

The Tragedy of ANTONY & CLEOPATRA – William Shakespeare

ACT I

PROLOGUE PARTY SCENE – Gossip

Flourish – Dance. Enter ANTONY, CLEOPATRA, her Ladies, the Train, with Eunuchs fanning her. Voices to the side.

VOICE 2

She's a most triumphant lady

VOICE 1

When she first met Mark Antony
The barge she sat in, like a burnish'd throne,
Burn'd on the water: the poop was beaten gold;
Purple the sails, and so perfumed that
The winds were love-sick with them;

VOICE 1

Rare Egyptian!

VOICE 2

Royal wench!

VOICE 1

Age cannot wither her

CLEOPATRA

If it be love indeed, tell me how much.

MARK ANTONY

There's beggary in the love that can be reckon'd.

CLEOPATRA

I'll set a bourn how far to be beloved.

MARK ANTONY

Then must thou needs find out new heaven, new earth.

Attendant

News, my good lord, from Rome.

MARK ANTONY

Grates me: the sum.

CLEOPATRA

Nay, hear them, Antony:

Fulvia your wife perchance is angry; or, who knows
If the scarce-bearded Caesar have not sent
His powerful mandate to you

MARK ANTONY

How, my love!

CLEOPATRA

Perchance! nay, and most like:
You must not stay here longer, your dismissal
Is come from Caesar; therefore hear it, Antony.
Where's Fulvia's process? Caesar's I would say? both?
Call in the messengers, I am Egypt's queen,

MARK ANTONY

Let Rome in Tiber melt, and the wide arch
Of the ranged empire fall! Here is my space
There's not a minute of our lives should stretch
Without some pleasure now. What sport tonight?

CLEOPATRA

Hear the ambassadors.

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Enter an Attendant
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Embracing

MARK ANTONY

Fie, wrangling queen!
Come, my queen; speak not to us.

Exeunt MARK ANTONY and CLEOPATRA with their train – except CHARMIAN, IRAS, ALEXAS, and a Soothsayer

CHARMIAN

Lord Alexas, sweet Alexas, most anything Alexas,
almost most absolute Alexas, where's the soothsayer
that you praised so to the queen?

ALEXAS

Soothsayer!

Soothsayer

Your will?

CHARMIAN

Is't you, sir, that know things?

Soothsayer

In nature's infinite book of secrecy
A little I can read.

ALEXAS

Show him your hand.

Enter DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Bring in the banquet quickly; wine enough
Cleopatra's health to drink.

CHARMIAN

Good sir, give me good fortune.

Soothsayer

I make not, but foresee.

CHARMIAN

Pray, then, foresee me one.

Soothsayer

You shall be yet far fairer than you are.

CHARMIAN

He means in flesh.

IRAS

No, you shall paint when you are old.

CHARMIAN

Wrinkles forbid!

IRAS

Hush!

Soothsayer

You shall be more loving than beloved.

CHARMIAN

I had rather heat my liver with drinking.

ALEXAS

Nay, hear him.

CHARMIAN

Good now, some excellent fortune! Let me be married
to three kings in a forenoon, and widow them all:
let me have a child at fifty: find me to marry me with Octavius
Caesar, and companion me with my mistress.

Soothsayer

You shall outlive the lady whom you serve.



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CHARMIAN

O excellent! I love long life better than figs.
prithee, how many boys and wenches must I have?

Soothsayer

If every of your wishes had a womb.
And fertile every wish, a million.

CHARMIAN

Out, fool! I forgive thee for a witch...tell Iras hers.

ALEXAS

We'll know all our fortunes.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Mine, and most of our fortunes, to-night, shall
be--drunk to bed.

IRAS

There's a palm presages chastity, if nothing else.

CHARMIAN

E'en as the o'erflowing Nilus presageth famine.

IRAS

Go, you wild bedfellow, you cannot soothsay.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Hush! here comes Antony.

CHARMIAN

Not he; the queen.

CLEOPATRA

Saw you my lord?

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

No, lady.

CLEOPATRA

Was he not here?

CHARMIAN

No, madam.

CLEOPATRA

Seek him, and bring him hither.
Where's Alexas?

ALEXAS

Here, at your service. My lord approaches.

CLEOPATRA

We will not look upon him: go with us.

Messenger

Fulvia thy wife first came into the field.

MARK ANTONY

Against my brother Lucius?

Messenger

Ay: But soon that war had end, and the time's state
Made friends of them, joining their force 'gainst Caesar;

MARK ANTONY

Well, what worst?

Messenger

The nature of bad news infects the teller.

Labienus-- This is stiff news--hath, with his Parthian force,
Extended Asia from Euphrates;

Enter CLEOPATRA

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Exeunt. Enter MARK ANTONY with Messenger

His conquering banner shook from Syria
To Lydia and to Ionia; Whilst--

MARK ANTONY

Antony, thou wouldst say,--

Messenger

O, my lord!

MARK ANTONY

Speak to me home, mince not the general tongue:
Name Cleopatra as she is call'd in Rome;
Rail thou in Fulvia's phrase; and taunt my faults
With such full licence as both truth and malice
Have power to utter.

Fare thee well awhile.

Messenger

At your noble pleasure.

MARK ANTONY

From Sicyon, ho, the news! Speak there!

First Attendant

The man from Sicyon, He stays upon your will.

MARK ANTONY

Let him appear.

These strong Egyptian fetters I must break,
Or lose myself in dotage.
What are you?

Second Messenger

Fulvia thy wife is dead.

MARK ANTONY

Where died she?

Second Messenger

In Sicyon: Her length of sickness, with what else more serious
Importeth thee to know, this bears.

MARK ANTONY

Forbear me.

There's a great spirit gone!
she's good, being gone;
I must from this enchanting queen break off:
How now! Enobarbus!

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

What's your pleasure, sir?

MARK ANTONY

I must with haste from hence.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Why, then, we kill all our women:
we see how mortal an unkindness is to them;
if they suffer our departure, death's the word.

MARK ANTONY

I must be gone.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Cleopatra, catching but the least noise of
this, dies instantly; I have seen her die twenty
times upon far poorer moment: I do think there is
mettle in death, which commits some loving act upon
her, she hath such a celerity in dying.

MARK ANTONY

She is cunning past man's thought.

Grabbing him

Releases him

Exit Messenger. Enter Attendant

Enter another Messenger

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Gives a letter

Exit Second Messenger

To audience

Re-enter DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Exit ALEXAS

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Alack, sir, no; her passions are made of nothing but the finest part of pure love:

MARK ANTONY

Would I had never seen her.

Fulvia is dead.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Sir? Fulvia!

MARK ANTONY

Dead.

Passes letter

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Why, sir, give the gods a thankful sacrifice.

your old smock brings forth a new petticoat: and indeed the tears live in an onion that should water this sorrow.

