



ANCIENT ROME

A SELECTION OF NOVELS FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7—9

A list of recommended reading about Ancient Rome suitable for readers in the middle to upper secondary. This list complements the year 7 HSS (Social Science) unit on Ancient civilisations for the Australian curriculum.

F LAW

Escape by Sea by L.S. Lawrence

Carthage has fallen to the Romans and Sara must flee for her life. Her brother has been slain on the battle-field, and it is up to her to gather her grieving father and take to the seas.

F MACS

Cairo Jim and the Tyrannical Bauble of Tiberius: A Tale of Ancient Atrocity by Geoffrey McSkimming

Strange happenings are afoot in Rome, where a priceless and mysterious artefact, the imperishable Bauble of the ancient Emperor Tiberius, has gone missing. Cairo Jim, that well-known archaeologist and little-known poet, and his friends, are sent to Rome to try to get to the bottom of this act of felony.

F MIS

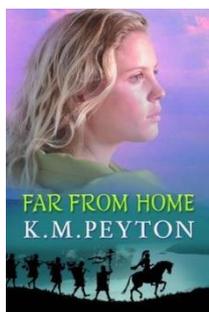
Peter and Pompey by John Misto

The fate of a young Australian boy is somehow linked with that of a young Roman boy who had travelled to Australia by ship during the time of the Roman Emperor, Nero.

F MOR

Cleopatra's Daughter by Michelle Moran

Selene's story is animated by the concerns of a young girl in any time and place—the possibility of finding love, the pull of friendship and family, and the pursuit of her unique interests and talents. While coping with the loss of both her family and her ancestral kingdom, Selene must find a path around the dangers of a foreign land, in this case, Rome.



F PEY

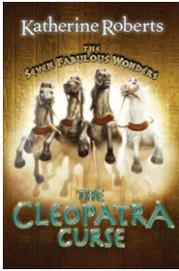
Far from Home by K.M. Peyton

Roman servant girl Minna would follow courageous commander Theo to the ends of the Earth. So when he sets off North to battle, taking her brother, her friends and her beloved horse with him, she stows away in the baggage train, desperate not to be left behind. Army life is unimaginably brutal, and it is not long before Minna experiences the terrible reality first-hand. As the battle rages, it seems that everything she holds dear could be ripped from her. Before the dust can settle, she must face the fight of her life to protect those closest to her heart.

F REI

Pompeii: A Roman Girl's Diary by Sue Reid

It's August AD78 and Claudia is at the Forum in Pompeii. It's a day of strange encounters and even odder portents. When the ground shakes Claudia is convinced it is a bad omen. What does it all mean? Why is she so disturbed by Vesuvius, the great volcano that looms over the city?



F ROB

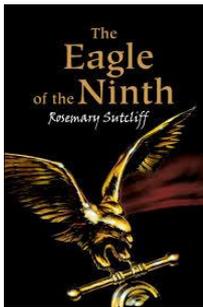
The Cleopatra Curse by Katherine Roberts

Zeuxis works as a lighthouse boy, collecting fuel for the famous Pharos lighthouse of Alexandria, but he dreams of becoming a charioteer. When Queen Cleopatra turns Zeuxis down, envoys of Julius Caesar give him the chance to race. What are the Romans really after, and how will Zeuxis outwit an ancient demon, summoned to change the course of history?

F SCA

Gladiator: Fight for Freedom by Simon Scarrow

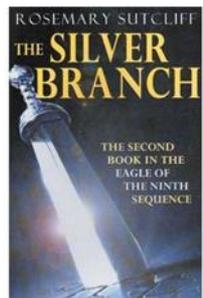
Rome, 61 BC. Recruited as a gladiator, young Marcus Cornelius Primus faces a new life of brutal training, governed by strict rules, as he learns the skills of an elite warrior. Marcus cannot simply forget his past. His father lies murdered by soldiers and his mother has been kidnapped and forced into slavery. Marcus is determined to find his father's old commander, Pompeius the Great, to seek justice for his family and set his mother free.



F SUT

The Eagle of the Ninth series #1 by Rosemary Sutcliff

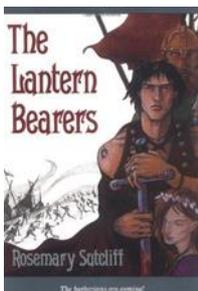
Under the command of Flavius Aquila in A.D. 120, Rome's Ninth Legion marches north carrying its revered eagle emblem and vanishing into the mists. Rumours of the legion's golden eagle appearing in a tribal temple reach Marcus Aquila, Flavius' son, 20 years later. Accompanied by his slave Marcus makes a dangerous journey to Scotland to retrieve the hallowed eagle and, in doing so, to restore his father's tarnished honour.



F SUT

The Eagle of the Ninth series #2 The Silver Branch by Rosemary Sutcliff

Violence and intrigue are undermining Rome's influence in Britain. And in the middle of the unrest, Justin and Flavius uncover a plot to overthrow the Emperor. In fear for their lives, they find themselves leading a tattered band of loyalists into the thick of battle in defense of the honour of Rome.



F SUT

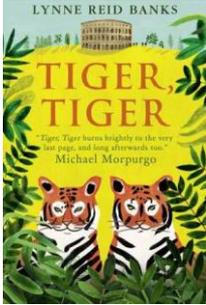
The Eagle of the Ninth series #3 The Lantern Bearers by Rosemary Sutcliff

When the last of the Roman Auxiliaries set sail in their galleys and left Britain for ever, they abandoned the country to internal strife, and to the menace of invasion by Saxons. These were dark days indeed for Aquila, a young Roman officer who decided at the last moment that his loyalties lay with Britain rather than the Legions.

