

THE ANNOTATED PLUTARCH SERIES

THE ANNOTATED PLUTARCH



PUBLICOLA

PLUTARCH'S LIVES MADE EASY

ORIGINAL TEXT BY PLUTARCH
ANNOTATED BY RACHEL LEBOWITZ

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The Annotated Plutarch
Publicola
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Annotated and edited by Rachel Lebowitz
Translation by George Long and Aubrey Stewart

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THE ANNOTATED PLUTARCH

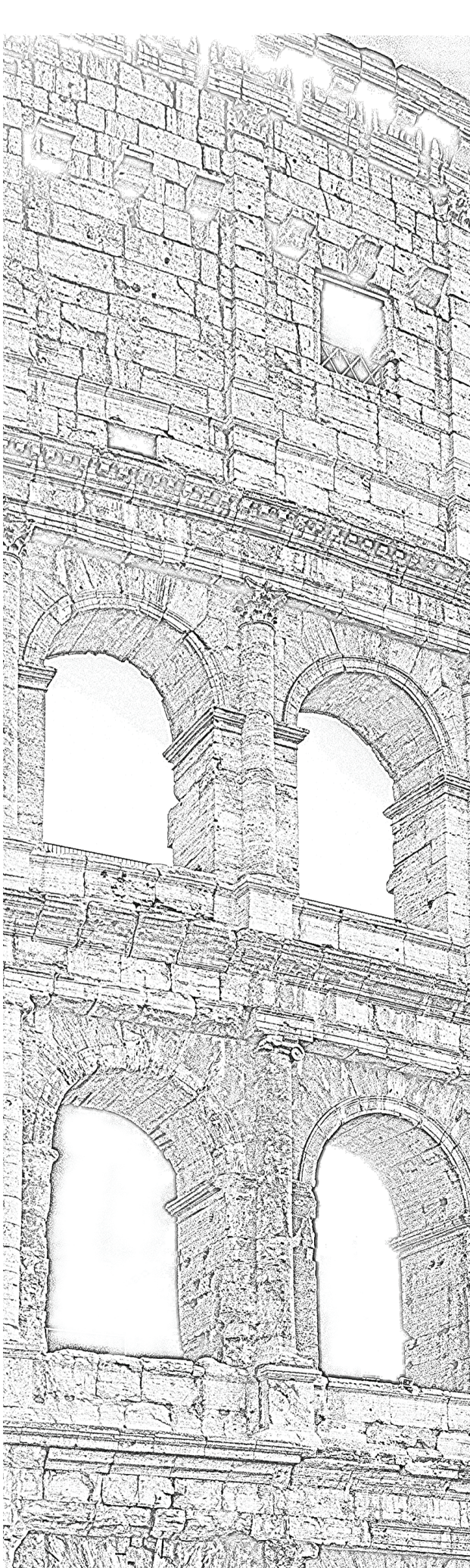
PUBLICOLA

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PREFACE



PREFACE TO PLUTARCH'S LIVES

Plutarch just got a whole lot easier! And more fun too! Thank you for choosing The Annotated Plutarch Series from A Charlotte Mason Plenary.

WHY STUDY PLUTARCH?

Plutarch was a Greek historian who lived c. 45-120 CE. He is known as the very first biographer. He wrote biographies of Greek and Roman men in his book *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*. But he didn't just write about the accomplishments of these men, he also wrote about the smaller happenings of their lives in order to give us a glimpse into their characters. This is why Charlotte Mason included Plutarch in her curriculum. It is about evaluating character.

What makes a person great? What makes a person weak? What makes a tyrant? Plutarch shows us that it is the small decisions in a man's life that make up his character. We then get to see the consequences of those decisions. Plutarch does not judge for us. He lays the man's life before us and we are left to judge. It truly is a remarkable way to study character and morality.

Charlotte started her students in Citizenship Studies in Form 2B, or about 4th grade. The student spent a whole year reading *Stories from the History of Rome* by Beesly. This prepared the student for Plutarch by providing the context of Ancient Roman society. Then in Form 2A, or 5th grade, the student started reading one of Plutarch's *Lives* every term. This is the foundation of her character and citizenship teaching. It is not to be missed.