MARK ANTONY

The business she hath broached in the state Cannot endure my absence.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

And the business you have broached here cannot be without you; especially that of Cleopatra's, which wholly depends on your abode.

MARK ANTONY

Let our officers Have notice what we purpose. I shall break The cause of our expedience to the queen, And get her leave to part. Sextus Pompeius Hath given the dare to Caesar, and commands The empire of the sea. Say, our pleasure, To such whose place is under us, requires Our quick remove from hence.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

I shall do't.

CLEOPATRA

Where is he?

CHARMIAN

I did not see him since.

CLEOPATRA

See where he is, who's with him, what he does: I did not send you: if you find him sad, Say I am dancing; if in mirth, report That I am sudden sick: quick, and return.

CHARMIAN

Madam, methinks, if you did love him dearly, You do not hold the method to enforce The like from him.

CLEOPATRA

What should I do, I do not?

CHARMIAN

In each thing give him way, cross him nothing.

CLEOPATRA

Thou teachest like a fool; the way to lose him.



Exeunt both. Enter CLEOPATRA, CHARMIAN, IRAS, and ALEXAS

Exit ALEXAS

CHARMIAN

Tempt him not so too far; I wish, forbear:
In time we hate that which we often fear.
But here comes Antony.

CLEOPATRA

I am sick and sullen.

MARK ANTONY

I am sorry to give breathing to my purpose,--

CLEOPATRA

Help me away, dear Charmian; I shall fall:

MARK ANTONY

Now, my dearest queen,--

CLEOPATRA

Pray you, stand further from me.

MARK ANTONY

What's the matter?

CLEOPATRA

I know, by that same eye, there's some good news.
What says the married woman? You may go:
I have no power upon you; hers you are.

MARK ANTONY

The gods best know,--

CLEOPATRA

O, never was there queen
So mightily betray'd!

MARK ANTONY

Cleopatra,--

CLEOPATRA

Why should I think you can be mine and true,

MARK ANTONY

Most sweet queen,--

CLEOPATRA

Nay, pray you, seek no colour for your going,
But bid farewell, and go:

MARK ANTONY

Hear me, queen:
The strong necessity of time commands
Our services awhile; but my full heart
Remains in use with you. Sextus Pompeius
Makes his approaches to the port of Rome:
Equality of two domestic powers
Breed scrupulous faction. My more particular,
And that which most with you should save my going,
Is Fulvia's death.

She's dead, my queen:

Look here,

CLEOPATRA

O most false love! Now I see,

MARK ANTONY

Quarrel no more, but be prepared to know
The purposes I bear; I go from hence
Thy soldier, servant; making peace or war

Enter MARK ANTONY

Angry

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Pause

Hands letter

CLEOPATRA

Cut my lace, Charmian, come;
But let it be: I am quickly ill, and well,
So Antony loves.

MARK ANTONY

My precious queen,

CLEOPATRA

I prithee, turn aside and weep for Fulvia
Then bid adieu to me, and say the tears
Belong to Egypt

MARK ANTONY

You'll heat my blood: no more.

Raging

CLEOPATRA

You can do better yet; but this is meetly.

MARK ANTONY

Now, by my sword,--

Angry

CLEOPATRA

Look, prithee, Charmian,
How this Herculean Roman does become
The carriage of his chafe.

MARK ANTONY

I'll leave you, lady.

Goes to leave

CLEOPATRA

Courteous lord, one word.
Sir, you and I must part, but that's not it:
Sir, you and I have loved, but there's not it;
That you know well: something it is I would,
But, sir, forgive me;
your honour calls you hence;
Therefore be deaf to my unpitied folly.
And all the gods go with you!

MARK ANTONY

Let us go. Come;
Our separation so abides, and flies,
That thou, residing here, go'st yet with me,
And I, hence fleeting, here remain with thee. Away!

Exeunt



SCENE IV. Rome. OCTAVIUS CAESAR's house.

Enter OCTAVIUS CAESAR, reading a letter, LEPIDUS, and their Train

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

You may see, Lepidus, and henceforth know,
It is not Caesar's natural vice to hate
Our great competitor: from Alexandria
This is the news: he fishes, drinks, and wastes
The lamps of night in revel; is not more man-like
Than Cleopatra; nor the queen of Ptolemy
More womanly than he; hardly gave audience, or
Vouchsafed to think he had partners: you shall find there
A man who is the abstract of all faults
That all men follow.

LEPIDUS

I must not think there are
Evils enow to darken all his goodness:

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

We must in no way excuse Antony's soils,
when we do bear so great weight in his lightness.
If he fill'd his vacancy with his voluptuousness,
Full surfeits, and the dryness of his bones,
Call on him for't: but to confound such time,
That drums him from his sport, and speaks as loud
As his own state and ours,—'tis to be chid
As we rate boys, who, being mature in knowledge,
Pawn their experience to their present pleasure,
And so rebel to judgment.

LEPIDUS

Here's more news.

noble Caesar, Pompey is strong at sea;
And it appears he is beloved of those
That only have fear'd Caesar:

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

I should have known no less.

Messenger

Caesar, I bring thee word,
Menecrates and Menas, famous pirates,
Make the sea serve them, which they ear and wound
With keels of every kind: many hot inroads
They make in Italy; the borders maritime
Lack blood to think on't, and flush youth revolt:
No vessel can peep forth, but 'tis as soon
Taken as seen; for Pompey's name strikes more
Than could his war resisted.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Let Anthony's shames quickly
Drive him to Rome:

Pompey thrives in our idleness.

LEPIDUS

To-morrow, Caesar,
I shall be furnish'd to inform you rightly
Both what by sea and land I can be able
To front this present time.

Farewell, my lord:

Exeunt



SCENE V. Alexandria. CLEOPATRA's palace.

Enter CLEOPATRA, CHARMIAN, IRAS, and MARDIAN

CLEOPATRA

Charmian!

CHARMIAN

Madam?

CLEOPATRA

Give me to drink mandragora.

CHARMIAN

Why, madam?

CLEOPATRA

My Antony is away.

CHARMIAN

You think of him too much.

CLEOPATRA

O, 'tis treason!

CHARMIAN

Madam, I trust, not so.

CLEOPATRA

Thou, eunuch Mardian!

MARDIAN

What's your highness' pleasure?

CLEOPATRA

Not now to hear thee sing; I take no pleasure
In aught an eunuch has: 'tis well for thee,
That, being unseminar'd, thy freer thoughts
May not fly forth of Egypt. Hast thou affections?

MARDIAN

Yes, gracious madam.

CLEOPATRA

Indeed!

MARDIAN

Not in deed, madam; for I can do nothing
But what indeed is honest to be done:
Yet have I fierce affections, and think
What Venus did with Mars.

