

701. **Echionidis** – the patronymic refers to Pentheus, whose father was Echion, one of the five **anguigenae** (531) who founded Thebes. A word like **famulos** is understood as the D.O. of **iubet**.

702. **electus** – modifies **Cithaeron**, the mountain where the followers of Bacchus gather to celebrate their rites.

704-706. **ut . . . sic** – *as . . . so* introduces a simile.

706. **Pentheia** – the accusative in a Greek word. Note the arrangement of the words here.

707. **ira** – the final syllable is long by position, but not by nature – it is the subject of the verb **recanduit**.

708. **ferē** is in the middle of the phrase it qualifies.

710. **hīc** – the **i** must be long as the first syllable in the line, so the word is the adverb *here*.

711-712. **prima** – modifies **mater**, postponed to line 713 to heighten the horror of the actions described. Note that **misso** is here just an adjective, meaning (*having been*) *hurled, thrown*.

713. **adeste** – the imperative of **adsum**, not **adeo**.

715. The anaphora of **ille** is emphasized by the passive periphrastic and the expressed dative of agent, **mihi**.

716-718. The accusative adjectives and participles are all modifying an understood **Pentheia**.

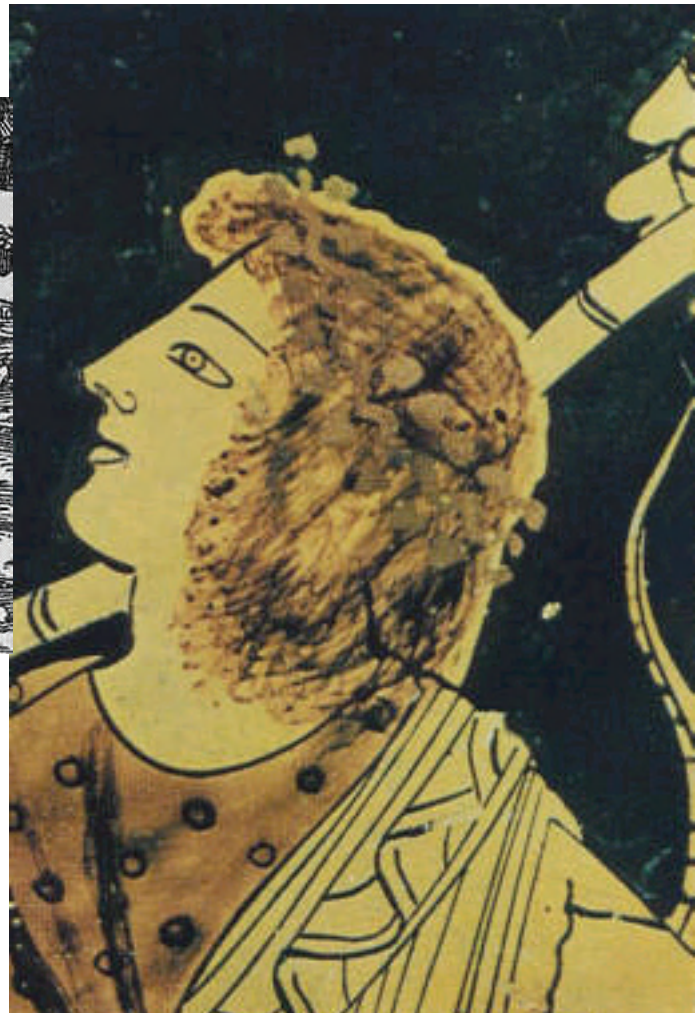
718. **se pecca(vi)sse** – indirect statement depending on **fatentem**.



Pentheus - Johann Wilhelm Baur Edition, 1659



Bacchantes hunting the wild boar (Pentheus)-
Ludovico Dolce -1558



Agave, Pentheus' Mother - Attic Red figure Krater

Perstat Echionides, nec iam iubet ire, sed ipse
vadit, ubi electus facienda ad sacra Cithaeron
cantibus et clara bacchantum voce sonabat.
Ut fremit acer equus, cum bellicus aere canoro
signa dedit tubicen pugnaeque adsumit amorem, 705
Pentheas sic ictus longis ululatus aether
movit, et audito clamore recanduit ira.

Monte fere medio est, cingentibus ultima silvis,
purus ab arboribus, spectabilis undique, campus:
hic oculis illum cernentem sacra profanis 710
prima videt, prima est insano concita cursu,
prima suum misso violavit Pentheas thyrso
mater et “O geminae” clamavit “adeste sorores!
Ille aper, in nostris errat qui maximus agris,
ille mihi feriendus aper.” Ruit omnis in unum 715
turba furens; cunctae coeunt trepidumque sequuntur,
iam trepidum, iam verba minus violenta loquentem,
iam se damnantem, iam se peccasse fatentem.

701. persto - cf. 662
Echionides, ae (m.) - **descendant of Echion** (epithet of
Pentheus)
702. vado, vadere - **go**
eligo, eligere, elegi, electus - **choose** (Eng. eligible, elect)
Cithaeron, Cithaeronis (m.) - **Mt. Cithaeron** (sacred to
Bacchus)
703. cantus, us (m.) - **song, chant*** (Eng. canticle)
clarus, a, um - **clear, loud, famous*** (Eng. clarity)
bacchantes, um (f.) - **Bacchantes** (female followers of
Bacchus)
sono - cf. 550
704. fremo - cf. 528
acer - cf. 540
aes - cf. 532
canorus, a, um - **tuneful, melodious**
705. tubicen, tubicinis (m.) - **trumpeter**
pugna, ae - **fight***
705. adsumo - cf. 558
706. icio, icere, ici, ictus - **strike** (Eng. the ictus or stress in
meter)
ululatus - cf. 528
aether, aetheris (m.) - **air, upper air*** (Eng. ether, aethereal)
707. recandesco, recandescere, recandui - **flame up again**

708. fere (adv.) - **almost***
cingo, cingere, cinxi, cinctus - **encircle, surround***
ultimum, i - **border, edge**
709. purus, a, um - **pure, clear**
spectabilis, e - **visible, conspicuous**
undique (adv.) - **from (on) all sides***
campus, i - **field***
710. cerno, cernere, crevi, cretus (certus) - **determine; see,**
perceive*
profanus, a, um - **unholy, wicked, profane**
711. concieo, conciere, concivi, concitus - **drive, rouse, stir**
insanus, a, um - **insane**
713. adsum, adesse, adfui, adfuturus - **be present***
714. aper, apri - **boar**
erro (1) - **wander***
715. ferio, ferire - **strike**
ruo - cf. 529
716. furo - cf. 623
coeo, coire, coii, coitus - **come together**
trepidus, a, um - **fearful**
717. minus (adv.) - **less***
violentus, a, um - **violent**
718. damno (1) - **condemn**
pecco (1) - **act wrongly, sin**
fateor - cf. 558