RV 1.117

rși: kakșīvān dairghatamasa (auśija) devatā: aśvinīkumara; chanda: tristup मध्वः सोमस्याश्विना मदांय प्रलो होता विवासते वाम् । बर्हिष्मती रातिर् विश्रिता गीर् इषा यांतं नासत्योप वाजेः ॥ १-११७-०१ यो वाम् अश्विना मनसो जवीयान् रथः स्वश्वो विश्वं आजिगांति । येन गच्छ्रंथः सुकृतो दुरोणं तेन नरा वर्तिर् अस्मभ्यं यातम् ॥ १-११७-०२ ऋषिं नराव् अँहंसः पाञ्चजन्यम् ऋबीसाद् अत्रिम् मुञ्चथो गणेन । मिनन्ता दस्योर् अशिवस्य माया अनुपूर्वं वृषणा चोदयन्ता ॥ १-११७-०३ अश्वं न गूळ्हम् अश्विना दुरेवैर् ऋषिं नरा वृषणा रेभम् अप्सु । सं तं रिणीथो विप्रुंतं दँसोंभिर् न वां जूर्यन्ति पूर्व्या कृतानि ॥ १-११७-०४ सुषुप्वाँसं न निर्ऋतेर् उपस्थे सूर्यं न दस्रा तमसि क्षियन्तम् । शुभे रुक्मं न दर्शतं निखातम् उद् ऊपथुर् अश्विना वन्दनाय ॥ १-११७-०५ तद् वां नरा शॅस्यम् पज्रियेणं कक्षीवता नासत्या परिज्मन् । शफाद् अश्वस्य वाजिनो जनांय शतं कुम्भाः अंसिञ्चतम् मधूनाम् ॥ १-११७-०६ युवं नरा स्तुवते कृष्णियायं विष्णाप्वं ददथुर् विश्वकाय । घोषांये चित् पितृषदे दुरोणे पतिं जूर्यन्त्या अश्विनाव् अदत्तम् ॥ १-११७-०७ युवं श्यावांय रुशंतीम् अदत्तम् महः क्षोणस्यांश्विना कण्वांय । प्रवाच्यं तद् वृषणा कृतं वां यन् नार्षदाय श्रवो अध्यधत्तम् ॥ १-११७-०८ पुरू वर्पांस्य् अश्विना दधाना नि पेदव ऊहथुर् आशुम् अश्वम् । सहस्रसां वाजिनम् अप्रतीतम् अहिहनं श्रवस्यं तरुत्रम् ॥ १-११७-०९ एतानि वां श्रवस्या सुदानू ब्रह्माङ्गूषं सदनं रोदस्योः । यद् वाम् पज्रासो अश्विना हवन्ते यातम् इषा च विदुषे च वाजम् ॥ १-११७-१० सूनेार् मानेनाश्विना गृणाना वाजं विप्राय भुरणा रदन्ता ।

अगस्त्ये ब्रह्मणा वावृधाना सं विश्वपलां नासत्यारिणीतम् ॥ १-११७-११ कुह यान्तां सुष्टुतिं काव्यस्य दिवों नपाता वृषणा शयुत्रा । हिरण्यस्येव कलशं निर्खातम् उद् ऊपशुर् दशमे अश्विनाहन् ॥ १-११७-१२ युवं च्यवानम् अश्विना जरन्तम् पुनर् युवानं चक्रथुः शचीभिः । युवो रथं दुहिता सूर्यस्य सह श्रिया नांसत्यावृणीत ॥ १-११७-१३ युवं तुग्रांय पूर्व्येभिर् एवैः पुनर्मन्याव् अभवतं युवाना । _____ युवम् भुज्युम् अर्णसो निः संमुद्राद् विभिर् ऊहथुर् ऋज्रेभिर् अश्वैः ॥ १-११७-१४ अजोहवीद् अश्विना तौग्रचो वाम् प्रोळ्हः समुद्रम् अव्यथिर् जंगन्वान् । निष् टम् ऊंहथुः सुयुजा रथेन मनोजवसा वृषणा स्वस्ति ॥ १-११७-१५ अजोहवीद् अश्विना वर्तिका वाम् आस्नो यत् सीम् अमुञ्चतं वृकस्य । वि जयुषां ययथुः सान्व् अद्रेर् जातं विष्वाचों अहतं विषेणं ॥ १-११७-१६ शतम् मेषान् वृक्ये मामहानं तमः प्रणीतम् अशिवेन पित्रा । आक्षी ऋज्राश्वे अश्विनाव् अधत्तं ज्योतिर् अन्धायं चक्रथुर् विचक्षे ॥ १-११७-१७ शुनम् अन्धाय भरंम् अह्वयत् सा वृकीर् अश्विना वृषणा नरेति['] । जारः कनीन इव चक्षदान ऋज्राश्वः शतम् एकं च मेषान् ॥ १-११७-१८ मही वाम् ऊतिर् अश्विना मयोभूर् उत स्नामं धिष्ण्या सं रिणीथः । अर्था युवाम् इद् अंह्वयत् पुरंधिर् आगंच्छतं सी वृषणाव् अवोभिः ॥ १-११७-१९ अधेनुं दस्रा स्तर्यं विषक्ताम् अपिन्वतं शयवे अश्विना गाम् । युवं शचींभिर् विमदायं जायां न्य् ऊहथुः पुरुमित्रस्य योषांम् ॥ १-११७-२० यवं वृकेणाश्विना वपन्तेषं दुहन्ता मनुषाय दस्रा । अभि दस्युम् बकुरेणा धर्मन्तोरु ज्योतिंश् चक्रथुर् आर्याय ॥ १-११७-२१ आथर्वणायांश्विना दधीचे ऽंश्व्यं शिरः प्रत्य् ऐरयतम् ।

