



APPENDIX

1. SYNOPSIS OF JULIUS CAESAR

2. SYNOPSIS OF ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA

1. SYNOPSIS OF JULIUS CAESAR

Scene: Ancient Rome and surrounding countryside.

Act I, Scene 1: Two tribunes, Flavius and Marullus, disperse a crowd that is celebrating the return of Julius Caesar to Rome, though not before a Cobbler makes some flippant jokes. The tribunes rebuke the Commoners for disloyalty in welcoming the conqueror of another Roman, Pompey, whom they had also celebrated in the streets. The two officers remove the decorations that have been placed on public statues.

Act I, Scene 2: At the feast of Lupercalia, Caesar arranges for Mark Antony, who is to participate in a fertility rite, to ritually touch Calphurnia, Caesar's wife. A Soothsyaer warns Caesar to beware the ides (the 15th day) of March; Caesar ignores him and leads his entourage to the festival. Cassius and Brutus remain behind and speak of Caesar's ambition to rule alone, a violation of the Roman political tradition that all aristocrats share power equally. Cassius says that Rome looks to Brutus for leadership in this crisis, and they hear cheering from the festival, which, they fear, means that Caesar is being acclaimed king by the Commoners. Cassius observes resentfully that he does not wish to be ruled by a man no better than himself, as another cheer erupts. Cassius continues to speak against Caesar's rule and refers to an ancient revolt against a king that Brutus' ancestor had led. Brutus hints that he has contemplated a similar action. Caesar's group returns; Caesar confides to Antony that he distrusts Cassius and then exits. Brutus and Cassius detain Casca and hear an

account of the festival from him. Caesar was offered the crown three times, Casca reports, and he refused it each time, though only with regret. Casca and Brutus leave, and Cassius soliloquizes that Brutus, though a very important figure, is easy to manipulate, and he plans to further influence him with letters purporting to be from angry citizens who seek action against Caesar.

Act I, Scene 3: Amid thunder and lightning, Casca meets Cicero and tells of omens that have accompanied the storm, foretelling extraordinary events. Cicero dismisses this superstitiousness and departs. Cassius appears and recruits Casca for a plot against Caesar, naming a meeting place for later that night. Another conspirator, Cinna, arrives, and Cassius directs him to leave messages, which he provides, in places where Brutus will receive them.

Act II, Scene 1: Brutus, having been awake all night, decides at dawn that Caesar's ambition makes it necessary to kill him. He receives one of Cassius' anonymous letters urging him to protect Rome, and he resolves to lead the conspirators in assassinating Caesar. Cassius and other plotters arrive, and they lay their plans. Brutus insists that Antony not be killed; arguing that they must not seem bloodthirsty and that Antony will be helpless without Caesar. Decius volunteers to ensure that Caesar will attend the day's Senate session, where the assassination is to take place. The conspirators depart. Brutus, seeing his sleeping servant, Lucius, muses on his own sleepless life. His wife, Portia, appears and asks why he is disturbed. He promises to tell her later, as a last conspirator, Ligarius, arrives, and she leaves.

Ligarius agrees to follow Brutus in any exploit, and they leave together for the Senate.

Act II, Scene 2: Calphurnia tells Caesar of the many appalling omens that have been seen and insists that he stay home rather than go to the Senate. He refuses, insisting that one must face death if it comes, but then he decides to humor Calphurnia and stay at home, pleading illness. However, Decius arrives and claims that the omens are favorable and that the Senate proposes to offer Caesar a crown. Caesar changes his mind again.

Act II, Scene 3: Artemidorus reads aloud a message naming the conspirators and warning Caesar against them. He vows to present it to Caesar at the Senate.

Act II, Scene 4: Portia worries hysterically about Brutus. The Soothsayer appears, saying that he hopes to warn Caesar of impending harm, and he goes on to the Senate. Portia sends Lucius on a pointless errand to Brutus, with orders to return and tell her how he seems.

Act III, Scene 1: At the Senate, Caesar encounters the Soothsayer, who warns that the ides of March is not yet over. Artemidorus attempts to deliver his message, but Caesar rejects him and proceeds with Senate business. One conspirator draws Antony away from the meeting, while another presents Caesar with a petition that he has already rejected. Caesar's continued refusal is the signal: the conspirators stab him. Caesar, dismayed that his friend Brutus should be among the attackers, dies. The assassins, led by Brutus, ritually bathe their hands in Caesar's blood, declaring their

devotion to political liberty. A message arrives from Antony: he is prepared to ally himself with the conspirators if they can provide a rationale for their deed. Though Cassius has reservations, Brutus approves. Antony arrives and volunteers to die with Caesar if the conspirators wish to kill him, but Brutus insists on their alliance, and he grants Antony's request to speak at Caesar's funeral. The conspirators depart, and Antony soliloquizes about his intention to avenge Caesar's death by launching a civil war. News comes of Octavius' approach to Rome.

