

# Julius Caesar

100 B.C. - 44 B.C.



**Veni. Vidi. Vici.**

*I came. I saw. I conquered.*

How many words can you think  
of that are associated with  
**Julius Caesar?**





**Orange Julius**

**JULY**

**KAISER**

**Caesarian Section  
(C-Section)**

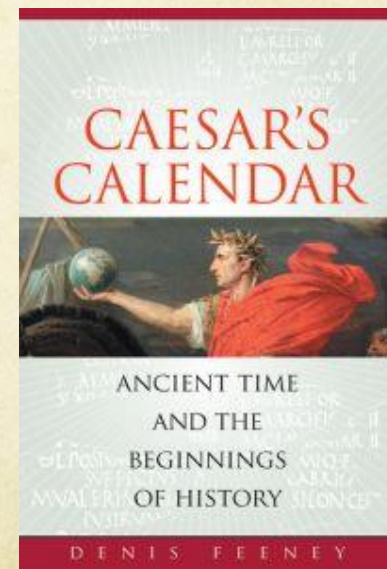
**Little Caesar's Pizza**

**caesura**

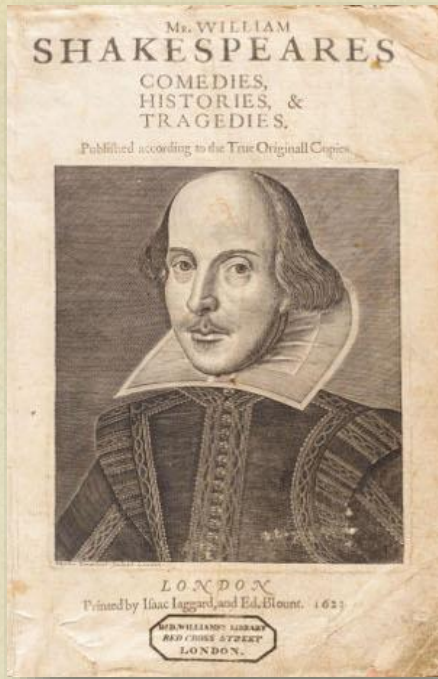
**pizza! pizza!**

**CAESARS PALACE**

**Caesar  
contributed a lot  
to our society. One  
of the most  
significant  
contributions is  
the 365-day  
calendar we follow  
today.**







# William Shakespeare

wrote the play

## *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar.*



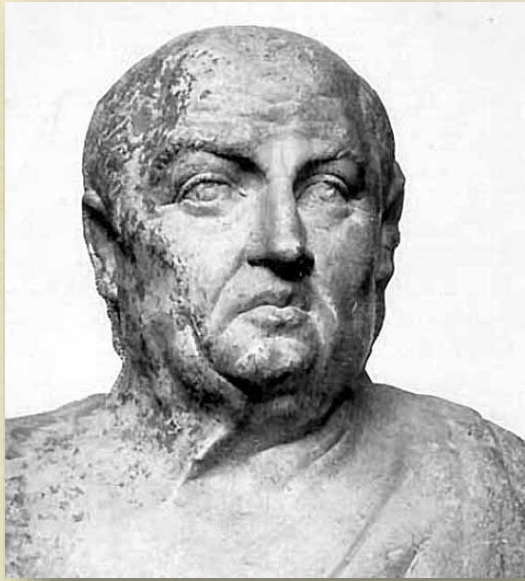
It was the first play performed in  
the Globe Theatre in 1599.



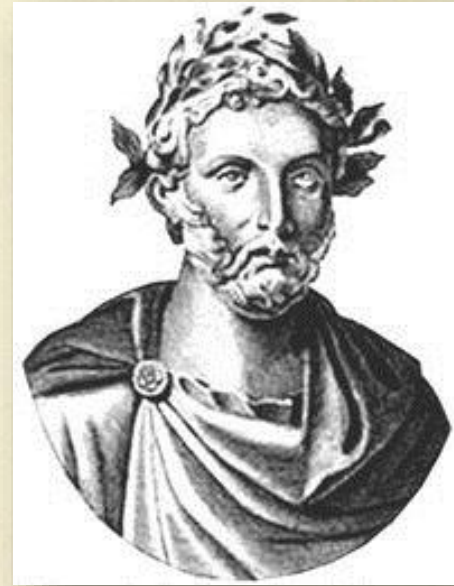


- The English knew a lot about the Romans back in Shakespeare's time (the Renaissance).
- They were conquered by Caesar and believed that they were descendants of early Romans.