स वाम् मधु प्र वोचद् ऋतायन् त्वाष्ट्रं यद् दस्राव् अपिकक्ष्यं वाम् ॥ १-११७-२२ सदा कवी सुमतिम् आ चके वां विश्वा धियो अश्विना प्रावतम् मे । अस्मे रयिं नासत्या बृहन्तम् अपत्यसाचं श्रुत्यं रराथाम् ॥ १-११७-२३ हिरण्यहस्तम् अश्विना रराणा पुत्रं नरा वध्रिमत्या अदत्तम् । त्रिधा ह इयावम् अश्विना विकस्तम् उज् जीवसं ऐरयतं सुदानू ॥ १-११७-२४ एतानि वाम् अश्विना वीर्याणि प्र पूर्व्याण्य् आयवो ऽवोचन् । बह्म कृण्वन्तो वृषणा युवभ्यां सुवीरांसो विदयम् आ वदेम ॥ १-११७-२५

Analysis of RV 1.117

mádhvah sómasya aśvinā mádāya pratnó hótā ā vivāsate vām barhíșmatī rātír víśritā gīr isā yātam nāsatiyópa vājaih 1.117.01

Interpretation:

"To get you drink of Honey Wine, O Ashvins, (mádhvah sómasya aśvinā mádāya) the Ancient Hotar seeks to attract You here (pratnó hótā ā vivāsate vām)! The offering (or the Offerer) is spread into the vastness (barhísmatī rātír)! The Word is thus arranged (víśritā gīr)! Come, O Guides of our journey, with the strength of impulsion and plenitudes (iṣā yātam nāsatiyópa vājaiḥ)!"

Vocabulary:

rāti, mfn. *ready or willing to give , generous , favourable , gracious* RV. AV. VS. Br.; f. *a favour, grace , gift , oblation* RV. &c. &c.; (in RV. also 'the Giver' conceived of as a deity and associated with Bhaga ; indrasya rātī v.l. –tiḥ, N. of a Sāman ĀrshBr.)

Griffith's translation:

1

ASVINS, your ancient priest invites you hither to gladden you with draughts of meath of Soma. Our gift is on the grass, our song apportioned: with food and strength come hither, O Nasatyas.

यो वाम् अश्विना मनसो जवीयान् रथः स्वश्वो विश्वं आजिगाति । येन गच्छ्रथः सुकृतो दुरोणं तेन नरा वर्तिर् अस्मभ्यं यातम् ॥ १-११७-०२

yó vām aśvinā mánaso jávīyān ráthah suášvo víša ājígāti yéna gáchathah sukŕto duronám téna narā vartír asmábhyam yātam 1.117.02

Interpretation:

"Your car, which is faster than the mind, O Ashvins, (yó vām aśvinā mánaso jávīyān ráthaḥ) drawn by the perfect Horses, comes to people (or to those souls who have entered the realm of manifestation) (suáśvo víśa ājígāti)!

By which you two go to the house of the perfect Worker (yéna gáchathah sukŕto duronám), come with this Car to our home, O Heros (téna narā vartír asmábhyam yātam)!"

2

That car of yours, swifter than thought, O Asvins, which drawn by brave steeds cometh to the people, Whereon ye seek the dwelling of the pious,—come ye thereon to our abode, O Heroes.

rśṣim narāv ámhasah pāñcajanyam rbīsād átrim muñcatho ganéna minántā dásyor áśivasya māyā anupūrvám vrṣaṇā codáyantā 1.117.03

Interpretation:

"And Atri Rishi, O Heroes, with his Gaṇa, common to All Five Races, you have freed (rsɨm narāv pāñcajanyam átrim muñcatho gaṇéna) from the Narrowness and the Abyss of Inconscient (ámhasah rbīsād), diminishing the measuring powers of inauspicious Dasyu (minántā dásyor áśivasya māyā), releasing and hastening one by one all beings (of the Gaṇa) (anupūrvám vrsaṇā codáyantā)."

Vocabulary:

pāñcajanya, n. *relating to the 5 races of men, containing or extending over them* &c. RV. &c. Br. MBh.; m. N. of Krishna's conch taken from the demon Pañca-jana MBh. Hariv. &c.

3

Ye freed sage Atri, whom the Five Tribes honoured, from the strait pit, ye Heroes with his people, Baffling the guiles of the malignant Dasyu, repelling them, ye Mighty in succession.

áśvam ná gūlhám aśvinā durévair risim narā vrsanā rebhám apsú sám tám rinītho víprutam dámsobhir ná vām jūryanti pūrviyā krtāni 1.117.04

Interpretation:

"Like a horse hidden, O Aśvins, by the evildoers, (áśvam ná gūļhám aśvinā durévair), O Hero-Bulls, Rebha Rishi drowned in the waters (ŕsim narā vrsanā rebhám apsú), you have rescued and with your wonderful powers brought back to life (sám tám rinītho víprutam dámsobhir)! For what was done by you from the beginning cannot be gone or worn out by the time (ná vām jūryanti pūrviyā krtāni)."

Vocabulary:

dureva, mfn. *ill-disposed , malignant;* m. *evildoer , criminal* RV. AV. samrī, P. -rināti, *to join together, restore, repair* RV.; *to wash , purify* VS. vipruta, mfn. *borne away , cast or carried away , vagrant* RV.

4

Rebha the sage, ye mighty Heroes, Asvins! whom, like a horse, vile men had sunk in water, – Him, wounded, with your wondrous power ye rescued: your exploits of old time endure for ever.

सुषुप्वाँसं न निर्ऋतेर् उपस्थे सूर्यं न दस्ता तर्मास क्षियन्तम् । ___ __ __ शुभे रुक्मं न दर्शतं निखातम् उद् ऊपथुर् अश्विना वन्दनाय ॥ १-११७-०५

suşupvāmsam ná nírrter upásthe sūryam ná dasrā támasi ksiyántam subhé rukmám ná darsatám níkhātam úd ūpathur asvinā vándanāya 1.117.05

Interpretation:

"Like the one who is sleeping deep in the lap of Death (suṣupvāmsam ná nírrter upásthe), like the Sun when dwelling in the Darkness, O Skillful Workers, (sūryam ná dasrā támasi kṣiyántam), you have taken out the buried beauty, O Ashvins, (darśatám níkhātam úd ūpathur aśvinā) like the gold to shine [again] for Vandana (śubhé rukmám ná vándanāya)!"

