

Chapter 25		Chapter 41	
C. Antistio M. Suillio In the consulship of Gaius Antistius and consulibus adoptio in Marcus Suillius, the adoption of Domitium auctoritate Domitius was hurried forward by the influence of Pallas, qui obstrictus Agrippinae ut conciliator nuptiarum et mox stupro eius inligatus, who was bound to Agrippina as the facilitator of her marriage, and later under obligation by a shameful affair with her,	on of ard by the na as the	Ti. Claudio quintum Servio Cornelio Orfito consulibus virilis toga Neroni maturata quo capessendae rei publicae habilis videretur.	When Claudius was consul for the fifth time, alongside Servius Cornelius Orfitus, the ceremony of the toga of manhood was hastened for Nero, so that by this he seemed suitable of undertaking public life.
	neful affair	et Caesar adulationibus senatus libens cessit ut	And Caesar yielded gladly to the flatteries of the Senate, so that Nero
stimulabat Claudium he was urging Claudius to I consuleret rei publicae, interest of the State and su boyhood of Britannicus with robore circumdaret: strength;	surround the consulatum Nero iniret his twer atque interim designatus meanwh proconsulare imperium extra should h	should enter upon the consulship in his twentieth year of life and meanwhile, as consul-designate, should have proconsular authority outside the city and be called the	
sic apud divum thus in the house of the divine Augustum, quamquam Augustus, although he relied on his		iuventutis appellaretur.	Prince of Youth.
nepotibus subnixum, grandsons, his stepsons ha viguisse privignos;		additum nomine eius donativum militi, congiarium	In his name, a donative to the soldiers and a gift of food to the
	Germanicus was adopted in addition to hsi own children by Tiberius;		people was added.
se quoque accingeret he should also equip himse iuvene partem curarum young man who would und capessituro. share of the labours.		in praetexta, Nero triumphali veste travecti sunt: et ludicro circensium, quod	And at the circus games, which were
·	by these [arguments], he put older by 3 years, before his a speech in the Senate in the e as he had received from his	adquirendis vulgi studiis edebatur, Britannicus in praetexta, Nero triumphali veste travecti sunt:	put on to gain the favour of the crowd, Britannicus in the toga praetexta and Nero in the triumphal regalia processed:
·		spectaret populus hunc decore imperatori, illum puerili habitu, ac perinde fortunam utriusque praesu-	let the people see this man in the glory of an imperator and that man in the dress of a boy, and let them forsee for the pair both their
adnotabant periti nullam antehac adoptionem inter patricios Claudios reperiri. Experts noted that up till then, no adoption into the Patrician line of the Claudians had been found.		meret.	prospects.
		simul qui centurionem tribunorumque sortem Britannici miserabantur,	At the same time those of the centurions and tribunes who pitied the lot of Britannicus were removed,
eosque ab Atto Clauso They endured long and unb continuos duravisse. Attius Clausus	broken from	remoti fictis causis et alii per speciem honoris;	some for made up reasons and others under the guise of honour;



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Chapter 41 (cont)	
etiam libertorum si quis incorrupta fide, depellitur tali occasione.	even more, if anyone of the freedmen showed incorruptible loyalty, he was deposed on an opportunity such as this:
obvii inter se Nero Britan- nicum nomine, ille Domitium salutavere.	meeting each otherm Nero greeted Britannicus by name, he greeted him "Domitius".
quod ut discordiae initium Agrippina multo questu ad maritum defert:	This Agrippina reported to her husband as the beginning of an enmity with much complaint:
sperni quippe adoptionem, quaeque censuerint patres, iusserit populus, intra penates abrogari;	for in fact the adoption was being rejected, the matters which the Senators had decided, the people had ordered, were being rescinded inside his own home;
ac nisi pravitas tam infensa docentium arceatu, eruptura in publicam perniciem.r	and unless the wickedness of those teaching such hostile beaviour was checked, they would burst out into public destruction.
commotus his quasi criminibus optimum quemque educatorem filii exilio aut morte adficit datosque a norverca	Alarmed by these as if they were criminal charges, he punished all the best educators of his own son with exile or death, and he imposed on him the guardians given by his stepmother.

