

river had overflowed its banks, so that the cradle in which the boys were placed, after floating about for some time, was safely deposited on dry land. A wolf, descending from the mountains to drink, came at the cry of the infants, and fed and caressed them, as if she had been their mother, until Faustulus, the king's shepherd, finding the boys in this singular situation, took them home and brought them up as his own.

4. Romulus and Remus, the twiss, soon began to discover abilities and desires above the meanness of their supposed origin. Becoming weary of a shepherd's life, they betook themselves to the chase, and from hunting wild beasts, speedily turned their strength against the robbers that infested their country. In one of these excursions, the brothers were surprised and taken prisoners. Romulus escaped, but Remus was carried before the king.

5. About this time Faustulus, who had long suspected that the twins under his care were the same that had been exposed to death by Amulius, disclosed his suspicions to Romulus, who henceforth thought of nothing but the rescue of his brother, and the destruction of the tyrant. Through his means, Remus was soon set free, Amulius dethroned and slain, and Numitor, who had been deposed for forty years, replaced upon the throne.

6. The two brothers then determined to build a city on the spot where they had been exposed and preserved. Being unable to decide which should have the honor of governing the rising city, they were advised by Numitor to take an omen from the flight of birds, in order to ascertain the will of the gods. This omen, each interpreted in a manner favorable to himself. A quarrel arose between them, in which Remus was slain.