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Hyginus, *De astronomia*

Italian?

15th century

text

- ff. 85r-144r Hyginus, *Astronomica*, Books I-IV.9 (Book II illustrated).
- ff. 85r-91r [H]IGINUS. M. fabio salutem & si te studio grammaticę artis inductum – illa quoque in simili causa posse constitui suspicamur. (= Hyginus, *Astronomica*, I, preface - 9; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 5-13).
- ff. 91r-126v Sed quoniam quę nobis de terrę positione dicenda fuerunt – Nos autem omnium corporum deformationem dicere instituimus. (= Hyginus, *Astronomica*, II, preface - II, 43; cf. Viré 1992, p. 14-94).
- ff. 126v-138r [I]Ncip<sup>e</sup>mus igitur incipiems a polo boreo protinus dicere – cum piscibus stellarum omnino xii – Quę ad figuraionem siderum pertinent ad hunc sinem nobis erunt dicta. Reliqua protinus dicemus. (= Hyginus, *Astronomica*, III, 1-40; cf. Viré 1992, p. 95-124)
- ff. 138r-144r [Q]Uoniam in initio spherę circuli quinque quomodo efficerentur - (ends imperfectly) ad eum locum ubi occidere dicatur, ibi montium magitudine ... (= Hyginus, *Astronomica*, IV, 1 - 9; cf . Viré 1992, pp. 125-136.)

## illustrations

canus annis longe angustus pretiosa libra dimi-  
dua pars pinguicula & p. p. p. cum hæc  
nra & capricornio Aquariu[m] autem cum pala-  
bus reliquo latere partem hoc enumeratur  
et quod erat annis cum cridane fluita & lpe-  
re donde erat cum cano cane & co signo  
quod propter ueritas arcus est illius annus  
et exinde hydri cum pinguicula qui nascit  
Homer omnibus non habens inde unde  
tum bellorum proponere que erat aut ultra  
aut ad forentiam aut secundariam sed de  
lactatione affectu letior letor ut supra  
diximus inuenimus efficiens ad maximam



**Anc**um Hesiodus  
aut esse **Catife** no-  
mine **hecyon** filium erit  
qui in arcada regnatur  
cumque studio venientem  
inductam ad diamantem  
applicuisse aqua non meditaretur illa dale-  
mum frater **urnifus** confundimur natum  
alba autem a luce compresum aeretur di-  
am suum ducere cunctum duxit  
etire non posse. Nam iam uero ingra-  
mante prodiit partus in flumine corporis  
excavatorum deflumus quam reveras?

fol. 91v

diana agnita est non obtemperare impetrante, et ea pro magnitudine suspensione non  
menstruorum retribuit remeacepta enim sa-  
ci ut immixta in uite spacio et concusa  
que a ergo arcto appellata in figura cor-  
poris arcuato praecepsit. Sed ut ad Am-  
phibium Condemnatum temporis luppiter finula  
ut effigiem diane quam uirginem tenia-  
rem ut adiutorum perqueritur annotata  
complecti auctorum comprehendit. Quod rega-  
ta a diana quid ei accidisse quid tam gau-  
tu intercedere illius pietatis ut tunc  
deinde laque propter eam responsum que  
huius luppitudinis cum diana conuicta  
qua quin in uirginem fusa uagabunda a quibus  
et ieiunio capta ad lyscenam pro munere  
in arciadum cum filio est deducta in due  
infellegit in lous tunc templum se con-  
silio quoniam confusum filium et leuis lae-  
quum quod accidit interficere cona-  
viret luppiter memorem patrem crepitam ca-  
lide cum filio inter fidem colliebat campa-  
rionibus flumen autem arctopelias nomina  
ut de quo poteris dicimus? Nonnulli ex-  
dixerunt quiam Cibla estis al hoc con-  
fessuris quidam diane uenient obtem-  
perare.



fol. 92r

satim ait ut interfuerit & postea caputum  
miser fides locum. Sed alia dicit quiam  
caputum impetrare esse perfecit. Invenimus  
autem quod sicut contrafide ut et  
manifesto deinceps deprehendit locum autem  
quod facilius posseum fuisse uterque mire  
est. Non enim cum reliqua lunarien auctis  
diametrum minus quam lunarien est. Et deinde  
stetit. Quod fidem ut performance  
eius talius cingitur utne fidelis figurauntur  
et similes. Hoc igitur ut complurum daturum  
nisi occidat qui usum aliae de causa effe  
in statuus negant. Utne Oceanus invenerit  
ut res ipsa relata fides ut pertinet  
in eundem quod tamen illi narrat  
ut aliis facilius videatur. Unde per alios  
autem regat. Utne Luna regat non ea  
alio modo negat dicit appellatione & non ly  
cavit ut est tunc filium huiusmodi neptu  
retra Cetera ipsius enim est non nominari.  
Aduictus autem superfluo conuenientem  
ut illi nomen mox invadat gela domosq[ue]