HOW TO USE THE ANNOTATED PLUTARCH GUIDES

This Annotated Plutarch Guide comes with the original text translated from the Greek. You do not need to purchase anything else to study Plutarch.

There are several sections written by The Plenary to help the student:

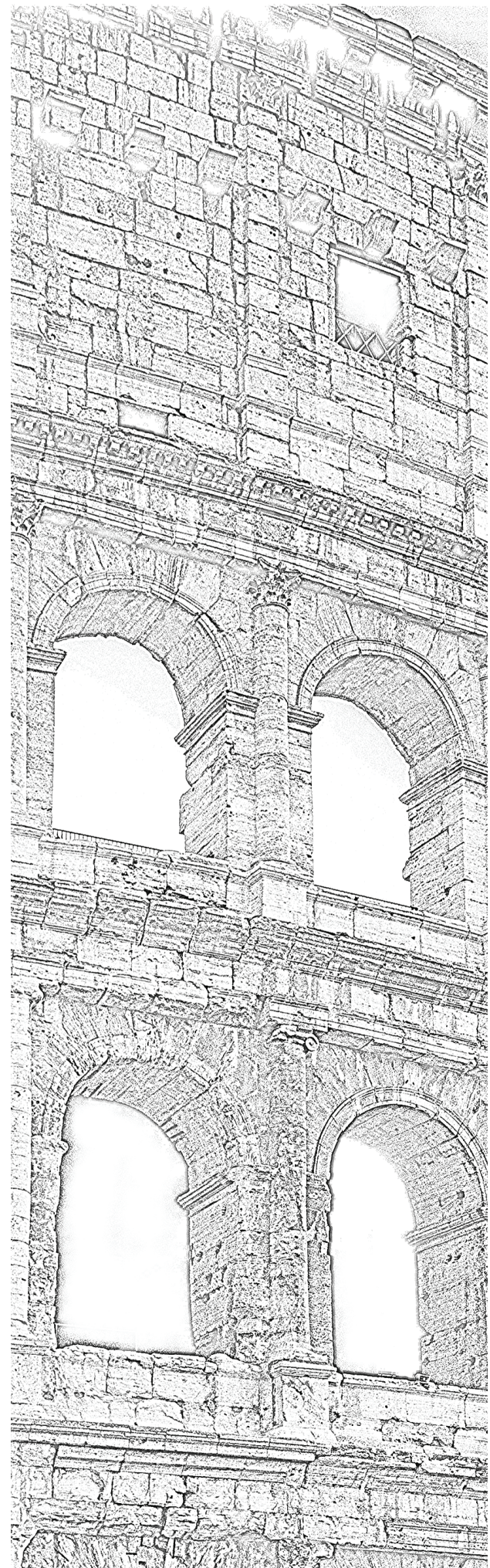
- The Introduction gives you biographical information about Plutarch himself.
- A “Who’s Who” is included to help you understand the key players in this Guide.
- A Prologue sets the scene and will give you essential background information to begin your study.
- The Epilogue wraps up the Study Guide, connects it to more modern events, and gives the student some important ideas to think about.

