

**2020 NJCL
DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Advanced Poetry--Male Character**

Where to Find a Girl?

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| Tot tibi tamque dabit formōsās Rōma puellās, “Haec habet” ut dīcās “quicquid in orbe fuit.” | 55 |
| Gargara quot segetēs, quot habet Mēthymna racēmōs, aequore quot piscēs, fronde teguntur avēs, quot caelum stellās, tot habet tua Rōma puellās: māter in Aenēae cōnstitit urbe suī. | 60 |
| Seu caperis prīmīs et adhūc crēscentibus annīs, ante oculōs veniet vēra puella tuōs: sīve cupis iuvenem, iuvenēs tibi mīlle placēbunt. cōgēris vōtī nēscius esse tuī: | |
| seu tē forte iuvat sēra et sapientior aetās, hoc quoque, crēde mihī, plēnius agmen erit. | 65 |
| ... | |
| Sīc ruit ad celebrēs cultissima fēmina lūdōs: cōpia iūdicium saepe morāta meum est. | 97 |
| Spectātum veniunt, veniunt spectentur ut ipsae: ille locus castī damna pudōris habet. | 100 |

Ovid, *Ars Amatoria* I.55-66, 97-100

Rome will give you so many and such lovely girls that you may say, “This city has whatever there is in the world.” As many wheat fields as Gargara has, as many grapes as Methymna has, as many fish as are in the sea, or birds as are covered by foliage, as many stars as the sky has, your Rome has that many girls. The mother of Aeneas stands in his city. If you take (them) in first and still growing years, a real girl will come before your eyes: or if you want a young woman, a thousand young women will be pleasing to you. You will be forced to forget your vow (to find one girl): But if, by chance, later and wiser age (in a woman) pleases you, believe me, this will also be a fulsome crowd. ... Thus a very educated woman rushes to crowded games: Their great numbers have often boggled my mind! They come to see, they come to be seen themselves. That place holds the ruin of chaste modesty.