

davidbrucehaiku:
Dante's *Purgatory*

By David Bruce

KINDLE EDITION

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Canto 1: CALLIOPE



**Source: Simon Vouet, *The Muses Urania and Calliope*
(detail)**

Muse Calliope

Sing and help me tell my tale

Help a suppliant

NOTE: Dante has a new task. He has told about what he saw in the Inferno, but now he must tell what he saw on the Mountain of Purgatory. He has written poetry about dead unrepentant souls, but now he must write poetry about dead repentant souls who climb the Mountain of Purgatory to purge their sins and prepare for Paradise. Calliope is the Muse of eloquence and of epic poetry, and she can help him tell his tale.

Canto 1: INFERNO VERSUS PURGATORY

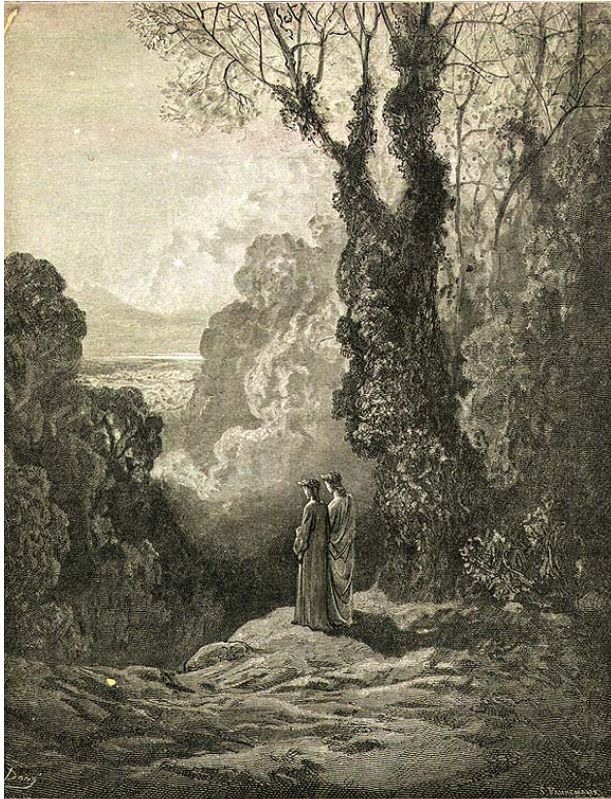


<https://pixabay.com/en/matterhorn-switzerland-europe-lake-2921923/>

**Here air is pleasant
Purgatory's souls are saved
Here is night and day**

**Hell is always dark
No repentance is found there
Its air always stinks**

Canto 1: VENUS



LO BEL PLANETA CHE AD AMAR CONSORTA,
FACEVA TUTTO BISSO L'ORIENTE,
VELANDO I FENI C'ERANO IN SEA SCORTA.

PURGATORIO, C. I. V. 17-21.

BIBLIOTECA CLASSICA ILLUSTRATA.

La Divina Commedia. — Disp. 37.^a

Engraver: Gustave Doré

Venus: love's planet

Can't be seen in Inferno

Dante sees it here

NOTE: The Inferno is always dark, but no stars and planets can be seen there. The Mountain of Purgatory has both day and night, and stars and planets can be seen there.

Canto 1: FOUR CARDINAL VIRTUES



<https://pixabay.com/en/creation-adam-eve-religion-47473/>

Dante sees four stars
The four cardinal virtues
Adam saw them clearly

NOTE: Dante sees the four stars that the first man, Adam, saw clearly, and no man since him has ever seen so clearly. These four stars, which can be clearly seen from the Forest of Eden, are Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. They are the four cardinal virtues. A person who has Prudence is able to judge which of a number of actions is the correct action to pursue. A person who has Temperance is able to practice self-control when self-control is needed. A

person who has Justice is able to correctly balance his or her own self-interest with the needs of others, and a person who has Courage is able to conquer fear so that he or she can do the right thing. Virtuous pagans such as Virgil have the cardinal virtues.

Canto 1: CATO THE YOUNGER



Source: Wiki Commons (Public Domain)

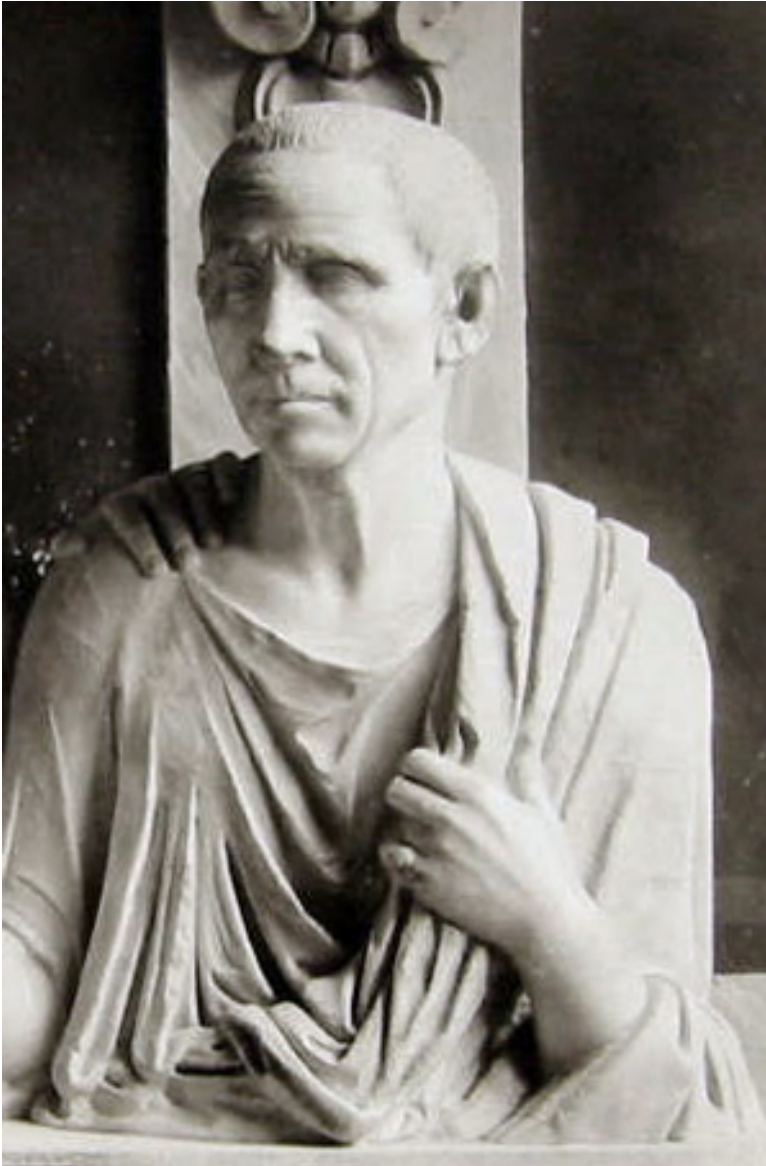
Virtuous old man

Pagan doing work of God

Virtuous pagan

NOTE: Cato the Younger is a pagan who is doing God's work on the Mountain of Purgatory. He exemplifies the four cardinal virtues. Can God change His laws and allow pagans to enter Paradise? Why not? God is unlimited. Allowing pagans into Paradise would be a triumph of and for Unconditional Love, which is a definition of God.

Canto 1: CATO THE YOUNGER #2



Source: Wiki Commons (Public Domain)

Pagan, suicide
Opponent of J. Caesar
But still virtuous

NOTE: It should be a surprise to see Cato the Younger serving God on the Mountain of Purgatory. After all, he is a pagan, a suicide, and an opponent of Julius Caesar. We saw these types of people in the Inferno. Remember: two opponents of Julius Caesar made up two of the three worst human sinners of all time. But Cato the Younger is a virtuous pagan who committed suicide out of a love for freedom, not of self-pity, as did Pier della Vigne.

Canto 1: REEDS



<https://pixabay.com/en/sea-beach-reed-wave-seaside-water-2438712/>

Virgil pulls a reed

To tie around Dante's waist

The reed grows back fast

NOTE: Purgatory is a place of good surprises. It is also a place where repentant sinners purge pride. The humble reed is a good exemplar of the virtue of humility. Reeds grow on the seashore where other plants cannot because the waves would break their stalks. The humble reed bows before the waves and so survives.

Canto 2: TRANSPORTATION



<https://pixabay.com/en/male-angel-man-wings-heaven-941665/>

**A boat now arrives
Powered by an angel's wings
One hundred-plus souls**

NOTE: Boats carry repentant souls to the island of the Mountain of Purgatory. An angel pilots each boat and provides the power to sail the boat with his wings. Over one hundred souls are on this boat.

Canto 2: PSALM 114



<https://pixabay.com/en/choir-joyfull-gospel-cheering-305352/>

**Much singing is here
Newly arrived sinners sing
Of leaving exile**

NOTE: The newly sinners sing Psalm 114: “*In Exitu Israel de Aegypto*” — “When Israel Came Out of Egypt.” This song is about leaving exile. These sinners will eventually reach their real home: Paradise.

Canto 2: HELP



<https://pixabay.com/en/call-center-headset-woman-service-2505953/>

**Purgatory is
A place you can ask for help
And often get it**

Canto 2: WAITING



<https://pixabay.com/en/people-city-crowd-group-line-long-2943111/>

**If you make God wait
— perhaps by converting late —
God will make you wait**

NOTE: Dante's friend Casella died months ago, but he is only now arriving on the Mountain of Purgatory. He kept God waiting, and so God kept Casella waiting. One way to make God wait is to become a Christian late in your life.

Canto 2: “KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PRIZE!”



<https://pixabay.com/en/clef-music-love-heart-treble-clef-593912/>

“WHAT ARE YOU DOING!

“YOU ARE WASTING VALUABLE TIME!

“RUN TO THE MOUNTAIN!”

NOTE: Casella begins to sing a song — he wrote the music for one of Dante’s poems. Everyone enjoys the song, but Cato the Just Old Man appears and yells at everyone not to listen to a silly love song but instead to run to the mountain. His job is to make sure the souls concentrate on what is important: purging their sins.

Canto 3: SHADOW



<https://pixabay.com/en/rush-grass-meadow-green-shadow-2663167/>

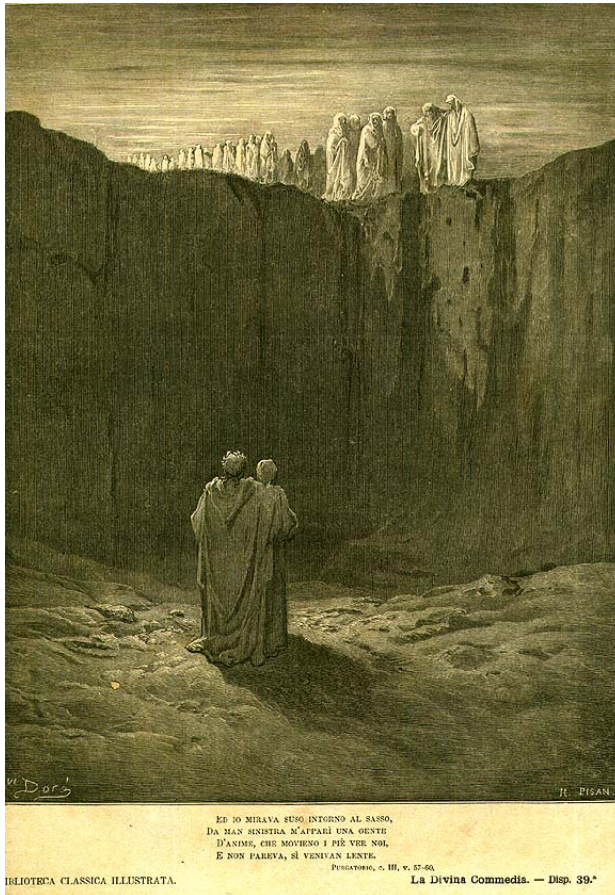
Only one shadow

Dante's body blocks the light

Virgil: no body

NOTE: Virgil has no body, so he has no shadow; nevertheless, he can feel pain, cold, heat, etc. God makes him able to feel these things despite his lacking a body. Many things we will never understand. We can know the FACT, but not the WHY. Mysteries exist.

Canto 3: EXCOMMUNICATED



Engraver: Auguste Doré

sheep without shepherds

the excommunicated

lack priests to help them

NOTE: Dante and Virgil see a group of excommunicated souls who move slowly like sheep who lack shepherds to keep them moving. Although these souls were excommunicated, they sincerely repented their souls and they will eventually reside in Paradise.

Canto 3: MANFRED



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-man-human-silhouette-die-2676570/>

MANFRED

**Manfred's soul is saved
In the last moment of life
He repented fully**

NOTE: Manfred wants Dante to take good news to his — Manfred's — daughter: He has been saved. Most people would think that Manfred's soul is in the Inferno because he was excommunicated, but he sincerely repented in the last moment of his life as he lay dying on a battlefield.

Canto 3: GOD SAVES



<https://pixabay.com/en/god-the-father-st--salvator-cathedral-2662308/>

**God saves whom He will:
Church excommunication
Is not damnation**

NOTE: Although Manfred was excommunicated, God saved his soul. God, not the Church, decides who will be saved.

