

# Latin Literature

## Part 1: Early Latin Literature

- ❖ Lucius Livius Andronicus (284 B.C.- 204 B.C.)
  - “The Founder of Latin Literature”
  - Born at Tarentum in 284 B.C.
    - Came from there as a prisoner after its sack in 272 B.C.
    - Alternate story (Accius) holds that he came after it was recaptured from Hannibal in 209 B.C.
  - Became a tutor to the family of M. Livius Salinator
    - active at Rome as a *grammaticus*
  - Translated Homer’s *Odyssey* into Latin (the *Odusia*)
    - Written in Saturnian (“Italic” – oldest Italian meter) meter
    - Remained a school textbook for two centuries (until the time of Augustus – Horace mentions that Orbilius beat him for not knowing the lines)
    - 46 lines survive
  - Produced first Latin comedy and tragedy at the Ludi Romani in 240 B.C. (according to Varro) to celebrate the end of the First Punic War
  - Titles of 8 tragedies survive (Equos Troianus, Achilles, Aegisthus, Ajax Mastigophorus (w/the whip), Andromeda, Danae, Tereus, Hermiona)
  - Composed a maid song for Juno in 207 B.C. (partheneion)
    - Earned him the honor of president of the collegium poetarum (-collegium scribarum historiumque)- in the Temple of Minerva on the Aventine
  - Regarded by Cicero as “antiquated” and of little interest
  - consulted on the Sibylline Books

- Archaic language: genitive “-as” and “insece” for Homeric “ennepe”
- Fabula Palliata “Gladiolus”
- ❖ Gnaeus Naevius (270 B.C – 201/199 B.C.)
  - Younger contemporary of Andronicus
  - Plebian by birth, no evidence of an aristocratic patron
  - Fought in the First Punic War
  - Invented *fabulae praetextae* (tragedies adopted from Roman subjects)
    - Romulus- the legend of Romulus and Remus
    - Clastidium – Marcus Claudius Marcellus vs. Virodomarus (Spolia Opima)
  - We know the titles of 34 of his *fabulae palliatae* (130 lines extant)
    - Colax- “The flatterer” (from Menander)
    - Guminasticus- “Teacher of the gym”
    - Dolus- “Trick”
    - Corollaria/Tarentilla- “Wreathes”
    - Rated third best comic writer by Sedigitus
  - Magnum opus- Bellum Punicum
    - 7 books about the First Punic War
    - Saturnian meter
    - Arranged by the grammarian Lampadio (contemporary of Accius)
    - Introduction discusses the histories of Rome and Carthage (made Romulus the grandson of Aeneas, possibly introduced Dido)
    - Gave Rome a nationalistic direction
  - Fought with the Metelli
    - Said scornfully of them: “Fato Metelli Romae fiunt consules” (“The Metelli are made consuls of Rome by Fate”)
    - Metellus (cos. 206) replied: “Dabunt malum Metelli Naevio poetae.” (“The Metelli will give trouble to the poet Naevius.”)

- Imprisoned and exiled to Utica, where he died
  - Epitaph (believed to have been composed by himself) reads: “Immortalis mortalis si foret fas flere, flerent divae Camenae Naeviom poetam: Itaque postquam est Orci traditus thesauro, Oblitei sunt Romai loquier lingua Latina.”
  - His epitaph is quoted by Aulus Gellius
- His play “Equos Troianus” was performed at the opening of the Theatre of Pompey
- Criticized Scipio Africanus and other nobles
- Fabulae Cothurnatae (Greek tragedies in Latin)
  - Lycurgus
  - Hector Proficiscens
  - Iphigenia
- ❖ Quintus Fabius Pictor (c. 254 B.C.)
  - Wrote in Greek a chronicle of Rome from Aeneas until his own time
  - The oldest Roman historian- treated with respect by later authors for his love of truth
    - One of the authors from whom Livy drew
  - His ancestor earned the name Pictor for decorating the Temple of Salus in 304 B.C. with paintings
- ❖ Titus Maccius/Maccus Plautus (254-184 B.C.)
  - Born in Sarsina of Umbria to a poor family
    - Came to Rome as a carpenter in the theater, worked in a flour mill.
    - wrote his plays in the interval of manual labor
    - May have been an actor for a while (perhaps in his own plays)
    - Had a sense of familiarity with the lower and middle classes in Rome
  - Wrote comic plays (later identified as fabulae palliatae)

- Adapted from Greek New Comedy from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Centuries (mostly from Menander, Diphilus, and Philemon)
- Diverbium- dialogue (1/3 of play), Cantica- sung portion (2/3 of play)
- The source of numeri innumeri (numberless meters), according to Varro and Gellius
- 130 plays are attributed to him, these 21 are definite (according to Varro:
  - Amphitruo / Amphitryon (from Philemon): only play based on a mythological subject, a tragi-comoedia; foils in the form of Mercury (for Jupiter) and Sosia (for Amphitryon);
  - Aulularia / Pot of Gold (from Menander): Euclio, a miser, finds a pot of gold; Phaedra, Euclio's daughter, is seduced by Lyconides; Megadorus, Lyconides' uncle, wishes to marry Phaedra; Lyconides' slave takes Euclio's gold; the end of the play is lost; prologue given by the Lar Familiaris
  - Asinaria
  - Bacchides / The 2 Bacchides (Bachus of Samos and Bachis of Athens); from Menander's *Dis Exapaton* "The Double Deceiver"; the play takes place in Athens
  - Captivi / The Captives (has no women in it); Hegio's son is captured by the Eleans; dignified behavior of the characters (atypical for Plautus)
  - Casina (based on Diphilus): an elder man and his son fall for their slave, Casina; she is discovered to be free born and marries the son; in Athens
  - Cistellaria / The Casket (protagonist is Selenium, casket reveals her identity); adapted from Menander's *Synaristosai* "Breakfasters"; she is married to her love Alcesimarchus

- *Curculio* / *The Weevil* (a parasite of *Phaedramus*, who is in love with *Planesium*); *Curculio*, the parasite of *Cappadox* (the pimp), steals a signet ring from *Therapontigonus*, a braggart soldier; the ring reveals that *Planesium* is *Therapontigonus*' free born sister; she marries *Phaedramus*
- *Epidicus* (a slave who tricks his master into buying a slave that is his own daughter)
- *Menaechmi* / *The Twin Menaechmi* (*Sosicles*- one of the *Menaechmi*, main action in *Epidamnus*, second city: *Syracuse*); Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* is based on it
- *Mercator* / *The Merchant* (adapted from *Philemon*); the son brings a girl back from *Rhodes* and both men fall in love with her
- *Miles Gloriosus* / *The Braggart Soldier* (*Pyrgopolynices* carries off *Philocomasium* to *Ephesus*)
- *Mostellaria* / *The Haunted House* (adapted from *Philemon*): *Tranio*, the clever slave, lies about his master's house being haunted; *Philolaches* is the son of *Tranio*'s master - *Theopropides*
- *Persa* / *The Girl From Persia* (fooling of a pimp- the Persian, *Saturio*, is a parasite whose captive is his daughter)
- *Poenulus* / *The Carthaginian* (daughters of *Hanno* taken to *Sicyon* by *Agorastocles* – the *Poenulus*); some of the play is in the *Carthaginian* language
- *Pseudolus* (led to "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Forum"); the title character is the champion of *Plautine* slaves; *Pseudolus* tricks *Ballio*, a pimp, out of his girl and money; *Ballio* was played by *Roscius*, the great comic actor of *Cicero*'s time

- Rudens / The Rope (romantic comedy, adapted from Diphilus, the prologue given by Arcturus, tells of the shipwreck of the pimp Labrax; takes place in Cyrene near a temple of Venus)
  - Stichus (Antipho- his daughters wait faithfully for their husbands to return)
  - Trinummus (“three penny play” from Philemon); Callicles hires a sycophant for three pieces of silver to deliver to Lesbonicus a letter that explains that a thousand gold pieces are to be used for a dowry
  - Truculentus – a prostitute exploits three lovers
  - Vidularia (“wallet,” attributed to Plautus by Varro); fragmentary; survives on a palimpsest
- Rated the second best comic writer by Sedigitus
  - Wrote in iambic senarii
- ❖ Quintus Ennius (239-169 B.C)
- Best claim to “Father of Latin Literature”
  - Born at Rudiae in Calabria
  - Served as a Roman centurion in Sardinia (praetor- 198 B.C.)
  - Brought to Rome by Cato the Elder in 198 B.C.
  - Lived modestly on the Aventine
  - Accompanied M. Fulvius Nobilior against the Aetolians in 189 B.C. (Battle of Ambracia)
    - Received Roman citizenship as a reward
  - Versed in Greek, Oscan, and Latin
    - Said by Aulus Gellius to have 3 hearts
  - Celebrated grandeur of Rome with the Annales
    - 15 or 18 books

- An epic which covered the Sack of Troy to the Third Macedonian War (Ennius' present)
- 1<sup>st</sup> work in dactylic hexameter
- Famous quote: "O tite tute tibi tanta tyranne tulisti" (alliteration)
- Another famous quote "Unus homo nobis cunctando restituit rem." (Q. Fabius delaying Hannibal during the Second Punic War)
- Became the basis for schoolboys' impression of the old Roman heroes
- 1st proem (introduction): Homer says that he will be reincarnated in Ennius
- 2<sup>nd</sup> proem: the Greek muses receive Roman citizenship
- Called Noster Ennius by Cicero
- Friend of Scipio Africanus
- Tried to imitate Homer
- Introduced elegiac couplet to Latin literature in addition to dactylic hexameter
- Also wrote tragedies, comedies, satires, narratives, didactic poems, and epigrams
  - Tragedies (400 lines extant)
    - Achilles
    - Ajax
    - Andromache
    - Andromeda
    - Erectheus
    - Hecuba
    - Iphiginia
    - Medea (translation of Euripides)

- Thyestes (his final tragedy)
  - Fabulae praetextae
    - Rape of the Sabines (*Sabinae*)
    - Ambracia
  - Fabulae palliatae (comedies) – both lost
    - Caupuncula (“the inn-keeper’s wife”)
    - Pancratiastes (“the wrestler”)
  - Poems
    - Epicharmus- on the physical universe (anticipated Lucretius)
    - Euhemerus- echoes Euhemerus’ explanation of the gods’ origins
    - Scipio
    - Sota (a mock epic)
    - Hedyphagica- mock heroic poem on gastronomy
      - ◆ First Latin poem in “didactic / dactylic” hexameters
      - ◆ In Apuleius’ *Apologia*
  - 4 to 6 books of Sermones / Saturae
  - Various epigrams in elegiac couplet
- ❖ Marcus Pacuvius (220-130 B.C.)
- Nephew and pupil of Ennius
  - Born at Brundisium
  - Part of the Scipionic Circle
  - Was also a painter
  - Wrote 12 tragedies (Fabulae Cothurnatae)
    - Antiope (most famous)- an imitation of Euripides
    - Niptra (“the bath”)- an imitation of Sophocles; Eurycleia discovers Ulysses; Telegonus comes to Ithaka and kills his father

- *Armorum Iudicium* (the contest between Odysseus and Ajax over Achilles' armor)
  - *Dulorestes* (Orestes disguised as a slave to kill Clytemnestra and Aegisthus)
  - *Hermiona* (daughter of Menelaus and Helen, betrothed to Neoptolemus)
  - *Iliona* (eldest daughter of Priam, married to Polymestor – king of Thrace; Polymestor, bribed by the Greeks, kills his own son thinking he is killing Priam)
  - *Teucer* (his exile for returning to Salamis without Ajax)
  - *Atalanta*, *Medus*, *Pentheus*, *Periboea*
  - According to Cicero, he was the greatest of the Roman tragedians (Cicero discusses his "Orestes" in *De Amicitia*).
- Known as "doctus," mostly because of the influence which Hellenism had upon his artistic and intellectual characteristics
  - Incurred the ridicule of Lucilius and Perseus because of peculiarities in his diction
  - Died at Tarentum
  - *Fabula Praetexta*: *Paullus*
- ❖ *Caecilius Statius* (219-166 B.C.)
    - A Gaul from Northern Italy (born at Mediolanum)
    - Brought to Rome as a slave (eventually manumitted)
    - A friend of Ennius (buried near him)
    - Chief comic dramatist of his day
      - Ranked first by Volcatius Sedigitus
      - Many of titles are identical to Menander's
        - "Plocium" ("The Necklace")- his most well-known
    - Came (as a Latin author) somewhere between Plautus and Terrence

- ❖ Marcus Porcius Cato Maior/Censor (234-149 B.C.)
  - Born in Tusculum
  - Soldier in the Second Punic War (military tribune under Fabius Maximus Cunctator)
  - Quaestor in Sicily and Africa in 204 B.C.
  - Praetor in Sardinia in 198 B.C.
  - Consul with Valerius Flaccus in 195 B.C.
  - Acted harshly toward the Spanish as proconsul there in 194 B.C.
  - Military tribune under Glabrio in 191 B.C.
  - Censor with Valerius Flaccus (yeah, the same guy) in 184 B.C.
  - Attacked immorality of Roman nobility
    - Once threw a man from the Senate for publicly kissing his wife
  - Firmly against Greek culture (xenophobe)
    - Expelled from Rome many Greek philosophers and rhetoricians
    - Spoke against and expelled philosophers from Athens in 195 B.C.
  - Ended every Senate address with “Carthago delenda est”
  - De Agri Cultura/ De Re Rustica
    - Oldest extant prose work in Latin
    - In the proem, he states that good citizens and good soldiers are formed from farm work.
  - Origines
    - First prose history in Latin
    - 7 books
    - Ended with the praetorship of Servius Sulpicius Gala in 152 B.C.
    - Wrote it for his son
    - Dealt with the beginnings of Italian civilization and cities
    - Called Hannibal dictator Carthaginiensium

- Had a passion for cabbage
- Great orator
  - Made 150 speeches
  - Cicero admired him (Cato is the principle character in De Senectute)
  - “Rem tene verba sequentur”
  - “Carmen de moribus” & “Apophthegmata” - memorable sayings
- Plutarch and Cornelius Nepos wrote biographies of him.
- ❖ Polybius/Polybios (202-120 B.C)
  - Born at Megalopolis in Arcadia (he is a *Greek* author)
  - Son of Lycortas, a prominent member of the Achaean League
    - Polybius was a hipparchus (a cavalry commander) for the League 169 and 168
    - Bore the ashes of Philopoemen in 182 B.C.
    - Served as an envoy to Alexandria in 180 B.C.
    - Deported to Italy after the Battle of Pydna (ended the Third Macedonian War and secured Roman supremacy in Greece)
  - Became tutor of Paullus’ sons
    - One son was Scipio Aemilianus
  - Intermediary at the sack of Corinth by Mummius in 146 B.C.
  - Wrote a “History” that ultimately covered the rise of Roman supremacy from 264 B.C. (the beginning of the First Punic War) to 146 B.C. (the destruction of Carthage and Corinth). Polybius argued that Greece must accept Roman superiority to maintain autonomy
    - 40 books, first 5 survive
    - Book 4 is a sketch of the Roman constitution in comparison to the constitutions of Greek cities
  - Describes his writing as pragmatic (*pragmatike historia*)

❖ Publius Terentius Afer (195/185-159 B.C.)