- The Roman playwrights **Seneca** and **Plautus** were popular and admired influences of Elizabethan drama.



Seneca



Plautus





- Shakespeare's audience was also fascinated by Caesar's life and death (a "dictator" becoming corrupt and ignoring the other branches of government, then being assassinated by his own friends) because in the 1400s in England the people experienced civil war and the result was the **Tudor family** (Queen Elizabeth's family line) taking over.



## *Plagiarism?*

- Even Shakespeare had to research for his plays.
- His main source for *Julius Caesar* was **Plutarch**--a Greek philosopher who lived around 45-130 A.D.
- However, Shakespeare failed to cite his sources in MLA documentation...shame on him!



*The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*  
by William Shakespeare  
is set in Rome, 44 B.C.



Rome was ruled by a "**Triumvirate.**"

(a coalition of three men)

**The three rulers in the triumvirate were:**

**Pompey**

-a great politician & Caesar's son-in-law  
(he was married to Caesar's daughter Julia)

**Caesar**

-the famous general

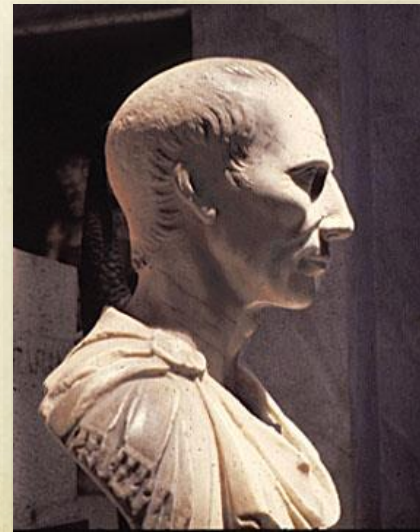
**Crassus**

-the wealthiest man in Rome

In 54 B.C. Caesar's daughter, Julia, dies. Because she was the the only real personal tie between Pompey and Caesar, tension flared between the two men.



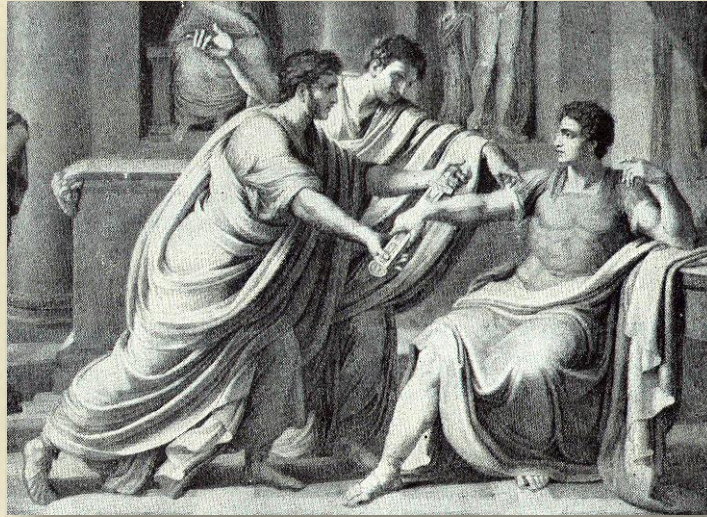
Pompey



Caesar



In 53 B.C.  
Crassus dies...



This ends the First Triumvirate and sets Pompey and Caesar against one another (they both craved power).



The Senate supported Pompey and he becomes sole consul (like a president) in 52 B.C.

Caesar, on the other hand, becomes a military hero and a champion of the people. He was the commander in Gaul and had planned on becoming consul when his term in Gaul was up (terms were for one year).

The senate feared him and wanted him to give up his army.







**Caesar writes the senate a letter in 50 B.C. and says he will give up his army if Pompey gives up his.**

**This, of course, makes the senate angry and they demand that Caesar disband his army at once or be declared an enemy of the people.**

**Legally, however, the senate could not do that. Caesar was entitled by law to keep his army until his term was up.**

Two tribunes--**Marc Antony** and **Quintus Cassius Longinus**--faithful to Caesar, veto the bill and were therefore expelled from the senate.

They flee to Caesar; the men ask the army for support against the senate. The army called for action and on January 19, 49 B.C., Caesar **crosses the Rubicon** river into Italy. Civil war has begun.

