

**Gold, B. (1993) "The Master Mistress of My Passion': The Lady as Patron in Ancient and Renaissance Literature", in M. DeForest (ed), *Woman's Power, Man's Game: Essays on Classical Antiquity in Honor of Joy King, Bolchazy-Carducci*, 279-304.**

This essay argues that Roman love poets apply the language of patronage to their beloveds, thus turning them into patrons and investing them with a seeming power. But this power proves to be insubstantial as the women in question have no substance apart from the poetry about them and no power over the poet who constructs them.