ACT 4

Scene 17 Enter Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus.

	ANTONY			
FTLN 1805	These many, then, shall die; their names are			
FTLN 1806	pricked.			
	OCTAVIUS			
FTLN 1807	Your brother too must die. Consent you, Lepidus?			
	LEPIDUS			
FTLN 1808	I do consent.			
FTLN 1809	OCTAVIUS Prick him down, Antony.	5		
	LEPIDUS			
FTLN 1810	Upon condition Publius shall not live,			
FTLN 1811	Who is your sister's son, Mark Antony.			
	ANTONY			
FTLN 1812	He shall not live; look, with a spot I damn him.			
FTLN 1813	But, Lepidus, go you to Caesar's house;			
FTLN 1814	Fetch the will hither, and we shall determine			
FTLN 1815	How to cut off some charge in legacies.			
FTLN 1816	LEPIDUS What, shall I find you here?			
FTLN 1817	OCTAVIUS Or here, or at the Capitol. <i>Lepidus exits</i> .			
	ANTONY			
FTLN 1818	This is a slight, unmeritable man,			
FTLN 1819	Meet to be sent on errands. Is it fit,			
FTLN 1820	The threefold world divided, he should stand			
FTLN 1821	One of the three to share it?			
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FTLN 1822	OCTAVIUS So you thought him	
FTLN 1823	And took his voice who should be pricked to die	
FTLN 1824	In our black sentence and proscription.	20
	ANTONY	
FTLN 1825	Octavius, I have seen more days than you,	
FTLN 1826	And, though we lay these honors on this man	
FTLN 1827	To ease ourselves of diverse sland'rous loads,	
FTLN 1828	He shall but bear them as the ass bears gold,	
FTLN 1829	To groan and sweat under the business,	25
FTLN 1830	Either led or driven, as we point the way;	
FTLN 1831	And having brought our treasure where we will,	
FTLN 1832	Then take we down his load and turn him off	
FTLN 1833	(Like to the empty ass) to shake his ears	
FTLN 1834	And graze in commons.	30
FTLN 1835	OCTAVIUS You may do your will,	
FTLN 1836	But he's a tried and valiant soldier.	
	ANTONY	
FTLN 1837	So is my horse, Octavius, and for that	
FTLN 1838	I do appoint him store of provender.	
FTLN 1839	It is a creature that I teach to fight,	35
FTLN 1840	To wind, to stop, to run directly on,	
FTLN 1841	His corporal motion governed by my spirit;	
FTLN 1842	And, in some taste, is Lepidus but so.	
FTLN 1843	He must be taught and trained and bid go forth—	
FTLN 1844	A barren-spirited fellow, one that feeds	40
FTLN 1845	On objects, arts, and imitations	
FTLN 1846	Which, out of use and staled by other men,	
FTLN 1847	Begin his fashion. Do not talk of him	
FTLN 1848	But as a property. And now, Octavius,	
FTLN 1849	Listen great things. Brutus and Cassius	45
FTLN 1850	Are levying powers. We must straight make head.	
FTLN 1851	Therefore let our alliance be combined,	
FTLN 1852	Our best friends made, our means stretched;	
FTLN 1853	And let us presently go sit in council	
FTLN 1854	How covert matters may be best disclosed	50
FTLN 1855	And open perils surest answerèd.	
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	OCTAVIUS			
FTLN 1856	Let us do so, for we ar	re at the stake		
FTLN 1857	And bayed about with	n many enemies,		
FTLN 1858	And some that smile h	have in their hearts, I fear	•	
FTLN 1859	Millions of mischiefs.			55
			They exit.	