

Contents of PL with some cross-references

See also chapter on Structures, above.

I HELL

- 1-26 **Invocation** (Biblical epic). Cf. *PR* I, *NO*.
 27-330 Satan and Beelzebub rise from lake of fire, rouse other fallen angels. Similes of Galileo, leaves, barbarians, locusts. Cf. v 670.
 331-669 **Parade** of fallen angels. Cf. *NO*, *PR* III-IV.
 670-798 Building of **Pandemonium**. Similes of Mulciber, bees, fairies and peasant. Cf. *PR* IV 44.

II HELL AND CHAOS

- 1-505 **Debate** in Pandemonium.
 506-628 Exploration and torments of **Hell**. Cf. x 504.
 629-870 Satan meets **Sin and Death** at hellgate. Cf. x 229.
 871-1005 Satan voyages through **Chaos**, meets Chaos and Night, comes to created universe. Maritime imagery. Cf. III 416.

III HEAVEN AND SUN

- 1-55 **Invocation** (light and blindness).
 56-415 **Debate in heaven** (the Father foresees man's fall, the Son offers to redeem him, the angels sing in praise). Cf. II I, v 577, VI 680, VII 131, X 17, XI 1, *PR* I 130.
 416-501 **Limbo of fools** (Satan arrives on the outer globe of the universe). Simile of the vulture. Cf. *Lyc* 119.
 501-742 **The sun**. Uriel directs Satan, in disguise, to earth, with brief account of creation. Cf. VII, X 641.

IV PARADISE

- 1-205 Satan enters paradise. Similes of Indian Ocean, burglar.
 206-287 **Paradise** described. Similes of Hesperides, Persephone.
 288-535 **Adam and Eve**, with Satan spying on them. Cf. IX 179. Eve describes **her creation** (cf. Adam's VIII 249).
 536-588 Uriel warns Gabriel of Satan's presence.
 589-775 Adam and Eve go to bed; evening hymn (cf. v 153), disquisition on love (cf. VIII 500).
 776-1015 Ithuriel and Zephon **arrest Satan**; God hangs out scales, Gabriel lets him go. Similes of mountain, comet, ploughman.

V PARADISE AND WAR IN HEAVEN

- 1-128 Eve tells Adam of her **nightmare**.
 129-208 Morning hymn. Cf. IV 720.
 209-297 God sends Raphael to instruct Adam and Eve.

- 298-505 Raphael, Adam and Eve meet, eat together, and discuss the **chain of being**. Cf. *PR* II 337.
 506-904 Raphael starts to tell of the **war in heaven**.

VI WAR IN HEAVEN

- 1-912 War in heaven continued. Cf. XI 634, *PR* III 310. With the Son's chariot, cf. VII 192.

VII CREATION

- 1-39 **Invocation** (Urania and Bacchus).
 40-640 **Creation** of the universe.

VIII SCIENCE, LOVE AND ETHICS

- 1-178 **Astronomy**, and the problem of knowledge. Cf. *PR* IV 285.
 179-499 **Creation of Adam**.
 500-653 Divine and human love; final warnings from Raphael, who returns to heaven.

IX FALL

- 1-47 **Invocation** (heroic and romantic poetry). *PR* IV 331.
 48-191 Satan returns to paradise and enters the serpent.
 192-411 Adam and Eve argue, and go gardening separately.
 412-838 **Satan tempts Eve** and she falls. Cf. *Com* 659.
 839-1033 Eve tempts Adam and **he falls**. Cf. *SA* 732.
 1034-1189 They make love, and wake to remorse. Simile of Samson. Cf. IV 689.

X AFTERMATH OF THE FALL

- 1-228 The Father condemns Adam and Eve; the Son descends to judge and clothe them.
 229-409 Sin and Death build a **bridge** between hell and the world, meeting Satan on the way. Cf. II 648.
 410-584 Satan returns to hell and reports his success; he and the fallen angels turn into snakes and chew **bitter ashes**. Cf. II 1.
 585-613 Sin and Death invade the universe.
 613-715 Angels alter climate.
 715-1104 Adam and Eve lament, quarrel, are reconciled, pray for forgiveness.

XI FUTURE

- 1-140 God orders Michael to show Adam the future and expel him from paradise.
 141-369 Michael arrives, talks to Adam and Eve, puts Eve to sleep. Cf. III 560, v 246.
 370-897 Michael shows Adam visions of the future from Cain and Abel to the **flood**. With the vision cf. *PR* III 251-IV 108; with the flood cf. VII.

XII FUTURE AND EXPULSION

- 1-551 The future from flood to last judgement.
 552-649 Adam rejoins Eve; Michael expels them from paradise.