

# Three Four

Tacitus

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Nunc demum redit animus: et quanquam primo statim  
beatissimi saeculi  
ortu Nerva Caesar res olim dissociabiles miscuerit, principatum  
ac  
libertatem, augeatque quotidie felicitatem imperii Nervae  
Trajanus, nec  
spem modo ac votum securitas publica, sed ipsius voti  
fiduciam ac robur  
assumpserit; natura tamen infirmitatis humanae tardiora  
sunt remedia,  
quam mala; et, ut corpora nostra lente augescunt, cito  
extinguuntur, sic  
ingenia studiaque opprimeris facilius, quam revocaveris.  
Subit quippe

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**animus** the rational soul  
**augesco** to grow, increase  
**be-** happy, prosperous, blessed, fortunate  
**cieo** to cause to go, move, stir, drive  
**cito** to put in quick motion, rouse, excite  
**corpus** a body  
**demum** at length, at last, not till then, just, precisely  
**dissociabilis** separating, dividing  
**facilis** easy to do, easy, without difficulty  
**felicitas** fertility, happiness, felicity, good-fortune, luck  
**fiducia** trust, confidence, reliance, assurance  
**humanus** of man, human  
**imperium** a command, order, direction, injunction  
**infirmitas** want of strength, weakness, feebleness  
**ingenium** innate quality, nature, temperament, constitution  
**lens** a lentil  
**lentus** pliant, flexible, tough, tenacious, sticky  
**libertas** freedom, liberty, absence of restraint, permission  
**mala** the cheek-bone, jaw  
**misceo** to mix, mingle, intermingle, blend  
**mod-** a measure, extent, quantity  
**natura** birth  
**nunc** now, at present, at this time  
**olim** at that time, some time ago, once upon a time, once, formerly  
**opprimo** to press against, press together, press down, close  
**orior** to arise, rise, stir, get up  
**ortus** a rising  
**primo** at first, at the beginning, first, in the first place  
**principatus** a beginning, origin  
**public-** of the people, of the state, done for the state, public, common  
**quamquam** though, although, albeit, notwithstanding that  
**quippe** of course, as you see, obviously, as one might expect, naturally  
**redeo** to go back, turn back, return, turn around  
**remedium** that which restores health, a cure, remedy, antidote, medicine  
**reor** to reckon, calculate, believe, think, suppose  
**robur** hard-wood, oak-wood, oak  
**saeculum** a race, generation, age, the people of any time  
**securitas** freedom from anxiety, unconcern, composure  
**spes** hope  
**statim** steadily, regularly  
**studium** application, assiduity, zeal, eagerness, fondness  
**subeo** to come under, go under, enter  
**tardus** slow, not swift, sluggish, tardy  
**vo-** to vow, promise solemnly, engage religiously, pledge, devote

etiam ipsius inertiae dulcedo: et invisa primo desidia  
postremo amatur.

Quid, si per quindecim annos, grande mortalis aevi spatium,  
multi  
fortuitis casibus, promptissimus quisque saevitia principis  
interciderunt? Pauci, et, ut ita dixerim, non modo aliorum,  
sed etiam  
nostri superstites sumus, exemptis e media vita tot annis,  
quibus juvenes  
ad senectutem, senes prope ad ipsos exactae aetatis terminos  
per  
silentium venimus. Non tamen pigebit vel incondita ac  
rudi voce memoriam

