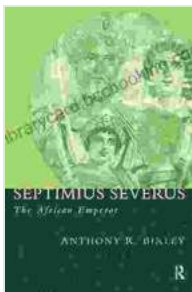


# Septimius Severus: The African Emperor

Septimius Severus was the first Roman emperor of African descent. He was born in Leptis Magna, in the province of Africa, in 145 AD. Severus rose through the ranks of the Roman army, and eventually became emperor in 193 AD. He was a successful military commander and a capable administrator, and his reign is considered to be one of the most prosperous in Roman history.



## Septimius Severus: The African Emperor (Roman Imperial Biographies) by Daniel A. Strachman

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3318 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 320 pages



## Early Life and Career

Septimius Severus was born into a wealthy family in Leptis Magna. His father was a Roman senator, and his mother was a native of Leptis Magna. Severus received a good education, and he studied law and rhetoric in Rome. After completing his studies, Severus returned to Leptis Magna and began his career as a lawyer.

In 172 AD, Severus joined the Roman army. He served in the legions stationed in Gaul and Britain, and he quickly rose through the ranks. In 185 AD, Severus was appointed governor of the province of Pannonia. He served in this position for three years, and he was successful in suppressing a revolt by the local tribes.

## **Rise to Power**

In 193 AD, the Roman emperor Commodus was assassinated. The Praetorian Guard, the elite guard unit that protected the emperor, auctioned off the throne to the highest bidder. Severus was the highest bidder, and he was declared emperor by the Praetorian Guard. Severus's accession to the throne was not universally accepted, and he had to fight a civil war against his rivals. Severus was victorious in the civil war, and he became the sole emperor of Rome in 197 AD.

## **Reign**

Septimius Severus's reign was a time of great prosperity for the Roman Empire. He was a successful military commander, and he expanded the empire's borders. Severus also reformed the Roman army and administration, and he made the empire more efficient and effective.

Severus was a patron of the arts and sciences, and he founded several new schools and libraries. He also built many new roads and aqueducts, and he improved the infrastructure of the empire.

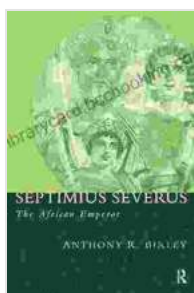
Severus's reign was also marked by persecution of Christians. In 202 AD, Severus issued an edict that banned Christianity and allowed the execution of Christians. The persecution of Christians continued throughout Severus's reign, and many Christians were martyred.

## **Death and Legacy**

Septimius Severus died in 211 AD, at the age of 65. He was succeeded by his son, Caracalla. Severus's reign is considered to be one of the most prosperous in Roman history. He was a successful military commander and a capable administrator, and he left the empire in a strong position.

Severus's legacy is complex. He was a great military commander and administrator, but he was also responsible for the persecution of Christians. Severus was a complex and controversial figure, but he was one of the most important emperors in Roman history.

Septimius Severus was a remarkable man. He was the first Roman emperor of African descent, and he rose to power through his own military and political skills. Severus was a successful military commander and a capable administrator, and his reign is considered to be one of the most prosperous in Roman history. Severus was a complex and controversial figure, but he was one of the most important emperors in Roman history.



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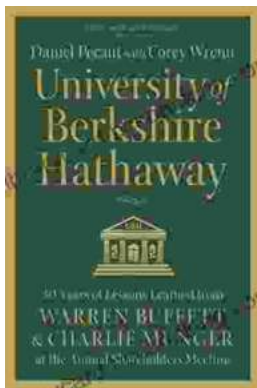
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