National Identity and *Heroides* 7: Narrative Interrupted CAMWS Fourth Paper Session, Section A, April 3, 2014

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certus es ire tamen miseramque relinquere Dido,
 atque idem uenti uela fidemque ferent?
 certus es, Aenea, cum foedere soluere naues,
 quaeque ubi sint nescis, Itala regna sequi?
 ut terram inuenias, quis eam tibi tradet habendam?
 quis sua non notis arua tenenda dabit? (Ov. Her. 7.7-10; 15-16)¹

"Are you certain to go, and to leave Dido miserable, and will the winds carry off your sails and your pledge at the same time? Are you certain, Aeneas, to loosen your ships together with your pact, to seek the Italian kingdoms when you don't even know where they are?... Suppose that you do find land. Who will hand it over to you so that you may have it? Who will give his own fields to people he doesn't know so that they may have them?"

2. protinus ocurrent falsae periuria linguae
et Phrygia Dido fraude coacta mori.
coniugis ante oculos deceptae stabit imago
tristis et effusis sanguinolenta comis
...
omnia mentiris; neque enim tua fallere lingua
incipit a nobis, primaque plector ego.
si quaeras, ubi sit formosi mater Iuli,
occidit a duro sola relicta uiro. (Ov. Her. 7.67-70, 81-4)

"Immediately the perjuries of your false tongue will rush upon you and Dido, forced to die by Phrygian deceit. The image of your deceived wife will stand before your eyes, sad and bloodied, with her hair in disarray... you lie about everything; and your tongue did not even start its deceit with me, nor am I the first to be embraced by its lies. If you should ask where the mother of lovely Iulus is, she fell, left behind by a heartless husband."

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¹ The text of *Heroides 7* is that of P. E. Knox, ed. 1995. *Ovid Heroides: Select Epistles*. Cambridge. Translations are my own.