

FORUM ROMANUM: SHOW #9

NOSTER TULLUS*

VII December, XLIII A.C.

(septimo [die] Decembris, quadragesimo tertio [anno] ante Christum)

a. d. vii id. Dec. DCCXI A.V.C.

(ante diem septimum idus Decembres septingentesimo undecimo [anno] ab urbe condita)

I. Salutatio

Favonius: Salvete, omnes! Mihi nomen est Marcus Favonius et hoc est Forum Romanum! Quid novi est hodie? Brevi tempore videbimus. At prius, ecce Quaestio Hodierna!

II. Quaestio Hodierna

Lector: Quaestio hodierna est haec: Quem

OUR 'TULLY'

December 7, 43 BC

(the 7th day before the ides of December, the 711th 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? We'll see in a little bit. But first, here's the question of the day!

II. Question of the Day

Lector: This is the question of the day: Whom

Cicero amavit plus quam vitam suam?
Responsum dabitur ad finem Fori Romani.

III. Quid novi?

Favonius: Et nunc videamus quid novi sit. Hos nuntios modo recepimus: Marcus Cicero mortuus est! Marcus Tullius Cicero, orator clarissimus, consularis et pater patriae, hodie trucidatus est prope Formianum. Marcus Antonius, triumvir rei publicae constituendae, oratorem proscripsit ob orationes "Philippicas" quas Cicero in Foro habuit. Ut plura audiamus, eamus cito ad Iuliam Pauli quae est apud ipsissimum sceleris locum.

IV. Et alia (interrogatio cum Terentia, uxore Ciceronis)

Iulia: Adsum apud Formianum, Favoni. Ut narrant servi qui rem videbant, Cicero primo temptavit fugere, sed videns milites Antoni advenientes, lecticam stitit et obtulit gladio

did Cicero love more than life itself? The answer will be given at the end of Forum Romanum.

III. Quid novi?

Favonius: And now let's see what's new. We just received this news: Marcus Cicero is dead! Marcus Tullius Cicero, a very famous lawyer, former Consul and Father of our country, was cut down today near his villa at Formiae. Marc Antony, a Triumvir in charge of establishing the republic, marked the orator for death because of the speeches called "The Philippics" which Cicero held in the Forum. To hear more, let's go quickly to Julia Pauli at the very site of the crime.

IV. And other things... (Interview with Terentia, the wife of Cicero)

Iulia: I'm here at the villa of Formiae, Favonius. As the servants who saw the deed tell it, Cicero at first tried to flee, but seeing the soldiers of Antonius approaching, he stopped his litter and

nobile caput, quod milites statim praeciderunt. At vero satis de morte Ciceronis, loquamur de eius vita. Mecum est Terentia, prima uxor Marci Ciceronis. Salve, Terentia.

Terentia: Salve, Iulia.

Iulia: Pergratum est te nobiscum adesse hoc tempore tam tristi.

Terentia: Nihil est.

Iulia: Res gestae Ciceronis sunt bene notae omnibus. Tu, Terentia, eras uxor Ciceronis materque liberorum eius. Qualis homo erat Marcus Tullius Cicero?

Terentia: Amans patriae atque negotio studiosus. Credibile non est quantum laboris in orationes noster Marcus applicabat!

Iulia: Atque quanta eloquentia est in his

nobly offered his head to the sword, which the soldiers immediately cut off. But enough about the death of Cicero, let's speak about his life. With me is Terentia, the first wife of Marcus Cicero. Hello, Terentia.

Terentia: Hello, Julia

Iulia: I'm glad that you could be here with us at this very sad time.

Terentia: It's nothing.

Iulia: The deeds of Cicero are well known to all. You, Terentia, were the wife of Cicero and the mother of his children. What sort of man was Marcus Tullius Cicero?

Terentia: A patriot and dedicated to his work. It is unbelievable how much work our Marcus put into his orations!

Iulia: And how eloquent he is in these speeches,

orationibus, inter quas sunt Pro Archia et Pro Caelio et orationes In Catilinam!