5

Ye brought forth Vandana, ye Wonder–Workers, for triumph, like fair gold that hath been buried, Like one who slumbered in destruction's bosom, or like the Sun when dwelling in the darkness.

तद् वां नरा शॅस्यम् पज्रियेणं कक्षीवता नासत्या परिज्मन् ।

______ राफाद् अश्वस्य वाजिनो जनाय शतं कुम्भाः असिञ्चतम् मधूनाम् ॥ १-११७-०६

tád vām narā śámsiyam pajriyéna kaksīvatā nāsatiyā párijman śaphād áśvasya vājíno jánāya śatám kumbhām asiñcatam mádhūnām 1.117.06

Interpretation:

"That [all pervading or all embracing] presence of yours, O Heroes, must be praised by Kakṣīvān, the son of Pajra, O Guides of our Journey (tád vām narā śámsiyam pajriyéna kakṣīvatā nāsatiyā párijman)!

As from the hoof of the Horse the Stallion, for the embodied soul (saphād asvasya vājino janāya), hundred of Jars of Honey-streams you poured (satam kumbhām asiñcatam madhūnām)!"

Vocabulary:

parijman, mfn. (gam) *running or walking or driving round , surrounding , being everywhere , omnipresent* (said of the sun , of the clouds , of sev. gods &c.) RV. AV. (as loc. or ind. *all around, everywhere* RV.)

pajra, mf(ā)n. solid , stout , fat , strong RV.; m. N. of Kakshivat and other men ib.

6

Kaksivan, Pajra's son, must laud that exploit of yours, Nasatyas, Heroes, ye who wander! When from the hoof of your strong horse ye showered a hundred jars of honey for the people.

yuvám narā stuvaté krsniyāya visnāpúvam dadathur vísvakāya ghósāyai cit pitrsáde duroné pátim jūryantyā asvināv adattam 1.117.07

Interpretation:

"You, O Heroes, to the affirming Krishna's son (yuvám narā stuvaté krsmiyāya) Vishvaka, restored his son Visnapu (vismāpúvam dadathur vísvakāya), and to Ghosha, who in her father's house (ghósāyai cit pitrsáde duromé) got old you gave a husband, O Ashvins (pátim jūryantyā asvināv adattam)."

7

To Krsna's son, to Visvaka who praised you, O Heroes, ye restored his son Visnapu. To Ghosa, living in her father's dwelling, stricken in years, ye gave a husband, Asvins.

युवं श्यावांय रुशंतीम् अदत्तम् महः क्षोणस्यांश्विना कण्वांय ।

प्रवाच्यं तद् वृंषणा कृतं वां यन् नांर्षदाय श्रवों अध्यर्धत्तम् ॥ १-११७-०८

yuvám syāvāya rúsatīm adattam maháh ksonásya asvinā kanvāya pravāciyam tád vrsanā krtám vām yán nārsadāya srávo adhyádhattam 1.117.08

Interpretation:

"And to the dark one, O Ashvins, you have given the Bright Maiden (yuvám syāvāya rúsatīm adattam), to Kanva of the people of the Vastness (maháh kṣonasya asvinā kánvāya)!

What you have done must thus be spoken, O Lords, (pravāciyam tád vrsanā krtám vām) for you have thus established from above the Higher Knowledge for Narshada (yán nārsadāya śrávo adhyádhattam)."

Vocabulary:

ruśat, 2 mf(-atī)n. (cf. 1. ruc) *brilliant , shining , bright , white* RV.; śyāva, mfn. (connected with śyāma) *darkbrown, brown , dark-coloured , dark* RV. AV. Br. &c.; drawn by brown or bay horses (said of chariots , Ved.) MW.; m. a brown horse RV.; N. of a man RV. night ib. (Naigh. i , 7); m. N. of a man RV.

kṣoṇa, mfn. immovable [or m. 'a kind of lute' Sāy. = kṣayaṇa Nir. v , 6] RV. i , 117 , 8 (ī) f. (nom. sg. also -ṇīs nom. pl. -ṇīs , once -ṇayas RV. x , 22 , 9) a multitude of men, people (as opposed to the chief) RV.; (ī) f. Ved. nom. du. `the two sets of people' i.e. the inhabitants of heaven and earth [`" heaven and earth "' Naigh. iii , 30] RV. ii , 16 , 3

8

Rusati, of the mighty people, Asvins, ye gave to Syava of the line of Kanva. This deed of yours, ye Strong Ones should be published, that ye gave glory to the son of Nrsad.

पुरू वर्पांस्य् अश्विना दधाना नि पेदव ऊहथुर् आशुम् अश्वम् । - - - - - - - - - - - -सहस्रसां वाजिनम् अप्रतीतम् अहिहनं अवस्यं तरुत्रम् ॥ १-११७-०९

purū várpāmsi ašvinā dádhānā ní pedáva ūhathur āšúm ášvam sahasrasām vājínam ápratītam ahihánam śravasíyam tárutram 1.117.09

Interpretation:

"You, who have taken many forms, O Ashvins, (purū várpāmsi aśvinā dádhānā) brought down onto Pedu a swift horse (ní pedáva ūhathur āśúm áśvam), the Courser winning Thousands, Irresistible, (sahasrasām vājínam ápratītam), the Killer of the Pythons, swift seeker of the Inspired Knowledge, who carries you over (ahihánam śravasíyam tárutram)."

Vocabulary:

varpas, n. (prob. connected with rūpa) *a pretended or assumed form , phantom* RV.; *any form or shape , figure , image , aspect* ib.; *artifice , device , design* ib.

tarutra, mfn. *carrying across* (as a horse) RV. i , 117 , 9; *conquering , triumphant* , 174 , 1 *granting victory , superior* , iv , vi , viii , x.

