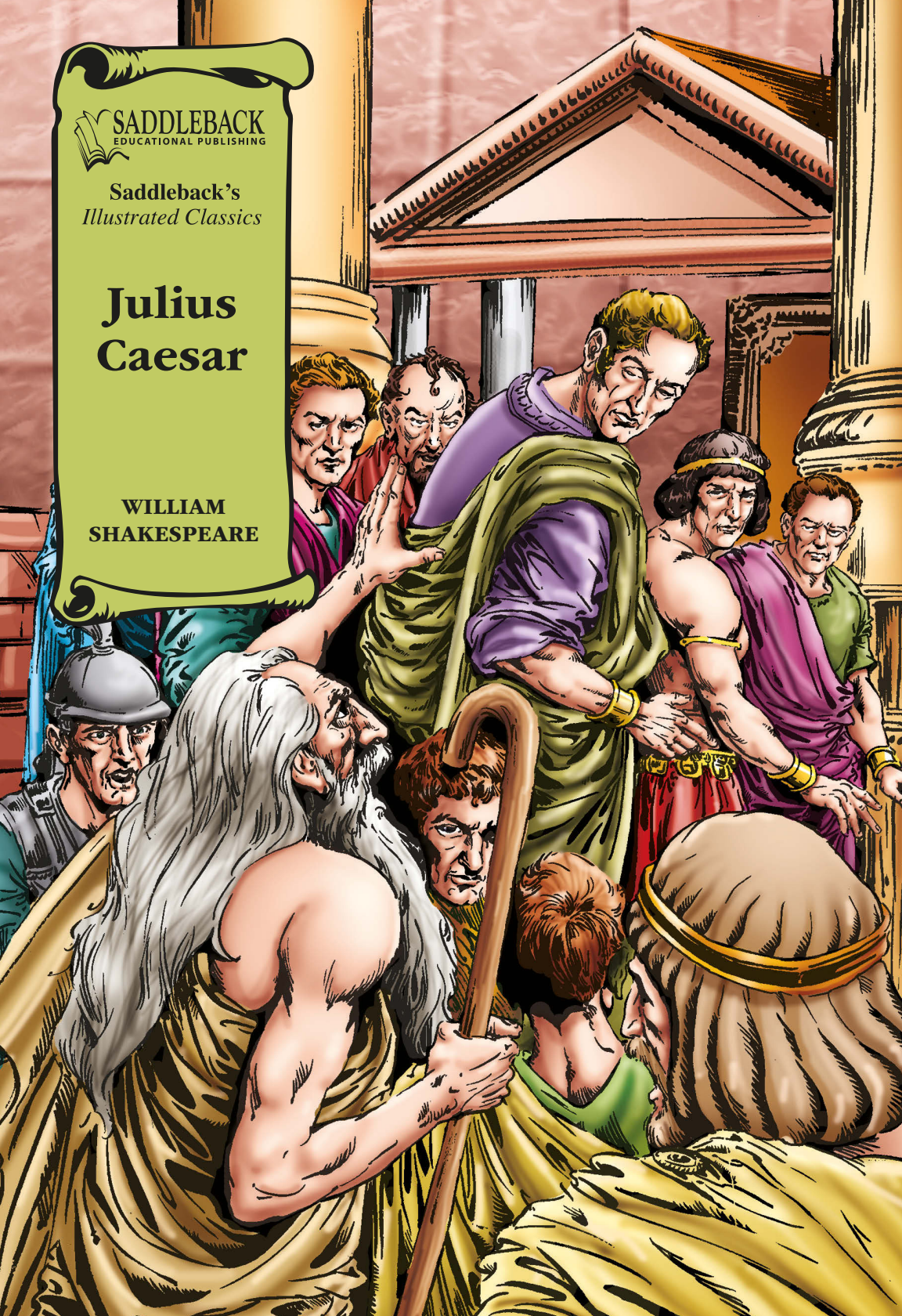


 **SADDLEBACK**
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Julius Caesar

WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE



William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar



BRUTUS

MARK
ANTONY

JULIUS CAESAR

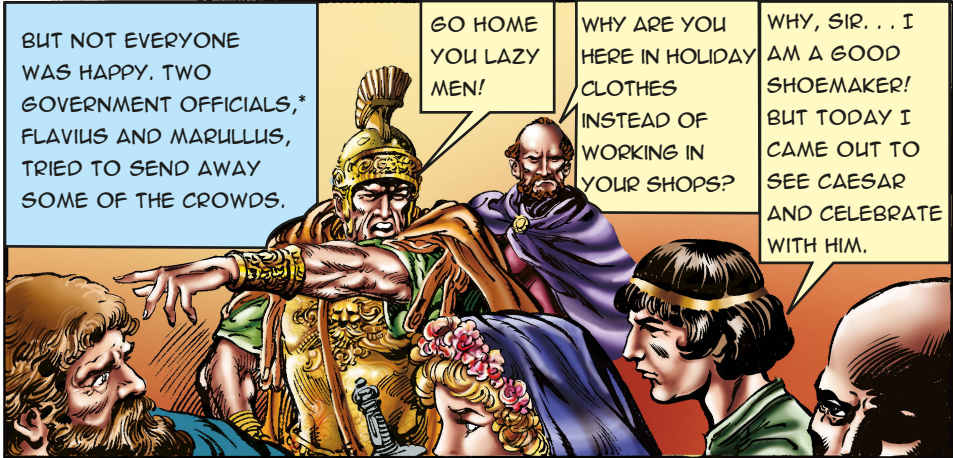
CASSIUS

CALPURNIA

CASCA

IT WAS A HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF ROME. CROWDS OF