



Teaching Vergil's Aeneid: Furor & Pietas with Karen Moore

Lecture 4: Book 7: A
Consideration of Fury
Embodied

Outline:

Fury Embodied

- Juno's Hail Mary
 - Aeneas has made it to Italy.
 - He has found his destined spot by the Tiber with the river's help.
 - He has found the omen of the white sow, which he sacrifices to Juno.
 - He has made an alliance with King Latinus.
 - The promised wife, Lavinia, will soon be his.
 - But Lavinia's mother has other plans, which are another betrothal to a native prince.
 - Juno must play her last card.
 - She tried death (storms)
 - She tried love (Dido)
 - Now she tries Allecto – Fury embodied.
- Amata
 - Amata is a worried mother.
 - She wanted her daughter to marry Turnus.
 - Allecto already finds Amata worried and troubled – an easy target.
 - The snakes are back.
 - Allecto inspires terror as a snake-flinging gorgon.
 - There is a repeated image of the Bacchae.
 - Thus, we are again connected to Dido and again to Agave (Bacchae), whose rage drove her to kill her son Pentheus.
- Turnus, former betrothed
 - Allecto's first approach to Turnus:
 - Allecto approaches Turnus disguised as Calybe, an aged priestess to Juno.
 - She asks, "Do you see what is happening?" "Do you see how you've lost your bride and the kingdom?"
 - Turnus' first response:
 - This young man mocking the priestess thus in reply offers his purpose from his mouth.



- He says that her place is in the temple, we men will decide matters of war.
- Turnus understands “the law of nature and nations” this is an informal political alliance, King Latinus (Lavinia’s father has the right.
- Allecto Fury personified
 - Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned - especially a goddess.
 - How will pious Aeneas respond to Turnus (a foe) who has Allecto’s fury raging within him?