CLEOPATRA

O Charmian,
Where think'st thou he is now? Stands he, or sits he?
Or does he walk? or is he on his horse?
O happy horse, to bear the weight of Antony!
Do bravely, horse! for wot'st thou whom thou movest?
Broad-fronted Caesar,
When thou wast here above the ground, I was
A morsel for a monarch: and great Pompey
Would stand and make his eyes grow in my brow;
There would he anchor his aspect and die
With looking on his life.

ALEXAS

Sovereign of Egypt, hail!

CLEOPATRA

How much unlike art thou Mark Antony!
Yet, coming from him, that great medicine hath
With his tinct gilded thee.
How goes it with my brave Mark Antony?

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humour
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Innuendo

Playful

Enter ALEXAS, (from OCTAVIUS CAESAR)

ALEXAS

Last thing he did, dear queen,
 He kiss'd,--the last of many doubled kisses,--
 This orient pearl. His speech sticks in my heart.

*Gives gift***CLEOPATRA**

Mine ear must pluck it thence.

ALEXAS

'Good friend,' quoth he,
 'Say, the firm Roman to great Egypt sends
 This treasure of an oyster

CLEOPATRA

Was he sad or merry?

ALEXAS

Like to the time o' the year between the extremes
 Of hot and cold, he was nor sad nor merry.

CLEOPATRA

O well-divided disposition! Note him,
 Note him good Charmian, 'tis the man; but note him:
 Met'st thou my posts?

ALEXAS

Ay, madam, twenty several messengers:
 Why do you send so thick?

CLEOPATRA

Who's born that day, When I forget to send to Antony,
 Shall die a beggar. Ink and paper, Charmian.
 Welcome, my good Alexas. Did I, Charmian,
 Ever love Caesar so?

*She goes to get Ink and paper***CHARMIAN**

O that brave Caesar!

CLEOPATRA

Be choked with such another emphasis!
 Say, the brave Antony.

CHARMIAN

The valiant Caesar!

CLEOPATRA

By Isis, I will give thee bloody teeth,
 If thou with Caesar paragon again
 My man of men.

CHARMIAN

By your most gracious pardon,
 I sing but after you.

CLEOPATRA

My salad days,
 When I was green in judgment: cold in blood,
 To say as I said then! But, come, away;
 Get me ink and paper:
 He shall have every day a several greeting,
 Or I'll unpeople Egypt.

Exeunt

ACT II

SCENE II. Rome. The house of LEPIDUS.

Flourish

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Welcome to Rome Mark Anthony

MARK ANTONY

Thank you Octavius

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Sit.

Offers him a seat

MARK ANTONY

Sit, sir.

Offers him a seat

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Nay, then.

MARK ANTONY

My being in Egypt, Caesar,
What was't to you?

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Your wife and brother Made wars upon me

MARK ANTONY

You do mistake your business; my brother never
Did urge me in his act

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

I wrote to you when rioting in Alexandria;

MARK ANTONY

Sir

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

You have broken The article of your oath

LEPIDUS

Soft, Caesar!

MARK ANTONY

No, Lepidus, let him speak:

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

To lend me arms and aid when I required them;
The which you both denied.

MARK ANTONY

Neglected, rather;
I ask pardon as befits mine honour.

LEPIDUS

'Tis noble spoken.

MECAENAS

If it might please you, to enforce no further
The griefs between ye: to forget them quite
Were to remember that the present need
Speaks to atone you.

LEPIDUS

Worthily spoken, Mecaenas.

AGRIPPA

Give me leave, Caesar,--

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Speak, Agrippa.

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AGRIPPA

Thou hast a sister by the mother's side,
 Admired Octavia: great Mark Antony
 Is now a widower.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Say not so, Agrippa:
 If Cleopatra heard you, your reproof
 Were well deserved of rashness.

MARK ANTONY

I am not married, Caesar:
 Agrippa further speak.

AGRIPPA

To make you brothers, and to knit your hearts
 With an unslipping knot, take Antony
 Octavia to his wife.
 By this marriage,
 All little jealousies, which now seem great,
 And all great fears, which now import their dangers,
 Would then be nothing

MARK ANTONY

Will Caesar speak?

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Not till he hears how Antony is touch'd
 With what is spoke already.

MARK ANTONY

What power is in Agrippa,
 If I would say, 'Agrippa, be it so,'
 To make this good?

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

The power of Caesar, and
 His power unto Octavia.

MARK ANTONY

Let me have thy hand:
 Further this act of grace: and from this hour
 The heart of brothers govern in our loves
 And sway our great designs!

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

There is my hand.
 A sister I bequeath you, whom no brother
 Did ever love so dearly: let her live
 To join our kingdoms and our hearts; and never
 Fly off our loves again!

LEPIDUS

Happily, amen! Time calls upon's:
 Of us must Pompey presently be sought,
 Or else he seeks out us.

MARK ANTONY

What is his strength by land?

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Great and increasing: but by sea
 He is an absolute master.

With most gladness I do invite you to my sister's view,

MARK ANTONY

Let us, Lepidus,
 Not lack your company.

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Puts out hand

Shakes hand

LEPIDUS

Noble Antony, Not sickness should detain me.

OCTAVIA comes forward. Cheering/ Celebrating. All leave except MARK ANTHONY, OCTAVIA, OCTAVIUS.

MARK ANTONY

The world and my great office will sometimes
Divide me from your bosom.

OCTAVIA

All which time
Before the gods my knee shall bow my prayers
To them for you.

MARK ANTONY

Good night, sir. My Octavia,
Read not my blemishes in the world's report:
I have not kept my square; but that to come
Shall all be done by the rule. Good night, dear lady. sir.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Good night.

Exeunt OCTAVIUS CAESAR and OCTAVIA

MARK ANTONY

Say to me,
Whose fortunes shall rise higher, Caesar's or mine?
Caesar's.
Therefore, I will not stay not by his side:
It have spoken true.
I will to Egypt:
And though I make this marriage for my peace,
I' the east my pleasure lies.

Alone - looking at Fortune No.8 Ball/Fortune cookie

SCENE V. Alexandria. CLEOPATRA's palace.

Enter CLEOPATRA, CHARMIAN, IRAS, and ALEXAS – music – sombre mood

CLEOPATRA

Give me some music; music, moody food
Of us that trade in love.

let's to billiards: come,

CHARMIAN

My arm is sore

CLEOPATRA

Come, you'll play Billiards with me, sir?

MARDIAN

madam.

Goes to leave. Enter a Messenger

CLEOPATRA

O, from Italy
Ram thou thy fruitful tidings in mine ears,
That long time have been barren.

Messenger

Madam, madam,--

CLEOPATRA

Antonius dead!--If thou say so, villain,
Thou kill'st thy mistress

Messenger

First, madam, he is well.

CLEOPATRA

Why, here's some gold.

Gives him money

Messenger

Good madam, hear me.

CLEOPATRA

Well, go to, I will;
But there's no goodness in thy face

Messenger

Will't please you hear me?

