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CAESAR'S CONQUESTS

By JULIUS CAESAR



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WHO AM I?

I am a famous literary character. Can you guess my name from the clues below? Rate your familiarity with me as follows: If you can identify me from CLUE I, your score is superior; from CLUE II — excellent; from CLUE III — very good; from CLUE IV — good; from CLUE V — fair. If after CLUE V you still cannot identify me, I suggest you read the exciting story in which I appear.

CLUE I: I was raised in England by a knight. When the King died, civil war broke out while the nobles fought among themselves for possession of the throne.

CLUE II: One day all the nobles assembled at the cathedral to make arrangements for a tournament. The victor was to be declared King. In the churchyard the nobles saw a sword stuck firmly in an arched. The one who could successfully pull out the sword was the rightful King.

CLUE III: I pulled out the sword. It was then that I learned that the man who raised me was not really my father. I had been brought to him by Merlin the magician. Merlin was acting under the orders of my father, the King of England. My father had feared that civil war would break out and he wanted me to remain safe until I was old enough to claim the throne.

CLUE IV: After I had been crowned King and had married, I received as a wedding gift a large round table with places for 100 knights. My knights were all bold, fearless men who protected their country bravely. All went well until I was summoned to leave Camelot to help right a wrong that had taken place some distance away.

CLUE V: It was not long before my army and I reached our destination. Suddenly I received a terrible message from Camelot. It informed me that my throne had been seized and my wife imprisoned by a greedy knight. I left at once for Camelot. On my way I encountered the rogue knight with his forces. The exciting climax of my story can be found in *Knights of the Round Table*.

STORY ONLY

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CAESAR'S CONQUESTS

By JULIUS CAESAR



ABOUT 2000 YEARS AGO, PARTS OF WHAT WE NOW KNOW AS FRANCE, HOLLAND, BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY TOGETHER MADE UP ONE COUNTRY CALLED GAUL. THOUGH IT WAS ONE COUNTRY, GAUL HAD NO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IT CONTAINED MANY TRIBES WITH DIFFERENT LANGUAGES, CUSTOMS AND LAWS. THESE TRIBES WERE CONSTANTLY AT WAR WITH EACH OTHER.



AT THAT TIME, THE MOST POWERFUL NATION IN THE WORLD WAS ROME. IN 58 B.C., THE ROMAN SENATE APPOINTED JULIUS CAESAR GOVERNOR OF TWO ROMAN PROVINCES BORDERING GAUL.



THAT SAME YEAR, CAESAR BEGAN A CAMPAIGN TO CONQUER ALL OF GAUL. CAESAR KEPT A CAREFUL ACCOUNT OF HIS TRIUMPHS AND HIS TRAGEDIES. THIS IS CAESAR'S STORY OF HIS CONQUESTS.



IN 58 B.C., THE HELVETII, MEMBERS OF A TRIBE LIVING OUTSIDE OF GAUL, DECIDED THEY NEEDED MORE TERRITORY

OUR POPULATION IS LARGE, AND IT IS GROWING LARGER YET WE CANNOT EXPAND WE ARE HEMMED IN BY MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS.

WE CAN MOVE INTO GAUL WE ARE A STRONG, BRAVE PEOPLE THE GAULS ARE WEAK AND DIVIDED WE CAN EASILY CONQUER THEM AND RULE ALL OF GAUL.



AS SOON AS THE HELVETII WERE READY TO MIGRATE, THEY BURNED ALL OF THEIR TOWNS AND VILLAGES. THIS WAS DONE SO NO ONE COULD TURN BACK.



CAESAR* WAS INFORMED OF THIS MIGRATION.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO ROUTES THEY CAN TAKE ONE IS THROUGH ROMAN TERRITORY

CAESAR, THE HELVETII ARE PREPARING TO MOVE INTO GAUL.



AS GOVERNOR OF THIS TERRITORY, I MUST STOP THEM. THESE PEOPLE ARE HOSTILE TO ROME. THEY WILL DAMAGE ROMAN PROPERTY AND WAR WITH OUR PEOPLE.



*Caesar wrote in the third person. He always referred to himself as "he" or "Caesar."

CAESAR MARCHED WITH HIS ARMY TO GENEVA.



THE SOLDIERS DID AS CAESAR ORDERED.



THE HELVETH HEARD OF CAESAR'S MARCH. THEY SENT ENVOYS TO HIM.



MEANWHILE, CAESAR HAD HIS MEN CONSTRUCT A WALL AND A DITCH FROM LAKE GENEVA TO THE JURA MOUNTAINS.



HE FORTIFIED THIS WALL, AND STATIONED GARRISONS ALONG THE ROUTE TO STOP THE HELVETH IF THEY TRIED TO ADVANCE.



THE HELVETH REALIZED THEY COULD NOT MARCH THROUGH CAESAR'S TERRITORY. THEY TOOK THE ALTERNATE ROUTE THROUGH THE LAND OF THE SEQUANI.



AS THE HELVETH MARCHED, THEY PUNDERED THE GALLIC VILLAGES THROUGH WHICH THEY PASSED.



CAESAR PURSUED THE HELVETH AGAIN. THEY SENT ENVOYS TO HIM.

IF YOU WILL MAKE PEACE WITH US, WE WILL SETTLE WHEREVER YOU WISH.



CAESAR WAS INFORMED OF THIS.

THEY ARE STILL TOO CLOSE TO OUR TERRITORY. IT IS DANGEROUS TO HAVE A HOSTILE PEOPLE SO NEAR.



SOME GALLIC LEADERS CAME TO CAESAR FOR HELP.

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD FRIENDS OF ROME. YOU MUST NOT ALLOW OUR LAND TO BE RAVAGED BY THESE INVADERS.



GIVE ME HOSTAGES TO BIND YOUR PROMISE, AND I WILL MAKE PEACE WITH YOU.

