

CORIOLANUS

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Edited by BARBARA A. MOWAT
and PAUL WERSTINE

Folger Shakespeare Library

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Contents

Front Matter

From the Director of the Folger Shakespeare
Library
Textual Introduction
Synopsis
Characters in the Play

ACT 1

Scene 1
Scene 2
Scene 3
Scene 4
Scene 5
Scene 6
Scene 7
Scene 8
Scene 9
Scene 10

ACT 2

Scene 1
Scene 2
Scene 3

ACT 3

Scene 1
Scene 2
Scene 3

ACT 4

Scene 1
Scene 2
Scene 3
Scene 4
Scene 5
Scene 6
Scene 7

Scene 1
Scene 2
Scene 3

ACT 5

Scene 4

Scene 5

Scene 6

From the Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library

It is hard to imagine a world without Shakespeare. Since their composition four hundred years ago, Shakespeare's plays and poems have traveled the globe, inviting those who see and read his works to make them their own.

Readers of the New Folger Editions are part of this ongoing process of "taking up Shakespeare," finding our own thoughts and feelings in language that strikes us as old or unusual and, for that very reason, new. We still struggle to keep up with a writer who could think a mile a minute, whose words paint pictures that shift like clouds. These expertly edited texts are presented to the public as a resource for study, artistic adaptation, and enjoyment. By making the classic texts of the New Folger Editions available in electronic form as Folger Digital Texts, we place a trusted resource in the hands of anyone who wants them.

The New Folger Editions of Shakespeare's plays, which are the basis for the texts realized here in digital form, are special because of their origin. The Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC, is the single greatest documentary source of Shakespeare's works. An unparalleled collection of early modern books, manuscripts, and artwork connected to Shakespeare, the Folger's holdings have been consulted extensively in the preparation of these texts. The Editions also reflect the expertise gained through the regular performance of Shakespeare's works in the Folger's Elizabethan Theater.

I want to express my deep thanks to editors Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine for creating these indispensable editions of Shakespeare's works, which incorporate the best of textual scholarship with a richness of commentary that is both inspired and engaging. Readers who want to know more about Shakespeare and his plays can follow the paths these distinguished scholars have tread by visiting the Folger either in-person or online, where a range of physical and digital resources exists to supplement the material in these texts. I commend to you these words, and hope that they inspire.

Michael Witmore
Director, Folger Shakespeare Library

Textual Introduction

By Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine

Until now, with the release of the Folger Digital Texts, readers in search of a free online text of Shakespeare's plays had to be content primarily with using the Moby™ Text, which reproduces a late-nineteenth century version of the plays. What is the difference? Many ordinary readers assume that there is a single text for the plays: what Shakespeare wrote. But Shakespeare's plays were not published the way modern novels or plays are published today: as a single, authoritative text. In some cases, the plays have come down to us in multiple published versions, represented by various Quartos (Qq) and by the great collection put together by his colleagues in 1623, called the First Folio (F). There are, for example, three very different versions of *Hamlet*, two of *King Lear*, *Henry V*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and others. Editors choose which version to use as their base text, and then amend that text with words, lines or speech prefixes from the other versions that, in their judgment, make for a better or more accurate text.

Other editorial decisions involve choices about whether an unfamiliar word could be understood in light of other writings of the period or whether it should be changed; decisions about words that made it into Shakespeare's text by accident through four hundred years of printings and misprinting; and even decisions based on cultural preference and taste. When the Moby™ Text was created, for example, it was deemed "improper" and "indecent" for Miranda to chastise Caliban for having attempted to rape her. (See *The Tempest*, 1.2: "Abhorred slave,/Which any print of goodness wilt not take,/Being capable of all ill! I pitied thee..."). All Shakespeare editors at the time took the speech away from her and gave it to her father, Prospero.

The editors of the Moby™ Shakespeare produced their text long before scholars fully understood the proper grounds on which to make the thousands of decisions that Shakespeare editors face. The Folger Library Shakespeare Editions, on which the Folger Digital Texts depend, make this editorial process as nearly transparent as is possible, in contrast to older texts, like the Moby™, which hide editorial interventions. The reader of the Folger Shakespeare knows where the text has been altered because editorial interventions are signaled by square brackets (for example, from *Othello*: "[If she in chains of magic were not bound,]"), half-square brackets (for

example, from *Henry V*: “With [blood] and sword and fire to win your right,”), or angle brackets (for example, from *Hamlet*: “O farewell, honest <soldier.> Who hath relieved/you?”). At any point in the text, you can hover your cursor over a bracket for more information.

Because the Folger Digital Texts are edited in accord with twenty-first century knowledge about Shakespeare’s texts, the Folger here provides them to readers, scholars, teachers, actors, directors, and students, free of charge, confident of their quality as texts of the plays and pleased to be able to make this contribution to the study and enjoyment of Shakespeare.

Synopsis

As *Coriolanus* begins, two Roman patricians, Menenius and Martius, calm a revolt by the city's famished plebians. Martius, who despises the plebians, announces that their petition to be represented by tribunes has been granted. When Volscian invaders attack Roman territories, Martius helps lead the Roman forces, and almost single-handedly conquers the Volscian city of Corioles, winning the name "Coriolanus." The Volscian leader, Aufidius, swears revenge.

Victorious in battle, Coriolanus expects to be made a consul, but by custom he must ask for votes from the plebians. He does this so contemptuously that he is rejected as a consul. The tribunes later charge Coriolanus with treason and banish him from Rome. He seeks his former enemy, Aufidius.

Coriolanus and Aufidius join forces to conquer Rome. On the brink of success, Coriolanus is persuaded by his mother, Volumnia, to spare the city, though he knows it may cost him his life. Aufidius and his fellow conspirators plot Coriolanus's death. Coriolanus returns to Corioles, where he is assassinated. Rome honors Volumnia for saving the city.

Characters in the Play

Caius MARTIUS, later Caius Martius CORIOLANUS

VOLUMNIA, his mother

VIRGILIA, his wife

YOUNG MARTIUS, their son

VALERIA, friend to Volumnia and Virgilia

A GENTLEWOMAN, Volumnia's attendant

MENENIUS Agrippa, patrician

COMINIUS, patrician and general

Titus LARTIUS, patrician and military officer

SICINIUS Velutus, tribune

Junius BRUTUS, tribune

Roman SENATORS, PATRICIANS, NOBLES

Roman LIEUTENANT

Roman OFFICERS

Roman AEDILES

Roman HERALD

Roman SOLDIERS

Roman CITIZENS or PLEBEIANS

Roman MESSENGERS

A ROMAN defector, Nicanor

Tullus AUFIDIUS, general of the Volscians

Volscian CONSPIRATORS of his faction

Three of his SERVINGMEN

Volscian SENATORS, LORDS

Volscian LIEUTENANT

Volscian SOLDIERS

Two of the Volscian WATCH

Volscian PEOPLE

A VOLSCIAN spy, Adrian

CITIZEN of Antium

Roman Lords, Gentry, Captains, Lictors, Trumpeters, Drummers,
Musicians, Attendants, and Usher

ACT 1

Scene 1

Enter a company of mutinous Citizens with staves, clubs, and other weapons.

FTLN 0001 FIRST CITIZEN Before we proceed any further, hear me
FTLN 0002 speak.
FTLN 0003 ALL Speak, speak!
FTLN 0004 FIRST CITIZEN You are all resolved rather to die than to
FTLN 0005 famish? 5
FTLN 0006 ALL Resolved, resolved!
FTLN 0007 FIRST CITIZEN First, you know Caius Martius is chief
FTLN 0008 enemy to the people.
FTLN 0009 ALL We know 't, we know 't!
FTLN 0010 FIRST CITIZEN Let us kill him, and we'll have corn at 10
FTLN 0011 our own price. Is 't a verdict?
FTLN 0012 ALL No more talking on 't; let it be done. Away, away!
FTLN 0013 SECOND CITIZEN One word, good citizens.
FTLN 0014 FIRST CITIZEN We are accounted poor citizens, the patricians
FTLN 0015 good. What authority surfeits on would 15
FTLN 0016 relieve us. If they would yield us but the superfluity
FTLN 0017 while it were wholesome, we might guess they
FTLN 0018 relieved us humanely. But they think we are too
FTLN 0019 dear. The leanness that afflicts us, the object of our
FTLN 0020 misery, is as an inventory to particularize their 20
FTLN 0021 abundance; our sufferance is a gain to them. Let
FTLN 0022 us revenge this with our pikes ere we become

FTLN 0023 rakes; for the gods know I speak this in hunger for
 FTLN 0024 bread, not in thirst for revenge.

FTLN 0025 SECOND CITIZEN Would you proceed especially against 25
 FTLN 0026 Caius Martius?

FTLN 0027 ALL Against him first. He's a very dog to the
 FTLN 0028 commonalty.

FTLN 0029 SECOND CITIZEN Consider you what services he has
 FTLN 0030 done for his country? 30

FTLN 0031 FIRST CITIZEN Very well, and could be content to give
 FTLN 0032 him good report for 't, but that he pays himself
 FTLN 0033 with being proud.

FTLN 0034 [SECOND CITIZEN] Nay, but speak not maliciously.

FTLN 0035 FIRST CITIZEN I say unto you, what he hath done 35
 FTLN 0036 famously he did it to that end. Though soft-conscienced
 FTLN 0037 men can be content to say it was for
 FTLN 0038 his country, he did it to please his mother and to be
 FTLN 0039 partly proud, which he is, even to the altitude of
 FTLN 0040 his virtue. 40

FTLN 0041 SECOND CITIZEN What he cannot help in his nature you
 FTLN 0042 account a vice in him. You must in no way say he
 FTLN 0043 is covetous.

FTLN 0044 FIRST CITIZEN If I must not, I need not be barren of accusations.
 FTLN 0045 He hath faults, with surplus, to tire in 45
 FTLN 0046 repetition. (*Shouts within.*) What shouts are these?
 FTLN 0047 The other side o' th' city is risen. Why stay we prating
 FTLN 0048 here? To th' Capitol!

FTLN 0049 ALL Come, come!

Enter Menenius Agrippa.

FTLN 0050 FIRST CITIZEN Soft, who comes here? 50

FTLN 0051 SECOND CITIZEN Worthy Menenius Agrippa, one that
 FTLN 0052 hath always loved the people.

FTLN 0053 FIRST CITIZEN He's one honest enough. Would all the
 FTLN 0054 rest were so!

MENENIUS

FTLN 0055 What work 's, my countrymen, in hand? Where go 55
FTLN 0056 you

FTLN 0057 With bats and clubs? The matter? Speak, I pray you.

FTLN 0058 SECOND CITIZEN Our business is not unknown to th'
FTLN 0059 Senate. They have had inkling this fortnight what
FTLN 0060 we intend to do, which now we'll show 'em in 60
FTLN 0061 deeds. They say poor suitors have strong breaths;
FTLN 0062 they shall know we have strong arms too.

MENENIUS

FTLN 0063 Why, masters, my good friends, mine honest
FTLN 0064 neighbors,
FTLN 0065 Will you undo yourselves? 65

SECOND CITIZEN

FTLN 0066 We cannot, sir; we are undone already.

MENENIUS

FTLN 0067 I tell you, friends, most charitable care
FTLN 0068 Have the patricians of you. For your wants,
FTLN 0069 Your suffering in this dearth, you may as well
FTLN 0070 Strike at the heaven with your staves as lift them 70
FTLN 0071 Against the Roman state, whose course will on
FTLN 0072 The way it takes, cracking ten thousand curbs
FTLN 0073 Of more strong link asunder than can ever
FTLN 0074 Appear in your impediment. For the dearth,
FTLN 0075 The gods, not the patricians, make it, and 75
FTLN 0076 Your knees to them, not arms, must help. Alack,
FTLN 0077 You are transported by calamity
FTLN 0078 Thither where more attends you, and you slander
FTLN 0079 The helms o' th' state, who care for you like fathers,
FTLN 0080 When you curse them as enemies. 80

FTLN 0081 SECOND CITIZEN Care for us? True, indeed! They ne'er
FTLN 0082 cared for us yet. Suffer us to famish, and their
FTLN 0083 storehouses crammed with grain; make edicts for
FTLN 0084 usury to support usurers; repeal daily any wholesome
FTLN 0085 act established against the rich, and provide 85
FTLN 0086 more piercing statutes daily to chain up and restrain

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 0087 | the poor. If the wars eat us not up, they will; | |
| FTLN 0088 | and there's all the love they bear us. | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 0089 | Either you must confess yourselves wondrous | |
| FTLN 0090 | malicious | 90 |
| FTLN 0091 | Or be accused of folly. I shall tell you | |
| FTLN 0092 | A pretty tale. It may be you have heard it, | |
| FTLN 0093 | But since it serves my purpose, I will venture | |
| FTLN 0094 | To 'stale' 't a little more. | |
| FTLN 0095 | SECOND CITIZEN Well, I'll hear it, sir; yet you must not | 95 |
| FTLN 0096 | think to fob off our disgrace with a tale. But, an 't | |
| FTLN 0097 | please you, deliver. | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 0098 | There was a time when all the body's members | |
| FTLN 0099 | Rebelled against the belly, thus accused it: | |
| FTLN 0100 | That only like a gulf it did remain | 100 |
| FTLN 0101 | I' th' midst o' th' body, idle and unactive, | |
| FTLN 0102 | Still cupboarding the viand, never bearing | |
| FTLN 0103 | Like labor with the rest, where th' other instruments | |
| FTLN 0104 | Did see and hear, devise, instruct, walk, feel, | |
| FTLN 0105 | And, mutually participate, did minister | 105 |
| FTLN 0106 | Unto the appetite and affection common | |
| FTLN 0107 | Of the whole body. The belly answered— | |
| FTLN 0108 | SECOND CITIZEN Well, sir, what answer made the belly? | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 0109 | Sir, I shall tell you. With a kind of smile, | |
| FTLN 0110 | Which ne'er came from the lungs, but even thus— | 110 |
| FTLN 0111 | For, look you, I may make the belly smile | |
| FTLN 0112 | As well as speak—it 'tauntingly' replied | |
| FTLN 0113 | To th' discontented members, the mutinous parts | |
| FTLN 0114 | That envied his receipt; even so most fitly | |
| FTLN 0115 | As you malign our senators for that | 115 |
| FTLN 0116 | They are not such as you. | |
| FTLN 0117 | SECOND CITIZEN Your belly's answer—what? | |
| FTLN 0118 | The kingly crownèd head, the vigilant eye, | |
| FTLN 0119 | The counselor heart, the arm our soldier, | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------------------------|
| FTLN 0120 | Our steed the leg, the tongue our trumpeter, | 120 |
| FTLN 0121 | With other muniments and petty helps | |
| FTLN 0122 | In this our fabric, if that they— | |
| FTLN 0123 | MENENIUS | What then? |
| FTLN 0124 | 'Fore me, this fellow speaks. What then? What then? | |
| | SECOND CITIZEN | |
| FTLN 0125 | Should by the cormorant belly be restrained, | 125 |
| FTLN 0126 | Who is the sink o' th' body— | |
| FTLN 0127 | MENENIUS | Well, what then? |
| | SECOND CITIZEN | |
| FTLN 0128 | The former agents, if they did complain, | |
| FTLN 0129 | What could the belly answer? | |
| FTLN 0130 | MENENIUS | I will tell you, |
| FTLN 0131 | If you'll bestow a small—of what you have little— | 130 |
| FTLN 0132 | Patience awhile, you'st hear the belly's answer. | |
| | SECOND CITIZEN | |
| FTLN 0133 | You're long about it. | |
| FTLN 0134 | MENENIUS | Note me this, good friend; |
| FTLN 0135 | Your most grave belly was deliberate, | 135 |
| FTLN 0136 | Not rash like his accusers, and thus answered: | |
| FTLN 0137 | “True is it, my incorporate friends,” quoth he, | |
| FTLN 0138 | “That I receive the general food at first | |
| FTLN 0139 | Which you do live upon; and fit it is, | |
| FTLN 0140 | Because I am the storehouse and the shop | 140 |
| FTLN 0141 | Of the whole body. But, if you do remember, | |
| FTLN 0142 | I send it through the rivers of your blood | |
| FTLN 0143 | Even to the court, the heart, to th' seat o' th' brain; | |
| FTLN 0144 | And, through the cranks and offices of man, | |
| FTLN 0145 | The strongest nerves and small inferior veins | 145 |
| FTLN 0146 | From me receive that natural competency | |
| FTLN 0147 | Whereby they live. And though that all at once, | |
| FTLN 0148 | You, my good friends”—this says the belly, mark | |
| FTLN 0149 | me— | |
| | SECOND CITIZEN | |
| FTLN 0150 | Ay, sir, well, well. | 150 |

FTLN 0151 MENENIUS “Though all at once cannot
 FTLN 0152 See what I do deliver out to each,
 FTLN 0153 Yet I can make my audit up, that all
 FTLN 0154 From me do back receive the flour of all,
 FTLN 0155 And leave me but the bran.” What say you to ’t? 155

SECOND CITIZEN
 FTLN 0156 It was an answer. How apply you this?

MENENIUS
 FTLN 0157 The senators of Rome are this good belly,
 FTLN 0158 And you the mutinous members. For examine
 FTLN 0159 Their counsels and their cares, digest things rightly
 FTLN 0160 Touching the weal o’ th’ common, you shall find 160
 FTLN 0161 No public benefit which you receive
 FTLN 0162 But it proceeds or comes from them to you
 FTLN 0163 And no way from yourselves. What do you think,
 FTLN 0164 You, the great toe of this assembly?

SECOND CITIZEN I the great toe? Why the great toe? 165

MENENIUS
 FTLN 0166 For that, being one o’ th’ lowest, basest, poorest,
 FTLN 0167 Of this most wise rebellion, thou goest foremost.
 FTLN 0168 Thou rascal, that art worst in blood to run,
 FTLN 0169 Lead’st first to win some vantage.
 FTLN 0170 But make you ready your stiff bats and clubs. 170
 FTLN 0171 Rome and her rats are at the point of battle;
 FTLN 0172 The one side must have bale.

Enter Caius Martius.

FTLN 0173 Hail, noble Martius.

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0174 Thanks.—What’s the matter, you dissentious rogues,
 FTLN 0175 That, rubbing the poor itch of your opinion, 175
 FTLN 0176 Make yourselves scabs?

SECOND CITIZEN We have ever your good word.

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0178 He that will give good words to thee will flatter
 FTLN 0179 Beneath abhorring. What would you have, you curs,

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 0180 | That like nor peace nor war? The one affrights you; | 180 |
| FTLN 0181 | The other makes you proud. He that trusts to you, | |
| FTLN 0182 | Where he should find you lions, finds you hares; | |
| FTLN 0183 | Where foxes, geese. You are no surer, no, | |
| FTLN 0184 | Than is the coal of fire upon the ice | |
| FTLN 0185 | Or hailstone in the sun. Your virtue is | 185 |
| FTLN 0186 | To make him worthy whose offense subdues him, | |
| FTLN 0187 | And curse that justice did it. Who deserves greatness | |
| FTLN 0188 | Deserves your hate; and your affections are | |
| FTLN 0189 | A sick man's appetite, who desires most that | |
| FTLN 0190 | Which would increase his evil. He that depends | 190 |
| FTLN 0191 | Upon your favors swims with fins of lead, | |
| FTLN 0192 | And hews down oaks with rushes. Hang you! Trust | |
| FTLN 0193 | you? | |
| FTLN 0194 | With every minute you do change a mind | |
| FTLN 0195 | And call him noble that was now your hate, | 195 |
| FTLN 0196 | Him vile that was your garland. What's the matter, | |
| FTLN 0197 | That in these several places of the city | |
| FTLN 0198 | You cry against the noble senate, who, | |
| FTLN 0199 | Under the gods, keep you in awe, which else | |
| FTLN 0200 | Would feed on one another?—What's their seeking? | 200 |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 0201 | For corn at their own rates, whereof they say | |
| FTLN 0202 | The city is well stored. | |
| FTLN 0203 | MARTIUS Hang 'em! They say? | |
| FTLN 0204 | They'll sit by th' fire and presume to know | |
| FTLN 0205 | What's done i' th' Capitol, who's like to rise, | 205 |
| FTLN 0206 | Who thrives, and who declines; side factions and | |
| FTLN 0207 | give out | |
| FTLN 0208 | Conjectural marriages, making parties strong | |
| FTLN 0209 | And feebling such as stand not in their liking | |
| FTLN 0210 | Below their cobbled shoes. They say there's grain | 210 |
| FTLN 0211 | enough? | |
| FTLN 0212 | Would the nobility lay aside their ruth | |
| FTLN 0213 | And let me use my sword, I'd make a quarry | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|---------------------------------|
| FTLN 0214 | With thousands of these quartered slaves as high | |
| FTLN 0215 | As I could pick my lance. | 215 |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 0216 | Nay, these are almost thoroughly persuaded; | |
| FTLN 0217 | For though abundantly they lack discretion, | |
| FTLN 0218 | Yet are they passing cowardly. But I beseech you, | |
| FTLN 0219 | What says the other troop? | |
| FTLN 0220 | MARTIUS | They are dissolved. Hang |
| FTLN 0221 | 'em! | 220 |
| FTLN 0222 | They said they were an-hungry, sighed forth | |
| FTLN 0223 | proverbs | |
| FTLN 0224 | That hunger broke stone walls, that dogs must eat, | |
| FTLN 0225 | That meat was made for mouths, that the gods sent | 225 |
| FTLN 0226 | not | |
| FTLN 0227 | Corn for the rich men only. With these shreds | |
| FTLN 0228 | They vented their complainings, which being | |
| FTLN 0229 | answered | |
| FTLN 0230 | And a petition granted them—a strange one, | 230 |
| FTLN 0231 | To break the heart of generosity | |
| FTLN 0232 | And make bold power look pale—they threw their | |
| FTLN 0233 | caps | |
| FTLN 0234 | As they would hang them on the horns o' th' moon, | |
| FTLN 0235 | Shouting their emulation. | 235 |
| FTLN 0236 | MENENIUS | What is granted them? |
| | MARTIUS | |
| FTLN 0237 | Five tribunes to defend their vulgar wisdoms, | |
| FTLN 0238 | Of their own choice. One's Junius Brutus, | |
| FTLN 0239 | Sicinius Velutus, and I know not. 'Sdeath! | |
| FTLN 0240 | The rabble should have first 「unroofed」 the city | 240 |
| FTLN 0241 | Ere so prevailed with me. It will in time | |
| FTLN 0242 | Win upon power and throw forth greater themes | |
| FTLN 0243 | For insurrection's arguing. | |
| FTLN 0244 | MENENIUS | This is strange. |
| FTLN 0245 | MARTIUS | Go get you home, you fragments. |

Enter a Messenger hastily.

MESSENGER

FTLN 0246 Where's Caius Martius?

FTLN 0247 MARTIUS Here. What's the matter?

MESSENGER

FTLN 0248 The news is, sir, the Volsces are in arms.

MARTIUS

FTLN 0249 I am glad on 't. Then we shall ha' means to vent

FTLN 0250 Our musty superfluity. 250

*Enter Sicinius Velutus, Junius Brutus, [two Tribunes];¹
Cominius, Titus Lartius, with other Senators.*

FTLN 0251 See our best elders.

FIRST SENATOR

FTLN 0252 Martius, 'tis true that you have lately told us:

FTLN 0253 The Volsces are in arms.

FTLN 0254 MARTIUS They have a leader,

FTLN 0255 Tullus Aufidius, that will put you to 't. 255

FTLN 0256 I sin in envying his nobility,

FTLN 0257 And, were I anything but what I am,

FTLN 0258 I would wish me only he.

FTLN 0259 COMINIUS You have fought together?

MARTIUS

FTLN 0260 Were half to half the world by th' ears and he 260

FTLN 0261 Upon my party, I'd revolt, to make

FTLN 0262 Only my wars with him. He is a lion

FTLN 0263 That I am proud to hunt.

FTLN 0264 FIRST SENATOR Then, worthy Martius,

FTLN 0265 Attend upon Cominius to these wars. 265

COMINIUS

FTLN 0266 It is your former promise.

FTLN 0267 MARTIUS Sir, it is,

FTLN 0268 And I am constant.—Titus [Lartius,¹ thou

FTLN 0269 Shalt see me once more strike at Tullus' face.

FTLN 0270 What, art thou stiff? Stand'st out? 270

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 0271 | LARTIUS | No, Caius Martius, | |
| FTLN 0272 | | I'll lean upon one crutch and fight with t' other | |
| FTLN 0273 | | Ere stay behind this business. | |
| FTLN 0274 | MENENIUS | O, true bred! | |
| | 「FIRST」 SENATOR | | |
| FTLN 0275 | | Your company to th' Capitol, where I know | 275 |
| FTLN 0276 | | Our greatest friends attend us. | |
| FTLN 0277 | LARTIUS, 「to Cominius」 | Lead you on.— | |
| FTLN 0278 | | 「To Martius.」 Follow Cominius. We must follow you; | |
| FTLN 0279 | | Right worthy you priority. | |
| FTLN 0280 | COMINIUS | Noble Martius. | 280 |
| | 「FIRST」 SENATOR, 「to the Citizens」 | | |
| FTLN 0281 | | Hence to your homes, begone. | |
| FTLN 0282 | MARTIUS | Nay, let them follow. | |
| FTLN 0283 | | The Volsces have much corn; take these rats thither | |
| FTLN 0284 | | To gnaw their garners. | |
| | | <i>Citizens steal away.</i> | |
| FTLN 0285 | | Worshipful mutineers, | 285 |
| FTLN 0286 | | Your valor puts well forth.—Pray follow. | |
| | | <i>They exit. Sicinius and Brutus remain.</i> | |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 0287 | | Was ever man so proud as is this Martius? | |
| FTLN 0288 | BRUTUS | He has no equal. | |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 0289 | | When we were chosen tribunes for the people— | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 0290 | | Marked you his lip and eyes? | 290 |
| FTLN 0291 | SICINIUS | Nay, but his taunts. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 0292 | | Being moved, he will not spare to gird the gods— | |
| FTLN 0293 | SICINIUS | Bemock the modest moon. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 0294 | | The present wars devour him! He is grown | |
| FTLN 0295 | | Too proud to be so valiant. | 295 |

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|----|
| FTLN 0325 | AUFIDIUS | Is it not yours? | |
| FTLN 0326 | | Whatever have been thought on in this state | 5 |
| FTLN 0327 | | That could be brought to bodily act ere Rome | |
| FTLN 0328 | | Had circumvention? 'Tis not four days gone | |
| FTLN 0329 | | Since I heard thence. These are the words—I think | |
| FTLN 0330 | | I have the letter here. Yes, here it is. | |
| FTLN 0331 | | <i>[(He reads.)] They have pressed a power, but it is not</i> | 10 |
| FTLN 0332 | | <i>known</i> | |
| FTLN 0333 | | <i>Whether for east or west. The dearth is great.</i> | |
| FTLN 0334 | | <i>The people mutinous; and, it is rumored,</i> | |
| FTLN 0335 | | <i>Cominius, Martius your old enemy,</i> | |
| FTLN 0336 | | <i>Who is of Rome worse hated than of you,</i> | 15 |
| FTLN 0337 | | <i>And Titus Lartius, a most valiant Roman,</i> | |
| FTLN 0338 | | <i>These three lead on this preparation</i> | |
| FTLN 0339 | | <i>Whither 'tis bent. Most likely 'tis for you.</i> | |
| FTLN 0340 | | <i>Consider of it.</i> | |
| FTLN 0341 | FIRST SENATOR | Our army's in the field. | 20 |
| FTLN 0342 | | We never yet made doubt but Rome was ready | |
| FTLN 0343 | | To answer us. | |
| FTLN 0344 | AUFIDIUS | Nor did you think it folly | |
| FTLN 0345 | | To keep your great pretenses veiled till when | |
| FTLN 0346 | | They needs must show themselves, which, in the | 25 |
| FTLN 0347 | | hatching, | |
| FTLN 0348 | | It seemed, appeared to Rome. By the discovery | |
| FTLN 0349 | | We shall be shortened in our aim, which was | |
| FTLN 0350 | | To take in many towns ere almost Rome | |
| FTLN 0351 | | Should know we were afoot. | 30 |
| FTLN 0352 | SECOND SENATOR | Noble Aufidius, | |
| FTLN 0353 | | Take your commission; hie you to your bands. | |
| FTLN 0354 | | Let us alone to guard Corioles. | |
| FTLN 0355 | | If they set down before 's, for the remove | |
| FTLN 0356 | | Bring up your army. But I think you'll find | 35 |
| FTLN 0357 | | They've not prepared for us. | |
| FTLN 0358 | AUFIDIUS | O, doubt not that; | |
| FTLN 0359 | | I speak from certainties. Nay, more, | |

FTLN 0360 Some parcels of their power are forth already,
 FTLN 0361 And only hitherward. I leave your Honors. 40
 FTLN 0362 If we and Caius Martius chance to meet,
 FTLN 0363 'Tis sworn between us we shall ever strike
 FTLN 0364 Till one can do no more.
 FTLN 0365 ALL The gods assist you!
 FTLN 0366 AUFIDIUS And keep your Honors safe! 45
 FTLN 0367 FIRST SENATOR Farewell.
 FTLN 0368 SECOND SENATOR Farewell.
 FTLN 0369 ALL Farewell.

All exit.

「Scene 3」

*Enter Volumnia and Virgilia, mother and wife
 to Martius. They set them down on two low stools
 and sew.*

FTLN 0370 VOLUMNIA I pray you, daughter, sing, or express yourself
 FTLN 0371 in a more comfortable sort. If my son were my
 FTLN 0372 husband, I should freelier rejoice in that absence
 FTLN 0373 wherein he won honor than in the embracements
 FTLN 0374 of his bed where he would show most love. When 5
 FTLN 0375 yet he was but tender-bodied and the only son of
 FTLN 0376 my womb, when youth with comeliness plucked
 FTLN 0377 all gaze his way, when for a day of kings' entreaties
 FTLN 0378 a mother should not sell him an hour from her beholding,
 FTLN 0379 I, considering how honor would become 10
 FTLN 0380 such a person—that it was no better than picture-like
 FTLN 0381 to hang by th' wall, if renown made it not
 FTLN 0382 stir—was pleased to let him seek danger where he
 FTLN 0383 was like to find fame. To a cruel war I sent him,
 FTLN 0384 from whence he returned, his brows bound with 15
 FTLN 0385 oak. I tell thee, daughter, I sprang not more in joy
 FTLN 0386 at first hearing he was a man-child than now in
 FTLN 0387 first seeing he had proved himself a man.

FTLN 0388 VIRGILIA But had he died in the business, madam, how
 FTLN 0389 then? 20
 FTLN 0390 VOLUMNIA Then his good report should have been my
 FTLN 0391 son; I therein would have found issue. Hear me
 FTLN 0392 profess sincerely: had I a dozen sons, each in my
 FTLN 0393 love alike and none less dear than thine and my
 FTLN 0394 good Martius, I had rather had eleven die nobly 25
 FTLN 0395 for their country than one voluptuously surfeit out
 FTLN 0396 of action.

Enter a Gentlewoman.

FTLN 0397 GENTLEWOMAN Madam, the Lady Valeria is come to
 FTLN 0398 visit you.
 VIRGILIA
 FTLN 0399 Beseech you, give me leave to retire myself. 30
 FTLN 0400 VOLUMNIA Indeed you shall not.
 FTLN 0401 Methinks I hear hither your husband's drum,
 FTLN 0402 See him pluck Aufidius down by th' hair;
 FTLN 0403 As children from a bear, the Volsces shunning him.
 FTLN 0404 Methinks I see him stamp thus and call thus: 35
 FTLN 0405 "Come on, you cowards! You were got in fear,
 FTLN 0406 Though you were born in Rome." His bloody brow
 FTLN 0407 With his mailed hand then wiping, forth he goes
 FTLN 0408 Like to a harvestman [that's] tasked to mow
 FTLN 0409 Or all or lose his hire. 40
 VIRGILIA
 FTLN 0410 His bloody brow? O Jupiter, no blood!
 VOLUMNIA
 FTLN 0411 Away, you fool! It more becomes a man
 FTLN 0412 Than gilt his trophy. The breasts of Hecuba,
 FTLN 0413 When she did suckle Hector, looked not lovelier
 FTLN 0414 Than Hector's forehead when it spit forth blood 45
 FTLN 0415 At Grecian sword, contemning.—Tell Valeria
 FTLN 0416 We are fit to bid her welcome. *Gentlewoman exits.*

VIRGILIA

FTLN 0417 Heavens bless my lord from fell Aufidius!

