

**Act V, Scene 1**

*[Enter Octavius, Antony, and their army.]*

**Octavius.**

Now, Antony, our hopes are answered. You said the enemy would not come down, but instead would stay on the hills and high places. That turns out not to be the case: their forces are here; They intend to challenge us at Philippi here, answering before we even demand of them.

**Antony.**

Tut, I know their secrets, and I know why they are doing this. They would be happy to be somewhere else, and they come down to Philippi with fearful bravery, thinking that with this show they will make us think that they have courage; But that's not the case.

*[Enter a messenger.]*

**Messenger.**

Prepare yourselves, generals. The enemy approaches.

*[March.]*

*[Drum. Enter Brutus, Cassius, and their army.]*

**Brutus.**

They are waiting, and want to talk.

**Cassius.**

Stay here, Titinius; we must go out and talk.

**Octavius.**

Mark Antony, should we give the signal for battle?

**Antony.**

No, Caesar, we will respond to their attack. Go out, the generals want to talk.

**Octavius.**

Don't move until the signal.

**Brutus.**

Words before blows; is that right, countrymen?

**Octavius.**

Not because we love words better, like you do.

**Brutus.**

Good words are better than bad blows, Octavius.

**Antony.**

Really, like the good words you said when you stabbed Caesar? Villains! You will pay for when your vile daggers hacked the sides of Caesar. You grinned like apes, and fawned like dogs, and bowed like slaves, kissing Caesar's feet; While damned Casca, like a worthless dog, from behind struck Caesar on the neck. Oh you flatterers!

**Cassius.**

Flatterers? See, Brutus, we should have already killed him.

**Octavius.**

Look, I draw a sword against conspirators; When do you think that the sword will be put away again? Never, until Caesar's thirty-three wounds are completely avenged; or until another Caesar has been slaughtered by the sword of traitors.

**Brutus.**

Caesar, you cannot die by traitors' hands, unless you bring them with you.

**Octavius.**

That's what I hope; I was not born to die on Brutus' sword.

**Brutus.**

Please, boy, you should think it an honor to die on my sword.

**Octavius.**

Come, Antony; away! We throw defiance in your face, traitors. If you dare to fight today, come to the battlefield; If not, then come when you have the stomach for it.

*[Exit Octavius, Antony, and army.]*

**Cassius.**

Messala!

**Messala.**

What does my general say?

**Cassius.**

Messala, this is my birthday; on but it seems like an ominous one. Coming from Sardis, on our banner out front two mighty eagles swooped down, and there they perched, oorging and feeding from our soldiers' hands, accompanying us here to Philippi. This morning they have fled away and are gone, and in their place ravens, crows, and kites fly over our heads, and look down on us as if we were sickly prey. Their shadows seem like a deadly canopy, under which our army lies, ready to give up the ghost.

**Messala.**

Don't believe that.

**Cassius.**

I only partly believe it, because I am fresh of spirit, and resolved to meet all our perils very steadfastly. Now, most noble Brutus, may the gods today be friendly, so we may, friends in peace, live on to old age! But since the business of men is still uncertain, let's consider the worst that may happen. What have you decided to do if we lose?

**Brutus.**

Well, I am not going to kill myself-- I think it is cowardly and vile to shorten the time of your life because you are afraid to live.

**Cassius.**

Then, if we lose this battle, you are content to be led in triumph through the streets of Rome?

**Brutus.**

No, Cassius, no. I will never go to Rome in chains. I don't know whether we will meet again; For that reason accept this final farewell: Forever, and forever, farewell, Cassius! If we do meet again, why, we will smile; If not, then this is the final goodbye.

*[Exit.]*

### Act V, Scene 2

*[Call to arms sounds. Enter Brutus and Messala.]*

**Brutus.**

Ride, ride, Messala, ride, and give these written orders to the forces on the other side.

*[Loud call to arms.]*

Let them attack at once; because I see a lack of enthusiasm in Octavio's wing, and a sudden push will overthrow them. Ride, ride, Messala, let them all come down.

*[Exit.]*

### Act V, Scene 3

*[Call to arms sounds. Enter Cassius and Titinius.]*

**Cassius.**

Oh, look, Titinius, look, the villains run! My own people have become their own enemy. This standard-bearer of mine was turning back; I killed the coward, and took the flag from him.