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**ad** to, toward  
**aetas** the life of man, age, lifetime, years  
**aevum** neverending time, eternity  
**amo** to love  
**casus** a falling, falling down, fall  
**desidia** a sitting idle, idleness, inactivity, sloth  
**dulcedo** sweetness, pleasantness, agreeableness, delightfulness, charm  
**ex** out of, from  
**exigo** to drive out, push forth, thrust out, take out, expel  
**eximo** to take out, take away, remove  
**fortuitus** happening by chance, casual, accidental, fortuitous  
**grandis** full-grown, large, great, full, abundant  
**inconditus** without order, irregular, disordered  
**inertia** want of art, unskillfulness, ignorance, rudeness  
**invideo** to look askance at, cast an evil eye upon  
**inviso** to look after, go to see, visit  
**invisus** unseen  
**mediu-** the middle, midst, centre, interval, intervening space  
**memoria** memory, remembrance  
**mortalis** subject to death, destined to die, mortal  
**paucus** few, little  
**per** through, across, through the midst of, from side to side of, traversing  
**postremo** at last, finally, last of all  
**princeps** first in order, foremost  
**promptus** public, open, visible, manifest, before the eyes  
**prope** near, nigh  
**quindecim** fifteen  
**quisque** whoever it be, whatever, each, each one, every  
**rudis** unwrought, untilled, unformed, unused, rough  
**rudis** a slender stick, staff for exercise in fighting, quarter-staff, foil  
**rudo** to roar, bellow, bray  
**saevitia** fury, fierceness, violence, harshness, savageness  
**senectus** old age, extreme age, senility  
**seneo** to be old  
**senex** old, aged, advanced in years  
**sile-** to be noiseless, be still, be silent, keep silence, not speak of  
**spatium** a space, room, extent  
**terminus** a boundary-line, boundary, bound, limit  
**tot** so many, such a number of  
**vita** life  
**vito** to shun, seek to escape, avoid, evade  
**vox** a voice, sound, tone, utterance, cry

prioris servitutis ac testimonium praesentium bonorum composuisse. Hic interim liber honori Agricolae soceri mei destinatus, professione pietatis aut laudatus erit aut excusatus.	in hujus sinu indulgentiaque educatus, per omnem honestarum artium cultum pueritiam adolescentiamque transegit. Arcebat eum ab illecebris peccantium, praeter ipsius bonam integramque naturam, quod statim parvulus sedem ac magistram studiorum Massiliam habuit, locum Graeca comitate et provinciali parsimonia mistum ac benecompositum. Memoria
20 ortus, utrumque avum procuratorem Caesarum habuit: quae equestris nobilitas est. Pater Julius Graecinus, senatorii ordinis, studio eloquentiae sapientiaeque notus, iisque ipsis virtutibus iran-30 Caii Caesaris meritis: namque M. Silanum accusare jussus et, quia abnuerat, interfectus est. Mater Julia Procilla fuit, rarae castitatis:	teneo solitum ipsum narrare, se in prima juventa studium philosophiae acrius, ultra quam concessum Romano ac senatori, hausisse, ni prudentia
<b>abnuo</b> to refuse by a sign, deny, refuse, reject, decline <b>accuso</b> to call to account, make complaint against, reproach, blame, accuse <b>agricola</b> a husbandman, agriculturist, ploughman, farmer, peasant <b>avus</b> a grandfather <b>caedo</b> to cut, hew, cut down, fell, cut off <b>castitas</b> purity, chastity <b>colonia</b> a colony, colonial town, settlement <b>compono</b> to bring together, place together, collect, unite, join <b>destino</b> to make fast, make firm, bind, fix, stay <b>destinatus</b> fixed, determined, destined, inevitable <b>eloquentia</b> eloquence <b>equester</b> of a horseman, equestrian <b>excuso</b> to excuse, make an excuse for <b>honoris</b> conferring honor, honorable <b>interficio</b> to put out of the way, destroy, bring to naught <b>interim</b> meanwhile, in the meantime <b>ira</b> anger, wrath, rage, ire, passion <b>laud-</b> to praise, laud, commend, honor, extol <b>libo</b> to take out as a sample, take a little of <b>mater</b> a mother <b>meio</b> to make water <b>mereo-</b> to deserve, merit, be entitled to, be worthy of <b>nobilit-</b> to make known, render famous, make renowned <b>nosco</b> to get knowledge of, become acquainted with, come to know, learn, discern <b>notus</b> known <b>ordo</b> a row, line, series, order, rank <b>orior</b> to arise, rise, stir, get up <b>ortus</b> a rising <b>pietas</b> dutiful conduct, sense of duty, religiousness, devotion, piety <b>praesen-</b> at hand, in sight, present, in person <b>prior</b> former, previous, prior, first <b>procurator</b> a manager, overseer, superintendent, agent, administrator <b>professio</b> a public acknowledgment, avowal, declaration, expression, profession <b>rarus</b> of loose texture, thin, rare, not thick <b>senatorius</b> of a senator, senatorial <b>servitus</b> the condition of a servant, slavery, serfdom, service, servitude <b>socer</b> a father-in-law <b>testimonium</b> witness, evidence, attestation, testimony <b>vetus</b> old, aged, advanced in years <b>virtus</b> manliness, manhood, strength, vigor, bravery	<b>acer</b> sharp, piercing, penetrating, cutting, irritating <b>ars</b> practical skill <b>colo</b> to till, tend, care for, cultivate <b>comitas</b> courtesy, kindness, friendliness, affability, gentleness <b>comito-</b> to join as an attendant, accompany, attend, follow <b>compositum</b> an agreement, compact <b>compositus</b> well - ordered, orderly, regular <b>concedo</b> to go away, pass, give way, depart, retire <b>concessus</b> a concession, permission, leave <b>culta</b> plantations, fields of grain <b>cultus</b> labor, care, cultivation, culture <b>educo</b> to bring up, rear, train, educate <b>Graec-</b> of the Greeks, Greek, Grecian <b>haurio</b> to draw up, draw out, draw <b>honestus</b> regarded with honor, respected, honored, of high birth, distinguished <b>in</b> unequal <b>indulge-</b> to be complaisant, be kind, be tender, exercise forbearance, incline <b>integer</b> untouched <b>magistra</b> a mistress, directress <b>memor</b> mindful, remembering, heedful <b>narro</b> to make known, tell, relate, narrate, report <b>natura</b> birth <b>ni</b> not <b>parsimonia</b> frugality, thrift, parsimony <b>pecco</b> to miss, mistake, do amiss, transgress, commit a fault <b>philosophia</b> philosophy <b>provincialis</b> of a province, provincial <b>pruden-</b> foreseeing, foreknowing <b>pueritia</b> boyhood, childhood, youth <b>Romanus</b> of Rome, Roman <b>sedes</b> a seat, bench, chair, throne <b>sedo</b> to bring to rest, lay <b>senator</b> a member of the Senate <b>sinus</b> a bent surface, curve, fold, hollow, coil <b>soleo</b> to use, be wont, be accustomed <b>solitum</b> the customary, what is usual <b>statim</b> steadily, regularly <b>studium</b> application, assiduity, zeal, eagerness, fondness <b>teneo</b> to hold, keep, have, grasp, hold fast <b>transigo</b> to drive through, stab through, pierce through, transfix, transpierce

