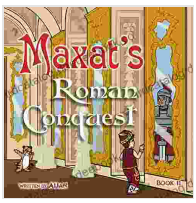
The Roman Conquest of Britain: A Comprehensive Overview

The Roman conquest of Britain was a significant event in British history, marking the start of almost four centuries of Roman rule. The conquest began in 43 AD with the invasion of the Roman general Aulus Plautius, and was completed around 84 AD with the annexation of northern England and Wales.

Causes of the Conquest

There were a number of reasons why the Romans decided to invade Britain. One reason was to secure the northern frontier of the Roman Empire. Britain was seen as a potential threat to the Empire, as it was home to many tribes who were hostile to Roman rule.



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Another reason for the conquest was to exploit Britain's resources. Britain was known to be rich in minerals, such as tin and lead, which were valuable to the Romans.

Key Events

The Roman conquest of Britain can be divided into three main phases:

1. **The invasion (43-47 AD):** The Roman army, led by Aulus Plautius, invaded Britain in 43 AD. They landed at Richborough in Kent and quickly established a bridgehead. The Romans then advanced north and west, defeating the British tribes in a number of battles.
2. **The consolidation (47-60 AD):** After the invasion, the Romans set about consolidating their control over Britain. They built roads and forts, and established a system of government. The Romans also pacified the British tribes, who were gradually integrated into the Roman Empire.
3. **The conquest of the north (60-84 AD):** The Romans completed their conquest of Britain with the annexation of northern England and Wales. This was a difficult and protracted campaign, as the British tribes in these areas were fiercely resistant to Roman rule.

The Impact of the Conquest

The Roman conquest of Britain had a profound impact on British history. The Romans introduced a number of new ideas and technologies to Britain, including:

- **The Latin alphabet:** The Romans introduced the Latin alphabet to Britain, which became the basis for the English language.
- **Roman law:** The Romans introduced Roman law to Britain, which had a significant impact on the development of the English legal system.

- **Roads and bridges:** The Romans built a network of roads and bridges in Britain, which improved communication and trade.
- **Towns and cities:** The Romans founded a number of towns and cities in Britain, including London, York, and Winchester.

The Roman conquest of Britain also had a significant impact on the British economy. The Romans exploited Britain's resources and developed a number of industries, including mining, agriculture, and manufacturing.

The Roman conquest of Britain was a major turning point in British history. The Romans introduced a number of new ideas and technologies to Britain, and their legacy can still be seen today.

The Roman conquest of Britain was a complex and fascinating event. It was a major turning point in British history, and its legacy can still be seen today.

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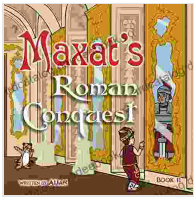

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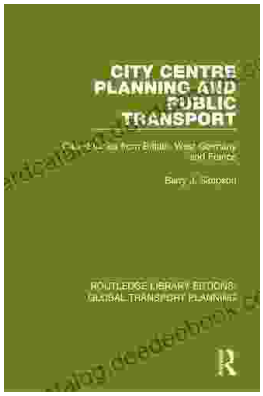

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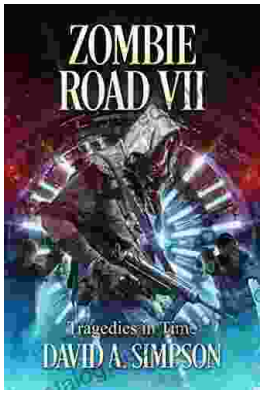

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