**The Predatory Poppaea: a Poppaean Prototype in Late 19th Century Historical Fiction**



**The Predatory Poppaea in *Quo Vadis* (1951)**

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**Poppaea’s sexuality/promiscuity in Tacitus and post-antiquity**

lascivia uti (Tacitus, *Annals* 13.45)

famae numquam pepercit, maritos et adulteros non distinguens; neque adfectui suo aut alieno obnoxia, unde

utilitas ostenderetur, illuc libidinem transferebat (Tacitus, *Annals* 13.45)

principale scortum (Tacitus, *Histories* 1.13); nuptam (*Annals* 13.46); adulterae (*Annals* 14.1); paelex (*Annals* 14.60); superbam paelicem (*Octavia* 125)

cum nunquam fame parceret, eo libidinem flectebat suam quo paratior ostendebatur utilitas, nullum faciens inter maritos mechosque discrimen (Boccaccio, *Concerning Famous Women* XCV)

**The 19th Century Novels, chronologically**

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Westbury, Hugh. *Acte: A Novel, in 3 Volumes*. 1890. Reprinted by the British Library, 2010.

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**Bibliography**

Braun, Heather. *The Rise and Fall of the Femme Fatale in British Literature, 1790-1910*. Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2012.

Gammel, Irene. *Sexualizing Power in Naturalism*.University of Calgary Press, 1994.

Mayer, David. *Playing Out The Empire*. Oxford UP, 1994.

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