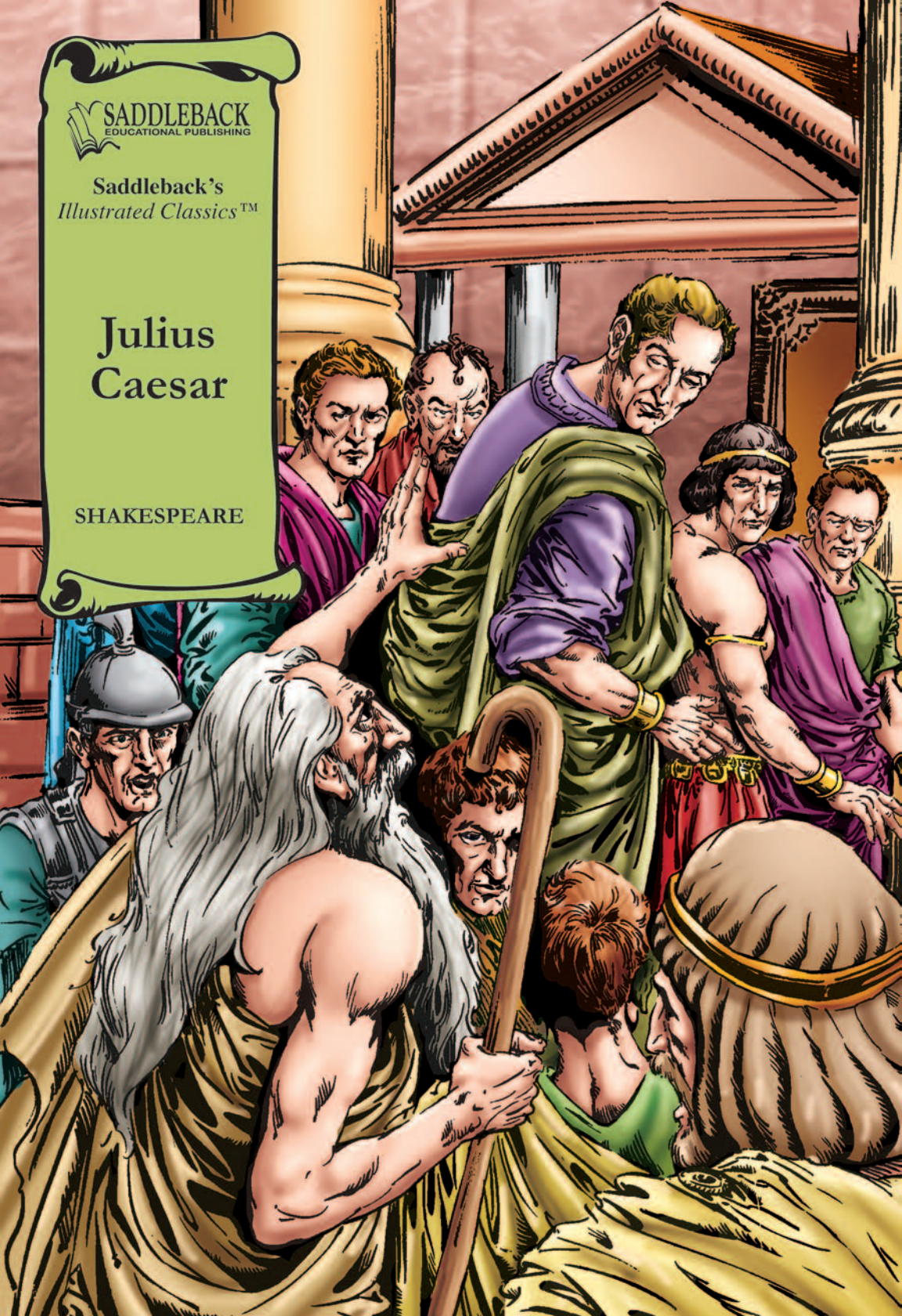


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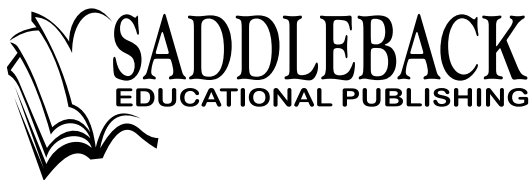
# Julius Caesar

