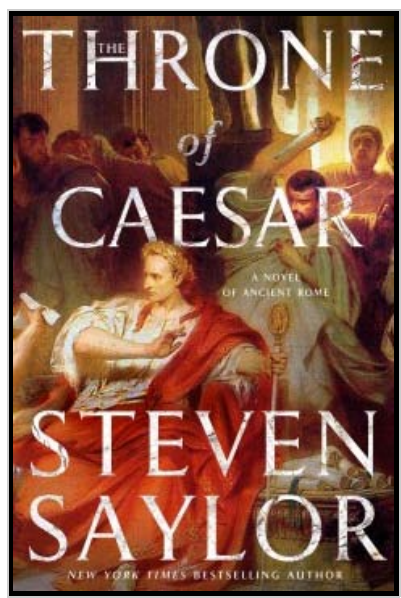


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## The Throne of Caesar

A Novel of Ancient Rome

by Steven Saylor

Price: \$27.99(E-Book)

Published: February 20, 2018

★★★★★

Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: "What a marvel!...Saylor's masterful storytelling puts you right there, wonderstruck and wide-eyed. Deliciously immersive, captivating entertainment from a justly celebrated writer." -- Margaret George In *The Throne of Caesar*, award-winning mystery author Steven Saylor turns to the most famous murder in history: It's Rome, 44 B.C., and the Ides of March are approaching. Julius Caesar, appointed dictator for life by the Roman Senate, has pardoned his remaining enemies and rewarded his friends. Now Caesar is preparing to leave Rome with his legions to wage a war of conquest against the Parthian Empire. But he has a few more things to do before he goes. Gordianus the Finder, after decades of investigating crimes and murders involving the powerful, has been raised to Equestrian rank and has firmly and finally decided to retire. But on the morning of March 10th, he's first summoned to meet with Cicero and then with Caesar himself. Both have the same request of Gordianus -- keep your ear to the ground, ask around, and find out if there are any conspiracies against Caesar's life. And Caesar has one other matter of vital importance to discuss. Gordianus's adopted son Meto has long been one of Caesar's closest confidants. To honor Meto, Caesar plans to bestow on Gordianus an honor which will change not only his life but the destiny of his entire family. It will happen when the Senate next convenes on the 15th of March. Gordianus must dust off his old skills and see what plots against Julius Caesar, if any, he can uncover. But more than one conspiracy is afoot. The Ides of March is fast approaching and at least one murder is inevitable.

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#### About The Author

Steven Saylor


Steven Saylor is the author of the long running Roma Sub Rosa series featuring Gordianus the Finder, as well as the *New York Times* bestselling novel, *Roma* and its follow-up, *Empire*. He has appeared as an on-air expert on Roman history and life on The History Channel. Saylor was born in Texas and graduated with high honors from The University of Texas at Austin, where he studied history and classics. He divides his time between Berkeley, California, and Austin, Texas.

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## What We Say

Is Steven Saylor retiring his long-running mystery series starring Gordianus the Finder? Certainly Gordianus himself hopes to retire from ferreting out crime and deceit in the age of Caesar, Marc Antony and Cicero. He's an old man after all and long-time fans of the tales will enjoy what feels like a career capper of a book. Saylor spends half his time reminiscing about old jobs and how far Gordianus and his family have risen in society. The other half of the time is spent reminiscing with old friends and touching base with clients past, present (and perhaps future). When those clients include the orator Cicero (the man who prodded Gordianus into his first case) and the wife of Caesar and Cinna (the greatest poet of his age) at least those moments are interesting. For all the nostalgic sense of winding things up with a graceful goodbye, this is a fine entry point for newcomers not ready to start at the beginning. Why? Because the murder at the heart of this story -- the assassination of Julius Caesar on the Ides Of March -- is so familiar to modern readers. That should make this a pretty dull mystery since most schoolchildren know Brutus of "Et tu" fame will be involved, along with a host of politicians. (Those backstabbers.) But Saylor pulls a nifty fast one. While we've been waiting for the assassination of Caesar, Saylor has been setting up another murder right in front of our eyes. He also takes on Shakespeare by offering his own Antony eulogy, not to mention describing not one but TWO epic poems that are masterpieces we would read today...if they hadn't been lost in time. Still, for all the cleverness, this feels like a gentle goodbye, with the aching and elderly Gordianus happy to retire to his garden for a good nap and perhaps a spot of writing.... -- Michael Giltz

## What Others Say

"A rip-roaring detective adventure for fans of Steven Saylor's Roman intrepid hero Gordianus, who finds himself embedded in the inner circle of Julius Caesar himself, as destiny ticks." -- Adrienne Mayor, author of *The Poison King and Amazons*

"Steven Saylor's remarkable writing in *The Throne of Caesar* is so rich in realistic detail that ancient Rome literally unfolds before your eyes. If anyone wants to understand Rome at the end of the Republic, there's no better fictional narrative. Like Mary Renault's magic with words, historical fiction tinged by legend or myth intertwined with known facts and archaeological verity just could not be more elegantly written than here with Saylor's astonishing grasp of Roman life." -- Patrick Hunt, Ph. D., Stanford University, author of *Hannibal*

"Engrossing" -- *The Wall Street Journal* on *The Triumph of Caesar*

"Superb" -- *The Globe and Mail* (Toronto) on *The Judgment of Caesar*

"Compelling" -- *USA Today* on *Wrath of the Furies*

"Exquisite" -- *The Philadelphia Enquirer* on *A Mist of Prophecies*

"Saylor can be a compelling (and sometimes very funny) storyteller, with a striking talent for historical reconstruction. Half a century before imperial rule, Gordianus' Rome is a crumbling democracy; ideology is a dirty word; politicians struggle for naked power, not principles; hands are everywhere in the till; political debate is reduced to flashy spectacles and sound bites; only the forms of the democratic constitution still totter on. For all its complex oddities, Saylor is asking us to feel very much at home in Gordianus' Rome." --n Mary Beard, author of *SPQR*, in the *Times Literary Supplement*

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