

1. Suetonius Nero 47.1

Nuntiata interim etiam ceterorum exercituum defectione litteras prandenti sibi redditas **concerpsit**,...ac sumpto a Lucusta ueneno et in auream pyxidem condito **transiit in hortos Seruilianos**, ubi praemissis libertorum fidissimis Ostiam ad classem praeparandam tribunos centurionesque **praetorii** de fugae societate **temptauit**.

Meanwhile when news came that the rest of the armies had defected, as he was dining, **he tore up** (*concerpo*) the dispatches which were handed to him,...and having taken some poison from Lucusta and placed it in a golden box, **he crossed to the Servilian Gardens**. There, having sent his most trustworthy freedmen ahead to Ostia in order to make a fleet ready, **he tried to persuade** the tribunes and centurions of the **praetorian guard** to accompany him in flight [all translations DS].

2. Tacitus Histories 3.38

Graui corporis morbo aeger Vitellius **Seruilianis hortis** turrim uicino sitam conlucere per noctem crebris luminibus animaduertit.

Vitellius (15-69 CE), enfeebled by a serious bodily ailment, noticed—**from the Servilian Gardens**—that a neighbouring turret was blazing with light through the night.

3. Suetonius Nero 48.2

Statimque tremore terrae et fulgure aduerso pauefactus **audit e proximis castris** clamorem militum...

And immediately having been terrified by an earthquake and by a lightening flash ahead of him **he heard** the clamour of soldiers **from the nearby camp**...

4. Suetonius Nero 48.3

...**inter fruticeta ac uepres per harundineti semitam** aegre nec nisi strata sub pedibus ueste ad auersum uillae parietem euasit...Ibi...ut interim **in specum egestae harenae concederet**, **negauit se uium sub terram iturum**,...

...**amidst dense shrubby thickets and thorn bushes and along the path of a reed bed**, he made his way with difficulty, and not until a cloak was laid beneath his feet did he reach the rear wall of the villa....Here...he should in the short term **hide in a cave cleared of sand**, but **he refused to countenance going underground whilst alive**,...

5. Suetonius Nero 48.1, 4

Aliquid **secretioris latebrae**... (see Suetonius *Vitellius* 16)

Some **deserted lair**...

...ita **quadripes** per angustias **effossae cauernae** receptus in proximam **cellam** decubuit super lectum modica culcita...

...thus **on all fours** through the narrow gap of a **gouged out burrow** he reached the nearest **cubicle**, and lay down on a couch with a basic pallet...

6. Vitruvius Arch. 2.2

People, in the old way, were born like wild beasts in the forests, caverns, and woods (*ut ferae in siluis et speluncis et nemoribus*), and filling themselves with field forage (*ciboque agresti uescendo*) thus they passed their lives.

Meanwhile it happened at a particular spot that a thick grove of trees, by storms and gales repeatedly tossed, from the friction of their branches sparked a fire. Terrified [in their ignorance] by the blaze raging, those who were in the vicinity of the spot fled. Vitruvius, *Arch.* 2.1

7. Suetonius Nero 50, 57

Reliquias...**gentili Domitiorum monumento** condiderunt, **quod prospicitur e campo Martio impositum colli Hortulorum**. [50]...**uernis aestiuisque floribus tumulum eius ornarent** ac modo **imagines**

praetextatas in rostris proferrent, modo edicta quasi uiuentis et breui...reuersuri...Denique cum...adulescenti me exstisset condicionis incertae qui se Neronem esse iactaret,... (cf. Tacitus *Hist.* 2.8)

His remains were deposited in the family tomb of the Domitii, which was visible from the Campus Martius and situated on the Hill of Gardens...[some], with spring and summer flowers continued to decorate his tomb and occasionally produced his togate likeness at the rostra, or his edicts, as if he were still alive and shortly...might return...Indeed when I was a young man there came to prominence a person of uncertain status who paraded himself as 'Nero'.

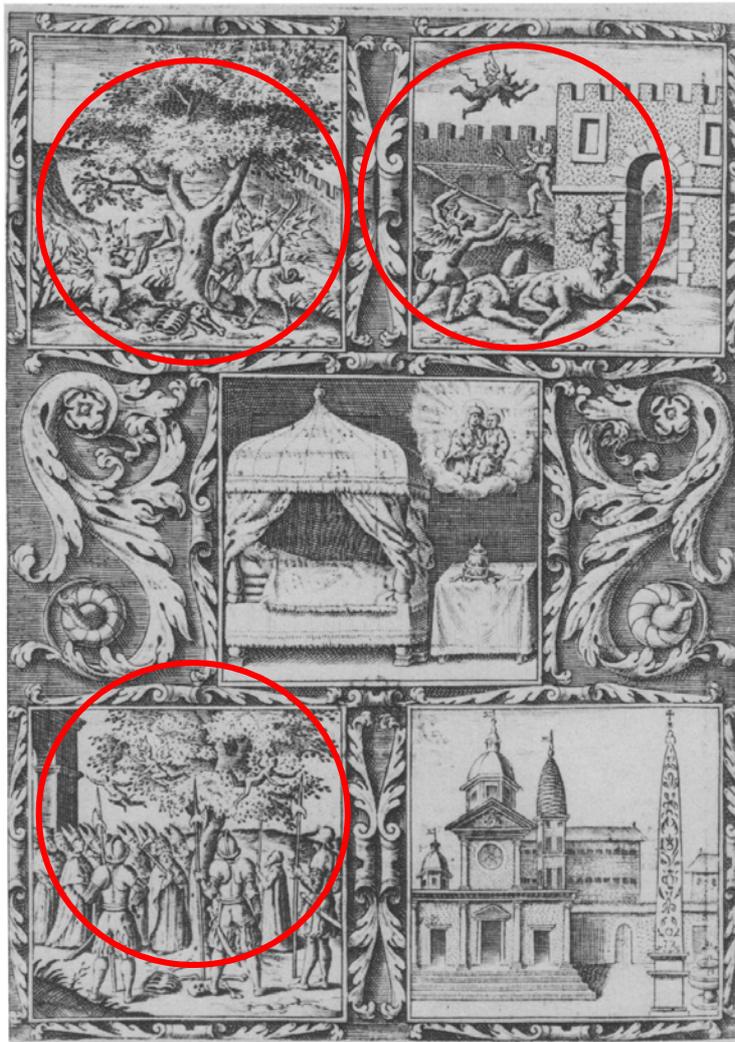


Pietro Martire Felini, *Trattato nuovo delle cose maravigliose dell'alma città di roma* (1610) Roma.



Piranesi, Veduta di un Sepolcro fuori di Porta del Popolo sull'antica Via Cassia – *Le antichità romane*, vol.3 / XIV (1756-)

https://www.calcografica.it/matrici/inventario.php?id=M-1400_126



Jacopo Alberici, *Compendio delle grandezze dell'illustre, et devotissima chiesa di Santa Maria del Popolo di Roma*, Roma, 1600.



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