A medieval manuscript illustration depicting a scene of alchemy and the dark arts. On the left, a blue, multi-headed dragon-like creature with a long, segmented tail is shown. In the center, a figure in a white robe lies on the ground, possibly dead or unconscious, with a red object (possibly a bag or a piece of clothing) nearby. On the right, a large, ornate white vessel (possibly a cauldron or a jar) sits on a stand, with a red flame or fire visible beneath it. The background is a solid red color. The overall style is characteristic of medieval manuscript illumination.

# Alchemy and the Dark Arts in Medieval England



# Necromancy





# Necromancy Witchcraft





—  
Necromancy  
Witchcraft  
Grave-Robbing





—  
Necromancy  
Witchcraft  
Grave-Robbing  
Fortune Telling





—  
Necromancy  
Witchcraft  
Grave-Robbing  
Fortune Telling  
Love Potions





—  
Necromancy  
Witchcraft  
Grave-Robbing  
Fortune Telling  
Love Potions  
Vampires





—  
Necromancy  
Witchcraft  
Grave-Robbing  
Fortune Telling  
Love Potions  
Vampires  
The Philosophers'  
Stone








I DEMAND  
YOUR TUITION  
DOLLARS!!!

TYPICAL UofL  
BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
MEETING



A medieval manuscript illustration depicting a scene of alchemy and the dark arts. On the left, a blue, multi-headed dragon-like creature with a long, segmented tail is shown. In the center, a figure in a white robe lies on the ground, possibly dead or unconscious, with a red object (possibly a bag or a piece of clothing) nearby. On the right, a large, ornate white vessel (possibly a cauldron or a jar) sits on a stand, with a red flame or fire visible beneath it. The background is a solid red color. The overall style is characteristic of medieval manuscript illumination.

# Alchemy and the Dark Arts in Medieval England
































I  
requested  
non-  
smoking!!!







Hey, baby! Was  
your mother a  
beaver? Cuz damn!!



# •History of Magic





- History of Magic
- Potions





- History of Magic
- Potions
- Spells, Charms, and Divination





- History of Magic
- Potions
- Spells, Charms, and Divination
- Defense Against the Dark Arts





What is  
medieval?





# Timeline of Medieval England

**1066!!**

ca. 500:  
Beginning  
of Germanic  
migration

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First  
Viking  
invasion

1215:  
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1337:  
100  
Years'  
War  
begins

1455:  
Wars of the  
Roses Begin





What is  
magic?









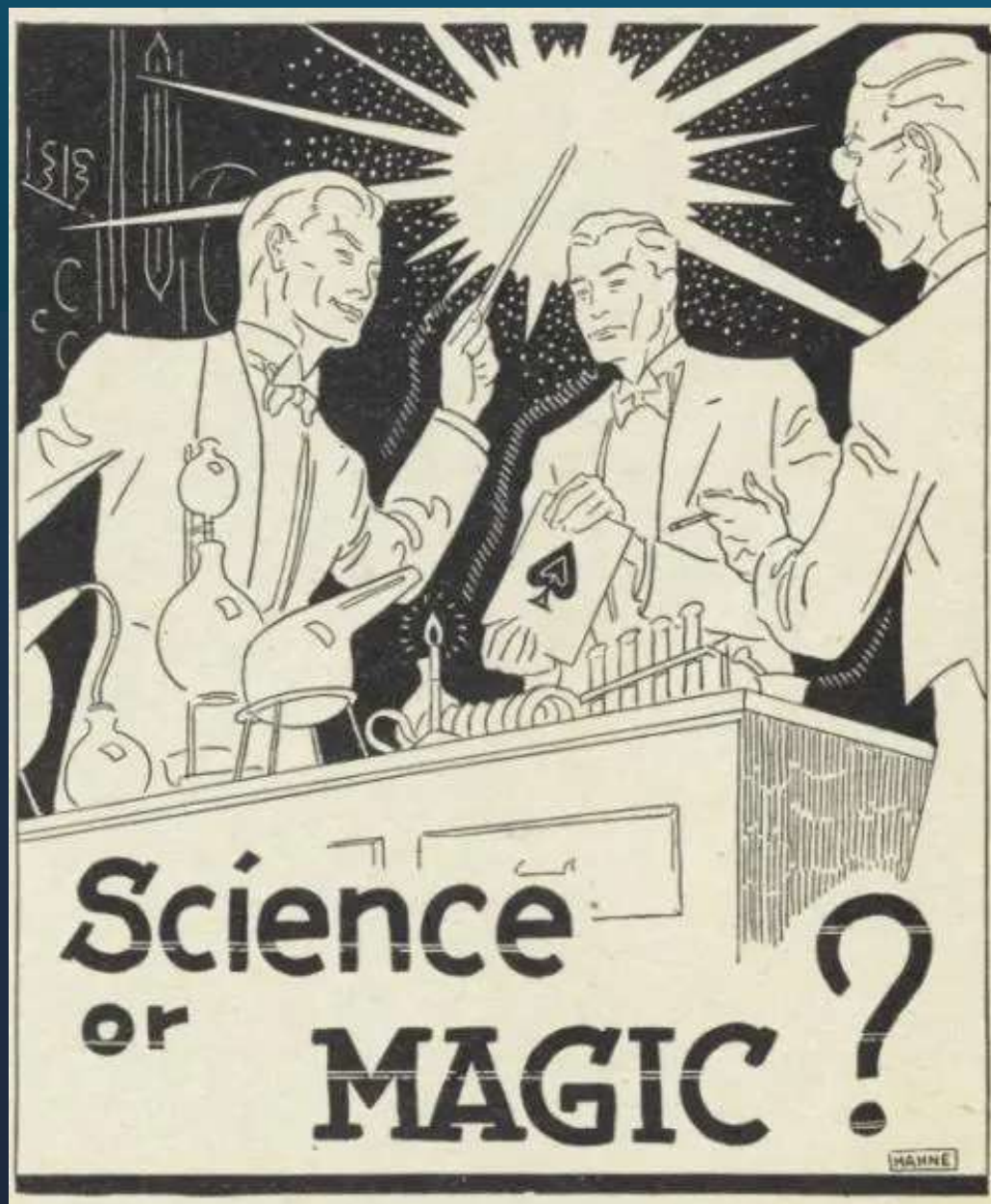


















He kepte his pacient a  
ful greet deel in houres  
by his **magik natureel**.

- *G. Chaucer,*  
*Canterbury Tales,*  
*General Prologue 416*  
[Composed *ca.* 1387-95]





# Magic is...

- Natural





# Magic is...

- Natural
- Immanent





# Magic is...

- Natural
- Immanent
- Reliant on perceived efficacy





# Magic is...

- Natural
- Immanent
- Reliant on perceived efficacy
- Trust-based





# Magic is...

- Natural
- Immanent
- Reliant on perceived efficacy
- Trust-based
- Evidence-based





