

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXVII

LXXVI Ὁ δὲ Σεουήρος ἐπὶ τῆς δεκετηρίδος τῆς ἀρχῆς  
 1, 1 αὐτοῦ ἐδώρησατο τῷ τε ὀμίλῳ παντὶ τῷ σιτο-  
 δοτουμένῳ<sup>1</sup> καὶ τοῖς στρατιώταις τοῖς δορυφόροις  
 ἰσαρίθμους τοῖς τῆς ἡγεμονίας ἔτεσι χρυσοῦς.  
 ἐφ' ᾧ καὶ μέγιστον ἠγάλλετο· καὶ γὰρ ὡς ἀληθῶς  
 οὐδεὶς πώποτε τοσοῦτον αὐτοῖς ἀθροῖς ἐδεδώκει·  
 ἐς γὰρ τὴν δωρεὰν ταύτην πεντακισχίλιαι μυριά-  
 2 δες δραχμῶν ἀναλώθησαν. ἐποιήθησαν δὲ καὶ οἱ  
 γάμοι τοῦ τε Ἀντωνίνου τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Σεουήρου  
 καὶ τῆς Πλαυτίλλης τῆς τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ θυ-  
 γατρός· καὶ τοσαῦτα τῇ θυγατρὶ οὗτος ἔδωκεν<sup>2</sup>  
 ὅσα καὶ πεντήκοντα γυναιξὶ βασιλίσσαις ἤρκεσεν  
 ἄν. εἶδομεν δὲ αὐτὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγορᾶς ἐς τὸ παλά-  
 τιον κομιζόμενα. εἰστιάθημεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῳ<sup>3</sup> ἅμα,  
 τὰ μὲν βασιλικῶς τὰ δὲ βαρβαρικῶς, ἐφθά τε  
 πάντα ὅσα νομίζεται, καὶ ὠμὰ ζῶντά τε ἄλλα  
 3 λαβόντες. ἐγένοντο δὲ καὶ θεαὶ τηνικαῦτα παντο-  
 दाπαὶ ἐπὶ τε τῇ ἀνακομιδῇ τοῦ Σεουήρου καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τῇ δεκετηρίδι αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐπὶ ταῖς νίκαις. ἐν ταύ-  
 ταις ταῖς θεαῖς καὶ σῦες τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ ἐξήκοντα  
 ἄγριοι ἐπάλαισαν ἀλλήλοις ὑπὸ παραγγελματος,  
 ἐσφάγησαν δὲ ἄλλα τε πολλὰ θηρία καὶ ἐλέφας  
 4 καὶ κοροκότας· τὸ δὲ ζῶον τοῦτο Ἰνδικόν τέ ἐστι,  
 καὶ τότε πρῶτον ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην, ὅσα καὶ ἐγὼ

<sup>1</sup> σιτοδοτουμένῳ Hoeschel, σιτοδοτουμένῳ VC.

<sup>2</sup> ἔδωκεν Bk., δέδωκεν VC.

<sup>3</sup> ἐν ταύτῳ Reim., ἐν τῷ VC.

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXVII

ON the occasion of the tenth anniversary of his A.D. 202  
 coming to power Severus presented to the entire  
 populace that received the grain dole and to the  
 soldiers of the pretorian guard gold pieces equal in  
 number to the years of his reign. He prided him-  
 self especially on this largess, and, in fact, no  
 emperor had ever before given so much to the  
 whole population at once; the total amount spent for  
 the purpose was two hundred million sesterces. The  
 nuptials of Antoninus, the son of Severus, and Plau-  
 tilla, Plautianus' daughter, were also celebrated at  
 this time; and Plautianus gave as much for his  
 daughter's dowry as would have sufficed for fifty  
 women of royal rank. We saw the gifts as they  
 were being carried through the Forum to the  
 palace. And we were all entertained together at a  
 banquet, partly in royal and partly in barbaric style,  
 receiving not only all the customary cooked viands  
 but also uncooked meat and sundry animals still  
 alive. At this time there occurred, too, all sorts of  
 spectacles in honour of Severus' return, the com-  
 pletion of his first ten years of power, and his vic-  
 tories. At these spectacles sixty wild boars of  
 Plautianus fought together at a signal, and among  
 many other wild beasts that were slain were an  
 elephant and a corocotta. This last animal is an  
 Indian species, and was then introduced into Rome  
 for the first time, so far as I am aware. It has the