matris incensum ac flagrantem animum coercuisset. Scilicet  
sublime et  
erectum ingenium pulchritudinem ac speciem excelsae  
magnaeque gloriae  
vehementius, quam caute, appetebat: mox mitigavit ratio  
et aetas:  
retinuitque, quod est difficillimum, ex sapientia modum.

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**aetas** the life of man, age, lifetime, years  
**animus** the rational soul  
**appeto** to strive for, reach after, grasp at  
**caveo** to be on one's guard, take care, take heed, beware, guard  
against  
**difficilis** hard, difficult, troublesome, impracticable, laborious  
**erigo** to raise up, lift, set up, erect, elevate  
**ex** out of, from  
**excello** to be eminent, be superior, surpass, excel  
**flagro** to flame, blaze, burn  
**gloria** glory, fame, renown, praise, honor  
**incendo** to set fire to, kindle, burn  
**incensus** not assessed, unregistered  
**ingenium** innate quality, nature, temperament, constitution  
**mitigo** to soften, make tender, ripen, mellow, tame  
**modus** a measure, extent, quantity  
**mox** soon, anon, directly, presently, by and by  
**pulchritudo** beauty  
**ratio** a reckoning, numbering, casting up, account, calculation  
**sapientia** good taste, good sense, discernment, discretion, prudence  
**sapio** to taste of, smack of, savor of, have a flavor of  
**scilicet** you may know, you may be sure, it is certain, it is obvious  
**species** a sight, look, view, appearance, aspect  
**sublim**— uplifted, high, lofty, exalted, elevated  
**sublime** aloft, loftily, on high  
**vehemens** eager, violent, furious, impetuous, ardent