PEOPLE CHEERED THE RETURN OF JULIUS CAESAR WHO HAD WON A BATTLE IN SPAIN.



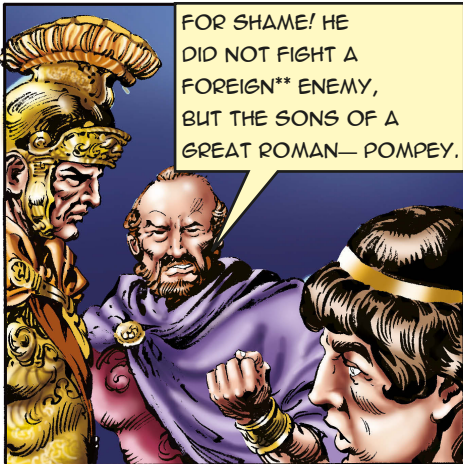


BUT NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY. TWO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,* FLAVIUS AND MARULLUS, TRIED TO SEND AWAY SOME OF THE CROWDS.

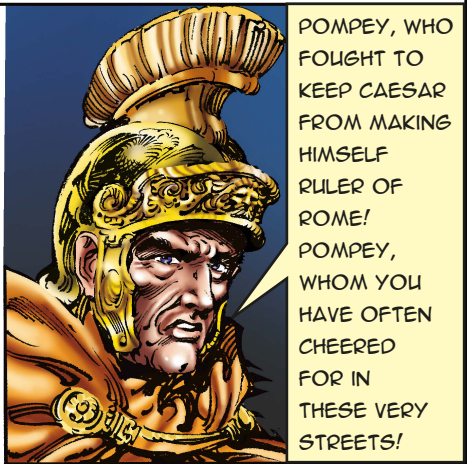
GO HOME YOU LAZY MEN!

WHY ARE YOU HERE IN HOLIDAY CLOTHES INSTEAD OF WORKING IN YOUR SHOPS?