- Took his name from his master, Terentius Lucanus
- Born in Carthage
- Member of the Scipionic Circle
  - Friends with Scipio Aemilianus
  - Rumor that his plays were actually written by Scipio or Laelius
- Anecdote that the aediles ordered him to read his first play to Caecilius Statius- he was so impressed that he invited Terence to dinner
- Visited Greece to get a sense of those who appeared in his dramas
- Comic play write, wrote 6 plays suited to a more cultivated audience
  - Andria (166 B.C.)/ The Woman of Andros
    - From Menander
    - Pamphilus and Glycerium
    - In the prologue, Terence defends himself against contaminatio (“contaminating” Roman plays with the direct words of Greek authors) – contaminare fabulas “mixing plays together”
  - Hecyra (166-165 B.C.)/ Mother-in-law
    - First performance was so boring that it was interrupted by a rope dancer
    - From Apollodorus of Carystus
    - Pamphilus ravishes his future wife, Bacchis
  - Heauton Timorumenos (163 B.C.)/ Self-tormentor
    - About Mendemus (son is Clinia)
  - Eunuchus (161 B.C.)/ Eunich
    - Most popular
    - So close to the original Greek play that Terrence defends himself against plagiarism in the prologue – Nullumst iam dictum quod non

dictum sit prius - “there is nothing now said which has not been said before”

- Phormio (161 B.C.)
  - Based on a play from Apollodorus of Carystus
  - Phormio is the parasite
  - To have a wolf by the ears
- Adelphoe (160 B.C.)/ The Brothers
  - From Menander and Diphilis
  - Demea – senex durus
  - Micio – senex mitis
  - Played at the funeral games of Aemilius Paullus
- Imitated New Comedy
- Rated sixth best comic writer by Sedigitus
- Luscius of Lanuvium- Terence’s principal opponent in his prologues
- Caesar called him “dimidiatus Menander” and “puri sermonis amator”
- Ambivius Turpio- an actor and the chief producer of Terence’s plays
- Donatus- 4<sup>th</sup> Century commentary on Terence
- Famous Quotes:
  - “Dictum sapienti sat est”
  - “Fortis Fortuna adiuvat”
  - “Quot homines tot sententiae” – Phormio
  - “Hinc illae lacrimae” – Andria
  - “Amantium irae amoris integratio est” – Andria
  - “Homo sum: humani nil a me alienum puto” – Heauton Timorumenos
- ❖ Panaetius/Panaetios (180-110 B.C.)
  - A Greek Stoic philosopher from Rhodes

- Brought to Rome by Scipio Aemilianus
- Powerfully influenced Roman thought through the Scipionic Circle
- Returned to Athens to head a Stoic school
- Authored “On duties,” which has not survived
  - Model for Cicero’s “De Officiis”
- ❖ Gaius Lucilius (180-102 B.C.)
  - Born at Suessa Aurunca to a rich family
  - A member of the Scipionic Circle
  - first man of letters from an aristocratic family
  - Iter Siculum – Horace models his journey to Brundisium off of this
  - Concilium Deorum (Book 1): a mock council of the gods at which Lentulus Lupus is condemned to die of indigestion
  - First to give satire shape in form and content
    - Wrote 30 books of Sermones
    - Included ruthless, outspoken criticism of authors and men in public life
    - Book 16 dedicated to his love
  - Profoundly influenced Horace, Persius, and Juvenal
    - Horace said of him: “ex praecordiis efero versum” (“he speaks verse standing on one foot”)
    - Horace also said of him: “Ille velut fides arcana sodalibus olim credebant libris...quo fit, ut omnis votiva pateat veluti decripta tabella vita senis.”
- ❖ Lucius Accius/Attius (170-86 B.C.)
  - Born at Pisarum in Umbria to a humble family
  - Younger contemporary of Pacuvius whom he rivaled as a great Roman tragedian
  - We know the names of 45 of his tragedies
    - Andromeda

- Medea
- Philoctetes
- Atreus- contains the phrase “Oderint dum metuant” (said by Caligula according to Suetonius)
- Wrote 2 fabulae praetextae
  - Decius Mus
  - Brutus the liberator
- Wrote works on literature
  - “Didascalica”- a short history of Greek and Latin poetry
  - anticipated the “Menippean Satires” of Varro
- A work on agriculture in verse
- Wrote annals (history) of a theological and mythological character in verse
- ❖ Gaius Laelius (c. 186 B.C.)
  - Intimate friend of Scipio Aemilianus
    - Cicero tells a pleasant anecdote of Laelius and Aemilianus gathering shells and pebbles on the beach
  - Consul in 140 B.C.
  - Eminent orator
    - Earned the agnomen “Sapiens”
    - A major influence on the plays of Terrence
    - Principal speaker in Cicero’s “De Amicitia”
    - An interlocutor in Cicero’s “De Senectute” and “De Re Publica”
- ❖ Lucius Afranius (c. 150 B.C.)
  - Writer of Roman comedies (togatae)
  - Had a desire to found a national comedy
    - Plays depicted Italian life and characters
    - Style indebted to Menander

- Had long popularity
  - “Dicitur Afrani toga convenisse Menandro” (said by Horace in Epode II.i.57)

## Part 2: The “Golden Age” of Latin Literature

- ❖ Decimus Laberius (105-43 B.C.)
  - Roman knight and writer of mimes
  - His outspoken political criticism caused Caesar to require him to act in his own mimes in 45 B.C. in competition with Publilius Syrus (according to Macrobius)
    - Stab at Caesar: “Necesse est multos timeat quem multi timent”
- ❖ Titus Lucretius Carus (99-55 B.C.)
  - Born in Rome
  - Friend of Gaius Memmius, governor of Bithynia in 57 B.C.
  - Wrote “De Rerum Natura” in 6 books (in dactylic hexameter)
    - “The first serious work of didactic poetry”
    - Addressed to Memmius
    - Edited by Cicero
    - Never finished
    - A translation of Epicurus’s *Peri Physeos* (37 books)
    - Venus is the personification of nature’s generative force
    - Books 1 and 2: principles of the Epicurean universe (i.e. atoms)
    - Books 3 and 4: body and soul, simulacra, denunciation of love

- Book 5: movement of stars, morality, origins of man, Lucretius claims he will describe the abode of the gods but does not
- Book 6: natural explanations of phenomena (e.g. plague at Athens) – modeled on Thucydides’ description of the plague
- Admired by Vergil: “Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas”
- Admired by Statius: “docti furor arduus Lucretius”
- aimed to liberate men from fear of the gods and death
- Atomic theory: based on Democritus and Leucippus
- constructs compounds and neologisms: terriloquens / horrisonus
- Lucretian formulae: non est mirandum, nec mirum, necesse est
- driven mad by a love potion (according to Jerome)
- died in the same year that Vergil assumed the Toga Virilis (55 B.C.)
- ❖ Gaius Valerius Catullus (84-54 B.C.)
  - Born at Verona and died at Rome
  - His father was friends with Julius Caesar even though Catullus attacked him in his writing (Catullus did apologize)
  - Came to Rome when he was 22
  - Works
    - Epic poems: Carmina
      - 116 poems total (including 3 added later by Muretus, a French humanist)
      - Dedicated his “libellus” to Cornelius Nepos
      - Poems 1-60: “Nugae”
      - Poems 18-20 – the Priapea of the Appendix Vergiliana
      - Poems 61-68: “carmina docta”
        - ◆ Longer, more educated, and more esoteric

- ◆ Epyllia- little epics
  - ◆ 61- An epithalamion (marriage song) concerning L. Manlius Torquatus and Vinia (Iunia) Aurunculeia
  - ◆ 62- Choruses of boys and girls singing on marriage
  - ◆ 63- An Epyllion (Cybele and Attis) in galliambics
  - ◆ 64- Marriage of Peleus and Thetis – Epyllion; the ecphrasis recounts Theseus’ abandonment of Ariadne on Naxos / Dia and her rescue by Dionysus
  - ◆ 65- A letter to his friend Hortensius Hortalus with the translation of Callimachus
  - ◆ 66- Lock of Berenice, translation of a Callimachus poem (Book 4 of Aitia) – Coma Berenices
  - ◆ 68- Protesilaus and Laodamia
  - Poems 69-116: epigrams mostly in elegiac couplet
  - Other poems in scazons and hendecsyllables
  - Addressed lyrics and elegiacs to Cicero, Hortensius, Caesar, Lesbia, and Licinius
- Spent 57 B.C. in Bithynia on the staff of Gaius Memmius (the governor of Bithynia)
    - Visited the grave of his brother in the way there (as accounted in Poem 101)
  - Had a villa at Sirmio
  - Most likely had an affair with Lesbia
    - Lesbia is a pseudonym for Clodia (according to Apuleius in Apology 10)
    - The wife of Quintus Caecilius Metellus Celer (cos. 60 B.C.)
    - She may have deserted him for Caelius

- Imitated Sappho – poem 51
- ❖ Publius Terentius Varro “Atacinus” (82-37/36 B.C.)
  - “Atacinus” means “of Atax” (a river in Gallia Narbonensis)
  - Wrote satires on the model of Lucilius
  - Wrote an epic poem on Caesar’s exploits in Gaul called “Bellum Sequanicum”
  - Translated the “Argonautica” of Apollonius Rhodius
  - Wrote a geographical poem called “Chorographica”
  - Only fragments of his work survives
- ❖ Publilius Syrus (c. 43 B.C.)
  - A writer of Latin mimes
  - Brought to Rome as a slave from Antioch, eventually manumitted
  - Known by a collection of maxims pulled from his plays
    - “Nimium altercando veritas amittitur Heredis fletus sub persona risus est avarus nisi cum moritur nil recte facit.”
    - “Iudex damnatur cum nocens absolvitur”
      - Adopted by the “Edinburgh Review” in 1802 to express its stern attitude in literary criticism
- ❖ Gaius Cornelius Gallus (69-26 B.C.)
  - Born in Gallia Narbonensis
  - Soldier and poet
  - Friend of Augustus and Vergil- a fellow student
  - Had a friendship with Parthenius of Nicea who dedicated the Erotika Pathemata to him
  - Admired Euphorion of Chalcis
  - First Egyptian Prefect in 30 B.C.
    - Recalled for the disgrace of erecting a statue in his own honor

- Committed suicide when Augustus renounced his friendship in 26 B.C.
- Originated elegy with his *Amores*
  - 4 books
  - Gallus is called the Greatest Elegist by Ovid
- Addressed the famous actress Volumnia (lover of Mark Antony)
  - Stage name Cytheris
  - Pseudonym Lycoris
- Virgil celebrates him in his sixth Eclogue
  - Also mentions him in his tenth Eclogue (which is dedicated to him – the unrequited love of Gallus)
  - Vergil may have taken the quote Amor Omnia Vincit from Gallus
- ❖ Publius Vergilius Maro (Oct. 15, 70 B.C.- Sept. 21, 19 B.C.)
  - Born in Andes near Mantua in Cisalpine Gaul
    - His Celtic spirit is shown by the romanticism found in his *Aeneid*
    - His father was a farmer or a potter
    - Mother was Magia Pollia
  - Biography of Vergil by Donatus (probably influenced by Suetonius)
  - Commentary on Virgil by Servius (*Aeneid* book IV)
  - Parthenius introduced Virgil to Callimachean poetry at Naples
  - Educated at Rome by the Epicurean Siro and the rhetorician Epidius
    - Also educated in Mediolanum (Milan) and Cremona (also taught in both)
  - Patroned by Maecenas (introduced Horace to him)
  - Lost his Mantuan farm in 41 B.C. after the Battle of Phillipi (42 B.C.) by Alfenus Varus
    - Got it back via political influence
  - Accompanied Horace to Brundisium in 37 B.C. (mentioned in Horace's Satire I.V)

➤ Works:

- Eclogues
  - Aka Bucolics (“cowherds’ songs”)
  - Written from 42-37 B.C.
  - Begun at his Mantuan farm
  - Shepherds and pastoral themes (modeled on Thyocritus’ Idols)
  - 40 B.C.- Vergil predicts the return of a golden age under the guidance of Pollio
  - 10 poems in hexameter (829 hexameters total)
    - ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>- Refer to the confiscation of his farm (Meliboeus & Tityrus)
    - ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup>- Corydon and Alexis
    - ◆ 3<sup>rd</sup>- Bad poet Bavius
    - ◆ 4<sup>th</sup>- called the Messianic Eclogue - may have been discussing Christ; refers to a puer who will assure in a golden age (dedicated to Asinius Pollio cos. 40 BC)
    - ◆ 5<sup>th</sup>- Deification of Daphnis-Caesar
    - ◆ 6<sup>th</sup>- Silenus and Gallus, written in “exile” at the home of Siro, the song of Silenus, who tells the creation of the world
    - ◆ 7<sup>th</sup>- contest between shepherds (Meliboeus & Tityrus)
    - ◆ 8<sup>th</sup>- addressed again to Pollio
    - ◆ 10<sup>th</sup>- subject is C. Cornelius Gallus and his love for Lycoris or Cytheris
- Georgics
  - Written from 37-30 B.C.

- 4 books of hexameters
- Concerning farming
- Didactic poem
- In 29 B.C., Octavian returned to Italy and stopped in Atella to have  
     Vergil read the Georgics to him
- Inscribed to Maecenas, who suggested it
- Influenced by Hesiod, Aratus/Nicander, and the Alexandrians
- Book 1- working the fields
- Book 2- arboriculture
- Book 3- raising of livestock, plague of animals at Noricum
- Book 4- bee keeping (includes the episode of Aristaeus and Eurydice)
- Aeneid
  - Written from 30-19 B.C.
  - 12 books of hexameters
  - Propertius in Book 2 of his elegies wrote that a greater poem than the  
     Iliad was being born
  - Vergil died before it was finished
  - Augustus ordered Varius Rufus and Plotius Tucca to revise the Aeneid  
     instead of burning it (which was Vergil's wish) but they were not  
     allowed to add anything, only cut out unnecessary things
- Catalepton (On a Small Scale, Curses)- epigrams attributed to Virgil by  
 Donatus and Servius
- Ciris (A Sea Bird)- transformation of Scylla, daughter of Nisus
- Copa (Dancing Girl)- a hostess of an inn
- Culex (Gnat)
- Moretum (Salad)- preparation of a farmer's breakfast (Simylus)

- Aetna- a didactic poem (644 hexameters) about the eruptions of Mt. Etna
- Dirae (Curses)- two bucolic poems about the loss of an estate, curses the soldiers who confiscated his farm
- Lydia- lament for a lost love, also attributed to Valerius Cato
- Priapea- 3 are attributed to him by Donatus and Servius
- Epigrammata- perhaps the equivalent of Catalepton
- Either Pollio or Maecenas introduced Virgil to Octavian
- Sortes Vergiliana (the act of drawing prophecy from the Aeneid) practiced as early as during the reign of Hadrian
- Fell ill at Megara and died at Brundisium in 19 BC
- Commentaries on Virgil
  - Servius Honoratus- on his collected poems
  - Probus- Bucolics and Georgics
  - Donatus- Aeneid
- ❖ Quintus Horatius Flaccus (Dec. 8, 65 B.C.- Nov. 27, 8 B.C.)
  - Son of a freedman from Venusia
    - Father was a coactor exactionum (collector of payments at auctions)
    - His Odes II.20 and III.30 refer to his humble beginnings
    - Satire 1.6 shows his gratitude for his father
  - Studied under Orbilius
    - Horace's father acted as his paedagogus
    - Horace called him Plagosus for his fondness of beating
    - Horace claimed to know the Odyssia by heart under threat by Orbilius
  - Fought with Brutus in the Civil War (as a tribunus militum- in command of a legion)
    - Fought at the battle of Philippi (42 B.C.), from which he claimed to have fled

- When he returned, his father died and his land was confiscated
- Became a *scriba quaestorius*- a clerk of the quaestor
- Great Augustan Poet Laureate and satirist
- Maintained a famous Sabine farm given to him by Maecenas in 33 B.C.
  - This farm became a symbol of a peaceful way of life and the satisfaction of simplicity (brought Horace much happiness)
  - “*Pulvis et umbra aurea mediocritas*”
- Introduced to Maecenas by Vergil and Varius Rufus
- died two months after Maecenas
- Works:
  - Epodes
    - His first work
    - Horace called them “*iambi*”
    - 17 iambic/dactylic poems based on Archilochus and Hipponax
    - An Epode is a longer verse followed by a shorter one
    - Published in 30 B.C.
    - Epode 10- Horace wishes Maevidius to be shipwrecked
    - Last epode is in iambic trimeter – not epodic
  - Odes
    - First three books written from 33-23 B.C. and published in 23 B.C.
    - Fourth book (15 poems) published in 15 B.C. / 13 B.C.
    - Book IV is influenced by Pindar
    - 37 odes in Alcaic, 25 in Sapphic
    - 88 total
  - Sermones
    - Horace’s satires

- Based on the hexameters of Lucilius
- 2 books, 18 satires at all
  - ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> book: 10 satires, published in 35 B.C.
    - I.1- written with a xenophobic persona
    - I.5- Journey to Brundisium (modeled on Lucilius' "Iter Siculum")
    - I.8- witches put to flight by the cracking of a wooden statue of Priapus
    - I.9- The Bore ("Ibam forte via sacra")
  - ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> book: 8 books, published in 30 B.C. Horace published the Epodes with book 2 of the Sermones
- Epistulae
  - 2 books of hexameters
  - Book 1 published in 20 B.C.
    - ◆ I.4 is addressed to Tibullus
    - ◆ I.6- "nil admirari..."
    - ◆ I.9 introduces a friend to Tiberius
  - Book 2 published in 19 B.C.
    - ◆ I.1- to Augustus on literature
    - ◆ I.2- to Iulius Florus (a writer of satire)
- Ars Poetica
  - Aka "Epistle to the Pisos" / Epistula ad Pisones
  - Originally to be published along with the second book of his epistles
  - Published in 19 B.C.
  - On the pursuit of literature
  - 476 hexameters

- Based on Neoptolemus of Parium (3<sup>rd</sup> century grammarian)
- Carmen Saeculare
  - Written for maidens to sing
  - Sung at the Ludi Saeculares by 27 boys and girls in 17 B.C.
  - Elegant
  - Written in Sapphic
  - Invoke Apollo, Diana, and other gods
  - Commissioned by Augustus
- Works were edited by M. Valerius Probus (a Neronian scholar)
- Commentary on Horace by Pomponius Porphyrio (3<sup>rd</sup> Century author)
- His works were revised by Vettius Agorius Basilius Mavortius (consul ordinarius of 527 AD) and his assistant, Felix
- Called “felicissime audax” by Quintilian
- Petronius referred to his “curiosa felicitas”
- Horace referred to himself as an “epicurean pig” and ridicules stoicism
- ❖ Albius Tibullus (55-19 B.C.)
  - Born in Latium, Gabii, or Pedum
  - Owned an estate at Pedum
  - Part of Messala Corvinus’ literary circle
  - Funeral epigram written by Domitius Marsus
  - Ovid mourns him in Amores III.9 (epicedion)
  - Corpus Tibullianum
    - 3 books of elegies- third divided into 2 books during the Renaissance, so 4 books
    - Only 1-2 are his for sure
    - Elegy I.7 celebrates the triumph of Messala Corvinus