SCIENCE





POLICE TELEPHONE

FREE FOR  
USE OF PUBLIC

ADVICE & ASSISTANCE  
OBTAINABLE IMMEDIATELY

OFFICERS & CARS  
RESPOND TO  
URGENT CALLS

PULL TO OPEN



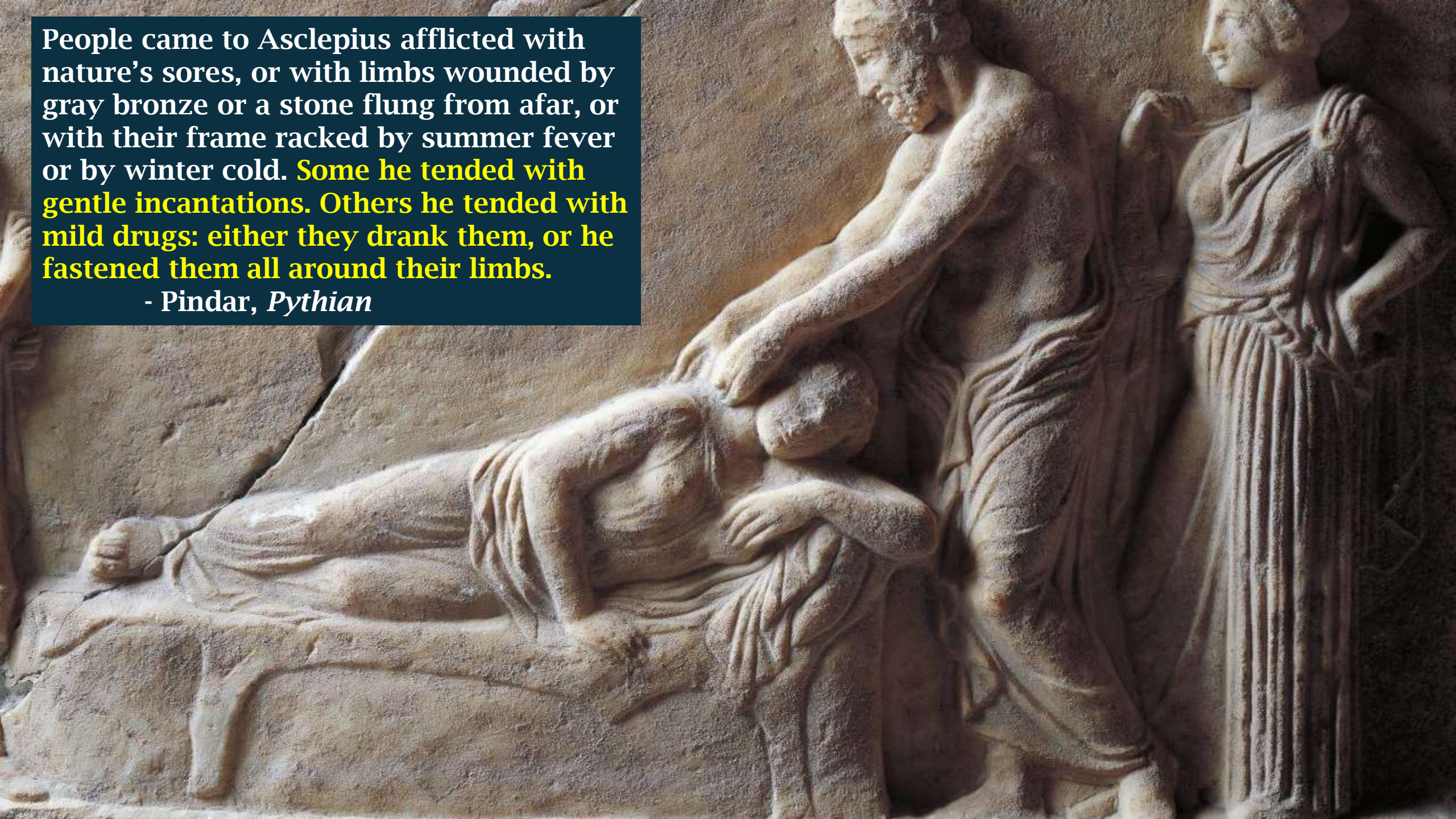






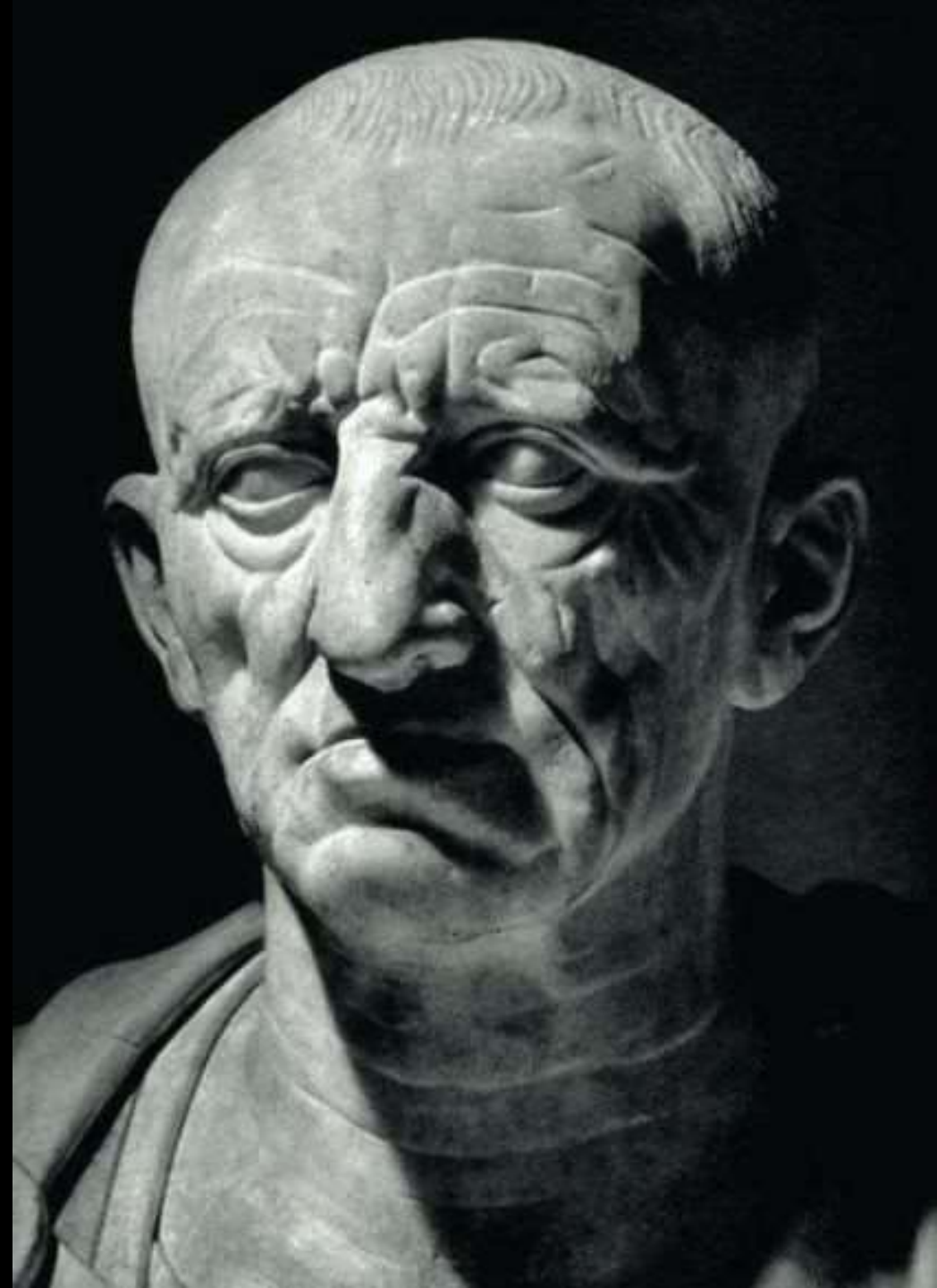
People came to Asclepius afflicted with nature's sores, or with limbs wounded by gray bronze or a stone flung from afar, or with their frame racked by summer fever or by winter cold. **Some he tended with gentle incantations. Others he tended with mild drugs: either they drank them, or he fastened them all around their limbs.**

