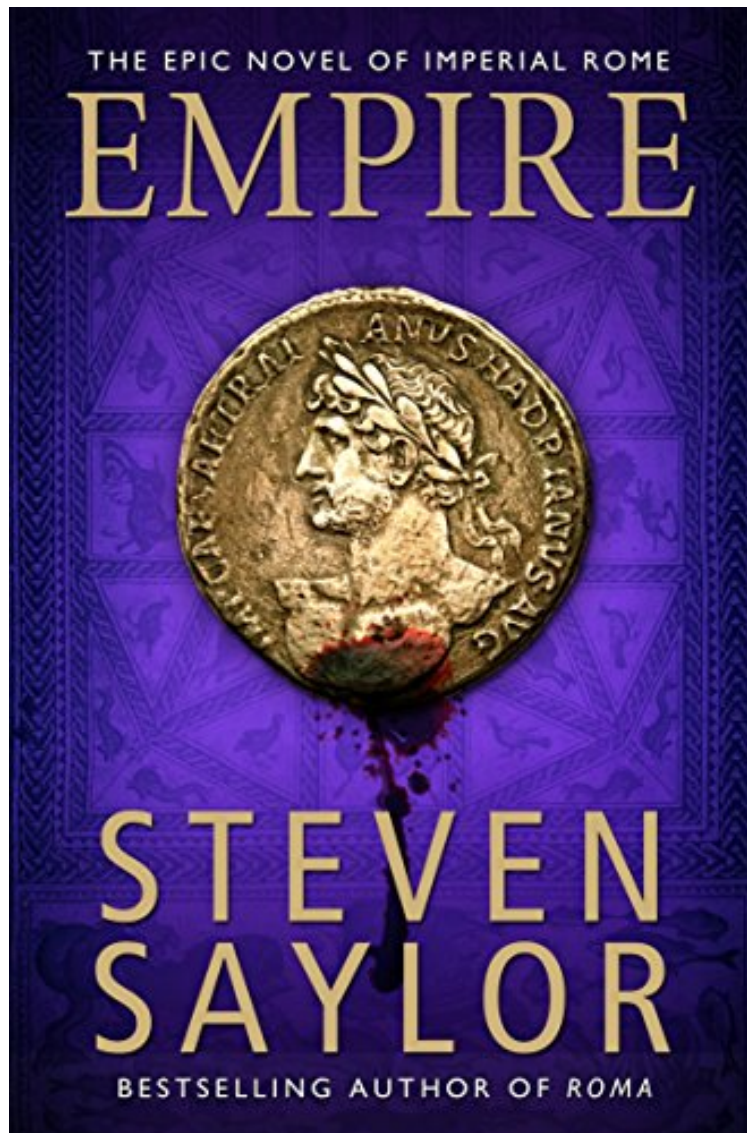


(Download pdf ebook) Empire: An Epic Novel of Ancient Rome (Roma)

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Von Steven Saylor

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Von Steven Saylor : Empire: An Epic Novel of Ancient Rome (Roma) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Empire: An Epic Novel of Ancient Rome (Roma):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not nearly as enjoyable as the Gordianus novelsVon customerThe perfect companion for all Roman history enthusiasts is the ROMA VICTRIX WINE BEAKERRoma Victrix Wein BecherWhat would it be like to have the best tour guide in Rome give you a guided tour through the city, giving you the history of every building, the cultural context, the events and emotions that transpired there? That's what Empire (and its predecessor Rome) is like. Saylor has lived his entire

professional life in ancient Rome and knows it like the back of his hand. Rome Empire are very different in format to his Roma Sub Rosa detective series; they are much more episodic "food tastings" from different periods. The history and context are wonderful. But they're not always a fictional "meal". Characters do not live for the entire novel, but come and go as the tapestry is woven. Almost all the characters die offstage, and so the novel rarely strikes deep emotionally. But it's wonderfully informative. Covering the period from AD 14 to 141, Empire shows us the madness of Caligula and the architectural passion of Hadrian. The scenes with Caligula are salacious yet horrifying, and bring home the reality of an infamous period of history. Many familiar characters and stories make their appearance (Nero "fiddling" while Rome burns, the stammering Claudius first popularized by Robert Graves). The early rise of Christianity is present as well. There is an ironic and amusing nod to our current military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. Apparently Emperor Trajan had an "Ask not, Tell not" policy towards Christians, who were viewed with suspicion by Roman society. Empire is half fiction and half history lesson. As a history lesson, it goes down easily and is far more consumable, if less serious than, say, The Fall of the Roman Empire. As fiction, it's enjoyable, but doesn't truly strike deeply. And it is a tome - weighing in at 600+ pages. I think the novel could profitably have been edited down. Still, it's enjoyable, engaging history; but to my tastes not nearly as enjoyable as the Gordianus novels.³ von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Once again a great reading! Von Bruno Duetsch EMPIRE, Steven Saylor's new novel, that follows ROMA brings the time in ancient Rome from Caesar Augustus to Caesar Hadrian to life. Steven Saylor continues the story of the fascinum, an old amulet that originates in the earliest days of Roman history. There are again the Pinarii: Lucius Pinarius I, a Roman augur and friend of Claudius, first a fellow augur, later Emperor. Then there are the twins Titus and Kaeso Pinarius: Titus an augur as his father and friend of Emperor Nero and Kaeso, who became a Christian and died in the arena after Rome was on fire. Lucius Pinarius II is the son of Titus. Lucius lives a quiet life surrounded by important philosophers and poets like Epaphroditus, Epictetus, Dio, Apollonius and Martial. He falls in love with a Vestal, Cornelia Cossa who gives secretly birth to a son who is abandoned but survived and got enslaved. Only after Cornelias has been put to death by Emperor Domitian Titus learns that he has a son. He finds his son and gets permission by the emperor to adopt him as Marcus Pinarius at the age of 15. Marcus is sculptor and participates during his life in the construction of buildings and works of art during the reigns of the Caesars Trajan and Hadrian. Marcus Pinarius has to make the sculptures of the famous Antinous, Caesar Hadrian's lover who died by falling into the Nile and was made to a god by Hadrian. His son, Lucius Pinarius III, becomes a friend of Marcus Verus whom Caesar Hadrian called Verissimus. Marcus Verus is the later Caesar Marcus Aurelius; but the reign of Marcus Aurelius is not part of this novel of historic fiction. I hope there will be a third volume that tells us how the lives of the Pinarius-family goes on and how the Roman Empire finds its end under Caesar Romulus Augustulus. As in ROMA or the mysteries with Gordianus, the finder, the reader encounters many historic people like the Caesars from Augustus to Hadrian, beautiful and powerful woman like Messalina or Poppaea, lover like Sporus, a young man who was castrated and turned into a woman by Nero because of his likeness with his Sabina Poppaea. The readers meets all the important philosophers and poets and he gets very good impression how life might have been in the period of the first Caesars. He learns how it was attending the games on the new Amphitheater, the Colosseum. Once again Steven Saylor provides his readers with a thrilling story on a historic background.