- 4<sup>th</sup> Book is a Panegyric on Messala Corvinus (Panegyricus Messalae)
- Wrote to two women – Delia (Plania) and Nemesis – and a boy named Marathus
- Includes elegies to Neaera (niece of Messala) from Lygdamas (1<sup>st</sup> 6 poems of Book I) and from Sulpicia to Cerinthus (Book 4)
  - Ambrosianus and Vaticanus- two important Tibullan manuscripts
- Considered the first master of elegiacs
  - Considered the best by contemporaries
- ❖ Sextus Propertius (50-16 B.C.)
  - Elegiac poet from Asisium (Asisi) in Umbria
  - Patroned by Maecenas
  - Friend of Ovid, does not mention him
  - Wrote 4 books of elegies
    - Book 1- Cynthia Monobiblos (Martial), addresses Tullus and Gallus, published in 26 B.C.
    - II.34- shows his admiration for Virgil
    - Book 4 published in 16 B.C.
    - IV.7- Cynthia's ghost visits him in a dream
  - Other poems:
    - An imaginary epistle from Arethusa to Lycotas (a fictitious name)
    - A fine poem in which the spirit of Cornelia (daughter of Scribonia and step-daughter of Augustus) consoles her widowed husband
    - A few pieces on public events
    - Some poems on antiquarian subjects (e.g. story of Tarpeia) which served as prototypes for Ovid's "Fasti"
  - Addresses Cynthia according to Apuleius
  - Saw himself as a Roman Callimachus

- Claims to be the first to treat Italian subjects in Greek strains
- A bold writer
- Mocked by Horace
- ❖ Publius Ovidius Naso (March 20, 43 B.C.-17/18 A.D.)
  - Born at Sulmo
  - Pupil of rhetoricians Arellius Fuscus and Pocius Latro
  - Had one brother a year older
  - Patroned by Messala Corvinus
  - Had a traditional education at Rome and Athens- his father expected him to practice law
  - Quintilian attacks him as “lascivus” and a “nimium amator ingenii sui”
  - Held himself to exact meters, especially in elegiacs
  - Literary friends:
    - Tibullus (his death is mourned in Amores III.9)
    - Propertius
    - Gallus
    - Amelius Macer
    - Horace
  - Married three times
    - Had one daughter (Perilla) from his third marriage
  - Banished in 8 AD for “Carmen et Error”
    - Carmen = Ars Amatoria
      - 3 books of elegiacs
      - Books 1 and 2 gave men advice on the seduction of women
      - Book 3 gave women advice on the seduction of men
      - Quotations found on the walls of Pompeii
    - Error = affair with Augustus’ daughter Julia & Decimus Junius Silanus

- Banished to Tomis/Tomi, an island on the western shore of the Black Sea
- Augustus banned his poems from the public libraries
- While in Tomis
  - He finished the Fasti (the books he intended to finish 1-6)
  - Created the Tristia
  - Epistulae ex Ponto
  - Halieutica (fishing on the Black Sea) in dactylic hexameter
  - Ibis- an imitation of Callimachus' last poem
- Learned the Getic language of the natives (the modern name for Tomi is Costanza)
- Addressed a woman named Corinna in some elegiac poems (discussed a parrot like Catullus discussed a sparrow)
- Metamorphoses
  - 15 books
  - Written from 2-8 AD (finished, but not revised by 8)
  - Based on Hesiod (Theogeny and Catalogue)
  - Ovid's only epic
- All works except Metamorphoses (dactylic hexameter) are either elegiac or lyric
- Other works, all published before 8 AD
  - Amores
    - Sketches of love to Corinna
    - 3 books of Elegiac couplet (49 total)
  - Heroides (Heroidum Epistulae)
    - 21 epistles in Elegiacs
    - 3 are replies from the lover to the heroine

- Ovid claims they were a new literary form
  - Medicamina Faciei Femineae- about the care of the face
  - Remedia Amoris- how to avoid the sting of love (84 lines)
  - Fasti
    - Six books- one for the first six months of the year
    - Purpose: to study the calendar in the light of the old annals
    - Left unfinished on account of his exile
    - Originally dedicated to Augustus, ultimately dedicated to Germanicus
    - Model on Callimachus and Propertius
  - Tristia
    - Five books of epistles to his wife and friends
    - Book 2 is a long plea to Augustus
    - “Flebilis ut noster status est, ita flebile Carmen”
  - Epistulae ex Ponto
    - 4 books
    - Praised by Quintilian
  - Medea
    - A tragedy
    - Only 2 lines survive
- ❖ Lucius Cornelius Sisenna
- Praetor in 76 B.C.
  - One of the defenders of Verres against Cicero
  - Author of a Latin history of his own age (has not survived)
  - Translated into Latin the Milesian Tales
- ❖ Gaius Licinius Macer (d. 66 B.C.)
- Father of the poet Calvus

- Wrote annals influenced by ancient chronicles (*libri lintei*)
- ❖ Gaius Julius Caesar (100-44 B.C.)
  - Quaestor in Spain in 68 B.C.
  - Aedile in 65 B.C.- almost went bankrupt from the lavishness of his games
  - Pontifex Maximus from 63 B.C. until his death
  - Crossed the Rubicon with the 13<sup>th</sup> Legion in 49 B.C.
  - Fled to Bithynia after refusing to divorce Cornelia
  - 2 major works (OCCL):
    - *Comentarii De Bello Gallico*
      - Probably written in the winter of 52-51 B.C.
      - 7 books
        - ◆ Book 1- Caesar defeats Ariovistus at Vesontio
        - ◆ Book 2- Nervii
        - ◆ Book 3- Veneti
        - ◆ Book 4- Usipetes and Britain 1
        - ◆ Book 5- Britain 2, Ambiorix, Q. Cicero
      - 8<sup>th</sup> book added by his legate, Aulus Hirtius
      - Other extensions (authors unknown): “*Bellum Africum*” (Caesar’s conflict with Cato and Juba), “*Bellum Alexandrinum*,” and “*Bellum Hispaniense*”
    - 3 unfinished books on the Civil War (*Comentarii De Bello Civili*)
  - Other works:
    - “*De Analogia*”- a treatise on grammar, written during a journey across the Alps; in 3 books – dedicated to Cicero
      - *Sermo Cotidianus & Verba Usitata*
    - “*De Astris*”- a astronomical work

- “Anticatores”
  - 2 books
  - In reply to Cicero’s panegyric of Cato (Laus Catonis)
- “Laudes Herculis”
- Oedipus
- Dicta Collectanea – minor works of Caesar
- Iter – a poem on the expedition to Spain in 45 B.C.
- De Astris – a treatise on Astronomy
- Had a son by Cleopatra, Caesarion (Ptolemy XV)
- ❖ Cornelius Nepos (c. 100-25 B.C.)
  - A native of Ticinum in Insubrian Gaul
  - born in either Ostiglia or Paugia in Cisalpine Gaul
  - Spent much of his time at Rome, where he became friends with Catullus (Nepos is the guy to whom he dedicated his “new little book” and Atticus)
  - Lost works:
    - “Chronica”
      - A history of the world in 3 books - lost
      - Loss mourned by Catullus (he called them “three learned charts/books”)
    - “Exempla”- a collection of extracts from Roman history
      - 5 books - lost
    - Biographies on Cato and Cicero
    - A treatise on geography
    - Some love poems
  - Wrote “De Viris Illustribus”
    - Sometimes called Vitae
    - 16 books of biographies (most famous: Alcibiades)

- Designed to bring out the characters of their heroes rather than the historical events of their lives
  - 24 biographies are extant
    - 16 are of Greeks
    - others include: Darius the Persian, Hamilcar, Hannibal, Cato Maior (shorter), Atticus, notable kings (brief sketches)
    - heavily influenced Plutarch's Parallel Lives
- ❖ Gaius Sallustius Crispus (86-35 B.C.)
- Born at Amiternum to plebians (he was a novus homo)
  - Popularis politician
  - As tribune, he acted against Cicero and Milo in 52 B.C.
  - He was horse whipped after being caught in adultery with Milo's wife
  - Expelled from the Senate in 50 B.C.
  - Quaestor in 49 B.C.
  - Governed Numidia/Africa Nova in 46 B.C.
    - A bad administrator
    - Charged with extortion
  - Owned the famous Horti Sallustiani between the Quirinal and Pincian
  - A historian of monographs
    - Takes Thucydides as his model
    - His history deals more with causes and motives
    - Quintilian speaks of his "famous brevity - *brevitas*"
    - Coelius Antipater's work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic War is the only precedent to the monograph
    - Wrote:
      - Bellum Catalinae (De Coniuratione Catalinae)

- ◆ Speeches of Caesar and Cato Minor
- ◆ Decimus Iunius Silanus proposes that the Catilinarian Conspirators be put to death
- ◆ cessation of the *metus hostilis* (Carthage) leads to moral decay
- *Bellum Iugurthinum* (published Jugurtha's quote "urbs venalis"- "city for sale")
  - ◆ Sallust attributes Rome's decline to the aristocracy and government by political parties (*mos partium et factionum*)
  - ◆ Speeches of Memmius & Marius
- *Historiae* (covering 78-67 B.C.)
  - ◆ Called Sallust's greatest work
  - ◆ Picks up where Sisenna leaves off
  - ◆ extant speeches: Licinius Macer on the Tribunician Power, Lepidus against the Sullan restoration govt., Marcus Phillipus' reaction to Lepidus
- Used Sulla's memoirs, Sisenna's history, and Punic documents from Africa
- Implicates the nobility in Rome's decline
- Use of "inconcinnitas"- rejection of symmetry and use of antithesis / asymmetry
- Seneca defends his style in a letter to Lucilius
- Sallust admired Sertorius as the "champion of libertas"
- Tacitus called Sallust "rerum Romanorum florentissimus auctor"
- Also wrote:
  - Two *Epistulae ad Caesarem senem de Republica*
  - *Invectiva in Ciceronem*

## ❖ C. Helvius Cinna

- Native of Brescia in Cisalpine Gaul
- went with Catullus to Bithynia in 57 B.C.
- influenced by Parthenius of Nicaea – a greek poet
- wrote a propempticon to Asinius Pollio in 56 B.C.
  - a poem of salutation to one starting a journey
- Zmyrna
  - almost completely lost
  - narrated the love of Myrrha for her father Cinyras
  - praised by Catullus in poem 95

## ❖ Varro of Atax

- P. Terentius Varro Atacinus
- from Atax in Northern Gaul
- Chorographia – a work on geography
- Ephemeris – a poem about weather signs
- Argonautae – a translation of Apollonius of Rhodes
- Leucadia
  - from the name of his beloved
  - one of the earliest forms of erotic poetry
- Bellum Sequanicum
  - about Caesar's campaign against Ariovistus in 58 B.C.

## ❖ Gaius Asinius Pollio (76 B.C.- 4 A.D)

- An associate of Catalos
- from Teate (Chieti)
- Supported Caesar in the Civil War
- Later supported Antony (he was his legate in Transalpine Gaul)
- Consul in 40 B.C.

- Received a triumph for his victory over an Illyrian / Dalmatian tribe in 39 B.C.
- The first to recognize Virgil's genius
  - Pollio went to his aid after his Mantuan farm was confiscated
  - Celebrated by Virgil in his 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Eclogues
- Praised by Horace in Odes II.1
- An orator, literary patron, and an author
- Wrote a "History of the Civil Wars" from the consulship of Metellus in 60 B.C. to Philippi
  - Has not survived
  - Used by Appian and Plutarch
- Also wrote tragedies and erotic poems
- May have authored the "Bellum Alexandrinum" (continuation of Caesar's "Commentaries")
- Founded the first public library in Rome (Atrium Libertatis)
- Said by Seneca the Elder to have introduced the practice of reciting his own works to an audience
- Pollio criticised Cicero for lacking Latinitas, Livy for having Patavinitas, and Caesar for lacking diligentia in his historical writing
- According to Seneca the Elder's *Controversiae*, few writers escaped his *strictum et asperum et nimis iratum iudicium*
- ❖ Titus Livius (59 B.C.-17 A.D.)
  - "Livy" coined by the British
  - Born and died at Patavium (Padua)
  - Friend of Augustus who referred to Livy as "Pompeian" / "Pompeius"
  - Encouraged Claudius' writings
  - Caligula banished the works of Livy and Vergil from public libraries

- Wrote *Ab Urbe Condita*
  - 142 books (35 extant): 1-10 & 21-45
  - Begun between 27 and 25 B.C.
  - Brought him instant success
  - Published in installments of decades
  - Wrote summaries (“periochae”) for all books except 136 and 137
  - Last event: the death of Drusus (crushed by his horse) in 9 B.C.
- Said by Asinius Pollio to have written with a hint of Patavinity (“Patavinitas”)
- Quintilian contrasts Sallust’s *brevitas* with Livy’s *lactea ubertas*
- ❖ Pompeius Trogus
  - Lived in the time of Augustus
  - His father had been a lieutenant of Julius Caesar
  - Wrote “*Historiae Philippicae*”
    - A history of the world in 44 books
    - books 7-40 cover a history of Macedon
    - Centered on the history of Macedonia (founded on Greek sources)
    - Not extant, but abbreviated by Justin
    - predilection for *oratio obliqua*
- ❖ Fenestella (died in 20 A.D.)
  - Wrote *Annales* (only quotations survive)
  - Regarded as an authority on ancient law, religion, and manners
- ❖ Marcus Antonius (143-87 B.C.)
  - One of the greatest orators of his day
  - Consul in 99 B.C.
  - A supporter of Sulla- he was put to death by Marians
  - Grandfather of Antony the triumvir

- One of the chief interlocutors in Cicero's "De Oratore"
- ❖ Quintus Hortensius Hortalus (114-50 B.C.)
  - Older contemporary and chief rival of Cicero in the law courts
  - First pleaded in 95 B.C. on behalf of the province of Africa, which was accusing its governor of malversation
  - Defeated by Cicero in the trial of Verres (he unsuccessfully defended Verres against claims of extortion)
  - Good friends with Cicero (praised by him in "Brutus" and "De Oratore")
  - His oratory was of the Asiatic (flamboyant) style
- ❖ Marcus Tullius Cicero (Jan. 3, 106 B.C.-Dec. 7, 43 B.C)
  - Listed in Brutus great orators (with M. Antonius, Licinius Crassus, Julius Caesar, Licinius Calvus, and Hortensius)
  - Born at Arpinum in the Volscian mountains (same place as Marius)
  - Father was a Roman knight (Cicero himself was a novus homo, though)
  - Fought in the Social War under Pompeius Strabo in 89 B.C. (17 years old)
  - At Rome, he studied rhetoric, philosophy under Philo the Academic and Diodotus the Stoic, and law under the Scaevolae (the augur and the pontiff)
  - Served at Sicily, where he found the tomb of Archimedes
  - Guided by L. Licinius Crassus and the two Scaevolae (the augur & pontiff)
  - 81 B.C.- Pro Quinctio
    - first extant speech in the law courts
    - Defended P. Quinctius against Sextus Naevius in a dispute over a farm
    - opponent was Hortensius Hortalus
  - 80 B.C.- Pro Roscio Amerino
    - First criminal defense speech / speech with political implications
    - Defended Sextus Roscius on the charge that he murdered his own father

- attacked Sulla's freedman Chrysogonus who was the architect of the elder Roscius' murder
- Cicero heaps praise upon Sulla in order to cover his attacks on Chrysogonus
- use of the phrase *cui bono?* – To whose advantage? – taken from L. Cassius Longinus
- Married Terentia before leaving Rome in 79 B.C.
  - Studied under Apollonius Molo and Posidonius at Rhodes
  - Returned to Rome in 76 B.C. (became one of the leading Roman advocates along with Hortensius and Cotta)
- Pro Roscio Comoedo
  - placed by some in this period, placed by others in 68 B.C.
  - defended his friend, the great actor Roscius
  - Roscius partnered with C. Fannius in order to train the slave Panurgus as an actor
  - Panurgus is murdered by Q. Flavius, who pays damages to Roscius in the form of a farm
  - Fannius claimed half of the value of the farm
- 75 B.C.- Quaestor in Sicily (carried admission to the Senate)
- 72 B.C.- Pro Tullio- on behalf of M. Tullius, who was involved in a dispute over property with his neighbor, a veteran of Sulla
- 70 B.C.- In Verrem (Actiones in Verrem)
  - Hired by the Sicilians to prosecute C. Verres for extortion
  - Verres was defended by Q. Hortensius Hortalus
  - His first Verrine (“Actio prima in Verrem,” preceded by a “Divinatio in Q. Caecilius”) forced Verres to abandon his case and go into exile at Massilia