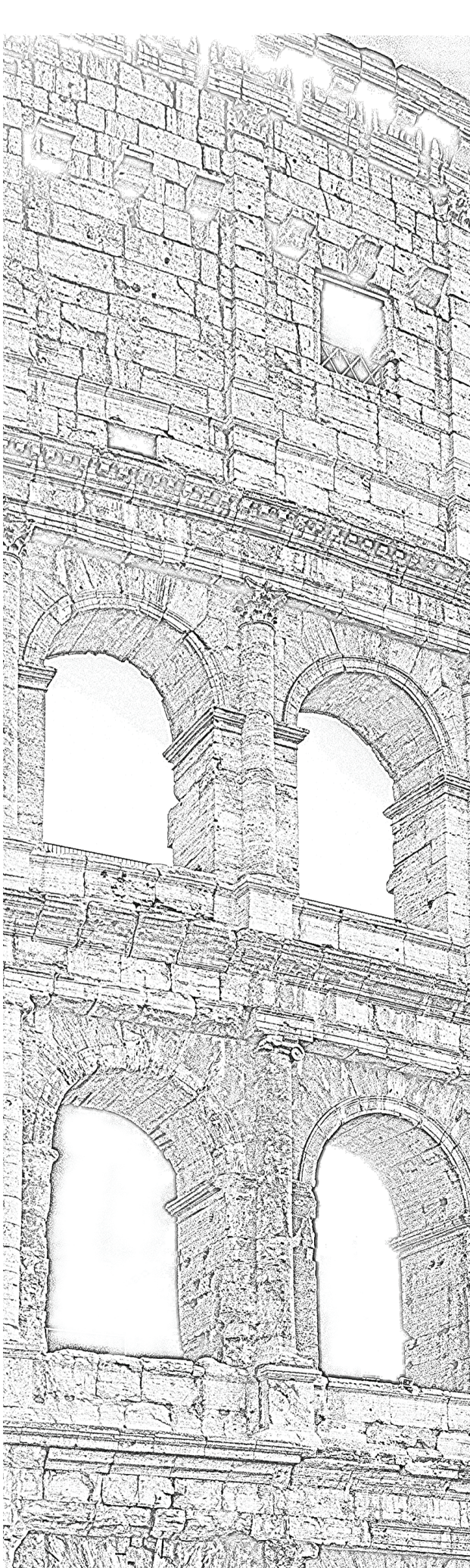
Other lessons include the original text by Plutarch. Just as Charlotte Mason used edited versions of Plutarch’s *Lives* for her students, this text has been edited for content and length for your student. Anything unsuitable for students has been removed. You can feel comfortable about handing this Plutarch Guide to your student for independent use.

For ease of reading, the original text is in the inner column and added annotations are in the outer column. The annotations define vocabulary words and phrases and include pronunciations. The annotations also provide context to allow you to fully understand Plutarch’s frequent references to the people, places, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. **All annotated words are in bold type.** The goal is to highlight the text so that readers may gain a deeper understanding of it for themselves.

TRANSLATION

The Plenary uses the translation by George Long and Aubrey Stewart for most of our Plutarch Study Guides. The Long





PREFACE

translation is easier and more accessible for today's students, which will make the subject of Plutarch easier for you and your students.

We chose not to use the translation by Thomas North because it is a second translation of an earlier French translation done by Jacques Amyot in 1559. A translation of a translation is too far removed from the author's original words.

Long and Stewart translated Plutarch's *Lives* from the original Greek. This makes the Long translation more accurate.

George Long was a professor of Greek and Latin at University College in London. He was a major contributor to *Smith's Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities*, and also wrote for the companion Biography edition. Aubrey Stewart was a Fellow at Trinity College in Cambridge, England. Together, they translated Plutarch's *Lives* from the original Greek into several English volumes in the 1880s.

PLUTARCH RESOURCES AND PICTURE STUDY

In addition, as you read through the Guide, you will find references to other resources that connect to Plutarch's story. These include classic paintings, poems, and other items that help further illustrate the text. It is my intent to provide you with these additional resources to bring your Plutarch study to life.

All of the additional resources are free and can be found on the Plutarch Resources page of The Plenary website. I encourage you and your students to take advantage of these additional resources.

If you would like high resolution images, printed copies of the paintings, and additional background information on each painting, we also offer a Plutarch Picture Study for each Guide.

The accompanying Plutarch Picture Study helps students connect Plutarch's text to classical paintings by famous artists. Artists across the ages have illustrated the fascinating stories

PLUTARCH'S PUBLICOLA

found in Plutarch's Lives. The Picture Study also includes study questions about the text and the artwork to help students make a deeper connection.

