

Horace *Satires* 1.9.1-19

Horace encounters an acquaintance as he is strolling about Rome. The man engages him in small talk, but Horace, although answering politely at first, is keen to escape the man's attentions, and so he hurries up, but stops occasionally to whisper to his slave. Despite Horace's lack of engagement, the man prattles on, determined to keep up with Horace. Finally Horace tries to shake him off by saying that he intends going some distance, but the man is not deterred.

Ībam forte Viā Sacrā, sīcut meus est mōs,
nesciō quid meditāns nūgārum, tōtus in illīs.
accurrit quīdam nōtus mihi nōmine tantum,
arreptāque manū, 'quid agis, dulcissime rērum?'
'suāviter, ut nunc est,' inquam 'et cupiō omnia quae vīs.' 5

Cum adsectārētur, 'num quid vīs?' occupō. at ille,
'nōris nōs,' inquit; 'doctī sumus.' hīc ego, 'plūris
hoc,' inquam, 'mihi eris.' miserē discēdere quaerēns,
īre modo ōcius, interdum cōsistere, in aurem
dīcere nesciō quid puerō, cum sūdor ad īmōs 10
mānāret tālōs. 'ō tē, Bollane, cerebrī
felicem!' aiēbam tacitus, cum quidlibet ille
garrīret, vīcōs, urbem laudāret.

Ut illī

nīl respondēbam, 'miserē cupis,' inquit, 'abīre:
iamdūdum videō; sed nīl agis: usque tenēbō; 15
persequar hinc quō nunc iter est tibi.' 'nil opus est tē

circumagī: quendam volō vīsere nōn tibi nōtum;

trāns Tiberim longē cubat is, prope Caesaris hortōs.'

'nīl habeō quod agam et nōn sum piger: usque sequar tē.'

Vocabulary

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| adsector, -ārī, -ātus sum | follow closely |
| arripiō, -ere, -uī, -eptum | seize, take hold of |
| cerebrum, -ī n. | temper, understanding |
| cubō (1 st) | be in bed |
| iamdūdum | for a long time |
| māno (1 st) | drip |
| nōscō, -ere, nōvī, nōtum | know |
| nūgae, -ārum f. | nonsense |
| miserē | pitifully |
| occupō (1 st) | get in first |
| ōcius | more quickly |
| piger, -rī | slow, slack |
| sūdor, -ōris, m. | sweat |
| tālus, -ī m. | ankle |
| tōtus-a-um | completely taken up with |