

2020 NJCL
DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Level ½ and I--Male Character

Apollo and Cupid's Contest

Daphnē erat prīmus amor Phoebī. Īra Cupīdinis Phoebō amōrem dedit. Phoebus superbus vīderat Cupīdinem cum sagittīs et dīxerat: "Quid sunt tibi, puer, arma et sagittae? Sagittae sunt mihi. Ego possum dare vulnera hostibus. Tū dēbēs contentus esse cum amōribus."

Fīlius Veneris respondit: "Tuus arcus omnia, Phoebē, fīgit, sed meus arcus tē fīgit." Et in arcū Cupīdō duo tēla tenuit: hoc tēlum amōrem fugat; illud tēlum amōrem facit. Deus Cupīdō hoc tēlum in Daphnem fīgit, illud in Phoebum. Phoebus amat; Daphne nōmen amōris fugitat.

"Apollo and Cupid," *Latin Via Ovid* (1977), p.115

Daphne was Apollo's first love. Cupid's anger gave Apollo this love. The proud Apollo had seen Cupid with arrow and had said: "Yo, little kid, what good are weapons and arrows for you? Arrows are for me. I can wound enemies. YOU ought to be content with love affairs."

Venus's son replied: "Your bow shoots everything, Apollo, but my bow shoots you." And on his bow Cupid held two weapons: this weapon puts love to flight; that weapon causes love. The god Cupid shoots this arrow into Daphne, that one into Apollo. Apollo loves; Daphne flees the name of love.