Kurzbeschreibung In the international bestseller Roma, Steven Saylor told the story of the first thousand years of Rome by following the descendants of a single bloodline. Now, in Empire, Saylor charts the destinies of five more generations of the Pinarius family, from the reign of the first emperor, Augustus, to the glorious height of Rome's empire under Hadrian. Through the eyes of the Pinarii, we witness the machinations of Tiberius, the madness of Caligula, the cruel escapades of Nero, and the chaos of the Year of Four Emperors in 69 A.D. The deadly paranoia of Domitian is followed by the Golden Age of Trajan and Hadrian-but even the most enlightened emperors wield the power to inflict death and destruction on a whim. Empire is strewn with spectacular scenes, including the Great Fire of 64 A.D. that ravaged the city, Nero's terrifying persecution of the Christians, and the mind-blowing opening games of the Colosseum. But at the novel's heart are the wrenching choices and seductive temptations faced by each new generation of the Pinarii. One unwittingly becomes the sexual plaything of the notorious Messalina. One enters into a clandestine affair with a Vestal virgin. One falls under the charismatic spell of Nero, while another is drawn into the strange new cult of those who deny the gods and call themselves Christians. However diverse their destinies and desires, all the Pinarii are united by one thing: the mysterious golden talisman called the fascinum handed down from a time before Rome existed. As it passes from generation to generation, the fascinum seems to exercise a power not only over those who wear it, but over the very fate of the empire. Praise for Steven Saylor: 'Saylor expertly weaves the true history of Rome with the lives and loves of its fictional citizens.' Daily Express 'Saylor's scholarship is breathtaking and his writing enthralls' Ruth Rendell 'With the scalpel-like deftness of a Hollywood director, Saylor puts his finger on the very essence of Roman history.' Times Literary Supplement 'Readers will find his work wonderfully (and gracefully) researched... this is entertainment of the first order.' Washington Post Pressestimmen "The Pinarii characters

afford an excellent lens through which to view both imperial and daily life, and the great events of the span from 14 CE through 141 CE, including the Great Fire, the persecutions of Christians, numerous military campaigns, and, of course, insanity and perversion among the emperors. Saylor is an excellent guide through this fascinating underworld. Superb historical fiction."--"Booklist "(starred review) "Saylor's encyclopedic knowledge and sense of detail are on ample display, as is his impressive ability to weave centuries of history into an entertaining narrative...[a] magnificent feat of storytelling."--"Historical Fiction "" "May one day be seen as his magnum opus. It is certainly the most ambitious of his novels thus far, and the grandest in its sweeping scope and attention to detail...full of power and pathos."--Ben Witherington, "The Bible and Culture"" "I rate a book by whether I simply read it or devour it. This I devoured." --Rob Cain, "Ancient Rome Refocused" "Meticulous research and brilliant storytelling... What impressed me most was the novel's powerful emotional impact: the pain of unrequited love, hopes disappointed or friendship betrayed as well as the joy of a love returned, spiritual enlightenment or simply being alive. This is a great book by a great writer." --"newbooks magazine" "Love stories, including forbidden ones, intrigue, action in the Arena, thrilling escapes, tons of 'it can't be true but actually it was' anecdotes...as well as many superb characters--you will find all in these almost 600 pages. With extraordinary detail and world building, "Empire" is a clear work of love for the author and the single best novel he has written." --"Fantasy Book Critic"" "Historical events provide plenty of depraved details and comparisons that beg to be drawn to today; lions and gladiators in the arena, volcanic eruptions, live burials, and master illusionists abound to fire up any number of dinner conversations....Recommended for anyone who enjoys Roman history."--"Library Journal"" "Saylor...vividly describes how the family survives the volcanic destruction of Pompeii, the burning of Rome, and the persecution of Jews and Christians." --"Publishers Weekly"" "Filled with tales of intrigue, ambition, violence, and suspense...a vivid evocation of the bloodthirsty, chaotic spectacle that was ancient Rome, and an example of how the best historical fiction brings the past to life."--"Archaeology Magazine" The Pinarii characters afford an excellent lens through which to view both imperial and daily life, and the great events of the span from 14 CE through 141 CE, including the Great Fire, the persecutions of Christians, numerous military campaigns, and, of course, insanity and perversion among the emperors. 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WerbetextThe eagerly awaited sequel to the bestselling Roma.