

**OVERVIEW OF THE *CARMINA MINORA* (POEMS TO BE DISCUSSED ARE SHADED)**

Poem #	Hall Title	# of Lines	Meter
1	Ad Stilichonem	12	Anapestic Dimeter
2	Descriptio Portus Zmyrnensis	5	Hexameter
3	Ad Aeternalem	4	Hexameter
4	Descriptio Armenti	12	Elegiac Distich
5	'Est in secessu longo locus'	4	Hexameter
6	'Rimanti telum ira facit'	4	Elegiac Distich
7	De quadriga marmorea	4	Hexameter
7		4	Hexameter
8	De Polycaste et Perdicca	6	Hexameter
9	Hystrix	48	Elegiac Distich
10	De Birro Castoreo	4	Elegiac Distich
11	In Sepulchrum Speciosae	4	Elegiac Distich
12	De Balneis Quintianis Quae in Via Posita Erant	4	Elegiac Distich
13	In Podagrum Qui Carmina Sua Non Stare Dicebat	4	Elegiac Distich
14	Ad Maximum	2	Elegiac Distich
15	De Paupere Amante	2	Elegiac Distich
16	De Eodem	2	Elegiac Distich
17	De Piis Fratribus et De Statuis Eorum Quae Sunt Apud Catinam	48	Elegiac Distich
18	De Mulabus Gallicis	20	Elegiac Distich
19	Epistula ad Gennadium Ex Proconsule	8	Elegiac Distich
20	De Sene Veronensi Qui Suburbium Suum Numquam Egressus Est	22	Elegiac Distich
21	De Theodoro et Hadriano	4	Elegiac Distich
22	Deprecatio ad Hadrianum	58	Hexameter
23	Deprecatio ad Alethium Quaestorem	20	Elegiac Distich
24	De Locusta	4	Hexameter

Poem #	Hall Title	# of Lines	Meter
25	Epithalamium (praef.)	8	Elegiac Distich
25	Epithalamium Dictum Palladio V. C. Tribuno et Notario et Celerinae	145	Hexameter
26	Aponus	100	Elegiac Distich
27	Phoenix	110	Hexameter
28	Nilus	42	Hexameter
29	Magnes	57	Hexameter
30	Laus Serenae	236	Hexameter
31	Epistula ad Serenam	62	Elegiac Distich
32	De Salvatore	21	Hexameter
33	De Crystallo Cui Aqua Inerat	4	Elegiac Distich
34	De Eodem	8	Elegiac Distich
35	De Eodem	6	Elegiac Distich
36	De Eodem	6	Elegiac Distich
37	De Eodem	8	Elegiac Distich
38	De Eodem	6	Elegiac Distich
39	De Eodem	4	Elegiac Distich
40	Epistula ad Olybrium	24	Elegiac Distich
41	Epistula ad Probinum	18	Elegiac Distich
42	De Apro et Leone	4	Elegiac Distich
43	In Curetium	10	Elegiac Distich
44	In Eundem	8	Elegiac Distich
45	De Concha Serenae	4	Elegiac Distich
46	De Chlamyde et Frenis Equi Honorio Augusto a Serena Missis	15	Hexameter
47	De Freno Phaleris et Cingulo Equi Honorio Augusto a Serena Missis	15	Hexameter
48	De Zona Equi Arcadio Augusto a Serena Miisa	12	Elegiac Distich
49	Torpedo	25	Hexameter
50	In Iacobum Magistrum Equitum	14	Elegiac Distich
51	In Sphaeram Archimedis	14	Elegiac Distich
52A/B	De Lanario	1/1	Hexameter
53	Gigantomachia	128	Hexameter

**Passage 1: *C.m.* 3**

“Phoebus’ every breath from the Castalian spring, the tripod’s every moan within the shrine of prophecy – all these are poems. Common words the Muses reject. I speak only poems. This is how my Apollo inspires me.”

**Passage 2: *C.m.* 40.1-3**

“What am I to think, that you send me no greeting, that no ‘Good wishes’ traced by your fingers come back to me in turn? Is writing so difficult?”