Act III, Scene 2: Brutus addresses the Plebeians, assuring them that the assassination was necessary in order to preserve the Republic. They applaud him, proposing that he be crowned himself. Antony arrives with Caesar's body, and Brutus tells the crowd to listen to Antony's funeral oration. Brutus leaves, and Antony addresses the Plebeians, praising Caesar while seeming to acknowledge the honor of the assassins. Gradually, Antony generates a mood of hostility towards the conspirators while denying his intention to do so. Introducing Caesar's will, which designates a generous bequest to be distributed among the people; he sparks a riotous response to the assassination. The Plebeians rage into the streets, intending to burn the houses of Brutus and the others. Antony exults. Learning of Octavius' presence in Rome, he goes to join him; as he leaves he hears that Brutus and Cassius have fled the city.

Act III, Scene 3: A mob of Plebeians encounters the poet Cinna and kills him, mistaking him for the conspirator with the same name.

Act IV, Scene 1: Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus decide who must be executed to protect their new power in Rome. Antony sends Lepidus on an errand, and then belittles him as an insignificant man who is not fit to rule but who will be useful for a while. Antony and Octavius begin to plan a campaign against Brutus and Cassius, who have raised an army.

Act IV, Scene 2: At Brutus' camp, Lucilius returns from a visit to Cassius' troops and reports that Cassius has not displayed the warmth of earlier meetings. Brutus interprets this as a sign of waning friendship between Cassius and himself. Cassius arrives and immediately asserts that Brutus has wronged him; Brutus suggests that they enter his tent to talk privately.

Act IV, Scene 3: Cassius charges that Brutus has ignored his arguments and punished an officer for taking bribes. He insists that they cannot be overstrict in a time of crisis, and Brutus remarks that Cassius himself is reputed to be corrupt and accuses him of withholding funds. The infuriated Cassius, declaring that he never expected such insults from his comrade, offers his dagger and suggests that Brutus kill him. Brutus gently mocks Cassius' excess but apologizes for being overheated him, and the two shake hands in reconciliation. A Poet arrives and chastises the two generals for their disharmony. Cassius is amused, but Brutus dismisses him abruptly. Brutus then tells Cassius that he has been short-tempered in part because he has just learned of Portia's suicide due to her fear of the immense army that Octavius and Antony are sending against her husband. Messala arrives with news from Rome

Octavius and Antony has executed many political enemies and are on the march. He also reports Portia's death. Brutus hides his prior knowledge and pretends to receive the news stoically, arousing Messala's admiration. Brutus then proposes marching on Philippi, where their enemies have camped. Cassius argues that they should stay where they are and let Antony and Octavius use up their energy marching, but Brutus insists that his plan is superior and Cassius gives in. Brutus then retires for the night, and the others leave. The Ghost of Caesar appears to Brutus, announces that they shall meet again at Philippi, and disappears.

Act V, Scene 1: Octavius and Antony reflect on their good fortune that Brutus and Cassius have taken disadvantageous positions. Octavius insists on commanding the more important right wing, despite Antony's seniority. Brutus, Cassius, and their army appear, and the opposing commanders parley. They quickly begin to exchange insults, and Octavius and Antony leave. Cassius confides to Messala that he is uneasy about the forthcoming battle. Brutus and Cassius tell each other that they will commit suicide rather than be captured.

Act V, Scene 2: Brutus orders an attack on Octavius' forces, which he can see weakening.

Act V, Scene 3: Titinius and Cassius, hard-pressed by the enemy, see that Brutus has launched his attack too soon and left them at a disadvantage. Pindarus arrives with news that troops are approaching their headquarters; Cassius sends Titinius to investigate and tells Pindarus to watch from a nearby hill. Pindarus reports that

Titinius is captured, and Cassius, believing that his own capture is imminent, impales himself on his sword, assisted by Pindarus. Pindarus flees, as Titinius returns safely with Messala to announce that Brutus has defeated Octavius. They find Cassius' body and realize what has happened. Messala leaves to tell Brutus, who appears and mourns his comrade. He announces that they shall launch another attack before nightfall.