- Pindar, *Pythian*



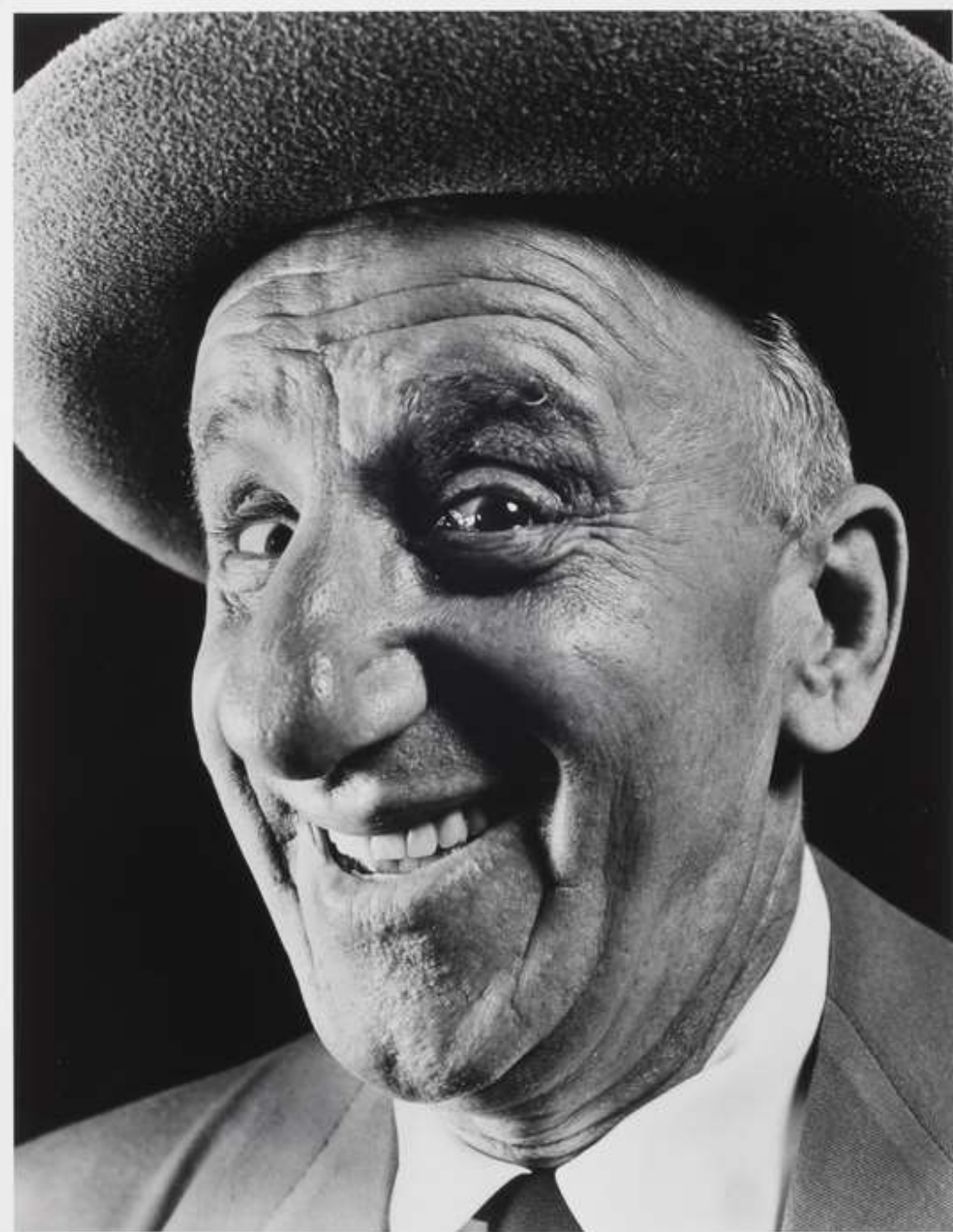


If you have a dislocation of any sort, it will be healed by this incantation. Take a green reed four or five feet long, split it down the middle, and have two men apply it to your hips. Begin the incantation, *motas vaeta daries dardares astataries dissunapiter*, until they come together. Wave a knife over them. When they have met and are touching each other, take the reed in your hand and cut it short on both right and left sides. Bind the reed-pieces to your dislocation or fracture and it will heal. Even so, use the incantation on a daily basis. Or, for a dislocation, you can use this one: *huat haut haut istasis tarsis ardannabou dannaustra*.





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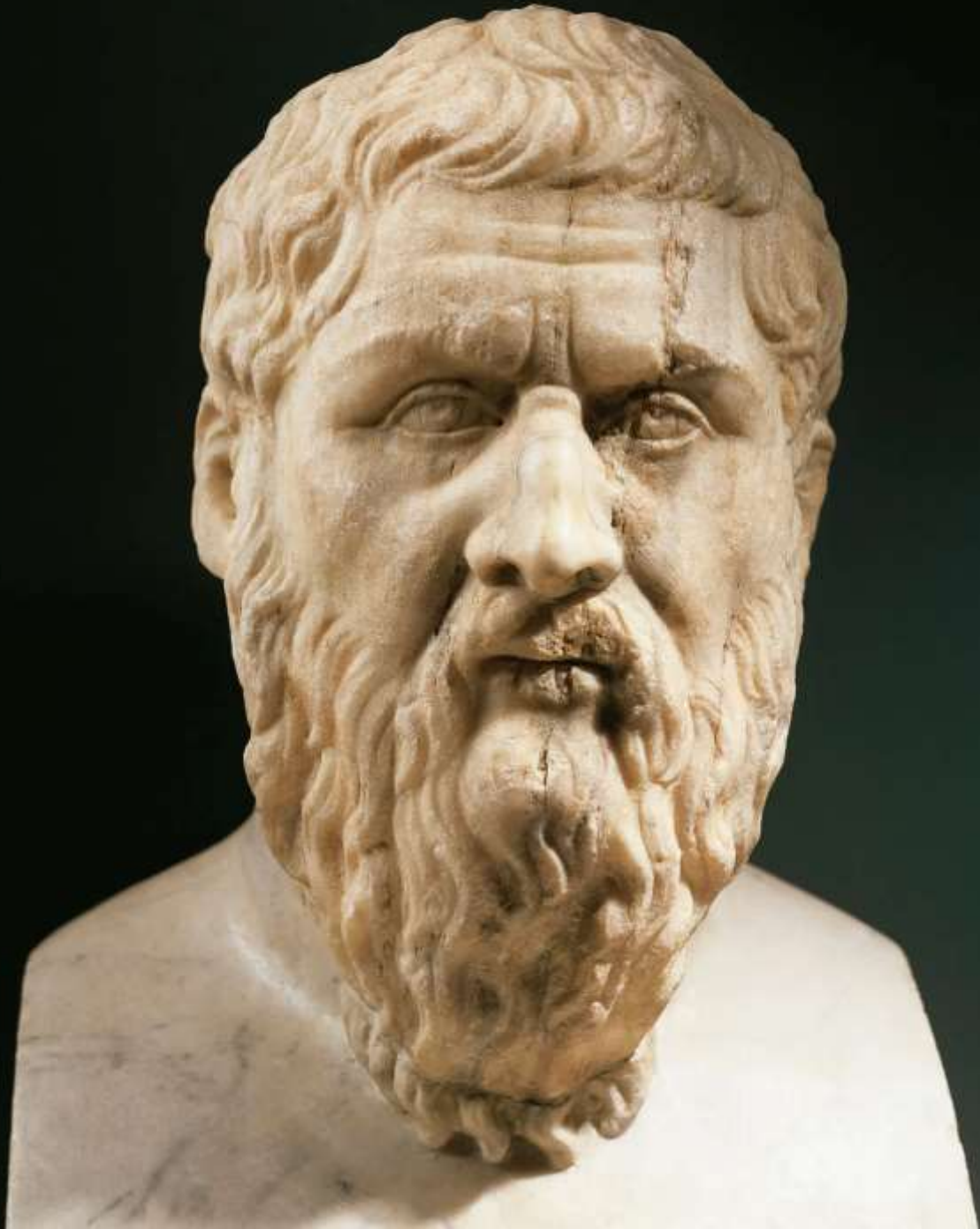
(I bind) Aristocydes and the women who show off to him. He is never to have sex with another woman or with a boy.

May Asclepius heal my wounded leg.

May he be seized so that you may render him without feeling, without memory. I commit to you Silvanus, whom a womb bore, so that you may take him and restrain him. I commit him to you, so that you may render him dead.