CLEOPATRA

I have a mind to strike thee ere thou speak'st:

Messenger

Madam, he's well and friends with Caesar.

CLEOPATRA

Thou'rt an honest man.

Messenger

But yet, madam,--

CLEOPATRA

I do not like 'But yet,'

Messenger

He's bound unto Octavia.

CLEOPATRA

For what good turn?

Messenger

Madam, he's married to Octavia.

CLEOPATRA

The most infectious pestilence upon thee!

Messenger

Good madam, patience.

Horrible villain!

Thou shalt be whipp'd with wire, and stew'd in brine,
Smarting in lingering pickle.

Messenger

Gracious madam, He's married

CLEOPATRA

Rogue, thou hast lived too long.

Messenger

Nay, then I'll run. I have made no fault.

CLEOPATRA

Melt Egypt into Nile!

Though I am mad, I will not bite him:

Come hither, sir.

Messenger

I have done my duty.

CLEOPATRA

Is he married?

Messenger

I crave your highness' pardon. He's married to Octavia. *Exit Messenger*

CHARMIAN

your highness, patience.

CLEOPATRA

In praising Antony, I have dispraised Caesar.

CHARMIAN

Many times, madam.

Strikes him down

Strikes him again

She hales him up and down

Draws a knife

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CLEOPATRA

Lead me from hence:

I faint: O Iras, Pity me Charmian!

Do not speak to me. Lead me to my chamber.

Exeunt

SCENE VI. Near Misenum.

Flourish. Enter POMPEY and MENAS at one door, with drum and trumpet: at another, OCTAVIUS CAESAR, MARK ANTONY, LEPIDUS, DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS, MECAENAS, with Soldiers marching

POMPEY

Your hostages I have, so have you mine;
And we shall talk before we fight.

To you all: Mark Anthony, Octavius, Lepidus,
The senators alone of this great world,
Chief factors for the gods, I do not know
Wherefore my father should revengers want,
Having a son and friends; since Julius Caesar,
Who at Philippi the good Brutus ghosted,
There saw you labouring for him. What was't
That moved pale Cassius to conspire; and what
Made the all-honour'd, honest Roman, Brutus,
With the arm'd rest, courtiers and beauteous freedom,
To drench the Capitol; but that they would
Have one man but a man? And that is it
Hath made me rig my navy; at whose burthen
The anger'd ocean foams; with which I meant
To scourge the ingratitude that spiteful Rome
Cast on my noble father.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Take your time.

MARK ANTONY

We'll speak with thee at sea: at land, thou know'st
How much we do o'er-count thee.

POMPEY

You have made me an offer
Of Sicily, Sardinia; and I must
Rid all the sea of pirates;

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

That's our offer.

POMPEY

Know, then,
I came before you here a man prepared
To take this offer:

Thinks

Let me have your hand:

Offers his hand

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Well met here.

Shakes all 3 hands.

POMPEY

We'll feast each other ere we part;
I have heard that Julius Caesar grew fat with feasting here.

MARK ANTONY

You have heard much.

Laughter. Exeunt all but MENAS and ENO BARBUS

MENAS

You and I have known, sir.

DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS

At sea, I think.



MENAS

We have, sir.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

You have done well by water.

MENAS

And you by land.

MENAS

We looked not for Mark Antony
here: pray you, is he married to Cleopatra?

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Caesar's sister is called Octavia.

MENAS

Then is Caesar and he for ever knit together.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

If I were bound to divine of this unity, I would
not prophesy so.

MENAS

I think the policy of that purpose made more in the
marriage than the love of the parties.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Mark Antony, He will to his Egyptian dish again: then shall the
sighs of Octavia blow the fire up in Caesar; and, as
I said before, that which is the strength of their
amity shall prove the immediate author of their
variance. Antony will use his

MENAS

Come, let's drink.

POMPEY

Some wine! A health to Lepidus!

LEPIDUS

I am not so well as I should be, but I'll ne'er out.

POMPEY

This health to Lepidus!

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Here's to thee, Menas!

MENAS

Enobarbus, welcome!

POMPEY

Fill till the cup be hid.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Drink thou; increase the reels.

MENAS

Come.

MARK ANTONY

Here is to Caesar!

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Ha, my brave emperor!
Shall we dance now and celebrate our drink?

MARK ANTONY

Come, let's all take hands,

EVERYONE -

Come, thou monarch of the vine,
Plumpy Bacchus with pink eyne!
In thy fests our cares be drown'd,

SGCNZ
Music plays. Everyone else comes back to stage-drinking/ drunk
Laughter
Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand

Music plays.

Singing

With thy grapes our hairs be crown'd:
Cup us, till the world go round,
Cup us, till the world go round!

ACT III

SCENE III. Alexandria. CLEOPATRA's palace.

Enter CLEOPATRA, CHARMIAN, IRAS, and ALEXAS

CLEOPATRA

Didst thou behold Octavia?

Messenger

Ay, dread queen.

CLEOPATRA

Where?

Messenger

Madam, in Rome;

I look'd her in the face, and saw her led
Between her brother and Mark Antony.

CLEOPATRA

Is she as tall as me?

Messenger

She is not, madam.

CLEOPATRA

Didst hear her speak? is she shrill-tongued or low?

Messenger

Madam, I heard her speak; she is low-voiced.

CLEOPATRA

That's not so good: he cannot like her long.

CHARMIAN

Like her! O Isis! 'tis impossible.

CLEOPATRA

I think so, Charmian: dull of tongue, and dwarfish!
What majesty is in her gait? Remember,
If e'er thou look'dst on majesty.

Messenger

She creeps:

Her motion and her station are as one;
She shows a body rather than a life,
A statue than a breather.

Messenger

Madam, She was a widow,--

CLEOPATRA

Widow! Charmian, hark.

Messenger

And I do think she's thirty.

CLEOPATRA

Bear'st thou her face in mind? is't long or round?

Messenger

Round even to faultiness.

CLEOPATRA

For the most part, too, they are foolish that are so.
Her hair, what colour?



Messenger

Brown, madam: and her forehead
As low as she would wish it.

CLEOPATRA

There's gold for thee.
Our letters are prepared.

Exeunt

SCENE V. Rome. OCTAVIUS CAESAR's house.

Front of Stage – separate scene - Enter EROS and ENOBARBUS

EROS

There's strange news come, sir.

Caesar and Lepidus have made wars upon Pompey.

ENOBARBUS

This is old.

EROS

Caesar, having made use of Lepidus in the wars 'gainst
Pompey, presently denied him partnership;

accuses him of letters he had formerly

wrote to Pompey and upon his own appeal, seizes him. We must tell Anthony.

*Exeunt. Coming forward - OCTAVIUS CAESAR,
AGRIPPA, and MECAENAS*

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Cleopatra and himself in chairs of gold
Were publicly enthroned: at the feet sat
Caesarion, whom they call my father's son,
And all the unlawful issue that their lust
Since then hath made between them. Unto her
He gave the establishment of Egypt; made her
Absolute queen of Syria, Cyprus and Lydia.

