

RICHARD W. HIBLER

THE LATIN MALE

Within the swelling bowels
(for their upper bodies, shrunk
with muscle atrophy, dissolve)
And loin-thrust gait of confidence
swagger Latin males.
Purses on the concourse of Naples,
Flashing flanks in the harbors of Rhodes,
And many bold Spanish
Conquistadores tilting their hubris
against the windmills of Medan Agan.

Long the Latins have learned their art,
The leer, the machination of masculinity,
The wild, rumpus andreaia of womanizing —
while sitting at home,
mending socks, are grey-hallowed
sexless mothers
(To whom Latins fall on their
knees with worship and benignity).