Side 7

Calpurnia tries to talk Caesar out of going to the Senate on the Ides of March.

CALPURNIA \ CAESAR

**CALPURNIA**

What mean you, Caesar? think you to walk forth?  
You shall not stir out of your house to-day.

**CAESAR**

Calpurnia, the things that threaten'd me  
Ne'er look'd but on my back; when they shall see  
The face of Caesar, they are vanished.

**CALPURNIA**

Caesar, I never stood on ceremonies,  
Yet now they fright me.

There is one within,  
Besides the things that we have heard and seen,  
Recounts most horrid sights seen by the watch.  
A lioness hath whelped in the streets;  
And graves have yawn'd, and yielded up their dead;

Fierce fiery warriors fought upon the clouds,  
In ranks and squadrons and right form of war,  
Which drizzled blood upon the Capitol;  
O Caesar! these things are beyond all use,  
And I do fear them.

**CAESAR**

What can be avoided  
Whose end is purposed by the mighty gods?  
Yet Caesar shall go forth; for these predictions  
Are to the world in general as to Caesar.

**CALPURNIA**

When beggars die, there are no comets seen.

The heavens themselves blaze forth the death of princes.

**CAESAR**

Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
The valiant never taste of death but once.  
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard.  
It seems to me most strange that men should fear;  
Seeing that death, a necessary end,  
Will come when it will come.

Caesar should be a beast without a heart,  
If he should stay at home to-day for fear.  
No, Caesar shall not: danger knows full well  
That Caesar is more dangerous than he:  
We are two lions litter'd in one day,  
And I the elder and more terrible:  
And Caesar shall go forth.

**CALPURNIA**

Alas, my lord,  
Your wisdom is consumed in confidence.  
Do not go forth to-day: call it my fear  
That keeps you in the house, and not your own.  
We'll send Mark Antony to the senate-house:  
And he shall say you are not well to-day:  
Let me, upon my knee, prevail in this.

**CAESAR**

Mark Antony shall say I am not well,  
And, for thy humour, I will stay at home.