

Author's reply

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I warmly thank Professor Vermylen for his sharp observation¹ on the special article published in *Bleeding, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology* on October 29, 2024.

According to Dante's description, words and blood come out together, so one could imagine that the bleeding stops when the words do. Dante notes that, in the meantime, the spilled blood turns "brown" and clots.

Autoimmunity is not a metaphor of suicide. The injustice Pier delle Vigne describes: "my soul made me go unjust against my just self," might be read as something similar to what is made to an organism by an auto-antibody.

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Reference

1. Vermylen J. Comments on "*Da la scheggia rotta usciva insieme parole e sangue*: an unusual case of bleeding and the metaphor of a clinical trial". *Bleeding Thromb Vasc Biol* 2024;3:162.

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