

Percy Bysshe Shelley: "Arethusa" (1820)

	Arethusa arose	
	From her couch of snows	couch - Lager
	In the Acroceraunian mountains, ---	
	From cloud and from crag,	crag - Klippe
5	With many a jag,	jag - Zacke
	Shepherding her bright fountains,	fountain - Quelle
	She leapt down the rocks,	leap – springen, hüpfen
	With her rainbow locks,	
	Streaming among the streams; ---	
10	Her steps paved with green	
	The downward ravine	ravine - Schlucht
	Which slopes to the western gleams;	slope - sich neigen, abfallen;
	And gliding and springing	gleam - Schimmer, schwacher Schein
	She went, ever singing,	
15	In murmurs as soft as sleep;	
	The Earth seemed to love her,	
	And Heaven smiled above her,	
	As she lingered towards the deep.	linger - sich hinziehen
	Then Alpheus bold,	bold - kühn
20	On his glacier cold,	glacier - Gletscher
	With his trident the mountain strook;	trident - Dreizack; strike - schlagen
	And opened a chasm	chasm - Kluft
	In the rocks – with a spasm	spasm - Zittern
	All Erymanthus shook.	
25	And the black south wind	
	It unsealed behind	
	The urns of the silent snow,	urn - Urne, Grabstätte
	And earthquake and thunder	earthquake - Erdbeben
	Did rend in sunder	rend in sunder - aufsprengen
30	The bars of the springs below.	bar - Riegel, Hindernis
	And the beard and the hair	
	Of the River-god were	
	Seen through the torrent's sweep,	torrent's sweep - reißender Strom
	As he followed the light	
35	Of the fleet nymph's flight	fleet - schnell, flink
	To the brink of the Dorian deep.	brink - Rand
	"Oh, save me! Oh, guide me!	
	And bid the deep hide me,	
	For he grasps me now by the hair!"	grasp - ergreifen
40	The loud Ocean heard,	
	To its blue depth stirred,	stirred - gerührt
	And divided at her prayer;	
	And under the water	
	Like Earth's white daughter	
45	Fled like a sunny beam;	flee - fliehen; beam - Strahl

Behind her descended
Her billows, unblended
With the brackish Dorian stream: ---
Like a gloomy stain
50 On the emerald main
Alpheus rushed behind, ---
As an eagle pursuing
A dove to its ruin
Down the streams of the cloudy wind.

55 Under the bowers
Where the Ocean Powers
Sit on their pearly thrones;
Through the coral woods
Of the weltering floods,
60 Over heaps of unvalued stones;
Through the dim beams
Which amid the streams
Weave a network of coloured light;
And under the caves,
65 Where shadowy waves
Are as green as the forest's night: ---
Outspeeding the shark,
And the sword-fish dark,
Under the Ocean's foam,
70 And up through the rifts
Of the mountain cliffs
They passed to their Dorian home.

And now from their fountains
In Enna's mountains,
75 Down one vale where the morning
Like friends once parted,
Grown single-hearted,
They ply their watery tasks.
At sunrise they leap
80 From their cradles steep
In the cave of the shelving hill;
At noontide they flow
Through the woods below
And the meadows of asphodel;
85 And at night they sleep
In the rocking deep
Beneath the Ortygian shore; ---
Like spirits that lie
In the azure sky
90 When they love but live no more.

billows - Wellen
unblended - unvermischt
gloomy stain - dunkler Fleck
emerald main - Smaragdhaupt
rush - stürzen
eagle - Adler; pursue - verfolgen
dove - Taube

bowers - Lauben

coral woods - Korallenwald
weltering - zahlreiche

dim - dunkel
amid - inmitten

caves - Höhlen

shark - Hai

foam - Schaum
rifts - Risse, Gräben

vale - Tal
once parted - einst getrennt
single-hearted - einmütig
ply - ausüben, erfüllen

cradles steep - steile Wiegen
shelving - sanft abfallend
noontide - Mittag

madows of asphodel - Asphodelen-
wiesen [*Asphodelen* = weiße Blumen]