Caesar says, "**Iacta alea est!**"

(The die is cast!) when he crosses the stream.

Read more about...

"Crossing the Rubicon" as a **metaphor**





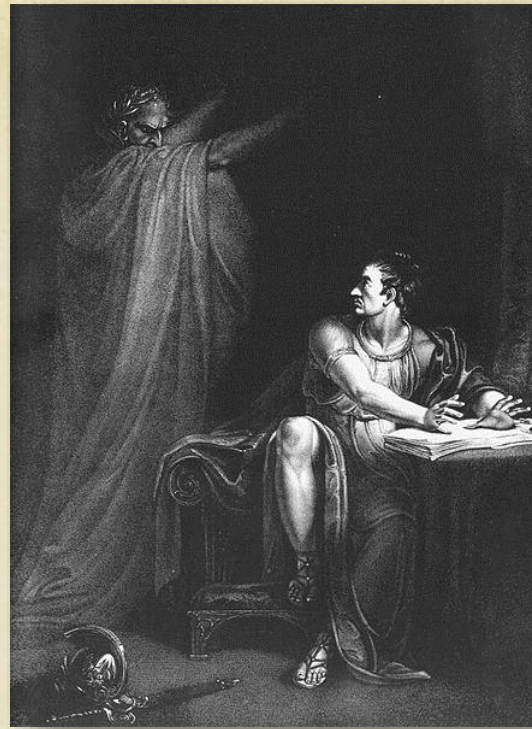
To sum it up, Caesar  
chases Pompey all the  
way to Egypt and  
"defeats" him.

He gets a little  
sidetracked and hangs  
out with Cleopatra for a  
while...

**When he returns to Rome, he is now  
the "tribune of the people" and  
"dictator for life."**







He is also "deified" (raised to "godlike" stature). Basically, they consider him a god and start calling him "the Divine Julius."

# This is where our play begins...

## Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 44 BC



When it opens, we see some citizens in support of Caesar and some against him.





# February\* 15: The Feast of the Lupercal What *is* that?

Lupercus was the fertility god the Romans worshipped. They would sacrifice goats and a dog. The blood would be smeared on the foreheads of two young men, then wiped off with wool dipped in milk. Then young men wearing only strips of goatskin around their loins, ran around the city striking women with strips of goatskin. It was believed that pregnant women would have an easier labor and infertile women would become fertile.

\*februaue actually means "to purify"

