

Name _____ Due Date _____

A Pillar of Iron Assignment 5 Read pages 200-250.

Answer in complete sentences each question as you read the book. Questions are given in the same order that you will come to them in the book. Page numbers (in parentheses) are those in my book which may not be the same as your book.

I. Please write a one sentence description of the following characters in history:

Sulla, Carbo, Cinna, Pompey

II. Glossary

marauder (215) *raider*

peremptory (224) *authoritative, decisive*

bumpkin (216) *an awkward person*

obdurate (227) *stubborn, immovable*

effete (216) *having lost character or vitality*

insouciant (229) *rude*

countenance (217) *expression or face*

exigency (230) *a demand, necessity, emergency*

subaltern (218) *a subordinate*

rapacious (239) *grasping or covetous*

meretricious (218) *tawdry and falsely attractive*

polemics (239) *an aggressive conversationalist*

umbrage (219) *offense, indignation*

pejorative (239) *negative or unkind*

conciliatory (220) *appeasing, pacifying*

injudicious (220) *ill-advised, foolish*

arcane (241) *mysterious*

nonplused (221) *puzzled*

portent (242) *something that foreshadows an event*

mountebank (222) *a boastful pretender*

pusillanimous (245) *lacking courage, timid*

serpentine (223) *winding, bending*

slavered (249) *drooled, slobbered*

mellifluous (223) *smooth, honeyed*

preternaturally (224) *exceeding what is natural*

II. Questions

Chapter Seventeen

1. What advice did Scaevola give Marcus about defending the guilty? (200-201)
2. Why did Marcus believe that governments are enemies of the people? (202)
3. In what way did you begin to feel the struggle that Marcus felt when he was nearly drowned? (205)

Chapter Eighteen

4. Why did he say not to enlighten (tell) Eunice about the attack? Do you think this comment had any merit? (213)
5. How did Marcus convince the centurion to help him get to Rome? (218)

Chapter Nineteen

6. What did Marcus remember about the man who attacked him? (223)
7. Why did Casinus want an attorney to help him? (225)
8. What did Marcus say about Aristotle's comment regarding law? (226)
9. Why is a petty bureaucrat dangerous? (227)
10. How does a republic decay into a democracy? (229)

Chapter Twenty

11. What had happened to Livia? (238)

Dome of the Pantheon, where Livia may have been praying.



(above) part of the interior of the Pantheon today, now that it has become a Christian church.

Chapter Twenty-one

An important definition for you which you will need to know for a quiz:

A Republic... A Republic means “government by written and permanent law” (Will Durant). It might have been the basis for much of the American Republic, except for one major flaw. Its laws were not based on God’s Law. However, it did have *The Twelve Tables*, a law which was often amended by the Senate and was publicly displayed on columns throughout the city, and which established some features which *our* Republic borrowed, such as an elaborate system of checks and balances.

The United States is technically a *republic*, which means that when the majority of the people or their representatives vote for something it only becomes law if it does not conflict with the Constitution.

Rome did not choose to set up a *democracy* because it had seen the problems with democracy in Athens. They knew that a pure democracy, “rule by the majority”, would set the stage for mob rule, and that a stable society must be maintained based upon an unbiased law. In a true democracy, a crowd could be convinced to vote for things as a group that they would never do on an individual basis. An example of that is the way that the Jews were convinced to demand the release of Barabbas instead of Christ. Individually, many of those people knew that Barabbas was a criminal and that Christ had only shown

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kindness and compassion to them. But when they were manipulated by a few well-placed agitators in the crowd, they screamed for the release of Barabbas.

12. Who receives the votes of the people, according to Scaevola? (243)

13. Summarize in one sentence Marcus' eulogy of Scaevola.