**Titinius.**

Oh Cassius, Brutus gave the word too early, and, with an advantage over Octavius, took it too eagerly. His soldiers started looting, while we are surrounded by Antony.

*[Enter Pindarus.]*

**Pindarus.**

Run further away, my lord, run further away; Mark Antony is in your tents, my lord; Therefore run, noble Cassius, run far away.

**Cassius.**

This hill is far enough. Look, look, Titinius, are my tents on fire?

**Titinius.**

They are, my lord.

**Cassius.**

Titinius, if you are my friend, mount your horse, and hide your spurs in him until he has brought you up to those troops and back here again, so that I may rest assured whether those troops are friend or foe.

**Titinius.**

I will be back here again, as quickly as a thought.

*[Exit.]*

**Cassius.**

Go, Pindarus, get higher on that hill; My sight was always dim; watch Titinius, and tell me what you see on the field. I fear my life has run its course.

**Pindarus** *[above].*

Oh my lord!

**Cassius.**

What news?

**Pindarus.**

Titinius is surrounded with horsemen, that ride quickly toward him, but he races on. Now they are almost up to him. Now, Titinius! Now some dismount. Oh, he dismounts too. He's captured.

*[Shout.]* And listen, they shout for joy.

**Cassius.**

Come down, look no more. Oh, coward that I am, to live so long, to see my best friend captured in front of my face!

*[Pindarus descends.]*

Come here, sir. In Parthia I took you prisoner, and then I made you promise, to save your life, that whatever I asked you to do, you would try to do it. Come now, keep your promise; Now be a freeman, and with this good sword, that ran through Caesar's bowels, pierce this heart. Don't wait to answer; here, take the hilts, and when my face is covered, as it is now, guide the sword.

*[Pindarus stabs him.]* Caesar, you have your revenge, even with the sword that killed you.

**Pindarus.**

So, I am free; Oh Cassius, Pindarus will run far from this country, where a Roman will never notice him. *[Exit.]*

*[Enter Titinius and Messala.]*

**Messala.**

It is only a tie, Titinius; for Octavius has been defeated by noble Brutus' army, just as Cassius' legions have been by Antony.

**Titinius.**

This news will comfort Cassius.

**Messala.**

Where did you leave him?

**Titinius.**

All disconsolate, with Pindarus his slave, on this hill.

**Messala.**

Isn't that he lying on the ground?

**Titinius.**

Holy crap!

**Messala.**

That's him, right?

**Titinius.**

No, this was he, Messala, but Cassius is no more. Where are you, Pindarus?

**Messala.**

Look for him, Titinius, while I go to meet the noble Brutus and tell him what has happened.

**Titinius.**

Hurry, Messala, and I will look for Pindarus in the meantime.

*[Exit Messala.]*

Why didn't you wait for me to get back. The news was not so bad. I am filled with too much sorrow and I must die by the same sword that killed my friend.

*[Dies.]*

*[Call to arms sounds. Enter Brutus, Messala, young Cato, Strato, Volumnius, and Lucilius.]*

**Brutus.**

Where, where, Messala, does his body lie?

**Messala.**

See over there, and Titinius mourning it.

**Brutus.**

Titinius' face is upward.

**Cato.**

He is dead.

**Brutus.**

Oh Julius Caesar, you are mighty still! Your spirit walks abroad, and turns our swords in on our own selves.

*[Low calls to arms.]*

**Cato.**

Brave Titinius! See how he has crowned dead Cassius!

**Brutus.**

Are there still two living Romans like these two? The last of all the Romans, farewell! It is impossible that Rome will ever bring up anyone like you. Friends, I owe more tears to this dead man than you will see me pay. I will find time, Cassius; I will find time. Come then, and send his body to Thasos; His funerals will not be held in our camp, in case it would unsettle us. Lucilius, come, and come, young Cato, let us go to the field, Labio and Flavio wage our battles on. It's three o'clock, and, Romans, still before night we shall tempt fate in a second fight.

*[Exit.]*

#### Act V, Scene 4

*[Call to arms. Enter Brutus, Messala, young Cato, Lucilius, and Flavius.]*

**Brutus.**

Soldiers! Hold up your heads!

*[Exit.]*

**Cato.**

What bastard does not? Who will go with me? I will shout my name all around the field. I am the son of Marcus Cato, ho!

