

## THE STORY OF ROMULUS AND REMUS



Romulus over Acron; King Acron dead on right; Romulus has taken the spolia opima and is going to Jupiter's temple

## WHO WAS VIRGIL? (OR PUBLIUS VERGILIUS MARO)



## WHAT IS THE AENEID?



Aeneas Flees Burning Troy

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FOUNDING

OF

ROME

Rome was founded by Romulus, the first king. The founding of Rome is based partly on legend. Romulus and Remus are the traditional founders of Rome, appearing in Roman mythology as the twin sons of the Vestal Virgin Rhea Silvia, fathered by the god of war, Mars. According to the tradition recorded as history by Plutarch and Livy, Romulus served as the first King of Rome. Romulus slew Remus with a shovel over a dispute about which one of the two brothers had the support of the local deities to rule the new city and give it his name. Supposedly, Romulus had stood on one hill and Remus another, and a circle of birds flew over Romulus, signifying that he should be king.

Publius Vergilius Maro (also known by the Anglicised forms of his name as Virgil or Vergil) was a classical Roman poet, best known for three major works—the *Eclogues* (or *Bucolics*), the *Georgics*, and the *Aeneid*—although several minor poems are also attributed to him.

Virgil's *Aeneid* can be considered a national epic of Rome version of the founding of Rome and is one of the most famous stories in ancient literature, and art and architecture throughout Rome. Parts of Virgil's story may be based on fact, but it's unlikely that Romulus and Remus were the sons of gods or that they were raised by wolves.

The *Aeneid* is a twelve - book written by Virgil in the late 1st century BC (29–19 BC). It describes the destruction of Troy in this famous poem of the Roman era. In the poem, Aeneas, the son of the Roman goddess Venus and a mortal man, fights against the Greeks in the Trojan Wars. It tells the legendary story of Aeneas, a Trojan who traveled to Italy, where he became the ancestor of the Romans. Virgil's poem goes on to tell the story of Aeneas's family over the course of hundreds of years, including the birth of the twins Romulus and Remus, in the eighth century BCE.