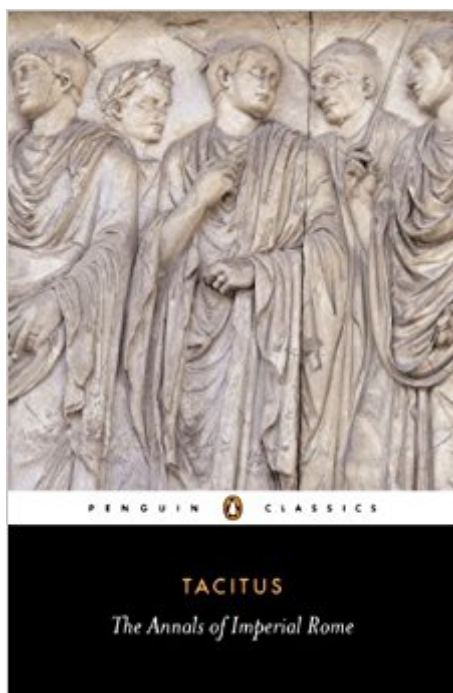


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The Annals Of Imperial Rome (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

His last work, regarded by many as the greatest work of contemporary scholarship, Tacitus' *The Annals of Imperial Rome* recount with depth and insight the history of the Roman Empire during the first century A.D. This Penguin Classics edition is translated with an introduction by Michael Grant. Tacitus' *Annals of Imperial Rome* recount the major historical events from the years shortly before the death of Augustus up to the death of Nero in AD 68. With clarity and vivid intensity he describes the reign of terror under the corrupt Tiberius, the great fire of Rome during the time of Nero, and the wars, poisonings, scandals, conspiracies and murders that were part of imperial life. Despite his claim that the *Annals* were written objectively, Tacitus' account is sharply critical of the emperors' excesses and fearful for the future of Imperial Rome, while also filled with a longing for its past glories. Michael Grant's translation vividly captures the emotional patriotism of Tacitus' moral tone, offset by a lucid understanding that Rome is doomed, and conveys with cinematic vigour the lives of the great Emperors who laid the foundations of modern Europe. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, Latin (translation)

Tacitus studied rhetoric in Rome and rose to eminence as a pleader at the Roman Bar. In 77 he married the daughter of Agricola, conqueror of Britain, of whom he later wrote a biography. His other works include the Germania and the Historiae. Michael Grant's academic titles include Chancellor's Medallist and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and President of the Classical Association.

This is classic Roman history written by a stylist of great merit. The Caesars---Julius and Augustus? Caligula? Nero? They're all here, even a mention of Jesus and Christians and how the Christians were murdered. Thrilling, horrifying AND an eye-witness account, Whew!

Tacitus is without doubt one of my favorite historians on any subject matter. this translation is very very good. I Highly recommend it from all angles. if you want to start to read a work of the great ancient historians i would start with this one. there is a lot here but he delves deep into veryday life and you feel it from a man who is still living it. A patriot who is not afraid to show it but also not worried to point out what went wrong and what should be fixed. Human to the core.

This book is a masterpiece. It begins with a battle in what is now Germany. The description of the rugged Roman Legions is shocking and informative. There were often insurrections for more pay. These were usually put down harshly, a method Tacitus agrees will help keep order. In describing the city of Rome and its upper class citizens, I was amazed at the backbiting, lies, executions, and barbarous behavior shown by almost everyone. It is a bitter book and shows how power corrupts absolutely. I admit to having to read it in small doses for the terrain covered is very bleak.

It is interesting till the translator tries to update the organization of the Roman army. It is distracting in that that organization was different from current armies and should be treated as such. The job of translators is to render the subject as it was written and not to change it as they see fit.

Good read

Not as bad as some people think - translations from the original work will always leave out that "something" - the answer is simple, learn Latin and read the original.

Can wait to read. Came very quickly

The biggest problem with this translation is that there are no chapter numbers, making it very difficult to figure out where you are in the text.

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