

ENEMY OF ALL MANKIND


FEATURE PITCH

WRITTEN BY CALEB DILLON



ENEMY OF ALL MANKIND

... is based on historical accounts detailing that after living in **EXILE**, Julius Caesar was captured by **PIRATES** on his way back to Rome. Held for months, he refused to act like a prisoner and, when rescued, hunted down his former captors and **CRUCIFIED** them.



Pirates were
considered
*hostis humani
generis*

ENEMIES OF ALL MANKIND

A dramatic scene from the movie 'Julius Caesar' featuring Mark Antony looking out over a crowd in Rome. The background shows the Roman Forum with its iconic architecture and a large crowd of people. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. Mark Antony is in the foreground, looking off to the side with a serious expression.

HISTORY

Remembers **JULIUS CAESAR** as a brilliant general and tyrannical dictator, betrayed by his closest friend, but our story begins when he was just **SIXTEEN**, a High Priest of Jupiter, who fled Rome, abandoning his wife and family when civil war erupted and the nobility of the city were **EXECUTED**.

A dramatic painting depicting Julius Caesar on horseback, holding a sword, with a burning city in the background. The scene is set in a classical style, with a large temple on the left and a statue on the right. The sky is filled with smoke and fire, suggesting a city under attack. The overall tone is somber and heroic.

PITCH

74 BCE. Rome is attacked by a tyrannical **Dictator**. Nobles loyal to the old regime are **slaughtered**. The highly affluent Caesar family is stripped of wealth and titles, and sixteen-year-old Julius Caesar **flees** for fear of his life. Seeking refuge in the fortress of a King loyal to the Caesars, Julius is **captured** by a Roman Commander and sent back to Rome for execution. En route, he is **kidnapped** by Cilician pirates, but without riches to pay his **ransom**, his wife considers marrying the same tyrant who threatens Julius in a desperate devil's dowry to save his life.



CHIAROSCURO

... is a dramatic contrast between light and dark areas in **PAINTINGS** associated with the **RENAISSANCE**. Our film is **RICHLY STYLIZED** to emulate this style of painting; every frame is like a **WORK OF ART**.



THE STORY

At just sixteen, JULIUS CAESAR's privileged life has already been decided on by his abusive father, GAIUS. But when CIVIL WAR erupts in Rome, the nobility are executed, Gaius is murdered, and Julius flees Rome, leaving his pregnant wife, CORNELIA, and his mother, AURELIA, behind.

Julius travels East, but when his true identity is revealed, he is sent back to Rome for EXECUTION. On the return voyage, Julius is kidnapped by pirates. Their captain, ERTEK, ransoms Julius, but the Caesars have been stripped of their wealth. Aurelia convinces Cornelia that the only way to save Julius is to marry the tyrannical DICTATOR who attacked Rome, SULLA.

The pirates hold out on an uncharted island, where Julius is taunted by the GHOST of his father, Gaius. In Rome, Cornelia visits Sulla, seemingly to marry Sulla, but kills him instead, and the ransom is soon paid. But Julius is abandoned in Greece, his captors flaunting their wealth.

Julius rallies the citizens, who capture and execute the pirates, the last of Julius' boyhood dying along with them. Cornelia dies in childbirth days before Julius' return. Celebrated as a hero but hardened by his CRUCIBLE, Julius embarks on a military career, following in his father's footsteps.

