

Cownose Ray · *Stuart Friebert*

Wounds from the spines on its tail
are often quite troublesome. Servius
Tullius erected a temple to it, long
before the one to Fortuna, because
he was recovering, going to make it,
though it hadn't looked good for a
while and Homer came by to visit,
his own eye bandaged on account of
a similar encounter—And it was
just a baby of a ray, he said.

Tullius was busy sketching cows,
I'm not quite ready to do the ray's
portrait yet, he said. They met at
nightfall, had pipes in their mouths
but the strange thing was to see them
turn quiet and almost religious when
each exposed his wounds to the other.