THE HELVETH, CAESAR, ARE ACCUSTOMED TO RECEIVE HOSTAGES, NOT TO GIVE THEM.



THIS INSOLENT REPLY MADE CAESAR DECIDE TO BATTLE THE HELVETII. WHEN THE ENEMY WAS SIGHTED...

I WISH THE CAVALRY TO DISMOUNT, AND THE HORSES TO BE SENT OUT-OF SIGHT I, TOO, WILL DISMOUNT I WISH US ALL TO FACE THE SAME AMOUNT OF DANGER



WHEN THIS WAS DONE, CAESAR, AS WAS HIS CUSTOM, ADDRESSED THE SOLDIERS BEFORE BATTLE

REMEMBER, FELLOW SOLDIERS, YOUR DEVOTION TO ROME. REMEMBER, TOO, THE ROMAN COURAGE THAT NO ENEMY HAS EVER WITHSTOOD. AND REMEMBER YOUR LOYALTY TO YOUR COMMANDER.

HAIL, CAESAR!



THEN CAESAR GAVE THE SIGNAL TO ATTACK WITH DRAWN SWORDS, THE ROMANS CHARGED



**THE BATTLE WAS
FIERCELY FOUGHT**



**AS THE ROMANS WERE NEAR VICTORY,
TWO ENEMY TRIBES SUDDENLY MARCHED
UP AND ATTACKED ON THE RIGHT FLANK**



**THE BATTLE LASTED FROM
MID-DAY TO EVENING**



**FINALLY, THE HELVETII
SENT ENVOYS TO CAESAR.**

SURRENDER
YOUR ARMS,
AND BRING
ME HOSTAGES.

WE SURRENDER,
CAESAR. WE
BEG FOR PEACE.



WHEN THIS WAS DONE

NOW YOU MUST RETURN
TO YOUR OWN TERRITORY
AND REBUILD YOUR TOWNS
AND VILLAGES.

WE WILL
OBEY, CAESAR



THE NEWS OF THE DEFEAT OF THE HELVETII SPREAD THROUGHOUT GAUL.



THE LEADERS OF MANY GALLIC TRIBES CAME TO OFFER CAESAR CONGRATULATIONS.



WE ARE THREATENED BY ANOTHER ENEMY-- THE GERMANS. THE GERMAN KING, ARMINIUS, HAS CROSSED THE RHINE RIVER WITH HIS MEN. THEY HAVE SETTLED ON OUR BEST LAND.



NOW ARMINIUS IS BRINGING FRESH GERMAN HORDES OVER THE RHINE. HE HAS SEIZED OUR TERRITORY AND ORDERED US TO LEAVE. HELP US, CAESAR!



IT IS NOT RIGHT THAT FRIENDS OF ROME BE ENSLAVED BY THE GERMANS. AND IF THE GERMANS KEEP OCCUPYING MORE OF GALLIC TERRITORY, THEY WILL SOON BE A THREAT TO ROME. I WILL HELP YOU.



CAESAR SENT AN
ENVOY TO
ARIVISTUS

CAESAR WISHES TO MEET YOU
AT A PLACE BETWEEN YOUR
CAMP AND HIS.

IF CAESAR WISHES ANYTHING
OF ME, HE MUST COME TO ME.



THIS REPLY ANGERED CAESAR.

TELL THIS TO ARIVISTUS. HE
IS NOT TO BRING ANY MORE MEN
ACROSS THE RHINE, AND HE IS
NOT TO MAKE WAR ON THE
GAULS OTHERWISE, HE WILL
BE PUNISHED.



ARIVISTUS WAS NOT DISTURBED BY
CAESAR'S THREAT.

TELL CAESAR
THAT I WILL RULE THE
GAULS ANY WAY I PLEASE.
I AM NOT IMPRESSED BY HIS
THREAT TO PUNISH ME. I
HAVE NEVER LOST A BATTLE.



CAESAR RECEIVED ARIVISTUS' REPLY AT
THE SAME TIME, HE RECEIVED ANOTHER
MESSAGE.

MORE GERMANS
ARE CROSSING
THE RHINE AND
HARASSING THE
GAULS.



WE MUST ACT
IMMEDIATELY. IF
THESE NEW GERMANS
JOIN ARIVISTUS'
ARMY, IT WILL BE
MORE DIFFICULT
TO DEFEAT IT.



CAESAR LED HIS ARMY OUT TO MEET ARMINIUS.



THE ROMANS STOPPED NEAR THE TOWN OF BESANDON FOR SUPPLIES. THERE THE SOLDIERS TALKED TO THE MERCHANTS.



THIS GOSSIP CAUSED A PANIC IN ALL RANKS.



THE PANIC SPREAD FINALLY.



CAESAR SUMMONED HIS CENTURIONS* TO A MEETING

WHEN AN ARMY REFUSES TO OBEY ORDERS, IT IS BECAUSE ITS GENERAL IS UNSUCCESSFUL OR DISHONEST

*Officers

MY ENTIRE LIFE PROVES MY HONESTY AND INTEGRITY AND MY POWER TO COMMAND, AND MY SUCCESS, ARE PROVEN BY MY LEADING YOU TO VICTORY OVER THE HELVETII

IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING, I WILL MOVE CAMP TO FIND OUT WHETHER YOUR HONOR OR YOUR FEAR IS THE STRONGER

THE CENTURIONS GAVE CAESAR'S MESSAGE TO THE SOLDIERS. THEY WERE VERY MOVED BY IT

HAIL, CAESAR!

IN THE EARLY MORNING, THE ROMANS MOVED CAMP AND MARCHED TO WITHIN A MILE OF ARIOVISTUS' ARMY

WHEN THE SIGNAL WAS GIVEN, THE ROMANS ATTACKED WITH SUCH VIOLENCE THAT THERE WAS NO TIME TO THROW SPEARS. THEY FOUGHT HAND TO HAND WITH SWORDS. CAESAR HIMSELF LED THE RIGHT WING FIRST INTO ACTION.



