le trajera un biberón para el cachorillo, para Orfeo, que así le bautizó, no se sabe ni sabía él tampoco por qué” (110-11) [Then Augusto had them bring a bottle for the little puppy, for Orpheus, for thus he christened him; it is not known nor did he himself know why].

“los ojos suplicantes del señorito don Augusto como los de un perro hambriento” (131) [the supplicating eyes of little mister Augusto like those of a hungry dog].

“si no te aprovechas de una ocasión como esta que se te presenta vas a tardar en salir de tu purgatorio” (163) [if you do not take advantage of an occasion such as the one presented (Augusto's proposal), you will delay in leaving your purgatory].

“¡amque iterum moriens non est de coniuge quicquam / questa suo (quid enim nisi se quereretur amatam?)” (10.60-61) [and now dying a second time, she did not complain of anything against her husband (what truly could she complain of, except that she that she was loved?)].²

“¡usted se reserva el papel de heroica víctima, de mártir!” (151) [you reserve for yourself the role of heroic victim, of martyr!]

“Pues si no es hombre, quiero yo hacerle tal” (165) [Well if he isn't a man, I want to make him such].

“No soy yo quien la ha conquistado, sino ella quien me ha conquistado a mí” (171) [It's not I who has conquered her, but she who has conquered me]

“¿No has vuelto a saber de ella? -y le miró con mirada de las que atraviesan... ¿Quién la estará conquistando o quién la habrá conquistado a estas horas...?” (248) [“You haven't heard of her again?” and she looked at him with one of those piercing looks ... “Who will be conquering her or who will have conquered her at this time?”]

¹ Miguel de Unamuno, *Niebla*, ed. Armando Zubizarreta, (Madrid: Clásicos Castalia, 1995), 87. All translations are mine.

² Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, ed. G.P. Goold, LOEB edition, (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1916), 10.60-61.