SHAKESPEARE

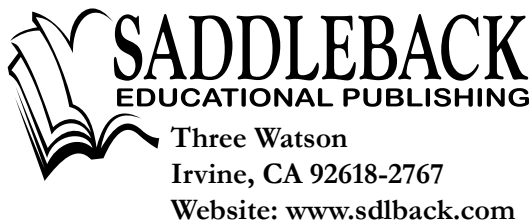


# *Julius Caesar*

*William Shakespeare*



# Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™



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ISBN 1-59905-145-1

Printed in China

# Welcome to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

We are proud to welcome you to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™ was designed specifically for the classroom to introduce readers to many of the great classics in literature. Each text, written and adapted by teachers and researchers, has been edited using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system. In addition, much time and effort has been spent to ensure that these high-interest stories retain all of the excitement, intrigue, and adventure of the original books.

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- Establish a purpose for reading
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- Listen to the language as it is written
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Remember,

*“Today’s readers are tomorrow’s leaders.”*

## William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was baptized on April 26, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, England, the third child of John Shakespeare, a well-to-do merchant, and Mary Arden, his wife. Young William probably attended the Stratford grammar school, where he learned English, Greek, and a great deal of Latin. Historians aren't sure of the exact date of Shakespeare's birth.

In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. By 1583 the couple had a daughter, Susanna, and two years later the twins, Hamnet and Judith. Somewhere between 1585 and 1592 Shakespeare went to London, where he became first an actor and then a playwright. His acting company, *The King's Men*, appeared most often in the *Globe* theater, a part of which Shakespeare himself owned.

In all, Shakespeare is believed to have written thirty-seven plays, several nondramatic poems, and a number of sonnets. In 1611 when he left the active life of the theater, he returned to Stratford and became a country gentleman, living in the second-largest house in town. For five years he lived a quiet life. Then, on April 23, 1616, William Shakespeare died and was buried in Trinity Church in Stratford. From his own time to the present, Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest writers of the English-speaking world.