MECAENAS

Let Rome be thus Inform'd.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

The people know it.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

For what I have conquer'd,
I grant him part; but then, in his Armenia,
And other of his conquer'd kingdoms, I
Demand the like.

MECAENAS

He'll never yield to that.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Nor must not then be yielded to in this.

OCTAVIA

Hail, Caesar, and my lord! hail, most dear Caesar!

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

That ever I should call thee castaway!

OCTAVIA

You have not call'd me so, nor have you cause.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Why have you stol'n upon us thus! You come not
Like Caesar's sister: the wife of Antony
Should have an army for an usher, and
The neighs of horse to tell of her approach

On phones/ reading newspaper

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Enter OCTAVIA with her train

OCTAVIA

My lord, Mark Antony,
 Hearing that you prepared for war, acquainted
 My grieved ear withal; whereon, I begg'd
 His pardon for return.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Which soon he granted,
 Being an obstruct 'tween his lust and him.

OCTAVIA

Do not say so, my lord.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

I have eyes upon him,
 And his affairs come to me on the wind.
 Where is he now?

OCTAVIA

My lord, in Athens.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

No, my most wronged sister; Cleopatra
 Hath nodded him to her. He hath given his empire
 Up to a whore

OCTAVIA

Ay me, most wretched,
 That have my heart parted betwixt two friends
 That do afflict each other!

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Welcome hither:
 Your letters did withhold our breaking forth;
 Till we perceived, both how you were wrong led,
 And we in negligent danger. Cheer your heart;

MECAENAS

Welcome, dear madam.
 Each heart in Rome does love and pity you:

OCTAVIA

Is it so, sir?

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Most certain. Sister, welcome: pray you,
 Be ever known to patience: my dear'st sister!

Exeunt

SCENE VII. Near Actium. MARK ANTONY's camp.

Enter CLEOPATRA and DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

CLEOPATRA

What is't you say?

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Your presence needs must puzzle Antony;
 Take from his heart, take from his brain,
 from's time,
 What should not then be spared. He is already
 Traduced for levity; and 'tis said in Rome
 That a eunuch and your maids
 Manage this war.

CLEOPATRA

Sink Rome, and their tongues rot

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Here comes the emperor.

Enter MARK ANTONY and CANIDIUS

MARK ANTONY

Is it not strange, Canidius,
That from Tarentum and Brundisium
He could so quickly cut the Ionian sea,
And take in Toryne? You have heard on't, sweet?

CLEOPATRA

Celerity is never more admired
Than by the negligent.

MARK ANTONY

A good rebuke.
Which might have well become the best of men,
To taunt at slackness. Canidius, we
Will fight with him by sea.

CLEOPATRA

By sea! what else?

DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS

Your ships are not well mann'd;
Your mariners are muleters, reapers, people
Ingross'd by swift impress;

MARK ANTONY

By sea, by sea. I'll fight at sea.

CLEOPATRA

I have sixty sails, Caesar none better.

MARK ANTONY

Our overplus of shipping will we burn;
And, with the head of Actium
Beat the approaching Caesar. But if we fail,
We then can do't at land.
Thy business?

Messenger

The news is true, my lord; he is descried;
Caesar has taken Toryne.

O noble emperor, do not fight by sea;
we had best conquer standing on the earth,
And fighting foot to foot.

MARK ANTONY

Well, well fight. We'll away! *Exeunt MARK ANTONY, CLEOPATRA, and DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS*

Messenger

By Hercules, I think I am i' the right. *Exeunt*

SCENE XI. Alexandria. CLEOPATRA's palace.

Enter MARK ANTONY with Attendants – Trumpets – noise of fighting

MARK ANTONY

Hark! the land bids me tread no more upon't;
It is ashamed to bear me! Friends, come hither:
I am so lated in the world, that I
Have lost my way for ever: I have a ship
Laden with gold; take that, divide it; fly,
And make your peace with Caesar.

I have fled myself; and have instructed cowards
To run and show their shoulders. Friends, be gone;
Leave me, I pray you now: I have lost command,

EROS/ATTENDANT

Nay, gentle madam, to him, comfort him.

Sits down. Enter CLEOPATRA led by CHARMIAN and IRAS; EROS following to MARK ANTHONY

IRAS

Do, most dear queen.

CHARMIAN

Do! why: what else?

CLEOPATRA

Let me sit down. O Juno!

MARK ANTONY

No, no, no, no, no.

EROS

See you here, sir?

MARK ANTONY

Yes, my lord, yes; he at Philippi kept
His sword e'en like a dancer; while I struck
The lean and wrinkled Cassius; and 'twas I
That the mad Brutus ended: No matter.

CLEOPATRA

Ah, stand by.

EROS

The queen, my lord, the queen.

IRAS

Go to him, madam, speak to him:
He is unqualified with very shame.

CLEOPATRA

Well then, sustain him: O!

EROS

Most noble sir, arise; the queen approaches:

MARK ANTONY

I have offended reputation,
A most unnoble swerving.

EROS

Sir, the queen.

MARK ANTONY

O, whither hast thou led me, Egypt? See,
How I convey my shame out of thine eyes
By looking back what I have left behind
'Stroy'd in dishonour.

CLEOPATRA

O my lord, my lord,
Forgive my fearful sails! I little thought
You would have follow'd.

MARK ANTONY

Egypt, thou knew'st too well
My heart was to thy rudder tied by the strings,
And thou shouldst tow me after: o'er my spirit
Thy full supremacy thou knew'st, and that
Thy beck might from the bidding of the gods
Command me.

CLEOPATRA

O, my pardon!

MARK ANTONY

Now I must to Caesar send humble treaties. You did know
How much you were my conqueror; and that
My sword, made weak by my affection, would
Obey it on all cause.



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Broken

remorseful

CLEOPATRA

Pardon, pardon!

MARK ANTONY

Fall not a tear, I say; one of them rates
All that is won and lost: give me a kiss;
Even this repays me. Love, I am full of lead.
Some wine, within there, and our viands! Fortune knows
We scorn her most when most she offers blows.

Embracing

Wanting to celebrate. Exeunt

SCENE XIII. Alexandria. CLEOPATRA's palace.

Enter CLEOPATRA, DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS, CHARMLAN, and IRAS

CLEOPATRA

What shall we do, Enobarbus?

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Think, and die.

CLEOPATRA

Is Antony or we in fault for this?

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

Antony only, that would make his will
Lord of his reason.

Enter an Attendant

Attendant

A messenger from CAESAR.

CLEOPATRA

What, no more ceremony? See, my women!

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

[Aside] Mine honesty and I begin to square.
The loyalty well held to fools does make
Our faith mere folly:

Exit Attendant

CLEOPATRA

Caesar's will?

