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Primeshakesco





THE KING OR QUEEN HAD **ALL THE POWER** AND TOLD EVERYONE WHAT TO DO. THE PEOPLE OF ROME DECIDED AFTER A WHILE THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT A KING OR QUEEN ANYMORE, THEY WANTED TO CHOOSE THE PEOPLE WHO TOLD THEM WHAT TO DO.

AS ANY GOOD DETECTIVE KNOWS, IF YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK INTO A MYSTERY, YOU NEED A BIT OF BACKGROUND. THIS IS WHAT I FOUND OUT. PAY ATTENTION, BECAUSE NOTHING MAKES SENSE WITHOUT HEARING THIS STORY FIRST.....



WE ALL KNOW THAT ROME IS IN ITALY, BUT TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO (THAT'S A LOT OF YEARS) ITALY WASN'T A COUNTRY LIKE IT IS TODAY, ROME WAS A SMALL KINGDOM- SO FOR A LONG TIME IT HAD A KING OR QUEEN.



THE PEOPLE ALSO DECIDED THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT JUST **ONE** LEADER, BECAUSE IF YOU GOT A BAD ONE BY MISTAKE, EVERYTHING MIGHT GO DOWN THE TOILET. INSTEAD THEY WANTED **TWO** LEADERS SO THAT THINGS WOULD BE A BIT FAIRER AND BETTER DECISIONS WOULD BE MADE. THESE TWO PEOPLE WOULD BE CALLED **CONSULS**



THE TWO CONSULS NEEDED HELP AND GUIDANCE AND THIS CAME FROM THE SENATE - A BIT LIKE THE GOVERNMENT - A FEW HUNDRED PEOPLE WHO COULD HELP THE CONSULS WORK OUT PROBLEMS. SO THE TWO BRAVEST AND BRAINIEST PEOPLE WERE MADE CONSULS AND THEY WENT TO WORK ON MAKING ROME IMPORTANT. THOSE CONSULS, AND THEN THE CONSULS AFTER THEM AND THEN THE CONSULS THAT CAME AFTER THAT, WERE SO GOOD AT THEIR JOBS THAT ROME BECAME THE **MOST IMPORTANT PLACE IN THE WORLD!**



IN FACT, ROME WENT OUT AND CONQUERED LOTS OF OTHER BITS OF THE WORLD. IT HAD BITS OF AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, IT HAD LOTS OF EUROPE LIKE BELGIUM AND SPAIN AND GREECE AND PORTUGAL AND.....WELL **LOADS** OF EUROPE REALLY. ALL THESE PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD WERE LIVING THE WAY THE ROMANS TOLD THEM TO. FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS (THAT'S ALSO A LOT OF YEARS) ROME WAS HAPPY WITH THIS PLAN.

BUT AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, NOT ALL OF THESE CONSULS GOT ON VERY WELL WITH EACH OTHER, IT WAS A TRICKY JOB AND BECAUSE THERE WERE TWO OF THEM AND THERE WERE PLENTY OF ARGUMENTS. MOST OF THE TIME ONE CONSUL WOULD SHOUT AND POINT AT THE OTHER ONE, AND THEN CONSUL NUMBER TWO WOULD POINT AND SHOUT BACK, THEN EVENTUALLY THEY'D KISS AND MAKE UP AND FINALLY MAKE A DECISION.



RANGER OF THE NORMAL STERN



ONE CONSUL WAS CALLED JULIUS CAESAR. HE WAS A GENERAL IN THE ARMY. HE HAD JUST CONQUERED A PLACE CALLED GALL - WHICH IS FRANCE NOW. HE DIDN'T CONQUER THEM ON HIS OWN, I THINK HE DID IT WITH HIS ARMY. HE DEFINITELY DID, I'VE JUST LOOKED IT UP, HE HAD HIS OWN ARMY! THE PEOPLE OF ROME LOVED JULIUS CAESAR, HIS POSTER WAS UP ON EVERYONE'S WALL . HE WAS LIKE A MOVIE STAR. THE OTHER CONSUL WAS CALLED POMPEY. HE WAS A BIT BORING COMPARED TO JULIUS CAESAR, BUT THE SENATE (GOVERNMENT) LIKED HIM A LOT AND SO DID SOME OF THE PEOPLE.



BUT JULIUS CAESAR WAS WINNING BATTLES!



JULIUS CAESAR HAD DONE HIS CONQUERING AND GOT RICH BECAUSE OF ALL THE STUFF HE STOLE WHILE HE WAS CONQUERING. HIS ARMY ALSO GOT A LOT BIGGER. POMPEY THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA FOR JULIUS CAESAR TO GIVE UP HIS ARMY. POMPEY WAS SCARED OF WHAT JULIUS CAESAR MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO WITH THAT MASSIVE ARMY, LIKE MAYBE **TAKE CONTROL** OF ROME ALL BY HIMSELF? POMPEY SPOKE TO THE SENATE AND THE SENATE AGREED. THEY QUICKLY WROTE A LETTER TO MR CAESAR ASKING HIM TO KINDLY STOP HAVING AN ARMY.