Canto 3: FINAL DESTINATIONS



<https://pixabay.com/en/art-artistic-painting-digital-1703880/>

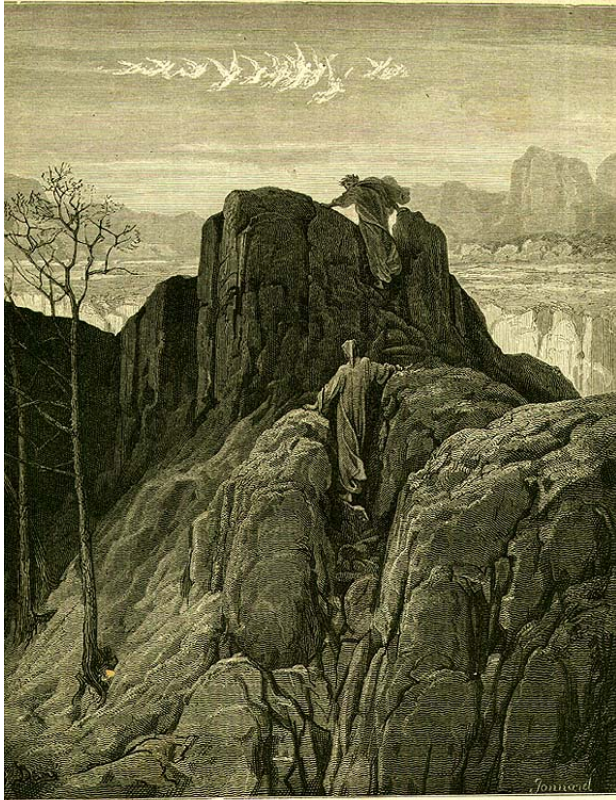
Manfred: a saved soul

His father: a soul in Hell

Your genes don't save you

NOTE: Manfred is a saved soul, but his father, the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II, is in the Inferno — he is in the tomb with Farinata. Members of the same family can end up in different places in the afterlife.

Canto 4: CLIMBING



E PIEDI E MAN VOLEVA IL SDOLO DI SOTTO.
PURGATORIO, C. IV, V. 33.
BIBLIOTECA CLASSICA ILLUSTRATA. La Divina Commedia. — Disp. 40.

Engraver: Auguste Doré

Narrow passageway

Climbing the mountain requires

Both hands and both feet

NOTE: Virgil and Dante are still in Purgatory, although they begin to climb the mountain, which is very steep.

Canto 4: CLIMBING BECOMES EASIER



<https://pixabay.com/en/child-girl-climb-uphill-up-steep-1930555/>

**Climbing the mountain
Becomes easier as you
Purge each of your sins**

Canto 4: BELACQUA



... IVI ERAN PERSONE
CHE SI STAVANO ALL'OMBRA DIETRO AL SASSO,
COM'UOM FER NEGLIGENZA A STAR SI PONE.
PURGATORIO, C. IV, V. 101-103

Engraver: Auguste Doré

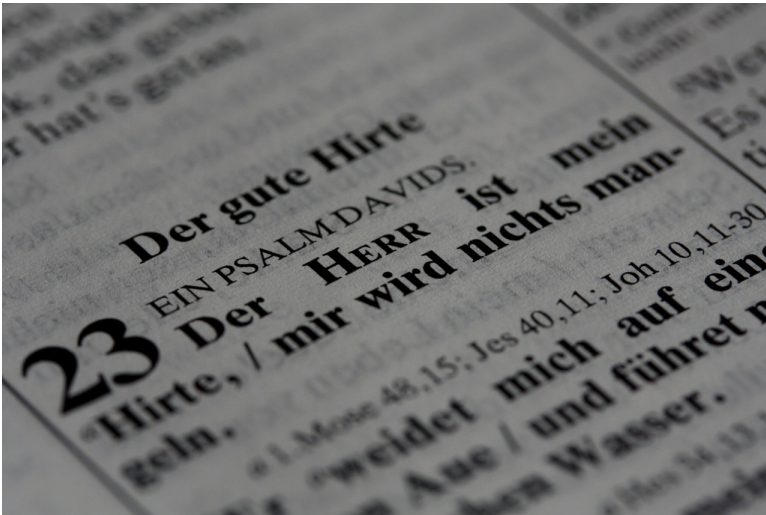
Lazy Belacqua

Did not pursue good with zeal

One of the slothful

NOTE: The unrepentant slothful are in the Inferno. Dante was afraid that Belacqua, his lazy friend, was in the Inferno, but Belacqua sincerely repented his sins and will be in Paradise. God can forgive any sin if it is sincerely repented. Since the slothful kept God waiting by not zealously pursuing good, God keeps them waiting; they will be allowed to climb the Mountain of Purgatory, but not yet.

Canto 5: SONGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/bible-text-book-page-macro-close-826560/>

Some songs are sung here

Psalms and gospel songs teach us

They are didactic

Canto 5: VIOLENT DEATH



<https://pixabay.com/en/the-eruption-the-war-the-military-2096161/>

died violently,
in life's very last moment
these souls repented

NOTE: Dante meets several people who died violently but repented in the very last moment of their life. Many of these people want Dante to let their living relatives know that they are saved. They also want their living relatives to pray for them, as that will allow them to begin climbing the Mountain of Purgatory earlier.

Canto 5: BUONCONTE OF MONTEFELTRO

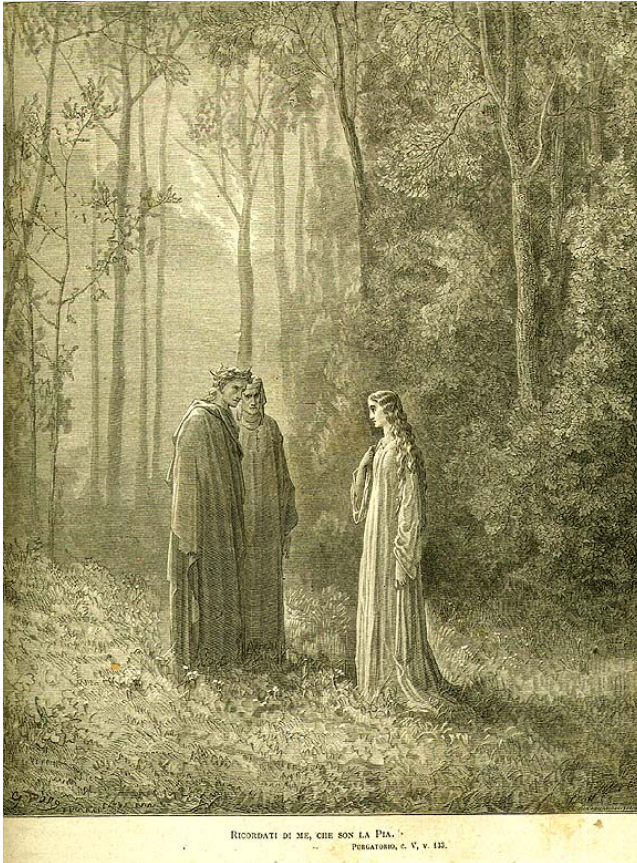


Engraver: Gustave Doré

**Dante's enemy,
A Ghibelline, is here now
He is a saved soul**

NOTE: Dante sees Buonconte of Montefeltro here in Purgatory, which shows that he is a saved soul. Buonconte was a Ghibelline, while Dante was a member of the opposing political party: the Guelphs. Ghibellines and Guelphs will both appear on the Mountain of Purgatory. By the way, Buonconte of Montefeltro's father, Guido da Montefeltro, is in the Inferno. Buonconte died on the battlefield, but he sincerely repented his sins and died saying the name "Mary."

Canto 5: LA PIA



Engraver: Auguste Doré

**in living world, rest
only then remember me
my husband killed me**

NOTE: In the Inferno, Dante talked to Francesca da Rimini, who put herself at the center of the universe. In Purgatory, La Pia is humble. She wants Dante to rest when he returns to the Land of the Living and only then remember her. Her husband falsely thought that she had committed adultery, and he threw her out of a window. Souls in Purgatory want to be remembered so that living people pray for them. They also want it known that their souls have been saved.

Canto 6: PRAYERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/candles-faith-reflection-cross-2903063/>

prayers of the pure
prayers of the future damned
some prayers are heard

NOTE: Only some prayers are heard. The prayers of the pure are heard and can help the souls in Purgatory begin climbing the Mountain of Purgatory earlier. The prayers of those who will be damned are not heard.

Canto 6: SORDELLO



Photo: Public Domain (Via Wiki Commons)

Fellow Mantuan

Sordello embraces Virgil

Unlike Inferno

NOTE: When Sordello finds out that Virgil is from the city of Mantua, Sordello embraces him because they come from the same city. Such things did not happen in the Inferno. When Dante met Farinata, a fellow Florentine, the two men argued instead of embracing each other.

Canto 6: BAD FACTIONALISM



<https://pixabay.com/en/dilapidated-room-house-disrepair-983952/>

Bad factionalism

Factions kick each other out

Laws are often changed

NOTE: Dante criticizes Florence and Italy because of bad factionalism. Florence and Italy should both be at peace, but because of bad factionalism there are civil disturbances, sometimes even including war. In Florence, the Guelfs and the Ghibellines at separate times come to power and kick the other faction out. They make new laws, and because the laws change so often citizens don't know whether what they do is legal. In Italy, the Holy Roman Emperor is absent, partly

because of opposition by the Pope, and so he does not enforce the law. In a better world, the Holy Roman Emperor and the Pope would work together.

Canto 7: SORDELLO AND VIRGIL



Engraver: Auguste Doré

Virgil the poet

The glory of the Romans

Is hero-worshipped

NOTE: Sordello, who is a poet, hero-worships Virgil, the great Roman poet who wrote the *Aeneid*. This is actually a fault. Sordello so adores Virgil that he briefly stops listening to Virgil because of shock at learning who he is. Sordello so adores Virgil that he also ignores Dante, who is standing next to him and who will also be a great poet. Sordello is a saved soul, but he is not perfect. If a human being had to be perfect to be saved, no one would be saved.

Canto 7: DAY AND NIGHT



Earth Seen from Moon

By Project Apollo Archive (AS11-44-6555) [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

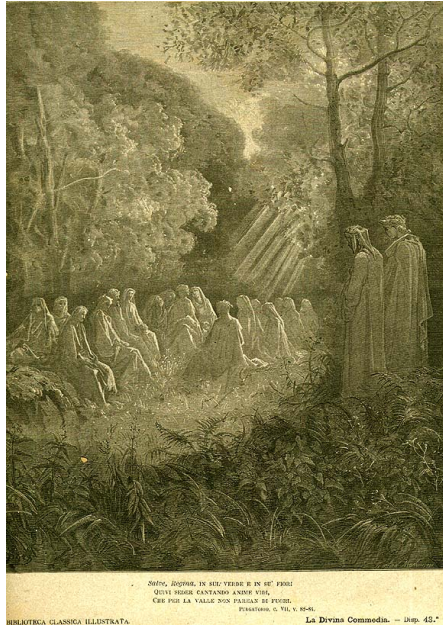
DAY AND NIGHT

**Souls can move freely
Anywhere they want only
During daylight hours**

**During hours of night
Souls cannot climb higher
They can climb lower**

NOTE: Sordello explains, “After nightfall, you would not be able to move past this line. The shadows of night sap the soul and make it unable to move higher. During the night, we can move down the slope, but not up the slope.” Possibly, this is a reflection of our spiritual progress during our lives. While asleep, we make no spiritual progress.

Canto 7: NEGLIGENT PRINCES



Engraver: Auguste Doré

Negligent Princes

Must take care of soul, subjects

Neglected duty

NOTE: Sordello shows Dante and Virgil several negligent rulers in a dell. Most of the rulers neglected taking care of their souls while they ruled their subjects. One ruler neglected taking care of his subjects while he took care of his soul. God wants rulers to do both.

Canto 7: NOBILITY OF CHARACTER



<https://pixabay.com/en/port-au-prince-haiti-rescuers-81166/>

**an acquired virtue
— character nobility —
not inherited**

NOTE: Dante and Virgil learn here about good fathers who had bad sons. Nobility of character is an acquired — not inherited — virtue.