et usus de roubzynck et vels nymphal  
et quod nomine et iurem que huius  
accutur a meditato & foliatis tunc  
affinitate & portum quod ibi est a quo pao  
rem parvum signatum apollinaris. Hanc  
autem mire curia fuit qui lous fuerat  
admiratus. Non nulli autem helens &  
emundata nymphal est non mutatis  
datur. Et hoc per beneficium mundi  
allatior & utraque res appellatur esse  
qua nobis lepidissimum ducunt. Sed mihi  
nomen ardens complures plausu similes  
dixerunt & amicos res appellauerunt  
cum lye memore predicti et causa  
luno qui fideia prouidentia & numeru  
stellorum in uniusque specie corporis  
confluerint & non ardum sed plan  
fum nonnaturam ex festo filii  
dat que pars & maxime in uno loco  
detinere per beneficium habentrum reliquo  
autem quinque signatum plausu famula  
tertia laeta & quod proximum huic eſ-  
signatum boozet remittunt velutum  
qui postea plausu ducunt. Atque qui  
den non habet non illud plausu  
dicitur autem quod ait istud

fol. 93r

et ab hac parte ut quo tempore Cantabri ex-  
rector del quadrigentis varium dixerat quod  
eum canicula predeterat Quod iustum  
A ratiōne amicorum et ab hoc imperio ut certe  
flavent quod monnili ciebat ducant que  
quod certe tempore concursum exigitur  
enim quod annis deinceps lumen Homini etiam  
ciebat aperte ostendit que ex potestate sue  
ab hinc etiam amicorum Sed de hoc in medio  
relinquimus ne monna precepit eam  
memor fed ut ad populos reuocemur  
Hemipolis qui de fiducia fuscis ut Cervi  
cum non habere sed illa coniunctus est  
cum fulmine perirent Complures autem  
mox ducantur Ex hoc si probatio eiusdem  
fulminis frater demonstret invenimus  
duas phænomena et plausibiliter quod regnare  
met ut communis Nam plautius qui duxerit  
fuerit nihil minus sed ex bonis consuetudinibus  
phænomenum autem neccesario adductum  
quendamque habuerit ex eo bœus duos et  
mille ex opium primum plautius habuit  
cam illa legato quando accolo excedente ex  
apopli ex aliis Unde matrem intonuisse  
mutatum ut auctor cum inter fidem  
confundisse ex boeo appellaret Ex hoc  
autem patet donis etenim natura quod



fol 93v

le pallium negare, ut nonnum hilum  
est. Hic nam etiam auctum de-  
digunt filii deinceps, et in parte pri-  
mæ quæstus inter fratres fratres erit,  
ut nonnum filii. Se. Num et leu-  
prosternatio fæde peste declaratur, tamque  
cum precatione patrum percutitur, et signo  
ut fauillante se ex ante mortis flammam  
contra et fulgorum ac indumentum signum  
morbi ferit. Simile de causa Theofili  
fuit illa propositio, ut religione parentum in  
marie et pogon ambo confectum delibera-  
matu[m] multitudine maris praefatius levissi-  
mus fluidius ac mercede predetur a gemitu  
anulum minori ac attende coronam quis,  
nupsi a tunc mente acceptari vult  
compliribus laurentem genitum. Aliu[n]  
tamen a nemino accepta dicitur coronam  
quam Arvidius Theofili domi dedita de  
quem ei proprius varius etiam mag-  
nus tractuit ex eis onus. Hanc autem  
post Arvidius monens, libidinum inter side



fol. 97v

undicent astare Alii promethea in monte  
 cunctis mundum  
 Vix inter alia haec hic ut  
 carceribus aut de cunctis  
 quendam amorem mitto  
 facta delectudine orpho  
 et tristes qui calcep  
 et ogen filius cuius rei  
 maxime studiosus fuit  
 Iaq. coquimmo fuit  
 artificio fecit etiam ad  
 se audiendum alluculata  
 qui querens uxori curv  
 don mirem ad inferius  
 defenduisse existimatur  
 et de decimi proximo fuis exanimis  
 datus ppter liberum patrem Hunc omni  
 obliuione dulcissimus pertinenter. Contra ut  
 fastidio duramus. Solita iugur orpheus  
 amplius discens in olymbo miret quod  
 macedoniam dundat a Thessalia Sed  
 carceribus aut in pandore fedeli quam  
 certe delatorum dictuere libet obser  
 vatusque que opul ent disperperare  
 interfici. Sed ali dicunt quod inut  
 beris hordeum et id arcedisse. Autem

