

Uni ... Mihi ('to Me Only'): Patterns of Uniqueness in Statius' Thebaid and Silius' Punica

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Abstract : There is a rich and frequent representation of uniqueness in Statius' poem called Thebaid. This topos interweave with a psychoanalytical study about groups and individual but is also a literary device. This paper will analyze all the passages in the 'Thebaid' referred to uniqueness and exceptionality. Antigone, Adrastus and other characters are, in fact, often characterized as the only ones to behave in a specific way or to do something. Also, the insomniac characters are often the only ones who do not sleep. The material of such a tòpos is very rich throughout the 'Thebaid'. The methodology will be text-oriented. Conclusions will enlighten Statius' specific use of this tòpos, as related to his models, and will be interdisciplinary. In concluding, this is a study linking philology and psychoanalysis and focused on a topic which deserves a specific analysis.

Keywords : statius, Silius Italicus, uniqueness, epic

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