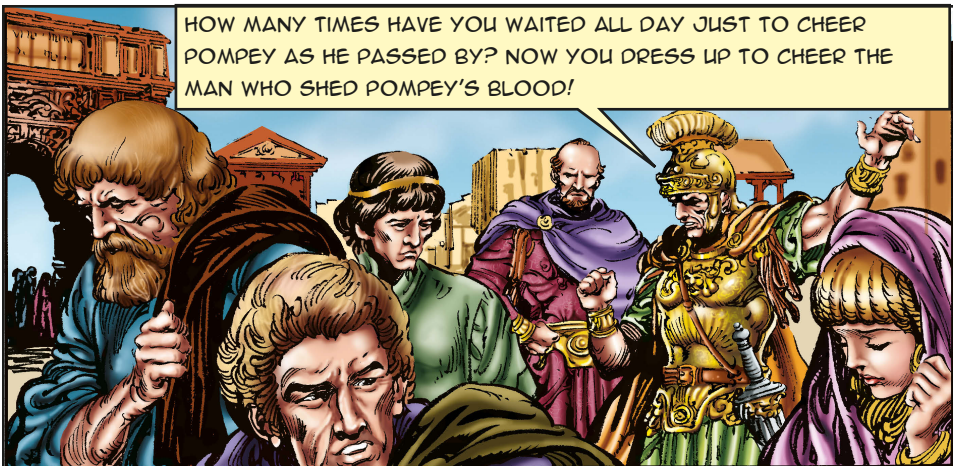
WHY, SIR. . . I AM A GOOD SHOEMAKER! BUT TODAY I CAME OUT TO SEE CAESAR AND CELEBRATE WITH HIM.



FOR SHAME! HE DID NOT FIGHT A FOREIGN** ENEMY, BUT THE SONS OF A GREAT ROMAN— POMPEY.



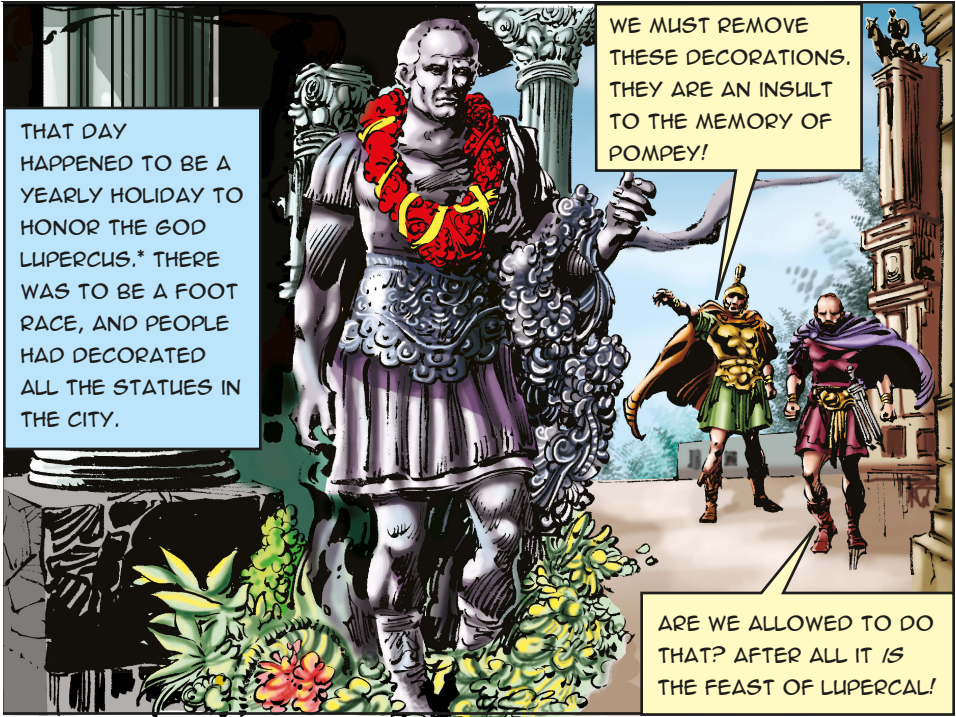
POMPEY, WHO FOUGHT TO KEEP CAESAR FROM MAKING HIMSELF RULER OF ROME! POMPEY, WHOM YOU HAVE OFTEN CHEERED FOR IN THESE VERY STREETS!



HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU WAITED ALL DAY JUST TO CHEER POMPEY AS HE PASSED BY? NOW YOU DRESS UP TO CHEER THE MAN WHO SHED POMPEY'S BLOOD!

* those whose jobs involve the running of a city, state, or country

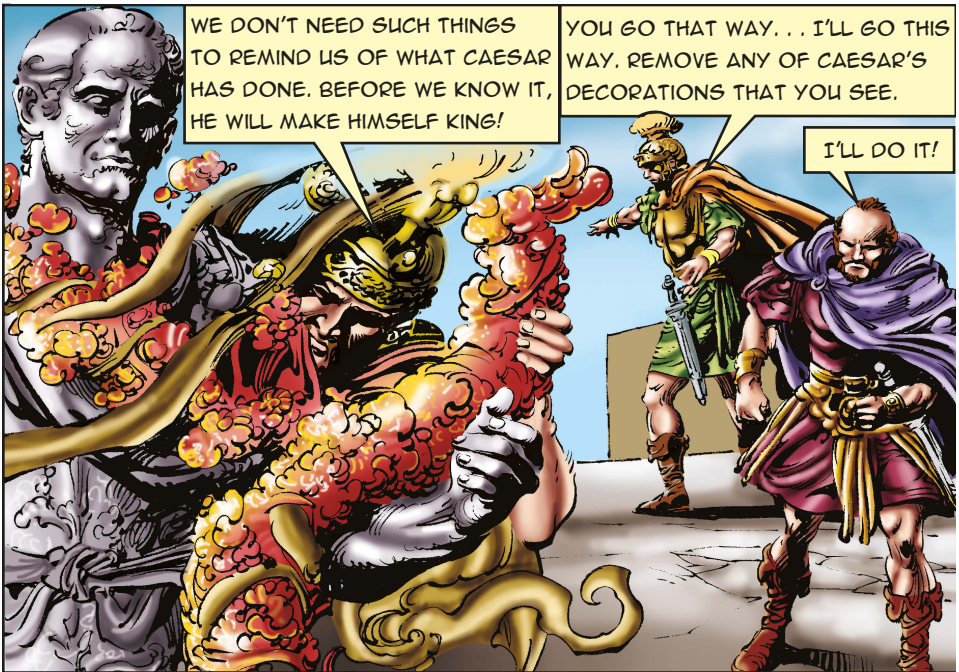
** from another country



THAT DAY HAPPENED TO BE A YEARLY HOLIDAY TO HONOR THE GOD LUPERCUS.* THERE WAS TO BE A FOOT RACE, AND PEOPLE HAD DECORATED ALL THE STATUES IN THE CITY.

WE MUST REMOVE THESE DECORATIONS. THEY ARE AN INSULT TO THE MEMORY OF POMPEY!

ARE WE ALLOWED TO DO THAT? AFTER ALL IT IS THE FEAST OF LUPERCAL!



WE DON'T NEED SUCH THINGS TO REMIND US OF WHAT CAESAR HAS DONE. BEFORE WE KNOW IT, HE WILL MAKE HIMSELF KING!

YOU GO THAT WAY. . . I'LL GO THIS WAY. REMOVE ANY OF CAESAR'S DECORATIONS THAT YOU SEE.

I'LL DO IT!

* a god who would bless the fields with good crops



MEANWHILE, NEAR THE SPOT WHERE THE YOUNG ROMAN MEN WOULD RACE, CAESAR SPOKE TO HIS WIFE, CALPURNIA.

THEN HE SPOKE TO MARK ANTONY.

