

Audition Monologues

Fall 2026

The Total Tragedy of Jules Cesar

Dramatis Personae

Brumhilda Taymor-Shaw (BruTay) - Friend and coworker of Cesar, leader of conspirators; her family founded the academy, and she was a star student before becoming faulty; honor and integrity mean everything to her

Jules Cesar - friend and coworker of BruTay and Cassie; she is powerful and arrogant

Jana Cassiopeia (Cassie) - friend and coworker of BruTay and Jules; chief conspirator; shrewd and scheming

Mark Anthony - Instructor at the Academy, and Director of Community Outreach; hosts a weekly livestream for the school; unrequited love for Cesar

BRUTAY - Taking out Jules is the only way. It's gone too far for a Council meeting to solve anything. I have no personal reason to hurt her, but for the school the break must be quick and clean. She wants to rule Roman Hills singlehandedly, abandoning over a century of tradition. For five generations, we Taymors have nurtured this school and its students with like-minded professionals to bring about a better world, safely foster magic users, helping them discover their abilities, showing them how to protect themselves and the world they care about. But Jules has only been interested in her own power. She sees this opportunity, this hero worship of the teacher who guides the students in their magic, and she runs with it. Power is abused when it's used without heart. And I've never seen Jules lose control, but I think she's been playing the part of the responsible teacher all this time. Once she gets control, I don't imagine her ever looking back. And then it will be too late. She's like a serpent's egg, ready to hatch and devour us all. So we have to kill her in her shell.

BruTay - Please remain calm and listen to everything I have to say. Brave Romans, strong Romans, True Romans! My students! My friends! Listen to us and be silent so you can hear. All I have ever done has been for love of Roman Hills Academy, so do me the honor of believing me. To all of you who may have loved Sage Cesar, remember she was my lifelong friend. We grew up together. We both attended this school. So what we did, what I did, is not because I loved Jules Cesar less, but because I love this school and all of you more. Because she was my friend, I weep for her. Because she had such a good and happy life, I rejoice for her. But because she was ambitious, looking to break the foundations of this school in her own image, I defeated her. She forced our hand. She didn't have to die. But she left us no choice. This school was founded on ideals of fairness, opportunity, and imagination. Jules Cesar would have changed that. Are there any here who would have wanted that? An end to the collective wisdom of the Council in favor of rule by a single tyrant? If there are any here, speak up now - this is your chance - because you are the ones I have offended. If there are any, let them speak, because they are the ones I have offended. I will wait for your answer.

CESAR - (so only ANTHONY can hear) I need people around me who understand the social value of swag and drip, people who know how to impress and command respect. Cassie over there looks like a bird of prey; she thinks too much. People like that are dangerous. If only she didn't look so desperate! I'm not afraid of her or anybody else, but if I were able to fear anybody, I would avoid bird-faced Cassie. She's a reader. She sees too much. She doesn't do social media, she doesn't watch or post videos. But when she looks at people, she sees inside them, like a predator counting heartbeats. When she smiles, it's never with her eyes; she's never actually amused by anything. People like her are never content knowing there is someone better than her. And that's what makes her dangerous. I'm not afraid of her because she can't get to me, but you should be careful around her. Hey, it's mad loud here; let's get a smoothie from the cafeteria. This place is lame.

CESAR - Stop there, Miss Mitchell. I know what you're going to beg for. But don't think some tears and pleas will change my mind. I'm not some little girl who can be persuaded by flattery and tricks. Your brother was expelled for violating school rules. If you beg for him, I'll kick you like a dog out of my way. My mind won't change. I could be influenced if I were like you: weak. But I'm not. I'm not like anybody else here. I am as constant as the north star. The sky is full of stars that wander the sky, changing from season to season. But there's one star in the heavens that remains central. And so it is on Earth with me. All men and women are soft and flexible. But I remain true. I do not change my mind; I do not bend for tears. Your brother remains expelled!

