

Petronius, Arbiter of Elegance at the infamous court of the Emperor Nero, distinguished himself in an age of corruption and sensuality by his perfection in the art of pleasure seeking. Until the mad emperor forced him to commit suicide (A.D. 66), Petronius acted as a sort of master of revels to Nero's inner circle, and the Dinner of Trimalchio which forms a major part of The Satyricon is perhaps the most intimate glimpse we may have of the life of pleasure to excess that characterized the entire age.



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