VOLUMNIA

FTLN 0418 He'll beat Aufidius' head below his knee

FTLN 0419 And tread upon his neck. 50

Enter Valeria with an Usher and a Gentlewoman.

FTLN 0420 VALERIA My ladies both, good day to you.

FTLN 0421 VOLUMNIA Sweet madam.

FTLN 0422 VIRGILIA I am glad to see your Ladyship.

FTLN 0423 VALERIA How do you both? You are manifest housekeepers.

FTLN 0424 What are you sewing here? A fine spot, in 55
FTLN 0425 good faith. How does your little son?

FTLN 0426 VIRGILIA I thank your Ladyship; well, good madam.

FTLN 0427 VOLUMNIA He had rather see the swords and hear a

FTLN 0428 drum than look upon his schoolmaster.

FTLN 0429 VALERIA O' my word, the father's son! I'll swear 'tis a 60

FTLN 0430 very pretty boy. O' my troth, I looked upon him o'

FTLN 0431 Wednesday half an hour together. H'as such a confirmed

FTLN 0432 countenance. I saw him run after a gilded

FTLN 0433 butterfly, and when he caught it, he let it go again,

FTLN 0434 and after it again, and over and over he comes, 65

FTLN 0435 and up again, caught it again. Or whether his fall

FTLN 0436 enraged him or how 'twas, he did so set his teeth

FTLN 0437 and tear it. O, I warrant how he mammocked it!

FTLN 0438 VOLUMNIA One on 's father's moods.

FTLN 0439 VALERIA Indeed, la, 'tis a noble child. 70

FTLN 0440 VIRGILIA A crack, madam.

FTLN 0441 VALERIA Come, lay aside your stitchery. I must have

FTLN 0442 you play the idle huswife with me this afternoon.

FTLN 0443 VIRGILIA No, good madam, I will not out of doors.

FTLN 0444 VALERIA Not out of doors? 75

FTLN 0445 VOLUMNIA She shall, she shall.

FTLN 0446 VIRGILIA Indeed, no, by your patience. I'll not over the

FTLN 0447 threshold till my lord return from the wars.

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|--|-----|
| FTLN 0448 | VALERIA | Fie, you confine yourself most unreasonably. | |
| FTLN 0449 | | Come, you must go visit the good lady that lies in. | 80 |
| FTLN 0450 | VIRGILIA | I will wish her speedy strength and visit her | |
| FTLN 0451 | | with my prayers, but I cannot go thither. | |
| FTLN 0452 | VOLUMNIA | Why, I pray you? | |
| FTLN 0453 | 「VIRGILIA」 | 'Tis not to save labor, nor that I want love. | |
| FTLN 0454 | VALERIA | You would be another Penelope. Yet they say | 85 |
| FTLN 0455 | | all the yarn she spun in Ulysses' absence did but fill | |
| FTLN 0456 | | Ithaca full of moths. Come, I would your cambric | |
| FTLN 0457 | | were sensible as your finger, that you might leave | |
| FTLN 0458 | | pricking it for pity. Come, you shall go with us. | |
| FTLN 0459 | VIRGILIA | No, good madam, pardon me; indeed, I will | 90 |
| FTLN 0460 | | not forth. | |
| FTLN 0461 | VALERIA | In truth, la, go with me, and I'll tell you excellent | |
| FTLN 0462 | | news of your husband. | |
| FTLN 0463 | VIRGILIA | O, good madam, there can be none yet. | |
| FTLN 0464 | VALERIA | Verily, I do not jest with you. There came | 95 |
| FTLN 0465 | | news from him last night. | |
| FTLN 0466 | VIRGILIA | Indeed, madam! | |
| FTLN 0467 | VALERIA | In earnest, it's true. I heard a senator speak it. | |
| FTLN 0468 | | Thus it is: the Volsces have an army forth, against | |
| FTLN 0469 | | whom Cominius the General is gone with one | 100 |
| FTLN 0470 | | part of our Roman power. Your lord and Titus Lartius | |
| FTLN 0471 | | are set down before their city Corioles. They | |
| FTLN 0472 | | nothing doubt prevailing, and to make it brief | |
| FTLN 0473 | | wars. This is true, on mine honor, and so, I pray, go | |
| FTLN 0474 | | with us. | 105 |
| FTLN 0475 | VIRGILIA | Give me excuse, good madam. I will obey you | |
| FTLN 0476 | | in everything hereafter. | |
| FTLN 0477 | VOLUMNIA | Let her alone, lady. As she is now, she will | |
| FTLN 0478 | | but disease our better mirth. | |
| FTLN 0479 | VALERIA | In troth, I think she would.—Fare you well, | 110 |
| FTLN 0480 | | then.—Come, good sweet lady.—Prithee, Virgilia, | |
| FTLN 0481 | | turn thy solemnness out o' door, and go along with | |
| FTLN 0482 | | us. | |

FTLN 0483 VIRGILIA No, at a word, madam. Indeed, I must not. I
 FTLN 0484 wish you much mirth. 115
 FTLN 0485 VALERIA Well, then, farewell.

Ladies exit.

「Scene 4」

*Enter Martius, Titus Lartius, with 「Trumpet,」 Drum,
 and Colors, with Captains and Soldiers, as before
 the city 「of」 Corioles. To them a Messenger.*

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0486 Yonder comes news. A wager they have met.
 LARTIUS
 FTLN 0487 My horse to yours, no.
 FTLN 0488 MARTIUS 'Tis done.
 FTLN 0489 LARTIUS Agreed.
 MARTIUS, 「to Messenger」
 FTLN 0490 Say, has our general met the enemy? 5
 MESSENGER
 FTLN 0491 They lie in view but have not spoke as yet.
 LARTIUS
 FTLN 0492 So the good horse is mine.
 FTLN 0493 MARTIUS I'll buy him of you.
 LARTIUS
 FTLN 0494 No, I'll nor sell nor give him. Lend you him I will
 FTLN 0495 For half a hundred years.—Summon the town. 10
 FTLN 0496 MARTIUS How far off lie these armies?
 FTLN 0497 MESSENGER Within this mile and half.
 MARTIUS
 FTLN 0498 Then shall we hear their 'larum and they ours.
 FTLN 0499 Now, Mars, I prithee, make us quick in work,
 FTLN 0500 That we with smoking swords may march from 15
 FTLN 0501 hence
 FTLN 0502 To help our fielded friends!—Come, blow thy blast.
They sound a parley.

Enter two Senators with others on the walls of Corioles.

FTLN 0503 Tullus Aufidius, is he within your walls?
 FIRST SENATOR
 FTLN 0504 No, nor a man that fears you less than he:
 FTLN 0505 That's lesser than a little. *Drum afar off.* 20
 FTLN 0506 Hark, our drums
 FTLN 0507 Are bringing forth our youth. We'll break our walls
 FTLN 0508 Rather than they shall pound us up. Our gates,
 FTLN 0509 Which yet seem shut, we have but pinned with
 FTLN 0510 rushes. 25
 FTLN 0511 They'll open of themselves. *Alarum far off.*
 FTLN 0512 Hark you, far off!
 FTLN 0513 There is Aufidius. List what work he makes
 FTLN 0514 Amongst your cloven army.

FTLN 0515 MARTIUS *「They exit from the walls.」*
 O, they are at it! 30

LARTIUS
 FTLN 0516 Their noise be our instruction.—Ladders, ho!

Enter the Army of the Volsces 「as through the city gates.」

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0517 They fear us not but issue forth their city.—
 FTLN 0518 Now put your shields before your hearts, and fight
 FTLN 0519 With hearts more proof than shields.—Advance,
 FTLN 0520 brave Titus. 35
 FTLN 0521 They do disdain us much beyond our thoughts,
 FTLN 0522 Which makes me sweat with wrath.—Come on, my
 FTLN 0523 fellows!
 FTLN 0524 He that retires, I'll take him for a Volsce,
 FTLN 0525 And he shall feel mine edge. 40

Alarum. The Romans are beat back to their trenches.

「They exit, with the Volsces following.」

Enter Martius cursing, 「with Roman soldiers.」

MARTIUS

FTLN 0526 All the contagion of the south light on you,
 FTLN 0527 You shames of Rome! You herd of—Boils and
 FTLN 0528 plagues
 FTLN 0529 Plaster you o'er, that you may be abhorred
 FTLN 0530 Farther than seen, and one infect another 45
 FTLN 0531 Against the wind a mile! You souls of geese,
 FTLN 0532 That bear the shapes of men, how have you run
 FTLN 0533 From slaves that apes would beat! Pluto and hell!
 FTLN 0534 All hurt behind. Backs red, and faces pale
 FTLN 0535 With flight and agued fear! Mend, and charge home, 50
 FTLN 0536 Or, by the fires of heaven, I'll leave the foe
 FTLN 0537 And make my wars on you. Look to 't. Come on!
 FTLN 0538 If you'll stand fast, we'll beat them to their wives,
 FTLN 0539 As they us to our trenches. Follow 's!

Another alarum. [The Volsces re-enter and are driven back to the gates of Corioles, which open to admit them.]

FTLN 0540 So, now the gates are ope. Now prove good 55
 FTLN 0541 seconds!
 FTLN 0542 'Tis for the followers fortune widens them,
 FTLN 0543 Not for the fliers. Mark me, and do the like.

Martius follows [the fleeing Volsces through] the gates, and is shut in.

FTLN 0544 FIRST SOLDIER Foolhardiness, not I.
 FTLN 0545 SECOND SOLDIER Nor I. 60
 FTLN 0546 FIRST SOLDIER See they have shut him in.

Alarum continues.

FTLN 0547 ALL To th' pot, I warrant him.

Enter Titus Lartius.

LARTIUS

FTLN 0548 What is become of Martius?
 FTLN 0549 ALL Slain, sir, doubtless.

FTLN 0573 Irons of a doit, doublets that hangmen would
 FTLN 0574 Bury with those that wore them, these base slaves,
 FTLN 0575 Ere yet the fight be done, pack up. Down with them!
 〔The Romans with spoils〕 exit.
 Alarum continues still afar off.

FTLN 0576 And hark, what noise the General makes! To him!
 FTLN 0577 There is the man of my soul's hate, Aufidius, 10
 FTLN 0578 Piercing our Romans. Then, valiant Titus, take
 FTLN 0579 Convenient numbers to make good the city,
 FTLN 0580 Whilst I, with those that have the spirit, will haste
 FTLN 0581 To help Cominius.

FTLN 0582 LARTIUS Worthy sir, thou bleed'st. 15
 FTLN 0583 Thy exercise hath been too violent
 FTLN 0584 For a second course of fight.

FTLN 0585 MARTIUS Sir, praise me not.
 FTLN 0586 My work hath yet not warmed me. Fare you well.
 FTLN 0587 The blood I drop is rather physical 20
 FTLN 0588 Than dangerous to me. To Aufidius thus
 FTLN 0589 I will appear and fight.

FTLN 0590 LARTIUS Now the fair goddess Fortune
 FTLN 0591 Fall deep in love with thee, and her great charms
 FTLN 0592 Misguide thy opposers' swords! Bold gentleman, 25
 FTLN 0593 Prosperity be thy page!

FTLN 0594 MARTIUS Thy friend no less
 FTLN 0595 Than those she placeth highest! So farewell.

FTLN 0596 LARTIUS Thou worthiest Martius! *〔Martius exits.〕*
 FTLN 0597 Go sound thy trumpet in the marketplace. 30
 FTLN 0598 Call thither all the officers o' th' town,
 FTLN 0599 Where they shall know our mind. Away!

They exit.

[Scene 6]

Enter Cominius as it were in retire, with Soldiers.

COMINIUS

FTLN 0600 Breathe you, my friends. Well fought! We are come
 FTLN 0601 off
 FTLN 0602 Like Romans, neither foolish in our stands
 FTLN 0603 Nor cowardly in retire. Believe me, sirs,
 FTLN 0604 We shall be charged again. Whiles we have struck, 5
 FTLN 0605 By interims and conveying gusts we have heard
 FTLN 0606 The charges of our friends. The Roman gods
 FTLN 0607 Lead their successes as we wish our own,
 FTLN 0608 That both our powers, with smiling fronts
 FTLN 0609 encount'ring, 10
 FTLN 0610 May give you thankful sacrifice!

Enter a Messenger.

FTLN 0611 Thy news?

MESSENGER

FTLN 0612 The citizens of Corioles have issued
 FTLN 0613 And given to Lartius and to Martius battle.
 FTLN 0614 I saw our party to their trenches driven, 15
 FTLN 0615 And then I came away.

FTLN 0616 COMINIUS Though thou speakest truth,
 FTLN 0617 Methinks thou speak'st not well. How long is 't
 FTLN 0618 since?

FTLN 0619 MESSENGER Above an hour, my lord. 20

COMINIUS

FTLN 0620 'Tis not a mile; briefly we heard their drums.
 FTLN 0621 How couldst thou in a mile confound an hour
 FTLN 0622 And bring thy news so late?

FTLN 0623 MESSENGER Spies of the Volsces
 FTLN 0624 Held me in chase, that I was forced to wheel 25

FTLN 0625 Three or four miles about; else had I, sir,
 FTLN 0626 Half an hour since brought my report. *「He exits.」*

Enter Martius, 「bloody.」

FTLN 0627 COMINIUS Who's yonder,
 FTLN 0628 That does appear as he were flayed? O gods,
 FTLN 0629 He has the stamp of Martius, and I have 30
 FTLN 0630 Before-time seen him thus.

FTLN 0631 MARTIUS Come I too late?

COMINIUS
 FTLN 0632 The shepherd knows not thunder from a tabor
 FTLN 0633 More than I know the sound of Martius' tongue
 FTLN 0634 From every meaner man. 35

FTLN 0635 MARTIUS Come I too late?

COMINIUS
 FTLN 0636 Ay, if you come not in the blood of others,
 FTLN 0637 But mantled in your own.

FTLN 0638 MARTIUS O, let me clip you
 FTLN 0639 In arms as sound as when I wooed, in heart 40
 FTLN 0640 As merry as when our nuptial day was done
 FTLN 0641 And tapers burnt to bedward! *「They embrace.」*

COMINIUS
 FTLN 0642 Flower of warriors, how is 't with Titus Lartius?

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0643 As with a man busied about decrees,
 FTLN 0644 Condemning some to death and some to exile; 45
 FTLN 0645 Ransoming him or pitying, threat'ning th' other;
 FTLN 0646 Holding Corioles in the name of Rome
 FTLN 0647 Even like a fawning greyhound in the leash,
 FTLN 0648 To let him slip at will.

FTLN 0649 COMINIUS Where is that slave 50
 FTLN 0650 Which told me they had beat you to your trenches?
 FTLN 0651 Where is he? Call him hither.

FTLN 0652 MARTIUS Let him alone.
 FTLN 0653 He did inform the truth. But for our gentlemen,

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| FTLN 0654 | The common file—a plague! Tribunes for them!— | 55 |
| FTLN 0655 | The mouse ne'er shunned the cat as they did budge | |
| FTLN 0656 | From rascals worse than they. | |
| FTLN 0657 | COMINIUS | But how prevailed you? |
| | MARTIUS | |
| FTLN 0658 | Will the time serve to tell? I do not think. | |
| FTLN 0659 | Where is the enemy? Are you lords o' th' field? | 60 |
| FTLN 0660 | If not, why cease you till you are so? | |
| | COMINIUS | |
| FTLN 0661 | Martius, we have at disadvantage fought | |
| FTLN 0662 | And did retire to win our purpose. | |
| | MARTIUS | |
| FTLN 0663 | How lies their battle? Know you on which side | |
| FTLN 0664 | They have placed their men of trust? | 65 |
| FTLN 0665 | COMINIUS | As I guess, |
| FTLN 0666 | Martius, | |
| FTLN 0667 | Their bands i' th' vaward are the ¹ Antiates, | |
| FTLN 0668 | Of their best trust; o'er them Aufidius, | |
| FTLN 0669 | Their very heart of hope. | 70 |
| FTLN 0670 | MARTIUS | I do beseech you, |
| FTLN 0671 | By all the battles wherein we have fought, | |
| FTLN 0672 | By th' blood we have shed together, by th' vows we | |
| FTLN 0673 | have made | |
| FTLN 0674 | To endure friends, that you directly set me | 75 |
| FTLN 0675 | Against Aufidius and his Antiates, | |
| FTLN 0676 | And that you not delay the present, but, | |
| FTLN 0677 | Filling the air with swords advanced and darts, | |
| FTLN 0678 | We prove this very hour. | |
| FTLN 0679 | COMINIUS | Though I could wish |
| FTLN 0680 | You were conducted to a gentle bath | 80 |
| FTLN 0681 | And balms applied to you, yet dare I never | |
| FTLN 0682 | Deny your asking. Take your choice of those | |
| FTLN 0683 | That best can aid your action. | |
| FTLN 0684 | MARTIUS | Those are they |
| FTLN 0685 | That most are willing. If any such be here— | 85 |

FTLN 0710 For a short holding. If we lose the field,
 FTLN 0711 We cannot keep the town. 5
 FTLN 0712 LIEUTENANT Fear not our care, sir.
 FTLN 0713 LARTIUS Hence, and shut your gates upon 's.
 FTLN 0714 「(To the Scout.)」 Our guider, come. To th' Roman
 FTLN 0715 camp conduct us.
 「They」 exit, 「the Lieutenant one way, Lartius another.」

「Scene 8」
Alarum, as in battle.
Enter Martius and Aufidius at several doors.

MARTIUS
 FTLN 0716 I'll fight with none but thee, for I do hate thee
 FTLN 0717 Worse than a promise-breaker.
 FTLN 0718 AUFIDIUS We hate alike.
 FTLN 0719 Not Afric owns a serpent I abhor
 FTLN 0720 More than thy fame and envy. Fix thy foot. 5
 MARTIUS
 FTLN 0721 Let the first budger die the other's slave,
 FTLN 0722 And the gods doom him after!
 FTLN 0723 AUFIDIUS If I fly, Martius,
 FTLN 0724 Hollo me like a hare.
 FTLN 0725 MARTIUS Within these three hours, 10
 FTLN 0726 Tullus,
 FTLN 0727 Alone I fought in your Corioles' walls
 FTLN 0728 And made what work I pleased. 'Tis not my blood
 FTLN 0729 Wherein thou seest me masked. For thy revenge,
 FTLN 0730 Wrench up thy power to th' highest. 15
 FTLN 0731 AUFIDIUS Wert thou the
 FTLN 0732 Hector
 FTLN 0733 That was the whip of your bragged progeny,
 FTLN 0734 Thou shouldst not scape me here.

*Here they fight, and certain Volsces come in
 the aid of Aufidius.*

FTLN 0735 「(To the Volsces.)」 Officious and not valiant, you have 20
 FTLN 0736 shamed me
 FTLN 0737 In your condemnèd seconds.

Martius fights till they be driven in breathless.

「Aufidius and Martius exit, separately.」

「Scene 9」

Alarum. A retreat is sounded. Flourish. Enter, at one door, Cominius with the Romans; at another door Martius, with his arm in a scarf.

COMINIUS, 「to Martius」

FTLN 0738 If I should tell thee o'er this thy day's work,
 FTLN 0739 Thou 't not believe thy deeds. But I'll report it
 FTLN 0740 Where senators shall mingle tears with smiles;
 FTLN 0741 Where great patricians shall attend and shrug,
 FTLN 0742 I' th' end admire; where ladies shall be frightened 5
 FTLN 0743 And, gladly quaked, hear more; where the dull
 FTLN 0744 tribunes,
 FTLN 0745 That with the fusty plebeians hate thine honors,
 FTLN 0746 Shall say against their hearts "We thank the gods
 FTLN 0747 Our Rome hath such a soldier." 10
 FTLN 0748 Yet cam'st thou to a morsel of this feast,
 FTLN 0749 Having fully dined before.

Enter Titus 「Lartius」 with his power, from the pursuit.

FTLN 0750 LARTIUS O general,
 FTLN 0751 Here is the steed, we the caparison.
 FTLN 0752 Hadst thou beheld— 15
 FTLN 0753 MARTIUS Pray now, no more. My mother,
 FTLN 0754 Who has a charter to extol her blood,
 FTLN 0755 When she does praise me grieves me. I have done
 FTLN 0756 As you have done—that's what I can;
 FTLN 0757 Induced as you have been—that's for my country. 20
 FTLN 0758 He that has but effected his good will
 FTLN 0759 Hath overta'en mine act.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|--|----|
| FTLN 0760 | COMINIUS | You shall not be | |
| FTLN 0761 | | The grave of your deserving. Rome must know | |
| FTLN 0762 | | The value of her own. 'Twere a concealment | 25 |
| FTLN 0763 | | Worse than a theft, no less than a traducement, | |
| FTLN 0764 | | To hide your doings and to silence that | |
| FTLN 0765 | | Which, to the spire and top of praises vouched, | |
| FTLN 0766 | | Would seem but modest. Therefore, I beseech you— | |
| FTLN 0767 | | In sign of what you are, not to reward | 30 |
| FTLN 0768 | | What you have done—before our army hear me. | |
| | MARTIUS | | |
| FTLN 0769 | | I have some wounds upon me, and they smart | |
| FTLN 0770 | | To hear themselves remembered. | |
| FTLN 0771 | COMINIUS | Should they not, | |
| FTLN 0772 | | Well might they fester 'gainst ingratitude | 35 |
| FTLN 0773 | | And tent themselves with death. Of all the horses— | |
| FTLN 0774 | | Whereof we have ta'en good and good store—of all | |
| FTLN 0775 | | The treasure in this field achieved and city, | |
| FTLN 0776 | | We render you the tenth, to be ta'en forth | |
| FTLN 0777 | | Before the common distribution | 40 |
| FTLN 0778 | | At your only choice. | |
| FTLN 0779 | MARTIUS | I thank you, general, | |
| FTLN 0780 | | But cannot make my heart consent to take | |
| FTLN 0781 | | A bribe to pay my sword. I do refuse it | |
| FTLN 0782 | | And stand upon my common part with those | 45 |
| FTLN 0783 | | That have beheld the doing. | |
| | | <i>A long flourish. They all cry "Martius, Martius!"</i> | |
| | | <i>['and'] cast up their caps and lances.</i> | |
| | | <i>Cominius and Martius stand bare.</i> | |
| FTLN 0784 | | May these same instruments, which you profane, | |
| FTLN 0785 | | Never sound more! When drums and trumpets shall | |
| FTLN 0786 | | I' th' field prove flatterers, let courts and cities be | |
| FTLN 0787 | | Made all of false-faced soothing! When steel grows | 50 |
| FTLN 0788 | | Soft as the parasite's silk, let him be made | |
| FTLN 0789 | | An 'ovator' for th' wars! No more, I say. | |
| FTLN 0790 | | For that I have not washed my nose that bled, | |
| FTLN 0791 | | Or foiled some debile wretch—which, without note, | |

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 0824 The gods begin to mock me. I, that now
 FTLN 0825 Refused most princely gifts, am bound to beg
 FTLN 0826 Of my lord general.

FTLN 0827 COMINIUS Take 't, 'tis yours. What is 't? 90

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 0828 I sometime lay here in Corioles
 FTLN 0829 At a poor man's house; he used me kindly.
 FTLN 0830 He cried to me; I saw him prisoner;
 FTLN 0831 But then Aufidius was within my view,
 FTLN 0832 And wrath o'erwhelmed my pity. I request you 95
 FTLN 0833 To give my poor host freedom.

FTLN 0834 COMINIUS O, well begged!

FTLN 0835 Were he the butcher of my son, he should
 FTLN 0836 Be free as is the wind.—Deliver him, Titus.

LARTIUS

FTLN 0837 Martius, his name? 100

FTLN 0838 CORIOLANUS By Jupiter, forgot!

FTLN 0839 I am weary; yea, my memory is tired.

FTLN 0840 Have we no wine here?

FTLN 0841 COMINIUS Go we to our tent.

FTLN 0842 The blood upon your visage dries; 'tis time 105

FTLN 0843 It should be looked to. Come.

A flourish [of] cornets. They exit.

[Scene 10]

Enter Tullus Aufidius bloody, with two or three Soldiers.

FTLN 0844 AUFIDIUS The town is ta'en.

SOLDIER

FTLN 0845 'Twill be delivered back on good condition.

FTLN 0846 AUFIDIUS Condition?

FTLN 0847 I would I were a Roman, for I cannot,
 FTLN 0848 Being a Volsce, be that I am. Condition? 5

FTLN 0849 What good condition can a treaty find

FTLN 0850 I' th' part that is at mercy? Five times, Martius,
 FTLN 0851 I have fought with thee; so often hast thou beat me
 FTLN 0852 And wouldst do so, I think, should we encounter
 FTLN 0853 As often as we eat. By th' elements, 10
 FTLN 0854 If e'er again I meet him beard to beard,
 FTLN 0855 He's mine, or I am his. Mine emulation
 FTLN 0856 Hath not that honor in 't it had; for where
 FTLN 0857 I thought to crush him in an equal force,
 FTLN 0858 True sword to sword, I'll potch at him some way 15
 FTLN 0859 Or wrath or craft may get him.

FTLN 0860 SOLDIER He's the devil.

AUFIDIUS
 FTLN 0861 Bolder, though not so subtle. My valor's poisoned
 FTLN 0862 With only suff'ring stain by him; for him
 FTLN 0863 Shall fly out of itself. Nor sleep nor sanctuary, 20
 FTLN 0864 Being naked, sick, nor fane nor Capitol,
 FTLN 0865 The prayers of priests nor times of sacrifice,
 FTLN 0866 Embarquements all of fury, shall lift up
 FTLN 0867 Their rotten privilege and custom 'gainst
 FTLN 0868 My hate to Martius. Where I find him, were it 25
 FTLN 0869 At home, upon my brother's guard, even there,
 FTLN 0870 Against the hospitable canon, would I
 FTLN 0871 Wash my fierce hand in 's heart. Go you to th' city;
 FTLN 0872 Learn how 'tis held and what they are that must
 FTLN 0873 Be hostages for Rome. 30

FTLN 0874 SOLDIER Will not you go?

AUFIDIUS
 FTLN 0875 I am attended at the cypress grove. I pray you—
 FTLN 0876 'Tis south the city mills—bring me word thither
 FTLN 0877 How the world goes, that to the pace of it
 FTLN 0878 I may spur on my journey. 35

FTLN 0879 SOLDIER I shall, sir.

*They exit, Aufidius through one door,
 Soldiers through another.*

ACT 2

「Scene 1」

*Enter Menenius with the two Tribunes of the people,
Sicinius and Brutus.*

FTLN 0880 MENENIUS The augurer tells me we shall have news
FTLN 0881 tonight.
FTLN 0882 BRUTUS Good or bad?
FTLN 0883 MENENIUS Not according to the prayer of the people,
FTLN 0884 for they love not Martius. 5
FTLN 0885 SICINIUS Nature teaches beasts to know their friends.
FTLN 0886 MENENIUS Pray you, who does the wolf love?
FTLN 0887 SICINIUS The lamb.
FTLN 0888 MENENIUS Ay, to devour him, as the hungry plebeians
FTLN 0889 would the noble Martius. 10
FTLN 0890 BRUTUS He's a lamb indeed, that baas like a bear.
FTLN 0891 MENENIUS He's a bear indeed, that lives like a lamb.
FTLN 0892 You two are old men; tell me one thing that I shall
FTLN 0893 ask you.
FTLN 0894 BOTH Well, sir. 15
FTLN 0895 MENENIUS In what enormity is Martius poor in, that
FTLN 0896 you two have not in abundance?
FTLN 0897 BRUTUS He's poor in no one fault, but stored with all.
FTLN 0898 SICINIUS Especially in pride.
FTLN 0899 BRUTUS And topping all others in boasting. 20
FTLN 0900 MENENIUS This is strange now. Do you two know how
FTLN 0901 you are censured here in the city, I mean of us o'
FTLN 0902 th' right-hand file, do you?

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---|----|
| FTLN 0903 | BOTH | Why, how are we censured? | |
| FTLN 0904 | MENENIUS | Because you talk of pride now, will you not | 25 |
| FTLN 0905 | | be angry? | |
| FTLN 0906 | BOTH | Well, well, sir, well? | |
| FTLN 0907 | MENENIUS | Why, 'tis no great matter; for a very little | |
| FTLN 0908 | | thief of occasion will rob you of a great deal of patience. | |
| FTLN 0909 | | Give your dispositions the reins, and be | 30 |
| FTLN 0910 | | angry at your pleasures, at the least, if you take it | |
| FTLN 0911 | | as a pleasure to you in being so. You blame Martius | |
| FTLN 0912 | | for being proud. | |
| FTLN 0913 | BRUTUS | We do it not alone, sir. | |
| FTLN 0914 | MENENIUS | I know you can do very little alone, for | 35 |
| FTLN 0915 | | your helps are many, or else your actions would | |
| FTLN 0916 | | grow wondrous single. Your abilities are too infantlike | |
| FTLN 0917 | | for doing much alone. You talk of pride. O, | |
| FTLN 0918 | | that you could turn your eyes toward the napes | |
| FTLN 0919 | | of your necks and make but an interior survey of | 40 |
| FTLN 0920 | | your good selves! O, that you could! | |
| FTLN 0921 | BOTH | What then, sir? | |
| FTLN 0922 | MENENIUS | Why, then you should discover a brace of | |
| FTLN 0923 | | unmeriting, proud, violent, testy magistrates, alias | |
| FTLN 0924 | | fools, as any in Rome. | 45 |
| FTLN 0925 | SICINIUS | Menenius, you are known well enough, too. | |
| FTLN 0926 | MENENIUS | I am known to be a humorous patrician and | |
| FTLN 0927 | | one that loves a cup of hot wine with not a drop of | |
| FTLN 0928 | | allaying Tiber in 't; said to be something imperfect | |
| FTLN 0929 | | in favoring the first complaint, hasty and tinder-like | 50 |
| FTLN 0930 | | upon too trivial motion; one that converses | |
| FTLN 0931 | | more with the buttock of the night than with the | |
| FTLN 0932 | | forehead of the morning. What I think I utter, | |
| FTLN 0933 | | and spend my malice in my breath. Meeting two | |
| FTLN 0934 | | such wealsmen as you are—I cannot call you | 55 |
| FTLN 0935 | | Lycurguses—if the drink you give me touch my | |
| FTLN 0936 | | palate adversely, I make a crooked face at it. I «cannot» | |
| FTLN 0937 | | say your Worships have delivered the matter | |
| FTLN 0938 | | well when I find the ass in compound with the | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|----|
| FTLN 0939 | major part of your syllables. And though I must | 60 |
| FTLN 0940 | be content to bear with those that say you are reverend | |
| FTLN 0941 | grave men, yet they lie deadly that tell you | |
| FTLN 0942 | have good faces. If you see this in the map of my | |
| FTLN 0943 | microcosm, follows it that I am known well enough | |
| FTLN 0944 | too? What harm can your bisson conspectuities | 65 |
| FTLN 0945 | glean out of this character, if I be known well | |
| FTLN 0946 | enough, too? | |
| FTLN 0947 | BRUTUS Come, sir, come; we know you well enough. | |
| FTLN 0948 | MENENIUS You know neither me, yourselves, nor anything. | |
| FTLN 0949 | You are ambitious for poor knaves' caps | 70 |
| FTLN 0950 | and legs. You wear out a good wholesome forenoon | |
| FTLN 0951 | in hearing a cause between an orange-wife | |
| FTLN 0952 | and a faucet-seller, and then rejoin the controversy | |
| FTLN 0953 | of threepence to a second day of audience. | |
| FTLN 0954 | When you are hearing a matter between party and | 75 |
| FTLN 0955 | party, if you chance to be pinched with the colic, | |
| FTLN 0956 | you make faces like mummers, set up the bloody | |
| FTLN 0957 | flag against all patience, and, in roaring for a | |
| FTLN 0958 | chamber pot, dismiss the controversy bleeding, | |
| FTLN 0959 | the more entangled by your hearing. All the peace | 80 |
| FTLN 0960 | you make in their cause is calling both the parties | |
| FTLN 0961 | knaves. You are a pair of strange ones. | |
| FTLN 0962 | BRUTUS Come, come. You are well understood to be a | |
| FTLN 0963 | perfecter giber for the table than a necessary | |
| FTLN 0964 | bencher in the Capitol. | 85 |
| FTLN 0965 | MENENIUS Our very priests must become mockers if | |
| FTLN 0966 | they shall encounter such ridiculous subjects as | |
| FTLN 0967 | you are. When you speak best unto the purpose, it | |
| FTLN 0968 | is not worth the wagging of your beards, and your | |
| FTLN 0969 | beards deserve not so honorable a grave as to | 90 |
| FTLN 0970 | stuff a botcher's cushion or to be entombed in an | |
| FTLN 0971 | ass's packsaddle. Yet you must be saying Martius is | |
| FTLN 0972 | proud, who, in a cheap estimation, is worth all | |
| FTLN 0973 | your predecessors since Deucalion, though peradventure | |
| FTLN 0974 | some of the best of 'em were hereditary | 95 |

FTLN 0975 hangmen. Good e'en to your Worships. More of
 FTLN 0976 your conversation would infect my brain, being
 FTLN 0977 the herdsmen of the beastly plebeians. I will be
 FTLN 0978 bold to take my leave of you.
〔He begins to exit.〕 Brutus and Sicinius 〔stand〕 aside.