Enter THYREUS

THYREUS

He knows that you embrace not Antony
As you did love, but as you fear'd him.

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CLEOPATRA

O!

THYREUS

The scars upon your honour, therefore, he
Does pity, as constrained blemishes,
Not as deserved.

CLEOPATRA

He is a god, and knows
What is most right: mine honour was not yielded,
But conquer'd merely.

DOMITIUS ENOBARBUS

[Aside] To be sure of that, I will ask Antony.

Exit

THYREUS

Shall I say to Caesar
What you require of him? for he partly begs
To be desired to give.

CLEOPATRA

Most kind messenger,
Say to great Caesar this: in deputation
I kiss his conquering hand: I am prompt
To lay my crown at 's feet, and there to kneel:

Tell him from his all-obeying breath I hear
The doom of Egypt.

THYREUS

'Tis your noblest course.
Give me grace to lay My duty on your hand.

Kisses her hand affectionately. Re-enter MARK ANTONY and DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS seeing the kiss.

MARK ANTONY

What art thou, fellow?

THYREUS

One that but performs
The bidding of the fullest man

DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS

You will be whipp'd.

MARK ANTONY

Approach, there! Ah, you kite! Now, gods
and devils!
Authority melts from me: kings would start forth,
And cry 'Your will?' Have you no ears? I am
Antony yet.
Take hence this Jack, and whip him.

Enter Attendants

MARK ANTONY

Moon and stars! Whip him.

THYREUS

Mark Antony!

Being carried away for beating

MARK ANTONY

You were half blasted ere I knew you: ha!
Have I my pillow left unpress'd in Rome,
Forborne the getting of a lawful race,
And by a gem of women, to be abused
By one that looks on feeders?

CLEOPATRA

Good my lord,--

MARK ANTONY

You have been a boggler ever:
But when we in our viciousness grow hard--
O misery on't!--the wise gods seal our eyes;
In our own filth drop our clear judgments; make us
Adore our errors; laugh at's, while we strut
To our confusion.

CLEOPATRA

O, is't come to this?

Re-enter Attendants with THYREUS

MARK ANTONY

Cried he? and begg'd a' pardon?

First Attendant

He did ask favour.

MARK ANTONY

Get thee back to Caesar,
Tell him thy entertainment: look, thou say
He makes me angry with him; Hence with thy stripes, begone!

Exit THYREUS

CLEOPATRA

Have you done yet?

MARK ANTONY

Alack, our terrene moon
Is now eclipsed; and it portends alone
The fall of Antony!



CLEOPATRA

I must stay his time.

MARK ANTONY

To flatter Caesar, would you mingle eyes
With one that ties his points?

CLEOPATRA

Not know me yet?

MARK ANTONY

Cold-hearted toward me?

CLEOPATRA

Embracing him

Ah, dear, if I be so,
From my cold heart let heaven engender hail,
And poison it in the source; and the first stone
Drop in my neck: as it determines, so
Dissolve my life! The next Caesarion smite!
Till by degrees the memory of my womb,
Together with my brave Egyptians all,
By the discanding of this pelleted storm,
Lie graveless, till the flies and gnats of Nile
Have buried them for prey!

MARK ANTONY

Tonight I'll force the wine peep through the scars.
Come my queen, There's sap in't yet. I'll make Death love me.
Caesar sits down in Alexandria;
I will oppose his fate.

CLEOPATRA

That's my brave lord!



Exeunt
ACT IV

SCENE I – Caesars Camp

Entering with Messenger

CAESAR

He calls me boy, and chides as he had power
To beat me out of Egypt. He dares me to personal combat.
I have many other ways to die. Laugh at his challenge. Poor Anthony!

SCENE IV. Mark Anthony's Camp

Enter MARK ANTONY and CLEOPATRA, CHARMIAN, and others attending

MARK ANTONY

Eros! mine armour, Eros!

CLEOPATRA

Sleep a little.

MARK ANTONY

No, my chuck. Eros, come; mine armour, Eros! *Enter EROS with armour*
Come good fellow, put mine iron on:

CLEOPATRA

Nay, I'll help too.

MARK ANTONY

Enter an armed Soldier
Shout. Trumpets flourish. Enter Captains and Soldiers

Good morrow to thee; welcome:

All

Good morrow, general.

MARK ANTONY

'Tis well blown, lads:
This morning, like the spirit of a youth

That means to be of note, begins betimes.
So, so; come, give me that: this way; well said.
Fare thee well, dame, whate'er becomes of me:
This is a soldier's kiss:
I'll leave thee Now, like a man of steel. You that will fight,
Follow me close; Adieu.

Kisses her

Exeunt MARK ANTONY, EROS, Captains, and Soldiers

CHARMIAN

Please you, retire to your chamber.

CLEOPATRA

Lead me.

He goes forth gallantly. That he and Caesar might

Determine this great war in single fight!

Then Antony,--but now--Well, on.

Exeunt

SCENE VI. Alexandria. OCTAVIUS CAESAR's camp.

Flourish. Enter OCTAVIUS CAESAR, AGRIPPA, with DOMITIUS ENO BARBUS, and others

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Enobarbus Welcome. Go forth, Agrippa;

Our will is Antony be took alive; Make it so known.

AGRIPPA

Caesar, I shall.

Exit

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

The time of universal peace is near:

Prove this a prosperous day, the three-nook'd world

Shall bear the olive freely.

Enter a Messenger

Messenger

Antony is come into the field.

Alarum. Drums and trumpets. Enter AGRIPPA and others

AGRIPPA

Retire, we have engaged ourselves too far:

Caesar himself has work, and our oppression

Exceeds what we expected.

Exeunt

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SCENE VII. Field of battle between the camps.

Alarums. Fighting. Enter MARK ANTONY and SCARUS wounded

SCARUS

O my brave emperor, this is fought indeed!

Had we done so at first, we had droven them home

With clouts about their heads.

MARK ANTONY

Thou bleed'st apace.

SCARUS

I had a wound here that was like a T,

But now 'tis made an H.

MARK ANTONY

They do retire.

SCARUS

We'll beat 'em into bench-holes: I have yet

Room for six scotches more.

Enter EROS

EROS

They are beaten, sir, and our advantage serves

For a fair victory.

Exeunt

MARK ANTONY

We have beat him to his camp: run one before,
And let the queen know of our gests. To-morrow,
Before the sun shall see 's, we'll spill the blood
That has to-day escaped. I thank you all;
Enter the city, clip your wives, your friends,
Tell them your feats; whilst they with joyful tears
Wash the congealment from your wounds, and kiss
The honour'd gashes whole.
Give me thy hand
To this great fairy I'll commend thy acts,
Make her thanks bless thee.

*To SCARUS
Enter CLEOPATRA, attended*

CLEOPATRA

Lord of lords!
O infinite virtue, comest thou smiling from
The world's great snare uncaught?