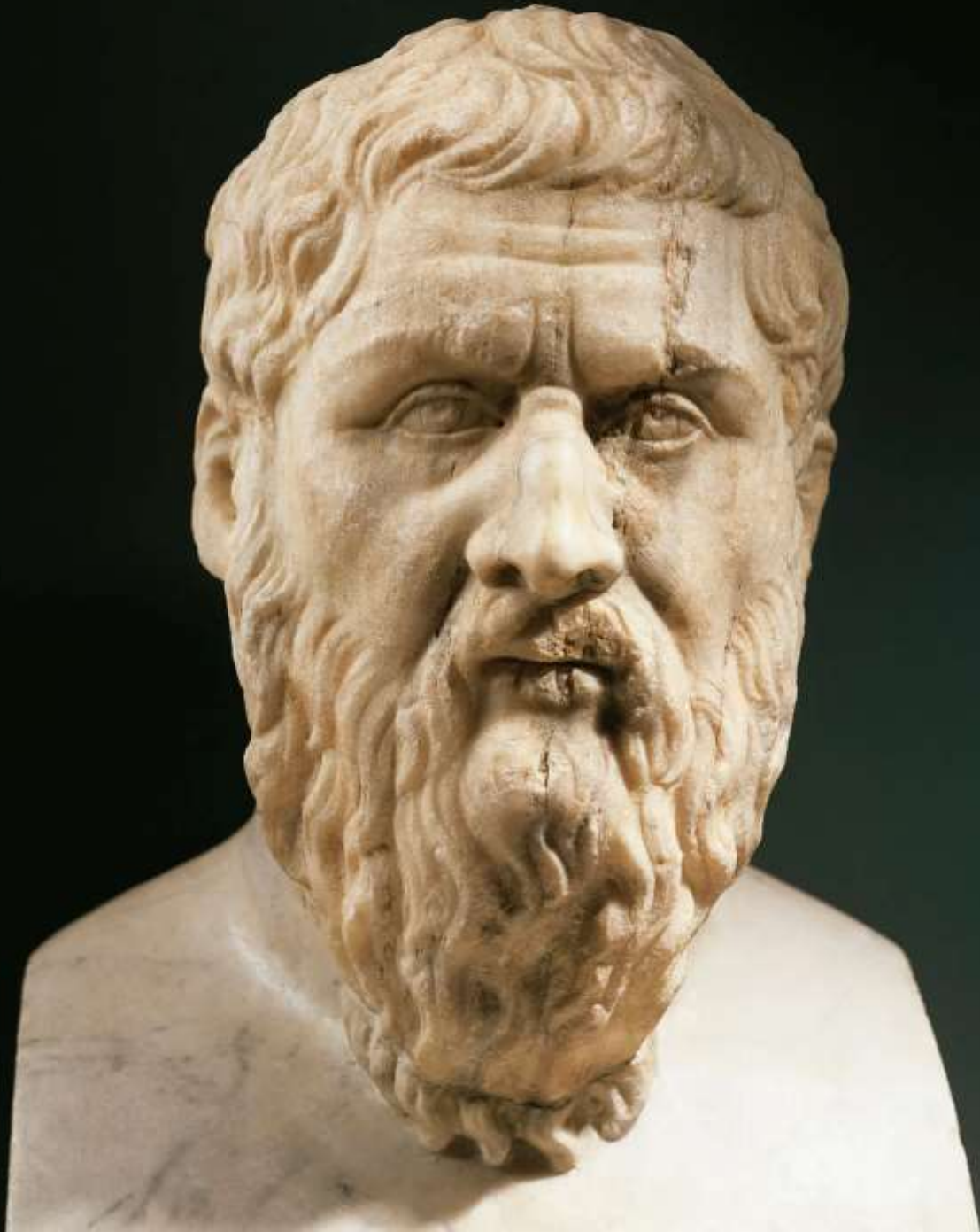






But let us address those who, in contempt for men, charm the souls of many of the living, by **alleging that they charm the souls of the dead.** They try to destroy root and branch individuals and entire houses **for the sake of money.** The court should punish one judged guilty of these things.



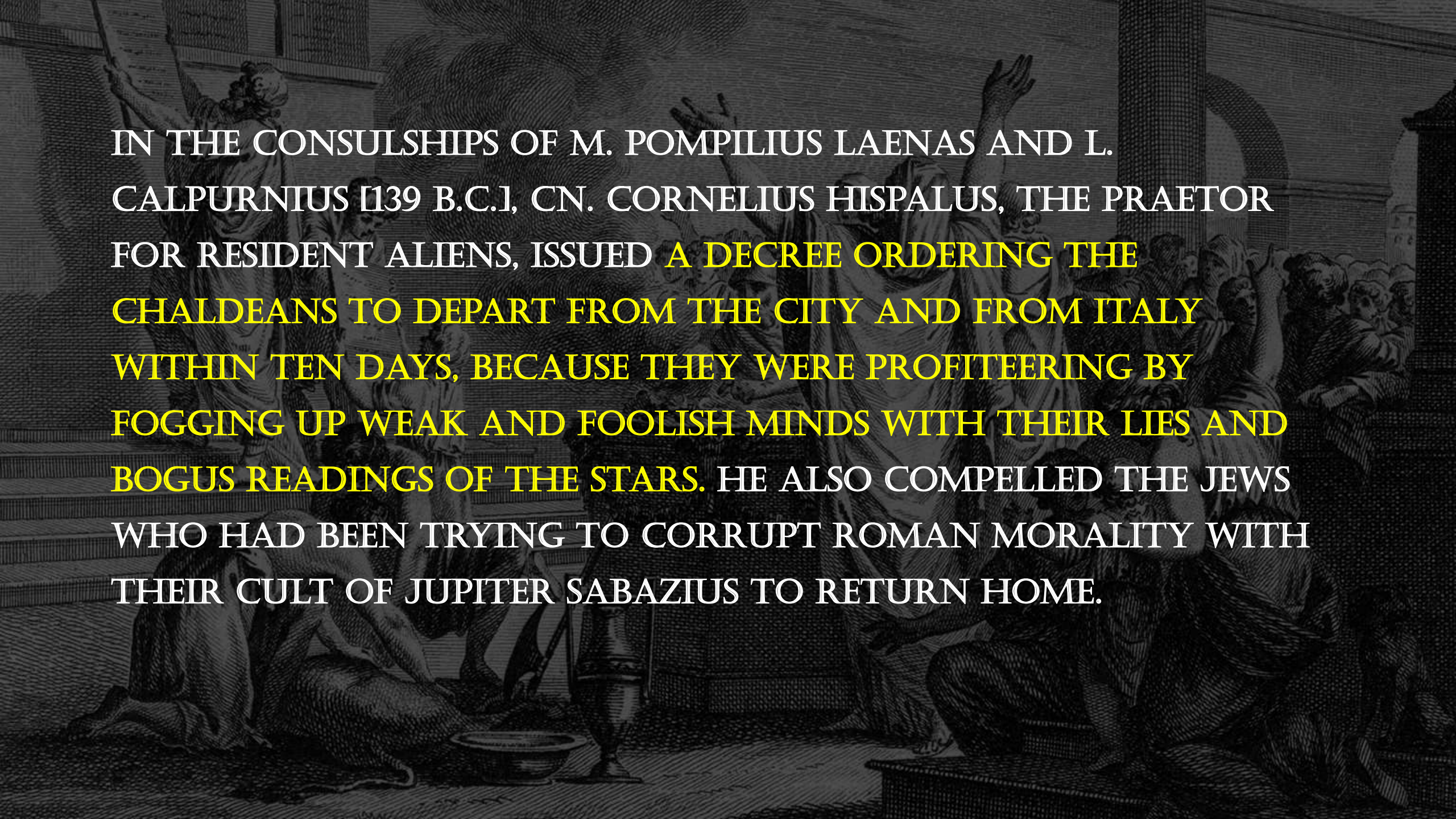


**Eleatic visitor:** Yes, for it is from ignorance that people find things strange. I myself have just had this experience. I suddenly failed to recognize, on seeing them, that group which devotes itself to the city's affairs.

**Young Socrates:** Which group is that?

**Eleatic visitor:** The group which, of all sophists, contains the greatest sorcerers and most skilled in sorcery. This group must be distinguished from genuine statesmen and people of kingly stature, even though this is very difficult to do.





