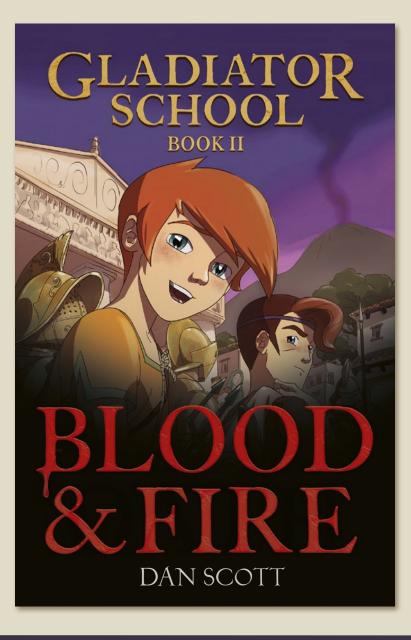
Gladiator School 2: Blood & Fire



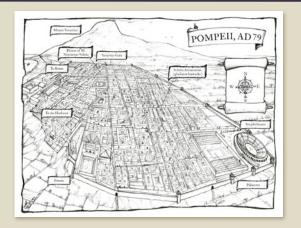
The second in the Gladiator School series – an epic ancient tale of blood, sweat and sacrifice.

- An epic fictional story set in a real-life historical context. Perfect for lovers of the ancient world or those studying the Ancient Romans in school.
- Fast-paced, action-packed and full of unexpected twists and turns. A great option for reluctant readers searching for an exciting, gory adventure story to keep them entertained.
- Contains addtional notes throughout to define key Roman terms, helping children to learn more about ancient society and immerse themselves in the time period.

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Gladiator School 2: Blood & Fire

CHAPTERI





Lucius, a Roman boy

Ouintus, his older brother

Aquila, their father Ravilla, their uncle

Caecilia, their mother

Valeria, their sister

Isidora, Lucius's friend, an Egyptian slave

Crassus, a lanista (trainer of gladiators)

Valens, editor (sponsor) of the games at Pompeii

Atia, a seer

Eprius, a young patrician (nobleman) of Pompeii

APEH, 19 AUGUST AD 6 be modify sin heat down on Licens as he perswel Quin through the streets of Pompeii. He glinpsed his brother's tall, athletic figure up ahead, samsering along through the ading west towards the Forum.² Licens e preferred to walk side by side with Quin ough this damiliar city, but sensed he would no Smells of cooking meat from the fast-food shops

Smells of cooking such from the fast-bood shops mingled with the stench wafting over from the fab-sance factories near the harbour. Lucios ears echoed with the cries of fruit sellers and wine merchants and the pipes and drums of buskers. The noise and ie mark stalaes, which was also the alass for her incomentions

GLADIATOR SCHOOL senalor reminded him of Suburra, the area where he

much among his torn

* amplious Ginador employab carthenease starage inc

squator reminded has of Suburra, the area where he now lived in Rome. Yet Pompeii seemed to carry an extra air of menace. The shadow-filled alleys, the hard faces of the young men, the cold-eyed stare of a beggar woman = they all spelled danger to Lucius. Maybe it was his imagination, her Pompeli ererstel like a city brinning with despretar and morequisons people who'd monder you for the price of a bast of breach. He was glad he'd dicide to follow Quin. Somehane, he fielt his hordner needed watching in a place like this. Of course, Quin was a gladitare and very capable of horking after himself – yet Larins have be could be horkhowked at threes, and in these strange and scarge interface he might very cample ger himself into trubals. From a scarging dist arest, Larinsho heard a cyc of paragraph and then be save Quin tures and enter the alley. Herizanghe, Lesins followed, colding the ring an his forefrager for back, B was his only mercano of his futley, and had become his minimum. Concenting was his imagination, but Pompeii seemed like a city of his father, and had become his taliaman. Concealing of the latther, and had become hus tahman. Correlating himseff behind a ple of amputoras, 'Lucius ww Quin approach a group of rough-looking young men. They were jorring and pushing around a lad of about their own age, From his smart, formal toga, now besyntered with mud, Lucius could tell the victim was a young man of status, though this did not seem to count for

BLOOD & FIRE

His sense of fairness clearly offended, Quin impulsively strude into the milde and pushed aside one of the bulks, who had been holding the victus in a neck lock. The bulk spacehold in surprise and fell to the ground. His friends immediately closed in around

the ground. His friends immediately closed in arcond Quin, their jears muring to small of anger: There were six of them – three armed with sticks – against the unsamed Quin. Locating ground: He steeled himself, knowing he would have to go and help his borther. With his idender halfs, Lacins want's made for physical violance. He curred their fate for bringing them here to Fourparja.

It was ten days since Crassus, the lanista of the gladiator school, had made the announcement. The school had received a great honour, he said it had been chosen to represent Rome at the forthcoming games in Pompeii. represent Rome at the forth-oming games in Pomperia A multi of thirty galaxies would be going, including Quin. And Larinn had been dimanyed to hearn that be are also a second second second second second second match to Pompir's and there would be a forther week-spect in the edgy. Taking the return match intra-crossin-tan mean that Larins would be goine for Mose for three whole weeks - time les had been longing to sprat-tion density that the "1 R remeal that fare had none again intervented be prevent than Warm meeting.

FROLOGUE	
FIRST	BLOOD
1	ROME

PROLOCUE

10 August AD 79



Burbo has won ten bouts.'

ames given by Gaius Valerius Ravilla,' Lucius read aloud. 'Forty gladiators will fight. Perfumed water will be scattered.' His finger hovered over his brother's name. Quintus, Retiarius, tiro, will battle Burbo, Secutor.*

'You've read it at least twenty times,' said Isidora, sounding rather impatient. 'You can't change the words by staring at them, you know.'

Lucius dropped the programme back into his bag and rubbed his eyes. He hadn't had much sleep.

* Retiarius: a gladiator who fights with net (rete) and trident; tiro: a gladiator fighting in public for the first time. Secutor: a gladiator who wears an enclosed, egg-sbaped belmet and fights with a short sword (gladius); his name means 'Chaver'

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