

ACT 3

「Scene 1」

Flourish. Enter Caesar, Antony, Lepidus; Brutus, Cassius, Casca, Decius, Metellus, Trebonius, Cinna; Publius, 「Popilius,」 Artemidorus, the Soothsayer, 「and other Senators and Petitioners.」

FTLN 1154	CAESAR	The ides of March are come.	
FTLN 1155	SOOTHSAYER	Ay, Caesar, but not gone.	
FTLN 1156	ARTEMIDORUS	Hail, Caesar. Read this schedule.	
	DECIUS		
FTLN 1157		Trebonius doth desire you to o'erread,	
FTLN 1158		At your best leisure, this his humble suit.	5
	ARTEMIDORUS		
FTLN 1159		O Caesar, read mine first, for mine's a suit	
FTLN 1160		That touches Caesar nearer. Read it, great Caesar.	
	CAESAR		
FTLN 1161		What touches us ourself shall be last served.	
	ARTEMIDORUS		
FTLN 1162		Delay not, Caesar; read it instantly.	
	CAESAR		
FTLN 1163		What, is the fellow mad?	10
FTLN 1164	PUBLIUS	Sirrah, give place.	
	CASSIUS		
FTLN 1165		What, urge you your petitions in the street?	
FTLN 1166		Come to the Capitol.	
		<i>「Caesar goes forward, the rest following.」</i>	

POPILIUS, 「*to Cassius*」

FTLN 1167

I wish your enterprise today may thrive.

FTLN 1168

CASSIUS What enterprise, Popilius?

15

FTLN 1169

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

FTLN 1170

BRUTUS What said Popilius Lena?

CASSIUS

FTLN 1171

He wished today our enterprise might thrive.

FTLN 1172

I fear our purpose is discoverèd.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1173

Look how he makes to Caesar. Mark him.

20

CASSIUS

FTLN 1174

Casca, be sudden, for we fear prevention.—

FTLN 1175

Brutus, what shall be done? If this be known,

FTLN 1176

Cassius or Caesar never shall turn back,

FTLN 1177

For I will slay myself.

FTLN 1178

BRUTUS Cassius, be constant.

25

FTLN 1179

Popilius Lena speaks not of our purposes,

FTLN 1180

For look, he smiles, and Caesar doth not change.

CASSIUS

FTLN 1181

Trebonius knows his time, for look you, Brutus,

FTLN 1182

He draws Mark Antony out of the way.

「*Trebonius and Antony exit.*」

DECIUS

FTLN 1183

Where is Metellus Cimber? Let him go

FTLN 1184

And presently prefer his suit to Caesar.

30

BRUTUS

FTLN 1185

He is addressed. Press near and second him.

CINNA

FTLN 1186

Casca, you are the first that rears your hand.

CAESAR

FTLN 1187

Are we all ready? What is now amiss

FTLN 1188

That Caesar and his Senate must redress?

35

METELLUS, 「*kneeling*」

FTLN 1189

Most high, most mighty, and most puissant Caesar,

FTLN 1190

Metellus Cimber throws before thy seat

FTLN 1191

An humble heart.

FTLN 1192	CAESAR	I must prevent thee, Cimber.	
FTLN 1193		These couchings and these lowly courtesies	40
FTLN 1194		Might fire the blood of ordinary men	
FTLN 1195		And turn preordinance and first decree	
FTLN 1196		Into the 「law」 of children. Be not fond	
FTLN 1197		To think that Caesar bears such rebel blood	
FTLN 1198		That will be thawed from the true quality	45
FTLN 1199		With that which melteth fools—I mean sweet	
FTLN 1200		words,	
FTLN 1201		Low-crookèd curtsies, and base spaniel fawning.	
FTLN 1202		Thy brother by decree is banishèd.	
FTLN 1203		If thou dost bend and pray and fawn for him,	50
FTLN 1204		I spurn thee like a cur out of my way.	
FTLN 1205		Know: Caesar doth not wrong, nor without cause	
FTLN 1206		Will he be satisfied.	
	METELLUS		
FTLN 1207		Is there no voice more worthy than my own	
FTLN 1208		To sound more sweetly in great Caesar's ear	55
FTLN 1209		For the repealing of my banished brother?	
	BRUTUS, 「 <i>kneeling</i> 」		
FTLN 1210		I kiss thy hand, but not in flattery, Caesar,	
FTLN 1211		Desiring thee that Publius Cimber may	
FTLN 1212		Have an immediate freedom of repeal.	
	CAESAR		
FTLN 1213		What, Brutus?	60
	CASSIUS, 「 <i>kneeling</i> 」		
FTLN 1214		Pardon, Caesar; Caesar, pardon!	
FTLN 1215		As low as to thy foot doth Cassius fall	
FTLN 1216		To beg enfranchisement for Publius Cimber.	
	CAESAR		
FTLN 1217		I could be well moved, if I were as you.	
FTLN 1218		If I could pray to move, prayers would move me.	65
FTLN 1219		But I am constant as the Northern Star,	
FTLN 1220		Of whose true fixed and resting quality	
FTLN 1221		There is no fellow in the firmament.	
FTLN 1222		The skies are painted with unnumbered sparks;	

FTLN 1223	They are all fire, and every one doth shine.	70
FTLN 1224	But there's but one in all doth hold his place.	
FTLN 1225	So in the world: 'tis furnished well with men,	
FTLN 1226	And men are flesh and blood, and apprehensive.	
FTLN 1227	Yet in the number I do know but one	
FTLN 1228	That unassailable holds on his rank,	75
FTLN 1229	Unshaked of motion; and that I am he	
FTLN 1230	Let me a little show it, even in this:	
FTLN 1231	That I was constant Cimber should be banished	
FTLN 1232	And constant do remain to keep him so.	
	CINNA, <i>['kneeling']</i>	
FTLN 1233	O Caesar—	80
FTLN 1234	CAESAR Hence. Wilt thou lift up Olympus?	
	DECIUS, <i>['kneeling']</i>	
FTLN 1235	Great Caesar—	
FTLN 1236	CAESAR Doth not Brutus bootless kneel?	
FTLN 1237	CASCA Speak, hands, for me!	
	<i>['As Casca strikes, the others rise up and'] stab Caesar.</i>	
FTLN 1238	CAESAR <i>Et tu, Brutè?</i> —Then fall, Caesar.	85
	<i>['He'] dies.</i>	
	CINNA	
FTLN 1239	Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!	
FTLN 1240	Run hence, proclaim, cry it about the streets.	
	CASSIUS	
FTLN 1241	Some to the common pulpits and cry out	
FTLN 1242	“Liberty, freedom, and enfranchisement.”	
	BRUTUS	
FTLN 1243	People and Senators, be not affrighted.	90
FTLN 1244	Fly not; stand still. Ambition's debt is paid.	
	CASCA	
FTLN 1245	Go to the pulpit, Brutus.	
FTLN 1246	DECIUS And Cassius too.	
FTLN 1247	BRUTUS Where's Publius?	
	CINNA	
FTLN 1248	Here, quite confounded with this mutiny.	95

METELLUS

FTLN 1249 Stand fast together, lest some friend of Caesar's
FTLN 1250 Should chance—

BRUTUS

FTLN 1251 Talk not of standing.—Publius, good cheer.
FTLN 1252 There is no harm intended to your person,
FTLN 1253 Nor to no Roman else. So tell them, Publius. 100

CASSIUS

FTLN 1254 And leave us, Publius, lest that the people,
FTLN 1255 Rushing on us, should do your age some mischief.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1256 Do so, and let no man abide this deed
FTLN 1257 But we the doers.

['All but the Conspirators exit.']

Enter Trebonius.

FTLN 1258 CASSIUS Where is Antony? 105

FTLN 1259 TREBONIUS Fled to his house amazed.

FTLN 1260 Men, wives, and children stare, cry out, and run
FTLN 1261 As it were doomsday.

FTLN 1262 BRUTUS Fates, we will know your
FTLN 1263 pleasures. 110

FTLN 1264 That we shall die we know; 'tis but the time,
FTLN 1265 And drawing days out, that men stand upon.

CASCA

FTLN 1266 Why, he that cuts off twenty years of life
FTLN 1267 Cuts off so many years of fearing death.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1268 Grant that, and then is death a benefit. 115

FTLN 1269 So are we Caesar's friends, that have abridged
FTLN 1270 His time of fearing death. Stoop, Romans, stoop,
FTLN 1271 And let us bathe our hands in Caesar's blood
FTLN 1272 Up to the elbows and besmear our swords.

FTLN 1273 Then walk we forth, even to the marketplace, 120
FTLN 1274 And, waving our red weapons o'er our heads,
FTLN 1275 Let's all cry "Peace, freedom, and liberty!"

CASSIUS

FTLN 1276

Stoop then, and wash.

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

FTLN 1277

How many ages hence

FTLN 1278

Shall this our lofty scene be acted over

125

FTLN 1279

In 「states」 unborn and accents yet unknown!

BRUTUS

FTLN 1280

How many times shall Caesar bleed in sport,

FTLN 1281

That now on Pompey's basis 「lies」 along

FTLN 1282

No worthier than the dust!

FTLN 1283

CASSIUS So oft as that shall be,

130

FTLN 1284

So often shall the knot of us be called

FTLN 1285

The men that gave their country liberty.

DECIUS

FTLN 1286

What, shall we forth?

FTLN 1287

CASSIUS Ay, every man away.

FTLN 1288

Brutus shall lead, and we will grace his heels

135

FTLN 1289

With the most boldest and best hearts of Rome.

Enter a Servant.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1290

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

SERVANT, 「*kneeling*」

FTLN 1291

Thus, Brutus, did my master bid me kneel.

FTLN 1292

Thus did Mark Antony bid me fall down,

FTLN 1293

And, being prostrate, thus he bade me say:

140

FTLN 1294

Brutus is noble, wise, valiant, and honest;

FTLN 1295

Caesar was mighty, bold, royal, and loving.

FTLN 1296

Say, I love Brutus, and I honor him;

FTLN 1297

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

FTLN 1298

If Brutus will vouchsafe that Antony

145

FTLN 1299

May safely come to him and be resolved

FTLN 1300

How Caesar hath deserved to lie in death,

FTLN 1301

Mark Antony shall not love Caesar dead

FTLN 1302

So well as Brutus living, but will follow

FTLN 1303

The fortunes and affairs of noble Brutus

150

FTLN 1304 Thorough the hazards of this untrod state
FTLN 1305 With all true faith. So says my master Antony.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1306 Thy master is a wise and valiant Roman.
FTLN 1307 I never thought him worse.
FTLN 1308 Tell him, so please him come unto this place,
FTLN 1309 He shall be satisfied and, by my honor,
FTLN 1310 Depart untouched.

155

FTLN 1311 SERVANT I'll fetch him presently.

Servant exits.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1312 I know that we shall have him well to friend.

CASSIUS

FTLN 1313 I wish we may; but yet have I a mind
FTLN 1314 That fears him much, and my misgiving still
FTLN 1315 Falls shrewdly to the purpose.

160

Enter Antony.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1316 But here comes Antony.—Welcome, Mark Antony!

ANTONY

FTLN 1317 O mighty Caesar, dost thou lie so low?
FTLN 1318 Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils
FTLN 1319 Shrunk to this little measure? Fare thee well.—
FTLN 1320 I know not, gentlemen, what you intend,
FTLN 1321 Who else must be let blood, who else is rank.
FTLN 1322 If I myself, there is no hour so fit
FTLN 1323 As Caesar's death's hour, nor no instrument
FTLN 1324 Of half that worth as those your swords made rich
FTLN 1325 With the most noble blood of all this world.
FTLN 1326 I do beseech you, if you bear me hard,
FTLN 1327 Now, whilst your purpled hands do reek and smoke,
FTLN 1328 Fulfill your pleasure. Live a thousand years,
FTLN 1329 I shall not find myself so apt to die;
FTLN 1330 No place will please me so, no mean of death,

165

170

175

FTLN 1331	As here by Caesar, and by you cut off,	
FTLN 1332	The choice and master spirits of this age.	
	BRUTUS	
FTLN 1333	O Antony, beg not your death of us!	180
FTLN 1334	Though now we must appear bloody and cruel,	
FTLN 1335	As by our hands and this our present act	
FTLN 1336	You see we do, yet see you but our hands	
FTLN 1337	And this the bleeding business they have done.	
FTLN 1338	Our hearts you see not; they are pitiful;	185
FTLN 1339	And pity to the general wrong of Rome	
FTLN 1340	(As fire drives out fire, so pity pity)	
FTLN 1341	Hath done this deed on Caesar. For your part,	
FTLN 1342	To you our swords have leaden points, Mark Antony.	
FTLN 1343	Our arms in strength of malice, and our hearts	190
FTLN 1344	Of brothers' temper, do receive you in	
FTLN 1345	With all kind love, good thoughts, and reverence.	
	CASSIUS	
FTLN 1346	Your voice shall be as strong as any man's	
FTLN 1347	In the disposing of new dignities.	
	BRUTUS	
FTLN 1348	Only be patient till we have appeased	195
FTLN 1349	The multitude, beside themselves with fear;	
FTLN 1350	And then we will deliver you the cause	
FTLN 1351	Why I, that did love Caesar when I struck him,	
FTLN 1352	Have thus proceeded.	
FTLN 1353	ANTONY I doubt not of your wisdom.	200
FTLN 1354	Let each man render me his bloody hand.	
FTLN 1355	First, Marcus Brutus, will I shake with you.—	
FTLN 1356	Next, Caius Cassius, do I take your hand.—	
FTLN 1357	Now, Decius Brutus, yours;—now yours,	
FTLN 1358	Metellus;—	205
FTLN 1359	Yours, Cinna;—and, my valiant Casca, yours;—	
FTLN 1360	Though last, not least in love, yours, good	
FTLN 1361	Trebonius.—	
FTLN 1362	Gentlemen all—alas, what shall I say?	
FTLN 1363	My credit now stands on such slippery ground	210
FTLN 1364	That one of two bad ways you must conceit me,	

FTLN 1365	Either a coward or a flatterer.—	
FTLN 1366	That I did love thee, Caesar, O, 'tis true!	
FTLN 1367	If then thy spirit look upon us now,	
FTLN 1368	Shall it not grieve thee dearer than thy death	215
FTLN 1369	To see thy Antony making his peace,	
FTLN 1370	Shaking the bloody fingers of thy foes—	
FTLN 1371	Most noble!—in the presence of thy corpse?	
FTLN 1372	Had I as many eyes as thou hast wounds,	
FTLN 1373	Weeping as fast as they stream forth thy blood,	220
FTLN 1374	It would become me better than to close	
FTLN 1375	In terms of friendship with thine enemies.	
FTLN 1376	Pardon me, Julius! Here wast thou bayed, brave	
FTLN 1377	hart,	
FTLN 1378	Here didst thou fall, and here thy hunters stand	225
FTLN 1379	Signed in thy spoil and crimsoned in thy Lethe.	
FTLN 1380	O world, thou wast the forest to this hart,	
FTLN 1381	And this indeed, O world, the heart of thee.	
FTLN 1382	How like a deer stricken by many princes	
FTLN 1383	Dost thou here lie!	230
	CASSIUS	
FTLN 1384	Mark Antony—	
FTLN 1385	ANTONY Pardon me, Caius Cassius.	
FTLN 1386	The enemies of Caesar shall say this;	
FTLN 1387	Then, in a friend, it is cold modesty.	
	CASSIUS	
FTLN 1388	I blame you not for praising Caesar so.	235
FTLN 1389	But what compact mean you to have with us?	
FTLN 1390	Will you be pricked in number of our friends,	
FTLN 1391	Or shall we on and not depend on you?	
	ANTONY	
FTLN 1392	Therefore I took your hands, but was indeed	
FTLN 1393	Swayed from the point by looking down on Caesar.	240
FTLN 1394	Friends am I with you all and love you all,	
FTLN 1395	Upon this hope, that you shall give me reasons	
FTLN 1396	Why and wherein Caesar was dangerous.	
	BRUTUS	
FTLN 1397	Or else were this a savage spectacle.	

FTLN 1430	ANTONY	Be it so.	
FTLN 1431		I do desire no more.	
	BRUTUS		
FTLN 1432		Prepare the body, then, and follow us.	
		<i>All but Antony exit.</i>	
	ANTONY		
FTLN 1433		O pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth,	280
FTLN 1434		That I am meek and gentle with these butchers.	
FTLN 1435		Thou art the ruins of the noblest man	
FTLN 1436		That ever livèd in the tide of times.	
FTLN 1437		Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood!	
FTLN 1438		Over thy wounds now do I prophesy	285
FTLN 1439		(Which like dumb mouths do ope their ruby lips	
FTLN 1440		To beg the voice and utterance of my tongue)	
FTLN 1441		A curse shall light upon the limbs of men;	
FTLN 1442		Domestic fury and fierce civil strife	
FTLN 1443		Shall cumber all the parts of Italy;	290
FTLN 1444		Blood and destruction shall be so in use	
FTLN 1445		And dreadful objects so familiar	
FTLN 1446		That mothers shall but smile when they behold	
FTLN 1447		Their infants quartered with the hands of war,	
FTLN 1448		All pity choked with custom of fell deeds;	295
FTLN 1449		And Caesar's spirit, ranging for revenge,	
FTLN 1450		With Ate by his side come hot from hell,	
FTLN 1451		Shall in these confines with a monarch's voice	
FTLN 1452		Cry "Havoc!" and let slip the dogs of war,	
FTLN 1453		That this foul deed shall smell above the earth	300
FTLN 1454		With carrion men groaning for burial.	
		<i>Enter Octavius' Servant.</i>	
FTLN 1455		You serve Octavius Caesar, do you not?	
FTLN 1456	SERVANT	I do, Mark Antony.	
	ANTONY		
FTLN 1457		Caesar did write for him to come to Rome.	
	SERVANT		
FTLN 1458		He did receive his letters and is coming,	305

FTLN 1459 And bid me say to you by word of mouth—
FTLN 1460 O Caesar!

ANTONY

FTLN 1461 Thy heart is big. Get thee apart and weep.
FTLN 1462 Passion, I see, is catching, 「for」 mine eyes,
FTLN 1463 Seeing those beads of sorrow stand in thine, 310
FTLN 1464 Began to water. Is thy master coming?

SERVANT

FTLN 1465 He lies tonight within seven leagues of Rome.

ANTONY

FTLN 1466 Post back with speed and tell him what hath
FTLN 1467 chanced.
FTLN 1468 Here is a mourning Rome, a dangerous Rome, 315
FTLN 1469 No Rome of safety for Octavius yet.
FTLN 1470 Hie hence and tell him so.—Yet stay awhile;
FTLN 1471 Thou shalt not back till I have borne this corpse
FTLN 1472 Into the marketplace. There shall I try,
FTLN 1473 In my oration, how the people take 320
FTLN 1474 The cruel issue of these bloody men,
FTLN 1475 According to the which thou shalt discourse
FTLN 1476 To young Octavius of the state of things.
FTLN 1477 Lend me your hand.

They exit 「with Caesar's body.」