
APPENDIX A

Glossary of Names and Places

Agrippina: Colonia Agrippina, the capital of the province of Lower Germany; now the city of Cologne. Since the colony was situated on the Rhine River, it was adjacent to the Gallic provinces. Trajan had spent the winter of 97/98 CE there, as he was tasked with reorganizing the Rhine frontier.

Alexandria: Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, it was the capital of the Ptolemaic Empire after his death. Its populace consisted of Greek citizens recruited to live there and a large non-citizen population, which included many Egyptians and Jews. Ruled by Alexander's general Ptolemy and then his descendants, the last of whom was Cleopatra VII, Alexandria was the second largest city in the Roman Empire, following Egypt's fall to Augustus in 30 BCE. It was famous for its library and crucial as Rome's main port in the eastern Mediterranean.

Athenodorus: a Stoic philosopher from Tarsus, who may be identified as an advisor to Augustus.

Athens: Founded as a Mycenaean city hundreds of years before Rome existed, Athens had been a major force in the Greek world in the fifth century BCE. After its losses in the Peloponnesian War and its surrender to Macedonian forces, it lost its power and influence, but under Roman rule it retained its status as a center for culture and education.

Avitus, Iunius: likely the young senator who was a protégé of Pliny, who describes his tragic death in Letter 8.23, shortly before he would have served as aedile.

Bithynia-Pontus: a Roman province with territory that encompassed approximately two thirds of the southern shore of the Black Sea. Pompey the Great organized the province in 63 BCE by incorporating the territory of Pontus, which he subdued, with the existing province of Bithynia, which had been bequeathed to Rome in 74 BCE by Nicomedes IV. The province was initially governed by proconsuls, but because of its importance for accessing both the Black Sea and the eastern frontiers, by Trajan's time it was governed by imperial legates, who were direct representatives of the emperor and thus invested with his power.

Calpurnia: Pliny's second (or perhaps third) wife. She was raised by her aunt Calpurnia Hispulla, who Pliny says was like a mother to his mother and knew him well from childhood.

Calvisius Rufus: a close friend of Pliny in Comum, who not only shared his values but also served as an advisor and business associate.

Campania: a region of western central Italy, famous for its luxuries. Like many of his fellow senators, Pliny may have had a villa there. The area was home to several towns/cities severely affected by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 CE, including Baiae, Herculaneum, Misenum, Pompeii, and Stabiae.

Capreae: modern-day Capri, an island off the coast of Campania, opposite Sorrento. Famous now for its blue grotto, it was the location of an extensive imperial villa built by Tiberius that served as his residence when he withdrew from Rome in 26 CE, never to return.

Carthage: a city founded by the Phoenicians on the north coast of Africa, in modern-day Tunisia. The Punic city was destroyed in 146 BCE; Augustus created a Roman colony there, and the city became the capital of the province Africa Proconsularis. In the third century CE, it became an educational center for the training of orators and advocates.

Cartima: Originally a Carthaginian city, it was renamed Cartima by the Romans in 195 BCE. It would remain a Roman city in the province of Baetica for six hundred years. The site is modern-day Cártama, Spain.

Carus, Mettius: one of the many *delatores* under the Flavians, especially Domitian. These were men who informed on the activities of fellow senators and their families, thereby gaining in status and sometimes in wealth.

Casinum: Formerly an Oscan, Volscian, and then Samnite town, it became Roman in the late fourth century BCE. It was destroyed by the Lombards in the sixth century CE. The site is modern-day Cassino.

Cassius Longinus, Gaius: a senator with strong conservative views, who was considered to be Rome's leading lawyer during the reigns of Claudius and Nero. He founded the Cassian school, a group of lawyers who held strictly traditional views of the law. He was a descendant of the tyrannicide Cassius.

Charybdis: a mythical site, said to be in the Straits of Messina, where there was a whirlpool that sucked in and spit out water three times a day.

Claudiopolis: originally a Greek colony called Bithynium, renamed under Roman rule, perhaps as early as the reign of Tiberius. The modern-day city of Bolu is on its site.

