

Action Thrillers and Mysteries in Roman History as Supported by Archaeology

The Bacchic Cult Conspiracy in the Roman Republican Era

Livy's account of the Bacchic Cult's conspiracy during the Roman Republic demonstrating what the account reveals of Rome's handling of this crisis. The problem will also be examined from diverse viewpoints, including Roman concerns regarding Eastern religions and secret societies.

Agrippa I: The Fugitive at Malatha

Josephus writes quite an exciting tale of the Roman Agrippa's reluctant return to his birth country, Judaea, including his hiding in an abandoned frontier fortress on the Frankincense Trail; spying on Antipas the tetrarch of Galilee; and fleeing Roman authorities by sea at night. Josephus relates that Agrippa I, the grandson of Herod the Great, grew up in Rome with the Julio-Claudian family and then was forced to flee to a border tower in a remote desert area of Palestine (the Negev). Why did Agrippa really flee to the Tower of Malatha, and how might this connect with events taking place during Tiberius' reign? Could a possible connection be made between Agrippa I, Antonia Minor and Sejanus' conspiracy? I shall examine this question, as well as archaeological indication for the fortress site to which he fled.