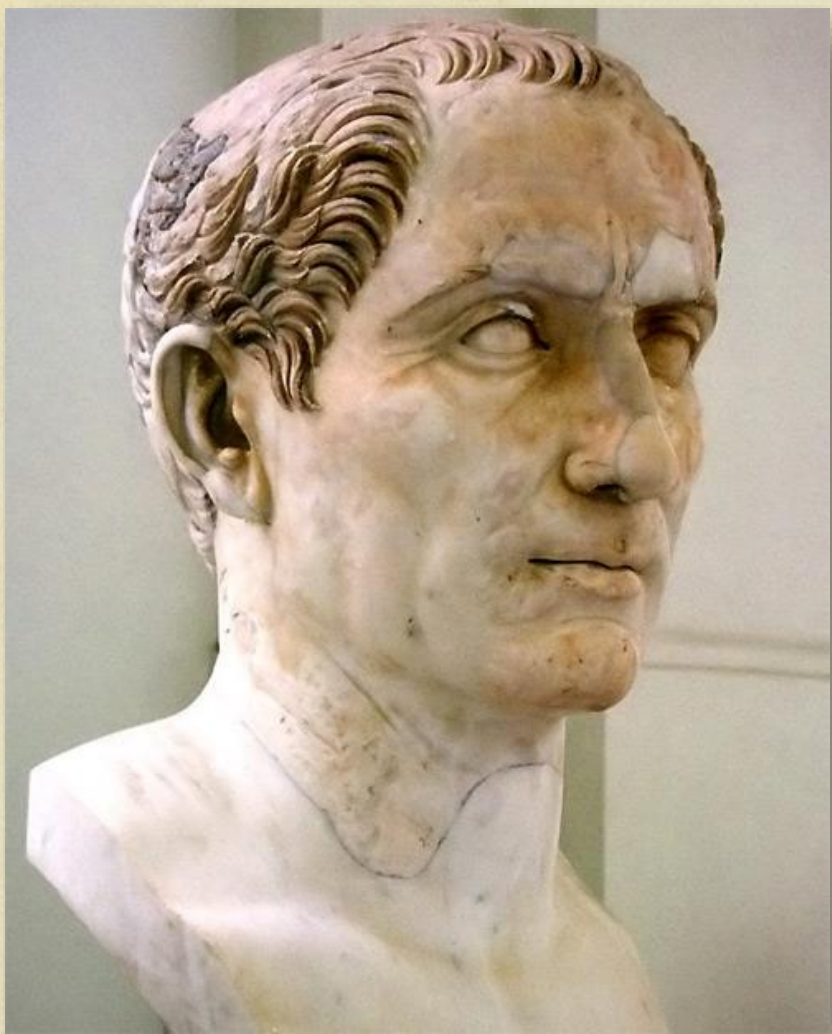


During this feast some of the conspirators discuss Caesar and what to do about him having too much power.

The plan to kill him  
is hatched...







**Would you be  
worried if  
someone told  
you something  
terrible would  
happen  
to you in a  
month?**



*Beware the Ides of March...*



**Julius Caesar is warned to beware the ides of March.  
'Ides' means the middle of the month; he was warned  
that something bad would happen on March 15th, 44  
B.C.**



**JULIUS CÆSAR.**



**He is, in fact, killed on March 15th.**



# The Tragic Figure...

**A tragic figure or hero is one who has a character flaw which causes them to act poorly or make poor decisions resulting in their downfall.**