**Passage 3: *C.m.* 41.1-4**

“How long, pray, shall there be silence between us? When shall a welcome letter (*littera*) win a dear return? Is it right to call me timid, or rather you proud?”

**Passage 4: A bifurcated allusion to Ovid *Ex Ponto* 4.2**

*Pont.* 4.2.6: ire per alternas officiosa vices

*C.m.* 40.2: nec redit alternus pollice ducta salus?

*C.m.* 41.2: Quando dabit caras littera grata vices?

**Passage 5: *C.m.* 22.1-5**

“Must the violence of your anger last so long? Are my tears never to cease to flow? Do you now suddenly turn favor to hatred? Where, then is the leniency that knows not to harm any, that loving-kindness? Shall envy have such license? Has the clamor of so great calumny prevailed?”

**Passage 6: *C.m.* 19.5-8**

“So, you ask for poems to appease your ravenous throat? By our friendship, I swear there are none at home. My verses soon learn to trust their own wings and leave the nest, flying far afield and never returning to their humble home.”

**Passage 7: An allusion to Ausonius Ep. 18.31 in *c.m.* 19.1**

Aus. Ep. 13.31: Cecropiae commune decus Latiaeque camenae

Cl. *c.m.* 19.1: Italiae commune decus Rubiconis amoeni

**CHART 2: VERBAL SIMILARITIES BETWEEN *C.M.* 40, 41, AND OVID *EX PONTO* 4.2**

<i>C.m.</i> 40	Ovid <i>Ex Ponto</i> 4.2
v. 2: pollice ducta	v. 24: ducitur et digitis
2: ullos	31: ullos
3: scribendi	29: scribendi
4: carmina	8: carmina; 13, 24: carmen
5: cedere	48: cedit
7: rarus	24: rara
7: scripta	37: scripta
7: tempore	42: tempus
8: nullo	12, 34: nulli; 29: nulla
8: cessant	5: cessavit
9: fluat	20: fluit
9: ingenium	15: ingenium
9: dicta	4: dicere; 29: dicam
10: causa	14: causa
11: credere	22: crede
11: vatem	1: vates; 25: vatum
15: Geticis	2: Getis; 22: Getes
17: nostros	3: nostros
19: age	29: agam
20: fertiliore	11: fertile
21: littera	24: littera
24: Musa	27: Musa

<i>C.m.</i> 41	Ovid <i>Ex Ponto</i> 4.2
v. 2: vices	v. 5 vices
4: tenet	41: tenet
5: dies	40: diem
6: usque	2: usque
7: agam	39: agam
9: iuvat	30: iuvat
9: vatis	1: vates; 25: vatum
13: bibimus	47: bibitur
13: fontes	18: fonte
15: cepi	31: cepimus

**C.M. 3. (AD AETERNALEM)**

Quidquid Castalio de gurgite Phoebus anhelat,  
quidquid fatidico mugit cortina recessu,  
carmina sunt, sed verba negant communia Musae.  
Carmina sola loquor: sic meus me inflavit Apollo.

**C.M. 19. EPISTVLA (AD GENNADIVM)**

Italiae commune decus, Rubiconis amoeni  
incola, Romani fama secunda fori,  
Graiorum populis et nostro cognite Nilo  
(utraque gens fascas horret amatque tuos),  
carmina ieiunas poscis solantia fauces?  
Testor amicitiam nulla fuisse domi.  
Nam mihi mox nidum pinnis confisa relinquunt  
et lare contempto non reditura volant.

