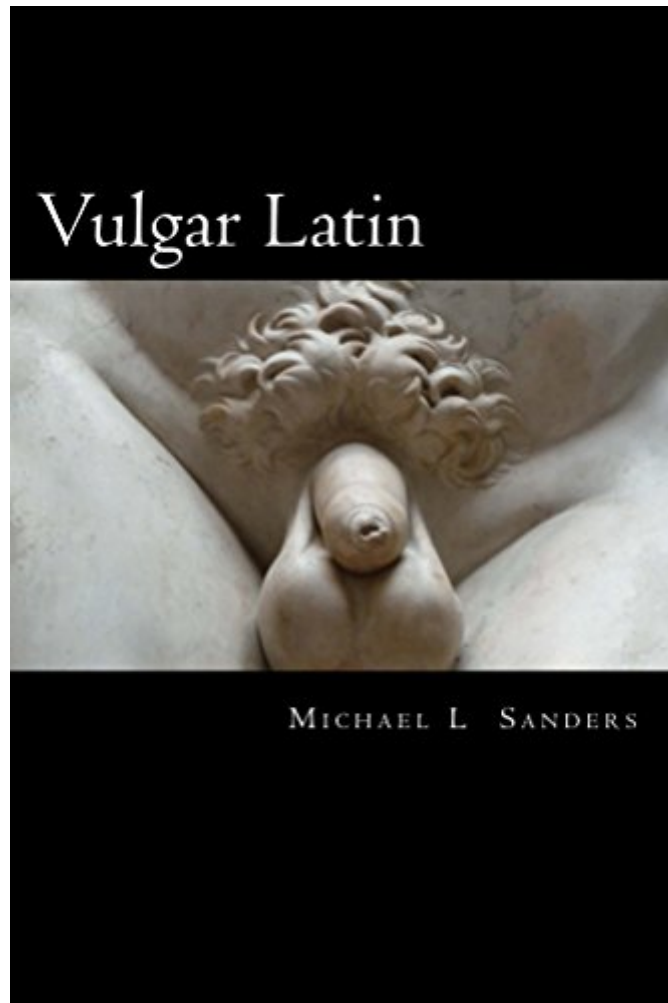




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Vulgar Latin: Obscene Quotes From Antiquity



Synopsis

A unique collection of Classical Latin script compiled from graffiti, poets and ancient anonymous contributors. These are the words of the common Roman, in all its vulgar glory.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Though the adage "don't judge a book by its cover" conveys a deeper truth about the human condition, it should be deliberately neglected by anyone looking to read this book. From the small flaccid penis on the cover to the abrupt, yet brilliant finish, "Vulgar Latin" is straightforward and shamelessly honest about its intentions and inspirations. In his writing debut, Michael Sanders, a recent UNC graduate, has managed to intertwine shocking content and vulgarity, with charm, creativity, and hilarity, in a way that is seamless and, frankly, quite impressive for such a newcomer. While one page may leave you questioning how such a dated language, used by people from a simpler and often seemingly superior - "seemingly superior" in the sense that humans have always been nothing more than advanced primates with a demented sense of humour and normativity - moral era could have words for situations so obscene and absurd, while another page may leave you sobbing from bellowing (and possibly uncontrollable) laughter. Although its theme is primarily

sexual in nature, every now and again the author is able to masterfully surprise you with quotes concerning a range of other loosely-related topics, such as defecation, domestic abuse, and, YES, farts! This book is great for the student of Latin in need of comedic relief to ease the rigour of their studies, as well as for the reader with no prior exposure to Latin who enjoys reading books that push the envelope in contemporary art and culture. All in all, "Vulgar Latin" by Michael Sanders is a great read that I highly recommend to all audiences. The book not only achieves its stated goal of not taking itself too seriously but also achieves a literary milestone that few authors are ever able to reach in their career, much less in their first published book - that is, offering a blatantly simple and wildly successful critique through cover imagery of an adage that is universally accepted in academic and nonacademic circles alike, and is as old and respected as the language his book celebrates. Through achieving this milestone, he has truly made me question everything I thought I knew about books, language, and life. I now see a purpose; I now see meaning; I now see hope; and I am confident that all who choose to read this book will undergo the same realisation. But for now, I and those other lucky souls who have already made the leap of reading this terrific piece of work must wait in anticipation for the next chapter of this already accomplished literary artist's career to unfold and produce another revolutionary masterpiece of modern literature.

When I was but a young, privileged child at my upper middle class middle school, my teachers always harped upon the Ancient Romans and how refined they were, and as a result, we were plunged into several dark semesters of being forced to learn this language. Now, dear reader, you may wonder why I used "forced," and my answer is this: never did my teachers make the Romans seem real; never did my teachers make an effort to relate my edginess to these people of old; never did I actually get to actually enjoy learning this otherwise amazing language. However, after reading Sander's utter masterpiece, I can only begin to imagine how my education would have been different if I had had access to "Vulgar Latin." Perhaps, I, as a rebellious young teenager, would have wanted to study more about Catullus after just making it to the first page and seeing such a beautiful collection of obscenities for the first time. Maybe I would have wanted to learn more Latin so I could translate my own raunchy phrases for myself. I might even have majored in the Classics in college. However, my regrets and rambling on what could have been are useless, and we should instead focus on using this book to bring about a renaissance of Latin appreciation with the youth of today's fallen culture. As I end my hastily written editorial, though, I have only one thing to say as one published author to another: Brava, Michael. Brava.

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