

HEIGHT OF THE EMPIRE—CHARACTERS

14 TO 235 A.D.

REIGN OF TIBERIUS TO LAST SEVERAN EMPEROR

Tiberius	42–37	Second emperor. Stepson of Augustus. Retired to Capri.
Drusus	38–9 BC	Son of Livia, father of Germanicus. Died on campaign in Germany.
Sejanus	d. 31	Leader of Praetorians. Conspired to seize the throne from Tiberius.
Germanicus	15–19	Roman military hero and heir to the throne. Probably murdered.
Agrippina the Elder	14–33	Granddaughter of Augustus Caesar; accused Tiberius of killing Germanicus.
Caligula	12–41	Third emperor. Sadistic and probably insane.
Claudius	10–54	Fourth emperor. Manipulated by wicked wives, Messalina and Agrippina.
Messalina	17–48	Wicked, profligate, and promiscuous wife of Claudius.
Agrippina the Younger	16–59	Mother of Nero. Murdered Claudius to make way for his rise to the throne.
Nero	37–68	Fifth emperor. Murdered mother, wife, and brother. Fiddled while Rome burned.
Seneca	3–65	Tutor and minister to Nero. Forced to commit suicide after falling from grace.
Poppaea	d. 65	Wicked mistress of Nero. Urged him to kill his mother and first wife.
Boadicea	d. 61	Queen of the Iceni. Led the largest revolt of Celtic Britons against the Romans.

FLAVIAN EMPERORS

Galba	3–69	Declared emperor after Nero was deposed. Served less than a year.
Otho	32–69	Emperor for three months. Committed suicide rather than continue civil war.
Vitellius	d. 69	Emperor for nine months in 69 A.D. Known as an incompetent glutton.
Vespasian	9–79	First emperor of humble origins. Founder of Flavian dynasty.
Titus	40–81	Second Flavian emperor. Conquered Jerusalem. Reigned with Vespasian.
Domitian	51–96	Third Flavian emperor. Known for purges and persecutions near end of reign.
Pliny (the Elder)	23–79	Scholar, author of encyclopedias, naturalist. Wrote <i>Natural Histories</i> . Died at the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.
Josephus	37–100	Jewish historian. Captured by Romans at Jotapata. Wrote the <i>Jewish War</i> .
Agricola	40–93	Roman general and statesman. Governor of Britain. Pacified Wales.
Martial	40–102	Poet and satirist. Wrote twelve books of <i>Epigrams</i> .
Plutarch	46–122	Most outstanding moralist and biographer of ancient times. Wrote Lives of Greeks and Romans.
Tacitus	55–120	Historian. Related to Agricola. Wrote <i>Germania</i> , <i>Histories</i> , and <i>Annals</i> .

FIVE GOOD EMPERORS

Nerva	30–98	First of the "Five Good Emperors." Ruled briefly between Domitian and Trajan.
Trajan	53–117	Second of "Five Good Emperors." Ruled with justice. Conquered Dacia.
Pliny the Younger	63–113	Roman statesman and and orator. His letters are important historical sources.
Hadrian	76–138	Third of "Five Good Emperors." Talented artist and architect, good administrator.
Antoninus Pius	86–161	Fourth of "Five Good Emperors." Continued policy of consolidation. Ruled justly.
Marcus Aurelius	121–180	Fifth of "Five Good Emperors." Stoic philosopher. Improved condition of poor.
Commodus	161–192	Corrupt son of Aurelius, misruled for twelve years and was murdered.

SEVERAN EMPERORS

Septimus Severus	146–211	Seized Empire after the death of Commodus. Put down rebellions.
Caracalla	188–217	Brutal and iron-fisted emperor. Murdered Geta. Built Baths."