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Europa From Giovanni Boccaccio's Famous Women A New Translation, with Text, and Commentary

Edward H Campbell, *independent scholar*



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Commentaries on Greek and Latin Literature

EUROPA

From Giovanni Boccaccio's Famous Women

A New Translation, with Text, and Commentary

By E. H. Campbell

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Campbell's Commentaries: Bozeman, MT

SelectedWorks™

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Sigla

1st = First person	Lat. = Latin
2nd = Second person	Masc. = Masculine gender
3rd = Third person	Metaph. = Metaphor
Acc. = Accusative case	Mid. = Middle voice
Act. = Active voice	Mid./Pass. = Middle/Passive voice
Adv. = Adverb	Neut. = Neuter gender
Adj. = Adjective	Obj. = Object
Aor. = Aorist tense	Op. Cit. = Operas Citatas
Art. = Article	Part. = Participle
C. = common, both masculine and feminine	Partic. = Particle
Cf. = Confere, compare!	Pass. = Passive voice
Comp. = Comparative	Perf. = Perfect tense
Dat. = Dative case	Pl. = Plural number
Defect. = Defective	Poet. = Poetic
Ep. = Epic	Prep. = Preposition
Exclam. = Exclamation	Pres. = Present tense
Fem. = Feminine gender	Pron. = Pronoun
Freq. = Frequently	Proclit. = Proclitic
Gen. = Genitive case	Sing. = Singular number
Gk. = Greek	Subst. = Substantive
Hdt. = Herodotus.	Superl. = Superlative
I.e. = Id est, that is	Viz. = Videre licet, or vidlicet, it should be seen.
Ibid. = Ibidem, in the same place	Voc. = Vocative
Imper. = Imperative	
Imperf. = Imperfect tense	
Ind. = Indicative mood	
Imper. = Imperative mood	
Inf. = Infinitive mood	
Ion. = Ionic dialect	

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Preface

Not much is known about the woman who gave her name to what was, at the time, one third of the world. Of what was known in Classical times, Herodotus, he being our first and foremost authority for all historical questions, said:

[1] Ἡ δὲ Εὐρώπη¹ πρὸς² οὐδαμῶν³ φανερά⁴ ἐστὶ γινωσκομένη,⁵ οὔτε⁶ τὰ πρὸς ἥλιον⁷ ἀνατέλλοντα⁸ οὔτε τὰ πρὸς βορρην,⁹ εἰ περίρρυτος¹⁰ ἐστί: μήκει¹¹ δὲ γινώσκεται¹² παρ' ἀμφοτέρων¹³ παρήκουσα.¹⁴

[1] But Europe, it is clear, whether it is surrounded by water, is to no one known—neither in the direction of the sun rise, nor in the direction of the North Wind, but known is its length on both sides.

¹ fem. nom sing. of Europa, -ae, Europa, signifying both the woman and the continent.

² Prep., from, at, to.

³ Adj., neut. gen. pl. of οὐδαμός for οὐδὲ ἀμός, Ionic for οὐδεῖς, not any one, no one; none.

⁴ Adj., fem. nom. sing. of φανερός, visible, manifest.

⁵ fem. nom. sing. pres. mid./pass. part. of γινώσκω, come to know, perceive.

⁶ Adv., and not.

⁷ masc. acc. sing. of ἥλιος, sun.

⁸ masc. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of ἀνατέλλω, make to rise up; to rise, of the sun and moon.

⁹ masc. acc. sing. of βορρῆας, north wind; the north.

¹⁰ Adj., fem. nom. sing. of περίρρυτος, surrounded with water.

¹¹ neut. dat. sing. of μήκος, length.

¹² 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of γινώσκω.

¹³ Adj., fem. acc. pl. of ἀμφοτέρων, either, i.e. both of two.

¹⁴ fem. acc. dual pres. act. part. of παρήκω, to have come alongside: hence, lie beside, stretch along.

[2] Οὐδ' ¹⁵ ἔχω ¹⁶ συμβαλέσθαι ¹⁷ ἐπ' ¹⁸ ὅτεν ¹⁹ μιῇ ²⁰ ἐούση ²¹ γῆ ²² οὐνόματα ²³ τριφάσια ²⁴ κέεται ²⁵ ἐπωνυμίας ²⁶ ἔχοντα ²⁷ γυναικῶν, ²⁸ καὶ οὐρίσματα ²⁹ αὐτῆ ³⁰ Νεῖλος ³¹ τε ὁ Αἰγύπτιος ³² ποταμός ³³ ἐτέθη ³⁴ καὶ Φᾶσις ³⁵ ὁ Κόλχος ³⁶ (οἱ δὲ Τάναιν ποταμὸν ³⁷ τὸν Μαιήτην καὶ πορθμῖα ³⁸ τὰ Κιμμέρια ³⁹ λέγουσι), ⁴⁰ οὐδὲ τῶν διουρισάντων ⁴¹ τὰ οὐνόματα ⁴² πυθέσθαι, ⁴³ καὶ ὅθεν ⁴⁴ ἔθεντο ⁴⁵ τὰς ἐπωνυμίας. ⁴⁶

[2] But I do not understand by whom, the Earth being one, named for women, three names were applied, and the boundaries for the same were established—the Egyptian River Nile and a Colchian River Phasis, but some say they are the

¹⁵ Partic., οὐδέ, but not.

¹⁶ 1st sing. pres. act. ind. of ἔχω, have, hold; consider; possess mentally, understand.