Enter Volumnia, Virgilia, and Valeria.

FTLN 0979 How now, my as fair as noble ladies—and the 100
 FTLN 0980 moon, were she earthly, no nobler—whither do
 FTLN 0981 you follow your eyes so fast?

FTLN 0982 VOLUMNIA Honorable Menenius, my boy Martius approaches.
 FTLN 0983 For the love of Juno, let's go!

FTLN 0984 MENENIUS Ha? Martius coming home? 105

FTLN 0985 VOLUMNIA Ay, worthy Menenius, and with most prosperous
 FTLN 0986 approbation.

FTLN 0987 MENENIUS Take my cap, Jupiter, and I thank thee! *〔(He*
 FTLN 0988 *throws his cap in the air.)〕* Hoo! Martius coming
 FTLN 0989 home? 110

FTLN 0990 *〔VALERIA, VIRGILIA〕* Nay, 'tis true.

FTLN 0991 VOLUMNIA Look, here's a letter from him. *〔She produces*
 FTLN 0992 *a paper.〕* The state hath another, his wife another,
 FTLN 0993 and I think there's one at home for you.

FTLN 0994 MENENIUS I will make my very house reel tonight. A 115
 FTLN 0995 letter for me?

FTLN 0996 VIRGILIA Yes, certain, there's a letter for you; I saw 't.

FTLN 0997 MENENIUS A letter for me? It gives me an estate of
 FTLN 0998 seven years' health, in which time I will make a lip
 FTLN 0999 at the physician. The most sovereign prescription 120
 FTLN 1000 in Galen is but empiricitic and, to this preservative,
 FTLN 1001 of no better report than a horse drench. Is he not
 FTLN 1002 wounded? He was wont to come home wounded.

FTLN 1003 VIRGILIA O no, no, no!

FTLN 1004 VOLUMNIA O, he is wounded, I thank the gods for 't. 125

FTLN 1005 MENENIUS So do I too, if it be not too much. Brings he
 FTLN 1006 victory in his pocket, the wounds become him.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 1007 | VOLUMNIA | On 's brows, Menenius. He comes the third | |
| FTLN 1008 | | time home with the oaken garland. | |
| FTLN 1009 | MENENIUS | Has he disciplined Aufidius soundly? | 130 |
| FTLN 1010 | VOLUMNIA | Titus Lartius writes they fought together, | |
| FTLN 1011 | | but Aufidius got off. | |
| FTLN 1012 | MENENIUS | And 'twas time for him too, I'll warrant him | |
| FTLN 1013 | | that. An he had stayed by him, I would not have | |
| FTLN 1014 | | been so 'fidiused for all the chests in Corioles and | 135 |
| FTLN 1015 | | the gold that's in them. Is the Senate possessed of | |
| FTLN 1016 | | this? | |
| FTLN 1017 | VOLUMNIA | Good ladies, let's go.—Yes, yes, yes. The | |
| FTLN 1018 | | Senate has letters from the General, wherein he | |
| FTLN 1019 | | gives my son the whole name of the war. He hath | 140 |
| FTLN 1020 | | in this action outdone his former deeds doubly. | |
| FTLN 1021 | VALERIA | In troth, there's wondrous things spoke of | |
| FTLN 1022 | | him. | |
| FTLN 1023 | MENENIUS | Wondrous? Ay, I warrant you, and not without | |
| FTLN 1024 | | his true purchasing. | 145 |
| FTLN 1025 | VIRGILIA | The gods grant them true. | |
| FTLN 1026 | VOLUMNIA | True? Pow waw! | |
| FTLN 1027 | MENENIUS | True? I'll be sworn they are true. Where is | |
| FTLN 1028 | | he wounded? ¹ (<i>To the Tribunes.</i>) God save your | |
| FTLN 1029 | | good Worships! Martius is coming home; he has | 150 |
| FTLN 1030 | | more cause to be proud.—Where is he wounded? | |
| FTLN 1031 | VOLUMNIA | I' th' shoulder and i' th' left arm. There will | |
| FTLN 1032 | | be large cicatrices to show the people when he | |
| FTLN 1033 | | shall stand for his place. He received in the repulse | |
| FTLN 1034 | | of Tarquin seven hurts i' th' body. | 155 |
| FTLN 1035 | MENENIUS | One i' th' neck and two i' th' thigh—there's | |
| FTLN 1036 | | nine that I know. | |
| FTLN 1037 | VOLUMNIA | He had, before this last expedition, twenty-five | |
| FTLN 1038 | | wounds upon him. | |
| FTLN 1039 | MENENIUS | Now it's twenty-seven. Every gash was an | 160 |
| FTLN 1040 | | enemy's grave. (<i>A shout and flourish.</i>) Hark, the | |
| FTLN 1041 | | trumpets! | |

FTLN 1042 VOLUMNIA These are the ushers of Martius: before him
 FTLN 1043 he carries noise, and behind him he leaves tears.
 FTLN 1044 Death, that dark spirit, in 's nervy arm doth lie, 165
 FTLN 1045 Which, being advanced, declines, and then men die.
A sennet.

*Enter Cominius the General and Titus Lartius, between
 them Coriolanus crowned with an oaken garland, with
 Captains and Soldiers and a Herald. Trumpets sound.*

HERALD
 FTLN 1046 Know, Rome, that all alone Martius did fight
 FTLN 1047 Within Corioles' gates, where he hath won,
 FTLN 1048 With fame, a name to Martius Caius; these
 FTLN 1049 In honor follows "Coriolanus." 170
 FTLN 1050 Welcome to Rome, renownèd Coriolanus.
Sound flourish.

ALL
 FTLN 1051 Welcome to Rome, renownèd Coriolanus!
 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 1052 No more of this. It does offend my heart.
 FTLN 1053 Pray now, no more.
 FTLN 1054 COMINIUS Look, sir, your mother. 175
 FTLN 1055 CORIOLANUS O,
 FTLN 1056 You have, I know, petitioned all the gods
 FTLN 1057 For my prosperity. *Kneels.*
 FTLN 1058 VOLUMNIA Nay, my good soldier, up.
「He stands.」

FTLN 1059 My gentle Martius, worthy Caius, and 180
 FTLN 1060 By deed-achieving honor newly named—
 FTLN 1061 What is it? Coriolanus must I call thee?
 FTLN 1062 But, O, thy wife—
 FTLN 1063 CORIOLANUS My gracious silence, hail.
 FTLN 1064 Wouldst thou have laughed had I come confined 185
 FTLN 1065 home,
 FTLN 1066 That weep'st to see me triumph? Ah, my dear,

| | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------|
| FTLN 1067 | Such eyes the widows in Corioles wear | |
| FTLN 1068 | And mothers that lack sons. | |
| FTLN 1069 | MENENIUS | Now the gods crown |
| FTLN 1070 | thee! | 190 |
| | 「CORIOLANUS」 | |
| FTLN 1071 | And live you yet? 「(To Valeria.)」 O, my sweet lady, | |
| FTLN 1072 | pardon. | |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 1073 | I know not where to turn. O, welcome home!— | |
| FTLN 1074 | And, welcome, general.—And you're welcome all. | 195 |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 1075 | A hundred thousand welcomes! I could weep, | |
| FTLN 1076 | And I could laugh; I am light and heavy. Welcome. | |
| FTLN 1077 | A curse begin at very root on 's heart | |
| FTLN 1078 | That is not glad to see thee! 「You」 are three | |
| FTLN 1079 | That Rome should dote on; yet, by the faith of men, | 200 |
| FTLN 1080 | We have some old crab trees here at home that will | |
| FTLN 1081 | not | |
| FTLN 1082 | Be grafted to your relish. Yet welcome, warriors! | |
| FTLN 1083 | We call a nettle but a nettle, and | |
| FTLN 1084 | The faults of fools but folly. | 205 |
| FTLN 1085 | COMINIUS Ever right. | |
| FTLN 1086 | CORIOLANUS Menenius ever, ever. | |
| | HERALD | |
| FTLN 1087 | Give way there, and go on! | |
| FTLN 1088 | CORIOLANUS, 「to Volumnia and Virgilia」 Your hand | |
| FTLN 1089 | and yours. | 210 |
| FTLN 1090 | Ere in our own house I do shade my head, | |
| FTLN 1091 | The good patricians must be visited, | |
| FTLN 1092 | From whom I have received not only greetings, | |
| FTLN 1093 | But with them change of honors. | |
| FTLN 1094 | VOLUMNIA | I have lived |
| FTLN 1095 | To see inherited my very wishes | 215 |
| FTLN 1096 | And the buildings of my fancy. Only | |
| FTLN 1097 | There's one thing wanting, which I doubt not but | |
| FTLN 1098 | Our Rome will cast upon thee. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|--|-----|
| FTLN 1099 | CORIOLANUS | Know, good mother, | 220 |
| FTLN 1100 | | I had rather be their servant in my way | |
| FTLN 1101 | | Than sway with them in theirs. | |
| FTLN 1102 | COMINIUS | On, to the Capitol. | |
| | | <i>Flourish</i> [⌈] <i>of</i> [⌋] <i>cornets. They exit in state, as before.</i> | |
| | | <i>Brutus and Sicinius</i> [⌈] <i>come forward.</i> [⌋] | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 1103 | | All tongues speak of him, and the bleared sights | |
| FTLN 1104 | | Are spectacled to see him. Your prattling nurse | 225 |
| FTLN 1105 | | Into a rapture lets her baby cry | |
| FTLN 1106 | | While she chats him. The kitchen malkin pins | |
| FTLN 1107 | | Her richest lockram 'bout her reechy neck, | |
| FTLN 1108 | | Clamb'ring the walls to eye him. Stalls, bulks, | |
| FTLN 1109 | | windows | 230 |
| FTLN 1110 | | Are smothered up, leads filled, and ridges horsed | |
| FTLN 1111 | | With variable complexions, all agreeing | |
| FTLN 1112 | | In earnestness to see him. Seld-shown flamens | |
| FTLN 1113 | | Do press among the popular throngs and puff | |
| FTLN 1114 | | To win a vulgar station. Our veiled dames | 235 |
| FTLN 1115 | | Commit the war of white and damask in | |
| FTLN 1116 | | Their nicely-gauded cheeks to th' wanton spoil | |
| FTLN 1117 | | Of Phoebus' burning kisses. Such a pother, | |
| FTLN 1118 | | As if that whatsoever god who leads him | |
| FTLN 1119 | | Were slyly crept into his human powers | 240 |
| FTLN 1120 | | And gave him graceful posture. | |
| FTLN 1121 | SICINIUS | On the sudden | |
| FTLN 1122 | | I warrant him consul. | |
| FTLN 1123 | BRUTUS | Then our office may, | |
| FTLN 1124 | | During his power, go sleep. | 245 |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1125 | | He cannot temp'rately transport his honors | |
| FTLN 1126 | | From where he should begin and end, but will | |
| FTLN 1127 | | Lose those he hath won. | |
| FTLN 1128 | BRUTUS | In that there's comfort. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|-----|
| FTLN 1129 | SICINIUS | Doubt | 250 |
| FTLN 1130 | not | | |
| FTLN 1131 | The commoners, for whom we stand, but they | | |
| FTLN 1132 | Upon their ancient malice will forget | | |
| FTLN 1133 | With the least cause these his new honors—which | | |
| FTLN 1134 | That he will give them make I as little question | | 255 |
| FTLN 1135 | As he is proud to do 't. | | |
| FTLN 1136 | BRUTUS | I heard him swear, | |
| FTLN 1137 | Were he to stand for consul, never would he | | |
| FTLN 1138 | Appear i' th' marketplace nor on him put | | |
| FTLN 1139 | The napless vesture of humility, | | 260 |
| FTLN 1140 | Nor showing, as the manner is, his wounds | | |
| FTLN 1141 | To th' people, beg their stinking breaths. | | |
| FTLN 1142 | SICINIUS | 'Tis right. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 1143 | It was his word. O, he would miss it rather | | |
| FTLN 1144 | Than carry it but by the suit of the gentry to him | | 265 |
| FTLN 1145 | And the desire of the nobles. | | |
| FTLN 1146 | SICINIUS | I wish no better | |
| FTLN 1147 | Than have him hold that purpose and to put it | | |
| FTLN 1148 | In execution. | | |
| FTLN 1149 | BRUTUS | 'Tis most like he will. | 270 |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1150 | It shall be to him then as our good wills, | | |
| FTLN 1151 | A sure destruction. | | |
| FTLN 1152 | BRUTUS | So it must fall out | |
| FTLN 1153 | To him, or our authority's for an end. | | |
| FTLN 1154 | We must suggest the people in what hatred | | 275 |
| FTLN 1155 | He still hath held them; that to 's power he would | | |
| FTLN 1156 | Have made them mules, silenced their pleaders, and | | |
| FTLN 1157 | Dispropertied their freedoms; holding them | | |
| FTLN 1158 | In human action and capacity | | |
| FTLN 1159 | Of no more soul nor fitness for the world | | 280 |
| FTLN 1160 | Than camels in their war, who have their provand | | |
| FTLN 1161 | Only for bearing burdens, and sore blows | | |
| FTLN 1162 | For sinking under them. | | |

FTLN 1163 SICINIUS This, as you say, suggested
 FTLN 1164 At some time when his soaring insolence 285
 FTLN 1165 Shall 「touch」 the people—which time shall not want
 FTLN 1166 If he be put upon 't, and that's as easy
 FTLN 1167 As to set dogs on sheep—will be his fire
 FTLN 1168 To kindle their dry stubble, and their blaze
 FTLN 1169 Shall darken him forever. 290

Enter a Messenger.

FTLN 1170 BRUTUS What's the matter?
 MESSENGER
 FTLN 1171 You are sent for to the Capitol. 'Tis thought
 FTLN 1172 That Martius shall be consul. I have seen
 FTLN 1173 The dumb men throng to see him, and the blind
 FTLN 1174 To hear him speak; matrons flung gloves, 295
 FTLN 1175 Ladies and maids their scarves and handkerchiefs,
 FTLN 1176 Upon him as he passed; the nobles bended
 FTLN 1177 As to Jove's statue, and the Commons made
 FTLN 1178 A shower and thunder with their caps and shouts.
 FTLN 1179 I never saw the like. 300
 FTLN 1180 BRUTUS Let's to the Capitol,
 FTLN 1181 And carry with us ears and eyes for th' time,
 FTLN 1182 But hearts for the event.
 FTLN 1183 SICINIUS Have with you.

They exit.

「Scene 2」

*Enter two Officers, to lay cushions, as it were
 in the Capitol.*

FTLN 1184 FIRST OFFICER Come, come. They are almost here. How
 FTLN 1185 many stand for consulships?
 FTLN 1186 SECOND OFFICER Three, they say; but 'tis thought of
 FTLN 1187 everyone Coriolanus will carry it.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|----|
| FTLN 1188 | FIRST OFFICER | That's a brave fellow, but he's vengeance | 5 |
| FTLN 1189 | | proud and loves not the common people. | |
| FTLN 1190 | SECOND OFFICER | 'Faith, there hath been many great | |
| FTLN 1191 | | men that have flattered the people who ne'er loved | |
| FTLN 1192 | | them; and there be many that they have loved they | |
| FTLN 1193 | | know not wherefore; so that, if they love they | 10 |
| FTLN 1194 | | know not why, they hate upon no better a ground. | |
| FTLN 1195 | | Therefore, for Coriolanus neither to care whether | |
| FTLN 1196 | | they love or hate him manifests the true knowledge | |
| FTLN 1197 | | he has in their disposition and, out of his noble | |
| FTLN 1198 | | carelessness, lets them plainly see 't. | 15 |
| FTLN 1199 | FIRST OFFICER | If he did not care whether he had their | |
| FTLN 1200 | | love or no, he waved indifferently 'twixt doing them | |
| FTLN 1201 | | neither good nor harm; but he seeks their hate with | |
| FTLN 1202 | | greater devotion than they can render it him and | |
| FTLN 1203 | | leaves nothing undone that may fully discover him | 20 |
| FTLN 1204 | | their opposite. Now, to seem to affect the malice | |
| FTLN 1205 | | and displeasure of the people is as bad as that | |
| FTLN 1206 | | which he dislikes, to flatter them for their love. | |
| FTLN 1207 | SECOND OFFICER | He hath deserved worthily of his | |
| FTLN 1208 | | country, and his ascent is not by such easy degrees | 25 |
| FTLN 1209 | | as those who, having been supple and courteous to | |
| FTLN 1210 | | the people, bonneted, without any further deed to | |
| FTLN 1211 | | have them at all into their estimation and report; | |
| FTLN 1212 | | but he hath so planted his honors in their eyes and | |
| FTLN 1213 | | his actions in their hearts that for their tongues to | 30 |
| FTLN 1214 | | be silent and not confess so much were a kind of | |
| FTLN 1215 | | ingrateful injury. To report otherwise were a malice | |
| FTLN 1216 | | that, giving itself the lie, would pluck reproof | |
| FTLN 1217 | | and rebuke from every ear that heard it. | |
| FTLN 1218 | FIRST OFFICER | No more of him; he's a worthy man. | 35 |
| FTLN 1219 | | Make way. They are coming. | |

A sennet. Enter the Patricians and the Tribunes of the people, Lictors before them; Coriolanus, Menenius, Cominius the consul. [The Patricians sit.] Sicinius

*and Brutus take their places by themselves.
Coriolanus stands.*

MENENIUS

FTLN 1220 Having determined of the Volsces and
FTLN 1221 To send for Titus Lartius, it remains,
FTLN 1222 As the main point of this our after-meeting,
FTLN 1223 To gratify his noble service that 40
FTLN 1224 Hath thus stood for his country. Therefore please
FTLN 1225 you,

FTLN 1226 Most reverend and grave elders, to desire
FTLN 1227 The present consul and last general
FTLN 1228 In our well-found successes to report 45
FTLN 1229 A little of that worthy work performed
FTLN 1230 By Martius Caius Coriolanus, whom
FTLN 1231 We met here both to thank and to remember
FTLN 1232 With honors like himself. *[Coriolanus sits.]*

FTLN 1233 FIRST SENATOR Speak, good Cominius. 50
FTLN 1234 Leave nothing out for length, and make us think
FTLN 1235 Rather our state's defective for requital,
FTLN 1236 Than we to stretch it out. *[To the Tribunes.]*

FTLN 1237 Masters o' th' people,
FTLN 1238 We do request your kindest ears and, after, 55
FTLN 1239 Your loving motion toward the common body
FTLN 1240 To yield what passes here.

FTLN 1241 SICINIUS We are convented
FTLN 1242 Upon a pleasing treaty and have hearts
FTLN 1243 Inclinable to honor and advance 60
FTLN 1244 The theme of our assembly.

FTLN 1245 BRUTUS Which the rather
FTLN 1246 We shall be blest to do if he remember
FTLN 1247 A kinder value of the people than
FTLN 1248 He hath hereto prized them at. 65

FTLN 1249 MENENIUS That's off, that's off!
FTLN 1250 I would you rather had been silent. Please you
FTLN 1251 To hear Cominius speak?

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1252 | BRUTUS | Most willingly, | |
| FTLN 1253 | | But yet my caution was more pertinent | 70 |
| FTLN 1254 | | Than the rebuke you give it. | |
| FTLN 1255 | MENENIUS | He loves your people, | |
| FTLN 1256 | | But tie him not to be their bedfellow.— | |
| FTLN 1257 | | Worthy Cominius, speak. | |
| | | <i>Coriolanus rises and offers to go away.</i> | |
| FTLN 1258 | | Nay, keep your place. | 75 |
| | 〔FIRST〕 SENATOR | | |
| FTLN 1259 | | Sit, Coriolanus. Never shame to hear | |
| FTLN 1260 | | What you have nobly done. | |
| FTLN 1261 | CORIOLANUS | Your Honors, pardon. | |
| FTLN 1262 | | I had rather have my wounds to heal again | |
| FTLN 1263 | | Than hear say how I got them. | 80 |
| FTLN 1264 | BRUTUS | Sir, I hope | |
| FTLN 1265 | | My words disbenched you not? | |
| FTLN 1266 | CORIOLANUS | No, sir. Yet oft, | |
| FTLN 1267 | | When blows have made me stay, I fled from words. | |
| FTLN 1268 | | You soothed not, therefore hurt not; but your | 85 |
| FTLN 1269 | | people, | |
| FTLN 1270 | | I love them as they weigh. | |
| FTLN 1271 | MENENIUS | Pray now, sit down. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 1272 | | I had rather have one scratch my head i' th' sun | |
| FTLN 1273 | | When the alarum were struck than idly sit | 90 |
| FTLN 1274 | | To hear my nothings monstered. <i>Coriolanus exits.</i> | |
| FTLN 1275 | MENENIUS | Masters of the people, | |
| FTLN 1276 | | Your multiplying spawn how can he flatter— | |
| FTLN 1277 | | That's thousand to one good one—when you now | |
| FTLN 1278 | | see | 95 |
| FTLN 1279 | | He had rather venture all his limbs for honor | |
| FTLN 1280 | | Than one on 's ears to hear it.—Proceed, Cominius. | |
| | COMINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1281 | | I shall lack voice. The deeds of Coriolanus | |
| FTLN 1282 | | Should not be uttered feebly. It is held | |
| FTLN 1283 | | That valor is the chiefest virtue and | 100 |

FTLN 1284 Most dignifies the haver; if it be,
 FTLN 1285 The man I speak of cannot in the world
 FTLN 1286 Be singly counterpoised. At sixteen years,
 FTLN 1287 When Tarquin made a head for Rome, he fought
 FTLN 1288 Beyond the mark of others. Our then dictator, 105
 FTLN 1289 Whom with all praise I point at, saw him fight
 FTLN 1290 When with his Amazonian chin he drove
 FTLN 1291 The bristled lips before him. He bestrid
 FTLN 1292 An o'erpessed Roman and i' th' Consul's view
 FTLN 1293 Slew three opposers. Tarquin's self he met 110
 FTLN 1294 And struck him on his knee. In that day's feats,
 FTLN 1295 When he might act the woman in the scene,
 FTLN 1296 He proved best man i' th' field and for his meed
 FTLN 1297 Was brow-bound with the oak. His pupil age
 FTLN 1298 Man-entered thus, he waxèd like a sea, 115
 FTLN 1299 And in the brunt of seventeen battles since
 FTLN 1300 He lurched all swords of the garland. For this last,
 FTLN 1301 Before and in Corioles, let me say,
 FTLN 1302 I cannot speak him home. He stopped the flyers
 FTLN 1303 And by his rare example made the coward 120
 FTLN 1304 Turn terror into sport. As weeds before
 FTLN 1305 A vessel under sail, so men obeyed
 FTLN 1306 And fell below his stem. His sword, Death's stamp,
 FTLN 1307 Where it did mark, it took; from face to foot
 FTLN 1308 He was a thing of blood, whose every motion 125
 FTLN 1309 Was timed with dying cries. Alone he entered
 FTLN 1310 The mortal gate o' th' city, which he painted
 FTLN 1311 With shunless destiny; aidless came off
 FTLN 1312 And with a sudden reinforcement struck
 FTLN 1313 Corioles like a planet. Now all's his, 130
 FTLN 1314 When by and by the din of war gan pierce
 FTLN 1315 His ready sense; then straight his doubled spirit
 FTLN 1316 Requickenèd what in flesh was fatigate,
 FTLN 1317 And to the battle came he, where he did
 FTLN 1318 Run reeking o'er the lives of men as if 135
 FTLN 1319 'Twere a perpetual spoil; and till we called

FTLN 1320 Both field and city ours, he never stood
 FTLN 1321 To ease his breast with panting.
 FTLN 1322 MENENIUS Worthy man!
 「FIRST」 SENATOR
 FTLN 1323 He cannot but with measure fit the honors 140
 FTLN 1324 Which we devise him.
 FTLN 1325 COMINIUS Our spoils he kicked at
 FTLN 1326 And looked upon things precious as they were
 FTLN 1327 The common muck of the world. He covets less
 FTLN 1328 Than misery itself would give, rewards 145
 FTLN 1329 His deeds with doing them, and is content
 FTLN 1330 To spend the time to end it.
 FTLN 1331 MENENIUS He's right noble.
 FTLN 1332 Let him be called for.
 FTLN 1333 「FIRST」 SENATOR Call Coriolanus. 150
 FTLN 1334 OFFICER He doth appear.

Enter Coriolanus.

MENENIUS
 FTLN 1335 The Senate, Coriolanus, are well pleased
 FTLN 1336 To make thee consul.
 FTLN 1337 CORIOLANUS I do owe them still
 FTLN 1338 My life and services. 155
 FTLN 1339 MENENIUS It then remains
 FTLN 1340 That you do speak to the people.
 FTLN 1341 CORIOLANUS I do beseech you,
 FTLN 1342 Let me o'erleap that custom, for I cannot
 FTLN 1343 Put on the gown, stand naked, and entreat them 160
 FTLN 1344 For my wounds' sake to give their suffrage. Please
 FTLN 1345 you
 FTLN 1346 That I may pass this doing.
 FTLN 1347 SICINIUS Sir, the people
 FTLN 1348 Must have their voices; neither will they bate 165
 FTLN 1349 One jot of ceremony.
 FTLN 1350 MENENIUS, 「to Coriolanus」 Put them not to 't.
 FTLN 1351 Pray you, go fit you to the custom, and

FTLN 1352 Take to you, as your predecessors have,
 FTLN 1353 Your honor with your form. 170

FTLN 1354 CORIOLANUS It is a part
 FTLN 1355 That I shall blush in acting, and might well
 FTLN 1356 Be taken from the people.

FTLN 1357 BRUTUS, [to Sicinius] Mark you that?

CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 1358 To brag unto them “Thus I did, and thus!” 175
 FTLN 1359 Show them th’ unaching scars, which I should hide,
 FTLN 1360 As if I had received them for the hire
 FTLN 1361 Of their breath only!

FTLN 1362 MENENIUS Do not stand upon ’t.—
 FTLN 1363 We recommend to you, tribunes of the people, 180
 FTLN 1364 Our purpose to them, and to our noble consul
 FTLN 1365 Wish we all joy and honor.

SENATORS
 FTLN 1366 To Coriolanus come all joy and honor!

*Flourish cornets. Then they exit. Sicinius and
 Brutus remain.*

BRUTUS
 FTLN 1367 You see how he intends to use the people.

SICINIUS
 FTLN 1368 May they perceive ’s intent! He will require them 185
 FTLN 1369 As if he did contemn what he requested
 FTLN 1370 Should be in them to give.

FTLN 1371 BRUTUS Come, we’ll inform them
 FTLN 1372 Of our proceedings here. On th’ marketplace
 FTLN 1373 I know they do attend us. 190

[They exit.]

[Scene 3]

Enter seven or eight Citizens.

FTLN 1374 FIRST CITIZEN Once, if he do require our voices, we
 FTLN 1375 ought not to deny him.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|----|
| FTLN 1376 | SECOND CITIZEN | We may, sir, if we will. | |
| FTLN 1377 | THIRD CITIZEN | We have power in ourselves to do it, but | |
| FTLN 1378 | | it is a power that we have no power to do; for, if | 5 |
| FTLN 1379 | | he show us his wounds and tell us his deeds, we | |
| FTLN 1380 | | are to put our tongues into those wounds and | |
| FTLN 1381 | | speak for them. So, if he tell us his noble deeds, we | |
| FTLN 1382 | | must also tell him our noble acceptance of them. | |
| FTLN 1383 | | Ingratitude is monstrous, and for the multitude to | 10 |
| FTLN 1384 | | be ingrateful were to make a monster of the multitude, | |
| FTLN 1385 | | of the which, we being members, should | |
| FTLN 1386 | | bring ourselves to be monstrous members. | |
| FTLN 1387 | FIRST CITIZEN | And to make us no better thought of, a | |
| FTLN 1388 | | little help will serve; for once we stood up about | 15 |
| FTLN 1389 | | the corn, he himself stuck not to call us the many-headed | |
| FTLN 1390 | | multitude. | |
| FTLN 1391 | THIRD CITIZEN | We have been called so of many; not that | |
| FTLN 1392 | | our heads are some brown, some black, some | |
| FTLN 1393 | | abram, some bald, but that our wits are so diversely | 20 |
| FTLN 1394 | | colored; and truly I think if all our wits were to | |
| FTLN 1395 | | issue out of one skull, they would fly east, west, | |
| FTLN 1396 | | north, south, and their consent of one direct way | |
| FTLN 1397 | | should be at once to all the points o' th' compass. | |
| FTLN 1398 | SECOND CITIZEN | Think you so? Which way do you | 25 |
| FTLN 1399 | | judge my wit would fly? | |
| FTLN 1400 | THIRD CITIZEN | Nay, your wit will not so soon out as another | |
| FTLN 1401 | | man's will; 'tis strongly wedged up in a blockhead. | |
| FTLN 1402 | | But if it were at liberty, 'twould sure | |
| FTLN 1403 | | southward. | 30 |
| FTLN 1404 | SECOND CITIZEN | Why that way? | |
| FTLN 1405 | THIRD CITIZEN | To lose itself in a fog, where, being three | |
| FTLN 1406 | | parts melted away with rotten dews, the fourth | |
| FTLN 1407 | | would return for conscience' sake, to help to get | |
| FTLN 1408 | | thee a wife. | 35 |
| FTLN 1409 | SECOND CITIZEN | You are never without your tricks. You | |
| FTLN 1410 | | may, you may. | |

FTLN 1411 THIRD CITIZEN Are you all resolved to give your voices?
 FTLN 1412 But that's no matter; the greater part carries it. I
 FTLN 1413 say, if he would incline to the people, there was 40
 FTLN 1414 never a worthier man.

Enter Coriolanus in a gown of humility, with Menenius.

FTLN 1415 Here he comes, and in the gown of humility. Mark
 FTLN 1416 his behavior. We are not to stay all together, but to
 FTLN 1417 come by him where he stands, by ones, by twos,
 FTLN 1418 and by threes. He's to make his requests by particulars, 45
 FTLN 1419 wherein every one of us has a single honor
 FTLN 1420 in giving him our own voices with our own tongues.
 FTLN 1421 Therefore follow me, and I'll direct you how you
 FTLN 1422 shall go by him.

FTLN 1423 ALL Content, content. *〔Citizens exit.〕* 50

MENENIUS

FTLN 1424 O sir, you are not right. Have you not known
 FTLN 1425 The worthiest men have done 't?

FTLN 1426 CORIOLANUS What must I say?
 FTLN 1427 "I pray, sir?"—plague upon 't! I cannot bring
 FTLN 1428 My tongue to such a pace. "Look, sir, my wounds! 55
 FTLN 1429 I got them in my country's service when
 FTLN 1430 Some certain of your brethren roared and ran
 FTLN 1431 From th' noise of our own drums."

FTLN 1432 MENENIUS O me, the gods!
 FTLN 1433 You must not speak of that. You must desire them 60
 FTLN 1434 To think upon you.