Curtius Rufus: With the support of Tiberius, he became a senator, and in 43 CE under Claudius, suffect consul; he served as proconsul of Africa as an old man, dying before he completed his term. He is also thought to be the author of a ten-book history of Alexander the Great.

Dacia: an area of southeastern Europe that encompassed modern-day Romania and parts of Hungary, Bulgaria, and Ukraine. The Dacian kingdom was established in 86 BCE and conquered by Trajan in 106 CE. Trajan's column in his forum depicts his victories there.

Danubium: the Danube River.

Decibalus: last ruler of Dacia, who revived the kingdom's military power, was victorious in battles against Roman generals, and was recognized as a client king under Domitian. He committed suicide following the capture of the Dacian capital Sarmizagethusa by Trajan.

Diana: goddess of the hunt and wild lands.

Domitian: last of the Flavian emperors, who was well liked by the armies and was, by many accounts, a diligent administrator. But he was hated by many senators, who despised his treatment of them as inferiors and his penchant for punishing anyone who said or did anything he deemed offensive, both by exile and by execution. As a result, a group of senators conspired to remove him and replace him with the senator Nerva. He was killed in 96 CE by Stephanus, one of the household staff.

Dyrrhachium: Founded as the Greek city of Epidamnos, under the Romans it became a base for Roman armies. The Via Egnatia began there and ended in Constantinople. It is now the site of Durrës, Albania.

Egypt: Beginning as a kingdom in the fourth millennium BCE, Egypt's history before the arrival of Alexander the Great was divided into three dynastic periods: Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms. The first saw the

building of the pyramids in Giza, the second the flourishing of language and literature, and the third territorial expansion along with the construction of many great temples and tombs. Internal discord led to periods of occupation by foreign powers that ended with the arrival of Alexander the Great, after which Egypt was ruled by the Macedonian general Ptolemy and his descendants, until Augustus defeated Antony and Cleopatra. It then became a Roman province controlled solely by the emperor and his successors.

Epirus: an area of northwestern Greece that had been an independent kingdom until its leader Pyrrhus joined in the wars between Rome and Macedon, during which it was sacked. It came under full Roman control in 146 BCE, when Greece was annexed.

Geminus, Rosianus: One of Pliny's protégés, he served as Pliny's quaestor in 100 CE when Pliny was suffect consul; later he too was consul and then governor of Cappadocia. He is the addressee of six letters in Pliny's collection, several of which offer exempla of proper Roman comportment.

Germania: an area that encompassed both land east of the Rhine River that was not part of Roman territory and land west of the Rhine that had been part of Gaul, but became the provinces of Germania Inferior and Germania Superior when Trajan reorganized the region. Augustus had tried unsuccessfully and tragically (losing three legions) to expand Roman holdings beyond the Rhine.

Hephaestion: a location in ancient Lycia that may also have been called Mount Chimaera; perhaps identifiable with Yanartaş, the flaming stone within a modern-day national park in the Antalya Province of southwestern Turkey; below it are ruins of a Temple of Hephaestus.

Hispania: the Roman name for the Iberian Peninsula, which Rome divided into various provinces over its more than six hundred years of rule. The Romans first gained control of the southern part of the peninsula at the end of the Second Punic War; previously it had been under Carthaginian control.

Isauria: an area of southern Anatolia (modern-day Turkey) named for its tribal inhabitants; the Isaurians were well known for raiding their neighbors and repeatedly caused unrest in the region until the early fifth century CE.

Italica: a Roman city in southern Spain, founded by Scipio Africanus in 206 BCE; the birthplace of Trajan.

Lepidus, Marcus Aemilius: the third member of the Second Triumvirate, along with Octavian (Augustus) and Marcus Antonius, whom he had supported following the death of Julius Caesar. He was marginalized initially by his fellow triumvirs and further by Augustus following Antony's defeat. After his banishment Augustus allowed him to return to Rome and to retain the title of Pontifex Maximus until his death in 13 or 12 BCE.

Livy (Titus Livius): Born in Patavium in northern Italy in the middle of the first century BCE, he was the author of a monumental history of Rome, *Ab Urbe Condita*, which comprised 142 volumes, of which only thirty-five survive; the contents of almost all the others are summarized in the *Periochae*, which likely dates to the fourth century CE.