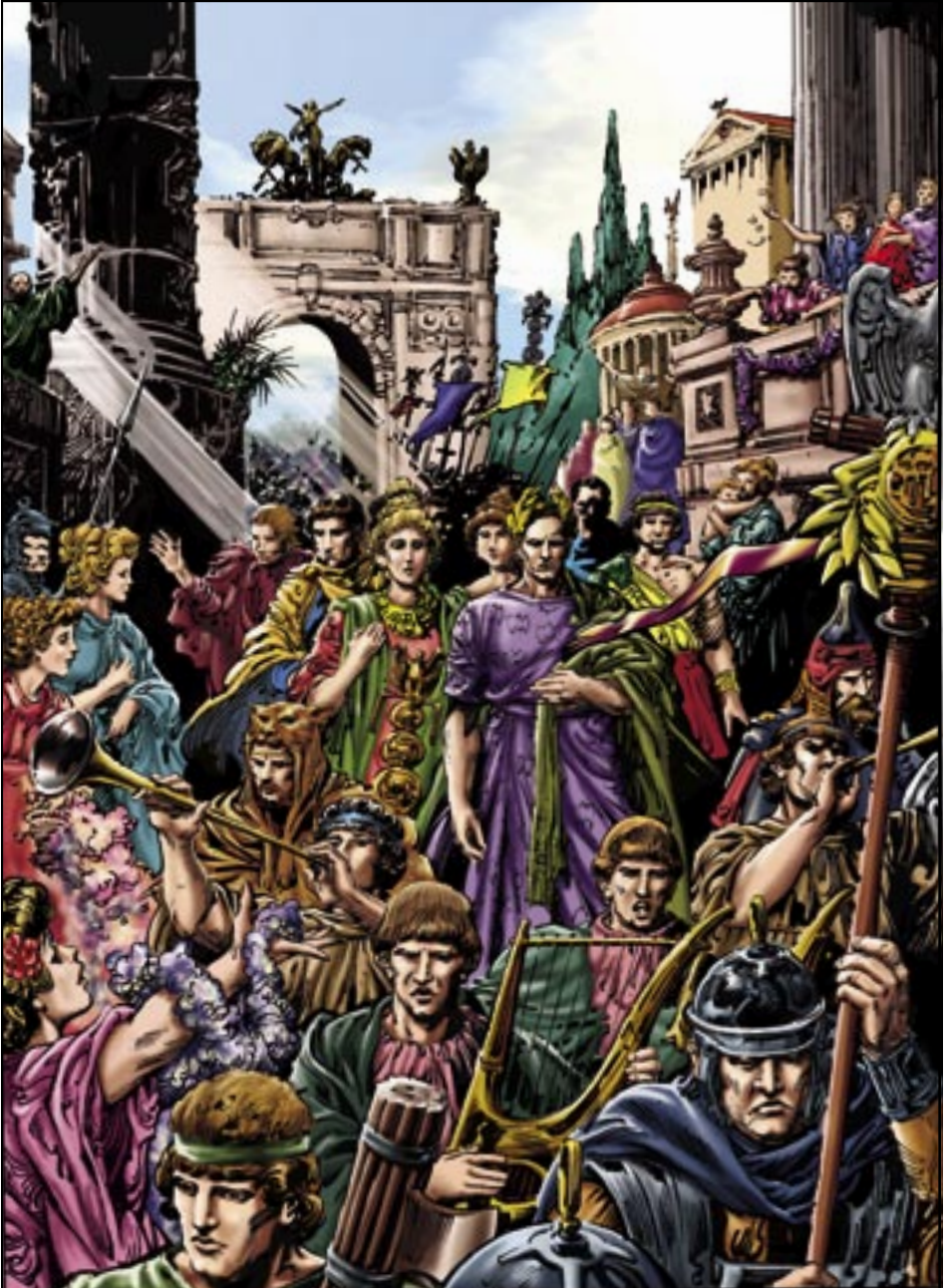


*William Shakespeare*

# *Julius Caesar*



IT WAS A HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF ROME. CROWDS OF PEOPLE CHEERED THE RETURN OF JULIUS CAESAR WHO HAD WON A BATTLE IN SPAIN.



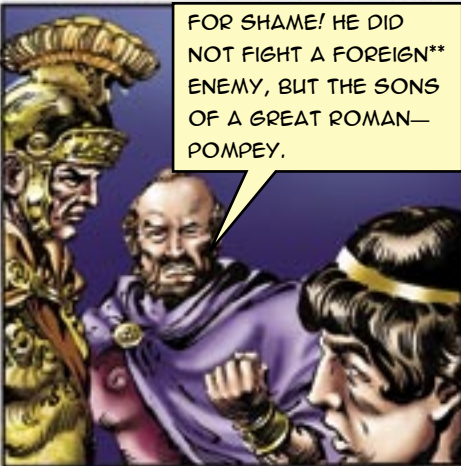


BUT NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY. TWO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,\* FLAVIUS AND MARULLUS, TRIED TO SEND AWAY SOME OF THE CROWDS.

