An Account of Countries, Nations, Seas, and Towns

A Visual Reconstruction of Pliny the Elder's Natural History, Book III



BEING A SURVEY OF THE ROMAN WORLD FROM THE STRAITS OF GADES TO THE DANUBE FRONTIER

NotebookLM

The Measure of the World

"I shall now proceed to describe its individual parts... a task of an infinite nature, not to be rashly commenced without incurring censure."



NotebookLM

Bætica: The Granary of the West



The River Bætis first enters Bætica in Ossigitania, gliding gently with a smooth current past many towns.

Total Towns: 175

- **9 Colonies**
  in Imperial Gold (#C5A059)
- **8 Municipal Towns**
  Silver (#A8A9AD)
- **29 Towns with Old Latin Rights**
  Oxidized Bronze (#8C5E3C)
- **6 Free Towns**
  Sepia Ink (#2F2118)
- **3 Federate**
  Sepia Ink (#2F2118)
- **120 Tributary**
  Faded Sepia

NotebookLM

Tarraconensis: The Land of Mines and Mountains

Resource Ledger



Lead, Iron, Copper, Silver, Gold



Lapis Specularis (Nearer Spain)



Cinnabar (Bætica)

River Iberus (Ebro)

Numantia

Tarraco

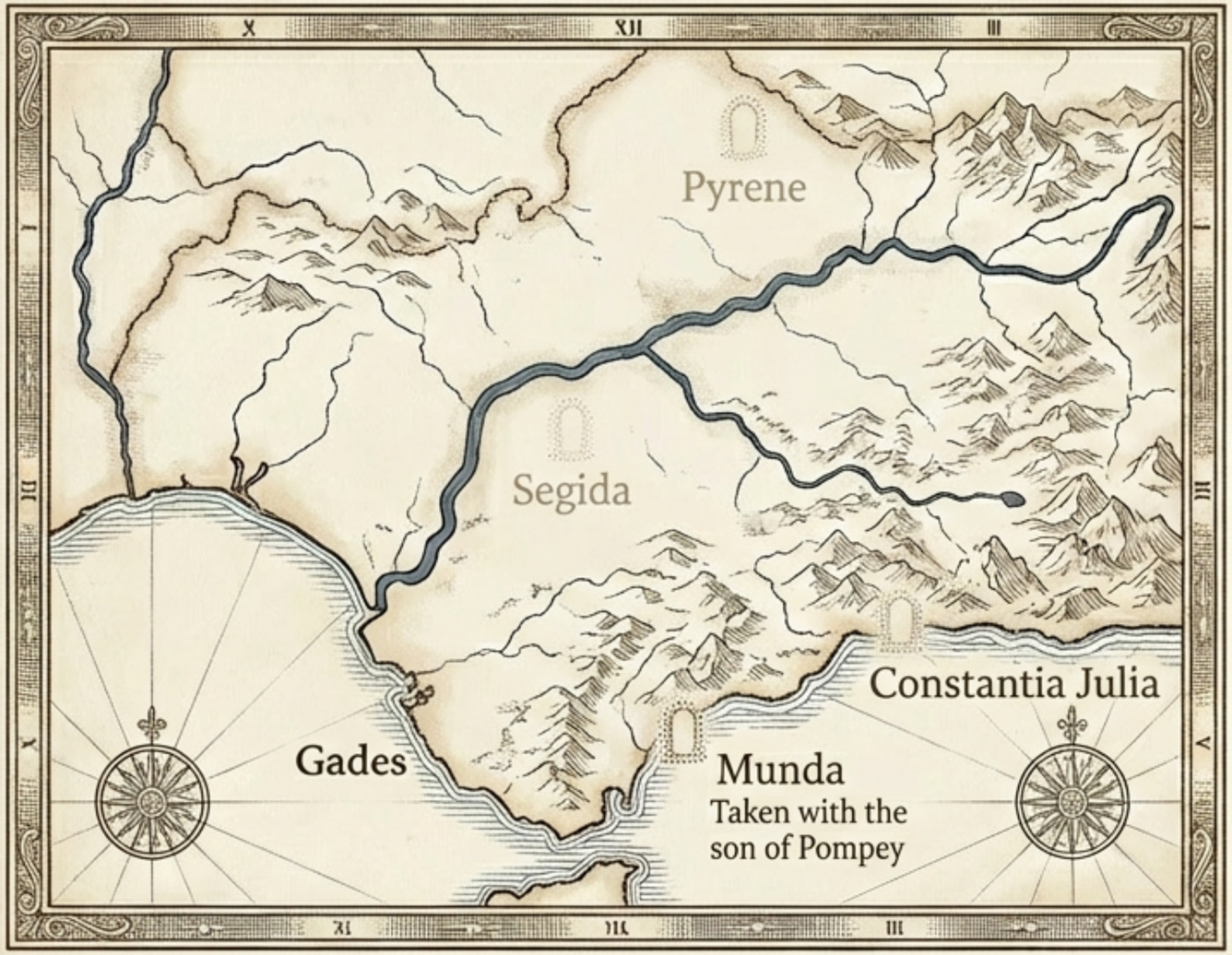
New Carthage (Cartagena)