9

O Asvins, wearing many forms at pleasure, on Pedu ye bestowed a fleet-foot courser, Strong, winner of a thousand spoils, resistless the serpent slayer, glorious, triumphant.

etāni vām śravasíyā sudānū bráhmāngūsám sádanam ródasīyoh yád vām pajrāso asvinā hávante yātám isā ca viduse ca vājam 1.117.10

Interpretation:

"These are your things of the Inspired Knowledge, O Perfect Givers (etāni vām śravasíyā sudānū): the Hymn that rising in the Heart (bráhmāngūṣám) - the Seat of the two worlds (sádanam ródasīyoņ)!

When strong Pajrasa call you, O Ashvins, (yád vām pajrāso aśvinā hávante), come with your strength and the Impulsion to the Knower (yātám isā ca vidúse ca vājam)."

Vocabulary:

aṅgūṣa, m. (aṅg or ag) , *`moving rapidly', an ichneumon; an arrow.* āṅgūṣa, m. *praising aloud , a hymn* RV.; n. id. <mark>RV. i , 117 , 10</mark>

10

These glorious things are yours, ye Bounteous Givers; prayer, praise in both worlds are your habitation. O Asvins, when the sons of Pajra call you, send strength with nourishment to him who knoweth.

सूनेार् मानेनाश्विना गृणाना वाजं विप्रांय भुरणा रदंन्ता । – अगस्त्ये ब्रह्मणा वावृधाना सं विश्पलां नासत्यारिणीतम् ॥ १-११७-११

sūnór mānena aśvinā grņānā vājam víprāya bhuranā rádantā agástiye bráhmanā vāvrdhānā sám viśpálām nāsatiyārinītam 1.117.11

Interpretation:

"You are , O Ashvins, sung by Māna, who presses Soma-Wine (=by the 'Pride of a Distiller'), (sūnór mānena aśvinā grņānā^{')} or You are sung, O Ashvins, by the Mind of the one who presses Soma-Wine for you, O swift ones, it is for him, the inspired one, that you break through with the plenitude (vājaṃ víprāya bhuraṇā rádantā)! And in Agastya you grew strong by the inspired Word that rose in his heart, (agástiye bráhmaṇā vāvrdhānā) and thus restored Vishpala, O Guides of our Journey (sáṃ víspálāṃ nāsatiyāriņītam)!"

Vocabulary:

bhurana, mfn. quick , active (said of the Ashvins) RV.

māna, 1 m. (man) *opinion , notion , conception , idea* Tattvas.; (cf. ātma-m-) *purpose , wish , design* AitBr.; *self-conceit , arrogance , pride* KaushUp. Mn. &c.; (with Buddhists one of the 6 evil feelings Dharmas. 67 ; or one of the 10 fetters to be got rid of. MWB. 127); N. *of the father of Agastya* (perhaps also of Agastya himself Pān. the family of Māna) RV.

sūnu, m. *one who urges or incites , an inciter* Sāy. on RV. i , 103 , 4; m. *a son , child , offspring* RV. &c. &c.; 3 m. (for 1. 2. see under 1. 2. sū) *one who presses out or extracts the Soma-juice* RV. iii , 1 , 12 (= 1. sotṛ Sāy.)

rad, 1. P. (Dhātup. iii , 16) radati (rarely A. -te; Ved. Impv. ratsi ; pf. rarāda RV. ; aor. arādīt Gr.; fut. raditā, -diṣyati ib.) , to scratch , scrape , gnaw , bite , rend , dig , break , split , divide RV. AV. Suśr.; to cut , open (a road or path) RV.; to lead (a river) into a channel ib.; to convey to, bestow on, give, dispense RV. AV. Br. [Cf. Lat. rad-o, rod-o, Eng. rat]

11

Hymned with the reverence of a son, O Asvins, ye Swift Ones giving booty to the singer, Glorified by Agastya with devotion, established Vispala again, Nasatyas.

kúha yāntā sustutím kāviyásya dívo napātā vrsaņā sayutrā híraņyasyeva kalásam níkhātam úd ūpathur dasamé asvināhan 1.117.12

Interpretation:

"Where you go (kúha yāntā)? To what Affirmation of the Poetic Word (suṣṭutím kāviyásya)? O Sons of Heaven (dívo napātā), O Lords, where do you go to rest (vrsanā śayutrā)? As if the jar filled with gold and buried underground (híranyasyeva kalášam níkhāṭam), you have taken It up on the tenth day, O Ashvins (úd ūpathur daśamé aśvināhan)!"

Vocabulary:

śayutrā, ind. *on or to a couch* RV. kalaśa, m. (n. L.) *a waterpot , pitcher , jar , dish* RV. &c. Hit. &c.; (the breasts of a woman are frequently compared to jars cf. stana-k- and kumbha)

12

Ye Sons of Heaven, ye Mighty, whither went ye, sought ye, for his fair praise the home of Kavya. When, like a pitcher full of gold, O Asvins, on the tenth day ye lifted up the buried?

yuvám cyávānam aśvinā járantam púnar yúvānam cakrathuh śácībhih yuvó rátham duhitā sūriyasya sahá śriyā nāsatiyāvrnīta 1.117.13

Interpretation:

"And the aging Chyavana, O Ashvins, (cyávānam aśvinā járantam) you made young again with all your powers (yuvám púnar yúvānam cakrathuh śácībhih)! For it is your car that the Daughter of the Sun (yuvó rátham duhitā sūriyasya) has chosen with all her glory, O Guides of our Journey here, (sahá śriyā nāsatiyāvrņīta)!"

13

Ye with the aid of your great powers, O Asvins, restored to youth the ancient man Cyavana. The Daughter of the Sun with all her glory, O ye Nasatyas, chose your car to bear her.