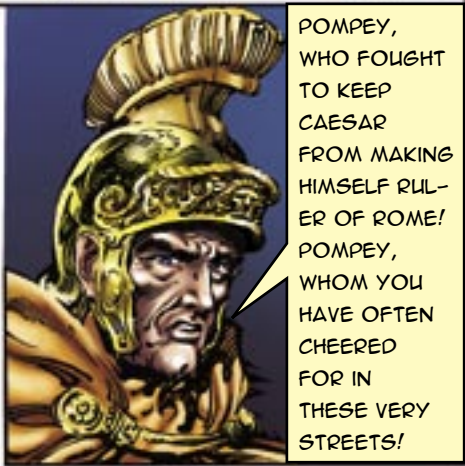
GO HOME YOU LAZY MEN!

WHY ARE YOU HERE IN HOLIDAY CLOTHES INSTEAD OF WORKING IN YOUR SHOPS?

WHY, SIR... I AM A GOOD SHOEMAKER! BUT TODAY I CAME OUT TO SEE CAESAR AND CELEBRATE WITH HIM.



FOR SHAME! HE DID NOT FIGHT A FOREIGN\*\* ENEMY, BUT THE SONS OF A GREAT ROMAN— POMPEY.



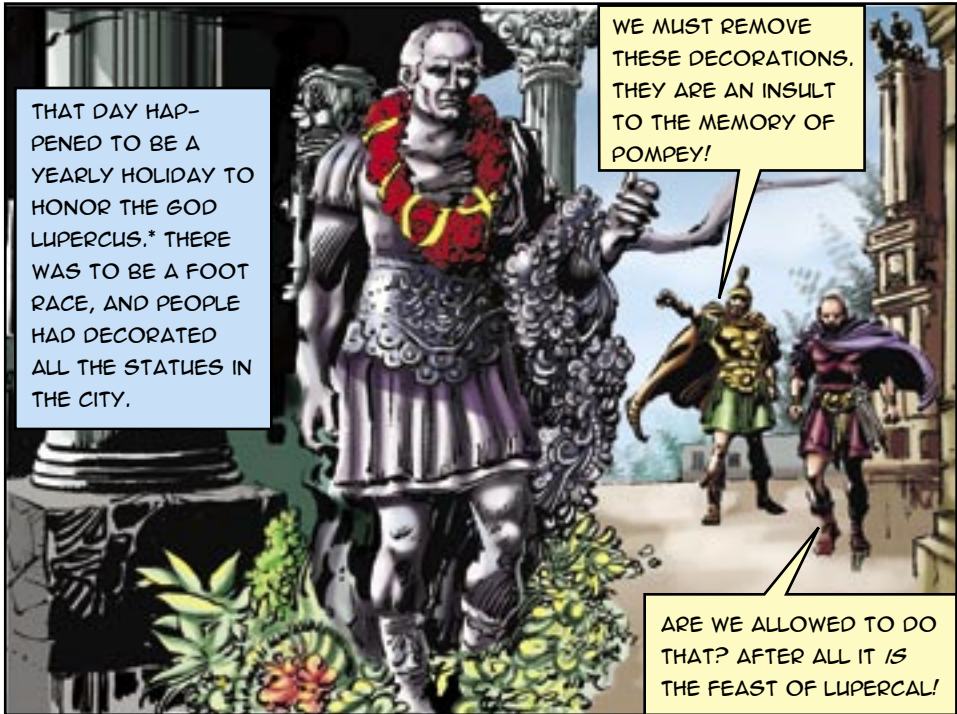
POMPEY, WHO FOUGHT TO KEEP CAESAR FROM MAKING HIMSELF RULER OF ROME! POMPEY, WHOM YOU HAVE OFTEN CHEERED FOR IN THESE VERY STREETS!



HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU WAITED ALL DAY JUST TO CHEER POMPEY AS HE PASSED BY? NOW YOU DRESS UP TO CHEER THE MAN WHO SHED POMPEY'S BLOOD!

\* those whose jobs involve the running of a city, state, or country

\*\* from another country



THAT DAY HAPPENED TO BE A YEARLY HOLIDAY TO HONOR THE GOD LUPERCUS.\* THERE WAS TO BE A FOOT RACE, AND PEOPLE HAD DECORATED ALL THE STATUES IN THE CITY.

