

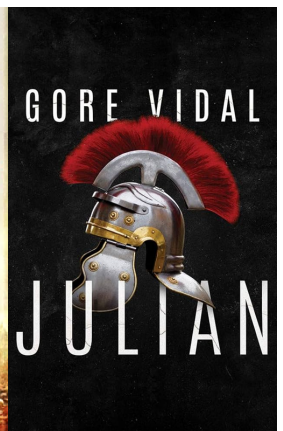
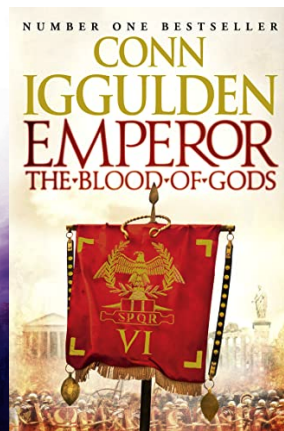
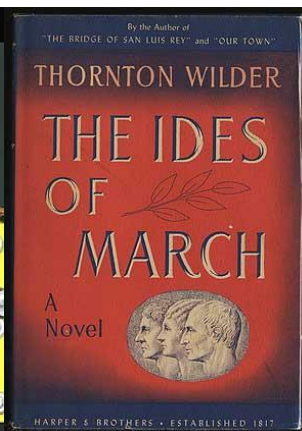
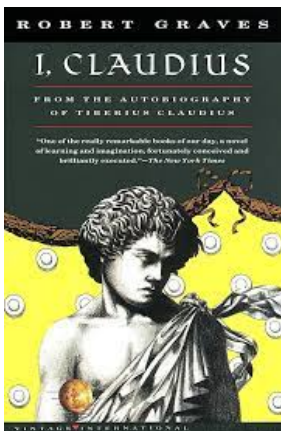
Ancient Roman Historical Fiction

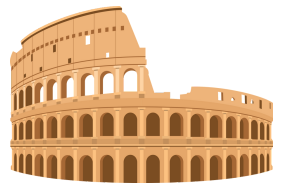
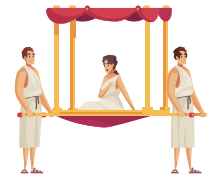
This list was commissioned by a patron who really enjoys reading about ancient Rome and wanted more historical fiction set in that time period. All forms of fiction were welcome, though the patron especially wanted fiction that featured first-class scheming and/or an ordinary person's perspective, such as in Crystal King's Feast of Sorrow.

- **Robert Graves's *I Claudius*.** The original Roman scheming novel. Full of plotting, betrayal, and murder as good-natured Claudius tries to survive his dysfunctional family, the Julio-Claudians.
- **Thornton Wilder's *The Ides of March*.** Introspective, eloquent depiction of the leadup to Caesar's assassination.
- **Colleen McCullough's *Masters of Rome* series.** Sweeping historical series that covers the final decades of the Roman Republic, focusing on characters like Sulla, Caesar, and Augustus.

If you've read these and are looking for more, here are some not in our system that can be requested at the library.

- **Gore Vidal's *Julian*.** Insightful, character-driven profile of Emperor Julian (not Caesar).
- **Ray Gleason's *Gaius Marius Chronicle* series.** Fictional memoir of a Roman soldier who fights with Caesar in Gaul. Heavy military focus.
- **Conn Iggulden's *Emperor* series.** Two ordinary soldiers find their friendship tested on opposite sides of Rome's civil war. Action-packed.
- **Ben Kane's fiction.** Multiple Roman-themed military history series. One series focuses on siblings sold into Roman slavery. Others focus on Rome's greatest enemies.





- **Ruth Downie's Gaius Petreius Ruso mysteries.** Murder mysteries starring a Roman medic stationed in Britain. Character-driven and deceptively funny.
- **A Day of Fire: A Novel of Pompeii.** Six authors collaborated on this fictional depiction of the Pompeii disaster. Features the intermeshing stories of Romans from all social classes.
- **Robert Harris's Pompeii.** A Roman engineer tries to figure out why an aqueduct failed during the infamous eruption in this fast-paced tale that uses modern American slang.

