

Post-Performance
Lesson Plans
Handout 2 - Paraphrasing Scene

Act I, Scene 2 - A public place.

Flourish. Enter CAESAR; ANTONY, CALPURNIA, PORTIA, DECIUS BRUTUS, CICERO, BRUTUS, CASSIUS, and CASCA; a great crowd following, among them a Soothsayer

Caesar. Calpurnia!

Paraphrase:

Casca. Peace, ho! Caesar speaks.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Calpurnia!

Paraphrase:

Calpurnia. Here, my lord.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Stand you directly in Antonius' way,

Paraphrase:

When he doth run his course. Antonius!

Paraphrase:

Antony. Caesar, my lord?

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Forget not, in your speed, Antonius,

Paraphrase:

To touch Calpurnia; for our elders say,

Paraphrase:

The barren, touched in this holy chase,

Paraphrase:

Shake off their sterile curse.*

Paraphrase:

Antony. I shall remember:

Paraphrase:

When Caesar says 'do this,' it is perform'd.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Set on; and leave no ceremony out.

Paraphrase:

Flourish

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Continued

Soothsayer. Caesar!

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Ha! who calls?

Paraphrase:

Casca. Bid every noise be still: peace yet again!

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Who is it in the press that calls on me?

Paraphrase:

I hear a tongue, shriller than all the music,

Paraphrase:

Cry 'Caesar!' Speak; Caesar is turn'd to hear.

Paraphrase:

Soothsayer. Beware the ides of March.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. What man is that?

Paraphrase:

Brutus. A soothsayer bids you beware the ides of March.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. Set him before me; let me see his face.

Paraphrase:

Cassius. Fellow, come from the throng; look upon Caesar.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. What say'st thou to me now? speak once again.

Paraphrase:

Soothsayer. Beware the ides of March.

Paraphrase:

Caesar. He is a dreamer; let us leave him: pass.

Paraphrase:

*Sennet. * Exeunt all except BRUTUS and CASSIUS*

Notes:

Caesar enters during the Feast of Lupercal, a festival held on February 15th to purify the city of evil spirits.

** Stand you sterile curse - a Lupercal runner's touch was said to cure infertility.*

** Sennet - formal, stately music played on wooden instruments*