*[Enter soldiers and fight.]*

*[Young Cato is killed.]*

**First Soldier.**

Surrender, or you die.

**Lucilius.**

I surrender only in order to die; Here is much information that will make you kill me at once: I am Brutus! Kill Brutus, and be honored in his death.

**First Soldier.**

We must not. A noble prisoner!

*[Enter Antony.]*

**Second Soldier.**

Room ho! Tell Antony, Brutus is captured.

**First Soldier.**

I'll tell the news. Here comes the general. Brutus is captured, Brutus is captured, my lord!

**Antony.**

Where is he?

**Lucilius.**

Safe, Antony, Brutus is safe enough. I dare assure you that no enemy shall ever capture the noble Brutus alive!

**Antony.**

This is not Brutus, friend. Go on, and see whether Brutus is alive or dead, and bring for us a message to Octavius' tent telling how everything turned out.

**Act V, Scene 5**

*[Enter Brutus, Dardanius, Clitus, Strato, and Volumnius.]*

**Brutus.**

Come, poor remains of friends, rest on this rock.

**Clitus.**

Statilius signalled with the torchlight, but, my lord, he did not come back. He is captured or killed.

**Brutus.**

Sit down, I need to tell you something.

*[Whispering in Clitus' ear.]*

**Clitus.**

What, I, my lord? No, not for all the world. I'd rather kill myself.

**Brutus.**

Listen, Dardanius.

*[Whispering.]*

**Dardanius.**

Should I do such a thing?

**Clitus.**

What harmful request did Brutus make to you?

**Dardanius.**

To kill him, Clitus. Look, he meditates.

**Brutus.**

Come here, good Volumnius; listen to a word.

**Volumnius.**

What says my lord?

**Brutus.**

Why, this, Volumnius: The ghost of Caesar has appeared to me two different times at night, here in the Philippi fields. I know my time has come.

**Volumnius.**

Not so, my lord.

**Brutus.**

No, I am sure it is, Volumnius. You see the world, Volumnius, the way it goes. There is no escape from this pit.

*[Low calls to arms.]*

It is more worthy to jump in ourselves than to wait till they push us. Good Volumnius, you know that the two of us went to school together; If only because of that old friendship, I ask you to hold my sword hilts, while I run on it.

**Volumnius.**

That's not a job for a friend, my lord.

*[Calls to arms continue.]*

**Clitus.**

Run, run, my lord, there is no waiting here.

*[Call to arms. Cry within, "Run, run, run!"]*

**Clitus.**

Run, my lord, run.

**Brutus.**

Go! I will follow.

*[Exit Clitus, Dardanius, and Volumnius.]*

I ask you, Strato, stay by your lord. You are a fellow with a good reputation; Your life has some taste of honor in it. Hold my sword, and turn away your face, while I run upon it. Will you, Strato?

**Strato.**

Give me your hand first. Farewell, my lord.

**Brutus.**

Farewell, good Strato.

*[Runs on his sword.]*

Caesar, now be still, I did not kill you with half as much resolve.

*[Dies.]*

*[Call to arms. Retreat. Enter Antony, Octavius, Messala, Lucilius, and the army.]*

**Octavius.**

What man is that?

**Messala.**

My master's man. Strato, where is your master?

**Strato.**

Free from the bondage you are in, Messala; The conquerors can only make a fire out of him; For Brutus only conquered himself, and no other man has honor from his death.

**Lucilius.**

Just like that Brutus should be found. I thank you, Brutus, because you have proved Lucilius' words true.

**Octavius.**

I will take into my service everyone who served Brutus. Fellow, will you employ your time with me?

**Strato.**

Yes, if Messala will recommend me to you.

**Octavius.**

Do so, good Messala.

**Messala.**

How did my master die, Strato?

**Strato.**

I held the sword, and he ran onto it.

**Messala.**

Octavius, then take him to follow you, who performed the last service to my master.

**Antony.**

This was the noblest Roman of them all: All the conspirators, except only him, did what they did because of envy of great Caesar; He alone, out of a generally honest thought and the common good of all, joined them. His life was noble, and the elements were so balanced in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, "This was a man!"

**Octavius.**

Let us treat him in accordance with his virtue, with all respect and rites of burial. His bones shall lie within my tent tonight, just like a soldier, treated honorably, so call the army to rest and let's go, to share the glories of this fortunate day.

*[Exit all.]*