MARK ANTONY

My nightingale,
We have beat them to their beds.

Embrace

Give me thy hand

Their preparation tomorrow be by sea;
We please them not by land.

SCENE XI. Another part of the same. Next Day

Enter OCTAVIUS CAESAR, and his Army. Cheering, "Caesar! Caesar"

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

But being charged, we will be still by land,
Which, as I take't, we shall; for his best force
Is forth to man his galleys. To the vales,
And hold our best advantage.

Charging for war. Exeunt

SCENE XII. Another part of the same.

SCARUS

Swallows have built
In Cleopatra's sails their nests: Antony
Is valiant, and dejected; and, by starts,
His fretted fortunes give him hope, and fear,
Of what he has, and has not.

Alarum afar off, as at a sea-fight. Re-enter MARK ANTONY

MARK ANTONY

All is lost;
This foul Egyptian hath betrayed me:
My fleet hath yielded to the foe; and yonder
They cast their caps up and carouse together
Like friends long lost. Triple-turn'd whore!
All come to this? Betray'd I am:
O this false soul of Egypt!
Ah, thou spell! Avaunt!

Exit SCARUS

Enter CLEOPATRA, trying to embrace ANTHONY

CLEOPATRA

Why is my lord enraged against his love?

MARK ANTONY

Vanish, or I shall give thee thy deserving,
And blemish Caesar's triumph.
The witch shall die:

CLEOPATRA

O, he is mad. To the monument! Help me my women!

Go tell him, I am slain, and bring me news how he takes my death! *Exeunt all but MARK ANTONY and EROS*

MARK ANTONY

here I am Antony:
Yet cannot hold this visible shape,
I made these wars for Egypt: and the queen,--
Whose heart I thought I had, for she had mine;
O! thy vile lady! She has packed cards with Caesar.
She has robb'd me of my sword.

ENTER Mardian

MARDIAN

No, Antony;
My mistress loved thee, a

MARK ANTONY

She hath betray'd me and shall die the death.

MARDIAN

Death of one person can be paid but once,
the last she spake Was 'Antony! most noble Antony!'

MARK ANTONY

Dead, then?

MARDIAN

Dead.

Exit MARDIAN

ANTHONY

We must sleep. I will o'ertake thee, Cleopatra, and
Weep for my pardon. Come, Eros, Eros! I come my Queen.

Re-enter EROS

EROS

What would my lord?

MARK ANTONY

Since Cleopatra died,
I have lived in such dishonour, that the gods
Detest my baseness. I, that with my sword
Quarter'd the world, and o'er green Neptune's back
With ships made cities, condemn myself to lack
The courage of a woman; less noble mind
Than she which by her death our Caesar tells
'I am conqueror of myself.' on my command,
do't; the time is come:
Thou strikest not me, 'tis Caesar thou defeat'st.
Put colour in thy cheek.

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Giving him sword

EROS

The gods withhold me! I would not see't.

MARK ANTONY

Come, then; for with a wound I must be cured.
Draw that thy honest sword, which thou hast worn
Most useful for thy country.

EROS

O, sir, pardon me!

MARK ANTONY

When I did make thee free, sworest thou not then
To do this when I bade thee? Do it at once;
Or thy precedent services are all
But accidents unpurposed. Draw, and come.

EROS

Turn from me, then, that noble countenance,
Wherein the worship of the whole world lies.

MARK ANTONY

Lo thee!

Turning from him

EROS

My sword is drawn.

MARK ANTONY

Then let it do at once
The thing why thou hast drawn it.

EROS

My dear master, My captain, and my emperor,
Before I strike this bloody stroke, farewell.

MARK ANTONY

'Tis said, man; and farewell.

EROS

Farewell, great chief.

MARK ANTONY

Now, Eros.

EROS

thus I do escape the sorrow of Antony's death.

Kills himself

MARK ANTONY

Thrice-nobler than myself!
Thou teachest me, O valiant Eros, what
I should, and thou couldst not. My queen and Eros
Have by their brave instruction got upon me
A nobleness in record: Come, then;
Thy master dies thy scholar: to do thus
I learn'd from thee. How! not dead? not dead?
The guard, ho! O!

Falling on his sword

Enter DERCETAS and Guard

First Guard

What's the noise?

MARK ANTONY

O, make an end of what I have begun.

Second Guard

The star is fall'n.

All

Alas, and woe!

MARK ANTONY

Let him that loves me strike me dead.

First Guard

Not I.

Second Guard

Nor I.

Third Guard

Nor any one.

Exeunt Guard

DERCETAS

Thy death and fortunes bid thy followers fly.
This sword but shown to Caesar, with this tidings,
Shall enter me with him.

Enter DIOMEDES

DIOMEDES

Where's Antony?

DERCETAS

There, Diomed there.

DIOMEDES

Lives he?

Wilt thou not answer, man?

Exit DERCETAS

MARK ANTONY

Draw thy sword, and give me
Sufficing strokes for death.

DIOMEDES

Most absolute lord, My mistress Cleopatra sent me to thee.



MARK ANTONY

When did she send thee?

DIOMEDES

Now, my lord.

MARK ANTONY

Where is she?

DIOMEDES

Lock'd in her monument. She had a prophesying fear
Of what hath come to pass: for when she saw--
Which never shall be found--you did suspect
She had disposed with Caesar, and that your rage
Would not be purged, she sent you word she was dead;
But, fearing since how it might work, hath sent
Me to proclaim the truth; and I am come,
I dread, too late.

MARK ANTONY

Too late, good Diomed: call my guard, I prithee.

DIOMEDES

What, ho, the emperor's guard! The guard, what, ho!
Come, your lord calls!

Calling

Enter four or five of the Guard of MARK ANTONY

MARK ANTONY

Bear me up

All

Most heavy day!

MARK ANTONY

Take me up where Cleopatra bides;
And have my thanks for all.

Exeunt, bearing MARK ANTONY

SCENE XV. The same. A monument.

Enter CLEOPATRA and her maids aloft, with CHARMIAN and IRAS

CLEOPATRA

How now! is he dead?

Enter, below, DIOMEDES

DIOMEDES

His death's upon him, but not dead.
His guard have brought him thither.

Enter, below, MARK ANTONY, borne by the Guard

CLEOPATRA

O sun, Burn the great sphere thou movest in!
O Antony, Antony, Antony! Help, Charmian, help, Iras, help;
Help, friends below; let's draw him hither.

MARK ANTONY

Peace!

CLEOPATRA

So it should be, that none but Antony
Should conquer Antony; but woe 'tis so!

Help me, my women,--we must draw thee up:
Assist, good friends.

MARK ANTONY

O, quick, or I am gone.

CLEOPATRA

And welcome, welcome! die where thou hast lived:
Quicken with kissing: had my lips that power,
Thus would I wear them out.