Terentia: At vero, ut identidem ego dicebam fore, illud magnum ingenium ad artem dicendi Ciceroni magnum malum tandem tulit. Nam ob orationes Philippicas, illa eloquentia Ciceronis nunc exstincta est.

Iulia: Noli haec dicere, Terentia! Nonne hae orationes scriptae sunt in tabulis? Eloquentia Ciceronis ergo numquam morietur.

Terentia: Fortasse.

Iulia: Quid de aliis rebus. Quo modo Cicero otium consumere solebat?

Terentia: Scribendo. Semper scribendo, aut libellos de officiis amicitiaque aut epistulas. Plurimas epistulas. Re vera, nil fecit Cicero domi nisi scribere! Omnia alia mihi agenda erant!

among which are In Defense of Archias and In Defense of Caelius and the speeches Against Catiline!

Terentia: But, as I said would happen again and again, that great genius at the art of speaking finally brought great evil to Cicero. For, on account of the Philippic speeches, that eloquence of Cicero has been extinguished.

Iulia: Don't say these things, Terentia! Weren't these speeches written on tablets? Therefore the eloquence of Cicero will never die.

Terentia: Perhaps.

Iulia: What about other things. How was Cicero accustomed to spend his free time?

Terentia: In writing. Always in writing, either pamphlets about duties and friendship or letters. Many, many letters. In truth, Cicero did nothing at home except write! I had to do everything else!

Iulia: Certissime! Scribere igitur Cicero maxime amavit, nonne?

Terentia: Erat una quam Cicero multo magis amavit.

Iulia: Quem? Te?

Terentia: Mene? Haud! Loquor de Tullia, filia nostra. Eam Cicero amavit plus quam vitam suam!

Iulia: Itane dicis? Ubi est haec Tullia nunc?

Terentia: Nunc? Cum patre.

Iulia: Non satis intellego.

Terentia: Tullia mortua est paucis annis ante.

Iulia: Pessime! Me maxime paenitet!

Iulia: Undoubtedly! So Cicero loved to write more than anything, didn't he?

Terentia: There was one thing which Cicero loved much more.

Iulia: Whom? You?

Terentia: Me? Hardly! I'm talking about Tullia, our daughter. Cicero loved her more than his own life!

Iulia: You say so? Where is this Tullia now?

Terentia: Now? With her father.

Iulia: I don't follow.

Terentia: Tullia died a few years ago.

Iulia: Awful! I'm so sorry!

Terentia: Mitte ea. At vero, gravissime tulit Marcus mortem Tulliolae suae!

Iulia: Quam tristissimas res narras, Terentia. Utinam esset nobis plus temporis ad his de rebus loquendum. At verum non est. Gratias tibi ago, Terentia. Cura ut valeas. Totum est, Favoni. Rursus ad te.

V. Et Alia: (excerptum ab oratione M. Ciceronis)

Favonius: Ad vitam Marci Ciceronis commemorandam, haec sunt excerpta ab una de orationibus, habita ad Quirites.

(Lector excerptum ab oratione Ciceronis *De Lege Manilia* legit)

"Quamquam mihi semper frequens conspectus vester multo iucundissimus, hic autem locus ad agendum amplissimus, ad dicendum ornatissimus est visus, Quirites, tamen hoc aditu laudis, qui semper optimo cuique maxime patuit, non mea

Terentia: Forget it. But Marcus bore the death of his Tullia very heavily!

Iulia: You're telling me such sad things, Terentia. I wish there were more time to speak about these things. But there isn't. I thank you, Terentia. Good bye. That's all, Favonius. Back to you.

V. And other things (an excerpt from an oration of Marcus Cicero)

Favonius: To commemorate the life of Marcus Cicero, these things were taken from one of his speeches, delivered to the Roman people.