THE ROMANS THREW THEMSELVES ON THE WALL OF GERMAN SHIELDS.



THE GERMAN ARMY BROKE RANKS AND FLED TO THE RHINE.



ARMINIUS AND A FEW OTHERS CROSSED IN BOATS. SOME SWAM ACROSS.



THE REST WERE HUNTED DOWN AND KILLED BY ROMAN CAVALRY.





THUS CAESAR SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED TWO IMPORTANT CAMPAIGNS IN A SINGLE SUMMER. HE TOOK HIS ARMY INTO WINTER QUARTERS IN GAUL, AND WENT TO ITALY.



WHILE CAESAR WAS IN ITALY

CAESAR, THE BELGIC TRIBES ARE CONSPIRING AGAINST YOU

THEY OCCUPY A THIRD OF GAUL. THEY DO NOT LIKE HAVING YOUR TROOPS NEARBY. THEY ARE AFRAID YOU WILL OCCUPY THEIR TERRITORY.



CAESAR RAISED TWO NEW LEGIONS* IN ITALY. WHEN SPRING CAME, THEY MARCHED TO GAUL.

*There were 6,000 men in a legion.



IN TWO WEEKS, CAESAR WAS ON THE BELGIC FRONTIER.

HOW DOES THE BELGIC CONSPIRACY?

IT IS SOMETHING TO FEAR, CAESAR. THE BELGAE HAVE ENLISTED 300,000 MEN FOR THE ATTACK.



AND WE HAVE BUT 48,000 MEN YET I AM NOT AFRAID. ROMAN COURAGE AND TACTICS ARE A FAR GREATER ADVANTAGE THAN WERE NUMBERS OF MEN.

CAESAR MADE HIS PLANS.

WE WILL CAMP ON THIS SIDE OF THE AISNE RIVER. THE RIVER WILL PROTECT THE REAR OF THE CAMP.



THE CAMP WAS MADE ON A HILL. IN THE REAR WAS THE RIVER. ON EITHER SIDE, CAESAR HAD TRENCHES dug WITH REDoubTS AND ARTILLERY AT BOTH ENDS. THIS WOULD PREVENT THE BELGAE FROM USING THEIR NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY TO ENVELOP THE ROMANS FROM THE SIDES.



THE BELGIC FORCES MARCHED TOWARD CAESAR'S ARMY AND CAMPED TWO MILES AWAY.

SEE THE BELGIC WATCHFIRES

WHAT A HUGE CAMP! IT STRETCHES FOR EIGHT MILES.



THE BELGAE WOULD NOT ATTACK THE FRONT OF THE ROMAN CAMP, BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE FIGHTING ON UNFAVORABLE, MARSHY GROUND. INSTEAD THEY MARCHED TO THE AISNE RIVER TO ATTACK THE CAMP FROM THE REAR.



CAESAR ATTACKED THE BELGAE IN THE RIVER, WHICH BADLY IMPEDED THEIR MOVEMENTS.



SOME TRIED TO CROSS THE RIVER OVER THE DEAD BODIES OF THEIR COMRADES, BUT THEY WERE DRIVEN BACK BY A SHOWER OF MISSILES.



THE BELGAE REALIZED THEIR UNFAVORABLE POSITION. AT NIGHT, THEY DECIDED TO RETREAT. THIS WAS DONE WITHOUT ANY ORDER OR DISCIPLINE.



CAESAR'S TROOPS ATTACKED THE BELGIC
COLUMNS FROM BEHIND AND KILLED
A LARGE NUMBER OF MEN



THE NEXT DAY

BEFORE THE BELGAE CAN RECOVER FROM
THEIR PANIC, WE WILL ATTACK AND
SUBDUCE EACH TRIBE



MOST OF THE TRIBES SUBMITTED
IMMEDIATELY

WE BES FOR
MERCY, CAESAR



DO NOT DESTROY US ENTIRELY,
CAESAR. ACCEPT OUR SURRENDER



WE DID NOT WISH TO BATTLE WITH YOU,
CAESAR. OUR UNWISE LEADERS FORCED US
TO. NOW THEY ARE DEAD OR DISHONORED.
WE SUBMIT TO YOUR RULE



CAESAR'S CONQUESTS

BUT THE NERVII, ONE OF THE BELGIC TRIBES, WOULD NOT SURRENDER.

THE OTHER TRIBES ARE COMING FOR SUBMITTING TO THE ROMANS?

WE WILL NEVER BOW TO CAESAR!

CAESAR LEARNED OF THIS.

WE MUST MARCH AT ONCE TO THE LAND OF THE NERVII.

THE MARCH WAS MADE. CAESAR AGAIN CAMPED NEAR A RIVER.



ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER ROSE A HILL. ON THE LOWER SLOPES, THE NERVIIAN CAVALRY WAS VISIBLE.

THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR FROM THEM.



BUT CAESAR DID NOT KNOW THAT THE GREATER PART OF THE NERVIIAN ARMY WAS CONCEALED IN THE UPPER WOODS.



THE ROMAN CAVALRY CROSSED THE RIVER AND ENGAGED THE NERVIAN CAVALRY



THE REST OF THE ROMAN ARMY REMAINED ON ITS SIDE OF THE RIVER AND BEGAN TO CONSTRUCT THE CAMP



SUDDENLY, THE NERVIAN TROOPS SWARMED OUT OF THE WOODS, ROUTED THE ROMAN CAVALRY AND SWEEP ON TO THE CAMP.



CAESAR'S CONQUESTS

CAESAR HAD EVERYTHING TO DO AT ONCE. HE HAD TO HOIST THE FLAG WHICH WAS THE SIGNAL FOR RUNNING TO ARMS.



RECALL THE MEN FROM THEIR WORK IN CAMP.

TO YOUR POSITIONS!
WE ARE ATTACKED!