The Trophy of Pompey

Recorded on the trophies in the Pyrenees: 877 towns from the Alps to the borders of Farther Spain reduced to subjection.

NotebookLM

Myths and Vanishing Points



The funger known eyn by the 19th centry steel engraving city in Faded Iron Gall Blue (#3B4D61).

The Fabulous:

- Traditions of Hercules and Pyrene—fabulous in the highest degree.
- Lusitania: Derived from the “Lusus” of Bacchus or the “Lyssa” of his attendants.

Agrippa’s Survey Note:

The sea has been long making encroachments upon the land... the course of rivers has become more serpentine.

NotebookLM

Gallia Narbonensis: Italy Beyond the Alps

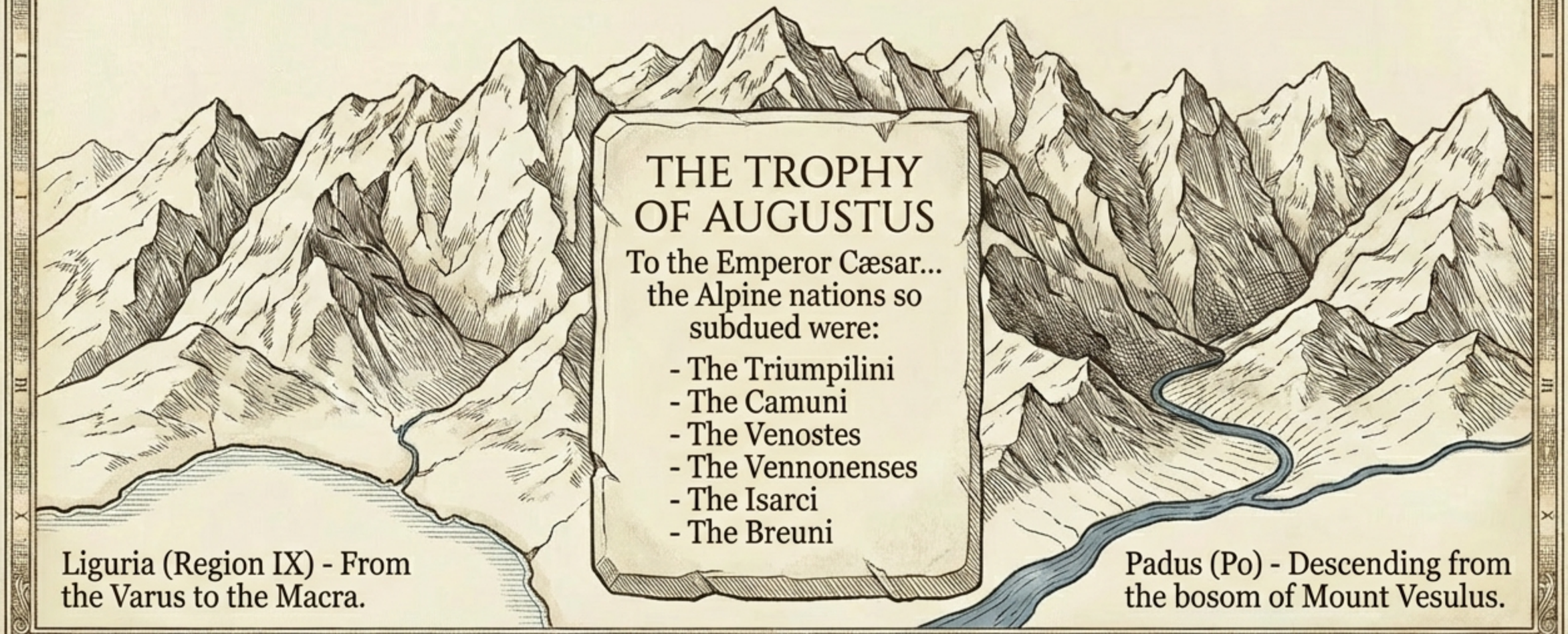
"In the cultivation of the soil, the manners and civilization of the inhabitants... it might be more truthfully described as a part of Italy than as a province."