Canto 7: RECONCILIATION



<https://pixabay.com/en/clasped-hands-comfort-hands-people-541849/>

**in Purgatory
enemies are reconciled
a place of friendship**

Canto 8: TWILIGHT MUSIC



<https://pixabay.com/en/summer-sunset-meadow-nature-2391348/>

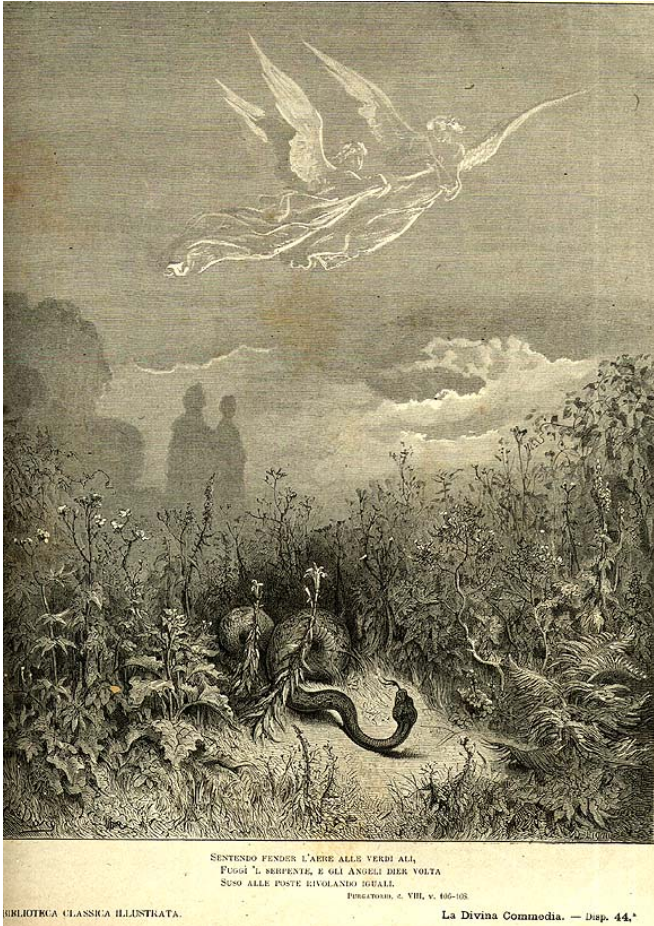
Much music is here

“Before the End of the Light”

Eyes focus on prize

NOTE: No music was in the Inferno, but much religious music is here because it helps repentant sinners focus on the prize that is salvation. As night approaches, the repentant sinners sing “Before the End of the Light” and ask God to keep them safe during the night.

Canto 8: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES



Engraver: Auguste Doré

a snake approaches

angels with blunt swords are guards

no danger at all

NOTE: After the setting of the sun each evening, a snake approaches the repentant sinners. Two angels carrying blunt swords arrive and chase the snake away.

There is no danger: The angels don't even bother to carry sharp swords. What is happening is that God is showing that He will protect the repentant sinners and that He will keep His promises: The repentant sinners will be allowed to climb the Mountain of Purgatory and will be permitted to enter Paradise.

Canto 8: NINO VISCONTI



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunset-dawn-water-dusk-sun-sky-3178118/>

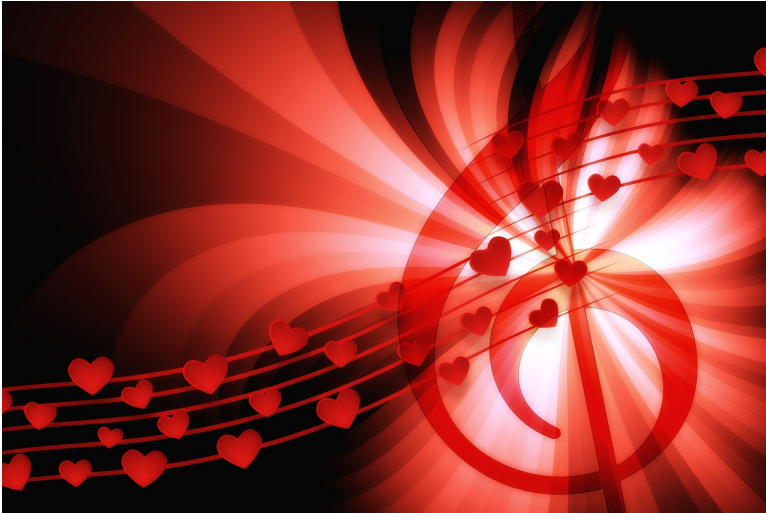
Nino Visconti

Active in worldly affairs

No soul corruption

NOTE: Nino Visconti, who died in 1296, was friends with Dante. Although Nino Visconti was active in worldly affairs, he did not let them corrupt his soul, and so he is here on the Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 8: THREE STARS



<https://pixabay.com/en/abstract-love-heart-music-3189816/>

Dante sees three stars
— Theological virtues —
Faith, hope, charity

NOTE: When Dante and Virgil first arrived at the Mountain of Purgatory, they saw four stars that represent the four cardinal virtues: Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. Time has passed, and those four stars are now out of sight. But now they see three new stars that represent the three theological virtues: Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Canto 8: CORRADO MALASPINA

WILLKOMMEN स्वागत
欢迎 BIENVENIDA
WELCOME
BIENVENUE ようこそ
добро пожаловать
ترحيب BEM-VINDO

<https://pixabay.com/en/welcome-words-greeting-language-905562/>

**Comes from family
Known for hospitality —
Dante will be their guest**

NOTE: Throughout THE DIVINE COMEDY, Dante receives hints of his upcoming exile. Here he tells Corrado Malaspina that he is aware of the Malaspina family's reputation for hospitality. Corrado tells him that within seven years he will know much better that hospitality.

Canto 9: THE EAGLE

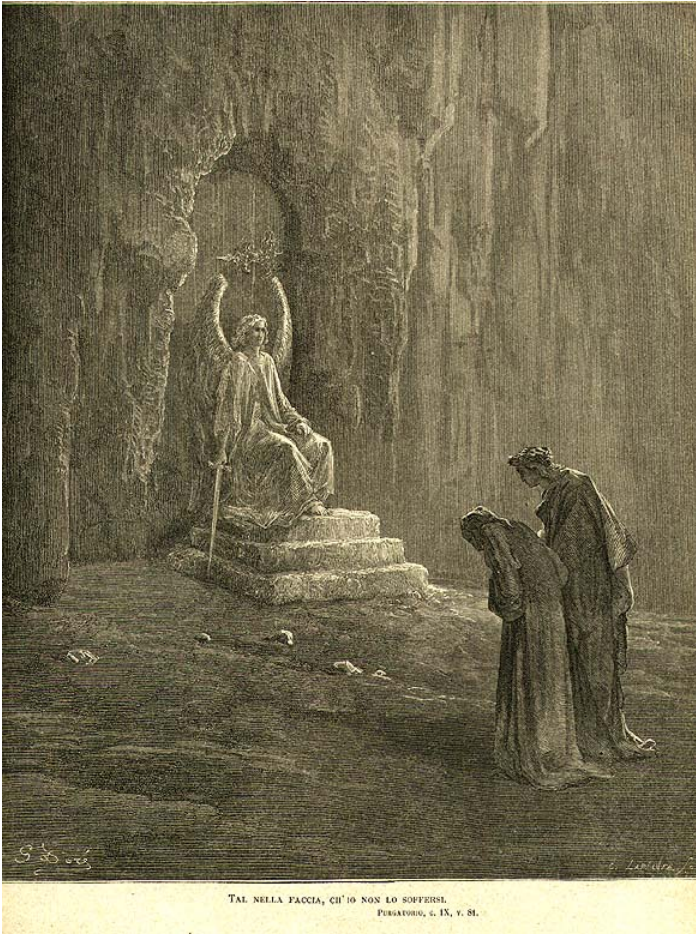


Engraver: Auguste Doré

**Saint Lucia helps
Dante go up the mountain
Carries him in dream**

NOTE: Dante dreams that an eagle picks him up and carries him. When he wakes up, he does not recognize his surroundings. Virgil explains that while Dante slept, Saint Lucia carried him higher up the mountain. Dante is about to enter Purgatory Proper.

Canto 9: SEVEN P'S



Engraver: Auguste Doré

Dante must heal wounds

***Peccatum*: Latin for “sin”**

Seven deadly sins

NOTE: An angel allows Dante to pass through St. Peter's Gate into Purgatory Proper, but first the angel carves seven P's into Dante's forehead. As Dante climbs the seven stories of the mountain, he will heal one of these wounds. Each P represents one of the seven deadly sins: pride, envy, wrath, sloth, avariciousness and prodigality (greed), gluttony, and lust.

Canto 9: TWO KEYS



<https://pixabay.com/en/castle-castle-gate-goal-cyrillic-2776101/>

Angel has two keys

Both keys must open the gate

One gold, one silver

NOTE: The gold key is the God-given authority to absolve — forgive — a person who has sinned. The silver key is the act of absolution. To be absolved of sin, a person must really repent sin and not be trying to scam God. Once the gate is open, the repentant sinner can pass through and enter Purgatory Proper.

Canto 9: DON'T WAIT



<https://pixabay.com/en/england-boys-choir-british-church-77213/>

don't wait to begin
preparation for being
a perfected soul

NOTE: Dante learns in Purgatory not to wait to begin preparation for being a perfected soul. We can do that through sincere repentance; religious songs such as the *Te Deum Laudamus* — “You, O Lord, We Praise” —also help.

Canto 10: PRIDE



<https://pixabay.com/en/peacock-beautiful-colorful-bird-3080897/>

I'm proud and I'm the

Center of the universe

The basis of sin

NOTE: Pride is the foundation of sin. Pride is putting oneself before all others and believing that oneself is the center of the universe. That is why pride is purged on the first story of the seven-story Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 10: EXEMPLUM OF HUMILITY



<https://pixabay.com/en/the-annunciation-leonardo-da-vinci-1125149/>

Annunciation

Mary could have been made proud

Instead, handmaiden

NOTE: On the first story of the seven-story mountain, repentant sinners purging pride learn exempla of humility. For example, Mary could have been proud when she learned that she would give birth to Christ. Instead, she called herself a servant — a handmaiden — to God.

Canto 10: GOD THE SCULPTOR



**Source: from Santa Maria dei Miracoli; *Acquisizione*
1907, *l'angelo annunciante per acquisto*; 1910,
l'Annunciata per revoca del deposito di San Francesco
*della Vigna***

seems to hear “*Ave*”

God’s sculpture goes beyond sight

seems to smell incense

NOTE: God’s sculpture is so good that Dante the Pilgrim seems to hear an angel say “*Ave*” to Mary in God’s sculpture of the Annunciation. He also seems to smell incense as he looks at God’s sculpture of the Ark of the Covenant being brought to Jerusalem.

Canto 10: EMPEROR TRAJAN



LA MISERELLA INFRA TUTTI COSTORO
PARÈA RICER: SGNOR, FAMMI VENDETTA
DEL MIO FIGLIUOL. CH'È MORTO, ONN'JO M'ACCORDO.

FIGLIUOL. C. X. V. 82-84.

BIBLIOTECA CLASSICA ILLUSTRATA.

La Divina Commedia. — Disp. 46.*

Engraver: Auguste Doré

EMPEROR TRAJAN

“Wait ’til I come back”

“But what if you don’t come back?”

“I must do my duty”

NOTE: The Roman Emperor Trajan is an example of humility. He was just beginning to lead his soldiers out of Rome to fight a war when a widow stopped him and asked him for justice for her son, who had been murdered. He said, "Wait 'til I come back." She replied, "But what if you don't come back?" Knowing that his duties as Emperor included dispensing justice, he then stayed in Rome until he got justice for the murder of the widow's son.

Canto 10: PURGING PRIDE



<https://pixabay.com/en/weights-lifting-power-male-gym-664766/>

How to purge your pride

Carry huge boulder on back

Forces you to bow

NOTE: Dante sees many sinners carrying huge stones on their backs. The prouder the sinner was in life, the more weight the sinner carries on the first story of the Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 10: CORBELS



<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/4711>

42

**Sinners are stooping
And are carrying huge weights
They look like corbels**

**NOTE: Corbels jut out from walls and support weight.
Often, they are designed so that they look like human
beings.**

Canto 11: PRAYERS HELP



<https://pixabay.com/en/women-s-red-model-exposure-hands-2842160/>

In Purgatory

Souls pray for the still living

Save them from evil

NOTE: The souls in Purgatory pray that God not lead living people into temptation. These prayers do good, as do the prayers of the living for the dead. Prayers of the living can help souls climb the Mountain of Purgatory quicker.

Canto 11: OMBERTO



<https://pixabay.com/en/rock-stone-nature-rough-dry-spain-3212114/>

Pride of family

His family was famous

Aldobrandesco

NOTE: Umberto's father was Guglielmo Aldobrandesco, who was known as the Mighty Tusban. Umberto was so proud of being in a famous family that when a great force of soldiers besieged his castle, Umberto attacked it with a smaller force of soldiers and died after killing many of the enemy soldiers. Now, because of his pride of family, he carries a huge stone as he purges his sin of pride.

Canto 11: ODERISI



attributed to Meliacin Master [Public domain], via
Wikimedia Commons [sample illustration from an
illuminated manuscript]

One's works quickly fade

Excessive pride is a sin

Others are better

NOTE: Oderisi created illustrations for illuminated manuscripts. He was very good, but he acknowledges that someone has come along who is better than he was.

Over and over, we see that someone is good, but someone else comes along who is better. The ancient philosopher Aristotle believed that virtue lay in the mean between extremes. One can have proper pride, but having too much pride is not virtuous, and having too little pride is not virtuous.

Canto 11: PROVENZAN SALVANI



<https://pixabay.com/en/beggar-begging-street-sitting-man-1016678/>

Started his climb early

Why? He begged to help a friend

Showed humility

NOTE: Provenzan Salvani needed 10,000 gold florins to ransom a friend so that the friend would not be killed. He got the money by begging for it. If anything is a sign of humility, begging is. Therefore, he did not have to wait to start climbing the Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 12: EXEMPLA OF PRIDE



Artist: Francesco Scaramuzza; Art: *Lucifero*

art is didactic

**here on the mountain; learn from
exempla of pride**

NOTE: The art here on the Mountain of Purgatory is didactic; one can learn by studying it. Previously, Dante and Virgil saw exempla of humility; now they see exempla of pride. By studying the art, one can learn about virtue and about vice.

