

# Adrienne Mayor THE POISON KING

The Life and Legend of Mithradates  
Rome's Deadliest Enemy  
Narrated by Paul Hecht

The sweeping nonfiction of acclaimed historian Adrienne Mayor illuminates the people and places of the ancient world. Combining riveting storytelling with groundbreaking research, this National Book Award finalist delivers a compelling account of Mithradates, one of Rome's most relentless but least understood foes.

Hailed by his followers as a second Hannibal, Mithradates—the brilliant and resourceful monarch of the Black Sea kingdom of Pontus—envisioned a grand Eastern empire to rival Rome. His mastery of poisons helped him foil assassination attempts and eliminate rivals. And his uncanny ability to elude capture and rout superior forces unnerved his enemies. After massacring 80,000 Romans in 88 BC, he seized Greece and modern-day Turkey and lured Rome into a series of debilitating wars that shook the realm.

Machiavelli once praised his military genius, poets celebrated his exploits, and kings coveted his secret elixir. But only *The Poison King*—enhanced by Paul Hecht's stellar narration—tells the full story of Mithradates' incredible life.

**Narrator Paul Hecht**, graduate of the famed first class of the National Theatre School of Canada, has won critical acclaim for his appearances in dozens of Broadway plays (including Tony nominations for *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead, 1776*, and *Noises Off*). TV appearances include *Law & Order*, *Miami Vice*, *All My Children*, and *Hawaii Five-0*. In addition, he was heard on *CBS Radio Mystery Theater*, *Selected Shorts* (NPR), and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's satirical radio show *National Affairs*.

## Recorded Books

**Unabridged Running Time: 16 hours**

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Narrated by Paul Hecht

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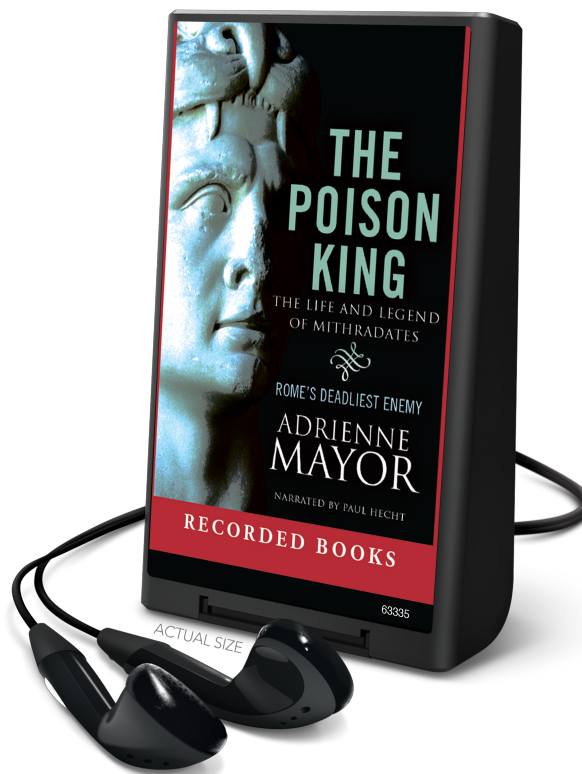
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