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## Julius caesar study guide act 2

Call Nav Act 2, Scene 1 Brutus considers the conspiracy in his garden late at night. He concluded that Julius Caesar should die. Brutus cannot justify Caesar's death by any personal acts of Caesar's; Caesar just has to go for the public well. Brutus argues that, although the emperor is not bad now, to get a crown, his nature will change. Brutus admits he has seen no evidence that ambition will change the emperor, but he reckons it's not worth take the chance. Brutus decides that action should now be taken, as caesar is like a snake's egg-dangerous when hatched. (Time to make an omelet.) As he did all this thinking, Brutus sends his servant Lucius to light a candle in his room. Lucius returns with a letter he found (Cassius's invention). The letter says Brutus must recognize his own noble nature and do something before Rome falls on the tyranny of a monarch. Brutus is oversupplied and promises that he will not fail for Rome's sake. Lucius then confirms that tomorrow is indeed the Ideas of March (15 March) is the fatal day caesar was warned about). After this healthy bit of forecast for the audience, Brutus admits he has been held every night since Cassius planted the fear of tyranny in his mind. The group of conspirators then arrived at Brutus' door to try to overcome Brutus to take over their case. They are all dismayed and shady looks. Cassius introduces all the conspirators, and Brutus says they are all welcome in his home. If Cassius takes Brutus aside to chat, the other discusses exactly where the sun will rise on the horizon. Brutus steps forward and asks to hold everyone's hand for the Roman version of Kumbaya about their murder plan. Cassius thinks he wants everyone to swear an oath to their case, but Brutus opposes that idea violently. They are Romans and Romans don't do noeds — they're only faithful to their word, even if that word is murder. Then they all have a little debate about whether to include Cicero, but it was decided that he would never be a follower and should not be invited to join Team Secret Conspiracy. It is important here to note that the minor conspirators are easily one direction or another ear whether Cicero should be asked to join , at first he thinks great and then insists he is completely pristine. They are easily convinced. Cassius then suggests that they also kill Antony (Emperor's young friend) while they are there. Brutus disagrees and thinks it would be overlaw. (Get it? Ugh. Sorry.) He's talking about how they should kill caesar nose and excret him as a dish for the gods, not like a carcass suiting dogs. The conspirators should think of the murder as an act of sacrifice for the state and not as a bloodbath. Brutus also claims that because Antony is like the emperor's arm, once they kill the emperor, Antony may be powerless. An arm without a head can do nothing, and Brutus is sure they have nothing to fear from the emperor's friend. Trebonius, another conspiracy resident, suggests that Antony will be sad murder, but will eventually laugh at the whole thing... what kind of let's wonder about Trebonius's emotional IQ. The clock hitting 3 (actually, ancient Rome had no watches, but Shakespeare was more worried about drama than historical accuracy), and they agree to share. Before they do, Cassius points out that the emperor has been careful lately due to all the bad turnarounds floating over. Cassius is further concerned that the Emperor's prophets can convince him to take a sick day of the Capitol Decius, telling everyone not to worry; He will arrive at the Emperor's place in the morning to make sure caesar goes the Capitol. He can easily swing caesar with fairytale interpretations of whatever worried Caesar. In fact, everyone will meet at Caesar to make sure he arrives at the Capitol for the murder. This is a team effort. Cassius asks them to be good Romans and keep their word. Brutus tells them to make sure they don't look like suspicious killers. Brilliant! After everyone left Brutus, his wife, Portia, who left in bed, points out that he was talking a little man-woman. The other night Brutus gave her a common look at dinner and dismissed her when she wanted to talk about what bothered him. (Apparently the plan to kill emperor made it speak in cushion.) Portia pleads with him to tell her what makes him so unhappy. Brutus claims he's just a little sick, and Portia says that about hours of the night is certainly not the best cure. She points out that it must be a disease of the mind that plagues him. Brilliant! She says she has the right to know who the masked men who were at their home just in the middle of the night. Portia claims she does more than just serve Brutus, and she asks that he trust in her as a beloved woman rather than ignoring her like a held woman. Although she knows she is a woman, she is his wife and the daughter of noble Cato, and she can keep a secret, no matter what it is. Brutus then asks the gods to make him worthy of such noble woman. Just then, there is a knock at the door. Brutus sends Portia back to bed and promises to tell her everything later. Caius Ligarius, a man who wanted to bring one of the conspirators to the team, arrived. Although he is sick, he says he is full of spirit after hearing about the murder plan. The two walk and talk