Canto 12: NIOBE

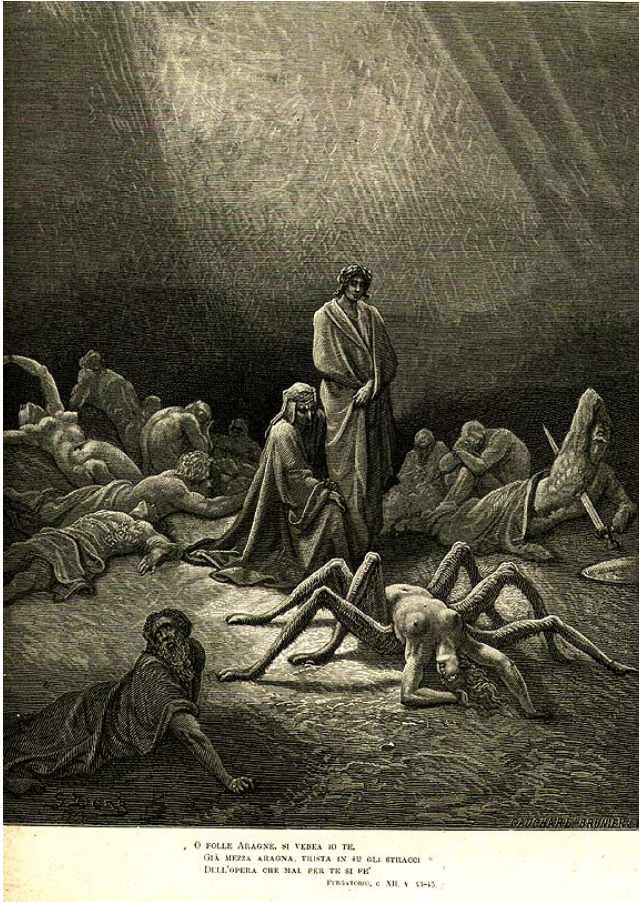


Niobe, in an agony of grief, which is in the marble tempered and idealized, tries to protect her youngest daughter from destruction. (Galleria degli Uffizi in Florence); Public Domain, via Wiki Commons

guilty of great pride
seven sons, seven daughters
all killed on same day

NOTE: Niobe was the mother of seven sons and seven daughters, which made her so proud that she said she was better than the goddess Leto, who had given birth to only two children: her son Apollo and her daughter Artemis. This made Apollo and Artemis angry, and so they killed all of Niobe's children on the same day.

Canto 12: ARACHNE



Engraver: Auguste Doré

**Challenged Minerva
To a contest of weaving
Much guilty of pride**

NOTE: Arachne was a mortal woman who was so proud of her weaving ability that she challenged the goddess Minerva (Greek name: Athena) to a weaving contest. Arachne wove a cloth without fault, but Minerva tore up the cloth and turned Arachne into a spider. Arachne is another exemplum of pride that souls on the first story of the seven-story mountain learn from.

Canto 12: PRIDE



<https://pixabay.com/en/goddess-sculpture-weeds-damage-1373417>

Synonym for “man”?

Dante thinks, *Why not “pride”?*

Many heads held high

NOTE: On the first story of the seven-story mountain, the repentant sinners carry huge rocks that force them to bend so that they see carved in the rock beneath them works of art showing the bad effects of excessive pride. In the Land of the Living, excessively proud people hold their heads high and never notice the bad effects of excessive pride.

Canto 12: BURDEN OF PRIDE



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-person-power-strength-strong-1282232/>

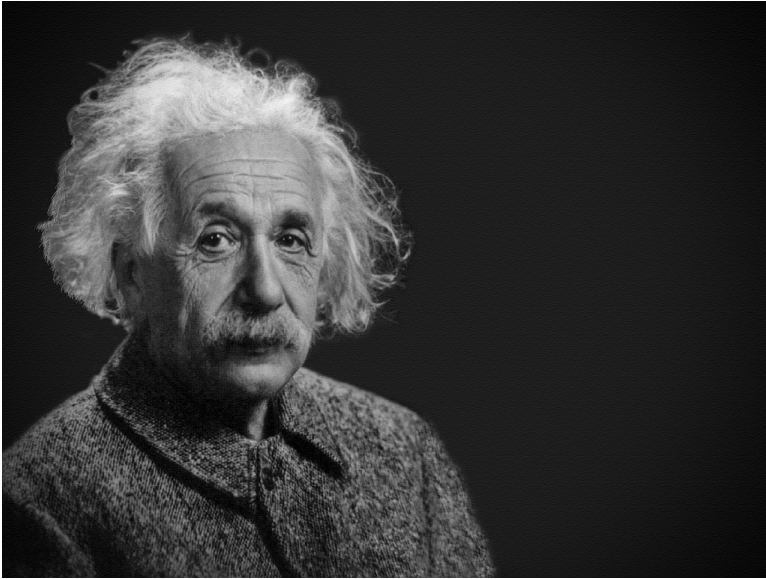
The burden of pride

Has been purged on the mountain

Dante feels lighter

NOTE: An angel removes one of the P's (P = Latin *peccatum* = sin) from Dante's forehead. Because the burden of pride has been removed from Dante, he feels lighter as he climbs to the second story of the seven-story mountain.

Canto 13: NATURAL REASON



<https://pixabay.com/en/albert-einstein-portrait-1933340/>

Natural reason

We learn from Nature, Reason

But something's better

**NOTE: What is better than natural reason? Revelation
from God.**

Canto 13: "THEY HAVE NO WINE"



<https://pixabay.com/en/champagner-toasting-new-years-eve-1071356/>

**Mary is concerned
no wine for celebration**

Jesus creates wine

**NOTE: Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine.
He did this because his mother, Mary, was concerned
that a family did not have wine to celebrate a marriage.
Mary is an example of the virtue of generosity toward
others; she lacked the sin of envy.**

Canto 13: “LOVE YOUR ENEMIES”



<https://pixabay.com/en/heart-love-sunset-the-sun-sky-3147976/>

Whom does the Sun bless?

Both the evil and the good

Love your enemies

NOTE: “Love your enemies” is an excellent way to avoid committing the sin of envy. Matthew 5:44-45 (King James Version) states this:

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Canto 13: OPPOSITE OF ENVY



<https://pixabay.com/en/soldier-gift-toy-child-girl-woman-870372/>

Opposed to envy

Kindness and love for others

Vice's opposite

NOTE: The virtue that is the opposite of envy is kindness and love for others.

Canto 13: HOLY MARY



<https://pixabay.com/en/maria-holy-maria-mother-of-god-1592567/>

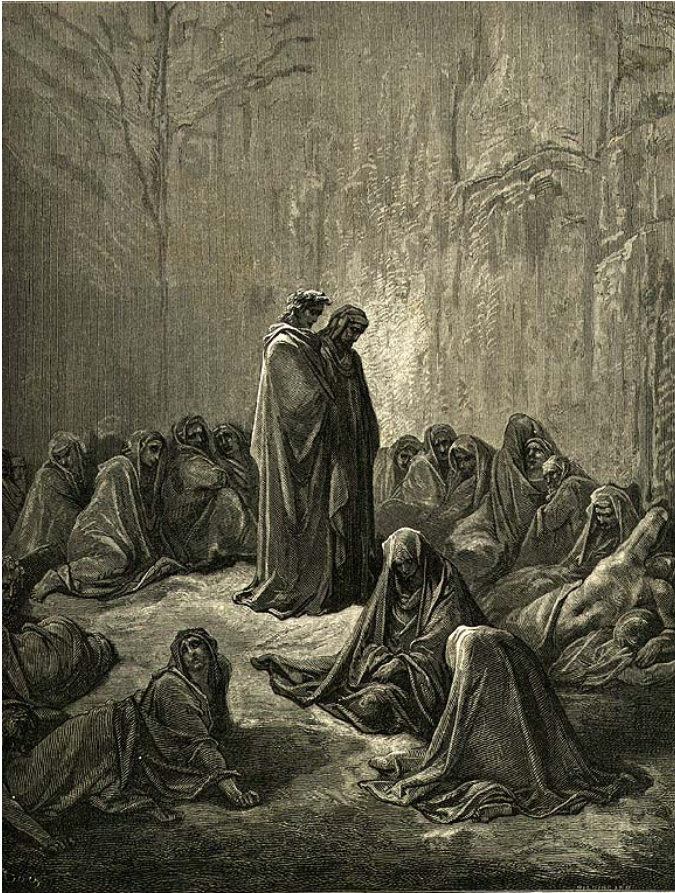
Mary, pray for us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

God's Mother, please pray.

NOTE: The souls of the envious pray to Mother Mary to pray for them.

CANTO 13: EYES OF ENVIOUS



COSÌ LI CERCO, A CHE LA ROSA FALLA,
STANNO A' FELSONI A CHERER LOR BESOGNA,
E L'UNO IL CAPO SOPRA L'ALTRO AVVALLA ...
PERMETTORIO, 5. XII, v. 61-63.

BIBLIOTECA CLASSICA ILLUSTRATA.

La Divina Commedia. — Disp. 48.*

Engraver: Auguste Doré

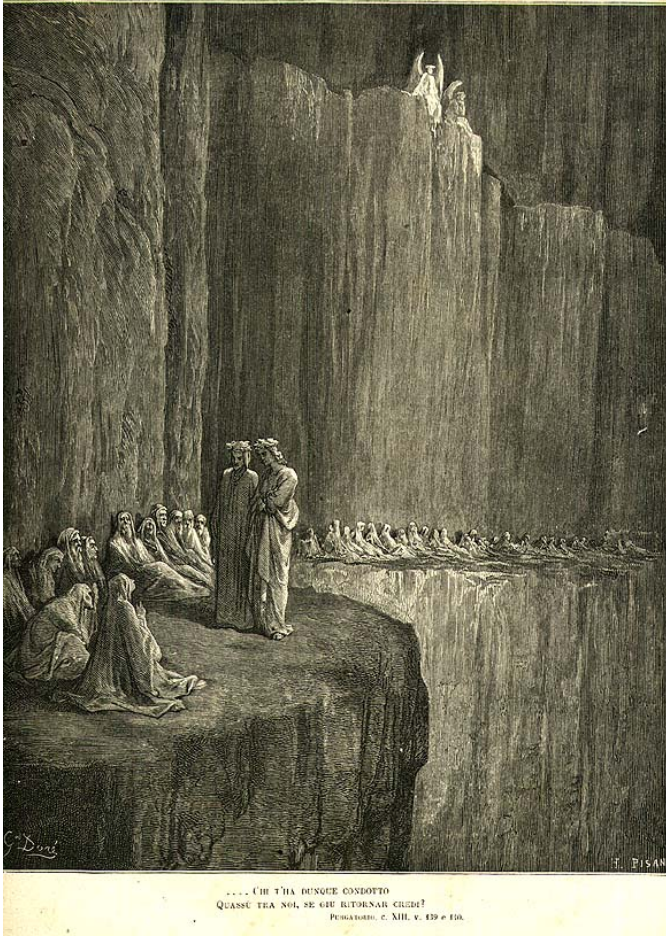
eyes of envious

sewn shut so they cannot look

with envy at all

NOTE: These sinners looked with envy at others, so now they cannot look at others at all. Their sin bruised their souls, so now they wear cloaks that are the color of bruises.

Canto 13: SAPIA



.... CHI T'HA DUNQUE CONDOTTO
QUASSÙ TEA NOA, SE CHE RITORNAR GIURDI?
PUBBLICATO: C. MII. V. 129 e 130.

Engraver: Auguste Doré

**Her name is “Wisdom”
But she was not wise in life
Guilty of envy**

NOTE: Sapia, a woman whose name means “Wisdom” is here because she was envious in life. She repented late in life and has been able to climb the mountain earlier than she would have because Peter the Combseller, who will not sell a defective comb, prayed for her.

Canto 14: THE ARNO RIVER



<https://pixabay.com/en/ponte-vecchio-florence-italy-331214/>

**the Arno River
a sewer of corruption
beware of its towns**

**NOTE: The towns along the Arno River include
Florence.**

Canto 14: CAIN AND ABEL



Source: Abraham Bloemaert, *Cain slaying Abel*

Cain envied Abel

God liked Abel's offering

So Cain killed Abel

NOTE: Cain was a farmer, and his offering was the fruit of the ground. Abel was a shepherd, and his offering was the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof. God liked Abel's offering, but God did not like Cain's offering. Out of envy, Cain killed Abel.

Canto 14: ABOVE AND BELOW



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunrise-space-outer-globe-world-1756274/>

**Where is Paradise?
Above. Why does Humankind
Often look below?**

Canto 15: ANGELS



<https://pixabay.com/en/angel-virgin-goddess-purity-3095334/>

Angels blind Dante

The more you are without sin

The more you can see

NOTE: The angels are so bright that Dante cannot look directly at them. After he purges his sins, he will be able to clearly see them.