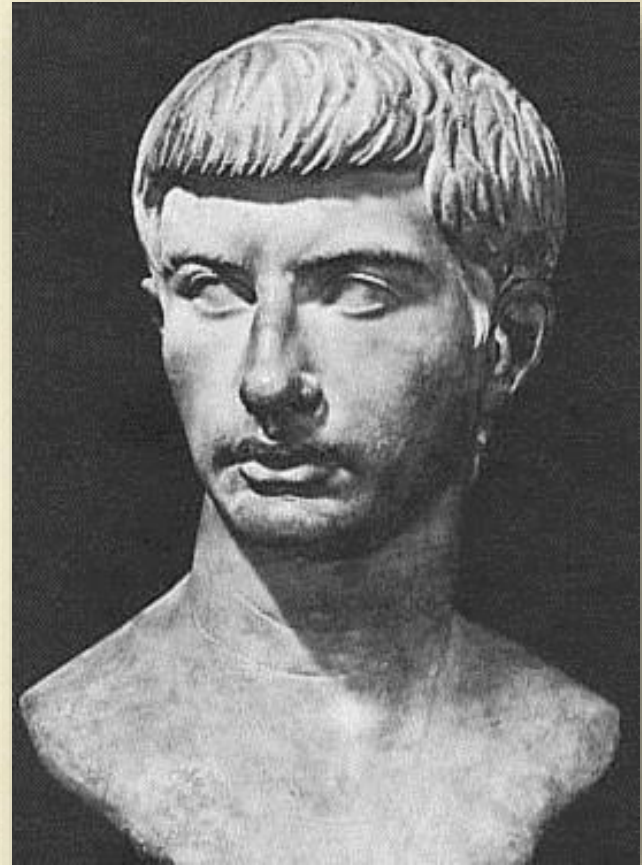




**Every Shakespearian tragedy has one. However, in Julius Caesar, the tragic hero is not the title character.**



**Shakespeare  
makes  
BRUTUS  
the key figure  
in the play.**





**As we read**

*The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*

**we will discuss some of these themes:**

**conspiracy**

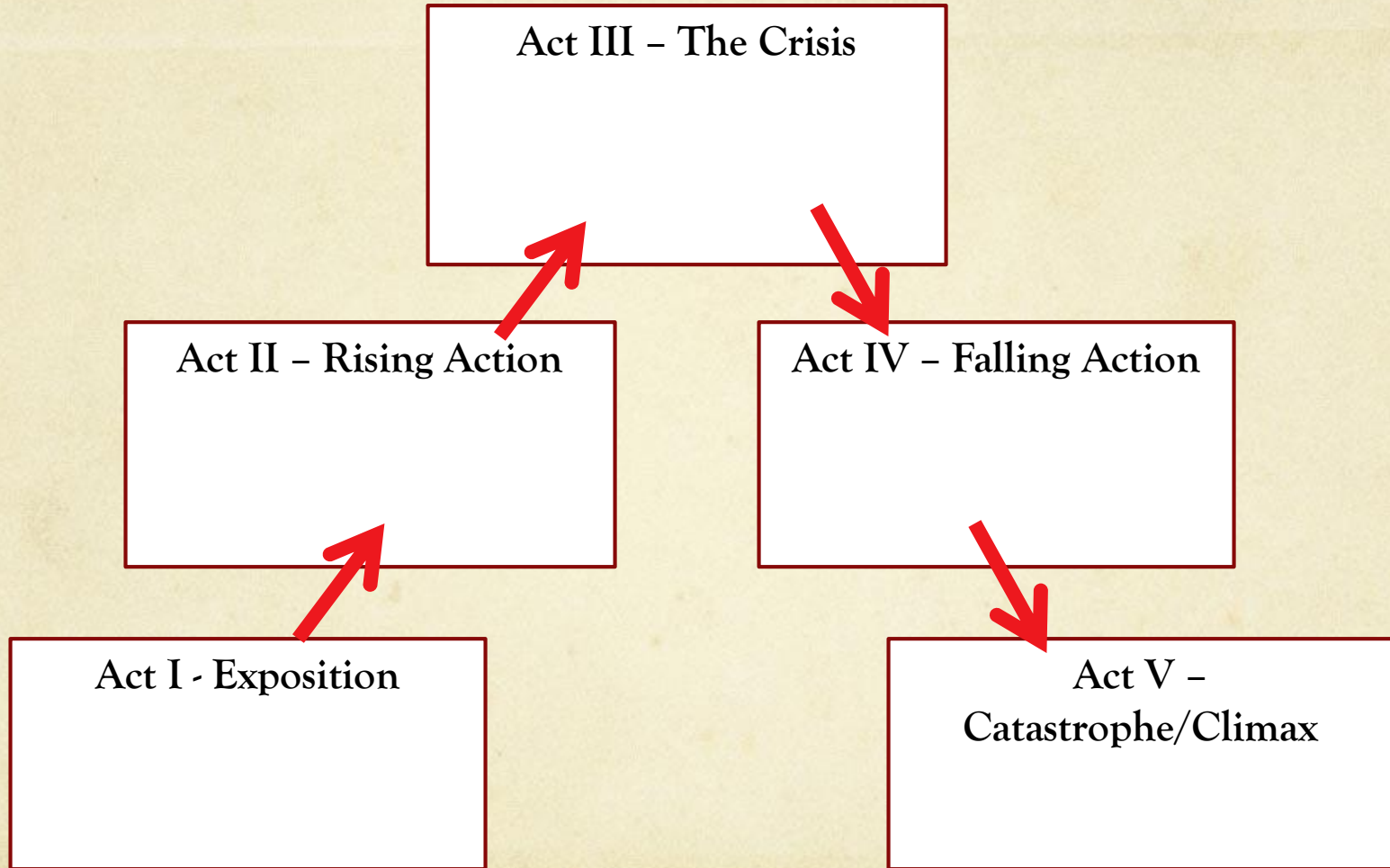
**loyalty**

**dictatorship/political power**

**mob rule**

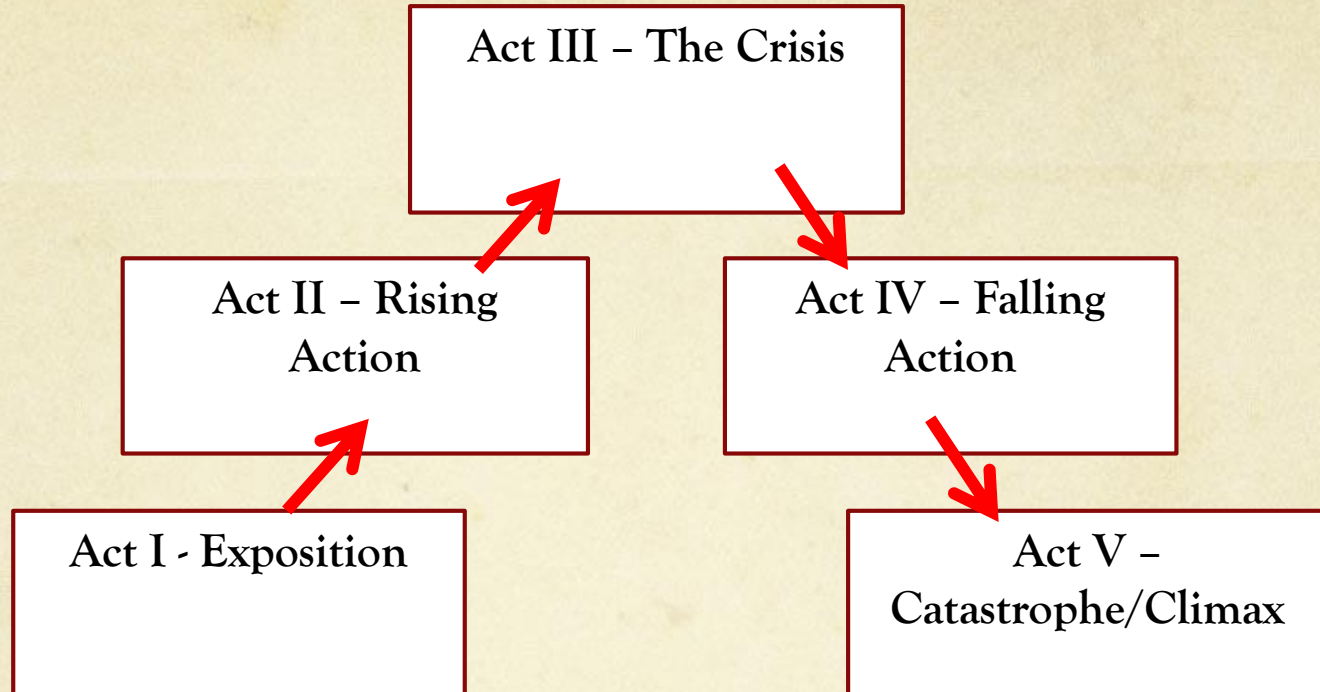
**civil war**

# Shakespeare's Five Act Structure



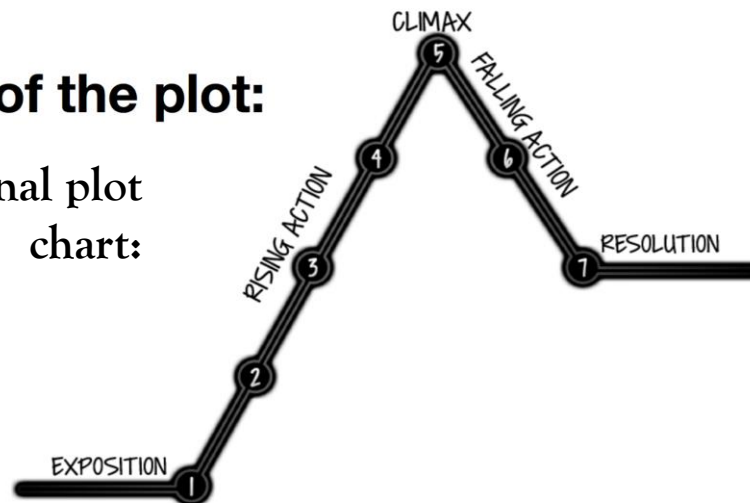


# How does Shakespeare's Plot differ from a traditional plot chart?



## Parts of the plot:

Traditional plot chart:



# Did you know... Pop culture **LOVES** this play.

Look for the following characters that inspired modern-day character references:

## *The Hunger Games Trilogy*



Cinna



Caesar  
Flickerman



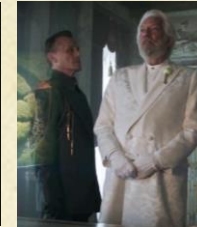
Portia



Flavius &  
Octavia



Brutus



Antonius

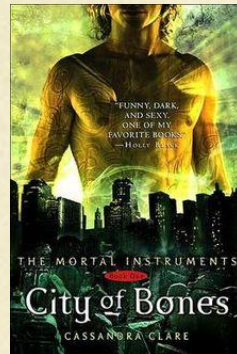


Cato

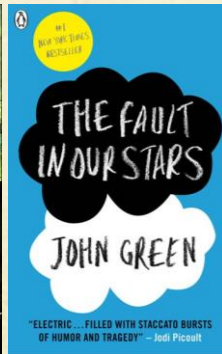
Listen/Read for famous quotes that inspired these works:



Calpurnia from *To Kill a Mockingbird*



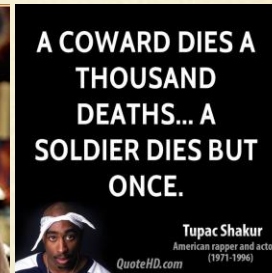
*The Mortal Instruments*



*The Fault in Our Stars*



"Cry Havoc! and let slip the dogs of war"  
"Great Caesar's Ghost"



"A coward dies a thousand deaths..."



