

♀ Aurelia Faustina

The Vengeful



Age	in her thirties
Social Status	patricia (noblewoman)
Position	third wife of Elagabal, wife/widow of P. Bassus
Family	Pomponius Bassus (husband), Pomponius Marsus (brother-in-law)
Friends	Clodia Laeta, Iulia Paula
Foe	Aquilia Severa (your predecessor and successor as empress)
Main Theme	intrigues, immorality, raising in power and honor, falling deep, vengeance

You're noble and desirable, a descendant of Emperor Marcus Aurelius, but you could be so much more. Your ambitions will force you to make fatal decisions. Your husband will be executed because of this, but that is a sacrifice you are willing to make, as ascending to empress comes at a price. You gamble and risk high stakes for your goal, but once you are empress, as you should be, your enemies have already gathered.

Your dream is shattered by the religious madness of your husband, who wants to perform the most un-roman ritual you can imagine. When you refuse, he disowns you. Thus humiliated, you willingly join the faction of his opponents. You want to take revenge on your successor on the throne. This hypocritical cow Severa will get to know you.

Your fate has carefully been crafted by the Parcae (three goddesses of fate). Since you can't escape it, it is paramount to us that you, the player, have as much agency as possible in negotiating your relationships and your path to destiny.

ACT I (Friday night)

You want to become empress, by whatever means necessary. After all, it is your birthright. The easiest way to get there is to persuade your husband **Bassus** to strive for imperial dignity. He should find allies among the senators and the soldiers to overthrow the emperor. In the eyes of your friend **Laeta**, you're the ideal candidate, and therefore, she supports you.

He who relies on others is abandoned. Bassus tried to convince the wrong guy, and now **Marius Maximus** wants to blackmail you. You can't get him on your side, and as a consequence, he makes you sweat. Now you have to act decisively and fast.

Iulia Soaemias is the emperor's mother. Tell her that there is a plot against Elagabal, but that you want to become his wife as a reward. The imperial family wants to get rid of his current wife **Severa** anyway.

When **Maesa**, the emperor's grandmother, announces his divorce from Severa and marriage to you, you could not be happier!. You demand a divorce from Bassus and accuse him of high treason, as it was agreed with Iulia Soaemias. You have achieved your goal: You are the empress.

to be filled in before the game (homework)	to be filled in at the workshop
<i>What ideas do you have to play the scene as cool as possible?</i>	<i>How would you like to play the scene?</i>
<i>What would go too far for you?</i>	<i>No-goes</i>

ACT II (Saturday morning & noon)

Elagabal has gone mad. He wants to celebrate with you a hierogamy, a holy wedding, in which the god Elagabalus is to be married to the sky goddess Dea Caelestis and thus, brings prosperity over the city and the empire. In the process, the god enters the emperor, who is to perform the act in his stead, while you are to be the vessel for the sky goddess in public. It must have been **Severa**, **Helia**, or **Impuritas** who talked Elagabal into this madness. You are outraged and refuse to let him fuck you in public during a ritual. No proper Roman woman would ever do such a thing. This impresses him not at all, and he will demand a divorce.

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ACT III (Saturday afternoon, after Elagabal's divorce of Faustina)

This humiliation is almost unbearable. However, **Paula**, probably the only person in the world who understands what exactly you are going through, stands by your side. She too, was rejected by Elagabal, which should have been a warning to you. Now you are plagued by only one thing: How can you take revenge on **Severa** and the emperor?

You find out that Paula, together with **Pollitta** and **Orbiana**, has been working for some time to prepare for an emergency. She introduces you to **Hierocles**, **Lupus** and **Canis**, who they can rely on in the event of an uprising. You also offer them riches if they stand by your side. You are a team now.

You finally confront **Regina**, Maesa's body slave: How long does she think the Romans will patiently hold tight before escalation? Regina finally brings you to **Maesa**, to whose conscience you appeal. The Romans will not put up with an Oriental high priest like Elagabal as emperor, and every step towards that direction in the past was already one too far. You persuade her to drop Elagabal and support **Alexander**. That is the only way to save her dynasty. And Elagabal and Severa will fall, as they should.

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