FTLN 1435 CORIOLANUS Think upon me? Hang 'em!
 FTLN 1436 I would they would forget me, like the virtues
 FTLN 1437 Which our divines lose by 'em.

FTLN 1438 MENENIUS You'll mar all. 65
 FTLN 1439 I'll leave you. Pray you, speak to 'em, I pray you,
 FTLN 1440 In wholesome manner. *He exits.*

FTLN 1441 CORIOLANUS Bid them wash their faces
 FTLN 1442 And keep their teeth clean.

Enter three of the Citizens.

FTLN 1443 So, here comes a brace.— 70
 FTLN 1444 You know the cause, sir, of my standing here.
 THIRD CITIZEN
 FTLN 1445 We do, sir. Tell us what hath brought you to 't.
 FTLN 1446 CORIOLANUS Mine own desert.
 FTLN 1447 SECOND CITIZEN Your own desert?
 FTLN 1448 CORIOLANUS Ay, but 「not」 mine own desire. 75
 FTLN 1449 THIRD CITIZEN How, not your own desire?
 FTLN 1450 CORIOLANUS No, sir, 'twas never my desire yet to trouble
 FTLN 1451 the poor with begging.
 FTLN 1452 THIRD CITIZEN You must think if we give you anything,
 FTLN 1453 we hope to gain by you. 80
 FTLN 1454 CORIOLANUS Well then, I pray, your price o' th'
 FTLN 1455 consulship?
 FTLN 1456 FIRST CITIZEN The price is to ask it kindly.
 FTLN 1457 CORIOLANUS Kindly, sir, I pray, let me ha 't. I have
 FTLN 1458 wounds to show you, which shall be yours in 85
 FTLN 1459 private.—Your good voice, sir. What say you?
 FTLN 1460 SECOND CITIZEN You shall ha 't, worthy sir.
 FTLN 1461 CORIOLANUS A match, sir. There's in all two worthy
 FTLN 1462 voices begged. I have your alms. Adieu.
 FTLN 1463 THIRD CITIZEN, 「to the other Citizens」 But this is something 90
 FTLN 1464 odd.
 FTLN 1465 SECOND CITIZEN An 'twere to give again—but 'tis no
 FTLN 1466 matter. 「These citizens」 exit.

Enter two other Citizens.

FTLN 1467 CORIOLANUS Pray you now, if it may stand with the
 FTLN 1468 tune of your voices that I may be consul, I have 95
 FTLN 1469 here the customary gown.
 FTLN 1470 「FOURTH CITIZEN」 You have deserved nobly of your
 FTLN 1471 country, and you have not deserved nobly.
 FTLN 1472 CORIOLANUS Your enigma?

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1473 | 「FOURTH CITIZEN」 | You have been a scourge to her enemies; | 100 |
| FTLN 1474 | | you have been a rod to her friends. You have | |
| FTLN 1475 | | not indeed loved the common people. | |
| FTLN 1476 | CORIOLANUS | You should account me the more virtuous | |
| FTLN 1477 | | that I have not been common in my love. I will, sir, | |
| FTLN 1478 | | flatter my sworn brother, the people, to earn a | 105 |
| FTLN 1479 | | dearer estimation of them; 'tis a condition they account | |
| FTLN 1480 | | gentle. And since the wisdom of their choice | |
| FTLN 1481 | | is rather to have my hat than my heart, I will practice | |
| FTLN 1482 | | the insinuating nod and be off to them most | |
| FTLN 1483 | | counterfeitly. That is, sir, I will counterfeit the bewitchment | 110 |
| FTLN 1484 | | of some popular man and give it bountiful | |
| FTLN 1485 | | to the desirers. Therefore, beseech you, I may | |
| FTLN 1486 | | be consul. | |
| FTLN 1487 | 「FIFTH CITIZEN」 | We hope to find you our friend, and | |
| FTLN 1488 | | therefore give you our voices heartily. | 115 |
| FTLN 1489 | 「FOURTH CITIZEN」 | You have received many wounds for | |
| FTLN 1490 | | your country. | |
| FTLN 1491 | CORIOLANUS | I will not seal your knowledge with showing | |
| FTLN 1492 | | them. I will make much of your voices and so | |
| FTLN 1493 | | trouble you no farther. | 120 |
| FTLN 1494 | BOTH | The gods give you joy, sir, heartily. | |
| | | 「Citizens exit.」 | |
| FTLN 1495 | CORIOLANUS | Most sweet voices! | |
| FTLN 1496 | | Better it is to die, better to starve, | |
| FTLN 1497 | | Than crave the 「hire」 which first we do deserve. | |
| FTLN 1498 | | Why in this woolvish 「toge」 should I stand here | 125 |
| FTLN 1499 | | To beg of Hob and Dick that does appear | |
| FTLN 1500 | | Their needless vouches? Custom calls me to 't. | |
| FTLN 1501 | | What custom wills, in all things should we do 't? | |
| FTLN 1502 | | The dust on antique time would lie unswept | |
| FTLN 1503 | | And mountainous error be too highly heaped | 130 |
| FTLN 1504 | | For truth to o'erpeer. Rather than fool it so, | |
| FTLN 1505 | | Let the high office and the honor go | |
| FTLN 1506 | | To one that would do thus. I am half through; | |
| FTLN 1507 | | The one part suffered, the other will I do. | |

Enter three Citizens more.

FTLN 1508 Here come more voices.— 135
 FTLN 1509 Your voices! For your voices I have fought;
 FTLN 1510 Watched for your voices; for your voices bear
 FTLN 1511 Of wounds two dozen odd. Battles thrice six
 FTLN 1512 I have seen and heard of; for your voices have
 FTLN 1513 Done many things, some less, some more. Your 140
 FTLN 1514 voices!
 FTLN 1515 Indeed, I would be consul.
 FTLN 1516 「SIXTH」 CITIZEN He has done nobly, and cannot go
 FTLN 1517 without any honest man's voice.
 FTLN 1518 「SEVENTH」 CITIZEN Therefore let him be consul. The 145
 FTLN 1519 gods give him joy, and make him good friend to
 FTLN 1520 the people!
 FTLN 1521 ALL Amen, amen. God save thee, noble consul.
「Citizens exit.」
 FTLN 1522 CORIOLANUS Worthy voices!

Enter Menenius, with Brutus and Sicinius.

MENENIUS
 FTLN 1523 You have stood your limitation, and the Tribunes 150
 FTLN 1524 Endue you with the people's voice. Remains
 FTLN 1525 That in th' official marks invested, you
 FTLN 1526 Anon do meet the Senate.
 FTLN 1527 CORIOLANUS Is this done?
 SICINIUS
 FTLN 1528 The custom of request you have discharged. 155
 FTLN 1529 The people do admit you, and are summoned
 FTLN 1530 To meet anon upon your approbation.
 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 1531 Where? At the Senate House?
 FTLN 1532 SICINIUS There, Coriolanus.
 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 1533 May I change these garments? 160
 FTLN 1534 SICINIUS You may, sir.

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 1535 That I'll straight do and, knowing myself again,
FTLN 1536 Repair to th' Senate House.

MENENIUS

FTLN 1537 I'll keep you company.—Will you along?

BRUTUS

FTLN 1538 We stay here for the people. 165

FTLN 1539 SICINIUS Fare you well.

Coriolanus and Menenius exit.

FTLN 1540 He has it now; and by his looks, methinks,

FTLN 1541 'Tis warm at 's heart.

FTLN 1542 BRUTUS With a proud heart he wore

FTLN 1543 His humble weeds. Will you dismiss the people? 170

Enter the Plebeians.

SICINIUS

FTLN 1544 How now, my masters, have you chose this man?

FTLN 1545 FIRST CITIZEN He has our voices, sir.

BRUTUS

FTLN 1546 We pray the gods he may deserve your loves.

SECOND CITIZEN

FTLN 1547 Amen, sir. To my poor unworthy notice,

FTLN 1548 He mocked us when he begged our voices. 175

THIRD CITIZEN

FTLN 1549 Certainly, he flouted us downright.

FIRST CITIZEN

FTLN 1550 No, 'tis his kind of speech. He did not mock us.

SECOND CITIZEN

FTLN 1551 Not one amongst us, save yourself, but says

FTLN 1552 He used us scornfully. He should have showed us

FTLN 1553 His marks of merit, wounds received for 's country. 180

FTLN 1554 SICINIUS Why, so he did, I am sure.

FTLN 1555 ALL No, no. No man saw 'em.

THIRD CITIZEN

FTLN 1556 He said he had wounds, which he could show in

FTLN 1557 private,

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------|
| FTLN 1558 | And with his hat, thus waving it in scorn, | 185 |
| FTLN 1559 | “I would be consul,” says he. “Agèd custom, | |
| FTLN 1560 | But by your voices, will not so permit me; | |
| FTLN 1561 | Your voices therefore.” When we granted that, | |
| FTLN 1562 | Here was “I thank you for your voices. Thank you. | |
| FTLN 1563 | Your most sweet voices! Now you have left your | 190 |
| FTLN 1564 | voices, | |
| FTLN 1565 | I have no further with you.” Was not this mockery? | |
| SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1566 | Why either were you ignorant to see ’t | |
| FTLN 1567 | Or, seeing it, of such childish friendliness | |
| FTLN 1568 | To yield your voices? | 195 |
| FTLN 1569 | BRUTUS | Could you not have told him |
| FTLN 1570 | As you were lessoned? When he had no power, | |
| FTLN 1571 | But was a petty servant to the state, | |
| FTLN 1572 | He was your enemy, ever spake against | |
| FTLN 1573 | Your liberties and the charters that you bear | 200 |
| FTLN 1574 | I’ th’ body of the weal; and, now arriving | |
| FTLN 1575 | A place of potency and sway o’ th’ state, | |
| FTLN 1576 | If he should still malignantly remain | |
| FTLN 1577 | Fast foe to th’ plebeii, your voices might | |
| FTLN 1578 | Be curses to yourselves. You should have said | 205 |
| FTLN 1579 | That as his worthy deeds did claim no less | |
| FTLN 1580 | Than what he stood for, so his gracious nature | |
| FTLN 1581 | Would think upon you for your voices, and | |
| FTLN 1582 | Translate his malice towards you into love, | |
| FTLN 1583 | Standing your friendly lord. | 210 |
| FTLN 1584 | SICINIUS | Thus to have said, |
| FTLN 1585 | As you were fore-advised, had touched his spirit | |
| FTLN 1586 | And tried his inclination; from him plucked | |
| FTLN 1587 | Either his gracious promise, which you might, | |
| FTLN 1588 | As cause had called you up, have held him to; | 215 |
| FTLN 1589 | Or else it would have galled his surly nature, | |
| FTLN 1590 | Which easily endures not article | |
| FTLN 1591 | Tying him to aught. So putting him to rage, | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|---------------------|
| FTLN 1592 | You should have ta'en th' advantage of his choler | |
| FTLN 1593 | And passed him unelected. | 220 |
| FTLN 1594 | BRUTUS | Did you perceive |
| FTLN 1595 | He did solicit you in free contempt | |
| FTLN 1596 | When he did need your loves, and do you think | |
| FTLN 1597 | That his contempt shall not be bruising to you | |
| FTLN 1598 | When he hath power to crush? Why, had your | 225 |
| FTLN 1599 | bodies | |
| FTLN 1600 | No heart among you? Or had you tongues to cry | |
| FTLN 1601 | Against the rectorship of judgment? | |
| | SICINIUS | |
| FTLN 1602 | Have you ere now denied the asker? And now | |
| FTLN 1603 | Again, of him that did not ask but mock, | 230 |
| FTLN 1604 | Bestow your sued-for tongues? | |
| FTLN 1605 | THIRD CITIZEN | He's not confirmed. |
| FTLN 1606 | We may deny him yet. | |
| FTLN 1607 | SECOND CITIZEN | And will deny him. |
| FTLN 1608 | I'll have five hundred voices of that sound. | 235 |
| | FIRST CITIZEN | |
| FTLN 1609 | I twice five hundred, and their friends to piece 'em. | |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 1610 | Get you hence instantly, and tell those friends | |
| FTLN 1611 | They have chose a consul that will from them take | |
| FTLN 1612 | Their liberties, make them of no more voice | |
| FTLN 1613 | Than dogs that are as often beat for barking | 240 |
| FTLN 1614 | As therefor kept to do so. | |
| FTLN 1615 | SICINIUS | Let them assemble |
| FTLN 1616 | And, on a safer judgment, all revoke | |
| FTLN 1617 | Your ignorant election. Enforce his pride | |
| FTLN 1618 | And his old hate unto you. Besides, forget not | 245 |
| FTLN 1619 | With what contempt he wore the humble weed, | |
| FTLN 1620 | How in his suit he scorned you; but your loves, | |
| FTLN 1621 | Thinking upon his services, took from you | |
| FTLN 1622 | Th' apprehension of his present portance, | |
| FTLN 1623 | Which most gibingly, ungravely, he did fashion | 250 |
| FTLN 1624 | After the inveterate hate he bears you. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1625 | BRUTUS | Lay | |
| FTLN 1626 | | A fault on us, your tribunes, that we labored, | |
| FTLN 1627 | | No impediment between, but that you must | |
| FTLN 1628 | | Cast your election on him. | 255 |
| FTLN 1629 | SICINIUS | Say you chose him | |
| FTLN 1630 | | More after our commandment than as guided | |
| FTLN 1631 | | By your own true affections, and that your minds, | |
| FTLN 1632 | | Preoccupied with what you rather must do | |
| FTLN 1633 | | Than what you should, made you against the grain | 260 |
| FTLN 1634 | | To voice him consul. Lay the fault on us. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 1635 | | Ay, spare us not. Say we read lectures to you, | |
| FTLN 1636 | | How youngly he began to serve his country, | |
| FTLN 1637 | | How long continued, and what stock he springs of, | |
| FTLN 1638 | | The noble house o' th' Martians, from whence came | 265 |
| FTLN 1639 | | That Ancus Martius, Numa's daughter's son, | |
| FTLN 1640 | | Who after great Hostilius here was king, | |
| FTLN 1641 | | Of the same house Publius and Quintus were, | |
| FTLN 1642 | | That our best water brought by conduits hither; | |
| FTLN 1643 | | 「And Censorinus, that was so surnamed,」 | 270 |
| FTLN 1644 | | And nobly namèd so, twice being censor, | |
| FTLN 1645 | | Was his great ancestor. | |
| FTLN 1646 | SICINIUS | One thus descended, | |
| FTLN 1647 | | That hath besides well in his person wrought | |
| FTLN 1648 | | To be set high in place, we did commend | 275 |
| FTLN 1649 | | To your remembrances; but you have found, | |
| FTLN 1650 | | Scaling his present bearing with his past, | |
| FTLN 1651 | | That he's your fixèd enemy, and revoke | |
| FTLN 1652 | | Your sudden approbation. | |
| FTLN 1653 | BRUTUS | Say you ne'er had done 't— | 280 |
| FTLN 1654 | | Harp on that still—but by our putting on. | |
| FTLN 1655 | | And presently, when you have drawn your number, | |
| FTLN 1656 | | Repair to th' Capitol. | |
| FTLN 1657 | ALL | We will so. Almost all | |
| FTLN 1658 | | Repent in their election. <i>Plebeians exit.</i> | 285 |
| FTLN 1659 | BRUTUS | Let them go on. | |

FTLN 1660 This mutiny were better put in hazard
FTLN 1661 Than stay, past doubt, for greater.
FTLN 1662 If, as his nature is, he fall in rage
FTLN 1663 With their refusal, both observe and answer 290
FTLN 1664 The vantage of his anger.
FTLN 1665 SICINIUS To th' Capitol, come.
FTLN 1666 We will be there before the stream o' th' people,
FTLN 1667 And this shall seem, as partly 'tis, their own,
FTLN 1668 Which we have goaded onward. 295

They exit.

ACT 3

「Scene 1」

*Cornets. Enter Coriolanus, Menenius, all the Gentry,
Cominius, Titus Lartius, and other Senators.*

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 1669 Tullus Aufidius then had made new head?

LARTIUS

FTLN 1670 He had, my lord, and that it was which caused

FTLN 1671 Our swifter composition.

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 1672 So then the Volsces stand but as at first,

FTLN 1673 Ready, when time shall prompt them, to make road 5

FTLN 1674 Upon 's again.

FTLN 1675 COMINIUS They are worn, lord consul, so,

FTLN 1676 That we shall hardly in our ages see

FTLN 1677 Their banners wave again.

FTLN 1678 CORIOLANUS Saw you Aufidius? 10

LARTIUS

FTLN 1679 On safeguard he came to me, and did curse

FTLN 1680 Against the Volsces, for they had so vilely

FTLN 1681 Yielded the town. He is retired to Antium.

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 1682 Spoke he of me?

FTLN 1683 LARTIUS He did, my lord. 15

FTLN 1684 CORIOLANUS How? What?

LARTIUS

FTLN 1685 How often he had met you sword to sword;

FTLN 1686 That of all things upon the earth he hated
 FTLN 1687 Your person most; that he would pawn his fortunes
 FTLN 1688 To hopeless restitution, so he might 20
 FTLN 1689 Be called your vanquisher.

FTLN 1690 CORIOLANUS At Antium lives he?

FTLN 1691 LARTIUS At Antium.

FTLN 1692 CORIOLANUS

FTLN 1692 I wish I had a cause to seek him there,
 FTLN 1693 To oppose his hatred fully. Welcome home. 25

Enter Sicinius and Brutus.

FTLN 1694 Behold, these are the tribunes of the people,
 FTLN 1695 The tongues o' th' common mouth. I do despise
 FTLN 1696 them,
 FTLN 1697 For they do prank them in authority
 FTLN 1698 Against all noble sufferance. 30

FTLN 1699 SICINIUS Pass no further.

FTLN 1700 CORIOLANUS Ha? What is that?

FTLN 1701 BRUTUS

FTLN 1701 It will be dangerous to go on. No further.

FTLN 1702 CORIOLANUS What makes this change?

FTLN 1703 MENENIUS The matter? 35

FTLN 1704 COMINIUS

FTLN 1704 Hath he not passed the noble and the common?

FTLN 1705 BRUTUS

FTLN 1705 Cominius, no.

FTLN 1706 CORIOLANUS Have I had children's voices?

FTLN 1707 [FIRST] SENATOR

FTLN 1707 Tribunes, give way. He shall to th' marketplace.

FTLN 1708 BRUTUS

FTLN 1708 The people are incensed against him. 40

FTLN 1709 SICINIUS Stop,

FTLN 1710 Or all will fall in broil.

FTLN 1711 CORIOLANUS Are these your herd?

FTLN 1712 Must these have voices, that can yield them now

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 1713 | And straight disclaim their tongues? What are your | 45 |
| FTLN 1714 | offices? | |
| FTLN 1715 | You being their mouths, why rule you not their | |
| FTLN 1716 | teeth? | |
| FTLN 1717 | Have you not set them on? | |
| FTLN 1718 | MENENIUS Be calm, be calm. | 50 |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1719 | It is a purposed thing, and grows by plot, | |
| FTLN 1720 | To curb the will of the nobility. | |
| FTLN 1721 | Suffer 't, and live with such as cannot rule | |
| FTLN 1722 | Nor ever will be ruled. | |
| FTLN 1723 | BRUTUS Call 't not a plot. | 55 |
| FTLN 1724 | The people cry you mocked them; and, of late, | |
| FTLN 1725 | When corn was given them gratis, you repined, | |
| FTLN 1726 | Scandaled the suppliants for the people, called them | |
| FTLN 1727 | Timepleasers, flatterers, foes to nobleness. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1728 | Why, this was known before. | 60 |
| FTLN 1729 | BRUTUS Not to them all. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1730 | Have you informed them sithence? | |
| FTLN 1731 | BRUTUS How? I inform | |
| FTLN 1732 | them? | |
| FTLN 1733 | COMINIUS You are like to do such business. | 65 |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 1734 | Not unlike, each way, to better yours. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1735 | Why then should I be consul? By yond clouds, | |
| FTLN 1736 | Let me deserve so ill as you, and make me | |
| FTLN 1737 | Your fellow tribune. | |
| FTLN 1738 | SICINIUS You show too much of that | 70 |
| FTLN 1739 | For which the people stir. If you will pass | |
| FTLN 1740 | To where you are bound, you must inquire your | |
| FTLN 1741 | way, | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------|
| FTLN 1742 | Which you are out of, with a gentler spirit, | |
| FTLN 1743 | Or never be so noble as a consul, | 75 |
| FTLN 1744 | Nor yoke with him for tribune. | |
| FTLN 1745 | MENENIUS | Let's be calm. |
| | COMINIUS | |
| FTLN 1746 | The people are abused, set on. This palt'ring | |
| FTLN 1747 | Becomes not Rome, nor has Coriolanus | |
| FTLN 1748 | Deserved this so dishonored rub, laid falsely | 80 |
| FTLN 1749 | I' th' plain way of his merit. | |
| FTLN 1750 | CORIOLANUS | Tell me of corn? |
| FTLN 1751 | This was my speech, and I will speak 't again. | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 1752 | Not now, not now. | |
| FTLN 1753 | 〔FIRST〕 SENATOR | Not in this heat, sir, now. |
| | | 85 |
| FTLN 1754 | CORIOLANUS | Now, as I live, I will. |
| FTLN 1755 | My nobler friends, I crave their pardons. For | |
| FTLN 1756 | The mutable, rank-scented meiny, let them | |
| FTLN 1757 | Regard me, as I do not flatter, and | |
| FTLN 1758 | Therein behold themselves. I say again, | 90 |
| FTLN 1759 | In soothing them, we nourish 'gainst our senate | |
| FTLN 1760 | The cockle of rebellion, insolence, sedition, | |
| FTLN 1761 | Which we ourselves have plowed for, sowed, and | |
| FTLN 1762 | scattered | |
| FTLN 1763 | By mingling them with us, the honored number, | 95 |
| FTLN 1764 | Who lack not virtue, no, nor power, but that | |
| FTLN 1765 | Which they have given to beggars. | |
| FTLN 1766 | MENENIUS | Well, no more. |
| | 〔FIRST〕 SENATOR | |
| FTLN 1767 | No more words, we beseech you. | |
| FTLN 1768 | CORIOLANUS | How? No more? |
| | | 100 |
| FTLN 1769 | As for my country I have shed my blood, | |
| FTLN 1770 | Not fearing outward force, so shall my lungs | |
| FTLN 1771 | Coin words till their decay against those measles | |
| FTLN 1772 | Which we disdain should tetter us, yet sought | |
| FTLN 1773 | The very way to catch them. | 105 |

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1774 | BRUTUS | You speak o' th' people | |
| FTLN 1775 | | As if you were a god to punish, not | |
| FTLN 1776 | | A man of their infirmity. | |
| FTLN 1777 | SICINIUS | 'Twere well | |
| FTLN 1778 | | We let the people know 't. | 110 |
| FTLN 1779 | MENENIUS | What, what? His choler? | |
| FTLN 1780 | CORIOLANUS | Choler? | |
| FTLN 1781 | | Were I as patient as the midnight sleep, | |
| FTLN 1782 | | By Jove, 'twould be my mind. | |
| FTLN 1783 | SICINIUS | It is a mind | 115 |
| FTLN 1784 | | That shall remain a poison where it is, | |
| FTLN 1785 | | Not poison any further. | |
| FTLN 1786 | CORIOLANUS | "Shall remain"? | |
| FTLN 1787 | | Hear you this Triton of the minnows? Mark you | |
| FTLN 1788 | | His absolute "shall"? | 120 |
| FTLN 1789 | COMINIUS | 'Twas from the canon. | |
| FTLN 1790 | CORIOLANUS | "Shall"? | |
| FTLN 1791 | | O 'good' but most unwise patricians, why, | |
| FTLN 1792 | | You grave but reckless senators, have you thus | |
| FTLN 1793 | | Given Hydra here to choose an officer, | 125 |
| FTLN 1794 | | That with his peremptory "shall," being but | |
| FTLN 1795 | | The horn and noise o' th' monster's, wants not spirit | |
| FTLN 1796 | | To say he'll turn your current in a ditch | |
| FTLN 1797 | | And make your channel his? If he have power, | |
| FTLN 1798 | | Then vail your ignorance; if none, awake | 130 |
| FTLN 1799 | | Your dangerous lenity. If you are learned, | |
| FTLN 1800 | | Be not as common fools; if you are not, | |
| FTLN 1801 | | Let them have cushions by you. You are plebeians, | |
| FTLN 1802 | | If they be senators; and they are no less | |
| FTLN 1803 | | When, both your voices blended, the great'st taste | 135 |
| FTLN 1804 | | Most palates theirs. They choose their magistrate, | |
| FTLN 1805 | | And such a one as he, who puts his "shall," | |
| FTLN 1806 | | His popular "shall," against a graver bench | |
| FTLN 1807 | | Than ever frowned in Greece. By Jove himself, | |
| FTLN 1808 | | It makes the consuls base! And my soul aches | 140 |
| FTLN 1809 | | To know, when two authorities are up, | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|----------------------------------|
| FTLN 1810 | Neither supreme, how soon confusion | |
| FTLN 1811 | May enter 'twixt the gap of both and take | |
| FTLN 1812 | The one by th' other. | |
| FTLN 1813 | COMINIUS | Well, on to th' marketplace. 145 |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1814 | Whoever gave that counsel to give forth | |
| FTLN 1815 | The corn o' th' storehouse gratis, as 'twas used | |
| FTLN 1816 | Sometime in Greece— | |
| FTLN 1817 | MENENIUS | Well, well, no more of that. |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 1818 | Though there the people had more absolute power, | 150 |
| FTLN 1819 | I say they nourished disobedience, fed | |
| FTLN 1820 | The ruin of the state. | |
| FTLN 1821 | BRUTUS | Why shall the people give |
| FTLN 1822 | One that speaks thus their voice? | |
| FTLN 1823 | CORIOLANUS | I'll give my reasons, 155 |
| FTLN 1824 | More worthier than their voices. They know the | |
| FTLN 1825 | corn | |
| FTLN 1826 | Was not our recompense, resting well assured | |
| FTLN 1827 | They ne'er did service for 't. Being pressed to th' war, | |
| FTLN 1828 | Even when the navel of the state was touched, | 160 |
| FTLN 1829 | They would not thread the gates. This kind of | |
| FTLN 1830 | service | |
| FTLN 1831 | Did not deserve corn gratis. Being i' th' war, | |
| FTLN 1832 | Their mutinies and revolts, wherein they showed | |
| FTLN 1833 | Most valor, spoke not for them. Th' accusation | 165 |
| FTLN 1834 | Which they have often made against the Senate, | |
| FTLN 1835 | All cause unborn, could never be the native | |
| FTLN 1836 | Of our so frank donation. Well, what then? | |
| FTLN 1837 | How shall this bosom multiplied digest | |
| FTLN 1838 | The Senate's courtesy? Let deeds express | 170 |
| FTLN 1839 | What's like to be their words: "We did request it; | |
| FTLN 1840 | We are the greater poll, and in true fear | |
| FTLN 1841 | They gave us our demands." Thus we debase | |
| FTLN 1842 | The nature of our seats and make the rabble | |
| FTLN 1843 | Call our cares fears, which will in time | 175 |

| | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| FTLN 1844 | Break ope the locks o' th' Senate and bring in | |
| FTLN 1845 | The crows to peck the eagles. | |
| FTLN 1846 | MENENIUS | Come, enough. |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 1847 | Enough, with over-measure. | |
| FTLN 1848 | CORIOLANUS | No, take more! 180 |
| FTLN 1849 | What may be sworn by, both divine and human, | |
| FTLN 1850 | Seal what I end withal! This double worship— | |
| FTLN 1851 | 「Where one」 part does disdain with cause, the other | |
| FTLN 1852 | Insult without all reason, where gentry, title, | |
| FTLN 1853 | wisdom | 185 |
| FTLN 1854 | Cannot conclude but by the yea and no | |
| FTLN 1855 | Of general ignorance—it must omit | |
| FTLN 1856 | Real necessities and give way the while | |
| FTLN 1857 | To unstable slightness. Purpose so barred, it follows | |
| FTLN 1858 | Nothing is done to purpose. Therefore, beseech | 190 |
| FTLN 1859 | you— | |
| FTLN 1860 | You that will be less fearful than discreet, | |
| FTLN 1861 | That love the fundamental part of state | |
| FTLN 1862 | More than you doubt the change on 't, that prefer | |
| FTLN 1863 | A noble life before a long, and wish | 195 |
| FTLN 1864 | To jump a body with a dangerous physic | |
| FTLN 1865 | That's sure of death without it—at once pluck out | |
| FTLN 1866 | The multitudinous tongue; let them not lick | |
| FTLN 1867 | The sweet which is their poison. Your dishonor | |
| FTLN 1868 | Mangles true judgment and bereaves the state | 200 |
| FTLN 1869 | Of that integrity which should become 't, | |
| FTLN 1870 | Not having the power to do the good it would | |
| FTLN 1871 | For th' ill which doth control 't. | |
| FTLN 1872 | BRUTUS | 'Has said enough. |
| | SICINIUS | |
| FTLN 1873 | 'Has spoken like a traitor and shall answer | 205 |
| FTLN 1874 | As traitors do. | |
| FTLN 1875 | CORIOLANUS | Thou wretch, despite o'erwhelm thee! |
| FTLN 1876 | What should the people do with these bald tribunes, | |
| FTLN 1877 | On whom depending, their obedience fails | |

FTLN 1878 To th' greater bench? In a rebellion, 210
 FTLN 1879 When what's not meet but what must be was law,
 FTLN 1880 Then were they chosen. In a better hour,
 FTLN 1881 Let what is meet be said it must be meet,
 FTLN 1882 And throw their power i' th' dust.
 FTLN 1883 BRUTUS Manifest treason. 215
 FTLN 1884 SICINIUS This a consul? No.
 FTLN 1885 BRUTUS The aediles, ho! Let him be apprehended.

Enter an Aedile.

SICINIUS
 FTLN 1886 Go, call the people; [*Aedile exits.*] in whose name
 FTLN 1887 myself
 FTLN 1888 Attach thee as a traitorous innovator, 220
 FTLN 1889 A foe to th' public weal. Obey, I charge thee,
 FTLN 1890 And follow to thine answer.
 FTLN 1891 CORIOLANUS Hence, old goat.
 ALL [*PATRICIANS*]
 FTLN 1892 We'll surety him.
 FTLN 1893 COMINIUS, [*to Sicinius*] Agèd sir, hands off. 225
 CORIOLANUS, [*to Sicinius*]
 FTLN 1894 Hence, rotten thing, or I shall shake thy bones
 FTLN 1895 Out of thy garments.
 FTLN 1896 SICINIUS Help, you citizens!

Enter a rabble of Plebeians with the Aediles.

