

## Julius Caesar abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 2.1

### Persuasion

**Situation:** Delivering his eulogy, Antony gets caught up in the emotion of the moment. He pauses to regain his composure, and as a result adds to the drama.

THIRD PLEBEIAN: There's not a nobler man in Rome than Antony.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Now mark him. He begins again to speak.

#### Antony to Plebeians, No. 2

If I were disposed to stir at this stage  
Your hearts and minds to mutiny and rage,  
I should do Brutus and just Cassius wrong,  
Both honorable men, as you all know.  
With the seal intact, I have found this long  
Parchment. 'Tis his will, which I dare not show,  
But that the commons hear, they'd beg a hair  
Of him as a legacy unto their  
Issue. Being men, 'tis best you not hear  
Caesar's will. Gentle friends, 'tis best I bar  
You from it; that you know not how Caesar  
Loved you. 'Tis good you know not that you are  
His heirs; better to know not what's here writ,  
For if you should, O, what would come of it?

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Read the will! We'll hear it, Antony.

ANTONY: I have o'ershot myself to tell you of it. I fear I wrong the honorable men whose daggers have stabbed Caesar. I do fear it.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: They were traitors. Honorable men?