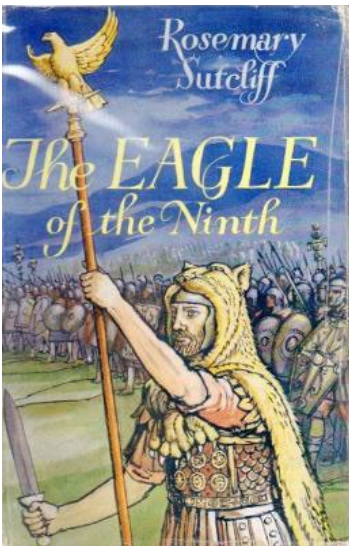


Valwood Summer Study

CP World History (10th Grade)



Sutcliff, Rosemary. *The Eagle of the Ninth*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. Text. ISBN: 0312564341

British author Rosemary Sutcliff's 1954 adventure novel *The Eagle of the Ninth* focuses on Marcus Aquila, a young Roman officer, who searches to uncover the truth about his father's disappearance along with the Ninth Roman Legion. The Ninth Roman Legion was an elite military unit led by famous generals such as Pompey Strabo, Julius Caesar, and Octavius. The Ninth Roman Legion fought in many wars including the Cantabrian War and Pannonian War. The Ninth Roman Legion's final major event was Boudicca's Rebellion. During this rebellion, the Ninth was wiped out almost entirely. By 170 A.D., the Ninth Roman Legion had disappeared from army lists. This means that 5,000 men disappeared with seemingly no trace. The disappearance of the legion fascinated scholars and filmmakers alike, especially those in Britain. The British have had a longstanding fascination with Romanism as this is a great part of their history. Philip Burton in his article "Rosemary Sutcliff's 'The Eagle of the Ninth': A Festival of Britain" states that Rosemary Sutcliff's novel was influential in shaping the perception of the relationship between Britain and Rome. The novel was even turned into a BBC TV series and was featured in a Dr. Who episode. It was popular among both adults and children. Roman history is covered in our World History course, and this book will be a great resource for getting students acquainted with Roman culture.

For this assignment, the students will take a multi-format examination the first week of class. This will include multiple-choice, short answer and essay-style questions that will seek to assess the student's completion, comprehension, and critical thinking of the assigned reading.