FORM THE BATTLE LINE.

WE ARE UNPROTECTED THERE! BRING MORE MEN OVER AT ONCE!



ADDRESS THE MEN

ROMANS, REMEMBER YOUR COURAGE! MEET THE ENEMY ATTACK BRAVELY!



AND SOUND THE SIGNAL FOR GOING INTO ACTION



THE ROMANS WERE SO PRESSED BY THE ENEMY THEY COULD NOT EVEN UNCOVER THEIR SHIELDS OR PUT ON THEIR HELMETS



THE BATTLE LINES WERE DICTATED NOT BY THE RULES OF MILITARY THEORY, BUT BY NECESSITY



THE ROMAN CAMP WAS BATTERED ON THREE SIDES



THE ROMAN SOLDIERS WERE PACKED TOGETHER SO CLOSELY, THEY GOT IN EACH OTHER'S WAY



MANY CENTURIONS WERE SLAIN THE SITUATION WAS CRITICAL



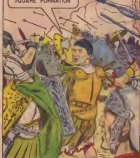
THEN CÆSAR SNATCHED A SHIELD FROM ONE OF THE SOLDIERS AND RUSHED INTO THE FRONT LINES.

TAKE COURAGE! REMEMBER YOUR HONOR, SOLDIERS OF ROME!



HIS COMING GAVE THE SOLDIERS NEW HOPE. EACH MAN WANTED TO DO HIS BEST WITH HIS COMMANDER WATCHING THEM.

GET THE MEN IN SQUARE FORMATION



THIS WAS DONE NOW THE MEN FOUGHT HARDER. THEY WERE NO LONGER AFRAID OF BEING ATTACKED FROM THE REAR.



SUDDENLY, TWO ROMAN LEGIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN MARCHING BEHIND THE REST OF THE ARMY, CAME TO THE SCENE OF THE BATTLE.



THEIR ARRIVAL COMPLETELY CHANGED THE SITUATION. THE BATTLE ENDED WITH ALMOST 60,000 NERVI ANNIHILATED.



THERE WAS ONE OTHER BELGIC TRIBE, THE ATREBATI, WHO OFFERED RESISTANCE TO CAESAR. THEY MET THE ROMANS FOR BATTLE IN A FORTIFIED TOWN.



THE ROMANS ERECTED A SEGE TOWER. THIS STRANGE SIGHT CAUSED PANIC AMONG THE ATREBATI.

WHAT IS THAT MONSTER THE ROMANS BUILD?

THE ROMANS HAVE THE AID OF THE DEVIL. I WILL NOT FIGHT THEM.



THIS TRIBE ALSO SURRENDERED TO CAESAR. THUS, IN 57 B.C., VIRTUALLY ALL OF GAUL WAS IN ROMAN HANDS.



DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS, CAESAR SUCCESSFULLY INVADED BRITAIN TO PUNISH THE BRITISH FOR AIDING THE GAULS. HE ALSO PUT DOWN SEVERAL SMALL GALLIC REBELS.



IN 54 B.C., THE HARVEST IN GAUL WAS POOR

WE CANNOT QUARTER THE ENTIRE ARMY TOGETHER THIS WINTER. NO ONE GALLIC TRIBE COULD FEED THEM.

TRUE WE WILL HAVE TO DISTRIBUTE THE LEGIONS AMONG DIFFERENT TRIBES.



IT WILL WEAKEN OUR FORCES.

GAUL IS AT PEACE NOW, AND IF WAR BEGINS, THE LEGIONS WILL STILL BE CLOSE ENOUGH SO THEY CAN HELP EACH OTHER IF THEY ARE ATTACKED.



IN THE LAND OF THE EBURONES, ROMAN TROOPS, COMMANDED BY TWO GENERALS, SABINUS AND COTTA, MADE CAMP FOR THE WINTER.



THE EBURONES WATCHED THEIR PREPARATIONS.

THERE ARE ONLY 9,000 SOLDIERS THERE. WE CAN EASILY WIPE THEM OUT.



NOT IF WE ATTACK THEM DIRECTLY.

NO BUT I HAVE A PLAN.



A FEW DAYS LATER, SOME EBURONES ATTACKED A ROMAN PARTY GATHERING WOOD OUTSIDE THE CAMP.



THEY WENT ON TO ASSAULT THE CAMP ITSELF, BUT WERE QUICKLY ROUTED BY THE ROMANS THEN.



TELL YOUR GENERALS I WISH TO SPEAK TO THEM

SABINUS AND COTTA SENT REPRESENTATIVES TO SPEAK TO THE EBURONE CHIEF.

MY SUBJECTS FORCED ME TO ATTACK YOUR CAMP-- I DID NOT WISH TO. CAESAR HAS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND TO ME THEREFORE, I WILL TELL YOU WHAT IS HAPPENING.



MY TRIBE TOOK UP ARMS AGAINST YOU BECAUSE ALL GAUL HAS SUDDENLY UNITED TO ATTACK ALL THE INDIVIDUAL ROMAN CAMPS. THE GAULS PLAN TO ATTACK EACH CAMP AT THE SAME TIME, SO THE LEGIONS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HELP EACH OTHER.



FURTHERMORE, THE GAULS WILL SOON BE REINFORCED BY GERMANIS FROM ACROSS THE RHINE THEREFORE, YOU MUST DECIDE WHETHER YOU WISH TO FIGHT HERE ALONE, OR MOVE TO THE NEAREST ROMAN CAMP TO DOUBLE YOUR FORCES.