¹⁷ aor. mid. inf. of συμβάλλω, collect, bring together; reckon, conclude, infer, conjecture, interpret; arrange.

¹⁸ Prep., ἐπί + gen., on, upon.

¹⁹ Pron., masc. gen. sing. of ὅστις, who, which.

²⁰ Adj., fem. dat. sing. of εἷς, one.

²¹ fem. dat. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

²² fem. dat. sing. of γῆ, the Earth.

²³ neut. pl. of ὄνομα, name.

²⁴ Adj., neut. pl. of τριφάσιος, triple.

²⁵ 3rd pl. pres. mid./pass. ind. of κείμαι, lie down to rest; of places, to be situated, lie.

²⁶ Adj., fem. acc. pl. of ἐπωνύμιος, called after.

²⁷ neut. pl. pres. act. part. of ἔχω.

²⁸ fem. gen. pl. of γυνή, woman.

²⁹ neut. pl. of ὄρισμα, boundary, limit.

³⁰ Adj., fem. dat. sing. of αὐτός, self.

³¹ masc. nom. sing. of Νεῖλος, the River Nile.

³² Adj., masc. nom. sing. of Αἰγύπτιος, Egyptian.

³³ masc. nom. sing. of ποταμός, river.

³⁴ 3rd sing. aor. pass. ind. of τίθημι, set, put in place, establish.

³⁵ masc. nom. sing. of Φᾶσις, the River Phasis.

³⁶ masc. nom. sing. of Κόλχος, a Colchian.

³⁷ masc. acc. sing. of ποταμός.

³⁸ neut. pl. of πορθμῖον, place for crossing, passage, ferry.

³⁹ Adj., neut. pl. of Κιμμερικός, Cimmerian.

⁴⁰ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of λέγω, say.

⁴¹ masc. gen. pl. of διορίζω, draw a boundary through, delimit, separate.

⁴² neut. pl. of ὄνομα, name.

⁴³ aor. mid. inf. of πυνθάνομαι, learn.

⁴⁴ Adv., whence; from whatever source.

⁴⁵ 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of τίθημι.

⁴⁶ fem. acc. pl. of ἐπωνυμία, derived.

Maeetian River Tanais and the Cimmerian Ferries, nor learned the derivation of the names, and the source of the boundaries.

[3] ἤδη⁴⁷ γὰρ Λιβύη⁴⁸ μὲν⁴⁹ ἐπὶ Λιβύης⁵⁰ λέγεται⁵¹ ὑπὸ⁵² τῶν πολλῶν⁵³ Ἑλλήνων⁵⁴ ἔχειν⁵⁵ τὸ οὐνομα⁵⁶ γυναικὸς⁵⁷ αὐτόχθονος,⁵⁸ ἡ δὲ Ἀσίη ἐπὶ τῆς Προμηθεός⁵⁹ γυναικὸς τὴν ἐπωνυμίην.⁶⁰ Καὶ τούτου⁶¹ μὲν μεταλαμβάνονται⁶² τοῦ οὐνόματος⁶³ Λυδοί,⁶⁴ φάμενοι⁶⁵ ἐπὶ Ἀσίῳ⁶⁶ τοῦ Κότυος⁶⁷ τοῦ Μάνεω⁶⁸ κεκληῆσθαι⁶⁹ τὴν Ἀσίην,⁷⁰ ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐπὶ τῆς Προμηθεός Ἀσίας. Ἀπ' ὅτε⁷¹ καὶ τὴν ἐν Σάρδισι⁷² φυλὴν κεκληῆσθαι⁷³ Ἀσιάδα.

Already by this time, Libya, it is said by many Greeks, in fact has the name of a woman sprung from the soil, but Asia⁷⁴ was taken from the wife of Prometheus.

⁴⁷ Adv., already, by this time.

⁴⁸ fem. nom. sing. of Λιβύη, the west bank of the River Nile, Libya.

⁴⁹ Partic., used partly to express certainty on the part of the speaker or writer.

⁵⁰ fem. gen. sing. of Λιβύη.

⁵¹ 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of λέγω, say.

⁵² Prep. + gen. from under, under; by.

⁵³ Adj., masc./fem./neut. gen. pl. of πᾶς, many.

⁵⁴ masc./fem. gen. pl. of Ἕλλην, the Greeks.

⁵⁵ pres. act. inf. of ἔχω, have, hold.

⁵⁶ Ionic, neut. sing. of ὄνομα, name.

⁵⁷ fem. gen. sing. of γυνή.

⁵⁸ Adj., gen. sing. of αὐτόχθων, sprung from the soil.

⁵⁹ masc. gen. sing. of Προμηθεύς, Prometheus.

⁶⁰ fem. acc. sing. of ἐπωνυμία, derived.

⁶¹ Adj., masc/neut. gen. sing. of οὗτος, this.

⁶² 3rd pl. pres. mid./pass. ind. of μεταλαμβάνω, to have or get a share of, to partake of a thing.

⁶³ neut. gen. sing. of ὄνομα.

⁶⁴ masc. nom. pl. of Λυδός, a Lydian.

⁶⁵ masc. nom. pl. pres. mid. part. of φημί, to declare, make known; and so, to say, affirm, assert.

⁶⁶ Asies.

⁶⁷ Cotys.

⁶⁸ Manes.

⁶⁹ perf. mid./pass. inf. of καλέω, call, summon.