STAND RIGHT IN MARK ANTONY'S WAY WHEN HE RUNS.

I WILL!

BE SURE TO TOUCH CALPURNIA AS YOU RUN. THEY SAY THIS WILL GRANT A WOMAN MANY CHILDREN.

I'LL REMEMBER!

SUDDENLY SOMEONE CALLED OUT FROM THE CROWD.

CAESAR!

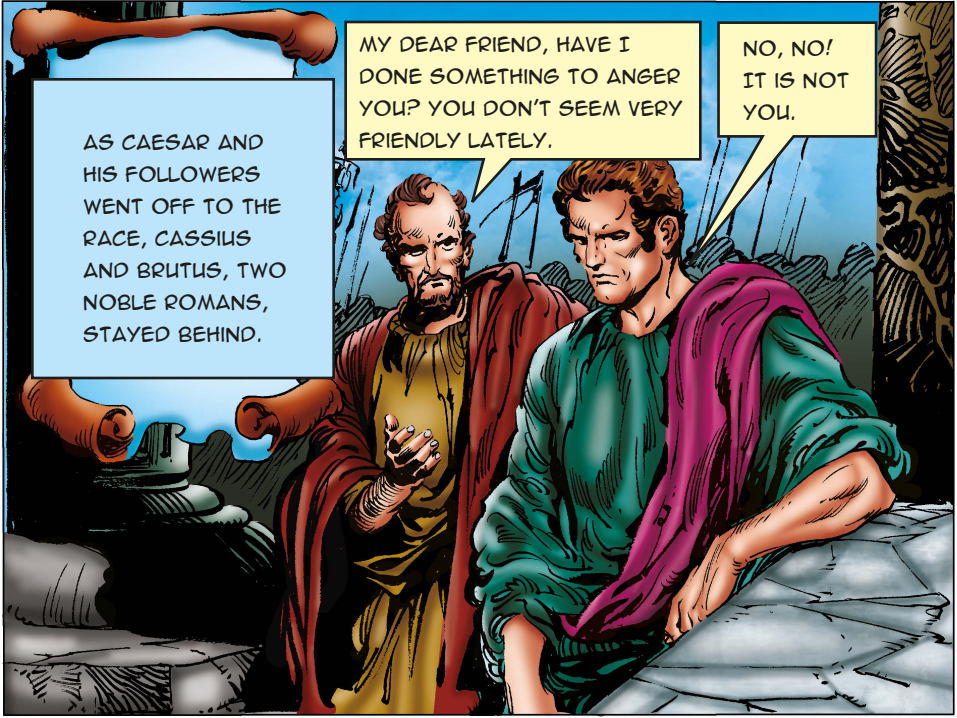
WHO CALLS CAESAR? SPEAK! I AM LISTENING!

CAESAR! BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!*

* The Roman month was divided into the kalends, the ides, and the nones; in March the ides fell on the 15th.