WE MUST REMOVE THESE DECORATIONS. THEY ARE AN INSULT TO THE MEMORY OF POMPEY!

ARE WE ALLOWED TO DO THAT? AFTER ALL IT IS THE FEAST OF LUPERCAL!



WE DON'T NEED SUCH THINGS TO REMIND US OF WHAT CAESAR HAS DONE. BEFORE WE KNOW IT, HE WILL MAKE HIMSELF KING!

YOU GO THAT WAY. . . I'LL GO THIS WAY. REMOVE ANY OF CAESAR'S DECORATIONS THAT YOU SEE.

I'LL DO IT!

\* a god who would bless the fields with good crops

MEANWHILE, NEAR THE SPOT WHERE THE YOUNG ROMAN MEN WOULD RACE, CAESAR SPOKE TO HIS WIFE, CALPURNIA.

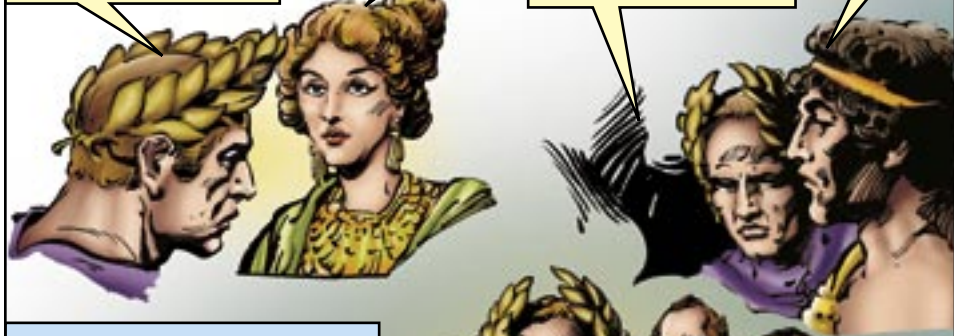
STAND RIGHT IN MARK ANTONY'S WAY WHEN HE RUNS.

I WILL!

THEN HE SPOKE TO MARK ANTONY.

BE SURE TO TOUCH CALPURNIA AS YOU RUN. THEY SAY THIS WILL GRANT A WOMAN MANY CHILDREN.

I'LL REMEMBER!



SUDDENLY SOMEONE CALLED OUT FROM THE CROWD.

CAESAR!



WHO CALLS CAESAR? SPEAK! I AM LISTENING!

CAESAR! BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!\*

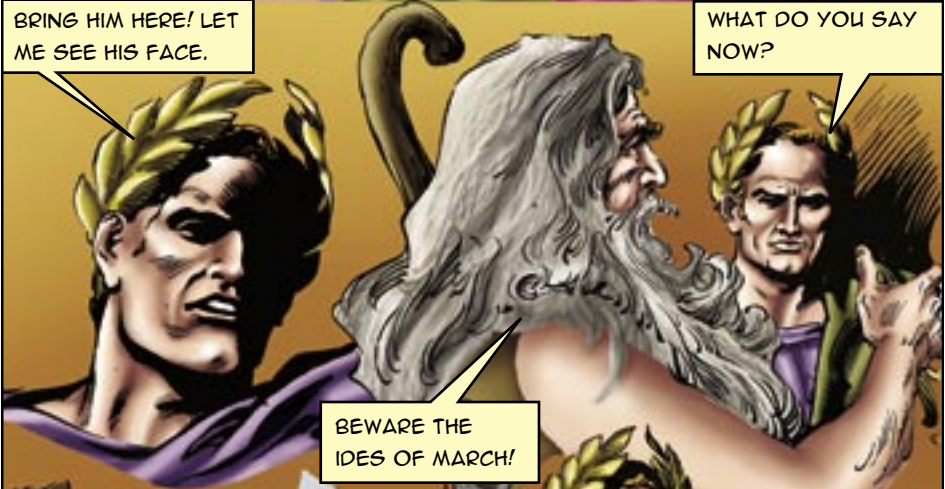


\* The Roman month was divided into the kalends, the ides, and the nones; in March the ides fell on the 15th.