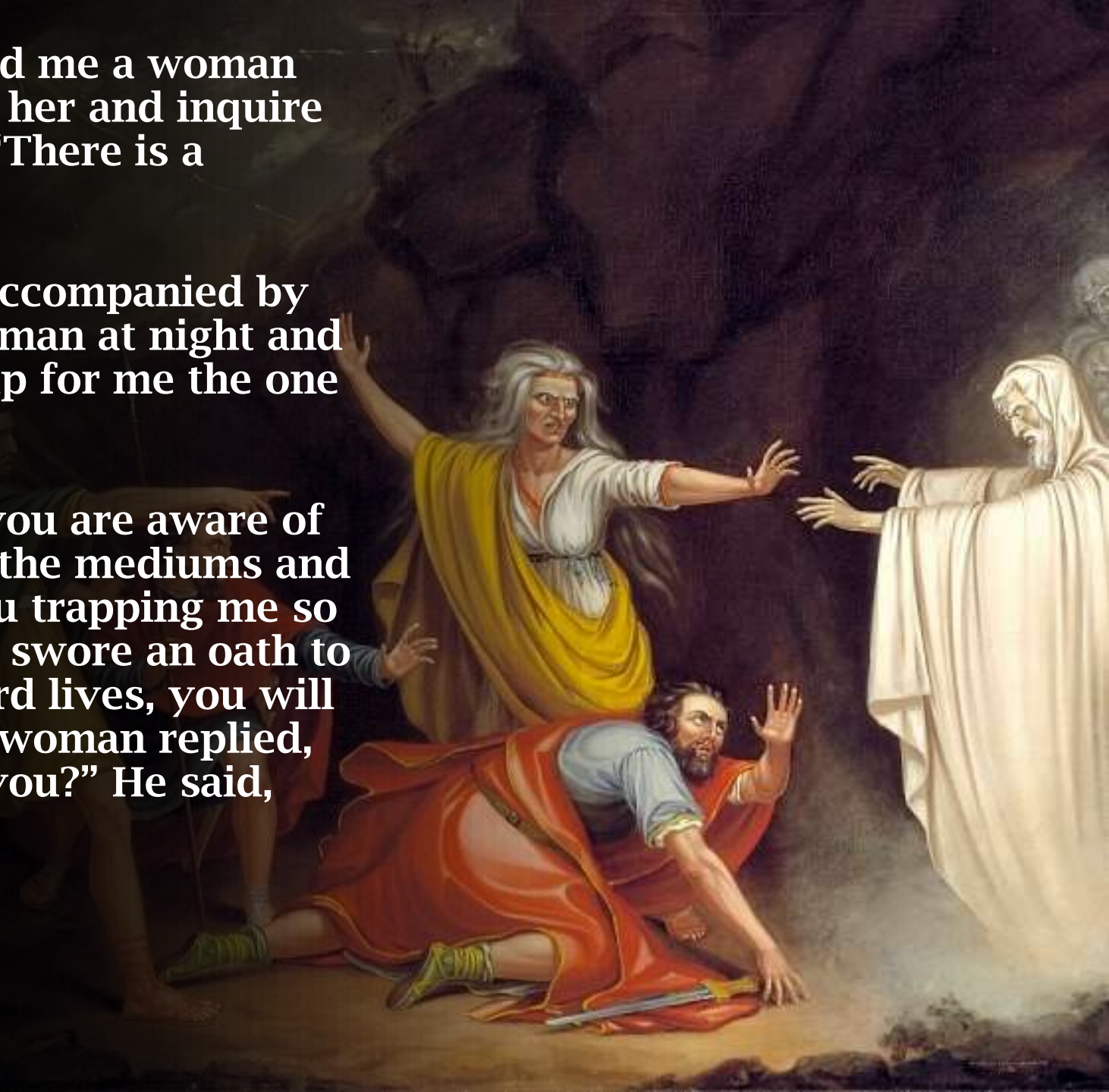
IN THE CONSULSHIPS OF M. POMPILIUS LAENAS AND L. CALPURNIUS [139 B.C.], CN. CORNELIUS HISPALUS, THE PRAETOR FOR RESIDENT ALIENS, ISSUED **A DECREE ORDERING THE CHALDEANS TO DEPART FROM THE CITY AND FROM ITALY WITHIN TEN DAYS, BECAUSE THEY WERE PROFITEERING BY FOGGING UP WEAK AND FOOLISH MINDS WITH THEIR LIES AND BOGUS READINGS OF THE STARS.** HE ALSO COMPELLED THE JEWS WHO HAD BEEN TRYING TO CORRUPT ROMAN MORALITY WITH THEIR CULT OF JUPITER SABAZIUS TO RETURN HOME.



<sup>7</sup> So Saul instructed his servants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, so that I may go to her and inquire of her.” His servants replied to him, “There is a woman who is a medium in Endor.”

<sup>8</sup> So Saul disguised himself and left, accompanied by two of his men. They came to the woman at night and said, “Use your ritual pit to conjure up for me the one I tell you.”

<sup>9</sup> But the woman said to him, “Look, you are aware of what Saul has done; he has removed the mediums and magicians from the land! Why are you trapping me so you can put me to death?” <sup>10</sup> But Saul swore an oath to her by the Lord, “As surely as the Lord lives, you will not incur guilt in this matter!” <sup>11</sup> The woman replied, “Who is it that I should bring up for you?” He said, “Bring up for me Samuel.”





And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost." But Peter said unto him, "Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.





