

Tarquinius Superbus and Fall of the Roman Monarchy

03/03

1. Lucius Tarquin
 - a. Son of Lucomus (Tarquin Priscus)
 - b. Plots to usurp Servius
 - c. Kills his wife and marries his sister-in-law
 - i. Shared ambitions
 - d. Gathers support through bribes, sits in king's chair in senate house
 - i. When Servius arrives Tarquin has him thrown into the street and assassinated
 1. Tullia (wife) runs over her father's body in a chariot
 - e. Tarquin becomes Tarquinius Superbus (the proud/arrogant)
2. Kingship of Tarquinius Superbus
 - a. Breaks tradition and doesn't seek election or senate approval for rule
 - b. Kills senators who support Servius
 - c. Employs a bodyguard and takes property of wealthy citizens
 - d. Seeks support of Latins to defend himself from Romans
 - e. Snake slithering down pillar in palace
 - i. Sends his sons and nephew, Brutus to consult oracle at Delphi
 1. Sons ask who will be next king -> whoever kisses their mother 1st
 - a. On the return, Brutus kisses the earth (mother of all things)
3. Rape of Lucretia
 - a. Roman soldiers and Sextus Tarquinius (one of king's sons) and Collatinus have a party
 - i. Who has the most faithful wife?
 - b. Collatinus proposes a return to check on the wives
 - i. Lucretia (Collatinus' wife) was the only faithful one
 - c. Lucretia invites them all in for supper, Sextus falls in love with her
 - d. Sextus visits later and he rapes her
 - e. Lucretia writes to her father and husband to return
 - i. Commits suicide to prove her innocence and vindicate her honor
4. Fall of the Roman Monarchy
 - a. Brutus take the knife Lucretia used and vows to drive Tarquins out of Rome and end Roman Monarchy
 - i. Lucretia's father and husband swear the same oath as Brutus
 - b. The people are inspired and take up arms against the king
 - c. Tarquin finds Rome's gates closed when he returns from sieging Ardea
 - i. 509 B.C. End of Roman Monarchy/Birth of Roman Republic