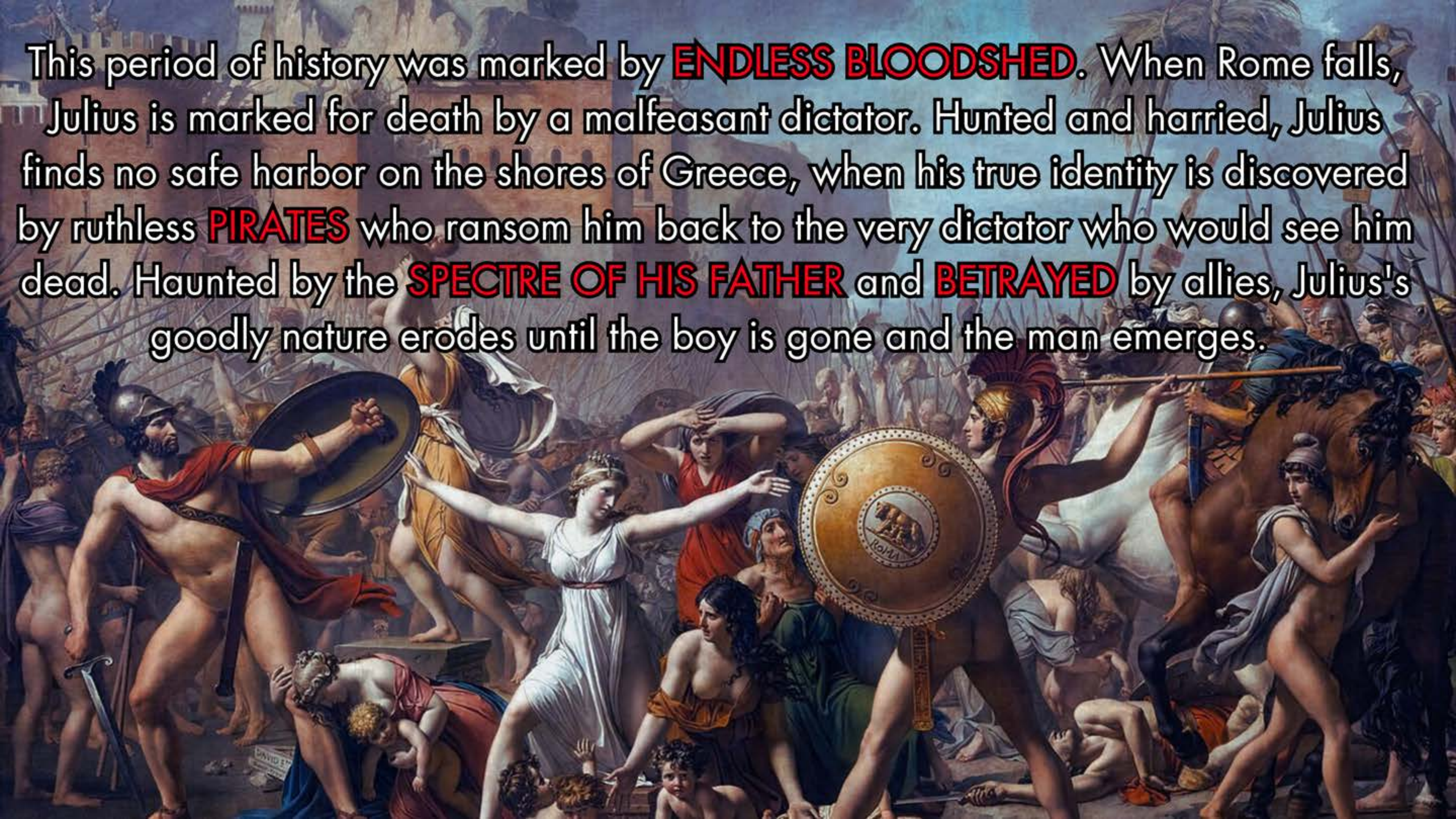
THE WORLD



This film combines the epic battles of **TROY**, the transformative journey of **GLADIATOR**, and the power dynamics of **GAME OF THRONES**. Julius's tenebrous exile is a fiery crucible that will transform him from scholar to soldier; the first step on a path to unite all of Rome.

Framed as a **TRAGEDY** pulled from the annals of storied history, this meticulously researched but narratively dramatized **SWORD AND SANDAL** historical epic is equal parts **SWASHBUCKLING SPECTACULAR** and **ORIGIN STORY** of history's most notorious tyrant.





This period of history was marked by **ENDLESS BLOODSHED**. When Rome falls, Julius is marked for death by a malfeasant dictator. Hunted and harried, Julius finds no safe harbor on the shores of Greece, when his true identity is discovered by ruthless **PIRATES** who ransom him back to the very dictator who would see him dead. Haunted by the **SPECTRE OF HIS FATHER** and **BETRAYED** by allies, Julius's goodly nature erodes until the boy is gone and the man emerges.

