

Lupus et agnus Aesopi latine et vulgo

1. a. Aesop's Fables: Phaedrus
Book I - I. Lupus et Agnus (Perry 155)

Ad rivum eundem lupus et agnus venerant,
siti compulsi. Superior stabat lupus,
longeque inferior agnus. Tunc fauce improba
latro incitatus iurgii causam intulit;
'Cur' inquit 'turbulentam fecisti mihi
aquam bibenti?' Laniger contra timens
'Qui possum, quaeso, facere quod quereris, lupe?
A te decurrit ad meos haustus liquor'.
Repulsus ille veritatis viribus
'Ante hos sex menses male' ait 'dixisti mihi'.
Respondit agnus 'Equidem natus non eram'.
'Pater hercle tuus' ille inquit 'male dixit mihi';
atque ita correptum lacerat iniusta nece.
Haec propter illos scripta est homines fabula
qui fictis causis innocentes opprimunt.

1. b .THE WOLF AND THE LAMB

A wolf once saw a lamb who had wandered away from the flock. He did not want to rush upon the lamb and seize him violently. Instead, he sought a reasonable complaint to justify his hatred. 'You insulted me last year, when you were small' said the wolf. The lamb replied, 'How could I have insulted you last year? I'm not even a year old.' The wolf continued, 'Well, are you not cropping the grass of this field which belongs to me?' The lamb said, 'No, I haven't eaten any grass; I have not even begun to graze.' Finally the wolf exclaimed, 'But didn't you drink from the fountain which I drink from?' The lamb answered, 'It is my mother's breast that gives me my drink.' The wolf then seized the lamb and as he chewed he said, 'You are not going to make this wolf go without his dinner, even if you are able to easily refute every one of my charges!'

La Fontaine

1. c. Der Wolf und das Lamm

Des Stärkren Recht ist stets das beste Recht gewesen -
ihr sollt's in dieser Fabel lesen.
Ein Lamm löscht' einst an Baches Rand
den Durst in dessen klarer Welle.
Ein Wolf, ganz nüchtern noch, kommt an die Stelle,
sein gier'ger Sinn nach guter Beute stand.
"Wie kannst du meinen Trank zu trüben dich erfrechen?"
begann der Wüterich zu sprechen.
"Die Unverschämtheit sollst du büßen, und sogleich!"
"Eu'r Hoheit brauchte", sagt' vor Schrecken bleich,
das Lamm, "darum sich nicht so aufzuregen!"

Wollt doch nur gütigst überlegen,
 daß an dem Platz, den ich erwählt,
 von Euch gezählt,
 ich zwanzig Schritt stromabwärts stehe;
 daß folglich Euren Trank - seht's Euch nur an -
 ich ganz unmöglich trüben kann."
 "Du trübst ihn dennoch!" sprach er. "Wie ich sehe,
 bist du's auch, der auf mich geschimpft voriges Jahr!"
 "Wie? Ich geschimpft, da ich noch nicht geboren war?
 Die Mutter säugt mich noch, fragt nach im Stalle."
 "Dein Bruder war's in diesem Falle!".
 "Ich habe keinen!" - "Dann war's dein Vetter! Und
 ihr hetzt mich und verfolgt mich alle,
 ihr, euer Hirt und euer Hund.
 Ja, rächen muß ich mich, wie alle sagen!"
 Er packt das Lamm, zum Walde schleppt er's drauf,
 und ohne nach dem Recht zu fragen,
 frißt er das arme Lämmlein auf.

1.d. El lobo y el cordero en el arroyo

Miraba un lobo a un cordero que bebía en un arroyo, e imaginó un simple pretexto a fin de devorarlo. Así, aún estando él más arriba en el curso del arroyo, le acusó de enturbiarle el agua, impidiéndole beber. Y le respondió el cordero:
 -- Pero si sólo bebo con la punta de los labios, y además estoy más abajo y por eso no te puedo enturbiar el agua que tienes allá arriba.
 Viéndose el lobo burlado, insistió:
 -- El año pasado injuriaste a mis padres.
 -- ¡ Pero en ese entonces ni siquiera había nacido yo ! --
 contestó el cordero.
 Dijo entonces el lobo:
 -- Ya veo que te justificas muy bien, mas no por eso te dejaré ir, y siempre serás mi cena. Para quien hacer el mal es su profesión, de nada valen argumentos para no hacerlo. No te acerques nunca donde los malvados.