about the murder. Join today and never see them again. By entrance your email address, you agree to receive emails from Shmoop and verify that you are older than 13. Brutus is in his garden and decided that the emperor should be killed. His reasons for achieving this conclusion are that emperor abuses his strength and it has ascended too quickly. Lucius, Brutus's servant, brings him a letter (planted by Cassius) which he found in Brutus's private room. The first line of the letter rings, Brutus, you sleep st. Wake up and see yourself (Matthew 2.1.46). Brutus interprets the letter it was a request from all of Rome to kill Emperor and restore the republic. Brutus then asks what day it is, and he informs his master that it is the ideas of March, or 15 March. A knock sounds on the door and Lucius leaves to answer it. Alone, Brutus says he hasn't slept since Cassius first he lectured him against Caesar. Cassius, Casca, Decius, Cinna, Metellus and Trebonius, all conspirators against The Emperor, arrived at Brutus' house. Brutus invites them in and Cassius takes him aside. Soon afterwards, Brutus joined the group of men again and shook all their hands and agreed to join them in their murderous quest. The men then discuss whether they should invite Cicero, the great orator, to join their conspiracy, but Brutus convinces them against it. Cassius says Mark Antony should be killed with the emperor, but again Brutus is against the plan, fearing they will be considered too bloody. The group plans to commit Caesar's murder at eight hours that morning at the Senate (it's only three in the morning at this point). However, they are concerned that the Emperor will not attend the Senate because he has increasingly contributed in recent months. Decius tells the group that he knows how to flatter the emperor, and assure them that he will convince the emperor to go to the Senate. Cassius and his followers then leave Brutus alone. Brutus's wife, Portia, arrives and tells him he left her bed and gave her unfriendly corpse. She begs him to tell her why he's so upset. He lies and tells her he is sick, to which she responds that it seems to be a disease of the mind, not of the body. A strong woman of brave lineage, she again begged him to tell her what's wrong, ask him, do you think I'm no stronger than my sex, / Being so father and so male? (2.1.295-6). She then hides herself in the hip as evidence of her courage. Brutus finally agrees to tell her what is concerned with him, but sends her away before he is able to explain, because there is another knock at the door. Ligarius goes in and pretends to be sick. He told Brutus that he could be healed if only Brutus had a noble undertaking in mind. Brutus tells him that he does, and Ligarius promises to follow Brutus on whatever task he leads. Act Two, Scene Two Caesar, still in his nightgaga, was terrified by a dream his wife Calpurnia had in which she cried out, Help, ho! They killed Emperor! He commanded a servant to go to the priests and sacrifice them to read the entries for predictions of the future. Calpurnia arrives and tells him he dare not leave the house that day. Caesar boldly acts and tells her that he fears nothing, and that he will die when necessary for him to die. The servant returns and tells him that the sacrificed beast didn't have a heart, a very bad omen. Emperor does an evening on the wrong interpretation of the circumstances, but Calpurnia begs him to blame her for his absence from the Senate, he finally agrees. Decius, however, soon arrived to fetch the Emperor to the Senate House. Caesar tells him to inform the Senate that he won't come today. not. claims that he will be mocked if he cannot provide a good reason for the emperor's absence. Caesar then tells Decius about Calpurnia's dream, to which Decius replied that the dream was misinterpreted. The fountains of blood pouring out of the emperor's body that Calpurnia saw reflect the new life emperor to Rome, not his death. Decius overwhelmed the Emperor's resistance by asking him if the Senate should dissolve to a better time when Calpurnia has more favorable dreams. Caesar tells Calpurnia that he acted foolishly, and agrees to go to the Senate. Cassius and the other conspirators then accompany him to

the Senate. Antony also appears and joins the group of men who then escort emperor out of his home. Act Two, Scene ThreeArtemidorus wrote caesar a letter calling all the conspirators against The Emperor. He stood on a street near the Capitol waiting for the Emperor to pass on his way to the Senate so he could hand over the emperor the note. Act Two, Scene FourPortia recommends the servant Lucius to go to the Senate house. He asks her what he should do there, but she is so distracted that she is unable to tell him the goal. She notes on the audience, I have a man's mind, but a woman's power. / How difficult it is for women to keep advice! (2.4.7-8). She refers to the fact that she knows what Brutus intends to do to Caesar, and is unwilling to keep it a secret. The suspected speaker who had previously warned caesar saw her and talk to her, informing Portia that he would try to warn Caesar again about his fate. Analyzed by the play, Brutus alone suffers from a lack of sleep. Brutus says, Since Cassius first won me against Caesar / I didn't sleep (2.1.61) He adds to this that his thoughts, like a small