

FORUM ROMANUM: SHOW #5

Caesar Caesus!

XV Martii, XLIV A.C.

(quinto decimo Martii, quadragesimo quarto ante Christum)

id. Mart. DCCX A.V.C.

(idibus Martiis, septingentesimo decimo ab urbe condita)

I. Salutatio

Favonius: Salvete, omnes! Mihi nomen est Marcus Favonius et hic est Forum Romanum! Quid novi est hodie? Brevi tempore videbimus. At primum, Quaestio Hodierna proposita sit!

Quaestio Hodierna

Lector: Quaestio hodierna est de rebus gestis Iulii Caesaris: Quae verba tria inquit Caesar

Caesar Murdered!

March 15, 44 B.C.

(the 15th of March, the 44th year before Christ)

(the ides of March, the 710th year after the founding of Rome)

I. Greeting

Favonius: Hello, everyone! My name is Marcus Favonius and this is Forum Romanum! What's new today? In a short time, we'll see. But first, here's the Question of the Day!

Question of the Day

Reader: The Question of the Day is about the deeds of Julius Caesar: What three words did

postquam facillime Pharnacem in Asia superavit?
Responsum dabitur ad finem Fori Romani.

II. Quid novi?

Favonius: Et nunc videamus quid novi sit. Hos nuntios modo recepimus. *Caesar caesus!* Gaius Iulius Caesar, Dictator et Pontifex Maximus, caesus est hodie in senatu. Ad singulis de rebus agendum, hic est Iulia Pauli.

Iulia: Gratias, Favoni. Ut nunc res apparent, Caesar interfectus est a multis e senatoribus. Hi coniurati ducti sunt a Gaio Cassio Longino et, ut credimus, a Marco Iunio Bruto! Unus e spectatoribus rem sic narrat: Caesar primo sicut leo pugnavit, sed mox, circumclusus tot sicis, intellexit nullam spem sibi salutis esse. Quam ob rem, toga sibi circum collecta, Caesar cecidit ad pedes statuae Pompeii Magni, qui non multis annis ante superatus est a Gaio Caesare ipso!

Caesar say after he easily defeated Pharnaces in Asia? The answer will be given at the end of Forum Romanum.

II. What's new?

Favonius: And now let's see what's new. We just received this news. Caesar has been murdered! Gaius Julius Caesar, Dictator and High Priest, was murdered today in the senate. To deal with everything, here is Julia, wife of Paulus

Iulia: Thanks, Favonius. As things now appear, Caesar was killed by many senators. These conspirators were led by Gaius Cassius Longinus and, as we believe, by Marcus Junius Brutus! One of the witnesses describes the incident in this way: At first, Caesar fought like a lion, but soon, encircled by so many daggers, he knew that there was no hope of survival for him. For that reason, after he gathered his toga around himself, Caesar fell at the feet of the statue of Pompey the

Favonius: Ad pedes statuae Pompeii Magni?
Quale omen triste! Quasi res in manu Nemesis
ipsius erat!

Iulia: Alii e spectatoribus haec amplius narrant:
Caesar se defendere vehementer temptavit dum
videret Marcum Brutum, sica in manu; quod
videns, Caesar inquit Graece "kai su
teknon?" Postquam Caesar multo in sanguine
collapsus est; Deinde coniurati foras cucurrerunt
clamantes, "Libertas! Libertas! Tyrannus est
mortuus!" Favoni?

III. Et alia (Editorial by Marc Antony)

Favonius: Eratne Caesar tyrannus? Nobiscum
est Marcus Antonius, vir militaris et amicissimus
Caesari.

Great, who was conquered not many years before
by Gaius Caesar himself!

Favonius: At the feet of the statue of Pompey
the Great? What an unhappy omen! It's as if the
matter were in the hand of Nemesis herself!

Iulia: Other witnesses explain these things
further: Caesar tried vigorously to defend himself
until he saw Marcus Brutus, dagger in hand;
seeing this, Caesar said in Greek "And you, my
son?" Afterward Caesar collapsed in a great a
deal of blood; Then the conspirators ran outside
shouting, "Freedom! Freedom! The tyrant is
dead!" Favonius?

III. And other things (Editorial by Marc Antony)

Favonius: Was Caesar a tyrant? With us is Marc
Antony, a soldier and very good friend of Caesar.

Antonius: Amici, Romani, Cives, date mihi aures! Gaius Iulius Caesar mortuus est. Nonnulli e senatoribus censent Caesarem iure caesum esse; nam Caesare mortuo Roma tandem est liberta tyrannide. At re vera, eratne Caesar tyrannus? Nobilissimus Marcus Brutus sic censuit! Sine dubio erat Caesar superbus ut dignum est, nam tantis factis mirandis perfunctus est! Quis nostrum non memoria tenet Bellum Gallicum quo Caesar gloriam magnam ac divitias maximas ad Rem Publicam Romanam reportavit!? Quis non audivit de Rubicone flumine et "alea iacta est"!? Quis non meminit proelium in Asia contra Pharnacem quod tam celeriter confectum est ut Caesar nuntiaret "Veni, Vidi, Vici!"? Sed nobilissimus Brutus dicit Caesarem voluisse regnum. Caesar rex? Nonne ego ipse, Marcus Antonius, Lupercalibus proximis, ter volebat diadema Caesari imponere? Nonne Caesar negavit!? Certe erat Caesar superbus, sed ut mihi videtur superbia non tyrannum facit.

