

**Egnatius**

Egnatius, because he has bright white teeth,  
 always smiles: If someone comes to the defendant's  
 bench, when the speaker arouses weeping,  
 he grins; If there is mourning at the funeral pyre of  
 a dutiful son, when the bereaved mother weeps for her only son,  
 he grins. Whatever it is, wherever he is,  
 whatever he is doing, he grins: he has this disease,  
 neither elegant, I think, nor refined.

Therefore I must warn you, my good Egnatius.

If you were a city man or a Sabine or a Tiburnan  
 or a thrifty Umbrian or a fat Etruscan  
 or a swarthy and toothy Lanuvian or  
 a Transpadane (*all Italians!*), to touch on my own people as well,  
 or anyone you like who cleans his teeth with clean water,  
 I still should not want you to smile on all occasions:  
 for nothing is more silly than a silly smile.

Now you are a Celtiberian: in the land of Celtiberia,  
 whatever each man has urinated, with this he is accustomed  
 in the morning to rub his teeth and his red gums,  
 so that the more polished those teeth of yours are,  
 the more urine they proclaim you to have drunk.

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**Brother**

Carried through many nations and many seas,  
 I arrive, brother, at these miserable funeral rites,  
 So that I might bestow you with the final gift of death  
 And might speak in vain to the silent ash.  
 Since Fortune has stolen you yourself from me,  
 Alas, wretched brother, unfairly stolen from me,  
 Meanwhile, however, receive these which in the ancient custom of [our] parents  
 were handed down as a sad gift for funeral rites,  
 dripping much with fraternal weeping,  
 And forever, brother, hail and farewell.

Multas per gentes et multa per aequora vectus  
 advenio has miseras, frater, adinferias,  
 ut te postremo donarem munere mortis  
 et mutam nequiquam alloquerer cinerem.  
 quandoquidem fortuna mihi tete abstulit ipsum.  
 heu miser indigne frater adempte mihi,  
 nunc tamen interea haec, prisco quae more parentum  
 tradita sunt tristi munere adinferias,  
 accipe fraterno multum manantia fletu,  
 atque in perpetuum, frater, ave atque vale.