ἐπίσταμαι, ἐσήχθη, ἔχει δὲ χροιάν μὲν λεαίνης  
 τίγριδι μεμιγμένης, εἶδος δὲ ἐκείνων τε καὶ κυνὸς  
 καὶ ἀλώπεκος ἰδίως πως συγκεκραμένον. τῆς δὲ  
 δεξαμενῆς ἀπάσης τῆς ἐν τῷ θεάτρῳ ἐς πλοίου  
 σχῆμα κατασκευασθείσης ὡς τετρακόσια θηρία  
 5 καὶ δέξασθαι καὶ ἀφεῖναι ἀθρώως, ἔπειτα ἐξαίφνης  
 διαλυθείσης ἀνέθορον ἄρκτοι λέαιναι πάνθηρες  
 λέοντες στρουθοὶ ὄναγροι βίσωνες<sup>1</sup> (βοῶν τι  
 τοῦτο εἶδος, βαρβαρικὸν τὸ γένος καὶ τὴν ὄψιν),  
 ὥστε ἑπτακόσια τὰ πάντα καὶ θηρία καὶ βοτὰ  
 ὁμοῦ καὶ διαθέοντα ὀφθῆναι καὶ σφαγῆναι· πρὸς  
 γὰρ τὸν τῆς ἑορτῆς ἀριθμὸν ἑπταήμερου γεγυυίας  
 καὶ ἐκεῖνα ἑπτάκις ἑκατὸν ἐγένετο.

2 Ἐν δὲ τῷ Βεσβίῳ<sup>2</sup> τῷ ὄρει πῦρ τε πλείστον  
 ἐξέλαμψε καὶ μυκῆματα μέγιστα ἐγένετο, ὥστε  
 καὶ ἐς τὴν Καπύην, ἐν ἣ, ὁσάκις ἂν ἐν τῇ Ἰταλίᾳ  
 οἰκῶ, διάγω, ἐξακουσθῆναι· τοῦτο γὰρ τὸ χωρίον  
 ἐξειλόμην τῶν τε ἄλλων ἔνεκα καὶ τῆς ἡσυχίας  
 ὅτι μάλιστα, ἵνα σχολῆν ἀπὸ τῶν ἀστικῶν πραγ-  
 2 μάτων ἄγων ταῦτα γράψαιμι. ἐδόκει οὖν ἐκ τῶν  
 περὶ τὸ Βέσβιον γεγονότων νεοχμὸν τι ἔσεσθαι,  
 καὶ μέντοι καὶ τὰ περὶ τὸν Πλαυτιανὸν αὐτίκα  
 ἐνεοχμώθη. μέγας μὲν γὰρ ὡς ἀληθῶς ὁ Πλαυ-  
 τιανὸς καὶ ὑπέρμεγας ἐγεγόνει, ὥστε καὶ τὸν  
 δῆμον ἐν τῷ ἵπποδρόμῳ ποτὲ εἰπεῖν· “τί τρέμεις,  
 3 τί δὲ ὠχριάς; πλείον τῶν τριῶν κέκτησαι.” ἔλε-  
 γον δὲ τοῦτο οὐ πρὸς ἐκείνον δῆθεν ἀλλ’ ἄλλως,

<sup>1</sup> βίσωνες Bk., βίσσωνες VC.

<sup>2</sup> Βεσβίῳ Reim., βαιβίω (and βαιβίον below) VC.

<sup>1</sup> Pliny (*N. H.* viii. 21, 30) describes the corocotta as the offspring of a dog and wolf, and again (viii. 30, 45) as the offspring of a hyena and lioness. Capitolinus (*Vit. Antonin.*

colour of a lioness and tiger combined, and the general A.D. 202  
 appearance of those animals, as also of a dog and a  
 fox, curiously blended.<sup>1</sup> The entire receptacle in  
 the amphitheatre had been constructed so as to  
 resemble a boat in shape, and was capable of receiv-  
 ing or discharging four hundred beasts at once; and  
 then, as it suddenly fell apart, there came rushing  
 forth bears, lionesses, panthers, lions, ostriches, wild  
 asses, bisons (this is a kind of cattle foreign in  
 species and appearance), so that seven hundred  
 beasts in all, both wild and domesticated, at one  
 and the same time were seen running about and  
 were slaughtered. For to correspond with the dura-  
 tion of the festival, which lasted seven days, the  
 number of the animals was also seven times one  
 hundred.