Antonius: Friends, Romans, Citizens, give me your ears! Gaius Julius Caesar is dead. Some senators think that Caesar was murdered justly; for with Caesar dead, Rome is finally free from tyranny. But really, was Caesar a tyrant? Most noble Marcus Brutus thought so! Without a doubt Caesar was proud, as is fitting, for he performed such amazing feats. Which of us does not remember the Gallic War where Caesar brought back great glory and very great riches to the Republic!? Who has not heard about the Rubicon river and "the die has been cast"!? Who does not remember the battle in Asia against Pharnaces, which was finished so quickly that Caesar announced "I came, I saw, I conquered"? But most noble Brutus says that Caesar wanted to be king. Caesar, a king? Wasn't it I myself, Marc Antony who, on the previous Lupercal, wanted to place the crown on Caesar three times? Didn't Caesar refuse!? Certainly Caesar was proud, but as it seems to me, pride does not make a tyrant.

Favonius: Bene dictum, Marce Antoni.
Dicendum est: sententia Marci Antoni non
necessarie est sententia Fori Romani.

IV. Tempestas Hodierna

Favonius: Tempus est audire de tempestate.
Quam ob rem, hic est Aulus Serenus!

Serenus: Gratias tibi ago, Favoni. Videamus
quaenam sit tempestas hodie, Idibus
Martiis. Circum Romam, urbem in qua noster
Caesar natus est, tempestas horrenda fuit,
hesterno hodiernoque die. Ventosum
tenebricosumque fuit atque fulgores et tonitrua
frequentia! Fortasse Di Immortales magnopere
irati sunt quod magnus Caesar tam inhumane
caesus est! Auspicia autem sunt peiora ad
tempestatem crastinam. Nunc videamus quaenam
sit tempestas circum Mare Nostrum. In Gallia,
ubi Caesar tot victorias gloriosas cepit, tempestas
subfrigida est. In Britannia, insula remota in
quam Caesar bis bellum intulit, pluit, ut

Favonius: Well said, Marc Antony. It needs to
be said: The opinion of Marc Antony is not
necessarily the opinion of Forum Romanum.

IV. Today's Weather

Favonius: It's time to hear about the weather.
For this reason, here is Aulus Serenus!

Serenus: Thanks, Favonius. Let's see what sort
of weather there is today, on the Ides of March.
Around Rome, the city in which our Caesar was
born, the weather has been horrible, yesterday
and today. It has been windy and gloomy and
there have been frequent flashes of lightning and
peals of thunder! Perhaps the immortal gods are
especially angry because great Caesar was
murdered so inhumanely! Moreover, the forecast
is worse for tomorrow's weather. Now let's see
what the weather is like about the Mediterranean.
In Gaul, where Caesar achieved so many glorious
victories, the weather is rather cold. In Britain, a
remote island against which Caesar twice

semper. Et Caesar bis bellum in Germaniam tulit, ubi hodie ningit paulum. In Graecia, ubi Caesar Pompeium Magnum superavit, caelum est nubilum, ut semper fit his temporibus anni. In Asia, ubi Caesar, Pharnace victo, inquit, "Veni, vidi, vici!" dies est percaldus, ut saepe. Percaldum est quoque in Aegypto, ubi Caesar et Cleopatra se dederunt ad delicias faciendas. Iam satis est. Aulus Serenus sum atque spero caela sint vobis valde serena!

V. Responsum Quaestioni

Favonius: Gratias summas, Serene. Et nunc, ecce responsum quaestioni hodiernae.

Lector: Quaestio hodierna erat ut sequitur: Quae verba tria inquit Caesar postquam facillime Pharnacem in Asia superavit? Responsum est sic: Veni, vidi, vici.

brought war, it is raining, as always. And Caesar twice brought war against Germany, where today it is snowing a little. In Greece, where Caesar overcame Pompey the Great, the sky is cloudy, as always happens at this time of year. In Asia Minor, where Caesar, after he conquered Pharnaces, said "I came, I saw, I conquered!", the day is really hot, as always. It's also very hot in Egypt, where Caesar and Cleopatra gave themselves to the pursuit of pleasure. Now that's enough. I'm Aulus Serenus and I hope you're your skies may always be clear!

V. Answer to the Question

Favonius: Thanks a lot, Serenus. And now, here's the answer to the question of the day.

Reader: The Question of the Day was as follows: What three words did Caesar say after he easily defeated Pharnaces in Asia? The answer is thus: I came, I saw, I conquered.

VI. Dictum Hodiernum

Favonius: Nunc tempus est videre nostrum
Dictum Hodiernum!

Lector: Hodie sunt nobis duo dicta Iulii
Caesaris: Alea iacta est! Veni, vidi, vici!

VII. Valedictio

Favonius: Verba notanda. Ut repetamus nuntios
principales: Hodie, Idibus Martiis, Gaius Iulius
Caesar a compluribus senatoribus caesus est in
senatu. Atque in numero coniuratorum erat
Marcus Brutus. Iterum dico: Gaius Iulius Caesar
mortuus est! Totum est ad hanc editionem Fori
Romani. Gratias summas agimus et di vobis
faveant. Valet omnes!

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VI. Today's Saying

Favonius: Now it's time to see our Saying of
Day!

Lector: Today we have two sayings of Julius
Caesar: The die has been cast! I came, I saw, I
conquered!

VII. Farewell

Favonius: Words to remember. To repeat our
main news: Today, on the Ides of March, Gaius
Julius Caesar was murdered in the senate by
many senators. And in the number of the
conspirators was Marcus Brutus. Again I say:
Gaius Julius Caesar is dead. That's all for this
edition of Forum Romanum. Thank you very
much and may the gods be ever in your favor.
Good bye, everyone!

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