Thermopylae

Ancient Rites

Sons of Laconia, under Lycurgian law 300 noblemen, ancient world in awe Facing Xerxes might, no hope for victory Still Persian blood coloured the Aegian Sea

Go, tell the Spartans, stranger passing by, That here, obedient to their laws, we lie.

Lacedaemon's mothers gave birth to men, Withstanding thousends again and again None will behold the Eurotas Valley no more This sacrifice needed to silence Persia's roar

No matter how fierce the spirit or mind Blades striking, the kings' heart declined Round he spun, and down he fell No scream, no word, no cowardice yell

Symbolic sacrifice, all for the Hellenic land Spartan codes of honour and inspiring guiding hand

No Spartiate soul left alive to tell How bravely they fought, by treason they fell Not a stone on their turf, nor a bone in their graves They live on in history that immortally saves

Go, tell the Spartans, stranger passing by, That here, obedient to their laws, we lie