FTLN 1897 MENENIUS On both sides more respect!
 SICINIUS
 FTLN 1898 Here's he that would take from you all your power. 230
 FTLN 1899 BRUTUS Seize him, aediles.
 FTLN 1900 ALL [*PLEBEIANS*] Down with him, down with him!
 FTLN 1901 SECOND SENATOR Weapons, weapons, weapons!
They all bustle about Coriolanus.
 FTLN 1902 Tribunes, patricians, citizens, what ho!
 FTLN 1903 Sicinius, Brutus, Coriolanus, citizens! 235

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1904 | ALL | Peace, peace, peace! Stay, hold, peace! | |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 1905 | | What is about to be? I am out of breath. | |
| FTLN 1906 | | Confusion's near. I cannot speak. You, tribunes | |
| FTLN 1907 | | To th' people!—Coriolanus, patience!— | |
| FTLN 1908 | | Speak, good Sicinius. | 240 |
| FTLN 1909 | SICINIUS | Hear me, people! Peace! | |
| | ALL | 「PLEBEIANS」 | |
| FTLN 1910 | | Let's hear our tribune. Peace! Speak, speak, speak. | |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1911 | | You are at point to lose your liberties. | |
| FTLN 1912 | | Martius would have all from you, Martius, | |
| FTLN 1913 | | Whom late you have named for consul. | 245 |
| FTLN 1914 | MENENIUS | Fie, fie, fie! | |
| FTLN 1915 | | This is the way to kindle, not to quench. | |
| | 「FIRST」 | SENATOR | |
| FTLN 1916 | | To unbuild the city and to lay all flat. | |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1917 | | What is the city but the people? | |
| FTLN 1918 | ALL | 「PLEBEIANS」 True, | 250 |
| FTLN 1919 | | The people are the city. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 1920 | | By the consent of all, we were established | |
| FTLN 1921 | | The people's magistrates. | |
| FTLN 1922 | ALL | 「PLEBEIANS」 You so remain. | |
| FTLN 1923 | MENENIUS | And so are like to do. | 255 |
| | 「CORIOLANUS」 | | |
| FTLN 1924 | | That is the way to lay the city flat, | |
| FTLN 1925 | | To bring the roof to the foundation | |
| FTLN 1926 | | And bury all which yet distinctly ranges | |
| FTLN 1927 | | In heaps and piles of ruin. | |
| FTLN 1928 | SICINIUS | This deserves death. | 260 |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 1929 | | Or let us stand to our authority | |
| FTLN 1930 | | Or let us lose it. We do here pronounce, | |
| FTLN 1931 | | Upon the part o' th' people, in whose power | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 1932 | We were elected theirs, Martius is worthy | |
| FTLN 1933 | Of present death. | 265 |
| FTLN 1934 | SICINIUS Therefore lay hold of him, | |
| FTLN 1935 | Bear him to th' rock Tarpeian, and from thence | |
| FTLN 1936 | Into destruction cast him. | |
| FTLN 1937 | BRUTUS Aediles, seize him! | |
| | ALL PLEBEIANS | |
| FTLN 1938 | Yield, Martius, yield! | 270 |
| FTLN 1939 | MENENIUS Hear me one word. | |
| FTLN 1940 | Beseech you, tribunes, hear me but a word. | |
| FTLN 1941 | AEDILES Peace, peace! | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 1942 | Be that you seem, truly your country's friend, | |
| FTLN 1943 | And temp'rately proceed to what you would | 275 |
| FTLN 1944 | Thus violently redress. | |
| FTLN 1945 | BRUTUS Sir, those cold ways, | |
| FTLN 1946 | That seem like prudent helps, are very poisonous | |
| FTLN 1947 | Where the disease is violent.—Lay hands upon him, | |
| FTLN 1948 | And bear him to the rock. | 280 |
| | <i>Coriolanus draws his sword.</i> | |
| FTLN 1949 | CORIOLANUS No, I'll die here. | |
| FTLN 1950 | There's some among you have beheld me fighting. | |
| FTLN 1951 | Come, try upon yourselves what you have seen me. | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 1952 | Down with that sword!—Tribunes, withdraw awhile. | |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 1953 | Lay hands upon him! | 285 |
| FTLN 1954 | MENENIUS Help Martius, help! | |
| FTLN 1955 | You that be noble, help him, young and old! | |
| FTLN 1956 | ALL 「PLEBEIANS」 Down with him, down with him! | |

*In this mutiny, the Tribunes, the Aediles, and the People
are beat in.*

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| | MENENIUS, 「to Coriolanus」 | |
| FTLN 1957 | Go, get you to 「your」 house. Begone, away. | |
| FTLN 1958 | All will be naught else. | 290 |

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|-----|
| FTLN 1959 | SECOND SENATOR | Get you gone. | |
| FTLN 1960 | 「CORIOLANUS」 | Stand fast! | |
| FTLN 1961 | | We have as many friends as enemies. | |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 1962 | | Shall it be put to that? | |
| FTLN 1963 | 「FIRST」 SENATOR | The gods forbid!— | 295 |
| FTLN 1964 | | I prithee, noble friend, home to thy house; | |
| FTLN 1965 | | Leave us to cure this cause. | |
| FTLN 1966 | MENENIUS | For 'tis a sore upon us | |
| FTLN 1967 | | You cannot tent yourself. Begone, beseech you. | |
| FTLN 1968 | 「COMINIUS」 | Come, sir, along with us. | 300 |
| | 「CORIOLANUS」 | | |
| FTLN 1969 | | I would they were barbarians, as they are, | |
| FTLN 1970 | | Though in Rome littered; not Romans, as they are | |
| FTLN 1971 | | not, | |
| FTLN 1972 | | Though calved i' th' porch o' th' Capitol. | |
| FTLN 1973 | MENENIUS | Begone! | 305 |
| FTLN 1974 | | Put not your worthy rage into your tongue. | |
| FTLN 1975 | | One time will owe another. | |
| FTLN 1976 | CORIOLANUS | On fair ground | |
| FTLN 1977 | | I could beat forty of them. | |
| FTLN 1978 | MENENIUS | I could myself | 310 |
| FTLN 1979 | | Take up a brace o' th' best of them, yea, the two | |
| FTLN 1980 | | tribunes. | |
| | COMINIUS | | |
| FTLN 1981 | | But now 'tis odds beyond arithmetic, | |
| FTLN 1982 | | And manhood is called foolery when it stands | |
| FTLN 1983 | | Against a falling fabric. 「 <i>To Coriolanus.</i> 」 Will you | 315 |
| FTLN 1984 | | hence, | |
| FTLN 1985 | | Before the tag return, whose rage doth rend | |
| FTLN 1986 | | Like interrupted waters and o'erbear | |
| FTLN 1987 | | What they are used to bear? | |
| FTLN 1988 | MENENIUS, 「 <i>to Coriolanus</i> 」 | Pray you, begone. | 320 |
| FTLN 1989 | | I'll try whether my old wit be in request | |
| FTLN 1990 | | With those that have but little. This must be patched | |
| FTLN 1991 | | With cloth of any color. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 1992 | COMINIUS | Nay, come away. | |
| | | <i>Coriolanus and Cominius exit.</i> | |
| FTLN 1993 | PATRICIAN | This man has marred his fortune. | 325 |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 1994 | | His nature is too noble for the world. | |
| FTLN 1995 | | He would not flatter Neptune for his trident | |
| FTLN 1996 | | Or Jove for 's power to thunder. His heart's his | |
| FTLN 1997 | | mouth; | |
| FTLN 1998 | | What his breast forges, that his tongue must vent, | 330 |
| FTLN 1999 | | And, being angry, does forget that ever | |
| FTLN 2000 | | He heard the name of death. <i>A noise within.</i> | |
| FTLN 2001 | | Here's goodly work. | |
| FTLN 2002 | PATRICIAN | I would they were abed! | |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 2003 | | I would they were in Tiber. What the vengeance, | 335 |
| FTLN 2004 | | Could he not speak 'em fair? | |
| | | <i>Enter Brutus and Sicinius with the rabble again.</i> | |
| FTLN 2005 | SICINIUS | Where is this viper | |
| FTLN 2006 | | That would depopulate the city and | |
| FTLN 2007 | | Be every man himself? | |
| FTLN 2008 | MENENIUS | You worthy tribunes— | 340 |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 2009 | | He shall be thrown down the Tarpeian rock | |
| FTLN 2010 | | With rigorous hands. He hath resisted law, | |
| FTLN 2011 | | And therefore law shall scorn him further trial | |
| FTLN 2012 | | Than the severity of the public power | |
| FTLN 2013 | | Which he so sets at naught. | 345 |
| FTLN 2014 | FIRST CITIZEN | He shall well know | |
| FTLN 2015 | | The noble tribunes are the people's mouths | |
| FTLN 2016 | | And we their hands. | |
| FTLN 2017 | ALL [PLEBEIANS] | He shall, sure on 't. | |
| FTLN 2018 | MENENIUS | Sir, sir— | 350 |
| FTLN 2019 | SICINIUS | Peace! | |

MENENIUS

FTLN 2020 Do not cry havoc where you should but hunt
FTLN 2021 With modest warrant.

FTLN 2022 SICINIUS Sir, how comes 't that you
FTLN 2023 Have help to make this rescue? 355

FTLN 2024 MENENIUS Hear me speak.
FTLN 2025 As I do know the Consul's worthiness,
FTLN 2026 So can I name his faults.

FTLN 2027 SICINIUS Consul? What consul?

FTLN 2028 MENENIUS The consul Coriolanus. 360

FTLN 2029 BRUTUS He consul?

FTLN 2030 ALL 「PLEBEIANS」 No, no, no, no, no!

MENENIUS

FTLN 2031 If, by the Tribunes' leave, and yours, good people,
FTLN 2032 I may be heard, I would crave a word or two,
FTLN 2033 The which shall turn you to no further harm 365
FTLN 2034 Than so much loss of time.

FTLN 2035 SICINIUS Speak briefly then,
FTLN 2036 For we are peremptory to dispatch
FTLN 2037 This viperous traitor. To eject him hence
FTLN 2038 Were but one danger, and to keep him here 370
FTLN 2039 Our certain death. Therefore it is decreed
FTLN 2040 He dies tonight.

FTLN 2041 MENENIUS Now the good gods forbid
FTLN 2042 That our renownèd Rome, whose gratitude
FTLN 2043 Towards her deservèd children is enrolled 375
FTLN 2044 In Jove's own book, like an unnatural dam
FTLN 2045 Should now eat up her own.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2046 He's a disease that must be cut away.

MENENIUS

FTLN 2047 O, he's a limb that has but a disease—
FTLN 2048 Mortal to cut it off; to cure it easy. 380
FTLN 2049 What has he done to Rome that's worthy death?
FTLN 2050 Killing our enemies, the blood he hath lost—
FTLN 2051 Which I dare vouch is more than that he hath

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| FTLN 2052 | By many an ounce—he dropped it for his country; | |
| FTLN 2053 | And what is left, to lose it by his country | 385 |
| FTLN 2054 | Were to us all that do 't and suffer it | |
| FTLN 2055 | A brand to th' end o' th' world. | |
| FTLN 2056 | SICINIUS | This is clean cam. |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 2057 | Merely awry. When he did love his country, | |
| FTLN 2058 | It honored him. | 390 |
| FTLN 2059 | 〔SICINIUS〕 | The service of the foot, |
| FTLN 2060 | Being once gangrened, is not then respected | |
| FTLN 2061 | For what before it was. | |
| FTLN 2062 | BRUTUS | We'll hear no more. |
| FTLN 2063 | Pursue him to his house, and pluck him thence, | 395 |
| FTLN 2064 | Lest his infection, being of catching nature, | |
| FTLN 2065 | Spread further. | |
| FTLN 2066 | MENENIUS | One word more, one word! |
| FTLN 2067 | This tiger-footed rage, when it shall find | |
| FTLN 2068 | The harm of unscanned swiftness, will too late | 400 |
| FTLN 2069 | Tie leaden pounds to 's heels. Proceed by process, | |
| FTLN 2070 | Lest parties—as he is beloved—break out | |
| FTLN 2071 | And sack great Rome with Romans. | |
| FTLN 2072 | BRUTUS | If it were so— |
| FTLN 2073 | SICINIUS | What do you talk? 405 |
| FTLN 2074 | Have we not had a taste of his obedience? | |
| FTLN 2075 | Our aediles smote! Ourselves resisted! Come. | |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 2076 | Consider this: he has been bred i' th' wars | |
| FTLN 2077 | Since he could draw a sword, and is ill schooled | |
| FTLN 2078 | In bolted language; meal and bran together | 410 |
| FTLN 2079 | He throws without distinction. Give me leave, | |
| FTLN 2080 | I'll go to him and undertake to bring him | |
| FTLN 2081 | Where he shall answer by a lawful form, | |
| FTLN 2082 | In peace, to his utmost peril. | |
| FTLN 2083 | FIRST SENATOR | Noble tribunes, 415 |
| FTLN 2084 | It is the humane way: the other course | |

FTLN 2085 Will prove too bloody, and the end of it
 FTLN 2086 Unknown to the beginning.

FTLN 2087 SICINIUS Noble Menenius,
 FTLN 2088 Be you then as the people's officer.— 420
 FTLN 2089 Masters, lay down your weapons.

FTLN 2090 BRUTUS Go not home.
 SICINIUS

FTLN 2091 Meet on the marketplace. 「*To Menenius.*」 We'll
 FTLN 2092 attend you there,
 FTLN 2093 Where if you bring not Martius, we'll proceed 425
 FTLN 2094 In our first way.

FTLN 2095 MENENIUS I'll bring him to you.
 FTLN 2096 「*To Senators.*」 Let me desire your company. He must
 FTLN 2097 come,
 FTLN 2098 Or what is worst will follow. 430
 FTLN 2099 「FIRST」 SENATOR Pray you, let's to him.
All exit.

「Scene 2」

Enter Coriolanus with Nobles.

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 2100 Let them pull all about mine ears, present me
 FTLN 2101 Death on the wheel or at wild horses' heels,
 FTLN 2102 Or pile ten hills on the Tarpeian rock,
 FTLN 2103 That the precipitation might down stretch
 FTLN 2104 Below the beam of sight, yet will I still 5
 FTLN 2105 Be thus to them.

FTLN 2106 NOBLE You do the nobler.

FTLN 2107 CORIOLANUS I muse my mother
 FTLN 2108 Does not approve me further, who was wont
 FTLN 2109 To call them woolen vassals, things created 10
 FTLN 2110 To buy and sell with groats, to show bare heads
 FTLN 2111 In congregations, to yawn, be still, and wonder

FTLN 2112 When one but of my ordinance stood up
 FTLN 2113 To speak of peace or war.

Enter Volumentia.

FTLN 2114 I talk of you. 15

FTLN 2115 Why did you wish me milder? Would you have me
 FTLN 2116 False to my nature? Rather say I play
 FTLN 2117 The man I am.

FTLN 2118 VOLUMNIA O sir, sir, sir,
 FTLN 2119 I would have had you put your power well on 20
 FTLN 2120 Before you had worn it out.

FTLN 2121 CORIOLANUS Let go.

VOLUMNIA
 FTLN 2122 You might have been enough the man you are
 FTLN 2123 With striving less to be so. Lesser had been
 FTLN 2124 The [thwartings] of your dispositions if 25
 FTLN 2125 You had not showed them how you were disposed
 FTLN 2126 Ere they lacked power to cross you.

FTLN 2127 CORIOLANUS Let them hang!

FTLN 2128 VOLUMNIA Ay, and burn too.

Enter Menenius with the Senators.

MENENIUS, [to Coriolanus]
 FTLN 2129 Come, come, you have been too rough, something 30
 FTLN 2130 too rough.

FTLN 2131 You must return and mend it.

FTLN 2132 [FIRST] SENATOR There's no remedy,
 FTLN 2133 Unless, by not so doing, our good city
 FTLN 2134 Cleave in the midst and perish. 35

FTLN 2135 VOLUMNIA Pray be counseled.
 FTLN 2136 I have a heart as little apt as yours,
 FTLN 2137 But yet a brain that leads my use of anger
 FTLN 2138 To better vantage.

FTLN 2139 MENENIUS Well said, noble woman. 40
 FTLN 2140 Before he should thus stoop to th' [herd]—but that
 FTLN 2141 The violent fit o' th' time craves it as physic

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------|
| FTLN 2142 | For the whole state—I would put mine armor on, | |
| FTLN 2143 | Which I can scarcely bear. | |
| FTLN 2144 | CORIOLANUS | What must I do? 45 |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 2145 | Return to th' Tribunes. | |
| FTLN 2146 | CORIOLANUS | Well, what then? What then? |
| FTLN 2147 | MENENIUS | Repent what you have spoke. |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 2148 | For them? I cannot do it to the gods. | |
| FTLN 2149 | Must I then do 't to them? | 50 |
| FTLN 2150 | VOLUMNIA | You are too absolute, |
| FTLN 2151 | Though therein you can never be too noble | |
| FTLN 2152 | But when extremities speak. I have heard you say | |
| FTLN 2153 | Honor and policy, like unsevered friends, | |
| FTLN 2154 | I' th' war do grow together. Grant that, and tell me | 55 |
| FTLN 2155 | In peace what each of them by th' other lose | |
| FTLN 2156 | That they combine not there? | |
| FTLN 2157 | CORIOLANUS | Tush, tush! |
| FTLN 2158 | MENENIUS | A good |
| FTLN 2159 | demand. | 60 |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 2160 | If it be honor in your wars to seem | |
| FTLN 2161 | The same you are not, which for your best ends | |
| FTLN 2162 | You adopt your policy, how is it less or worse | |
| FTLN 2163 | That it shall hold companionship in peace | |
| FTLN 2164 | With honor as in war, since that to both | 65 |
| FTLN 2165 | It stands in like request? | |
| FTLN 2166 | CORIOLANUS | Why force you this? |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 2167 | Because that now it lies you on to speak | |
| FTLN 2168 | To th' people, not by your own instruction, | |
| FTLN 2169 | Nor by th' matter which your heart prompts you, | 70 |
| FTLN 2170 | But with such words that are but roted in | |
| FTLN 2171 | Your tongue, though but bastards and syllables | |
| FTLN 2172 | Of no allowance to your bosom's truth. | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------|
| FTLN 2173 | Now, this no more dishonors you at all | |
| FTLN 2174 | Than to take in a town with gentle words, | 75 |
| FTLN 2175 | Which else would put you to your fortune and | |
| FTLN 2176 | The hazard of much blood. | |
| FTLN 2177 | I would dissemble with my nature where | |
| FTLN 2178 | My fortunes and my friends at stake required | |
| FTLN 2179 | I should do so in honor. I am in this | 80 |
| FTLN 2180 | Your wife, your son, these senators, the nobles; | |
| FTLN 2181 | And you will rather show our general louts | |
| FTLN 2182 | How you can frown than spend a fawn upon 'em | |
| FTLN 2183 | For the inheritance of their loves and safeguard | |
| FTLN 2184 | Of what that want might ruin. | 85 |
| FTLN 2185 | MENENIUS | Noble lady!— |
| FTLN 2186 | Come, go with us; speak fair. You may salve so, | |
| FTLN 2187 | Not what is dangerous present, but the loss | |
| FTLN 2188 | Of what is past. | |
| FTLN 2189 | VOLUMNIA | I prithee now, my son, |
| FTLN 2190 | Go to them with this bonnet in thy hand, | 90 |
| FTLN 2191 | And thus far having stretched it—here be with | |
| FTLN 2192 | them— | |
| FTLN 2193 | Thy knee bussing the stones—for in such business | |
| FTLN 2194 | Action is eloquence, and the eyes of th' ignorant | 95 |
| FTLN 2195 | More learnèd than the ears—waving thy head, | |
| FTLN 2196 | Which often thus correcting thy stout heart, | |
| FTLN 2197 | Now humble as the ripest mulberry | |
| FTLN 2198 | That will not hold the handling. Or say to them | |
| FTLN 2199 | Thou art their soldier and, being bred in broils, | 100 |
| FTLN 2200 | Hast not the soft way, which thou dost confess | |
| FTLN 2201 | Were fit for thee to use as they to claim, | |
| FTLN 2202 | In asking their good loves; but thou wilt frame | |
| FTLN 2203 | Thyself, forsooth, hereafter theirs, so far | |
| FTLN 2204 | As thou hast power and person. | 105 |
| FTLN 2205 | MENENIUS | This but done |
| FTLN 2206 | Even as she speaks, why, their hearts were yours; | |
| FTLN 2207 | For they have pardons, being asked, as free | |
| FTLN 2208 | As words to little purpose. | |

FTLN 2209 VOLUMNIA Prithee now, 110
 FTLN 2210 Go, and be ruled; although I know thou hadst rather
 FTLN 2211 Follow thine enemy in a fiery gulf
 FTLN 2212 Than flatter him in a bower.

Enter Cominius.

FTLN 2213 Here is Cominius.

COMINIUS
 FTLN 2214 I have been i' th' marketplace; and, sir, 'tis fit 115
 FTLN 2215 You make strong party or defend yourself
 FTLN 2216 By calmness or by absence. All's in anger.

MENENIUS
 FTLN 2217 Only fair speech.

COMINIUS I think 'twill serve, if he
 FTLN 2219 Can thereto frame his spirit. 120

FTLN 2220 VOLUMNIA He must, and will.—
 FTLN 2221 Prithee, now, say you will, and go about it.

CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 2222 Must I go show them my unbarbèd sconce? Must I
 FTLN 2223 With my base tongue give to my noble heart
 FTLN 2224 A lie that it must bear? Well, I will do 't. 125
 FTLN 2225 Yet, were there but this single plot to lose,
 FTLN 2226 This mold of Martius, they to dust should grind it
 FTLN 2227 And throw 't against the wind. To th' marketplace!
 FTLN 2228 You have put me now to such a part which never
 FTLN 2229 I shall discharge to th' life. 130

FTLN 2230 COMINIUS Come, come, we'll prompt
 FTLN 2231 you.

VOLUMNIA
 FTLN 2232 I prithee now, sweet son, as thou hast said
 FTLN 2233 My praises made thee first a soldier, so,
 FTLN 2234 To have my praise for this, perform a part 135
 FTLN 2235 Thou hast not done before.

FTLN 2236 CORIOLANUS Well, I must do 't.
 FTLN 2237 Away, my disposition, and possess me
 FTLN 2238 Some harlot's spirit! My throat of war be turned,

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 2272 The word is “mildly.” Pray you, let us go.
 FTLN 2273 Let them accuse me by invention, I
 FTLN 2274 Will answer in mine honor. 175

MENENIUS Ay, but mildly.

FTLN 2276 CORIOLANUS Well, mildly be it, then. Mildly.

They exit.

〔Scene 3〕

Enter Sicinius and Brutus.

BRUTUS

FTLN 2277 In this point charge him home, that he affects
 FTLN 2278 Tyrannical power. If he evade us there,
 FTLN 2279 Enforce him with his envy to the people,
 FTLN 2280 And that the spoil got on the Antiates
 FTLN 2281 Was ne'er distributed. 5

Enter an Aedile.

FTLN 2282 What, will he come?

FTLN 2283 AEDILE He's coming.

FTLN 2284 BRUTUS How accompanied?

AEDILE

FTLN 2285 With old Menenius, and those senators
 FTLN 2286 That always favored him. 10

FTLN 2287 SICINIUS Have you a catalogue
 FTLN 2288 Of all the voices that we have procured,
 FTLN 2289 Set down by th' poll?

FTLN 2290 AEDILE I have. 'Tis ready.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2291 Have you collected them by tribes? 15

FTLN 2292 AEDILE I have.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2293 Assemble presently the people hither;
 FTLN 2294 And when they hear me say “It shall be so

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| FTLN 2295 | I' th' right and strength o' th' commons," be it either | |
| FTLN 2296 | For death, for fine, or banishment, then let them | 20 |
| FTLN 2297 | If I say "Fine," cry "Fine," if "Death," cry "Death," | |
| FTLN 2298 | Insisting on the old prerogative | |
| FTLN 2299 | And power i' th' truth o' th' cause. | |
| FTLN 2300 | AEDILE | I shall inform them. |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 2301 | And when such time they have begun to cry, | 25 |
| FTLN 2302 | Let them not cease, but with a din confused | |
| FTLN 2303 | Enforce the present execution | |
| FTLN 2304 | Of what we chance to sentence. | |
| FTLN 2305 | AEDILE | Very well. |
| | SICINIUS | |
| FTLN 2306 | Make them be strong and ready for this hint | 30 |
| FTLN 2307 | When we shall hap to give 't them. | |
| FTLN 2308 | BRUTUS | Go about it. |
| | | 「Aedile exits.」 |
| FTLN 2309 | Put him to choler straight. He hath been used | |
| FTLN 2310 | Ever to conquer and to have his worth | |
| FTLN 2311 | Of contradiction. Being once chafed, he cannot | 35 |
| FTLN 2312 | Be reined again to temperance; then he speaks | |
| FTLN 2313 | What's in his heart, and that is there which looks | |
| FTLN 2314 | With us to break his neck. | |
| <i>Enter Coriolanus, Menenius, and Cominius, with others 「(Senators).」</i> | | |
| FTLN 2315 | SICINIUS | Well, here he comes. |
| FTLN 2316 | MENENIUS, 「aside to Coriolanus」 | Calmly, I do beseech |
| FTLN 2317 | you. | 40 |
| | CORIOLANUS, 「aside to Menenius」 | |
| FTLN 2318 | Ay, as an hostler that 「for th'」 poorest piece | |
| FTLN 2319 | Will bear the knave by th' volume.—Th' honored | |
| FTLN 2320 | gods | |
| FTLN 2321 | Keep Rome in safety and the chairs of justice | 45 |
| FTLN 2322 | Supplied with worthy men! Plant love among 's! | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| FTLN 2323 | 「Throng」 our large temples with the shows of peace | |
| FTLN 2324 | And not our streets with war! | |
| FTLN 2325 | FIRST SENATOR | Amen, amen. |
| FTLN 2326 | MENENIUS | A noble wish. 50 |
| <i>Enter the Aedile with the Plebeians.</i> | | |
| FTLN 2327 | SICINIUS | Draw near, you people. |
| | AEDILE | |
| FTLN 2328 | | List to your tribunes. Audience! Peace, I say! |
| FTLN 2329 | CORIOLANUS | First, hear me speak. |
| FTLN 2330 | BOTH TRIBUNES | Well, say.—Peace, ho! |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 2331 | | Shall I be charged no further than this present? 55 |
| FTLN 2332 | | Must all determine here? |
| FTLN 2333 | SICINIUS | I do demand |
| FTLN 2334 | | If you submit you to the people's voices, |
| FTLN 2335 | | Allow their officers, and are content |
| FTLN 2336 | | To suffer lawful censure for such faults 60 |
| FTLN 2337 | | As shall be proved upon you. |
| FTLN 2338 | CORIOLANUS | I am content. |
| | MENENIUS | |
| FTLN 2339 | | Lo, citizens, he says he is content. |
| FTLN 2340 | | The warlike service he has done, consider. Think |
| FTLN 2341 | | Upon the wounds his body bears, which show 65 |
| FTLN 2342 | | Like graves i' th' holy churchyard. |
| FTLN 2343 | CORIOLANUS | Scratches with |
| FTLN 2344 | | briars, |
| FTLN 2345 | | Scars to move laughter only. |
| FTLN 2346 | MENENIUS | Consider further, 70 |
| FTLN 2347 | | That when he speaks not like a citizen, |
| FTLN 2348 | | You find him like a soldier. Do not take |
| FTLN 2349 | | His rougher 「accents」 for malicious sounds, |
| FTLN 2350 | | But, as I say, such as become a soldier |
| FTLN 2351 | | Rather than envy you. 75 |
| FTLN 2352 | COMINIUS | Well, well, no more. |

FTLN 2353 CORIOLANUS What is the matter,
 FTLN 2354 That, being passed for consul with full voice,
 FTLN 2355 I am so dishonored that the very hour
 FTLN 2356 You take it off again? 80

FTLN 2357 SICINIUS Answer to us.

FTLN 2358 CORIOLANUS Say then. 'Tis true, I ought so.

FTLN 2359 SICINIUS
 FTLN 2360 We charge you that you have contrived to take
 FTLN 2361 From Rome all seasoned office and to wind
 FTLN 2362 Yourself into a power tyrannical, 85
 FTLN 2362 For which you are a traitor to the people.

FTLN 2363 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 2363 How? Traitor?

FTLN 2364 MENENIUS Nay, temperately! Your promise.

FTLN 2365 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 2365 The fires i' th' lowest hell fold in the people!
 FTLN 2366 Call me their traitor? Thou injurious tribune! 90
 FTLN 2367 Within thine eyes sat twenty thousand deaths,
 FTLN 2368 In thy hands clutched as many millions, in
 FTLN 2369 Thy lying tongue both numbers, I would say
 FTLN 2370 "Thou liest" unto thee with a voice as free
 FTLN 2371 As I do pray the gods. 95

FTLN 2372 SICINIUS Mark you this, people?

FTLN 2373 ALL [PLEBEIANS] To th' rock, to th' rock with him!

FTLN 2374 SICINIUS Peace!

FTLN 2375 We need not put new matter to his charge.
 FTLN 2376 What you have seen him do and heard him speak, 100
 FTLN 2377 Beating your officers, cursing yourselves,
 FTLN 2378 Opposing laws with strokes, and here defying
 FTLN 2379 Those whose great power must try him—even this,
 FTLN 2380 So criminal and in such capital kind,
 FTLN 2381 Deserves th' extremest death. 105

FTLN 2382 BRUTUS But since he hath
 FTLN 2383 Served well for Rome—

FTLN 2384 CORIOLANUS What do you prate of service?

FTLN 2385 BRUTUS I talk of that that know it.

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|---|-----|
| FTLN 2386 | CORIOLANUS | You? | 110 |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 2387 | | Is this the promise that you made your mother? | |
| FTLN 2388 | COMINIUS | Know, I pray you— | |
| FTLN 2389 | CORIOLANUS | I'll know no further. | |
| FTLN 2390 | | Let them pronounce the steep Tarpeian death, | |
| FTLN 2391 | | Vagabond exile, flaying, pent to linger | 115 |
| FTLN 2392 | | But with a grain a day, I would not buy | |
| FTLN 2393 | | Their mercy at the price of one fair word, | |
| FTLN 2394 | | Nor check my courage for what they can give, | |
| FTLN 2395 | | To have 't with saying "Good morrow." | |
| FTLN 2396 | SICINIUS | For that he has, | 120 |
| FTLN 2397 | | As much as in him lies, from time to time | |
| FTLN 2398 | | Envied against the people, seeking means | |
| FTLN 2399 | | To pluck away their power, as now at last | |
| FTLN 2400 | | Given hostile strokes, and that not in the presence | |
| FTLN 2401 | | Of dreaded justice, but on the ministers | 125 |
| FTLN 2402 | | That doth distribute it, in the name o' th' people | |
| FTLN 2403 | | And in the power of us the Tribunes, we, | |
| FTLN 2404 | | Even from this instant, banish him our city | |
| FTLN 2405 | | In peril of precipitation | |
| FTLN 2406 | | From off the rock Tarpeian, never more | 130 |
| FTLN 2407 | | To enter our Rome gates. I' th' people's name, | |
| FTLN 2408 | | I say it shall be so. | |
| | ALL | 「PLEBEIANS」 | |
| FTLN 2409 | | It shall be so, it shall be so! Let him away! | |
| FTLN 2410 | | He's banished, and it shall be so. | |
| | COMINIUS | | |
| FTLN 2411 | | Hear me, my masters and my common friends— | 135 |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 2412 | | He's sentenced. No more hearing. | |
| FTLN 2413 | COMINIUS | Let me speak. | |
| FTLN 2414 | | I have been consul and can show 「for」 Rome | |
| FTLN 2415 | | Her enemies' marks upon me. I do love | |
| FTLN 2416 | | My country's good with a respect more tender, | 140 |
| FTLN 2417 | | More holy and profound, than mine own life, | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 2418 | My dear wife's estimate, her womb's increase, | |
| FTLN 2419 | And treasure of my loins. Then if I would | |
| FTLN 2420 | Speak that— | |
| FTLN 2421 | SICINIUS We know your drift. Speak what? | 145 |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 2422 | There's no more to be said, but he is banished | |
| FTLN 2423 | As enemy to the people and his country. | |
| FTLN 2424 | It shall be so. | |
| FTLN 2425 | ALL 「PLEBEIANS」 It shall be so, it shall be so! | |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 2426 | You common cry of curs, whose breath I hate | 150 |
| FTLN 2427 | As reek o' th' rotten fens, whose loves I prize | |
| FTLN 2428 | As the dead carcasses of unburied men | |
| FTLN 2429 | That do corrupt my air, I banish you! | |
| FTLN 2430 | And here remain with your uncertainty; | |
| FTLN 2431 | Let every feeble rumor shake your hearts; | 155 |
| FTLN 2432 | Your enemies, with nodding of their plumes, | |
| FTLN 2433 | Fan you into despair! Have the power still | |
| FTLN 2434 | To banish your defenders, till at length | |
| FTLN 2435 | Your ignorance—which finds not till it feels, | |
| FTLN 2436 | Making but reservation of yourselves, | 160 |
| FTLN 2437 | Still your own foes—deliver you | |
| FTLN 2438 | As most abated captives to some nation | |
| FTLN 2439 | That won you without blows! Despising | |
| FTLN 2440 | For you the city, thus I turn my back. | |
| FTLN 2441 | There is a world elsewhere. | 165 |
| | <i>Coriolanus, Cominius, with others 「(Senators)」 exit.</i> | |
| | AEDILE | |
| FTLN 2442 | The people's enemy is gone, is gone. | |
| | ALL 「PLEBEIANS」 | |
| FTLN 2443 | Our enemy is banished; he is gone. Hoo, hoo! | |
| | <i>They all shout and throw up their caps.</i> | |
| | SICINIUS | |
| FTLN 2444 | Go see him out at gates, and follow him, | |
| FTLN 2445 | As he hath followed you, with all despite. | |

FTLN 2446 Give him deserved vexation. Let a guard 170

FTLN 2447 Attend us through the city.

