

Kristine Castillo

13 February 2019

CLA 2123

Instructor Kyle Gaylor

Speech 1

I was 18 years old when I became involved as a soldier in the First Punic War, just 48 years ago in what was 264 BCE. Through the prolonged state of lachrymose and bloodshed, the Romans, who won our affiliation and maintained our grounded confidence in their power emerged victorious. I recall the many instances of their victory, particularly in the sea, against the Carthaginian troops, who had, previously, held the title of the greatest naval power.

The Romans built a navy unlike anything I had ever seen to counter the Carthaginians dominance in the sea, making a sea battle into a land battle, making foreign terrain familiar landscape. with the invention of the corvus. One of the victories with the corvus against Carthaginians was the Battle of Mylae, where the Romans had about 145 ships compared to the Carthaginians who had roughly 130 ships. I remember the romans were able to use the corvus to have their seamen board the Carthaginian ships, and so, the battle was won by Romans and our commander, named Duilius was given praise. Two years later, the Romans enacted the same maneuver in the Battle of Sulcis contributing to their victory, with the defeat being so embarrassing for the Carthaginians that they crucified their own commander. Another two years after that, we had won another major battle, a SEA battle, called the Battle to Ecnomus. What this did for the romans was that it allowed us to land and invade Carthaginian soil. From there, the main theater of war became Sicily. We advanced and captured the City of Panormus. The

Carthaginians were, therefore, left with only a narrow strip of land, and, consequently, the Carthaginian government had to focus on protecting their own frontier against our invasions.

As you all know, eventually, the decades of stress and turmoil forced the Carthaginians to submit to the Romans might. I am now 66 years old. I ask you all to maintain confidence in our Roman allies in the years of war to come, as I had seen their strength in battle, winning the substantial victories listed against the Carthaginians in the First Punic War. I send my sons off to war with abundant confidence that the Romans will emerge victorious once more. Submit not to the siren-like coercions of the Carthaginian enemies. Regardless of fleeting Carthaginian pressures, our union, our fraternity, our alliance with our Roman brothers should persist. Rally against them, once again, as I did and your fathers did and as your grandfather's did and all the men in your lives worthy of your respect did in the first Punic War.