Canto 15: BLESSÉD ARE THE MERCIFUL



<https://pixabay.com/en/church-rosary-religion-christian-1790939/>

**Be good; obtain good
Blesséd are the merciful
Shall obtain mercy**

Canto 15: MATERIAL THINGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/one-the-dollar-currency-finance-3125379/>

I have some money

I spend some of my money

I have less money

I own a rare book

No one else owns this copy

It is one person's

NOTE: Suppose you have a rare book that is worth \$1,000. If you own it by yourself, you have the equivalent of \$1,000. But if you are an equal co-owner

of it with someone else, then you have the equivalent of \$500. Material possessions, when shared, become lesser.

Often, of course, material possessions are not shared.

When it comes to material possessions, if one person owns something, then other people do not own it. One way to avoid envy is to pursue good nonmaterial things, not material things.

Canto 15: NONMATERIAL THINGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/desktop-background-love-in-love-3061483/>

memorize a poem
friends also memorize poem
when shared, is greater

shared love is greater
love is no zero-sum game
sharing makes it grow

NOTE: Nonmaterial, and especially spiritual, things, when shared, become greater. For example: Instead of owning a valuable and rare edition of a good book,

suppose you and a friend both read an inexpensive edition of that good book. What you would share would be an appreciation and knowledge of the book. This is something that can be shared by all the people who read that book. When that is shared, it becomes greater, not lesser. Love, when shared, becomes greater. One way to avoid envy is to pursue good nonmaterial things, not material things.

Canto 15: MEEKNESS AND PATIENCE



<https://pixabay.com/en/statue-holy-virgin-religious-figure-2690719/>

Jesus disappears

Mary, Joseph search for him

Find him in temple

NOTE: The virtues opposed to anger are meekness and patience. Mary and Joseph left Jerusalem, assuming that Jesus, their young son, was in their group of relatives and friends. When they missed him, they returned to Jerusalem, and crying and worried, they searched for him. After three days, they found him in a temple, teaching. Mary was not angry, but she had been greatly worried, so she asked her son, “Why have you treated us in this way?”

Canto 15: DEALING WITH ANGER



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-lovely-young-girl-people-3187620/>

“he hugged our daughter
in public; he deserves death,
so go and kill him!”

“if we kill those who
love us, what should we do to
all those who hate us?”

NOTE: Dante has visions on the third story — the story devoted to purging anger — of the seven-story mountain. One vision was about Pisistratus, a kind

ruler of Athens. A young man hugged Pisistratus' unmarried daughter in public, a violation of Athenian morality. His wife was angry and she wanted him to have the young man killed, but he said, "What shall we do to those who want to harm us, if we condemn those who love us?"

Canto 16: NOXIOUS SMOKE



<https://pixabay.com/en/smoke-fumes-black-white-curve-298243/>

**noxious smoke fills air
cannot see sinners' faces but
can hear their voices**

**NOTE: On the third story of the seven-story mountain,
wrath is purged. Here the sinners are enveloped in
noxious smoke.**

Canto 16: FREE WILL



<https://pixabay.com/en/ethics-right-wrong-ethical-moral-2991600/>

**People have free will
And are responsible for
Their good and bad deeds**

NOTE: Neither the influence of heredity nor the influence of environment takes away our Free Will. People still know the difference between good and evil, and people still have the ability to choose to do good or chose to do evil.

Canto 16: JUST LAWMAKERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/club-auction-law-symbol-judge-2492011/>

just laws are useful

help us restrain bad desires

help us be moral

NOTE: We need good lawmakers to come up with just laws to be a guide for us. The just laws will not annihilate our excessive desires, but just laws can help us restrain our excessive desires.

Canto 16: WE NEED JUST LEADERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/money-dollars-success-business-1428594/>

Leaders: role models

People imitate leaders

Bad creates more bad

NOTE: Bad leaders create an environment in which it is difficult for people to use their Free Will to do the right thing. If the Pope and the Bishops are pursuing wealth and power, the common people see that, and they feel free to pursue their own base desires. Just leadership is important if you want a just society.

Canto 17: ANGER



<https://pixabay.com/en/upset-woman-person-middle-finger-2681482/>

**Anger against God,
family, and neighbor: All
are to be avoided.**

Canto 17: SLOTH



<https://pixabay.com/en/lazy-bag-beutifull-girl-red-shoes-1512301/>

Some slothful people
Are very busy indeed
Pursuing wrong things

NOTE: The sin of sloth is not pursuing zealously the things that ought to be pursued. Some slothful people are very busy pursuing money for the sake of pursuing money. Some slothful people are very busy pursuing the satisfaction of desires that ought not to be satisfied.

Canto 17: LOVING THE WRONG THINGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/dante-sculpture-statue-art-marble-3072141/>

Pride, envy, and wrath

Sins of loving the wrong things

We choose what we love

NOTE: What we choose is what we love: This is Rational Love. We can choose to love the right thing or

the wrong thing. The first three ledges of the Mountain of Purgatory purge the sins of pride, envy, and wrath. These are sins of loving the wrong thing. Sinners who were guilty of pride, envy, or wrath were guilty of loving the wrong things; they wished some kind of evil upon their neighbors. Sinners who were guilty of sloth loved the right thing, but they pursued it without sufficient zeal. Sinners who were guilty of avarice, gluttony, or lust were guilty of loving the right things too much. Of course, the sinners on the Mountain of Purgatory are purging these sins.

Canto 17: LOVE THE RIGHT THINGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/love-two-outdoor-affinity-3315770/>

do love the right things
avoid loving the wrong things
love good zealously

Canto 18: WHAT WE CHOOSE IS WHAT WE LOVE



<https://pixabay.com/en/choice-select-decide-decision-vote-2692575/>

**good loves and bad loves
what we choose is what we love
we should choose good loves**

Canto 18: FAITH AND INTELLECT



<https://pixabay.com/en/church-dom-house-of-worship-altar-3024768/>

Faith and intellect

Beatrice understands faith

Virgil, intellect

NOTE: Virgil is not a Christian, so he cannot understand faith. Beatrice is a saved soul, so she understands faith. Virgil teaches Dante important lessons regarding intellect, but Beatrice will teach Dante important lessons regarding faith.

Canto 18: ZEAL AND DILIGENCE



<https://pixabay.com/en/running-couple-action-man-woman-2353880/>

zeal and diligence

Mary, Julius Caesar

exemplars of both

NOTE: Souls purging the sin of sloth recognize that Mary and Julius Caesar are exemplars of the virtue they need to acquire. After the Annunciation, in which an angel told Mary that she would bear Christ, Mary hurried to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist. Mary did not delay; she wished to hurry to share the good news with Elizabeth. Julius Caesar warred against Pompey the Great. Eager to meet Pompey in battle, Caesar left some of his army to

besiege Marseilles, and then he took as quickly as he could the rest of his soldiers to the showdown with the Spanish army of Pompey. Caesar won the Battle of Ilerda.

Canto 18: PURGE SIN OF SLOTH



<https://pixabay.com/en/runner-race-competition-female-888016/>

To purge sin of sloth

Saved sinners run day and night

With no distractions

NOTE: These sinners are not distracted when they learn that Dante is a living man; other sinners have been distracted. These sinners are also the only sinners to be actively purging their sin at night.

Canto 18: LACK OF ZEAL



<https://pixabay.com/en/rome-the-vatican-italy-1945033/>

Some of Aeneas'

Followers did not want to

Go to Italy

NOTE: Aeneas' destiny was to lead the survivors of Troy to Italy, where they would become important ancestors of the Romans. Some followers lacked the zeal to go to Italy and stayed on Sicily.

Canto 19: SIN



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-lovely-fashion-portrait-face-3186105/>

SIN

Bad reality

Sin seems repulsive at first

Attractive veneer

NOTE: A sin is repulsive at first but when habitually engaged in seems attractive. Think of addiction to tobacco, which a later age will regard as at least a bad habit. Anyone smoking a first cigarette is likely to have a very unpleasant experience, with coughing and, in some cases, vomiting. But continued smoking makes a person an addict to tobacco, and smoking becomes a pleasure — until it results in disease. But a better example is perhaps food. Food is necessary and eating too much of it can be pleasurable, but eating too much can lead to obesity and disease. What seemed good at first — overeating — can very quickly show that it is bad in reality. The same is true of other sins, which sometimes can have an attractive veneer but which always have an ugly reality.

Canto 19: UGLINESS OF SIN



<https://pixabay.com/en/art-portrait-human-old-antique-3084798/>

**Ugliness of sin —
Reason and divine guidance
Help us to see it**

**Canto 19: INNOCENT OF COMMITTING A
PARTICULAR SIN**



<https://pixabay.com/en/face-wall-snow-steep-climbing-3324569/>

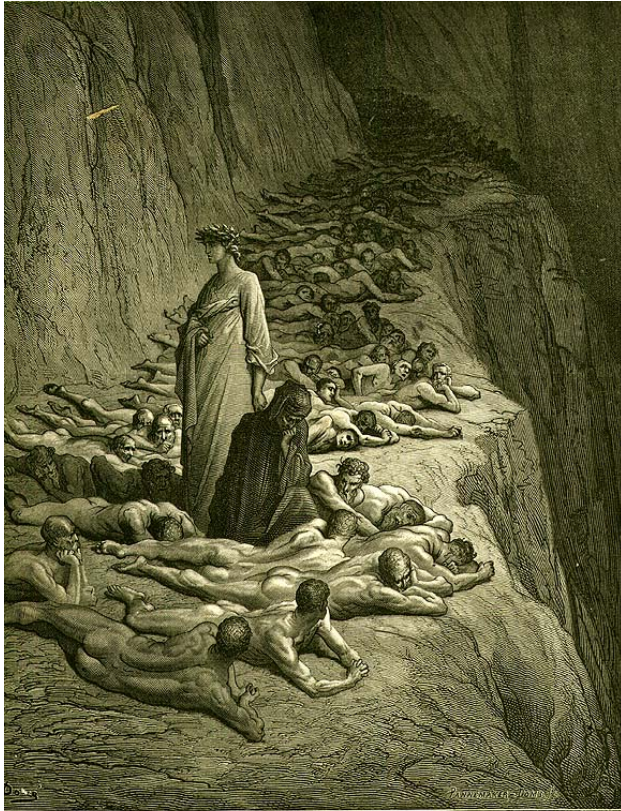
Not commit a sin?

Seven-story mountain, but

You skip a story

NOTE: The Mountain of Purgatory has seven stories, aka ledges, each of which is devoted to purging a sin, but if you have not committed a particular sin, you can skip that story.

Canto 19: THE GREEDY



DISEGA LE GAMBE, E LEVATI SU, FRATE,
RISPONDE: NON FERRAI, CONSERVO SONO
TECO E COS' GLI ALTRI AD UNA FOTESTATE.
Purgatorio, c. XIX, v. 133-135.

BIOTECA CLASSICA ILLUSTRATA.

La Divina Commedia. — Disp. 53.^a

Engraver: Auguste Doré

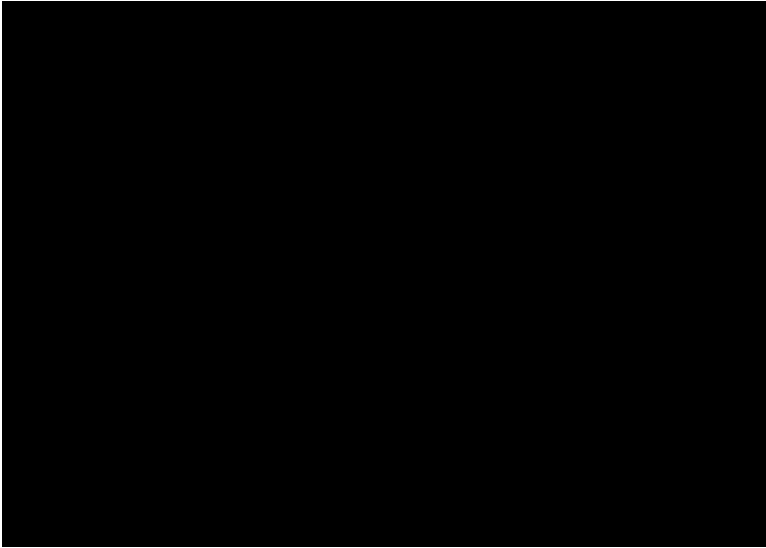
Alive, sought money

Now, feet bound, backs turned toward God

Alive, ignored God

NOTE: On the fifth story of the seven-story mountain, saved sinners purge the sin of greed. Because they looked at money and material possessions in the Land of the Living instead of looking to God, on this ledge their purgation is to look at the dust of the ground and to turn their backs on God. Their hands and feet are bound because they used them to pursue money and material possessions with too much zeal in the Land of the Living.

Canto 19: THE WORST PUNISHMENT



Source: David Bruce

**the worst punishment
all on the mountain think this
they hate their own sin**

**NOTE: Each sinner is most horrified by his or own sin,
and so each sinner regards his or her punishment as the
worst because he or she must think constantly about
that particular sin.**

Canto 20: DETACHMENT FROM WEALTH



<https://pixabay.com/en/model-time-women-s-fiction-2614585/>

Detachment from wealth

And the stuff riches can buy:

A needed virtue

NOTE: Detachment from riches and what riches can buy is the virtue that is opposed to the sin of avariciousness, aka greed.