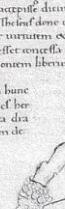


autem collecta membra lepidulae tradidit  
et levit que maxime poterunt benecho illa  
ut microsca figurae figuram stellis inter si-  
data possit apollini et louti manifestare quo  
rum expositus Apollinum maxime laudare  
I uppper autem filio benechium conciliet.  
A hanc autem diuina Mercurium quoniam primus  
lyram stellam in cyclone monte arcadic cap-  
tem chordal inimiculam ex Achlamandum nu-  
mero quod Maria una ex aliarum numero  
etler qui mercuria est matter Denide posita  
quoniam Apollini bouis absquefere deponens  
ab eo esse quo filii famulus ignorans poterit  
A pluit ut diceret huc te mercurium quam con-  
cessit et ab eo in ungulam quandam manere  
acceptum quoniam manu tenet mercurium quoniam  
preferenter in arcadas et indutus duos  
diaphasis implorans te coniurando cor-  
pare alium alio appetere ut qui dimicare  
inter se o uideamus ungulam inter utram  
subiecti laique discesserint Quo facta es  
ungulam pacis causa dixerit esse constitutas  
Hoc nulli enim statuerit caducere duos das-  
cones imploratus ungula fuisse quod in  
um mercurio fuerat pacis causa exemplo et  
achles et in rebus haustim certiori  
bus ungula munierit Sed ut ad propositos

fol. 94r

magistris or qui seruimus filios  
miseris ardoribus autem de-  
magnifico & in eis preterea  
sabre thesa*fratris fratelli* credi-  
tum est. Se enim ex love-  
nade esse declarare latuit  
in panico perit aliud sign  
et ex eo natus blasphemus  
falsiforme ab indumentis semper  
vixit. Similis iacet *thesauri* fine  
aut religione parenti in  
pot acutus et scilicet deplorans  
intuitu misericordia tenuissi-  
ma fadu*merita* perdere a quib  
non ex adiutorio omnium quas  
enim numeri supererat multa  
et laetorum gemmis. Aliu  
anno appelle dicuntur etiam  
dome *thesauri* domini deduc-  
re variatus & camini mag-  
no effet conuersa. Hanc autem  
et monasteri liberum inter fide-

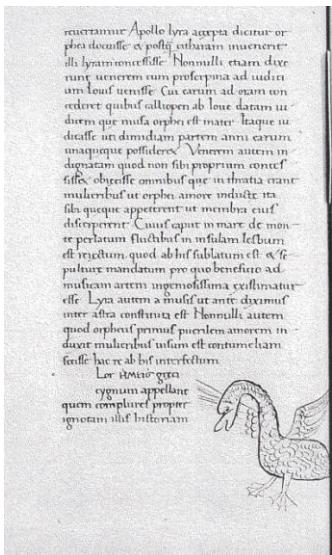
et amit hunc  
liberum ber  
cupit dia  
beatum de