The Evil That Men Do



Gretchen from "Mean Girls"



# Just For Fun...

Are you aware when you are  
quoting Shakespeare?

(Yes, you DO quote Shakespeare!)

**If you have ever said...**

**"Catch a cold"**

**"Laugh it off"**

**"Disgraceful conduct"**

**That's "lousy"**

**"In a pickle"**

**"sleep a wink"**

**"budge an inch"**

**"seen better days"**

**"Knit your brows"**

**"Vanish into thin air"**

**"Give the devil his due"**

**An "eye sore"**

**"Tongue-tied"**

**"Fair play"**

**"Foul play"**

**"Tower of strength"**

**"Dead as a door nail"**

**"Send him packing"**

**"That's the long and short of it"**

**"Be that as it may"**

**"Fool's paradise"**

**"As luck would have it"**

**"Lie low"**

**"Without rhyme or reason"**

**...you are quoting Shakespeare!**



**"What the dickens?"**

**"Good riddance"**

**"Flesh and blood"**

**"A laughing stock"**

**"For goodness' sake!"**

**"Green-eyed jealousy"**

**"If the truth be known..."**

**"Crack of doom"**

**"Bloody-minded"**

**"By Jove"**

**"Love is blind"**

**"Off with his head"**

**"Have seen better days"**

**"Wild goose chase"**

**"Night owl"**

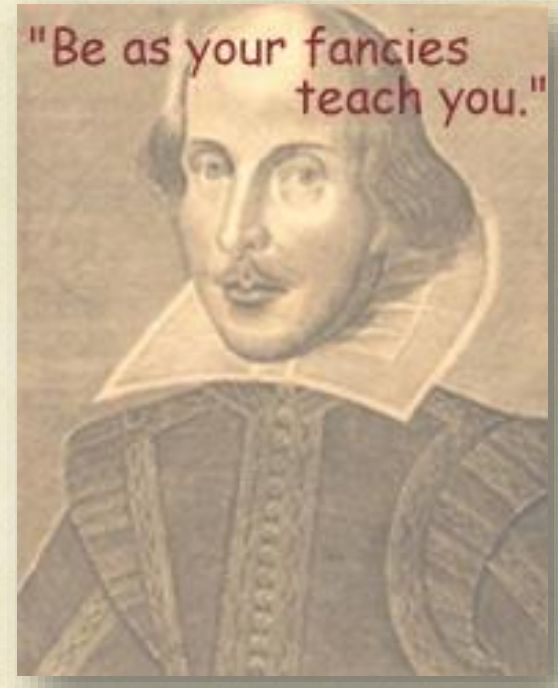
**"Mums the word"**

**"A sorry sight"**

**"Eaten out of house and home"**

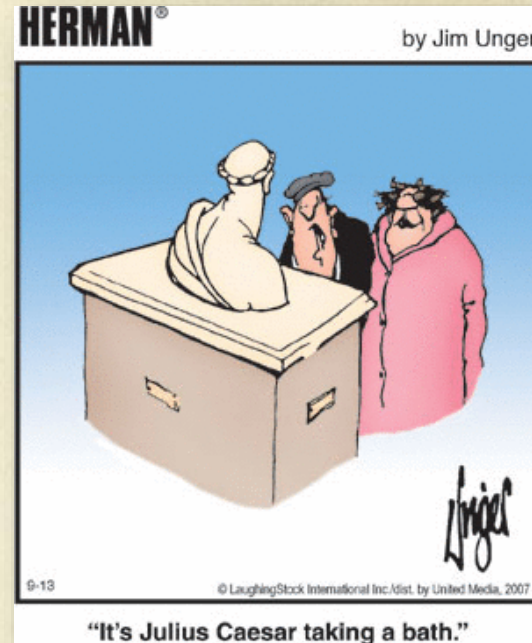
**...you are quoting Shakespeare!**

...and it's  
**"HIGH TIME"**  
you knew how  
much  
**Shakespeare** has  
influenced your  
life!