kingdom, then suffer / The nature of a resurrection (2.1.68-9). His insomnia represents an internal struggle over whether he betrays or acts in what he believes is the best interests of Rome. His personal struggle is a microcosm for the civil war that ultimately takes place. In 4.3 Brutus again suffers from an attack of insomnia during which he encounters the emperor's ghost. Women are marginalized in Julius Caesar. Portia and Calpurnia are the women in the play and are limited to the household. However, there are important differences between them. Portia is the first of the two to appear, and she is struggling to convince Brutus that she is worthy of his confidence. She kneels first, begs him to share his secrets, and then dramatically rise up and declare, Do you think I'm no stronger than my sex, / To be so father and so masculin? (2.1.295-6) and put herself in the hip to prove her strength. Brutus chops to Portia and recognizes her strength. In contrast, the Emperor ignores his wife Calpurnia's warnings against attending the Senate. Initially, her dream of his death keeps him at home, but Decius is able to convince him that this woman is stupid in her It is clear that Calpurnia Calpurnia not as powerful a woman as Portia. However, both women go to extreme actions to try to swing their husbands. Ironically, Calpurnia's dream of emperor statue bleeding from a hundred holes with which Romans bathe their hands is an accurate prediction of the emperor's death, which takes place in the Act 3. Decius first mocks the dream and says, Bring up the Senate up to another time, / When the emperor's wife will meet with better dreams 2.2.98-99). He then brilliantly creates an alternative interpretation of the dream and says, Your statue stems blood in many pipes, / In which so many smiling Romans are bathed, / Suggest that some of you will suck great Rome / Revival blood (2.2.85-88). Brutus, unlike the way he tries to present himself, is a idle man, easily manipulated by Cassius. Cassius compares brutus to The Emperor by comparing their names, and then telling Brutus he represents the best qualities of emperor without the mistakes. Next, Cassius concepts letters to Brutus that he delivers Cinna by throwing them through the window or let them where Brutus will find them. Brutus's fateful mistake is revealed when he interprets the first letter he receives according to his personal bias. So, like Malvolio in Twelfth Night, Brutus misconstruts the letter's significance to fulfill his desire for power. Give me a lot of light that I can read through them. [He] opens the letter and reads 'Brutus, you sleep st. Wake up and see yourself. Will Rome, etc. cetera?' Talk, strike, correction." Brutus, you sleep. Wake up.'Such instigations have often been dropped where I took them up.'Will Rome, etc?' So I must have it out: Will Rome stand under one man's awe? What, Rome?' Talk, strike, correction.' Am I treated to speak and strike? Oh Rome, I make your promise,If the correction will follow, you receive Your full petition at the hands of Brutus. Brutus is so focused on his inner turmoil that when he reads the letter, he fills in the spaces with, will Rome stand under one man's awe? He further understood the letter by attributing it to Rome, as if it were a call from the people rather than a note written by Cassius. Brutus is looking for a reason to act, and the letter offers that stimulation. Up to this point, Brutus has hesitated to act against Caesar because he felt that the support of the Roman citizenship needed. The letter, which he believes is of Roman citizens, does provide him with an excuse to act. Brutus's biggest mistake is by the murder that the republic wants to maintain while at the same time violating the fundamental rules of the republic. He said to Cassius, Let us be sacrifices, but not but butchers, Caius.We all rise up against the spirit of Caesar; And in the spirit of men there is no blood:O that we may then come by Caesar's spirit, and not disguised Emperor! But, alas, Emperor must bleed for it! And, gentle friends, let's make dead boldly, but not wrathful; Let's suffer him as a dish fit for the gods,Not him chopped as a carcass fit for let our hearts, like subtle masters do, stur up their servants to a rage, and after they seemed to have 'em'. It will make our purpose necessary and not be envious:What appears so to the general eyes, We will be called, not murderers. Killers, however, are exactly what Antony will call the conspirators. Brutus falsely tries to divide the indivisible by preceding that the murder of Emperor is not murder, when it is clear. Caesar's greatest achievement is his ability to live out his mortal death. He refers to this by his use of the third person: The Emperor must be an animal without a heart (2.2.42), and Caesar will go forth (2.2.48). This is unlike Brutus's use of I, and his ultimate defeat: That you love me, I'm nothing jealous. What you would work me to have a purpose. How I thought about this and of these times I'll tell this. For this present, I wouldn't, so with love I can engage you caesar's use of the third person creates a sense of permanence, like the images emperor involving Mount Olympus and the Colassus. These references shadow the power emperor will continue to last, even after his death. Death.

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