⁷⁰ Adj., fem. acc. sing. of Ἀσία, Asian.

⁷¹ Pron., neut. gen. sing. of ὅστις, that.

⁷² fem. dat. pl. of Σάρδεις, Sardes, the capital of Lydia.

⁷³ perf. mid./pass. inf. of καλέω.

⁷⁴ The fact that Boccaccio wrote a biography for the woman Libya, but not for the woman Asia, suggests that he doubted that Asia was indeed a famous woman.

But the Lydians, getting their share of this name, themselves say it is from Asies son of Cotys, son of Manes, who was called The Asian, and not from the Asia of Prometheus. And from that the Asiadic race in Sardis is named.

[4] Ἡ δὲ δὴ Εὐρώπη οὔτε εἰ περίρρυτος⁷⁵ ἐστὶ γινώσκειται⁷⁶ πρὸς οὐδαμῶν⁷⁷ ἀνθρώπων, οὔτε ὀκόθεν⁷⁸ τὸ οὔνομα⁷⁹ ἔλαβε⁸⁰ τοῦτο,⁸¹ οὔτε ὅστις⁸² οἱ ἦν⁸³ ὀθέμενος⁸⁴ φαίνεται,⁸⁵ εἰ μὴ ἀπὸ τῆς Τυρίας φήσομεν⁸⁶ Εὐρώπης λαβεῖν⁸⁷ τὸ οὔνομα τὴν χώραν⁸⁸ πρότερον δὲ ἦν ἄρα ἀνόνημος⁸⁹ ὥσπερ⁹⁰ αἱ ἕτεροι.⁹¹

But Europe, in fact, is, according to no man, known to be surrounded by water, or from whence is assumed this name, nor by whom these were to come about, unless we are to say the name was assumed from the Tyrian Europa, but at first was nameless like the others.

⁷⁵ Adj., fem. nom. sing. of περίρρυτος, surrounded with water.

⁷⁶ Ionic, 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of γινώσκω.

⁷⁷ Adj., masc./fem. gen. pl. of οὐδαμός.

⁷⁸ Adv., Ion., whence, from what place.

⁷⁹ neut. sing., name.

⁸⁰ 3rd sing aor. act. ind. of λαμβάνω, to take hold of, grasp, seize; to apprehend by the senses; understand; assume.

⁸¹ adj., neut. sing., this.

⁸² Pron., masc. nom. sing., whosoever.

⁸³ 3rd pl. imperf. act. ind. of εἶμι.

⁸⁴ masc. nom. sing. aor. mid. part. of τίθημι, to set, put, place.

⁸⁵ 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of φαίνω, appear, come about.

⁸⁶ 1st pl. fut. act. ind. of φημί, say.

⁸⁷ aor. act. inf. of λαμβάνω.

⁸⁸ fem. acc. sing. of χώρα, land.

⁸⁹ Adj., fem. nom. sing. of ἀνόνημος, nameless.

⁹⁰ Adv., like.

⁹¹ Adj., fem. nom. pl. of ἕτερος, the others.

[5] Ἀλλ' αὕτη γε ἐκ τῆς Ἀσίας τε φαίνεται⁹² ἐοῦσα⁹³ καὶ οὐκ ἀπικομένη⁹⁴ ἐς τὴν γῆν⁹⁵ ταύτην ἣτις⁹⁶ νῦν ὑπὸ Ἑλλήνων Εὐρώπη καλέεται, ἀλλ' ὅσον ἐκ Φοινίκης ἐς Κρήτην, ἐκ Κρήτης δὲ ἐς Λυκίην. Ταῦτα⁹⁷ μὲν νυν ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον⁹⁸ εἰρήσθω⁹⁹ τοῖσι¹⁰⁰ γὰρ νομιζομένοισι¹⁰¹ αὐτῶν¹⁰² χρησόμεθα.¹⁰³

But it is clear this woman was out of Asia and this Europa did not come to this land which is now named after the Greeks, but from Phoenicia to Crete and from Crete into Lycia. Now, that so much has been about these matters been said: We shall proclaim ourselves for the customary practice about these things. (4.45.1-5)

Acknowledgements

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⁹² 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of φαίνω.

⁹³ fem. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

⁹⁴ fem. nom. sing. aor. mid. part. of ἀφικνέομαι, to come to one place from another, to arrive at, reach.

⁹⁵ fem. acc. sing. of γῆ.

⁹⁶ Pron., fem. nom. sing. of ὅστις, which.

⁹⁷ Adj., neut. pl. of οὗτος.

⁹⁸ Adj., neut. sing. of τοσοῦτος, so much.

⁹⁹ Ionic, 3rd sing. perf. mid./pass. imper. of ἐγῶ, to be mentioned.

¹⁰⁰ Art., neut. dat. pl. of ὁ

¹⁰¹ neut. dat. pl. pres. mid./pass. part. of νομίζω, customary practice.

¹⁰² Adj., gen. pl. of αὐτός.

¹⁰³ 1st pl. fut. mid. ind. of χράω, to furnish the needful answer, to declare, pronounce, proclaim.

Europa

Europam¹⁰⁴ arbitrantur¹⁰⁵ quidam¹⁰⁶ filiam fuisse¹⁰⁷ Phenicis;¹⁰⁸ verum¹⁰⁹ longe¹¹⁰ plures¹¹¹
 eam Agenoris,¹¹² Phenicum¹¹³ regis, genitam¹¹⁴ dicunt;¹¹⁵ et tam¹¹⁶ mirabili¹¹⁷ formositate¹¹⁸
 valuisse,¹¹⁹ ut amore¹²⁰ invisus¹²¹ Cretensis¹²² caperetur¹²³ Iuppiter.