**C.M. 22. DEPRECATIO (AD HADRIANVM)**

Vsque adeone tuae producitur impetus irae?  
Nullus erit finis lacrimis? Subitisne favorem  
permutas odiis? Quo mens ignara nocendi,  
quo sensus abiere pii? Tantumne licebit  
invidiae? Tantum strepitus valuere maligni?  
Me dolor incautus, me lubrica duxerit aetas,  
me tumor inpulerit, me devius egerit ardor:  
te tamen haud decuit paribus concurrere telis.  
Humanae superos numquam tetigere querellae  
nec vaga securum penetrant convicia caelum.  
Excessit iam poena modum. Concede iacenti.  
En adsum; veniam confessus crimina posco.  
Manibus Hectoreis atrox ignovit Achilles;  
ultrices Furias matris placavit Orestes;  
reddidit Alcides Priamo, quas ceperat, arces.  
Pellaeum iuvenem regum flexere ruinae:  
Dareum famuli manibus doluisse peremptum  
fertur et ingenti solatus fata sepulchro;  
tradita captivo spatiosior India Poro.  
Conditor hic patriae; sic hostibus ille pepercit;  
hunc virtus tua digna sequi. Quemcumque deorum  
laesimus, insultet iugulo pascatur furorem.  
Gratia defluxit, sequitur feralis egestas;  
desolata domus, caris spoliatur amicis:  
hunc tormenta necant, hic undique truditur exul.  
Quid superest damnis? Quae saeva pericula restant?  
Emollit rabiem praedae mortisque facultas.  
Praetereunt subiecta ferae, torvique leones,  
quae stravisse vident, eadem prostrata relinquunt  
nec nisi bellantis gaudent cervice iuveni  
nobiliore fame. Secuit nascentia vota  
livor et ingesto turbavit gaudia luctu:  
iamiam supplicis fessos humilesque serenus  
respice. Quid tanta dignaris mole clientem?  
In brevibus numquam sese probat Aeolus undis,  
nec capit angustus Boreae certamina collis:  
Alpes ille quatit, Rhodopeia culmina lassat.  
Incubuit numquam caelestis flamma salictis  
nec parvi frutices iram meruere Tonantis:

ingentes quercus, annosas fulminat ornos. 40  
Hoc pro supplicibus ramis, pro fronde Minervae,  
hoc carmen pro ture damus. Miserere tuorum.  
Me, precor, heu, me redde mihi gravibusque medere  
vulneribus vitamque iube famamque reverti.  
Quae per te cecidit, per te fortuna resurgat. 45  
Sanus Achilleis remeavit Telephus herbis,  
cuius pertulerat vires, et sensit in uno  
letalem placidamque manum: medicina per hostem  
contigit, et pepulit quos fecerat ipse dolores.  
Quod si nec precibus fletu nec frangeris ullo, 50  
eripe calcatis non prospera cingula Musis,  
eripe militiam, comitem me pelle sodali.  
Scilicet insignis de paupere vate triumphus!  
Scilicet egregiis ornabere victor opimis!  
Inruat in miseros cognata potentia cives; 55  
audiat haec commune solum longeque carinis  
nota Pharos, flentemque attollens gurgite vultum  
nostra gemat Nilus numerosis funera ripis.

**C.M. 31. EPISTULA AD SERENAM**

Orphea cum primae sociarent numina taedae  
ruraque conpleret Thracia festus Hymen,  
certavere ferae picturataeque volucres  
dona suo vati quae potiora darent,  
quippe antri memores, cautes ubi saepe sonorae 5  
praebuerant dulci mira theatra lyrae:  
Caucaseo crystallae ferunt de vertice lynces,  
grypes Hyperborei pondera fulva soli;  
furatae Veneris prato per inane columbae  
floreae conexis sarta tulere rosis, 10  
fractaque nobilium ramis electra sororum  
cycnus oloriferi vexit ab amne Padi,  
et Nilo Pygmaea grues post bella remenso  
ore legunt rubri germina cara maris;  
venit et extremo Phoenix longaevis ab Euro 15  
adportans unco cinnama rara pede:  
nulla avium pecudumque fuit quae ferre negaret  
vectigal merita conubiale lyrae.  
Tunc opibus totoque Heliconis sedula regno  
ornabat propriam Calliopea nurum. 20  
Ipsam praeterea dominam stellantis Olympi  
ad nati thalamos ausa rogare parens.  
Nec sprevit regina deum, vel matris honore  
vel iusto vatis ducta favore pii,  
qui sibi carminibus totiens lustraverat aras 25  
Iunonis blanda numina voce canens  
proeliaque altisoni referens Phlegraeae mariti,  
Titanum fractas Enceladique minas.  
Ilicet adventu noctem dignata iugalem  
addidit augendis munera sacra toris, 30  
munera mortales non admittentia cultus,  
munera quae solos fas habuisse deos.  
Sed quod Threicio Iuno placabilis Orphei,  
hoc poteris votis esse, Serena, meis.  
Illius expectant famulantia sidera nutum: 35  
sub pedibus regitur terra fretumque tuis.  
Non ego, cum peterem, sollempni more procorum (cont.)

