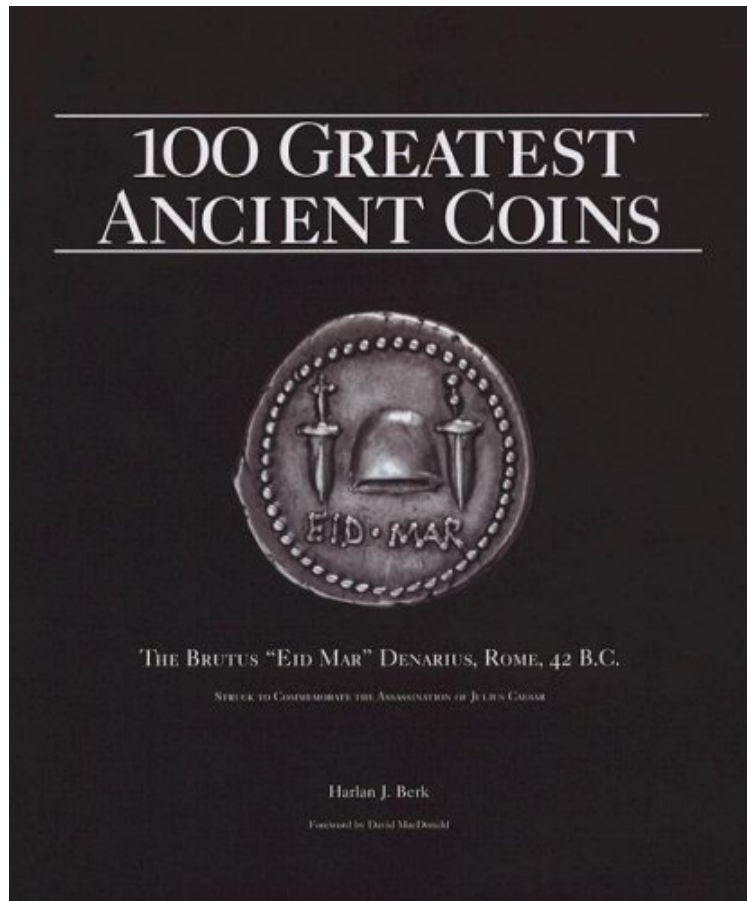


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Harlan J. Berk

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## 100 Greatest Ancient Coins

**Harlan J. Berk : 100 Greatest Ancient Coins** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 100 Greatest Ancient Coins:

22 of 22 people found the following review helpful. SuperbBy ScottAssuming you like ancient coins and the history behind them (and if you don't what are you doing here?) this book is a must-have. Each of the coins gets a full page containing a large picture of the coin, details of the history behind the coin and commentary about the market availability of the coin. Many of the coins are beyond the finances of an average collector and this book may be as close as most people come to owning a example. But the book does not feature rare coins alone, some very common coins were also chosen and these are within the reach of most of us.These is a lot to learn from this book. Did you know that the only known portrait of Hannibal is on a coin? That there is a coin showing Noah's Ark? That the master coin engravers in Syracuse signed their names into their coins? That the first portrait of Christ on an ancient coin used the face of Phidias' famous statue of Zeus as a model? That is only a small taste of what the book contains.Berk hit this one out of the park.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It's OK, but not useful to a collectorBy Jerry G. WallsThis is an oversized picture book of fabulous ancients that appear mostly at up-scale auctions, and of some coins that are so rare they are not even available to collectors. The photos are great, but I found the text cloying after a few

discussions and quickly boring. There is only so much you can say about Greek city issue after city issue, and much of it has to do with details of the art style that are not apparent to my barbarian eye. Almost none of these coins would be available to even the advanced collector unless they had an income well into the 6 or even 7 figures. There seems to be no logical basis for the current auction values given in the short discussions of auction history--the author assumes most ancient coins will rise in value at a fantastic rate basically forever, which may be true but (as with stamp values) also can be very misleading. Nice pictures but not really a good buy for a typical collector. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best numismatic books i ever read By Customer I wanted this book for so long. I finally got it. Despite the fact that it's price was few times less than it's shipping , i'm very happy to have it. It's a new approach in numismatics. Harlan's idea of making a top 100 ancient coins, selected among many others by a large group of specialists and collection curators takes the reader into a visual and historical journey into the ancient coin domain. There is a historical and chronological presentation, despite the coin's rank. Excellent graphics, and large format. The coin's presentation on each page is made understandable even for unadicted readers, not only to specialists.

Emperors and assassins, owls and turtles, gods and goddesses, brave heroes and villainous rogues--all of these and more await you among the 100 Greatest Ancient Coins. In this beautifully illustrated book, Harlan J. Berk, one of America's best-known ancient-coin dealers, takes you on a personal guided tour of the numismatic antiquities of Greece, Rome, the Byzantine Empire, and other parts of the ancient world. Coffee-table-size, Hardcover, 144 pages, full color, with enlarged photographs and stories for every coin.