¹⁰⁴ fem. acc. sing. of Europa, -ae, Daughter of the Phoenician king Agenor, sister of Cadmus, and mother of Sarpedon and Minos by Jupiter, who, under the form of a bull, carried her off to Crete; The continent of Europe, named after her; usual form Europa.

¹⁰⁵ 3rd pl. pres. pass. ind. of arbitror, -are, witness.

¹⁰⁶ Pron., masc. nom. pl., a certain someone.

¹⁰⁷ perf. act. inf. of sum.

¹⁰⁸ masc. gen. sing. of Phoenix, -icis, the phoenix, a fabulous bird of Arabia, said to live 500 years, and then to be burnt to death; from the ashes of the dying bird a new phoenix was said to spring; son of Amyntor, companion of Achilles at the Trojan war.

¹⁰⁹ Adj., masc. acc. sing. of verus, -a, -um, true, real, genuine.

¹¹⁰ Adv. of longus, -a, -um, long.

¹¹¹ Adj., comp. of multus, -a, -um, many.

¹¹² masc. gen. sing. of Agenor, king of Phoenicia, father of Cadmus and Europa.

¹¹³ Adj., Phoenicius, -a, -um, Phoenician.

¹¹⁴ fem. acc. sing. perf. pass. part. of gigno, gignere, genui, genitum, to beget.

¹¹⁵ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of dico, say.

¹¹⁶ Adv., to such a degree,, so.

¹¹⁷ Adj., fem. of mirabilis, -e, wonderful, extraordinary, unusual.

¹¹⁸ fem. abl. sing. of formositas, -atis, beauty.

¹¹⁹ perf. act. inf. of valeo, -ere, to be strong.

¹²⁰ masc. abl. sing. of amor, -oris, love.

¹²¹ Adj., fem. abl. sing. or neut. pl of invisus, -a, -um, unseen, secret.

¹²² Adj., masc. gen. of Cretensis, -e, Cretan.

¹²³ 3rd sing. pres. pass. subj. of capio, cepi, captum, to seize.

Certain someones testify

That Europa

Was

The daughter of Phoenix,

Far more say

She

Truly was

Begotten of Agenor,

King of the Phoenicians,

And that,

Being strong,

She was

Such an extraordinary

Beauty,

That Jupiter of Crete,

Was seized

By a secret love.

Ad cuius¹²⁴ rapinam¹²⁵ cum moliretur¹²⁶ insidias¹²⁷ potens¹²⁸ homo,¹²⁹ actum¹³⁰ volunt,¹³¹
 lenocinio¹³² verborum¹³³ cuiusdam,¹³⁴ ut ex montibus¹³⁵ in litus¹³⁶ Phenicum¹³⁷ lasciviens¹³⁸
 virgo¹³⁹ armenta¹⁴⁰ patris sequeretur¹⁴¹ et, exinde¹⁴² rapta¹⁴³ confestim¹⁴⁴ atque navi,¹⁴⁵ cuius
 albus¹⁴⁶ taurus¹⁴⁷ erat¹⁴⁸ insigne,¹⁴⁹ inposita,¹⁵⁰ deferretur¹⁵¹ in Cretam.

¹²⁴ Pron., masc./fem./neut. gen. sing. of quis, someone, anyone.

¹²⁵ fem. acc. sing. of rapina, -ae, robbery, plundering, pillage, rapine.

¹²⁶ 3rd sing. imperf. pass. subj. of molior, -iri, to set in motion, stir, displace; destroy; toil, struggle.

¹²⁷ fem. acc. pl. of insidiae, -arum, an ambush, a trap, a snare; deceit, plot.

¹²⁸ Adj., masc./fem. nom. sing., able, powerful; mighty, influential.

¹²⁹ masc./fem. nom. sing. of homo, -inis, a human being.

¹³⁰ masc. acc. sing. of actus, -us, a driving, impulse, setting in motion, or neut. sing. perf. pass. part. of ago, agree, -egi, actum, to drive.

¹³¹ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of volo, -are, to will, wish, want, purpose, be minded, determine.

¹³² neut. dat./abl. sing. of lenocinium, -i, an enticement, allurement.

¹³³ neut. gen. pl. of verbum, -i, a word.

¹³⁴ Pron., masc./fem./neut. gen. sing. of quidam, a certain someone.

¹³⁵ masc. dat./abl. pl. of mons, montis, any large mass, great quantity; a great rock, a mountain.

¹³⁶ masc. acc. pl. of litus, toris, beach.

¹³⁷ masc. gen. pl. of Phoenices, -um, the Phoenicians.

¹³⁸ fem. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of lascivio, -ire, to act lasciviously.

¹³⁹ fem. nom. sing. of virgo, -inis, virgin.

¹⁴⁰ neut. pl. of armentum, -i, cattle for plowing.

¹⁴¹ 3rd sing. imperf. pass. subj. of sequor, sequi, secutus, to follow.

¹⁴² Adv., after that, therefrom; thereupon, thence.

¹⁴³ fem. nom./abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of rapio, -pui, -ptum, , to seize and carry off.

¹⁴⁴ Adv., immediately.

¹⁴⁵ fem. dat./abl. sing. of navis, -is, ship.

