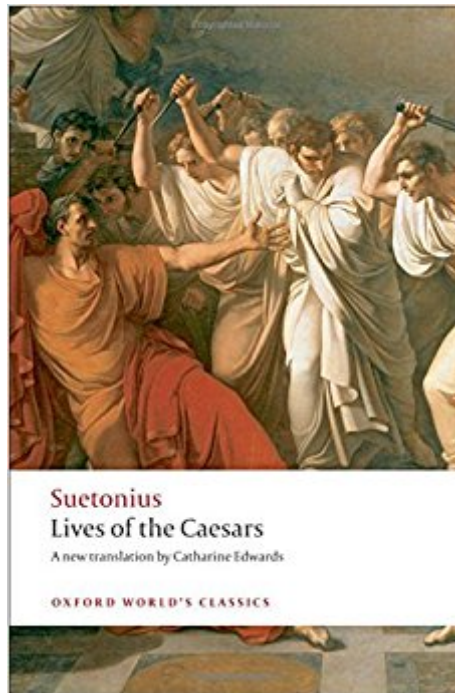


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Lives Of The Caesars (Oxford World's Classics)



Synopsis

The Lives of the Caesars include the biographies of Julius Caesar and the eleven subsequent emperors: Augustus, Tiberius, Gaius Caligula, Claudius, Nero, Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian. Suetonius composed his material from a variety of sources, without much concern for their reliability. His biographies consist of the ancestry and career of each emperor in turn; however, his interest is not so much analytical or historical, but anecdotal and salacious which gives rise to a lively and provocative succession of portraits. For example, the account of Julius Caesar does not simply mention his crossing of the Rubicon and his assassination, but draws attention to his dark piercing eyes and attempts to conceal his baldness. The life of Caligula presents a vivid picture of the emperor's grotesque appearance, his waywardness, and his insane cruelties. The format and style of Suetonius' Lives of the Caesars was to set the tone for biography throughout western literature--his work remains thoroughly readable and full of interest. Indeed, it was Robert Graves's primary reference source when he was writing *I, Claudius*, and those who have read his book will enjoy the original accounts as set down here.

About the Series: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the broadest spectrum of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, voluminous notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Latin --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Translator Catharine Edwards is in the Department of Classics at the University of Bristol.

I can't get enough of reading about ancient Rome and the Caesars, and I've only recently gotten around to reading Suetonius' work. The book itself covers 12 of the Caesars, and does so in varied detail. In a way, it's like reading a National Enquirer article about the Caesars. Some of the research into Suetonius' tales are based on gossip, but it's juicy gossip with some truth in there somewhere. But great reading nonetheless. The translation is very readable, and is able to clearly tell us about those 12 men who led Rome to various degrees of success. But I think that's kept this book from falling into forgotten literature is that the book is highly readable due to the salacious stories about the dalliances of the Caesars. Still, a highly worthy read and would make for a great place on your bookshelf, digital or otherwise. PS: needs to fix the description of the book and include Suetonius as the author and list the translator second. I've noticed this as a trend among Oxford World's Classics.

This is being offered as the Kindle edition of a complete Oxford edition -

<http://www..com/Lives-Caesars-Oxford-Worlds-Classics/dp/0199537569/> -but it is just the life of Julius Caesar - and probably not the same edition or translator. I.e., a misrepresentation of what it is. Just be clear on what you're getting.

Greatest book ever written about personal lives of the Caesars. This is a required textbook for MIT History Department. I highly recommend this!

Easy to read translation.

Highly recommend this book - whether it's for a class or just for fun. If you're fascinated by historical political intricacies in a realistic sense, then this is the book for you.

detailed and fascinating portraits of roman emperors dealing with many aspects of their reigns truly a great read would recommend to any history buffs especially for this period

This is a basic text and has been around for some time. A standard of any study of Rome or that era.

I haven't got the opportunity to read this book yet, but reading the ancient Roman and Greek historians is the only way to begin learning history. I'm 1/3 way through the "Rise of the Roman Empire" by Polybius and am truly amazed at the intelligence and perception of the author. This book is more enlightening than any history book I ever read even in the modern age. Hail Caesar!. Hail Rome!

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