

#### 4F (i)

The remaining case, gentlemen, which I'm now conducting, does not concern the safety of allies, but the life and blood of Roman citizens. And when it comes to this case, I urge you whom I'm addressing, I urge and beg you to pay most diligent attention, and not to expect proofs. For, if you wish, I will easily persuade all of Sicily to be a witness.

For in the forum at Lilybaeum a Roman citizen, whose name was Gaius Servilius, by means of rods and blows was thrown down before the feet of Verres. Surely, Verres, you can't deny that you did this? Dare first to deny this, if you can: it was seen by all at Lilybaeum, and heard by everyone in all of Sicily. I say that a Roman citizen, when he had been beaten by your lictors, fell before your eyes. And, by the immortal gods, what was the charge? It happened that Servilius spoke rather freely about the villainy of that scoundrel. And when this was announced to that man, he ordered Servilius to come to Lilybaeum (it happened that Verres was at Lilybaeum). So Servilius, when Verres had ordered him to come, came to Lilybaeum.

(270) And when Servilius and vehemently affirmed this, Verres ordered six lictors to surround him and strike him with blows, though he begged them many times to stop. Then the nearest lictor, whose name was Sextius, began to beat Servilius's eyes as he cried out. And so Servilius, when his eyes were full of blood, collapsed; Verres nonetheless kept urging Sextius to strike him in the side as he lay there. And in this way he finally persuaded Servilius, now almost dying, to respond and not be quiet. Servilius, when he had responded as Verres had wished, was carried off half-dead and died soon after. But that fellow, a devotee of Venus, overflowing with every charm and grace, dedicated a silver cupid in the temple of Venus from Servilius' goods. Thus he also misused the fortunes of men in order to fulfill the vows he made by night in service of his lust.<sup>1</sup>

#### 4F (ii)

This Gavius who I am discussing was from Consa. He had been thrown into chains at Syracuse by that villain, but managed<sup>2</sup> to secretly flee the quarries and reach Messana. And when he had arrived there, he began to speak and complain that he, a Roman citizen, had been thrown into chains <and say that><sup>3</sup> he was going to go to Rome and denounce Verres. But<sup>4</sup> slaves of Verres dragged him

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1 Presumably Verres had vowed to Venus that he would make some such dedication if she helped him to fulfill his desires.

2 "brought it about that he escaped"

3 Some such insertion is sometimes necessary in English to make it clear that the Latin is still employing indirect discourse, that the narrator is continuing to give someone else's report, not his own.

4 here the connecting relative is best rendered not as "and . . . him" but as "but . . . him".

back as he was boarding a ship. And so Gavius is immediately brought to the magistrate.<sup>5</sup>

On that very day it so happened that Verres came to Messana. And when he had arrived there, he ordered that the whole matter be referred to him. So the slaves reported that Gavius, a Roman citizen, had complained that he had been in chains at Syracuse; <they noted that><sup>6</sup> he had already been entering the ship and was threatening Verres when he was dragged back by them. Verres, on fire with villainy and rage, entered the forum; his eyes were burning, cruelty blazed forth from the whole of his face. After entering the forum, he immediately orders that Gavius be stripped in the middle of the forum and bound and beaten. While<sup>7</sup> that unfortunate man shouted out that he was a Roman citizen, and named Lucius Raecius, a Roman knight, as a witness, that scoundrel said that he (Gavius) had been sent to Sicily by Sertorius.

Then he orders his slaves to strip the man, bind him, and beat him. And when that scoundrel had given these orders, the slaves did as they were told, and it came to pass<sup>8</sup> that in the middle of the forum at Messana a Roman citizen was beaten by rods, gentlemen, and no other cry was to be heard from that miserable man except this: "I am a Roman citizen."

*We skip the next few lines:*

Did Gavius, with these words, persuade Verres, by whom he was being beaten so savagely, to spare him and not beat him? Not at all, gentlemen. For Verres arranged not only that he be beaten, but even that a cross (a cross, I say!) be prepared for that unfortunate man. Verres dared *to crucify*<sup>9</sup> a man who said that he was a Roman citizen.

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5 magistratus –us 4m either a public office (magistracy) or a public officer (magistrate).

6 See note 3 above.

7 Here the *cum* clause introduces an imperfect subjunctive. This usually means that the action in the *cum* clause goes on at the same time as that in the main clause. Here *tum* in the main clause makes this particularly clear. So I use "while" instead of "when". The pluperfect subjunctive, on the other hand, usually indicates that the action in the *cum* clause has already been completed by the time the main clause gets going.

8 "happen", the normal translation of *accidit*, implies something coincidental or chancy, but the Latin verb need not have that connotation, and it is entirely wrong here.

<sup>9</sup> Italics to reflect the placement of *in crucem* at the beginning of the sentence.