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*Lycoris*

*Amaryllidaceae*

[*Liliaceae*]

*Lycoris* commemorates a beautiful Roman actress, Lycoris, whose stage name was Cytheris and who was one of the mistresses of Mark Antony (c.83-30 BC), the Roman triumvir. Some authorities quote Cicero (106-43 BC) who, in 46 BC, described her behaviour in male company when he was visiting Volumnius Eutrapelus' home. Apparently she reclined when protocol would have required her to be decorously seated, and it was noted that such licence was permitted from an actress. She is believed to have been the freedwoman and lover of Eutrapelus hence one of her names, Volumnia, and when Mark Antony sought her for himself Eutrapelus relinquished her. This action is said to have given Eutrapelus considerable power and importance eventually in Roman society.