¹⁴⁶ Adj., masc. nom. sing. of albus, -a, -um, white.

¹⁴⁷ masc. nom. sing. of taurus, -i, a bull.

¹⁴⁸ 3rd sing. imperf. act. ind. of sum.

¹⁴⁹ neut. abl. sing. of insigne, -is, symbol, insignia.

¹⁵⁰ fem. abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of inpono, inposui, inpositum, put.

¹⁵¹ 3rd sing. imperf. pass. ind. of defero, -tuli, -latus, -ferre, to carry off.

Who,
Being a powerful man,
Was moved
To make plots
For her seizure,
The enticing words
From a certain someone
Moved the plot
Rapidly forward,
So that from
The mountains
To the beaches
Of the Phoenicians
The playful virgin
Followed her father's
Cattle
And thereupon
Was immediately captured
And put in a ship,
For which a white bull was its emblem,
And carried off
To Crete.

Vagari¹⁵² licentia¹⁵³ nimia¹⁵⁴ virginibus¹⁵⁵ et aures¹⁵⁶ facile¹⁵⁷ cuiuscunque¹⁵⁸ verbis
 prebere,¹⁵⁹ minime¹⁶⁰ laudandum¹⁶¹ reor,¹⁶² cum contigisse¹⁶³ sepe¹⁶⁴ legerim¹⁶⁵ his¹⁶⁶
 agentibus¹⁶⁷ honestati¹⁶⁸ nonnunquam¹⁶⁹ notas¹⁷⁰ turpes¹⁷¹ imprimi,¹⁷² quas¹⁷³ etiam¹⁷⁴
 perpetue¹⁷⁵ demum¹⁷⁶ castitatis¹⁷⁷ decus¹⁷⁸ abstersisse¹⁷⁹ non potuit.¹⁸⁰

¹⁵² pres. pass. inf. of vagor, -ari, to wander.

¹⁵³ fem. nom. sing. of licentia, -ae, freedom.

¹⁵⁴ fem. nom. sing. of nimius, -a, -um, too much.

¹⁵⁵ fem. dat. pl. of virgin, -inis, virgin maiden.

¹⁵⁶ fem. acc. pl. of auris, -is, the ear.

¹⁵⁷ Adj., neut. sing. of facilis, -e, easy.

¹⁵⁸ Pron., quicumque, whomsoever.

¹⁵⁹ pres. act. inf. of praebeo, -bere, -bui, -bitum, to give.

¹⁶⁰ Adv., least of all.

¹⁶¹ Gerundive, fem. acc. sing. of laudo, -are, 'to be praised.'

¹⁶² 1st sing. pres. act. ind. of reor, reri, ratus sum, to think.

¹⁶³ perf. act. inf. of contingo, -are, to touch on all sides; to touch, take hold of, seize.

¹⁶⁴ Adv., saepe, often.

¹⁶⁵ 1st sing. perf. act. subj. of lego, -ere, legi, lectum, to gather together; read aloud, heard.

¹⁶⁶ Pron., masc./fem./neut. dat./abl. pl. of hic, haec, hoc, this.

¹⁶⁷ masc./fem./neut. dat./abl. pl. pres. act. part. of ago, agree, -egi, actum, to set in motion; to drive or incite an action.

¹⁶⁸ fem. dat. sing. of honestas, -atis, honor, reputation.

¹⁶⁹ Adv., nonnunquam, non + nunquam = 'not never.'

¹⁷⁰ Adj., fem. acc. pl. of nota, -ae, sign.

¹⁷¹ Adj., fem. nom./acc. pl. of turpis, -e, ugly.

¹⁷² pres. pass. inf. of imprimo, -primere, -pressi, pressum, to press upon.

¹⁷³ Pronoun., fem. acc. pl. of quis, quid, anyone, someone.

¹⁷⁴ Adv., now too, yet, as yet, even yet, still, even now.

¹⁷⁵ Adv., of perpetuus, perpetual.

¹⁷⁶ Adv., at length, at last, not till then, just, precisely, only.

¹⁷⁷ fem. gen. sing. of castitas, -atis, chastity.

¹⁷⁸ neut. sing. of decus, -oris, that which adorns or beautifies..

¹⁷⁹ perf. act. inf. of abstergeo, -tergere, -tersi, -tersum, to wipe off, cleanse by wiping.

¹⁸⁰ 3rd sing. perf. act. ind. of possum, posse, potui, be able.

Giving

Virgin maidens

Too much freedom to wander

And easily giving ears

To the words of whomsoever

I think

Is least of all

To be praised,

Since I have often heard,¹⁸¹

That by these goings on,¹⁸²

Not never¹⁸³

To their reputation¹⁸⁴

Disgraceful marks¹⁸⁵

Were imprinted,¹⁸⁶

Whereas even now

They cannot cleanse themselves

Through perpetual chastity.

¹⁸¹ cum...saepe legerim. Cum here is a Circumstantial cum with a Subjunctive verb.

¹⁸² his agentibus.

¹⁸³ nonnunquam.

¹⁸⁴ honestati.

¹⁸⁵ notas turpes.

¹⁸⁶ imprimi.