THE FIGHT WAS ON! POMPEY AND CAESAR STARTED A WAR AGAINST EACH OTHER. THE WAR WENT ON FOR FOUR YEARS, FOUR YEARS!

EVENTUALLY CAESAR WON, POMPEY WAS DEFEATED AND CAESAR CAME BACK TO THE CITY OF ROME.



SOME PEOPLE LOVED CAESAR BUT SOME OTHER PEOPLE WERE A BIT WORRIED ABOUT HOW POWERFUL CAESAR WAS NOW. REMEMBER, THEY HADN'T HAD JUST ONE RULER FOR A LONG TIME AND THEY WERE SURE THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN AGAIN. **THAT'S** A PRETTY GOOD PREQUEL, BUT WE'RE NOT MAKING **THAT** STORY RIGHT NOW. **THAT** STORY HAS ALREADY HAPPENED AND OURS IS JUST BEGINNING...... THE WEATHER WAS GOOD, THAT WAS A RELIEF ...

IT HAD TAKEN AGES TO PLAN THE FESTIVAL AND IF IT HAD RAINED, THEN THE DAY WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN RUINED. IT WAS TWO O'CLOCK ON A MARCH AFTERNOON AND THE SUN WAS SHINING! EVERYONE WAS STARTING TO EMERGE FROM THEIR HOUSES FULL OF EXCITEMENT - IT HAD BEEN A LONG WINTER, BUT FINALLY EVERYONE HAD SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT. WELL ACTUALLY, THEY HAD TWO THINGS TO CHEER ABOUT BECAUSE JULIUS CAESAR HAD RETURNED TO ROME AT LAST.



THE WAR BETWEEN **CAESAR** AND **POMPEY** HAD LASTED FOR FOUR YEARS BUT FINALLY, **FINALLY** IT WAS OVER. POMPEY WAS GONE, CAESAR WAS HOME AND THE GOOD TIMES WERE BACK. **PARTYYYYY!**



THE STREETS WERE FILLING QUICKLY NOW, TABLES WERE BEING SET UP LAID HEAVY WITH FOOD AND DRINK - A FEAST! MUSIC COULD BE HEARD AND PEOPLE WERE BEGINNING TO DANCE. THE FESTIVAL OF LUPERCAL HAD BEGUN. LET'S JUST HOPE THE RAIN STAYS AWAY A BIT LONGER.....

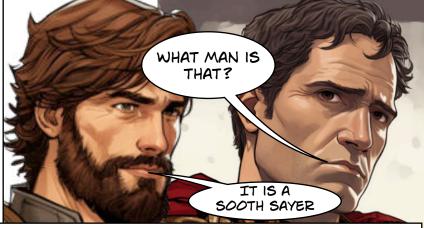


THE SOLDIERS FLAVIUS AND MARULLUS WERE ANGRY AND THE POOR SHOEMAKER WAS SCARED. "YOU BLOCKS YOU STONES, YOU WORSE THAN SENSELESS THINGS. KNEW YOU NOT POMPEY?" SAID MARULLUS "MANY A TIME HAVE YOU CLIMBED UP TO WALLS AND BATTLEMENTS TO SEE GREAT POMPEY PASS THE STREETS OF ROME. AND NOW DO YOU STREW FLOWERS IN HIS WAY THAT COMES IN TRIUMPH OVER POMPEY'S BLOOD. BE GONE!" THAT'S ONE WAY TO RUIN A PARTY!

No.10 Pompey - STRIKER IT SEEMS THAT NOT EVERYONE WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE JULIUS CAESAR RETURN. A LOT OF PEOPLE (ESPECIALLY SOLDIERS) WERE VERY FOND OF POMPEY AND WERE SAD TO SEE HIM GO. A BIT LIKE WHEN YOUR FAVOURITE PLAYER GETS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER CLUB. EXCEPT THAT POMPEY HADN'T BEEN TRANSFERRED, HE'D BEEN, WELL, KILLED BY CAESAR. SO IT'S NOT LIKE FOOTBALL AT ALL-

THE SOLDIERS MOVED ON AND THE FESTIVAL STARTED AGAIN ...

SUDDENLY A CRY WENT UP CAESAR, CAESAR! AND THE CROWD RUSHED THROUGH THE STREETS, TRYING TO GET A GLIMPSE OF THE MAN HIMSELF - THEN A SHOUT CAME FROM WITHIN THE CROWD - CAESAR, BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH. (THE 15TH OF MARCH- THAT'S TOMORROW!!!!)) CAESAR HEARD THE SHOUT AND TURNED TO HIS FRIEND BRUTUS....



"WHAT MAN IS THAT?" SAID CAESAR- HIS FRIEND **BRUTUS** TOLD HIM IT WAS A SOOTHSAYER. NOW, A SOOTHSAYER IS A PERSON WHO IS REALLY GOOD AT TELLING THE FUTURE OR PREDICTING WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. THEY ARE KIND OF LIKE MAGICAL FORTUNE-TELLERS!



CAESAR DISMISSED THE SOOTH SAYER AS A FOOL, AND MOVED ON, SMILING AND WAVING TO THE CROWD ONCE AGAIN.

"SPEAK ONCE AGAIN"

SAID CAESAR

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!!!

BRUTUS WATCHED HIS FRIEND CAESAR DISAPPEAR INTO THE DISTANCE. SUDDENLY HE FELT AN ARM ON HIS SHOULDER AND TURNED TO SEE CASSIUS. CASSIUS WAS ANOTHER IMPORTANT ROMAN, HE WAS CLEVER AND TOLD EVERYONE THAT HE WAS THEIR FRIEND, BUT EVERYONE WAS A BIT UNSURE ABOUT HIM. HE WAS WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL....CRAFTY. BRUTUS DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO TALK TO CASSIUS RIGHT NOW, HE HAD THINGS ON HIS MIND.... BRUTUS WANTED TO LEAVE, BUT CASSIUS WANTED TO TALK. JUST THEN ANOTHER CRY WENT UP FROM THE CROWD

CAESAR!!

HOORAY!

I WOULD NOT CASSIUS, YET I LOVE HIM WELL

HAD THINGS TO SAY

BRUTUS WAS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THIS

CONVERSATION - BRUTUS KNEW CASSIUS DIDN'T REALLY

LIKE CAESAR, AND HE WANTED TO LEAVE, BUT CASSIUS

"WHAT MEANS THIS SHOUTING", SAID BRUTUS, "I DO FEAR THE PEOPLE CHOOSE CAESAR FOR THEIR KING".

HE TOLD BRUTUS THAT CAESAR WAS GETTING FAR TOO BIG FOR HIS BOOTS, THAT ROME WAS ABOUT THE PEOPLE, NOT JUST ONE MAN.



CASSIUS SAID THAT CAESAR THINKS "HE DOTH BESTRIDE THE NARROW WORLD LIKE A COLOSSUS AND WE PETTY MEN WALK UNDER HIS HUGE LEGS"

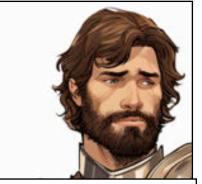


CASSIUS HAD TO KEEP PAUSING HIS SPEECH AS MORE SHOUTS WERE HEARD FROM THE CROWD. FINALLY HE STOPPED TALKING AND ASKED BRUTUS WHAT HE THOUGHT....

DO YOU FEAR

IT? THEN I THINK YOU

WOULD NOT HAVE IT SO?



----AFTER ALL, CASSIUS SAID, **BRUTUS** ONLY WANTED WHAT WAS BEST FOR ROME, RIGHT????



CAESAR SAW CASSIUS ACROSS THE SQUARE AS HE PASSED BY......CAESAR DIDN'T LIKE CASSIUS MUCH, BUT THEN, CASSIUS DIDN'T LIKE CAESAR VERY MUCH EITHER..

BRUTUS TOLD HIM HE'D THINK ABOUT WHAT CASSIUS HAD SAID, WHEN SUDDENLY CAESAR WAS PASSING BACK THROUGH THE STREETS.







SOMETHING WAS WRONG.

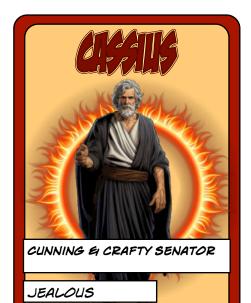
THEM THAT THE GODS WERE ANGRY WITH CAESAR.

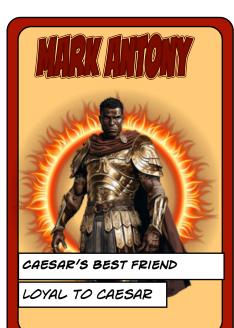


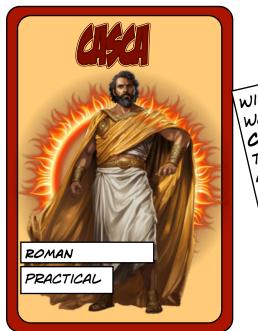
WE'VE REACHED THE END OF ACT ONE AND I THINK WE NEED TO CHECK IN ON OUR CAST OF CHARACTERS.....

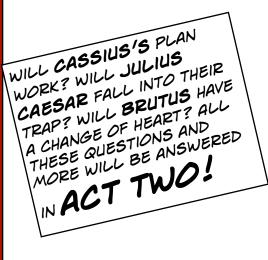










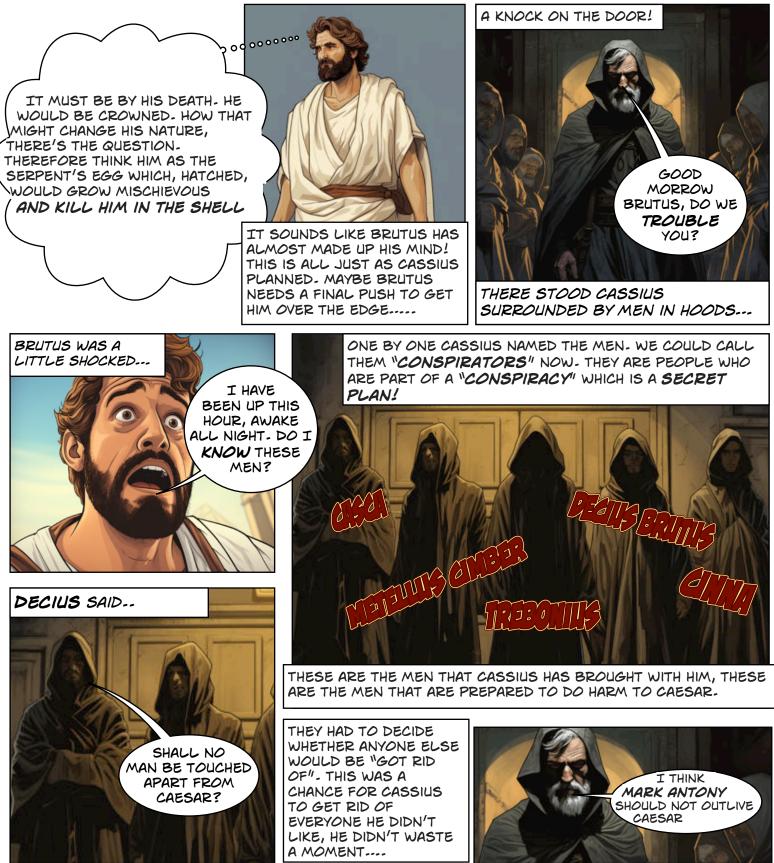




SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED ALREADY AND THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO FOLLOW. AS WE START ACT TWO, WE FIND BRUTUS IN HIS HOUSE.THE STORM IS OVER AND BRUTUS HAS FOUND ALL THE LETTERS THAT WERE THROWN THROUGH HIS WINDOW IN THE NIGHT.



DO YOU THINK HE'S BEEN CONVINCED THAT CAESAR SHOULD BE DEALT WITH? LET'S TRY TO HEAR WHAT HE'S SAYING....





DECIUS AND METELLUS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BEST IF THEY WENT TO CAESAR'S HOUSE TO MAKE SURE HE LEFT FOR THE SENATE AS NORMAL.

"YET I FEAR HIM FOR THE LOVE HE BEARS TO CAESAR" SAID CASSIUS, TRYING TO COVER HIS TRACKS

"LET MARK ANTONY NOT DIE"

IT WAS DECIDED.



ALL OF THEM WERE WORRIED THAT BECAUSE CAESAR WAS SUPERSTITIOUS AND BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN A HUGE STORM THE NIGHT BEFORE, THAT CAESAR WOULDN'T GO TO THE SENATE BECAUSE IT MIGHT HAVE MADE HIM SCARED AND SUSPICIOUS. CAESAR HAD TO GO TO THE SENATE TODAY SO THAT THEY COULD KILL HIM, BEFORE ANYONE FOUND OUT ABOUT THEIR PLAN.

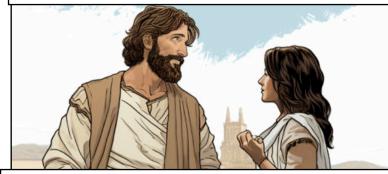
AFTER ALL OF THE CONSPIRATORS HAD LEFT HIS HOUSE, BRUTUS WAS DEEP IN THOUGHT, STILL WONDERING IF HE WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING ...





HE HEARD THE SOUND OF HIS WIFE, **PORTIA**, ENTERING THE ROOM! HAD SHE HEARD ANYTHING?

PORTIA ASKED HIM WHAT WAS GOING ON? HE'S BEEN UP ALL NIGHT, WANDERING AROUND AND MUTTERING.



BRUTUS TOLD HER THAT WE WASN'T VERY WELL, THAT WAS ALL, BUT SHE KNEW HE WAS HIDING SOMETHING ...

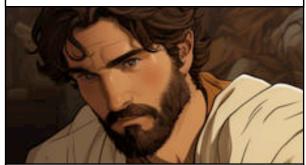


SHE THEN REMINDED HIM THAT SHE WAS HIS WIFE AND DESERVED TO KNOW WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

MEANWHILE, THE TWO FIGURES OF DECIMUS AND METTELUS WERE ON THEIR WAY TO CAESAR'S HOUSE....



BRUTUS WANTED TO TELL HER, BUT SUCH A TERRIBLE SECRET MUST BE KEPT, WELL, SECRET.



HE TOLD HER TO GO BACK TO BED AND HE'D TELL HER LATER ...



JULIUS CAESAR HAD JUST BEEN THROUGH THE WORST NIGHT'S SLEEP EVER- HIS WIFE CALPURNIA HAD BEEN TOSSING AND TURNING AND MUMBLING AND SHOUTING ALL NIGHT LONG -SLEEP TALKING!

YOU SHALL NOT

STIR OUT OF THE

HOUSE TODAY



HE COULD ONLY CATCH THE OCCASIONAL THING SHE WAS SAYING, SOMETHING THAT SOUNDED LIKE "HELP, HO, THEY MURDER CAESAR."

HONESTLY, LAST NIGHT OF ALL NIGHTS - THE NIGHT BEFORE HE MIGHT BE OFFERED THE CROWN ONCE AND FOR ALL



ALTHOUGH HE WAS TIRED, HE WAS EXCITED FOR THE DAY AHEAD OF HIM-HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR THE SENATE--- CALPURNIA DIDN'T WANT CAESAR TO GO OUT, BUT CAESAR WAS

DETERMINED TO GO.

SHE RELAXED. THEN DECIUS

AH HERE'S

THE SENATE THAT I'M

NOT COMING TODAY.

TURNED UP.

WHEN CALPURNIA BURST INTO THE ROOM

CAESAR

SHALL FORTH

CALPURNIA (WHO DIDN'T NORMALLY GET SUPERSTITIOUS) WAS SUDDENLY VERY FRIGHTENED OF THE DREAMS SHE'D BEEN HAVING AND SHE'D DECIDED THAT THEY WERE BAD OMENS, AND THAT HER HUSBAND SHOULD NOT GO OUT TODAY.

DECIUS ASKED CAESAR ...

WHAT REASON WILL I GIVE THEM FOR YOUR ABSENCE?

JUST TELL

THEM I'M NOT

COMING!

CAESAR SAID THAT BAD DREAMS SHOULD BE AFRAID OF HIM AND THAT HE WAS MORE DANGEROUS THAN DANGER-



THEY ARGUED FOR A WHILE, AND CALPURNIA TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT HER DREAM. SO EVENTUALLY HE SAID HE'D STAY AT HOME WITH HER IF IT MADE HER FEEL BETTER.

CAESAR FELT A BIT FOOLISH ABOUT HAVING TO SAY THAT HE WAS STAYING AT HOME BECAUSE HIS WIFE HAD A BAD DREAM, BUT HE HAD TO GIVE THE SENATE SOME REASON FOR NOT TURNING UP TODAY...



IT WAS NO GOOD, HE WASN'T GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THAT. CAESAR FELT HE HAD TO TELL DECIUS ABOUT CALPURNIA'S DREAM. CALPURNIA HAD TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT IT, SO HE DESCRIBED IT AS BEST HE COULD....





BRUTUS AND CASSIUS ARE A LITTLE AFRAID THAT SOMEONE WILL TELL CAESAR ABOUT THE PLOT TO MURDER HIM, ESPECIALLY WHEN A ROMAN CALLED **POPILIUS** WALKS UP TO CASSIUS AND SAYS

SO THE SCENE IS SET. JULIUS CAESAR MAKES HIS WAY TOWARDS THE SENATE .. WILL IT BE FOR THE VERY LAST TIME? HE HAS MANY

THE SENATE,

CITIZENS MAKE PETITIONS TO HIM. THAT MEANS THAT THEY ARE ASKING FOR SOMETHING. EVERY CITIZEN OF ROME HAS THE RIGHT TO ASK CAESAR FOR SOMETHING, BUT WHETHER CAESAR GRANTS THEIR WISHES IS ANOTHER THING ENTIRELY...

THEY WATCH IN

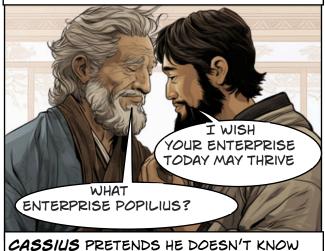
POPILIUS REVEAL THE PLAN???

FEAR, WILL

THINGS TO DO. AT



CASSIUS TELLS BRUTUS..



CASSIUS PRETENDS HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT POPILLIUS IS TALKING ABOUT ... HE WISHED OUR ENTERPRISE TODAY WOULD THRIVE, I FEAR WE'VE BEEN DISCOVERED!!

POPILIUS APPROACHES CAESAR AND

CAESAR LAUGHS!!!! HE REVEALED NO PLAN. BOTH BRUTUS AND CASSIUS BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF. THAT WAS CLOSE!

SUDDENLY, **MARK ANTONY**, THE BEST FRIEND OF CAESAR AND THE ONLY ONE WHO MIGHT STAND IN THEIR WAY... LEAVES! THINGS SEEM TO BE GOING THE WAY OF THE CONSPIRATORS!

NOW, IT IS **METELLUS CIMBER** (REMEMBER HE IS ONE OF THE CONSPIRATORS) WHO TAKES HIS TURN TO ASK CAESAR FOR SOMETHING. HIS BROTHER PUBLIUS CIMBER HAS BEEN BANISHED FROM ROME AND METELLUS IS ASKING IF HE CAN COME BACK.



AND USE THEIR DAGGERS....

OF CAESAR ...





BUT MARK ANTONY ALSO HAS A PLAN. HE HAS ONLY BEEN **PRETENDING** TO BE CALM AND REASONABLE, I WONDER WHAT HIS **REAL** FEELINGS ARE....

O, PARDON ME, THOU BLEEDING PIECE OF EARTH, THAT I AM MEEK AND GENTLE WITH THESE **BUTCHERS**! WOE TO THE HAND THAT SHED THIS COSTLY BLOOD!

> A CURSE SHALL LIGHT UPON THE LIMBS OF MEN AND CAESAR'S SPIRIT, RANGING FOR REVENGE SHALL WITH A MONARCH'S VOICE CRY 'HAVOC,' AND LET SLIP THE DOGS OF WAR

HERE IS A **MOURNING** ROME, A **DANGEROUS** ROME. INTO THE MARKET-PLACE: THERE SHALL I TRY IN MY ORATION, HOW THE PEOPLE TAKE THE CRUEL ISSUE OF THESE BLOODY MEN

SO MARK ANTONY'S PLAN IS SET. HE WILL SWAY THE CROWD, HE WILL TELL THE PEOPLE ABOUT THE TERRIBLE MURDER OF JULIUS CAESAR AND HE WILL BLAME THOSE RESPONSIBLE. NOT ONLY THAT, BUT HE WILL SEND A MESSAGE TO OCTAVIUS CAESAR, JULIUS CAESAR'S ADOPTED SON, AND TOGETHER THEY WILL SEEK REVENGE!!! AND SO IT WAS THAT JULIUS CAESAR'S BODY WAS TAKEN THROUGH THE STREETS OF ROME TO THE MARKET PLACE, WHERE IT SEEMED LIKE ALL OF ROME HAD COME TO HEAR THE FUNERAL SPEECHES.



THE CROWD WAS SILENT, WAITING FOR BRUTUS TO SPEAK FIRST ...



THEY EAGERLY AWAITED AN EXPLANATION FOR GREAT CAESAR'S DEATH---



IF THERE BE ANY IN THIS ASSEMBLY, ANY DEAR FRIEND OF CAESAR'S, TO HIM I SAY, THAT BRUTUS' LOVE 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 CAESAR LESS, BUT 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 FREE MEN? AS I SLEW MY BEST FRIEND FOR THE GOOD OF ROME, I HAVE THE SAME DAGGER FOR MYSELF, WHEN IT SHALL PLEASE MY COUNTRY TO NEED MY DEATH-

> LIVE BRUTUS, LIVE!!

GOOD COUNTRYMEN, LET ME DEPART ALONE, AND, FOR MY SAKE, STAY HERE WITH ANTONY: GRACE HIS SPEECH TENDING TO CAESAR'S GLORIES; WHICH MARK ANTONY, BY OUR PERMISSION, IS ALLOW'D TO MAKE. NOT A MAN DEPART, TILL ANTONY HAVE SPOKE.

WE'LL HEAR HIM- NOBLE ANTONY, GO UP-

BRUTUS HAD MADE A GOOD SPEECH AND HE WAS PLEASED WITH HIMSELF. THE CROWD WERE ON HIS SIDE, THEY FORGAVE HIM. NOW IT WAS ANTONY'S TURN...



FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN, LEND ME YOUR EARS; I COME TO BURY CAESAR, NOT TO PRAISE HIM- BRUTUS IS AN HONOURABLE MAN; SO ARE THEY ALL, ALL HONOURABLE MEN -- I COME TO SPEAK IN CAESAR'S FUNERAL-HE WAS MY FRIEND, BUT BRUTUS SAYS HE WAS AMBITIOUS; AND BRUTUS IS AN HONOURABLE MAN-

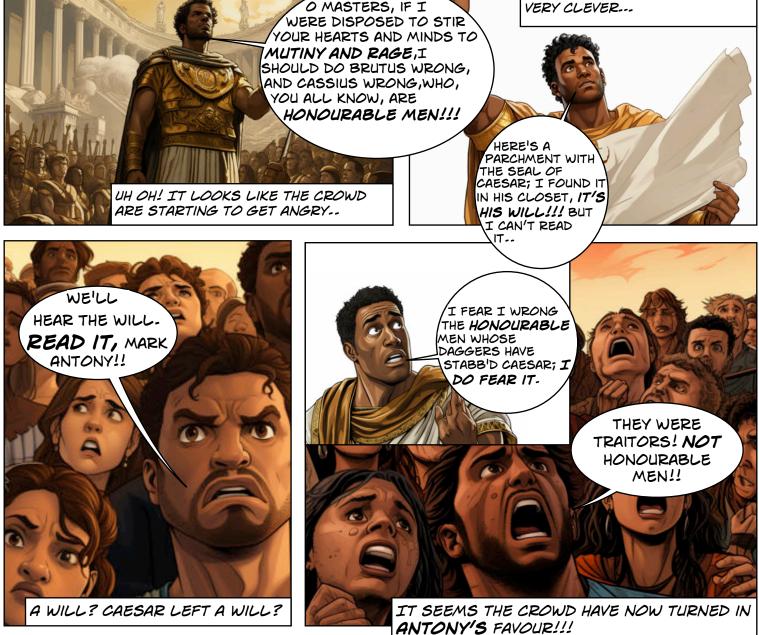
YOU ALL DID SEE THAT AT THE FESTIVAL I THREE TIMES PRESENTED HIM A KINGLY CROWN, WHICH HE DID THREE TIMES REFUSE: WAS THIS AMBITION? YET BRUTUS SAYS HE WAS AMBITIOUS; AND, SURE, HE IS AN HONOURABLE



NOW THE CROWD WERE GETTING IT .- MAN-

THE CROWD WAS STARTING TO THINK THAT EVERY TIME ANTONY SAID **HONOURABLE**, HE DIDN'T'T MEAN HONOURABLE AT ALL, IN FACT HE MEANT SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT... CAESAR HAS HAD A GREAT WRONG!

> NOW ANTONY DID SOMETHING VERY CLEVER...







THESE TWO WE DON'T NEED ANYMORE!

NOW HERE ARE TWO MORE CHARACTERS JUST ARRIVING



A BOOK ...

MARK ANTONY'S FRIEND

AND OCTAVIUS

LOYAL TO ANTONY

THE NAMES ARE WRITTEN DOWN IN OCTAVIUS CHECKS THAT LEPIDUS IS FULLY ON BOARD ...

AS WE BEGIN ACT FOUR, OCTAVIUS CAESAR HAS ARRIVED IN ROME, DESPERATE TO SEEK REVENGE ON CASSILIS AND BRUTUS WHO MURDERED HIS FATHER -HE IS MEETING WITH MARK ANTONY AND A ROMAN CALLED LEPIDUS. THESE THREE ARE PLOTTING TOGETHER, THEY ARE DECIDING WHICH ROMANS ARE LOYAL TO CASSIUS AND BRUTUS, AND MAKING SURE THE ONES THEY CHOOSE WILL MEET A TERRIBLE END



I DO CONSENT

WOW! HIS OWN BROTHER, HE'S PREPARED TO KILL HIS OWN BROTHER, THAT'S SERIOUS BEHAVIOUR.

THESE THREE HAVE FORMED THEIR OWN GANG WHICH THEY HAVE CALLED THE TRIUMVIRATE TRI - BECAUSE THERE'S THREE OF THEM, LIKE A TRICYCLE OR A TRIANGLE OR A TRICERATOPS - SEE?

YOUR







THEY HAVE THEIR LIST OF PEOPLE THAT NEED TO BE GOT RID OF, THEIR PLAN IS IN MOTION. MEANWHILE BRUTUS AND CASSIUS HAVE GOT AN ARMY TOGETHER AND THEY HAVE SET UP CAMP NEAR A PLACE CALLED PHILIPPI.

THINGS HAVEN'T BEEN GOING VERY WELL FOR THE TWO OF THEM AND BRUTUS HAS HAD SOME VERY BAD NEWS-





IN FACT CASSIUS IS APPIVING NOW ...

Т DO NOT LIKE YOUR FAULTS





LET US NOT ARGUE IN FRONT OF OUR ARMIES, IN MY TENT I WILL GIVE YOU AUDIENCE

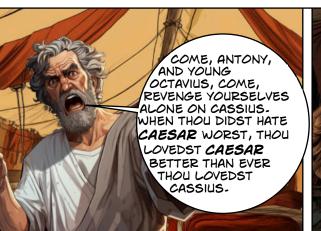
YOU LOVE ME NOT !!!





CASSIUS IS FEELING SORRY FOR HIMSELF ..





O CASSIUS I AM SICK OF MANY GRIEFS, PORTIA IS DEAD. IMPATIENT OF MY ABSENCE AND SCARED THAT YOUNG OCTAVIUS AND MARK ANTONY HAVE GROWN SO STRONG SHE DIED OF SADNESS



SOMETHING IS APPEARING IN BRUTUS'S TENT!











AS OCTAVIUS AND ANTONY LEAVE TO READY THEIR ARMIES, CASSIUS AND BRUTUS ARE LEFT ALONE





THAT WORK THE IDES OF MARCH BEGUN; AND WHETHER WE SHALL MEET AGAIN I KNOW NOT. THEREFORE OUR EVERLASTING FAREWELL TAKE



AND SO THE MIGHTY BATTLE OF PHILIPPI BEGINS! BECAUSE OF THE VISIT OF CAESAR'S GHOST, BRUTUS AND CASSIUS ARMY HAVE RUSHED INTO PHILIPPI, NOT WAITING ON THE HIGHER GROUND OF THE HILLS WHERE THEY HOLD THE ADVANTAGE.