On Mount Vesuvius a huge fire blazed up, and  
 there were bellowings mighty enough to be heard  
 even in Capua, where I live whenever I am in Italy.  
 I have selected this place for various reasons, and  
 particularly for its quiet, in order that when I have  
 leisure from the offices of the capital I may write  
 this history. In view, now, of what happened on  
 Vesuvius, it seemed probable that some change in  
 the State was about to occur; and, in fact, there  
 was an immediate change in the fortunes of Plau-  
 tianus. This man had in very truth grown great  
 and more than great, so that even the populace in  
 the Circus once exclaimed: “Why do you tremble?  
 Why are you pale? You possess more than do the  
 three.” They pretended, to be sure, that they were  
 not saying this of him but in another connexion, but

10, 9) states that the first Antoninus had exhibited the  
 animal in Rome.

τρεῖς δὲ ἐνέβαινον τὸν τε Σεουήρον καὶ τοὺς υἱέας  
 αὐτοῦ Ἀντωνῖνον καὶ Γέταν· ὠχρία δὲ αἰεὶ καὶ  
 ἔτρεμεν ἕκ τε τῆς διαίτης ἣν διητάτο, καὶ ἐκ τῶν  
 ἐλπίδων ὧν ἠλπίζε, καὶ ἐκ τῶν φόβων ὧν ἐφο-  
 βεῖτο. οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ τέως μὲν ἦτοι ἐλάνθανε τὰ  
 4 πλείω αὐτὸν τὸν Σεουήρον, ἢ καὶ εἰδὼς αὐτὰ οὐ  
 τελευτῶν πάντα τὰ κατὰ τὸν Πλαυτιανόν, ἅτε  
 καὶ μισῶν αὐτὸν καὶ μηκέτι φοβούμενος, ἐμήνυσε,  
 ἐκεῖνόν τε χαλκοῦν ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ ἔστησε καὶ τοῦτον  
 οὐκέθ' ὁμοίως ἐτίμησεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῆς δυνάμεως  
 5 τῆς πολλῆς παρέλυσεν. ὅθεν ὁ Πλαυτιανὸς δεινῶς  
 ἠγανάκτησε, καὶ τὸν Ἀντωνῖνον καὶ πρότερον διὰ  
 τὴν θυγατέρα ἀτιμαζομένην ὑπ' αὐτοῦ μισῶν τότε  
 δὴ καὶ μάλιστα ἤχθαιρεν ὡς αἴτιον τῆς ἀτιμίας  
 ἐκείνης αὐτῷ, καὶ τραχύτερον αὐτῷ προσφέρεσθαι  
 ἤρξατο.  
 3 Δι' οὖν ταῦτα ὁ Ἀντωνῖνος τῇ τε γυναικὶ ἀναι-  
 δεστάτῃ οὕσῃ ἀχθόμενος, καὶ αὐτῷ ἐκείνῳ, ὅτι τε  
 πάντα ὅσα ἐπραπτεν ἐπολυπραγμόνει καὶ ὅτι ἐπὶ  
 πᾶσιν αὐτῷ ἐπετίμα, βαρυνόμενος, ἀπαλλαγῆναι  
 2 τρόπον τινὰ αὐτοῦ ἐπεθύμησε. κακὸν τούτου δι'  
 Εὐόδου τοῦ τροφέως αὐτοῦ<sup>1</sup> Σατορνῖνόν τινα ἐκα-  
 τόνταρχον καὶ ἄλλους δύο ὁμοίους αὐτῷ ἔπεισεν  
 ἐσαγγεῖλαι οἱ ὅτι δέκα τισὶν ἑκατοντάρχους, ἕξ  
 ὧν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἦσαν, ὁ Πλαυτιανὸς κεκελευκὼς εἶη  
 3 καὶ τὸν Σεουήρον καὶ τὸν Ἀντωνῖνον κτεῖναι· καὶ  
 τινα καὶ γραφὴν ὡς καὶ ἐπ' αὐτῷ τούτῳ εἰληφότες  
 ἀνεγίνωσκον. ἐξαίφνης δὲ ταῦτ' ἐν ταῖς θεωρίαις

<sup>1</sup> αὐτοῦ Reim., αὐτοῦ VC.