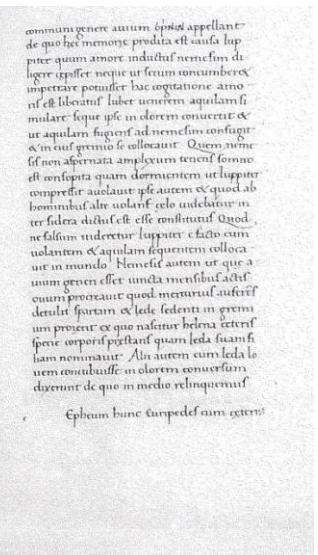
fol. 98r

fol. 99v

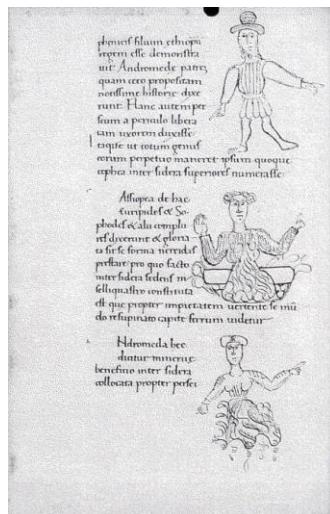
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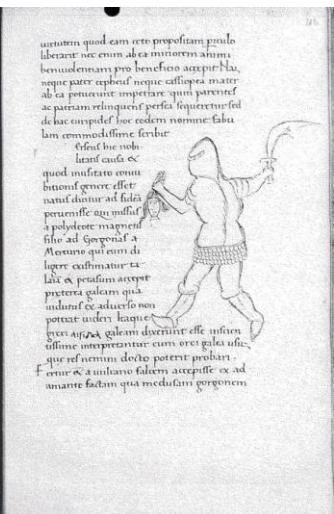
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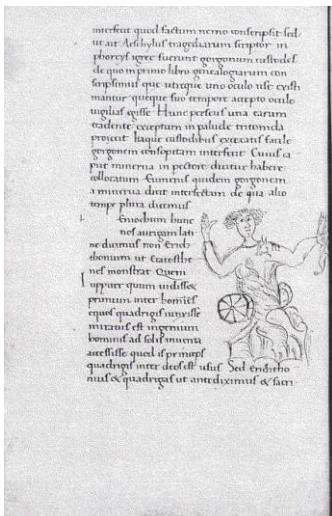
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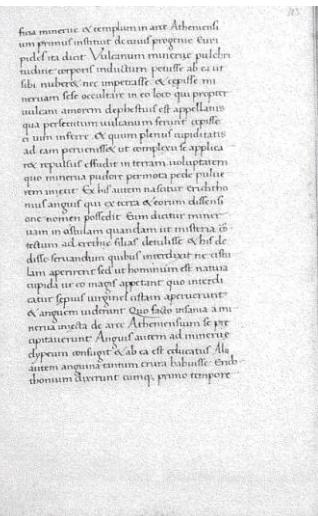
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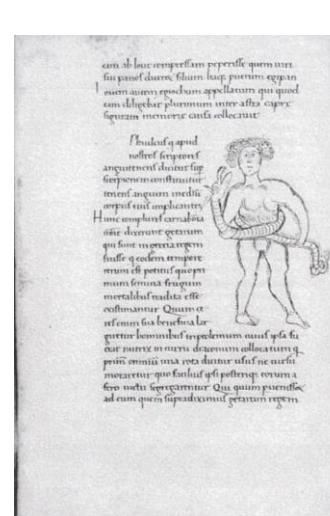
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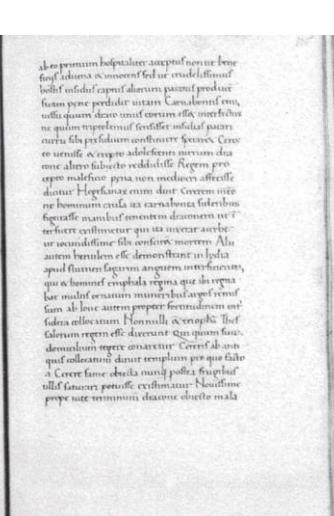
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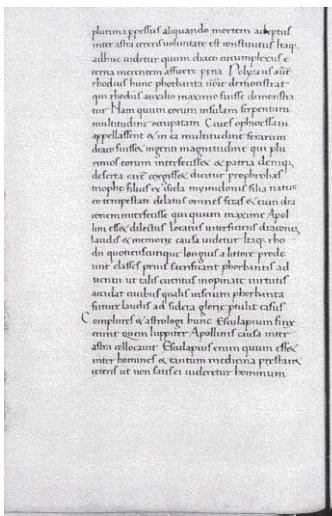
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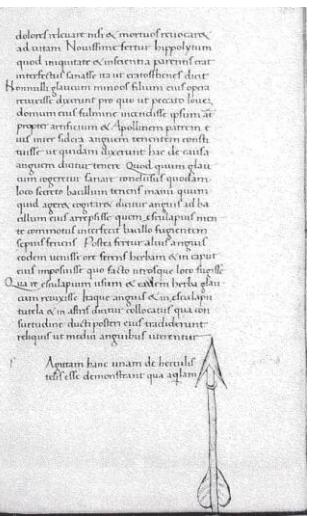
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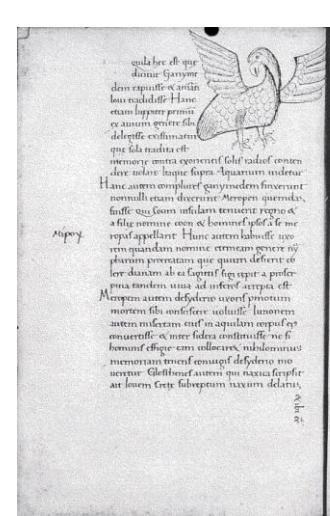
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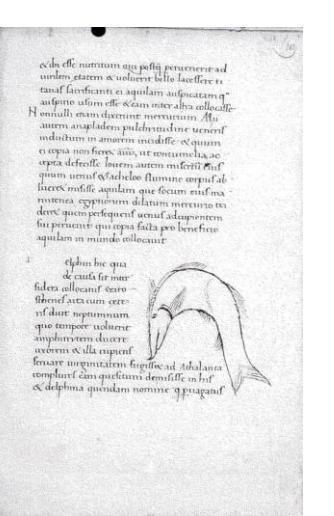
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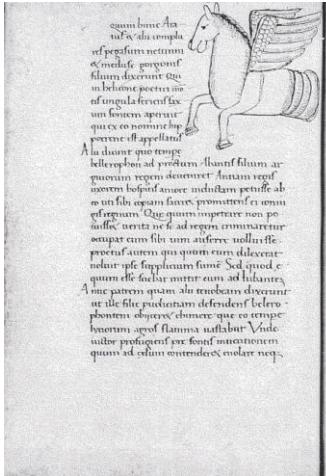