Ex¹⁸⁷ his¹⁸⁸ fabulam,¹⁸⁹ qua legitur¹⁹⁰ Mercurium¹⁹¹ inpulisse¹⁹² ad litus armenta¹⁹³
 Phenicum et Iovem in taurum versum¹⁹⁴ natantemque¹⁹⁵ in Cretam Europam virginem
 asportasse,¹⁹⁶ causam¹⁹⁷ sumpsisse¹⁹⁸ liquido¹⁹⁹ patet.²⁰⁰

¹⁸⁷ Prep., ex or e + abl., from or out of; according to, in accordance with.

¹⁸⁸ Pron., masc. abl. pl. of hic, haec, hoc, this, these.

¹⁸⁹ fem. acc. sing. of fabula, -ae, fable.

¹⁹⁰ 3rd sing. pres. pass. ind. of lego, -ere, legi, lectum, gather together.

¹⁹¹ masc. acc. sing. of Mercurius, Mercury.

¹⁹² perf. act. inf. of impellor, -pellere, -puli, -pulsum, impel.

¹⁹³ neut. pl. of armentum, -i, cattle for plowing.

¹⁹⁴ Adv., in that direction, towards.

¹⁹⁵ masc. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of nato, -are, swim.

¹⁹⁶ perf. act. inf. of asporto, -are, to carry off.

¹⁹⁷ fem. acc. sing. of causa, -ae, cause, reason, motive.

¹⁹⁸ perf. act. inf. of sumo, sumere, sumpsi, sumptum, to take; to take (by choice), to choose, select; to take as one's own, to assume, claim, arrogate, appropriate to one's self; to take for certain or for granted.

¹⁹⁹ Adj., masc./neut. dat./abl. sing. of liquidus, liquid or Adv., clearly.

²⁰⁰ 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of pateo, -ere, to be open, stand open, lie open.

From these men

The fable

To be gathered

Is that Mercury

Impelled the cattle

Of the Phoenicians

To the sea-shore

And Jove

Changed into a bull

And swam

To Crete

Carrying the virgin

Europa,

An account clearly

Taken for granted

And is still

Subject to question.

Verum²⁰¹ in tempore²⁰² rapine²⁰³ huius²⁰⁴ prisci²⁰⁵ discrepant:²⁰⁶ nam,²⁰⁷ qui antiquiorem²⁰⁸ ponunt,²⁰⁹ regnante²¹⁰ Argis²¹¹ Danao²¹² factam²¹³ volunt;²¹⁴ alii,²¹⁵ regnante Acrisio;²¹⁶ et qui postremi²¹⁷ sunt, Pandione²¹⁸ rege²¹⁹ Atheniensibus²²⁰ imperante:²²¹ quod²²² magis²²³ Minois,²²⁴ filii²²⁵ Europe,²²⁶ temporibus²²⁷ convenire²²⁸ videtur.²²⁹

²⁰¹ masc. acc. sing. of verus, true, real, actual, genuine.

²⁰² neut. abl. sing. of tempus, -oris, a division, a section; a period of time.

²⁰³ pres. pass. inf. of rapio, rapere, rapui, raptum, seize and carry off.

²⁰⁴ Pron., fem. sing. of hic, haec, hoc, her.

²⁰⁵ masc. nom. pl. of priscus, ancient, former times, of old, primitive.

²⁰⁶ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of discrepo, -are, to differ in sound, to be out of time, to be discordant; to disagree.

²⁰⁷ Conj., for, generally used to explain or confirm a previous statement. (Op. Cit., Cassell's).

²⁰⁸ Adj., comp., masc./fem. acc. sing. of antiquus, -a, -um, coming before; in comp. preferred, more important; before in point of time, previous, earlier. (Op. Cit., Cassell's)

²⁰⁹ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of pono, ponere, posui, positum, to lay, put, place; to lay down, assert, to reckon.

²¹⁰ masc. abl. sing. pres. act. part. of regno, -are, to exercise royal authority, be a king, reign.

²¹¹ masc. gen. sing. of Argos.

²¹² masc. dat./abl. sing. of Danaus, son of Belus, and twin-brother of Aegyptus, he was the father of fifty daughters; he emigrated from Egypt into Greece, and there founded Argos.

²¹³ fem. acc. sing. perf. pass. part. of facio, facere, feci, factum, to make, do.

²¹⁴ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of volo, velle, volui, to be willing, to want or wish for.

²¹⁵ adj., masc. nom. pl. of alius, -a, -ud, another, other, different.

²¹⁶ masc. dat./abl. sing. of Acrisius, a king of Argos, son of Abas, and father of Danaë; unintentionally killed by his grandson, Perseus. (Op. Cit., Lewis and Short).

²¹⁷ Adj., superl., masc./neut. gen. sing or masc. nom. pl. of posterus, -a, -um, following after

²¹⁸ masc. abl. sing. of Pandion, A king of Athens, father of Progne and Philomela.

²¹⁹ masc. abl. sing. of rex, regis, king.

²²⁰ Adj., masc./fem./neut. dat. pl. of Atheniensis, -e, an Athenian.

²²¹ masc. abl. sing. pres. act. part. of impero, -are, to impose a thing on a person or community, command. (Op. Cit., Cassell's).

²²² Conj., introducing a clause, as to the fact that, whereas.

²²³ Adv., comp., more.

²²⁴ masc. gen. sing. of Minos, -ois, Minos, son of Zeus and Europa, brother of Rhadamanthus, king and lawgiver in Crete, and after death a judge in the infernal regions.

²²⁵ masc. gen. sing. of filius, -i, a son.

²²⁶ fem. nom. sing. of Europe, -es, Europa.