युवं तुग्रांय पूर्व्येभिर् एवैःं पुनर्मन्याव् अंभवतं युवाना । -युवम् भुज्युम् अर्णसो निः समुद्राद् विभिर् ऊहथुर् ऋज्रेभिर् अश्वैः ॥ १-११७-१४

yuvám túgrāya pūrviyébhir évaih punarmanyāv abhavatam yuvānā yuvám bhujyúm árnaso níh samudrād víbhir ūhathur rjarébhir ásvaih 1.117.14

Interpretation:

"As from before for Tugra by your first movements (yuvám túgrāya pūrviyébhir évaiḥ), you thus became again passionate, O Youth (punarmanyāv abhavatam yuvānā)! And with your ruddy flying horses you [again] uplifted Bhujyu from the Infinite Ocean of Inconscient (yuvám bhujyúm árnaso níh samudrād víbhir ūhathur rjarébhir áśvaih)!"

14

Ye, ever-youthful Ones, again remembered Tugra, according to your ancient manner: With horses brown of hue that flew with swift wings ye brought back Bhujyu from the sea of billows.

ájohavīd aśvinā taugriyó vām próļhah samudrám avyathír jaganvān nís tám ūhathuh suyújā ráthena mánojavasā vrsaņā suastí 1.117.15

Interpretation:

"Taugrya thus invoked you, O Ashvins, (ájohavīd aśvinā taugriyó vām) and being carried by you forward he went uninjured through the Ocean (próļhaḥ samudrám avyathír jaganvān).

11

And by your well controlled and thought-swift Chariot you took him out, (nís tám ūhathuh suyújā ráthena mánojavasā) O Lords, to his wellbeing (vrsanā suastí)."

15

The son of Tugra had invoked you, Asvins; borne on he went uninjured through the ocean. Ye with your chariot swift as thought, well-harnessed, carried him off, O Mighty Ones, to safety.

अजोहवीद् अश्विना वर्तिंका वाम् आस्नो यत् सीम् अमुं छतं वृकस्य । व जयुषां ययथुः सान्व् अद्वेर् जातं विष्वाचे अहतं विषेण ॥ १-११७-१६

ájohavīd aśvinā vártikā vām āsnó yát sīm ámuñcatam vŕkasya ví jayúsā yayathuh sānu ádrer jātám visvāco ahatam viséna 1.117.16

Interpretation:

"The Bird who always returns has invoked you, O Ashvins, (ájohavīd aśvinā vártikā vām) when you have freed her from the jaws of the Wolf (āsnó yát sīm ámuñcatam vŕkasya)! And with you victorious movement you crossed the top of the mountains (ví jayúṣā yayathuḥ sānu ádrer), with poison you have killed the offspring born of the Asura Vishvac (jātám viṣvāco ahatam viṣéṇa)!"

Vocabulary:

jayus, mfn. id. RV. i , 117 , 16 sānu, m. n. (accord. to Un2. i , 3 fr. san; collateral form 3. snu) *a summit , ridge , surface , top of a mountain , (in later language generally) mountain-ridge , table-land* RV. &c. &c.; (L. also , a sprout ; *a forest ; road ; gale of wind ; sage , learned man ; the sun* "). viyā, P. -yāti, *to go or pass through, traverse , cross , drive through (with a car) , cut through (with wheels) , destroy* RV. MaitrS. SBr. *to depart , turn away* MaitrS. BhP. viṣvāc, m. N. of an Asura RV. i , 117 , 16 (Sāy.) (%{a4m}) ind. happily , auspiciously , for growth or prosperity RV. AV.

The quail had invocated you, O Asvins, when from the wolf's devouring jaws ye freed her. With conquering car ye cleft the mountain's ridges: the offspring of Visvac ye killed with poison.

śatám mesän vrkíye māmahānám támah pránītam ásivena pitrā āksī rjrāśve asvināv adhattam jyótir andhāya cakrathur vicákse 1.117.17

Interpretation:

"And who has thus offered hundred sheep to the she-wolf, (satam meṣān vrkiye māmahānam), and got thus blinded by the merciless father (tamah pranītam asivena pitrā), to him, Rjrashva, you gave the Eyes (ākṣī rjrāsve asvināv adhattam): light for the blind you've made for seeing (jyótir andhāya cakrathur vicakṣe)!"

17

He whom for furnishing a hundred wethers to the she-wolf, his wicked father blinded, To him, Rjrasva, gave ye eyes, O Asvins; light to the blind ye sent for perfect vision.

śunám andhāya bháram ahvayat sā vrkīr aśvinā vrsaņā náréti jāráh kanīna iva caksadāná rjrāśuvah śatám ékam ca mesān 1.117.18

Interpretation:

"To bring the happiness to the Blind, (śunám andhāya bháram), O Ashvins, this She-wolf thus invoked you, O Lords: 'O Heroes! (ahvayat sā vrkīr aśvinā vrsaņā náréti) [It is for me] like lover for beloved that Rijrashva giving his eyes has offered (jāráḥ kanīna iva cakṣadāná rjrāśuvaḥ) hundred and one sheep (śatám ékaṃ ca meṣān).""

So if we examine these two verses again: satám meṣān vrkíye māmahānám támah pránītam ásivena pitrā ākṣī rjrāśve aśvināv adhattam jyótir andhāya cakrathur vicákṣe 1.117.17 sunám andhāya bháram ahvayat sā vrkīr aśvinā vrṣaṇā náréti jāráḥ kanīna iva cakṣadāná rjrāśuvaḥ śatám ékam ca meṣān 1.117.18

"The one who greatened the She-Wolf, who granted to Her one hundred soul-powers, and was thus led to Darkness by his merciless Father, Ashvins have established Eyes in Rijrashva; to see the Light for the Blind they made It. To bring the joy and life of Spirit for the blinded (sunám andhāya bháram) called the She-Wolf [to Ashvins]: O Heroes! O Ashvins, O Lords, like the youthful lover to the beloved thus Rijrashva gave his Sight [to me]: hudred and one soul-powers!"

