

ALISON SHARROCK : **Womanly wailing? The mother of Euryalus and gendered reading.**

Feminist reading of the classics requires a difficult negotiation between the struggle to be heard and the struggle to avoid appropriation. The aim of this paper is to explore some few words of Virgil, especially those reacting to the mother of Euryalus' reaction to her son's death, and those of his readers through the ages, as a paradigm case of a wide theoretical and philosophical issue in feminist literary criticism. The fundamental question asked in this paper is whether feminist readers of the classics should concentrate on listening to differentiated female voices or on arguing for some form of what we might metaphorically call "equal rights" among the protagonists of ancient literature.

Mots-clés :

Virgil – Aeneid – lamentation – Euryalus – mothers – women – loss