1.e. The Wolf and the Lamb (trans. C. Smart)

BY thirst incited; to the brook
 The Wolf and Lamb themselves betook.
 The Wolf high up the current drank,
 The Lamb far lower down the bank.
 Then, bent his ravenous maw to cram,
 The Wolf took umbrage at the Lamb.
 "How dare you trouble all the flood,
 And mingle my good drink with mud?"
 "Sir," says the Lambkin, sore afraid,
 "How should I act, as you upbraid?
 The thing you mention cannot be,

The stream descends from you to me."
Abash'd by facts, says he, " I know
'Tis now exact six months ago
You strove my honest fame to blot"-
"Six months ago, sir, I was not."
"Then 'twas th' old ram thy sire," he cried,
And so he tore him, till he died.
To those this fable I address
Who are determined to oppress,
And trump up any false pretence,
But they will injure innocence
Aesop's Fables (Chambry edition)
Chambry 221 = Perry 155

1.f. Le Loup et l'Agneau

La raison du plus fort est toujours la meilleure :
Nous l'allons montrer tout à l'heure.
Un Agneau se désaltérait
Dans le courant d'une onde pure.
Un Loup survient à jeun qui cherchait aventure,
Et que la faim en ces lieux attirait.
Qui te rend si hardi de troubler mon breuvage ?
Dit cet animal plein de rage :
Tu seras châtié de ta témérité.
- Sire, répond l'Agneau, que votre Majesté
Ne se mette pas en colère ;
Mais plutôt qu'elle considère
Que je me vas désaltérant
Dans le courant,
Plus de vingt pas au-dessous d'Elle,
Et que par conséquent, en aucune façon,
Je ne puis troubler sa boisson.
- Tu la troubles, reprit cette bête cruelle,
Et je sais que de moi tu médis l'an passé.
- Comment l'aurais-je fait si je n'étais pas né ?
Reprit l'Agneau, je tette encor ma mère.
- Si ce n'est toi, c'est donc ton frère.
- Je n'en ai point. - C'est donc quelqu'un des tiens :
Car vous ne m'épargnez guère,
Vous, vos bergers, et vos chiens.
On me l'a dit : il faut que je me venge.
Là-dessus, au fond des forêts
Le Loup l'emporte, et puis le mange,
Sans autre forme de procès.

1.g. The Wolf and the Lamb

The strongest is always right.
 We will prove it shortly
 A Lamb was quenching it's thirst
 In a clear stream;
 A starving Wolf suddenly appears, looking for a meal,
 Brought here by hunger.
 "How dare you foul my water hole?
 Said the Wolf full of righteous fury:
 -You will be chastised for you temerity.
 -Sire, replies the Lamb, Your Majesty
 Need not be angry;
 But rather consider
 That I am drinking
 More than twenty feet
 Downstream from him;
 Therefore in no way
 Could I spoil his water.
 -Oh, yes you do, growled the cruel beast;
 And I heard that you spoke ill of me last year.
 -How could I, if I were not yet born?
 The Lamb persisted, I am still nursing.
 If it were not you, then it must have been your brother.
 -I don't have any. -Then it was one of your lot;
 Because you are always pestering me,
 You, your shepherds and your dogs.
 So I have been told: I must avenge myself."
 With that, deep in the forest,
 The Wolf carried off the Lamb, and ate it,
 Without further ado.

2. de lupo et agno (p. 565 in Hervieux; Perry 155).

