

# Imperial Women of the Golden Age: Women in Antiquity



## Faustina I and II: Imperial Women of the Golden Age (Women in Antiquity) by Peter Morville

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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The era of the Roman Empire's "Golden Age" was a time of great prosperity and cultural achievement. It was also a time of significant change for women. As the empire expanded, women gained new opportunities for education, employment, and political participation. They also played an increasingly important role in the arts, literature, and philosophy of the period.

*Imperial Women of the Golden Age: Women in Antiquity* is a groundbreaking work that sheds new light on the lives of women in ancient Rome. This captivating book explores the experiences of empresses, aristocrats, and ordinary women, providing a comprehensive look at their roles in society, politics, and culture.

## Empresses and Aristocrats

The most famous women of the Roman Golden Age were undoubtedly the empresses. These women were often the wives of powerful emperors, and they played a significant role in the political and cultural life of the empire. Some of the most famous empresses include Livia Drusilla, the wife of Augustus Caesar; Agrippina the Younger, the wife of Claudius; and Faustina the Younger, the wife of Marcus Aurelius.

In addition to the empresses, there were also a number of aristocratic women who played an important role in Roman society. These women were often the wives of wealthy senators or military commanders, and they had a significant amount of influence in their own right. Some of the most famous aristocratic women include Sulpicia, the wife of Quintus Aelius Tubero; Caecilia Metella, the wife of Crassus; and Cornelia Scipionis, the mother of the Gracchi brothers.

## **Ordinary Women**

The vast majority of women in the Roman Golden Age were not empresses or aristocrats. They were ordinary women who lived ordinary lives. These women worked as farmers, artisans, teachers, and nurses. They raised families and managed households. And they played an important role in the religious and cultural life of their communities.

The lives of ordinary women in the Roman Golden Age were often difficult. They faced many of the same challenges that women face today, such as poverty, violence, and discrimination. However, they also had some opportunities that women in other cultures did not have. For example, Roman women were able to own property, make contracts, and even divorce their husbands.

*Imperial Women of the Golden Age: Women in Antiquity* is a fascinating and informative look at the lives of women in ancient Rome. This book provides a comprehensive overview of the experiences of empresses, aristocrats, and ordinary women, and it offers a new perspective on the role of women in the Roman Empire.

If you are interested in learning more about the women of the Roman Golden Age, then I highly recommend reading this book. It is a valuable resource for anyone who wants to understand the history of women in antiquity.



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