Marcellus, Marcus Claudius: nephew of Augustus, born in 42 BCE to the emperor's sister Octavia (who was later married to Marcus Antonius, the triumvir); Marcellus married Julia, Augustus's daughter, in 25 BCE and was awarded extraordinary political privileges at the request of the emperor. Clearly being groomed for succession, he fell ill and died in 23 BCE and was the first family member whose ashes were placed in the Mausoleum of Augustus.

Milo, Titus Annius: Tribune in 57 BCE who worked for Cicero's recall from exile, he was a leader of armed groups that fought those raised by Publius Clodius Pulcher, who had engineered Cicero's banishment; unsuccessful in his quest for the consulship, Milo was prosecuted for the use of force and fled the city when Pompey's soldiers prevented Cicero from offering his defense. Milo later died trying to raise a rebellion in Italy.

Minerva: Italian goddess of handicrafts who was later identified with Athena; her name may derive from the Latin verb *meminisse*, to remember.

Misenum: a port town at the northwestern end of the Bay of Naples. Under Augustus, it became a major naval base. At the time of the eruption of Vesuvius, Pliny the Elder was in command of the fleet stationed there.

Mount Aetna: among the tallest and most active volcanoes in Europe, erupting consistently over many centuries. According to the Greeks, Zeus trapped the monster Typhon beneath it, where one could also find the great forges of Hephaestus.

Nicaea: a city in Bithynia, founded on the site of a Greek colony by Antigonus I, a Macedonian noble and one of Alexander the Great's successors; it came under Roman rule in 72 BCE but is best known as the site for two

Ecumenical Councils, called to settle theological and administrative disputes within the early Christian Church. Its site is contained within the modern city of İznik, Turkey.

Nicomedia: founded in 265 BCE on the site of the Greek colony of Astacus by Nicomedes I, King of Bithynia. It was the chief city of the kingdom and later the Roman province. Its excellent harbors made it a trading stronghold, and it became Diocletian's eastern capital. Its remains lie beneath the modern city of İzmit, Turkey.

Parthenius: a freedman of Domitian, who served as a *cubicularius*, someone assigned to serve the personal needs of the emperor and perhaps oversee other personal servants. He appears in all the sources on Domitian's assassination, either as the organizer or perpetrator of the murder.

Persia: an area of southwestern Asia, much of which is now modern-day Iran. The Persian Empire was the most powerful in the region from the mid-sixth century BCE to its fall to Alexander the Great in the fourth century BCE, and it profoundly affected Greek history and cultural identity in the fifth and fourth centuries. Thereafter, the Parthians took over as the greatest threat to Greek and then Roman rule, causing persistent unrest in the region until the early third century CE.

Petronius Secundus: prefect of the Praetorian Guard, the emperor's bodyguards, from 94 CE to the death of Domitian.

Phoebe: one of the Titans, daughter of Gaia and Uranus and mother of Leto. In late antiquity her name is an epithet of the moon.

Piso Frugi, Gaius Calpurnius: first husband of Cicero's daughter Julia. He served as quaestor in 58 BCE and advocated for Cicero's recall from exile. He died in 57 BCE.

Pliny the Elder: an equestrian from Comum, whose career included several procuratorships, service on the councils of Vespasian and Titus, a legal practice under Nero, and command of the fleet stationed at Misenum under Titus. He was a prolific writer, whose interest in natural phenomena, as demonstrated by his only surviving work *Naturalis Historia*, prompts him to investigate the eruption.

Pompeius Planta, Gaius: a friend of Trajan, who fought against Otho and Vitellius and served as procurator of Lycia before his appointment by Trajan as prefect of Egypt, which had remained under the personal control of the emperor since its defeat by Augustus.

Rhenum: the Rhine River, which long served as a boundary of Roman territory, separating it from Germanic tribes.

Scylla: a mythical six-headed, twelve-footed monster that lived in a cave on the cliff opposite Charybdis and snatched animals and sailors who were passing by.

