

ANTONY & CLEOPATRA

10 Events

1. The Roman Empire is ruled by a triumvirate of Antony, Octavius Caesar and Lepidus. Antony (a married man) is criticised for spending his time in Egypt with the beautiful queen, Cleopatra.
2. Despite Cleopatra's disapproval, Antony returns to Rome for his wife's funeral. While there, he is forced to marry Caesar's sister, Octavia, in order to restore harmony.
3. When Caesar threatens to renew hostilities against his co-rulers, Antony sends Octavia back to sue for peace, whilst he makes for Egypt.
4. Caesar, incensed, wages war on Antony. Antony ignores advice from his officer and friend Enobarbus not to fight the Romans at sea.
5. The battle of Actium is lost when Cleopatra leaves with her fleet, with Antony in hot pursuit.
6. Enobarbus deserts Antony for Caesar. But when Antony sends Enobarbus' treasure to him, Enobarbus is consumed with grief and dies.
7. Antony accuses Cleopatra of betrayal and she locks herself in her monument, sending word that she is dead.
8. Grief-stricken, Antony asks his servant Eros to kill him. Eros cannot and kills himself instead.
9. Antony wounds himself grievously before hearing that Cleopatra is alive. He is carried to her monument and dies in her arms.
10. Cleopatra is put under guard by Caesar. To avoid being led by him, she has venomous snakes (asps) smuggled in in a basket of figs. She and her maids all die from their bites.