



## The Eternal City

### *La ciudad eterna*

César Farah

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AVAILABLE FOR ALL TERRITORIES



**In the 1st century A.D., a political crime shakes Rome. The fire will destroy everything but truth. A novel that pays tribute to the highest tradition of the historical genre.**

*“Dark, the whole city still slept. The city that would be eternal, immortal, the city that would never cease to be.*

*There was no noise, the smell of earth and wood permeated the room. A rooster crowed. The wind was cold in the winter dawn and the color of the night gave way to the first light, which dyed the rising morning blue.*

*The rooster crowed again. The light took on a lighter tone, still blue, but it was definitely not night anymore.*

*Quinto rolled over on the bed and stretched, it was time to get up. He pushed back the wool blanket and sat on the edge of the pallet.”*

In the Rome of 62 A.D., the mutilated and raped body of a young patrician woman is found far from her home, in the Subura, the most popular neighborhood in the city.

Lucius Geminus Celsus, former legionnaire, exemplary Roman and member of the Urban Cohort –the empire’s police–, is the first at the scene of the crime. Cornelia Merga Ocella is also there, an enigmatic and sensual woman with a privileged intelligence and a mysterious past. Together they will embark on a dizzying investigation to clarify the brutal murder and little by little they will be involved in a much

larger conspiracy than they imagined, which will take them to the highest spheres of power of the empire and that will even endanger their lives.

With a relentless pace and remarkable historical precision, *The Eternal City* delves into the beginnings of Christianity, at a time when it was still considered a sect within the empire, outlines a very different Nero from the one thought to be known, and proposes an origin of the burning of Rome that we will not find in the history books.

**With vivid descriptions of everyday life in the 1st century AD. this novel builds captivating adventures and endearing characters. An argument that combines the police mystery, the historical novel and the political plot, as well as proposing a new and fresh vision around historical figures, such as Nero, Peter the Apostle or Paul, the founder of the Church.**

“ *The Eternal City places the reader in the middle of a coherent and well-recreated pre-Christian Rome, where the main historical characters of the time roam, who will turn the narrative into a novel of intrigues with a high historical component that travels through the beginning of the Christianity and the great fire of Rome under the reign of Nero. - Lector.cl* ”

*“Quinto rubbed his eyes and groped for the jar of water to wash his face, which he did while still sleepy. The apartment was small, made up of a bedroom and a room that served as a kitchen, dining room, and living room (although part of the food was cooked in the patio or directly on the street). Even so, he was lucky: he lived alone and that was one of the good flats in the insula, the apartment building in which he lived. Quinto had a good job as a tavern manager, a popina to tell the truth. Thanks to that job he could pay for that room, a real luxury for a single man. His house was located on the second floor of a building with apartments that rose on six overcrowded floors, as were almost all the insulas, but his cubicle was the only one that had direct access to a tiny patio that he shared with the ground floor of the building that was attached to his and, being exactly the same, it also rose six stories upwards.”*

**César Farah (Guillermo Pilgrim)** is a novelist, playwright, critic, theater director and academic. He has written the novels *El Gran Dios Salvaje* and *Trilogía Karaoke*, as well as the dramaturgical trilogy *Piezxs para ciudadanxs con vocación de huérfanxs*. In addition, he is the author of the play *El monstruo de la fortuna*, premiered in Madrid in 2021. He has also written and directed the dramatic pieces *Alameda*, *Medea*, *Vaca sagrada*, *Tender* and *Cobras o pagas*.

