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Title: The Image of the House in Ovid's Tale of Philemon and Baucis

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Abstract

The paper deals with specific Ovidian literary representation of the house of the two protagonists in the story. In the dominating emphases of the idealized poverty of Philemon and Baucis a peculiar picture of the house is arising not only in Ovid's subject structure, but especially in narrative linguistic structure. Words Ovid makes use of to designate personages' house reflect its different functions in concrete contexts and refer to various literary and aesthetic purposes of the narrative. Denotations of house in Ovid's tale are remarkably chosen according to diverse descriptions, depicting the scene of theoxeny, the life of the two characters and their metamorphosis, which is preceded by the transformation of their house into a temple. We shall examine the authentic play of words in context as a herald of aesthetic content.