



Soon after the opening lines of Dante's *Inferno*, the narrator (Dante) is joined by someone who can lead him on his journey. It's Virgil, and Dante will follow him closely.

This image depicts Dante and Virgil as they start-out together. The engraving is by Gustave Doré who created 75 designs for the *Divine Comedy*. Those illustrations were first published in a version of Dante's work which was released in 1890.

The drawing, depicted here, specifically illustrates line 132 of the *Inferno's* Canto I. It appears as the last line in this excerpt:

*...I do beseech thee (that this ill and worse  
I may escape) to lead me, where thou saidst,  
That I Saint Peter's gate may view, and those  
Who as thou tell'st, are in such dismal plight."*

*Onward he mov'd, I close his steps pursu'd.*

Click on the image for a better view.

### Credits:

Gustave Doré created this engraving, circa 1897, to be included in a version of the "Divine Comedy" which was published in 1890. It is from "Dante Alighieri's Inferno from the Original by Dante Alighieri and Illustrated with the Designs of Gustave Doré" (New York: Cassell Publishing Company, 1890).

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