They heave MARK ANTONY aloft to CLEOPATRA

Embracing

MARK ANTONY

I am dying, Egypt, dying:
Give me some wine, and let me speak a little.

CLEOPATRA

No, let me speak;

MARK ANTONY

Gentle, hear me: My spirit is going.

MARK ANTONY dies

CLEOPATRA

My lord!

Faints holding body

CHARMIAN

O, lady! Lady!

CLEOPATRA

My noble girls!

Our lamp is spent, it's out! take heart:
We'll bury him in high Roman fashion,
And make death proud to take us.

ACT V

SCENE I

CAESAR

Reading Text

Anthony is dead.

My brother, my competitor, My mate in empire.

SCENE II. Alexandria. A room in the monument.

Enter, to the gates of the monument, PROCULEIUS, GALLUS and Soldiers

PROCULEIUS

Caesar sends greeting to the Queen of Egypt;

CLEOPATRA

If your master
Would have a queen his beggar, I
Will kneel to him with thanks. Pray you, tell him

PROCULEIUS

This I'll report, dear lady.

Here PROCULEIUS and two of the Guard ascend the monument by a ladder placed against a window, and, having descended, come behind CLEOPATRA. Some of the Guard unbar and open the gates

CLEOPATRA

Quick, quick, good hands.

Drawing a dagger

PROCULEIUS

Hold, worthy lady, hold:

Seizes and disarms her

PROCULEIUS

Cleopatra,
Do not abuse my master's bounty by
The undoing of yourself:

To Caesar I will speak what you shall please,
If you'll employ me to him.

CLEOPATRA

Say, I would die.

Exeunt PROCULEIUS and Soldiers

CLEOPATRA

I dream'd there was an Emperor Antony:
O, such another sleep, that I might see
But such another man!

DOLABELLA

Cleopatra!

Flourish, and shout within, 'Make way there: Octavius Caesar!'

Enter OCTAVIUS CAESAR, GALLUS, PROCULEIUS, MECAENAS, SELEUCUS, and others of his Train

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Which is the Queen of Egypt?

DOLABELLA

It is the emperor, madam.

CLEOPATRA kneels

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Arise, you shall not kneel:

I pray you, rise; rise, Egypt.

CLEOPATRA

my master and my lord I must obey.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Good queen, let us entreat you. Cleopatra,
Our care and pity is so much upon you,
That we remain your friend; and so, adieu.

CLEOPATRA

My master, and my lord!

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

Not so. Adieu.

Flourish. Exeunt OCTAVIUS CAESAR and his train

IRAS

Finish, good lady; the bright day is done,
And we are for the dark.

Re-enter CHARMIAN

Now, Charmian! I am again for Cydnus,
To meet Mark Antony: Bring our crown and all.
Wherefore's this noise?

Exit IRAS. A noise within. Enter a Guardsman

Guard

Here is a rural fellow. He brings you figs.

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CLEOPATRA

Let him come in.

Exit Guardsman

I have nothing

Of woman in me: now from head to foot
I am marble-constant; now the fleeting moon
No planet is of mine.

Re-enter Guardsman, with Clown bringing in a basket

Guard

This is the man.

CLEOPATRA

Avoid, and leave him.

Exit Guardsman

Hast thou the pretty worm of Nilus there,
That kills and pains not?

Clown

Truly, I have him: but I would not be the party
that should desire you to touch him, for his biting
is immortal; those that do die of it do seldom or
never recover.

CLEOPATRA

Rememberest thou any that have died on't?

Clown

Very many, men and women too.

CLEOPATRA

Get thee hence; farewell.

Clown

I wish you all joy of the worm.

CLEOPATRA

Farewell.

CLEOPATRA

Give me my robe, put on my crown; I have
Immortal longings in me: now no more
The juice of Egypt's grape shall moist this lip:
Yare, yare, good Iras; quick. Methinks I hear
Antony call; I see him rouse himself
To praise my noble act; I hear him mock
The luck of Caesar, which the gods give men
To excuse their after wrath: husband, I come:
I am fire and air; my other elements
I give to baser life.

Come then, and take the last warmth of my lips.
Farewell, kind Charmian; Iras, long farewell.
Have I the aspic in my lips? Dost fall?
If thou and nature can so gently part,
The stroke of death is as a lover's pinch,
Which hurts, and is desired. Dost thou lie still?
If thus thou vanishest, thou tell'st the world
It is not worth leave-taking.

CHARMIAN

Dissolve, thick cloud, and rain; that I may say,
The gods themselves do weep!

CLEOPATRA

This proves me base:
If she first meet the curled Antony,
He'll make demand of her, and spend that kiss
Which is my heaven to have. Come, thou
mortal wretch, this knot intricate
Of life at once untie: poor venomous fool
Be angry, and dispatch.

CHARMIAN

O eastern star!

CLEOPATRA

Peace, peace! Dost thou not see my baby at my breast,
That sucks the nurse asleep?

CHARMIAN

O!

CLEOPATRA

As sweet as balm, as soft as air, as gentle,--
O Antony!--Nay, I will take thee too.
What should I stay--

CHARMIAN

In this vile world? So, fare thee well.
Now boast thee, death, in thy possession lies
A lass unparallel'd. Downy windows, close;
And golden Phoebus never be beheld
Of eyes again so royal! Your crown's awry;
I'll mend it, and then play.

First Guard

Where is the queen?

CHARMIAN

wake her not.

First Guard

Caesar hath sent--

Setting down his basket

Exit. Re-enter IRAS with a robe, crown.

Kisses them. IRAS falls and dies



The logo for Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand (SGCNZ) features the letters 'SGCNZ' in a large, bold, pink font. Below this, the full name 'Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand' is written in a smaller, lighter pink font. The logo is partially overlaid by a large, faint, circular graphic that resembles a globe or a stylized 'O'.

To an asp, which she applies to her breast

she applies to her breast

*Applying another asp to her arm
Dies*

Prepares body

Enter the Guard, rushing in

CHARMIAN

Too slow a messenger.
O, come apace, dispatch!

Applies an asp

First Guard

All's not well: Caesar's beguiled.

Second Guard

Caesar; call him.

First Guard

What work is here! Charmian, is this well done?

CHARMIAN

It is well done, and fitting for a princess
Descended of so many royal kings.
Ah, soldier!

*Dies. Within 'A way there, a way for Caesar!' Re-enter
OCTAVIUS CAESAR and all his train marching.*

Guard

Bravest at the last,
I do not see blood.

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

If they had swallow'd poison, 'twould appear
By external swelling: but she looks like sleep,
As she would catch another Antony
In her strong toil of grace.

First Guard

This is an asp's trail:

OCTAVIUS CAESAR

She shall be buried by her Antony:
No grave upon the earth shall clip in it
A pair so famous. Our army shall
In solemn show attend this funeral;
And then to Rome. Come, Everyone, see
High order in this great solemnity.

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Exeunt
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