

Marcus Encolpus' Tomb Inscription

Post by “Cassius” of July 7, 2023 at 9:15 AM

translations of inscriptions and papyri see J. and M. Roberts, *IGUR 1245* (1959) 177–180.

⁵⁷ Perhaps as a sort of guardian deity, continuing to keep a benign watch over the property (see *OLD* s.v. *tueri* 2b). Cf. the divine *sedes* of Lucr. 3.18. The point is made more bluntly in *IGUR* 1245 (Rome II/III) in which the wealthy Epicurean M. Antonius Encolpus grants space in his tomb to his many *liberti* (except one, who is explicitly excluded), declaring to anyone who cares to read that now that he is dead he can categorically deny the existence of the river of Hades, of Charon, Aiakos and the hound Kerberos (ll. 14–15).

This is the text to which it would be interesting to find the Latin, and to scrutinize exactly what he says - including what I would say is probably a good sense of humor!