

Caesar

Deception

Corruption



Elements of Shakespearean Tragedy

Climax

•Turning point; successes and triumphs quickly turn to regret and remorse

Rising Action

•Multiple possible conflicts are introduced

Falling Action

•Result of the conflict; initial conflict is somewhat resolved

Exposition

•Characters Introduced, as well as setting

Resolution

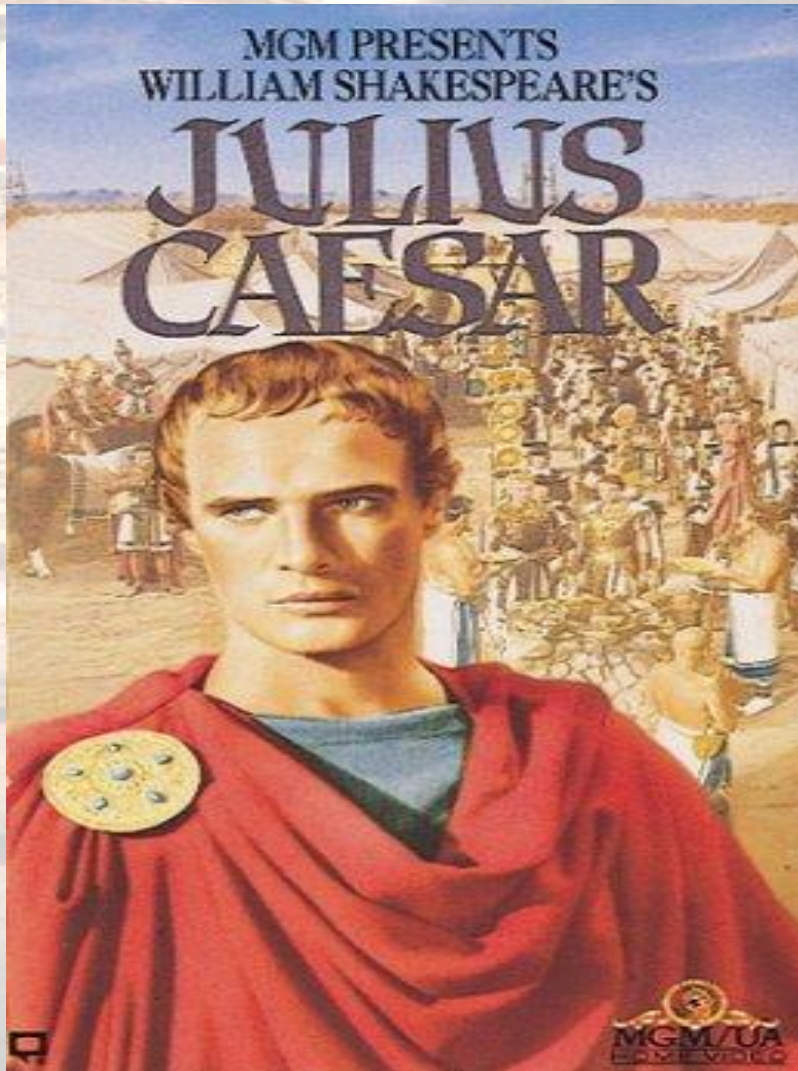
Another disastrous event occurs, which is another climactic turning point in the story line.

"Et tu, Brute! Then fall, Caesar."

Caesar ignores warnings, and meets his bloody end



- Quotes that have lived through the Ages



- **"Beware the ides of March."**
Soothsayer, Act I, Scene II
- **"Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but once."**
Julius Caesar, Act II, Scene II
- **"Et tu, Brute! Then fall, Caesar."**
Julius Caesar, Act III, Scene I
- **"Cry 'Havoc' and let slip the dogs of war"**
Mark Anthony, Act III, Scene I
- **"Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him."**
Mark Anthony, Act III, Scene II
- **"This was the noblest Roman of them all"**
Mark Anthony, Act V, Scene V

- Overview



- Caesar has become the most powerful man in the Roman Republic and is eager to become king.
- Conspirators, such as Brutus and Cassius, plot against the power of Caesar; they do not want him to become the head of the Roman Empire.
- They plot to overthrow Caesar and assassinate him outside the Capitol
- Caesar is given many warnings, but has become prideful with his power and disregards these omens
- His excessive pride leads to faulty judgement and a lack of clear thinking, which makes him a relatively easy target.

- Themes



Power Corrupts: Caesar is a dictator who is suspected of abusing his power; Cassius is so power hungry that he assassinates Caesar; Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus become even worse than Ceasar!

- Misuse of Power
- Corruptive Force of Power
- Man's Fallibility
- The Inherent Jealously and Selfishness of Man

- Themes, Continued



Countless books, movies and other theatre adaptations have built on the theme of a “friend’s betrayal”

- Honor found in loyalty and friendship
- Corruption found in conspiracy and anarchy
- Stability through political order
- Viability of republic form of government.

- Literary Focus

- Mood

- Overcast of impending doom, darkness and catastrophe.
 - There is no trust left, only manipulation and corruption

- Setting

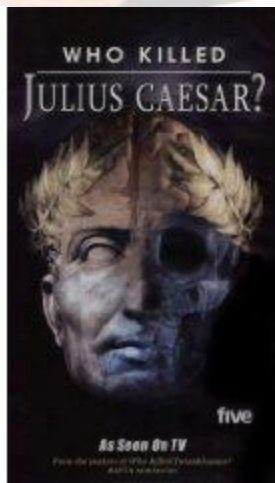
- Julius Caesar is largely set in Rome, 44 B.C.
 - Ancient Rome
 - Tiber River
 - the Capitol
 - the house of the Senate
 - The Forum



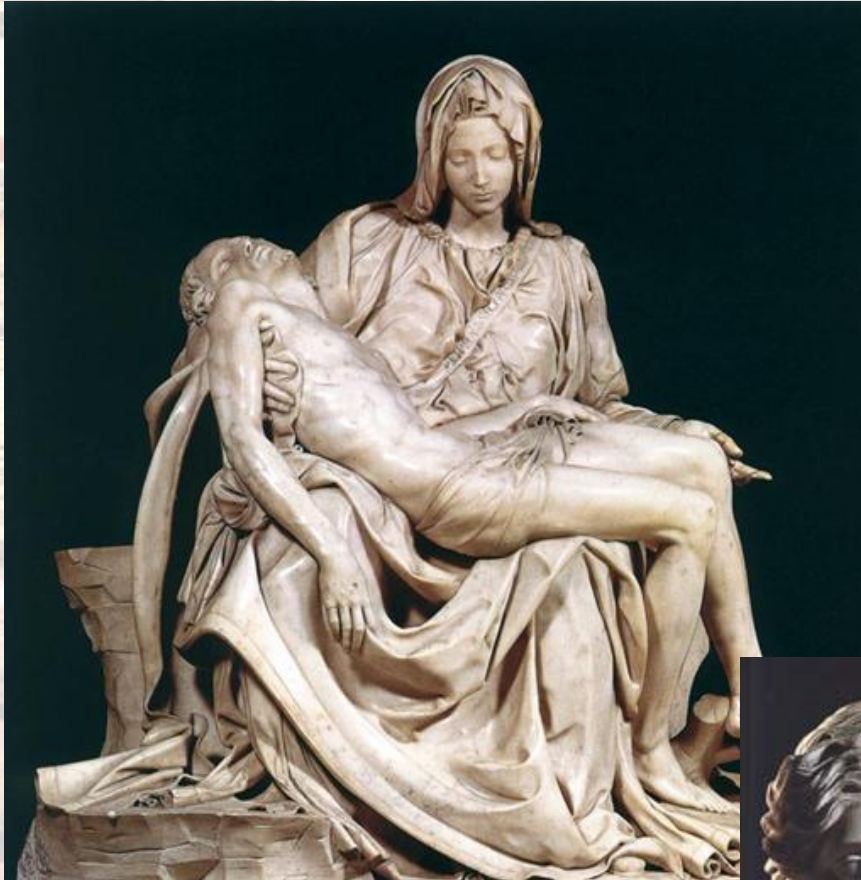
- Julius Caesar



- An ambitious and ruthless politician
- Skilled general
- Believes that he is worthy of more power than just being the head of Rome; he wants to be crowned the leader of the entire Roman Empire.
- His ambition led to his downfall
- Long-time friend Brutus betrayed and stabbed him to stop him from becoming a tyrant.



