

# Cicero: Ancient Classics for English Readers

Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 BCE) was a Roman statesman, orator, philosopher, and lawyer who played a pivotal role in the political and intellectual life of the late Roman Republic. His writings, speeches, and letters provide invaluable insights into Roman history, culture, and thought.



## Cicero Ancient Classics for English Readers

by Rev. W. Lucas Collins

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
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## Cicero's Life and Career

Cicero was born in Arpinum, a small town in central Italy. He came from a wealthy equestrian family and received a thorough education in rhetoric, philosophy, and law. He began his political career in 75 BCE and quickly rose through the ranks, becoming consul in 63 BCE.

As consul, Cicero played a key role in suppressing the Catiline Conspiracy, a plot to overthrow the Roman government. He also introduced a series of

important reforms, including the establishment of permanent criminal courts and the creation of a standing army.

Cicero's political career was marked by both success and controversy. He was a skilled orator and a master of political maneuvering. However, his outspoken nature and his opposition to Julius Caesar led to his downfall. In 49 BCE, Cicero was forced to flee Rome after Caesar crossed the Rubicon with his army.

Cicero returned to Rome after Caesar's assassination in 44 BCE, but he was unable to prevent the outbreak of civil war. He was proscribed by Mark Antony and Octavian and was murdered by Antony's soldiers in 43 BCE.

### **Cicero's Writings and Speeches**

Cicero was a prolific writer and orator. His works include speeches, letters, philosophical treatises, and political dialogues. His speeches are considered masterpieces of Roman oratory and provide valuable insights into Roman history and politics.

Cicero's philosophical works are influenced by both Greek and Roman thought. He wrote on a wide range of topics, including ethics, politics, and religion. His most famous philosophical work is *De Officiis* (On Duties), which has been widely read and studied for centuries.

Cicero's letters are an invaluable source of information about his life and times. They provide insights into his political and philosophical views, as well as his personal relationships. His letters to his friend Atticus are particularly revealing.

### **Cicero's Legacy**

Cicero is considered one of the most important figures in Roman history. His writings and speeches have had a profound impact on Western thought and culture. He is considered the father of Latin prose and his oratorical style has been imitated by generations of statesmen and lawyers.

Cicero's political philosophy is based on the idea of a mixed constitution, in which power is shared between the people, the aristocracy, and the monarchy. He believed that the best government is one that is based on the consent of the governed.

Cicero's writings and speeches continue to be read and studied today. They provide valuable insights into Roman history, culture, and thought. He is a towering figure whose legacy continues to inspire and inform.

## **Cicero: Ancient Classics for English Readers**

*Cicero: Ancient Classics for English Readers* is a comprehensive collection of Cicero's most important works, translated into English by some of the world's leading scholars. This volume includes a selection of Cicero's speeches, letters, and philosophical writings.

*Cicero: Ancient Classics for English Readers* is an essential resource for students of Roman history, culture, and thought. It is also a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of oratory, philosophy, and law.

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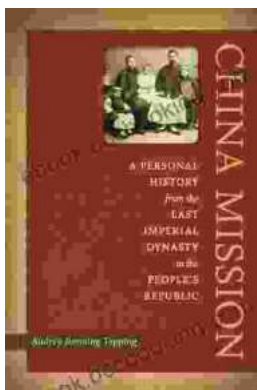
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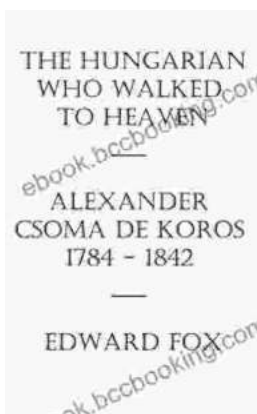


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