NotebookLM

The Alpine Barrier

The Safeguards of the Roman Empire



NotebookLM

Italia: The Oak Leaf



NotebookLM

The Foster-Mother of All Lands

Chosen by the providence of the Gods
to render even heaven itself more glorious…

To unite the scattered empires of the earth…

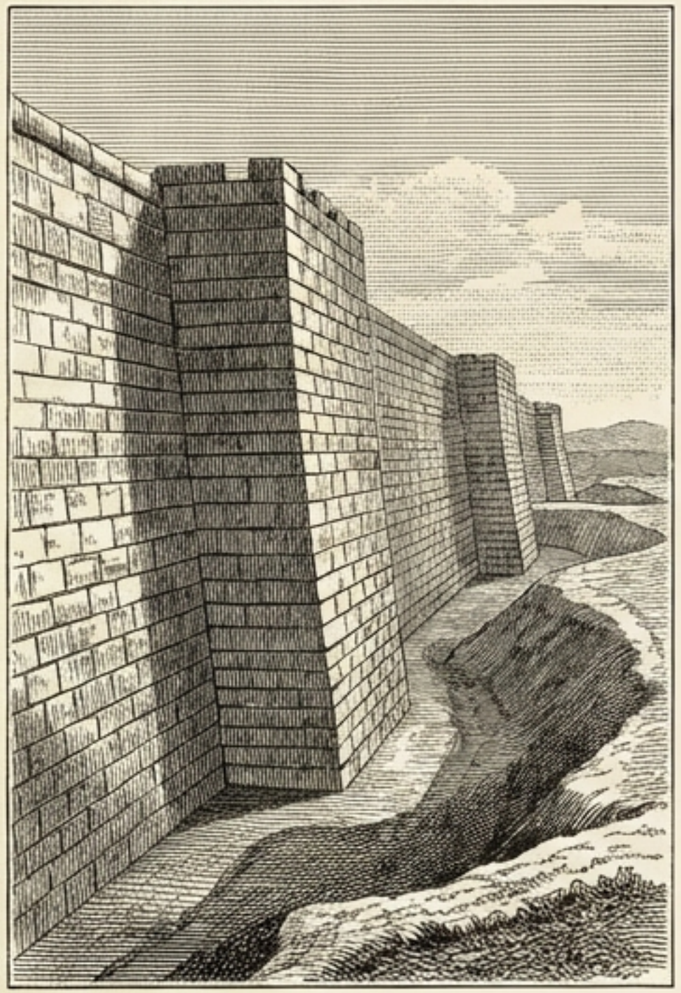
To bestow a polish upon men's manners,
to unite the discordant and uncouth dialects of so many different nations
by the powerful ties of one common language…

To become, in short, the mother-country of all nations of the Earth.

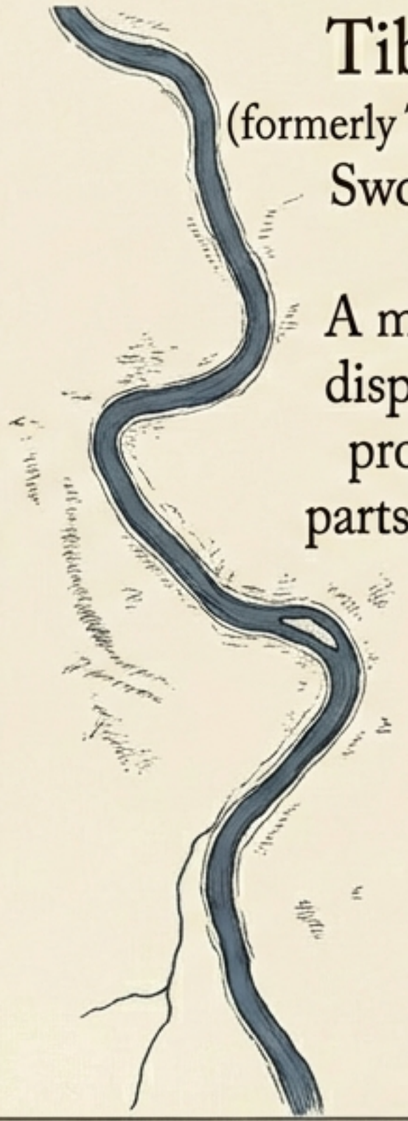
A land blest with natural beauties… the hill sides so sunny, the thickets so free from every danger.

