

**SHAKESPEARIENCE!**

***Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies***

**JULIUS CAESAR**

Act III, scene 1/PART 1: *Stabbing of Caesar*

Brutus, Cassius, Metellus, Caesar

**CAESAR**

Are we all ready? What is now amiss that Caesar and his senate must redress?

**METELLUS**

Most high, most mighty, and most puissant Caesar, Metellus throws before thy seat  
An humble heart,--

**CAESAR**

I must prevent thee, Metellus. Thy brother by decree is banished:  
If thou dost bend and pray and fawn for him, I spurn thee like a cur out of my way.

**METELLUS**

Is there no voice more worthy than my own to sound more sweetly in great  
Caesar's ear for the repealing of my banish'd brother?

**BRUTUS**

I kiss thy hand, but not in flattery, Caesar; desiring thee that his banished brother  
may have an immediate freedom of repeal.

**CAESAR**

What, Brutus!

**CASSIUS**

Pardon, Caesar; Caesar, pardon: As low as to thy foot doth Cassius fall,  
To beg for Metellus' brother.

**CAESAR**

I could be well moved, if I were as you:  
If I could pray to move, prayers would move me:  
But I am constant as the northern star,

**BRUTUS**

O Caesar,--

**CAESAR**

Hence! wilt thou lift up Olympus?

**METELLUS**

Great Caesar,--

**METELLUS**

Speak, hands for me!

*[Conspirators stab CAESAR, one at a time, the last being Brutus.]*

**CAESAR**

Et tu, Brute! Then fall, Caesar. *[Dies]*

*[long pause in shock, then METELLUS fetches sheet and covers CAESAR]*

**BRUTUS**

Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!  
Run hence, proclaim, cry it about the streets.

Some to the common pulpits, and cry out  
'Liberty, freedom, and enfranchisement!'

*[METELLUS runs out calling, "Liberty!".]*

**BRUTUS**

Grant that, and then is death a benefit:  
So are we Caesar's friends, that have abridged  
His time of fearing death. Stoop, Romans, stoop,  
And let us bathe our hands in Caesar's blood  
Up to the elbows, and besmear our swords:  
Then walk we forth, even to the market-place,  
And, waving our red weapons o'er our heads,  
We'll cry 'Peace, freedom and liberty!'

**CASSIUS**

Ambition's debt is paid.