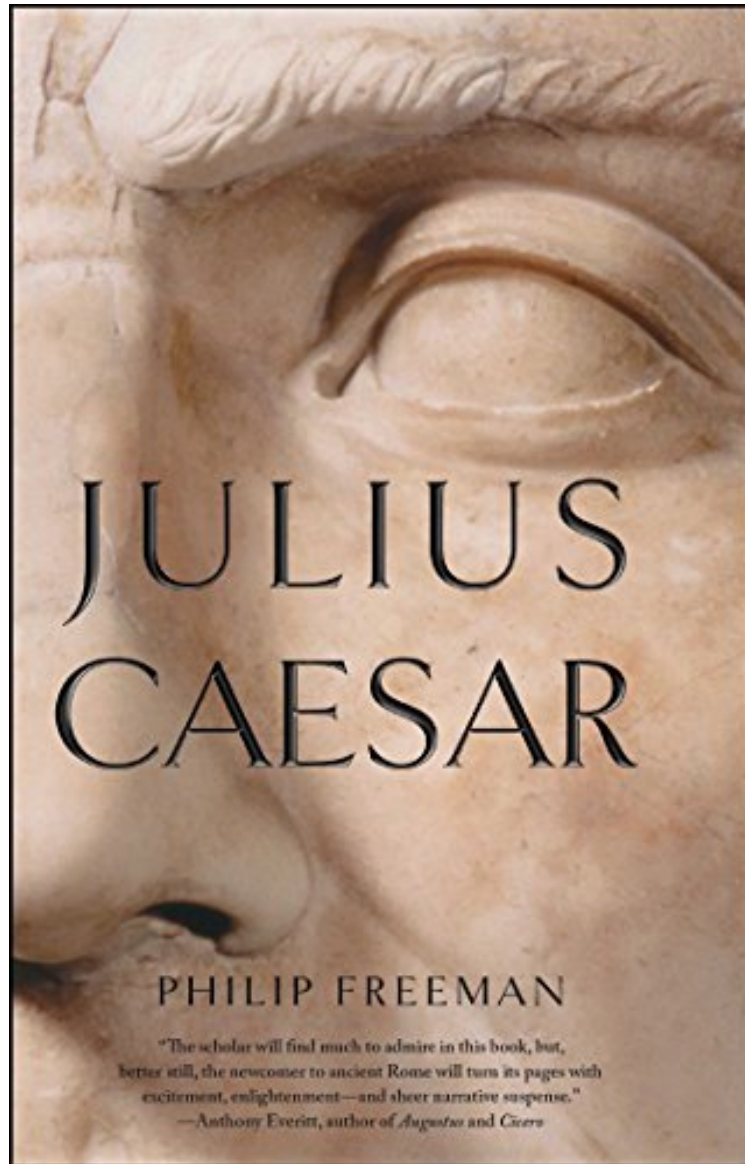


(Download free pdf) Julius Caesar (English Edition)

Julius Caesar (English Edition)

Von Philip Freeman

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Von Philip Freeman : Julius Caesar (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Julius Caesar (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. trying to do justice...Von arbirer...to the packed life of Julius Caesar.Philip Freeman refreshingly starts right at the beginning. Contrary to other authors who present a rehashed history of the late republic as a framework to their biography - which then starts only on page 30 or even 50 - , Freeman goes in medias res, picking up loose threads of needed background

info, like a weaver does, to integrate it into his tapestry. His style is down to Earth, relatively fast-paced, fluid and readable, although he occasionally takes poetic licence with the established SPO word order. There are no footnotes to interrupt this flow but annotations at the back of the book. Two maps supply the geographical context, although they might have been a little bit more detailed. Eight pages of glossy bw pictures grace the middle of the book. One note to the publishers: the second picture on page 1 is NOT Marius, but Sulla. Thankfully, the cover shows an enlarged picture of the Napoli Caesar, itself a reproduction of the Tusculum head, and not a Vatican/Augustean falsification. Mr. Freeman displays great knowledge of the primary sources and does not generally succumb to overinterpretation or following other historians' footsteps. Facts of questionable logic or credibility he leaves open, but supplies sane arguments for or against, e.g. Caesar's involvement in the Catilina conspiracy. Only towards the end of the book, when he deals with the honours Caesar allegedly accepted, his research level drops. What he does manage very well is to show the tremendous odds against which Caesar labours to reform the republic, even if he does destroy the rotten body in the process. Also, he highlights Caesar's numerous unorthodox decisions, reminiscent almost of Hannibal: determine the least likely course of action...and then take it! What I liked best about his book is that he never neglects to mention how many times Caesar refrained from taking drastic measures when he could have been cruel, his continued clemency in the Civil War - and how little appreciation it gained him. It is a sad example of moderation misunderstood. Note: this is a review to an edition with a different cover.

Kurzbeschreibung More than two thousand years after his death, Julius Caesar remains one of the great figures of history. He shaped Rome for generations, and his name became a synonym for "emperor" -- not only in Rome but as far away as Germany and Russia. He is best known as the general who defeated the Gauls and doubled the size of Rome's territories. But, as Philip Freeman describes in this fascinating new biography, Caesar was also a brilliant orator, an accomplished writer, a skilled politician, and much more. Julius Caesar was a complex man, both hero and villain. He possessed great courage, ambition, honor, and vanity. Born into a noble family that had long been in decline, he advanced his career cunningly, beginning as a priest and eventually becoming Rome's leading general. He made alliances with his rivals and then discarded them when it suited him. He was a spokesman for the ordinary people of Rome, who rallied around him time and again, but he profited enormously from his conquests and lived opulently. Eventually he was murdered in one of the most famous assassinations in history. Caesar's contemporaries included some of Rome's most famous figures, from the generals Marius, Sulla, and Pompey to the orator and legislator Cicero as well as the young politicians Mark Antony and Octavius (later Caesar Augustus). Caesar's legendary romance with the Egyptian queen Cleopatra still fascinates us today. In this splendid biography, Freeman presents Caesar in all his dimensions and contradictions. With remarkable clarity and brevity, Freeman shows how Caesar dominated a newly powerful Rome and shaped its destiny. This book will captivate readers discovering Caesar and ancient Rome for the first time as well as those who have a deep interest in the classical world.

Pressestimmen "Elegant, learned and compulsively readable, Julius Caesar moves from broad sweep to brilliant detail". Barry Strauss - Professor of History and Classics, Cornell University "Julius Caesar packed more into his life than most of history's great men - and Philip Freeman unpacks it all with skill and clarity". Anthony Everitt, author of Augustus and Cicero.

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