NotebookLM

Region I: The Tiber and The City



Agger of Tarquinius Superbus



Tiber

(formerly Thybris/Albula)

Swollen by 42 streams.

A most tranquil dispenser of the produce of all parts of the earth.

Rome By The Numbers

- Circumference: 13 miles and two-fifths
- Gates: 37 (excluding 12 double gates)
- Districts: 14

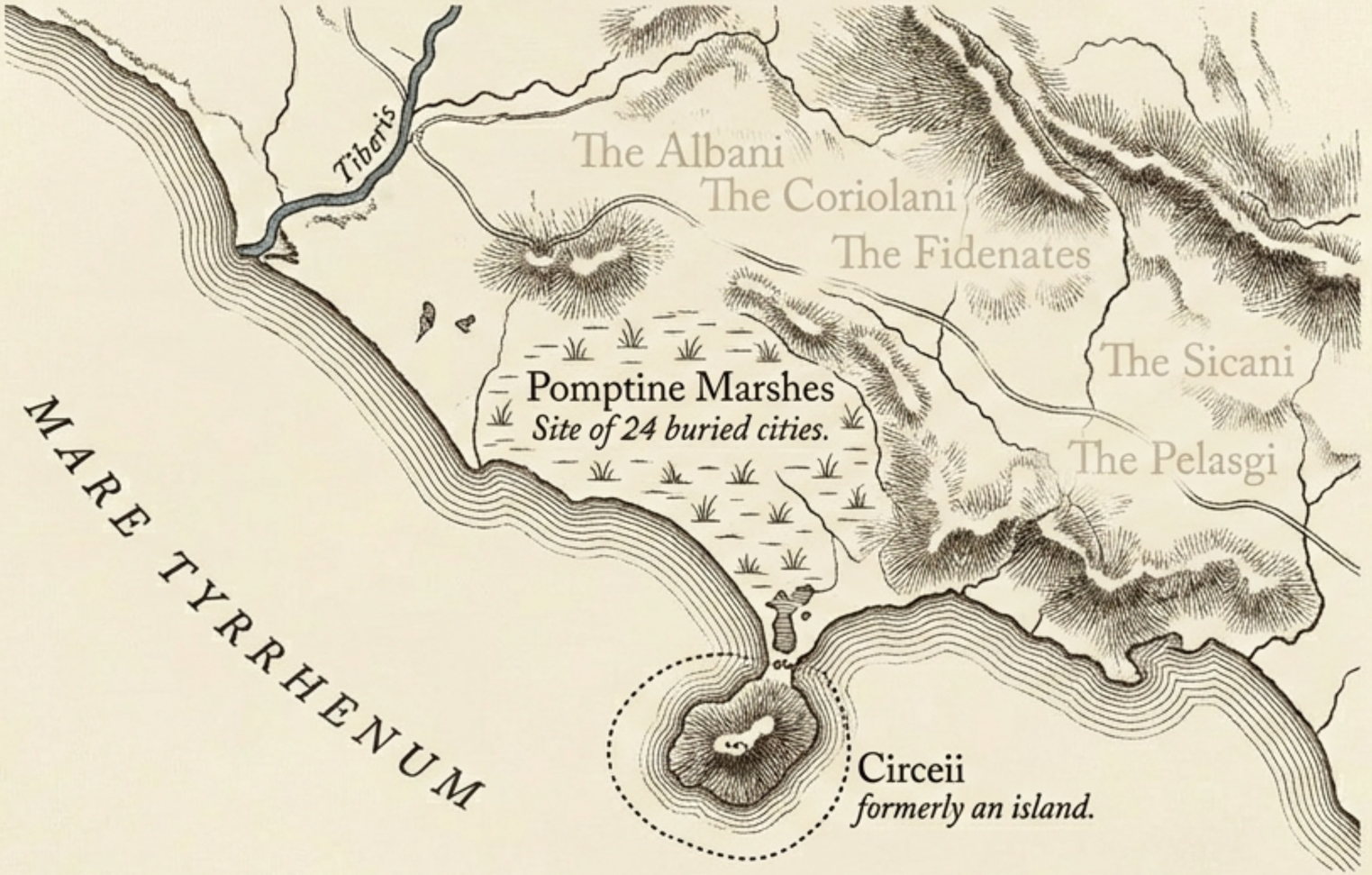
The Secret Name

The hallowed mysteries forbid the mention of Rome's other name.