THE ROMANS





JULIUS CAESAR

High Priest of Jupiter / Son of Gaius and Aurelia

Julius Caesar is the only son of Gaius and Aurelia. Raised as a scholar and appointed High Priest of Jupiter, Julius is far from the man history will paint him as; pampered and naive, his life has been handed to him on a silver platter. His only reprieve is his arranged marriage to his love wife, Cornelia.

Julius is HAUNTED by living in his father's shadow, never able to meet Gaius' expectations in life and REJECTED at every turn. After his father's death, Gaius returns as a GHOST, belittling Julius' inability to save himself, ridiculing his cowardice, and SCORNING him for abandoning his family.

Over Julius' time as a prisoner, he will betray every value, cross every line, capture his captors, and execute them, all in the name of earning his dead father's UNDYING RESPECT.

AURELIA

Mother of Julius / Wife to Gaius

AURELIA comes from a prosperous family, but spent years apart from her husband while he was away on campaign. As the years passed, Gaius grew more bitter and took out his anger on Aurelia. Slowly plotting her revenge, she waits patiently until the city is attacked to make her move. Though treacherous to her enemies, she is immensely LOYAL to her son, and will risk even her daughter's life to save him.

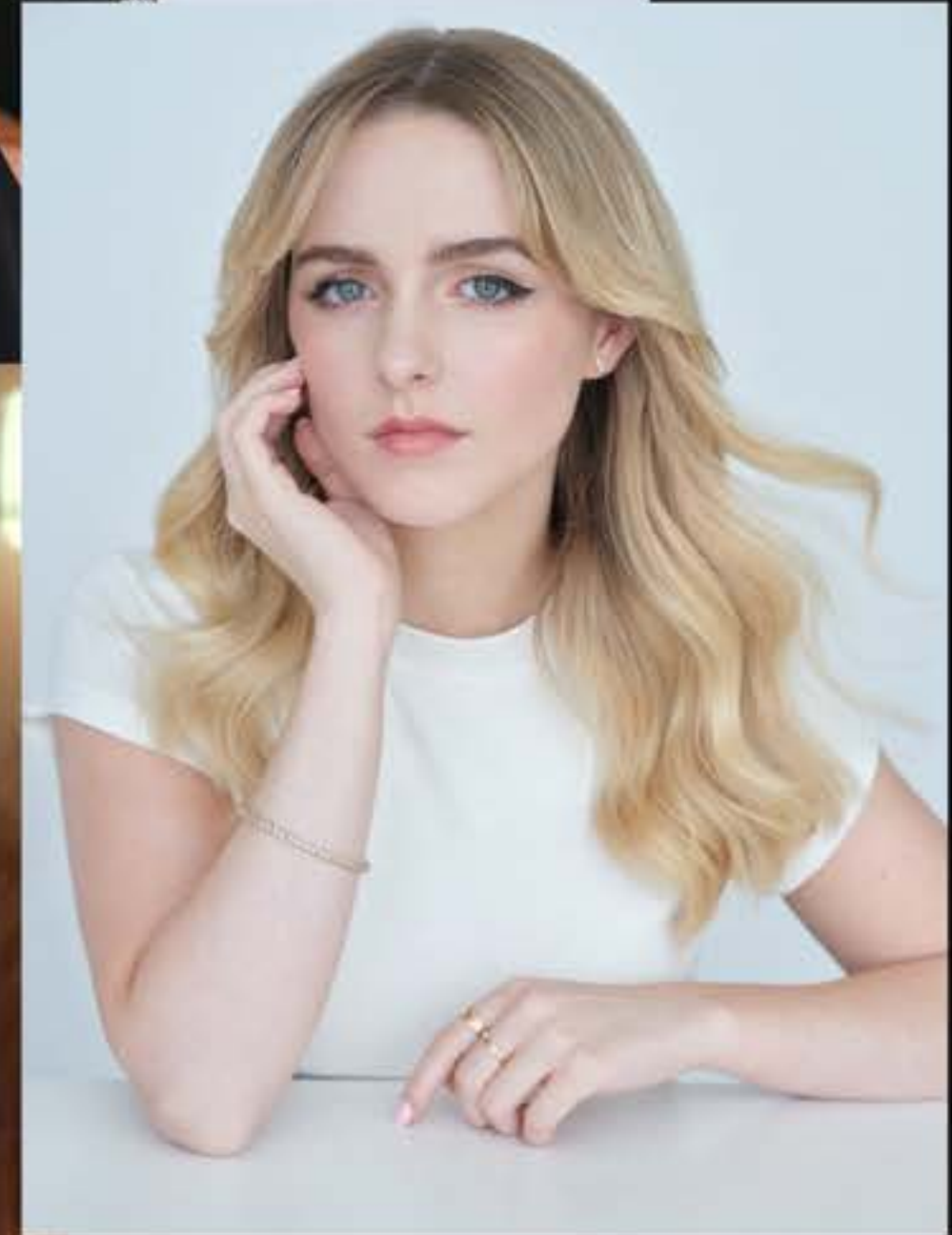


CORNELIA

Wife to Julius

Liberal woman by Roman standards, she desires to abandon her nobility and live a simpler life among the common citizen, fighting for justice and creating a better Rome for all persons.

But when Rome is attacked and Julius flees, Cornelia finds herself in an impossible gambit; divorce her husband to save his life, or marry a dictator who will kill her and her unborn child to wipe out the Caesar bloodline forever.



SULLA

A Dictator / Imperator

