

**III. Essay Question:**

Iusta precor: quae me nuper praedata puella est,  
 aut amet aut faciat, cur ego semper amem.  
 a, nimium volui: tantum patiatum amari,  
 audierit nostras tot Cytherea preces.  
 5 accipe, per longos tibi qui deserviat annos;  
 accipe, qui pura norit amare fide.  
 si me non veterum commendant magna parentum  
 nomina, si nostri sanguinis auctor eques,  
 nec meus innumeris renovatur campus aratris,  
 10 temperat et sumptus parcus uterque parens,  
 at Phoebus comitesque novem vitisque repertor  
 hac faciunt et me qui tibi donat Amor  
 et nulli cessura fides, sine crimine mores,  
 nudaque simplicitas purpureusque pudor.  
 15 non mihi mille placent, non sum desultor amoris:  
 tu mihi, si qua fides, cura perennis eris;  
 tecum, quos dederint annos mihi fila sororum,  
 vivere contingat teque dolente mori;  
 te mihi materiem felicem in carmina praebere:  
 20 provenient causa carmina digna sua.  
 carmine nomen habent exterrita cornibus Io  
 et quam fluminea lusit adulter ave  
 quaeque super pontum simulato vecta iuvenco  
 virginea tenuit cornua vara manu.  
 25 nos quoque per totum pariter cantabimur orbem  
 iunctaque semper erunt nomina nostra tuis.

In lines 5–6 of this poem, the poet professes unselfish, never-ending devotion to his beloved. Write an essay in which you comment on this promise and discuss the possibility of its fulfillment. Cite specific Latin words and phrases in support of your argument.

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