- Published the *Actio Secunda in Verrem*
  - in 5 books
  - important as an historical document
  - attempted to expose the evils of the existing predatory system of provincial administration
- 70 B.C.- Aligned himself politically behind Pompey
- 69 B.C.- *Pro Fonteio* (defended M. Fonteius on a charge of extortion as governor of Gaul)- incomplete
- Aedile in 69 B.C.
- 69 B.C.- *Pro Caecina*- involved subtle legal points connected with inheritance of land
- 66 B.C.- Praetor
- 66 B.C. – *Pro Cluentio*
  - Defended A. Cluentius Habitus against the charge of poisoning Oppianicus
  - The speech is one of Cicero’s best pieces of advocacy in a criminal trial
  - the year of his Praetorship
- 66 B.C.- *Pro Lege Manilia/De Imperio Cn. Pompeii*
  - first purely political speech
  - Cicero speaks before the people in favor of Manilius’ proposal to grant Pompey extraordinary power against Mithridates and the East in general
  - his main argument was about the taxes which flowed from the eastern provinces
  - defended the interests of the Publicani
  - Cicero later repudiated the speech
- 63 B.C.- consul with C. Antonius Hybrida
  - Won Hybrida from Catiline’s side by ceding Macedonia to him

- 63 B.C.- Contra Rullum/De Lege Agraria
  - combated a agrarian proposal designed to give the popular party maneuvering ground against Pompey (who was absent in the East at the time) - he succeeded
- 63 B.C.- Pro Rabirio (Perduellionis Reo)
  - defended an old knight who was charged by the popular party with the murder of Saturninus in 100 B.C.
- 63 B.C. Catilinarian Conspiracy
  - Oct. 22- obtained a “Senatus Consultum Ultimum” against Catiline after he prepared for military insurrection
  - Nov. 8- First “In Catilinam” – in the temple of Jupiter Stator; delivered in Senatu (in the Senate)
  - Nov. 9- Second “In Catilinam” – delivered Ad Populum / Ad Quirites (to the people) from the Rostra
  - Secured the arrest of five leading conspirators through correspondence with the Allobroges (arrested on Dec. 2-3)
  - Third “In Catilinam delivered at this time (Dec.3) Ad Populum; it outlined the detention of the five conspirators at the Milvian Bridge and the correspondence of the Allobroges
  - Dec. 5- Fourth “In Catilinam” delivered in the Senate (in Senatu)
  - Proposed (along with Silanus and Cato Minor) the death penalty for Catiline (Caesar advocated for eternal imprisonment in chains) - successful in this plea
  - Legality of the executions questioned by the Popular Party
  - Metellus Nepos (a lieutenant of Pompey’s) did not allow Cicero to address the people upon laying down his office
  - Given the title “Pater Patriae” by Cato

- 63 B.C.- Pro Murena
  - Defended the consul-elect / designatus L. Murena against charges of bribery / electoral corruption instigated by Cato Minor
  - given in the interim of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Catilinarians
  - Charges were brought by the defeated candidate, Ser. Sulpicius Rufus and by Cato the Younger – damaged the Concordia Ordinum
  - Murena’s conviction would have aided Catiline (in the midst of the conspiracy)
  - Good-humored banter of Cato – Cicero mocks his stoic rigor
- 62 B.C.- Cicero exposed the infiltration of the Bona Dea by Publius Clodius Pulcher (Clodius was eventually acquitted due to bribery)
- 62 B.C.- Pro Sulla
  - In defense of P. Cornelius Sulla (consul of 65 B.C., but convicted of bribery), accused of involvement with the Catilinarian conspiracy in 65 B.C.
  - Contains a defense of his general methods of persecution against the conspirators
- 62 B.C.- Pro Archia Poeta
  - In defense of the citizenship of Archias, a Greek poet who was attached to the household of L. Licinius Lucullus
  - Claim based on the fact that Archias had been enrolled as a burgess of Heraclea in Lucania (a town that had been granted full Roman rights)
  - Despite a lack of documentary evidence to prove Archias’ enrollment, Cicero won the case by producing witnesses to the enrollment as well as by appealing to the sentiment of the jury through an eloquent panegyric of literature for which the speech is particularly famous

- Caesar made advances to attach Cicero to the triumvirate, but Cicero feared his unconstitutional attitude and remained aloof
- 59 B.C.- made comments about the evil state of the times in a speech defending C. Antonius against charges of misconduct in his province
- 59 B.C.- Clodius was adopted into a plebian family (permitted by Caesar, the Pontifex Maximus), allowing him to become a tribune
- 59 B.C.- Pro Flacco
  - Cicero defended Flaccus, a praetor of 63 B.C. who had helped carry out the punishment of the conspirators, against charges of extortion in his province
  - Attempted to appeal to popular sentiment in anticipation of Clodius' revenge
  - contains attacks against the Jews
- Declined Caesar's offers of a commissionership to carry out his agrarian reforms and an officer position under himself
- 58 B.C.- Forced into exile by Clodius, who brought forth a bill that exiled anyone who had executed Romans without a trial
  - His property was confiscated and his lavish house on the Palatine was destroyed (monument to Libertas consecrated on its site)
  - Forced to Thessalonica, where he was received by the quaestor Plancius
- 57 B.C.- delivered two speeches "Post Reditum"- thanked the Senate and the people for allowing him to return, recalling the events of the past few years, and attacking his enemies
- 57 B.C.- De Domo Sua- asks the College of Pontiffs to annul the consecration of his home site, successful

- 56 B.C.- De Hauruspicium Responso (“Concerning the Answers of the Soothsayers”)- rejects the claims of Clodius that the “suspicious noises” heard around Rome were attributed to the reconstruction of his house
- 56 B.C.- Pro Sestio-
  - defended P. Sestius (tribune) against a charge of vis brought by Clodius
  - abandonment of the Concordia Ordinum in favor of the Consensus Omnium Bonorum
- 56 B.C.- In Vatinius- a speech against a creature of Caesar who had been a witness against Sestius in his trial
- 56 B.C.- Pro Caelio- defended M. Caelius Rufus against charges of alleged poisoning brought forth by Clodia (sister of Clodius, “Lesbia” of Catullus)
- 56 B.C.- Forced to abandon his efforts against Caesar in his speech “De Provinciis Consularibus,” in which he favored extending Caesar’s command in Gaul
- 56 B.C.- Pro Balbo in defense of the citizenship of a friend of Caesar and Pompey
- 55 B.C.- In Pisonem- attacks an angry L. Calpurnius Piso, who was recalled from the governorship of Macedonia
- 54 B.C.- Pro Plancio- defended his friend Plancius (governor of Thessalonica) against charges of electoral corruption
- 54 B.C.- Pro Rabirio Postumo- defended Rabirius, a partisan of Caesar, against charges of extortion
- 54 B.C.- Pro Aemilio Scauro- defended Marcus Aemilius Scaurus (former governor of Sardinia) against charges of extortion
- Jan. 52 B.C.- Pro Milone- failed to successfully defend Titus Annius Milo Papinianus against the charge of murdering Clodius through mob violence on the Via Appia

- The speech as it was given was a disaster; however, the emended version is one of his masterpieces
- Milo exiled to Massilia
- Revised speech later sent to Milo
- 53 B.C.- Elected to the College of Augurs
- 51 B.C.- Reluctantly obliged to accept the governorship of Cilicia
- Left Rome with members of the Senatorial Party after the Caesar crossed the Rubicon
- Reconciled with Caesar when he returned to Italy in 47 B.C.
- 46 B.C.- Pro Marcello- a speech given to an exiled Pompeian praising Caesar for his clemency (*clementia*)
- 46 B.C.- divorced his wife Terentia and married Publilia
- Delivered a panegyric (*laudatio*) on Cato following his suicide at Utica- spurred Caesar's *Anticato*
- 45 B.C.- Pro Ligario- defended Q. Ligarius, tried as an enemy of Caesar; moved Caesar to acquit him
- 45 B.C.- Pro Rege Deiotaro- defended the tetrarch of Galatia on a charge of attempted murder of Caesar
- 45 B.C.- Cicero's daughter Tullia died, divorced Publilia due to her lack of sympathy
- Philosophical and literary writings (he turned to this as a result of the humiliation after the conference at Luca in 56 B.C.):
  - 55 B.C.- *De Oratore*- a treatise on rhetoric designed to replace a earlier work of his, "*De Inventione*," written before he was 25 years old
    - Dialogue whose interlocutors were M. Antonius (grandfather of the triumvir) and L. Licinius Crassus who serves as Cicero's spokesman
    - set in 91 B.C. in Cicero's youth

- takes place in the Tusculan villa of Crassus
- model of the Platonic dialogue
- 3 books
  - ◆ Book 1: Crassus argues that the orator should have a broad education; Antonius argues for a self taught orator, one who excels by practice and natural talent
  - ◆ Book 2: Problems of inventio, dispositio, and memoria; appearance of Caesar Strabo
  - ◆ Book 3: Crassus on elocutio and pronuntiatio and the orator's actio or delivery; he reaffirms the need for a broad education
- De Re Publica- begun in 54 B.C. and published around 51 B.C.
  - A dialogue in six books on political science
  - Modeled on Plato's Republic
  - The two principle interlocutors are Scipio Aemilianus and Laelius
  - Cicero claims he has a report on the conversation from P. Rutilius Rufus
  - set at the villa of Scipio Aemilianus in 129 B.C.
  - Cicero projects himself into the past in order to identify the Roman constitution in the time of the Scipio's as the best form of govt.
  - Book 1- Roman state is the Ideal combination of the three typical forms of government- monarchy, aristocracy, and democracy
  - Book 2- evolution of Roman state, necessity for harmony and justice in the State
  - Book 3- Philus assumes the argument of Carneades that disorder is necessary, repudiated by Scipio and Laelius
  - Only fragments of Books 4-6 survive

- Book 4- education of citizens and leaders
- Book 5- rector et gubernator rei publicae / princeps
- Book 6- the duties and rewards of the statesmen in his life (Somnium Scipionis)
- Concluded with the Somnium Scipionis- an exposition on the life of the soul after death – Africanus appears to Aemilianus in a dream
- Supposed had significant impact upon the early principate
- De Legibus- begun in 52 B.C., date of completion and publishing unknown
  - Sequel to the De Re Publica
  - 5 books
  - Much of the first three books survive
  - Interlocutors are Cicero, his brother Quintus, and Atticus
  - Setting: Cicero's estate at Arpinum
  - Book 1- the origin and nature of Justice and Law
  - Book 2- explains the religious laws of an ideal commonwealth
  - Book 3- discusses and sets forth the laws related to the constitution of the ideal commonwealth, the appointment and functions of magistrates
- 53 B.C.- Partitiones Oratoriae- a catechism / textbook on rhetoric written for his son Marcus' instruction; in question and answer format
- 46 B.C.- Brutus/De Claris Oratoribus
  - Dedicated to M. Brutus
  - A record of a conversation among himself, M. Iunius Brutus, and Atticus

- After a short discourse on Greek eloquence, Cicero reviews the long series of Roman orators from Brutus the Liberator (more particularly from Cethegus, consul in 204 B.C.)
- Eminent orators (especially Crassus, Antonius, Q. Scaevola, and Hortensius) are discussed at greater length
- Contains significant biographical information about Cicero's life
- 46 B.C.- Orator
  - Dedicated to M. Brutus
  - A treatise by Cicero on the ideal orator and the path of his formal training
  - The orator must be the master of three styles: the plain, the grand, and the intermediate
  - The qualifications of the orator in terms of technical respects, functions, and knowledge are also set forth
  - Ends with a disquisition on euphony and rhythm
  - Contains interesting allusions to art (e.g. the Venus of Apelles)
- Other works on rhetoric:
  - An abstract of the "Topica" of Aristotle
    - ◆ Discusses the topoi an orator may consult when developing arguments
  - De Optimo Genere Oratorum- a preface to the lost translations of Aeschines (Against Ctesiphon) and Demosthenes (On the Crown)
- 45 B.C.- Consolatio- a work on the deaths of great men occasioned by the death of Tullia
- 45 B.C.- Hortensius- in praise of philosophy (not extant)
- 45 B.C.- Academia

- A dialogue on the philosophical theories of knowledge
- Originally consisted of 2 books (named “Catulus” and Lucullus after the chief interlocutors)
- Revised edition consisted of four books dedicated to Varro, the chief interlocutors of which were Varro, Atticus, and Cicero
- De Finibus Bonorum et Malorum
  - 5 books
  - A treatise addressed to M. Brutus in which he sets forth and criticizes the ethical systems of the Epicurean and Stoic schools
  - 3 dialogues: Epicurean view put forth by L. Manlius Torquatus at Cicero’s villa near Cumae in 50 B.C., Stoic view put forth by M. Cato of Utica at Cicero’s villa near Tusculum in 52 B.C., the view of the Old Academy put forth by M. Pupius Piso Calpurnianus in 79 B.C.
  - Book 1- Cicero defends his task of presenting Greek philosophy in Latin dress, Torquatus advocates Epicureanism
  - Book 2- Cicero refutes Torquatus
  - Book 3- Cato advocates Stoicism
  - Book 4- Cicero refutes Cato
  - Book 5- remarkable description of Athenian scene, Piso presents Old Academy view, Cicero refutes it
- 45 B.C.- Tusculanae Disputationes (Tusculan Disputations)
  - 5 book treatise on the conditions of happiness addressed to Brutus
  - Takes the form of conversations between two characters designated M and A
  - Book 1- Death is either a change of place for the soul or annihilation

- Book 2- physical suffering is of trifling importance by the side of virtue, can be borne with fortitude; death is a refuge from it
- Book 3- aegritudo (mental suffering or distress) originates in a mistaken judgment, is an act of will, and can be overcome by reflection, fortitude, and self-restraint
- Book 4- other mental disorders (excessive delight, lust, and fear) are due to errors of judgment and can be overcome with philosophy
- Book 5- stoic view that the virtuous man is always happy
- 45 B.C.- De Natura Deorum
  - A 3 book philosophical dialogue addressed to M. Brutus concerning the three Greek schools of thought of his day: Epicurean, Stoic, & Academic
  - Scene is at Rome in 76 B.C.
  - Chief interlocutors: C. Vellius (Epicurean), Q. Lucilius Balbus (Stoic), and C. Aurelius Cotta (Academic)
- 44 B.C.- De Divinatione
  - A dialogue written by Cicero as a supplement to De Natura Deorum
  - Takes place between him and his brother Quintus at his villa near Tusculum
  - Marcus refutes Quintus' assertion of the legitimacy of divination and other means of prediction
- 44 B.C.- De Fato- a treatise written about whether our actions are determined by fate at the request of Hirtius
- 45/44 B.C.- De Senectute/Cato Maior
  - Dedicated to Atticus
  - Takes place in 150 B.C.