F BAL

Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit

For a Roman boy called Tranio, August 24th is a day he will never forget. As the ground shakes, the sky darkens, and everyone around him runs gasping for air, he and his friend Livia flee to the harbour and witness the destruction of everything they know and love, in one of the most terrifying moments of recorded history.



F BAN

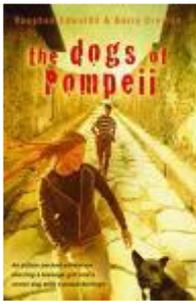
Tiger, Tiger by Lynne Reid Banks

Twin tiger cubs are snatched from their native jungle and shipped to Rome, where they are cruelly separated. One cub is destined to be Princess Aurelia's pampered pet, and the other is bound for the Colosseum, to fight in the gladiators' circus. In a world dominated by Caesar's will, can anyone win their freedom?

F BUT

The Diary of a Young Roman Girl by Moira Butterfield

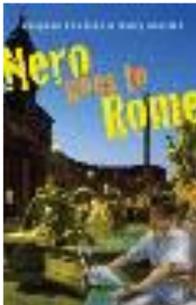
It is AD 74 and Secundia Fulvia Popillia is very excited - she is helping her family prepare for her sister's big wedding. Read her diary and find out what life was really like for a young girl in Ancient Rome.



F EDW

Dogs of Pompeii by Vaughan Edwards

Caroline is spending her first summer away from home helping her archaeologist uncle excavate a mysterious 2000-year-old villa in the ruined city of Pompeii. When the evil Signor Macchiato threatens to sabotage the project, she faces life-threatening dangers. Caroline is befriended by Gianni, a young Italian, and Nero, a resourceful stray dog. They join her in a breathtaking series of adventures in a race against time to save Pompeii, Caroline's uncle, and the Dogs of Pompeii.



F EDW

Nero Goes to Rome by Vaughan Edwards

Sequel to *The dogs of Pompeii*. Nero is no ordinary dog. His bravery has earned him the respect of all the Dogs of Pompeii. But, as he's the first to admit, he has a talent for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Trapped in a delivery van heading for Rome, he encounters a sinister stranger who, to avoid capture by the police, clamps a collar around his neck - not a dog collar, but a priceless Vatican treasure.

F ELD

Roman Invasion by Jim Eldridge

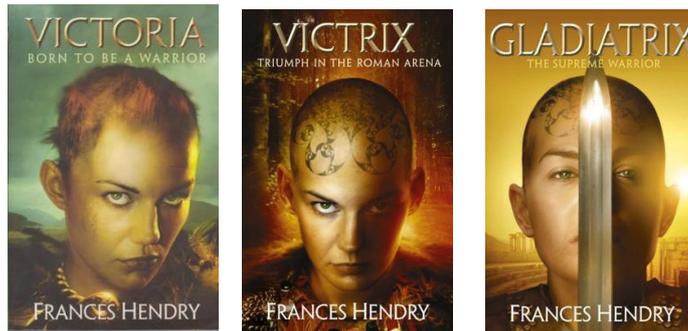
It's AD 84 when Bran, a prince of the Carvetii tribe, is captured by the Romans. A legion of soldiers is marching east, to build a military road. It's hostile country, and Bran is to go with them as a hostage to ensure the legion's safety, but no one is safe in newly conquered Britain.

F GOS

Asterix by Rene Goscinny and Albert Uderzo

The year is 50 B.C and Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely - one small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. Asterix, the hero of these adventures is a shrewd, cunning little warrior and all perilous missions are immediately entrusted to him. Follow his adventures in

the following titles: Asterix and the Roman Agent; Asterix and Caesar's Gift; Asterix the Legionary; The Idol of the Gauls; The Roman Conspiracy.



F HEN

The Victoria series by Frances Mary Hendry
Victoria; Victrix; Gladiatrix.

In the England of 61CE, the time of the Roman occupation, flame-haired Victoria is no ordinary Roman maiden. Tall, sturdy and half-Iceni, she is a tomboy, a fighter, a natural warrior - her Iceni name is Boudicca, after all! Still, Victoria is loyal to her Roman roots until now. For Queen Boudicca's rebellion forces her to choose - between the family she loves and the cause she would die for...



F JAR

The Time-Travelling Cat and the Roman Eagle by Julia Jarman

Ka, the time-travelling cat, has vanished again, leaving a clue, a Roman word, on Topher's computer. At first Topher isn't worried. Surely, she's safe among the cat-loving Romans?

F LAW

The Roman Mysteries Series and **The Roman Mysteries Mini Mysteries** by Caroline Lawrence

The place is Ostia, Port of Rome. From here, Flavia Gemina, daughter of a Roman sea captain, embarks on thrilling adventures with her three friends, Jonathan, Nubia and Lupus. As she and her friends attempt to solve their first crime the clues lead them around Ostia: to the harbour, the Forum, the lighthouse and to the tombs of the dead. Later mysteries take them to Pompeii, Rome, Greece, North Africa, Egypt, Turkey and finally back to Ostia and Rome. Titles include: The Thieves of Ostia; The Secrets of Vesuvius; The Pirates of Pompeii; The Dolphins of Laurentum; The Twelve Tasks of Flavia Gemina; The Enemies of Jupiter; The Gladiators from Capua; The Colossus of Rhodes; The Fugitive From Corinth; The Sirens of Surrentum; The Charioteer of Delphi; The Slave-Girl From Jerusalem; The Beggar of Volubilis; The Scribes From Alexandria; The Prophet From Ephesus; The Man From Pomegranate Street; The Legionary From Londonium.



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