

## JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare

JULIUS CAESAR  
CALPHURNIA, his wife,  
Servant to them

MARCUS BRUTUS  
PORTIA, his wife  
LUCIUS, their servant

CAIUS CASSIUS  
CASCA  
CINNA  
DECIUS BRUTUS  
CAIUS LIGARIUS  
METELLUS CIMBER  
TREBONIUS

} *patricians who, with Brutus,  
conspire against Caesar*

CICERO  
PUBLIUS  
POPILIUS LENA

} *senators*

FLAVIUS  
MARULLUS

} *tribunes*

MARK ANTHONY  
LEPIDUS  
OCTAVIUS  
Servant to Antony  
Servant to Octavius

} *rulers of Rome in Acts 4 and 5*

LUCILIUS  
TITINIUS  
MESSALA  
VARRO  
CLAUDIUS  
YOUNG CATO  
STRATO  
VOLUMNIUS  
LABEO (NONSPEAKING)  
FLAVIUS (NONSPEAKING)  
DARDANUS  
CLITUS

} *officers and soldiers in the  
armies of Brutus and Cassius*

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A Carpenter  
A Cobbler  
A Soothsayer  
ARTEMIDORORUS  
First, Second, Third, and Fourth Plebeians  
CINNA the poet  
PINDARUS, slave to Cassius, freed upon Cassius's death  
First, Second, Third, and Fourth Soldiers in Brutus's army  
Another Poet  
A Messenger  
First and Second Soldiers in Antony's army  
Citizens, Senators, Petitioners, Plebeians, Soldiers

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## ACT 1

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### Act 1 Scene 1

Enter Flavius, Marullus, and certain Commoners,  
「including a Carpenter and a Cobbler,」 over the stage.

FLAVIUS

Hence! Home, you idle creatures, get you home!  
Is this a holiday? What, know you not,  
Being mechanical, you ought not walk  
Upon a laboring day without the sign  
Of your profession?—Speak, what trade art thou? 5

CARPENTER     Why, sir, a carpenter.

MARULLUS

Where is thy leather apron and thy rule?  
What dost thou with thy best apparel on?—  
You, sir, what trade are you?

COBBLER     Truly, sir, in respect of a fine workman, I am 10  
but, as you would say, a cobbler.

MARULLUS

But what trade art thou? Answer me directly.

COBBLER     A trade, sir, that I hope I may use with a safe 15  
conscience, which is indeed, sir, a mender of bad  
soles.

FLAVIUS

What trade, thou knave? Thou naughty knave, what  
trade?

COBBLER Nay, I beseech you, sir, be not out with me.  
Yet if you be out, sir, I can mend you.

MARULLUS  
What mean'st thou by that? Mend me, thou saucy  
fellow? 20

COBBLER Why, sir, cobble you.

FLAVIUS Thou art a cobbler, art thou?

COBBLER Truly, sir, all that I live by is with the  
awl. I meddle with no tradesman's matters nor  
women's matters, but withal I am indeed, sir, a  
surgeon to old shoes: when they are in great danger,  
I recover them. As proper men as ever trod upon  
neat's leather have gone upon my handiwork. 25

FLAVIUS  
But wherefore art not in thy shop today? 30  
Why dost thou lead these men about the streets?

COBBLER Truly, sir, to wear out their shoes, to  
get myself into more work. But indeed, sir, we  
make holiday to see Caesar and to rejoice in his  
triumph. 35

MARULLUS  
Wherefore rejoice? What conquest brings he home?  
What tributaries follow him to Rome  
To grace in captive bonds his chariot wheels?  
You blocks, you stones, you worse than senseless  
things! 40

O you hard hearts, you cruel men of Rome,  
Knew you not Pompey? Many a time and oft  
Have you climbed up to walls and battlements,  
To towers and windows, yea, to chimney tops,  
Your infants in your arms, and there have sat  
The livelong day, with patient expectation, 45  
To see great Pompey pass the streets of Rome.  
And when you saw his chariot but appear,  
Have you not made an universal shout,  
That Tiber trembled underneath her banks 50

To hear the replication of your sounds  
 Made in her concave shores?  
 And do you now put on your best attire?  
 And do you now cull out a holiday?  
 And do you now strew flowers in his way 55  
 That comes in triumph over Pompey's blood?  
 Be gone!  
 Run to your houses, fall upon your knees,  
 Pray to the gods to intermit the plague  
 That needs must light on this ingratitude. 60

FLAVIUS

Go, go, good countrymen, and for this fault  
 Assemble all the poor men of your sort,  
 Draw them to Tiber banks, and weep your tears  
 Into the channel, till the lowest stream  
 Do kiss the most exalted shores of all. 65

*All the Commoners exit.*

See whe'er their basest mettle be not moved.  
 They vanish tongue-tied in their guiltiness.  
 Go you down that way towards the Capitol.  
 This way will I. Disrobe the images  
 If you do find them decked with ceremonies. 70

MARULLUS    May we do so?  
 You know it is the feast of Lupercal.

FLAVIUS

It is no matter. Let no images  
 Be hung with Caesar's trophies. I'll about  
 And drive away the vulgar from the streets; 75  
 So do you too, where you perceive them thick.  
 These growing feathers plucked from Caesar's wing  
 Will make him fly an ordinary pitch,  
 Who else would soar above the view of men  
 And keep us all in servile fearfulness. 80

*They exit [in different directions.]*

**Act 1 [Scene 2]**

*Enter Caesar, Antony for the course, Calphurnia, Portia  
Decius, Cicero, Brutus, Cassius, Casca, a Soothsayer;  
after them Marullus and Flavius [and Commoners.]*

CAESAR  
Calphurnia.

CASCA Peace, ho! Caesar speaks.

CAESAR Calphurnia.

CALPHURNIA Here, my lord.

CAESAR  
Stand you directly in Antonius' way 5  
When he doth run his course.—Antonius.

ANTONY Caesar, my lord.

CAESAR  
Forget not in your speed, Antonius,  
To touch Calphurnia, for our elders say  
The barren, touchèd in this holy chase, 10  
Shake off their sterile curse.

ANTONY I shall remember.  
When Caesar says “Do this,” it is performed.

CAESAR  
Set on and leave no ceremony out. [Sennet.]

SOOTHSAYER Caesar. 15

CAESAR Ha! Who calls?

CASCA  
Bid every noise be still. Peace, yet again!

CAESAR  
Who is it in the press that calls on me?  
I hear a tongue shriller than all the music  
Cry “Caesar.” Speak. Caesar is turned to hear. 20

SOOTHSAYER  
Beware the ides of March.

CAESAR What man is that?

BRUTUS  
A soothsayer bids you beware the ides of March.

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CAESAR

Set him before me. Let me see his face.

CASSIUS

Fellow, come from the throng.

25

*['The Soothsayer comes forward.']*

Look upon Caesar.

CAESAR

What sayst thou to me now? Speak once again.

SOOTHSAYER

Beware the ides of March.

CAESAR

He is a dreamer. Let us leave him. Pass.

*Sennet. All but Brutus and Cassius exit.*

CASSIUS

Will you go see the order of the course?

30

BRUTUS

Not I.

CASSIUS

I pray you, do.

BRUTUS

I am not gamesome. I do lack some part  
Of that quick spirit that is in Antony.

Let me not hinder, Cassius, your desires.

I'll leave you.

35

CASSIUS

Brutus, I do observe you now of late.

I have not from your eyes that gentleness

And show of love as I was wont to have.

You bear too stubborn and too strange a hand

Over your friend that loves you.

40

BRUTUS

Cassius,

Be not deceived. If I have veiled my look,

I turn the trouble of my countenance

Merely upon myself. Vexèd I am

Of late with passions of some difference,

Conceptions only proper to myself,

Which give some soil, perhaps, to my behaviors.

But let not therefore my good friends be grieved

(Among which number, Cassius, be you one)

45

50

Nor construe any further my neglect  
 Than that poor Brutus, with himself at war,  
 Forgets the shows of love to other men.

CASSIUS

Then, Brutus, I have much mistook your passion,  
 By means whereof this breast of mine hath buried 55  
 Thoughts of great value, worthy cogitations.  
 Tell me, good Brutus, can you see your face?

BRUTUS

No, Cassius, for the eye sees not itself  
 But by reflection, by some other things.

CASSIUS 'Tis just. 60

And it is very much lamented, Brutus,  
 That you have no such mirrors as will turn  
 Your hidden worthiness into your eye,  
 That you might see your shadow. I have heard  
 Where many of the best respect in Rome, 65  
 Except immortal Caesar, speaking of Brutus  
 And groaning underneath this age's yoke,  
 Have wished that noble Brutus had his eyes.

BRUTUS

Into what dangers would you lead me, Cassius,  
 That you would have me seek into myself 70  
 For that which is not in me?

CASSIUS

Therefore, good Brutus, be prepared to hear.  
 And since you know you cannot see yourself 75  
 So well as by reflection, I, your glass,  
 Will modestly discover to yourself  
 That of yourself which you yet know not of.  
 And be not jealous on me, gentle Brutus.  
 Were I a common laughter, or did use  
 To stale with ordinary oaths my love  
 To every new protester; if you know 80  
 That I do fawn on men and hug them hard  
 And after scandal them, or if you know

That I profess myself in banqueting  
To all the rout, then hold me dangerous.

*Flourish and shout.*

BRUTUS

What means this shouting? I do fear the people 85  
Choose Caesar for their king.

CASSIUS Ay, do you fear it?  
Then must I think you would not have it so.

BRUTUS

I would not, Cassius, yet I love him well.  
But wherefore do you hold me here so long? 90  
What is it that you would impart to me?  
If it be aught toward the general good,  
Set honor in one eye and death i' th' other  
And I will look on both indifferently;  
For let the gods so speed me as I love 95  
The name of honor more than I fear death.

CASSIUS

I know that virtue to be in you, Brutus,  
As well as I do know your outward favor.  
Well, honor is the subject of my story.  
I cannot tell what you and other men 100  
Think of this life; but, for my single self,  
I had as lief not be as live to be  
In awe of such a thing as I myself.  
I was born free as Caesar; so were you;  
We both have fed as well, and we can both 105  
Endure the winter's cold as well as he.  
For once, upon a raw and gusty day,  
The troubled Tiber chafing with her shores,  
Caesar said to me "Dar'st thou, Cassius, now  
Leap in with me into this angry flood 110  
And swim to yonder point?" Upon the word,  
Accoutered as I was, I plungèd in  
And bade him follow; so indeed he did.  
The torrent roared, and we did buffet it

With lusty sinews, throwing it aside 115  
 And stemming it with hearts of controversy.  
 But ere we could arrive the point proposed,  
 Caesar cried “Help me, Cassius, or I sink!”  
 I, as Aeneas, our great ancestor,  
 Did from the flames of Troy upon his shoulder 120  
 The old Anchises bear, so from the waves of Tiber  
 Did I the tired Caesar. And this man  
 Is now become a god, and Cassius is  
 A wretched creature and must bend his body  
 If Caesar carelessly but nod on him. 125  
 He had a fever when he was in Spain,  
 And when the fit was on him, I did mark  
 How he did shake. ’Tis true, this god did shake.  
 His coward lips did from their color fly,  
 And that same eye whose bend doth awe the world 130  
 Did lose his luster. I did hear him groan.  
 Ay, and that tongue of his that bade the Romans  
 Mark him and write his speeches in their books,  
 “Alas,” it cried “Give me some drink, Titinius”  
 As a sick girl. You gods, it doth amaze me 135  
 A man of such a feeble temper should  
 So get the start of the majestic world  
 And bear the palm alone.

*Shout. Flourish.*

BRUTUS Another general shout!  
 I do believe that these applauses are 140  
 For some new honors that are heaped on Caesar.

CASSIUS  
 Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world  
 Like a Colossus, and we petty men  
 Walk under his huge legs and peep about  
 To find ourselves dishonorable graves. 145  
 Men at some time are masters of their fates.  
 The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,  
 But in ourselves, that we are underlings.

“Brutus” and “Caesar”—what should be in that  
“Caesar”? 150

Why should that name be sounded more than  
yours?  
Write them together, yours is as fair a name;  
Sound them, it doth become the mouth as well;  
Weigh them, it is as heavy; conjure with 'em, 155  
“Brutus” will start a spirit as soon as “Caesar.”

Now, in the names of all the gods at once,  
Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed  
That he is grown so great? Age, thou art shamed!  
Rome, thou hast lost the breed of noble bloods! 160

When went there by an age, since the great flood,  
But it was famed with more than with one man?  
When could they say, till now, that talked of Rome,  
That her wide walks encompassed but one man?  
Now is it Rome indeed, and room enough 165  
When there is in it but one only man.

O, you and I have heard our fathers say  
There was a Brutus once that would have brooked  
Th' eternal devil to keep his state in Rome  
As easily as a king. 170

BRUTUS

That you do love me, I am nothing jealous.  
What you would work me to, I have some aim.  
How I have thought of this, and of these times,  
I shall recount hereafter. For this present,  
I would not, so with love I might entreat you, 175  
Be any further moved. What you have said  
I will consider; what you have to say  
I will with patience hear, and find a time

Both meet to hear and answer such high things.  
Till then, my noble friend, chew upon this: 180  
Brutus had rather be a villager  
Than to repute himself a son of Rome

Under these hard conditions as this time  
Is like to lay upon us.

CASSIUS I am glad that my weak words 185  
Have struck but thus much show of fire from  
Brutus.

*Enter Caesar and his train.*

BRUTUS  
The games are done, and Caesar is returning.

CASSIUS  
As they pass by, pluck Casca by the sleeve,  
And he will, after his sour fashion, tell you 190  
What hath proceeded worthy note today.

BRUTUS  
I will do so. But look you, Cassius,  
The angry spot doth glow on Caesar's brow,  
And all the rest look like a chidden train.  
Calphurnia's cheek is pale, and Cicero 195  
Looks with such ferret and such fiery eyes  
As we have seen him in the Capitol,  
Being crossed in conference by some senators.

CASSIUS  
Casca will tell us what the matter is.

CAESAR Antonius. 200  
ANTONY Caesar.

CAESAR  
Let me have men about me that are fat,  
Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep a-nights.  
Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry look.  
He thinks too much. Such men are dangerous. 205

ANTONY  
Fear him not, Caesar; he's not dangerous.  
He is a noble Roman, and well given.

CAESAR  
Would he were fatter! But I fear him not.  
Yet if my name were liable to fear,

I do not know the man I should avoid 210  
 So soon as that spare Cassius. He reads much,  
 He is a great observer, and he looks  
 Quite through the deeds of men. He loves no plays,  
 As thou dost, Antony; he hears no music;  
 Seldom he smiles, and smiles in such a sort 215  
 As if he mocked himself and scorned his spirit  
 That could be moved to smile at anything.  
 Such men as he be never at heart's ease  
 Whiles they behold a greater than themselves,  
 And therefore are they very dangerous. 220  
 I rather tell thee what is to be feared  
 Than what I fear; for always I am Caesar.  
 Come on my right hand, for this ear is deaf,  
 And tell me truly what thou think'st of him.  
*Sennet. Caesar and his train exit*  
*「but Casca remains behind.」*

CASCA You pulled me by the cloak. Would you speak 225  
 with me?

BRUTUS  
 Ay, Casca. Tell us what hath chanced today  
 That Caesar looks so sad.

CASCA Why, you were with him, were you not?

BRUTUS  
 I should not then ask Casca what had chanced. 230

CASCA Why, there was a crown offered him; and, being  
 offered him, he put it by with the back of his hand,  
 thus, and then the people fell a-shouting.

BRUTUS What was the second noise for?

CASCA Why, for that too. 235

CASSIUS  
 They shouted thrice. What was the last cry for?

CASCA Why, for that too.

BRUTUS Was the crown offered him thrice?

CASCA Ay, marry, was 't, and he put it by thrice, every  
 time gentler than other; and at every putting-by, 240  
 mine honest neighbors shouted.

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CASSIUS Who offered him the crown?

CASCA Why, Antony.

BRUTUS

Tell us the manner of it, gentle Casca.

CASCA I can as well be hanged as tell the manner of it. 245

It was mere foolery; I did not mark it. I saw Mark  
Antony offer him a crown (yet 'twas not a crown  
neither; 'twas one of these coronets), and, as I told  
you, he put it by once; but for all that, to my  
thinking, he would fain have had it. Then he offered 250

it to him again; then he put it by again; but to my  
thinking, he was very loath to lay his fingers off it.  
And then he offered it the third time. He put it the  
third time by, and still as he refused it the rabblement  
hooted and clapped their chopped hands and 255

threw up their sweaty nightcaps and uttered such a  
deal of stinking breath because Caesar refused the  
crown that it had almost choked Caesar, for he  
swooned and fell down at it. And for mine own part,  
I durst not laugh for fear of opening my lips and 260  
receiving the bad air.

CASSIUS

But soft, I pray you. What, did Caesar swoon?

CASCA He fell down in the marketplace and foamed at  
mouth and was speechless.

BRUTUS

'Tis very like; he hath the falling sickness. 265

CASSIUS

No, Caesar hath it not; but you and I  
And honest Casca, we have the falling sickness.

CASCA I know not what you mean by that, but I am  
sure Caesar fell down. If the tag-rag people did not  
clap him and hiss him, according as he pleased and 270  
displeased them, as they use to do the players in the  
theater, I am no true man.

BRUTUS

What said he when he came unto himself?

CASCA Marry, before he fell down, when he perceived  
the common herd was glad he refused the crown, 275  
he plucked me ope his doublet and offered them his  
throat to cut. An I had been a man of any occupation,  
if I would not have taken him at a word, I  
would I might go to hell among the rogues. And so 280  
he fell. When he came to himself again, he said if he  
had done or said anything amiss, he desired their  
Worships to think it was his infirmity. Three or four  
wenches where I stood cried “Alas, good soul!” and  
forgave him with all their hearts. But there’s no  
heed to be taken of them; if Caesar had stabbed 285  
their mothers, they would have done no less.

BRUTUS

And, after that, he came thus sad away?

CASCA Ay.

CASSIUS Did Cicero say anything?

CASCA Ay, he spoke Greek. 290

CASSIUS To what effect?

CASCA Nay, an I tell you that, I’ll ne’er look you i’ th’  
face again. But those that understood him smiled at  
one another and shook their heads. But for mine  
own part, it was Greek to me. I could tell you more 295  
news too: Marullus and Flavius, for pulling scarves  
off Caesar’s images, are put to silence. Fare you  
well. There was more foolery yet, if I could remember  
it.

CASSIUS Will you sup with me tonight, Casca? 300

CASCA No, I am promised forth.

CASSIUS Will you dine with me tomorrow?

CASCA Ay, if I be alive, and your mind hold, and your  
dinner worth the eating.

CASSIUS Good. I will expect you. 305

CASCA Do so. Farewell both. *He exits.*

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BRUTUS

What a blunt fellow is this grown to be!  
He was quick mettle when he went to school.

CASSIUS

So is he now in execution  
Of any bold or noble enterprise, 310  
However he puts on this tardy form.  
This rudeness is a sauce to his good wit,  
Which gives men stomach to digest his words  
With better appetite.

BRUTUS

And so it is. For this time I will leave you. 315  
Tomorrow, if you please to speak with me,  
I will come home to you; or, if you will,  
Come home to me, and I will wait for you.

CASSIUS

I will do so. Till then, think of the world.

*Brutus exits.*

Well, Brutus, thou art noble. Yet I see 320  
Thy honorable mettle may be wrought  
From that it is disposed. Therefore it is meet  
That noble minds keep ever with their likes;  
For who so firm that cannot be seduced?

Caesar doth bear me hard, but he loves Brutus. 325

If I were Brutus now, and he were Cassius,  
He should not humor me. I will this night  
In several hands in at his windows throw,  
As if they came from several citizens,  
Writings, all tending to the great opinion 330

That Rome holds of his name, wherein obscurely  
Caesar's ambition shall be glanced at  
And after this, let Caesar seat him sure,  
For we will shake him, or worse days endure.

*He exits.*

**Act 1 [Scene 3]**

*Thunder and lightning. Enter Casca and Cicero.*

CICERO

Good even, Casca. Brought you Caesar home?  
Why are you breathless? And why stare you so?

CASCA

Are not you moved, when all the sway of earth  
Shakes like a thing unfirm? O Cicero,  
I have seen tempests when the scolding winds 5  
Have rived the knotty oaks, and I have seen  
Th' ambitious ocean swell and rage and foam  
To be exalted with the threat'ning clouds;  
But never till tonight, never till now,  
Did I go through a tempest dropping fire. 10  
Either there is a civil strife in heaven,  
Or else the world, too saucy with the gods,  
Incenses them to send destruction.

CICERO

Why, saw you anything more wonderful?

CASCA

A common slave (you know him well by sight) 15  
Held up his left hand, which did flame and burn  
Like twenty torches joined; and yet his hand,  
Not sensible of fire, remained unscorched.  
Besides (I ha' not since put up my sword),  
Against the Capitol I met a lion, 20  
Who glazed upon me and went surly by  
Without annoying me. And there were drawn  
Upon a heap a hundred ghastly women,  
Transformèd with their fear, who swore they saw  
Men all in fire walk up and down the streets. 25  
And yesterday the bird of night did sit  
Even at noonday upon the marketplace,  
Hooting and shrieking. When these prodigies  
Do so conjointly meet, let not men say



CASCA

But wherefore did you so much tempt the heavens?  
 It is the part of men to fear and tremble  
 When the most mighty gods by tokens send  
 Such dreadful heralds to astonish us.

CASSIUS

You are dull, Casca, and those sparks of life 60  
 That should be in a Roman you do want,  
 Or else you use not. You look pale, and gaze,  
 And put on fear, and cast yourself in wonder,  
 To see the strange impatience of the heavens.

But if you would consider the true cause 65  
 Why all these fires, why all these gliding ghosts,  
 Why birds and beasts from quality and kind,  
 Why old men, fools, and children calculate,  
 Why all these things change from their ordinance,

Their natures, and preformèd faculties, 70  
 To monstrous quality—why, you shall find  
 That heaven hath infused them with these spirits  
 To make them instruments of fear and warning  
 Unto some monstrous state.

Now could I, Casca, name to thee a man 75  
 Most like this dreadful night,  
 That thunders, lightens, opens graves, and roars  
 As doth the lion in the Capitol;  
 A man no mightier than thyself or me  
 In personal action, yet prodigious grown, 80  
 And fearful, as these strange eruptions are.

CASCA

'Tis Caesar that you mean, is it not, Cassius?

CASSIUS

Let it be who it is. For Romans now  
 Have thews and limbs like to their ancestors.  
 But, woe the while, our fathers' minds are dead, 85  
 And we are governed with our mothers' spirits.  
 Our yoke and sufferance show us womanish.

CASCA

Indeed, they say the Senators tomorrow  
 Mean to establish Caesar as a king,  
 And he shall wear his crown by sea and land 90  
 In every place save here in Italy.

CASSIUS

I know where I will wear this dagger then;  
 Cassius from bondage will deliver Cassius.  
 Therein, you gods, you make the weak most strong;  
 Therein, you gods, you tyrants do defeat. 95  
 Nor stony tower, nor walls of beaten brass,  
 Nor airless dungeon, nor strong links of iron,  
 Can be retentive to the strength of spirit;  
 But life, being weary of these worldly bars,  
 Never lacks power to dismiss itself. 100  
 If I know this, know all the world besides,  
 That part of tyranny that I do bear  
 I can shake off at pleasure. *Thunder still.*

CASCA

So can I.

So every bondman in his own hand bears 105  
 The power to cancel his captivity.

CASSIUS

And why should Caesar be a tyrant, then?  
 Poor man, I know he would not be a wolf  
 But that he sees the Romans are but sheep;  
 He were no lion, were not Romans hinds. 110  
 Those that with haste will make a mighty fire  
 Begin it with weak straws. What trash is Rome,  
 What rubbish, and what offal when it serves  
 For the base matter to illuminate  
 So vile a thing as Caesar! But, O grief, 115  
 Where hast thou led me? I perhaps speak this  
 Before a willing bondman; then, I know  
 My answer must be made. But I am armed,  
 And dangers are to me indifferent.

CASCA

You speak to Casca, and to such a man 120  
That is no fleeing telltale. Hold. My hand.

*They shake hands.*

Be factious for redress of all these griefs,  
And I will set this foot of mine as far  
As who goes farthest.

CASSIUS                      There's a bargain made. 125

Now know you, Casca, I have moved already  
Some certain of the noblest-minded Romans  
To undergo with me an enterprise  
Of honorable-dangerous consequence.

And I do know by this they stay for me 130

In Pompey's Porch. For now, this fearful night,  
There is no stir or walking in the streets;  
And the complexion of the element

*In* favor 's like the work we have in hand, 135  
Most bloody, fiery, and most terrible.

*Enter Cinna.*

CASCA

Stand close awhile, for here comes one in haste.

CASSIUS

'Tis Cinna; I do know him by his gait.

He is a friend.—Cinna, where haste you so?

CINNA

To find out you. Who's that? Metellus Cimber?

CASSIUS

No, it is Casca, one incorporate 140

To our attempts. Am I not stayed for, Cinna?

CINNA

I am glad on 't. What a fearful night is this!

There's two or three of us have seen strange sights.

CASSIUS Am I not stayed for? Tell me.

CINNA

Yes, you are. O Cassius, if you could 145

But win the noble Brutus to our party—

CASSIUS, [handing him papers]

Be you content. Good Cinna, take this paper,  
And look you lay it in the Praetor's chair,  
Where Brutus may but find it; and throw this  
In at his window; set this up with wax 150  
Upon old Brutus' statue. All this done,  
Repair to Pompey's Porch, where you shall find us.  
Is Decius Brutus and Trebonius there?

CINNA

All but Metellus Cimber, and he's gone  
To seek you at your house. Well, I will hie 155  
And so bestow these papers as you bade me.

CASSIUS

That done, repair to Pompey's Theater.

*Cinna exits.*

Come, Casca, you and I will yet ere day  
See Brutus at his house. Three parts of him  
Is ours already, and the man entire 160  
Upon the next encounter yields him ours.

CASCA

O, he sits high in all the people's hearts,  
And that which would appear offense in us  
His countenance, like richest alchemy,  
Will change to virtue and to worthiness. 165

CASSIUS

Him and his worth and our great need of him  
You have right well conceited. Let us go,  
For it is after midnight, and ere day  
We will awake him and be sure of him.

*They exit.*

## ACT 2

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**Act 2 [Scene 1]**  
*Enter Brutus in his orchard.*

BRUTUS What, Lucius, ho!—  
I cannot by the progress of the stars  
Give guess how near to day.—Lucius, I say!—  
I would it were my fault to sleep so soundly.—  
When, Lucius, when? Awake, I say! What, Lucius! 5

*Enter Lucius.*

LUCIUS Called you, my lord?

BRUTUS  
Get me a taper in my study, Lucius.  
When it is lighted, come and call me here.

LUCIUS I will, my lord. *He exits.*

BRUTUS  
It must be by his death. And for my part  
I know no personal cause to spurn at him, 10  
But for the general. He would be crowned:  
How that might change his nature, there's the  
question.  
It is the bright day that brings forth the adder, 15  
And that craves wary walking. Crown him that,  
And then I grant we put a sting in him  
That at his will he may do danger with.  
Th' abuse of greatness is when it disjoins

Remorse from power. And, to speak truth of Caesar, 20  
 I have not known when his affections swayed  
 More than his reason. But 'tis a common proof  
 That lowliness is young ambition's ladder,  
 Whereto the 'climber-upward' turns his face;  
 But, when he once attains the upmost round, 25  
 He then unto the ladder turns his back,  
 Looks in the clouds, scorning the base degrees  
 By which he did ascend. So Caesar may.  
 Then, lest he may, prevent. And since the quarrel  
 Will bear no color for the thing he is, 30  
 Fashion it thus: that what he is, augmented,  
 Would run to these and these extremities.  
 And therefore think him as a serpent's egg,  
 Which, hatched, would, as his kind, grow  
 mischievous, 35  
 And kill him in the shell.

*Enter Lucius.*

LUCIUS

The taper burneth in your closet, sir.  
 Searching the window for a flint, I found  
 This paper, thus sealed up, and I am sure  
 It did not lie there when I went to bed. 40

*Gives him the letter.*

BRUTUS

Get you to bed again. It is not day.  
 Is not tomorrow, boy, the 'ides' of March?

LUCIUS I know not, sir.

BRUTUS

Look in the calendar, and bring me word.

LUCIUS I will, sir. *He exits.* 45

BRUTUS

The exhalations, whizzing in the air,  
 Give so much light that I may read by them.  
*Opens the letter and reads.*

*Brutus, thou sleep'st. Awake, and see thyself!  
Shall Rome, etc. Speak, strike, redress!*

“Brutus, thou sleep'st. Awake.” 50  
Such instigations have been often dropped  
Where I have took them up.  
“Shall Rome, etc.” Thus must I piece it out:  
Shall Rome stand under one man's awe? What,  
Rome? 55

My ancestors did from the streets of Rome  
The Tarquin drive when he was called a king.  
“Speak, strike, redress!” Am I entreated  
To speak and strike? O Rome, I make thee promise,  
If the redress will follow, thou receives 60  
Thy full petition at the hand of Brutus.

*Enter Lucius.*

LUCIUS Sir, March is wasted fifteen days.

*Knock within.*

BRUTUS

'Tis good. Go to the gate; somebody knocks.

*[Lucius exits.]*

Since Cassius first did whet me against Caesar,  
I have not slept. 65

Between the acting of a dreadful thing  
And the first motion, all the interim is  
Like a phantasma or a hideous dream.  
The genius and the mortal instruments  
Are then in council, and the state of man, 70  
Like to a little kingdom, suffers then  
The nature of an insurrection.

*Enter Lucius.*

LUCIUS

Sir, 'tis your brother Cassius at the door,  
Who doth desire to see you.

BRUTUS Is he alone? 75

LUCIUS

No, sir. There are more with him.

BRUTUS Do you know  
them?

LUCIUS

No, sir. Their hats are plucked about their ears,  
And half their faces buried in their cloaks, 80  
That by no means I may discover them  
By any mark of favor.

BRUTUS Let 'em enter. *[Lucius exits.]*

They are the faction. O conspiracy,  
Sham'st thou to show thy dang'rous brow by night, 85  
When evils are most free? O, then, by day  
Where wilt thou find a cavern dark enough  
To mask thy monstrous visage? Seek none,  
conspiracy.

Hide it in smiles and affability; 90  
For if thou path, thy native semblance on,  
Not Erebus itself were dim enough  
To hide thee from prevention.

*Enter the conspirators, Cassius, Casca, Decius, Cinna,  
Metellus, and Trebonius.*

CASSIUS

I think we are too bold upon your rest.  
Good morrow, Brutus. Do we trouble you? 95

BRUTUS

I have been up this hour, awake all night.  
Know I these men that come along with you?

CASSIUS

Yes, every man of them; and no man here  
But honors you, and every one doth wish  
You had but that opinion of yourself 100  
Which every noble Roman bears of you.  
This is Trebonius.

BRUTUS He is welcome hither.

CASSIUS  
This, Decius Brutus.

BRUTUS He is welcome too. 105

CASSIUS  
This, Casca; this, Cinna; and this, Metellus Cimber.

BRUTUS They are all welcome.  
What watchful cares do interpose themselves  
Betwixt your eyes and night?

CASSIUS Shall I entreat a word? 110

*〔Brutus and Cassius〕 whisper.*

DECIUS  
Here lies the east; doth not the day break here?

CASCA No.

CINNA  
O pardon, sir, it doth; and yon gray lines  
That fret the clouds are messengers of day.

CASCA  
You shall confess that you are both deceived. 115  
Here, as I point my sword, the sun arises,  
Which is a great way growing on the south,  
Weighing the youthful season of the year.  
Some two months hence, up higher toward the  
north 120

He first presents his fire, and the high east  
Stands, as the Capitol, directly here.

BRUTUS, *〔coming forward with Cassius〕*  
Give me your hands all over, one by one.

CASSIUS  
And let us swear our resolution.

BRUTUS  
No, not an oath. If not the face of men, 125  
The sufferance of our souls, the time's abuse—  
If these be motives weak, break off betimes,  
And every man hence to his idle bed.  
So let high-sighted tyranny range on

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Till each man drop by lottery. But if these— 130  
 As I am sure they do—bear fire enough  
 To kindle cowards and to steel with valor  
 The melting spirits of women, then, countrymen,  
 What need we any spur but our own cause  
 To prick us to redress? What other bond 135  
 Than secret Romans that have spoke the word  
 And will not palter? And what other oath  
 Than honesty to honesty engaged  
 That this shall be or we will fall for it?  
 Swear priests and cowards and men cautious, 140  
 Old feeble carrions, and such suffering souls  
 That welcome wrongs; unto bad causes swear  
 Such creatures as men doubt; but do not stain  
 The even virtue of our enterprise,  
 Nor th' insuppressive mettle of our spirits, 145  
 To think that or our cause or our performance  
 Did need an oath, when every drop of blood  
 That every Roman bears, and nobly bears,  
 Is guilty of a several bastardy  
 If he do break the smallest particle 150  
 Of any promise that hath passed from him.

CASSIUS

But what of Cicero? Shall we sound him?  
 I think he will stand very strong with us.

CASCA

Let us not leave him out.

CINNA

No, by no means. 155

METELLUS

O, let us have him, for his silver hairs  
 Will purchase us a good opinion  
 And buy men's voices to commend our deeds.  
 It shall be said his judgment ruled our hands.  
 Our youths and wildness shall no whit appear, 160  
 But all be buried in his gravity.

BRUTUS

O, name him not! Let us not break with him,  
For he will never follow anything  
That other men begin.

CASSIUS Then leave him out. 165

CASCA Indeed, he is not fit.

DECIUS

Shall no man else be touched, but only Caesar?

CASSIUS

Decius, well urged. I think it is not meet  
Mark Antony, so well beloved of Caesar,  
Should outlive Caesar. We shall find of him 170  
A shrewd contriver; and, you know, his means,  
If he improve them, may well stretch so far  
As to annoy us all; which to prevent,  
Let Antony and Caesar fall together.

BRUTUS

Our course will seem too bloody, Caius Cassius, 175  
To cut the head off and then hack the limbs,  
Like wrath in death and envy afterwards;  
For Antony is but a limb of Caesar.

Let's be sacrificers, but not butchers, Caius. 180  
We all stand up against the spirit of Caesar,  
And in the spirit of men there is no blood.

O, that we then could come by Caesar's spirit  
And not dismember Caesar! But, alas,  
Caesar must bleed for it. And, gentle friends,  
Let's kill him boldly, but not wrathfully. 185

Let's carve him as a dish fit for the gods,  
Not hew him as a carcass fit for hounds.

And let our hearts, as subtle masters do,  
Stir up their servants to an act of rage  
And after seem to chide 'em. This shall make 190

Our purpose necessary and not envious;  
Which so appearing to the common eyes,  
We shall be called purgers, not murderers.

And for Mark Antony, think not of him,  
 For he can do no more than Caesar's arm 195  
 When Caesar's head is off.

CASSIUS Yet I fear him,  
 For in the engrafted love he bears to Caesar—

BRUTUS  
 Alas, good Cassius, do not think of him.  
 If he love Caesar, all that he can do 200  
 Is to himself: take thought and die for Caesar.  
 And that were much he should, for he is given  
 To sports, to wildness, and much company.

TREBONIUS  
 There is no fear in him. Let him not die,  
 For he will live and laugh at this hereafter. 205  
*Clock strikes.*

BRUTUS  
 Peace, count the clock.

CASSIUS The clock hath stricken  
 three.

TREBONIUS  
 'Tis time to part. 210

CASSIUS But it is doubtful yet  
 Whether Caesar will come forth today or no,  
 For he is superstitious grown of late,  
 Quite from the main opinion he held once  
 Of fantasy, of dreams, and ceremonies.

It may be these apparent prodigies, 215  
 The unaccustomed terror of this night,  
 And the persuasion of his augurers  
 May hold him from the Capitol today.

DECIUS  
 Never fear that. If he be so resolved,  
 I can o'ersway him, for he loves to hear 220  
 That unicorns may be betrayed with trees,  
 And bears with glasses, elephants with holes,  
 Lions with toils, and men with flatterers.

But when I tell him he hates flatterers,  
 He says he does, being then most flatterèd. 225  
 Let me work,  
 For I can give his humor the true bent,  
 And I will bring him to the Capitol.

CASSIUS

Nay, we will all of us be there to fetch him.

BRUTUS

By the eighth hour, is that the uttermost? 230

CINNA

Be that the uttermost, and fail not then.

METELLUS

Caius Ligarius doth bear Caesar hard,  
 Who rated him for speaking well of Pompey.  
 I wonder none of you have thought of him.

BRUTUS

Now, good Metellus, go along by him. 235  
 He loves me well, and I have given him reasons.  
 Send him but hither, and I'll fashion him.

CASSIUS

The morning comes upon 's. We'll leave you,  
 Brutus. 240  
 And, friends, disperse yourselves, but all remember  
 What you have said, and show yourselves true  
 Romans.

BRUTUS

Good gentlemen, look fresh and merrily.  
 Let not our looks put on our purposes,  
 But bear it, as our Roman actors do, 245  
 With untired spirits and formal constancy.  
 And so good morrow to you every one.

*All but Brutus exit.*

Boy! Lucius!—Fast asleep? It is no matter.  
 Enjoy the honey-heavy dew of slumber.  
 Thou hast no figures nor no fantasies 250

Which busy care draws in the brains of men.  
Therefore thou sleep'st so sound.

*Enter Portia.*

PORTIA Brutus, my lord.

BRUTUS

Portia! What mean you? Wherefore rise you now?  
It is not for your health thus to commit 255  
Your weak condition to the raw cold morning.

PORTIA

Nor for yours neither. You've ungently, Brutus,  
Stole from my bed. And yesternight at supper  
You suddenly arose and walked about,  
Musing and sighing, with your arms across, 260  
And when I asked you what the matter was,  
You stared upon me with ungentle looks.

I urged you further; then you scratched your head  
And too impatiently stamped with your foot.  
Yet I insisted; yet you answered not, 265

But with an angry wafture of your hand  
Gave sign for me to leave you. So I did,  
Fearing to strengthen that impatience  
Which seemed too much enkindled, and withal  
Hoping it was but an effect of humor, 270  
Which sometime hath his hour with every man.

It will not let you eat nor talk nor sleep,  
And could it work so much upon your shape  
As it hath much prevailed on your condition,  
I should not know you Brutus. Dear my lord, 275  
Make me acquainted with your cause of grief.

BRUTUS

I am not well in health, and that is all.

PORTIA

Brutus is wise and, were he not in health,  
He would embrace the means to come by it.





BRUTUS

O, what a time have you chose out, brave Caius, 340  
To wear a kerchief! Would you were not sick!

LIGARIUS

I am not sick, if Brutus have in hand  
Any exploit worthy the name of honor.

BRUTUS

Such an exploit have I in hand, Ligarius, 345  
Had you a healthful ear to hear of it.

LIGARIUS

By all the gods that Romans bow before,  
I here discard my sickness.

*He takes off his kerchief.*

Soul of Rome, 350  
Brave son derived from honorable loins,  
Thou like an exorcist hast conjured up  
My mortifièd spirit. Now bid me run,  
And I will strive with things impossible,  
Yea, get the better of them. What's to do?

BRUTUS

A piece of work that will make sick men whole.

LIGARIUS

But are not some whole that we must make sick? 355

BRUTUS

That must we also. What it is, my Caius,  
I shall unfold to thee as we are going  
To whom it must be done.

LIGARIUS

Set on your foot, 360  
And with a heart new-fired I follow you  
To do I know not what; but it sufficeth  
That Brutus leads me on. *Thunder.*

BRUTUS

Follow me then. *They exit.*

Act 2 [Scene 2]

*Thunder and lightning. Enter Julius Caesar in his nightgown.*

CAESAR

Nor heaven nor earth have been at peace tonight.  
Thrice hath Calphurnia in her sleep cried out  
“Help ho, they murder Caesar!”—Who’s within?

*Enter a Servant.*

SERVANT My lord.

CAESAR

Go bid the priests do present sacrifice, 5  
And bring me their opinions of success.

SERVANT I will, my lord. *He exits.*

*Enter Calphurnia.*

CALPHURNIA

What mean you, Caesar? Think you to walk forth?  
You shall not stir out of your house today.

CAESAR

Caesar shall forth. The things that threatened me 10  
Ne’er looked but on my back. When they shall see  
The face of Caesar, they are vanishèd.

CALPHURNIA

Caesar, I never stood on ceremonies,  
Yet now they fright me. There is one within, 15  
Besides the things that we have heard and seen,  
Recounts most horrid sights seen by the watch.  
A lioness hath whelpèd in the streets,  
And graves have yawned and yielded up their dead.  
Fierce fiery warriors [fought] upon the clouds 20  
In ranks and squadrons and right form of war,  
Which drizzled blood upon the Capitol.  
The noise of battle hurtled in the air,  
Horses [did] neigh, and dying men did groan,

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And ghosts did shriek and squeal about the streets.  
 O Caesar, these things are beyond all use, 25  
 And I do fear them.

CAESAR                      What can be avoided  
 Whose end is purposed by the mighty gods?  
 Yet Caesar shall go forth, for these predictions  
 Are to the world in general as to Caesar. 30

CALPHURNIA  
 When beggars die there are no comets seen;  
 The heavens themselves blaze forth the death of  
 princes.

CAESAR  
 Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
 The valiant never taste of death but once. 35  
 Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,  
 It seems to me most strange that men should fear,  
 Seeing that death, a necessary end,  
 Will come when it will come.

*Enter a Servant.*

What say the augurers? 40

SERVANT  
 They would not have you to stir forth today.  
 Plucking the entrails of an offering forth,  
 They could not find a heart within the beast.

CAESAR  
 The gods do this in shame of cowardice.  
 Caesar should be a beast without a heart 45  
 If he should stay at home today for fear.  
 No, Caesar shall not. Danger knows full well  
 That Caesar is more dangerous than he.  
 We [are] two lions littered in one day,  
 And I the elder and more terrible. 50  
 And Caesar shall go forth.

CALPHURNIA                      Alas, my lord,  
 Your wisdom is consumed in confidence.

Do not go forth today. Call it my fear  
That keeps you in the house, and not your own. 55  
We'll send Mark Antony to the Senate House,  
And he shall say you are not well today.

Let me, upon my knee, prevail in this. *「She kneels.」*

CAESAR

Mark Antony shall say I am not well,  
And for thy humor I will stay at home. 60  
*「He lifts her up.」*

*Enter Decius.*

Here's Decius Brutus; he shall tell them so.

DECIUS

Caesar, all hail! Good morrow, worthy Caesar.  
I come to fetch you to the Senate House.

CAESAR

And you are come in very happy time  
To bear my greeting to the Senators 65  
And tell them that I will not come today.  
Cannot is false, and that I dare not, falser.  
I will not come today. Tell them so, Decius.

CALPHURNIA

Say he is sick.

CAESAR                      Shall Caesar send a lie? 70  
Have I in conquest stretched mine arm so far,  
To be afeard to tell graybeards the truth?  
Decius, go tell them Caesar will not come.

DECIUS

Most mighty Caesar, let me know some cause,  
Lest I be laughed at when I tell them so. 75

CAESAR

The cause is in my will. I will not come.  
That is enough to satisfy the Senate.  
But for your private satisfaction,  
Because I love you, I will let you know.  
Calphurnia here, my wife, stays me at home. 80

She dreamt tonight she saw my statue,  
 Which, like a fountain with an hundred spouts,  
 Did run pure blood; and many lusty Romans  
 Came smiling and did bathe their hands in it.  
 And these does she apply for warnings and portents  
 And evils imminent, and on her knee  
 Hath begged that I will stay at home today. 85

DECIUS

This dream is all amiss interpreted.  
 It was a vision fair and fortunate.  
 Your statue spouting blood in many pipes,  
 In which so many smiling Romans bathed,  
 Signifies that from you great Rome shall suck  
 Reviving blood, and that great men shall press  
 For tinctures, stains, relics, and cognizance.  
 This by Calphurnia's dream is signified. 95

CAESAR

And this way have you well expounded it.

DECIUS

I have, when you have heard what I can say.  
 And know it now: the Senate have concluded  
 To give this day a crown to mighty Caesar.  
 If you shall send them word you will not come,  
 Their minds may change. Besides, it were a mock  
 Apt to be rendered, for someone to say  
 "Break up the Senate till another time,  
 When Caesar's wife shall meet with better dreams."  
 If Caesar hide himself, shall they not whisper  
 "Lo, Caesar is afraid"?" 105  
 Pardon me, Caesar, for my dear dear love  
 To your proceeding bids me tell you this,  
 And reason to my love is liable.

CAESAR

How foolish do your fears seem now, Calphurnia!  
 I am ashamed I did yield to them.  
 Give me my robe, for I will go. 110

*Enter Brutus, Ligarius, Metellus, Casca, Trebonius,  
Cinna, and Publius.*

And look where Publius is come to fetch me.

PUBLIUS

Good morrow, Caesar.

CAESAR Welcome, Publius.— 115

What, Brutus, are you stirred so early too?—

Good morrow, Casca.—Caius Ligarius,

Caesar was ne'er so much your enemy

As that same ague which hath made you lean.—

What is 't o'clock? 120

BRUTUS Caesar, 'tis stricken eight.

CAESAR

I thank you for your pains and courtesy.

*Enter Antony.*

See, Antony that revels long a-nights

Is notwithstanding up.—Good morrow, Antony.

ANTONY So to most noble Caesar. 125

CAESAR, *['to Servant']* Bid them prepare within.—

I am to blame to be thus waited for. *['Servant exits.']*

Now, Cinna.—Now, Metellus.—What, Trebonius,

I have an hour's talk in store for you.

Remember that you call on me today; 130

Be near me that I may remember you.

TREBONIUS

Caesar, I will. *['Aside.']* And so near will I be

That your best friends shall wish I had been further.

CAESAR

Good friends, go in and taste some wine with me,

And we, like friends, will straightway go together. 135

BRUTUS, *['aside']*

That every like is not the same, O Caesar,

The heart of Brutus earns to think upon.

*They exit.*

**Act 2 [Scene 3]**

*Enter Artemidorus [reading a paper.]*

ARTEMIDORUS      *Caesar, beware of Brutus, take heed of  
Cassius, come not near Casca, have an eye to Cinna,  
trust not Trebonius, mark well Metellus Cimber.  
Decius Brutus loves thee not. Thou hast wronged* 5  
*Caius Ligarius. There is but one mind in all these  
men, and it is bent against Caesar. If thou beest not  
immortal, look about you. Security gives way to  
conspiracy. The mighty gods defend thee!*

*Thy lover,  
Artemidorus* 10

Here will I stand till Caesar pass along,  
And as a suitor will I give him this.  
My heart laments that virtue cannot live  
Out of the teeth of emulation.  
If thou read this, O Caesar, thou mayest live; 15  
If not, the Fates with traitors do contrive.      *He exits.*

**Act 2 [Scene 4]**

*Enter Portia and Lucius.*

PORTIA

I prithee, boy, run to the Senate House.  
Stay not to answer me, but get thee gone.  
Why dost thou stay?

LUCIUS                      To know my errand, madam.

PORTIA

I would have had thee there and here again 5  
Ere I can tell thee what thou shouldst do there.  
[*Aside.*] O constancy, be strong upon my side;  
Set a huge mountain 'tween my heart and tongue.  
I have a man's mind but a woman's might.

How hard it is for women to keep counsel!— 10  
 Art thou here yet?

LUCIUS Madam, what should I do?  
 Run to the Capitol, and nothing else?  
 And so return to you, and nothing else?

PORTIA 15  
 Yes, bring me word, boy, if thy lord look well,  
 For he went sickly forth. And take good note  
 What Caesar doth, what suitors press to him.  
 Hark, boy, what noise is that?

LUCIUS I hear none, madam.

PORTIA Prithee, listen well. 20  
 I heard a bustling rumor like a fray,  
 And the wind brings it from the Capitol.

LUCIUS Sooth, madam, I hear nothing.

*Enter the Soothsayer.*

PORTIA  
 Come hither, fellow. Which way hast thou been?

SOOTHSAYER At mine own house, good lady. 25

PORTIA What is 't o'clock?

SOOTHSAYER About the ninth hour, lady.

PORTIA  
 Is Caesar yet gone to the Capitol?

SOOTHSAYER  
 Madam, not yet. I go to take my stand  
 To see him pass on to the Capitol. 30

PORTIA  
 Thou hast some suit to Caesar, hast thou not?

SOOTHSAYER  
 That I have, lady. If it will please Caesar  
 To be so good to Caesar as to hear me,  
 I shall beseech him to befriend himself.

PORTIA 35  
 Why, know'st thou any harms intended towards  
 him?

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SOOTHSAYER

None that I know will be, much that I fear may  
chance.

Good morrow to you.—Here the street is narrow.

The throng that follows Caesar at the heels, 40

Of senators, of praetors, common suitors,

Will crowd a feeble man almost to death.

I'll get me to a place more void, and there

Speak to great Caesar as he comes along. *He exits.*

PORTIA

I must go in. *Aside.* Ay me, how weak a thing 45

The heart of woman is! O Brutus,

The heavens speed thee in thine enterprise!

Sure the boy heard me. *To Lucius.* Brutus hath a  
suit

That Caesar will not grant. *Aside.* O, I grow 50

faint.—

Run, Lucius, and commend me to my lord.

Say I am merry. Come to me again

And bring me word what he doth say to thee.

*They exit separately.*



POPILIUS, *「to Cassius」*

I wish your enterprise today may thrive.

CASSIUS What enterprise, Popilius? 15

POPILIUS Fare you well. *「He walks away.」*

BRUTUS What said Popilius Lena?

CASSIUS

He wished today our enterprise might thrive.  
I fear our purpose is discoverèd.

BRUTUS

Look how he makes to Caesar. Mark him. 20

CASSIUS

Casca, be sudden, for we fear prevention.—  
Brutus, what shall be done? If this be known,  
Cassius or Caesar never shall turn back,  
For I will slay myself.

BRUTUS Cassius, be constant. 25

Popilius Lena speaks not of our purposes,  
For look, he smiles, and Caesar doth not change.

CASSIUS

Trebonius knows his time, for look you, Brutus,  
He draws Mark Antony out of the way.

*「Trebonius and Antony exit.」*

DECIUS

Where is Metellus Cimber? Let him go 30  
And presently prefer his suit to Caesar.

BRUTUS

He is addressed. Press near and second him.

CINNA

Casca, you are the first that rears your hand.

CAESAR

Are we all ready? What is now amiss 35  
That Caesar and his Senate must redress?

METELLUS, *「kneeling」*

Most high, most mighty, and most puissant Caesar,  
Metellus Cimber throws before thy seat  
An humble heart.

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CAESAR                    I must prevent thee, Cimber.  
 These couchings and these lowly courtesies                    40  
 Might fire the blood of ordinary men  
 And turn preordinance and first decree  
 Into the 「law」 of children. Be not fond  
 To think that Caesar bears such rebel blood  
 That will be thawed from the true quality                    45  
 With that which melteth fools—I mean sweet  
     words,  
 Low-crookèd curtsies, and base spaniel fawning.  
 Thy brother by decree is banishèd.  
 If thou dost bend and pray and fawn for him,                    50  
 I spurn thee like a cur out of my way.  
 Know: Caesar doth not wrong, nor without cause  
 Will he be satisfied.

METELLUS  
 Is there no voice more worthy than my own  
 To sound more sweetly in great Caesar’s ear                    55  
 For the repealing of my banished brother?

BRUTUS, 「kneeling」  
 I kiss thy hand, but not in flattery, Caesar,  
 Desiring thee that Publius Cimber may  
 Have an immediate freedom of repeal.

CAESAR  
 What, Brutus?                    60

CASSIUS, 「kneeling」  
   Pardon, Caesar; Caesar, pardon!  
 As low as to thy foot doth Cassius fall  
 To beg enfranchisement for Publius Cimber.

CAESAR  
 I could be well moved, if I were as you.  
 If I could pray to move, prayers would move me.                    65  
 But I am constant as the Northern Star,  
 Of whose true fixed and resting quality  
 There is no fellow in the firmament.  
 The skies are painted with unnumbered sparks;

They are all fire, and every one doth shine. 70  
 But there's but one in all doth hold his place.  
 So in the world: 'tis furnished well with men,  
 And men are flesh and blood, and apprehensive.  
 Yet in the number I do know but one  
 That unassailable holds on his rank, 75  
 Unshaked of motion; and that I am he  
 Let me a little show it, even in this:  
 That I was constant Cimber should be banished  
 And constant do remain to keep him so.

CINNA, 「kneeling」  
 O Caesar— 80

CAESAR Hence. Wilt thou lift up Olympus?

DECIUS, 「kneeling」  
 Great Caesar—

CAESAR Doth not Brutus bootless kneel?

CASCA Speak, hands, for me!  
 「As Casca strikes, the others rise up and」 stab Caesar.

CAESAR *Et tu, Brutè?*—Then fall, Caesar. 85  
 「He」 dies.

CINNA  
 Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!  
 Run hence, proclaim, cry it about the streets.

CASSIUS  
 Some to the common pulpits and cry out  
 “Liberty, freedom, and enfranchisement.”

BRUTUS  
 People and Senators, be not affrighted. 90  
 Fly not; stand still. Ambition's debt is paid.

CASCA  
 Go to the pulpit, Brutus.

DECIUS And Cassius too.

BRUTUS Where's Publius?

CINNA  
 Here, quite confounded with this mutiny. 95

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METELLUS

Stand fast together, lest some friend of Caesar's  
Should chance—

BRUTUS

Talk not of standing.—Publius, good cheer.  
There is no harm intended to your person,  
Nor to no Roman else. So tell them, Publius. 100

CASSIUS

And leave us, Publius, lest that the people,  
Rushing on us, should do your age some mischief.

BRUTUS

Do so, and let no man abide this deed  
But we the doers.

[All but the Conspirators exit.]  
Enter Trebonius.

CASSIUS      Where is Antony? 105

TREBONIUS Fled to his house amazed.  
Men, wives, and children stare, cry out, and run  
As it were doomsday.

BRUTUS                      Fates, we will know your  
pleasures. 110

That we shall die we know; 'tis but the time,  
And drawing days out, that men stand upon.

CASCA Why, he that cuts off twenty years of life  
Cuts off so many years of fearing death.

BRUTUS 115

Grant that, and then is death a benefit.  
So are we Caesar's friends, that have abridged  
His time of fearing death. Stoop, Romans, stoop,  
And let us bathe our hands in Caesar's blood  
Up to the elbows and besmear our swords.

Then walk we forth, even to the marketplace, 120  
And, waving our red weapons o'er our heads,  
Let's all cry "Peace, freedom, and liberty!"

CASSIUS

Stoop then, and wash.

「*They smear their hands and swords with Caesar's blood.*」

How many ages hence

Shall this our lofty scene be acted over 125

In 「states」 unborn and accents yet unknown!

BRUTUS

How many times shall Caesar bleed in sport,

That now on Pompey's basis 「lies」 along

No worthier than the dust!

CASSIUS So oft as that shall be, 130

So often shall the knot of us be called

The men that gave their country liberty.

DECIUS

What, shall we forth?

CASSIUS Ay, every man away. 135

Brutus shall lead, and we will grace his heels

With the most boldest and best hearts of Rome.

*Enter a Servant.*

BRUTUS

Soft, who comes here? A friend of Antony's.

SERVANT, 「*kneeling*」

Thus, Brutus, did my master bid me kneel.

Thus did Mark Antony bid me fall down,

And, being prostrate, thus he bade me say: 140

Brutus is noble, wise, valiant, and honest;

Caesar was mighty, bold, royal, and loving.

Say, I love Brutus, and I honor him;

Say, I feared Caesar, honored him, and loved him.

If Brutus will vouchsafe that Antony 145

May safely come to him and be resolved

How Caesar hath deserved to lie in death,

Mark Antony shall not love Caesar dead

So well as Brutus living, but will follow

The fortunes and affairs of noble Brutus 150

Thorough the hazards of this untrod state  
With all true faith. So says my master Antony.

BRUTUS

Thy master is a wise and valiant Roman.

I never thought him worse.

Tell him, so please him come unto this place, 155

He shall be satisfied and, by my honor,

Depart untouched.

SERVANT

I'll fetch him presently.

*Servant exits.*

BRUTUS

I know that we shall have him well to friend.

CASSIUS

I wish we may; but yet have I a mind 160

That fears him much, and my misgiving still

Falls shrewdly to the purpose.

*Enter Antony.*

BRUTUS

But here comes Antony.—Welcome, Mark Antony!

ANTONY

O mighty Caesar, dost thou lie so low?

Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils 165

Shrunk to this little measure? Fare thee well.—

I know not, gentlemen, what you intend,

Who else must be let blood, who else is rank.

If I myself, there is no hour so fit

As Caesar's death's hour, nor no instrument 170

Of half that worth as those your swords made rich

With the most noble blood of all this world.

I do beseech you, if you bear me hard,

Now, whilst your purpled hands do reek and smoke,

Fulfill your pleasure. Live a thousand years, 175

I shall not find myself so apt to die;

No place will please me so, no mean of death,

As here by Caesar, and by you cut off,  
The choice and master spirits of this age.

BRUTUS

O Antony, beg not your death of us! 180

Though now we must appear bloody and cruel,  
As by our hands and this our present act  
You see we do, yet see you but our hands  
And this the bleeding business they have done.

Our hearts you see not; they are pitiful; 185

And pity to the general wrong of Rome  
(As fire drives out fire, so pity pity)

Hath done this deed on Caesar. For your part,  
To you our swords have leaden points, Mark Antony.

Our arms in strength of malice, and our hearts 190

Of brothers' temper, do receive you in  
With all kind love, good thoughts, and reverence.

CASSIUS

Your voice shall be as strong as any man's  
In the disposing of new dignities.

BRUTUS

Only be patient till we have appeased 195

The multitude, beside themselves with fear;  
And then we will deliver you the cause

Why I, that did love Caesar when I struck him,  
Have thus proceeded.

ANTONY

I doubt not of your wisdom. 200

Let each man render me his bloody hand.

First, Marcus Brutus, will I shake with you.—

Next, Caius Cassius, do I take your hand.—

Now, Decius Brutus, yours;—now yours,

Metellus;— 205

Yours, Cinna;—and, my valiant Casca, yours;—

Though last, not least in love, yours, good

Trebonius.—

Gentlemen all—alas, what shall I say?

My credit now stands on such slippery ground 210

That one of two bad ways you must conceit me,

Either a coward or a flatterer.—  
 That I did love thee, Caesar, O, 'tis true!  
 If then thy spirit look upon us now,  
 Shall it not grieve thee dearer than thy death 215  
 To see thy Antony making his peace,  
 Shaking the bloody fingers of thy foes—  
 Most noble!—in the presence of thy corpse?  
 Had I as many eyes as thou hast wounds,  
 Weeping as fast as they stream forth thy blood, 220  
 It would become me better than to close  
 In terms of friendship with thine enemies.  
 Pardon me, Julius! Here wast thou bayed, brave  
 hart,  
 Here didst thou fall, and here thy hunters stand 225  
 Signed in thy spoil and crimsoned in thy Lethe.  
 O world, thou wast the forest to this hart,  
 And this indeed, O world, the heart of thee.  
 How like a deer stricken by many princes  
 Dost thou here lie! 230

CASSIUS Mark Antony—

ANTONY Pardon me, Caius Cassius.  
 The enemies of Caesar shall say this;  
 Then, in a friend, it is cold modesty.

CASSIUS  
 I blame you not for praising Caesar so. 235  
 But what compact mean you to have with us?  
 Will you be pricked in number of our friends,  
 Or shall we on and not depend on you?

ANTONY  
 Therefore I took your hands, but was indeed  
 Swayed from the point by looking down on Caesar. 240  
 Friends am I with you all and love you all,  
 Upon this hope, that you shall give me reasons  
 Why and wherein Caesar was dangerous.

BRUTUS  
 Or else were this a savage spectacle.



ANTONY Be it so.  
I do desire no more.

BRUTUS  
Prepare the body, then, and follow us.

*All but Antony exit.*

ANTONY  
O pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth, 280  
That I am meek and gentle with these butchers.  
Thou art the ruins of the noblest man  
That ever livèd in the tide of times.  
Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood!  
Over thy wounds now do I prophesy 285  
(Which like dumb mouths do ope their ruby lips  
To beg the voice and utterance of my tongue)  
A curse shall light upon the limbs of men;  
Domestic fury and fierce civil strife  
Shall cumber all the parts of Italy; 290  
Blood and destruction shall be so in use  
And dreadful objects so familiar  
That mothers shall but smile when they behold  
Their infants quartered with the hands of war,  
All pity choked with custom of fell deeds; 295  
And Caesar’s spirit, ranging for revenge,  
With Ate by his side come hot from hell,  
Shall in these confines with a monarch’s voice  
Cry “Havoc!” and let slip the dogs of war,  
That this foul deed shall smell above the earth 300  
With carrion men groaning for burial.

*Enter Octavius’ Servant.*

You serve Octavius Caesar, do you not?

SERVANT I do, Mark Antony.

ANTONY  
Caesar did write for him to come to Rome.

SERVANT  
He did receive his letters and is coming, 305

And bid me say to you by word of mouth—  
O Caesar!

ANTONY

Thy heart is big. Get thee apart and weep.  
Passion, I see, is catching, <sup>for</sup> mine eyes,  
Seeing those beads of sorrow stand in thine, 310  
Began to water. Is thy master coming?

SERVANT

He lies tonight within seven leagues of Rome.

ANTONY

Post back with speed and tell him what hath  
chanced.  
Here is a mourning Rome, a dangerous Rome, 315  
No Rome of safety for Octavius yet.  
Hie hence and tell him so.—Yet stay awhile;  
Thou shalt not back till I have borne this corpse  
Into the marketplace. There shall I try,  
In my oration, how the people take 320  
The cruel issue of these bloody men,  
According to the which thou shalt discourse  
To young Octavius of the state of things.  
Lend me your hand.

*They exit <sup>with Caesar's body.</sup>*

### Act 3 <sup>Scene 2</sup>

*Enter Brutus and Cassius with the Plebeians.*

<sup>PLEBEIANS</sup>

We will be satisfied! Let us be satisfied!

BRUTUS

Then follow me and give me audience, friends.—  
Cassius, go you into the other street  
And part the numbers.—  
Those that will hear me speak, let 'em stay here; 5  
Those that will follow Cassius, go with him;

And public reasons shall be rendered  
Of Caesar's death.

FIRST PLEBEIAN I will hear Brutus speak.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

I will hear Cassius, and compare their reasons 10  
When severally we hear them rendered.

*「Cassius exits with some of the Plebeians.*

*Brutus goes into the pulpit.」*

THIRD PLEBEIAN

The noble Brutus is ascended. Silence.

BRUTUS Be patient till the last.

Romans, countrymen, and lovers, hear me for my  
cause, and be silent that you may hear. Believe me 15

for mine honor, and have respect to mine honor  
that you may believe. Censure me in your wisdom,  
and awake your senses that you may the better  
judge. If there be any in this assembly, any dear  
friend of Caesar's, to him I say that Brutus' love 20

to Caesar was no less than his. If then that friend  
demand why Brutus rose against Caesar, this is my  
answer: not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved  
Rome more. Had you rather Caesar were living, and  
die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live all 25

freemen? As Caesar loved me, I weep for him. As he  
was fortunate, I rejoice at it. As he was valiant, I  
honor him. But, as he was ambitious, I slew him.  
There is tears for his love, joy for his fortune, honor  
for his valor, and death for his ambition. Who is 30

here so base that would be a bondman? If any,  
speak, for him have I offended. Who is here so rude  
that would not be a Roman? If any, speak, for him  
have I offended. Who is here so vile that will not  
love his country? If any, speak, for him have I 35

PLEBEIANS None, Brutus, none.

BRUTUS Then none have I offended. I have done no

more to Caesar than you shall do to Brutus. The question of his death is enrolled in the Capitol, his glory not extenuated wherein he was worthy, nor his offenses enforced for which he suffered death. 40

*Enter Mark Antony [and others] with Caesar's body.*

Here comes his body, mourned by Mark Antony, who, though he had no hand in his death, shall receive the benefit of his dying—a place in the commonwealth—as which of you shall not? With this I depart: that, as I slew my best lover for the good of Rome, I have the same dagger for myself when it shall please my country to need my death. 45

PLEBEIANS Live, Brutus, live, live! 50

FIRST PLEBEIAN

Bring him with triumph home unto his house.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

Give him a statue with his ancestors.

THIRD PLEBEIAN

Let him be Caesar.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN Caesar's better parts

Shall be crowned in Brutus. 55

FIRST PLEBEIAN

We'll bring him to his house with shouts and clamors.

BRUTUS

My countrymen—

SECOND PLEBEIAN Peace, silence! Brutus speaks.

FIRST PLEBEIAN Peace, ho! 60

BRUTUS

Good countrymen, let me depart alone,  
And, for my sake, stay here with Antony.  
Do grace to Caesar's corpse, and grace his speech  
Tending to Caesar's glories, which Mark Antony  
(By our permission) is allowed to make. 65

I do entreat you, not a man depart,  
Save I alone, till Antony have spoke.

*He 「descends and」 exits.*

FIRST PLEBEIAN

Stay, ho, and let us hear Mark Antony!

THIRD PLEBEIAN

Let him go up into the public chair.

「PLEBEIANS」

We'll hear him.—Noble Antony, go up. 70

ANTONY

For Brutus' sake, I am beholding to you.

*「He goes into the pulpit.」*

FOURTH PLEBEIAN What does he say of Brutus?

THIRD PLEBEIAN He says for Brutus' sake

He finds himself beholding to us all.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN

'Twere best he speak no harm of Brutus here. 75

FIRST PLEBEIAN

This Caesar was a tyrant.

THIRD PLEBEIAN Nay, that's certain.

We are blest that Rome is rid of him.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

Peace, let us hear what Antony can say.

ANTONY

You gentle Romans— 80

PLEBEIANS Peace, ho! Let us hear him.

ANTONY

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears.

I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

The evil that men do lives after them;

The good is oft interrèd with their bones. 85

So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus

Hath told you Caesar was ambitious.

If it were so, it was a grievous fault,

And grievously hath Caesar answered it.

Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest 90

(For Brutus is an honorable man;

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So are they all, all honorable men),  
 Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.  
 He was my friend, faithful and just to me, 95  
 But Brutus says he was ambitious,  
 And Brutus is an honorable man.  
 He hath brought many captives home to Rome,  
 Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill.  
 Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?  
 When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept; 100  
 Ambition should be made of sterner stuff.  
 Yet Brutus says he was ambitious,  
 And Brutus is an honorable man.  
 You all did see that on the Lupercal  
 I thrice presented him a kingly crown, 105  
 Which he did thrice refuse. Was this ambition?  
 Yet Brutus says he was ambitious,  
 And sure he is an honorable man.  
 I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,  
 But here I am to speak what I do know. 110  
 You all did love him once, not without cause.  
 What cause withholds you, then, to mourn for  
 him?—  
 O judgment, thou art fled to brutish beasts,  
 And men have lost their reason!—Bear with me; 115  
 My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,  
 And I must pause till it come back to me. 「He weeps.」

FIRST PLEBEIAN

Methinks there is much reason in his sayings.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

If thou consider rightly of the matter,  
 Caesar has had great wrong. 120

THIRD PLEBEIAN                      Has he, masters?

I fear there will a worse come in his place.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN

Marked you his words? He would not take the  
 crown;  
 Therefore 'tis certain he was not ambitious. 125

FIRST PLEBEIAN

If it be found so, some will dear abide it.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

Poor soul, his eyes are red as fire with weeping.

THIRD PLEBEIAN

There's not a nobler man in Rome than Antony.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN

Now mark him. He begins again to speak.

ANTONY

But yesterday the word of Caesar might 130  
Have stood against the world. Now lies he there,  
And none so poor to do him reverence.

O masters, if I were disposed to stir  
Your hearts and minds to mutiny and rage,  
I should do Brutus wrong and Cassius wrong, 135  
Who, you all know, are honorable men.

I will not do them wrong. I rather choose  
To wrong the dead, to wrong myself and you,  
Than I will wrong such honorable men.

But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar. 140  
I found it in his closet. 'Tis his will.

Let but the commons hear this testament,  
Which, pardon me, I do not mean to read,  
And they would go and kiss dead Caesar's wounds  
And dip their napkins in his sacred blood— 145

Yea, beg a hair of him for memory  
And, dying, mention it within their wills,  
Bequeathing it as a rich legacy  
Unto their issue.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN

We'll hear the will. Read it, Mark Antony. 150

PLEBEIANS

The will, the will! We will hear Caesar's will.

ANTONY

Have patience, gentle friends. I must not read it.

It is not meet you know how Caesar loved you.  
 You are not wood, you are not stones, but men.  
 And, being men, hearing the will of Caesar, 155  
 It will inflame you; it will make you mad.  
 'Tis good you know not that you are his heirs,  
 For if you should, O, what would come of it?

FOURTH PLEBEIAN

Read the will! We'll hear it, Antony.

「PLEBEIANS」

You shall read us the will, Caesar's will. 160

ANTONY

Will you be patient? Will you stay awhile?  
 I have o'ershot myself to tell you of it.  
 I fear I wrong the honorable men  
 Whose daggers have stabbed Caesar. I do fear it.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN They were traitors. Honorable men? 165

PLEBEIANS The will! The testament!

SECOND PLEBEIAN They were villains, murderers. The  
 will! Read the will.

ANTONY

You will compel me, then, to read the will?  
 Then make a ring about the corpse of Caesar, 170  
 And let me show you him that made the will.  
 Shall I descend? And will you give me leave?

PLEBEIANS Come down.

SECOND PLEBEIAN Descend.

THIRD PLEBEIAN You shall have leave. 175

*「Antony descends.」*

FOURTH PLEBEIAN A ring; stand round.

FIRST PLEBEIAN

Stand from the hearse. Stand from the body.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

Room for Antony, most noble Antony.

ANTONY

Nay, press not so upon me. Stand far off.

PLEBEIANS Stand back! Room! Bear back! 180

ANTONY

If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.  
 You all do know this mantle. I remember  
 The first time ever Caesar put it on.  
 'Twas on a summer's evening in his tent,  
 That day he overcame the Nervii. 185

Look, in this place ran Cassius' dagger through.  
 See what a rent the envious Casca made.  
 Through this the well-belovèd Brutus stabbed,  
 And, as he plucked his cursèd steel away,  
 Mark how the blood of Caesar followed it, 190

As rushing out of doors to be resolved  
 If Brutus so unkindly knocked or no;  
 For Brutus, as you know, was Caesar's angel.  
 Judge, O you gods, how dearly Caesar loved him!  
 This was the most unkindest cut of all. 195

For when the noble Caesar saw him stab,  
 Ingratitude, more strong than traitors' arms,  
 Quite vanquished him. Then burst his mighty heart,  
 And, in his mantle muffling up his face,  
 Even at the base of Pompey's statue 200

(Which all the while ran blood) great Caesar fell.  
 O, what a fall was there, my countrymen!  
 Then I and you and all of us fell down,  
 Whilst bloody treason flourished over us.  
 O, now you weep, and I perceive you feel 205

The dint of pity. These are gracious drops.  
 Kind souls, what, weep you when you but behold  
 Our Caesar's vesture wounded? Look you here,

「*Antony lifts Caesar's cloak.*」

Here is himself, marred as you see with traitors.  
 FIRST PLEBEIAN O piteous spectacle! 210

SECOND PLEBEIAN O noble Caesar!

THIRD PLEBEIAN O woeful day!

FOURTH PLEBEIAN O traitors, villains!

FIRST PLEBEIAN O most bloody sight!

SECOND PLEBEIAN We will be revenged. 215

「PLEBEIANS」 Revenge! About! Seek! Burn! Fire! Kill!  
Slay! Let not a traitor live!

ANTONY Stay, countrymen.

FIRST PLEBEIAN Peace there! Hear the noble Antony.

SECOND PLEBEIAN We'll hear him, we'll follow him, 220  
we'll die with him.

ANTONY  
Good friends, sweet friends, let me not stir you up  
To such a sudden flood of mutiny.  
They that have done this deed are honorable. 225  
What private griefs they have, alas, I know not,  
That made them do it. They are wise and honorable  
And will no doubt with reasons answer you.  
I come not, friends, to steal away your hearts.  
I am no orator, as Brutus is, 230  
But, as you know me all, a plain blunt man  
That love my friend, and that they know full well  
That gave me public leave to speak of him.  
For I have neither 「wit,」 nor words, nor worth,  
Action, nor utterance, nor the power of speech 235  
To stir men's blood. I only speak right on.  
I tell you that which you yourselves do know,  
Show you sweet Caesar's wounds, poor poor dumb  
mouths,  
And bid them speak for me. But were I Brutus,  
And Brutus Antony, there were an Antony 240  
Would ruffle up your spirits and put a tongue  
In every wound of Caesar that should move  
The stones of Rome to rise and mutiny.

PLEBEIANS  
We'll mutiny.

FIRST PLEBEIAN We'll burn the house of Brutus. 245

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THIRD PLEBEIAN

Away then. Come, seek the conspirators.

ANTONY

Yet hear me, countrymen; yet hear me speak.

PLEBEIANS

Peace, ho! Hear Antony, most noble Antony!

ANTONY

Why, friends, you go to do you know not what.  
Wherein hath Caesar thus deserved your loves? 250  
Alas, you know not. I must tell you then.  
You have forgot the will I told you of.

PLEBEIANS

Most true. The will! Let's stay and hear the will.

ANTONY

Here is the will, and under Caesar's seal:  
To every Roman citizen he gives, 255  
To every several man, seventy-five drachmas.

SECOND PLEBEIAN

Most noble Caesar! We'll revenge his death.

THIRD PLEBEIAN O royal Caesar!

ANTONY Hear me with patience.

PLEBEIANS Peace, ho! 260

ANTONY

Moreover, he hath left you all his walks,  
His private arbors, and new-planted orchards,  
On this side Tiber. He hath left them you,  
And to your heirs forever—common pleasures  
To walk abroad and recreate yourselves. 265  
Here was a Caesar! When comes such another?

FIRST PLEBEIAN

Never, never!—Come, away, away!  
We'll burn his body in the holy place  
And with the brands fire the traitors' houses.  
Take up the body. 270

SECOND PLEBEIAN Go fetch fire.

THIRD PLEBEIAN Pluck down benches.

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FOURTH PLEBEIAN Pluck down forms, windows,  
anything.

*Plebeians exit [with Caesar's body.]*

ANTONY

Now let it work. Mischief, thou art afoot; 275  
Take thou what course thou wilt.

*Enter Servant.*

How now, fellow?

SERVANT

Sir, Octavius is already come to Rome.

ANTONY Where is he?

SERVANT

He and Lepidus are at Caesar's house. 280

ANTONY

And thither will I straight to visit him.  
He comes upon a wish. Fortune is merry  
And in this mood will give us anything.

SERVANT

I heard him say Brutus and Cassius  
Are rid like madmen through the gates of Rome. 285

ANTONY

Belike they had some notice of the people  
How I had moved them. Bring me to Octavius.

*They exit.*

### Act 3 [Scene 3]

*Enter Cinna the poet and after him the Plebeians.*

CINNA

I dreamt tonight that I did feast with Caesar,  
And things unluckily charge my fantasy.  
I have no will to wander forth of doors,  
Yet something leads me forth.

FIRST PLEBEIAN What is your name? 5

SECOND PLEBEIAN Whither are you going?  
 THIRD PLEBEIAN Where do you dwell?  
 FOURTH PLEBEIAN Are you a married man or a bachelor?  
 SECOND PLEBEIAN Answer every man directly. 10  
 FIRST PLEBEIAN Ay, and briefly.  
 FOURTH PLEBEIAN Ay, and wisely.  
 THIRD PLEBEIAN Ay, and truly, you were best.  
 CINNA What is my name? Whither am I going? Where do I dwell? Am I a married man or a bachelor? Then to answer every man directly and briefly, wisely and truly: wisely I say, I am a bachelor. 15  
 SECOND PLEBEIAN That’s as much as to say they are fools that marry. You’ll bear me a bang for that, I fear. Proceed directly. 20  
 CINNA Directly, I am going to Caesar’s funeral.  
 FIRST PLEBEIAN As a friend or an enemy?  
 CINNA As a friend.  
 SECOND PLEBEIAN That matter is answered directly.  
 FOURTH PLEBEIAN For your dwelling—briefly. 25  
 CINNA Briefly, I dwell by the Capitol.  
 THIRD PLEBEIAN Your name, sir, truly.  
 CINNA Truly, my name is Cinna.  
 FIRST PLEBEIAN Tear him to pieces! He’s a conspirator.  
 CINNA I am Cinna the poet, I am Cinna the poet! 30  
 FOURTH PLEBEIAN Tear him for his bad verses, tear him for his bad verses!  
 CINNA I am not Cinna the conspirator.  
 FOURTH PLEBEIAN It is no matter. His name’s Cinna. Pluck but his name out of his heart, and turn him going. 35  
 THIRD PLEBEIAN Tear him, tear him! Come, brands, ho, firebrands! To Brutus’, to Cassius’, burn all! Some to Decius’ house, and some to Casca’s, some to Ligarius’. Away, go! 40  
*All the Plebeians exit, [ carrying off Cinna. ]*

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## ACT 4

### Act 4 [Scene 1]

*Enter Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus.*

ANTONY

These many, then, shall die; their names are  
pricked.

OCTAVIUS

Your brother too must die. Consent you, Lepidus?

LEPIDUS

I do consent.

OCTAVIUS

Prick him down, Antony.

5

LEPIDUS

Upon condition Publius shall not live,  
Who is your sister's son, Mark Antony.

ANTONY

He shall not live; look, with a spot I damn him.

But, Lepidus, go you to Caesar's house;  
Fetch the will hither, and we shall determine  
How to cut off some charge in legacies.

10

LEPIDUS What, shall I find you here?

OCTAVIUS Or here, or at the Capitol.

*Lepidus exits.*

ANTONY

This is a slight, unmeritable man,  
Meet to be sent on errands. Is it fit,  
The threefold world divided, he should stand  
One of the three to share it?

15



OCTAVIUS

Let us do so, for we are at the stake  
 And bayed about with many enemies,  
 And some that smile have in their hearts, I fear,  
 Millions of mischiefs. 55

*They exit.*

**Act 4 [Scene 2]**

*Drum. Enter Brutus, Lucilius, [Lucius,] and the Army.  
 Titinius and Pindarus meet them.*

BRUTUS Stand ho!

LUCILIUS Give the word, ho, and stand!

BRUTUS  
 What now, Lucilius, is Cassius near?

LUCILIUS  
 He is at hand, and Pindarus is come  
 To do you salutation from his master. 5

BRUTUS  
 He greets me well.—Your master, Pindarus,  
 In his own change or by ill officers,  
 Hath given me some worthy cause to wish  
 Things done undone, but if he be at hand  
 I shall be satisfied. 10

PINDARUS I do not doubt  
 But that my noble master will appear  
 Such as he is, full of regard and honor.

BRUTUS  
 He is not doubted. [Brutus and Lucilius walk aside.]  
 A word, Lucilius, 15  
 How he received you. Let me be resolved.

LUCILIUS  
 With courtesy and with respect enough,  
 But not with such familiar instances  
 Nor with such free and friendly conference  
 As he hath used of old. 20



Let us not wrangle. Bid them move away. 50  
 Then in my tent, Cassius, enlarge your griefs,  
 And I will give you audience.

CASSIUS Pindarus,  
 Bid our commanders lead their charges off  
 A little from this ground. 55

BRUTUS  
 「Lucius,」 do you the like, and let no man  
 Come to our tent till we have done our conference.  
 Let 「Lucilius」 and Titinius guard our door.  
*All but Brutus and Cassius exit.*

**Act 4 「Scene 3」**

CASSIUS  
 That you have wronged me doth appear in this:  
 You have condemned and noted Lucius Pella  
 For taking bribes here of the Sardians,  
 Wherein my letters, praying on his side  
 Because I knew the man, was slighted off. 5

BRUTUS  
 You wronged yourself to write in such a case.

CASSIUS  
 In such a time as this it is not meet  
 That every nice offense should bear his comment.

BRUTUS  
 Let me tell you, Cassius, you yourself  
 Are much condemned to have an itching palm,  
 To sell and mart your offices for gold  
 To undeservers. 10

CASSIUS I an itching palm?  
 You know that you are Brutus that speaks this,  
 Or, by the gods, this speech were else your last. 15

BRUTUS  
 The name of Cassius honors this corruption,  
 And chastisement doth therefore hide his head.

CASSIUS Chastisement?

