

Antony and Cleopatra abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 6

History

Situation: As we say, Sextus Pompeius, known here as Pompey, was a son of Pompey the Great. Pompey the Great was the Roman leader who preceded Julius Caesar. Pompey hosts a meeting on his galley with Rome's triumvirate; the triumvirate being Octavius Caesar, Antony and Lepidus. The event was billed as a peace conference.

Pompey to the Triumvirate

To you all three, the agents for the gods
In this world, know avengers are at odds.
My father, having a son and friends, who,
There at Philippi, where the good Brutus
Was ghosted, saw Julius Caesar, and you
Laboring for him. What moved pale Cassius
To conspire? And what made the all-honored,
Honest, Roman Brutus, along with armed
Wishers for freedom drench the Capitol
To replace a man with a man? That's why
At my navy the mad ocean doth roll,
Angered by the burden, with which mean I
Scourge th' base ingratitude your Caesar,
Antony, and Rome cast on my father.

LEPIDUS: Be pleased to tell us-----for this if from the present----how you take the offers we have sent you.

POMPEY: You have made me offer of Sicily, Sardinia; and I must rid all the sea of pirates; then to send measures of wheat to Rome.

ALL: That's our offer.

POMPEY: Know then I came before you here a man prepared to take this offer. But Mark Antony, you must know when Caesar and your brother were at blows, your mother came to Sicily and did find her welcome friendly.

ANTONY: I have heard it, Pompey, and am well studied for a liberal thanks, which I do owe you.

POMPEY: Let me have your hand.