A brilliant general and ruthless politician who favors violence over diplomacy. He's the quintessential DICTATOR. Tired of being a lapdog to Rome, Sulla returns as a WARLORD, laying siege to the city and assassinating anyone loyal to the old regime.

Sulla has a particular distaste for the Caesars, and after Julius flees Rome, Sulla searches for him. As the only son of the previous ruling family, Julius is heir apparent to Rome, and in order for Sulla to rule, Julius Caesar MUST DIE.



MARIUS



Gaius' old brother, MARIUS is a BLOODTHIRSTY VETERAN of a hundred battles.

His age is catching up to him as Sulla attacks, and Marius finally learns the bitter taste of defeat, causing him to take his own life.

KING NICOMEDES



Lifelong friend of the Caesars, Julius seeks refuge in the court of Nicomedes, but the King has problems of his own and betrays Julius to curry Sulla's favor.

LUCULLUS



A Roman Commander of reknown for his hatred of pirates, Lucullus leads the hunt for Julius in Greece.



THE PIRATES

ERTEK

Cilician Pirate Captain

A sailor turned PIRATE CAPTAIN, Ertek is a swarthy seadog in pied garb who is extremely happy to take back from the Romans who have taken from the Greeks for decades.

Ertek drinks as hard as he fights, and opportunity shines on Ertek when his newest recruit, Mursel, overhears that Julius is a renowned son of Rome and he quickly moves to kidnap him en route. But he gets more than he bargains for in the capricious youth who refuses to cooperate. Ertek has no sympathy for Julius' plight.



DAMAR

Grieving Fishermen / Surrogate Father

A simple fisherman and the last good man in all the world, DAMAR wishes only to raise his son MURSEL and be left out of the Roman wars. But when Mursel joins Ertek's crew, Damar follows, arriving amidship moments after Mursel's death.

Remaining with the pirates to protect Julius from meeting the same fate, he befriends Julius, finding comfort in this surrogate son, whilst not knowing it was by Julius' hand that Mursel was slain.