promisi gregibus pasqua plena meis,  
nec quod mille mihi lateant sub palmite colles  
fluctuet et glauca pinguis oliva coma, 40  
nec quod nostra Ceres numerosa falce laboret  
aurataeque ferant culmina celsa trabes.  
Suffecit mandasse deam: tua littera nobis  
et pecus et segetes et domus ampla fuit.  
Inflexit soceros et maiestate petendi 45  
textit pauperiem nominis umbra tui.  
Quid non perficeret scribentis voce Serenae  
vel genius regni vel pietatis amor?  
Atque utinam sub luce tui contingeret oris  
coniugis et castris et solio generi 50  
optatum celebrare diem! Me iungeret auspex  
purpura, me sancto cingeret aula choro,  
et mihi quam scriptis desponderat ante puellam  
coniugis eadem pronuba dextra daret.  
Nunc medium quoniam votis maioribus aequor 55  
invidet et Lybicae dissidet ora plagae,  
saltem absens, regina, fave reditusque secundos  
adnue sidereo laeta supercilio.  
Terrarum tu pande vias, tu mitibus Euris  
aequora pacari prosperiora iube, 60  
ut tibi Pierides doctumque fluens Aganippe  
debita servato vota cliente canat.

#### C.M. 40. EPISTVLA AD OLYBRIVM

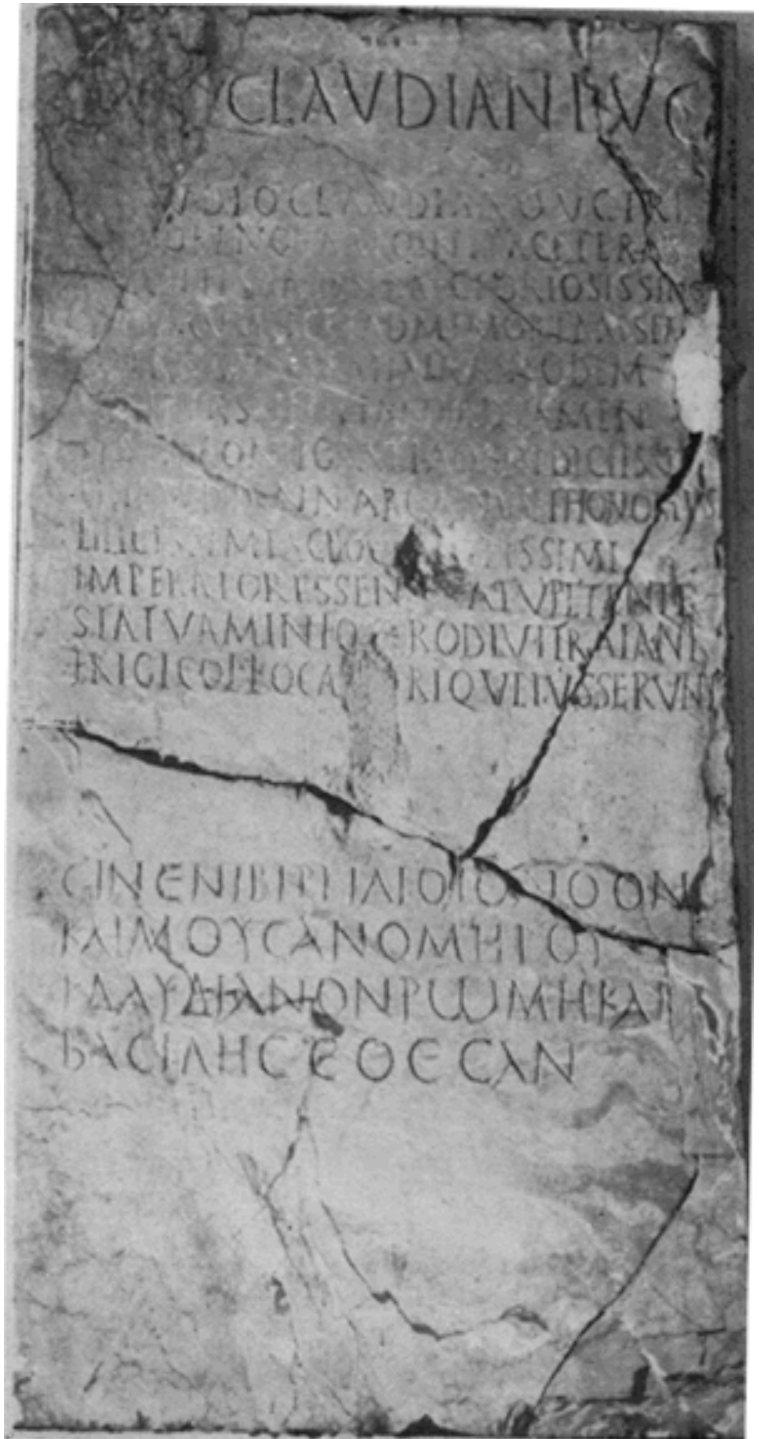
Quid rear, adfatus quod non mihi derigis ullos  
nec redit alterno pollice ducta salus?  
Scribendine labor? Sed cui tam prona facultas,  
carmina seu fundis seu Cicerone tonas?  
Cedere divitiis animi fortuna fatetur 5  
et tantas oris copia vincit opes.  
An rarus qui scripta ferat? Quin tempore nullo  
cessant Flaminiae pulverulenta viae.  
