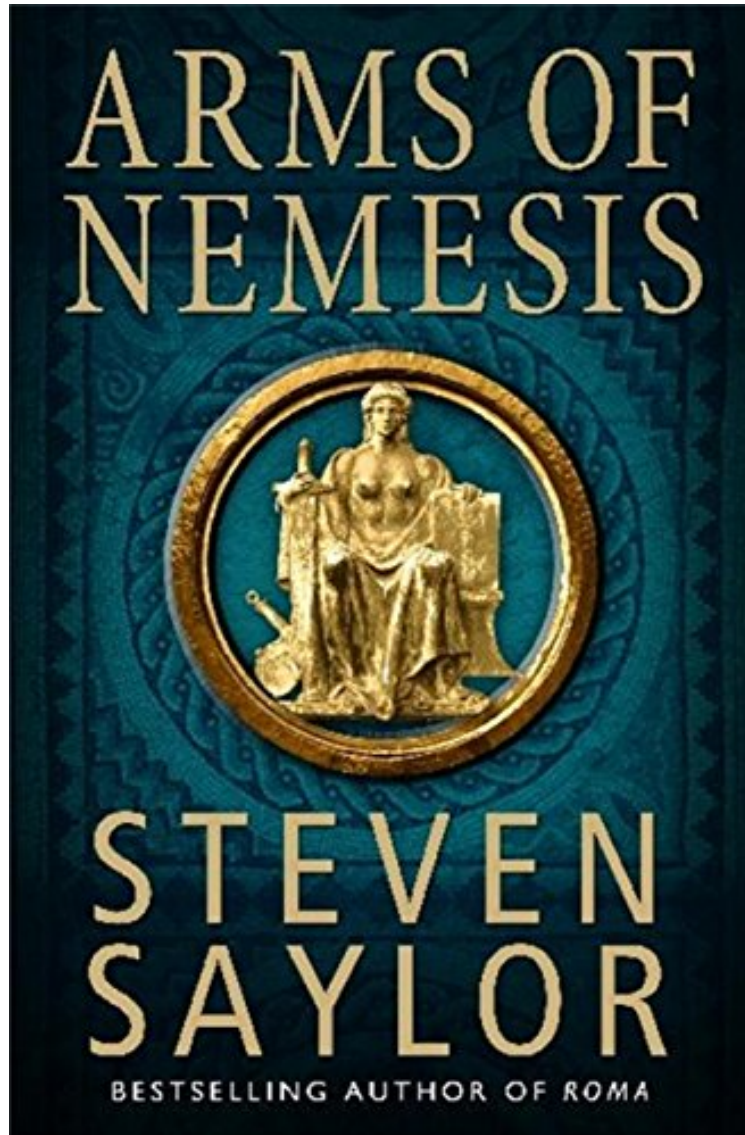


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Arms of Nemesis (Gordianus the Finder)

Von Steven Saylor

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Von Steven Saylor : Arms of Nemesis (Gordianus the Finder) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Arms of Nemesis (Gordianus the Finder):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Gordianus the Finder meets the richest man in RomeVon jps00@ibm.net"Arms of Nemesis" is a Gordianus the Finder whodunit set in ancient Rome near the end of the Republic at the time of the Sparticus slave rebellion. The story is set eight years after Saylor's "Roman Blood". Gordianus the down-on-the-heels Roman detective is hired by Crassus, the

richest man in Rome to investigate the murder of one of his factotums by slaves. However, if Gordianus proves the innocence of the slaves he may unravel his employer's political ambitions. Hard-boiled detective mysteries are pretty formulaic-Gordianus is soft-boiled Truth, justice and the Roman-way are more important to him than silver. This novel is Grisham-esque mixing murder, money, and corporate politics Roman style. Saylor continues to write well. His description of the Roman funeral rites, and the drugged Sybil were particularly good. His violence and action passages continue to be a bit weak. In addition, homosexual relations receive more development than straight sex in this story. I'm a little disappointed with the author's legerdemain to keep the murderer's identity secret until the end. "Arms of Nemesis" is good. However, it is not as good as Saylor's first novel "Roman Blood". Historical murder mystery readers will enjoy it for its accuracy and detail.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Eine sehr gelungene Fortsetzung der Reihe Von Callisto Die Geschichte spielt 10 Jahre nach Band 1 (Steven Saylor: Roman Blood (Roma Sub Rosa)) und es treten viele vertraute Figuren auf, die sich mittlerweile weiterentwickelt haben, so z. Bsp. Eco und Bethesda. Im Vordergrund steht diesmal weniger der Kriminalfall sondern die Unmenschlichkeit der Sklaverei. Besonders die grausamen Zustände der Rudersklaven werden geschildert und die doch sehr andersartige Sicht auf die Menschenrechte zur damaligen Zeit. Sklaven werden als Dinge angesehen, was uns heutzutage sehr grausam anmutet. Dies wird verwoben mit einigen Liebesgeschichten über die Standesgrenzen hinweg (freier Bürger und Sklave) auch zwischen gleichgeschlechtlichen Partnern. Insgesamt erfährt man sehr viel über römische Geschichte und damals berühmte Personen wie Sergius Orata oder Crassus und über Sklavenaufstände vor Spartacus, von denen die meisten wohl noch nie etwas gehört haben. Mir sind viele Gesten aufgefallen die sich wieder im Christentum finden. Inwieweit diese tatsächlich historisch belegt sind würde mich sehr interessieren: In Kapitel 5 berührt Mummius seine Stirn in einer Geste der Demut gegenüber dem Toten mit einem zuvor in ein Wasserbecken getauchten Finger, diese Geste kennen wir noch heute in der Kirche mit Weihwasser. Auch, dass ein Priester die Trauergeste mit einem in Wasser getauchten Olivenzweig bespritzt und so reinigt, haben die Christen beibehalten. Es gab noch eine nette Parallele zur heutigen Realität, die zu der Zeit als das Buch geschrieben wurde wohl noch nicht vorhersehbar war: "He thinks himself such a brilliant strategist, that it won't matter that he has armed his own enemy with Roman steel." War da nicht was Ähnliches mit den USA und Afghanistan? Insgesamt eine sehr gelungene Fortsetzung der Reihe ohne grobe historische Schnitzer, hier merkt man, dass Saylor Geschichte studiert hat. Die Kriminalgeschichte ist spannend aufgebaut und bis zum Schluss ist unklar, wer der Mörder ist. Auch in diesem Band ist Saylor gut für eine spannende und unerwartete Wende gegen Ende der Geschichte, wie schon in Band 1. Gordianus ist ein sehr sympathischer Ermittler, auch wenn er streckenweise sehr modern in seinen Ansichten ist, aber historische Romane sind auch immer ein Spiegel der Zeit, in welcher sie geschrieben wurden. Leider sind die Bücher mittlerweile wirklich schwer zu bekommen, zumindest auf Deutsch. Leider geht beim deutschen Titel auch das Wortspiel des englischen Titels zwischen Waffe und Arm verloren. Meine Lieblingszitate: "It (Beer) was the exact color of urine, [...] and tasted like it!" "They want to impress you-kno-who." Diesmal ist aber Marcus Crassus gemeint. "Decapitation has a way of making even the richest man in the world irrelevant".