by "the three" they meant Severus and his two A.D. 202  
 sons, Antoninus and Geta; and Plautianus was  
 always pale and trembling because of the kind of  
 life he lived, the hopes he entertained, and the  
 fears he felt. And yet for a time most of this con-  
 duct of Plautianus was not noticed by Severus him-  
 self, or, if he did know of it, he pretended not to  
 know. When, however, his brother Geta on his  
 deathbed revealed to him all the facts about Plau-  
 tianus,—for Geta hated the prefect and now no  
 longer feared him,—the emperor set up a bronze  
 statue of his brother in the Forum and no longer  
 held his minister in the same honour, but stripped  
 him of most of his power. Hence Plautianus became  
 very indignant; he had even before this hated An-  
 toninus for slighting his daughter, but now detested  
 him more than ever as being responsible for this  
 slight which had been put upon him, and he began  
 to behave rather harshly toward him.

For these reasons Antoninus, in addition to being  
 disgusted with his wife, who was a most shameless  
 creature, felt resentment against Plautianus as well,  
 because he kept meddling in all his undertakings  
 and rebuking him for everything that he did; and  
 so he conceived the desire to get rid of him in  
 some way or other. Accordingly he got Euodus, A.D. 205  
 his tutor, to persuade a certain centurion, Saturninus,  
 and two others of the same rank with him to bring  
 him word that Plautianus had ordered ten specified  
 centurions, these three being of the number, to kill  
 both Severus and Antoninus; and they read a certain  
 written communication, pretending that they had  
 received it in connexion with this very plot. Now  
 this was all carried out suddenly at the festival held

ταῖς ἐν τῷ παλατίῳ ἤρωσι πεποιημέναις, τῆς τε  
 θεᾶς ἀφειμένης καὶ δείπνου μέλλοντος ἔσεσθαι,  
 ἐγίνετο.<sup>1</sup> ὅθεν οὐχ ἡκιστα τὸ σκευώρημα κατε-  
 4 φάνη· οὐ γὰρ ἂν οὔτε ἑκατοντάρχους δέκα ἅμα  
 οὔτε ἐν τῇ Ῥώμῃ οὔτε ἐν τῷ παλατίῳ οὔτε ἐκείνῃ  
 τῇ ἡμέρᾳ οὔτε ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ τοιοῦτό τι ὁ Πλαυ-  
 τιανός, ἄλλως τε καὶ γράψας, προστάξει ἐτετολ-  
 μήκει. ὁμως πιστὸν αὐτὸ ἔδοξε τῷ Σεουήρῳ,  
 ὅτι τῇ νυκτὶ τῇ προτεραίᾳ τὸν Ἀλβῖνον ὄναρ  
 ζῶντά τε καὶ ἐπιβουλεύοντα αὐτῷ<sup>2</sup> ἑώρακει.

4 Σπουδῇ οὖν, ὡς καὶ ἐπ' ἄλλο τι, τὸν Πλαυτιανὸν  
 μετεπέμψατο. καὶ ὃς οὕτως ἠπείχθη, μᾶλλον δὲ  
 οὕτως αὐτῷ τὸν ὄλεθρον τὸ δαιμόνιον προεμήνυσεν,  
 ὥστε τὰς ἡμίονους τὰς ἀγούσας αὐτὸν πεσεῖν ἐν  
 2 τῷ παλατίῳ. καὶ αὐτὸν<sup>3</sup> ἐσιόντα οἱ θυρωροὶ οἱ  
 ἐπὶ τῶν κινγκλίδων μόνον ἐσεδέξαντο, οὐδ' εἴασαν  
 οὐδένα αὐτῷ συνεσελθεῖν· ὅπερ ποτὲ αὐτὸς περὶ  
 τὸν Σεουήρῳ ἐν τοῖς Τυάνοις ἐπεποιήκει. καὶ  
 ὑπώπτευσεν μὲν τι ἐκ τούτου, περίφοβός τε ἐγέ-  
 νετο, οὐ μὲντοι ἔχων ὅπως ἀναχωρήσει ἐσῆλθε.

3 καὶ ὁ Σεουήρῳ καὶ πάνυ πράως αὐτῷ διελέχθη·  
 “τί τε τοῦτο ἔδοξέ σοι ποιῆσαι, καὶ διὰ τί ἀπο-  
 κτεῖναι ἡμᾶς ἠθέλησας;” λόγον τε αὐτῷ ἔδωκε,  
 καὶ παρεσκευάζετο ὡς καὶ ἀπολογουμένου αὐτοῦ  
 ἀκούσων. ἀλλ' ὁ Ἀντωνῖνος ἀρνούμενον τε αὐτὸν  
 καὶ θαυμάζοντα τὰ λεγόμενα τό τε ξίφος προσπη-

<sup>1</sup> ἐγίνετο Bk., ἐγίνοντο VC.