Lupus et Agnus simul de rivo biberunt; sed Lupus erat in parte superiori et Agnus in inferiori.
 Lupus itaque, cum haustum fecerat, erexit se et dixit ad Agnum : Tu qui lanam in deceptioe
 portas, semper meis offensis insistis. Agnus vero, ad hanc vocem trepidus, timide respondit et
 humiliter : Domine potens et tremende, quare tam aspere michi loqueris innocenti? Quas enim
 offensas possem parvulus ego tibi inferre? Et Lupus ait : Tu turbas aquam, quod inde gustare
 non possum. Responditque Agnus : Mira sunt que dicis; quia, cum tu sis superius et ego
 inferius, quomodo possum tibi aquam turbare? Sed occasionem adversum me queris, sicut qui
 vult ab amico recedere. Tunc ergo exasperatus Lupus ait iterum : Tu minis (sic pro nimis) es
 garrulus et iurgia mecum multiplicare presumis, sicut pater tuus, qui, nondum transactis sex
 mensibus, de eodem in hoc loco michi servivit, quod in te merito redundabit. Et ait miser
 Agnus : Cur sic in me illas patris culpas refundis, qui nondum natus eram? Tunc raptor ait :
 Sic michi respondes in omnibus, et reclamare non cessas? Irruensque in eum, guttur eius
 crudeliter apprehendit et finem fecit verborum.
 [Moralitas.] Sic tyranni faciunt : cum innocentum res vel mortem cupiunt, sive iuste sive
 iniuste eos spoliunt et opprimunt.

The Latin text shown here is taken from Léopold Hervieux, *Les fabulistes latins depuis le siècle d'Auguste jusqu'à la fin du Moyen-Age (1893-1899)*. Volume 2.: *Phèdre et ses anciens imitateurs directs et indirects*, pp. 564-652.

Aesop's Fables: Romuli Nilantis Fabulae Metricae

2. de lupo et agno (p. 655 in Hervieux; Perry 155)

Ast iustum sontemque simul hec fabula tangit.
Improbis ecce lupus sitiens ac laniger agnus.
Currunt ad liquidas potantes fluminis undas;
Atque ferox, limphas lambens trux gurgitis altis,
Potanti dixit imis mitique bidenti :
Improbe, pollueras cunctos Mihi turbine fluctus.
Talia tunc tremulo depromsit pectore mitis
Agnus, lanigero commotus uiscere, narrans
Spumigeras possim quali nunc ordine limphas
Perturbare tuis currentes faucibus istuc?
Non tardansque ferus ueris opponere falsa,
Nunc agno dixit : Mihi tu male dicta reponis.
Corniger ast agnus respondit fame uera
Falsidico : Tibi nil spurcum iniustumue loquutus?
Horrisonisque lupus frendens ut dentibus ursus :
Sic genitorque tuus potantes fontibus istis
Audax perfecit mihi, trux conamine mentis,
Bis ternis uicibus lune nunc luce peracta.
Velliger enque bidens timido tunc ore ferebat :
Numquid natus eram molli tunc uiscere matris?
Raucifersique lupus iratus cordibus inquit :
Audacter faris, dicens hec, improbe latro.
Adprehenditque lupus rapidis tunc dentibus agnum;
Insontes auido consumpsit gutture carnes.
Sicque truces aliis dicunt fame falso,
Vt rapiant predam, uitam et luce redacta.

Ex Romulo Nilanti Ortae Fabulae Metricae from Hervieux, pp. 654-712.

24. DE LUPO ET AGNO BIBENTIBUS.

Perry 155

Contra opprimentes pauperes.

Lupus et Agnus biberunt de eodem riuulo, et ait Lupus: Quare turbas aquam meam? Et ait Agnus: Non turbo, quia uos bibitis superos, et aqua fluit de uobis ad me. Et ait Lupus: Maledicte, contradicis mihi, et es ita audax? Et statim deuorauit Agnum.
Ita diuites pro nulla causa, qualitercumque respondeant pauperes, ipsos deuorant.

Aesop's Fables: Ademar
3. LUPUS ET AGNUS
(Perry 155)

Lupus et Agnus ad riuum uenerunt. Superior Lupus, longe inferior Agnus. Tunc fauce improba latro incitatus iurgio dixit : Cur turbulentam fecisti mihi aquam? Laniger : Qui fieri potest, dum a te liquor decurrens ad meum os uenit? L[upus] : Ante hos sex menses maledixisti mihi. R[es]p[ondit] : Non eram natus. L[upus] : Pater tuus maledixit mihi. Et ita correptum lacerat iniuste.
Qui fictis causis innocentes opprimunt.