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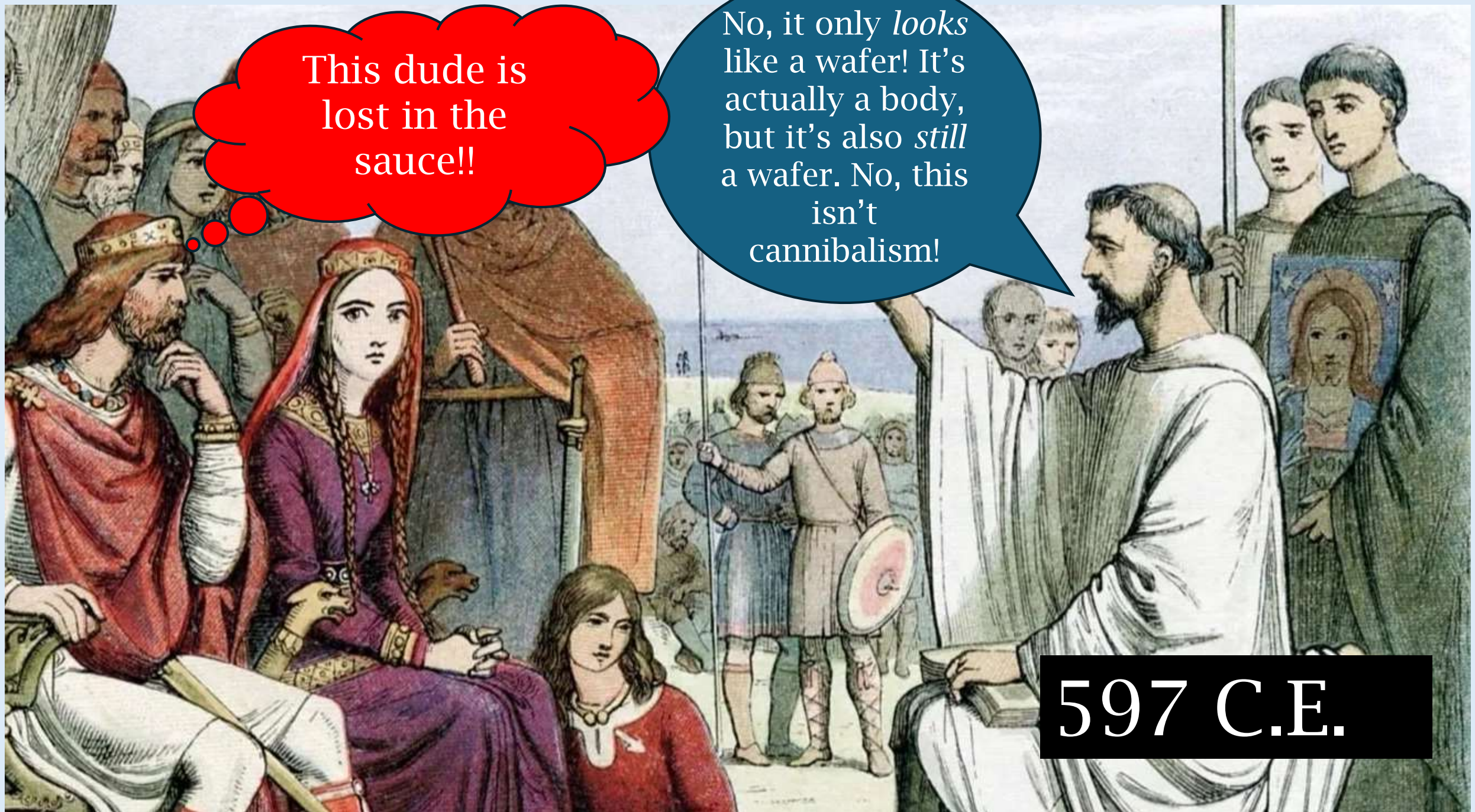
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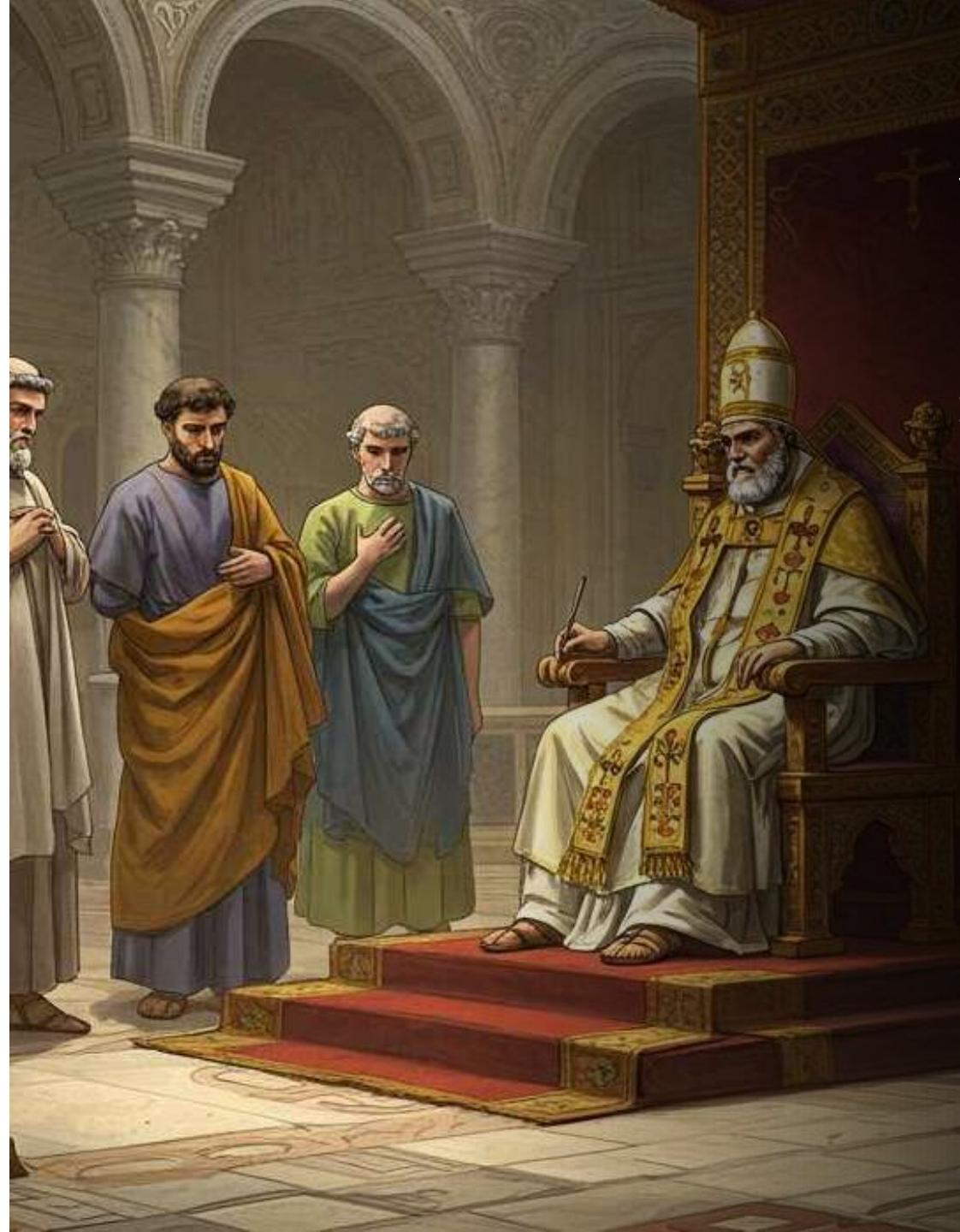


This dude is  
lost in the  
sauce!!

No, it only *looks*  
like a wafer! It's  
actually a body,  
but it's also *still*  
a wafer. No, this  
isn't  
cannibalism!

597 C.E.





I have determined that the temples of the idols ought not to be destroyed. For if those temples are well built, it is requisite that they be converted from the worship of the devils to the service of the true God; so that the nation, seeing that their temples are not destroyed, may the more familiarly resort to the same places to which they have been accustomed.

Further, since it has been their custom to slaughter oxen in sacrifice, they should receive some ceremony in exchange. Let them therefore, on the day of the dedication of their churches, or on the feast of the martyrs whose relics are preserved in them, build themselves huts around their one-time temples and celebrate the occasion with religious feasting. They will sacrifice and eat the animals not any more as an offering to the devil, but for the glory of God.







## FOR ELF-SHOT

If a horse is elf-struck, take a knife of which the handle is horn from a tawny ox, and on which are three brass nails. Then inscribe a cross on the horse's forehead until it bleed; next mark a cross on its back and on each of its limbs that you can hold on to. Then grasp the left ear, pierce it in silence. This you must do: take a stick, strike [the horse] on its back, then it will be well. And on the horn of the knife inscribe these words:

*"Benedicite omnia opera douiini dominum."*

Be the elf who he may, this will suffice as a cure for him.