Chapter 52 (cont)	
pater Scriboniani Camillus arma per Dalmatiam moverat;	The father of Scribonianus, Camillus, had rebelled in Dalmatia;
idque ad clementiam trahebat Caesar, quod stirpem hostilem iterum conservaret.	Caesar was using this as evidence of his clemency, because he was again allowing a hostile line to live.
neque tamen exuli longa posthac vita fuit:	However, after this life for the exile was not long:
morte fortuita an per venenum extinctus esset, ut quisque credidit, vulgavere	whether he died by an accidentaly death or by poison, each person spread as he believed.
de mathematicis Italia pellendis factum senatus consultum atrox et inritum.	A harsh and futile decree of the Senate was made about banishing astrologers out of Italy.
laudati dehinc oratione principis qui ob angustias familiares ordine senatorio spone cederent, motique qui remanendo impude- ntiam paupertati adicerent.	After this, praised in speed by the Emperor were those who because of straitened family wealth withdrew from senatorial rank of their own accord, and those who added cheek to poverty by remaining were removed.
Chapter 56	

Chapter 52

custodiae eius imponit.

nianus in exilium agitur, quasi finem principis per Chaldaeos scrutaretur. adnectebatur crimini Vibia mater eius, ut casus prioris (nam relegata erat)

Fausto Sulla Salvio Othone

consulibus Furius Scribo-

In the consulate of Fausto Sulla and Salvio Otho, Furius Scribonianus was driven into exile, on the allegation that he inquired into the end of the emperor from astrologers.

His mother was woven into the charge, on the grounds that she was impatient of her former fortune (for she had been relegated).

Chapter 56

sub idem tempus inter lacum Fucinum amnemque Lirim perrupto monte, quo magnificentia operis a pluribus viseretur, lacu in ipso navale proelium adornatur, ut quondam Augustus structo trans Tiberim stagno, sed levibus navigiis et minor copia ediderat.

At about the same time when the mountain between the lake Fucinus and the river Liris was broken through, in order that the magnificence of the work would be seen by more people, a naval battle was organised on the lake istelf, as once Augustus had put on on the constructured lagoon across the river Tiber, but with lighter vessels and a smaller force.



impatiens.

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Chapter 56 (cont)

Claudius triremes quadriremesque et undeviginti
hominum mila armavit,
cincto ratibus ambitu, new
vaga effugia forent, ac
tamen spatium amplexus
ad vim remigii, gubernantium artes, impetus
navium et proelio solita.

Claudius armed triremes and quadreremes and 19000 men, the edge was surrounded by rafts, so that there would be no wandering escape, and yet embracing a space for the attacking force of the rowers, the skills of those steering, the attack of the ships and the usual events of the battle.

in ratibus praetoriarum cohortium manipuli turmaeque adstiterant, antepositis propugnaculis ex quis catapultae ballistaeque tenderentur. On the rafts, companies and squadrons of praetorian cohorts had taken up position, with defenses places before them from which catapults and ballistas were directed.

reliqua lacus classiarii textis navibus obtinebant.

Marines retained control of the remaining parts of the lake decked on the ships.

ripas et collis montiumque edita in modum theatri multitudo innumera complevit, proximis e municipiis et alii urbe ex ipsa, visendi cupidine aut officio in principem. An innumerable crowd filled the banks, hills and mountain height in the manner of the theatre, from the nearest towns and other from the city itself, either out of a desire to see, or out of duty towards, the Emperor.

ipse insigni paludamento neque procul Agrippina chlamyde aurata prasedere. He, in his distinguished general's cloack, and Agrippina not far off in a golden cloak, presided.

pugnatum quamquam inter sontes fortium virorum animo, ac post multum vulnerum occidioni exempti

The fighting went on, although between guilty criminals, with the spirit of brave men, and after many wounds they were exempted from execution.

Chapter 59

at Claudius saevissima quaeque promere adigebatur eiusdem Agrippinae artibus, quae Statilium Taurum opibus inlustrem hortis eius inhians pervertit accusante. But Claudius was forced, by the skills of the same Agrippina, to bring about every very cruel [deed], she ruined Statilius Taurus, a man famous for his wealth, whose gardens she coveted, by Tarquitius Priscus accusing him.

legatus is Tauri Africam imperio proconsulari regentis, postquam revenerant, pauca repetundarum crimina, ceterum magicas superstitiones obiectabat.