Act V, Scene 4: Brutus is forced to retreat. Lucilius pretends to be Brutus and is captured. Antony arrives, realizes that the captive is not Brutus, and praises Lucilius for courageously diverting attention from his commander.

Act V, Scene 5: Brutus, defeated, asks several companions to help him commit suicide, but they refuse. As enemy troops approach, he prevails upon STRATO to help him, and he dies on his sword. Antony and Octavius appear, triumphant, and find Brutus' body. They praise him and order his honorable burial (http://hudsonshakespeare.org/Shakespeare%20Library/Synopsis/synopsis_julius_caesar.htm)

2. SYNOPSIS OF ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA

Act I, Scene 1: In Alexandria the Roman Philo laments to Demetrius that their leader, Antony, is involved with the Egyptian queen, Cleopatra, and neglects his military duties. Cleopatra and Antony appear as news from Rome arrives, and she taunts him and accuses him of subservience to his wife and the Roman senate He therefore refuses to hear the messages.

Act I, Scene 2: An Egyptian Soothsayer predicts that Cleopatra's waiting-woman Charmian shall outlive her mistress and adds that she has seen better times in the past than she shall in future. He sees an identical fortune for another waiting-woman, Iras. The two women laugh over these predictions with their fellow servant Alexas. Cleopatra arrives and declares that she will not speak with Antony, who is approaching, and then leaves with her servants. Antony arrives accompanied by a Messenger who bears the news that Antony's feuding wife and brother had united to fight against Octavius, but were defeated. The Messenger also states that a renegade Roman general has led the Parthians in a conquest of Roman territory Antony is angry with himself, for the conquered lands were lost while he was dallying with Cleopatra. More news arrives: Antony's wife has died. Antony dismisses the messengers and reflects that he had wished his wife dead and now regrets it; he now wishes he could break away from Cleopatra. He summons his lieutenant Enobarbus, who makes bawdy jokes about Antony's affair with the queen until Antony

sternly orders preparations for a return to Rome where he is needed to aid Caesar against a rebel, Pompey.

Act I, Scene 3: Charmian advises Cleopatra to accommodate Antony in every way if she wants him to love her, but the queen rejects this idea. Antony appears and announces his departure; Cleopatra taunts him, but he remains determined, and she finally wishes him well. He assures her of his love.

Act I, Scene 4: In Rome Caesar disgustedly tells Lepidus of Antony's debauchery with Cleopatra. News arrives of the rebel Pompey, aided by the pirates Menecrates and Menas. Caesar hopes that Antony will return to the soldierly ways he was once famous for.

Act I, Scene 5: In Alexandria Cleopatra grieves over Antony's absence and praises him enthusiastically. Charmian teasingly reminds her that she had once felt the same about Julius Caesar when he was in Egypt years earlier.

Act II, Scene 1: In Messina Pompey confers with Menas and Menecrates. He states that his chances of defeating Caesar and Lepidus are good since Antony, their ally, dallies in Egypt. News arrives that Antony is about to rejoin his friends; Pompey worries but continues to hope for the best.

Act II, Scene 2: Lepidus entreats Enobarbus to encourage in Antony a peaceful attitude towards Caesar, but Enobarbus declares that Antony's honor comes first. Antony and Caesar arrive to negotiate. Antony denies any part in the rebellion of his

wife and brother. He apologizes for not having assisted Caesar against it and admitting that he has been too decadent in Egypt. The two leaders agree to put the issue aside and fight together against Pompey, and to further their alliance Antony shall marry Caesar's sister Octavia. The leaders leave together while their followers remain, and Enobarbus tells Maecenas and Agrippa about the gorgeous Cleopatra. He predicts that Antony will never leave her for good.

Act II, Scene 3: Antony, married to Octavia, promises faithfulness. He consults the Soothsayer who has come to Rome with him. The seer advises him to return to Egypt because Caesar's presence diminishes his prospects for success. Antony decides to follow this advice.

Act II, Scene 4: Lepidus, Maecenas, and Agrippa prepare to leave Rome; they will meet Antony on campaign against Pompey.

Act II, Scene 5: In Alexandria Cleopatra receives word that Antony has married Octavia. Raging, she threatens the Messenger with death; calming, she sinks into depression.

Act II, Scene 6: Pompey agrees to a truce with Antony, Caesar, and Lepidus. The leaders leave to attend a celebratory feast aboard Pompey's ship. Enobarbus and Menas stay behind and gossip; they agree that Pompey should have maintained his rebellion while he could. Enobarbus predicts that Antony will abandon Octavia for Cleopatra.

