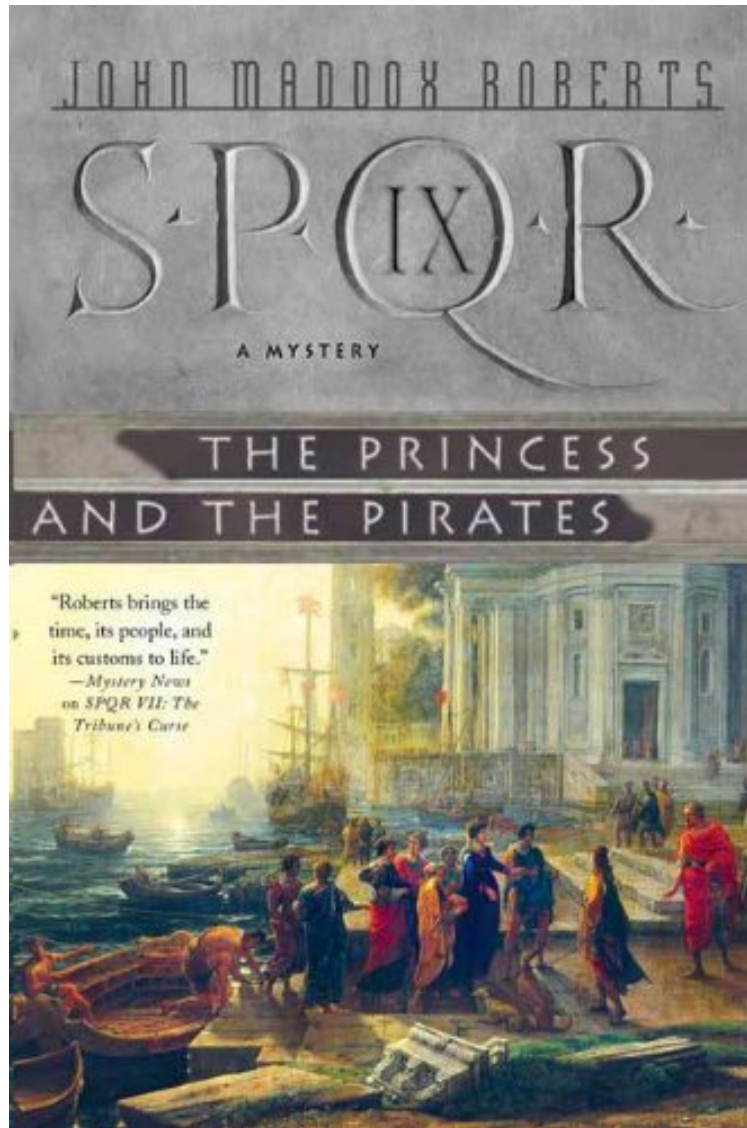


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## SPQR IX: The Princess and the Pirates: A Mystery (The SPQR Roman Mysteries)

Von John Maddox Roberts

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Von John Maddox Roberts : SPQR IX: The Princess and the Pirates: A Mystery (The SPQR Roman Mysteries) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised SPQR IX: The Princess and the Pirates: A Mystery (The SPQR Roman Mysteries):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Still the BestVon Who-e-NengI've read many 'Roman' book series, and to my mind, the SPQRs are the best.One reason is that

