

Τὰ εἰς ἑαυτόν

from Marcus Aurelius' Ancient Greek to the new English verse translation
Speaking Stoic: Unto thyself by Ginger F. Zaimis

Book Three

(excerpts of)

Regard not; anything
Which obliges one
To break from your faith – !
Neither which flings integrity
Behind, or embraces hate
Nor curses another,
Covets and/or shapes
That needing walls of secrecy,
Shrouded as curtains, draped.
Put first, one's own divinity,
And mind – all the while
Tending the seed
Of the Divine
Within, as holy deed.

. . .

Yet revere the no non-sense
– common sense.
It is often
Most uncommon
Wedded with the art
Of inner discerning
And teeter in check
With agility to enact
– sound judgment.

. . .

Yet remember the body; behold
Mind, soul, and – broth
Similar to cattle; the flesh unfolds
Pallid as butterfly, or velvet moth –
And if the soma hardens cold
Allow the inking of perception
Which niggles; flickers
Alive within your spirit –
As impulse that lingers
For they speak intuition
Higher knowing from within
Like puppet-strings taut above,
Allow their intervention –
Though safe-guard the mind, vigilant
In wellness like sage-guide, diligent
As both student and teacher
Of wisdom giv'eth
And/or received.

This shall delineate you, good
One that can love – embrace
Any form; color of thread
Sown within his or her as innate
Less poison that pollutes the head
And/or the divinity that speak
From within your center-piece
As the magneto dances; in braids
Expanding while it preserves
The heart which necessitates
Your music in favor
Assuring allegiance 'ever
With the gods – the universe.
Speak your voice true
All in justice, honor, truth.

And should some cast
You in mistrust –
For living joy-filled; in cheer
A life that gush'eth over
Like fresh spring or frothy beer
Sourced from the ever-well
Living without quarrel nor fear –
Or distraction, less detour.
Journey the long road
Which lead'eth all home
The ultimate path; our linchpin goal
Allowing purity of heart
At peace within the soul
Readying to depart
On moment's note –
With unforced harmony
Your inner being that doth dote

Become your destiny;
Become your fate.
One with one's Divinity
All which you shape –

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