

## AMORES I. 3

- Iusta precor: quae me nuper praedata puella est,  
 aut amet aut faciat, cur ego semper amem.  
 a, nimium volui: tantum patiatur amari,  
 audierit nostras tot Cytherea preces.  
 5 accipe, per longos tibi qui deserviat annos;  
 accipe, qui pura norit amare fide.  
 si me non veterum commendant magna parentum



- 1 **precor, -ārī, -atus:** *to pray for, beg, implore.*  
**praedor, -ārī, -ātus:** *to take as prey, catch.*  
**puella:** the first reference to the girl Ovid will love. We now know that the subject of his poetry will be heterosexual love. *Puella* is the traditional word used by Latin love elegists for the young woman who is the object of their desire.
- 2 **amet:** a jussive subjunctive, as is *faciat*.  
**amem:** a deliberative subjunctive in a question implying doubt or indignation.
- 3 **a:** exclamation expressing anguish.  
**nimius, -a, -um:** *too much, too great.*  
**patiatur:** a jussive subjunctive.
- 4 **audierit:** a syncopated form of the future perfect indicative.  
**nostras:** Ovid here employs a poetic convention in using a first person plural adjective with singular intent.  
**Cytherēa, -ae (f.):** refers to Venus; an epithet taken from the name of the island in the Aegean Sea known for its worship of the goddess.  
**prex, -cis (f.):** *prayer.*
- 5 **dēserviō, -īre:** *to devote oneself, serve zealously.* Here, a present subjunctive used in a relative clause of characteristic. Ovid refers to a standard idea of Latin love elegy that the lover is enslaved by his lover or by his emotion.
- 6 **accipe:** this ANAPHORA draws attention to the poet's offering himself as a devoted, skilled lover.  
**noscō, -ere, nōvī, nōtum:** *to learn.* Here it is a syncopated form of the perfect subjunctive *noverit*. Like *deserviat* (5), it too occurs in a relative clause of characteristic.
- 7 **si:** *etsi.*  
**commendō, -āre, -āvī, -ātum:** *to recommend, make agreeable or attractive.*  
 This is the first protasis in a series of four simple conditions all using the present indicative.