Seleucia (in Pieria): founded by Seleucus in the late fourth century BCE as a harbor for the kingdom that he established after the death of Alexander, under whom he fought against the Persians. Its remains lie under the modern-day village of Çevlik in Turkey, near the border with Syria.

Sicilia: the island of Sicily, southwest of the tip of the boot of Italy. The island's early inhabitants were gradually overwhelmed and subsumed by Greek and Carthaginian colonies, beginning in the middle of the eighth century BCE. Following Rome's defeat of Carthage in the First Punic War, it became the first Roman province.

Sinope: a city located on the southern shore of the Black Sea near its midpoint (east to west). It was a Greek colony founded in the late seventh century BCE and then became a Roman colony under Julius Caesar. It is now the modern city of Sinop, Turkey.

Stabiae: a town in southern Campania just a few miles from Pompeii; it was a fashionable resort for wealthy Romans, who built luxurious estates there in the late Republic and early Empire. It was destroyed in the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 CE.

Sura, Lucius Licinius: Hailing from Hispania Tarraconensis, he was a renowned orator with an interest in literature, and he was highly regarded by Trajan, who awarded him three eponymous consulships (*consul ordinarius*), a statue, and a public funeral, all extraordinary honors.

Tacitus: a close friend of Pliny, who receives more letters than anyone else in the first nine books of the *Epistulae*. A prominent historian, his extant works are: *Agricola*, *Germania*, *Annales*, *Historiae*, and *Dialogus de Oratoribus*. Unfortunately, what remains of his historical works does not include the year 79 CE, the year in which the eruption of Vesuvius took place.

Terentia: the first wife of Marcus Tullius Cicero; she was likely from a consular family and wealthy, as attested by mention in Cicero's letters of property she owned both within Rome and in the countryside. She used her own money when Cicero was in exile and clearly exercised whatever social and political influence she had to help secure his recall. She had two children: Julia, who died in 45 BCE, and Marcus, who survived his father's proscription and seems to have enjoyed a successful political career. Valerius Maximus, writing in the first century CE, says Terentia lived to be 103 years old, well into the rule of Augustus (8.13.6).

Titan: originally a term used for gods (Cronus, Rhea, Oceanus, Mnemosyne, etc.) who were born before the Olympian gods; in Roman poetry, the names Titan and Titanis represent the Titans Hyperion and Phoebe, the Sun and the Moon respectively.

Trajan (Marcus Ulpius Traianus): Roman emperor from 98 to 117 CE. Trajan was born into a consular family in the town of Italica in southern Spain. He served for many years in various military positions and as governor of Upper Germany. His military acumen made him especially suited as the adopted son of the elderly senator Nerva, who was chosen as emperor following the assassination of Domitian in 96. Trajan's reign has long been idealized in historical accounts, beginning in his own time, in contrast with the universal condemnation of Domitian. It was seemingly marked by prudence, fairness, restraint, consistency and self-control, all of which helped solidify the autocracy that was embodied in the principate.

Ummidia Quadratilla: the daughter of Ummidius Durmius Quadratus, a senator from the town of Casinum, eighty miles southeast of Rome; several inscriptions document her benefactions to the town that focused on its infrastructure, particularly its theater and amphitheater.

Ummidius Quadratus (Severus Sertorius), Gaius: grandson of Ummidia Quadratilla, who served as *consul suffectus* in 112 CE. In his letters, Pliny proudly names him as a protégé.

Valens, Gaius Manlius: a Roman senator who served as *consul ordinarius* in 96 CE.

Vesuvius: the Latin name for Monte Vesuvio, a cinder cone volcano in southern Italy on the Bay of Naples, most famous for its eruption in 79 CE, which destroyed the towns of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiae. While it has since been quite active, at the time of that eruption it seemed extinct, as it had not erupted in at least several centuries.

Vetus, Gaius Antistius: served as consul in 96 CE. The Antistii, a prominent plebian tribe, had served in various political offices since the fifth century BCE.

Xorulus: the Latin name for El Jorullo, a cinder cone volcano in central Mexico that rose from the valley floor in its first eruption that began in 1759 and lasted fifteen years.