ALL 「PLEBEIANS」

FTLN 2448 Come, come, let's see him out at gates! Come!

FTLN 2449 The gods preserve our noble tribunes! Come!

They exit.

ACT 4

「Scene 1」

*Enter Coriolanus, Volumnia, Virgilia, Menenius,
Cominius, with the young nobility of Rome.*

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 2450 Come, leave your tears. A brief farewell. The beast
FTLN 2451 With many heads butts me away. Nay, mother,
FTLN 2452 Where is your ancient courage? You were used
FTLN 2453 To say extremities was the trier of spirits;
FTLN 2454 That common chances common men could bear; 5
FTLN 2455 That when the sea was calm, all boats alike
FTLN 2456 Showed mastership in floating; fortune's blows
FTLN 2457 When most struck home, being gentle wounded
FTLN 2458 craves
FTLN 2459 A noble cunning. You were used to load me 10
FTLN 2460 With precepts that would make invincible
FTLN 2461 The heart that conned them.

VIRGILIA

FTLN 2462 O heavens! O heavens!

FTLN 2463 CORIOLANUS Nay, I prithee,
FTLN 2464 woman— 15

VOLUMNIA

FTLN 2465 Now the red pestilence strike all trades in Rome,
FTLN 2466 And occupations perish!
FTLN 2467 CORIOLANUS What, what, what!
FTLN 2468 I shall be loved when I am lacked. Nay, mother,
FTLN 2469 Resume that spirit when you were wont to say 20
FTLN 2470 If you had been the wife of Hercules,

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| FTLN 2471 | Six of his labors you'd have done and saved | |
| FTLN 2472 | Your husband so much sweat.—Cominius, | |
| FTLN 2473 | Droop not. Adieu.—Farewell, my wife, my mother. | |
| FTLN 2474 | I'll do well yet.—Thou old and true Menenius, | 25 |
| FTLN 2475 | Thy tears are salter than a younger man's | |
| FTLN 2476 | And venomous to thine eyes.—My sometime | |
| FTLN 2477 | general, | |
| FTLN 2478 | I have seen thee stern, and thou hast oft beheld | |
| FTLN 2479 | Heart-hard'ning spectacles. Tell these sad women | 30 |
| FTLN 2480 | 'Tis fond to wail inevitable strokes | |
| FTLN 2481 | As 'tis to laugh at 'em.—My mother, you wot well | |
| FTLN 2482 | My hazards still have been your solace, and— | |
| FTLN 2483 | Believe 't not lightly—though I go alone, | |
| FTLN 2484 | Like to a lonely dragon that his fen | 35 |
| FTLN 2485 | Makes feared and talked of more than seen, your | |
| FTLN 2486 | son | |
| FTLN 2487 | Will or exceed the common or be caught | |
| FTLN 2488 | With cautelous baits and practice. | |
| FTLN 2489 | VOLUMNIA | My first son, |
| FTLN 2490 | Whither 'wilt' thou go? Take good Cominius | 40 |
| FTLN 2491 | With thee awhile. Determine on some course | |
| FTLN 2492 | More than a wild exposure to each chance | |
| FTLN 2493 | That starts i' th' way before thee. | |
| FTLN 2494 | 'VIRGILIA' | O the gods! |
| | COMINIUS | |
| FTLN 2495 | I'll follow thee a month, devise with thee | |
| FTLN 2496 | Where thou shalt rest, that thou mayst hear of us | |
| FTLN 2497 | And we of thee; so if the time thrust forth | |
| FTLN 2498 | A cause for thy repeal, we shall not send | |
| FTLN 2499 | O'er the vast world to seek a single man | 50 |
| FTLN 2500 | And lose advantage, which doth ever cool | |
| FTLN 2501 | I' th' absence of the needer. | |
| FTLN 2502 | CORIOLANUS | Fare you well. |
| FTLN 2503 | Thou hast years upon thee, and thou art too full | |
| FTLN 2504 | Of the wars' surfeits to go rove with one | 55 |
| FTLN 2505 | That's yet unbruised. Bring me but out at gate.— | |

FTLN 2506 Come, my sweet wife, my dearest mother, and
 FTLN 2507 My friends of noble touch. When I am forth,
 FTLN 2508 Bid me farewell, and smile. I pray you, come.
 FTLN 2509 While I remain above the ground, you shall 60
 FTLN 2510 Hear from me still, and never of me aught
 FTLN 2511 But what is like me formerly.
 FTLN 2512 MENENIUS That's worthily
 FTLN 2513 As any ear can hear. Come, let's not weep.
 FTLN 2514 If I could shake off but one seven years 65
 FTLN 2515 From these old arms and legs, by the good gods,
 FTLN 2516 I'd with thee every foot.
 FTLN 2517 CORIOLANUS Give me thy hand.
 FTLN 2518 Come.

They exit.

「Scene 2」

*Enter the two Tribunes, Sicinius, and Brutus,
with the Aedile.*

SICINIUS
 FTLN 2519 Bid them all home. He's gone, and we'll no further.
 FTLN 2520 The nobility are vexed, whom we see have sided
 FTLN 2521 In his behalf.
 FTLN 2522 BRUTUS Now we have shown our power,
 FTLN 2523 Let us seem humbler after it is done 5
 FTLN 2524 Than when it was a-doing.
 FTLN 2525 SICINIUS Bid them home.
 FTLN 2526 Say their great enemy is gone, and they
 FTLN 2527 Stand in their ancient strength.
 FTLN 2528 BRUTUS Dismiss them home. 10
 「Aedile exits.」
 FTLN 2529 Here comes his mother.

Enter Volumnia, Virgilia, and Menenius.

FTLN 2530 SICINIUS Let's not meet her.
 FTLN 2531 BRUTUS Why?

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 2532 | SICINIUS | They say she's mad. | |
| | BRUTUS | | |
| FTLN 2533 | | They have ta'en note of us. Keep on your way. | 15 |
| | VOLUMNIA | | |
| FTLN 2534 | | O, you're well met. The hoarded plague o' th' gods | |
| FTLN 2535 | | Requite your love! | |
| FTLN 2536 | MENENIUS | Peace, peace! Be not so loud. | |
| | VOLUMNIA, | 「 <i>to the Tribunes</i> 」 | |
| FTLN 2537 | | If that I could for weeping, you should hear— | |
| FTLN 2538 | | Nay, and you shall hear some. 「 <i>(To Sicinius.)</i> 」 Will | 20 |
| FTLN 2539 | | you be gone? | |
| | VIRGILIA, | 「 <i>to Brutus</i> 」 | |
| FTLN 2540 | | You shall stay too. I would I had the power | |
| FTLN 2541 | | To say so to my husband. | |
| FTLN 2542 | SICINIUS, | 「 <i>to Volumnia</i> 」 | |
| | | Are you mankind? | |
| | VOLUMNIA | | |
| FTLN 2543 | | Ay, fool, is that a shame? Note but this, fool. | 25 |
| FTLN 2544 | | Was not a man my father? Hadst thou foxship | |
| FTLN 2545 | | To banish him that struck more blows for Rome | |
| FTLN 2546 | | Than thou hast spoken words? | |
| FTLN 2547 | SICINIUS | O blessèd heavens! | |
| | VOLUMNIA | | |
| FTLN 2548 | | More noble blows than ever thou wise words, | 30 |
| FTLN 2549 | | And for Rome's good. I'll tell thee what—yet go. | |
| FTLN 2550 | | Nay, but thou shalt stay too. I would my son | |
| FTLN 2551 | | Were in Arabia and thy tribe before him, | |
| FTLN 2552 | | His good sword in his hand. | |
| FTLN 2553 | SICINIUS | What then? | 35 |
| FTLN 2554 | VIRGILIA | What then? | |
| FTLN 2555 | | He'd make an end of thy posterity. | |
| FTLN 2556 | VOLUMNIA | Bastards and all. | |
| FTLN 2557 | | Good man, the wounds that he does bear for Rome! | |
| FTLN 2558 | MENENIUS | Come, come, peace. | 40 |
| | SICINIUS | | |
| FTLN 2559 | | I would he had continued to his country | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| FTLN 2560 | As he began, and not unknit himself | |
| FTLN 2561 | The noble knot he made. | |
| FTLN 2562 | BRUTUS | I would he had. |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 2563 | “I would he had”? ’Twas you incensed the rabble. | 45 |
| FTLN 2564 | Cats, that can judge as fitly of his worth | |
| FTLN 2565 | As I can of those mysteries which heaven | |
| FTLN 2566 | Will not have Earth to know. | |
| FTLN 2567 | BRUTUS, <i>['to Sicinius']</i> Pray, let’s go. | |
| FTLN 2568 | VOLUMNIA Now, pray, sir, get you gone. | 50 |
| FTLN 2569 | You have done a brave deed. Ere you go, hear this: | |
| FTLN 2570 | As far as doth the Capitol exceed | |
| FTLN 2571 | The meanest house in Rome, so far my son— | |
| FTLN 2572 | This lady’s husband here, this, do you see?— | |
| FTLN 2573 | Whom you have banished, does exceed you all. | 55 |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 2574 | Well, well, we’ll leave you. | |
| FTLN 2575 | SICINIUS | Why stay we to be baited |
| FTLN 2576 | With one that wants her wits? | <i>Tribunes exit.</i> |
| FTLN 2577 | VOLUMNIA | Take my prayers with |
| FTLN 2578 | you. | 60 |
| FTLN 2579 | I would the gods had nothing else to do | |
| FTLN 2580 | But to confirm my curses. Could I meet ’em | |
| FTLN 2581 | But once a day, it would unclog my heart | |
| FTLN 2582 | Of what lies heavy to ’t. | |
| FTLN 2583 | MENENIUS | You have told them home, |
| FTLN 2584 | And, by my troth, you have cause. You’ll sup with | 65 |
| FTLN 2585 | me? | |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 2586 | Anger’s my meat. I sup upon myself | |
| FTLN 2587 | And so shall starve with feeding. | |
| FTLN 2588 | <i>['(To Virgilia.)']</i> Come, let’s go. | 70 |
| FTLN 2589 | Leave this faint puling, and lament as I do, | |
| FTLN 2590 | In anger, Juno-like. Come, come, come. | <i>They exit.</i> |
| FTLN 2591 | MENENIUS Fie, fie, fie! | |
| | | <i>He exits.</i> |

[Scene 3]

Enter a Roman [Nicanor] and a Volsce [Adrian].

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|----|
| FTLN 2592 | ROMAN | I know you well, sir, and you know me. Your | |
| FTLN 2593 | | name I think is Adrian. | |
| FTLN 2594 | VOLSCE | It is so, sir. Truly, I have forgot you. | |
| FTLN 2595 | ROMAN | I am a Roman, and my services are, as you are, | |
| FTLN 2596 | | against 'em. Know you me yet? | 5 |
| FTLN 2597 | VOLSCE | Nicanor, no? | |
| FTLN 2598 | ROMAN | The same, sir. | |
| FTLN 2599 | VOLSCE | You had more beard when I last saw you, but | |
| FTLN 2600 | | your favor is well [approved] by your tongue. | |
| FTLN 2601 | | What's the news in Rome? I have a note from the | 10 |
| FTLN 2602 | | Volscian state to find you out there. You have well | |
| FTLN 2603 | | saved me a day's journey. | |
| FTLN 2604 | ROMAN | There hath been in Rome strange insurrections, | |
| FTLN 2605 | | the people against the senators, patricians, | |
| FTLN 2606 | | and nobles. | 15 |
| FTLN 2607 | VOLSCE | Hath been? Is it ended, then? Our state thinks | |
| FTLN 2608 | | not so. They are in a most warlike preparation and | |
| FTLN 2609 | | hope to come upon them in the heat of their | |
| FTLN 2610 | | division. | |
| FTLN 2611 | ROMAN | The main blaze of it is past, but a small thing | 20 |
| FTLN 2612 | | would make it flame again; for the nobles receive | |
| FTLN 2613 | | so to heart the banishment of that worthy Coriolanus | |
| FTLN 2614 | | that they are in a ripe aptness to take all power | |
| FTLN 2615 | | from the people and to pluck from them their tribunes | |
| FTLN 2616 | | forever. This lies glowing, I can tell you, and | 25 |
| FTLN 2617 | | is almost mature for the violent breaking out. | |
| FTLN 2618 | VOLSCE | Coriolanus banished? | |
| FTLN 2619 | ROMAN | Banished, sir. | |
| FTLN 2620 | VOLSCE | You will be welcome with this intelligence, | |
| FTLN 2621 | | Nicanor. | 30 |
| FTLN 2622 | ROMAN | The day serves well for them now. I have heard | |

FTLN 2623 it said the fittest time to corrupt a man's wife is
 FTLN 2624 when she's fall'n out with her husband. Your noble
 FTLN 2625 Tullus Aufidius 「will」 appear well in these wars, his
 FTLN 2626 great opposer Coriolanus being now in no request 35
 FTLN 2627 of his country.

FTLN 2628 VOLSCE He cannot choose. I am most fortunate thus
 FTLN 2629 accidentally to encounter you. You have ended my
 FTLN 2630 business, and I will merrily accompany you home.

FTLN 2631 ROMAN I shall between this and supper tell you most 40
 FTLN 2632 strange things from Rome, all tending to the good
 FTLN 2633 of their adversaries. Have you an army ready, say
 FTLN 2634 you?

FTLN 2635 VOLSCE A most royal one. The centurions and their
 FTLN 2636 charges, distinctly billeted, already in th' entertainment, 45
 FTLN 2637 and to be on foot at an hour's warning.

FTLN 2638 ROMAN I am joyful to hear of their readiness and am
 FTLN 2639 the man, I think, that shall set them in present action.
 FTLN 2640 So, sir, heartily well met, and most glad of
 FTLN 2641 your company. 50

FTLN 2642 VOLSCE You take my part from me, sir. I have the most
 FTLN 2643 cause to be glad of yours.

FTLN 2644 ROMAN Well, let us go together.

They exit.

「Scene 4」

*Enter Coriolanus in mean apparel, disguised,
 and muffled.*

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 2645 A goodly city is this Antium. City,
 FTLN 2646 'Tis I that made thy widows. Many an heir
 FTLN 2647 Of these fair edifices 'fore my wars
 FTLN 2648 Have I heard groan and drop. Then, know me not,

FTLN 2649 Lest that thy wives with spits and boys with stones 5
 FTLN 2650 In puny battle slay me.

Enter a Citizen.

FTLN 2651 Save you, sir.

CITIZEN

FTLN 2652 And you.

FTLN 2653 CORIOLANUS Direct me, if it be your will,
 FTLN 2654 Where great Aufidius lies. Is he in Antium? 10

CITIZEN

FTLN 2655 He is, and feasts the nobles of the state
 FTLN 2656 At his house this night.

FTLN 2657 CORIOLANUS Which is his house, beseech
 FTLN 2658 you?

CITIZEN

FTLN 2659 This here before you. 15

FTLN 2660 CORIOLANUS Thank you, sir. Farewell.

Citizen exits.

FTLN 2661 O world, thy slippery turns! Friends now fast sworn,
 FTLN 2662 Whose double bosoms seems to wear one heart,
 FTLN 2663 Whose hours, whose bed, whose meal and exercise
 FTLN 2664 Are still together, who twin, as 'twere, in love 20

FTLN 2665 Unseparable, shall within this hour,
 FTLN 2666 On a dissension of a doit, break out
 FTLN 2667 To bitterest enmity; so fellest foes,
 FTLN 2668 Whose passions and whose plots have broke their
 FTLN 2669 sleep 25

FTLN 2670 To take the one the other, by some chance,
 FTLN 2671 Some trick not worth an egg, shall grow dear friends
 FTLN 2672 And interjoin their issues. So with me:
 FTLN 2673 My birthplace ^{hate} I, and my love's upon
 FTLN 2674 This enemy town. I'll enter. If he slay me, 30
 FTLN 2675 He does fair justice; if he give me way,
 FTLN 2676 I'll do his country service.

He exits.

[Scene 5]

Music plays. Enter a Servingman.

FTLN 2677 FIRST SERVINGMAN Wine, wine, wine! What service is
FTLN 2678 here? I think our fellows are asleep. [He exits.]

Enter another Servingman.

FTLN 2679 SECOND SERVINGMAN Where's Cotus? My master calls
FTLN 2680 for him. Cotus! *He exits.*

Enter Coriolanus.

CORIOLANUS
FTLN 2681 A goodly house. The feast smells well, but I 5
FTLN 2682 Appear not like a guest.

Enter the First Servingman.

FTLN 2683 FIRST SERVINGMAN What would you have, friend?
FTLN 2684 Whence are you? Here's no place for you. Pray, go
FTLN 2685 to the door. *He exits.*

CORIOLANUS
FTLN 2686 I have deserved no better entertainment 10
FTLN 2687 In being Coriolanus.

Enter Second [Servingman.]

FTLN 2688 SECOND SERVINGMAN Whence are you, sir?—Has the
FTLN 2689 porter his eyes in his head, that he gives entrance
FTLN 2690 to such companions?—Pray, get you out.

FTLN 2691 CORIOLANUS Away! 15

FTLN 2692 SECOND SERVINGMAN Away? Get you away.

FTLN 2693 CORIOLANUS Now th' art troublesome.

FTLN 2694 SECOND SERVINGMAN Are you so brave? I'll have you
FTLN 2695 talked with anon.

*Enter Third Servingman; the First, [entering,]
meets him.*

FTLN 2696 THIRD SERVINGMAN What fellow's this? 20

FTLN 2697 FIRST SERVINGMAN A strange one as ever I looked on. I
 FTLN 2698 cannot get him out o' th' house. Prithee, call my
 FTLN 2699 master to him. *〔He steps aside.〕*

FTLN 2700 THIRD SERVINGMAN What have you to do here, fellow?
 FTLN 2701 Pray you, avoid the house. 25

FTLN 2702 CORIOLANUS Let me but stand. I will not hurt your
 FTLN 2703 hearth.

FTLN 2704 THIRD SERVINGMAN What are you?

FTLN 2705 CORIOLANUS A gentleman.

FTLN 2706 THIRD SERVINGMAN A marv'ulous poor one. 30

FTLN 2707 CORIOLANUS True, so I am.

FTLN 2708 THIRD SERVINGMAN Pray you, poor gentleman, take up
 FTLN 2709 some other station. Here's no place for you. Pray
 FTLN 2710 you, avoid. Come.

FTLN 2711 CORIOLANUS Follow your function, go, and batten on 35
 FTLN 2712 cold bits. *Pushes him away from him.*

FTLN 2713 THIRD SERVINGMAN What, you will not?—Prithee, tell
 FTLN 2714 my master what a strange guest he has here.

FTLN 2715 SECOND SERVINGMAN And I shall.
Second Servingman exits.

FTLN 2716 THIRD SERVINGMAN Where dwell'st thou? 40

FTLN 2717 CORIOLANUS Under the canopy.

FTLN 2718 THIRD SERVINGMAN Under the canopy?

FTLN 2719 CORIOLANUS Ay.

FTLN 2720 THIRD SERVINGMAN Where's that?

FTLN 2721 CORIOLANUS I' th' city of kites and crows. 45

FTLN 2722 THIRD SERVINGMAN I' th' city of kites and crows? What
 FTLN 2723 an ass it is! Then thou dwell'st with daws too?

FTLN 2724 CORIOLANUS No, I serve not thy master.

FTLN 2725 THIRD SERVINGMAN How, sir? Do you meddle with my
 FTLN 2726 master? 50

FTLN 2727 CORIOLANUS Ay, 'tis an honest service than to meddle
 FTLN 2728 with thy mistress. Thou prat'st and prat'st. Serve
 FTLN 2729 with thy trencher. Hence! *Beats him away.*
〔Third Servingman exits.〕

Enter Aufidius with the [Second] Servingman.

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|----|
| FTLN 2730 | AUFIDIUS | Where is this fellow? | |
| FTLN 2731 | SECOND SERVINGMAN | Here, sir. I'd have beaten him like | 55 |
| FTLN 2732 | | a dog, but for disturbing the lords within. | |
| | | <i>[He steps aside.]</i> | |
| FTLN 2733 | AUFIDIUS | Whence com'st thou? What wouldst thou? | |
| FTLN 2734 | | Thy name? Why speak'st not? Speak, man. What's | |
| FTLN 2735 | | thy name? | |
| FTLN 2736 | CORIOLANUS, [removing his muffler] | If, Tullus, | 60 |
| FTLN 2737 | | Not yet thou know'st me, and seeing me, dost not | |
| FTLN 2738 | | Think me for the man I am, necessity | |
| FTLN 2739 | | Commands me name myself. | |
| FTLN 2740 | AUFIDIUS | What is thy name? | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 2741 | | A name unmusical to the Volscians' ears | 65 |
| FTLN 2742 | | And harsh in sound to thine. | |
| FTLN 2743 | AUFIDIUS | Say, what's thy name? | |
| FTLN 2744 | | Thou hast a grim appearance, and thy face | |
| FTLN 2745 | | Bears a command in 't. Though thy tackle's torn, | |
| FTLN 2746 | | Thou show'st a noble vessel. What's thy name? | 70 |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 2747 | | Prepare thy brow to frown. Know'st thou me yet? | |
| FTLN 2748 | AUFIDIUS | I know thee not. Thy name? | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 2749 | | My name is Caius Martius, who hath done | |
| FTLN 2750 | | To thee particularly and to all the Volsces | |
| FTLN 2751 | | Great hurt and mischief; thereto witness may | 75 |
| FTLN 2752 | | My surname Coriolanus. The painful service, | |
| FTLN 2753 | | The extreme dangers, and the drops of blood | |
| FTLN 2754 | | Shed for my thankless country are requited | |
| FTLN 2755 | | But with that surname, a good memory | |
| FTLN 2756 | | And witness of the malice and displeasure | 80 |
| FTLN 2757 | | Which thou shouldst bear me. Only that name | |
| FTLN 2758 | | remains. | |
| FTLN 2759 | | The cruelty and envy of the people, | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 2760 | Permitted by our dastard nobles, who | |
| FTLN 2761 | Have all forsook me, hath devoured the rest, | 85 |
| FTLN 2762 | And suffered me by th' voice of slaves to be | |
| FTLN 2763 | 「Whooped」 out of Rome. Now this extremity | |
| FTLN 2764 | Hath brought me to thy hearth, not out of hope— | |
| FTLN 2765 | Mistake me not—to save my life; for if | |
| FTLN 2766 | I had feared death, of all the men i' th' world | 90 |
| FTLN 2767 | I would have 'voided thee, but in mere spite, | |
| FTLN 2768 | To be full quit of those my banishers, | |
| FTLN 2769 | Stand I before thee here. Then if thou hast | |
| FTLN 2770 | A heart of wreak in thee, that wilt revenge | |
| FTLN 2771 | Thine own particular wrongs and stop those maims | 95 |
| FTLN 2772 | Of shame seen through thy country, speed thee | |
| FTLN 2773 | straight | |
| FTLN 2774 | And make my misery serve thy turn. So use it | |
| FTLN 2775 | That my revengeful services may prove | |
| FTLN 2776 | As benefits to thee, for I will fight | 100 |
| FTLN 2777 | Against my cankered country with the spleen | |
| FTLN 2778 | Of all the under fiends. But if so be | |
| FTLN 2779 | Thou dar'st not this, and that to prove more fortunes | |
| FTLN 2780 | Thou 'rt tired, then, in a word, I also am | |
| FTLN 2781 | Longer to live most weary, and present | 105 |
| FTLN 2782 | My throat to thee and to thy ancient malice, | |
| FTLN 2783 | Which not to cut would show thee but a fool, | |
| FTLN 2784 | Since I have ever followed thee with hate, | |
| FTLN 2785 | Drawn tuns of blood out of thy country's breast, | |
| FTLN 2786 | And cannot live but to thy shame, unless | 110 |
| FTLN 2787 | It be to do thee service. | |
| FTLN 2788 | AUFIDIUS O Martius, Martius, | |
| FTLN 2789 | Each word thou hast spoke hath weeded from my | |
| FTLN 2790 | heart | |
| FTLN 2791 | A root of ancient envy. If Jupiter | 115 |
| FTLN 2792 | Should from yond cloud speak divine things | |
| FTLN 2793 | And say 'tis true, I'd not believe them more | |
| FTLN 2794 | Than thee, all-noble Martius. Let me twine | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| FTLN 2795 | Mine arms about that body, whereagainst | |
| FTLN 2796 | My grainèd ash an hundred times hath broke | 120 |
| FTLN 2797 | And scarred the moon with splinters. | |
| | | 「 <i>They embrace.</i> 」 |
| FTLN 2798 | Here I clip | |
| FTLN 2799 | The anvil of my sword and do contest | |
| FTLN 2800 | As hotly and as nobly with thy love | |
| FTLN 2801 | As ever in ambitious strength I did | 125 |
| FTLN 2802 | Contend against thy valor. Know thou first, | |
| FTLN 2803 | I loved the maid I married; never man | |
| FTLN 2804 | Sighed truer breath. But that I see thee here, | |
| FTLN 2805 | Thou noble thing, more dances my rapt heart | |
| FTLN 2806 | Than when I first my wedded mistress saw | 130 |
| FTLN 2807 | Bestride my threshold. Why, thou Mars, I tell thee | |
| FTLN 2808 | We have a power on foot, and I had purpose | |
| FTLN 2809 | Once more to hew thy target from thy brawn | |
| FTLN 2810 | Or lose mine arm for 't. Thou hast beat me out | |
| FTLN 2811 | Twelve several times, and I have nightly since | 135 |
| FTLN 2812 | Dreamt of encounters 'twixt thyself and me; | |
| FTLN 2813 | We have been down together in my sleep, | |
| FTLN 2814 | Unbuckling helms, fisting each other's throat, | |
| FTLN 2815 | And waked half dead with nothing. Worthy Martius, | |
| FTLN 2816 | Had we no other quarrel else to Rome but that | 140 |
| FTLN 2817 | Thou art thence banished, we would muster all | |
| FTLN 2818 | From twelve to seventy and, pouring war | |
| FTLN 2819 | Into the bowels of ungrateful Rome, | |
| FTLN 2820 | Like a bold flood 「o'erbear 't.」 O, come, go in, | |
| FTLN 2821 | And take our friendly senators by th' hands, | 145 |
| FTLN 2822 | Who now are here, taking their leaves of me, | |
| FTLN 2823 | Who am prepared against your territories, | |
| FTLN 2824 | Though not for Rome itself. | |
| FTLN 2825 | CORIOLANUS | You bless me, gods! |
| | AUFIDIUS | |
| FTLN 2826 | Therefore, most absolute sir, if thou wilt have | 150 |
| FTLN 2827 | The leading of thine own revenges, take | |

FTLN 2828 Th' one half of my commission and set down—
 FTLN 2829 As best thou art experienced, since thou know'st
 FTLN 2830 Thy country's strength and weakness—thine own
 FTLN 2831 ways, 155
 FTLN 2832 Whether to knock against the gates of Rome,
 FTLN 2833 Or rudely visit them in parts remote
 FTLN 2834 To fright them ere destroy. But come in.
 FTLN 2835 Let me commend thee first to those that shall
 FTLN 2836 Say yea to thy desires. A thousand welcomes! 160
 FTLN 2837 And more a friend than ere an enemy—
 FTLN 2838 Yet, Martius, that was much. Your hand. Most
 FTLN 2839 welcome! *「Coriolanus and Aufidius」 exit.*

Two of the Servingmen 「come forward.」

FTLN 2840 FIRST SERVINGMAN Here's a strange alteration!
 FTLN 2841 SECOND SERVINGMAN By my hand, I had thought to 165
 FTLN 2842 have stricken him with a cudgel, and yet my mind
 FTLN 2843 gave me his clothes made a false report of him.
 FTLN 2844 FIRST SERVINGMAN What an arm he has! He turned me
 FTLN 2845 about with his finger and his thumb as one would
 FTLN 2846 set up a top. 170
 FTLN 2847 SECOND SERVINGMAN Nay, I knew by his face that there
 FTLN 2848 was something in him. He had, sir, a kind of face,
 FTLN 2849 methought—I cannot tell how to term it.
 FTLN 2850 FIRST SERVINGMAN He had so, looking as it were—
 FTLN 2851 Would I were hanged but I thought there was 175
 FTLN 2852 more in him than I could think.
 FTLN 2853 SECOND SERVINGMAN So did I, I'll be sworn. He is simply
 FTLN 2854 the rarest man i' th' world.
 FTLN 2855 FIRST SERVINGMAN I think he is. But a greater soldier
 FTLN 2856 than he you wot one. 180
 FTLN 2857 SECOND SERVINGMAN Who, my master?
 FTLN 2858 FIRST SERVINGMAN Nay, it's no matter for that.
 FTLN 2859 SECOND SERVINGMAN Worth six on him.
 FTLN 2860 FIRST SERVINGMAN Nay, not so neither. But I take him
 FTLN 2861 to be the greater soldier. 185

FTLN 2862 SECOND SERVINGMAN Faith, look you, one cannot tell
 FTLN 2863 how to say that. For the defense of a town our general
 FTLN 2864 is excellent.
 FTLN 2865 FIRST SERVINGMAN Ay, and for an assault too.

Enter the Third Servingman.

FTLN 2866 THIRD SERVINGMAN O slaves, I can tell you news, news, 190
 FTLN 2867 you rascals!

FTLN 2868 BOTH What, what, what? Let's partake!

FTLN 2869 THIRD SERVINGMAN I would not be a Roman, of all nations;
 FTLN 2870 I had as lief be a condemned man.

FTLN 2871 BOTH Wherefore? Wherefore? 195

FTLN 2872 THIRD SERVINGMAN Why, here's he that was wont to
 FTLN 2873 thwack our general, Caius Martius.

FTLN 2874 FIRST SERVINGMAN Why do you say "thwack our
 FTLN 2875 general"?

FTLN 2876 THIRD SERVINGMAN I do not say "thwack our general," 200
 FTLN 2877 but he was always good enough for him.

FTLN 2878 SECOND SERVINGMAN Come, we are fellows and friends.
 FTLN 2879 He was ever too hard for him; I have heard him
 FTLN 2880 say so himself.

FTLN 2881 FIRST SERVINGMAN He was too hard for him directly, to 205
 FTLN 2882 say the truth on 't, before Corioles; he scotched
 FTLN 2883 him and notched him like a carbonado.

FTLN 2884 SECOND SERVINGMAN An he had been cannibally given,
 FTLN 2885 he might have boiled and eaten him too.

FTLN 2886 FIRST SERVINGMAN But, more of thy news. 210

FTLN 2887 THIRD SERVINGMAN Why, he is so made on here within
 FTLN 2888 as if he were son and heir to Mars; set at upper end
 FTLN 2889 o' th' table; no question asked him by any of the
 FTLN 2890 senators but they stand bald before him. Our general
 FTLN 2891 himself makes a mistress of him, sanctifies 215
 FTLN 2892 himself with 's hand, and turns up the white o' th'
 FTLN 2893 eye to his discourse. But the bottom of the news is,
 FTLN 2894 our general is cut i' th' middle and but one half of

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 2895 | what he was yesterday, for the other has half, by | |
| FTLN 2896 | the entreaty and grant of the whole table. He'll go, | 220 |
| FTLN 2897 | he says, and sowl the porter of Rome gates by th' | |
| FTLN 2898 | ears. He will mow all down before him and leave | |
| FTLN 2899 | his passage polled. | |
| FTLN 2900 | SECOND SERVINGMAN And he's as like to do 't as any | |
| FTLN 2901 | man I can imagine. | 225 |
| FTLN 2902 | THIRD SERVINGMAN Do 't? He will do 't! For, look you, | |
| FTLN 2903 | sir, he has as many friends as enemies, which | |
| FTLN 2904 | friends, sir, as it were, durst not, look you, sir, show | |
| FTLN 2905 | themselves, as we term it, his friends whilst he's | |
| FTLN 2906 | in directitude. | 230 |
| FTLN 2907 | FIRST SERVINGMAN Directitude? What's that? | |
| FTLN 2908 | THIRD SERVINGMAN But when they shall see, sir, his | |
| FTLN 2909 | crest up again, and the man in blood, they will out | |
| FTLN 2910 | of their burrows like coneys after rain, and revel | |
| FTLN 2911 | all with him. | 235 |
| FTLN 2912 | FIRST SERVINGMAN But when goes this forward? | |
| FTLN 2913 | THIRD SERVINGMAN Tomorrow, today, presently. You | |
| FTLN 2914 | shall have the drum struck up this afternoon. 'Tis, | |
| FTLN 2915 | as it were, a parcel of their feast, and to be executed | |
| FTLN 2916 | ere they wipe their lips. | 240 |
| FTLN 2917 | SECOND SERVINGMAN Why then, we shall have a stirring | |
| FTLN 2918 | world again. This peace is nothing but to rust iron, | |
| FTLN 2919 | increase tailors, and breed ballad-makers. | |
| FTLN 2920 | FIRST SERVINGMAN Let me have war, say I. It exceeds | |
| FTLN 2921 | peace as far as day does night. It's sprightly walking, | 245 |
| FTLN 2922 | audible, and full of vent. Peace is a very apoplexy, | |
| FTLN 2923 | lethargy; mulled, deaf, 「sleepy,」 insensible; a getter | |
| FTLN 2924 | of more bastard children than war's a destroyer of | |
| FTLN 2925 | men. | |
| FTLN 2926 | SECOND SERVINGMAN 'Tis so, and as wars in some sort | 250 |
| FTLN 2927 | may be said to be a ravisher, so it cannot be denied | |
| FTLN 2928 | but peace is a great maker of cuckolds. | |

FTLN 2929 FIRST SERVINGMAN Ay, and it makes men hate one
 FTLN 2930 another.
 FTLN 2931 THIRD SERVINGMAN Reason: because they then less 255
 FTLN 2932 need one another. The wars for my money! I hope
 FTLN 2933 to see Romans as cheap as Volscians. 「(Noise
 FTLN 2934 within.)」 They are rising; they are rising.
 FTLN 2935 「FIRST AND SECOND SERVINGMEN」 In, in, in, in!
They exit.

「Scene 6」

Enter the two Tribunes. Sicinius and Brutus.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2936 We hear not of him, neither need we fear him.
 FTLN 2937 His remedies are tame—the present peace,
 FTLN 2938 And quietness of the people, which before
 FTLN 2939 Were in wild hurry. Here do we make his friends
 FTLN 2940 Blush that the world goes well, who rather had, 5
 FTLN 2941 Though they themselves did suffer by 't, behold
 FTLN 2942 Dissentious numbers pest'ring streets than see
 FTLN 2943 Our tradesmen singing in their shops and going
 FTLN 2944 About their functions friendly.

BRUTUS

FTLN 2945 We stood to 't in good time. 10

Enter Menenius.

FTLN 2946 Is this Menenius?

SICINIUS

FTLN 2947 'Tis he, 'tis he. O, he is grown most kind
 FTLN 2948 Of late.—Hail, sir.

FTLN 2949 MENENIUS Hail to you both.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2950 Your Coriolanus is not much missed 15
 FTLN 2951 But with his friends. The commonwealth doth stand,
 FTLN 2952 And so would do were he more angry at it.

MENENIUS

FTLN 2953 All's well, and might have been much better if
 FTLN 2954 He could have temporized.
 FTLN 2955 SICINIUS Where is he, hear you? 20
 FTLN 2956 MENENIUS Nay, I hear nothing;
 FTLN 2957 His mother and his wife hear nothing from him.

Enter three or four Citizens.

ALL [CITIZENS, *to the Tribunes*]

FTLN 2958 The gods preserve
 FTLN 2959 you both!
 FTLN 2960 SICINIUS Good e'en, our neighbors. 25

BRUTUS

FTLN 2961 Good e'en to you all, good e'en to you all.

FIRST CITIZEN

FTLN 2962 Ourselves, our wives, and children, on our knees
 FTLN 2963 Are bound to pray for you both.
 FTLN 2964 SICINIUS Live, and thrive!

BRUTUS

FTLN 2965 Farewell, kind neighbors. We wished Coriolanus 30
 FTLN 2966 Had loved you as we did.

FTLN 2967 ALL [CITIZENS] Now the gods keep you!

FTLN 2968 BOTH TRIBUNES Farewell, farewell. *Citizens exit.*

SICINIUS

FTLN 2969 This is a happier and more comely time
 FTLN 2970 Than when these fellows ran about the streets 35
 FTLN 2971 Crying confusion.

BRUTUS

FTLN 2972 Caius Martius was
 FTLN 2973 A worthy officer i' th' war, but insolent,
 FTLN 2974 O'ercome with pride, ambitious, past all thinking
 FTLN 2975 Self-loving. 40

SICINIUS

FTLN 2976 And affecting one sole throne, without assistance.

FTLN 2977 MENENIUS I think not so.

SICINIUS

FTLN 2978 We should by this, to all our lamentation,
 FTLN 2979 If he had gone forth consul, found it so.

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 3008 | All to the Senate House. Some news is coming | |
| FTLN 3009 | That turns their countenances. | |
| FTLN 3010 | SICINIUS 'Tis this slave— | 75 |
| FTLN 3011 | Go whip him 'fore the people's eyes—his raising, | |
| FTLN 3012 | Nothing but his report. | |
| FTLN 3013 | MESSENGER Yes, worthy sir, | |
| FTLN 3014 | The slave's report is seconded, and more, | |
| FTLN 3015 | More fearful, is delivered. | 80 |
| FTLN 3016 | SICINIUS What more fearful? | |
| | MESSENGER | |
| FTLN 3017 | It is spoke freely out of many mouths— | |
| FTLN 3018 | How probable I do not know—that Martius, | |
| FTLN 3019 | Joined with Aufidius, leads a power 'gainst Rome | |
| FTLN 3020 | And vows revenge as spacious as between | 85 |
| FTLN 3021 | The young'st and oldest thing. | |
| FTLN 3022 | SICINIUS This is most likely! | |
| | BRUTUS | |
| FTLN 3023 | Raised only that the weaker sort may wish | |
| FTLN 3024 | Good Martius home again. | |
| FTLN 3025 | SICINIUS The very trick on 't. | 90 |
| FTLN 3026 | MENENIUS This is unlikely; | |
| FTLN 3027 | He and Aufidius can no more atone | |
| FTLN 3028 | Than violent'st contrariety. | |

Enter [a Second] Messenger.

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 3029 | [SECOND] MESSENGER You are sent for to the Senate. | |
| FTLN 3030 | A fearful army, led by Caius Martius | 95 |
| FTLN 3031 | Associated with Aufidius, rages | |
| FTLN 3032 | Upon our territories, and have already | |
| FTLN 3033 | O'erborne their way, consumed with fire and took | |
| FTLN 3034 | What lay before them. | |

Enter Cominius.

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 3035 | COMINIUS, [to the Tribunes] O, you have made good | 100 |
| FTLN 3036 | work! | |
| FTLN 3037 | MENENIUS What news? What news? | |

COMINIUS, 「*to the Tribunes*」

FTLN 3038 You have help to ravish your own daughters and
 FTLN 3039 To melt the city leads upon your pates,
 FTLN 3040 To see your wives dishonored to your noses— 105

FTLN 3041 MENENIUS What's the news? What's the news?

COMINIUS, 「*to the Tribunes*」

FTLN 3042 Your temples burnèd in their cement, and
 FTLN 3043 Your franchises, whereon you stood, confined
 FTLN 3044 Into an auger's bore.

FTLN 3045 MENENIUS Pray now, your news?— 110

FTLN 3046 You have made fair work, I fear me.—Pray, your
 FTLN 3047 news?

FTLN 3048 If Martius should be joined with Volscians—

FTLN 3049 COMINIUS If?

FTLN 3050 He is their god; he leads them like a thing 115

FTLN 3051 Made by some other deity than Nature,

FTLN 3052 That shapes man better; and they follow him

FTLN 3053 Against us brats with no less confidence

FTLN 3054 Than boys pursuing summer butterflies

FTLN 3055 Or butchers killing flies. 120

FTLN 3056 MENENIUS, 「*to the Tribunes*」 You have made good work,

FTLN 3057 You and your apron-men, you that stood so much

FTLN 3058 Upon the voice of occupation and

FTLN 3059 The breath of garlic eaters!

COMINIUS

FTLN 3060 He'll shake your Rome about your ears. 125

MENENIUS

FTLN 3061 As Hercules did shake down mellow fruit.

FTLN 3062 You have made fair work.

FTLN 3063 BRUTUS But is this true, sir?

FTLN 3064 COMINIUS Ay, and you'll look pale

FTLN 3065 Before you find it other. All the regions 130

FTLN 3066 Do smilingly revolt, and who resists

FTLN 3067 Are mocked for valiant ignorance

FTLN 3068 And perish constant fools. Who is 't can blame him?

FTLN 3069 Your enemies and his find something in him.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 3070 | MENENIUS | We are all undone, unless | 135 |
| FTLN 3071 | | The noble man have mercy. | |
| FTLN 3072 | COMINIUS | Who shall ask it? | |
| FTLN 3073 | | The Tribunes cannot do 't for shame; the people | |
| FTLN 3074 | | Deserve such pity of him as the wolf | |
| FTLN 3075 | | Does of the shepherds. For his best friends, if they | 140 |
| FTLN 3076 | | Should say "Be good to Rome," they charged him | |
| FTLN 3077 | | even | |
| FTLN 3078 | | As those should do that had deserved his hate | |
| FTLN 3079 | | And therein showed like enemies. | |
| FTLN 3080 | MENENIUS | 'Tis true. | 145 |
| FTLN 3081 | | If he were putting to my house the brand | |
| FTLN 3082 | | That should consume it, I have not the face | |
| FTLN 3083 | | To say "Beseech you, cease."—You have made fair | |
| FTLN 3084 | | hands, | |
| FTLN 3085 | | You and your crafts! You have crafted fair! | 150 |
| FTLN 3086 | COMINIUS | You have | |
| FTLN 3087 | | brought | |
| FTLN 3088 | | A trembling upon Rome such as was never | |
| FTLN 3089 | | S' incapable of help. | |
| FTLN 3090 | TRIBUNES | Say not we brought it. | 155 |
| | MENENIUS | | |
| FTLN 3091 | | How? Was 't we? We loved him, but like beasts | |
| FTLN 3092 | | And cowardly nobles, gave way unto your clusters, | |
| FTLN 3093 | | Who did hoot him out o' th' city. | |
| FTLN 3094 | COMINIUS | But I fear | |
| FTLN 3095 | | They'll roar him in again. Tullus Aufidius, | 160 |
| FTLN 3096 | | The second name of men, obeys his points | |
| FTLN 3097 | | As if he were his officer. Desperation | |
| FTLN 3098 | | Is all the policy, strength, and defense | |
| FTLN 3099 | | That Rome can make against them. | |
| <i>Enter a troop of Citizens.</i> | | | |
| FTLN 3100 | MENENIUS | Here come the | 165 |
| FTLN 3101 | | clusters.— | |
| FTLN 3102 | | And is Aufidius with him? You are they | |

FTLN 3103 That made the air unwholesome when you cast
 FTLN 3104 Your stinking, greasy caps in hooting at
 FTLN 3105 Coriolanus' exile. Now he's coming, 170
 FTLN 3106 And not a hair upon a soldier's head
 FTLN 3107 Which will not prove a whip. As many coxcombs
 FTLN 3108 As you threw caps up will he tumble down
 FTLN 3109 And pay you for your voices. 'Tis no matter.
 FTLN 3110 If he could burn us all into one coal, 175
 FTLN 3111 We have deserved it.
 FTLN 3112 ALL [CITIZENS] Faith, we hear fearful news.
 FTLN 3113 FIRST CITIZEN For mine own part,
 FTLN 3114 When I said banish him, I said 'twas pity.
 FTLN 3115 SECOND CITIZEN And so did I. 180
 FTLN 3116 THIRD CITIZEN And so did I. And, to say the truth, so
 FTLN 3117 did very many of us. That we did we did for the
 FTLN 3118 best; and though we willingly consented to his
 FTLN 3119 banishment, yet it was against our will.
 FTLN 3120 COMINIUS You're goodly things, you voices! 185
 MENENIUS
 FTLN 3121 You have made good work, you and your cry!—
 FTLN 3122 Shall 's to the Capitol?
 FTLN 3123 COMINIUS O, ay, what else? *Both exit.*
 SICINIUS
 FTLN 3124 Go, masters, get you home. Be not dismayed.
 FTLN 3125 These are a side that would be glad to have 190
 FTLN 3126 This true which they so seem to fear. Go home,
 FTLN 3127 And show no sign of fear.
 FTLN 3128 FIRST CITIZEN The gods be good to us! Come, masters,
 FTLN 3129 let's home. I ever said we were i' th' wrong when
 FTLN 3130 we banished him. 195
 FTLN 3131 SECOND CITIZEN So did we all. But, come, let's home.
Citizens exit.
 FTLN 3132 BRUTUS I do not like this news.
 FTLN 3133 SICINIUS Nor I.

BRUTUS

FTLN 3134 Let's to the Capitol. Would half my wealth
 FTLN 3135 Would buy this for a lie. 200

FTLN 3136 SICINIUS Pray, let's go.

Tribunes exit.

「Scene 7」

Enter Aufidius with his Lieutenant.

FTLN 3137 AUFIDIUS Do they still fly to th' Roman?

LIEUTENANT

FTLN 3138 I do not know what witchcraft's in him, but
 FTLN 3139 Your soldiers use him as the grace 'fore meat,
 FTLN 3140 Their talk at table, and their thanks at end;
 FTLN 3141 And you are dark'ned in this action, sir, 5
 FTLN 3142 Even by your own.

FTLN 3143 AUFIDIUS I cannot help it now,
 FTLN 3144 Unless by using means I lame the foot
 FTLN 3145 Of our design. He bears himself more proudlier,
 FTLN 3146 Even to my person, than I thought he would 10
 FTLN 3147 When first I did embrace him. Yet his nature
 FTLN 3148 In that's no changeling, and I must excuse
 FTLN 3149 What cannot be amended.

FTLN 3150 LIEUTENANT Yet I wish, sir—
 FTLN 3151 I mean for your particular—you had not 15
 FTLN 3152 Joined in commission with him, but either
 FTLN 3153 Have borne the action of yourself or else
 FTLN 3154 To him had left it solely.

AUFIDIUS

FTLN 3155 I understand thee well, and be thou sure,
 FTLN 3156 When he shall come to his account, he knows not 20
 FTLN 3157 What I can urge against him, although it seems,
 FTLN 3158 And so he thinks and is no less apparent
 FTLN 3159 To th' vulgar eye, that he bears all things fairly,
 FTLN 3160 And shows good husbandry for the Volscian state,

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 3161 | Fights dragonlike, and does achieve as soon | 25 |
| FTLN 3162 | As draw his sword; yet he hath left undone | |
| FTLN 3163 | That which shall break his neck or hazard mine | |
| FTLN 3164 | Whene'er we come to our account. | |
| | LIEUTENANT | |
| FTLN 3165 | Sir, I beseech you, think you he'll carry Rome? | |
| | AUFIDIUS | |
| FTLN 3166 | All places yields to him ere he sits down, | 30 |
| FTLN 3167 | And the nobility of Rome are his; | |
| FTLN 3168 | The Senators and Patricians love him too. | |
| FTLN 3169 | The Tribunes are no soldiers, and their people | |
| FTLN 3170 | Will be as rash in the repeal as hasty | |
| FTLN 3171 | To expel him thence. I think he'll be to Rome | 35 |
| FTLN 3172 | As is the osprey to the fish, who takes it | |
| FTLN 3173 | By sovereignty of nature. First, he was | |
| FTLN 3174 | A noble servant to them, but he could not | |
| FTLN 3175 | Carry his honors even. Whether ¹ 'twas ¹ pride, | |
| FTLN 3176 | Which out of daily fortune ever taints | 40 |
| FTLN 3177 | The happy man; whether ¹ defect ¹ of judgment, | |
| FTLN 3178 | To fail in the disposing of those chances | |
| FTLN 3179 | Which he was lord of; or whether nature, | |
| FTLN 3180 | Not to be other than one thing, not moving | |
| FTLN 3181 | From th' casque to th' cushion, but commanding | 45 |
| FTLN 3182 | peace | |
| FTLN 3183 | Even with the same austerity and garb | |
| FTLN 3184 | As he controlled the war; but one of these— | |
| FTLN 3185 | As he hath spices of them all—not all, | |
| FTLN 3186 | For I dare so far free him—made him feared, | 50 |
| FTLN 3187 | So hated, and so banished. But he has a merit | |
| FTLN 3188 | To choke it in the utt'rance. So our ¹ virtues ¹ | |
| FTLN 3189 | Lie in th' interpretation of the time, | |
| FTLN 3190 | And power, unto itself most commendable, | |
| FTLN 3191 | Hath not a tomb so evident as a chair | 55 |
| FTLN 3192 | T' extol what it hath done. | |
| FTLN 3193 | One fire drives out one fire, one nail one nail; | |

FTLN 3194 Rights by rights 「falter」; strengths by strengths do
FTLN 3195 fail.
FTLN 3196 Come, let's away. When, Caius, Rome is thine, 60
FTLN 3197 Thou art poor'st of all; then shortly art thou mine.
They exit.

ACT 5

「Scene 1」

Enter Menenius, Cominius, Sicinius, Brutus (the two Tribunes), with others.

MENENIUS

FTLN 3198 No, I'll not go. You hear what he hath said
FTLN 3199 Which was sometime his general, who loved him
FTLN 3200 In a most dear particular. He called me father,
FTLN 3201 But what o' that? Go you that banished him;
FTLN 3202 A mile before his tent, fall down, and knee 5
FTLN 3203 The way into his mercy. Nay, if he coyed
FTLN 3204 To hear Cominius speak, I'll keep at home.

COMINIUS

FTLN 3205 He would not seem to know me.

FTLN 3206 MENENIUS Do you hear?

COMINIUS

FTLN 3207 Yet one time he did call me by my name. 10
FTLN 3208 I urged our old acquaintance, and the drops
FTLN 3209 That we have bled together. "Coriolanus"
FTLN 3210 He would not answer to, forbade all names.
FTLN 3211 He was a kind of nothing, titleless,
FTLN 3212 Till he had forged himself a name o' th' fire 15
FTLN 3213 Of burning Rome.

MENENIUS, 「to the Tribunes」

FTLN 3214 Why, so; you have made good work!

FTLN 3215 A pair of tribunes that have wracked Rome

FTLN 3216 To make coals cheap! A noble memory!

COMINIUS

FTLN 3217 I minded him how royal 'twas to pardon 20
 FTLN 3218 When it was less expected. He replied
 FTLN 3219 It was a bare petition of a state
 FTLN 3220 To one whom they had punished.

MENENIUS

Very well.

FTLN 3221
 FTLN 3222 Could he say less? 25

COMINIUS

FTLN 3223 I offered to awaken his regard
 FTLN 3224 For 's private friends. His answer to me was
 FTLN 3225 He could not stay to pick them in a pile
 FTLN 3226 Of noisome musty chaff. He said 'twas folly
 FTLN 3227 For one poor grain or two to leave unburnt 30
 FTLN 3228 And still to nose th' offense.

MENENIUS For one poor grain or two!

FTLN 3230 I am one of those! His mother, wife, his child,
 FTLN 3231 And this brave fellow too, we are the grains;
 FTLN 3232 You are the musty chaff, and you are smelt 35
 FTLN 3233 Above the moon. We must be burnt for you.

SICINIUS

FTLN 3234 Nay, pray, be patient. If you refuse your aid
 FTLN 3235 In this so-never-needed help, yet do not
 FTLN 3236 Upbraid 's with our distress. But sure, if you
 FTLN 3237 Would be your country's pleader, your good tongue, 40
 FTLN 3238 More than the instant army we can make,
 FTLN 3239 Might stop our countryman.

MENENIUS

No, I'll not meddle.

SICINIUS Pray you, go to him.

FTLN 3241
 FTLN 3242 MENENIUS What should I do? 45

BRUTUS

FTLN 3243 Only make trial what your love can do
 FTLN 3244 For Rome, towards Martius.
 FTLN 3245 MENENIUS Well, and say that
 FTLN 3246 Martius
 FTLN 3247 Return me, as Cominius is returned, unheard, 50

FTLN 3248 What then? But as a discontented friend,
 FTLN 3249 Grief-shot with his unkindness? Say 't be so?
 FTLN 3250 SICINIUS Yet your good will
 FTLN 3251 Must have that thanks from Rome after the measure
 FTLN 3252 As you intended well. 55
 FTLN 3253 MENENIUS I'll undertake 't.
 FTLN 3254 I think he'll hear me. Yet to bite his lip
 FTLN 3255 And hum at good Cominius much unhearts me.
 FTLN 3256 He was not taken well; he had not dined.
 FTLN 3257 The veins unfilled, our blood is cold, and then 60
 FTLN 3258 We pout upon the morning, are unapt
 FTLN 3259 To give or to forgive; but when we have stuffed
 FTLN 3260 These pipes and these conveyances of our blood
 FTLN 3261 With wine and feeding, we have suppler souls
 FTLN 3262 Than in our priestlike fasts. Therefore I'll watch him 65
 FTLN 3263 Till he be dieted to my request,
 FTLN 3264 And then I'll set upon him.
 BRUTUS
 FTLN 3265 You know the very road into his kindness
 FTLN 3266 And cannot lose your way.
 FTLN 3267 MENENIUS Good faith, I'll prove him, 70
 FTLN 3268 Speed how it will. I shall ere long have knowledge
 FTLN 3269 Of my success. *He exits.*
 FTLN 3270 COMINIUS He'll never hear him.
 FTLN 3271 SICINIUS Not?
 COMINIUS
 FTLN 3272 I tell you, he does sit in gold, his eye 75
 FTLN 3273 Red as 'twould burn Rome; and his injury
 FTLN 3274 The jailor to his pity. I kneeled before him;
 FTLN 3275 'Tw'as very faintly he said "Rise"; dismissed me
 FTLN 3276 Thus with his speechless hand. What he would do
 FTLN 3277 He sent in writing after me; what he 80
 FTLN 3278 Would not, bound with an oath to yield to his
 FTLN 3279 Conditions. So that all hope is vain
 FTLN 3280 Unless his noble mother and his wife,
 FTLN 3281 Who, as I hear, mean to solicit him

FTLN 3282 For mercy to his country. Therefore let's hence 85
 FTLN 3283 And with our fair entreaties haste them on.

They exit.

「Scene 2」

Enter Menenius to the Watch, or Guard.

FTLN 3284 FIRST WATCH Stay! Whence are you?

FTLN 3285 SECOND WATCH Stand, and go back.

MENENIUS

FTLN 3286 You guard like men; 'tis well. But by your leave,

FTLN 3287 I am an officer of state and come

FTLN 3288 To speak with Coriolanus. 5

FTLN 3289 FIRST WATCH From whence?

FTLN 3290 MENENIUS From Rome.

FIRST WATCH

FTLN 3291 You may not pass; you must return. Our general

FTLN 3292 Will no more hear from thence.

SECOND WATCH

FTLN 3293 You'll see your Rome embraced with fire before 10

FTLN 3294 You'll speak with Coriolanus.

FTLN 3295 MENENIUS Good my friends,

FTLN 3296 If you have heard your general talk of Rome

FTLN 3297 And of his friends there, it is lots to blanks

FTLN 3298 My name hath touched your ears. It is Menenius. 15

FIRST WATCH

FTLN 3299 Be it so; go back. The virtue of your name

FTLN 3300 Is not here passable.

FTLN 3301 MENENIUS I tell thee, fellow,

FTLN 3302 Thy general is my lover. I have been

FTLN 3303 The book of his good acts, whence men have read 20

FTLN 3304 His fame unparalleled happily amplified;

FTLN 3305 For I have ever verified my friends—

FTLN 3306 Of whom he's chief—with all the size that verity

FTLN 3307 Would without lapsing suffer. Nay, sometimes,

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| FTLN 3308 | Like to a bowl upon a subtle ground, | 25 |
| FTLN 3309 | I have tumbled past the throw, and in his praise | |
| FTLN 3310 | Have almost stamped the leasing. Therefore, fellow, | |
| FTLN 3311 | I must have leave to pass. | |
| FTLN 3312 | FIRST WATCH Faith, sir, if you had told as many lies in | |
| FTLN 3313 | his behalf as you have uttered words in your own, | 30 |
| FTLN 3314 | you should not pass here, no, though it were as virtuous | |
| FTLN 3315 | to lie as to live chastely. Therefore, go back. | |
| FTLN 3316 | MENENIUS Prithee, fellow, remember my name is Menenius, | |
| FTLN 3317 | always factionary on the party of your | |
| FTLN 3318 | general. | 35 |
| FTLN 3319 | SECOND WATCH Howsoever you have been his liar, as | |
| FTLN 3320 | you say you have, I am one that, telling true under | |
| FTLN 3321 | him, must say you cannot pass. Therefore, go back. | |
| FTLN 3322 | MENENIUS Has he dined, can'st thou tell? For I would | |
| FTLN 3323 | not speak with him till after dinner. | 40 |
| FTLN 3324 | FIRST WATCH You are a Roman, are you? | |
| FTLN 3325 | MENENIUS I am, as thy general is. | |
| FTLN 3326 | FIRST WATCH Then you should hate Rome as he does. | |
| FTLN 3327 | Can you, when you have pushed out your gates the | |
| FTLN 3328 | very defender of them, and, in a violent popular | 45 |
| FTLN 3329 | ignorance given your enemy your shield, think to | |
| FTLN 3330 | front his revenges with the easy groans of old | |
| FTLN 3331 | women, the virginal palms of your daughters, or | |
| FTLN 3332 | with the palsied intercession of such a decayed | |
| FTLN 3333 | dotant as you seem to be? Can you think to blow | 50 |
| FTLN 3334 | out the intended fire your city is ready to flame in | |
| FTLN 3335 | with such weak breath as this? No, you are deceived. | |
| FTLN 3336 | Therefore, back to Rome and prepare for | |
| FTLN 3337 | your execution. You are condemned. Our general | |
| FTLN 3338 | has sworn you out of reprieve and pardon. | 55 |
| FTLN 3339 | MENENIUS Sirrah, if thy captain knew I were here, he | |
| FTLN 3340 | would use me with estimation. | |
| FTLN 3341 | FIRST WATCH Come, my captain knows you not. | |
| FTLN 3342 | MENENIUS I mean thy general. | |

FTLN 3343 FIRST WATCH My general cares not for you. Back, I say, 60
 FTLN 3344 go, lest I let forth your half pint of blood. Back!
 FTLN 3345 That's the utmost of your having. Back!
 FTLN 3346 MENENIUS Nay, but fellow, fellow—

Enter Coriolanus with Aufidius.

FTLN 3347 CORIOLANUS What's the matter?
 FTLN 3348 MENENIUS *['to First Watch']* Now, you companion, I'll 65
 FTLN 3349 say an errand for you. You shall know now that I
 FTLN 3350 am in estimation; you shall perceive that a Jack
 FTLN 3351 guardant cannot office me from my son Coriolanus.
 FTLN 3352 Guess but *['by']* my entertainment with him
 FTLN 3353 if thou stand'st not i' th' state of hanging or of some 70
 FTLN 3354 death more long in spectatorship and crueler in
 FTLN 3355 suffering; behold now presently, and swoon for
 FTLN 3356 what's to come upon thee. *['(To Coriolanus.)']* The
 FTLN 3357 glorious gods sit in hourly synod about thy particular
 FTLN 3358 prosperity and love thee no worse than thy old 75
 FTLN 3359 father Menenius does! O my son, my son! *['(He*
 FTLN 3360 *weeps.)']* Thou art preparing fire for us; look thee,
 FTLN 3361 here's water to quench it. I was hardly moved to
 FTLN 3362 come to thee; but being assured none but myself
 FTLN 3363 could move thee, I have been blown out of your 80
 FTLN 3364 gates with sighs, and conjure thee to pardon Rome
 FTLN 3365 and thy petitionary countrymen. The good gods
 FTLN 3366 assuage thy wrath and turn the dregs of it upon
 FTLN 3367 this varlet here, this, who, like a block, hath denied
 FTLN 3368 my access to thee. 85
 FTLN 3369 CORIOLANUS Away!
 FTLN 3370 MENENIUS How? Away?
 FTLN 3371 CORIOLANUS
 FTLN 3372 Wife, mother, child, I know not. My affairs
 FTLN 3373 Are servanted to others. Though I owe 90
 FTLN 3374 My revenge properly, my remission lies
 FTLN 3375 In Volscian breasts. That we have been familiar,
 Ingrate forgetfulness shall poison rather

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| FTLN 3376 | Than pity note how much. Therefore, begone. | |
| FTLN 3377 | Mine ears against your suits are stronger than | |
| FTLN 3378 | Your gates against my force. Yet, for I loved thee, | 95 |
| FTLN 3379 | Take this along; I writ it for thy sake, | |
| | <i>〔He gives Menenius a paper.〕</i> | |
| FTLN 3380 | And would have sent it. Another word, Menenius, | |
| FTLN 3381 | I will not hear thee speak.—This man, Aufidius, | |
| FTLN 3382 | Was my beloved in Rome; yet thou behold'st. | |
| FTLN 3383 | AUFIDIUS You keep a constant temper. <i>They exit.</i> | 100 |
| | <i>The Guard and Menenius remain.</i> | |
| FTLN 3384 | FIRST WATCH Now, sir, is your name Menenius? | |
| FTLN 3385 | SECOND WATCH 'Tis a spell, you see, of much power. You | |
| FTLN 3386 | know the way home again. | |
| FTLN 3387 | FIRST WATCH Do you hear how we are shent for keeping | |
| FTLN 3388 | your Greatness back? | 105 |
| FTLN 3389 | SECOND WATCH What cause do you think I have to | |
| FTLN 3390 | swoon? | |
| FTLN 3391 | MENENIUS I neither care for th' world nor your general. | |
| FTLN 3392 | For such things as you, I can scarce think | |
| FTLN 3393 | there's any, you're so slight. He that hath a will to | 110 |
| FTLN 3394 | die by himself fears it not from another. Let your | |
| FTLN 3395 | general do his worst. For you, be that you are, | |
| FTLN 3396 | long; and your misery increase with your age! I say | |
| FTLN 3397 | to you, as I was said to, away! <i>He exits.</i> | |
| FTLN 3398 | FIRST WATCH A noble fellow, I warrant him. | 115 |
| FTLN 3399 | SECOND WATCH The worthy fellow is our general. He's | |
| FTLN 3400 | the rock, the oak not to be wind-shaken. | |
| | <i>Watch exit.</i> | |

〔Scene 3〕

Enter Coriolanus and Aufidius.