Act II, Scene 7: At the banquet the drunken Lepidus is teased by the other leaders. Menas takes Pompey aside and suggests that they kill all three Roman leaders, leaving Pompey the sole ruler of the empire, but Pompey declares that while he could approve such an action after it was done, he cannot honorably order it ahead of time. To himself, Menas declares that he will desert this foolishly scrupulous master, for Pompey will obviously lose in the political wars. Caesar declares that their drunkenness is wasteful and leaves. The other leaders follow.

Act III, Scene 1: Antony's general Ventidius, who has defeated a Parthian army, tells his lieutenant Silius that he will not pursue the fleeing enemy. He states that he does not want to succeed too thoroughly lest Antony feel overshadowed and in revenge crush his military career. Silius admires Ventidius' political shrewdness. They go to meet Antony in Athens.

Act III, Scene 2: Antony and his followers prepare to depart from Rome. Caesar and Octavia are deeply moved at the separation, while he and Antony exchange tense and suspicious farewells.

Act III, Scene 3: Cleopatra interrogates the Messenger about Octavia; he tells her that Antony's new wife is an unattractive woman and details her unappealing features. The queen is greatly relieved.

Act III, Scene 4: In Athens Octavia is upset by the rising enmity between her husband and her brother and begs to be sent as an intermediary between them. Antony agrees, and she prepares to go to Rome.

Act III, Scene 5: Eros informs Enobarbus that Caesar and Lepidus have defeated Pompey, but that Caesar has arrested Lepidus and sentenced him to death. Enobarbus anticipates war between Antony and Caesar.

Act III, Scene 6: In Rome Caesar angrily reports that Antony, now in Egypt, has crowned himself and Cleopatra rulers of the eastern empire—a betrayal of both Octavia and Caesar and a virtual act of war against Rome. Octavia appears to negotiate for Antony, whom she believes is still in Athens.

Act III, Scene 7: At an army camp near Actium Enobarbus tells Cleopatra that her presence is a distraction to Antony, but she insists on remaining. Antony appears and remarks that Caesar has made a very rapid advance. He declares he will accept Caesar's challenge to fight a naval battle, despite the objections of his advisers that they are weakest at sea.

Act III, Scene 8: Caesar warns his general Taurus not to fight on land until after the sea battle.

Act III, Scene 9: Antony orders Enobarbus to establish a post from which to observe the sea battle.

Act III, Scene 10: Troops from both sides march past; a sea battle is heard. Enobarbus despairs as he sees Antony's flagship retreat. Scarus reports that just as the battle might have been won by Antony's navy, Cleopatra sailed away from it. Antony

followed, and the rest of the fleet followed him. Canidius arrives and confirms the news of defeat. He declares that he will surrender his forces to Caesar.

Act III, Scene 11: Antony tells his attendants to flee, for he no longer deserves their loyalty. He declares to Cleopatra that though he is filled with despair, his love for her still seems worth all that has been lost.

Act III, Scene 12: An Ambassador delivers to Caesar Antony's request that he be permitted to live in Egypt or Athens and that Cleopatra continue to rule Egypt. Caesar sends him back with a rejection of Antony's request and an assurance to Cleopatra that she can have whatever she wants if she will kill Antony or drive him from Egypt. Then he sends Thidias to her with the same message, telling him to make her any promises he chooses.

Act III, Scene 13: Thidias arrives and declares to Cleopatra that Caesar believes she had joined Antony out of fear, not love. The queen accepts Caesar's offer of deliverance from Antony. Antony appears as Thidias kisses Cleopatra's hand in acknowledgement of her alliance with Caesar. Antony has his Servants carry Thidias away and whip him, and he accuses Cleopatra bitterly. When the beaten Thidias is returned, Antony sends him back to Caesar with a defiant message. Cleopatra says that despite her surrender to Caesar she still loves Antony. He takes heart and declares that he is prepared to carry on the war against Caesar, who has arrived at Alexandria, with the remnants of his forces. He says that they will have a grand

banquet that night, as in the past, and he and Cleopatra leave to prepare for it. Enobarbus reflects on Antony's folly and decides that he will desert him.

Act IV, Scene 1: Caesar describes Antony's contemptuous challenges. Maecenas recommends attacking immediately, for Antony's judgment is clearly clouded by anger, and Caesar agrees.

