

Martorana, S. (2020) “*Haec est Aeolidos fratri scribentis imago: Canace, Augusto e il dramma dell’incesto*”, in S. Quadrelli, E. Subrani (eds), *I Figli di Eolo: Il motivo mitico e letterario dell’incesto tra antico e moderno*, Ravenna, Longo, 65-75.

This book chapter examines the motif of incest in Ovid, *Heroides* 11, vis-à-vis Augustus’ political and legal discourse. It argues that Canace’s epistle mirrors the preoccupations about illegitimate unions and affairs, which are most patently expressed by the *Leges Iuliae* and *Lex Papia Poppaea*. Through an analysis of Canace’s language and allusions to other versions of her narrative, it concludes that the heroine’s incestuous relationship and self-murder by sword articulate a rebellion against the rules of her father and, by extension, against the laws of the *pater (patriae)* par excellence, namely Augustus.