Canto 20: DETACHMENT FROM RICHES



<https://pixabay.com/en/trailer-mobile-home-abandoned-old-1759223/>

**Jesus' birthplace now:
A decrepit trailer park
Instead of stable?**

NOTE: Mary had the virtue of detachment from riches. She did not complain when she had to give birth to Jesus in less than optimal conditions. Jesus lay in a manger: a feeding trough for animals. If Jesus were born today, he very well could be born in a decrepit trailer park.

Canto 20: GAIUS FABRICIUS LUSCINUS



<https://pixabay.com/en/gold-ingots-golden-treasure-513062/>

Refused to take bribes

No money for funeral

Romans paid for it

NOTE: Gaius Fabricius Luscinus was incorruptible, refusing to take bribes, and he died without money to pay for his funeral or to provide dowries for his daughters. Fortunately, the Romans greatly respected him. The Romans paid for his burial, and the Romans paid for the dowries of his daughters. Fabricius valued virtue. He could have become rich by taking bribes when he served as Consul and as Censor, but he chose to stay poor.

Canto 20: MIDAS GOLDEN TOUCH



<https://pixabay.com/en/egg-golden-egg-gold-red-gold-2885370/>

Midas' golden touch

All that he touched turned to gold

Food, drink, and his son

NOTE: The sinners purging the sin of greed meditate on examples of greed. King Midas of Phrygia, in Asia Minor, prayed that everything he touched would turn to gold. The god Bacchus heard and granted his prayer. But Midas' food and drink turned to gold, and when his son hugged him, his son turned to gold.

Canto 20: UNETHICAL TREATMENT OF A POPE



Depiction of the death of Boniface in a 15th-century manuscript of Boccaccio's *De Casibus*.

Bullies will beat up

The Pope: Boniface the Eighth

So unethical

NOTE: Souls on the Mountain of Purgatory know the future. King Philip IV (aka the Fair) of France will send bullies to beat up Pope Boniface VIII, who will die on 11 October 1303, one month after he was badly beaten.

Pope Boniface VIII is Dante's political enemy, but Dante is against a Pope being badly treated.

Canto 21: *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO*



<https://pixabay.com/en/praying-church-christian-prayer-1319101/>***

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

**Mountain is shaking
The highest glory to God
A soul has been purged**

NOTE: The Mountain of Purgatory shakes when a soul has purged its sin and is ready to ascend to the top of the Mountain and then to Paradise. The souls sing, “*Gloria in Excelsis Deo.*”

Canto 21: PURGING SINS TAKES TIME



<https://pixabay.com/en/time-time-management-stopwatch-3222267/>

Purging sins takes time:

One thousand two hundred and

Four years to purge his

NOTE: The Mountain of Purgatory shook because Statius' sins have been purged after his spending 1204 years on the mountain. For other saved souls, the time spent on the mountain can be greater or lesser.

Canto 21: STATIUS



P. PAPIPIO STAZIO

Source: Erasmo di Valvasone (1523 – 1593)

Poet Statius

Learned to write from *Aeneid*

Now he meets Virgil

NOTE: Statius, author of the *Thebaid*, an epic poem about the Seven Against Thebes, learned how to write poetry by studying Virgil's *Aeneid*. Now he learns that Virgil is standing in front of him. Purgatory has happy surprises.

This is the story of the *Thebaid*: Oedipus ruled Thebes, and after he died, his two sons, Eteocles and Polynices,

decided to take turns ruling the city. Eteocles would rule for a year, and then Polynices would rule for a year, and so they would alternate as rulers of Thebes.

However, after Eteocles' first year of rule, he was greedy and refused to let Polynices rule for the following year. Polynices raised an army. Thebes had seven gates, and the seven captains in the army raised by Polynices each attacked one of the seven gates. The two brothers fought in single combat, and they killed each other.

Canto 22: LOVE KINDLES LOVE



Source: Frontispiece from John Dryden, et al., *The Satires of Decimus Junius Juvenalis: And of Aulus Persius Flaccus*, 4th ed. (London, 1711).

**This always happens —
Clearly seen and virtuous
Love will kindle love**

**NOTE: Earlier, when the satirist Juvenal first entered
Limbo, Virgil learned that Statius loved him. Since that
time, Virgil has loved Statius.**

Canto 22: PRODIGAL AND AVARICIOUS



<https://pixabay.com/en/one-the-dollar-currency-finance-3125379/>

In Purgatory

Some groups are found together

Hell: The same is true

NOTE: In both Purgatory and Inferno, some groups are found together. For example, the prodigal and avaricious groups are found together. The avaricious overvalue money; the prodigal overvalue what money can buy. In Inferno, they oppose each other, but in Purgatory, they help each other purge their sin. Statius's sin was prodigality: He overspent.

Canto 22: THE PAGAN PROPHET



Virgil (via Wiki Commons)

**Virgil prophesized
“A new child comes from Heaven”
Statius converted**

NOTE: Statius is not known to be a Christian; indeed, he is considered a pagan. So why and how did he convert to Christianity, according to *Purgatory*? In his Eclogue 4, Virgil wrote about a child coming from Heaven; this was later interpreted as a prophecy about the coming of Christ. Statius read this, and he converted to Christianity; however, he kept his conversion secret, and because of his lack of zeal, he spent 400 years purging his sin of sloth.

**Canto 22: “YOU CANNOT EAT THIS FRUIT, AND
YOU CANNOT DRINK THIS WATER”**



<https://pixabay.com/en/apple-fruit-fruits-red-tree-1666113/>

How odd: Toward the top

The tree branches grow wider.

Water falls on tree.

NOTE: Dante, Virgil, and Statius climb to the sixth story of the seven-story mountain. Here the gluttons purge their sin. Here is a fruit tree that resembles an upside-down fir tree. Because the branches grow wider toward the top, no one can climb the tree. A stream of water pours onto the tree, but no water reaches the ground. A voice shouts, “You cannot eat this fruit, and you cannot drink this water.”

Canto 22: WATER, NOT WINE

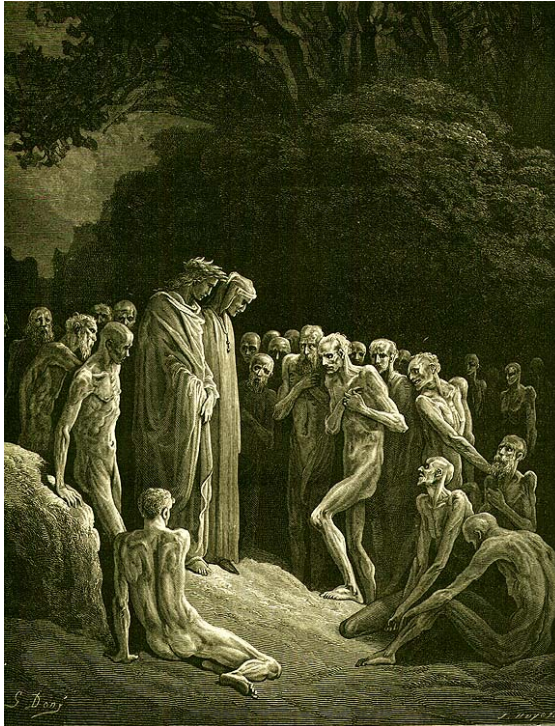


<https://pixabay.com/en/human-children-girl-blond-water-771601/>

**Drank water, not wine
The ancient Roman women
They were temperate**

NOTE: On the sixth story, as on the other stories, the saved sinners learn from examples of the virtue opposed to the sin they are purging.

Canto 23: GLUTTONS



È L'OMBRA, CHE PARLAN COME RIMORTO,
PER LE FORSE DEGLI OCCHI AMMIRAZIONE
TRAHAN DI ME, DI SOD VIVERE ACCORTE.

PURGATORIO, c. XXIV, v. 106.

Engraver: Auguste Doré

Emaciated,

Sunken eyes, clearly see bones

These are the gluttons

NOTE: The saved souls purge the sin of gluttony on the sixth story of the Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 23: EAGERNESS



<https://pixabay.com/en/excited-person-happy-enthusiastic-2681489/>

Is purgation pain?

**Souls are eager to purge sins,
do what is needed.**

NOTE: Christ did not want to be on the cross, but He did what was needed to redeem Humankind. The souls on the Mountain of Purgatory are eager to purge their sins.

Canto 23: FORESE DONATI



<https://pixabay.com/en/matterhorn-zermatt-switzerland-snow-425134/>

A late repentant

Why is he so high up here?

His wife prayed for him

NOTE: Forese Donati repented late in life and died not even five years previously. Why is he so high up on the mountain — he is on the sixth out of seven ledges? His wife — a virtuous woman — prayed for him. The prayers of the virtuous help saved sinners climb the Mountain of Purgatory more quickly.

Canto 24: NAMES



<https://pixabay.com/en/name-butterfly-nameplate-children-372190/>

Who are these saved souls?

Forese names them for Dante.

No reason not to.

NOTE: Dante's friend Forese Donati names several saved souls here. There is no reason not to. In the Inferno, many sinners did not want to be remembered in the Land of the Living. The saved souls, however, can benefit from the prayers of the virtuous living. Also, they want their loved ones to know that they have been saved.

Canto 24: FAMILY



<https://pixabay.com/en/buffet-dining-dinner-lunch-food-2953875/>

Souls in Inferno

— One and the same family —

In Purgatory

NOTE: Your family does not determine where you end up in the afterlife. The same family can have members suffering in the Inferno and climbing the Mountain of Purgatory. Here on the sixth story is Ubaldino della Pila, a great entertainer and a great feaster. His son is in the Inferno: He is the Archbishop Ruggieri, and Ugolino is gnawing his scalp. Another of his relatives is entombed with Farinata in the circle of the heretics.

Canto 24: HUNGER AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS



<https://pixabay.com/en/grocery-store-market-supermarket-2619380/>

Pursue the right things
Hunger after righteousness
Not way too much food

Canto 24: GIDEON



<https://pixabay.com/en/river-forest-green-nature-water-1206579/>

Gideon's soldiers

They stayed cautious and alert

Cupped water and drank

NOTE: Gideon had many soldiers. When they arrived at a river, they were very thirsty. Gideon, following the advice of God, watched his soldiers. Some put their faces in the water and drank greedily. This was a mistake because they were not on the lookout for danger. Other, more cautious, soldiers cupped the water in their hands and brought the water up to their faces, thus remaining vigilant. Gideon led these vigilant soldiers — who were not guilty of gluttony — to victory.

Canto 25: LUST



<https://pixabay.com/en/scent-of-roses-perfume-rose-bottle-3397281/>

Seventh and last ledge

Devoted to purging lust

Least serious sin

NOTE: In the Inferno, the most serious sins are punished in the deeper circles. On the Mountain of Purgatory, the most serious sins are purged on the lower ledges, aka stories. Pride is the worst sin, and lust is the least serious sin.

Canto 25: BODY AND SOUL



<https://pixabay.com/en/baby-sepia-sleep-small-child-sweet-3388975/>

**God directly creates
The soul, which joined to body
Creates a human**

NOTE: An important point in Christian theology is that the soul survives the death of the body. Statius tells Dante that the souls in Purgatory have astral bodies that reflect the feelings of their souls. When the souls are very hungry, as they are on the sixth story of the Mountain of Purgatory, the astral bodies appear emaciated.

Canto 25: GOD CREATES OUR SOULS



<https://pixabay.com/en/baby-newborn-small-child-boy-child-408257/>

**God creates our souls
He gives each body a soul
The soul survives death**

Canto 25: LUSTFUL



<https://pixabay.com/en/fire-flame-burn-brand-glow-bright-3403874/>

Lustful are punished
— Proper sex is not sinful —
Lustful burn in fire

NOTE: The seventh and final story of the Mountain of Purgatory punishes the lustful in fire. Dante walks on a narrow path away from the fire. It's important to note that married couples who have sex are not sinning: It is a heresy to believe that proper sex is sinful.

Canto 26: TWO GROUPS OF SINNERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/sex-gay-transsexual-lesbian-want-2417531/>

Two groups of sinners:

Heterosexuals and

Homosexuals

NOTE: The two groups of sinners here are heterosexuals and homosexuals. They travel around the ledge in different directions, and when they meet, they exchange a brief, chaste kiss. Here, as elsewhere, they learn from examples of the sin and from examples of the virtue opposed to the sin. Mary is an example of a virtuous chaste woman who obeyed the will of God. Sodom is an example of a city in which homosexual rape could take place: The men of Sodom even wanted to rape angels! Pasiphaë and the bull is an example of bestiality. Pasiphaë had sex with a bull and gave birth to the Minotaur. It's important to note that sex is not sinful in itself: Loving married couples can engage in virtuous sex.

Canto 26: CRYING, REJOICING



<https://pixabay.com/en/alone-ghost-boy-city-lights-666078/>

Crying, rejoicing

Cry while remembering sins

Rejoice at future

NOTE: The saved souls on the Mountain of Purgatory cry as they remember the past sins they have committed, but they rejoice as they think about the Paradise that they know will come.