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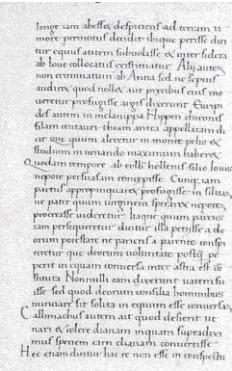
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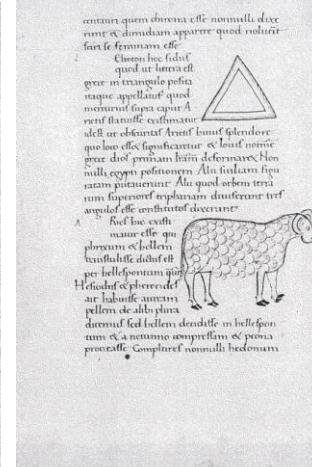
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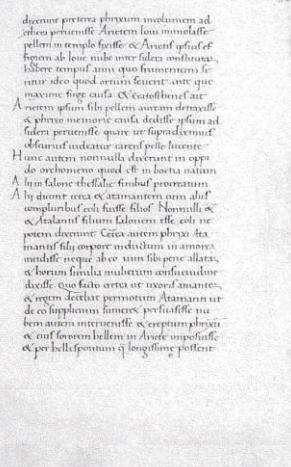
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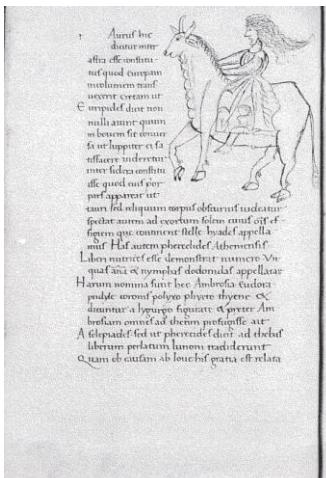
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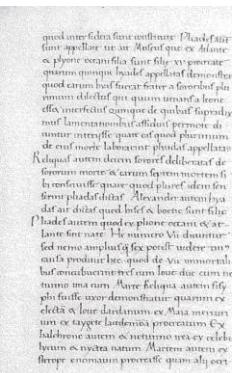
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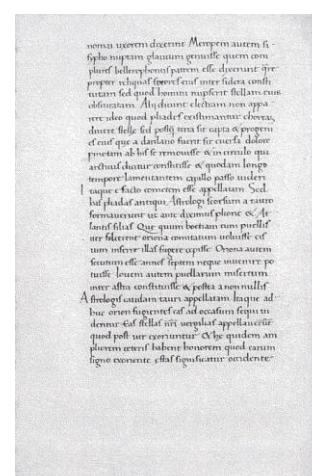
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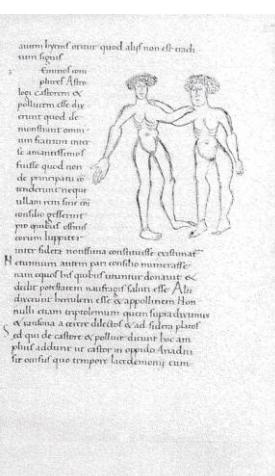
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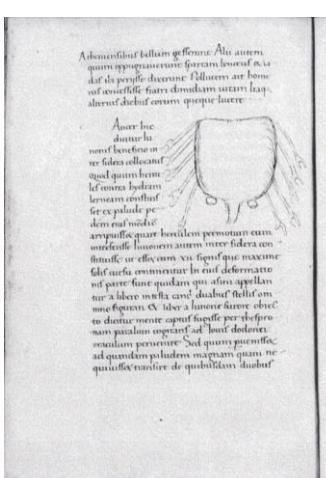
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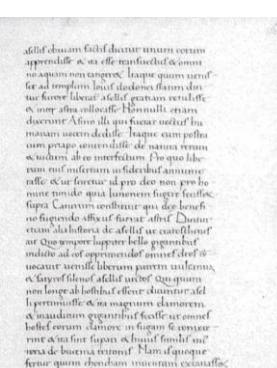
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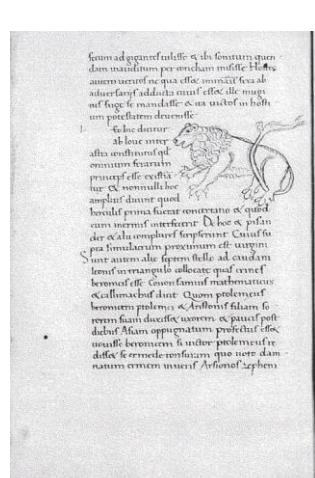
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fol 115v



