Readings & Media for Shakespeare, Milton, and Three Revolutions
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Shakespeare, Julius Caesar, Act 3, scenes 2-3 (the speeches of Brutus and Antony over the body of Caesar, and the mob scene with Cinna the poet)– read, listen, and watch:

Text: Find Act 3 within the full play (plus synopsis, audio, and other resources) at the Shakespeare Folger Library: http://www.folger.edu/julius-caesar/ If you are motivated to read the full Julius Caesar, I suggest an edition with notes (the Folger online text does not include notes)—the Longman Cultural Edition, the Norton, the Riverside, the Oxford, the Arden, the Cambridge, the Folger (paperback)—any of these would work well.

Video of Antony’s speech from The Royal Shakespeare Company’s upcoming production of Julius Caesar: https://www.rsc.org.uk/julius-caesar/act-3-scene-2 A trailer of the 2017 production and other videos and resources are also available at this site.

The riveting film version of Julius Caesar I screened in my recent Poetry of Revolution course is Gregory Doran’s 2012 production filmed in South Africa. You can read about it and see a trailer for it here: https://www.rsc.org.uk/julius-caesar/past-productions/gregory-doran-production-2012 And wonderfully, you can stream the full film through the Colby Library’s subscription to a new film-streaming database called Kanopy.

Milton, Paradise Lost excerpts
You can find the excerpts listed below with hyperlinked notes and other resources at Dartmouth’s The John Milton Reading Room: https://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading_room/pl/intro/text.shtml
Click on the Book # for each excerpt, then find the lines:

PL, Book I, lines 242-270 Rising from the burning lake in Hell defeat in the war with Heaven, Satan speaks to Beezlebub, outraged that through “force” God has made himself “supream/Above his equals,” but adamant that “Here at least We shall be free.../Here we may reign secure, and in my choyce/To reign is worth ambition though in Hell:/Better to reign in Hell, then serve in Heav’n.”

PL, Book II, lines 229-283 In Hell’s Parliament-like gathering, Mammon argues the rebel angels should never again promise “subjection” to the “Sovran” God, accepting “Strict Laws” and “Forc’d Halleluiah’s” but instead “live to ourselves”—become pioneers and entrepreneurs of Hell—and thus be “Free, and to none accountable, preferring/Hard liberty before the easie yoke/Of servile Pomp.”

PL, Book IV, lines 512-516 Satan reflects on what he’s learned from spying on Adam and Eve in the garden, and the paradoxes he can exploit.

If you can, also read of Satan’s self-doubt, despair, and renewed determination as he arrives in Eden, a bit earlier in Book IV, lines 18-110, beginning with “Horror and doubt/Distract his troubl’d thoughts.”
Short essays from the Folger Shakespeare Library’s interactive exhibit, *Shakespeare and American Life*: 
*Shakespeare and the Politicians: Pick a President: Abraham Lincoln:*

“Lincoln Defends the Theatre”
“Lincoln & Shakespeare”
“Shakespeare & the Assassination”

These are just a few clicks away. First, click here: [www.shakespeareinamericanlife.org](http://www.shakespeareinamericanlife.org); you’ll find yourself on the general ‘Shakespeare in American Life’ page that hosts the Folger’s excellent radio documentaries on Shakespeare in American Life (which I also highly recommend to you). For the Lincoln essays, scroll part way down the page to find this line: 

*View an archived version of the website that accompanied the radio documentary...*

Click on the link that follows. Yes, the link appears to be the same url as the one I already give you above, but when you click on it *from this host page*, you will be taken to the archived version of the site. There, click on “The American Identity,” and then on “Shakespeare and the Politicians.” Choose “Pick a President,” then “Lincoln” for the mini-essays on Shakespeare and Lincoln. You might also want to read about Shakespeare engagement of other presidents associated with revolutions: Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison. (You’ll find them easily when you click on “Pick a President.”)

**Articles and op-ed pieces on the very recent (June 2017) *Julius Caesar* controversy**

Simply copy and paste the essay title, etc. into Google search for links to these: