

## Resource B: **THE NEWS IN ROME**

### 1. CAESAR RETURNS A WINNER!

Today in Rome, adoring citizens lined the streets to welcome the victorious return of Julius Caesar after winning the war against Pompey! But is Caesar becoming too popular? We spoke to some of the senators who would rather protect the Republic than see one man take the Crown...

**SENATOR:**                    **Do you now strew flowers in his way  
That comes in triumph over Pompey's blood?  
Be gone!  
Run to your houses, fall upon your knees!**

**Commoner:**                **Indeed, sir, we make holiday,  
to see Caesar and to rejoice in his triumph.**

### 2. LISTEN TO YOUR WIVES!

Rumours are unfolding that Cassius has approached Brutus in a bold move against Caesar. Cassius is known to believe that Caesar a threat to Republic and is keen to have Brutus lead a plot against this would-be-king. Will honourable Brutus take the bait?

Meanwhile on the home front, Brutus 'wife, Portia, is said to be worried sick about her husband who is not sleeping and looking troubled.

**PORTIA:**                    **My Brutus;  
You have some sick offence within your mind,  
Which, by the right and virtue of my place,  
I ought to know of:**

Will Caesar's wife, Calphurnia, have more luck talking to her husband? After a series of bad dreams, Calpurnia is apparently warning Caesar to stay indoors, especially on the 'Ides of March', a date Caesar has already been warned about!

**CALPURNIA:**            **What mean you, Caesar?  
You shall not stir out of your house to-day!  
A lioness hath whelped in the streets;  
And graves have yawn'd, and yielded up their dead!**

### 3. CAESAR DEAD!

Live reports are coming in that Julius Caesar has been killed! Apparently the terrible murder was committed by a group of conspirators on the steps of the senate itself. Caesar, it seems was surrounded and eye-witnesses report that his trusted friend, Brutus, delivered the final wound.

**CINNA**                      **Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!**  
**Run hence, proclaim, cry it about the streets.**

**CASSIUS**                    **Liberty, freedom, and enfranchisement!**

Mark Antony, a great friend of Caesar, was seen shaking hands with the conspirators. We talk to the famous general now...

**ANTONY:**                    **Cry 'Havoc,' and let slip the dogs of war;**  
**That this foul deed shall smell above the earth**  
**With carrion men, groaning for burial!**

#### 4. THE MOB TAKES ROME!

Dramatic scenes at Caesar's funeral today after Brutus and Antony appeared in person to speak to the crowd. Brutus spoke first but made the mistake of letting Antony get the final word. After displaying Caesar's body and his fateful wounds, Antony read out Caesar's Will, apparently leaving a heap of cash and land to the people of Rome. The mob quickly turned against Brutus and the conspirators are currently fleeing for their lives!

**Antony:**                    **In every wound of Caesar that should move**  
**The stones of Rome to rise and mutiny!**

**All:**                            **We'll mutiny!**

**First Citizen:**            **We'll burn the house of Brutus!**

**Third Citizen:**           **Away, then! come, seek the conspirators!**

#### 5. BRUTUS AND CASSIUS FIGHT BACK!

What do we know about Brutus and Cassius's location? Well, both men have raised an army to fight against Antony. Eyewitnesses in the camps say both men have argued with accusations flying between them. But is it true that Brutus saw Caesar's ghost?

**BRUTUS:**                   **Ha! who comes here?  
Art thou some god, some angel, or some devil,  
That makest my blood cold and my hair to stare?  
Speak to me what thou art!**

**GHOST:**                   **Thy evil spirit, Brutus.**

#### 6. TRAGEDY AND A NEW HOPE.

It is confirmed that the conspirator, Cassius, after hearing a mistaken report that his own troops were losing, has taken his own life. Brutus had been hopeful in battle but with his army now defeated, it seems he refused to be captured and has done the same.

Mark Antony has won against the men who murdered Caesar. But in a surprise twist today, he praised Brutus 'honour.

**ANTONY:**                   **This was the noblest Roman of them all:  
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!'**

So what does the future hold for the people of Rome? We know that Antony is returning to rule with Caesar's great-nephew Octavius and we can only hope this marks an end to the terrible tragedy of Julius Caesar. That's all for now and don't have nightmares!