SWORDS ARE FLYING ...





BANNERS ARE WAVING, MEN FALL UPON THE FIELD.

CASSIUS IS WATCHING THE BATTLE TAKE SHAPE FROM HIGH ON A HILL WITH HIS SERVANT PINDARUS

> CASSIUS IS VERY SUPERSTITIOUS AND THINKS HE SEES BAD OMENS EVERYWHERE ... TENTS ON FIRE, ANTONY'S ARMY CHARGING ...

CASSIUS THINKS THE BATTLE IS ALREADY OVER AND HE HAS LOST ...



HE ASKS PINDARUS TO END HIS LIFE!!

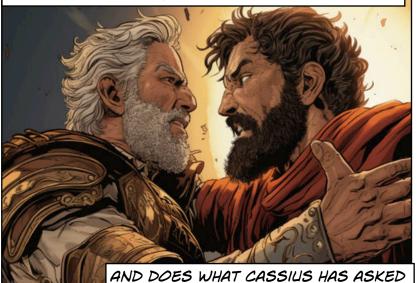


HE WOULD RATHER DIE THAN BE TAKEN PRISONER



HE HAS A TERRIBLE REQUEST FOR HIS SERVANT ...

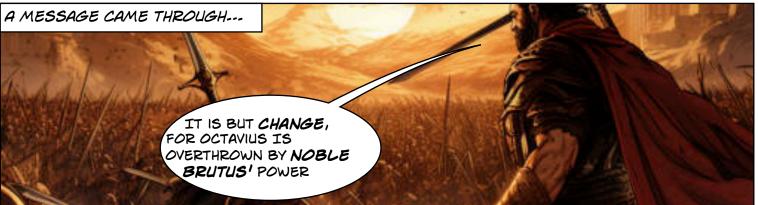
PINDARUS TAKES THE SWORD, THE VERY SWORD THAT KILLED CAESAR---

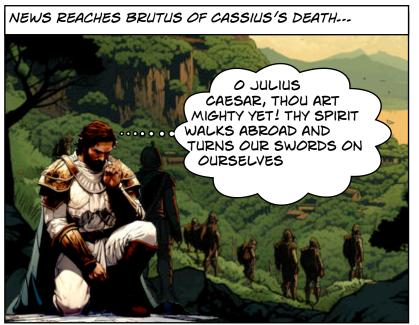






BUT HE HAD BEEN **MISTAKEN!** THE BATTLE WASN'T OVER YET---





THE BATTLE BEGINS AFRESH, A SECOND WAVE OF FIGHTING BEGINS ...







BRUTUS SITS ACCOMPANIED BY ONLY A HANDFUL OF HIS SOLDIERS...



BRUTUS DECIDES HE WILL NOT BE TAKEN BY THE ENEMY



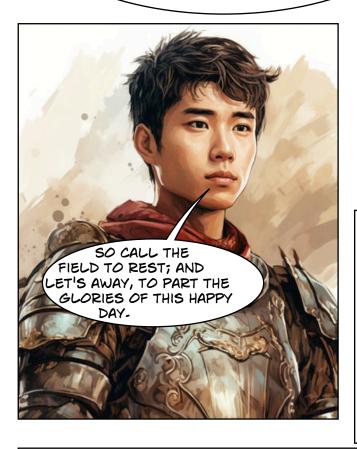
HE TAKES HOLD OF HIS SWORD ONE FINAL TIME ...



SO THE TWO GENERALS CASSIUS AND BRUTUS ARE GONE, FINALLY THEIR ARMIES ARE BEATEN. ANTONY AND OCTAVIUS SURVEY THE SCENE.



THIS WAS THE NOBLEST ROMAN OF THEM ALL: ALL THE CONSPIRATORS SAVE ONLY HE 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 MIX'D IN HIM THAT NATURE MIGHT STAND UP AND SAY TO ALL THE WORLD 'THIS WAS A MAN!'



THE LAST WORDS WERE LEFT TO OCTAVIUS. HIS FATHER WAS AVENGED, THE BATTLE WON, AND ROME WAS IN HIS HANDS NOW. ANTONY SAYS THAT BRUTUS WAS THE ONLY CONSPIRATOR WHO DID WHAT HE DID FOR THE GOOD OF ROME, ALL THE OTHERS WERE AMBITIOUS OR JEALOUS.

LIKE SO MANY STORIES, WE ARE LEFT WITH MANY QUESTIONS - WERE THE CONSPIRATORS RIGHT TO MURDER CAESAR? WAS BRUTUS RIGHT TO BETRAY HIS FRIEND? WAS ANTONY RIGHT TO SEEK JUSTICE? AND WHAT IS LEFT OF ROME NOW?

WELL, MY STORY IS DONE, THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS LIE WITH YOU.