For more information regarding the Resources Page and the Picture Study for this Guide, go to:

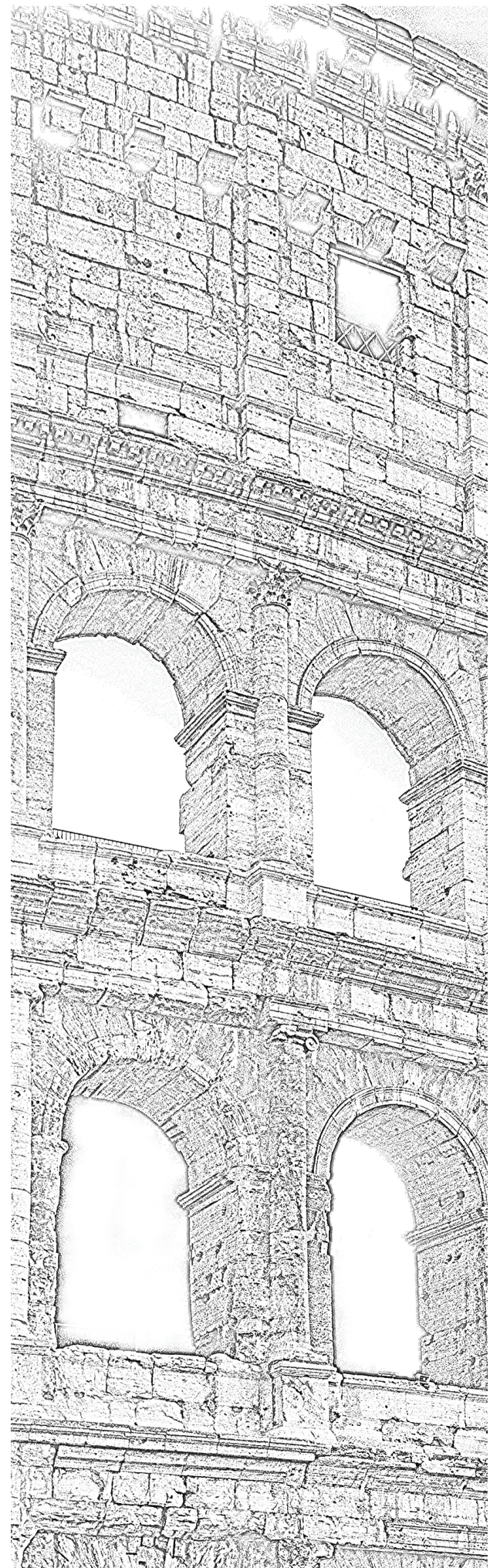
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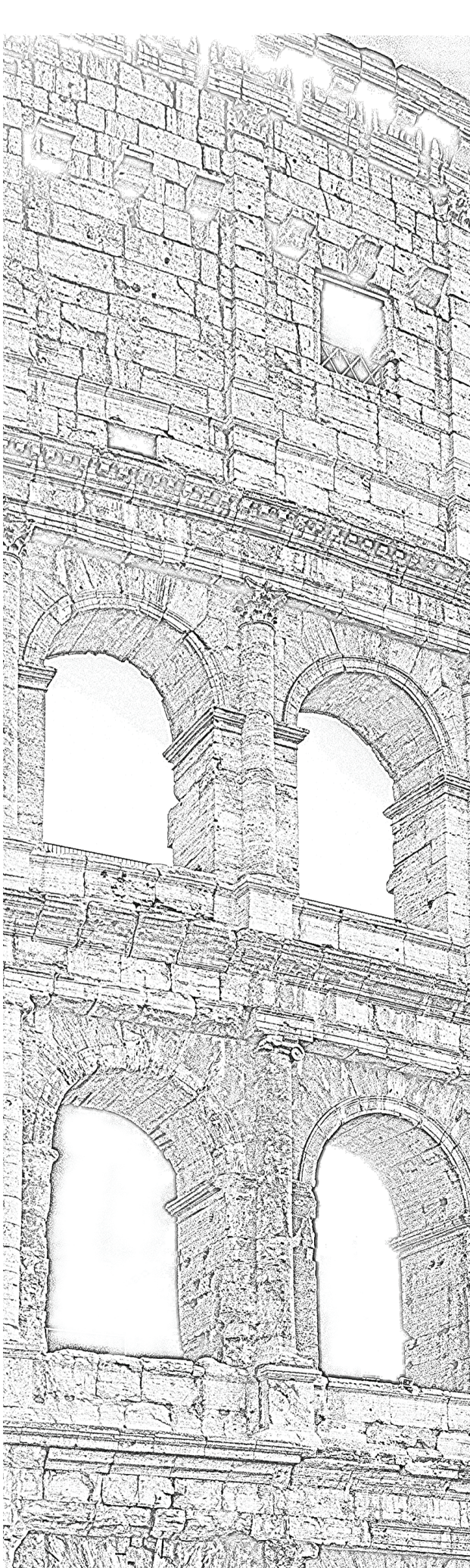
A THANK YOU

I hope The Annotated Plutarch Series makes Plutarch more accessible and more fun for you and your family. I sincerely hope you come to love Plutarch as much as I do!

