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# CAESAR

## INTRODUCTION

### CAIUS JULIUS CAESAR

100 B.C. — 44 B.C.

1. **Life of Caesar.** — Caius Julius Caesar (*Gaius Iulius Cæsar*) was born in 100 B.C., or according to some authorities two years earlier. His family was aristocratic and claimed descent from Iulus, son of Aeneas, the Trojan founder of the Roman nation. Caesar was well educated in childhood and by his mother carefully trained in the simple old Roman virtues.

#### A Democrat

From his earliest years he was identified with the democratic cause led by his uncle Marius. He defied the aristocratic leader, Sulla, by refusing to divorce Cornelia, daughter of Cinna, a follower of Marius. Sulla said he saw in him "many Mariuses."

#### A Soldier and Orator

After Sulla's triumph in 82 B.C., Caesar barely escaped with his life, and, finding military service in Asia, remained away from Rome. In 78 B.C., on Sulla's death, Caesar returned to Rome and prosecuted Dolabella, a corrupt governor of Macedonia. He won such fame for oratory in this case that he set out for Rhodes to perfect