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## Tempestuous Poetry: Storms in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, *Heroides* and *Tristia*

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This article considers the most prominent storm-narratives within the Ovidian corpus. These storm-narratives include in the first book of the *Metamorphoses*, the story of Ceyx and Alcyone in the eleventh book of the *Metamorphoses*, the *Heroides* (*Her.* 18-9), and the three storm-poems in the first book of the *Tristia* (1.2, 1.4, 1.11). A brief summary provides the necessary context for my discussion of these individual passages. Three principal arguments are put forward concerning specific storm-narratives. Firstly, I point out that there are extensive verbal and thematic inter-connections between these narratives; this encourages us to see the 'storm theme' as a poetic subject which Ovid consciously exploits. Secondly, I focus on the conflict between the epic and elegiac aspects of storms. Here I show that Ovid is capable of producing 'epic storms' within elegiac, or erotic, narratives. Thirdly, I consider how Ovid utilises the symbolic capabilities of storms to refle

lovers like Alcyone and Leander, and exiles like himself.

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