He was the legate of Taurus when Tarus was govenor of Africa with proconsular power, after they had returned, he cited a few charges of extortion but especially with magical superstitions.

nec ille diutius falsum accusatorem, indignas sordes perpessus vim vitae suae attulit ante sententiam senatus.

He, no longer [willing to] endure the false accuser and unbearable rags, committed violence against his life before the Senate's verdict.

exactus est; quod patres odio delatoris contra ambitum Agrippinae pervicere.

Tarquitius tamen curia

However, Tarquitius was driven out of the senate house;

something which the senators achieved through their hatred of this informer despite the support of Agrippina.

Chapter 65

ceterum obiecta sunt quod coniugem principis devotionibus petivisset quodque parum coercitis per Calabriam servorum agminibus pacem Italiae turbaret But charges were brought against her on the grounds that she had attacked the emperor's wife with curses and that she was disturbing the peace of Italy when restraining her troups of slaves throughout Calabria with insufficient energy.



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Chapter 65 (cont)

ob haec mors indicta, multum adversante Narcisso, qui Agrippinam magis magisque suspectans prompsisse inter proximos ferebatur certam sibi perniciem, seu Britannicus rerum seu Nero poteretur; For these crimes the death penalty was imposed, with Narcissus greatly opposing it, who suspecting Agrippina more and more, it was said spoke frankly among those closest to him that destruction was certain for him, whether Britannicus or Nero gained power:

verum ita de se meritum Caesarem, ut vitam usui eius impenderet. but Caesar was deserving in such a way from him that he would give his life for his benefit.

convictam Messalinam et Siliam:

[Narcissus said] Messalina and Sillius had been convicted,

pares iterum accusandi causas esse, si Nero imperitaret; and there were equal reasons again for accusing, if Nero came to power;

Britannico successore nullum principi metum:

if Britannicus were the successor, there was no reason to fear for the emperor:

at novercae insidiis domum omnem convelli, maiore flagitio quam si impudicitiam prioris coniugus reticuisset.

quamquam ne impudicitiam quidem nunc abesse Pallante adultero, ne quis ambigat decus pudorem corpus, cuncta regno viliora habere. but by the machinations of the stepmother, the whole house was being torn apart, a greater disagree than if he had kept quiet about the unchastity of the previous wife.

Although unchastity was not absent even now, with Pallas as the adulterer, so that no one could doubt that she considered her honour, her reputation, her body, everything, less valuable than rule.

Chapter 65 (cont)

haec atque talia dictitans amplect Britannicum, robur aetatis quam maturrimum precari, modo ad deos, modo ad ipsum tendere manus, adolesceret, patris inimicos depelleret, matris etiam interfectores ulcisceretur. Saying this and such things again and again he embraced Britannicus, he prayed for the strength of age as quickly as possible, stretching his hands at the moment to the gods, at another towards Britannicus himself, for him to reach maturity, to drive out the enemies of his father, to even take vengeance on the murderers of his mother.

Chapter 66

in tanta mole curarum valetudine adversa corripitur, refovendisque viribus mollitia caeli et salubritate aquarum Sinuessam pergit. In so great a weight of cases, he was seized by bad health, and he proceeded to Sinuessa to revive his strength by the mildness of the weather and the healthful properties of the water.

tum Agrippina, sceleris olim certa et oblatae occasionis propera nec ministrorum egens, de genere veneni consultavit, ne repentino et praecipti facinus proderetur; si lentum et tabidum delegi-

crime, quick to seize the opportunity presented, and not in need of accomplices, debated the type of poison, [fearing] her crime would be revelead by a sudden and abrupt one;

Then Agrippina, once determined on

si lentum et tabidum delegisset, ne admotus supremis Claudius et dolo intellecto ad amorem filii rediret.

if she chose a slow-acting, wastingaway one, Claudius, understanding her treachery and reaching the closing moments of his life, might return his love to his son.

exquisitum aliquid placebat, quod turbaret mentem et mortem differret. Something specially chosen was best, such as would disturb the mind yet put off death.



