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.