What is interesting in this passage is that the She-Wolf, who symbolises most probably the selfish Nature of the first creation, has invoked the Ashvins, the Lords of the Supramental Force and Knowledge, to get the sight for the blinded Son of the Lord who thus greatened her with his soul-powers and lost his sight in the darkness. Rijrashava, literally ,one who is of Ruddy Horses' the son of the Lord, his Father, Vrsagir, lit. ,the Voice of the Bull', meaning the Lord's Consciousness, was sacrificed to the Darkness, giving all this soul-powers (mesān) to the lower Nature, the She-Wolf. Thus she was greatened, or impragnated by the soul-powers of the Lord, through his Son. Having done all that he became blind and then She, seeing this, herself invoked Ashvins to make him again see the light. This is the symbol of the sacrifice of the lower Nature to the Spirit, which She thus has learned from his Self-giving. She herself wants now the Spirit, moved by the action of the sacrificial Selflessness of Rijrashva. Merciless Father, aśivah pitā, can be thus interpreted as the one who dared self-annihilation, self-sacrifice for the sake of the She-Wolf. If He would be merciful He would never sacrificed His Son to the She-Wolf, which made him blind; but He did it, because of His Power of Love, he could make this self-offering. Ashvins seem to play an important role in the recovery of his lost Consciousness after the sacrifice was made. They are the Supramental Godheads, who lead us on our Journey back to the full recovery of Consciousness.

Vocabulary:

śunam, ind. *happily , auspiciously , for growth or prosperity* RV. AV. kanī, f. *a girl , maiden* RV. (only gen. pl. kanīnām) Pañcad. Kāvyād. kanīna, mfn. *young, youthful* RV.

18

To bring the blind man joy thus cried the she–wolf: O Asvins, O ye Mighty Ones, O Heroes, For me Rjrasva, like a youthful lover, hath cut piecemeal one and a hundred wethers.

मही वाम् ऊतिर् अश्विना मयोभूर् उत स्नामं धिष्ण्या सं रिणीथः । - - - - -अथा युवाम् इद् अह्वयत् पुरंधिर् आगच्छतं सीँवृषणाव् अवोभिः ॥ १-११७-१९

mahī vām ūtír aśvinā mayobhūr utá srāmám dhisniyā sám rinīthah áthā yuvām íd ahvayat púramdhir āgachatam sīm vrsanāv ávobhih 1.117.19

Interpretation:

"Great is your Help, O Ashvins, creating Bliss (mahī vām ūtír aśvinā mayobhūr)! Attentive you restore [all] who are sick (utá srāmám dhiṣṇiyā sám rinīthaḥ)! And thus Puramdhi called you for help (áthā yuvām íd ahvayat púramdhir), and you have come to her, O Lords, with your amending powers (āgachatam sīm vṛṣaṇāv ávobhiḥ)!"

Vocabulary:

srāma, mfn. (of unknown derivation), *lame*, *sick* RV. AV. ŚBr. ChUp.; (srāma) m. *lameness, sickness, disease* (esp. of animals) RV. TS. Kaţh. ŚBr. dhiṣṇya, mfn. *mindful*, *attentive*, *benevolent*, *liberal* (Ashvins) RV. i, 3, 2 saṃrī, P. –riṇāti, *to join together, restore*, *repair* RV.; *to wash*, *purify* VS.

19

Great and weal–giving is your aid, O Asvins, ye, objects of all thought, made whole the cripple. Purandhi also for this cause invoked you, and ye, O mighty, came to her with succours.

ádhenum dasrā staríyam vísaktām ápinvatam śayáve aśvinā gām yuvám śácībhir vimadāya jāyām ní ūhathuḥ purumitrásya yóṣām 1.117.20

Interpretation:

"The Cow you made for Shayu full of milk again, O Ashvins, (ápinvatam sayáve asvinā gām), which was already barren and exhausted, O Skillful Workers (ádhenum dasrā staríyam vísaktām)!

You with your powers brought wife for Vimada (yuvám sácībhir vimadāya jāyām ní ühathuh) to be his consort, [the daughter] of Purumitra (purumitrásya yóṣām)!"

Vocabulary:

starya, mfn. to be laid low or overthrown SBr.

viṣakta, mfn. *hung to or on or upon , hung or suspended to , hanging or sticking on or in , firmly fixed or fastened or adhering to* (loc.) AV. &c. &c.; *stopped , interrupted* (said of a cow that has ceased to give milk) RV. i , 117 , 20

20

Ye, Wonder–Workers, filled with milk for Sayu the milkless cow, emaciated, barren; And by your powers the child of Purumitra ye brought to Vimada to be his consort.

yávam vrkena asvinā vápantā ísam duhántā mánusāya dasrā abhí dásyum bákurenā dhámantā urú jyótis cakrathur āriyāya 1.117.21

Interpretation:

"O Ashvins, sowing the grains [in the fields] with the help of the Wolf (yávam vŕkena aśvinā vápantā), milking the strength of impulsion for Man, O Wonder-Workers (íṣam duhántā mánuṣāya dasrā), blowing down the Dasyu with your trumpet (abhí dásyum bákurenā dhámantā), you thus created the Vast Light for Aryan (urú jyótiś cakrathur āriyāya)!"

There can be interesting psychological interpretations of this verse in relation to the imagery of vrka, since we already know that the She-Wolf, vrkī, has invoked Ashvins for the sake of Rjrāśva who thus greatened her, māmahāna, with his hundred and one soul-powers.