IF YOU DECIDE TO MOVE TO THE NEXT CAMP, I PROMISE YOU SAFE CONDUCT THROUGH MY TERRITORY



THIS CONVERSATION WAS REPORTED TO SERNIUS AND COTTA A COUNCIL OF WAR WAS HELD. COTTA WAS AGAINST LEAVING CAMP



NO STEPS MUST BE TAKEN WITHOUT CAESAR'S PERMISSION IF WE REMAIN IN THIS FORTIFIED CAMP, WE CAN RESIST ANY NUMBER OF GAULS OR GERMANS

SERNIUS, HOWEVER, WISHED TO MARCH TO THE NEXT CAMP



NO, WE CANNOT WAIT FOR CAESAR'S COMMAND WHEN THE HUGE FORCE OF GAULS AND GERMAN ATTACKS, IT WILL BE TOO LATE

GAUL IS ANGERED AT BEING SUBJECTED TO ROMAN RULE. THESE UPRISINGS MUST BE BEGINNING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. MY PLAN IS SAFER WE WILL MAKE OUR WAY TO THE NEAREST CAMP WITHOUT RISK THERE, UNITED, WE CAN MAKE BETTER RESISTANCE



BUT IT MAY BE A TRAP IT IS WRONG TO FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF THE ENEMY



HAVE YOUR OWN WAY THEN? I AM NO MORE AFRAID OF DEATH THAN THE REST OF YOU. BUT IF DISASTER COMES, IT IS YOU, COTTA, THE MEN WILL BLAME



ONE OF THE CENTURIONS TRIED TO STOP THE QUARREL.

IT DOES NOT MATTER WHETHER WE GO ON STAY, AS LONG AS WE ALL AGREE ON ONE COURSE OF ACTION. BUT IF WE GO ON QUARRELING, THERE IS NO CHANCE OF ESCAPE.



THE ARGUMENT CONTINUED. FINALLY...

ENOUGH! I SUBMIT TO YOUR JUDGMENT, SABINUS. AT DAWN, WE WILL MARCH TO THE NEAREST ROMAN CAMP.



THE SOLDIERS STAYED UP THE REST OF THE NIGHT. EACH MAN WENT THROUGH HIS KIT TO SEE WHAT HE COULD TAKE WITH HIM AND WHAT HAD TO BE ABANDONED.

I WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THIS HERE. I CANNOT CARRY IT ON SUCH A HURRIED MARCH.

I DON'T CARE WHAT I LEAVE BEHIND. HOW CAN WE MARCH AND FIGHT WHEN WE ARE WEARY FOR LACK OF SLEEP?



AT DAWN, THEY SET OUT IN A LONG, STRUGGLING COLUMN, ENCOMBERED BY HEAVY BAGGAGE. THEY WERE SURE OF THE EBURONES' PROMISE OF SAFE CONDUCT.



BUT IN THE WOODS, THE EBURONES WAITED IN AMBUSH.



AND SUDDENLY...

ATTACK! DESTROY
THE HATED CONQUERORS!



THE ROMANS FOUGHT BRAVELY BUT FORTUNE
HAD DESERTED THEM.



FINALLY, SIGMAUS SENT A MESSENGER
TO THE EBURON CHIEF.

MY GENERAL ASKS
FOR QUARTER FOR
HIMSELF AND
HIS TROOPS

TELL HIM
I WISH TO
SEE HIM



THE MESSAGE WAS DELIVERED

COME, COTTA, WE
WILL CONFER WITH
THE EBURONES

NO. I WILL NOT
LEAVE IN THE MIST
OF BATTLE



AS SABINUS TRIED TO ARRANGE FOR PEACE
WITH THE EBURONE CHIEF, HE WAS
SURROUNDED AND KILLED BY THE EBURONES.



COTTA FELL FIGHTING.



A FEW ROMAN SOLDIERS ESCAPED AND
MADE THEIR WAY TO THE NEXT CAMP
WHERE THEY TOLD WHAT HAD HAPPENED.



THE REST CONTINUED THE FIGHT, WHEN NIGHT CAME, AND
ALL HOPE WAS GONE, EVERY ROMAN COMMITTED SUICIDE



THE NEWS OF THE GALLIC VICTORY SPREAD SWIFTLY TO THE LAND OF CAESAR'S OLD ENEMIES, THE NERVI.

NOW IS THE TIME TO THROW OFF THE ROMAN YOKE! NOW IS THE TIME FOR REVENGE!



THE NERVI IMMEDIATELY BEGAN A SIEGE OF THE NEAREST ROMAN CAMP IT WAS COMMANDED BY GENERAL CICERO

CICERO AT ONCE WROTE TO CAESAR FOR HELP

IT WILL BE DONE

I WILL GIVE YOU A HUGE REWARD IF YOU DELIVER THE MESSAGE



BUT NO MESSENGER COULD GET THROUGH.

THE BATTLE CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL DAYS THEN, ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE SIEGE, A GREAT GALE BEGAN



THE HERMAN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS THEY HURLED BULLETS OF RED-HOT CLAY AND INCENDIARY DARTS, AT THE THATCHED HUTS IN THE ROMAN CAMP

FIRE!
FIRE!

THE WIND IS
SPREADING IT! WE
WILL BE CONSUMED
BY THE FLAMES!

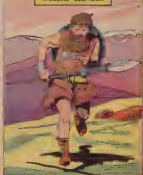


BUT SURROUNDED BY SCORCHING HEAT AND ASSAILED BY SHOWERS OF MISSILES, THE ROMANS FOUGHT BRIVELY ON

I MUST GET A MESSAGE
THROUGH TO CAESAR
OTHERWISE, WE ARE LOST!



FINALLY, A GALLIC SLAVE WAS FOUND WHO WOULD CARRY THE MESSAGE. HE TOOK IT TIED AROUND A JAVELIN, AND PASSED THROUGH HERMAN LINES WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION



AT CAESAR'S CAMP

I WILL CALL TOGETHER AS MANY LEGIONS AS I CAN AND MARCH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

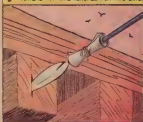
THEN

TAKE THIS MESSAGE TO CICERO. IT WILL INSPIRE HIS MEN TO KNOW THAT HELP IS COMING.