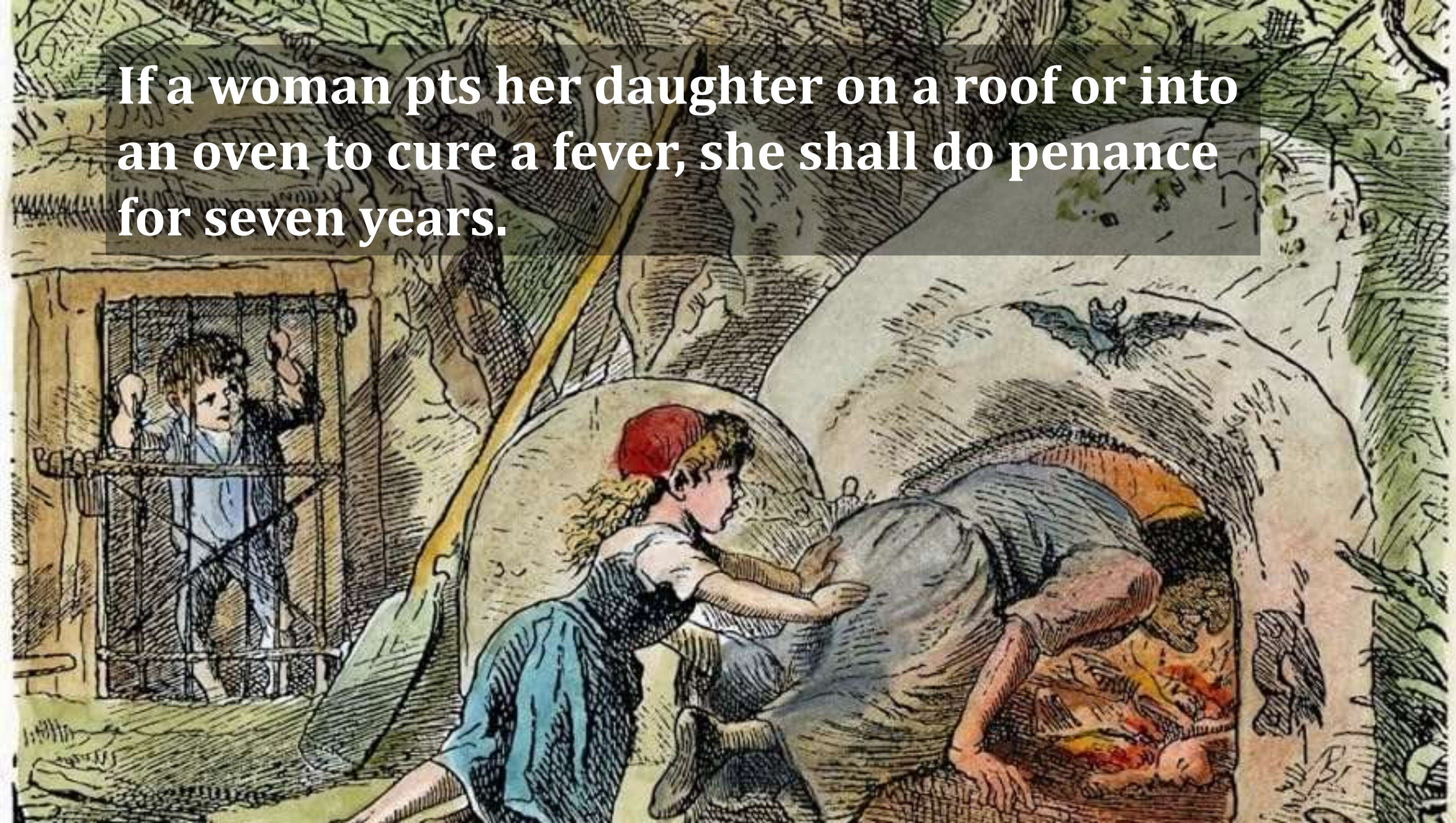


And it is right that every priest ardently preach the Christian faith and wholly eradicate every heathen practice; and forbid the worship of wells and the raising of the dead, and divination and sorcery, and the worship of trees and stones, and that devil's trick which is performed when children are drawn through the earth, and the deception performed on New Year's night in various magical practices, and in heathen refuges, and in elder trees, and in the many diverse superstitions in which people do much that they should not.





**If a woman puts her daughter on a roof or into an oven to cure a fever, she shall do penance for seven years.**



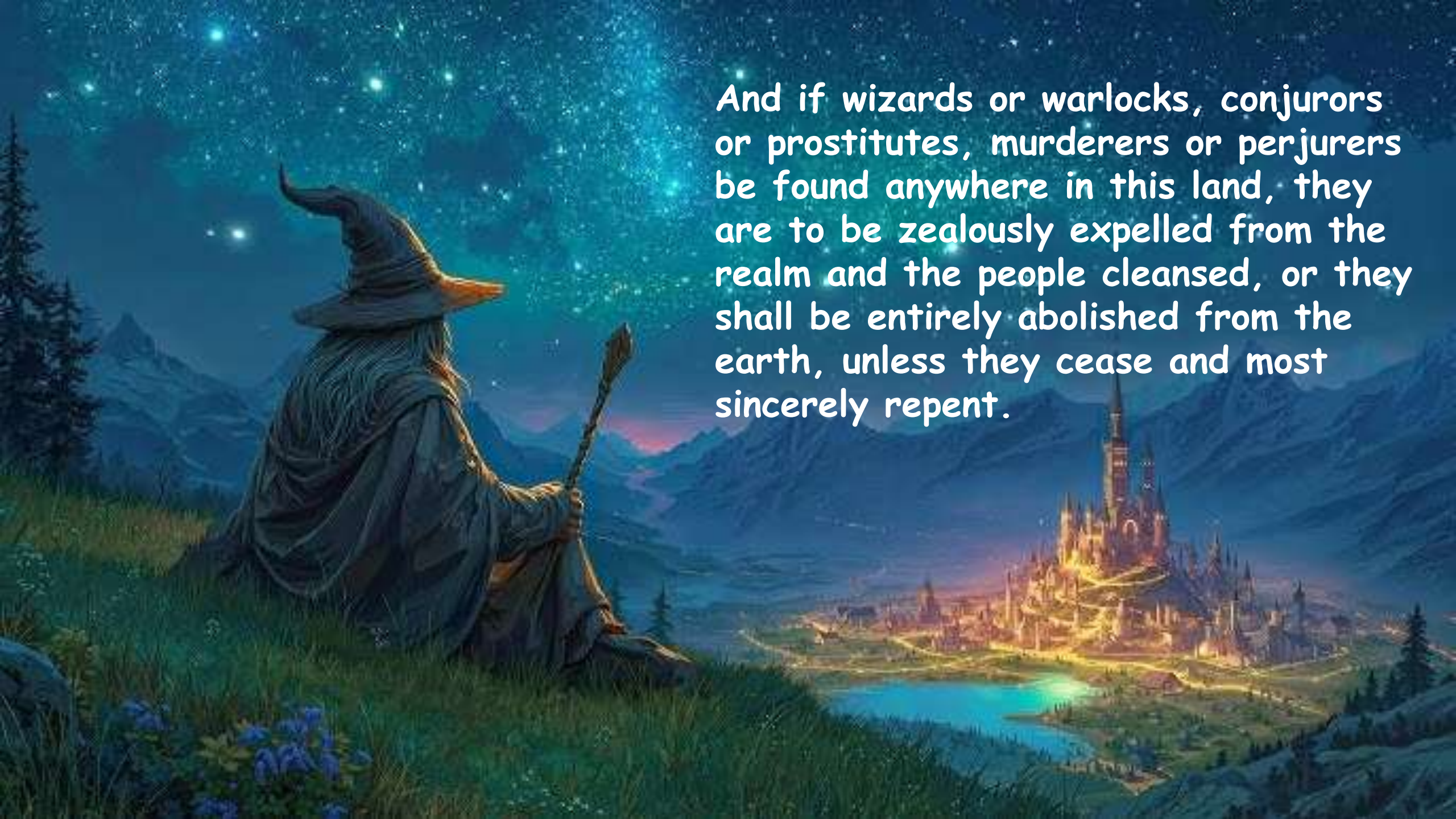




If any cleric or woman who practices magic misleads anyone by the magic, it is a monstrous sin, but [a sin that] can be expiated by penance.

Quelcs die  
Il e d'ingst m  
Vent en l'air





And if wizards or warlocks, conjurors or prostitutes, murderers or perjurers be found anywhere in this land, they are to be zealously expelled from the realm and the people cleansed, or they shall be entirely abolished from the earth, unless they cease and most sincerely repent.



O you demons, and all princes and every kind of demons, whom your guilt cast out from heaven on high, I adjure you and order you to obey my command and my precepts. Just as God commanded the Jordan and it stood still that the children of Israel might walk across without hindrance, so to I command you to obey my precepts day and night, at all hours and moments, [and be subject] to my precepts. Just as the Red Sea obeyed Moses and Aaron when it divided and presented a dry path for the children of Israel, so by invocation of Our Lord Jesus Christ I command you to obey me without delay, without harm or deception to me or any living thing.





Some take a clear, fine, polished crystal or beryl and have it consecrated, then keep it clean, and lay incense, myrrh, and so forth on it. Then when they wish to exercise their art they wait for a clear day, or use a clean room with many consecrated candles. The masters go to a bathing room, taking an innocent child and dressing themselves in pure white clothes. They sit down and speak magic prayers, and burn magic offerings, then order the boy to look into the stone and whisper secret words into his ear, which are allegedly most holy – but are indeed devilish words.





You were  
expecting  
someone  
else?





# Geoffrey of Monmouth h

ca. 1095-  
ca. 1155



Why does it  
look like I have  
a jock strap on  
my head?



