

# THE TRAGEDY OF CAESAR AND POMPEY or CAESAR'S REVENGE

## INTRODUCTION

### Editing Methodology

My intention in editing *Caesar's Revenge* has been to make it as accessible to the reader as possible without losing the content. To this end I have:

1. De-italicised all proper nouns and nouns in italics;
2. De-capitalised all non-proper nouns which had initial capital letters;
3. De-Romanised all words which had "v" for "u", "u" for "v", "i" for "j" and "vv" for "w";
4. Regularised variant spelling of proper nouns, and where possible used the modern/usual spelling (- this is sometimes impossible as it would remove or add an extra syllable to a line, eg, "Affrick" to "Africa", and damage the metre, and these instances have been annotated);
5. Modernised the spelling of words;
6. Adopted the modern spelling of Caesar replacing the Greek "æ" with "ae";
7. Corrected the following apparent printer errors:

#### Act 1, Prologue

- Line 103: "bilse" replaced with "bliss"
- Line 109: "Wihch" replaced with "Which"
- Line 126: "remououe" replaced with "remove"

#### Act 1, Scene 2

- Line 5: "woundring" replaced with "wounding" (as "wondering" and "wandering" both seem incongruous in this position)

#### Act 1, Scene 4

- Line 11: "freedon" replaced with "freedom"

#### Act 2, Scene 3

- Line 38: "perlexed" replaced with "perplexed"

#### Act 3, Scene 2

- Line 9: "witner" replaced with "winter"

#### Act 3, Scene 3

- Line 22: "persumption" replaced with "presumption"

#### Act 3, Scene 4

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Line 63: “pincely” replaced with “princely”

Act 3, Scene 5

Line 62: “ountries” replace with “countries”

Line 74: “ilde” replaced with “idle”

Act 4, Scene 3

Line 41: “dissentions” replaced with “dissentious” (I believe the second “n” is an inverted “u” – “dissentious brawls” rather than “dissentions brawls”)

Line 64: “Stike” replaced with “Strike”

Line 93: “unquenced” replaced with “unquenched”

Act 5, Scene 1

Line 70: “strengthen” replaced with “Strengthen”;

8. Replaced “d” endings of verbs with “ed”;
9. Placed an accent over a final vowel where the metre calls for a syllable/letter to be sounded when it is usually silent, eg, “scornèd”;
10. Replaced the original punctuation as necessary to make sense to the modern reader, as there were often full stops, colons and semi-colons in the middle of sentences, commas in the middle of phrases and many speeches ended with a comma. Also in Act 1, Prologue, Line 17 I replaced here “&” with “and”;
11. Replaced words which were interchangeable in Elizabethan times with the variant that fits the apparent meaning currently, eg, “then” is often replaced with “than”;
12. Rationalised the Act and Scene headings. I have used Arabic numbering. Act headings are now emboldened, centralised and capitalised (eg, ACT 1). I have removed the Act end markers (eg, ACT.I.FINIS). Prologue and Scene headings are now all left justified, emboldened and lower case, preceded by the Act detail in lower case (eg, Act 1, Scene 1);
13. Placed all Discord’s Prologues separate from the first scene of each act, as originally those in Acts 1 and 5 were included in Scene 1, but those in Acts 2, 3 and were separate;
14. Renumbered incorrectly numbered scenes:

The first scene of Act 2 is numbered “4” which I have changed to “1” as all the other scenes in the act are correctly numbered for their position.

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The third scene of Act 4 is numbered "1" – changed to "3" as it must come after Scene 1 showing the funeral, and presumably Scene 2 showing the anti-Caesarians allows the other actors to catch their breath, change into armour from funeral garb, etc;

15. Numbered the lines from 1 in each scene. (NB – there are two split lines in the play, Act 2 Scene 4 Line 41 and Act 3 Scene 6 Line 108);
16. Italicised all stage directions;
17. Left justified all stage directions except those which directly relate to performing an action in the middle of a speech, in which case I have placed the direction alongside the related piece of dialogue.
18. Inserted appropriate stage directions which appeared necessary or helpful from the dialogue in the scenes and including missing stage entrance/exit instructions. My insertions, replacements and additions are enclosed in square brackets, eg, Act 3, Scene 6 after Caesar's Line 69 his speech is interrupted by the stage direction "One gives him a paper". The character then speaks and is marked as "Pre." (see last note in point 19). I have therefore removed "One" and replaced it with "[Praecentor enters and]";
19. Rationalised the names in the speech directions. I have chosen to put all names in full. I have corrected seven instances where the name seemed incorrect:

Act 1, Scene 6 gives 2 lines (61-62) to "But.". There is no such character, and as the words involve mooning over Cleopatra I have assigned them to Anthony.

Act 2, Prologue has Discord entering, but the speech direction says "Antho." – I have changed this to "Discord" as she is the only character on stage.

Act 2, Scene 1 gives Lines 13-19 to "Caes." – however, he is in Alexandria and this scene is set in Rome amongst his enemies, so I have re-assigned them to Casca as the closest name of those in this scene.

Act 2, Scene 1 gives Lines 44-48 to "Cum." – as there is no such person in the play I have presumed it should "Cam." and re-assigned those lines to Camber.

Act 2, Scene 1 gives Lines 51-57 to "Ter." – as there is no such person in the play I have presumed it should be "Tre." and re-assigned those lines to Trebonius.

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Act 2, Scene 1 gives Lines 78-87 to "Gic." – as there is no such person in the play I have presumed it should "Cic." and re-assigned those lines to Cicero.

Act 3, Scene 6 gives Lines 71-76 to "Pre." – the only unused and similar name in the List of Actors is "Praecentor", so I have expanded it to this;

20. Replaced a missing word in Act 5, Scene 1. On one version of the original text there is a gap followed by what looks like two letters on top of each other almost resembling a "£", then an "s" and a full stop. On the other version there is a gap and then a clearly defined "rings". The line "And looke on him that hope and comfort" is definitely missing half a foot. I have inserted the word "brings" as this fits in well with the context. (NB: Boas suggests "rings" which seems unlikely to me.);
21. Made two miscellaneous changes:
  - Act 1, Prologue, Line 5. "It's" – the word "It" is unnecessary – doubling the subject of the sentence which is "The earth. However the verb "s" is necessary, so I replaced "It's" with "Is".
  - Act 1, Scene 6, Line 86: "fized" – this refers to a pole in relation to stars and constancy, therefore I have changed it to "fixed"; and
22. Whilst annotating the play, I have, where possible, included the alternative Greek or Roman name in brackets after the names of Roman and Greek deities on their first appearance in the text.