

BOOK X

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Alexander shows severity towards corrupt governors. Nearchus and Onesicritus return and report what they have learned and heard. The undeserved execution of Orsines, satrap of Parsagada. Revolt of the Odryse in Thrace (i).

*Disturbances in Greece. The governors in Asia are ordered to disband all their foreign troops. Harpalus, whom Alexander had made satrap of Babylon, fearing that he has lost the king's favour because of his offences, embezzles 5000 talents of the royal treasure and escapes to Europe, hoping to lead the Athenians to join him.*

Alexander plans to go to Athens, but learns that Harpalus, driven from Athens, has been killed in Crete. Alexander pays the debts of the soldiers, intending to send the older ones home and retain the rest. A mutiny takes place in the camp, which he quells (ii).

Alexander punishes thirteen of the mutineers. He calls an assembly of the foreign soldiers and praises them (iii).

*He chooses his body-guard and his attendants from the Persians. As the ringleaders of the revolt are being taken by Persian attendants to execution, one of them remonstrates with the king.*

Alexandér, in a rage, gives orders to throw them all into the river, bound as they were. The army submits to this and even calls for the punishment of others, if guilty (iv).

*The soldiers stand before the king's quarters in their tunics and beg for admission ; they are willing to be punished. His anger persists for two days. He then appears, and after mildly censuring their lack of discipline, declares that he is reconciled with them. He offers a splendid sacrifice and invites the leading men of the Persians and the Macedonians*

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to a banquet. Then all the weaker soldiers are mustered out with pay for past services and a talent each for travelling expenses. He gives orders that all sons begotten from Asiatic wives be left with him. More than 10,000 veterans, led by Craterus, are discharged and sent to Greece. Antipater is directed to give them special honours and privileges. Craterus is made governor of Macedonia, and Antipater is ordered to come to Alexander with reinforcements. Because of discord between Antipater and Olympias the king is suspicious of Antipater as being too important for a prefect. After making changes in the army, Alexander comes to Celonae, a town occupied by the descendants of Boeotians driven from their homes by Xerxes. A quarrel arises between Eumenes and Hephaestion. Alexander comes to Media, celebrated for its fine horses. At Ecbatana he offers sacrifices and celebrates games, and relaxes his mind with banquets. Hephaestion is taken ill and dies. His body is taken to Babylon and given a magnificent funeral. Alexander orders mourning for Hephaestion throughout the empire, and his friends vie with him in honouring Hephaestion; he is persuaded that Hephaestion is a god and Agathocles, a Samian, falls into great danger by weeping for him as if he were dead. Alexander marches against the Cossaei, a rude and warlike nation; he subdues them within 40 days. He founds cities and marches to Babylon. Nearchus warns him not to enter the city, but he scorns the prediction of the Chaldeans. He sails on the river Pallacopas to the land of the Arabians. He founds a city, in which he settled the aged and infirm Greeks and others who wished to remain there. In spite of many unfavourable omens, he enters Babylon. He is entertained by Nearchus at a banquet, and when he was about to retire was persuaded by Medius to attend a drinking-bout. After spending the night in drinking he is taken ill and within six days his strength is exhausted. The troops insist on being admitted to see him.

On his death-bed Alexander remained in the same posture until he had saluted every man in the army. He gives his ring to Perdicas, and directs that his body be taken to Ammon. He dies, saying that he left his kingdom "to the best man." A summary of his good qualities and his defects. His invariable good fortune (v).

Consultation as to his successor, and the various opinions of the Macedonians (vi).

