

The Father, the Son, and the Requester: Marcus and Politeness in Ciceronian Letters
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All the translations are mine.

Passage 1 -- *Ad Brut.* 2.3.6, from Brutus to Cicero, April 1, 43 BCE

Cicero, filius tuus, sic mihi se probat industria, patientia, labore, animi magnitudine, omni denique officio ut prorsus numquam dimmittere videatur cogitationem cuius sit filius. qua re, quoniam efficere non possum ut pluris facias eum qui tibi est carissimus, illud tribue iudicio meo ut tibi persuadeas non fore illi abutendum gloria tua ut adipiscatur honores paternos.

Cicero, your son, makes himself agreeable to me with such diligence, endurance, effort, magnanimity, and with all his duty in such a way that he seems to never forget whose son he is. Therefore, since I cannot make you think more of him because he is the dearest to you, grant my judgement and reassure yourself that he does not need to take advantage of your glory in order to acquire his father's honors.

Passage 2 -- *Ad Brut.* 2.4.6, from Cicero to Brutus, April 12, 43 BCE

de Cicerone meo et, si tantum est in eo quantum scribis, tantum scilicet quantum debeo gaudeo et, si quod amas eum eo maiora facis, id ipsum incredibiliter gaudeo, a te eum diligi.

About my Cicero, if there is such a degree (of performance) as you write, I am delighted as much as I ought to. If you exaggerate it because you love him, the very fact that he is loved by you makes me exceedingly delighted.

Passage 3 -- *Ad Brut.* 2.5.6, from Cicero to Brutus, April 14, 43 BCE

Ciceronem meum, mi Brute, velim quam plurimum tecum habeas. virtutis disciplinam meliorem reperiet nullam quam contemplationem atque imitationem tui.

My Brutus, I wish you would have my Cicero with you as much as possible. He will not find a better education of virtue than viewing and imitating you.

Passage 4 -- *Fam.* 12.16.2, from Trebonius to Cicero, May 25, 44 BCE

Qui cum mihi in sermone iniecisset se velle Asiam visere, non modo invitatus sed etiam rogatus est a me ut id potissimum nobis obtinentibus provinciam faceret. cui nos et caritate et amore tuum officium praestatueros non debes dubitare. illud quoque erit nobis curae ut Cratippus una cum eo sit, ne putes in Asia feriatum illum ab iis studiis in quae tua cohortatione incitatur futurum. nam illum paratum, ut video, et ingressum pleno gradu cohortari non intermitteremus, quo in dies longius discendo exercendoque se procedat.

Since he had mentioned in conversation his wish to visit Asia, not only did I invite him but I also asked him to do so with every effort during my governorship. You should not doubt that I will attend to your duty with care and love. Also, I will make sure that Cratippus will come with him, lest you might think that he will slack from those subjects that you inspire him into. In my opinion he is already accomplished and has progressed a lot. I will not stop encouraging him to further improve himself by learning and speaking every day.

Passage 5 -- *Fam.* 12.16.4, from Trebonius to Cicero, May 25, 44 BCE

Tu, sicut mihi pollicitus es, adiunges me quam primum ad tuos sermones; namque illud non dubito, quin, si quid de interitu Caesaris scribas, non patiaris me minimam partem et rei et amoris tui ferre.

As you promised me, you will add me to your dialogues as soon as possible. I don't doubt that if you should write anything about the death of Caesar, you would not allow that I have a miniscule part of the deed and your love.