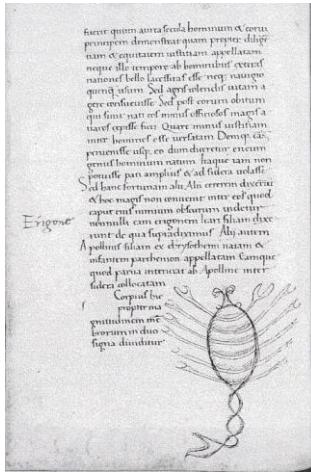
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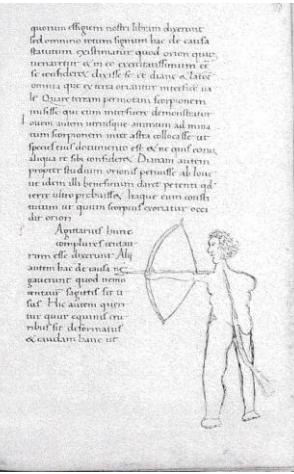
fol 116v



fol 117r



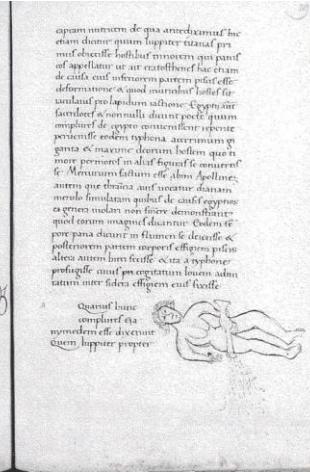
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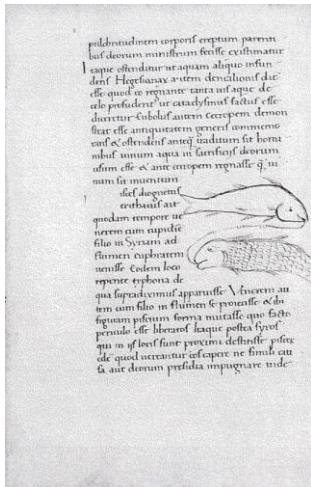
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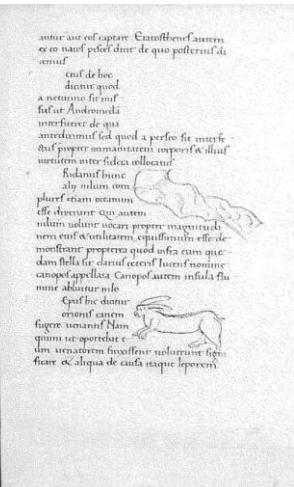
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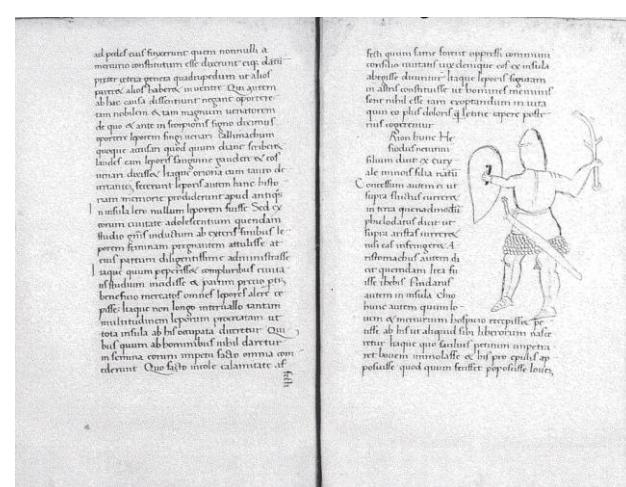
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fol. 119v



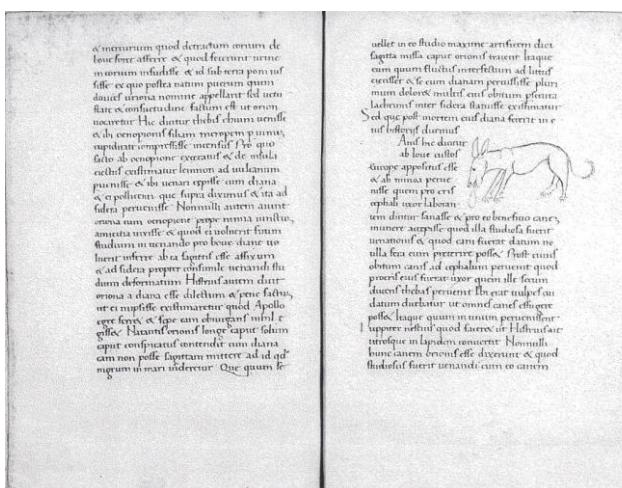
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fol. 120v



