

Starring writers:

Alexis, Torin, Soolarys Chrea

Find 4 lines or brief blocks of lines for each of the following characters:

(Your lines should be the most emblematic/telling from the play this far and highlight DEEP character traits or a change in nature, etc. In other words, which lines capture each character to a T.)

- Brutus:

Set honor in one eye and death i'th' other
And I will look on both indifferently;
For let the gods so speed me as I love
The name of honor more than I fear death."

- Brutus Explanation

This takes place when Caesar returns to Rome and everyone is cheering his return and all the while Cassius is trying to convince Brutus that they want him as king nor Caesar, and he asks Brutus if he is afraid of what Rome will be if Caesar becomes king and he responds with those first four lines. These lines show that Brutus is an honorable man who lives and breathes loyalty and bravery. He values honor as said in the lines above and puts his honor before anything even death itself.

- Cassius:

"Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world
Like a Colossus, and we petty men
Walk under his huge legs and peep about
To find ourselves dishonorable graves.
Men at some time are masters of their fates.
The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

- Cassius Explanation:

These lines took place when Brutus questioned the crowd's support for himself after hearing the flourishes and shouts cheering for Caesar. When Brutus brings up the topic to Cassius, Cassius quickly thinks on his feet with a great explanation. Throughout the entire play, Cassius shows his best skill, his mind and tongue. He uses his mind to think up master plans and his sharp tongue to manipulate others into following his ideas.

- Caesar:

Let me have men about me that are fat,
Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep a-nights.

Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry look.
He thinks too much. Such men are dangerous.

- **Caesar Explanation:**

This is when Caesar talks to Mark Antony about his concerns for Cassius and Mark Antony defends him saying that he is a noble Roman and such. This shows that Caesar is very self conscious about his surroundings and that he doesn't want nor does he like to be questioned. He doesn't want anyone to question his authority and wants everyone to agree with all his choices hence why he wants to have fat men or yes men around him. Unlike those yes men Cassius is very smart and has common sense and questions Caesar's decisions from a distance therefore he poses a threat to Caesar and he acknowledges that.

- **Mark Antony:**

Domestic fury and fierce civil strife
Shall cumber
all the parts of Italy.
Blood and destruction shall be so in use,
And dreadful objects so familiar,
That mothers shall but smile when they behold
Their infants quartered with
the hands of war,
All pity choked with custom
of fell
deeds.
And Caesar's spirit, **ranging for revenge,**
With Ate
by his side, come hot from hell,
Shall in these confines
, with a monarch's voice
Cry 'Havoc!' and let slip the dogs of war,
That
this foul deed shall smell above the earth
With carrion
men, groaning for burial.

- **Mark Antony explanation:**

This quote took place after Caesar's assassination. Antony was seen as meek and unable to do anything, but now he is bloodthirsty and is having *some* dark thoughts. It shows that Antony is loyal to his friends and would do anything to avenge them. He shifts to this angry person who believes that war will solve what happened. He wants there to be so much death, that there won't

be enough places to bury all the bodies. He is literally a savage. He went from being seen as weak to a genuine dangerous threat. Badass? Maybe.

- **Portia:**

"I have made strong proof of my constancy, giving myself a voluntary wound here in the thigh; can I bear that with patience, and not my husband's secrets?"

- **Portia Explanation:**

To summarize this quote, Portia struck herself in the leg with a knife to show she is not afraid of whatever is to come, she is strong and can overcome any situation. This also shows her powerful stance and endless confidence within herself. She knows her self worth and will defend her point of view when challenged. To explain, when Portia suspected something wrong with Brutus, Portia directly asked him with no sense of backing down. She asked a question and will get an answer.

- **Your favorite line from the play thus far and why... could be ANY reason but maybe go beyond "saucy fellow."**

"Brutus had rather be a villager
Than to repute himself a son of Rome" - Brutus

Line Explanation:

The fact that Brutus, a man of such honor and rank would openly give that up and be a commoner than to be a son of Rome (King of Rome) and that he openly said that to Cassius who was still trying to convince him that the people wanted him as a ruler over Caesar even though there is shouting and cheers upon Caesar's return is marvelous.

- **Give TWO Shakespeare appreciated points. Be clever. Why is Billy Shakes so darned appreciated?**

Shakespeare likes to let the audience decide for themselves whether they like certain characters or not. He takes a more neutral approach instead of stating a clear protagonist and antagonist, and he does this well by giving everyone good and bad points- he doesn't create "overpowered" main characters, and there isn't really a main character that people can naturally be biased towards and side with.

Shakespeare's writing style was more than just focusing on the words, but also the rhythm and flow of them. Usually his lines are around ten to eleven syllables, and his audience would get used to the flow of the lines based on the consistency of them. However, sometimes he will use less to create a shift in tone. Such as when Caesar says, "Et tu Brute? Then fall, Caesar." It is only eight syllables, and the flow is broken which gives a shock to the audience and leaves a somewhat off-putting or unfinished feeling, which makes sense because Caesar died when he said that. He

went more in depth other than just how the characters acted or what they said, he created his own rhythm of speech and when broken it can be shocking.