Valerius Soranus divulged it and paid the penalty.

NotebookLM

The Vanished Peoples of Latium



53 peoples of ancient Latium have passed away without leaving any traces.

NotebookLM

Campania: The Battle-Ground of Liber and Ceres



A battle-ground for the gratification of every luxurious pleasure of man.

- Volcanoes:
- Vesuvius,
- Phlegraean Plains,
- The Marsh of Acherusia.

NotebookLM

Region VII: Etruria

Umbri

↓

Pelasgi

↓

Lydians (Tyrrhenians)

↓

Tusci



Colonies of Falisci, founded by the Argives.

NotebookLM

Region VIII: The Empire of the Padus



NotebookLM

The Upper Sea and The Amber Myths



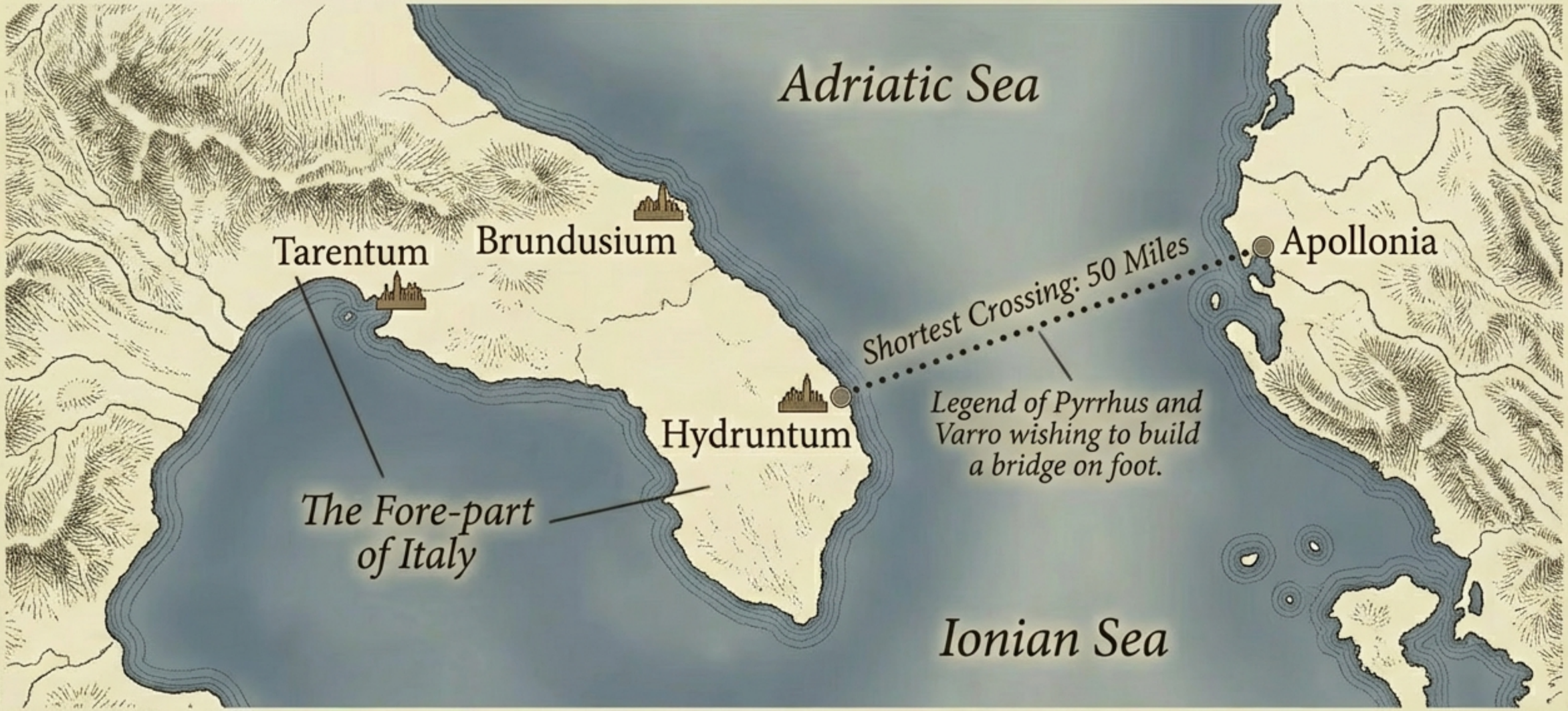
The Amber Myth

Pliny corrects the Greeks regarding the 'Electrides islands' said to produce amber: "A most assured instance of that untruthfulness generally ascribed to the Greeks."

- Adobe Caslon Pro

NotebookLM

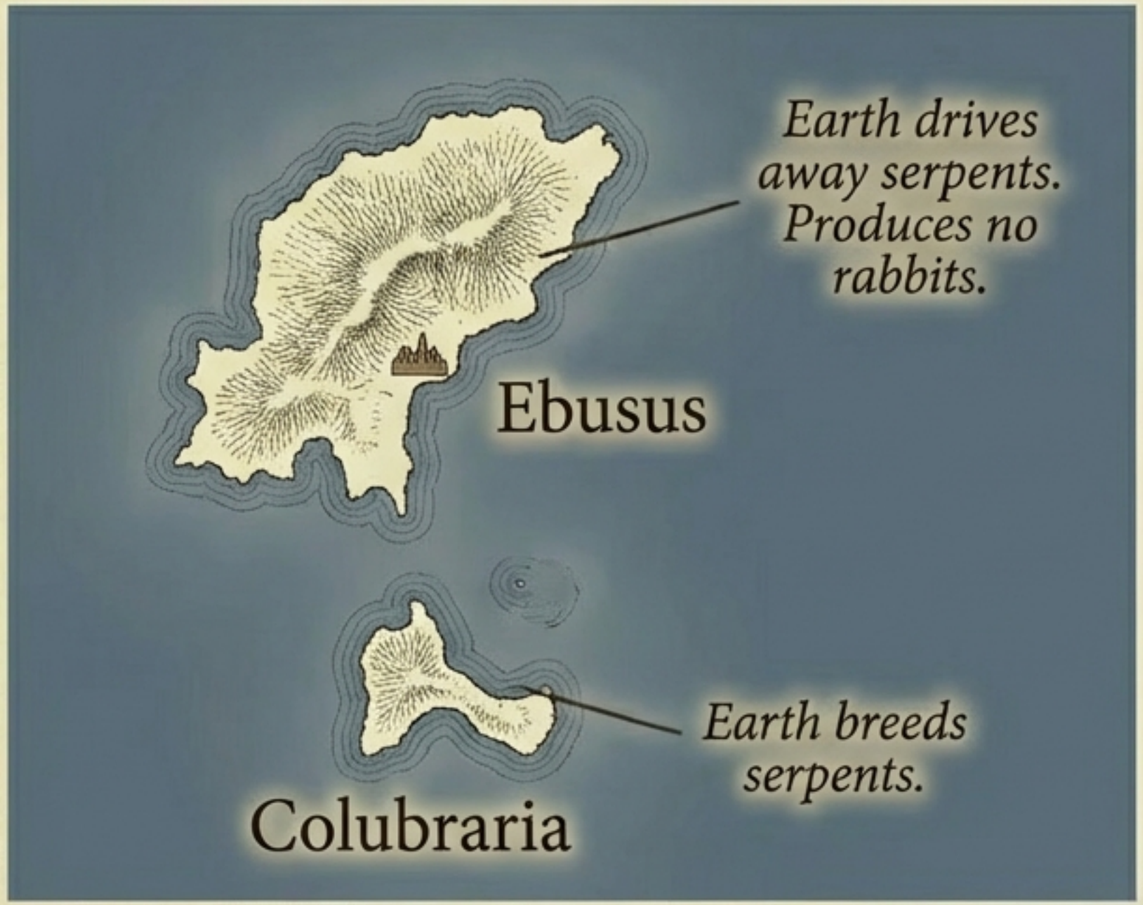
Regions II & III: Magna Graecia



NotebookLM

The Islands of the Iberian Sea

The Pityussæ (Pine Islands)



The Baleares (Gymnasiæ)