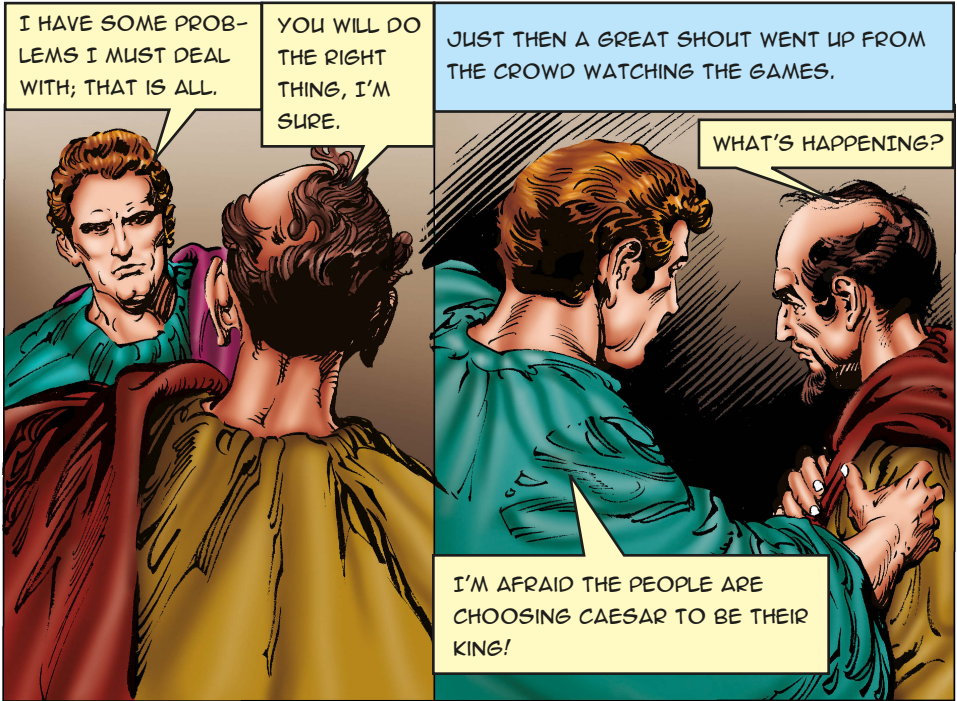
* someone who predicts the future from signs and omens



AS CAESAR AND HIS FOLLOWERS WENT OFF TO THE RACE, CASSIUS AND BRUTUS, TWO NOBLE ROMANS, STAYED BEHIND.

MY DEAR FRIEND, HAVE I DONE SOMETHING TO ANGER YOU? YOU DON'T SEEM VERY FRIENDLY LATELY.

NO, NO! IT IS NOT YOU.



