The age of Augustus, commonly dated to 30 B.C.–A.D. 14, was a pivotal period in world history. A time of tremendous change in Rome, Italy, and throughout the Mediterranean world, many key developments were under way when Augustus took charge, and a recurring theme is the role that he played in shaping their direction. The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus captures the dynamic and richness of this era by examining important aspects of political and social history, religion, literature, and art and architecture. The sixteen essays, written by distinguished specialists from the United States and Europe, explore the multifaceted character of the period and the interconnections among social, religious, political, literary, and artistic developments. Introducing the reader to many of the central issues of the Age of Augustus, the essays also break new ground and will stimulate further research and discussion.

Karl Galinsky is professor of classics at the University of Texas at Austin. The author of several books, including Augustan Culture, and numerous scholarly articles, he has received awards for his teaching and research, including fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the von Humboldt Foundation.
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VIII. Villa under the Farnesina, Rome. Cubiculum B, circa 20–1 B.C.
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It is a pleasure to contribute this volume to the newly expanded series of Cambridge Companions. Like its predecessors, it is not an attempt at an encyclopedic vade mecum. Instead, it aims to provide an accessible and yet sophisticated discussion of some paradigmatic aspects of this incredibly rich period. More is involved than a distillation of recent and older scholarship; while being duly informative, we have also tried to break some new ground and point the discussion in new directions. I will comment on this some more in the Introduction.

I would like to thank the sterling group of contributors who enlisted in this effort. It has been exciting to be their first reader (with the privilege of becoming a discussant) and I can only hope that other readers will benefit as much from their expertise and acuity as I have. I also wish to thank Beatrice Rehl for her constructive support and advice ever since the project’s inception; my graduate student Dan Hanchey for meticulously checking the final version (and there were several prior incarnations) of the various chapters; and Dr. Darius Arya for help with the increasingly complicated task of obtaining illustrations and permissions. The color reproductions have been made possible by a generous grant from one of Maecenas’ descendants, Mr. Mark Finley, and from the Floyd A. Cailloux Centennial Professorship endowment at my university, which also aided work on this volume in many other ways.

Austin
September 23 MMIV
1) Map of Italy
2) Map of major cities in the Augustan empire
3) The provinces of the Augustan empire
4) Genealogical chart of the family of Augustus
The Julio-Claudian Family
### History/Politics

#### 70–30 B.C.

- **70**: Birth of C. Octavius
- **63**: Birth of C. Octavius
- **52**: Caesar declared dictator for life
- **44**: Caesar named Octavian heir
- **43**: Octavian raises private army and marches on Rome
- **42**: Battle of Philippi; death of Brutus and Cassius
- **40**: Perusine War
- **37**: Extension of triumvirate for 5 years
- **31**: Battle of Actium; suicides of Antony and Cleopatra
- **30**: Conquest of Alexandria; official declaration of Caesar as divus
- **29**: Closing of Temple of Janus
- **28**: Re-establishment of government by laws
- **27**: Augustus granted tribunicia potestas; Octavian named "Augustus"
- **23**: Augustus seriously ill
- **19**: Augustus granted imperium pro consulare per permansit
- **16**: Gladiatorial games of Drusus and Tiberius

### Finances/Expenditures

- **Octavian seizes war (against Parthians) treasury and tax collections from province of Asia**
- **Victory Games for Caesar (financed by Octavius); comet appears**
- **First payment of 300 sesterces (HS) each to 250,000 plebeians under Caesar’s will**
- **Proscriptions (100 senators, 2,000 equestri)**
- **Special payment of 2,500 denarii to each of Octavian’s soldiers**
- **Settlement began of veterans in Italy; land confiscations**

### Buildings/Art/Literature

- **70**: Birth of Vergil
- **65**: Birth of Horace
- **59**: Birth of Livy
- **48**: Birth of Propertius

#### 5/ Timeline

- **70**: Birth of Vergil
- **65**: Birth of Horace
- **59**: Birth of Livy
- **48**: Birth of Propertius
- **42**: Temple of Divus Julius begun
- **39**: Temple of Mars Ultor vowed
- **31**: Rebuilding of Rome begun under Agrippa’s aedileship; largesse to urban populace; games
- **30**: Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians and of 1,000 HS to 120,000 soldiers
- **29**: Restoration of 82 temples
- **28**: 60 million HS: 12 distributions of grain to 250,000 plebeians
- **27**: Horace, Odes I–III
- **26**: Suicide of Cornelius Gallus
- **25**: Horace, Satires I
- **24**: Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians
- **23**: Death of Marcellus
- **22**: Horace, Odes I–III
- **20**: Propertius, Book II and III
- **19**: Horace, Epodes I
- **18**: Horace, Epodes II
- **16**: Propertius, Book IV; death of Propertius
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<td>Organization of Rome into 14 regions and 265 vici. Reorganization of cult of Lares Compitales.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Fasti of the vicomagistri begin.</td>
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<td>Augustus acclaimed as pater patriae. Julia exiled.</td>
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<td>Death of Lucius Caesar.</td>
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<td>5-9</td>
<td>Famines in Rome; reorganization of grain supply.</td>
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<td>Pannonian revolt.</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Death of Augustus (in Nola).</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Livia declared Livia Augusta.</td>
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| 17-9 | Augustus declared divus. 
|      | Tibersius elevated to Augustus. |

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<td>400 million HS for veterans (until 2 B.C.).</td>
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<td>170 million HS paid into aerarium militare.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>240 HS each paid to 320,000 plebeians.</td>
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<td>Naumachy with 3,000 combatants.</td>
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<td>Recipients of grain dole reduced to 200,000.</td>
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<td>240 HS to 200,000 plebeians.</td>
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<td>96 mill. HS: largesses to people and soldiers under Augustus' will.</td>
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<td>3.9</td>
<td>Livia declared Livia Augusta.</td>
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<td>17.9</td>
<td>Augustus declared divus.</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Augustus declared Augustus.</td>
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<td>19.8</td>
<td>Death of Augustus (in Nola).</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Temple of Castor and Pollux dedicated.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ovid exiled; publication of Metamorphoses and Fasti.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Temple of Concordia Augusta dedicated.</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Basilica Julia rededicated as Basilica of Gaius and Lucius.</td>
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<td>Dedication of Forum of Augustus and Temple of Mars Ultor.</td>
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