



METADATA

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Abstract

This book is an excellent introduction to Roman historiography and the work of the leading Roman historian, Cornelius Tacitus. It is an annotated edition of chapters 20-23 and 33-45 of Book 15 of the Annals, in which Tacitus recounts the shocking events of 62-64 AD. The central event is the great fire of Rome (64 AD) that wiped out much of the city (with an account of both what preceded and what followed). This book is an excellent study of these particularly interesting and turbulent years in Roman history. It makes good use of the available bibliography and is remarkable for its intelligent and engaging style of writing. The extensive Introduction is made up of six highly informative

essays. The first three focus on the life, times, and work of Tacitus, while the fourth explores his style and distinctive characteristics. The last two essays paint a vivid portrait of the cultural and political scene in Rome at the time. The Main Part provides the Latin text along with a rich vocabulary and questions that invite the reader to explore various issues, such as grammatical identifications, analysis of sentence structure, legal and political issues. The interpretive comments are very rich in stylistic and historical analysis, analysis of the syntactic structure of sentences, and offer original insight into the word order and Tacitus' choice of diction.