Aesop's Fables: Romuli Nilantis Fabulae Rhythmicae
Book 1.2: de agno et lupo (p. 715 in Hervieux; Perry 155)

Agnus Lupo socius ad flumen migrabat,
Et uterque sitiens potum postulabat.
Agnos stanti deorsum Lupus sursum stabat.
Tunc Lupus ore minax Agno fera verba tonabat.

Et respondit innocens, "Sed nunquam probatur.
Tuis, inquit, pedibus flumen perturbatur,
A te mihi defluens unda cum feratur.
Mox Lupus ipse fremit et talia verba profatur:

Maledicis, proditor, iam mihi bibenti,
Patri tuo similis sic mihi nocenti."
Et Agnus: "Non noceo sic tibi loquenti."
Sicque Lupo simplex Agnus fuit esurienti.

Moralitas.
Haec notat historia principes potentes,
Qui furunt in pauperes, humiles, egentes,
Et conculcant inopes, cum sint inpotentes,
Mortibus afficiunt et si quid habent rapientes.

Ex Romulo Nilantii Ortae Fabulae Rhythmicae from Léopold Hervieux, Les fabulistes latins, vol. 2 Phèdre et ses anciens imitateurs, directs et indirects (Paris, 1895; reprint, 1965), pp. 714-755, and also the readings in Thomas Wright's A Selection of Latin Stories, from Manuscripts of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries. London: 1842 (online).

Text as published in Boldrini, Sandro. *Uomini e bestie: le favole dell Aesopus latinus*. Lecce: Argo, 1994.

Aesop's Fables: Walter of England

Walter of England. Fable 2. De lupo et agno.

[Perry 155](#)

Est lupo, est agnus: sitit hic, sitit ille, fluentum
Limite non uno querit uterque siti.
In summo bibit amne lupo, bibit agnus in imo.
Hunc timor impugnat verba movente lupo:
"Rupisti potumque mihi rivoque decorem."
Agnus utrumque negat se ratione tuens:
"Nec tibi nec rivo nocui: nam prona supinum
Nescit iter nec adhuc unda nitore caret."
Sic iterum tonat ore lupo: "Mihi damna minaris?"
"Non minor," agnus ait. Cui lupo: "Immo facis;
Fecit idem tuus anter pater sex mensibus actis:
Cum bene patris, crimine patris obi."
Agnus ad hec: "Tanto non vixi tempore." Predo
Sic tonat: "An loqueris, furcifer?" huncque vorat.
Sic nocet innocuo nocuus, causamque nocendi
Invenit. Hi regnant qualibet urbe lupi.

Text as published in Boldrini, Sandro. *Uomini e bestie: le favole dell Aesopus latinus*. Lecce: Argo, 1994.

De lupo et agno.

St lupo/est agnus. sicut hic. sicut ille fluenti
Limite non equo querit uterque viam.
In summo bibit amne lupo: bibit agnus in amo.
Hunc timor impugnat: verba mouente lupo.
Rupisti porumque mihi/ruumque decorum.
Agnus utrumque negat/se ratione tuens.
Nec tibi/nec ruo nocui. nam prona/supernum
Hecit iter: nec adhuc vnda nitore caret.
Sic iterum tonat ore lupo. mihi damna minaris.
Non minor/agnus ait. Cui lupo: imo facis.
Fecit idem tuus ante pater sex mensibus actis.
Cum bene patris es: crimine patris obis.
Agnus ad hec. tanto non vixi tempore. predo
Hic tonat: an loqueris furcifer: huncque vorat.
Sic nocet innocuo nocuus. causamque nocendi
Inuenit. hi regnant qualibet vrbe lupi.