<sup>2</sup> αὐτῷ Bk., αὐτῶ VC.

in the palace in honour of dead ancestors,<sup>1</sup> after the A.D. 205  
 spectacle was over and as dinner was about to be  
 served. These circumstances in particular betrayed  
 the fraud; for Plautianus would never have dared  
 to give such instructions either to ten centurions at  
 once, or in Rome, or in the palace, or on that day,  
 or at that hour, and especially not in writing.  
 Nevertheless Severus believed the information trust-  
 worthy, inasmuch as he had dreamed the night  
 before that Albinus was alive and plotting against  
 him.

He therefore summoned Plautianus in haste, as if  
 upon some other business. And Plautianus hurried  
 so, or rather Heaven gave him such an intimation of  
 his approaching destruction, that the mules that  
 brought him dropped in the palace yard. And  
 when he entered, the porters at the latticed gates  
 admitted him alone inside and would permit no one  
 else to go in with him, just as he himself had once  
 done in the case of Severus at Tyana. This caused  
 him to suspect something, and he became alarmed;  
 but as he had no way of withdrawing, he went in.  
 Severus talked to him in a very mild manner, and  
 asked: “Why have you seen fit to do this? Why  
 did you wish to kill us?” He also gave him an  
 opportunity to speak and acted as if intending to  
 listen to his defence. But Antoninus, as Plautianus  
 was making denial and expressing amazement at  
 what was said, rushed up, took away his sword, and

<sup>1</sup> Apparently an “All Souls’ Day,” the departed ancestors  
 (or “heroes”) probably being, in this case, the deified em-  
 perors.

<sup>3</sup> αὐτὸν R. Steph., αὐτὸ VC.

4 δῆσας ἀφείλετο καὶ πύξ ἔπαισε· καὶ ἠθέλησε μὲν καὶ αὐτοχειρία σφάξαι εἰπόντα ὅτι “ἔφθης με κτείνει,” ὑπὸ δὲ τοῦ πατρὸς κωλυθεὶς ἐκέλευσέ τινι τῶν ὑπηρετῶν φονεῦσαι αὐτόν. καὶ αὐτὸν τις τῶν τριχῶν τοῦ γενείου ἐκτίλας<sup>1</sup> τῇ τε Ἰουλίᾳ καὶ τῇ Πλαυτίλλῃ<sup>2</sup> προσήνεγκεν ὁμοῦ οὔσαις, πρὶν καὶ ὅτιοῦν αὐτὰς ἀκοῦσαι, καὶ εἶπεν “ἴδετε τὸν Πλαυτιανὸν ὑμῶν,” κακ τούτου τῇ μὲν πένθος<sup>5</sup> τῇ δὲ χαρὰν ἐνέβαλεν. ἐκεῖνος μὲν καὶ μέγιστον τῶν ἐπ’ ἐμοῦ<sup>3</sup> ἀνθρώπων δυναθείς, ὥστε καὶ αὐτῶν τῶν αὐτοκρατόρων<sup>4</sup> μᾶλλον πάντας καὶ φοβεῖσθαι αὐτὸν καὶ τρέμειν, καὶ ἐπὶ μεζόνων ἐλπίδων αἰωρηθεὶς, οὕτως ὑπὸ τε τοῦ γαμβροῦ ἐσφάγη καὶ ἄνωθεν ἀπὸ τοῦ παλατίου ἐς ὁδὸν τινα ἐρρίφη· μετὰ ταῦτα γὰρ καὶ ἀνηρέθη καὶ ἐτάφη τοῦ Σεουήρου κελεύσαντος.