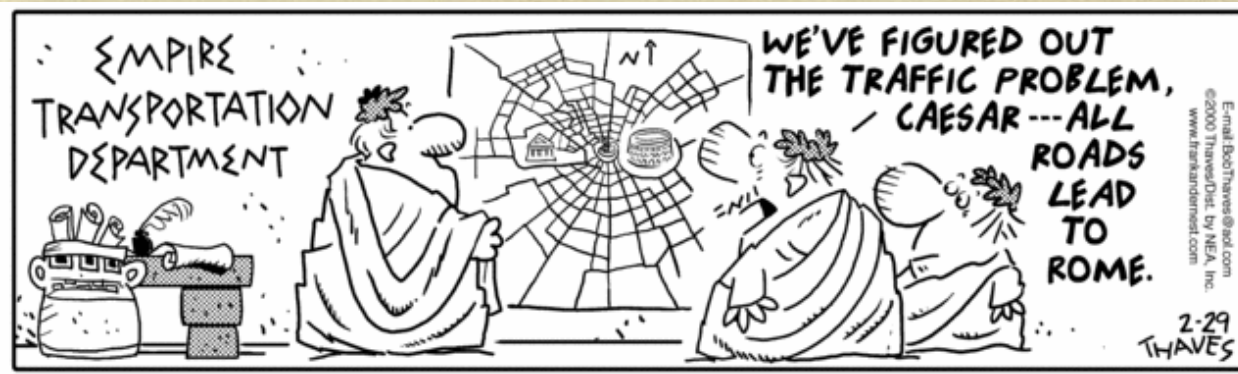




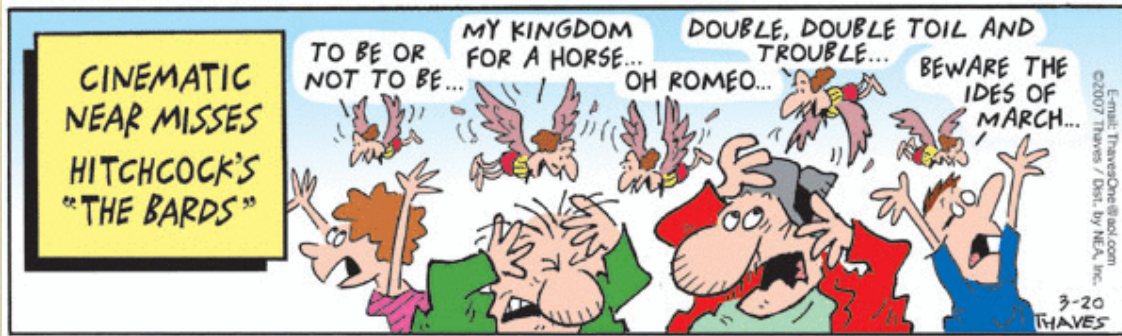
*Comics related to Shakespeare & Julius Caesar...*





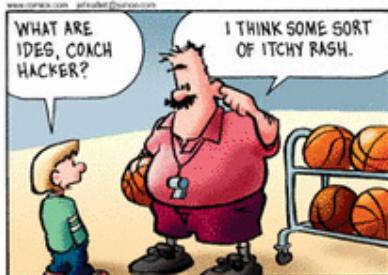
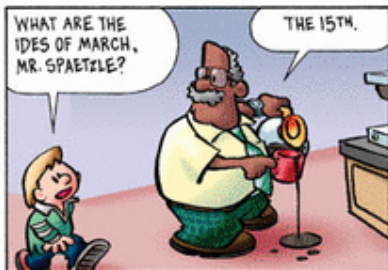






**FRAZZ**

**BY JEF MALLET**

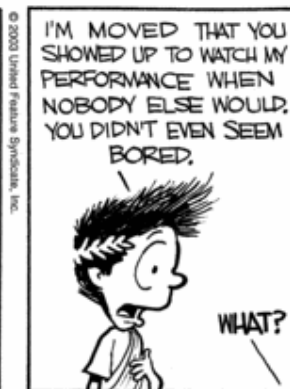
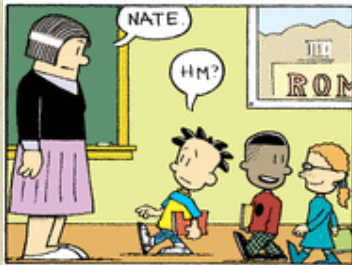


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**b i g**  
by  
Lincoln  
Pearce

**NATE**



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**All's Well That Ends Well...**