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Chapter 66 (cont)

deligitur artifex talium vocabulo Locusta, nuper veneficii damnata et diu inter instrumenta regni habita.

eius mulieris ingenio paratum virus, cuius minister e spadonibus fuit Halotus, inferre epulas et explorare gustu solitus. A skilled practitioner in such things was chosen, named Locusta, recently condemned on poisoning charges and for a long time [after] considered among the tools of government.

The poison was procured by the abilities of the woman, and her accomplice was Halotus, from the eununchs, accustomed to bring in the banquets and try the most by tasting.

Chapter 26

ceterum actae principi grates, quaesitiore in Domitium adulatione;

rogataque lex qua in familiam Claudiam et nomen Neronis transiret.

augetur et Agrippina cognomento Augustae.

quibus patratis nemo adeo expers misericordiae fuit quem non Britannici fortun maerore adficeret.

desolatus paulatim etiam servilibus ministeriis perintempestiva novercae officia in ludibrium vertebat, intellegens falsi.

neque enim segnem ei fuisse indolem ferunt, sive verum, seu periculis commendatus retinuit famam sine experimento. But thanks were given to the Emperor by the senators with deliberately contrived adulation of Domitius;

and a law was passed by which he came across into the CLaudian family and given the name Nero.

And Agrippina was enhanced by the title Augusta.

When matters were accomplished, no one was so devoid of pity who was not moved with sorrow by the future of Britannicus.

Gradually, forsaken by even the service of slaves, he treated with amused cynicism the very ill-timed personal services of his stepmother, understanding her falsehood.

For they say that his intelligence was not sluggish, whether it was true, or whether rated because of the the dangers, he kept the reputation without proof.

Chapter 42

nondum tamen summa moliri Agrippina audebat, ni praetoriarum cohortium cura exolverentur Lusius Geta et Rufrius Crispinus, quos Messalinae memores et liberis eius devinctos credebat.

igitur distrahi cohortes ambitu duorum et, si ab uno regerentur, intentiorem fore disciplinam adseverante uxore, transfertur regimen cohortium ad Burrum Afranium, egregiae militaris famae, gnarum tamen cuius sponte praeficeretur.

suum quoque fastigium Agrippina extollere altius: carpento Capitolium ingredi, qui honos sacerdotibus et sacris antiquitus concessus

inter quae praecipuus propugnator eius Vitellius, validissima gratia, aetate extrema (adeo incertae sunt potentium res) accusatione corripitur, deferente Iunio Lupo senatore.

However Agrippina did not dare to set in motion her most important aims, unless Lusius Geta ad Rufrius Cripinus were removed from their command of the Praetorian Cohorts, whom she believed to be always thinking of Messalina nad bound to her children.

Therefore, with his wife asserting earnestly that the cohorts were being split by the rivalry of the two, if they were ruled by one man, the discipline would be tighter, the command of the cohorts was transferred to Afranius Burnus, of outstanding military reputation, however aware by who intervention he was put in charge.

Also to raise up her own importance higher, Agrippina entered the Capitoline in an ornate carriage, an honour which, conceded in the past to priests and sacred objects, increased the reverance of a woman, who is the only example to this day of a woman who was born from a general, and was sister, mother and wife of an emperor.

Meanwhile, Vitellius, her foremost champion, a man with very strong influence but extreme old age (the affairs of the powerful are so uncertain) was attacked by an accusation, brought by the senator Junius Lupus.