WHO IS THAT MAN?

A SOOTHSAYER\* WHO TELLS YOU TO BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!



BRING HIM HERE! LET ME SEE HIS FACE.

WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW?

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!



THE MAN IS A DREAMER. LET US GO ON OUR WAY.

\* someone who predicts the future from signs and omens



AS CAESAR AND HIS FOLLOWERS WENT OFF TO THE RACE, CASSIUS AND BRUTUS, TWO NOBLE ROMANS, STAYED BEHIND.

MY DEAR FRIEND, HAVE I DONE SOMETHING TO ANGER YOU? YOU DON'T SEEM VERY FRIENDLY LATELY.

NO, NO! IT IS NOT YOU.



I HAVE SOME PROBLEMS I MUST DEAL WITH; THAT IS ALL.

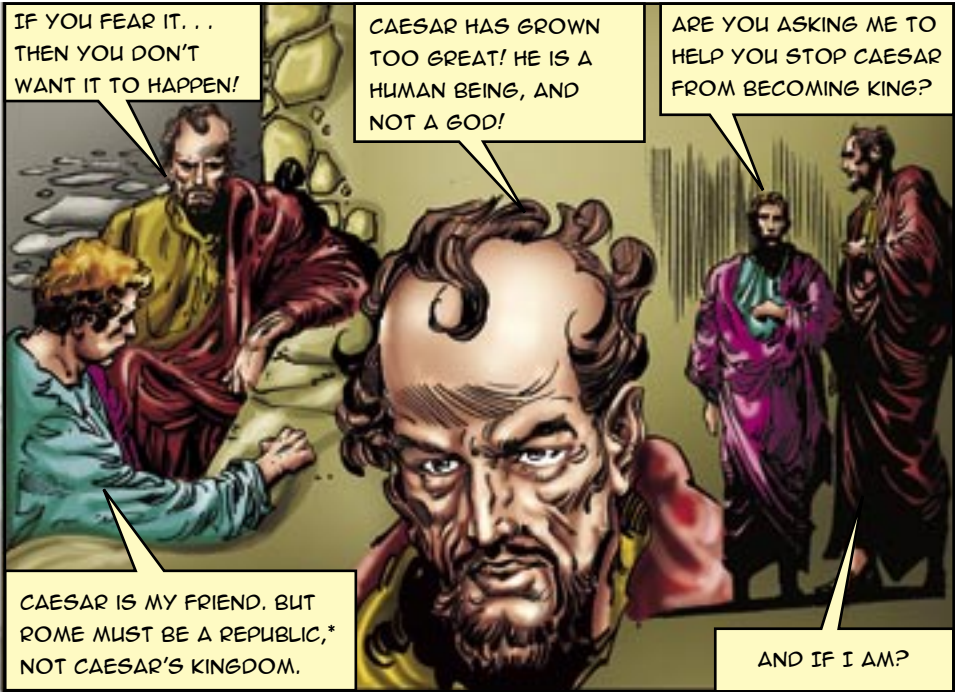
YOU WILL DO THE RIGHT THING, I'M SURE.

JUST THEN A GREAT SHOUT WENT UP FROM THE CROWD WATCHING THE GAMES.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I'M AFRAID THE PEOPLE ARE CHOOSING CAESAR TO BE THEIR KING!



IF YOU FEAR IT... THEN YOU DON'T WANT IT TO HAPPEN!

CAESAR HAS GROWN TOO GREAT! HE IS A HUMAN BEING, AND NOT A GOD!

ARE YOU ASKING ME TO HELP YOU STOP CAESAR FROM BECOMING KING?