THE MESSENGER COULD NOT ENTER THE CAMP THEREFORE, HE TIED THE MESSAGE TO THE THONG OF A JAVELIN AND



THE JAVELIN STUCK IN ONE OF THE TOWERS. IT WAS IGNORED FOR TWO DAYS.

**FINALLY**

WHAT IS THIS? IT LOOKS LIKE A MESSAGE.

THE MESSAGE WAS TAKEN TO CICERO

REJOICE! CAESAR IS MARCHING TO OUR RESCUE!

WHEN THE NERVII HEARD THAT CAESAR WAS APPROACHING, THEY ABANDONED THEIR SEIGE OF CICERO'S CAMP AND HEUT FORWARD TO BATTLE CAESAR'S ARMY. THERE WERE 40,000 NERVII AND 7,000 ROMANS.

WHY BATTLE WITH CICERO WHEN WE CAN DESTROY CAESAR INSTEAD?



CAESAR MADE A FORTIFIED CAMP, MAKING IT LOOK AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE TO MISLEAD THE NERVII.

LOOK HOW SMALL THEIR CAMP IS. WE CAN EASILY WIPE THEM OUT.



CAESAR FEINTED THE ENEMY INTO A DISADVANTAGEOUS POSITION. THEN HE ATTACKED. THE NERVII SOON FLED, AND MANY SURRENDERED OR WERE KILLED.



ALL THAT WINTER, THE GALLS WERE RESTLESS UNDER CAESAR'S RULE. CAESAR HAD TO PUT DOWN REVOLTS ALL THROUGH NORTHERN AND CENTRAL GALL.



ONE GALLIC LEADER WAS PARTICULARLY SCORNFUL OF CAESAR'S AUTHORITY.

YOU CANNOT HARM ME. I AM A FREE MAN, AND A CITIZEN OF A FREE STATE.



CAESAR ORDERED HIM SURROUNDED AND KILLED.



IN 52 B.C., CAESAR RETURNED TO ROME, WHERE THERE WERE POLITICAL DISTURBANCES. HEARING THIS, THE GAULS AGAIN BECAME RESTLESS.

CAESAR WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LEAVE ROME BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL STRIFE.

WITHOUT CAESAR'S LEADERSHIP, THE ROMAN LEGIONS CAN BE DEFEATED.

NOW IS THE TIME TO RECOVER OUR FREEDOM.



BUT ALL OF THE EARLIER REVOLTS WERE CRUSHED.

YES, BECAUSE WE LACKED A STRONG LEADER TO UNITE GAUL AGAINST HER OPPRESSORS.

WHO WILL COME FORTH NOW TO LEAD US TO FREEDOM?



A YOUNG GAUL, VERGINETORIX, FILLED THE NEED OF THE GAULS FOR A STRONG LEADER. HE WENT THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE RAISING TROOPS.

WHO WILL TAKE UP ARMS WITH ME?

I WILL! DRIVE OUT THE ROMANS FOREVER!

FREE US FROM CAESAR!



VERGHESTORIX HAD NO DIFFICULTY RAISING AN ARMY. ALL GALL WAS AFIRE WITH THE FEELING OF REVOLT.

I HOPE THE FATES LET ME RUN THIS THROUGH A ROMAN SOLDIER.

WHY JUST A SOLDIER? LET IT BE CAESAR!



WHEN THE NEWS OF THE REVOLT REACHED CAESAR IN ROME, HE SET OUT AT ONCE FOR GALL.



THERE WERE MANY INCONCLUSIVE BATTLES WITH THE GALLS. THEN...

WE WILL MOVE ALL OF OUR FORCES TO THE STRONGHOLD OF ALESIA. THERE WE WILL MEET CAESAR IN THE DECISIVE BATTLE.



CAESAR FOLLOWED THE GALLS TO ALESIA.



THE TOWN OF ALESIA STOOD ON A HIGH HILL ON THE EAST SLOPE OF THE HILL, THE GAULS MADE THEIR CAMP. IT WAS FORTIFIED BY A TRENCH AND A SIX FOOT WALL.



CAESAR BEGAN TO BUILD SIEGE WORKS THAT ENCLOSED ALESIA AND THE GALLIC CAMP. THESE SIEGE WORKS HAD A CIRCUMFERENCE OF TEN MILES.



WHILE THIS WORK WAS GOING ON, THERE WAS A BATTLE BETWEEN THE GALLIC CAVALRY AND THE ROMAN CAVALRY.



THE ROMANS DROVE THE GAULS RIGHT UP TO THEIR FORTIFICATIONS. SOME GAULS ABANDONED THEIR HORSES AND TRIED TO SCRAMBLE OVER THE TRENCH AND CLIMB THE WALL.



THAT NIGHT, THE GAULS TOOK COUNSEL.

WE CANNOT DEFEAT CAESAR WITH OUR PRESENT FORCE. THE ROMAN ENTRENCHMENTS ARE NOT YET COMPLETE. SEND THE CAVALRY OUT THROUGH THE BREAK IN THE ROMAN LINES, HAVE THEM ENLIST MORE GAULS OF MILITARY AGE.



THE GAULS GOT PAST THE ROMAN LINES AND RODE THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE

WHO COMES WITH ME TO DESTROY CAESAR?



CAESAR HEARD OF THIS FROM GAULS WHO DESERTED TO HIM

VERCINGETORIX HAS CALLED FOR MORE MEN.



THEN . . .

