

Mastrososa, I.G. (2018) “«Sic vivendum, sic pereundum»: le donne dei Germani nella storiografia romana” in C. Giuffrida et alii (eds.) *Roma e i ‘diversi’. Confini geografici, barriere culturali, distinzioni di genere nelle fonti letterarie ed epigrafiche fra età repubblicana e Tarda Antichità*, Firenze, Le Monnier, 299-308.

The chapter focuses on a passage from Germania (18-19) by Tacitus in which he stresses, among other things, that for the Germans, marital union was conceived as the woman's sharing, in life and in death, the same destiny as her husband and at their marriage they were expected to exchange gifts that would help women to gain familiarity with the art of war. We suggest that in identifying this last aspect as a distinctive feature of women in the Germanic area, Tacitus had probably retrieved a fact acquired from historiographic tradition after an episode that occurred at the time of Marius' war against the Cimbri and the Teutones, when these people's women showed virile courage and pride in fighting their enemies, even sacrificing their own lives. Analysing the variants present in the different sources that witness the fact, we can see how the Germanic women's image in the Imperial Age emerged and was consolidated as an example of alternative femininity.