BRUTUS

Remember March; the ides of March remember.  
 Did not great Julius bleed for justice' sake? 20  
 What villain touched his body that did stab  
 And not for justice? What, shall one of us  
 That struck the foremost man of all this world  
 But for supporting robbers, shall we now  
 Contaminate our fingers with base bribes 25  
 And sell the mighty space of our large honors  
 For so much trash as may be graspèd thus?  
 I had rather be a dog and bay the moon  
 Than such a Roman.

CASSIUS Brutus, bait not me. 30  
 I'll not endure it. You forget yourself  
 To hedge me in. I am a soldier, I,  
 Older in practice, abler than yourself  
 To make conditions.

BRUTUS Go to! You are not, Cassius. 35

CASSIUS I am.

BRUTUS I say you are not.

CASSIUS  
 Urge me no more. I shall forget myself.  
 Have mind upon your health. Tempt me no farther.

BRUTUS Away, slight man! 40

CASSIUS  
 Is 't possible?

BRUTUS Hear me, for I will speak.  
 Must I give way and room to your rash choler?  
 Shall I be frightened when a madman stares?

CASSIUS  
 O you gods, you gods, must I endure all this? 45

BRUTUS  
 All this? Ay, more. Fret till your proud heart break.  
 Go show your slaves how choleric you are  
 And make your bondmen tremble. Must I budge?

Must I observe you? Must I stand and crouch  
 Under your testy humor? By the gods, 50  
 You shall digest the venom of your spleen  
 Though it do split you. For, from this day forth,  
 I'll use you for my mirth, yea, for my laughter,  
 When you are waspish.

CASSIUS Is it come to this? 55

BRUTUS  
 You say you are a better soldier.  
 Let it appear so, make your vaunting true,  
 And it shall please me well. For mine own part,  
 I shall be glad to learn of noble men.

CASSIUS  
 You wrong me every way, you wrong me, Brutus. 60  
 I said an elder soldier, not a better.  
 Did I say "better"?

BRUTUS If you did, I care not.

CASSIUS  
 When Caesar lived he durst not thus have moved  
 me. 65

BRUTUS  
 Peace, peace! You durst not so have tempted him.

CASSIUS I durst not?

BRUTUS No.

CASSIUS  
 What? Durst not tempt him?

BRUTUS For your life you durst 70  
 not.

CASSIUS  
 Do not presume too much upon my love.  
 I may do that I shall be sorry for.

BRUTUS  
 You have done that you should be sorry for.  
 There is no terror, Cassius, in your threats, 75  
 For I am armed so strong in honesty  
 That they pass by me as the idle wind,

Which I respect not. I did send to you  
 For certain sums of gold, which you denied me,  
 For I can raise no money by vile means. 80  
 By heaven, I had rather coin my heart  
 And drop my blood for drachmas than to wring  
 From the hard hands of peasants their vile trash  
 By any indirection. I did send  
 To you for gold to pay my legions, 85  
 Which you denied me. Was that done like Cassius?  
 Should I have answered Caius Cassius so?  
 When Marcus Brutus grows so covetous  
 To lock such rascal counters from his friends,  
 Be ready, gods, with all your thunderbolts; 90  
 Dash him to pieces!

CASSIUS I denied you not.

BRUTUS You did.

CASSIUS  
 I did not. He was but a fool that brought  
 My answer back. Brutus hath rived my heart. 95  
 A friend should bear his friend's infirmities,  
 But Brutus makes mine greater than they are.

BRUTUS  
 I do not, till you practice them on me.

CASSIUS  
 You love me not.

BRUTUS I do not like your faults. 100

CASSIUS  
 A friendly eye could never see such faults.

BRUTUS  
 A flatterer's would not, though they do appear  
 As huge as high Olympus.

CASSIUS  
 Come, Antony, and young Octavius, come!  
 Revenge yourselves alone on Cassius, 105  
 For Cassius is aweary of the world—  
 Hated by one he loves, braved by his brother,



BRUTUS Yes, Cassius, and from  
 henceforth 140  
 When you are over-earnest with your Brutus,  
 He'll think your mother chides, and leave you so.

*Enter a Poet [followed by Lucilius, Titinius, and Lucius.]*

POET  
 Let me go in to see the Generals.  
 There is some grudge between 'em; 'tis not meet  
 They be alone. 145

LUCILIUS You shall not come to them.

POET Nothing but death shall stay me.

CASSIUS How now, what's the matter?

POET  
 For shame, you generals, what do you mean?  
 Love and be friends as two such men should be, 150  
 For I have seen more years, I'm sure, than ye.

CASSIUS  
 Ha, ha, how vilely doth this cynic rhyme!

BRUTUS  
 Get you hence, sirrah! Saucy fellow, hence!

CASSIUS  
 Bear with him, Brutus. 'Tis his fashion.

BRUTUS  
 I'll know his humor when he knows his time. 155  
 What should the wars do with these jiggling fools?—  
 Companion, hence!

CASSIUS Away, away, be gone! *Poet exits.*

BRUTUS  
 Lucilius and Titinius, bid the commanders  
 Prepare to lodge their companies tonight. 160

CASSIUS  
 And come yourselves, and bring Messala with you  
 Immediately to us. *[Lucilius and Titinius exit.]*

BRUTUS Lucius, a bowl of wine. *[Lucius exits.]*

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CASSIUS

I did not think you could have been so angry.

BRUTUS

O Cassius, I am sick of many griefs. 165

CASSIUS

Of your philosophy you make no use  
If you give place to accidental evils.

BRUTUS

No man bears sorrow better. Portia is dead.

CASSIUS Ha? Portia?

BRUTUS She is dead. 170

CASSIUS

How 'scaped I killing when I crossed you so?  
O insupportable and touching loss!  
Upon what sickness?

BRUTUS

Impatient of my absence,  
And grief that young Octavius with Mark Antony  
Have made themselves so strong—for with her  
death  
That tidings came—with this she fell distract  
And, her attendants absent, swallowed fire. 175

CASSIUS And died so? 180

BRUTUS Even so.

CASSIUS O you immortal gods!

*Enter [Lucius] with wine and tapers.*

BRUTUS

Speak no more of her.—Give me a bowl of wine.—  
In this I bury all unkindness, Cassius. [He] drinks.

CASSIUS

My heart is thirsty for that noble pledge.— 185  
Fill, Lucius, till the wine o'erswell the cup;  
I cannot drink too much of Brutus' love. [He drinks.]

[Lucius exits.]

*Enter Titinius and Messala.*

BRUTUS

Come in, Titinius. Welcome, good Messala.

Now sit we close about this taper here,

And call in question our necessities. [*They sit.*] 190

CASSIUS

Portia, art thou gone?

BRUTUS No more, I pray you.—

Messala, I have here received letters

That young Octavius and Mark Antony

Come down upon us with a mighty power, 195

Bending their expedition toward Philippi.

MESSALA

Myself have letters of the selfsame tenor.

BRUTUS With what addition?

MESSALA

That by proscription and bills of outlawry,

Octavius, Antony, and Lepidus 200

Have put to death an hundred senators.

BRUTUS

Therein our letters do not well agree.

Mine speak of seventy senators that died

By their proscriptions, Cicero being one.

CASSIUS

Cicero one? 205

MESSALA Cicero is dead,

And by that order of proscription.

Had you your letters from your wife, my lord?

BRUTUS No, Messala.

MESSALA

Nor nothing in your letters writ of her? 210

BRUTUS Nothing, Messala.

MESSALA That methinks is strange.

BRUTUS

Why ask you? Hear you aught of her in yours?

MESSALA No, my lord.

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BRUTUS

Now, as you are a Roman, tell me true. 215

MESSALA

Then like a Roman bear the truth I tell,  
For certain she is dead, and by strange manner.

BRUTUS

Why, farewell, Portia. We must die, Messala.  
With meditating that she must die once,  
I have the patience to endure it now. 220

MESSALA

Even so great men great losses should endure.

CASSIUS

I have as much of this in art as you,  
But yet my nature could not bear it so.

BRUTUS

Well, to our work alive. What do you think  
Of marching to Philippi presently? 225

CASSIUS I do not think it good.

BRUTUS Your reason?

CASSIUS This it is:

'Tis better that the enemy seek us;  
So shall he waste his means, weary his soldiers,  
Doing himself offense, whilst we, lying still,  
Are full of rest, defense, and nimbleness. 230

BRUTUS

Good reasons must of force give place to better.  
The people 'twixt Philippi and this ground  
Do stand but in a forced affection, 235

For they have grudged us contribution.  
The enemy, marching along by them,  
By them shall make a fuller number up,  
Come on refreshed, new-added, and encouraged,  
From which advantage shall we cut him off 240

If at Philippi we do face him there,  
These people at our back.

CASSIUS Hear me, good brother—



BRUTUS                    Everything is well.  
 CASSIUS    Good night, my lord.  
 BRUTUS    Good night, good brother.                    275

TITINIUS/MESSALA  
     Good night, Lord Brutus.

BRUTUS                    Farewell, everyone.  
                                   *「All but Brutus and Lucius」 exit.*  
     Give me the gown. Where is thy instrument?

LUCIUS  
     Here in the tent.

BRUTUS                    What, thou speak'st drowsily?                    280  
     Poor knave, I blame thee not; thou art o'erwatched.  
     Call Claudius and some other of my men;  
     I'll have them sleep on cushions in my tent.

LUCIUS    Varro and Claudius.

*Enter Varro and Claudius.*

VARRO    Calls my lord?                    285

BRUTUS  
     I pray you, sirs, lie in my tent and sleep.  
     It may be I shall raise you by and by  
     On business to my brother Cassius.

VARRO  
     So please you, we will stand and watch your  
     pleasure.                    290

BRUTUS  
     I will not have it so. Lie down, good sirs.  
     It may be I shall otherwise bethink me.                    *「They lie down.」*

    Look, Lucius, here's the book I sought for so.  
     I put it in the pocket of my gown.

LUCIUS  
     I was sure your lordship did not give it me.                    295

BRUTUS  
     Bear with me, good boy, I am much forgetful.

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GHOST  
 Thy evil spirit, Brutus. 325

BRUTUS                      Why com'st thou?

GHOST  
 To tell thee thou shalt see me at Philippi.

BRUTUS    Well, then I shall see thee again?

GHOST    Ay, at Philippi.

BRUTUS  
 Why, I will see thee at Philippi, then.            *〔Ghost exits.〕* 330  
 Now I have taken heart, thou vanishest.  
 Ill spirit, I would hold more talk with thee.—  
 Boy, Lucius!—Varro, Claudius, sirs, awake!  
 Claudius!

LUCIUS            The strings, my lord, are false. 335

BRUTUS  
 He thinks he still is at his instrument.  
 Lucius, awake!

LUCIUS    My lord?

BRUTUS  
 Didst thou dream, Lucius, that thou so criedst out?

LUCIUS  
 My lord, I do not know that I did cry. 340

BRUTUS  
 Yes, that thou didst. Didst thou see anything?

LUCIUS    Nothing, my lord.

BRUTUS  
 Sleep again, Lucius.—Sirrah Claudius!  
*〔To Varro.〕* Fellow thou, awake!                      *〔They rise up.〕*

VARRO    My lord? 345

CLAUDIUS    My lord?

BRUTUS  
 Why did you so cry out, sirs, in your sleep?

BOTH  
 Did we, my lord?

BRUTUS                      Ay. Saw you anything?

VARRO    No, my lord, I saw nothing. 350

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CLAUDIUS    Nor I, my lord.

BRUTUS

Go and commend me to my brother Cassius.  
Bid him set on his powers betimes before,  
And we will follow.

BOTH                            It shall be done, my lord.

355

*They exit.*

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## ACT 5

### Act 5 [Scene 1]

*Enter Octavius, Antony, and their army.*

OCTAVIUS

Now, Antony, our hopes are answerèd.  
You said the enemy would not come down  
But keep the hills and upper regions.  
It proves not so; their battles are at hand.  
They mean to warn us at Philippi here, 5  
Answering before we do demand of them.

ANTONY

Tut, I am in their bosoms, and I know  
Wherefore they do it. They could be content  
To visit other places, and come down  
With fearful bravery, thinking by this face 10  
To fasten in our thoughts that they have courage.  
But 'tis not so.

*Enter a Messenger.*

MESSENGER            Prepare you, generals.  
The enemy comes on in gallant show.  
Their bloody sign of battle is hung out, 15  
And something to be done immediately.

ANTONY

Octavius, lead your battle softly on  
Upon the left hand of the even field.

OCTAVIUS

Upon the right hand, I; keep thou the left.

ANTONY

Why do you cross me in this exigent? 20

OCTAVIUS

I do not cross you, but I will do so. *March.*

*Drum. Enter Brutus, Cassius, and their army [including  
Lucilius, Titinius, and Messala.]*

BRUTUS They stand and would have parley.

CASSIUS

Stand fast, Titinius. We must out and talk.

OCTAVIUS

Mark Antony, shall we give sign of battle?

ANTONY

No, Caesar, we will answer on their charge. 25  
Make forth. The Generals would have some words.

OCTAVIUS, [to his Officers] Stir not until the signal.  
[The Generals step forward.]

BRUTUS

Words before blows; is it so, countrymen?

OCTAVIUS

Not that we love words better, as you do.

BRUTUS

Good words are better than bad strokes, Octavius. 30

ANTONY

In your bad strokes, Brutus, you give good words.  
Witness the hole you made in Caesar's heart,  
Crying "Long live, hail, Caesar!"

CASSIUS

Antony, 35  
The posture of your blows are yet unknown,  
But, for your words, they rob the Hybla bees  
And leave them honeyless.

ANTONY Not stingless too.