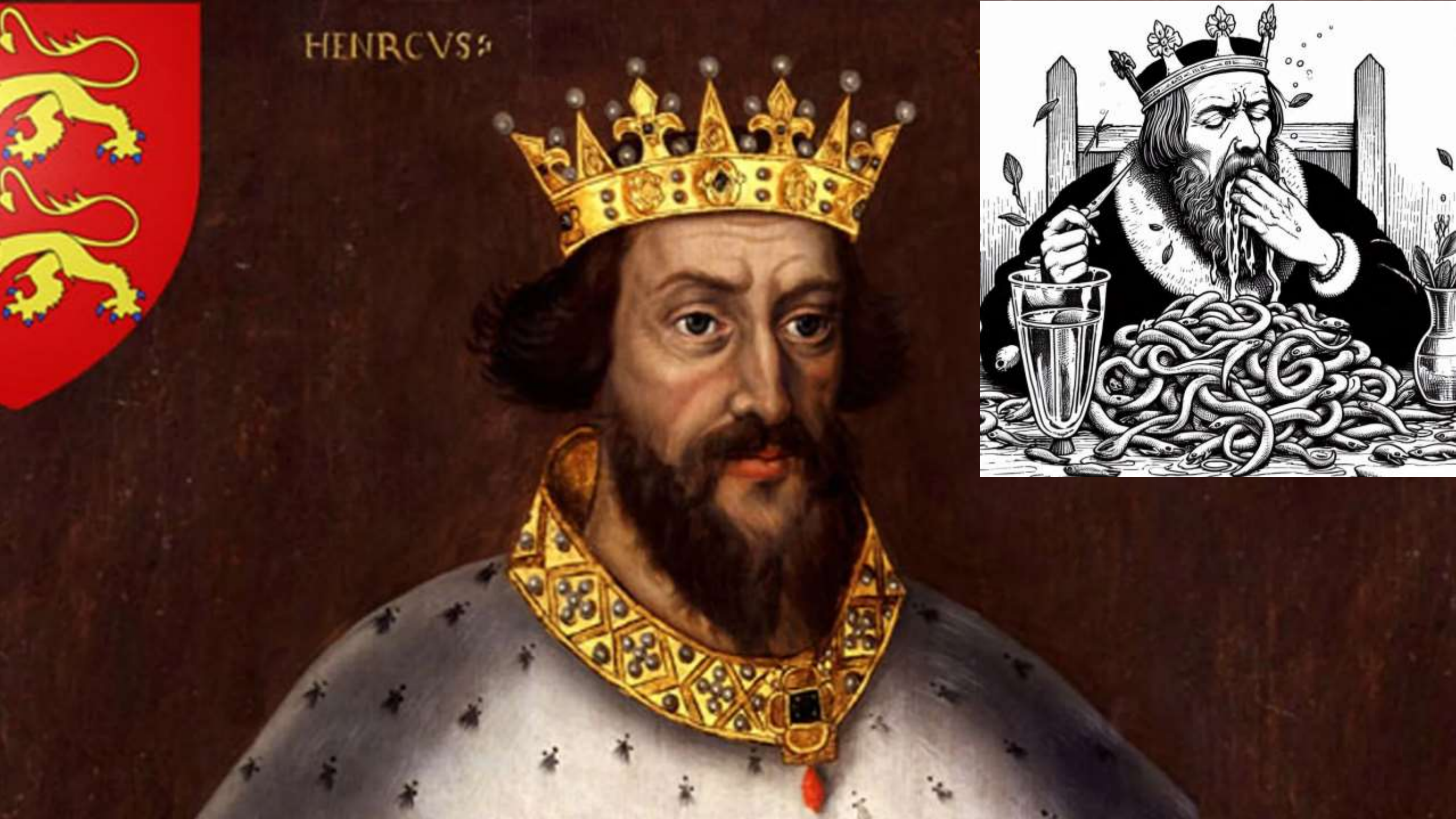


HENRCVS

13







HENRVS



The More You Know!





1135-1153





# HISTORIA REGUM BRITANNIAE CA. 1136

**H**istória regum britanniæ in hystoriam regi  
britanniæ inactis ueneru  
contuli quod infra mēte  
qm̄ de as gildas & beoalu  
cileuto tractatu fecerit  
nichil de regib; qui ante  
incarnatiōe xpi in habi  
tauerunt. nichil & de arturo  
et alijs complurib; qui p  
incarnatiōem suam & ut  
repulsi. cum & gesta cor  
digna et iustitie laudis co  
stant. & amulas populos  
quasi in scripta uocare et  
memorie p̄dicantur. tali  
a iustitia et de talib; multo  
cuius cogitatio. optulit  
vultu & ornatu. optulit  
ardua. conus vir in oratoria  
arte atq; in cronas hysto  
riis eruditus quendam  
britannia sermonis libz  
ueterissimū qui a bruto  
primo rege britanni usque  
ad eduardum filium  
eduardi. actus omni  
um continue et ex ordine  
p̄ pulcis oronib; p̄pone  
bat. Regnu itaq; illius  
ductus. tam & si infra ali  
si tempore dictis. p̄gi  
nam illum. sed in legenti  
bz nigeret. vnum magis i ex  
ponendis libis quam i hysto  
ria intelligenda ip̄os como  
mari oportet. opusculo q̄ i  
meo robte dux dandiaceste  
faueas. ut sic te datore memo  
ritone corrigatur. Q̄ nō ex  
galfredi mouemētis font  
culo cenceatur exortu. s; sa  
le muneris tue conditi illi  
dicat edicto. quem henricus  
illustis rex anglor genauit  
que p̄lia libalib; artib; eru  
diuit que in nata p̄bitas in  
militia militib; p̄fecit. Unde  
britannia tibi nunc tēp̄nib;  
nris ac si altum leuicam  
adepta interuo gratulatur  
affectu. *De mensura brita  
niæ maioris q̄ nūc d̄ angliā  
sedm longitudinē iustitiae laudis.*  
**B**ritannia  
insular  
optima i  
occident  
li oceanus  
in gallia  
et hiber  
nam sita. d̄c. milia i lon







**MYRDDIN**  
**WYLT/MYRD**  
**DIN**  
**SYLVESTRIS**  
**CA. 590**










Nennius,  
*Historia*  
*Brittonum*  
ca. 828









A medieval manuscript illustration. On the left, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a white gown, sits up in a bed with white pillows and a red and gold patterned blanket. On the right, a blue-skinned alien with two thin, curved horns and a mustache sits on the edge of the bed, looking at the woman. A pink speech bubble originates from the alien, containing the text: "Hey gurrll! My name's Microsoft. Can I crash at your place?". The background is a deep blue with small, light-colored specks, suggesting a night sky. The entire scene is framed by a simple red border.

Hey gurrll! My  
name's Microsoft.  
Can I crash at  
your place?



A little to the  
left...no, your  
other left!!



I hate  
wizards!!







Then shall follow a famine upon the people,  
and a grievous mortality upon the famine.  
But when this calamity shall be over, a  
detestable bird shall go to the valley of  
Galabes, and shall raise it to be a high  
mountain. Upon the top thereof it shall also  
plant an oak, and build its nest in its  
branches. Three eggs shall be produced in the  
nest, from whence shall come forth a fox, a  
wolf, and a bear. The fox shall devour her  
mother, and bear the head of an ass. In this  
monstrous form shall she frighten her  
brothers, and make them fly into Neustria.  
But they shall stir up the tusky boar, and  
returning in a fleet shall encounter with the  
fox who at the beginning of the fight shall  
feign herself dead, and move the boar to  
compassion. Then shall the boar approach  
her carcase, and standing over her, shall  
breathe upon her face and eyes. But she, not  
forgetting her cunning, shall bite his left foot,  
and pluck it off from his body.





ROBERT  
DE  
BORON  
*VERSE*  
*MERLIN*  
CA. 1200















Get yer grails  
here! Finest grails  
in all the land!  
Grail sale going  
on now!





Do you like *Star Wars*? 'Cause Yoda one for me!



King Arthur and his valiant Knights of the round Table.  
 Sir Tristram, Sir Lancelot, Sir Galahad, Sir Percival,  
 Sir Gauwin, Sir Ector, Sir Bors, Sir Lionel, Sir Gaheris,  
 Sir Gareth, Sir Tor, Sir Acolon, Sir Ewaner, Sir Mordred,  
 Sir Pellucas, Sir Sagramor, Sir Turquine, Sir Kay, Sir Gaheris.



Sir Benignus, Sir Bestun, Sir Palomides, Sir Bors,  
 Sir Balamore, Sir Galahad, Sir Lancelot, Sir Tor,  
 Sir Sagramor, Sir Pagines, Sir Belvour.

# THE MOST ANCIENT AND FAMOUS HISTORY OF THE RENOWNED PRINCE ARTHUR

King of Britaine,

The second Part.

Wherein is declared his Life and Death,  
 with all his glorious Battails against the  
 Saxons, Saracens and Pagans,  
 which (for the honour of his  
 Country) he most wor-  
 thily achieved.

As also, all the Noble Acts, and Heroicke  
 Deeds of his Valiant KNIGHTS of  
 the ROUNDE TABLE.

Nearly revised, and published for the delight, and  
 profit of the READER.

LONDON,  
 Printed by William Stansby,  
 for Jacob Bloomer, 1634.











Next week:

# Potions

Don't be late,  
Potter!

