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Agamemnon the King

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Agamemnon the King

Rebecca Rose Kaczmarek '23 & Carl Quist '23

This is a translation of *Iliad* 23.161-83, part of the funeral of Patroclus, composed by Rose Kaczmarek '23 and Carl Quist '23 arranged to be sung in ballad meter. Any tune that fits ballad meter may be used to sing this, such as *Amazing Grace*, *The House of the Rising Sun*, *The Yellow Rose of Texas*, or the theme to *Gilligan's Island*. Because this is a funeral passage, Rose arranged a simplified form of *Amazing Grace* in guitar chords to accompany it.

 C Em Am C
Agamemnon the king heard this,
 C Em F
And sent the Greeks away
 C Em Am C
while mourners stayed to build a pyre,
 C Em F
a hundred feet of hay.

 C Em Am C
They placed the corpse atop the bier,
 C Em F
And made off'rings with heart
 C Em Am C
While great-hearted Achilles wept
 Cm Em F
And wrapped him with sad art.

 C Em Am C
He wrapped from head to toe with care
 C Em F
And piled th' off'rings around
 C Em Am C
He gave two-handled jars of oil
 C Em F
Perfumed and honey brown
 C Em Am C
And he drove four strong-necked horses
 C Em F
And placed them on the pyre.
 C Em Am C
He slew two of Patroclus' dogs
 C Em F
And placed them on the pyre.

C Em Am C
Twelve sons of great-hearted Trojans
 C Em F
He slew with bronze in ire
 C Em Am C
While wept he for his dearest friend
 C Em F
And placed them on the pyre.

 C Em Am C
“Goodbye, my Patroclus, goodbye!
 C Em F
I’m doing all I swore!
 C Em Am C
I give you these burial gifts:
 C Em F
Twelve sons of Trojan corps.

 C Em Am C
But that Hector the son of Priam,
 C Em F
I won’t put on the pyre.
 C Em Am C
He’ll be eaten by hungry dogs
 C Em F
While laying in the mire.”