

# Mary Beard on Stoicism

**Post by “Remus” of June 19, 2024 at 11:41 AM**

A “nasty, fatalistic, bordering on fascist” philosophy indeed!

It was commonly assumed at the time that Commodus, the son of Marcus Aurelius, was not his son but the son of one of Aurelius’ wife’s many paramours: a common gladiator. Whether true or not, this may go some way toward explaining the fatalistic tone of the Meditations. Just my two cents (or two denarii).