

**Klein, F. (2018) “Catullus’ reply to Moschus? Female Gaze and Desire in the *Europa* and *Carmen 64*”, *Through Women’s eyes: Female vision in elegiac and epic Latin poets*, J. Fabre-Serris and J. Hallett, Guest Co-edit, *Helios*, 45, 109-25.**

This article aims at rereading Catullus’ *carmen 64* as commenting on one of its (underestimated) model: Moschus’ poem on *Europa*. Breaking with Greek poetic tradition about raping women who are depicted as mere objects of male lust, Moschus tells the story from the point of view of Europa and suggests that the girl, etymologically “the young woman with wide/ widely open eyes”, attracted by the bull, consents to her abduction. I examine two passages where Catullus seems to assert, like Moschus, Ariadne’s desire and full consent to the erotic events that await her. Catullus points out also to what remains ‘un-said’, or ‘un-seen’, in Moschus’ focalisation through Europa’s gaze. As his Ariadne is herself a visual object to look at (she is embroidered on the coverlet of a bride’s wedding bed), the focalization through her desiring gaze is itself focalized through the internal audience’s male gaze, which could be a way for Catullus to question the focus of female gaze in a male-authored text like Moschus’ *Europa*!