

# POENICA PURPURĀRIA

Revised Edition

LANCE PIANTAGGINI

Illustrated by

Lauren Aczon, Chloe Deeley,  
and Lance Piantaggini



# STORYBASE

• BOOKS •

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# I Poenica



Poenica purpurāria<sup>1</sup> est.  
Poenicae placent colōrēs.

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<sup>1</sup> **purpurāria** a purple-dyer. Also, “Poenica” is another word for a Phoenician, people widely known for their purple. So, “Poenica purpurāria” can mean “the purple person who purples!”

Poenicae multī colōrēs placent.  
sed, Poenicae colōrēs purpureī valdē placent.

colōrēs purpureī extraōrdinārii sunt.  
colōrēs purpureī sunt vīvidī—nōn—vīviDISSIMĪ!



Poenica togās purpurat.  
Poenica togās excellenter  
purpurat. Rōmānīs valdē  
placent colōrēs purpureī.

Rōmānī volunt togās purpureās.



sed, colōrēs purpureī pretiōsī sunt. multī Rōmānī purpureās togās nōn gerunt.

Poenica est purpurāria extraōrdināria. Poenica est caeca (i.e., Poenica nōn potest vidēre).

Poenica vidēre nōn potest. sed, Poenica purpurāria excellēns est.

Poenica est purpurāria excellēns et extraōrdināria.

sed, Poenica vult esse fūnambula!<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> **fūnambula** *tightrope walker* (**fūnis** + **ambulāre** *rope* + *walk*)



## About Storybase Books

Storybase Books publishes books that help beginners learn Latin and Greek by reading.

Our novellas use limited vocabulary to tell engaging stories that are accessible to novice- and intermediate-level readers. Meanings for many words are provided in footnotes and a full index of all words, word forms, and phrases is included in each novella. Readers can thus read each novella on their own, with others, or with a class.

For all of our novellas, tiered readers, and other books, please visit:

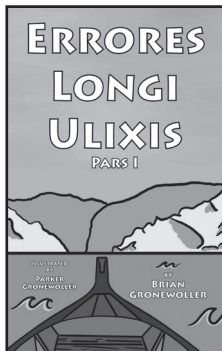
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## Novellas for Latin I

### Ego, Polyphemus

by Andrew Olimpi

Polyphemus the Cyclops' life is pretty simple: he looks after his sheep, hangs out in his cave, writes (horrible) poetry, and eats his cheese . . . until one day a ship arrives on his peaceful island, bringing with it invaders and turning his peaceful world upside down.



### Errores Longi Ulixis, Pars I

by Brian Gronewoller

Illustrated by Parker Gronewoller

After ten years of war the Greeks have finally conquered Troy and are ready to sail home. Their actions following the victory, however, have angered Neptune and Minerva. And Odysseus (Ulysses), Eurylochus, and Elpenor are about to learn that angry gods and goddesses can turn a brief cruise across the Mediterranean into a long adventure as they wander through unknown lands filled with strange fruit, cannibals, and monsters.

### Agrippina Auriga

by Lance Piantaggini

Illustrated by Chloe Deeley

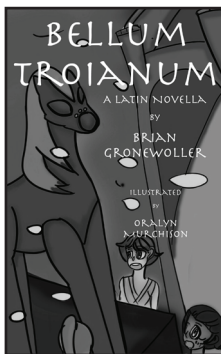
Young Agrippina wants to race chariots, but a small girl from Lusitania couldn't possibly do that . . . could she?!

After a victorious race in the stadium of Emerita, the local crowd-favorite charioteer, Gaius Appuleius Dicloes, runs into trouble . . . and it's up to Agrippina to step into much bigger shoes. Can she take on the reins in this equine escapade?





## Novellas for Latin II



### Bellum Troianum

by Brian Gronewoller

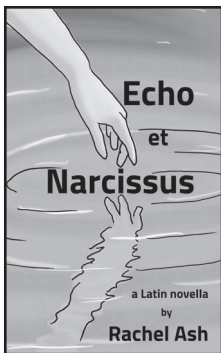
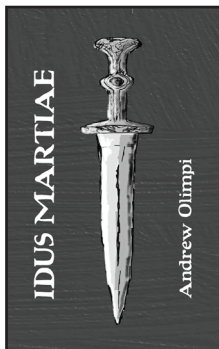
Illustrated by Orallyn Murchison

The gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus are enjoying themselves at a party when, suddenly, an apple addressed "to the most beautiful" appears in their midst. The ensuing fight for the apple between Juno, Minerva, and Venus soon spills over to earth and pulls Paris, Helen, Menelaus, Agamemnon, Hector, and Achilles into ten years of war between Greece and Troy.

### Idus Martiae

by Andrew Olimpi

It's 44 BC, and strange things are happening in Rome. A sacrificed bull is found to have no heart. Senators are meeting in houses secretly, speaking in whispers and hiding in the shadows. A soothsayer is warning people in the streets to "beware the Ides of March." Mysterious boxes are beginning to turn up . . . containing daggers. Pompeia, her brother Cornelius, and her friend Roscus set out to investigate these strange happenings and soon find themselves entangled in a web of intrigue, deception . . . and murder!



### Echo et Narcissus

by Rachel Ash

Echo is a people pleaser who takes her gift of gab too far. Narcissus is so beautiful, even he can't stand it. What happens when these two cross paths?

Inspired by the events in the third book of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, this novella is perfect for beginning Latin readers.

## Novellas for Latin III and Up

### Camilla, 2nd ed.

by Rachel Ash  
Illustrated by Maggie Xia

Camilla runs with the nymphs and hunts better than most men. She is nearly invincible in the battlefield, and it seems she cannot miss with either arrow or spear. Raised in the woods by her father, only her great beauty sets her apart from the men she fights beside.

Camilla's fate, like her father's, is bound in the quest for glory. She can remain home, companion to the goddess Diana, or seek to become part of a legend. What will Camilla choose?



### Perpetua et Felicitas

by Brian Gronewoller  
Illustrated by Miles Cleveland

Perpetua and Felicity are young women living in Roman North Africa with their whole lives ahead of them . . . until they find themselves in a Roman prison cell.

Based on the *Passio Perpetuae et Felicitatis* (*The Passion of Perpetua and Felicity*), one of the most influential and famous martyr narratives in the Christian tradition, this Latin novella reimagines their stories for low- to mid-intermediate readers of Latin.

### Vox in Tenebris

by Andrew Olimpi

Lucanus, a Roman citizen travelling through Greece, has a big problem: he is far from home, broke, and desperate to make some quick money.

A job opportunity soon comes his way, with a big reward: one hundred gold coins! The catch? Lucanus has to stay up all night with the dead body of a prominent citizen. Lucanus takes the job, even though he's heard the stories that citizens of the town whisper: tales of witches, ruthless and blood-thirsty, who wander the streets after the sun goes down.