(Lector reads excerpt from Cicero's *De Lege Manilia*)

Although the regular sight of you has always been much more pleasant to me, and this place has seemed most appropriate for action, best furnished for speaking, Quirites, nevertheless

me voluntas adhuc, sed vitae meae rationes ab ineunte aetate susceptae prohibuerunt. Nam cum antea per aetatem nondum huius auctoritatem loci attingere auderem statueremque nihil huc nisi perfectum ingenio, elaboratum industria adferri oportere, omne meum tempus amicorum temporibus transmittendum putavi. Ita neque hic locus vacuus umquam fuit ab iis, qui vestram causam defenderent, et meus labor in privatorum periculis caste integreque versatus ex vestro iudicio fructum est amplissimum consecutus."

VI. 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. Totam per Italiam,

from this approach to praise, which has always especially lain open for each of the best men, up to this point not my free will, but the plans of my life taken up from youth have prohibited me. For when beforehand through my youth I had not dared to attain to the authority of this place and I decided that nothing except perfection of my talent, hard work with industry ought to be brought here, I thought that all of my time should be given to the needs of my friends. Yes, and this place has never been absent from those who have defended your cause, and my work having been tested purely and completely in the dangers of private cases has obtained the greatest fruit in your judgment.

VI. Today's Weather

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

Serenus: Thank you, Favonius. Let's see what the weather is like today. Through all of Italy,

Jupiter pluit, quasi Marco Cicerone mortuo, caelestes lacrimant. Auspicia autem sunt meliora ad tempestatem crastinam. In Graecia, ubi Cicero erat ad philosophiae studendum, (atque ubi in exilio erat) caelum adhuc nubilosum est. Etiam est nubilosum totum per Mare Aegaeum, praesertim hic ubi est Rhodus, insula in qua Cicero rhetoricae studuit. Melius si numquam noster Tullius rhetoricae studuisset; fortasse caput et manus eius non in Foro nunc penderet! Ut Cicero ipse inquit, "O tempora, O mores!" At tamen, iam satis est. Aulus Serenus sum atque spero caela sint vobis valde serena!

VII. Responsum Quaestioni

Favonius: Multas gratias, Serene. Et nunc, ecce responsum quaestioni hodiernae.

Lector: Quaestio hodierna erat ut sequitur: Quem Cicero amavit plus quam vitam suam? Responsum est hoc: Tulliam, suam filiam.

Jupiter is raining, as if with Marcus Cicero dead, the heavens weep. But the forecast is better for tomorrow's weather. In Greece, where Cicero was for the study of philosophy, (and where he was in exile) the sky is still cloudy. It's also cloudy through the entire Aegean Sea, particularly here where Rhodes is, the island on which Cicero studied rhetoric. It would be better if our Tully had never studied rhetoric; perhaps his head and hand wouldn't be hanging in the forum now! As Cicero himself said, "O the times, O the morals!" Nevertheless, that's enough for now. I'm Aulus Serenus and I hope that your skies will be very clear!

VII. Answer to the Question

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

Lector: The question of the day was as follows: Whom did Cicero love more than his own life? This is the answer: his daughter, Tullia.

VIII. Dictum Hodiernum

Favonius: Nunc tempus est videre nostrum
Dictum Hodiernum!

Lector: Hoc est dictum hodiernum: O tempora,
O mores!

IX. Valedictio

Favonius: Verba notanda. Ut repetamus nuntios
principales: Marcus Tullius Cicero, orator et
consularis atque pater patriae mortuus est! Totum
est ad hanc editionem Fori Romani. Gratias
summas agimus et di vobis faveant. Valet
omnes!

N.B. 'Tullus' est forma breviata nominis oratoris
Romae notissimi cui nomen totum 'Marcus
Tullius Cicero' erat.

VIII. Saying of the Day

Favonius: Now it's time to see our saying of the
day!

Lector: This is the Saying of the Day: O the
times, O the morals!

IX. Farewell

Favonius: Words to remember. To review our
main story: Marcus Tullius Cicero, a lawyer and
former consul and father of our country, is dead!
That's all for this edition of Forum Romanum.
We thank you very much and may the gods favor
you. Good-bye, everyone!

Note Well: 'Tully' is a shortened form of the
family name of ancient Rome's most famous
orator, whose full name was 'Marcus Tullius
Cicero'.

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