

Chapter 24 Translation

As soon as Titus and the boys and Eucleides entered through the Porta Capena, Sextus shouted, "What will we do first? Where will we go? Will we visit—?"

"Where will you lead us, uncle?" interrupted Marcus. "Will we visit the senate house and the forum? Sextus has read and heard many things about Rome, uncle, and now he wants to see all."

Titus says, "Be quiet! Be quiet! Tomorrow we will visit the forum. Tomorrow, Eucleides, you will be allowed to lead the boys there. Then we will have enough time. Today, however, boys, I will lead you home through the city and I will show everything to you on the journey."

Now they had arrived at the Circus Maximus, which was not far away. Sextus was astonished when he saw the mass of the Circus Maximus. Marcus was also astonished, although he had seen the Circus before. Titus was also astonished, not by the mass, but by the silence of the Circus.

"Alas! Alas!" said Titus. "Today the circus is closed. In three days however the emperor himself, Titus Flavius Vespasianus, will hold the magnificent games."

"Surely you will take us there?" asked Marcus.

"Alas! I will not be able to take you," says Titus. "There, perhaps Eucleides will take you."

"No!" replies Sextus. "Eucleides like books, not games."

"Come on, boys!" interrupted Titus. Now we will go around the Palatine Hill and enter the forum through the Arch of Tiberus. Perhaps we will meet your father Marcus. Soon the senators will exit the senate house.

Therefore they left behind the Circus and went around the Palatine Hill. On the journey Titus showed the boys marvelous buildings whom the emperor had built. At last they arrived at the Arch of Tiberus, now tired from the work and heat.

"Here is the arch," said Titus, "which—"

"You all can see everything tomorrow," interrupts Cornelius, who had just arrived that very moment at the Arch of Tiberus out of the Senate House. "When you return to the forum tomorrow, Eucleides will explain everything to you. Now it is late. Come on! We shall go home now."