

The Envious Shore Competes with the Floating Gardens

While enjoying this vibrant picture of the shores around Lake Texcoco, in dealing with lines 216–217, remember that Landívar was not an ornithologist, and *passeridae* is a large group of birds. He could have seen one of the many grosbeaks.

- 205 Hās āgrī fluitantis opēs, hunc aemula cultum
 Proxima rīpa dolet, sēsēque vīrentibus ulmīs
 Et cerasīs, faetāque pyrō, mālōque rubentī
 Et laurō et pīnū cēdrōque et quercubus altīs,
 Vēreque certātīm distinguit prāta perennī.
 210 Quīn etiam lūcō volucrēs tot condit opacō,
 Ut blandō percussa sonet modulāmine silva.
 Hinc pennāta cohors variō distincta colōre
 Gaudet iter liquidum pictīs abscondere pennīs
 Gutturē festivōs lūsūs per ināne canōrō
 215 Effingēns, dulcēsque ciēns per littora cantūs.
 Dulce canit passer, roseīs quem fūsa capillīs
 Crista tegit, plūmaeque fluunt per colla rubentēs.

VOCABULARY

- abscond•o –ere abscondi absconditum** to cut through, break
aemul•us –a –um *adj* jealous, envious
bland•us –a –um *adj* charming, pleasant
cio cire to move; shake
cultus cultus *m* tillage, crop, civilization, worship
distinguo•o –ere distinxī distinctum to decorate, distinguish
dol•eo –ere –ui –itum to grieve, hurt; be painful
effingo•o –ere effinxi effictum to fashion, shape
f(a)et•us –a –um *adj* fruit-bearing, fertile