Canto 26: HOW TO CLIMB HIGH QUICKLY



<https://pixabay.com/en/raise-challenge-landscape-mountain-3338589/>

**Just twenty-four years
Already on seventh ledge
Repented early**

**NOTE: Guido Guinizelli, a poet of genius, died in 1276,
and climbed so high up the mountain in only 24 years
because he repented his sins early in life.**

Canto 26: LOVE POETS



<https://pixabay.com/en/book-heart-love-grains-sand-sea-2115176/>

**Not surprisingly
Many writers of love poems
Purge the sin of lust**

Canto 27: THE ANGEL'S MESSAGE



<https://pixabay.com/en/angel-woman-wing-female-2939548/>

The Angel's Message:

**“Blessed are the Pure of Heart
For They shall See God”**

NOTE: On the other side of the fire, Dante, Statius, and Virgil see an angel who tells them to pass through the fire, which will purge all the saved sinners' remaining sins.

Canto 27: FEAR



<https://pixabay.com/en/fire-carbon-charcoal-hot-embers-2204171/>

Dante is afraid

— **Despite Virgil's protection —**

He must pass through fire

NOTE: Dante has seen burned bodies, and he is afraid to pass through the purifying fire. Virgil points out that they have been in other dangerous places, such as the back of Geryon. Virgil also points out that he will continue to protect Dante, who is now closer to God. Virgil tells Dante to put the hem of his robe in the fire — it will not burn. When Dante is in the fire, he will feel pain, but the fire will not kill him.

Canto 27: MOTIVATION



<https://pixabay.com/en/rape-summer-spring-woman-flower-3371263/>

To see Beatrice

Dante must pass through the fire

Good motivation

NOTE: Dante is afraid to pass through the fire, but Virgil knows how to motivate him: He tells Dante that he must pass through the fire to see Beatrice, whom Dante loved but who died and is now in Paradise.

Canto 27: THIRD PROPHETIC DREAM



<https://pixabay.com/en/glade-flowers-basket-woman-girl-2861380/>

Third prophetic dream

Active and contemplative

Leah and Rachel

NOTE: After passing through the fire and purging the last of his sins, Dante climbs higher on the Mountain of Purgatory, but rests when the Sun sets. He then has his third contemplative dream. In the dream, Leah is a doer; she is active. Leah walks through a meadow, gathering flowers to make a garland for herself. Rachel, on the other hand, looks in a mirror all day, contemplating her eyes. Rachel is contemplative. Both are good ways of living life. This is Dante's third

prophetic dream. In the first prophetic dream, he dreamed that an eagle carried him higher up the mountain. While he was asleep, Saint Lucia did exactly that. In the second prophetic dream, he dreamed about being rescued from a Siren by a Heavenly lady. In this, the third prophetic dream, he dreamed about Leah and Rachel.

Canto 27: PERFECTED FREE WILL



<https://pixabay.com/en/crown-kings-bavaria-germany-europe-759296/>

Mountain has been climbed

Free will has been perfected

Dante is now free

NOTE: Now that Dante has climbed the Mountain of Purgatory and purged his sins, his free will has been perfected and he can no longer desire to do the wrong thing. Now he can let pleasure be his guide. He is now the King of himself and the Bishop of himself. Virgil tells him, “I crown and miter you lord of yourself!”

Canto 28: FOREST OF EDEN



<https://pixabay.com/en/nature-forest-sun-moss-rays-green-3294681/>

Top of the mountain

Green leaves, soft light, steady breeze

Forest of Eden

NOTE: We think of the Earthly Paradise as a garden; it is a forest at the top of the Mountain of Purgatory.

Canto 28: EARTHLY PARADISE



<https://pixabay.com/en/flowers-orange-orange-petals-3215188/>

an eternal spring

all plants grow here without seeds

God created this

NOTE: Adam and Eve sinned here and were banished, but saved souls come here after purging their sins. A lady is a guide for the happy saved souls and lets them know what they have to do before ascending to Paradise.

Canto 28: LETHE

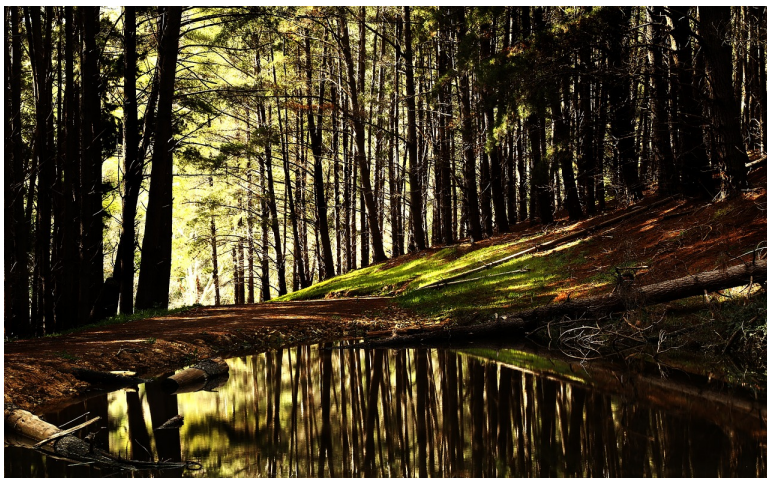


<https://pixabay.com/en/brook-stream-rocks-flowing-47451/>

**drink from the Lethe
no longer feel sting of sins
you are forgiven**

NOTE: Two streams are here in the Earthly Paradise. The first stream that saved sinners drink from is the Lethe, which means “oblivion.” Drinking from the Lethe erases sin’s sting. You will remember many of your sins, but you will not feel their sting. You will feel gratitude because you know that your sins have been forgiven. In the Land of the Living, you sometimes stay awake and feel bad while you remember the sins you have committed. Once you drink from the Lethe, that will no longer happen.

Canto 28: EUNOË



<https://pixabay.com/en/forest-stream-water-trees-woods-918923/>

Name means “well minded”

Remember every good deed

Drink from Lethe first

NOTE: After the saved souls purge their sins, they go to the Earthly Paradise and drink from two streams. First they drink from the Lethe, which removes the sting of sin. Then they drink from the Eunoë, which revives the memory of every good deed they ever performed.

Canto 29: PAGEANT OF REVELATION



<https://pixabay.com/en/fire-carbon-charcoal-hot-embers-2204171/>

Virgil is pagan

— Pageant of revelation —

Cannot understand

NOTE: Dante and Virgil see a spectacular pageant. As a Christian, Dante is able to understand the symbolic significance of what he sees, but as a pagan, Virgil cannot understand this pageant.

Canto 29: GRIFFIN



<https://pixabay.com/en/christ-jesus-religion-mosaic-898330/>

GRIFFIN

Symbol of Jesus

Fully human and divine

Eagle and lion

NOTE: In the spectacular pageant, a griffin appears. The griffin is part eagle and part lion, and it is a symbol for Jesus, Who also has a two-part nature: Jesus is fully human and fully divine.

Canto 29: PRUDENCE



<https://pixabay.com/en/pocket-watch-jewel-chain-stone-560937/>

Lady has three eyes

She sees past, present, future

Lady is Prudence

NOTE: Dante sees many symbolic figures in the spectacular procession. For example, he sees four ladies who represent the four virtues from classical antiquity: Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. The lady with three eyes represents Prudence.

Canto 30: LOVE FOR BEATRICE



<https://pixabay.com/en/children-love-friends-hand-flowers-512601/>

Love for Beatrice

The signs of the ancient flame

Love was at first sight

NOTE: Dante loved Beatrice from the first time he saw her — he was nine, and she was eight — until she died at age 24. She will be his guide throughout most of Paradise. When Dante sees her now, he says that he recognizes signs of the ancient flame.

Canto 30: VIRGIL LEAVES

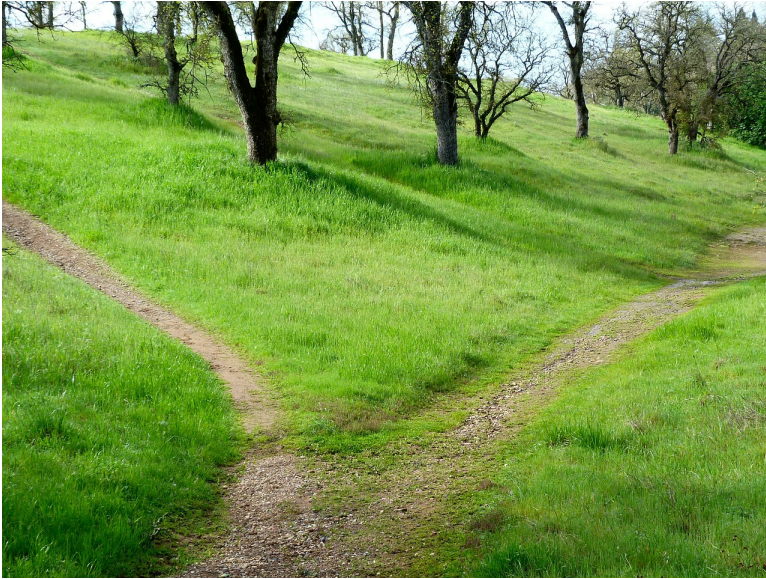


Source: Wiki Commons

**Virgil's job as guide
Is done. He leaves quietly,
Does not say goodbye**

**NITE: When Beatrice arrives, Dante turns toward
Virgil, but Virgil is not there. He has left and is
returning to Limbo.**

Canto 30: TWO PATHS



<https://pixabay.com/en/path-hiking-trail-grass-travel-18197/>

Path that leads to good

Dante followed the wrong path

Path that leads to bad

NOTE: Beatrice, Dante's new guide, criticizes him harshly as a means of trying to save his soul.

Canto 31: DANTE MUST CONFESS HIS SINS



<https://pixabay.com/en/church-confessional-confession-2021010/>

Dante must confess

Beatrice's words cut and pierce

Dante is speechless

NOTE: Beatrice's words criticizing Dante hurt him because he knows that she says is true. Dante has sinned, and he still feels the sting of his sins because he has not yet drunk from the Lethe.

Canto 31: DANTE TAKES RESPONSIBILITY



<https://pixabay.com/en/guilty-imprisonment-for-debt-sinful-3096227/>

**Dante has learned: He
Takes responsibility
And repents his sins.**

NOTE: Dante has learned from his trip through the Inferno, where sinners blamed such things as love, a book, or others for their sins. Dante takes responsibility for the sins he has committed.

**Canto 31: PURSUE THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL
ETERNAL THINGS**



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-hands-portrait-woman-beauty-3033718/>

**Paradise knows these
Virtuous love, truth, beauty
They are eternal**

NOTE: Beatrice tells Dante that he should have learned from her death — her beautiful body rotted — to pursue only the good and beautiful eternal things.

Canto 31: JESUS



<https://pixabay.com/en/savior-religion-icon-orthodoxy-1971118/>

Has human nature

— Both natures at the same time —

Has divine nature

Canto 32: HOLY POVERTY



<https://pixabay.com/en/jesus-christ-cross-crucifix-1327882/>

Holy poverty

Resist material wealth

Must resist some things

NOTE: Jesus lived in holy poverty. Doing the same thing would help us resist overvaluing material wealth and help us concentrate on acquiring spiritual wealth.

Canto 32: DANTE LEARNS HIS FATE



<https://pixabay.com/en/chinese-characters-background-fate-998908/>

Dante learns his fate:

Dante will reach Paradise

Avoid Inferno

NOTE: Beatrice tells Dante his future. After his journey through the three places of the Afterlife, Dante will return to the Land of the Living, but after he dies, he will be in Paradise with Beatrice.

Canto 32: PAGEANT OF CHURCH HISTORY



<https://pixabay.com/en/religious-stained-glass-religion-3336608/>

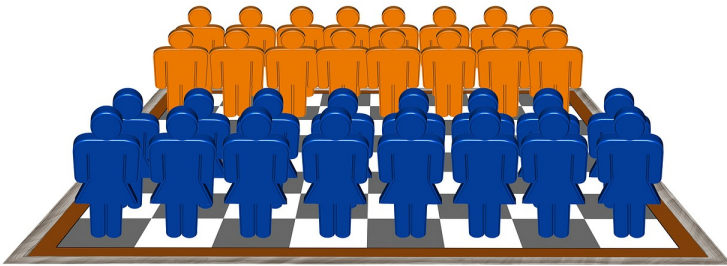
Church faces bad times

— Pageant of church history —

But church will prevail

NOTE: This is the second spectacular pageant Dante sees in the Earthly Paradise. This time, he sees a pageant of church history, which focuses on the vicissitudes of the church. Nevertheless, the church will prevail.

Canto 32: AVOID POWER STRUGGLES



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-man-chess-chess-board-77275/>

Secular matters

Church and state separation

Religious matters

NOTE: The church should have power over religious matters, and the state should have power over secular matters. Church and state ought not to get involved in power struggles with each other.

Canto 33: MOURNING



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-desperate-sad-tears-cry-1006100/>

Beatrice mourns the
Vicissitudes of the church
As seen in pageant

NOTE: The pageant of church history in Canto 32 is mainly about the vicissitudes of the church. Beatrice mourns these, as do the seven ladies. Four ladies are symbolic of four virtues from classical antiquity — Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude, The other three ladies are symbolic of three Christian virtues — Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Canto 33: DIFFERENT PATHS



<https://pixabay.com/en/gold-footpath-walking-walk-83754/>

Paths are different
The false path of Humankind
The true path of God

Canto 33: READY TO RISE



<https://pixabay.com/en/milky-way-starry-sky-night-sky-star-2695569/>

Drinks from the Eunoë

Ready to rise to the stars

Now read *Paradise*

NOTE: Dante's *Purgatory* ends with Dante the Pilgrim drinking from the Eunoë, which revives the memory of all the good deeds he has done. He is now ready to rise to the stars, a journey you can read about in Dante's *Paradise*.