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Chapter 42 (cont) Chapter 43 (cont) is crimina maiestatis et He was citing the crimes of treason and at hercule olim Italia legionibus By Hercules, once Italy used to cupidinem imperii obiectdesire for imperial power; longinguas in provincias carry supplies to far off legions, abat; commeatus portabat, nec nunc and now it is hard-pressed by infertility, but rather we cultivate infecunditate laboratur, sed praebuissetque auris Caesar would've offered his ears, if he Africam potius et Aegyptum Africa and Egypt, the Roman Caesar, nisi Agrippinae had not been changed by the threats of exercemus, navibusque et people entrust life to boats and Agrippina more than by her prayers, minis magis quam casibus vita populi Romani chance. precibus mutatus esset, ut with the result that he banned the permissa est. accuser from receiving water and fire. accusatori aqua atque igni interdiceret. Chapter 53 hactenus Vitellius Vitellius wanted thus far and no further. voluerant. inter quae refertad patres Among these [acts as censor, de poena feminarum quae Claudius] proposed to the Senate servis coniungerentur; about the punishment for those women Chapter 43 who partnered with slaves, multa eo anno prodigia That year many portents happened. statuiturque ut ignaro and it was decided that those who had evenere. fallen to this [level] without the master domino ad id prolapsae in insessum diris avibus Terrible birds settles on the Capitol, knowing, should be held in slavery, but servitute, sin consensisset, Capitolium, crebris terrae houses were demolished by frequent pro libiertis haberentur. if the master had consented, they motibus prorutae domus, earthquakes, and as the panic spread shold be regarded as freedwomen. ac dum latius metuitur, more widely, all the weak people were quem repertorem eius Barea Soranus, the consul designate, trepidatione vulgi crushed by the panic of the crowd; relationis ediderat Caesar, proposed for Pallas, whom Caesar had invalidus quisque obtriti; made known as the author of the praetoria insignia et quoque egestas et orta also, a shortage of corn, from which proposal, praetorian insignia and centies quinquagies ex eo fames in prodigium arose a famine, was accepted as a bad sestertium censuit consul 15.000.000 sesterces. accipiebatur. designatus Barea nec occulti tantum And so many complaints were not Soranus. questus, sed iura hidden but a crowd surrounded Claudius additum a Scipione It was added by Scipio Cornelius that reddentem Claudium while delivering justice with unruly Cornelio grates publice thanks should be given publically circumvasere clamoribus shouts, and he was driven to the furthest agendas, quod regibus because he, descended from the kings part of the forum by force and they turbidis, pulsumque in Arcadiae ortus veterrimam of Arcadia was setting aside his very assailed him, until he broken through the extremam fori partem vi old nobility for public purpose and nobilitatem usui publico urgebant, donec militum aggressors with a compact mass of postponeret seque inter allowing himself to be considered globo infensos perrupit. ministros principis haberi among the princeps' servants. quindecim dierum Fifteen days of food for the city, no sineret.



alimenta urbi, non

amplius superfuisse

constitit, magnaque

deum benignitate et

modestia hiemis rebus extremis subventum.

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adseveravit Claudius

Pallantem intra prioriem

paupertatem subsistere.

contentum honore

more, it was agreed remained, help was

given to these extreme events by the

great kindness of the gods and the

mildness of winter.

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poverty.

Claudius asserted Pallas, content with

honour, would remain within his former



Chapter 53 (cont)

et fixum est [aere] publico senatus consultum quo libertinus sestertii ter milies possessor antiquae parsimoniae laudibus cumulabatur. And thte Senate decree was put upon a public bronze plaque by which this freedman, worth 300,00-0,000 sesterces was heaped with praises for his old fashioned frugality.

Chapter 57

sed perfecto spectaculo apertum aquarum iter.

incuria operis manifesta fuit, haud satis depressi ad lacus ima vel media.

eoque tempore interiecto altius effossi specus, et contrahendae rursum multitudini gladiatorum spectaculum editur, inditis pontibus pedestrem ad pugnam.

quin et convivium effluvio lacus adpositum manga formidine cunctos adfecit, quia vis aquarum prorumpens proxima trahebat, convulsis ulterioribus aut fragore et sonitu exterritis.

simul Agrippina trepidatione princips usa ministrum operis Narcissum incusat cupidinis ac praedarum.

nec ille reticet, impotentiam muliebrem nimiasque spes eius arguens. But when the show was completed, the waterway was opened.

The inadequacy of the project was clear: it had not been sunk deep enough to the bottom of the lake or even the middle.

Therefore when time was added [to the project] the channel was dug deeper, and a gladiator show put on for the masses again collected, with pontoons placed [on the water] for a battle on foot.

Moreover also a party held near the outlet of the lake caused great panic because the force of the water bursting forth began to drag away everything nearest the channel, those further away being violently shaken or terrified by the din and noise.

At the same time Agrippina, using the panic of the emperor, accused Narcissus the servant for the works of greed and profiteering.

