

--BOOK 1--

- **Gallia est omnis divisa in partēs trēs, quārum ūnam incolunt Belgae, aliam Aquitanī, tertiam qui ipsōrum linguā Celtae, nostrā Gallī appellantur.** *All Gaul was divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, another the Aquitani, the third, those who are by their language called the Celts, but in ours are called the Gauls.*
- Description of the geography of Gaul, all regions radiate from Rome
- Orgetorix starts a conspiracy of the nobility, they have to go to war to gain more land
- The Helvetii figure it out and apprehend (comprehend) Orgetorix, and put him on trial. Everyone ever connected to Orgetorix ever shows up at the trial and Orgetorix either commits suicide or somehow dies.
- The Helvetii still like his plan, but they want to do it on their own terms, so they burn all their bridges (literally) and towns and buildings and all the food that they can't carry with them, so that there is nothing to go back to.
- There are two possible routes, one through the Allobroges and Helvetia (long but safe) and one through the Jura mountains (short but dangerous/easily attackable)
 - They like the safe route especially because the Romans have just suppressed the Allobroges
- Caesar hears that they are going to use this route through the territory that Rome just conquered/claimed. Caesar collects all the legions in Gaul at Geneva in Helvetia (Switzerland)
- The Helvetii send messengers to ask to let them through
- Caesar remembers that the Helvetii attacked a Roman legion and embarrassed them (they made the Romans walk under the yoke, the highest disgrace). So Caesar says to come back later and he'll give them the answer.
- After they leave, Caesar commands his soldiers to fortify the city.

--BOOK 4--

- Caesar is attacking the southern shore of Britain
- He's having trouble fighting from the deep water and unstable shoreline against opponents with horses trained to do so, drier land, and familiarity with the territory.
- The Roman army was disorganized, and soldiers were not with their correct legions.
- The aquilifer hypes up the army and says to get themselves together. It sort of works but not really

- Caesar orders the soldiers to approach the land with their scouting boats, which are better equipped for shallow water. Caesar's idea, not the aquilifer's, works (shocking)
- A few days later, the cavalry ships, having survived the storm, finally arrive, but are a little beaten up.
- The rest of the ships are not in great shape either. Caesar uses parts from some of the ships in really bad shape to repair the ships in better condition.
- Meanwhile, the British chieftains realize that the Romans are vulnerable, and form a conspiracy. They think that now is a good time to attack, and maybe the Romans can be defeated once and for all
 - How does Caesar the narrator know this?
- THIS WAS SO OBVIOUS to Caesar the character. He was already preparing for the attack.
- One day, a legion was out collecting grain, and a cloud of dust could be seen from the camp. Caesar stationed a few legions to guard the camp and took the rest to go assist the legion under attack.
- Caesar manages to save most of his men, but is not prepared to pursue when the enemy retreats.
- The British chieftains send messengers asking for peace.

--BOOK 5--

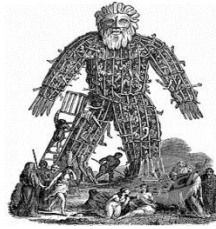
- Winter is coming, and there has not been a good harvest, so Caesar is forced to station the legions in winter quarters for longer than usual. He strategically distributes them around the various places and tribes in Gaul.
- The Carnutes, one of the Gallic tribes, were led by Tasgetius. He had once helped Caesar, but he had recently been killed by his own people. Caesar is not happy.
- Ambiorix and Catuvolcus, two other chieftains, had helped Rome previously but now attacked a Roman camp. Caesar is also not happy.
- Sabinus and Cotta, two of Caesar's lieutenants, send messengers to meet with Ambiorix and Catuvolcus to discuss the attack. Ambiorix says they were forced to attack by their own people, and would never be stupid enough to attack Romans. He also says the Germans are coming, so the Romans should turn their attention to them.
- There is an argument between the two lieutenants. Cotta wants to stay and fortify the winter quarters, and Sabinus wants to leave and attack the Germans. Eventually Sabinus wins the argument: they will leave the camp.

- They were up all night preparing, and it was very obvious to the Gauls. The Gauls decided to set an ambush right as the Romans were about to leave. Sabinus tried to organize the Romans, but they were not ready for an attack, having prepared to leave. Cotta had wanted to stay and fortify the camp, so he was ready to lead the troops in a defense.
- The Romans form a circle around the baggage, and try to attack in groups. The enemies are prepared with light armor, and the soldiers being attacked easily back up a few steps. This strategy, however, leaves the Romans open on the sides of each mini-attack.
- The Romans were up all night and tired anyway, and they are soundly beaten. Cotta is hit directly in the face with a slingshot
- Sabinus sends his interpreter to Ambiorix to go ask for peace. Ambiorix says that he wants to talk in person. Cotta refuses to negotiate with terrorists.
- It's a trap! Sabinus and Cotta are killed along with the rest of the Romans.
- Ambiorix is on a roll and wants to keep attacking other Romans. He goes to the nearby Aduatuci and Nervii and asks for their help in his quest. They send messengers to the other tribes and all converge on the winter quarters of Quintus Cicero, brother of Marcus Tullius Cicero and start cutting off his supply of wood.
- Cicero sends messengers to Caesar asking for help, but they are intercepted by the enemy.
- Cicero is stuck in his winter quarters for a long time. The Gauls fire flaming balls of clay into the camp. Eventually, two Roman centurions, Pullo and Vorenus, get bored and each run solo into the Gallic army. They kill a few Gauls, and somehow make it back to camp.
- A Gaul who had deserted his army and joined Cicero sends his Gallic slave with a message to Caesar. As a Gaul himself, he is not suspicious, and reaches Caesar.
- Caesar redirects legions to help Cicero from all over Gaul
- He arrives with his army outside Cicero's winter camp, and sends a messenger with a letter written to Cicero in Greek attached to a spear. The messenger successfully throws the spear into the camp. The letter tells Cicero that Caesar has arrived to help.

--BOOK 6--

- Caesar discusses the customs and people of the Gauls.
- The Druids are the priest class.
 - They don't pay taxes, they speak Greek, they preside over arguments and religious matters

- they make sacrifices in giant wicker statues. They mostly sacrifice criminals, but if they are out of criminals, they burn innocent people.



- They are educators, and teach their practices to younger men, who are not allowed to write things down (better memory)
- They do not fight in war
- They (and the rest of the Gauls) believe in reincarnation, so no Gaul fears death. (Caesar seems to respect the military advantage that this gives them)
- The other major class of Gauls is the knight class
 - Warriors
- The Gauls worship Apollo, Jupiter, Minerva, and Mars, but no god more than Mercury
 - In war, when they conquer a place, they take all the stuff from the place and put it in a big pile for Mars. If you touch the pile, you are tortured.
- The Gauls, courtesy of Druidic mythology, believe themselves to be descended from Hades
 - This is not necessarily a reference to Hades as the god of death, but perhaps to Hades as an earth god. (He lives in the earth)
- The Gallic “day” starts at sunset (night first, then day)
- The Gauls do not allow children to be seen in public with their parents
- Gallic households start with equal shares of a dowry from the husband’s and wife’s families
- If a Gallic man dies under suspicious circumstances, the wife is investigated, and if found guilty, is tortured, burned and killed
- Gallic funerals are expensive, elaborate, and lavish.
- They burn everything with them on the pyre: possessions, animals, and recently (from Caesar’s perspective) slaves and clients.
- If anyone hears a report or rumor about the state/government, that person is supposed to report it immediately to the state, so as not to freak out about a false report. The state reports to the people the things that they want to report, and conceal the things that seem best to conceal. No one is allowed to discuss the government except in the council.