

BRUTUS. And so it is. For this time I will leave you.

Tomorrow, if you please to speak with me,

305 I will come home to you; or if you will,

Come home to me, and I will wait for you.

CASSIUS. I will do so. Till then, think of the world.⁹²

[Exit BRUTUS.]

Well, Brutus, thou art noble; yet I see

Thy honorable mettle may be wrought

310 From that it is disposed;⁹³ therefore it is meet

That noble minds keep ever with their likes;

For who so firm that cannot be seduced?

Caesar doth bear me hard,⁹⁴ but he loves Brutus.

If I were Brutus now, and he were Cassius,

315 He should not humor me.⁹⁵ I will this night,

In several hands,⁹⁶ in at his windows throw,

As if they came from several citizens,

Writings, all tending to the great opinion⁹⁷

That Rome holds of his name; wherein obscurely

320 Caesar's ambition shall be glanced at.⁹⁸

And after this, let Caesar seat him sure;⁹⁹

For we will shake him, or worse days endure.

[Exit]

Scene iii. A street.

[Thunder and lightning. Enter from opposite sides, CASCA and CICERO.]

CICERO. Good even, Casca; brought you Caesar home?

Why are you breathless? And why stare you so?

CASCA. Are not you moved, when all the sway of earth¹

Shakes like a thing unfirm? O Cicero,

5 I have seen tempests, when the scolding winds

Have rived² the knotty oaks, and I have seen

Th' ambitious ocean swell and rage and foam,

To be exalted with³ the threat'ning clouds;

But never till tonight, never till now,

10 Did I go through a tempest dropping fire.

Either there is a civil strife in heaven,

Or else the world, too saucy⁴ with the gods,

Incenses⁵ them to send destruction.

CICERO. Why, saw you anything more wonderful?

15 **CASCA.** A common slave—you know him well by sight—

Held up his left hand, which did flame and burn

Like twenty torches joined, and yet his hand,

Not sensible of⁶ fire, remained unscorched.

Besides—I ha' not since put up my sword—

20 Against⁷ the Capitol I met a lion,

92. the world present state of affairs.

93. wrought . . . is disposed shaped (like iron) in a way different from its usual form.

94. bear me hard dislikes me.

95. humor me win me over.

96. several hands different handwritings.

97. tending to the great opinion pointing out the great respect.

98. glanced at hinted at.

99. seat him sure establish himself securely.

Reading Strategy

Using Text Aids How does the description of the weather add to the drama?

1. all the sway of earth the stable order of Earth.

2. Have rived have split.

3. exalted with lifted up to.

4. saucy rude; impudent.

5. Incenses enrages.

6. sensible of sensitive to.

7. Against opposite or near.

✓ Reading Check

What has happened to Marullus and Flavius?