

Dreamer Dog's Roman Egg Artistry

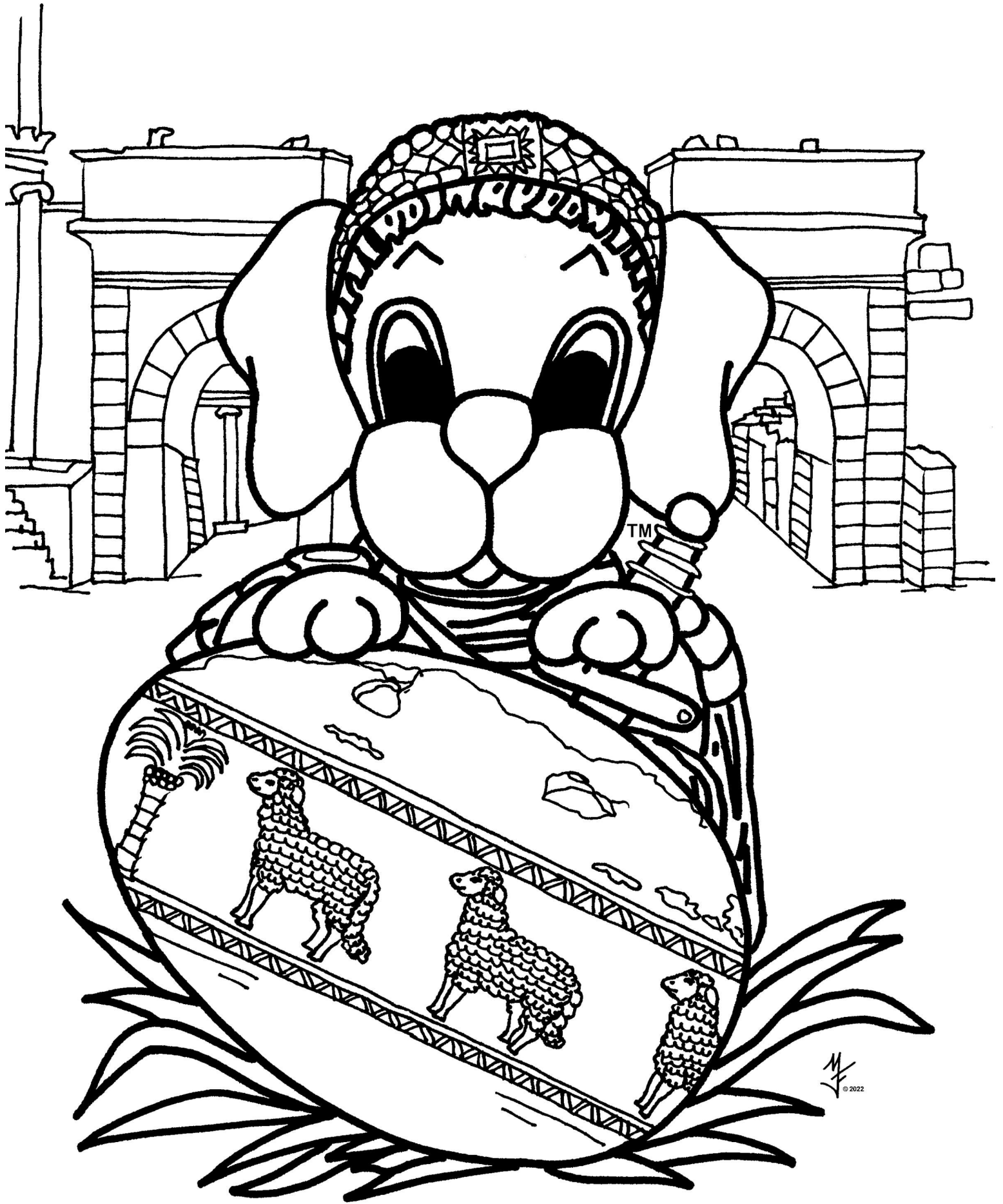




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“Carpe diem!” Dreamer Dog studied Roman art. Her Easter egg masterpieces feature examples of sculpture, mosaics, and frescoes. The Roman world was alive with brightly colored artwork. Examples of this can be seen in their public baths and monumental structures throughout the remains of their vast empire, which stretched from modern day Great Britain to Jordan and from Germany to Egypt. Did you know that Dreamer Dog can bark in the ancient Roman language, Latin? Cave canem qui dicet latinem! Translation: Beware the dog, who speaks Latin.

