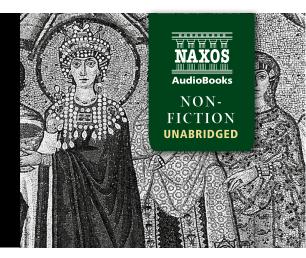


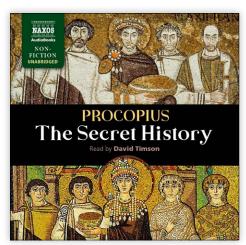
The Secret History PROCOPIUS



Read by **David Timson**

Procopius appeared to be a loyal part of the Byzantine establishment, his official writing glorifying the deeds of the Emperor Justinian (d. AD 565). However, he also produced a work that he knew could never be published within the Emperor's lifetime: *The Secret History*, a vitriolic indictment of the rule of Justinian and his wife Theodora.

In *The Secret History*, the general Belisarius is presented as an idiot who is manipulated by his conniving wife Antonina, while the Emperor is depicted as a demon king, a dishonest and autocratic destroyer of established institutions. The Empress Theodora doesn't escape Procopius' invective – she is portrayed as the antithesis of the traditional Roman matron: deprayed, brutal and bloodthirsty.



Total running time: 4:15:38 • *View our full range of titles at n-ab.com*



David Timson has made over 1,000 broadcasts for BBC Radio Drama. For Naxos AudioBooks he has written *The History of Theatre*, an award-winning production read by Derek Jacobi, and directed four Shakespeare plays including *King Richard III* (with Kenneth Branagh). He has also read the entire Sherlock Holmes canon and Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

The Secret History	0:13	9 7	9:51	17 15	8:08	²⁵ 23	6:23
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3 1	8:53	11 9	11:55	19 17	10:31	27 25	7:51
4 2	10:01	12 10	8:35	20 18	9:43	28 26	11:18
5 3	8:04	13 11	10:09	21 19	4:48	²⁹ 27	7:16
6 4	10:32	14 12	9:41	22 20	6:21	30 28	4:37
7 5	9:59	15 13	8:03	23 21	6:42	31 29	8:43
8 6	6:23	16 14	6:20	24 22	9:11	32 30	8:16

Translated by Richard Atwater (updated) Edited and mastered by Timothy Brown Executive producer: Anthony Anderson

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