Sincerely,

Rachel Lebowitz
A Charlotte Mason Plenary





INTRODUCTION

PLENARY INTRODUCTION

WHO WAS PLUTARCH?

Plutarch, or Plutarkos in Greek, was an ancient Greek historian and philosopher. He is most well-known for his two works, *Parallel Lives* and *Moralia*. Plutarch lived in the little town of Chaeronea, Greece, from approximately 45-120 CE. His family appears to have been well-established there and his father was also an author and philosopher. From several passages in Plutarch's writings, we know that he studied at the Academy of Athens, which was founded by Plato.

Plutarch /PLOO-tark/

But the most important event in his life was his journey to Rome. It was during this time that Plutarch officially became a Roman citizen and changed his name to **Lucius Mestrius Plutarchus**. During this trip he did most of his research that would later become his book, *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*, commonly known as *Parallel Lives*. Plutarch published the biographies as pairs, one Greek life with one Roman life, in an attempt to compare and contrast the two lives for their virtues and their failings. For example, the *Life of Publicola*, a Roman Aristocrat, is paired with the *Life of Solon*, a Greek Athenian, both of whom were Statesmen.

Lucius Mestrius Plutarchus
/LOO-shus MES-tree-us ploo-TARK-us/

Publicola /pub-LIH-cō-luh/

Plutarch's *Lives* has been preserved through the centuries and has been translated from the original Greek into many other languages. The first translation from the original Greek was done in French by Jacques Amyot in 1559. Just 20 years later, Thomas North published the first edition in English. North did not translate directly from the Greek, but instead used Amyot's French translation to publish it in 1579. North's English edition immediately became very popular in England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Shakespeare used North's edition as source material for some of his historical plays, including *Julius Caesar*,

Antony and Cleopatra, and *Coriolanus*, as well as references to Plutarch's *Life of Theseus* for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Plutarch's influence spanned beyond England as well. People have always read Plutarch. His readers include George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Theodore Roosevelt, just to name a few.

But why should we read Plutarch? What does the modern student gain from reading such an ancient text? What can we learn from a man who lived so long ago? Only a few of the men he wrote about are still known to us, such as Julius Caesar or Alexander the Great. Most of the names represented in Plutarch's *Lives* are completely unknown to the contemporary culture of today. Even Plutarch himself is not well-known except among scholars. So why read his stories?

Although Plutarch himself belongs to the ancients, his lessons are timeless. He was more concerned with documenting men's characters than their deeds, and *that* is what we have to learn from Plutarch: the value of discerning character.

Plutarch was quick to point out that he wrote *biographies*, not histories. In his *Life of Alexander*, Plutarch stated that a man's character is often revealed in subtle ways:

"a man's most brilliant actions prove nothing as to his true character, while some trifling incident, some casual remark or jest, will throw more light upon what manner of man he was than the bloodiest battle, the greatest array of armies, or the most important siege. Therefore, just as portrait painters pay most attention to those peculiarities of the face and eyes, in which the likeness consists, and care but little for the rest of the figure, so it is my duty to dwell especially upon those actions which reveal the workings of my heroes' minds, and from these to construct the portraits of their respective lives, leaving their battles and their great deeds to be recorded by others."

DID YOU KNOW? Even fictional characters in literature have been known to read Plutarch! The monster in Mary Shelley's book, *Frankenstein*, finds a bag of books, one of which is Plutarch's *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*. It is from this book that the monster learns about the idea of *character*.