²²⁷ neut. dat./abl. pl. of tempus, -oris.

²²⁸ pres. act. inf. of convenio, -venire, -veni, -ventum, to come together; agree.

²²⁹ 3rd sing. pres. pass. ind. of video, videre, vidi, visum, to see; to perceive; to appear, to seem.

Indeed

Among the ancients

There is disagreement

About the time

Of her kidnapping,

For those who reckon it earlier in time

They assert it was done

During the reign of Danaus of Argos,

Others in the reign of Acrisius

And those who for the most recent,

When Pandion as king

Was commander

Of the Athenians,

Which seems agree more,

With the times

When Minos was the son

Of Europa.

Hanc²³⁰ aliqui²³¹ a Iove²³² oppressam²³³ simpliciter²³⁴ volunt,²³⁵ et inde²³⁶ Astero²³⁷
 Cretensium²³⁸ nupsisse²³⁹ regi,²⁴⁰ et ex eo²⁴¹ Minoem,²⁴² Radamantum²⁴³ et Sarpedonem²⁴⁴
 filios²⁴⁵ peperisse,²⁴⁶ quos²⁴⁷ plurimi²⁴⁸ Iovis dicunt²⁴⁹ fuisse²⁵⁰ filios, asserentibus²⁵¹ non
 nullis²⁵² Asterum Iovemque idem.²⁵³

²³⁰ Pron., fem. acc. sing. of hic, haec, hoc.

²³¹ Pron., masc. nom. pl. of aliquis, aliquid, someone, something, anyone, anything.

²³² masc. abl. sing. of Iuppiter, Iovis, Jupiter.

²³³ fem. acc. sing. perf. pass. part. of opprimo, -primere, -pressi, -pressum, to press upon, press down; oppress; to force a woman, commit a rape upon (late Lat.).

²³⁴ Adv., simply.

²³⁵ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of volo, velle, volui, to be willing, wish; suppose

²³⁶ Adv., from that place, thence.

²³⁷ Asterius, (Gk., Ἀστέριος), a king of Crete.

²³⁸ Adj., masc./fem./neut. gen. pl. of Cretensis, -e, Cretan.

²³⁹ perf. act. inf. of nubo. nubere, nupsi, nuptum, to cover, veil; to be married to.

²⁴⁰ masc. dat. sing. of rex, regis, king.

²⁴¹ Pron., masc. abl. sing. of is, ea, id, he, she, it.

²⁴² masc. acc. sing. of Mīnos, -ois, Minos.

²⁴³ masc. acc. sing. of Rhadamanthus, -i., Rhadamanthus, mythologically son of Jupiter and Europa; here disputed by Boccaccio, who claims he was a son of Europa and Asterius.

²⁴⁴ masc. acc. sing. of Sarpedon, -onis, king of Lycia, who was killed by Patroclus before Troy.

²⁴⁵ masc. acc. pl. of filius, -i, a son.

²⁴⁶ perf. act. inf. of pario, parere, peperit, partum, to bring forth, to bear.

²⁴⁷ Pron., masc. acc. pl. of quis, quid, somebody, anybody.

²⁴⁸ Adj., superl., masc. nom. pl. of multus, -a, -um,

²⁴⁹ 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of dico, dicere, dixi, dictum, to say.

²⁵⁰ perf. act. inf. of sum, to be.

²⁵¹ masc. abl. pl. of adsertor, -oris, one who asserts that another person is either free or a slave; one who asserts this or that to be true.

²⁵² Adj., masc./fem. abl. pl. of nullus, -a, -um, no, none, not any.

²⁵³ Pron., neut. sing. of īdem, ēādem, īdem, the same.

They simply suppose

She was raped

By Jupiter

And thence

Was married

To Asterius,

King of the Cretans,

And she bore to him

The sons

Minos,

Rhadamanthus,

And Sarpedon,

Whom most say

Are sons of Jupiter,

But it is asserted

By not no one

That Asterius

And Jupiter

Are the same.

Que disceptatio²⁵⁴ cum spectet²⁵⁵ ad alios,²⁵⁶ claram²⁵⁷ tanti²⁵⁸ dei²⁵⁹ connubio²⁶⁰ plures²⁶¹ Europam volunt affirmantes²⁶² insuper²⁶³ aliqui,²⁶⁴ seu²⁶⁵ quia²⁶⁶ nobilitatis²⁶⁷ fuerit²⁶⁸ egregie²⁶⁹—nam Phenices,²⁷⁰ multis agentibus²⁷¹ meritis,²⁷² suo evo²⁷³ pre²⁷⁴ ceteris stematibus²⁷⁵ claruere²⁷⁶ maiorum²⁷⁷—seu divini²⁷⁸ coniugis veneratione,²⁷⁹ seu filiorum regum²⁸⁰ gratia,²⁸¹ vel ipsiusmet²⁸² Europe virtute precipua,²⁸³ ab eius nomine Europam partem orbis tertiam in perpetuum²⁸⁴ nuncupatam.²⁸⁵

²⁵⁴ fem. nom. sing. of disceptatio, -onis, a debate, discussion, controversy.

²⁵⁵ 3rd sing. pres. act. subj. of specto, -are, to look at carefully, contemplate, observe, watch, behold, gaze upon.

²⁵⁶ Adj., masc. acc. pl. of alius, -a, -um, other.

²⁵⁷ Adj., fem. acc. sing. of clarus, -a, -um, clear, distinct.