The word yava- means 'grain', derived from root yu, which has two meanings: 'to unite' and 'to divide'. The movement of sowing of the 'separated' or 'separately shaped' truths of being, 'the seeds', 'the grain', 'the true substance of being', as it were, which will grow in time must be done with the help of the powers of Darkness, the power of Separation, Vrka, lit. 'the tearer'. Sāyaṇa translates vrka as lāṅgala, 'a plough', which is quite interesting in relation to the symbolism of this action of separation. To introduce the seed into manifestation one has to open it up: to cut or to plough it, as it were. The oneness of the Divine Being is brought down into the field of manifestation by the power of light, Ashvins are sowing it, and with the help of the power of darkness, Vrka, it is taken into the being, being divided by time and space, or rearranged, as it were (see also the imagery of the twin sisters Night and Dawn). The sowing of the Truth therefore cannot be done without the help of the separating power, Vrka.

So, Ashvins first introduce the substance of light into the Darkness, then they milk the essence of delight out of it, isam, the truth-impulsion for men, whose souls are like growing grains within the darkness, they are nourished with this strength of impulsion of the Dynamic Truth, which is the delight of being, as the only true motive of life and its growth towards the higher consciousness. And finally by removing the forces of Darkness which are obstructing this growth: the dualisers and destroyers, Dasyus, with the power of their blasting trumpet, announcing the coming of the Truth, they create the Vast Light for the Aryan, the noble soul of man, who grew or evolved enough to see it.

There is a subtle connection between the two concepts of food (as yava, grains) and drink (as iṣa, draught; see also aśanayāpipāse, hunger and thirst of Aitareya Upanishad). These two can be viewed as matter and subtle matter, gross body and subtle energy which the body contains, supporting it and which has to be extracted from it to support the growth of the body and thus the soul. These are the archaic views on the nature of matter as the support in the birth of Purusha (see also annāt puruṣaḥ BhG, TaittUp etc.).

According to Aitareya the hunger and thirst are not representing only the food and drink for the physical body, but are also assigned to all the faculties of consciousness or indrivas as their shareholders. Therefore whenever there is an offering made for any of the senses, says Aitareya, the hunger and thirst should also partake of it (yasyai kasyai ca devatāyai havir gṛhyate asyām aśanapipāse bhavataḥ AitUp 1.2.4)

So these two (bread and wine in the Christian tradition), substance and energy, are present on all the levels of our existence, not only on the gross material level but also on the subtle, vital, mental and spiritual levels. What is being consumed is the energy of the being, which makes being grow, as it were, and carry this energy further. Taittirīya Upanishad concludes with the magnificent intuitive insight into this profound view on our existence: स यश्चांयं पुरुषे यश्चासांवादित्ये स एकः।

"The one who is in the Purusha and the one who is in the Sun is One!"

स यं एवंवित्। अस्माल्लोकात्प्रेत्य।

एतमन्नमयमात्मानमुपंसंकम्य । एतं प्राणमयमात्मानमुपंसंकम्य ।

एतं मनोमयमात्मानमुपंसंक्रम्य । एतं विजानमयमात्मानमुपंसंक्रम्य ।

एतमानन्दमयमात्मानमुपसंकुम्य । इमाँल्लोकान्कामान्नी कामरूप्यंतुसुञ्चरन् । एतत्साम गांयन्नास्ते ।

"The one who knows thus, having gone from this world and having joined this Self made out of Matter, this Self made out of Prāna, this Self made out of Mind, this Self made out of Supermind, this Self made out of Bliss, partaking at will of all these worlds (having them as his Food), taking at will whatever form he wants, he sits immobile moving in all the worlds and sings this Saman":

हा ३वु हा ३वु हा ३वुं। अहमन्नमहमन्नम्हमन्नम्। अहमन्नादो<u>३</u>ऽहमन्नादो<u>३</u>ऽहमन्नादः। अहर श्लोककृदहर श्लोककृदुहर श्लोककृत्। अहमस्मि प्रथमजा ऋता३स्य। पूर्वं देवेभ्योऽमृतस्य ना ३भा<u>पि</u>। यो मा ददाति स इदेव मा३वाः। अहमन्नमन्नमन्नम्नदन्तमा ३द्मि। अहं विश्वं भुवनमभ्यभवा३म्। सुवर्न ज्योतीः। य एवं वेदं। इत्युपनिर्षत्॥

"Hā vu, hā vu, hā vu! I am food, I am food, I am food! I am the eater of food, I am the eater of food, I am the eater of food! I am the creator of the Hymn, I am the creator of the Hymn, I am the creator of the Hymn!

I am firstborn of the Truth! Before the gods in the Navel of Immortality! The one who gives/sacrifices Me, he is indeed nourishing Me! I am Food, I eat the eater of food. I overcame the whole world! O Sun-Light! – one who knows thus! this is the Upanishad."

Vocabulary:

vrka, m. (prob. `" the tearer "' connected with vrasc, cf. vrkna), *a wolf* RV. &c. &c.; (L. also `a dog; a jackal; a crow; an owl; a thief; a Kshatriya'); *a plough* RV. i, 117, 21 bakura, m. (prob.) *a horn, trumpet* (or other wind instrument used in battle; cf. bākura, bekurā) RV. i, 117, 21 (Naigh. `" a thunderbolt, lightning "'). dham, or dhmā, 1. P. dhamati (A. -te Up. MBh.) *to blow* (either intrans. as wind [applied also to the bubbling Soma RV. ix, 73] or trans., as to blow a conch-shell or any wind instrument) RV. &c. &c.; to blow into (loc.) MBh. I, 813; *to breathe out, exhale* RV. ii, 34, 1 MBh. xiv, 1732; *to kindle a fire by blowing* RV. ii, 24, 7, MBh. ii, 2483; *to melt or manufacture (metal) by blowing* RV. &c. &c.; to blow or cast away MBh. v, 7209

21

Ploughing and sowing barley, O ye Asvins, milking out food for men, ye Wonder–Workers, Blasting away the Dasyu with your trumpet, ye gave far–spreading light unto the Arya. आधर्वणायांश्विना दधीचे ऽंश्व्यं शिरः प्रत्यू ऐरयतम् ।

स वाम् मधु प्र वोचद् ऋतायन् त्वाष्ट्रं यद् दस्राव् अपिकक्ष्यं वाम् ॥ १-११७-२२

ātharvaņāya aśvinā dadhīce áśviyam śírah práti airayatam sá vām mádhu prá vocad rtāyán tvāstrám yád dasrāv apikaksíyam vām 1.117.22

Interpretation:

"To the son of Atharvan, O Ashvins, to Dadhyach, (ātharvaņāya aśvinā dadhīce) you made the head of the Horse (áśviyaṃ śíraḥ práti airayatam)! Being of the truth he spoke of Honey to you (sá vām mádhu prá vocad rtāyán), the secret of Tvashtar which was hidden from you (tvāstrám yád dasrāv apikaksíyam vām)!"