Cum fluat ingenium, cum sit qui dicta reportet,  
quae, nisi contemnor, causa relicta tibi? 10  
Despicis ergo tuum, si fas est credere, vatem,  
perfidus et spatio debilitatur amor?  
Excidimusne tibi? Lucem iam condet Hydaspes  
et Tartesiaco, Sol, oriere vado,  
candescet Geticis Meroe conversa pruinis 15  
claraque se vetito proluet Ursa mari,  
et, si iam nostros fastidit Olybrius ignes,  
constat Oresteam nil valuisse fidem.  
Quin age rumpe moras solaturusque sodalem  
absens eloquio fertiliore doce, 20  
crebraque facundo festinet littera cursu  
libris atque animis insinuanda meis.  
Dignatus tenui Caesar scripsisse Maroni.  
Nec tibi dedecori sit mea Musa. Vale.

#### C.M. 41. EPISTVLA AD PROBINVM

Quem, precor, inter nos habitura silentia finem?  
Quando dabit caras littera grata vices?  
Me timidum vel te potius dixisse superbum  
convenit? Alterius crimen utrumque tenet. 5  
Transfluxere dies et, dum scripsisse priorem  
paenitet, aeternas itur in usque moras.  
Sed quid agam? Coepisse vetat reverentia vestri:  
hinc amor hortatur scribere. Vincat amor.  
"Fors iuvat audentes" prisci sententia vatis. 10  
Hac duce non dubitem te reticente loqui,  
audax ut, si quid penitus peccasse videbor,  
arguar, ingrati non subiturus onus.  
Romanos bibimus primum te consule fontes  
et Latiae cessit Graia Thalia togae, 15  
incipiensque tuis a fascibus omina cepi  
fataque debebo posteriora tibi.  
Ergo laccessitus tandem rescribe roganti,  
et patria florens sorte, Probine, vale.