Decius is a more real character than other lead chaps, who tend to be far too anachronistic. Decius is witty but doesn't sound like a 20th century American, and is a more accurate product of his time and its values (e.g. he's not a pacifist and he isn't hen-pecked by his wife). Don't get me wrong, I'm a pacifist and enjoy the castigations of my wife, but then I'm a product of my time and culture, both very different from ancient Rome. Another reason is that Roberts' writing is refreshingly lean, almost curt, and this gives his books great pace without being shallow. In this latest episode we get both the background (Cyprus, piracy, trade, naval matters) and the plot delivered in this firm and sinewy manner, and Decius and the other characters in the book stand out, clear and authentic. And even here on the other side of the Mediterranean, Roman politics exert its grip. The only problem with this book is that it is far too short. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. HIC PIRATAE NON SUNT ! Piratenjagd ohne Piraten... Von Georg Grnegress Rmischer Krimi Nr. 9 HIC PIRATAE NON SUNT ! Piratenjagd ohne Piraten... Der Senator Decius Metellus hat die mter des Qustoren (Schutz der Staatskasse) und des dilen (eine Art Polizeichef) erfolgreich hinter sich gebracht und zudem die Nichte Caesars geehelicht. Um auf der Karriereleiter noch weiter aufzusteigen und das Amt des Prtors (oberster Richter) zu ergattern, stehen dem beim Volk beliebten Lebemann jedoch noch andere Aufgaben bevor: Da seine militrischen Erfolge bisher noch unbedeutend sind, beschliet der Familienrat der Meteller, ihn kurzerhand nach Zypern zu entsenden, um den dort agierenden Piraten das Handwerk zu legen. Im Hause des zypriotischen Statthalters Silvanus trifft er auf die gyptische Prinzessin Kleopatra, die sich mit ihrem Schiff an der Piratenjagd beteiligt. Die Suche nach den Gesetzlosen gestaltet sich jedoch schwierig: Nachdem die Piraten auf einer Nachbarinsel ein Dorf dem Erdboden gleich gemacht haben, wird kurz darauf Silvanus ermordet in seinem Bett aufgefunden. Als Decius die Handelsinteressen der Mittelmeerlnder untersucht, fllt auch ein Verdacht auf Kleopatra... Obwohl auch der 9. Teil der SPQR- Reihe kurzweilig und unterhaltsam ist, lsst sie "Zypern- Connection" doch einige Fragen offen und die Handlung kommt nicht so richtig in Fahrt. Nachdem die vorherigen Bnde jedoch geradezu brillant geraten sind, ist ein kleiner Ausrutscher nach unten mehr als verzeihlich! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another enjoyable in this great series! Von kashew Any other book would merit 4 stars, but this was a mild disappointment. I couldn't wait for this follow on in the series, but found it was just not quite as entrancing as the others. That is not to say that it was not a very good read, but the story seemed thinner than earlier ones in the series. Decius Caecilius Metellus is his usual witty self, surrounded by fascinating characters including Cleopatra and his wife Julia - niece to Julius Caesar. I will continue to read the following books in the series.

Kurzbeschreibung As I walked back through the City, my mood was moderately elevated. This appointment did not displease me nearly as much as I pretended. Like most Romans I abhorred the very thought of sea duty, but this was one of the rare occasions when I was looking forward to getting away from Rome..... For years I had complained of the disorder of the City, and now that it was gone, I found that I missed it. All the peace and quiet seemed unnatural. I did not expect it to last. - Decius Caecilius Metellus the Younger in SPQR IX: The Princess and the Pirates His two years of aedileship over, Decius is ready for his next adventure. He would rather do anything than join the war with Caesar in the dismal forests of Gaul, so he and his slave/protg Hermes find themselves on a mission to rid the Mediterranean of pirates. They set off with shoddy ships and sailors to the island of Cyprus, where a young Cleopatra is staying. Between her impressive crew and the ex-pirate Ariston providing insider knowledge of that cutthroat occupation, Decius thinks he stands a good chance of bringing himself some glory. That would be too simple, though. The ruler of the island, Silvanus, is murdered in a most peculiar fashion and Decius, as a guest in his home, has a sacred duty to find and punish the guilty party. Because world relations are already strained, he would rather not suspect Cleopatra, heir to the Egyptian throne. But she has plenty of reasons to hate Rome and murder runs in her family. Another guest and suspect is Gabinius, who is in exile and could have easily given up loyalty toward his friend if it meant a quicker return to Rome. In the meantime, Decius is being humiliated in his pirate hunt, and as if this weren't enough, Aphrodite herself seeks Decius's help by appearing to him in a dream vision. As Decius investigates world trade, the island history, and the new kind of piracy plaguing the waters, he is finding connections more menacing than he had ever imagined possible. In this ninth book in the series, Roberts crafts another skillful mystery, this time fervently pulsing with the collision of Roman, Greek, and Egyptian interests. From Publishers Weekly In Roberts's gripping ninth Roman historical (after 2004's *The River God's Vengeance*), former aedile Decius Caecilius Metellus is dispatched from Rome by his patrician family to deal with a resurgence in piracy to Cyprus, where he encounters the young Cleopatra, whose true allegiances remain obscure. With scant resources, Metellus seeks recruits from the dregs of Cyprian society and attempts to whip his forces into a squad capable of ending the violent pillaging. His focus shifts when Silvanus, the island's Roman governor, is found dead, asphyxiated by a mouthful of frankincense. The economics of the international trade in that aromatic spice prove relevant as Metellus suspects a connection between the assassination and his primary mission. The occasional colloquial phrase jars ("Rosy-fingered Dawn was performing her daily act as we pulled up by the naval wharf"), and Roberts has the misfortune of suffering by comparison with Steven Saylor, whose latest Roman mystery, *The Judgment of Caesar*, used the historical

Cleopatra to much better effect. Still, longtime fans and those interested in the Roman Republic will enjoy this crafty puzzle. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Pressestimmen "Gripping ...longtime fans and those interested in the Roman Republic will enjoy this crafty puzzle."--Publishers Weekly "Colorful characters led by Cleopatra and historical tidbits add entertainment."--Kirkus s