Augustus (September 23, 63 BCE to August 19, 14 CE) – Born Gaius Octavius Thurinus, known as Octavian or Caesar Augustus. He was the grand nephew and adopted heir of Gaius Julius Caesar. Upon Caesar's assassination on the Ides of March, March 15, 44 BCE, Octavian became the first Roman emperor. He was renamed Augustus by the Roman Senate. The egg depicts the Vine Scrolls on the enclosure of the Ara Pacis, commissioned by the Roman Senate on July 4, 13 BCE, Rome, Italy. The scrolls feature greenery and are inhabited by various animals. The background shows the Roman Baths, or “Great Bath” in Bath, England. A Roman temple was constructed on the site between 60 to 70 CE.

Livia Drusilla (died September 28, 29 CE) – Empress and second wife of Augustus. She is the mother of Augustus' heir, Tiberius. The egg and background feature the triclinium fresco from the Villa of Livia at Prima Porta, 39 BCE. They are in the Palazzo Massimo Museum, Rome, Italy. A triclinium is a dining room. The Romans reclined on couches during dining, a practice inherited from the Etruscans. It was believed that this aided digestion. To the Romans, the barbarians ate seated in chairs at a table. Dining was a social event, to which one was invited while at the baths.

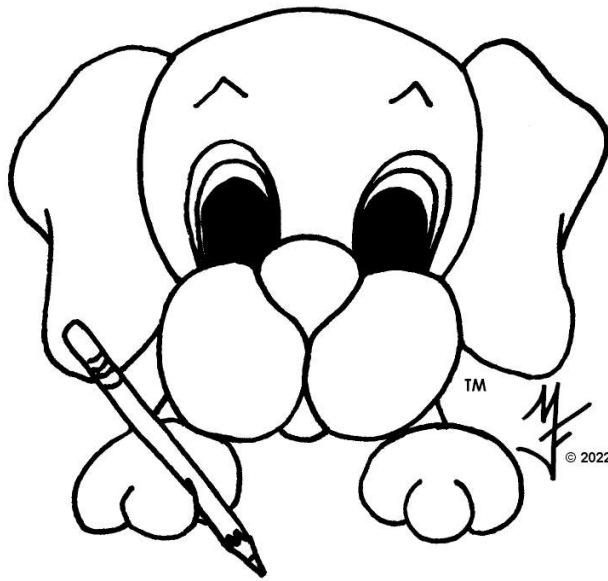
Seneca the Younger (died 65 CE) – Lucius Annaeus Seneca the Younger, commonly known as Seneca. He was a Roman Stoic philosopher and tutor to the Emperor Nero. The egg shows the Black and White Pebble Mosaic from the Baths of Neptune, late first century CE, Ostia, Italy. The mosaic depicts various sea monsters and a chariot driven by Neptune. Ostia was the port of ancient Rome. Goods from all over the empire entered Rome through this port, prior to being shipped up the Tiber. Public baths were a social institution in the Roman world and were the site of the majority of business transactions. The baths were heavily ornamented with mosaics and statuary. It was common for emperors to construct vast bathing complexes for the people of Rome and the provinces.

Hadrian (January 24, 76 to July 10, 136 CE) – Hadrian is considered one of the Five Good Emperors of ancient Rome. These emperors were adopted by the preceding emperor as his heir. Hadrian is known for having brought back the Greek fashion of having a beard. Prior to this, Roman men had their beards plucked at the public baths. The egg shows the Mosaic of the Doves at Hadrian's Villa, circa 120 CE, Tivoli, Italy. The background depicts the architecture of Hadrian's Villa. A replica of the villa is part of the Getty Museum in Los Angeles, California.

Vibia Sabina (83 CE to 136 CE) – Empress and wife of the emperor Hadrian. The egg depicts the Floral Mosaic from the Roman Thermal Baths, late second century CE, Dion, Greece. Dion is at the base of Mount Olympus in Greece. This was a vast religious pilgrimage site for centuries to honor the Graeco-Roman pantheon, who were believed to live at the top of Mount Olympus. The background is the Roman Forum, circa 550 CE, Philippi, Greece.

Constantine the Great (died May 22, 337 CE) – Roman emperor, considered the first Christian emperor, although he was only baptized on his death bed. Prior to the Battle of the Milvian Bridge, he supposedly saw a cross of light in the sky around which were the words, "In hoc signo vinces", which translates as "in this sign, conquer". Constantine is responsible for unifying Christianity under one dogma, or rule, through his call for the Council of Nicaea. It is from this ecclesiastical council that the Nicene Creed originates. The egg shows the Lamb Frieze from an earlier basilica of Hagia Sophia, fifth century CE, Istanbul, Turkey. The relief of the lambs represents the Twelve Apostles. The background is the entrance to the Roman Agora, first century BCE, Ephesus, Turkey.

Dreamie Dog's Roman Egg Artistry Word Search



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