- Cato the Elder (Censor) expounds how the burden of age can be borne, describing its compensations and consolations, at the request of his young friends Scipio Aemilianus and Laelius
- Immortality of the soul
- 44 B.C.- De Amicitia/Laelius
  - Addressed to Atticus
  - Takes place in 129 B.C., shortly after the death of Scipio Aemilianus
  - Chief interlocutors: Laelius and Scipio's two sons-in-law (one of whom is the augur Quintus Mucius Scaevola)
  - Discusses the nature of friendship and the principles by which it should be governed
  - Concludes that friendship is founded on and preserved by virtue
- 44 B.C.- De Officiis
  - His last work
  - Takes the form of a letter sent to his son Marcus, who was studying philosophy at Athens at the time
  - Written in three books (first two books based on the teachings of Panaetius, third based on teachings of Posidonius)
  - Book 1- deals with the four cardinal virtues (Wisdom, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance) and the duties that emanate from these
  - Books 2 and 3- the application of these principles to the pursuit of success in life (held to be synonymous)
  - Condemns abstention from participation in public affairs (contrary to traditional Stoic beliefs)
  - Received considerable praise in later ages

- Claimed to be a follower of the New Academy of Carneades, but picked his personal philosophy from many Greek schools of thought (he was eclectic)
- The Philippics: the restoration of Cicero's political prominence:
  - 14 extant speeches directed against Mark Antony
  - Based on the speeches of Demosthenes against Philip II of Macedon
  - Sometimes called Antonianae
  - 1<sup>st</sup> (Sept 2, 44 B.C. in the Senate)- attacked the policy of Antony and favored peace
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> (published in a pamphlet in Dec. 44 B.C. while Antony was besieging Decimus Brutus at Mutina)- invective against the man who made Caesar king
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> (exposition to the Senate on Dec. 20, 44 B.C.)- exposition of Cicero's policy to the Senate: support of Decimus Brutus and Octavian against Antony
  - 5<sup>th</sup> (Jan 1, 43 B.C.)- proposed the grant of propraetor powers to Octavian
  - 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> (Dec. 19, 44 B.C. and Jan 4, 43 B.C.)- addressed to the people in the Forum
  - 14<sup>th</sup>- celebration of Antony's defeat at Mutina
- Letters (4 collections)
  - 68-44 B.C.- Ad Atticum- edited by Atticus (16 books)
  - 62-43 B.C.- Ad Familiares- edited by his freedman Tiro (16 books)
  - 60-54 B.C.- Ad Quintum Fratrem (3 books)
  - Ad Marcum Brutum (2 books)
  - Total of 864 letters: 774 from Cicero, 90 to him
- Plutarch, Nepos, and Tiro wrote lives of Cicero (only Plutarch's survives)
- Later derided by Juvenal

- according to Cicero, history was “opus oratorium maxime” – a supremely oratorical work
- The greater part of his “Phenomena” survives (a translation of Aratus)
- Asconius Pedianus- wrote a commentary on Cicero’s speeches during the reign of Nero
- Asinius Pollio criticised Cicero’s work as lacking pure Latinitas
- Macrobius & Eulogius wrote on the Somnium Scipionis
- Lactantius was called the Christian Cicero
- Cicero’s poetic works
  - De Consulatu Suo – c. 60 B.C.
    - 3 books
    - celebrated his victory over Catiline
    - a large section is preserved in De Divinatione
    - most criticised work
    - contains the famous lines “cedant arma togae” – let arms yield to the toga & “O fortunatam natam me consule Romam” – O Fortunate Rome, born when I was consul
  - Marius
    - an epic poem
  - Aratea
    - Cicero’s most successful poetic work
    - a hexameter translation of Aratus’ Phaenomena
    - Cicero translated a second section under the title Prognostica
  - Glaucus
    - In the Alexandrianizing style
    - in trochaic tetrameters

- composed in his youth
- ❖ Quintus Tullius Cicero (102-43 B.C.)
  - Brother of M. Tullius Cicero
  - Educated at Rome and in Greece
  - Praetor in 62 B.C.
  - Governor of Asia from 61-58 B.C.
  - Served under Pompey in Sardinia in 56 B.C. and under Caesar in Gaul in 54 B.C.
  - Served under his brother in Cilicia from 51-50 B.C.
  - Supported Pompey, forgiven by Caesar, but killed under Antony's proscriptions
  - Wrote tragedies (none of which survive)
  - "Commentariorum petitionis consulatus"- an extant letter to his brother on the art of canvassing
  - The first of the letters to his brother gives advice on the methods of provincial government
- ❖ Gaius Licinius Calvus (82-47 B.C.)
  - Son of the annalist Licinius Macer
  - A poet celebrated in his day and an eloquent barrister
  - None of his works survive, but he wrote an epyllion on Io
  - A close friend of Catullus (the "salputium disertum" of Cat. 53 and the object of consolation in Cat. 96)
  - Quintilian praised his austere purity – "sanctitas"
  - Practiced Atticism – clear, concise speech modeled on Lysias
- ❖ Marcus Terentius Varro "Reatinus" (116-27 B.C.)
  - Called "the most learned of Romans" by Quintilian
  - Born at Reate / Reati in Sabine territory of a well-to-do family

- Pupil of L. Aelius Stilo & Antiochus of Ascalon (who also taught Cicero)
- Quaestor in 85 B.C., also a Tribune and Praetor
- Was a Pompeian officer in Spain against Sertorius and fought with Pompey against the pirates
- Opposed to Caesar politically (at least at first)
- In 46 B.C. Caesar entrusted Varro with the task of creating the first public library (a project never completed)
- Proscribed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Triumvirate in 43, but saved by Fufius Calenus
- Died in 27 B.C.
- A poet, satirist, antiquarian, jurist, geographer, grammarian, and scientist who wrote over 600 books
- Studied under the monotheist Posidonius (held that Jupiter was the main creative force, all other gods were different powers or virtues of his spirit)
- Was to be the head of the library Caesar contemplated
- Model of life was the country gentleman who can derive good returns from his estates and pleasure from life
- Surviving works:
  - De Re Rustica / Rerum Rusticarum Libri Tres
    - A treatise on farming
    - 3 books addressed to different people (the first to his wife Fundania)
    - Takes the form of conversations in a dramatic setting (the first is interrupted by news of a murder, the third by election incidents)
    - Book 1 deals with the farm itself and agricultural operations appropriate to certain seasons of the year
    - Book 2 deals with livestock

- Book 3 deals with Roman villas, aviaries, poultry, game reserves, and fish ponds
- De Lingua Latina
  - A systematic treatise on Latin grammar- deals exclusively with Etymology, Syntax, and Inflexion
  - 25 books
  - We possess Books V-X (six total), all of which are dedicated to Cicero
- Saturae Menippeae
  - Satires on the model of Menippus
  - A mixture of poetry and verse
  - Some were critical sketches of Roman life (ex. growing luxury)
  - about 600 lines survive
  - 150 books of Menippean Satire written by Varro
- Hebdomades/Imaginum libri XV- a collection of character sketches in prose of celebrated Greeks and Romans, each of which was accompanied by a portrait and an epigram
- Other important works:
  - Antiquitates Rerum Humanarum et Divinarum (antiquarian treatises)
    - Dedicated to Caesar as Pontifex Maximus in 47 B.C.
    - 25 books of Humanarum and 16 of Divinarum
  - De Gente Populi Romani
  - De Vita Populi Romani – 4 books
  - Disciplinae – 9 books (a treatise on the liberal arts subsequently utilized by Martianus Capella)
  - De Philosophia- a treatise on philosophy
- Cicero dedicated the second edition of his Academia to him

- Varro is the only living author whose bust was displayed in Pollio's library (Atrium Libertatis)
- Vergil based the structure of his Georgics on Varro's De Re Rustica
- Varro aligned himself with the Greek philosopher Posidonius of Apamea who attributed Rome's superiority to her ability assimilate the best of foreign civilizations
- Structure of Varro's Antiquitates preserved by Augustine in De Civitate Dei
- Res Humanae – date of the city's foundation – 754 B.C.
- “alterum illud etiam prius saturae genus, sed non sola carminum varietate mixtum, condidit Terentius Varro” – Quintilian (10.I.95)
- Prosimetron – the technique of mixing prose and verse
- Menippeans – Plautus is the author most quoted in them
  - Eumenides
  - Marcipor
  - Marcopolis
  - Sexagesis
  - Oedipothyestes, Ajax Stramenticius, Pseudaeneas, Catamitus
- Trikaranos
  - Three Headed Monster
  - Maybe a Menippean
  - a pamphlet directed against the First Triumvirate
- ❖ Nigidius Figulus
  - Contemporary of Varro
  - Wrote Comentariorum Grammaticorum in 29 books
  - Figulus means “potter”
  - Neo-Pythagorean philosopher
  - Exiled by Caesar and died in exile in 45 B.C.

- Appears in Lucan's *Bellum Civile* at the end of book 1
- ❖ Orbilius Pupillus (112-17 B.C.)
  - A grammarian, famous for being the schoolmaster of Horace
  - An account of him was written by Suetonius
- ❖ Titus Pomponius Atticus (110-32 B.C.)
  - Known for being the intimate friend of Cicero
  - Antiquarian scholar and Roman eques
  - Maintained a neutral position during the civil wars
  - Protected Terentia when Cicero went into exile
  - Protected Antony's wife Fulvia and lieutenant Volumnius during Mutina, influenced Antony to spare him in his proscriptions
  - His daughter (Pomponia) married Agrippa, whose daughter Vipsania married Tiberius
  - His sister Pomponia married Cicero's brother Quintus
  - Acted as Cicero's publisher (he had numerous slaves trained in copying and binding manuscripts)
  - None of his works survive
  - Wrote *Liber Annalis* - an epitome of Roman history (laws, wars, and political events) from the earliest times to his own present day (49 B.C.; published in 47 B.C.)
  - Also wrote a genealogical treatise on certain Roman families and the magistracies they held
  - Nepos wrote a biography of him
  - House on the Quirinal at which Cicero, Varro, and Nepos gathered to work
- ❖ Gaius Iulius Hyginus (64 B.C.-14 A.D.)
  - Spanish freedman of Augustus and a friend of Ovid
  - Appointed as the head of Augustus' newly founded library (on the Palatine)

- Wrote *Urbes Italiae*, quoted by Servius (lost work)
- Wrote an important commentary on Virgil, preserved by later authors
- Two extant works attributed to his name, though it is very doubtful that he actually wrote them (there are at least three other known authors that bore the name Hyginus)
  - *Fabulae*- a collection of myths
  - *De Astronomia*

#### ❖ Verrius Flaccus

- A freedman of Augustus and a grammarian-tutor to his grandchildren
- A native of Praeneste
- Wrote works on antiquities
- Known for his great encyclopedia *De Verborum Significatu* (“On the Meanings of Words”), which dealt with both the Latin language and Roman antiquities in general- a lost work (an abridgement was written by Sextus Pompeius Festus in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century and is partly preserved, and Paulus Diaconus wrote an epitome of Festus)
- Erected an annotated calendar, known as the *Fasti Praenestini*, in Praeneste, which survives in a damaged state today
- Suetonius wrote a short account of the life of Verrius Flaccus

#### ❖ Vitruvius Pollio

- Saw military service (50-26 B.C.) under Julius Caesar and Augustus
- military engineer – constructed war machines
- Wrote *De Architectura*
  - 10 books – dedicated to Augustus
  - Deals with architecture, building in general, sites, materials, and the construction of theaters, temples, and dwelling-houses

- Also deals with decoration, water supply, machines, sun-dials, and water clocks
  - Illustrated with diagrams
  - Influenced the principles of building during the Renaissance
  - Da Vinci takes the model for the “Vitruvian Man” from book 3
- ❖ Gaius (Cilnius- according to Tacitus) Maecenas
- Born between 74 and 64 B.C., died in 8 B.C.
  - The trusted counselor of Augustus
  - Most famous for being the enlightened patron of a literary circle that included Virgil, Horace, Propertius, and Varius
  - Said to have suggested to Virgil the idea of the Georgics
  - Horace owes him his freedom
  - Wrote Prometheus (probably a tragedy)
  - Also wrote a Dialogue in the style of the Mennipean satires
  - Only a few fragments of his work survive

## Part 3: The “Silver Age” of Latin Literature

- ❖ Nero Claudius Germanicus Julius Caesar
- THE Germanicus
  - The author of Latin paraphrases of the “Phenomena” (all of it survives) and “Prognostica” (fragments of it survive) of Aratus
  - Tacitus showed deep admiration for him
- ❖ Marcus Manilius/Manlius/Mallius
- Wrote Astronomica
    - 5 book didactic poem in hexameters dealing with astronomy

- Probably left unfinished
  - Sees design and “heavenly reason” in the universe
- ❖ Gaius Iulius Phaedrus/Phaeder
- A Thracian slave who came to Rome and became a freedman in the house of Augustus
  - The author of a collection of Fables
    - 5 books containing around 100 pieces
    - Probably also wrote an “appendix” of 32 fables
    - Based in Aesop’s fables, but also includes stories and anecdotes (Aesop, Socrates, Menander, etc.)
    - Written in iambic senarii
    - Object is two-fold: advice and entertainment
    - Generally serious or satirical, sometimes light and amusing
    - Fables express the attitude of the oppressed under Tiberius and Caligula
    - One book is dedicated to Eutycus, the celebrated charot driver of the Greens during Caligula’s reign
    - Examples: The Wolf and The Lamb, The Fox and the Sour Grapes, King Log and King Watersnake
    - Coined the phrase “adding insult to injury” (“iniuriae qui addideris contumeliam”)
- ❖ Aulus Persius Flaccus (34-62 A.D.)
- Born to a wealthy equestrian family at Volaterrae in Etruria
  - Died when he was 28 years old
  - Inspired by Lucilius
  - Learned in the school of the Stoic Lucius Annaeus Cornutus
    - Lucan was a fellow student

- His admiration and affection for his teacher appeared in his 5<sup>th</sup> satire (addressed to Cornutus)
- After Persius' death, Cornutus was left his library and literary remains; he destroyed the early poems
- Wrote 6 satires in hexameters (=650 hexameters)
  - Written in limping iambs (scazons)
  - Edited by Caesius Bassus after Persius' death
- Studied with the well known rhetorician Verganius Flavus
- Advocated the Stoic doctrine in private life
- ❖ Marcus Annaeus Lucanus (39-65 B.C.)
  - Born at Corduba in Spain
  - Grandson of Seneca the Elder (Seneca the Rhetorician) and nephew of Seneca the Younger (Seneca the Philosopher)
  - Father was L. Annaeus Mela
  - Nephew of the Gallio of Acts 18
  - A wealthy family had him brought to Rome early
  - Studied under Cornutus with Aulus Persius Flaccus
  - Won a prize in praise of the emperor at the Neronia
  - Wrote the best work of the Civil Age: *Bellum Civile*
    - Erroneously called *Pharsalia*
    - His only extant work
    - 10 books
    - Greatest Latin epic after the *Aeneid* (called an "anti-*Aeneid*")
    - About Julius Caesar's struggle against the Senatorial party of Rome (takes place in 49-48 B.C.)
    - More historical than epic because there is no divine intervention
    - The goddess Roma appears to Caesar

- The heroes: Pompey, Cato, and the Senatorial Party
- Wrote an address to his wife Polla Argentaria
- Nero made him quaestor and augur
  - Lucan won a prize in praise of the emperor at the Neronia
  - As time progressed, Nero became jealous of his literary success and forbade him to recite or publish his work
  - When Nero discovered Lucan's involvement in the Pisonian conspiracy, he forced him to commit suicide on April 30, 65 A.D. at age 26
  - Nero also forced his father and two uncles (Seneca and Gallio) to commit suicide
- Quintilian says about him: "magis oratoribus quam poetis imitandus"
- ❖ Gaius Valerius Flaccus
  - Lived during the reign of Vespasian (died in 90 A.D.)
  - Called "Setinus," implying that he is from Setia in either Campania or Spain
  - Perhaps one of the Quindecemviri sacris faciundis (consulted the Sibylline books and worshiped Cybele)
  - Wrote the epic poem "Argonautica" on the Quest for the Golden Fleece
    - 8 books
    - Hexameter
    - Based on the Argonautica of Apollonius Rhodus and Vergil's Aeneid
    - Unfinished
    - Develops the torn character of Medea
    - Dedicated to Vespasian
- ❖ Publius Papinius Statius (40-96 A.D.)
  - Born in Naples (won a prize at the Augustalia in Naples)
  - Son of a grammaticus (and teacher of Literature)
    - Gratitude for his father is expressed in *Silvae* V.3

- He mourns for his father's death and begs his spirit to continue to inspire him
- Won a prize at the Augustalia in Naples
- Married Claudia, but had no kids of his own
  - Did have a stepdaughter
  - He adopted a slave boy (mourned in the last unfinished *Silvae* V.5)
- Flattered Domitian with his poems (won a contest held by him at Alba)
- Wrote *Thebaid*- the only surviving epic which was completed and published by the author
  - 12 books
  - Extant
  - Epic poem
  - Published around 92 A.D.
  - Statius spent 12 years on it
  - Failed to win at the Capitoline Games
  - Closing passage shows reverence for Vergil
  - About Oedipus' son's conflict
- Also wrote
  - *Silvae*
    - 5 books of 32 poems (26 in hexameters)
    - Appeared from 92-96 A.D.
    - Includes 2 lyrics
    - The well known *Silvae* are:
      - ◆ Poem to Sleep (V.4)
      - ◆ Laments his father (V.3)
      - ◆ Laments for his adopted son (V.5)

- Achilleid
  - Unfinished
  - He got one book and part of a second done
- Agave, a pantomime
- An unnamed epic on Domitian's wars in Germany
- Regarded as Christian
- ❖ Tiberius Catius Asconius Silius Italicus (25-101 A.D.)
  - Life is known chiefly from a letter of Pliny the Younger (III.7)
  - Probably born at Patavium (Padua)
  - A Novus Homo
  - Consul in 68 A.D. and Proconsul in Asia
  - Lived in retirement in Campania
  - Wealthy- bought a villa of Cicero's
  - Had a profound admiration for Virgil, whose tomb was one of his properties
  - Starved himself to death upon learning that he had an incurable disease
  - Wrote Punica
    - 17 books in hexameter
    - longest surviving Latin poem
    - on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic War
    - Source was Livy
    - Praised by Martial
  - Praised Martial to be Vergil's heir
- ❖ Marcus Valerius Martialis (40-103/104 A.D.)
  - Name commemorates his March 1 birth
  - Born at Bilbilis in Spain
  - Claimed Iberian and Celtic ancestry
  - Came to Rome in 63 A.D.