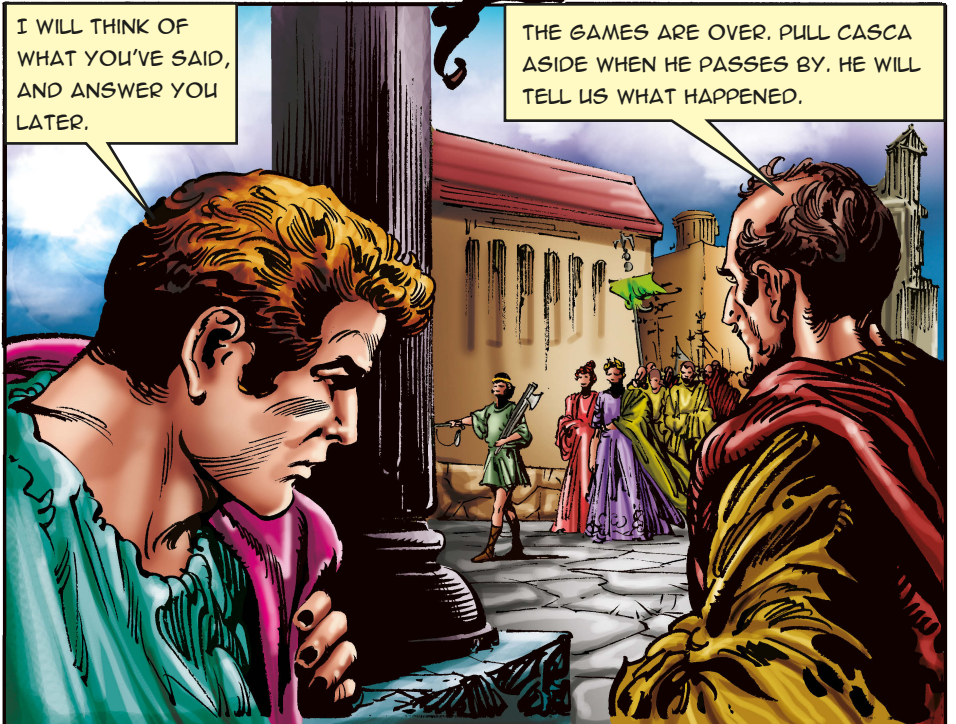
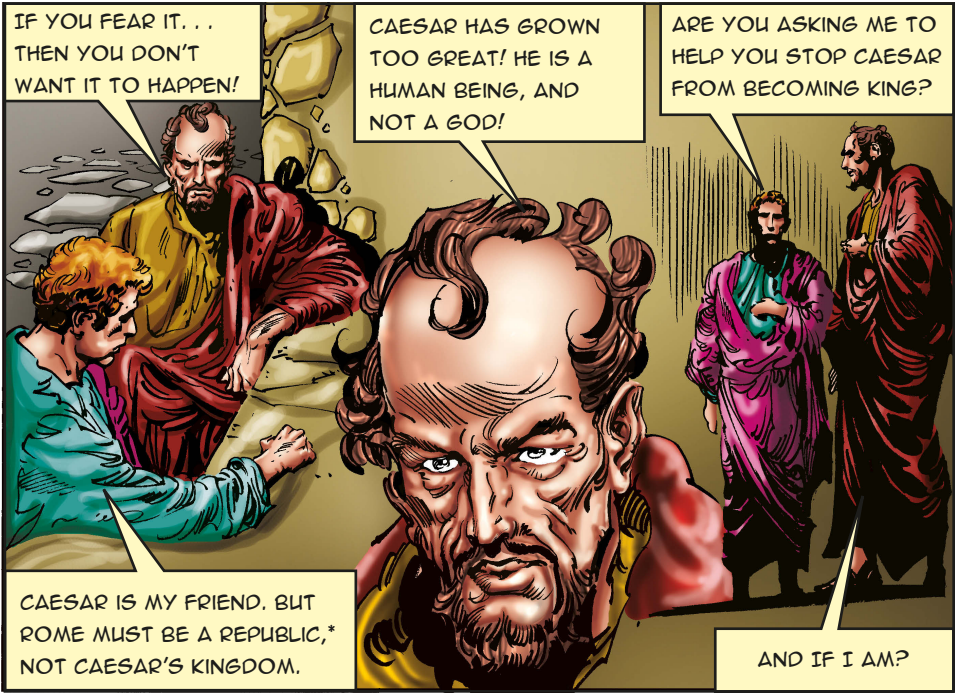
I HAVE SOME PROBLEMS I MUST DEAL WITH; THAT IS ALL.

YOU WILL DO THE RIGHT THING, I'M SURE.

JUST THEN A GREAT SHOUT WENT UP FROM THE CROWD WATCHING THE GAMES.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I'M AFRAID THE PEOPLE ARE CHOOSING CAESAR TO BE THEIR KING!



* a government ruled by the people

MEANWHILE, CAESAR AND HIS FOLLOWERS ARRIVED AT THE PLACE WHERE BRUTUS AND CASSIUS WERE TALKING.

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT CASSIUS.

DON'T FEAR HIM, CAESAR. HE'S NOT DANGEROUS.



AS CAESAR LEFT, CASCA CAME BY IN THE CROWD.

I DON'T FEAR HIM, FOR I AM CAESAR! BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?

YOU PULLED AT MY CLOAK. YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO ME?

YES, TELL US WHAT HAPPENED. WHY ALL THE CHEERING?



Julius Caesar

A triumphant Caesar enters Rome after defeating the sons of his old enemy, Pompey. Jealousy and fear over Caesar's reforms reveal a brewing conspiracy to assassinate him. As the plot thickens, Caesar's wife is plagued by terrible nightmares and begs him not to go to the Capitol. But Caesar shrugs off her fears and is accompanied to the Senate by the conspirators thus sealing his fate. Caesar's loyal friends rally to avenge his death and preserve his legacy.



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ISBN: 978-1-59905-145-1



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