5 Καὶ ὁ Σεουήρος μετὰ ταῦτα συνήγαγε μὲν τὴν βουλὴν ἐς τὸ συνέδριον, οὐ μέντοι καὶ κατηγόρησέ τι τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ, ἀλλ’ αὐτὸς μὲν τὴν τε φύσιν τὴν ἀνθρωπίνην ὡς μὴ δυναμένην τιμὰς ὑπερόγκους<sup>2</sup> στέγειν ὠδύρατο, καὶ ἑαυτὸν ἠτιάσατο ὅτι οὕτως αὐτὸν ἐτετιμῆκει καὶ ἐπεφιλήκει, τοὺς δὲ δὴ μηνύσαντάς οἱ τὴν ἐπιβουλὴν<sup>5</sup> αὐτοῦ πάνθ’ ἡμῖν εἰπεῖν ἐκέλευσεν, ἐκβαλὼν ἐκ τοῦ συνεδρίου τοὺς οὐκ ἀναγκαίους, ἵν’ ἐκ τοῦ μηδὲν διηγῆσασθαι<sup>3</sup> ἐνδείξῃται ὅτι οὐ πᾶν σφίσι πιστεύει. πολλοὶ μὲν οὖν διὰ τὸν Πλαυτιανὸν ἐκινδύνευσαν, καὶ τινες καὶ ἀπέθανον· ὁ μὲντοι Κοίρανος ἔλεγε μὲν, οἷά που πλείστοι πρὸς τοὺς εὐτυχοῦντας πλάτ-

<sup>1</sup> ἐκτίλας H. Steph., ἐκτίλλας VC.

<sup>2</sup> Πλαυτίλλῃ R. Steph., πλακίλλῃ VC.

<sup>3</sup> ἐμοῦ H. Steph., ἐμέ VC.

<sup>4</sup> αὐτοκρατόρων H. Steph., ἀνακτόρων VC.

struck him with his fist; and he even wanted to kill A.D. 205 him with his own hands, after the other had remarked, “You have forestalled me in killing.” But, being prevented by his father, Antoninus ordered one of the attendants to slay Plautianus. And somebody plucked out a few hairs from his beard, carried them to Julia and Plautilla, who were together, before they had heard a word of the affair, and exclaimed, “Behold your Plautianus,” thus causing grief to the one and joy to the other. Thus this man, who had possessed the greatest power of all the men of my time, so that everyone regarded him with greater fear and trembling than the very emperors, and who had been led on to still greater hopes, was slain by his son-in-law and his body thrown down from the palace into a street; for it was only afterwards that, at the command of Severus, he was taken up and buried.

Severus later called a meeting of the senate in the senate-house, where, however, he uttered no accusation against Plautianus, but merely deplored the weakness of human nature, which cannot endure excessive honours, and blamed himself in that he had so loved and honoured this man. Then he ordered those who had informed him of Plautianus’ plot to tell us everything; but first he removed from the chamber those whose presence was not necessary, so as to make it clear, through his refusal to reveal anything to them, that he did not altogether trust them. Many, accordingly, found their lives in danger on account of Plautianus, and some were actually put to death. As for Coeranus, however, though he admitted (a mere pretence, no doubt,

<sup>5</sup> ἐπιβουλὴν Sylb., βουλὴν VC.

τουται αεί, ἑταῖρός τε αὐτοῦ εἶναι, καὶ ὁσάκις γε  
 ἐκεῖνοι πρὸ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν ἀσπαζομένων αὐτὸν  
 ἐσεκαλοῦντο, συνεφείπετό σφισι μέχρι τῆς κιν-  
 κλίδος τῆς τελευταίας, οὐ μέντοι καὶ ἐκοινῶνει  
 4 τῶν ἀπορρήτων, ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ μεταίχμιῳ διατρίβων  
 Πλαυτιανῷ μὲν ἔξω τοῖς δὲ ἔξω ἔνδον ἐδόκει  
 εἶναι· καὶ διὰ τε<sup>1</sup> τοῦτο πλέον ὑπωπτεύθη, καὶ  
 διότι ὄναρ ποτὲ τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ ἰδόντος ἰχθύς  
 τινὰς ἐκ τοῦ Τιβέριδος ἀναβάντας πρὸς τοὺς  
 πόδας αὐτοῦ προσπεπτωκέαι, ἔφη καὶ τῆς γῆς  
 5 αὐτὸν καὶ τοῦ ὕδατος ἄρξειν. ἀλλ' οὗτος ἐπὶ  
 ἑπτὰ ἔτη ἐν νήσῳ περιορισθεὶς κατήχθη τε μετὰ  
 τοῦτο, καὶ ἐς τὴν γερουσίαν πρῶτος Αἰγυπτίων  
 κατελέχθη, καὶ ὑπάτευσε μηδεμίαν ἄλλην ἀρχὴν  
 6 προάρξας, ὡς περὶ ὁ Πομπήιος. Καικίλιος μέντοι  
 Ἀγρικόλας ἐν τοῖς πρώτοις τῶν κολάκων αὐτοῦ  
 ἀριθμούμενος, πονηρία δὲ καὶ ἀσελγεία οὐδενὸς  
 ἀνθρώπων δεύτερος ὢν, κατεψηφίσθη ἀποθανεῖν,  
 ἐλθὼν δὲ οἴκαδε καὶ οἴνου ἐψυγμένου ἐμπλησθεὶς  
 τό τε ποτήριον, ὃ πέντε μυριάδων ἐώνητο, συνέ-  
 τριψε, καὶ ἐπαπέθανεν αὐτῷ τὰς φλέβας τεμών.  
 6 Σατορνῖνος μέντοι καὶ Εὐόδος τότε μὲν ἐτιμή-  
 θησαν, ὕστερον δὲ ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἀντωνίνου ἐθανατώ-  
 θησαν. ψηφίζομένων δὲ ἡμῶν ἐπαίνους τινὰς τῷ  
 Εὐόδῳ ὁ Σεουήρος ἐκώλυσεν εἰπὼν· “αἰσχρὸν  
 ἐστὶν ἐν δόγματι ὑμῶν τοιοῦτό τι περὶ Καισαρείου