WE MUST STRENGTHEN OUR SIEGE WORKS AND WE MUST BUILD ANOTHER LINE OF FORTIFICATIONS FACING OUTWARD SO WE CANNOT BE ATTACKED FROM THE REAR



**THE OUTSIDE LINE
OF FORTIFICATIONS
WAS FOURTEEN MILES
IN CIRCUMFERENCE**

CAESAR'S WYRM DONT

ROMAN FORTIFICATIONS IN LURIA

ROMAN FORTIFICATIONS IN LURIA

River

Vercingetorix's camp



**IN RESPONSE TO
VERCINGETORIX'
PLEA FOR MORE
MEN, 250,000
INFANTRY AND
8,000 CAVALRY
WERE ENLISTED**

THE END IS IN
SIGHT FOR CAESAR.
THE MERE SIGHT OF
SO MANY MEN WILL
RING THE ROMANS
AND WE WILL
ATTACK THEM FROM
ONE SIDE WHILE
VERCINGETORIX
ATTACKS THEM
FROM THE OTHER.



THE RELIEVING ARMY OF GAULS CAMPED ABOUT A MILE FROM CAESAR'S FORTIFICATIONS.

'PUT THE INFANTRY ALONG BOTH ENTRENCHMENTS.



THE RELIEVING GAULS SENT OUT SCOUTS TO EXAMINE CAESAR'S FORTIFICATIONS.

THE ENTRENCHMENTS ARE WEAKEST ON THE NORTH, WHERE THERE IS A SLOPE WHICH PUTS THE ROMANS IN A BAD POSITION



THIS WAS REPORTED TO THE GALLIC GENERALS THEN.

FIND ME 60,000 OF OUR BRAVEST MEN. THEY WILL ATTACK AT THAT POINT



THESE TROOPS MOVED FORWARD TO ATTACK THE ROMANS' WEAK POINT ON THE NORTH.

DEATH TO CAESAR!



AT THE SAME TIME, THE REST OF THE RELIEVING GALLIC ARMY MOVED UP TO THE LINE.



AND IN VERGINGETORIX' CAMP

SOUND THE TRUMPETS!



AND VERGINGETORIX LED HIS MEN FORWARD TO BATTLE.



THERE WAS FIGHTING
SOUND FANOUSLY ALL OVER
THE FIELD. BOTH SIDES KNEW
THAT THIS WAS THE TIME
FOR SUPREME EFFORT.



THE GAULS HAD CORRECTLY DISCOVERED THE ROMANS' WEAK POINT. THE DANGER TO THE ROMANS WAS GREATEST ON THE NORTH LINE.



SOME OF THE GAULS ADVANCED WITH SHIELDS LOCKED ABOVE THEIR HEADS



THEY THREW EARTH IN THE TRENCHES AND CLIMBED THE RAMPARTS.



CAESAR SAW HIS MEN WERE WEAKENING

SEND SIX COHORTS* TO THEIR RELIEF.



* There were 600 men in a cohort

HE VISITED EVERY PART OF THE LINE.

HAVE COURAGE! ALL OF OUR VICTORIES AND CONQUESTS DEPEND ON THIS DAY'S FIGHT!



THE SITUATION GREW WORSE THEN

I MYSELF WILL LEAD FOUR COHORTS AND SOME CAVALRY TO OUR WEAKEST POINT. SEND THE REST OF THE CAVALRY AROUND THE OUTER LINES TO ATTACK THE GAULS FROM THE REAR



CAESAR LED HIS MEN INTO BATTLE



WHEN THE GAULS SAW CAESAR AND HIS TROOPS COMING UP IN FRONT, AND THE ROMAN CAVALRY ATTACKING FROM THE REAR, THEY BROKE RANKS AND FLED



THE OTHER GAULS SAW THEIR COUNTRYMEN
FLEEING AND BEING SLAUGHTERED.
THEY GAVE UP HOPE.



IN THE GALLIC CAMP, VERINGETORIX
CALLED HIS LAST FAITHFUL
FOLLOWERS TO HIM



MAKE AMENDS TO CAESAR AS YOU THINK
BEST EITHER KILL ME, OR SURRENDER
ME ALIVE TO HIM.



A DEPUTATION WAS SENT TO CAESAR



VERMINEYON WAS BROUGHT BEFORE CAESAR



CAESAR HAD HIM TAKEN TO ROME THERE HE WAS EXECUTED



WITH THE CRUSHING OF THIS REVOLT, CAESAR'S WORK IN GAUL WAS COMPLETE. ALL OF GAUL WAS CONQUERED.



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JULIUS CAESAR



conflict and war; and it finally ended in a violent death.

Caesar was born in 102 or 100 B.C., probably in Rome. He was of distinguished aristocratic ancestry. In time, he rose to all of the high offices that were open to an ambitious Roman of noble birth. He began by becoming a priest of Jupiter, a religious position of historical dignity.

In 83 B.C., Caesar married Cornelia, the daughter of an important democratic leader. This marriage aroused the hatred of the aristocratic leader, Sulla, who realized that this ambitious young man was seeking a political career that might someday make him master of Rome.

Caesar therefore left Rome, and spent some time in the East, where he had his first military experiences. During the period, he distinguished himself by his gallant fighting and his rescue of a fellow soldier.

When Sulla died, Caesar returned to Rome. Later, he went to Rhodes, an ancient Greek island in the Aegean Sea, to study oratory. He was captured by pirates, but was ransomed. Shortly afterward, he pursued, captured and killed the pirates.

Returning to Rome, Caesar continued to advance in public position. He became governor of Spain, chief priest of Rome, and then consul, one of the two chief executives who actually ruled Rome.

In 60 B.C., Caesar, Pompey, a popular military hero, and Crassus, a rich Roman, formed a triumvirate to control the government. The

following year, Pompey married Caesar's only child, Julia, to further seal the alliance between the two men. Caesar, whose first wife had died, married Calpurnia.

Caesar became the most powerful man in Rome. In time, he also became governor of part of Gaul. Then he decided to conquer the whole country. The conquest of Gaul was accomplished between the years 58 and 50 B.C. The account of the conquest, which Caesar called *Julius Caesar's Notes on His Achievements*, was written by Caesar in seven books. An eighth book was later added by Aulus Hirtius, a friend of Caesar's who was attached to his headquarters throughout the campaign. The purpose of these *Notes* was to promote Caesar's personal advancement by pointing up his success in capturing vast new territory for Roman rule.