CASSIE - And I know that about you, BruTay. I know it as well as I know your face. In fact, it's honor I wanted to talk about. I don't know about you, but I'd rather not live at all than live in the shadow of someone who is no better than me. I was born as free, as smart, and as capable as Jules, and so were you. We are both as smart, as strong, as important to this school as she is. Once, when we were in junior high, she and I were walking home from practice the day after a big storm. The water was still coming down from the mountains, so Wolf Creek was overflowing. Jules goes "Cassie, do you dare me to swim to the other side?" As soon as she said it, I jumped in and dared her to follow me. She did. I'm almost across when I hear "Cassie, help!" So, like a lifeguard, I go save our struggling hero and swim with her to the far side of the creek. The rapids past the bridge were so loud, but I could still hear her panting and whimpering. And now this woman is, like, the center of our school, and I'm supposed to smile and squeal if she happens to grace me with a "Hello"? I remember when she threw up at Jonah's birthday party her first year here, how she left crying when her roommate had to come get her. How has everyone fooled themselves into thinking she is the best this school has to offer?

CASSIE - A storm like this is only dangerous to those who should be washed away. A storm like this is nature's way of blowing over the weak trees, exposing and breaking the corrupt, and washing away the filth. It is Darwinism made manifest. I walked around without an umbrella, taking it all in, proving to the very Earth my strength and will. You exhaust me, Dezi. You seem to lack the bravery that every faculty member at Roman Hills Academy should have, or else you forget it. If you think about the true cause of this storm, you'd see it's just natural forces set in motion, not magic or boogeymen. Just like the presence that looms over us all is just a simple woman, even though people attribute some kind of supernatural abilities to her. The weak and the foolish look to myths and legends to explain what they don't understand. The smart ones know better.

ANTHONY - (to Jules's lifeless body) My beautiful Jules. To see you lying like this... After everything you've done, all the dreams you've inspired. All lost now? Goodbye. (To the conspirators) Council Members, I don't know what you plan to do, who else you have to kill, or who else you think is corrupt. If I'm on the list, then let's do this now. There's no better place for me to die than beside Jules Cesar. No? Well. I am sure you had your reasons. What can I say? I'm afraid to sound like I'm flattering you to stay on your good side. (To CESAR's body) And Jules. I loved you. If you are watching us now, from somewhere up above, would you hate it if I were friends with your killers? Right here near your beautiful corpse? If I had as many eyes as you had bleeding wounds, I still couldn't cry enough for you. Here you were brought down like a deer by dogs. But you were my dear. You were the school's princess. And this school was yours.

ANTHONY - Friends, Romans, fellow faculty, give me a moment of your attention. I've come to bury Sage Cesar, not to praise her. The sins people commit are often remembered after they die, but the good is often buried with their bones. So it must be with Sage Cesar. Noble BruTay told you that Sage Cesar was ambitious. And if that's true, then it is a terrible crime - and she has paid dearly for it. Now, with the permission of Sage Taymor-Shaw and the others - because BruTay is an honorable woman, as all the others are honorable - I have come to speak at Sage Cesar's funeral. She was my friend. She was loyal and fair to me. But BruTay says she was ambitious, and BruTay is an honorable woman. Jules Cesar won many tournaments and duels in the name of this school, bringing home glory for Roman Hills. Did she seem ambitious when she did this? She took the time to welcome all the new students every year she taught here. Should ambition be so generous? Yet BruTay says she was ambitious, and BruTay is an honorable person. You all saw the livestream the other day, when someone in the chat declared Jules Cesar should rule the school by herself. I'll admit, I jumped on that bandwagon. But you also saw her reject the idea. Was that ambition? Yet Sage Brumhilda Taymor-Shaw says Sage Cesar was ambitious, and BruTay is an honorable woman. I'm not saying this to disprove what BruTay has said, but I'm here to speak my truth, that I loved Jules Cesar, and you all did too, and not without reason.