<sup>1</sup> τε supplied by Bk.

such as most men are wont to indulge in when A.D. 205  
 referring to those who are favoured by Fortune) that  
 he had been an intimate of Plautianus and that,  
 whenever the other suspected senators were invited  
 into his house in advance of the general throng of  
 those who came to pay Plautianus their respects, he  
 had accompanied them as far as the last gate, yet he  
 denied that he had shared in Plautianus' secrets,  
 asserting that he always remained in the space mid-  
 way, thus giving to Plautianus the impression that  
 he was outside and to those outside that he was  
 inside. Because of this he was regarded with all  
 the greater suspicion; and there was the further  
 reason that once, when Plautianus dreamed that  
 fishes came up out of the Tiber and fell at his feet,  
 Coeranus had declared that he should rule both the  
 land and the water. But this man, after being con-  
 fined on an island for seven years, was later recalled,  
 was the first Egyptian to be enrolled in the senate,  
 and became consul, like Pompey, without having  
 previously held any other office. Caecilius Agricola,  
 on the other hand, who was numbered among the  
 foremost flatterers of Plautianus and was second to  
 no man on earth in knavery and licentiousness,  
 was sentenced to death; he accordingly went home  
 and, after drinking his fill of chilled wine, shattered  
 the cup, which had cost him two hundred thousand  
 sesterces, and cutting his veins, fell dead upon the  
 fragments. As for Saturninus and Euodus, they  
 were honoured at the time, but were later executed  
 by Antoninus. While we were engaged in voting  
 sundry eulogies to Euodus, Severus restrained us,  
 saying: "It would be disgraceful for anything of  
 that sort concerning an imperial freedman to appear

2 ἀνδρὸς γεγράφθαι.” καὶ οὐ τοῦτον μόνον ἀλλὰ  
καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους ἅπαντας τοὺς βασιλικούς ἀπε-  
λευθέρους οὐθ' ὑβρίζειν οὐθ' ὑπεραυχεῖν εἶα· ἐφ'  
ὧ καὶ καλῶς ἤκουεν. ἢ δ' αὖ γερουσία ὑμνοῦσα  
ποτε αὐτὸν καὶ αὐτὸ τοῦτο ἀντικρυσ ἐξεβόησεν,  
ὅτι “ πάντες πάντα καλῶς ποιούσιν, ἐπειδὴ σὺ  
3 καλῶς ἄρχεις.” Πλαυτίλλα δὲ καὶ Πλαύτιος,<sup>1</sup>  
οἱ τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ υἱεῖς, τότε μὲν ἐσώθησαν ἐς  
Λιπάραν ἐξορισθέντες, ἐπὶ δ' Ἀντωνίνου ἀπώ-  
λοντο· καίτοι καὶ ζῶντες ἔν τε δέει καὶ ταλαι-  
πωρία πολλῇ τῶν τε ἀναγκαίων οὐκ εὐπορία  
διήγον.—Xiph. 314, 13—318, 9 R. St., Exc. Val.  
350 (p. 741).