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not really the good old days..... Von Peter Berlin This is a very well written and entertaining "whodunit" that takes place during the time of the Roman Empire. The plot is quite interesting (unless the true murderer is found, 95 slaves will be sacrificed for political reasons), the characters are well presented and you learn quite a bit about everyday life in a little town. I found the mystery quite good and it made me feel like reading books by the same author. The ending and the solution to the murders were quite convincing, The P.I. - if you want to call him that - was interesting and quite believable in the way how he was able to solve the crimes. There is quite a bit of criticism of the slavery system, I guess even in these days, when the Roman Empire needed slaves desperately to keep the whole system running, there were people who did not feel comfortable about it. All in all, quite recommendable and enjoyable.

Kurzbeschreibung South of Rome on the Gulf of Puteoli stands the splendid villa of Marcus Crassus, Rome's wealthiest citizen. When the estate overseer is murdered, Crassus concludes that the deed was done by two missing slaves, who have probably run off to join the Spartacus Slave Revolt. Unless they are found within five days, Crassus vows to massacre his remaining ninety-nine slaves. To Gordianus the Finder falls the fateful task of resolving this riddle from Hades. In a house filled with secrets, the truth is slow to emerge and Gordianus realizes that the labyrinthine path he has chosen just may lead to his own destruction.

From Publishers Weekly Set in 72 B.C., during the slave revolt led by Spartacus, Saylor's (Roman Blood) second historical mystery follows Roman PI Gordianus the Finder to the resort of Baiae on the Bay of Naples. The cousin and factotum of Marcus Licinius Crassus, the wealthiest man in Rome, has been bludgeoned to death, apparently by two slaves who have run away. An ancient Roman law decrees that when a master is killed by a slave, the remainder of the household's slaves must be slaughtered. Gordianus and his adopted son Eco have three days to find the real murderer and save the villa's other 99 slaves. A convoluted plot reveals fraud, embezzlement and arms smuggling (spears and swords traded for silver and jewels); sensuously written subplots hinge on arcane poisons and clandestine love affairs among a cast that includes a Crassus's second-

rate philosopher-in-residence and a retired actor who doubles as a female impersonator. Richly detailed bacchanalian feasts and mesmerizing visits to the Sybil at Cumae lead to the spellbinding conclusion, reached during fierce gladiatorial combat. 35,000 first printing; BOMC alternate; paperback rights to Fawcett; author tour. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen

Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama. "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" on "Arms of Nemesis" Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist. "The Boston Globe" on "A Murder on the Appian Way" A compulsively entertaining whodunnit. "New York Times Book " on "Arms of Nemesis" Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome...and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama." - "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" on "Arms of Nemesis" Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist. "The Boston Globe" on "A Murder on the Appian Way" A compulsively entertaining whodunnit." - "New York Times Book " on "Arms of Nemesis" Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama." - "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" on "Arms of Nemesis" Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist." - "The Boston Globe" on "A Murder on the Appian Way" A compulsively entertaining whodunnit." - "New York Times Book " on "Arms of Nemesis" Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama. "St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Arms of Nemesis" Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist. "The Boston Globe on A Murder on the Appian Way" A compulsively entertaining whodunnit. "New York Times Book on Arms of Nemesis" Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama. St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Arms of Nemesis Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist. The Boston Globe on A Murder on the Appian Way A compulsively entertaining whodunnit. New York Times Book on Arms of Nemesis" Saylor impeccably recreates life in Imperial Rome...and intriguing mix of historical accuracy and tense drama." --St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Arms of Nemesis Gordinaus has wisdom and prudence; Saylor has intelligence, wit, and insight. Saylor has acquired the information of a historian but he enjoys the gifts of a born novelist." --The Boston Globe on A Murder on the Appian Way" A compulsively entertaining whodunnit." --New York Times Book on Arms of Nemesis