INTRODUCTION

And it was in his intro to the *Life of Timoleon* that he wrote:

"It was for the sake of others that I first undertook to write biographies, but I soon began to dwell upon and delight in them for myself, endeavoring to the best of my ability to regulate my own life, and to make it like that of those who were reflected in their history as it were a mirror before me. By the study of their biographies, we receive each man as a guest into our minds, and we seem to understand their character as the result of personal acquaintance, because we have obtained from their acts the best and most important means of forming an opinion about them. What greater pleasure could'st thou gain than this? What more valuable for the elevation of our own character?"

Character—other people's and *our own*. That is what Plutarch urges us to consider.

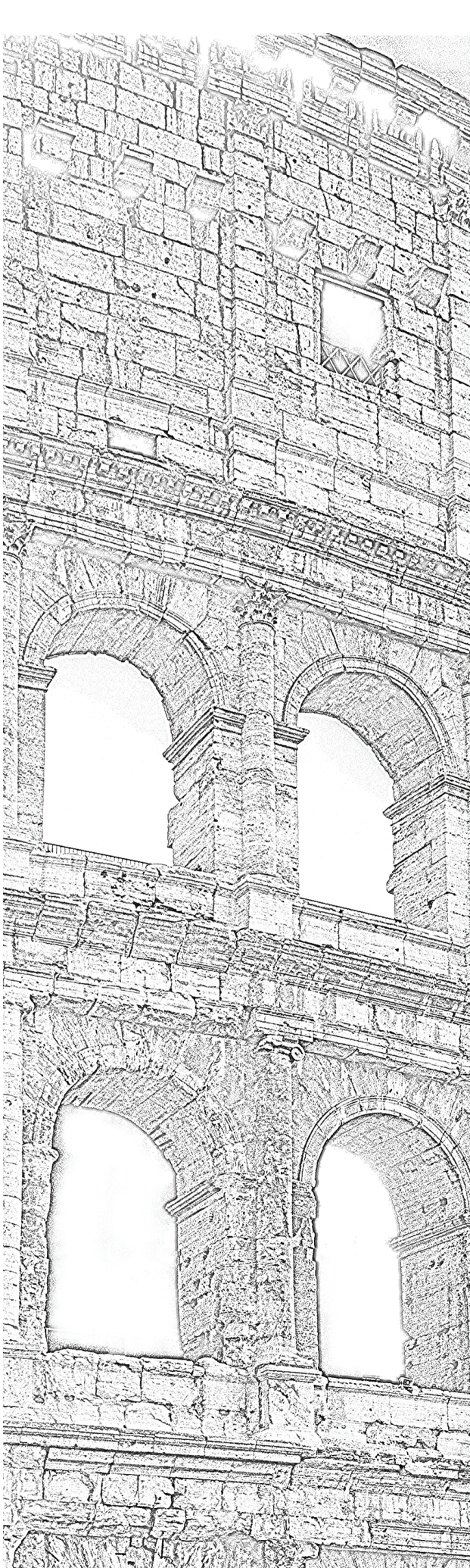
Timoleon /tuh-MŌ-lē-un/

Quotes are from *Plutarch's Lives: Translated from the Greek* by Aubrey Stewart, M.A., and George Long, M.A., Volume 1, published in 1844.

WHO'S WHO

IN PLUTARCH'S LIFE OF PUBLICOLA

Tarquinius Superbus	King of Rome from 534 BCE to 509 BCE; also known as Tarquin. He became king by murdering his predecessor and father-in-law, King Servius.
Tullia	Tarquin's wife; mother to Sextus; daughter of King Servius; helped Tarquin murder her father
Sextus	the king's son
Aruns	the king's son
Collatinus.....	a nobleman serving in the king's army; husband to Lucretia
Lucretia.....	noblewoman; wife of Collatinus
Lucretius.....	father of Lucretia
Brutus.....	part of the Tarquin family; King Tarquin is his uncle; his mother is Tarquin's sister. He opposed the king because Tarquin had his father and older brother killed for political reasons.
Titus & Tiberius	sons of Brutus
Publius Valerius	Roman citizen; later known as Publicola
Marcus Valerius.....	Roman citizen; Publicola's brother
Lars Porsena	Etruscan king
Horatius Cocles.....	soldier for the Roman Republic
Mucius Scaevola	soldier for the Roman Republic
Appius Clausus.....	Sabine nobleman who later became a Roman citizen



