Interview with the Talented Appuleius Diocles

By Davidicus Geyericus

Reporter: Greetings Mr. Appuleius Diocles, My name is Davidicus Geyericus. I work for The Roman Globe Post Times and will be interviewing you. It is quite the honor to be here!

Diocles: Salve! Quid agis? Hello! How are you doing? And I’m glad I have been able to make it this far to get an interview.

Reporter: So tell me about your career! When did you start?

Diocles: My first race was at age 18, but I like to think of my real start being at age 20, my first, of many, victories.

Reporter: Quid annus est? What year is it? Your first victory is what I mean.

Diocles: That was in 124 A.D. for the white team. In chariot racing there was always four teams. White, Red, Green, and Blue. Most of my wins were for the red team though!

Reporter: Throughout your career you had 1462 victories. That is amazing. I know you were I crowd pleaser. What types of ways did you win?

Diocles: I did whatever I felt the crowd wanted. Some races I would take an early lead and keep it, while other races I would purposely fall being just to shoot forward and win in the last stretch. I was able to race with teams of any number of horses, whether I was using my whip, or
not. Whether it was for a strong team or a weak team, or with high stakes or low stakes, I would win.

Reporter: That’s pretty exciting! So tell me, describe what happens in your mind for each race.

Diocles: I watch the magistrate drop a white napkin, and I crack the whip and the horses are off. Sometimes I push them forward; other times I do not and save it for the end. I count down after each lap 7...6...5...4... and so on until I see the final finish line and win.

Reporter: Now some of these races are tougher than a few laps and a win. Can you tell me about that?

Diocles: Chariot Racing is a rough sport. There are very few rules so there are always collisions, blocking rivals, and random lane changes. But all the danger is worth it when you hear the 250,000 fans at Circus Maximus screaming your name!

Reporter: I guess that’s what it’s all about. Did you know people are making money when they gamble on your victories?

Diocles: Yes, of course. But no one makes money like the guy you’re talking to right now. Judging by the way things are going now, I’ll make almost thirty six million sesterces by the time I retire.

Reporter: That’s a lot. I think one word that describes you very well is—

Diocles: Amazing!?

Reporter: Nope. Hubris. But this interview is now over. Vale! Farwell!

Diocles: Oh...sorry... well. Goodbye my friend.