

Synopsis of Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*

Act I

_____ and _____ scold commoners for taking a holiday in honor of _____ and pull the _____ off the statues of Caesar. They have another reason for celebration, however, It is the _____, consisting of races and games. Caesar, who has fathered no children, tells his wife, _____, to stand where she can be touched by _____ as he runs in one of the races. Supposedly this will make her _____. He is superstitious about this, but not about a warning from the _____, " _____!" _____, a conspirator against Caesar, talks to Brutus and tries to find out how he feels about _____. _____ is unsure about how he feels. Caesar tells _____ that he thinks _____ is dangerous. Caesar has thrice _____ offered by _____ as a ploy to show he is not interested in power. Later that evening, after a _____, Casca tells _____ of some unnatural happenings he interprets as omens that Caesar will _____. _____, Cassius, Cinna, and Casca meet to plan _____ and are joined by _____, _____, and _____. The conspirators feel it would be to their benefit to win _____ over to their cause.

Act II

In Brutus' soliloquy, he says he fears that _____. Brutus is truly concerned for _____. The conspirators easily win him over. They discuss the demise of _____ as well, but Brutus is _____ it on the grounds that they will seem like murderers, not purgers, if they kill him. _____ urges Brutus to _____, but he tells her he will talk to her later. _____ joins the conspiracy at the last moment. The next morning, _____ implores Caesar not to _____. She had a dream of the Romans _____. _____ Caesar has decided not to go when _____

arrives. Decius is able to convince Caesar to _____ by telling him that _____. _____ writes a letter of warning to Caesar. _____, in an agitated state over what she fears may be about to happen, sends _____ to the Capitol. Her fears are heightened by a _____ who tells her he plans to warn Caesar of his own fears.

Act III

_____ tries to hand his letter to Caesar as he _____ to the Capitol with Antony, Lepidus and the conspirators, but Caesar _____. _____ lures Antony away from Caesar, and the conspirators put their plan into action. _____ pleads for the release of his banished brother, _____, as a device to get close to Caesar. Brutus and Casca also draw near, and _____ stabs Caesar from behind. The others fall on him, _____ last, and Caesar utters the now famous line, “_____” just before he dies. Pandemonium breaks out. The conspirators plan to explain everything to the satisfaction of the citizens. Meanwhile, _____ servant appears to bargain for his safety if he comes to talk to the conspirators. When Antony arrives, _____ and _____ seem to convince him that Caesar had to die for the good of _____. Antony asks that he be allowed to _____, and Brutus agrees that he may speak after _____ is finished. In his soliloquy over Caesar’s body, _____ reveals his true feelings, and he vows to _____. Brutus speaks to the crowd, easily convincing them of the need to _____ for the general good. Antony then speaks and convinces them that the _____ are murderous traitors. _____ and _____, learning that the citizens have been incited to mob violence, quickly leave Rome. _____ is killed by the mob simply because he has the same name as _____.

Act IV

The new triumvirate-- _____, _____, _____-- meets to discuss Caesar's _____ and how they will avenge his death. After _____ leaves, Antony tells Octavius that he is useful only in that he can be trained to do their bidding. Relations between Brutus and Cassius are strained as _____ accuses _____ of taking bribes. Brutus reveals that _____ has killed herself by _____, and that perhaps as many as a hundred senators have been put to death by _____ and _____. Brutus and Cassius disagree on _____, but Brutus convinces Cassius that they should march to meet the enemy at _____ rather than waiting to be found. _____ cannot sleep, and asks _____ to play music. _____ ghost appears to Brutus, telling him they will meet again at _____. Lucius and the others see nothing.

Act V

The two armies are poised on the battlefield, and the leaders exchange words before the battle begins. We learn that Caesar was stabbed ___ times. _____ challenges Brutus and Caesar to battle. _____ is already convinced he will die on this day, his birthday. There are more omens of bad luck, including an _____ landing on the army's ensign. Brutus proclaims that he will not be _____ as a slave. _____ is sent to check on the battle proceedings. _____ mistakenly reports from his watch that Titinius has been _____. _____, certain of doom, asks Pindarus to _____ him. When Titinius comes back in triumph and sees Cassius dead, he _____. Brutus is convinced by _____ that he must die as well. He asks his men to help him die, but _____ is the one to hold his sword as Brutus runs on it and dies. In the final scene, _____ delivers a speech over Brutus' body, declaring him to be _____.