Translation: Caterina Imperiale Lercari Pallavicina

including Non re, sed famâ vivunt plerique

April 11, 2021

Created by Melissa Goldman and the Translation Team with the support of the Project Nota team, a group dedicated to drawing attention to the Latin letters and works of famous women by focusing on the digitization of texts, translating these texts into English, Spanish, and French, and increasing their overall accessibility. Among us we have over 150 years of Latin experience including many years of teaching experience, seven advanced degrees, many publications in academic journals, and multiple positions in professional organizations.

For more information visit www.lupercallegit.org/projectnota or email projectnotaforwomen@gmail.com
E P I G R A M M A 2
Catarina Imperialis

Non re, sed famâ vivunt plerique ; colorem

Et virtutis amant , quem vel iniquus amat .

Hinc laus est , sincera licèt , malè cauta frequenter ;

Nam rerum vacuà sistitur in facie .

Cognitor arcani verax , Deus intime , nostri !

Tu solus laudis noscere jura potes .

Vocabulary
Arcanum, -i, n- mystery, secret
Cautus, cauta, cautum- cautious, trusted, secure
Cognitor, cognitoris, m- advocate, guarantor of identity
Facies, -ei, f- appearance, form
Fama, -ae, f- reputation
Iniquus, iniqua, iniquum- unjust, uneven, unfriendly
Jus, juris, n- right
Laus, laudis, f- praise
Plerique- many, the majority, most
Sincerus, sincera, sincerum- clean, pure
Sisto, sistere, stiti, status- to place, stand, stop, check
Verax, veracis (gen.)- truthful, true
Enodatio (Latin in English word order)

Plerique vivunt (+abl) non re, sed fama

Amant colorem virtutis, vel quem iniquus amat (hunc colorem autem et iniqui possunt amare)

Hic (unde) laus est, (et) licet (ea) sincera (sit), male cauta (est) frequenter; (tamen saepe haud cauta est)

Nam (laus) rerum sistitur in facie vacua.

Verax cognitor arcani nostri, Deus intime!

Tu solus laudis potes noscere jura
Translation

Most people do not live in reality, but by reputation; they
love the color of virtue, or what the unjust loves.

From this there is praise, even if pure, frequently incautious;

for this is placed in the empty form of things.

True advocate of our mystery, most profound God,

you alone are able to know the rights of praise.