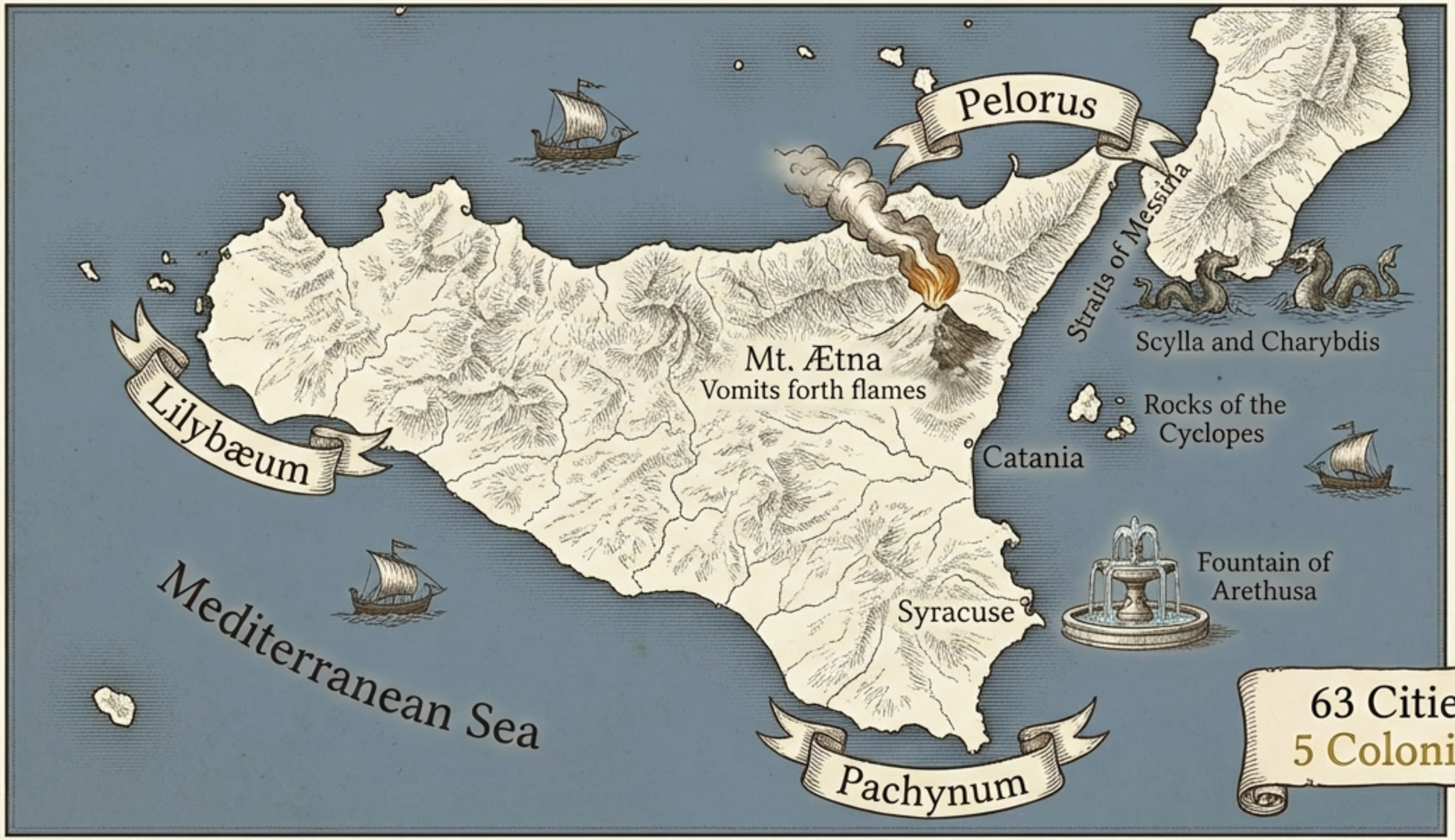
NotebookLM

The Tyrrhenian Islands



NotebookLM

Sicily: The Trinacria



NotebookLM

The Frontier and the Sum of Knowledge



The Final Ledger

Total Towns Mentioned: X

Total Rivers: Y

Peoples Disappeared: Z

Facts and Observations: 326

Citation Cloud

AUGUSTUS - AGRIPPA - VARRO - CATO - THUCYDIDES

HERE ENDS THE SURVEY OF THE THIRD BOOK.

NotebookLM