

Gold, B. (2007) “The Natural and Unnatural Silence of Women in the *Elegies* of Propertius”, *Antichthon* 41, 54-72; reprinted in *Oxford Readings in Classical Studies: Propertius*, ed. Ellen Greene and Tara S. Welch (Oxford 2012) 355-72.

This essay asks what it means that women are silent and silenced in Propertius' poetry, and discusses what the difference is between those two forms of non-speech. Various forms of silencing (ventriloquizing, speaking women seen as out of control and deceitful) make the case that women are only safe when they are silenced. These elements in the poetry reassert the gender hierarchy that elegy on the surface professes to disrupt. Two women in particular are discussed: Cynthia and Cornelia.