



Translation: Caterina Imperiale Lercari Pallavicina

including *Fœmina, quæ Formæ studeat, studeatque placere*

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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.

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Original Text:

Arcadum Carmina: Pars Prior. Rome: Antonius de Rubeis, 1721, p. 69.

https://www.google.com/books/edition/_/OuNfAAAACAAJ?hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjuiMvopvjsAhWBKs0KHZ2jD3IQ7_IDMAx6BAGQEAU

EPIGRAMMA 3
Catarina Imperialis

Fœmina , quæ Formæ studeat , studeatque placere ,

Et formæ , & merito fiet iniqua suo .

Sit Virtutis amans , nec amari gaudeat illa :

Obsequia , in morem despicientis , amet .

Majestas , & Amor non una in sede morantur :

Unica Majestas nos facit esse Deas .

Vocabulary

Fœmina = *femina*

studeo, studere, studui- + genitive

Iniquus, iniqua, iniquum- uneven, unfriendly, unjust (*inimica*)

Meritum, -i, n- favor, merit, service kindness

Virtus, virtutis, f- virtue, manliness, manhood

Obsequium, -i, n- obedience, compliance

Despicio, despiciere, despexi, despectus- look down upon (Present active Participle)

Mos, moris, m- a will, way, habit

Majestas, -tatis, f- dignity, divine majesty

Moror, morari, moratus sum- delay

Unicus, unica, unicum- alone, only

Enodatio (Latin in English word order)

Foemina, quae studeat Formae, et studeat placere (aliis),

Et formae, et iniqua fiet suo merito.

Amans sit virtutis, nec illa gaudeat amari:

Amet obsequia in morem despicientis.

Majestas et amor non una morantur in sede:

Majestas unica facit esse nos Deas.

Translation

A woman, who is eager for beauty and to please,

Will be an enemy to both beauty and her own merit.

Let her be a lover of virtue, and let her not rejoice in being loved:

Let her love obedience in the habit of disdain.

Dignity and love together do not delay her in the seat:

Dignity alone appoints us to be Goddesses.