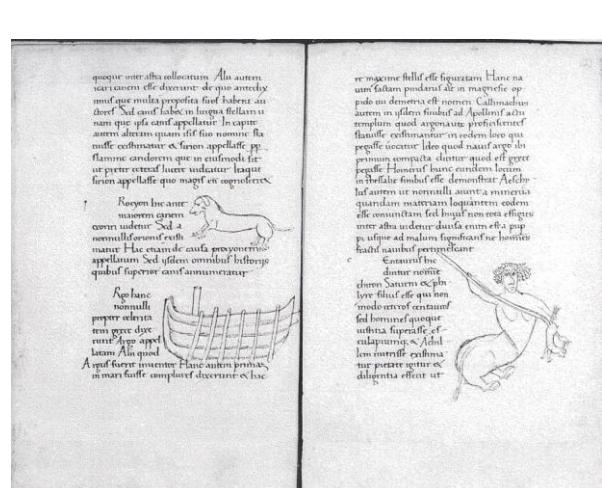
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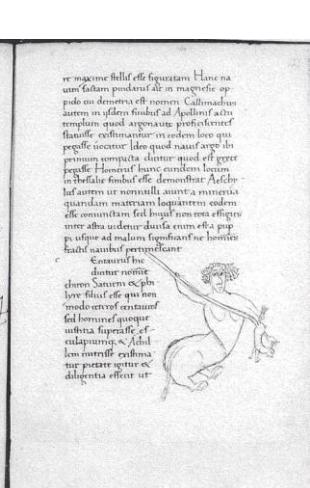
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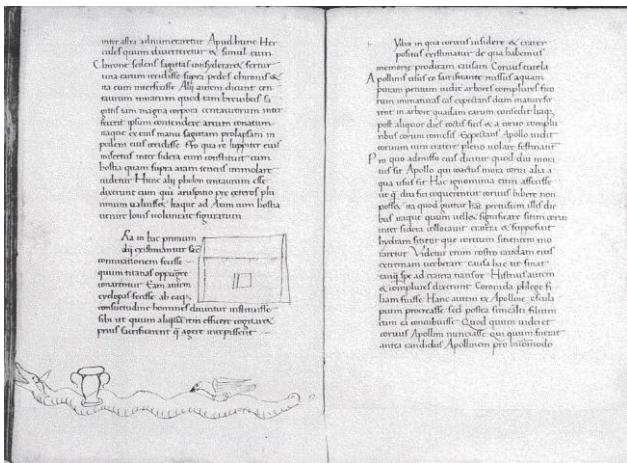
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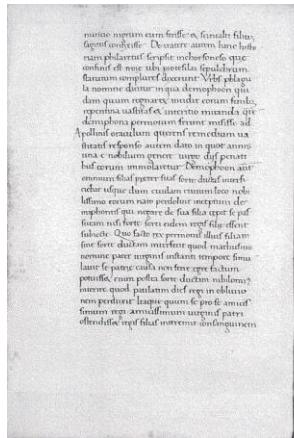
fol. 122v



fol. 123r



fol. 123v



fol. 124r



fol. 125r

## illustrations

- ff. 91v-125r      Very crude, scratchy line drawings of 39 of the constellations in black ink.  
DRACO is missing as a constellation, but there may be elements of his body in the drawings of Ursa Maior and Ursa Minor. The constellations are not marked with stars.  
CETUS is missing, though there is a space for it.

The humanist rotund script was obviously completed first and the scribe has left very small indentations in his block of prose for the illustrations. In some cases, no space has been left at all and the figures are inelegantly squeezed into the margins. Spaces for oversize initials have been left at the beginning of each chapter. As the quality of the drawings is much lower than that of the script, it would seem that the manuscript was not completed as originally planned and that the illustrations were added at a later date (probably a late 15th century) by an inexpert hand. See the notes, below.

fol. 91v      **URSA MAIOR** stands facing to the left with her very large tongue sticking out. She stands on top of something that is hard to identify, but may indicate a vestige of the figure of Draco.

fol. 92v      **URSA MINOR** stands at a slight angle to the left with its very large tongue sticking out. It stands on a wavy line that looks something like a stream (less likely to be remnants of **DRACO**)

- fol. 94r **BOOTES** stands facing the viewer dressed in a short tunic with a large belt. He has both of his arms out to the side and tilts his head slightly to the right. He seems to have a small head coming out from under the hem of his skirt.
- fol. 97r **CORONA BOREALIS** is a circlet of 9 star-shaped stars.
- fol. 98r **HERCULES** kneels to the left, with his weight on his right shin and he raises his left leg. He is nude and faces away from the viewer. He holds his left hand down in front of his body. It is covered by a lion's skin (with face, tail and one paw visible). He holds a club behind his head with his right hand.
- fol. 99v **LYRA** is depicted as a lute.
- fol. 100v **CYGNUS** faces to the left and bows its long neck. Its wings are upraised to either side.
- fol. 101v **CEPHEUS** is depicted facing the viewer, wearing a short tunic with a belt and long sleeves. He has a hat on his head and a beard. His hands are held loosely by his sides.
- CASSIOPEIA** wears a long dress that ends in a flourish around her knees. She seems to sit on a large cushion and raise her arms to either side with her elbows bent so that her arms form a 'W'.
- ANDROMEDA** stands facing the viewer in a long dress that ends in a series of flourishes around her waist. She points downwards with her right hand and upwards with her left.
- fol. 102r **PERSEUS** is dressed in a full suit of armour, including a helmet with only a slit for the eyes. He walks to the left and faces away from the viewer. He holds the Medusa's head by the hair in front of him with his left hand and raises a curved scimitar in his right hand behind his head.
- fol. 102v **AURIGA** faces towards the viewer and is dressed in a robe that ends with a series of flourishes around his knees. He has a circular, wheel-like object placed under his buttocks, like the end of a cushion. He holds both his hands upraised and has a small goat's head drawn into his left shoulder and two small goats (looking like sea-horses) in his left hand.
- fol. 104v **Ophiuchus** stands facing the viewer and is nude. The **SERPENS** wraps once around the man's middle above his genitals and its head is to the left and its tail, which has a large knot in it, is to the right. The snake has a beaky mouth and looks upwards.