Appendix A: ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Photo: David Bruce

Purgatorio?

In haiku? Who would do that?

I'm not a smart man.

**NOTE: Of course, I'm not retelling the *Purgatory*.
These haiku are notes that tell a few main points about
this great epic poem.**

Appendix B: INFERNO and PURGATORY

Here are links to my retelling of Dante's *Inferno* and *Purgatory*.

INFERNO: CANTO 1

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2016/12/31/dante-s-inferno-canto-1/>

INFERNO: CANTO 2

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/01/dante-s-inferno-canto-2/>

INFERNO: CANTO 3

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/02/dante-s-inferno-canto-3/>

INFERNO: CANTO 4

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/03/dante-s-inferno-canto-4/>

INFERNO: CANTO 5

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/04/dante-s-inferno-canto-5/>

INFERNO: CANTO 6

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/05/dante-s-inferno-canto-6-retelling-the-gluttonous/>

INFERNO: CANTO 7

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/06/dante-s-inferno-canto-7-the-wasters-hoarders-wrathful-and-sullen/>

INFERNO: CANTO 8

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/07/dante-s-inferno-canto-8-retelling-the-boatman-phlegyas-and-filippo-argenti/>

INFERNO: CANTO 9

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/08/dante-s-inferno-canto-9-retelling/>

INFERNO: CANTO 10

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/09/dante-s-inferno-canto-10-heretics-in-flaming-tombs/>

INFERNO: CANTO 11

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/10/dante-s-inferno-canto-11-retelling-virgil-teaches-dante/>

INFERNO: CANTO 12

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/11/dante-s-inferno-canto-12-retelling-the-minotaur-and-the-river-of-boiling-blood/>

INFERNO: CANTO 13

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/12/dante-s-inferno-canto-13-retelling-the-suicides/>

INFERNO: CANTO 14

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/13/dante-s-inferno-canto-14-retelling/>

INFERNO: CANTO 15

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/14/dante-s-inferno-canto-15-retelling-ca/>

INFERNO: CANTO 16

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/15/dante-s-inferno-canto-16-retelling-the-violent-against-nature-continued/>

INFERNO: CANTO 17

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/16/dante-s-inferno-canto-17-retelling-geryon/>

INFERNO: CANTO 18

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/17/dante-s-inferno-chapter-18-retelling-panders-and-seducers-flatterers/>

INFERNO: CANTO 19

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/18/dante-s-inferno-canto-19-retelling-the-simonists/>

INFERNO: CANTO 20

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/19/dante-s-inferno-canto-20-retelling-the-soothsayers-and-fortune-tellers/>

INFERNO: CANTO 21

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/20/dante-s-inferno-canto-21-retelling-the-grafters/>

INFERNO: CANTO 22

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/21/dante-s-inferno-canto-22-retelling/>

INFERNO: CANTO 23

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/22/dante-s-inferno-canto-23-retelling-the-hypocrites/>

INFERNO: CANTO 24

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/23/dante-s-inferno-canto-24-retelling-the-thieves-including-vanni-fucci/>

INFERNO: CANTO 25

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/24/dante-s-inferno-canto-25-retelling-the-transformation-of-thieves/>

INFERNO: CANTO 26

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/25/dante-s-inferno-canto-26-retelling-evil-advisers-ulyssesdiomed/>

INFERNO: CANTO 27

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/26/dante-s-inferno-canto-27-retelling-guido-da-montefeltro/>

INFERNO: CANTO 28

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/27/dante-s-inferno-canto-28-retelling-the-schismatics/>

INFERNO: CANTO 29

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/28/dante-s-inferno-canto-29-retelling-the-falsifiers-alchemists/>

INFERNO: CANTO 30

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/29/dante-s-inferno-canto-30-retelling-the-falsifiers-evil-impersonators-counterfeiters-and-liars/>

INFERNO: CANTO 31

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/30/dante-s-inferno-canto-31-retelling-towering-giants/>

INFERNO: CANTO 32

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/31/dante-s-inferno-canto-32-retelling-caina-and-antenora/>

INFERNO: CANTO 33

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/01/dante-s-inferno-canto-33-retelling/>

INFERNO: CANTO 34

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/02/dante-s-inferno-canto-34-retelling-the-ultimate-evil/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 1

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/03/dante-s-purgatory-canto-1-retelling-the-island-of-purgatory-and-cato-the-guard/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 2

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/04/dante-s-purgatory-canto-2-retelling-ew-souls-arrive-in-purgatory/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 3

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/05/dante-s-purgatory-canto-3-retelling-prepurgatory-the-excommunicated/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 4

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/06/dante-s-purgatory-canto-4-retelling-prepurgatory-the-spiritually-lazy-purgatory/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 5

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/07/dante-s-purgatory-canto-5-retelling-prepurgatory-those-who-repent-ed-while-meeting-violent-sudden-deaths/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 6

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/08/dante-s-purgatory-canto-6-retelling-sordello/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 7

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/09/dante-s-purgatory-canto-7-retelling-prepurgatory-the-negligent-princes/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 8

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/10/dante-s-purgatory-canto-8/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 9

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/11/dante-s-purgatory-canto-9-retelling-prepurgatory-first-prophetic-dream-and-saint-peters-gate/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 10

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/12/dante-s-purgatory-canto-10-retelling-first-ledge-pride-purgatory/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 11

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/13/dante-s-purgatory-canto-11-retelling-first-ledge-aldo-brandesco-oderisi-provenzan/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 12

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/14/dante-s-purgatory-canto-12-retelling-first-ledge-exempla-of-pride/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 13

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/15/dante-s-purgatory-canto-13-retelling-second-ledge-envy-sapia/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 14

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/16/dante-s-purgatory-canto-14-retelling-second-ledge-envy-guido-del-duca-rinier-da-calboli/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 15

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/17/dante-s-purgatory-canto-15-retelling-third-ledge-anger/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 16

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/18/dante-s-purgatory-canto-16-retelling-third-ledge-anger-marco-lombard/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 17

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/19/dante-s-purgatory-canto-17-retelling-fourth-ledge-sloth/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 18

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/20/dante-s-purgatory-canto-18-retelling/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 19

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/21/dante-purgatory-canto-19-retelling-fifth-ledge-avarice-and-wastefulness/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 20

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/22/dante-s-purgatory-canto-20-retelling-avarice-and-wastefulness-hugh-capet/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 21

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/23/dante-s-purgatory-canto-21-retelling-fifth-ledge-avarice-and-wastefulness/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 22

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/24/dante-s-purgatory-canto-2-retelling-sixth-ledge-gluttony-staius/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 23

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/25/dante-s-purgatory-canto-23-retelling/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 24

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/26/dante-s-purgatory-canto-24-retelling/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 25

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/27/dante-s-purgatory-canto-25-retelling-seventh-ledge-lust-body-soul-relationship/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 26

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/02/28/dante-s-purgatory-canto-26-retelling-seventh-ledge-lust-guido-guinizelli-and-arnaut-daniel/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 27

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/01/dante-s-purgatory-canto-27-retelling/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 28

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/02/dante-s-purgatory-canto-28-retelling-forest-of-eden-matelda/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 29

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/03/dante-s-purgatory-canto-29-retelling-forest-of-eden-pageant-of-revelation/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 30

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/04/dante-s-purgatory-canto-30-retelling-forest-of-eden-exit-of-virgil-entrance-of-beatrice/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 31

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/05/dante-s-purgatory-canto-31-retelling-forest-of-eden-lethe/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 32

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/06/dante-s-purgatory-canto-32-retelling-forest-of-eden-pageant-of-church-history/>

PURGATORY: CANTO 33

<https://davidbruceblog.wordpress.com/2017/03/07/dante-s-purgatory-canto-33-retelling-forest-of-eden-purgation-completed/>

Appendix C: SHAMELESS COMMERCE

David Bruce's Amazon Author Bookstore

http://www.amazon.com/David-Bruce/e/B004KEZ7LY/ref=ntt_athr_dp_pel_pop_1

David Bruce's Smashwords Bookstore

<http://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/bruceb>

David Bruce's Apple iBookstore

<https://itunes.apple.com/ie/artist/david-bruce/id81470634>

David Bruce's Barnes and Noble Books

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/c/david-bruce>

David Bruce's Lulu Bookstore

<http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/brucebATohioDOTedu>

Appendix D: SOME BOOKS BY DAVID BRUCE

Retellings of a Classic Work of Literature

Ben Jonson's The Alchemist: A Retelling

Ben Jonson's Bartholomew Fair: A Retelling

Ben Jonson's Volpone, or the Fox: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's Doctor Faustus: Retellings of the 1604 A-Text and of the 1616 B-Text

Dante's Inferno: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Purgatory: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Paradise: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Divine Comedy: A Retelling in Prose

The Famous Victories of Henry V: A Retelling

From the Iliad to the Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose of Quintus of Smyrna's Posthomerica

The History of King Leir: A Retelling

Homer's Iliad: A Retelling in Prose

Homer's Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose

Jason and the Argonauts: A Retelling in Prose of Apollonius of Rhodes' Argonautica

John Ford's The Broken Heart: A Retelling

John Ford's 'Tis Pity She's a Whore: A Retelling

King Edward III: A Retelling

Tarlton's Jests: A Retelling

The Trojan War and Its Aftermath: Four Ancient Epic Poems

Virgil's Aeneid: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 5 Late Romances: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 10 Histories: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 11 Tragedies: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 12 Comedies: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 38 Plays: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 1 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 2 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 1 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 2 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 3 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 3: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's All's Well that Ends Well: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's As You Like It: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Coriolanus: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Cymbeline: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Hamlet: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Henry V: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Henry VIII: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's King John: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's King Lear: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Love's Labor's Lost: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Macbeth: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Measure for Measure: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Merry Wives of Windsor: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Othello: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Pericles, Prince of Tyre: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Richard II: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Richard III: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Tempest: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Timon of Athens: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Two Gentlemen of Verona: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Two Noble Kinsmen: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale: A Retelling in Prose

Children's Biography

Nadia Comaneci: Perfect Ten

Personal Finance

How to Manage Your Money: A Guide for the Non-Rich

Anecdote Collections

250 Anecdotes About Opera

250 Anecdotes About Religion

250 Anecdotes About Religion: Volume 2

250 Music Anecdotes

Be a Work of Art: 250 Anecdotes and Stories

The Coolest People in Art: 250 Anecdotes

The Coolest People in the Arts: 250 Anecdotes

The Coolest People in Books: 250 Anecdotes

The Coolest People in Comedy: 250 Anecdotes

Create, Then Take a Break: 250 Anecdotes

Don't Fear the Reaper: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Art: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Books: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Books, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Books, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Comedy: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Dance: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families, Volume 4: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families, Volume 5: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Families, Volume 6: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Movies: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Music: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Music, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Music, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Neighborhoods: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Relationships: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Sports: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Sports, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Television and Radio: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People in Theater: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People Who Live Life: 250 Anecdotes

The Funniest People Who Live Life, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Kindest People Who Do Good Deeds, Volume 1: 250 Anecdotes

The Kindest People Who Do Good Deeds, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

Maximum Cool: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Movies: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Politics and History: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Politics and History, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Politics and History, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Religion: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People in Sports: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People Who Live Life: 250 Anecdotes

The Most Interesting People Who Live Life, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes

Reality is Fabulous: 250 Anecdotes and Stories

Resist Psychic Death: 250 Anecdotes

Seize the Day: 250 Anecdotes and Stories

Previously Published Under a Pseudonym

Candide's Two Girlfriends

The Erotic Adventures of Candide

Honey Badger Goes to Hell — and Heaven

I Want to Die — Or Fight Back

Free Discussion Guide Series

Dante's Inferno: A Discussion Guide

Dante's Paradise: A Discussion Guide

Dante's Purgatory: A Discussion Guide

Forrest Carter's The Education of Little Tree: A Discussion Guide

Homer's Iliad: A Discussion Guide

Homer's Odyssey: A Discussion Guide

Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice: A Discussion Guide

Jerry Spinelli's Maniac Magee: A Discussion Guide

Jerry Spinelli's Stargirl: A Discussion Guide

Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal": A Discussion Guide

Lloyd Alexander's The Black Cauldron: A Discussion Guide

Lloyd Alexander's The Book of Three: A Discussion Guide

Mark Twain's Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: A Discussion Guide

Mark Twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer: A Discussion Guide

Mark Twain's A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court: A Discussion Guide

Mark Twain's The Prince and the Pauper: A Discussion Guide

Nancy Garden's Annie on My Mind: A Discussion Guide

Nicholas Sparks' A Walk to Remember: A Discussion Guide

Virgil's Aeneid: A Discussion Guide

Virgil's "The Fall of Troy": A Discussion Guide

Voltaire's Candide: A Discussion Guide

William Shakespeare's 1 Henry IV: A Discussion Guide

William Shakespeare's Macbeth: A Discussion Guide

William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Discussion Guide

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: A Discussion Guide

William Sleator's Oddballs: A Discussion Guide