53. Note the arrangement of words in this line. Note that **carpitur** is the same verb as in line 43. Does **muta silentia** seem redundant? Why does he use the phrase? Who is mute? Who else? Why?

54. Note the vivid description of the path. Definitely not the yellow-brick road.

55. **summae** – note its special meaning, like **medius**. Ask

56. **ne** – negative purpose and the subject is Orpheus, as he is the **amans** in the next line.

58. Note the difference with **prendi** and **prendere.** The subject is most likely Eurydice, but some translators argue for Orpheus. What do you think and why?

60-61.The verb is **est questa** , a deponent whose direct object is **quicquam**. Note that in the second half of 61, the same verb (**quereretur**) takes an indirect statement of **se amatam (esse)**.

62. **ille** – obviously Orpheus, while the antecedent of **quod** is the **supremum vale**, taken as a neuter noun.

Orpheus grieves - William Blake Richmond, 1885

65-71. These two similes are strange in that the first refers to an unnamed man who saw Cerberus at some point in time and was turned to stone (remember Medusa) and to a man named Olenos and his wife Lethaea, who are totally unknown from other authors and stories. Her name is suspect in that it is formed from Lethe, the river of forgetfulness.

65. **tria** – modifies **colla**. In the abl. abs., there is an understood **collo** with **medio portante**.

67. Note that the abl. abs. gives the result of what happens to the poor fellow.

68. Note that Olenos tries to substitute himself for his wife in two ways.

69. **figurae** – in the sense of **forma**. Note that **Olenos** has been pulled into the relative clause, but he is parallel with **tuque**

71. **sustinet** – note a different meaning for the verb, as in 47.
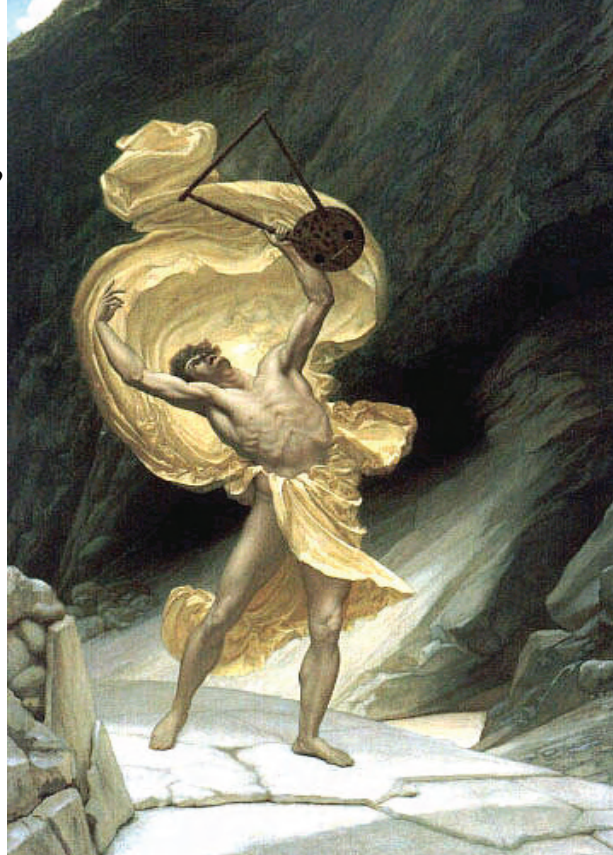
72. The participles recall line 40.

73. **portitor** – the one who carries repeatedly people in the Underworld, Charon the ferryman. **Diebus** – abl. duration of time, which in prose or regular Latin is accusative. Clearly a poetic use.

74. **Cereris sine munere** – the three words are a metonymy for bread. Why?

75. Which words are nominative here? Which one is predicate nominative? How do you know, besides context? Note that **fuere** is archaic perfect for **fuerunt**.

76.**questus** – used with an indirect statement again.

77. The two proper names are both mountains in Thrace, Orpheus' home, a mountainous region in the northeast section of the Balkan peninsula.

Orpheus and Eurydice - Elsie Russel, 1994
created by Donald Connor

Carpitur adclivis per muta silentia trames,
arduus, obscurus, caligine densus opaca,
nec procul afuerunt telluris margine summae: 55
hic, ne deficeret, metuens avidusque videndi
flexit amans oculos, et protinus illa relapsa est,
bracchiaque intendens prendique et prendere certans
nil nisi cedentes infelix arripit auras.
Iamque iterum moriens non est de coniuge quicquam   60
questa suo (Quid enim nisi se quereretur amatam?)
supremumque "Vale," quod iam vix auribus ille
acciperet, dixit revolutaque rursus eodem est.
　　　Non aliter stupuit gemina nece coniugis Orpheus,
quam tria qui timidus, medio portante catenas,   65
colla canis vidit, quem non pavor ante reliquit,
quam natura prior saxo per corpus oborto,
quique in se crimen traxit voluitque videri
Olenos esse nocens, tuque, o confisa figurae,
infelix Lethaea, tuae, iunctissima quondam   70
pectora, nunc lapides, quos umida sustinet Ide.
Orantem frustraque iterum transire volentem
portitor arcuerat: septem tamen ille diebus
squalidus in ripa Cereris sine munere sedit;
cura dolorque animi lacrimaeque alimenta fuere.   75
Esse deos Erebi crudeles questus, in altam
se recipit Rhodopen pulsumque aquilonibus Haemum.

53. adclivis, adclive (adj.) - **steep, sloping upward**
trames, tramitis (m.) - **path**
54. arduus, a, um - **steep, sheer** (Eng. arduous)
caligo, caliginis (f.) - **mist; fog; darkness**
55. margo, marginis (f.) - **edge, border**
56. deficio, deficere, defeci, defectus - **be lacking, fail** (Eng. deficient)
avidus, a, um - **greedy, desirous**
58. certo (1) - **strive***
59. cedo, cedere, cessi, cessum - **go; move; yield***
adripio, adripere, adripui, adreptus - **seize, clutch**
61. queror, queri, questus - **complain *** (Eng. querulous)
63. revolvo, revolvere, revolvi, revolutus - **roll back; return**
64. nex, necis (f.) - **death, slaughter**
65. catena, ae - **chain**
66. pavor, pavoris (m.) - **fear, dread, trembling**
67. oborior, oboriri, obortus - **rise, appear**

69. Olenos, i - **Olenos** (a spirit in the Underworld)
nocens, nocentis (adj.) - **guilty**
confido, confidere, confisus - **trust, rely upon, have faith in**
70. quondam (adv.) - **once, at one time, formerly***
71. umidus, a, um - **moist, watery**
Ide, Ides (f.) - **Mt. Ida** (in Crete, sacred to Jove; other in Phrygia, sacred to Cybele; Aeneas left Asia Minor from there)
73. portitor, portitoris (m.) - **ferryman**
arceo, arcere, arcui - **keep off, debar, stop***
74. squalidus, a, um - **filthy, dirty**
Ceres, Cereris (f.) - **Ceres** (goddess of grain)
75. alimentum, i - **nourishment, food** (Eng. alimentary canal)
76. Erebus, i - **Erebus** (god of darkness)
77. recipio, recipere, recepi, receptus (with reflexive) - **withdraw**
Rhodope, Rhodopes (f.) - **Mt. Rhodope** (in Thrace)
aquilo, aquilonis (m.) - **north wind**
Haemus, i - **Mt. Haemus** (in Thrace)

created by Donald Connor