

# Boudicca



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# Who was Boudicca?



- Boudicca was the wife of Prasutagus, the ruler of a Celtic tribe called the Iceni.
- The Iceni lived in a region of Britain that is now called East Anglia.

# Prasutagus and the Romans Agreement

- When Romans settled in the South of England in 43 AD they made an agreement with Prasutagus so that he would be able to continue as ruler of the Iceni.
- When Prasutagus died, the Romans turned on the Iceni.
- They stole from the Iceni tribesmen, made people slaves and they had Boudicca whipped.



# The Rebellion

- In about 60 AD, the Roman governor was sent to North Wales to lead an army.
- While he was away Boudicca led an attack against the tribe's Roman rulers with several other tribes. Her army was called the Britons.
- They managed to destroy Camulodunum (Colchester), the capital of Roman Britain and defeated the Roman IX legion.



# Attack on Londinium

- Hearing the news, the Roman governor rushed back from Wales.
- He tried to evacuate Londinium (London) as he guessed this would be the Britons next target.
- Boudicca and her army destroyed Londinium and Verulamium (St Albans).
- People believe that over 70,000 people were killed in the attacks by the Britons.



# Defeat



- The Roman army regrouped in the Midlands and finally defeated the Britons in the battle of Watling Street.
- No one knows what really happened to Boudicca. Some say she killed herself when she knew the Romans had defeated her, others say she fell ill and died.

# The Legend



“I was whipped by the Romans when they tried to take our lands and now I am fighting for my freedom. Think how many of us are fighting and why. We must win this battle or die. Let the men live as slaves if they want. I will not.”  
-Boudicca’s last speech, as recorded by Dio Cassius

- Boudicca is a heroine because she achieved a lot and fought for her country, for her people and for herself. Although she lost the final battle, she never let the Romans conquer her.



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