- Poor, depended on patronage
- Had the rank of tribunus and eques
- Received the ius trium liberorum (granted normally to fathers of three children, but Martial received it as a favor)
- Celebrated the Colosseum's opening in 80 A.D. with the Liber Spectaculorum
  - Also known as the Liber de Spectaculis
  - 33 brief poems survive and they are mainly praise of the emperor
- Epigrams (Epigramaton Libri)
  - 14 books- the first twelve books are independent of the last two
  - Disgusted by the city, he retired to Bilbilis to write book 12
  - First book of original epigrams appeared in 86 A.D.
  - Another work, Xenia, became Book XIII of the Epigrams
    - Xenia means gifts to friends during the Saturnalia
    - Appeared in 84 A.D., before the actual epigrams
  - Apophoreta became Book XIV
    - Another word for gifts to friends at the Saturnalia
    - Also appeared in 84 A.D.
  - Several of the books are preceded by a preface defending Martial against criticism (does not mention specific names- "parcere personis, dicere de vitiis)
- Deeply respected Catullus (he wrote in hendecasyllabic but mostly in Elegaic couplet)
- Literary friends:
  - Quintilian
  - Lucan
  - Seneca the Younger
  - Juvenal

- Pliny the Younger
- Silius Italicus
- Lived in poor lodgings up 3 flights of stairs
- Dependent on wealthy patrons
- Later had a cottage at Nomentum
- Returned to Spain in 100 A.D.
- Flatters Domitian out of necessity (ironic because he is friends with Juvenal and Tacitus, who hate Domitian)
- Famous quote about sundials: “soles...qui nobis pereunt et imputantur”
- His most moving poem is written for a slave girl who died 6 days before her 6<sup>th</sup> birthday (Eroton- “for she pressed lightly on thee”)
- ❖ Gaius Velleius Paterculus
  - Lived during the reigns of Augustus and Tiberius
  - from Aeclanum in Irpinia
  - Served as a cavalry officer in Germany under Tiberius in 4 A.D., then in Pannonia, and then again in Germany after Varus’ disaster
  - Wrote a compendious history of Rome from the earliest times to his own in two books (Historiae)
    - Dedicated to M. Vinicius
    - Shows partiality for the Caesars, especially Tiberius – his panegyric of Tiberius portrays him as the best leader the Empire could desire
    - pays particular attention to novi homines
    - laudatory portrait of Sejanus
    - Valuable for its biographical portraits (especially Tiberius)
    - Also contains chapters on the evolution of Latin literature (stated that it reached its peak in the age of Augustus)
    - Style of the history is artificial and epigrammatic

- Quotes that show considerable observation and power of thought: “difficilis in perfecto mora est” and “non ibi consistent exempla ubi coeperunt”

❖ Valerius Maximus

- Belonged to the period of Tiberius
- Compiled an extant collection of anecdotes: “Facta et Dicta Memorabilia”
  - also called Factorum et Dictorum Memorabilium
  - 9 books
  - Anecdotes are arranged by subject; his work is a collection of Exempla
  - Book I: religion, omens, prodigies
  - Books II: social customs
  - Books III and IV: virtuous conduct (fortitude, moderation, humanity, etc.)
  - Books VII and VIII: a miscellaneous group including good fortune, military stratagems, famous law-suits, eloquence, and many other items
  - Book IX: evil conduct
  - Flatters Tiberius and praises him for saving Rome from Sejanus

❖ Quintus Curtius Rufus

- Lived under Claudius or Vespasian
- Wrote a history of Alexander the Great
  - 10 books, of which the first 2 are lost
  - The extant books begin with the march through Phrygia and the cutting of the Gordian knot
  - Writes an excellent story, but he fails to document the role of Alexander the Great in human civilization
  - Mostly concerned with the romantic side of his career

❖ Publius/Gaius Cornelius Tactius (55-117 A.D.)

- Roman historian
- Date and place of birth unknown, but it is thought that he was born around 55 A.D. in north Italy to an aristocratic family
- Married the daughter of Gnaeus Julius Agricola in 78 A.D.
- May have been a military tribune
- Held various offices under the emperors Vespasian (one of the vigintivirate), Titus (quaestor), and Domitian (praetor)
- Consul in 97 A.D. under the emperor Nerva
  - During this time he delivered the funeral address of the famous general Verginius Rufus
  - He replaced Rufus as consul (consul suffectus)
- Served as proconsul in Asia
- Spoke against Marius Priscus (governor of Asia)
- Wrote:
  - Agricola/De Vita Iulii Agricolae
    - Published in 98 – his first work
    - A biography of his father-in-law
    - Consolatio of Agricola
    - Includes invective against Domitian
  - Annales ab excessu divi Augusti
    - Covers 14-68 A.D.
    - 18 books (16 books)
    - Originally dealt with the period from the death of Augustus in 14 A.D. to the death of Nero in 68 A.D.
    - Probably written between 115-117 A.D.
    - Discusses Tiberius' dissimulatio (indifference)

- He claims objectivity “sine ira et studio” (“without wrath or partiality”)
- Germania/De origine et situ Germanorum
  - Also written in 98 – said to be published w/Agricola
  - A study of the German people and their country
- Dialogus de Oratoribus
  - His earliest work, around 81 A.D.
  - Tacitus may not have written it
  - Describes a dialogue that occurs in 75 A.D. between himself, Marcus Aper, Vipstantus Messala, Curiatius Maternus (in his house)
- Historiae
  - Covers Jan 1, 69-96 A.D.
  - First three books deal with 69 A.D.
  - 4 ¼ books survive
  - Appeared 104-109 A.D.
  - Said of Galba “omnium consensus capax imperii nisi imperasset”
- Pessimistic of finding a good emperor
- “Rome establishes a wasteland and calls it peace”
- He is a moralist
- Has admiration for Republic and the freedom it offered a Roman citizen and hatred for the tyranny of the emperors b/c of their corruption and cruelty
- ❖ Lucius Annaeus Florus
  - The author of “Epitomae de Tito Livio Belorum Omnium Annorum DCC Libri II”
    - An abridged history of Rome from Romulus to Augustus based on both Livy and other sources
    - Written as a Panegyric of Rome

- Divides Roman history into four periods: infancy, youth, maturity, and decline (the period after Augustus)
- His identity may be identical with that of Publius Annius Florus, possible author of the *Pervigilum Veneris*
  - A Latin poem of 93 Lines in trochaic tetrameters
  - Dates to the time of Hadrian
  - A song in celebration of the spring festival of Venus Genetrix
  - Large use of assonance, recurrence of words and phrases, and occasionally rhyme
  - The refrain “Cras amet qui nunquam amavit, quique amavit cras amet,” occurring irregularly in the imperfect text, may have been intended to recur after every fourth line
- ❖ Lucius Annaeus Seneca/Seneca the Elder/Seneca “the Rhetorician” (55 B.C.-37 A.D.)
  - Born at Corduba in Spain
  - Had three sons by his wife Helvia
    - M. Annaeus Novatus, who took the name of Gallio (became the proconsul of Achaea before whom the epistle Paul was brought for trial)
    - Lucius Annaeus Seneca the Younger
    - M. Annaeus Mela, the father of the poet Lucan
  - A student of rhetoric
  - In his old age, he assembled for his sons a collection of “*Controversiae*” (debates) and “*Suasoriae*” (monologues), arguments on rhetorical themes used in the schools
    - Survive in imperfect form (except for five books of the “*Controversiae*” known to us by excerpts)

- “Controversiae” deals with imaginary problems in criminal or civil defense cases (e.g. whether a soldier who stole weapons from a hero’s tomb and fought bravely with them has committed sacrilege)
  - “Suasoriae” deals with deliberative oratory (e.g. the deliberations of the 300 Spartans over whether they should fight Xerxes or flee)
- ❖ Marcus Fabius Quintilianus (35-95 A.D.)
- Born in Calagurris in Spain
  - Received at least part of his education at Rome and listened assiduously to the orators of his time
  - Taught by:
    - Remmius Palaemon- famous grammarian
    - Domitius Afer- famous rhetorician/orator
  - A rhetorician, like his father
  - Brought back to Rome from Spain by Galba (where he became the first paid rhetorician under Vespasian)
    - Pliny the Younger was one of his pupils
    - Pleaded in the courts
    - Became wealthy and famous
    - Domitian made him consul and tutor to his grandnephews
  - Martial called Quintilian “the supreme guide of wayward youth”
  - Wrote the Institutio Oratoria
    - 12 books
    - Dedicated to Victorius Marcellus
    - An educational theory on literary criticism and the technical aspects of style
    - On the training of an orator (Final Book: The Complete Orator- Vir bonus dicendi peritus)

- Book 6 talks of the loss of his son and wife
- Book 10 is valued for its list of authors to be studied as well as Quintilian's judgements on them
- Defended Berenice
- Also wrote *De Causis Corruptae Eloquentiae*
  - Causes of decadence of Roman oratory
  - Now lost
- Two collections of "Declamationes" (rhetorical themes on imaginary problems of conduct in various circumstances or on problems arising out of the conflict of laws) are attributed to him
  - Probably not by him
  - Some may represent themes used in his school
- ❖ Gaius Plinius Caecilius Secundus the Younger (61/62-113 A.D.)
  - Originally named P. Caecilius Secundus, but adopted his uncle's name upon adoption in his will)
  - Born on the Lake of Como in Comum
  - Studied under Quintilian, Nicetes (both in Rome), and the Stoic philosopher Musonius (had also been the teacher of Epictetus)
  - Married thrice (happy with his third wife Calpurnia)
  - Had no children, but received the *ius trium liberorum* from Trajan
  - Passed through the regular series of magistracies, but avoided persecution under Domitian
  - Under Trajan, he became one of the prefects of the state treasury (*praefectus aerari militaris* and *praefectus aerari Saturni*), consul suffectus in 100 A.D., a curator of the Tiber and its banks (*curator alvei Tiberis*), augur, and governor of Bithynia (sent as a *legatus Augusti*) probably from 111-113 (died in office)

- Founded a library at Comum
- Delivered a speech impeaching the proconsul of Africa Marius Priscus on behalf of the Africans in 100 A.D. (associated him with Tacitus)
- Only extant work is a Panegyricus which he delivered to Trajan
  - Contrasts Domitian and Trajan
  - First extant speech between Cicero and late Latin panegyrics
- Wrote 9 books of letters- a picture of his times with a strong moral element
  - Several are addressed to his friends Tacitus and Suetonius
  - A tenth book was published posthumously containing all of his letters to Trajan
  - Wrote to Tacitus in 6.16 on the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and his uncle's death
  - 3.5- a bibliography of the works of the elder Pliny
  - 3.7- eulogy of Silius Italicus
  - 3.16- relates the story of Paetus and Arria
  - 3.21- eulogy of Martial
- Martial was his protégé
- Questioned Trajan's treatment of Christians
- Wrote some poetry in hendecasyllabic
- ❖ Quintus Remmius Palaemon
  - A grammarian and teacher in Rome under Tiberius and Caligula (referred to by Juvenal)
  - Taught Persius
  - Also said to have instructed Quintilian
  - Suetonius wrote a curious account of him in "De Grammaticis"
- ❖ M. Valerius Probus (1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.)
  - Born in Berytus in Syria

- Revised the works of Lucretius, Virgil, and Horace
- ❖ Gaius Plinius Caecilius Secundus the Elder (23/24-79 A.D.)
  - Born at Comum
  - Of an equestrian family
  - Knew and was influenced by Pomponius Secundus (wrote his biography, perhaps trained by him)
  - Once served as the comrade-in-arms of the emperor Titus (perhaps served on his staff in Syria)
  - After 70 A.D., he held a series of procuratorships in Gaul, Africa, and Spain
  - A close friend of Vespasian
  - Perished in the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 A.D.
    - Left his command as the commander of the fleet at Misenum to investigate a column of rising smoke, dictated his observations under a hail of stones
    - Died the next day on the sea shore from asphyxiation (due to the sulfurous fumes)
  - Wrote many lost works on military science, oratory, grammar, biography, and history (20 books on the German Wars, 31 books on recent Roman history in continuation of the work of Aufidius Bassus)
  - Greatest surviving work: *Naturalis Historia*
    - 37 books
    - Dedicated to Titus in 77 A.D.
    - Book 1- table of contents and a list of Latin and Greek authorities
    - Book 2- deals with the physics of the universe and its constituent elements
    - Books 3 and 4- geography and ethnology of Europe, Asia, and Africa
    - Book 7- the physiology of man

- Books 8-11- zoology (land animals, sea animals, birds, insects)
- Books 12-19- botany
- Books 20-27- the medical properties of plants
- Books 28-32- medicaments derived from animal sources
- Books 33-37- minerals and metallurgy (uses in medicine and art), digression in the history of art
  - “natura, hoc est vita, narratur”
- Said “vita vigilia est”
- ❖ Aulus Cornelius Celsus
  - Lived under Tiberius
  - An encyclopaedist who wrote in Latin on agriculture, medicine, philosophy, and other subjects
  - Called “mediocri vir ingenio” by Quintilian
  - Only surviving works of his are 8 books on medicine based on Hippocrates and contemporary practice
    - Show balance between theory and experience
    - Recommends dissection but discourages vivisection (of criminals)
    - Introduction discusses prevailing medical practices and tendencies in his day
    - Books 1 and 2- diet and general practices of the healing art
    - Book 3- fevers
    - Book 4- internal diseases
    - Books 5 and 6- external ailments (e.g. wounds and ulcers)
    - Books 7 and 8- surgery, show that difficult and dangerous operations were undertaken during his day
- ❖ Pomponius Mela
  - Born in Tigentera in Spain

- Wrote Chorographia/De Situ Orbis
  - 3 books
  - Begins with a summary account of the three continents: Europe, Asia, and Africa
  - Then goes more into detail (specifics on different countries), beginning in Mauretania
  - Mentions natural characteristics and customs, scenery, and natural phenomena
  - Refers to birthplaces, battlefields, and historical and legendary associations
  - Offers explanations for the tides and the midnight sun
  - Regards the Earth as a disk with flat edges
- ❖ Lucius Annaeus Seneca/Seneca the Younger/Seneca “the Philosopher” (4 B.C.-65 A.D.)
  - Born at Corduba in Spain
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> son of the elder
  - Brought to Rome and educated early as a child
  - Narrowly escaped being put to death by Caligula
  - Pupil of the Stoic Attalus and the rhetorician Papirius Fabianus
  - Influenced by, and later developed, Stoicism
  - Banished to Corsica in 41 A.D. for adultery with Julia (Livilla)
  - Recalled by Agrippina in 49 A.D. to tutor Nero
  - Retired in 62 A.D.
  - Legend that he corresponded with the apostle Paul
  - Forced to suicide in 65 A.D. due to charges of involvement with the Pisonian conspiracy
  - Wrote:

- Laudatio Funebris for Claudius' funeral (delivered by Nero)
- Fabula Praetexta "Octavia" – probably not written by him
  - Only completely extant Fabula Praetexta in Latin
- Twelve Dialogi
  - De Providentia (Ad Lucilium)
    - ◆ Questions why good men suffer misfortune when providence exists; the answer is that this is part of the school of virtue: no evil can befall a good man
  - De Constantia Sapientis [addressed to Annaeus Serenus (Ad Serenum), an officer of Nero's nightwatchmen, "a wise man can suffer neither wrong nor insult"]; glorifies the stoic sage
  - De Ira (in 3 books)
    - ◆ Addressed to his brother Novatus (Ad Novatum)
    - ◆ Argues that anger can be controlled
    - ◆ Discusses the cruelty of Caligula
  - De Consolatione ad Marciam (to the daughter of Cremutus Cordus- a historian and victim of Sejanus- concerning the mourning of her son)
  - De Vita Beata
    - ◆ Ad Novatum
    - ◆ Seneca poses the question "in what does happiness consist?" – the answer is found in the stoic doctrine of living according to nature
    - ◆ discusses the role that comfort and wealth can play in happiness
    - ◆ Nemo sapientiam paupertate damnavit
  - De Otio (addressed to Annaeus Serenus, defense of leisure and relaxation, gives much advice on the work day problems of this world)

- De Tranquillitate Animi (addressed to Annaeus Serenus; pursuit of peace of mind amid the troubles of life); also addresses the sage's participation in political life
- De Brevitate Vitae
  - ◆ Addressed to Paulinus (the Praefectus Annonae)
  - ◆ Argues the value of time and the need to use it wisely
- De Consolatione ad Polybium (addressed to a powerful freedman of Claudius; flatters the emperor in the hopes that he will be recalled from exile)
- De Consolatione ad Helviam matrem (to his own mother concerning his exile)
- Further moral treatises
  - De Clementia
    - ◆ (3 books – not all extant)
    - ◆ Praises Nero in the mildness of his early reign
    - ◆ Possibly an allusion to Nero's first five years (Quinquennium Neronis)
  - De Beneficiis
    - ◆ 7 books addressed to Aebutius Liberalis
    - ◆ an appeal to the duties of philanthropy; addressed to the upper class
- Epistulae Morales
  - 124 epistulae addressed to Lucilius
  - in 20 books
  - moral essays on the various aspects of life: happiness, the supreme good, the terrors of death, riches, etc.