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Bilingual Inscription Dedicated to Claudian  
in the Forum of Trajan in 400 CE

**CHRONOLOGIA CLAUDIANEA**  
(After Cameron 1970)

- 370? CE **Birth of Claudian in Egypt**
- 392-394? Travel in East  
Greek *Patria*  
Arrival in Constantinople
- 394 Battle of Frigidus  
**Claudian arrives in Rome**
- 395 Recitation of *Prob.* @ ROME  
Death of Theodosius in Milan  
Murder of Rufinus in Constantinople
- 396 *3Hon* Recitation @ MILAN
- 396/7? *C.m.* 40, 41 (*Epistulae ad Olyb. & Prob.*)?  
*Rapt.* 1
- 397 *C.m.* 21 (*De Theodoro et Hadriano*)  
*C.m.* 22 (*Deprecatio ad Hadrianum*)  
*Ruf.* 1 recited @ MILAN  
Stilicho's expedition to Peloponnese  
Stilicho declared *hostis publicus*  
*Ruf.* 2 recited @ MILAN  
Mascezel sails to Africa
- 398 *4Hon* recited @ MILAN  
*Fesc.* 1-4; *Nupt.* recited @ MILAN  
*Gild.* recited @ MILAN
- 399 *Theod.* recited @ MILAN  
*Eutr.* 1 recited @ MILAN  
*Eutr.* 2 recited @ MILAN
- 400 *Stil.* 1-2 recited @ MILAN  
*Stil.* 3 recited @ ROME  
**Bronze statue of Claudian erected in the Forum of Trajan in ROME**
- 400/401 **Cl.'s marriage & honeymoon in AFRICA**  
*C.m.* 31 (*Epistulae ad Serenam*)
- 401/402 *C.m.* 50 (*In Iacobum*)
- 402 Battle of Pollentia  
*Bell. Get.* recited @ ROME
- 400-02? *Rapt.* 2-3
- 404 *6Hon* recited @ ROME
- 404? *C.m.* 30 (*Laus Serenae*) begun  
Latin *Gigantomachia* begun (*C.m.* 53)  
**Death of Claudian**

**CLAUDIANI CARMINA**

**Invectives**

- Ruf.* - *Against Rufinus* (2 Bks – 934 v.)  
*Eutr.* - *Against Eutropius* (2 Bks – 1191 v.)  
*Gild.* - *Against Gildo* (526 v.)  
*Bell. Get.* - *On the Gothic War* (665 v.)

**Panegyrics**

- Prob.* - *For the consuls Probinus and Olybrius* (279 v.)  
*3Hon.* - *For the 3<sup>rd</sup> consulship of Honorius* (229 v.)  
*4Hon.* - *For the 4<sup>th</sup> consulship of Honorius* (656 v.)  
*Theod.* - *For the consulship of Manlius Theodorus* (360 v.)  
*6Hon.* - *For the 6<sup>th</sup> consulship of Honorius* (686 v.)  
*Stil.* - *On Stilicho's consulship* (3 Bks – 1254 v.)

**Epithalamia**

- Fesc.* - *Fescennina de Nuptiis Honorii Augusti* (4 in lyric meters – 135v.)  
*Nupt.* - *Epithalamium de Nuptiis Honorii Augusti* (363 v.)

**Unfinished Mythological Epics**

- Rapt.* - *De raptu Proserpinae* (3 Bks; unfinished; 1172 v.)  
*Gigantomachia* (unfinished (preserved in *c.m.*; 128 v.)

**Carmina minora (C.m. or Carm. Min.)**

54 poems in hexameters and elegiacs between 2 and 236 lines; includes epigrams, panegyrics, epithalamium, invectives, and epistles; topics include the Nile, Phoenix, statues, porcupine, lobster, coat, statues, natural wonders, and scientific curiosities. *Fescennina* 3 often copied in initial position.

**Appendix Claudiana (App.)**

Collection of 26 poems and titles on topics similar to the *Carmina Minora* excluded for various reasons by Birt 1892; notable for the incomplete *Laus Herculis*, and assorted Christian and non-Christian hymns. *App.* 4, 9, and 10 are probably authentic; all but *App.* 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (because of irreconcilable metrical deficiencies) could be authentic.

**Greek works (Gig. and Ep.)**

94 lines of a *Gigantomachy* (in 2 fragments); 7 short epigrams, some undoubtedly spurious.

**Additional Information on Claudian, Texts, and Resources Available at:**

<http://homepage.mac.com/bmulligan/classics/Claudian/claudian.html>