While Caesar was subduing the Gauls, the Caesar-Pompey-Crassus triumvirate began to dissolve. In 54 B.C., Pompey's wife—Caesar's daughter—died, which removed the personal tie between the two men. The following year, Crassus died.

By the end of the war with Gaul, Caesar and Pompey faced each other as rivals for power in Rome. A civil war began. It was during this war that Caesar sent his famous message to the Roman senate, "I came, I saw, I conquered."

In 45 B.C., Caesar defeated Pompey and became unchallenged ruler of Rome. He made extensive economic and political changes. He also became more and more powerful. In February, 44 B.C., he became dictator for life.

The title, though accurate, was not long held. In his many political and military campaigns, Caesar had made many enemies. The anger against him rose when he became dictator. His enemies and his former friends began to plot his death.

On the Ides of March, March 15, 44 B.C., Caesar was attacked, in the Roman senate, by the conspirators. He was stabbed twenty-three times. He died at the foot of Pompey's statue.



THE STORY OF GREAT BRITAIN

PART 4: THE NORMAN CONQUEST



WILLIAM, DUKE OF NORMANDY, WAS A DESCENDANT OF THE NORSEMEN WHO SETTLED IN FRANCE IN 912. HE ALSO WAS A COUSIN OF THE KING OF ENGLAND, AND HE LONGED TO HAVE THE ENGLISH THRONE FOR HIMSELF.

WHEN HIS COUSIN, EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, DIED IN 1066, WILLIAM INVADED ENGLAND AND MADE HIMSELF RULER.



HOW DO YOU FIND THE ENGLISH?

THEY ARE A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE YOUR MAJESTY, WITH NO SYSTEM OF TAXES AND LITTLE SKILL IN BUILDING.



WILLIAM BROUGHT MANY SKILLED NORMAN CRAFTSMEN TO ENGLAND.

H E FOUND WAYS TO TAX THE PEOPLE.

HOW MANY CATTLE AND SHEEP DO YOU OWN? WE MUST LIST THEM IN THE DOMESDAY BOOK, SO KING WILLIAM WILL KNOW HOW MUCH TO TAX YOU.



THESE NORMAN TAXES ARE GRINDING US DOWN.

TRUE, BUT THEY ARE BUILDING MANY FINE CATHEDRALS AND MANOR HOUSES



THE CRUSADES BEGAN IN 1096. MANY NORMAN NOBLES JOINED THESE ATTEMPTS TO CAPTURE JERUSALEM FROM THE MUSLIMS.



BUT THE PEASANTS PREFERRED TO STAY HOME AND ENJOY THE NEW NORMAN SPORTS OF WRESTLING AND BOB APPLE.



GRAUALLY, THE NORMANS BLENDED WITH THE ENGLISH. THEY WERE THE LAST PEOPLE TO SUCCESSFULLY INVADE ENGLAND.



THIS IS THE FOURTH OF TWELVE FEATURES ON THE HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN.
IN THE NEXT ISSUE: "THE MIDDLE AGES."

THE ROMAN ARMY

CAESAR conquered Gaul with an army that was usually outnumbered but seldom outfought. Most of its success and determination resulted from Caesar's superb leadership. Some of it, however, was due to the careful organization of the army itself.

The Roman army consisted mostly of infantry. The smallest unit of infantry was called a century. It contained 100 men. Two centuries formed a *maniple*. Three maniples made up a cohort of 600 men. Ten cohorts composed a legion of 6,000 men.

The officer in command of a legion was called a *legatus*. The non-commissioned officer in charge of a century was called a *centurion*. The *legati* were the most important officers. Caesar depended on them for the success of his campaigns. The centurions, however, also had an important function, for they trained and drilled the troops.

In battle, the cohorts were drawn up in triple line formation. The four cohorts of the first line were the first to battle the enemy. The three cohorts of the second line followed close behind, while the three cohorts of the third line supported the others where it was most urgent.

In Caesar's time, the legionary soldiers were Roman volunteers who enlisted for a period of twenty years. They served for pay, and received what would now be about 45 dollars a year. However, in a successful campaign, they shared in the booty. They also received cash awards, or clothing. After twenty years' service, a legionary soldier obtained an honorable discharge, with a money payment and an allotment of land.

In addition to regular legionary soldiers, Caesar used auxiliary infantry troops drafted from allies and conquered peoples. There were no Roman soldiers in the cavalry. In-

stead, it consisted of Gauls, Spaniards or Germans. The cavalry was used chiefly for scouting, for surprise attacks, and for pursuit of the enemy.

When the army was on the march, the cavalry rode at the head, and the legions followed. Each soldier carried his personal baggage in a bundle. It included cooking utensils, blankets, rations, a saw, a spade, and other tools. This bundle, weighing as much as forty pounds, was attached to a pole and carried over one shoulder. The heavy baggage, including tents, stores and equipment, was hauled by animals.

A legionary soldier wore a woolen tunic, a woolen cloak and shoes or sandals. On his head he wore a leather or helmet. He also had a coat of mail. He carried a shield, and his weapons were a spear and a heavy, broad, two-edged sword, about twenty inches long.

In each legion, there was a standard-bearer who carried a bronze or silver eagle mounted on a staff. This was the military standard. Each cohort and maniple also had its own standard. In addition, there were banners of various kinds and the commander - *in - chief* had his own flag.

After each day's march, the Roman army constructed a camp. Every man took part in the work. The camp was rectangular in shape, on level ground, and near a supply of water, wood and forage. It was surrounded by an earthen embankment about ten feet high. A defensive wall and ditch were also built around the camp.

In summer, the soldiers lived in leather tents, ten men to a tent. In winter, they lived in straw-thatched wooden huts.

In battle, the signal for attack or retreat was given by a trumpet. The signal was usually to attack. The Roman army very rarely retreated.



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