- fol. 106r **SAGITTA** is an arrow that points to the top of the page.
- 108v **AQUILA** stands facing to the right, but turns its head back to the left, over its shoulder. Its wings are raised and outstretched to either side.
- fol. 109r **DELPHINUS** is a long fish with a pointed nose (like a pike) that arches its back to form a ‘C’. The back is uppermost on the page.
- fol. 110v **PEGASUS** is depicted as half a winged horse flying to the left, with its wings raised. Its belly ends in three tubes, like a Michelin Man.
- fol. 111v **TRIANGULUM** is two concentric triangles.
- ARIES** stands facing to the right, with fleece that looks like fish scales and curly horns on its head.
- fol. 113v **TAURUS** is depicted as a full bull trotting to the left with his right forefoot raised. He carries a female figure on his back who wears a long dress and her hair is streaming out behind her.
- fol. 115r The **GEMINI** are two nude males who stand facing the viewer. Their inner arms are interlocked on each other’s shoulders and their outer arms are held down by their sides.
- fol. 115v **CANCER** has U-shaped body with a long nose and faces towards the bottom of the page. He has two protruding eyes and 5 legs with forked ends on either side of his body.
- fol. 116v **LEO** stands to the left, with a very large mane, long claws on all four feet and his tail is curled beneath his back legs.
- fol. 117r **VIRGO** is a winged female figure wearing a crown on her head and with a long dress with a full skirt. She raises her hands to either side and holds bunches of flowers in each hand.
- fol. 117v **SCORPIO** faces towards the tops of the page and has 6 legs of almost equal length on either side. His nose is shaped a bit like a *fleur-de-lis* and he has two protruding eyes. He has a segmented tail and a forked sting.
- fol. 118r **SAGITTARIUS** is a satyr that faces to the left and is seen from the rear, showing his long horse’s tail. He holds his bow in his left hand and pulls the string with his right.

- fol. 118v      **CAPRICORN** faces to the left and has long, banded horns and a corkscrew tail that ends in a tri-lobe.
- fol. 119r      **AQUARIUS** is nude and lying on his back with his head to the left, facing the viewer. He holds a long-necked urn near its foot in front of his hips and in pours water down the page.
- fol. 119v      **PISCES** swim in opposite directions with both their backs facing upwards. They are tied by a line at their mouths. The top fish has no scales, but the bottom one does.
- fol. 120r      **CETUS** is missing.
- ERIDANUS** is depicted as a bit of stream with small wavelets shown (possible Arabic influence here?).
- LEPUS** runs to the left.
- fol. 121r      **ORION** is shown in full armour including a helmet with a slit for the eyes. It seems as though the upper part of his torso faces away from the viewer and the lower half faces towards the viewer. He holds a teardrop-shaped shield in his left arm so that the inner straps are visible and holds a knobbly stick in his upraised right hand. He has a sword and scabbard at his waist.
- fol. 122r      **CANIS MAIOR** stands to the left, with his head down and his tongue sticking out (his tongue is so large it looks like a speech balloon).
- fol. 122v      **CANIS MINOR** looks like a dachshund and faces to the left.
- NAVIS** is just the hull of a wooden ship with a cut-off mast, 6 baton-like oars and two anchors at the right.
- fol. 123r      **CENTAURUS** is an odd amalgam – seeming to be half-horse and half-man, but his hind half has only two legs (a similar shape appears in Vat Reg lat 1324). His human half is nude and he holds a spear in his raised right hand with which he impales **LUPUS** (a rabbit) that is held by the heels in his left hand.
- fol. 123v      **ARA** looks like a simple building with a single, square window.
- HYDRA** is a long snake that has a dog's head and slithers to the left. His mouth is open and his tongue is sticking out. He has a two-handled **CRATER** on his back and **CORVUS** faces front, pecking at the snake's body.
- fol. 125r      **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** is a fat fish with a pointed nose that swims to the left.

notes

See above for a description of the illustrations. The text certainly derives from Florence Plut. 29,30, since both end imperfectly at Book IV, 9. But the pictures are modernised (15th century) versions of those that appear in the Florence manuscript. As they are so crude, one suspects that these images are not the invention of the Leiden artist, so probably derived from an updated intermediary copy of the Florence Manuscript.

Note also that the depiction of HERCULES without his Garden and ERIDANUS as a stylised river segment shows possible echoes of Arabic or globe-based influence here (as in the St Paul im Lavantthal and Florence manuscripts).

Manuscript end 15th c; ff. 1r-83r: ARATI PHILOSOPHI ASTRONOMICON of Manilius; ff. 83v-84v: blank; ff. 85r-144r: Hyginus, *Astronomica*, Books I-IV.9.

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bibliography

Not mentioned by BYVANCK 1949

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