- inspired by Cicero's letters to Atticus
- Naturales Quaestiones (62 A.D.)
  - Dedicated to Lucilius
  - 7 books
  - An examination of natural phenomena from a Stoic standpoint as they relate to the "four elements" (earth, air, fire, and water)
- Apocolocyntosis- a burlesque satire on the death of Claudius and his subsequent transformation into a pumpkin (Mennipean Satire)
  - Ludus de morte Claudii / Divi Claudii Apotheosis per satiram
- 9 tragedies (Fabulae Cothurnatae) adopted from Greek (only author whose tragedies are complete); written in iambic trimeter
  - 1. Hercules Furens (based on Euripides) – Hercules, after killing his wife and children, goes to Athens to be purified
  - 2. Medea (Euripedes & perhaps the Medea of Ovid)
  - 3. Troades (Euripedes' Trojan Woman and on Hecuba) – represents the fate of the Trojan women
  - 4. Phaedra (Euripedes' Hippolytus and perhaps the 4<sup>th</sup> of Ovid's Heroides)
  - 5. Agamemnon (Aeschylus' Agamemnon)
  - 6. Oedipus (Sophocles' Oedipus Rex)
  - 7. Hercules Oetaeus (Sophocles) – Hercules at Oeta; the jealousy of Deianira
  - 8. Phoenissae (Euripedes' Phoenician Women and Sophocles' Oedipus at Colonus) – the only incomplete tragedy
  - 9. Thyestes (based on Sophocles and Euripedes and perhaps the Thyestes of Varius Rufus)

- Depart from Greek originals, marred by excess of declamation, moral disquisition, mythological lore, and clever argument
  - Also lack the peculiar spirit and religious background of traditional Greek drama
  - Seneca is much given to “stichomythia”- the brisk interchange, line for line, of repartee, between two interlocutors
  - Not intended to be acted, but to be read to the audience
  - A tenth tragedy “Octavia” based on a Roman subject is the only completely extant Fabula Praetexta in Latin Literature. Most scholars agree that it was not written by Seneca
  - The “Anthologia Latina,” which contains a number of short poems by Seneca
- ❖ Gaius Petronius Arbiter (died in 65 A.D.)
- Once was the consul and governor of Bithynia
  - Chosen as Nero’s arbiter of taste (arbiter eloquentiae)
  - Falsely accused by Tigellinus to Nero for involvement in the Pisonian conspiracy
  - Obtained an order from Nero to remain at Cumae, causing him to kill himself
  - Author of the Satyricon
    - A satirical picturesque Latin novel
    - In prose interspersed with verse (like the Menippean satires)
    - Describe the disreputable adventures of the two rogues Encolpius and Ascyltus and their serving boy Giton as they wander about the semi-Greek cities of southern Italy
    - Encolpius is afflicted with impotency by Priapus

- Principal episode of the surviving portion is the “Banquet of Trimalchio” (Cena Trimalchionis – book 15)
  - Trimalchio is a vulgar parvenu who ostentatiously displays his wealth
  - Trimalchio becomes more and more drunk and his stories become more and more farfetched
  - Trimalchio confuses his mythological references, but he tells two good stories: one of a werewolf and one of witches substituting a straw changeling for a boy
  - Trimalchio’s wife - Fortunata
- The story of the disreputable old poet named Eumolpus
  - Travels with Encolpius and Ascytus on a sea journey that ends in shipwreck
  - Propounds his views on epic poetry, reciting sixty iambics on the fall of Troy and three hundred on the Civil War of 49 B.C.
  - Says the well-known phrase “Horatii curiosa felicitas” (“the studied felicity of Horace”)
  - Relates the story of the “Ephesian matron,” who, while mourning the death of her husband, is compelled by a soldier to take food and accept him as her lover
- Gives an extraordinarily dramatic picture of Italian life in Nero’s time
- Contains examples of lower class slang
- Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella
  - Born at Gades in Spain
  - Served in Syria as part of the Legio V Ferrata
  - Wrote De Re Rustica
    - 12 books, all of which have survived

- deals with the various aspects of a farmer's life and work: the choice of a farm, its cultivation, live-stock, fish-ponds, bees, and gardens
  - last 2 books: the duties of a bailiff and his wife
  - Book X (in hexameters) deals with gardens
  - Shows a deep respect for hard work and admiration for Virgil
  - Also wrote another work manual on agriculture, of which one book, "De arboribus," is extant
- ❖ Sextus Iulius Frontinus (40-103 A.D.)
- Consul on 73/74 A.D.
  - Sent as governor to Britain, where he preceded Agricola (the father-in-law of Tacitus)- constructed the Roman road through South Wales
  - Appointed superintendent of the aqueducts (curator aquarum) by Nerva in 97 A.D.
  - Consul again in 98 A.D. and 100 A.D.
  - Wrote 3 books of military stratagems or "Strategemata"
    - Military history of Rome and other countries in terms of stratagems before a battle, during a battle, and in connexion with sieges
    - Grouped under such heads as "on concealing plans," "on escaping from difficult situations," and "on ambushes"
    - A fourth book, perhaps by an imitator, was added, concerning anecdotes on the management of an army
  - Also wrote De Aquis/De Aquae Ductu/De aquis urbis Romae
    - Contains information about the aqueducts of Rome for the benefit of himself and his successors
    - Sets out the abuses which he discovered and the reforms he introduced under his supervision
    - Shows how his is a zealous and conscientious official

❖ Decimus Junius Juvenalis (60-130 A.D.)

- Born at Aquinam
- Prominent satirist
- Horace and Lucilius are his models (imitated their meter, hexameter)
- Depended on patronage, though he was from a wealthy family
- Martial calls him “facundus” and addresses him in 3 epigrams
- Lived in Rome during the reign of Domitian (81-96 A.D.)
  - In his satires, Domitian became a symbol of tyranny whose excesses debade a whole era
  - His picture of Rome is a dark contrast to Pliny the Younger’s
  - Banashed for disparaging the actor Paris, a favorite of Domitian, but who was executed in 83 A.D. because he may have had an affair with Domitian’s wife
  - Banashed until Domitian was killed in 96 A.D.
  - When Juvenal returned, he was forced to accept the patronage of the man he despised while he composed his Satires
- Famous quotes:
  - Mens sana in corpore sano
  - Quis custodiet ipsos custodes
- Possibly describes himself as Umbricius and Postumus
- Wrote 16 Satura in 5 books
  - Book 1: Satires 1-5
  - Book 2: Satire 6
  - Book 3: Satires 7-9
  - Book 4: Satires 10-12
  - Book 5: Satires 13-16
  - Attacks both foreigners and past Romans

- Wrote with a xenophobic persona in Satire 1
- Wrote bitterly against women (condemnation of the female sex) in Satire 6
- Satire 10 questions life
- His humor is not funny- it is bitter, ironic, bizarre, and painful
- Through the patronage of the Emperor Hadrian, he achieve financial security and a farm at Tibur
- He makes frequent references to Nero, Domitian, and Otho because he idealizes the Republic
- He assumes the persona of an outraged orator
  - Saeva indignatio- violent indignation (penchant for oxymoron and paradox)
  - Uses techniques of oratory in poetry
- Claimed that the satire replaced epic and tragedy
- ❖ Gaius Suetonius Tranquillus (70-160 A.D.)
  - Son of Suetonius Laetus, who as a tribune in the 13<sup>th</sup> legion fought at the first battle of Bedriacum / Cremona
  - Practiced the courts at Rome
  - Friend of Pliny the Younger, who pleaded to Trajan to grant him the ius trium liberorum
  - Imperial secretary under Trajan and Hadrian
  - Biographer known for:
    - De Vita Caesarum (from Julius Caesar to Domitian)
    - De Viris Illustribus
    - De Grammaticis (defines “grammar” broadly as the study of literature)
    - De Rhetoribus (discusses the growth of rhetorical study at Rome, followed by an account of five of the principal professors of rhetoric)

- De Poetis (definitely contains the lives of Terence, Horace, and Lucan, possibly the lives of Virgil, Juvenal, Persius, and Pliny the Elder)
- De Grammaticis et Rhetoribus (combined together)
- ❖ Marcus Junianus Justinus (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Century A.D.)
  - Wrote an abridgement of the universal history of Trogus Pompeius
    - Colorless and tedious for the most part
    - Contains some striking passages (e.g. the description of the multitude of Athenians pouring out to see Alcibades upon his return from exile, Brennus' army at Delphi)
- ❖ Aulus Gellius (2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.)
  - Studied and practiced law at Rome as a young man
  - Went to Athens for instruction in philosophy (where he was on friendly terms with Herodes Atticus)
  - Wrote Noctes Atticae (Attic Nights) for the benefit of his children
    - A collection of brief essays in 20 books
    - Based on the notes he jotted down from the Greek and Latin books he read and on conversations and discourses he heard
    - Deal with a great variety of curious points of language, grammar, textual criticism, antiquarian knowledge, and philosophy
      - Julius Caesar's injunction to avoid "like a rock" the use of an unfamiliar word
      - Anecdotes of such famous persons as Socrates and Demosthenes
      - A note on the use of the pipe in battle and in oratory
      - The comparison of a Roman comedy with the original by Menander
      - A note on the Roman sumptuary laws
      - Notes on "analogy" and "anomaly" in grammar

- A note on the authentic plays of Plautus
  - Notes on the origins of Latin words
- ❖ Gaius (110-180 A.D.)
    - A famous jurist of the reigns of Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius
    - Lectured on law
    - Wrote Institutiones (first published in 161 A.D.)
      - An introduction to Roman jurisprudence
      - Recent findings suggest that it was a work that was constantly updated
    - Wrote two other, lost works
      - Edictum Provinciale
      - Libri rerum cotidianarum (came to be known as his “Aurea” or “Golden Book”)
  - ❖ Marcus Cornelius Fronto (2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.)
    - A Numidian rhetorician
    - Under Antoninus Pius, he was tutor to Marcus Aurelius and consul in 143 A.D. w/ Herodes Atticus
    - An ardent advocate of a return to the style and language of the older Romans: Cato, Ennius, Varro, etc.
    - Some of his correspondence with Marcus Aurelius has survived
      - Deal with literature, oratory, and the study of words
      - Contain interesting judgments on Seneca, Sallust, and Plautus
    - Perhaps the Fronto referred to by Juvenal (a patron of literature who lent his garden for recitations)
  - ❖ Lucius Apuleius (2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.)
    - Born at Madaura on the borders of Numidia and Gaetulia
    - fl. c.155 A.D.

- Fell ill as a young man on a trip to Alexandria, fell in love with and married his nurse Aemilia Pudentilla (a rich widow)
- Apologia
  - Speech written in defense of the charge brought by his wife's relatives that he won over Pudentilla with magic
  - Indicates that he inherited a considerable fortune but wasted it, that he was deeply interested in natural science, and that the accusation of magic was founded on trivial grounds
- Settled at Carthage and traveled among the African towns, lecturing on Latin literature and mostly philosopher (Philosophus Platonicus)
- "Florida"- a collection made by himself of purple passages from these lectures
- Wrote a treatise on the philosophy of Plato (De Platone et eius dogmate)
- Also wrote a treatise on the Platonian doctrine of God and the daemons (De Deo Socratis)
- Also wrote a free translation ("De mundo") of the Περί κόσμου of Aristotle
- Most famous work: Metamorphoses/Golden Ass
  - A Latin romance in 11 books
  - One of the two surviving Latin novels (along with the Satyricon)
  - Based on the Λούκιος ἢ ὄνος of Lucian or a previous work that was the influence of both
  - Takes the form of a narrative by one Lucius of his adventures
  - Lucius sees the wife of his host Milo turn herself into an owl with an ointment
  - He asks the maid to procure the ointment but receives the wrong one and turns into an ass, falls into the hands of robbers, and becomes a part of their exploits

- Lamachus, the robber-chief sticks his hand into a hole of a door of a house to be robbed only to have it nailed to the doorpost by the master- his arm has to be cut off on order to secure his escape
  - Tlepolemus pretends to be the renowned thief Haemus the Thracian in and is made chief of the robbers just to rescue his betrothed
  - At one point, the ass travels with priests of Cybele and becomes a performing ass
  - One of the most beautiful and famous stories: the recounted tale of Cupid and Psyche – book 4
  - The ass is eventually transformed back into human form by Isis (perhaps into Apuleius himself)
  - Ends with a reference to his initiation into the mysteries of Isis and Osiris
  - only Latin novel which survives whole
- ❖ Tertullian (c.150 / 160 – 240 A.D.)
- Q. Septimius Florens Tertullianus
  - Born at Carthage
  - One of the greatest early Christian writers
  - Came from a pagan family, but became a Christian priest
  - Apologeticus
    - 197 A.D.
    - A speech of an advocate addressed to the governors of Roman provinces
    - Asks to secure for Christians protection from attacks of the populace and, when brought up for trial, from illegality of procedure
  - Wrote other treatises directed to regulating in minute detail the life of Christians in the midst of a pagan society

- Was won over to Montanism (followers of Montanus, believed by some to be an incarnation of the Holy Ghost)- brought about a rupture between Tertulian and the Catholic Church
- Helped to develop the form and terminology of theological Latin
- called the “Christian Juvenal” and “Father of Latin Theology”
- also wrote *Ad Martyres & Ad Nationes*
- “O testamonium animae naturaliter Christianae”

## Part 4: Late Latin Literature

- ❖ Saint Thascius Caecilius Cyprianus (200-258 A.D.)
  - Bishop of Carthage
  - Of African birth and of a pagan family
  - Escaped the persecution of Decius by hiding himself
  - Summoned by Valerian in 257 and put to death in 258
  - In contrast to Tertullian, his writings show him gentle, charitable, a lover of peace
  - Lacked the intellectual force and eloquence of Tertullian
  - Wrote many exhortations and theses, dogmatic and moral, animated by earnest conviction and abundantly illustrated by quotations of the Scriptures
  - Wrote a surviving body of 81 letters
- ❖ Lactantius
  - nomen was Caecilius or Caelius
  - Born around 250 A.D.
  - A pagan who became a professor of rhetoric at Nicomedia in Bithynia, where he was converted to Christianity

- Appointed to be the tutor of Constantine's son Crispus in his old age
- De Opificio Dei- a defense on the doctrine of Providence based on the evidence of design in the human organism
- De Ira Dei- refuted the pagan notion that God is impassive and incapable of wrath
- De Virginibus
- Institutiones Divinae (Epitome Institutionum Divinarum)
  - A work of wide scope
  - A defense of Christian doctrine as a harmonious and logical system
  - Begins with a criticism of polytheism and pagan philosophies
  - Written in Ciceronian prose (Lactantius has been called the Christian Cicero)
  - Sought to reconcile faith and reason
- De Mortibus Persecutorum
  - May not have actually been by Lactantius
  - A celebration with passionate exultation the downfall of the emperors who persecuted Christians
- ❖ Aemilius Papinianus
  - A famous Roman jurist under Marcus Aurelius and Septimius Severus
  - Probably of African origin
  - Accompanied Severus to Britain (on the bench at York where the imperial tribunes sat)
  - Praetorian Prefect from 205 A.D.
  - Put to death by Caracalla for refusing to defend him against the charge of murdering his brother Geta (reportedly said to the emperor "Parricide is not so easy to defend as to commit")

- Wrote 37 books of Quaestiones and 19 books of Responsa (contained in the “Digest” of Justinian)

#### ❖ Domitius Ulpianus

- A famous Roman jurist under Caracalla
- Tyrian by birth
- A pupil of Papinian
- Became the guardian and Praetorian Prefect of Alexander Severus
- Murdered by the soldiers in the imperial palace in 228 A.D.
- A voluminous writer of legal commentaries (extracts found in Justinian’s “Digest”)

#### ❖ Julius Solinus

- Probably wrote during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century A.D.
- Author of “Collectanea rerum memorabilium”
  - An epitome of Pliny the Elder’s *Naturalis Historiae*
  - “Polyhistor” is perhaps a name given to the second edition of the book

#### ❖ Decimus Magnus Ausonius (310-395 A.D.)

- Son of a physician at Bordeaux (Burdigala)
- Educated at Bordeaux and Toulouse (Tolosa)
- Taught rhetoric for thirty years at Bordeaux, then became tutor to Valentinian’s son Gratian
- Accompanied Valentinian’s expedition of 368-369 A.D. against the Germans
- Became prefect of the Gallic provinces under Gratian, later of Italy, Illyria, and Africa
- Consul in 379 A.D.
- At Treves at the time of the usurpation of Maximus

- Dissuaded his pupil Paulinus from abandoning the world for a life of religion
- Wrote a great deal of verse in a great number of meters
  - Parentalia- a catalogue of his relatives and ancestors with a few lines of pious praise to each
  - Wrote other catalogues of : professors of Bordeaux, the famous cities of the world, the twelve Caesars, the Seven Sages, and the Roman consuls (this one is lost)
  - Wrote a prayer in 42 Rhopalic hexameters (where each word has one more syllable than the last) beginning with the line “Spes deus aeternae stationis conciliator” and of 200 hexameters (the Technopaegnon, each ending in a monosyllable)
  - Ephemeris- a description of a normal day in his life: his awakening, a talk with a servant, his cook, his secretary, etc.
  - Mosella- a long poem on his visit to the Moselle: his journey through Gaul, apostrophe to the river, list of its fishes, description of its vineyards, the reflections in its water, aquatic sports, the luxurious villas on its banks, its tributaries, ending with its junction with the Rhine and a final tribute of praise
  - Gratiarum actio- a thanksgiving for his consulship addressed to Gratian
  - Also wrote Epistles and Epigrams
- ❖ Claudius Claudianus (370-405 A.D.)
  - Better known as Claudian
  - The last great poet of the heathen world, also called the last great poet of antiquity
  - A pagan at heart, though nominally a Christian
  - Spent his childhood at Alexandria