LESSON 1

SETTING THE SCENE: THE TIMES IN WHICH PUBLICOLA LIVED

PLENARY PROLOGUE

LESSON 1

SETTING THE SCENE: THE TIMES IN WHICH PUBLICOLA LIVED

Publicola, or **Publius Valerius Publicola**, was a Roman citizen who lived during the time of Rome's transition from a Monarchy to a Republic, which happened during the year 509 BCE. At that time, the seventh and last king to rule over the Roman Kingdom was a tyrant named **Tarquinius Superbus**, or Tarquin the Proud. Tarquin came to power in 534 BCE when he and his wife, Tullia, murdered the 6th king of Rome, **Servius Tullius**, who also happened to be Tullia's father. They had a son named **Sextus Tarquinius**, whose actions later proved to be the undoing of his father's reign.

Tarquin's downfall played a big role in the life of Publicola, as it was Publicola and three other men who overthrew the king for the sake of liberty. But Plutarch assumed that information about the revolution would be common knowledge among his readers and therefore he does not explain the circumstances. But for modern readers to understand Publicola's life, we must first look at the tragedy that spurred these men to act.

The story begins with the virtue of a noblewoman named **Lucretia**. She was the wife of **Collatinus**, a nobleman who boasted of his wife's beauty and virtue to the king's son, Sextus Tarquinius. Sextus became consumed with the idea of possessing Lucretia and making her his wife. While Collatinus was away, Sextus paid a visit to Lucretia at her home.

This is how the Roman historian **Titus Livius** tells what happened next:

[Sextus] was hospitably received by the household, who suspected nothing, and after supper, was conducted to the

Publius Valerius Publicola

/PUB-lee-us vuh-LAYR-ee-us
pub-LIH-cō-luh/

Tarquinius Superbus

/tar-KWEN-ee-us soo-PER-bus/
Tarquin's nickname Superbus means proud, haughty, or arrogant.

DID YOU KNOW? While at the Roman Senate House, Tarquin seized King Servius, carried him outside, and threw him down the steps. Tarquin's assassins then finished the king off by stabbing him to death. Later, Tarquin's wife Tullia arrived in a chariot to hail her husband as the new king of Rome. As she left the Senate House, she drove her chariot over the body of her dead father, King Servius. Her father's blood splattered the chariot and her gown. Even today, the street where this took place is known as *Vicus Sceleratus*, the Street of Crime.

Servius Tullius /SIR-vee-us
TOO-lee-us/

Sextus Tarquinius /SEKS-tus
tar-KWEN-ee-us/

Lucretia /loo-KREE-shee-uh/

Collatinus /koh-LOT-tin-us/

Titus Livius /TĪ-tus LĪH-vee-us/
Quotes taken from *History of Rome* by Titus Livius, also known as Livy, a Roman historian who lived c. 59 BCE to 17 CE. Translation by William Roberts.

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Original Unabridged Text by Charlotte Mason

Annotated by Rachel Lebowitz

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Plutarch's Life of Julius Caesar: Annotated Edition

Original Text by Plutarch

Annotated and Expanded by Rachel Lebowitz

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A STUDY IN CHARACTER & MORALITY

PLUTARCH'S LIFE OF PUBLICOLA CARRIES THE TORCH OF LIBERTY FROM ANCIENT ROME TO MODERN DAY

A BRUTAL ACT SPARKED THE OVERTHROW OF A MONARCHY AND USHERED IN A NEW GOVERNMENT DEDICATED TO LIBERTY AND FREEDOM. NO, IT ISN'T THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, IT'S THE ANCIENT ROMAN REPUBLIC - BUT THE TWO EVENTS HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN YOU MIGHT THINK!

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- A "WHO'S WHO" TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE KEY PLAYERS
- A PROLOGUE SETS THE SCENE WITH ESSENTIAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT THE HISTORY OF ANCIENT ROME
- AN EPILOGUE WRAPS UP THE STUDY GUIDE, CONNECTS IT TO MODERN EVENTS, AND GIVES THE STUDENT SOME IMPORTANT IDEAS TO THINK ABOUT

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