7 Οἱ δὲ τοῦ Σεουήρου παῖδες, ὃ τε Ἀντωνίνος  
καὶ ὁ Γέτας, οἷον παιδαγωγοῦ τινὸς ἀπηλλαγμένοι  
τοῦ Πλαυτιανοῦ, οὐδὲν ὃ τι οὐκ ἐποίουν. καὶ  
γὰρ καὶ γυναῖκας ἤσχυνον καὶ παῖδας ὑβρίζον  
χρήματά τε παρεξέλεγον, καὶ τοὺς μονομάχους  
τούς τε ἀρματηλάτας προσηταιρίζοντο, τῇ μὲν  
ὁμοιότητι τῶν ἔργων ζηλοῦντες ἀλλήλους, τῷ δὲ  
2 ἀντισπουδάζειν στασιάζοντες· εἰ γάρ τῳ ὁ ἕτερος  
προσέθετο, πάντως ἂν τὸ ἐναντίον ὁ ἕτερος ἀνθη-  
ρεῖτο. καὶ τέλος συμβαλόντες ἐν γυμνασίᾳ τινὶ  
ἵππων σμικρῶν ζεύγεσιν ἐς μεγάλην φιλονεικίαν  
ἤλασαν, ὥστε τὸν Ἀντωνίνον ἐκπεσεῖν τε ἐκ τοῦ  
3 δικύκλου καὶ τὸ σκέλος κατεάξαι. παθόντος δὲ  
αὐτοῦ<sup>2</sup> τοῦτο καὶ νοσηλευομένου ὁ Σεουήρος οὐδὲν  
τῶν ἀναγκαίων τὸ παράπαν ἐξέλιπεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ  
ἐδίκαζεν καὶ πάντα τὰ τῇ ἀρχῇ προσήκοντα  
διώκει. καὶ ἐπὶ μὲν<sup>3</sup> τούτῳ καὶ ἐπηνεῖτο, τὸν  
δὲ δὴ Κύντιλλον τὸν Πλαυτιανὸν φονεύσας αἰτίαν

<sup>1</sup> Πλαύτιος Sylb., πλαῦτος VC.

in one of your decrees.” Nor was this the only <sup>A.D. 205</sup>  
instance of such an attitude on his part; he also  
refused to allow any of the other imperial freedmen,  
either, to act insolently or to give themselves airs;  
and for this he was well spoken of. The senate, in  
fact, while chanting his praises once went so far as  
to shout out these words: “All do all things well  
since you rule well.” Plautilla and Plautius, the  
children of Plautianus, were for the time being per-  
mitted to live, being banished to Lipara, but in the  
reign of Antoninus they perished; and yet even while  
they lived they passed their lives in great fear and  
wretchedness and with no abundance of the neces-  
saries of life.

The sons of Severus, Antoninus and Geta, feeling  
that they had got rid of a pedagogue, as it were, in  
Plautianus, now went to all lengths in their conduct.  
They outraged women and abused boys, they em-  
bezzled money, and made gladiators and charioteers  
their boon companions, emulating each other in the  
similarity of their deeds, but full of strife in their  
rivalries; for if the one attached himself to a certain  
faction, the other would be sure to choose the  
opposite side. And at last they were pitted against  
each other in some kind of contest with teams of  
ponies and drove with such fierce rivalry that  
Antoninus fell out of his two-wheeled chariot and  
broke his leg. Severus, during his son's illness that  
followed this accident, did not neglect any of his  
duties in the least, but held court and attended all  
the business pertaining to his office. And for this  
he was praised; but he was censured for killing

<sup>2</sup> αὐτοῦ Val., αὐτὸ cod. Peir.

<sup>3</sup> μὲν supplied by Bk.

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



The Complete Text can be found on our CD:  
**Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature**  
which can be purchased on our Website :  
[www.Brainfly.net](http://www.Brainfly.net)

or

by sending **\$64.95** in check or money order to :  
**Brainfly Inc.**  
**5100 Garfield Ave. #46**  
**Sacramento CA 95841-3839**

## **TEACHER'S DISCOUNT:**

If you are a **TEACHER** you can take advantage of our teacher's discount. Click on **Teachers Discount** on our website ([www.Brainfly.net](http://www.Brainfly.net)) or **Send us \$55.95** and we will send you a full copy of *Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature* **AND** our *5000 Classics CD (a collection of over 5000 classic works of literature in electronic format (.txt))* plus our *Wholesale price list*.

If you have any suggestions such as books you would like to see added to the collection or if you would like our wholesale prices list please send us an email to:

[webcomments@brainfly.net](mailto:webcomments@brainfly.net)