- **Calpurnia**

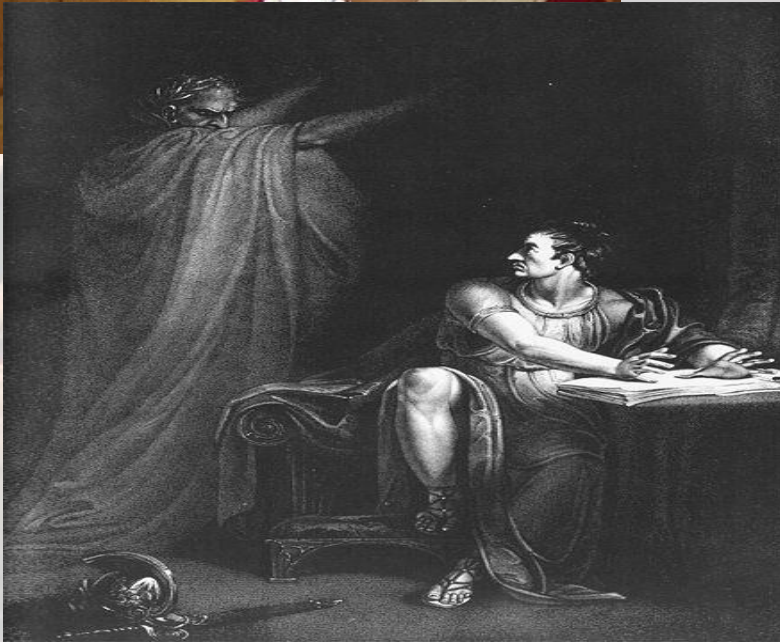
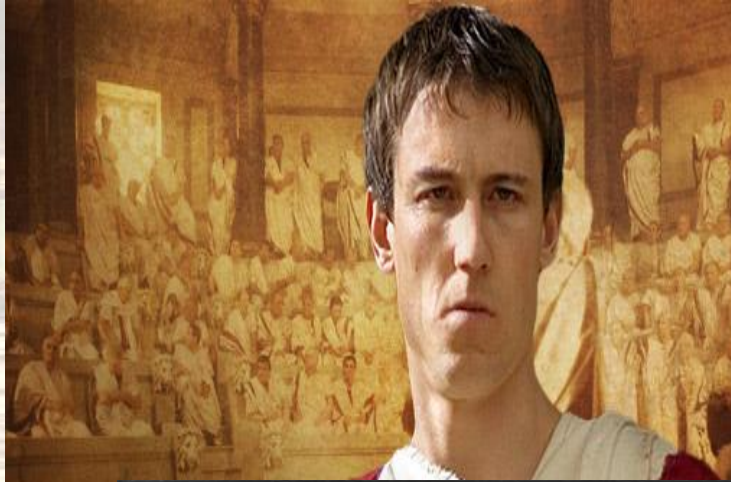


***Calpurnia's dream
foreshadowed future events***

- Julius Caesar's sensible and loving wife
- Warned her husband not to leave the house during the Ides of March after having a prophetic dream.



- **Brutus**



- Friend of Caesar and Honorable man
- Feeling of patriotism, convince him that Caesar must die rather than become a tyrant.
- His strong principles led him to allow rival Antony to speak at Caesar's funeral.

- Cassius

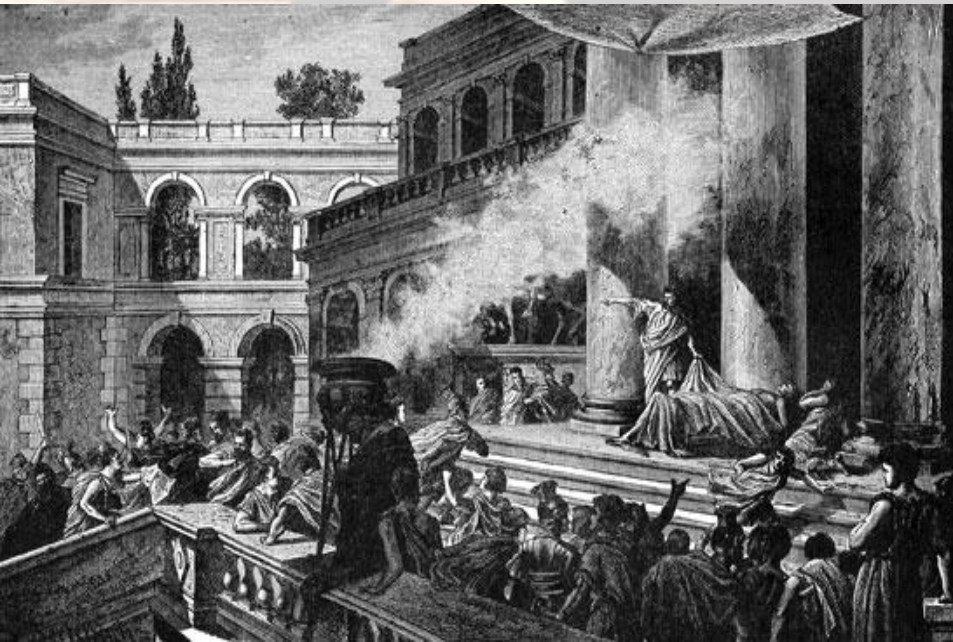


- Becomes jealous of Caesar's power and fearful he will abuse that power
- Urges Brutus to assassinate both Caesar and Antony
- Tries to convince Brutus to not allow Antony to speak at Caesar's funeral

- **Marcus Mark Antony**



- Soldier and Caesar's right-hand man
- Calculating and persuasive with words
- Uses his influence to turn the people of Rome against Brutus
- With Caesar slain, seizes the opportunity to take control of Rome.



Antony delivers Caesar's funeral oration