Act IV, Scene 2: At the banquet Antony declares that he'll fight to the end and either win or recover his honor in death. When he bids the Servitors farewell he suggests that this night might be his last. When the servants and Enobarbus weep, he declares that, on the contrary, they will triumph the next day.

Act IV, Scene 3: A group of Antony's sentries hear strange noises that they take to be a bad omen for the forthcoming battle.

Act IV, Scene 4: Antony lets Cleopatra help him into his amour, and he leaves for the battle in high spirits.

Act IV, Scene 5: Antony learns that Enobarbus has deserted to Caesar but he is not angry. He recognizes that his own faults have driven his subordinate to despair. He orders Enobarbus' belongings sent to him.

Act IV, Scene 6: At Caesar's headquarters a SOLDIER (10) brings Enobarbus the belongings sent by Antony, and the deserter is stricken by pangs of conscience. He declares that he will die of a broken heart.

Act IV, Scene 7: Agrippa and his troops retreat before Antony and Scarus' forces. Scarus is wounded but insists on continuing the pursuit.

Act IV, Scene 8: Victorious in the day's fighting, Antony returns to Cleopatra. He praises Scarus for his great bravery and prowess.

Act IV, Scene 9: Outside Caesar's camp a Sentry and his Watchman discover the dying Enobarbus, who regrets his disloyalty and grieves for his lost honor.

Act IV, Scene 10: Antony and Scarus prepare for a combined battle on both land and sea.

Act IV, Scene 11: Caesar decides to concentrate on fighting at sea.

Act IV, Scene 12: Scarus muses on bad omens and on Antony's fretful mood. Antony announces that Cleopatra's navy has deserted to Caesar and that the battle is lost. He sends Scarus to order a general retreat, and he reflects that his desperate condition is the fault of his infatuation with Cleopatra, whom he believes has betrayed him. Cleopatra appears and Antony drives her away with his rage. He declares that he will kill her.

Act IV, Scene 13: Cleopatra flees from Antony and takes refuge in a monument. She sends him word that she has committed suicide, speaking his name as she died.

Act IV, Scene 14: As Antony contemplates suicide, he is brought word that Cleopatra has killed herself, and he decides to do so, too. He orders Eros to kill him, but Eros kills himself instead. Antony then attempts to fall on his sword, but succeeds

only in wounding himself. Decretas appears and takes Antony's sword to Caesar to ingratiate himself with the conqueror. Diomedes brings word from Cleopatra. Realizing that Antony might kill himself, she reveals her lie and summons him. Antony orders himself carried to her on a litter.

Act IV, Scene 15: Antony, on his litter, is hoisted up to Cleopatra's hiding place in the monument. He tells Cleopatra that she should trust only Proculeius among Caesar's court. He proudly states that in killing himself he has prevented Caesar from killing him, and he dies. Cleopatra declares that she too will die in the proud Roman fashion.

Act V, Scene 1: Caesar sends Dolabella to demand that Antony surrender. Decretas arrives with Antony's sword and word of his suicide. Caesar and his friends mourn the death of a great man even though he was their enemy. An Egyptian appears, sent by Cleopatra to receive Caesar's orders. Caesar sends him back with assurances that he offers mercy to the queen; he sends Proculeius and GALLUS to Cleopatra to confirm the message.

Act V, Scene 2: Cleopatra says that she is content to die. Proculeius arrives and assures her that Caesar will give Egypt to her son. Callus appears with soldiers to guard Cleopatra. When she sees this, she attempts to stab herself but is disarmed by Proculeius. Dolabella arrives to replace Proculeius; moved by Cleopatra's elegy for Antony, he confides that Caesar intends to parade her ignominiously through the streets of Rome. Caesar arrives and generously offers mercy to Cleopatra, who

submits, giving him a list of all her possessions. However, her treasurer Seleucus asserts that the list is incomplete. Cleopatra rages at him, but Caesar assures her that it does not matter for she can keep whatever she wants. He leaves, and Cleopatra sends Charmian on a secret errand as Dolabella returns to tell the queen that Caesar intends to transport her to Rome in three days. Charmian returns and a Clown arrive with poisonous snakes. After he leaves Cleopatra prepares to die. Iras dies, brokenhearted, as Cleopatra applies two asps to her and dies when they bite her; Charmian does the same. Dolabella and Caesar return, and Caesar declares that Cleopatra shall be buried with Antony after a grand funeral celebrating the nobility of their love

http://hudsonshakespeare.org/Shakespeare%20Library/Synopsis/synopsis_antonyandcleo.htm