- At Rome from 395-404 A.D.
- Called “vir clarissimus”
- Wrote in hexameter
- Honored with a bronze statue erected in the Forum of Trajan
- Successful poet under Honorius’ court (he was the court poet)
- Praised both Arcadius and Stilicho
  - General Stilicho was his patron
  - Wrote a Panegyricus for Stilicho
- Attacked the enemies of Honorius:
  - Rufinus- the guardian at Constantinople of the emperor in the East  
Arcadius
  - The eunuch Eutropius, successor of Rufinus in the favor of Arcadius
- Wrote:
  - De Raptu Proserpine (The Rape of Proserpine)
    - 4 books
    - Unfinished
  - Eulogy of Stilicho
  - Eulogy of Honorius
  - Poems criticizing the emperor
  - Epics on war with the Goths
  - An “Epithalamium” for the occasion of Honorius’ marriage
  - Idylls and epigrams on various subjects (the Nile, the Phoenix, a porcupine, a lobster, a statue, a landscape, etc.)
  - An idyll on “The Old Man of Verona” (imitated Virgil’s description of the old gardener of Tarentum)
  - Gigantomachia
  - De Bello Getico

- De Bello Gildonico
- ❖ Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (born in 348 A.D.)
  - A Christian Latin poet
  - Native of Spain
  - Known for his hymns and for poems on Christian dogma and tales of martyrs
  - called the last great Christian poet of the Roman era
  - Psychomachia
    - battle for the soul
    - an allegory of the spiritual struggle in the human soul
    - well known in the middle ages
- ❖ Historia Augusta
  - The name commonly given to a collection of biographies, entitled in the principle manuscript “Vitae diversorum principum et tyrannorum a divo Hadriano usque ad Numerianum a diversis compositae”
  - Cover from Hadrian to Numerianus, as well as certain claimants to the throne (117-284 A.D.)
  - Attributed to six authors:
    - Aelius Spartianus, Julius Capitolinus, Volcatius Gallicanus, and Aelius Lampridius (down to the Maximins)- addressed to Diocletian and Constantine
    - Trebellius Pollio and Flavius Vopiscus (Valerian to Numerianus)
  - The biographies of Pollio (from the Maximins to Valerian) are lost
  - Modeled in form on the Suetonius’ De Vita Caesarum
  - Biographies deal with practical aspects of the emperor (ancestry, early life, political events of his reign, personal characteristics, and appearance) but also include anecdotes and life of the palace

## ❖ Eutropius

- A historian who lived under the emperor Valens (364-378 A.D.)
- Breviarum ab urbe condita
  - An abstract of Roman history written at the request of Valens
  - Covers from Romulus to Jovian
  - 10 books
  - Dry and concise

## ❖ Ammianus Marcellinus (330-395 A.D.)

- A Syrian, born at Antioch
- Served under Ursicinus, a general of Constantius II
- Admired Julian
  - Served under him against the Persians
  - A pagan, but did not support the persecution of Christians
- Wrote a continuation of Tacitus' histories
  - 31 books
  - We possess books 14-31 (353-378 A.D., from Constantius to the death of Valens)
  - Covers 96-378 A.D.
  - Does not cover Domitian's Adrianople
  - Influenced by Tacitus and Cicero
  - Gives a famous description of the Huns
  - Style flawed with clumsiness, Grecisms (Latin was not his native tongue), and bombasts
  - Interesting digressions on the Egyptian obelisks and their hieroglyphics, earthquakes, lions in Mesopotamia, the artillery of his time, etc.

❖ Aelius Donatus (4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)

- A Latin grammarian and rhetorician

- teacher of Jerome
- The word “Donat” was used in Middle English to designate a textbook (shows his fame and importance)
- Wrote:
  - An “Ars Grammatica” which remained in use throughout the Middle Ages
  - A commentary on Terence which appears in his extant scholia along with the commentaries of other authors
  - A commentary on Virgil
- ❖ Tiberius Claudius Donatus (4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)
  - Another grammarian by the name of Donatus
  - Wrote “Interpretationes” of the “Aeneid”
- ❖ Servius Marius Honoratus (late 4<sup>th</sup> Century, early 5<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)
  - A Latin grammarian
  - Wrote a commentary on Virgil, which survives in a longer and a shorter form (of great value by reason of the author’s knowledge of historical, antiquarian, literary, and religious subjects)
  - One of the interlocutors in the Saturnalia of Macrobius
- ❖ Macrobius
  - Ambrosius Theodosius Macrobius
  - A distinguished Roman writer and philosopher who flourished around 400 A.D.
  - Praetorian Prefect of 430
  - Not of Roman birth
  - Probably a pagan
  - Wrote Saturnalia
    - 7 books dedicated to his son Eustachius

- A dialogue supposed to take place during the Saturnalia among many eminent Romans at the house of Vettius Praetextatus (one time Praetorian Prefect of 384 and learned in the ancient cults of Rome)
  - Interlocutors include: the orator and administrator Symmachus, the Virgilian commentator Servius, and the sceptic and bitter scoffer Euangelus
  - The discussion covers many topics, but it chiefly devoted to the works of Virgil
  - Gives significant prominence to the eminent pagans Praetextatus and Symmachus
  - Book 1: ancient religion, Praetextatus expounds the theory of solar origin of mythology
  - Book 2: anecdotes on the religious and political changes at Rome (notably that of Laberius compelled to act his own mime and taunting Caesar)
  - Books 3-6: Virgil from various points of view (his knowledge of ritual, his power of expressing emotion, his debt to ancient Greek and Roman authors)
  - Book 7: discussion of various physical, physiological, and psychological questions, shows a great advance in the understanding of the mental process
- Also wrote a commentary on the “Somnium Scipionis” (the sixth book of Cicero’s *De Republica*)
- Also dedicated to his son
  - Applies the new doctrines of Neoplatonism (specifically the doctrines of Plotinus and Porphyry) and new astronomical and mathematical sciences in his examination of the enigma of the soul

- Generally reinforces the idea of the immortality and divine quality of the soul, thus purifying and strengthening the old pagan religion
- ❖ Saint Aurelius Ambrosius (340-397 A.D.)
  - Born of a wealthy Christian family
  - His father was a prefect
  - Educated at Rome
  - Made governor of Milan with the title of consul at a very early age (replaced the Arian bishop of Milan Auxentius by popular acclamation- received baptism and priesthood after his appointment)
  - Struck one of the final blows to the pagan religion with his address advocating for Christianity during the affair of the Altar of Victory
  - Imposed penance on Theodosius for his massacre at Thessalonica
  - Wrote:
    - De Officiis Ministrorum- on the duties of priests (modeled of the De Officiis of Cicero)
    - Dogmatic treatises on many parts of the scriptures (e.g. De Fide, De Spiritu Sancto)
    - Minor treatises on the ascetic life
    - Hymns (NOT *Te Deum*)
  - Ambrosian Library in Milan (founded in 1609) is named after him
- ❖ Saint (Eusebius Sophronius) Hieronymus Jerome (340-420 A.D.)
  - Born at Stridon / Strido near Aquileia in Dalmatia
  - Eusebius (his father's name) and Sophronius (the friend who translated several of his works into Greek) may not have actually been part of his name
  - Educated at Rome, spent some time at Antioch
  - pupil of Donatus

- Spent three years (375-377 A.D.) in the desert of Chalcis on the frontier of Syria
- Received instruction from Gregory of Nazianus at Constantinople
- Spent 382-385 A.D. at Rome, where he became the friend of Pope Damasus and a counselor to a group of Roman ladies (ardent Christians, including the famous Marcella, Paula, and her daughter Eustochium)
- Settled in Bethlehem in 386 A.D., where he died in 420 A.D.
- His letters reflected his ardent, passionate, intensely human nature
- Had a deep admiration for pagan literature (quoted from Virgil, Persius, Horace, and Terence)
  - In his 22<sup>nd</sup> letter, he remarked how he was unable to separate himself from his library
  - He had a dream in which when he said to God on Judgement Day that he was a Christian, God said, “Mentiris, Ciceronianus es, non Christianus”
- Wrote:
  - A series of biographies of early eremites (hermits)
  - Chronica- a translation of the Greek chronicles of Eusebius of Caesarea (with a continuation down to the reign of Valens)
  - De Viris Illustribus- notices on eminent Christian writers, modeled on the De Viris Illustribus of Suetonius
  - A Translation of the Old Testament into Latin directly from Hebrew (he was dissatisfied with the translation found in the Greek Septuagint)
  - A Translation of the New Testament into Latin from the Greek Septuagint
  - His translation of the Old and New Testaments became known as the Vulgate/Vulgatus, which, with revisions by Pope Clement VIII, became the authoritative text of the Roman Catholic Church

❖ Saint Aurelius Augustinus (354-430 A.D.)

- Born at Thagaste in Numidia
- Father was a pagan, mother Monica was a devout Christian
- Taught rhetoric at Thagaste, Carthage, Rome (383 A.D.), and Milan
- failed to learn Greek
- Received baptism in 387 A.D. after an intellectual and moral struggle and after receiving the influence of St. Ambrose
- His mother Monica died at Ostia
- was a Manichean in his youth
- Became the Bishop of Hippo in 395 A.D. (occupied this office until his death in 430 A.D.)
- Works:
  - Contra Academicos, De Vita Beata, and De Ordine- all criticisms of ancient philosophy from a religious standpoint
  - De Immortalitate Animi- adopts the Platonic arguments for a future life
  - De Libero Arbitro- discusses the vexed question of free will and divine foreknowledge
  - More religious writings- polemical treatises against the Manichaeans and Pelagian heretics and the Donatist schismatics, letters, practical treatise
  - De Catechizandis Rudibus (On the Art of Catechizing) and De Doctrina Christiana- set forth his methods as a teacher of Christianity
  - Confessions- the moving story of his own spiritual struggles, written for the edification of others
  - De Civitate Dei (The City of God)
    - 22 books
    - Refutes the charge that the fall of Roman power (epitomized by Rome's capture at the hands of Alaric) was the fault of Christianity

- Becomes a complete theory on the spiritual evolution of mankind
  - Mocks and criticizes paganism, Stoicism, Platoism, and Neoplatonism
- ❖ Quintus Aurelius Symmachus (345-405 A.D.)
- Prefect of Rome in 384 A.D.
  - An orator whose eloquence was referred to by Macrobius as “pingue and floridum”
  - His letters were collected by his son
    - 10 books of them
    - First 9 books are to his friends- trivial and uninteresting
    - 10<sup>th</sup> book contains his valuable, official correspondence
  - Relatio
    - Report addressed by him to Valentinian II in 384 A.D.
    - Defends the ancient religious institutions against Christian inroads
    - Urged the Senate to restore to the Altar of Victory (which Gratian had caused to be removed) which Augustus established in 29 B.C.
      - called “perhaps the noblest defense of a dying creed that has ever been made”
      - successfully opposed and defeated by Ambrose
      - Macrobius refers to his eloquence as “pingue et floridum”
      - opposed by Ambrose
- ❖ Nonius Marcellus (first half of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)
- A Numidian
  - Wrote during the reign of Constantine
  - Wrote De Compensiosa Doctrina for Constantine’s son
    - 20 books

- Contains the diction, grammar, and subject material of the older Latin authors
  - Useful source of quotations from such authors as Lucilius and Varro
- ❖ Flavius Vegetius Renatus
- A military writer during the reign of Theodosius I (379-395 A.D.)
  - Wrote *Epitoma Rei Militaris* (a great source of information on the Roman military system)
  - Wrote a surviving treatise on the diseases of mules and cattle
- ❖ Gaius Sollius Apollinaris Modestus Sidonius
- Born at Lyons
  - Son-in-law of the emperor Avitus, who caused a statue of him to be placed in the library of Trajan among literary celebrities
  - Became a successful bishop of Auvergne
  - Wrote poems in hexameters, elegiacs, and hendecasyllables
    - Includes panegyrics of three successive emperors: Avitus, Majorian, and Anthemius
    - Verse can also be found in his letters
    - One of his letters contains a classic example of a “recurrent” line or palindrome (reads the same forwards and backwards): Roma tibi subito motibus ibit amor
    - Gave an interesting account of the Visigoths, who held him captive at one time
  - Mourns the decline in interest for literature
- ❖ Orosius (5<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)
- A Christian ecclesiastic of (born at) Tarragona
  - Wrote a history of the world to 417 A.D. at the request of Augustine
    - Principle sources were Justin and Jerome-Eusebius

- Designed to promote the Christian faith
- ❖ Martianus Capella (5<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.)
  - An African
  - Wrote *De nuptiis Mercurii et Philologiae*
    - 9 books
    - An elaborate allegory of the marriage of Mercury and Philologia
    - Prose interspersed with verse
    - Philologia is carried off to heaven, accompanied by a song from each of the Muses
    - The last 7 books describe the seven bridesmaids as well as espounds their characteristics: Grammar, Logic, Rhetoric, Geometry, Arithmetic, Astronomy, and Music – the 7 liberal arts
    - An encyclopedia in which pedantry and fantasy are mingled
    - Largely founded on the *Disciplinae* of Varro
- ❖ Minucius Felix
  - fl. 200-240 A.D.
  - early Christian apologist
  - *Octavius*
    - a dialogue between Octavius Januarius, Minucius Felix, and Caecilius Natalis – an educated pagan who converts in the end
- ❖ Anicius Manlius Severinus Boethius (480-524 A.D.)
  - Belonged to the gens Anici, which held many high offices during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Centuries
  - Entered the service of Theodoric
  - Consul in 510 A.D.

- Undertook the defense of a senator who was accused of secret correspondence with the Emperor of the East- he himself was charged with high treason and imprisoned, dying under torture
- Left several treatises on Christian doctrine
  - De Trinitate
  - Contra Eutychem et Nestorium
- Learned Greek at Athens, then translated the whole of Plato and Aristotle into Latin, showing how they agree philosophically
- Initiated the great dispute between the Nominalists and the Realists among the Schoolmen in his commentary on Porphyry by questioning whether genera and species have any real existence apart from the sensible objects composing them
- Most famous work: *Consolatio Philosophiae*
  - Written in prison
  - 5 books
  - Prose interspersed with verse (39 short poems in 13 different meters)
  - Philosophy ousts the Muses while consoling the prisoner (reminds him of how other thinkers have suffered)
  - Boethius lays forth his troubles before Philosophy, mourning the triumph of injustice
  - Philosophy then in reply enters upon the mystery of good vs. evil (If an evil man goes unpunished, he suffers all the more.)
  - Written from a philosophical standpoint (not a Christian one)
- ❖ Priscianus Caesariensis
  - A native of Caesarea in Mauretania
  - A grammarian at Constantinople under the Emperor of the East Anastasius (491-518 A.D.)

- Wrote a Latin Grammar
  - 18 books
  - Rich in quotations from classic authors
  - Founded largely on the work of Apollonius Dyscolus

## Part 5: Other Stuff

- ❖ Atellan Farces (Fabulae Atellanae)
  - Ancient comic dramatic performances (relevant in early Latin Literature)
  - Popular in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century B.C.
  - Represented scenes from country life
  - Stock characters:
    - Maccus- the fool, the soldier
    - Dossenus- the hunchback
    - Manducus- the glutton
    - Pappus- the greybeard, the peasant
    - Bucco- the gladiator
  - Named for the town of Atella in Campania
  - Pomponius (of Bononia) and Novius revived them in a more literary form (1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C.)
- ❖ Fescennine Verses (Versus Fescennini)
  - Ancient Italian verse
  - Originally in Saturnian
  - Sung in revelry to avert misfortunes
  - Composed for weddings and triumphs
  - Some are in trochaics
  - Called satiric verse
  - Celebrating the harvest and vintage festivals

## ❖ Ciceronian Age

- A period during which Latin literature reached its zenith
- Centers around Cicero
- 1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C.- a time of civil strife
- Includes such authors as Catullus, Varro, Sallust, and Nepos
- Characterized by a diversification of literary, oratory, rhetorical and philosophical style

## ❖ Pervigilium Veneris

- in trochaic tetrameters
- 93 lines long
- set in Sicily on the eve of the spring festival of Venus
- cras amet qui numquam amavit, quoque amavit cras amet
- celebrates the triumph of spring and resurgence of life

## ❖ Procopius

- c.500-562
- from Caesarea in Palestine
- Byzantine Greek historian
- Secretary to Belisarius whom he accompanied on campaigns
- Anectoda
  - Secret history covering the years 527-553
  - a virulent attack on the policies of Justinian
- History of the Wars of Justinian
  - 8 books
  - main source for the first 2/3 of Justinian's reign
  - Belisarius is portrayed very favorably vis a vis Justinian

## ❖ Apicius

- Marcus Gavius Apicius

- Contemporary of Tiberius
- De Re Coquinaria
  - 10 books
  - a corpus of Roman cooking recipes
- ❖ Augustan Age
  - Generally regarded as lasting from the death of Julius Caesar until the death of Ovid in 17 A.D.
  - Included such authors as Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Tibullus
  - Marked by the disappearance of oratory and scant prose
  - “Mature” literature- less originality and spontaneity than that of the preceding age