And he did not hold back, criticising her for the lack of self-restraint typical of a woman and her excessive hoops.

Chapter 58

D. Iunio Q. Haterio consulibus sedecim annos natus Nero Octaviam Caesaris filiam in matrimonium accepit.

utque studiis honestis et eloquentiae gloria enitesceret, causa Iliensium suscepta Romanum Troia demissum et Iuliae stirpis auctorem Aeneam aliaque haud procul fabulis vetera facunde executus perpetrat, ut Ilienses omni publico munere solverentur.

eodem oratore Bononiensi coloniae igni haustae subventum centies sestertii largitione.

reddita Rhodiis libertas, adempta saepe aut firmata, prout bellis externis meruerant aut domi seditione deliquerant;

tributumque Apamensibus terrae motu convulsis in quinquennium remissum. In the consulship of Decimus Junius and Quintus Haterius, Nero, aged 16, married Octavia, daughter of Caesar

With honourable enthusiasm in order to shine through a reputation for eloquence, he took on the case of the people of Ilium, having descended from Troy, and Aeneas the founder of the Julian family and other old things not far from fables, he achieved that the people of Ilium

By the same speaker, help was given to the colony of Bononia, which had been devastated by fire, by the gift of ten million sesterces.

were freed from all state taxation.

Freedom was returned to the people of Rhodes, freedom that had often been taken away or confirmed, depending on whether they had merited it in foreign wars or done wrong at home by sedition;

and the tribute from the people of Apamea was allowed to lapse for 5 years having been violently shaken by an earthquake.

Chapter 64

M. Asinio M'. Acilio consulibus mutationem rerum in deterius portendi cognitum est crebris prodigiis.

Maxius Acilius, it was recognised from frequent portents that a change of things towards the worse was portended.

In the consulship of Marcus Asinius and

signa ac tentoria militum igne caelesti arsere;

Military standards and tents burned with celestial fire;

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Chapter 64 (cont)

fastigio Capitolii examen apium insedit;

biformis hominum partus et suis fetum editum cui accipitrum unques inessent.

numerabatur inter ostenta deminutus omnium magistratuum numerus, quaestore, aedili, tribuno ac praetore et consule paucos intra mensis

defunctis.

sed in praecipuo pavore Agrippina, vocem Claudii, quam temulentus iecerat, fatale sibi ut coniugum flagitia ferret, dein puniret, metuens, agere et celerare statuit, perdita prius Domitia Lepida mulierbribus causis, quia Lepida minor Antonia genita, avunculo Augusto, Agrippinae sobrina prior ac Gnaei mariti eius soror, parem sibi claritudinem.

nec forma aetas opes multum distabant;

et utraque impudica, infamis, violenta, haud minus vitiis aemulabantur quam si qua ex fortuna prospera acceperant.

enimvero certamen acerrimum, amita potius an amter apud Neronem praevaleret:

a swarm of bees settles on the roof of the Capitoline;

[it was said] a two-formed human was born and the offspring of a sow was given birth to on which there were talons of a hawk.

It was counted among these wonders the lower number of all magistrates when a questor, aedile, tribune, praetor and consul died within a few months.

But Agrippina, in particular dread, fearing a comment of Claudius', which he drunkenly threw out, that it was fated for him to endure the outrageous conduct of his wife then punish it, she decided to act and to hurry, first she destroyed Domitia Lepida for womanly reasons, since Lepida, born from Antonia the younger, whose uncle was Augustus, second cousin once-removed of Agrippina, and sister of her [former] husband Gnaeus, believed herself to be equal to her in distinction.

They didn't differ much in beauty, age or wealth;

and each were unchaste, notorious and aggressive, and they competed with each other no less in vices than if they had received successes by

And what's more the competition was most fierce, whether the mother or the aunt would rather prevail about Nero:

Chapter 64 (cont)

nam Lepida blandimentis ac largitionibus iuvenilem animum devinciebat, truci contra ac minaci Agrippina, quae filio dare imperium, tolerare imperitantem nequibat.

for Lepida was binding his young mind fast with blandishments and lavish gifts, on the other hand Agrippina was harsh and threatening, who was able to give imperial power to her son but was unable to tolerate him ruling.

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