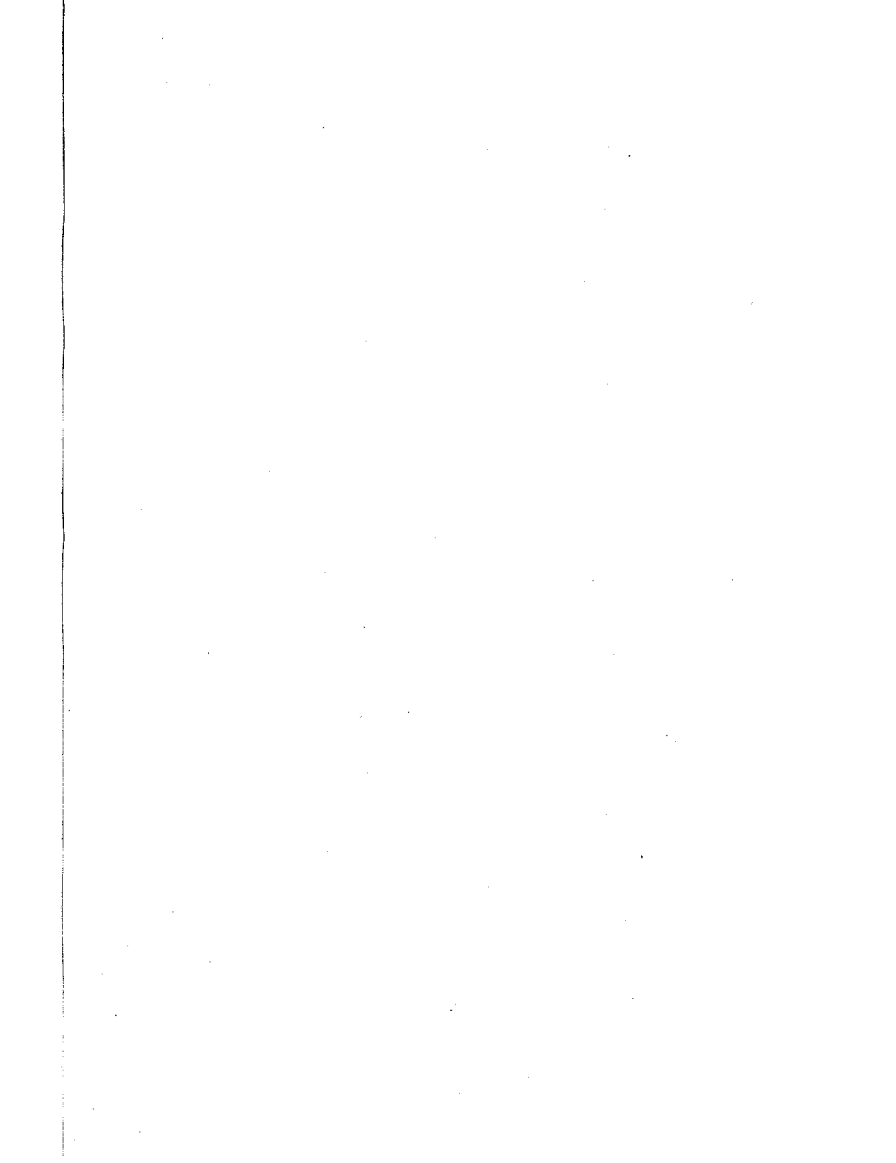
## QUINTUS CURTIUS

Meleager favours Alexander's brother Arrhidaeus. Pithon names Perdiccas and Leonnatus as regents for an expected son of Roxanê. Arrhidaeus with a guard of footsoldiers breaks into the king's quarters. Perdiccas and Leonnatus with their cavalry decide to leave the city (vii).

Meleager urges Arrhidaeus to kill Perdiccas. Perdiccas takes a position in the plains and afflicts Babylon with hunger. Arrhidaeus, desirous of peace, tries to quiet the disturbance (viii).

Perdiccas, while he is making a lustration of the army in the Macedonian manner, by a stratagem kills Meleager and about 30 other fomenters of discord (ix).

Perdiccas partitions Alexander's empire, giving the main part to Arrhidaeus and himself, the remainder to the leaders of the Macedonian forces. Rumour that Alexander was poisoned. The king's body is embalmed in the manner of the Egyptians and Chaldeans and taken by Ptolemy to Memphis and later to Alexandria (x).



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I. Eisdem fere diebus Cleander et Sitalces et cum Agathone Heracon superveniunt, qui Parmenionem iussu regis occiderant. v milia peditum cum equitibus 2 M, sed et<sup>1</sup> accusatores eos e provincia cui praefuerant sequebantur. Nec tot facinora quot admiserant compensare poterat caedis perquam gratae regi mini- 3 sterium. Quippe cum omnia profana spoliassent, ne sacris quidem abstinerant, virginesque et principes feminarum, supra perpressae, corporum ludibria 4 deflebant. Invisum Macedonum nomen avaritia 5 eorum ac libido barbaris fecerat. Inter omnes tamen eminebat Cleandri furor, qui nobilem virginem constupratam servo suo pelicem dederat. 6 Plerique amicorum Alexandri non tam criminum quae palam obiciebantur atrocitatem, quam memoriam occisi per illos Parmenionis, quod tacitum prodesse reis apud regem poterat, intuebantur, laeti reccidisse iram in irae ministros nec ullam potentiam

<sup>1</sup> sed et C; sed P.

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<sup>a</sup> Arr. vi. 27. 3 puts this event immediately after the entrance of Alexander into Carmania (see ix. 10. 20); *eisdem diebus* suggests that Curtius took the account of the seven days' procession through Carmania from another source.

<sup>b</sup> See Arr. iii. 26. 3 and on Agathon, iii. 12. 4. Heracon is mentioned nowhere else.

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I. AT about that same time <sup>a</sup> Cleander and Sitalces,<sup>b</sup> and Heracon with Agathon arrived, who at the king's  
2 order had killed Parmenion. 5000 infantry with  
1000 horsemen followed them, but also accusers from  
the provinces of which they had been governors.  
And the service rendered by the assassination,  
although very pleasing to the king, could not make  
amends for the many crimes which they had com-  
mitted. For not only had they pillaged everything  
secular, but they had not even withheld their hands  
from sacred objects, and maidens and women of high  
station who had suffered violation were weeping for  
4 the insult to their persons. Their greed and lust had  
made the name of the Macedonians hateful to the  
5 barbarians. Among them all, however, the mad  
passion <sup>c</sup> of Cleander was preëminent, who after  
having assaulted a maiden of high birth had given  
her to one of his slaves as a concubine.

6 Very many of Alexander's friends had an eye, not  
so much to the atrocity of the crimes that were openly  
laid to the charge of these men, as to the memory  
that they had killed Parmenion, which might secretly  
help the accused with the king; and they rejoiced that  
his anger had recoiled upon the tools of his anger,  
and that no power gained through crime was lasting

<sup>c</sup> Cf. Sen. *Hippol.* 178; Val. Flacc. v. 427 *amore furens.*

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