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BRUTUS O yes, and soundless too,

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Defiance, traitors, hurl we in your teeth.  
 If you dare fight today, come to the field; 70  
 If not, when you have stomachs.

*Octavius, Antony, and [their] army exit.*

CASSIUS

Why now, blow wind, swell billow, and swim bark!  
 The storm is up, and all is on the hazard.

BRUTUS

Ho, Lucilius, hark, a word with you.  
*Lucilius and Messala stand forth.*

LUCILIUS My lord?

*[Brutus and Lucilius step aside together.]* 75

CASSIUS

Messala.

MESSALA What says my general?

CASSIUS

Messala,

This is my birthday, as this very day  
 Was Cassius born. Give me thy hand, Messala. 80  
 Be thou my witness that against my will  
 (As Pompey was) am I compelled to set  
 Upon one battle all our liberties.

You know that I held Epicurus strong  
 And his opinion. Now I change my mind 85  
 And partly credit things that do presage.

Coming from Sardis, on our former ensign  
 Two mighty eagles fell, and there they perched,  
 Gorging and feeding from our soldiers' hands,  
 Who to Philippi here consorted us. 90

This morning are they fled away and gone,  
 And in their steads do ravens, crows, and kites  
 Fly o'er our heads and downward look on us  
 As we were sickly prey. Their shadows seem  
 A canopy most fatal, under which 95  
 Our army lies, ready to give up the ghost.

MESSALA

Believe not so.

CASSIUS I but believe it partly,  
 For I am fresh of spirit and resolved  
 To meet all perils very constantly. 100

BRUTUS  
 Even so, Lucilius. *Brutus returns to Cassius.*

CASSIUS Now, most noble Brutus,  
 The gods today stand friendly that we may,  
 Lovers in peace, lead on our days to age.  
 But since the affairs of men rests still incertain, 105  
 Let's reason with the worst that may befall.  
 If we do lose this battle, then is this  
 The very last time we shall speak together.  
 What are you then determinèd to do?

BRUTUS  
 Even by the rule of that philosophy 110  
 By which I did blame Cato for the death  
 Which he did give himself (I know not how,  
 But I do find it cowardly and vile,  
 For fear of what might fall, so to prevent  
 The time of life), arming myself with patience 115  
 To stay the providence of some high powers  
 That govern us below.

CASSIUS Then, if we lose this battle,  
 You are contented to be led in triumph  
 Thorough the streets of Rome? 120

BRUTUS  
 No, Cassius, no. Think not, thou noble Roman,  
 That ever Brutus will go bound to Rome.  
 He bears too great a mind. But this same day  
 Must end that work the ides of March begun.  
 And whether we shall meet again, I know not. 125  
 Therefore our everlasting farewell take.  
 Forever and forever farewell, Cassius.  
 If we do meet again, why we shall smile;  
 If not, why then this parting was well made.

CASSIUS

Forever and forever farewell, Brutus. 130  
If we do meet again, we'll smile indeed;  
If not, 'tis true this parting was well made.

BRUTUS

Why then, lead on.—O, that a man might know  
The end of this day's business ere it come!  
But it sufficeth that the day will end, 135  
And then the end is known.—Come ho, away!

*They exit.*

**Act 5 [Scene 2]**

*Alarum. Enter Brutus and Messala.*

BRUTUS

Ride, ride, Messala, ride, and give these bills  
Unto the legions on the other side!  
*[He hands Messala papers.]*  
*Loud alarum.*

Let them set on at once, for I perceive  
But cold demeanor in Octavius' wing,  
And sudden push gives them the overthrow. 5  
Ride, ride, Messala! Let them all come down.

*They exit.*

**Act 5 [Scene 3]**

*Alarums. Enter Cassius [carrying a standard] and  
Titinius.*

CASSIUS

O, look, Titinius, look, the villains fly!  
Myself have to mine own turned enemy.  
This ensign here of mine was turning back;  
I slew the coward and did take it from him.

TITINIUS

O Cassius, Brutus gave the word too early, 5  
 Who, having some advantage on Octavius,  
 Took it too eagerly. His soldiers fell to spoil,  
 Whilst we by Antony are all enclosed.

*Enter Pindarus.*

PINDARUS

Fly further off, my lord, fly further off!  
 Mark Antony is in your tents, my lord. 10  
 Fly therefore, noble Cassius, fly far off.

CASSIUS

This hill is far enough.—Look, look, Titinius,  
 Are those my tents where I perceive the fire?

TITINIUS

They are, my lord.

CASSIUS

Titinius, if thou lovest me, 15

Mount thou my horse and hide thy spurs in him  
 Till he have brought thee up to yonder troops  
 And here again, that I may rest assured  
 Whether yond troops are friend or enemy.

TITINIUS

I will be here again even with a thought. *He exits.* 20

CASSIUS

Go, Pindarus, get higher on that hill.  
 My sight was ever thick. Regard Titinius  
 And tell me what thou not'st about the field.

*[Pindarus goes up.]*

This day I breathèd first. Time is come round,  
 And where I did begin, there shall I end; 25  
 My life is run his compass.—Sirrah, what news?

PINDARUS, *above*. O my lord!

CASSIUS What news?

PINDARUS

Titinius is enclosed round about

With horsemen that make to him on the spur, 30  
 Yet he spurs on. Now they are almost on him.  
 Now Titinius! Now some light. O, he lights too.  
 He's ta'en. *Shout.*

And hark, they shout for joy.

CASSIUS Come down, behold no more.— 35  
 O, coward that I am to live so long  
 To see my best friend ta'en before my face!

*Pindarus* 「comes down.」

Come hither, sirrah.  
 In Parthia did I take thee prisoner,  
 And then I swore thee, saving of thy life, 40  
 That whatsoever I did bid thee do  
 Thou shouldst attempt it. Come now, keep thine  
 oath.

Now be a freeman, and with this good sword,  
 That ran through Caesar's bowels, search this 45  
 bosom.

Stand not to answer. Here, take thou the hilts,  
 And, when my face is covered, as 'tis now,  
 Guide thou the sword. 「*Pindarus stabs him.*」

Caesar, thou art revenged 50  
 Even with the sword that killed thee. 「*He dies.*」

PINDARUS

So I am free, yet would not so have been,  
 Durst I have done my will.—O Cassius!—  
 Far from this country Pindarus shall run,  
 Where never Roman shall take note of him. 55

「*He exits.*」

*Enter Titinius and Messala.*

MESSALA

It is but change, Titinius, for Octavius  
 Is overthrown by noble Brutus' power,  
 As Cassius' legions are by Antony.

TITINIUS

These tidings will well comfort Cassius.

MESSALA

Where did you leave him? 60

TITINIUS

All disconsolate,  
With Pindarus his bondman, on this hill.

MESSALA

Is not that he that lies upon the ground?

TITINIUS

He lies not like the living. O my heart!

MESSALA

Is not that he? 65

TITINIUS

No, this was he, Messala,  
But Cassius is no more. O setting sun,  
As in thy red rays thou dost sink to night,  
So in his red blood Cassius' day is set.  
The sun of Rome is set. Our day is gone; 70  
Clouds, dews, and dangers come. Our deeds are  
done.

Mistrust of my success hath done this deed.

MESSALA

Mistrust of good success hath done this deed.  
O hateful error, melancholy's child, 75  
Why dost thou show to the apt thoughts of men  
The things that are not? O error, soon conceived,  
Thou never com'st unto a happy birth  
But kill'st the mother that engendered thee!

TITINIUS

What, Pindarus! Where art thou, Pindarus? 80

MESSALA

Seek him, Titinius, whilst I go to meet  
The noble Brutus, thrusting this report  
Into his ears. I may say "thrusting it,"  
For piercing steel and darts envenomèd  
Shall be as welcome to the ears of Brutus 85  
As tidings of this sight.



It is impossible that ever Rome  
Should breed thy fellow.—Friends, I owe more  
tears  
To this dead man than you shall see me pay.— 115  
I shall find time, Cassius; I shall find time.—  
Come, therefore, and to <sup>¶</sup>Thasos<sup>¶</sup> send his body.  
His funerals shall not be in our camp,  
Lest it discomfort us.—Lucilius, come.—  
And come, young Cato. Let us to the field.— 120  
Labeo and Flavius, set our battles on.  
'Tis three o'clock, and, Romans, yet ere night  
We shall try fortune in a second fight.

*They exit.*

**Act 5 <sup>¶</sup>Scene 4<sup>¶</sup>**  
*Alarum. Enter Brutus, Messala, Cato, Lucilius, and  
Flavius.*

BRUTUS

Yet, countrymen, O, yet hold up your heads!  
*¶Brutus, Messala, and Flavius exit.¶*

CATO

What bastard doth not? Who will go with me?  
I will proclaim my name about the field.  
I am the son of Marcus Cato, ho!  
A foe to tyrants and my country's friend. 5  
I am the son of Marcus Cato, ho!

*Enter Soldiers and fight.*

<sup>¶</sup>LUCILIUS<sup>¶</sup>

And I am Brutus, Marcus Brutus, I!  
Brutus, my country's friend! Know me for Brutus.  
*¶Cato is killed.¶*  
O young and noble Cato, art thou down?



**Act 5** **Scene 5**

*Enter Brutus, Dardanus, Clitus, Strato, and Volumnius.*

BRUTUS

Come, poor remains of friends, rest on this rock.

*He sits down.*

CLITUS

Statilius showed the torchlight, but, my lord,  
He came not back. He is or ta'en or slain.

BRUTUS

Sit thee down, Clitus. Slaying is the word;  
It is a deed in fashion. Hark thee, Clitus.

5

*He whispers to Clitus.*

CLITUS

What, I, my lord? No, not for all the world.

BRUTUS

Peace, then, no words.

CLITUS

I'll rather kill myself.

BRUTUS

Hark thee, Dardanus. *He whispers to Dardanus.*

DARDANUS

Shall I do such a deed?

10

CLITUS O Dardanus!

DARDANUS O Clitus!

*Dardanus and Clitus step aside.*

CLITUS

What ill request did Brutus make to thee?

DARDANUS

To kill him, Clitus. Look, he meditates.

CLITUS

Now is that noble vessel full of grief,  
That it runs over even at his eyes.

15

BRUTUS

Come hither, good Volumnius. List a word.

VOLUMNIUS

What says my lord?

BRUTUS

Why this, Volumnius:

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The ghost of Caesar hath appeared to me 20  
 Two several times by night—at Sardis once  
 And this last night here in Philippi fields.  
 I know my hour is come.

VOLUMNIUS Not so, my lord.

BRUTUS

Nay, I am sure it is, Volumnius. 25  
 Thou seest the world, Volumnius, how it goes.  
 Our enemies have beat us to the pit. *Low alarums.*  
 It is more worthy to leap in ourselves  
 Than tarry till they push us. Good Volumnius,  
 Thou know'st that we two went to school together; 30  
 Even for that our love of old, I prithee,  
 Hold thou my sword hilts whilst I run on it.

VOLUMNIUS

That's not an office for a friend, my lord.

*Alarum* [continues.]

CLITUS

Fly, fly, my lord! There is no tarrying here.

BRUTUS

Farewell to you—and you—and you, Volumnius.— 35  
 Strato, thou hast been all this while asleep.  
 Farewell to thee, too, Strato.—Countrymen,  
 My heart doth joy that yet in all my life  
 I found no man but he was true to me.  
 I shall have glory by this losing day 40  
 More than Octavius and Mark Antony  
 By this vile conquest shall attain unto.  
 So fare you well at once, for Brutus' tongue  
 Hath almost ended his life's history.  
 Night hangs upon mine eyes; my bones would rest, 45  
 That have but labored to attain this hour.

*Alarum. Cry within "Fly, fly, fly!"*

CLITUS

Fly, my lord, fly!

BRUTUS

Hence. I will follow.

[All exit but Brutus and Strato.]

I prithee, Strato, stay thou by thy lord.  
 Thou art a fellow of a good respect; 50  
 Thy life hath had some smatch of honor in it.  
 Hold, then, my sword, and turn away thy face  
 While I do run upon it. Wilt thou, Strato?

STRATO

Give me your hand first. Fare you well, my lord.

BRUTUS

Farewell, good Strato. 55

*Brutus runs on his sword.*

Caesar, now be still.

I killed not thee with half so good a will. *He dies.*

*Alarum. Retreat. Enter Antony, Octavius, Messala,  
 Lucilius, and the army.*

OCTAVIUS What man is that?

MESSALA

My master's man.—Strato, where is thy master?

STRATO

Free from the bondage you are in, Messala. 60  
 The conquerors can but make a fire of him,  
 For Brutus only overcame himself,  
 And no man else hath honor by his death.

LUCILIUS

So Brutus should be found.—I thank thee, Brutus,  
 That thou hast proved Lucilius' saying true. 65

OCTAVIUS

All that served Brutus, I will entertain them.—  
 Fellow, wilt thou bestow thy time with me?

STRATO

Ay, if Messala will prefer me to you.

OCTAVIUS

Do so, good Messala.

MESSALA How died my master, Strato? 70

STRATO

I held the sword, and he did run on it.

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MESSALA

Octavius, then take him to follow thee,  
That did the latest service to my master.

ANTONY

This was the noblest Roman of them all.  
All the conspirators save only he 75  
Did that they did in envy of great Caesar.  
He only in a general honest thought  
And common good to all made one of them.  
His life was gentle and the elements  
So mixed in him that nature might stand up 80  
And say to all the world “This was a man.”

OCTAVIUS

According to his virtue, let us use him  
With all respect and rites of burial.  
Within my tent his bones tonight shall lie,  
Most like a soldier, ordered honorably. 85  
So call the field to rest, and let’s away  
To part the glories of this happy day.

*They all exit.*