It is interesting that that secret of Tvashtar was hidden from Ashvins, the secret of the delight, madhu, in the material creation. Tvashtar has created the first vessel, the first ladle of Soma-offering, the container of Soma, the material frame of the body. This secret was unknown to Ashvins, since they are the typal or involutionary godheads as the direct projection of the Supramental Force-Knowledge, who did not directly participate in the creation of the material form in the lower hemisphere. But it was essential for them to know it, for they bring honey into it from the pure transcendental realms and have to know how honey is extracted here from the material form. So they had to engage with the evolutionary beings to get this secret for themselves. Dadhyach was the Rishi, who took the human body, became evolutionary being and learnt it from Indra as a great secret. Indra is drinking Soma extracted from the being on all levels, and thus he is getting attracted to that being, flashing out with his lightnings of intuition, revealing the truth of it with his higher illumining Consciousness-Power. The secret of Madhu is therefore essential for the Gods to be able to swiftly come to the being and to effectively transform it or to heal it from the excessive influence of darkness.

Vocabulary:

apikaksya, (5) mfn. connected with the region of the arm-pits RV. i , 117 , 22.

22

Ye brought the horse's head, Asvins, and gave it unto Dadhyac the offspring of Atharvan. True, he revealed to you, O WonderWorkers, sweet Soma, Tvastar's secret, as your girdle. सदा कवी सुमतिम् आ चंके वां विश्वा धियों अश्विना प्रावंतम् मे । अस्मे रयिं नासत्या बृहन्तम् अपत्यसाचं श्रुत्यं रराधाम् ॥ १-११७-२३

sádā kavī sumatím ā cake vām vísvā dhíyo asvinā prāvatam me asmé rayím nāsatiyā brhántam apatyasācam srútiyam rarāthām 1.117.23

Interpretation:

"I always look for your Supreme Delight of Thought, O Poets (sádā kavī sumatím ā cake vām)! Increase and strengthen all my holdings [onto you] (vísvā dhíyo asvinā prāvatam me)! Reveal in us, O Guides of our Journey, the wealth (asmé rayím nāsatiyā) of great inspired knowledge which accompanies generations (brhántam apatyasācam śrútiyam rarāthām)."

Vocabulary:

cak, (1. P. A. -kati, -kate), *to be satiated or contented or satisfied* Dhātup. iv , 19; *to repel , resist* ib.; *to shine* , xix , 21 (cf. kan and kam); rā, rās, cl. 2. P. (Dhātup. xxiv , 49) rāti} (Ved. also A. rāte; Impv. rirīhi, rarāsva, raridhvam; p. rarāṇa) , *to grant , give , bestow , impart , yield , surrender* RV. &c. &c. apatyasac, m(acc. sg. -sācam})fn. *accompanied with offspring* RV.

23

O Sages, evermore I crave your favour: be gracious unto all my prayers, O Asvins. Grant me, Nasatyas, riches in abundance, wealth famous and accompanied with children.

हिरण्यहस्तम् अश्विना रराणा पुत्रं नरा वध्रिमत्या अंदत्तम् । त्रिधा ह श्यावम् अश्विना विकस्तम् उज् जीवसं ऐरयतं सुदानू ॥ १-११७-२४

híranyahastam aśvinā rárānā putrám narā vadhrimatyā adattam trídhā ha śyāvam aśvinā víkastam új jīvása airayatam sudānū 1.117.24

Interpretation:

"O Ashvins, you have given the Son with golden hands (híraṇyahastam aśvinā rárāṇā) to the Lady, O Hero Twins, who could not have a child, because of her powerless husband (putrám narā vadhrimatyā adattam).

And Shyava who was torn into three pieces, O Ashvins, (trídhā ha śyāvam aśvinā víkastam) you thus brought back to life, O Generous Lords (új jīvása airayatam sudānū)!"

Vocabulary: vadhrimatī, f. *a woman who has an impotent husband* RV. vikasta, mfn. (Pāņ. 7-2 , 34) *burst , split , rent* asunder RV. VS. Kauş. 24

With liberal bounty to the weakling's consorts ye, Heroes, gave a son Hiranyahasta; And Syava, cut into three several pieces, ye brought to life again, O bounteous Asvins.

एतानि वाम् अश्विना वीर्याणि प्र पूर्व्याण्य् आयवो ऽवोचन् । - - - - - - - - -ब्रह्म कृण्वन्तो वृषणा युवभ्यां सुवीरांसो विदथम् आ वदेम ॥ १-११७-२५

etāni vām aśvinā vīríyāņi prá pūrviyāņi āyávo avocan bráhma krņvánto vrsaņā yuvábhyām suvīrāso vidátham ā vadema 1.117.25

Interpretation:

"These are the ancient deeds of yours, O Ashvins, of the heroic power (etāni vām aśvinā vīríyāni pūrviyāni), that Ayu thus declared [here] (prá āyávo avocan)! Shaping this word which rises from the heart for you, O Lords, (bráhma krņvánto vrsanā yuvábhyām) may we who are of perfect heroic power express the finding of the Knowledge [here] (suvīrāso vidátham ā vadema)!

25

These your heroic exploits, O ye Asvins, done in the days of old, have men related. May we, addressing prayer to you, ye Mighty, speak with brave sons about us to the synod.