²⁵⁸ Adj., masc. gen. sing. of tantus, -a, -um, so great.

²⁵⁹ masc. gen. sing. of deus, -i, a God.

²⁶⁰ neut. dat. sing. of conubium, -i, marriage.

²⁶¹ Adj., comp., masc./fem. nom./acc. pl. of multus, -a, -um, many.

²⁶² masc./fem. nom./acc. pl. pres. act. part. of adfirmo, -are, to strengthen; assert as true, affirm.

²⁶³ Adv., above.

²⁶⁴ Pron., masc. nom. pl. of aliquis, aliquid, some body or other, someone, anyone.

²⁶⁵ Conj., sive or seu, or if, sive...sive = whether...or.

²⁶⁶ Conj., because.

²⁶⁷ fem. gen. sing. of nobilitas, -atis, fame; in gen. excellence, worth; or fem. dat./abl. pl. perf. pass. part. of nobilito, -are, to make known, make famous.

²⁶⁸ 3rd sing. perf. act. subj. of sum.

²⁶⁹ Adv., excellently, admirably.

²⁷⁰ masc. nom./acc. pl. of Phoenices, Phoenicians.

²⁷¹ masc./fem./neut. dat./abl. pl. pres. act. part. of ago, agree, egi, actum, to set in motion, drive; incite into action.

²⁷² masc./fem./neut. dat./abl. pl. perf. pass. part. of mereo, -ere, -ui, -itum, to deserve, merit, be entitled to, be worthy of.

²⁷³ neut. dat./abl. sing. of aevum, -i, n., never ending time, eternity.

²⁷⁴ Adv., prae, before, in front of.

²⁷⁵ neut. dat./abl. pl. of stemma, -atis, n., a garland, wreath; hence, a pedigree, genealogical tree.

²⁷⁶ Adv., claro, -are, clearly.

²⁷⁷ Adj., comp., masc./fem./neut. gen. pl., great.

²⁷⁸ masc. gen. sing. of divinus, -i, divine.

²⁷⁹ fem. ab. sing. of veneratio, -onis, profoundest respect, reverence, veneration.

²⁸⁰ masc. gen. pl. of rex, regis, king.

²⁸¹ fem. nom./abl. sing. of gratia, -ae, agreebale, pleasantness; thankfulness.

²⁸² Pron., masc./fem./neut. gen. sing. of ipse, self.

²⁸³ Adj., fem. nom./abl. sing. of praecipuus, -a, -um, taken before others, particular, peculiar, especial.

²⁸⁴ Adj., masc. acc. sing. of perpetuus, -a, -um, perpetual.

²⁸⁵ fem. acc. sing. perf. pass. part. of nuncupo, -are, to call by name, call, name.

And whereas the discussion
Should look to others,
Very many,
More than all others,
Seek to affirm Europa's fame
For her marriage to such a great God;
Whether she should be made famous
On account of her own excellence—
For the Phoenicians'
Many great deeds of merit,
In their own time,
Before the others
Of great famous lineage—
Or venerated by her divine marriage,
Or from gratitude
For her son's kingdoms,
Or by the unique virtue of Europa herself,
From her name
A third part of the globe
In perpetuity
Has been named.

Quam profecto²⁸⁶ ego²⁸⁷ insignem²⁸⁸ virtutibus mulierem,²⁸⁹ non solum ex concessio²⁹⁰
 orbi²⁹¹ nomine²⁹² <arbitror>,²⁹³ sed ex spectabili²⁹⁴ ex ere²⁹⁵ statua²⁹⁶ a Pictagora,²⁹⁷ illustri²⁹⁸
 philosopho,²⁹⁹ Tarenti³⁰⁰ Europe dicata³⁰¹ nomini.³⁰²

²⁸⁶ Adv., truly.

²⁸⁷ Pron., masc. nom. sing., I.

²⁸⁸ Adj., masc./fem. acc. sing. distinguishing mark.

²⁸⁹ fem. acc. sing. of mulier, -eris, woman.

²⁹⁰ masc./neut. dat./abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of concedere, -cedere, -cessi, -cessum, to go away, retire, withdraw; to yield to.

²⁹¹ masc. dat./abl. sing. of orbis, -is, a circle, ring, disk, anything round,

²⁹² neut. abl. sing. of nomen, -inis, name.

²⁹³ 1st sing. pres. pass. ind. of arbitror, -ari, to witness.

²⁹⁴ Adj., masc./fem./neut. dat./abl. sing. of spectabilis, -e, visible.

²⁹⁵ masc./fem. nom. sing. of heres (haeres), -edis, heir, heiress.

²⁹⁶ fem. nom./abl. sing. of statua, -ae, statue.

²⁹⁷ Pythagoras.

²⁹⁸ Adj., masc. dat./abl. sing. of illustris, -e, noble; distinguished, respectable, famous, honorable, illustrious.

²⁹⁹ masc. dat./abl. sing. of philosophus, -a, -um, philosopher.

³⁰⁰ neut. gen. sing. of Tarentum, -i, a town of Lower Italy, founded by the Spartan Parthenians, now Taranto.

³⁰¹ fem. nom./abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of dico, dedicated.

³⁰² neut. dat. sing. of nomen, -inis, name.

Whom truly,

I distinguish

For her virtues as a woman,

Not only for yielding her name to the world,

But for the spectacular statue

By the illustrious philosopher

Of Tarentum, Pythagoras,

Dedicated to her name.

Operas Citatas

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