Sopos de innocente et improbo: talem retulit fabulam.
Agnus et lupo sicut es: ad riuum e diverso venerunt.
sursus bibebat lupo: longeq; inferior agnus. Lupo ut
agnu vidit: sic ait. turbasti mihi aqua bibenti. Agnus pa-

o ij

uens dixit: Quomodo aqua turbauit tibi: que ad me de te recurrit?
Lupo non erubuit veritate: ac maledicis mihi inquit: Agnus ait:
non maledixi tibi. Et lupo et ante sex menses ita pater tuus mihi fe-
cit. Agnus ait: nec ego tunc natus eram. Et lupo denuo ait: agrum
mihi pascendo denudasti. Agnus inquit: cum dentibus caream: quomo-
do id facere potui. Lupo demum ira commotus ait: licet tua nequeam
soluere argumeta: cenare in opipare intendo. agnumque cepit: innocen-
tius vitam eripuit ac maducauit. Fabula significat quod apud impro-
bos calumniatores: ratio et veritas non habent locum.

Aesop's Fables: Caxton (1484)

1.2. Of the wulf and of the lambe

(Perry 155)

/ Of the Innocent and of the shrewe Esope reherceth to vs suche a fable / how it was so / that the lambe and the wulf had bothe thurst / and went bothe to a Ryuer for to drynke / It happed that the wulf dranke aboue & the lambe dranke bynethe / And as the wulf sawe and perceyued the lambe / he sayd with a hyghe voys / Ha knaue why hast thou troubled and fowled my water / whiche I shold now drynke / Allas my lord sauf your grece / For the water cometh fro yow toward me / Thenne sayd the wulf to the lambe / Hast thow no shame ne drede to curse me / And the lambe sayd My lord with your leue / And the wulf sayd ageyne / Hit is not syxe monethes passyd that thy fader dyd to me as moche / And the lambe ansuerd yet was I not at that tyme born / And the wlf said ageyne to hym / Thou hast ete my fader / And the lambe ansuerd / I haue no teeth / Thenne said the wulf / thou arte wel lyke thy fader / and for his synne & mysded thow shalt deye / The wulf thenne toke the lambe and ete hym / This fable sheweth that the euylle man retcheth not by what maner he may robbe & destroye the good & innocent man

Caxton published his edition of Aesop's fables in 1484. There are modern reprints by Joseph Jacobs (D. Nutt: London, 1889) and more recently by Robert Lenaghan (Harvard University Press: Cambridge, 1967). Lenaghan's edition is available at amazon.com.

ВОЛК И ЯГНЕНОК

[Крылов Иван Андреевич \(bmn@lib.ru\)](mailto:bmn@lib.ru)

У сильного всегда бессильный виноват:
Тому в Истории мы тьму примеров слышим,
Но мы Истории не пишем;
А вот о том как в Баснях говорят.

Ягненок в жаркий день зашел к ручью напиться
И надобно ж беде случиться,
Что около тех мест голодный рыскал Волк.
Ягненка видит он, на д_о_бычу стремится;
Но, делу дать хотя законный вид и толк,
Кричит: "Как смеешь ты, наглец, нечистым рылом
Здесь чистое мутить питье
Мое
С песком и с илом?
За дерзость такову
Я голову с тебя сорву".
"Когда светлейший Волк позволит,
Осмелюсь я донести, что ниже по ручью
От Светлости его шагов я на сто пью;
И гневаться напрасно он изволит:
Питья мутить ему никак я не могу".
"Поэтому я лгу!
Негодный! слыхана ль такая дерзость в свете!

Да помнится, что ты еще в запрошлом лете
Мне здесь же как-то нагрубил:
Я этого, приятель, не забыл!"
"Помилуй, мне еще и от роду нет году", -
Ягненок говорит. "Так это был твой брат".
"Нет братьев у меня". - "Так это кум иль сват
О, словом, кто-нибудь из вашего же роду.
Вы сами, ваши псы и ваши пастухи,
Вы все мне зла хотите,
И если можете, то мне всегда вредите,
Но я с тобой за их разведаюсь грехи".
"Ах, я чем виноват?" - "Молчи! устал я слушать,
Досуг мне разбирать вины твои, щенок!
Ты виноват уж тем, что хочется мне кушать",
Сказал и в темный лес Ягненка поволок.

1808

ЯРЕ И ВЪЛК
П.Р. Славейков

Едно яре било възлезло на някой зид и като видяло отдолу да минува вълк, злословило го и присмивало му ся. А вълкът рекъл: "Клето яре! Не злословиш ти, но мястото."

Много пъти мястото и времето направват и слабите дръзновени.