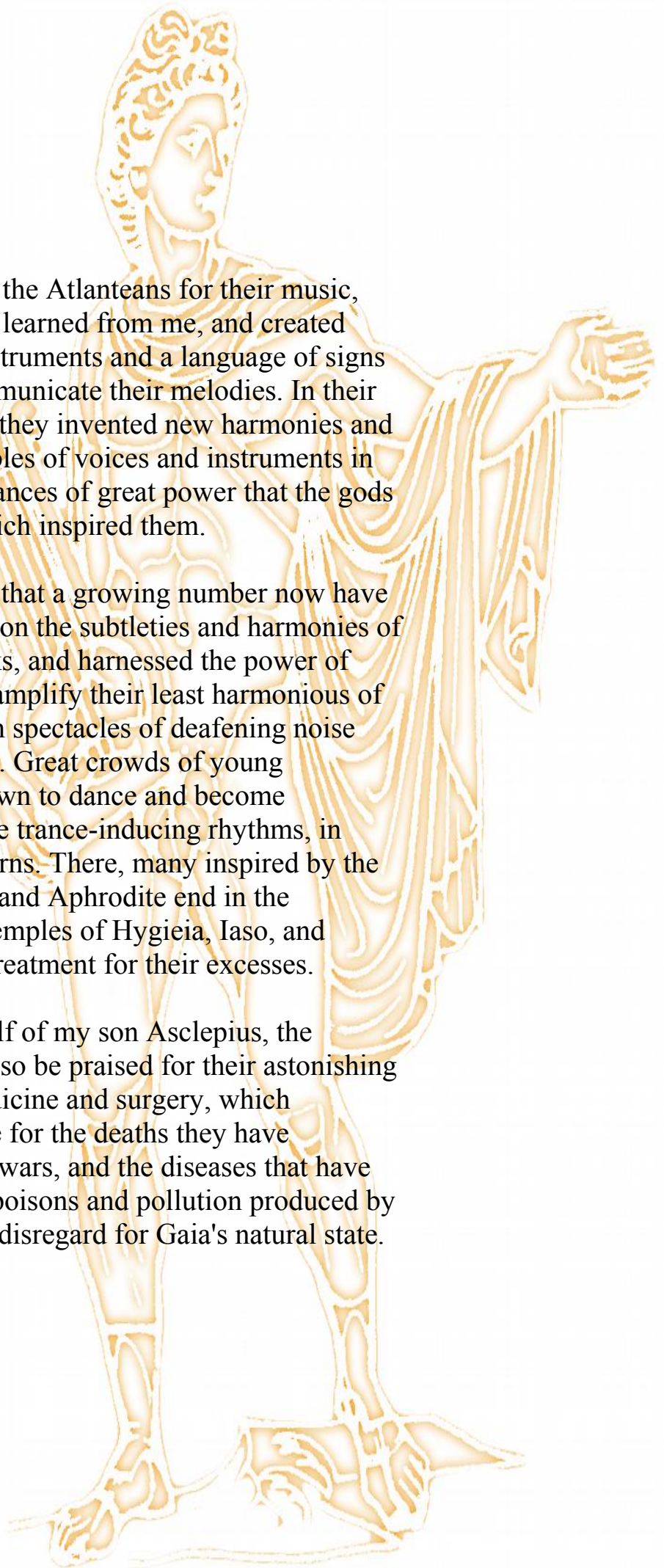


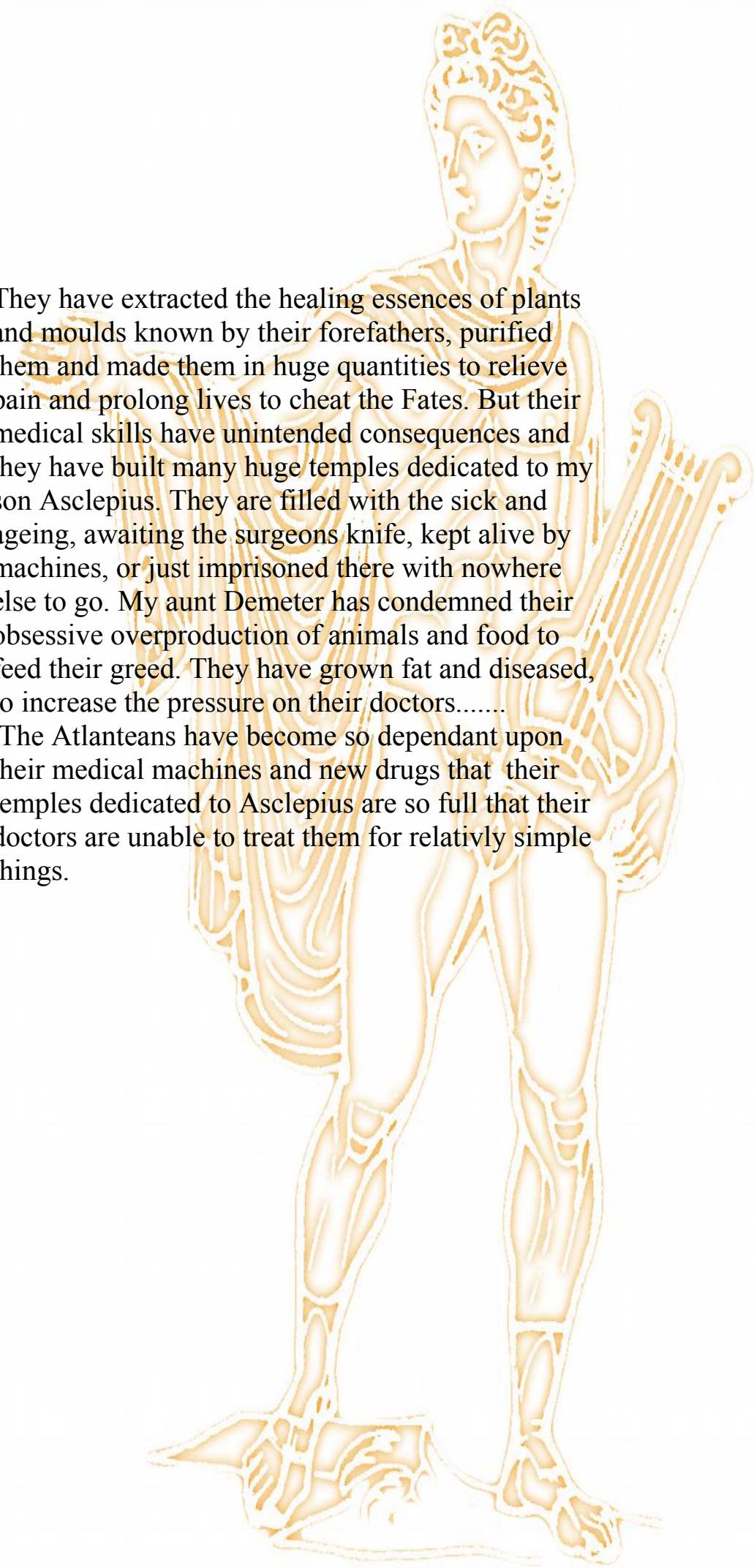
A POLLO

I must first praise the Atlanteans for their music, because they have learned from me, and created many beautiful instruments and a language of signs to record and communicate their melodies. In their days of greatness, they invented new harmonies and expressive ensembles of voices and instruments in theatrical performances of great power that the gods applauded and which inspired them.

But sadly, I regret that a growing number now have turned their backs on the subtleties and harmonies of their greatest works, and harnessed the power of their machines to amplify their least harmonious of new instruments in spectacles of deafening noise and flashing lights. Great crowds of young Atlanteans are drawn to dance and become possessed by these trance-inducing rhythms, in stadia, and in caverns. There, many inspired by the rites of Dionysius and Aphrodite end in the vestibules of the temples of Hygieia, Iaso, and Panacea needing treatment for their excesses.

However, on behalf of my son Asclepius, the Atlanteans must also be praised for their astonishing discoveries in medicine and surgery, which compensate a little for the deaths they have provoked by their wars, and the diseases that have resulted from the poisons and pollution produced by their ignorance or disregard for Gaia's natural state.





They have extracted the healing essences of plants and moulds known by their forefathers, purified them and made them in huge quantities to relieve pain and prolong lives to cheat the Fates. But their medical skills have unintended consequences and they have built many huge temples dedicated to my son Asclepius. They are filled with the sick and ageing, awaiting the surgeons knife, kept alive by machines, or just imprisoned there with nowhere else to go. My aunt Demeter has condemned their obsessive overproduction of animals and food to feed their greed. They have grown fat and diseased, to increase the pressure on their doctors.....

The Atlanteans have become so dependant upon their medical machines and new drugs that their temples dedicated to Asclepius are so full that their doctors are unable to treat them for relatively simple things.