CAESAR IS MY FRIEND. BUT ROME MUST BE A REPUBLIC,\* NOT CAESAR'S KINGDOM.

AND IF I AM?



I WILL THINK OF WHAT YOU'VE SAID, AND ANSWER YOU LATER.

THE GAMES ARE OVER. PULL CASCA ASIDE WHEN HE PASSES BY. HE WILL TELL US WHAT HAPPENED.

\* a government ruled by the people



MEANWHILE, CAESAR AND HIS FOLLOWERS ARRIVED AT THE PLACE WHERE BRUTUS AND CASSIUS WERE TALKING.

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT CASSIUS.

DON'T FEAR HIM, CAESAR. HE'S NOT DANGEROUS.

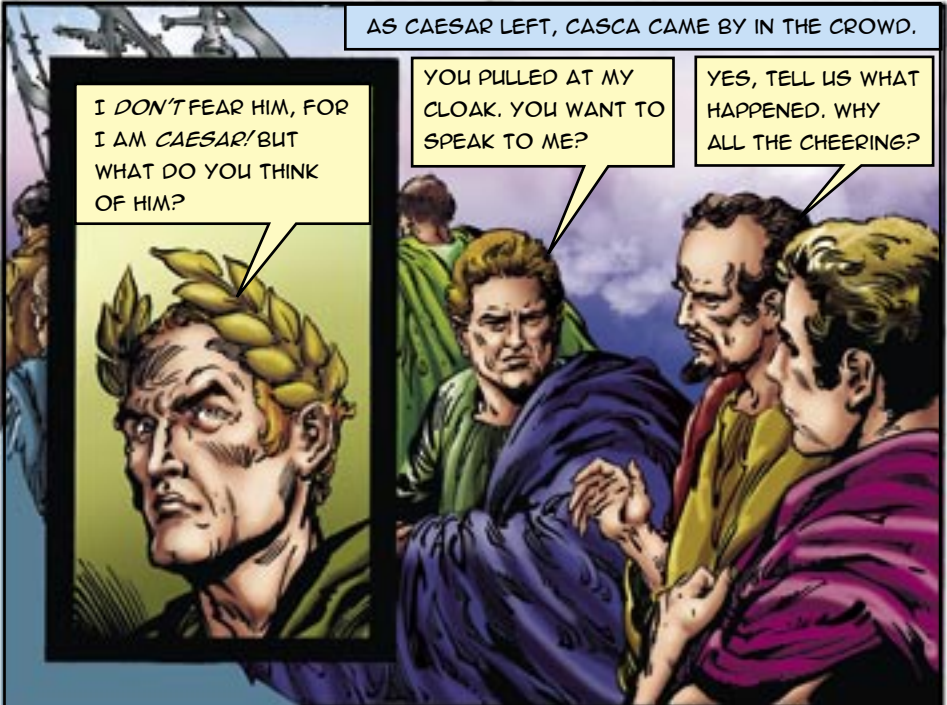


AS CAESAR LEFT, CASCA CAME BY IN THE CROWD.

I DON'T FEAR HIM, FOR I AM CAESAR! BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?

YOU PULLED AT MY CLOAK. YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO ME?

YES, TELL US WHAT HAPPENED. WHY ALL THE CHEERING?





YOU WERE THERE, WEREN'T YOU?

IF SO, I WOULDN'T ASK YOU WHAT HAD HAPPENED!

WHY, CAESAR WAS OFFERED A CROWN!

WHAT?



HE REFUSED IT. . . PUSHED IT AWAY, LIKE THIS. . . AND THE CROWD CHEERED!

WHAT ABOUT THE SECOND SHOUT?

AND THE THIRD?

THREE TIMES, ANTONY TRIED TO PLACE A CROWN ON CAESAR'S HEAD. . . AND EACH TIME CAESAR LOOKED MORE SAD. BUT THE CROWD CHEERED WHEN HE TURNED IT DOWN!