

Julius Caesar

5.3

Alarums. Enter Cassius [with an ensign], and Titinius

CASSIUS

O look, Titinius, look: the villains fly.
Myself have to mine own turned enemy:
This ensign here of mine was turning back;
I slew the coward, and did take it from him.

TITINIUS

O Cassius, Brutus gave the word too early,
Who, having some advantage on Octavius,
Took it too eagerly. His soldiers fell to spoil,
Whilst we by Antony are all enclosed.

5

Enter Pindarus

PINDARUS

Fly further off, my lord, fly further off!
Mark Antony is in your tents, my lord;
Fly therefore, noble Cassius, fly farre off.

10

CASSIUS

This hill is far enough. Look, look, Titinius,
Are those my tents where I perceive the fire?

TITINIUS

They are, my lord.

CASSIUS

Titinius, if thou lovest me,
Mount thou my horse, and hide thy spurs in him
Till he have brought thee up to yonder troops
And here again, that I may rest assured
Whether yon troops are friend or enemy.

15

TITINIUS

I will be here again even with a thought.

Exit

CASSIUS

Go, Pindarus, get higher on that hill.
My sight was ever thick. Regard, Titinius,
And tell me what thou not'st about the field.

20

Exit Pindarus

This day I breatheÁd first. Time is come round,
And where I did begin, there shall I end.

My life is run his compass.
Enter Pindarus above

Sirrah, what

news?

25

PINDARUS O my lord!

CASSIUS What news?

PINDARUS

Titinius is encloseÁd round about
With horsemen, that make to him on the spur.
Yet he spurs on. Now they are almost on him. 30
Now Titinius. Now some light. O, he lights too.
He's ta'en.

Shout within

And hark, they shout for joy.

CASSIUS

Come down; behold no more.

Exit Pindarus

O coward that I am, to live so long
To see my best friend ta'en before my face! 35

Enter Pindarus below

Come hither, sirrah. In Parthia did I take thee prisoner,
And then I swore thee, saving of thy life,
That whatsoever I did bid thee do
Thou shouldst attempt it. Come now, keep thine oath.
Now be a freeman, and, with this good sword 40
That ran through Caesar's bowels, search this bosom.
Stand not to answer. Here, take thou the hilts,

Pindarus takes the sword

And when my face is covered, as 'tis now,
Guide thou the sword.

Pindarus stabs him

Caesar, thou art revenged,

Even with the sword that killed thee.

45

He dies

PINDARUS

So, I am free, yet would not so have been
Durst I have done my will. O Cassius!
Far from this country Pindarus shall run,
Where never Roman shall take note of him.

Exit

Enter Titinius, wearing a wreath of victory, and

Messala

MESSALA

It is but change, Titinius, for Octavius
Is overthrown by noble Brutus' power,
As Cassius' legions are by Antony. 50

TITINIUS

These tidings will well comfort Cassius.

MESSALA

Where did you leave him?

TITINIUS

All disconsolate,
With Pindarus his bondman, on this hill. 55

MESSALA

Is not that he that lies upon the ground?

TITINIUS

He lies not like the living.±±O my heart!

MESSALA

Is not that he?

TITINIUS

No, this was he, Messala;
But Cassius is no more. O setting sun,
As in thy red rays thou dost sink tonight, 60
So in his red blood Cassius' day is set.
The sun of Rome is set. Our day is gone.
Clouds, dews, and dangers come. Our deeds are done.
Mistrust of my success hath done this deed.

MESSALA

Mistrust of good success hath done this deed. 65
O hateful Error, Melancholy's child,
Why dost thou show to the apt thoughts of men
The things that are not? O Error, soon conceived,
Thou never com'st unto a happy birth,
But kill'st the mother that engendered thee. 70

TITINIUS

What, Pindarus! Where art thou, Pindarus?

MESSALA

Seek him, Titinius, whilst I go to meet
The noble Brutus, thrusting this report
Into his ears. I may say `thrusting' it,
For piercing steel and darts envenomeÁd 75
Shall be as welcome to the ears of Brutus
As tidings of this sight.

TITINIUS

Hie you, Messala,

And I will seek for Pindarus the while.

Exit Messala

Why didst thou send me forth, brave Cassius?

Did I not meet thy friends, and did not they 80

Put on my brows this wreath of victory,

And bid me give it thee? Didst thou not hear their
shouts?

Alas, thou hast misconstrued everything.

But hold thee, take this garland on thy brow.

Thy Brutus bid me give it thee, and I 85

Will do his bidding. Brutus, come apace,

And see how I regarded Caius Cassius.

By your leave, gods, this is a Roman's part:

Come Cassius' sword, and find Titinius' heart.

He stabs himself, and dies

Alarum. Enter Brutus, Messala, young Cato,

Strato, Volumnius, Lucillius, [Labio, and Flavio]

BRUTUS

Where, where, Messala, doth his body lie? 90

MESSALA

Lo yonder, and Titinius mourning it.

BRUTUS

Titinius' face is upward.

CATO

He is slain.

BRUTUS

O Julius Caesar, thou art mighty yet.

Thy spirit walks abroad, and turns our swords

In our own proper entrails.

Low Alarums

CATO

Brave Titinius, 95

Look whe'er he have not crowned dead Cassius.

BRUTUS

Are yet two Romans living such as these?

The last of all the Romans, fare thee well.

It is impossible that ever Rome

Should breed thy fellow. Friends, I owe more tears 100

To this dead man than you shall see me pay.±±

I shall find time, Cassius, I shall find time.±±

Come, therefore, and to Thasos send his body.

His funerals shall not be in our camp,

Lest it discomfort us. Lucillius, come;
And come, young Cato. Let us to the field.
Labio and Flavio, set our battles on.
'Tis three o'clock, and, Romans, yet ere night
We shall try fortune in a second fight.

105

Exeunt [with the bodies]