CORIOLANUS

FTLN 3401 We will before the walls of Rome tomorrow
 FTLN 3402 Set down our host. My partner in this action,

| | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| FTLN 3403 | You must report to th' Volscian lords how plainly | |
| FTLN 3404 | I have borne this business. | |
| FTLN 3405 | AUFIDIUS | Only their ends 5 |
| FTLN 3406 | You have respected, stopped your ears against | |
| FTLN 3407 | The general suit of Rome, never admitted | |
| FTLN 3408 | A private whisper, no, not with such friends | |
| FTLN 3409 | That thought them sure of you. | |
| FTLN 3410 | CORIOLANUS | This last old man, 10 |
| FTLN 3411 | Whom with a cracked heart I have sent to Rome, | |
| FTLN 3412 | Loved me above the measure of a father, | |
| FTLN 3413 | Nay, godded me indeed. Their latest refuge | |
| FTLN 3414 | Was to send him, for whose old love I have— | |
| FTLN 3415 | Though I showed sourly to him—once more offered | 15 |
| FTLN 3416 | The first conditions, which they did refuse | |
| FTLN 3417 | And cannot now accept, to grace him only | |
| FTLN 3418 | That thought he could do more. A very little | |
| FTLN 3419 | I have yielded to. Fresh embassies and suits, | |
| FTLN 3420 | Nor from the state nor private friends, hereafter | 20 |
| FTLN 3421 | Will I lend ear to. | <i>Shout within.</i> |
| FTLN 3422 | | Ha? What shout is this? |
| FTLN 3423 | Shall I be tempted to infringe my vow | |
| FTLN 3424 | In the same time 'tis made? I will not. | |

*Enter Virgilia, Volumnia, Valeria, young Martius,
with Attendants.*

| | | |
|-----------|--|---------------------------|
| FTLN 3425 | My wife comes foremost, then the honored mold | 25 |
| FTLN 3426 | Wherein this trunk was framed, and in her hand | |
| FTLN 3427 | The grandchild to her blood. But out, affection! | |
| FTLN 3428 | All bond and privilege of nature, break! | |
| FTLN 3429 | Let it be virtuous to be obstinate. | <i>Virgilia curtsies.</i> |
| FTLN 3430 | What is that curtsy worth? Or those doves' eyes, | 30 |
| FTLN 3431 | Which can make gods forsworn? I melt and am not | |
| FTLN 3432 | Of stronger earth than others. | <i>Volumnia bows.</i> |
| FTLN 3433 | | My mother bows, |
| FTLN 3434 | As if Olympus to a molehill should | |
| FTLN 3435 | In supplication nod; and my young boy | 35 |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------------|----|
| FTLN 3436 | Hath an aspect of intercession which | | |
| FTLN 3437 | Great Nature cries “Deny not!” Let the Volsces | | |
| FTLN 3438 | Plow Rome and harrow Italy, I’ll never | | |
| FTLN 3439 | Be such a gosling to obey instinct, but stand | | |
| FTLN 3440 | As if a man were author of himself, | | 40 |
| FTLN 3441 | And knew no other kin. | | |
| FTLN 3442 | VIRGILIA | My lord and husband. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 3443 | These eyes are not the same I wore in Rome. | | |
| | VIRGILIA | | |
| FTLN 3444 | The sorrow that delivers us thus changed | | |
| FTLN 3445 | Makes you think so. | | 45 |
| FTLN 3446 | CORIOLANUS | Like a dull actor now, | |
| FTLN 3447 | I have forgot my part, and I am out, | | |
| FTLN 3448 | Even to a full disgrace. Best of my flesh, | | |
| FTLN 3449 | Forgive my tyranny, but do not say | | |
| FTLN 3450 | For that “Forgive our Romans.” | <i>They kiss.</i> | 50 |
| FTLN 3451 | | O, a kiss | |
| FTLN 3452 | Long as my exile, sweet as my revenge! | | |
| FTLN 3453 | Now, by the jealous queen of heaven, that kiss | | |
| FTLN 3454 | I carried from thee, dear, and my true lip | | |
| FTLN 3455 | Hath virgined it e’er since. You gods! I <i>prate</i> | | 55 |
| FTLN 3456 | And the most noble mother of the world | | |
| FTLN 3457 | Leave unsaluted. Sink, my knee, i’ th’ earth; | <i>Kneels.</i> | |
| FTLN 3458 | Of thy deep duty more impression show | | |
| FTLN 3459 | Than that of common sons. | | |
| FTLN 3460 | VOLUMNIA | O, stand up blest, | 60 |
| | | <i>He rises.</i> | |
| FTLN 3461 | Whilst with no softer cushion than the flint | | |
| FTLN 3462 | I kneel before thee and improperly | | |
| FTLN 3463 | Show duty, as mistaken all this while | | |
| FTLN 3464 | Between the child and parent. | <i>She kneels.</i> | |
| FTLN 3465 | CORIOLANUS | What’s this? | 65 |
| FTLN 3466 | Your knees to me? To your corrected son? | | |
| | | <i>He raises her up.</i> | |
| FTLN 3467 | Then let the pebbles on the hungry beach | | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| FTLN 3468 | Fillip the stars! Then let the mutinous winds | |
| FTLN 3469 | Strike the proud cedars 'gainst the fiery sun, | |
| FTLN 3470 | Murdering impossibility to make | 70 |
| FTLN 3471 | What cannot be slight work. | |
| FTLN 3472 | VOLUMNIA | Thou art my warrior; |
| FTLN 3473 | I 'holp' to frame thee. Do you know this lady? | |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 3474 | The noble sister of Publicola, | |
| FTLN 3475 | The moon of Rome, chaste as the icicle | 75 |
| FTLN 3476 | That's curdied by the frost from purest snow | |
| FTLN 3477 | And hangs on Dian's temple!—Dear Valeria. | |
| | VOLUMNIA, 'presenting young Martius' | |
| FTLN 3478 | This is a poor epitome of yours, | |
| FTLN 3479 | Which by th' interpretation of full time | |
| FTLN 3480 | May show like all yourself. | 80 |
| FTLN 3481 | CORIOLANUS, 'to young Martius' | The god of soldiers, |
| FTLN 3482 | With the consent of supreme Jove, inform | |
| FTLN 3483 | Thy thoughts with nobleness, that thou mayst prove | |
| FTLN 3484 | To shame invulnerable, and stick i' th' wars | |
| FTLN 3485 | Like a great seamark standing every flaw | 85 |
| FTLN 3486 | And saving those that eye thee. | |
| FTLN 3487 | VOLUMNIA, 'to young Martius' | Your knee, sirrah. |
| | | 'He kneels.' |
| FTLN 3488 | CORIOLANUS | That's my brave boy! |
| | VOLUMNIA | |
| FTLN 3489 | Even he, your wife, this lady, and myself | |
| FTLN 3490 | Are suitors to you. | 'Young Martius rises.' |
| FTLN 3491 | CORIOLANUS | I beseech you, peace; |
| FTLN 3492 | Or if you'd ask, remember this before: | |
| FTLN 3493 | The thing I have forsworn to grant may never | |
| FTLN 3494 | Be held by you denials. Do not bid me | |
| FTLN 3495 | Dismiss my soldiers or capitulate | 95 |
| FTLN 3496 | Again with Rome's mechanics. Tell me not | |
| FTLN 3497 | Wherein I seem unnatural; desire not | |
| FTLN 3498 | T' allay my rages and revenges with | |
| FTLN 3499 | Your colder reasons. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|--|-----|
| FTLN 3500 | VOLUMNIA | O, no more, no more! | 100 |
| FTLN 3501 | | You have said you will not grant us anything; | |
| FTLN 3502 | | For we have nothing else to ask but that | |
| FTLN 3503 | | Which you deny already. Yet we will ask, | |
| FTLN 3504 | | That if you fail in our request, the blame | |
| FTLN 3505 | | May hang upon your hardness. Therefore hear us. | 105 |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 3506 | | Aufidius, and you Volsces, mark, for we'll | |
| FTLN 3507 | | Hear naught from Rome in private. <i>〔He sits.〕</i> Your | |
| FTLN 3508 | | request? | |
| | VOLUMNIA | | |
| FTLN 3509 | | Should we be silent and not speak, our raiment | |
| FTLN 3510 | | And state of bodies would bewray what life | 110 |
| FTLN 3511 | | We have led since thy exile. Think with thyself | |
| FTLN 3512 | | How more unfortunate than all living women | |
| FTLN 3513 | | Are we come hither; since that thy sight, which | |
| FTLN 3514 | | should | |
| FTLN 3515 | | Make our eyes flow with joy, hearts dance with | 115 |
| FTLN 3516 | | comforts, | |
| FTLN 3517 | | Constrains them weep and shake with fear and | |
| FTLN 3518 | | sorrow, | |
| FTLN 3519 | | Making the mother, wife, and child to see | |
| FTLN 3520 | | The son, the husband, and the father tearing | 120 |
| FTLN 3521 | | His country's bowels out. And to poor we | |
| FTLN 3522 | | Thine enmity's most capital. Thou barr'st us | |
| FTLN 3523 | | Our prayers to the gods, which is a comfort | |
| FTLN 3524 | | That all but we enjoy. For how can we— | |
| FTLN 3525 | | Alas, how can we—for our country pray, | 125 |
| FTLN 3526 | | Whereto we are bound, together with thy victory, | |
| FTLN 3527 | | Whereto we are bound? Alack, or we must lose | |
| FTLN 3528 | | The country, our dear nurse, or else thy person, | |
| FTLN 3529 | | Our comfort in the country. We must find | |
| FTLN 3530 | | An evident calamity, though we had | 130 |
| FTLN 3531 | | Our wish, which side should win, for either thou | |
| FTLN 3532 | | Must as a foreign recreant be led | |
| FTLN 3533 | | With manacles through our streets, or else | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| FTLN 3534 | Triumphantly tread on thy country's ruin | |
| FTLN 3535 | And bear the palm for having bravely shed | 135 |
| FTLN 3536 | Thy wife and children's blood. For myself, son, | |
| FTLN 3537 | I purpose not to wait on fortune till | |
| FTLN 3538 | These wars determine. If I cannot persuade thee | |
| FTLN 3539 | Rather to show a noble grace to both parts | |
| FTLN 3540 | Than seek the end of one, thou shalt no sooner | 140 |
| FTLN 3541 | March to assault thy country than to tread— | |
| FTLN 3542 | Trust to 't, thou shalt not—on thy mother's womb | |
| FTLN 3543 | That brought thee to this world. | |
| FTLN 3544 | VIRGILIA | Ay, and mine, |
| FTLN 3545 | That brought you forth this boy to keep your name | 145 |
| FTLN 3546 | Living to time. | |
| FTLN 3547 | YOUNG MARTIUS | He shall not tread on me. |
| FTLN 3548 | | I'll run away till I am bigger, but then I'll fight. |
| | CORIOLANUS | |
| FTLN 3549 | Not of a woman's tenderness to be | |
| FTLN 3550 | Requires nor child nor woman's face to see.— | 150 |
| FTLN 3551 | I have sat too long. | <i>He rises.</i> |
| FTLN 3552 | VOLUMNIA | Nay, go not from us thus. |
| FTLN 3553 | | If it were so, that our request did tend |
| FTLN 3554 | | To save the Romans, thereby to destroy |
| FTLN 3555 | | The Volsces whom you serve, you might condemn |
| FTLN 3556 | | us |
| FTLN 3557 | | As poisonous of your honor. No, our suit |
| FTLN 3558 | | Is that you reconcile them, while the Volsces |
| FTLN 3559 | | May say "This mercy we have showed," the Romans |
| FTLN 3560 | | "This we received," and each in either side |
| FTLN 3561 | | Give the all-hail to thee and cry "Be blest |
| FTLN 3562 | | For making up this peace!" Thou know'st, great son, |
| FTLN 3563 | | The end of war's uncertain, but this certain, |
| FTLN 3564 | | That, if thou conquer Rome, the benefit |
| FTLN 3565 | | Which thou shalt thereby reap is such a name |
| FTLN 3566 | | Whose repetition will be dogged with curses, |
| FTLN 3567 | | Whose chronicle thus writ: "The man was noble, |
| FTLN 3568 | | But with his last attempt he wiped it out, |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 3569 | Destroyed his country, and his name remains | |
| FTLN 3570 | To th' ensuing age abhorred." Speak to me, son. | 170 |
| FTLN 3571 | Thou hast affected the 「fine」 strains of honor | |
| FTLN 3572 | To imitate the graces of the gods, | |
| FTLN 3573 | To tear with thunder the wide cheeks o' th' air | |
| FTLN 3574 | And yet to 「charge」 thy sulfur with a bolt | |
| FTLN 3575 | That should but rive an oak. Why dost not speak? | 175 |
| FTLN 3576 | Think'st thou it honorable for a noble man | |
| FTLN 3577 | Still to remember wrongs?—Daughter, speak you. | |
| FTLN 3578 | He cares not for your weeping.—Speak thou, boy. | |
| FTLN 3579 | Perhaps thy childishness will move him more | |
| FTLN 3580 | Than can our reasons.—There's no man in the world | 180 |
| FTLN 3581 | More bound to 's mother, yet here he lets me prate | |
| FTLN 3582 | Like one i' th' stocks. Thou hast never in thy life | |
| FTLN 3583 | Showed thy dear mother any courtesy | |
| FTLN 3584 | When she, poor hen, fond of no second brood, | |
| FTLN 3585 | Has 「clucked」 thee to the wars and safely home, | 185 |
| FTLN 3586 | Loaden with honor. Say my request's unjust | |
| FTLN 3587 | And spurn me back; but if it be not so, | |
| FTLN 3588 | Thou art not honest, and the gods will plague thee | |
| FTLN 3589 | That thou restrain'st from me the duty which | |
| FTLN 3590 | To a mother's part belongs.—He turns away.— | 190 |
| FTLN 3591 | Down, ladies! Let us shame him with our knees. | |
| FTLN 3592 | To his surname Coriolanus 'longs more pride | |
| FTLN 3593 | Than pity to our prayers. Down! An end. | |
| | <i>「They kneel.」</i> | |
| FTLN 3594 | This is the last. So, we will home to Rome | |
| FTLN 3595 | And die among our neighbors.—Nay, behold 's. | 195 |
| FTLN 3596 | This boy that cannot tell what he would have, | |
| FTLN 3597 | But kneels and holds up hands for fellowship, | |
| FTLN 3598 | Does reason our petition with more strength | |
| FTLN 3599 | Than thou hast to deny 't.—Come, let us go. | |
| | <i>「They rise.」</i> | |
| FTLN 3600 | This fellow had a Volscian to his mother, | 200 |
| FTLN 3601 | His wife is in Corioles, and his child | |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| FTLN 3602 | Like him by chance.—Yet give us our dispatch. | |
| FTLN 3603 | I am hushed until our city be afire, | |
| FTLN 3604 | And then I'll speak a little. | |
| | <i>〔He〕 holds her by the hand, silent.</i> | |
| FTLN 3605 | CORIOLANUS | 205 |
| | O mother, mother! | |
| FTLN 3606 | What have you done? Behold, the heavens do ope, | |
| FTLN 3607 | The gods look down, and this unnatural scene | |
| FTLN 3608 | They laugh at. O, my mother, mother, O! | |
| FTLN 3609 | You have won a happy victory to Rome, | |
| FTLN 3610 | But, for your son—believe it, O, believe it!— | 210 |
| FTLN 3611 | Most dangerously you have with him prevailed, | |
| FTLN 3612 | If not most mortal to him. But let it come.— | |
| FTLN 3613 | Aufidius, though I cannot make true wars, | |
| FTLN 3614 | I'll frame convenient peace. Now, good Aufidius, | |
| FTLN 3615 | Were you in my stead, would you have heard | 215 |
| FTLN 3616 | A mother less? Or granted less, Aufidius? | |
| | AUFIDIUS | |
| FTLN 3617 | I was moved withal. | |
| FTLN 3618 | CORIOLANUS | 220 |
| | I dare be sworn you were. | |
| FTLN 3619 | And, sir, it is no little thing to make | |
| FTLN 3620 | Mine eyes to sweat compassion. But, good sir, | 220 |
| FTLN 3621 | What peace you'll make advise me. For my part, | |
| FTLN 3622 | I'll not to Rome. I'll back with you; and pray you, | |
| FTLN 3623 | Stand to me in this cause.—O mother!—Wife! | |
| | <i>〔He speaks with them aside.〕</i> | |
| | AUFIDIUS, <i>〔aside〕</i> | |
| FTLN 3624 | I am glad thou hast set thy mercy and thy honor | |
| FTLN 3625 | At difference in thee. Out of that I'll work | 225 |
| FTLN 3626 | Myself a former fortune. | |
| FTLN 3627 | CORIOLANUS, <i>〔to the Women〕</i> | 230 |
| | Ay, by and by; | |
| FTLN 3628 | But we will drink together, and you shall bear | |
| FTLN 3629 | A better witness back than words, which we, | |
| FTLN 3630 | On like conditions, will have countersealed. | 230 |
| FTLN 3631 | Come, enter with us. Ladies, you deserve | |
| FTLN 3632 | To have a temple built you. All the swords | |

FTLN 3633 In Italy, and her confederate arms,
FTLN 3634 Could not have made this peace.

They exit.

「Scene 4」

Enter Menenius and Sicinius.

FTLN 3635 MENENIUS See you yond coign o' th' Capitol, yond
FTLN 3636 cornerstone?
FTLN 3637 SICINIUS Why, what of that?
FTLN 3638 MENENIUS If it be possible for you to displace it with
FTLN 3639 your little finger, there is some hope the ladies of 5
FTLN 3640 Rome, especially his mother, may prevail with
FTLN 3641 him. But I say there is no hope in 't. Our throats
FTLN 3642 are sentenced and stay upon execution.
FTLN 3643 SICINIUS Is 't possible that so short a time can alter the
FTLN 3644 condition of a man? 10
FTLN 3645 MENENIUS There is differency between a grub and a
FTLN 3646 butterfly, yet your butterfly was a grub. This Martius
FTLN 3647 is grown from man to dragon. He has wings;
FTLN 3648 he's more than a creeping thing.
FTLN 3649 SICINIUS He loved his mother dearly. 15
FTLN 3650 MENENIUS So did he me; and he no more remembers
FTLN 3651 his mother now than an eight-year-old horse. The
FTLN 3652 tartness of his face sours ripe grapes. When he
FTLN 3653 walks, he moves like an engine, and the ground
FTLN 3654 shrinks before his treading. He is able to pierce a 20
FTLN 3655 corslet with his eye, talks like a knell, and his hum
FTLN 3656 is a battery. He sits in his state as a thing made for
FTLN 3657 Alexander. What he bids be done is finished with
FTLN 3658 his bidding. He wants nothing of a god but eternity
FTLN 3659 and a heaven to throne in. 25
FTLN 3660 SICINIUS Yes, mercy, if you report him truly.
FTLN 3661 MENENIUS I paint him in the character. Mark what
FTLN 3662 mercy his mother shall bring from him. There is

FTLN 3663 no more mercy in him than there is milk in a male
 FTLN 3664 tiger. That shall our poor city find, and all this is 30
 FTLN 3665 long of you.
 FTLN 3666 SICINIUS The gods be good unto us.
 FTLN 3667 MENENIUS No, in such a case the gods will not be good
 FTLN 3668 unto us. When we banished him, we respected not
 FTLN 3669 them; and he returning to break our necks, they 35
 FTLN 3670 respect not us.

Enter a Messenger.

MESSENGER, *['to Sicinius']*
 FTLN 3671 Sir, if you'd save your life, fly to your house.
 FTLN 3672 The plebeians have got your fellow tribune
 FTLN 3673 And hale him up and down, all swearing if
 FTLN 3674 The Roman ladies bring not comfort home, 40
 FTLN 3675 They'll give him death by inches.

Enter another Messenger.

FTLN 3676 SICINIUS What's the news?
 「SECOND」 MESSENGER
 FTLN 3677 Good news, good news! The ladies have prevailed.
 FTLN 3678 The Volscians are dislodged and Martius gone.
 FTLN 3679 A merrier day did never yet greet Rome, 45
 FTLN 3680 No, not th' expulsion of the Tarquins.
 FTLN 3681 SICINIUS Friend,
 FTLN 3682 Art thou certain this is true? Is 't most certain?
 「SECOND」 MESSENGER
 FTLN 3683 As certain as I know the sun is fire.
 FTLN 3684 Where have you lurked that you make doubt of it? 50
 FTLN 3685 Ne'er through an arch so hurried the blown tide
 FTLN 3686 As the recomforted through th' gates. Why, hark you!

Trumpets, hautboys, drums beat, all together.

FTLN 3687 The trumpets, sackbuts, psalteries, and fifes,
 FTLN 3688 Tabors and cymbals, and the shouting Romans
 FTLN 3689 Make the sun dance. Hark you! *A shout within.* 55

FTLN 3690 MENENIUS This is good news.
 FTLN 3691 I will go meet the ladies. This Volumnia
 FTLN 3692 Is worth of consuls, senators, patricians
 FTLN 3693 A city full; of tribunes such as you
 FTLN 3694 A sea and land full. You have prayed well today. 60
 FTLN 3695 This morning for ten thousand of your throats
 FTLN 3696 I'd not have given a doit. Hark, how they joy!
Sound still with the shouts.

FTLN 3697 SICINIUS, [to Second Messenger] First, the gods bless
 FTLN 3698 you for your tidings; next, accept my thankfulness.
 [SECOND] MESSENGER
 FTLN 3699 Sir, we have all great cause to give great thanks. 65
 FTLN 3700 SICINIUS They are near the city?
 FTLN 3701 [SECOND] MESSENGER Almost at point to enter.
 FTLN 3702 SICINIUS We'll meet them, and help the joy.
They exit.

[Scene 5]

Enter two Senators, with Ladies (Volumnia, Virgilia, Valeria) passing over the stage, with other Lords.

SENATOR
 FTLN 3703 Behold our patroness, the life of Rome!
 FTLN 3704 Call all your tribes together, praise the gods,
 FTLN 3705 And make triumphant fires. Strew flowers before
 FTLN 3706 them,
 FTLN 3707 Unshout the noise that banished Martius, 5
 FTLN 3708 Repeal him with the welcome of his mother.
 FTLN 3709 Cry "Welcome, ladies, welcome!"
 FTLN 3710 ALL Welcome, ladies, welcome!
A flourish with drums and trumpets.
[They exit.]

「Scene 6」

Enter Tullus Aufidius, with Attendants.

AUFIDIUS

FTLN 3711 Go tell the lords o' th' city I am here.
 FTLN 3712 Deliver them this paper. 「(He gives them a paper.)」
 FTLN 3713 Having read it,
 FTLN 3714 Bid them repair to th' marketplace, where I,
 FTLN 3715 Even in theirs and in the commons' ears, 5
 FTLN 3716 Will vouch the truth of it. Him I accuse
 FTLN 3717 The city ports by this hath entered and
 FTLN 3718 Intends t' appear before the people, hoping
 FTLN 3719 To purge himself with words. Dispatch.
 「The Attendants exit.」

Enter three or four Conspirators of Aufidius's faction.

FTLN 3720 Most welcome! 10

FIRST CONSPIRATOR

FTLN 3721 How is it with our general?

FTLN 3722 AUFIDIUS Even so

FTLN 3723 As with a man by his own alms empoisoned
 FTLN 3724 And with his charity slain.

FTLN 3725 SECOND CONSPIRATOR Most noble sir, 15

FTLN 3726 If you do hold the same intent wherein
 FTLN 3727 You wished us parties, we'll deliver you
 FTLN 3728 Of your great danger.

FTLN 3729 AUFIDIUS Sir, I cannot tell.

FTLN 3730 We must proceed as we do find the people. 20

THIRD CONSPIRATOR

FTLN 3731 The people will remain uncertain whilst
 FTLN 3732 'Twixt you there's difference, but the fall of either
 FTLN 3733 Makes the survivor heir of all.

FTLN 3734 AUFIDIUS I know it,

FTLN 3735 And my pretext to strike at him admits 25

FTLN 3736 A good construction. I raised him, and I pawned
 FTLN 3737 Mine honor for his truth, who, being so heightened,

FTLN 3738 He watered his new plants with dews of flattery,
 FTLN 3739 Seducing so my friends; and to this end,
 FTLN 3740 He bowed his nature, never known before 30
 FTLN 3741 But to be rough, unswayable, and free.
 FTLN 3742 THIRD CONSPIRATOR Sir, his stoutness
 FTLN 3743 When he did stand for consul, which he lost
 FTLN 3744 By lack of stooping—
 FTLN 3745 AUFIDIUS That I would have spoke of. 35
 FTLN 3746 Being banished for 't, he came unto my hearth,
 FTLN 3747 Presented to my knife his throat. I took him,
 FTLN 3748 Made him joint servant with me, gave him way
 FTLN 3749 In all his own desires; nay, let him choose
 FTLN 3750 Out of my files, his projects to accomplish, 40
 FTLN 3751 My best and freshest men; served his designments
 FTLN 3752 In mine own person; help to reap the fame
 FTLN 3753 Which he did end all his; and took some pride
 FTLN 3754 To do myself this wrong; till at the last
 FTLN 3755 I seemed his follower, not partner; and 45
 FTLN 3756 He waged me with his countenance as if
 FTLN 3757 I had been mercenary.
 FTLN 3758 FIRST CONSPIRATOR So he did, my lord.
 FTLN 3759 The army marvelled at it, and, in the last,
 FTLN 3760 When he had carried Rome and that we looked 50
 FTLN 3761 For no less spoil than glory—
 FTLN 3762 AUFIDIUS There was it
 FTLN 3763 For which my sinews shall be stretched upon him.
 FTLN 3764 At a few drops of women's rheum, which are
 FTLN 3765 As cheap as lies, he sold the blood and labor 55
 FTLN 3766 Of our great action. Therefore shall he die,
 FTLN 3767 And I'll renew me in his fall. But hark!

*Drums and trumpets sounds, with great shouts
of the people.*

FIRST CONSPIRATOR

FTLN 3768 Your native town you entered like a post

| | | |
|-----------|--|---------------------|
| FTLN 3797 | Than when I parted hence, but still subsisting | |
| FTLN 3798 | Under your great command. You are to know | |
| FTLN 3799 | That prosperously I have attempted, and | |
| FTLN 3800 | With bloody passage led your wars even to | 90 |
| FTLN 3801 | The gates of Rome. Our spoils we have brought | |
| FTLN 3802 | home | |
| FTLN 3803 | Doth more than counterpoise a full third part | |
| FTLN 3804 | The charges of the action. We have made peace | |
| FTLN 3805 | With no less honor to the Antiates | 95 |
| FTLN 3806 | Than shame to th' Romans, and we here deliver, | |
| FTLN 3807 | Subscribed by' th' Consuls and patricians, | |
| FTLN 3808 | Together with the seal o' th' Senate, what | |
| FTLN 3809 | We have compounded on. | |
| | <i>「He offers the lords a paper.」</i> | |
| FTLN 3810 | AUFIDIUS Read it not, noble lords, | 100 |
| FTLN 3811 | But tell the traitor in the highest degree | |
| FTLN 3812 | He hath abused your powers. | |
| FTLN 3813 | CORIOLANUS “Traitor”? How now? | |
| FTLN 3814 | AUFIDIUS Ay, traitor, Martius. | |
| FTLN 3815 | CORIOLANUS Martius? | 105 |
| | AUFIDIUS | |
| FTLN 3816 | Ay, Martius, Caius Martius. Dost thou think | |
| FTLN 3817 | I'll grace thee with that robbery, thy stol'n name | |
| FTLN 3818 | Coriolanus, in Corioles? | |
| FTLN 3819 | You lords and heads o' th' state, perfidiously | |
| FTLN 3820 | He has betrayed your business and given up | 110 |
| FTLN 3821 | For certain drops of salt your city Rome— | |
| FTLN 3822 | I say your city—to his wife and mother, | |
| FTLN 3823 | Breaking his oath and resolution like | |
| FTLN 3824 | A twist of rotten silk, never admitting | |
| FTLN 3825 | Counsel o' th' war, but at his nurse's tears | 115 |
| FTLN 3826 | He whined and roared away your victory, | |
| FTLN 3827 | That pages blushed at him and men of heart | |
| FTLN 3828 | Looked wond'ring each at 「other.」 | |
| FTLN 3829 | CORIOLANUS | Hear'st thou, Mars? |

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--|-----|
| FTLN 3830 | AUFIDIUS | Name not the god, thou boy of tears. | 120 |
| FTLN 3831 | CORIOLANUS | Ha? | |
| FTLN 3832 | AUFIDIUS | No more. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 3833 | | Measureless liar, thou hast made my heart | |
| FTLN 3834 | | Too great for what contains it. "Boy"? O slave!— | |
| FTLN 3835 | | Pardon me, lords, 'tis the first time that ever | 125 |
| FTLN 3836 | | I was forced to scold. Your judgments, my grave | |
| FTLN 3837 | | lords, | |
| FTLN 3838 | | Must give this cur the lie; and his own notion— | |
| FTLN 3839 | | Who wears my stripes impressed upon him, that | |
| FTLN 3840 | | Must bear my beating to his grave—shall join | 130 |
| FTLN 3841 | | To thrust the lie unto him. | |
| FTLN 3842 | FIRST LORD | Peace, both, and hear me speak. | |
| | CORIOLANUS | | |
| FTLN 3843 | | Cut me to pieces, Volsces. Men and lads, | |
| FTLN 3844 | | Stain all your edges on me. "Boy"? False hound! | |
| FTLN 3845 | | If you have writ your annals true, 'tis there | 135 |
| FTLN 3846 | | That like an eagle in a dovecote, I | |
| FTLN 3847 | | 「Fluttered」 your Volscians in Corioles, | |
| FTLN 3848 | | Alone I did it. "Boy"! | |
| FTLN 3849 | AUFIDIUS | Why, noble lords, | |
| FTLN 3850 | | Will you be put in mind of his blind fortune, | 140 |
| FTLN 3851 | | Which was your shame, by this unholy braggart, | |
| FTLN 3852 | | 'Fore your own eyes and ears? | |
| FTLN 3853 | ALL CONSPIRATORS | Let him die for 't. | |
| FTLN 3854 | ALL PEOPLE | Tear him to pieces! Do it presently! He | |
| FTLN 3855 | | killed my son! My daughter! He killed my cousin | 145 |
| FTLN 3856 | | Marcus! He killed my father! | |
| FTLN 3857 | SECOND LORD | Peace, ho! No outrage! Peace! | |
| FTLN 3858 | | The man is noble, and his fame folds in | |
| FTLN 3859 | | This orb o' th' Earth. His last offenses to us | |
| FTLN 3860 | | Shall have judicious hearing. Stand, Aufidius, | 150 |
| FTLN 3861 | | And trouble not the peace. | |

| | | | |
|-----------|--|---|-----|
| FTLN 3862 | CORIOLANUS, <i>〔drawing his sword〕</i> | O, that I had him, | |
| FTLN 3863 | | With six Aufidiuses, or more, his tribe, | |
| FTLN 3864 | | To use my lawful sword. | |
| FTLN 3865 | AUFIDIUS | Insolent villain! | 155 |
| FTLN 3866 | ALL CONSPIRATORS | Kill, kill, kill, kill, kill him! | |
| | | <i>Draw the Conspirators, and kills Martius, who falls.</i> | |
| | | <i>Aufidius stands on him.</i> | |
| FTLN 3867 | LORDS | Hold, hold, hold, hold! | |
| | AUFIDIUS | | |
| FTLN 3868 | | My noble masters, hear me speak. | |
| FTLN 3869 | FIRST LORD | O Tullus! | |
| | SECOND LORD | | |
| FTLN 3870 | | Thou hast done a deed whereat valor will weep. | 160 |
| | THIRD LORD | | |
| FTLN 3871 | | Tread not upon him.—Masters, all be quiet.— | |
| FTLN 3872 | | Put up your swords. | |
| | AUFIDIUS | | |
| FTLN 3873 | | My lords, when you shall know—as in this rage, | |
| FTLN 3874 | | Provoked by him, you cannot—the great danger | |
| FTLN 3875 | | Which this man’s life did owe you, you’ll rejoice | 165 |
| FTLN 3876 | | That he is thus cut off. Please it your Honors | |
| FTLN 3877 | | To call me to your senate, I’ll deliver | |
| FTLN 3878 | | Myself your loyal servant or endure | |
| FTLN 3879 | | Your heaviest censure. | |
| FTLN 3880 | FIRST LORD | Bear from hence his body, | 170 |
| FTLN 3881 | | And mourn you for him. Let him be regarded | |
| FTLN 3882 | | As the most noble corse that ever herald | |
| FTLN 3883 | | Did follow to his urn. | |
| FTLN 3884 | SECOND LORD | His own impatience | |
| FTLN 3885 | | Takes from Aufidius a great part of blame. | 175 |
| FTLN 3886 | | Let’s make the best of it. | |
| FTLN 3887 | AUFIDIUS | My rage is gone, | |
| FTLN 3888 | | And I am struck with sorrow.—Take him up. | |
| FTLN 3889 | | Help, three o’ th’ chiefest soldiers; I’ll be one.— | |
| FTLN 3890 | | Beat thou the drum that it speak mournfully.— | 180 |

FTLN 3891 Trail your steel pikes. Though in this city he
FTLN 3892 Hath widowed and unchilded many a one,
FTLN 3893 Which to this hour bewail the injury,
FTLN 3894 Yet he shall have a noble memory.
FTLN 3895 Assist.

185

*They exit bearing the body of Martius.
A dead march sounded.*