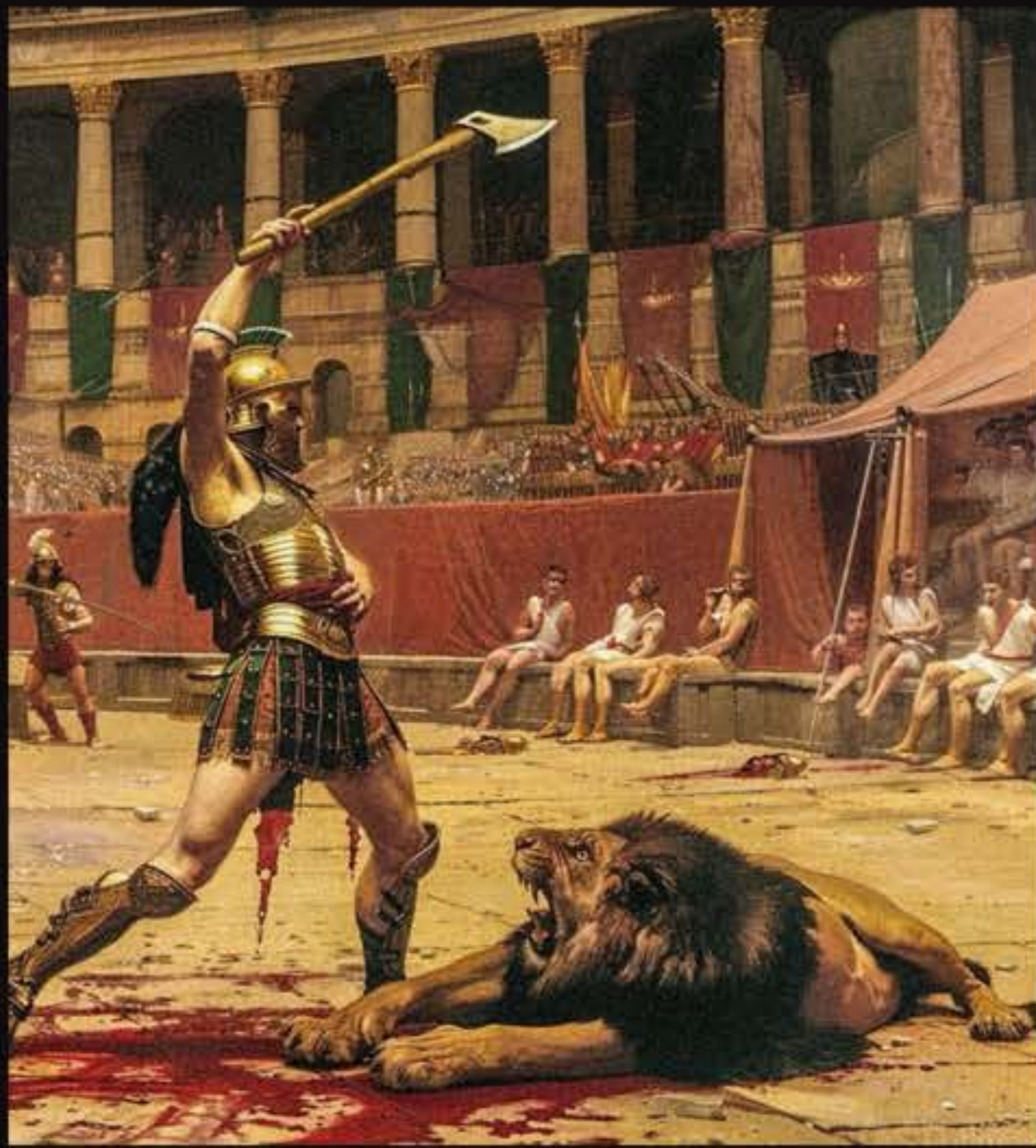


TONE



HISTORICALLY ACCURATE

Nine years of Julius' life have been **CONDENSED** into nine months for **NARRATIVE IMPACT**. Timelines have been contracted, and the order of things has been altered, but everything in the script has a **TETHER TO HISTORY**. Narrative liberties were taken with female characters to flesh out what little was known about them and ensure they had **AGENCY** over their stories.



ACTION SETPIECES

The film captures all the best ACTION of the period, from **GLADIATORIAL COMBAT** to **PIRATE RAIDS**. The battle-hardened Roman army catches up to the pirates at the **MIDPOINT**, and what starts as **FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES** ends with them **RACING FOR THEIR SHIP**.



MASSIVE BATTLES

The film opens with the **SIEGE OF ROME**, an insurrection led by a rogue Roman General who executed nobility in the streets. In the second act, the Roman army **STORMS THE BEACHES** of Mytilene, a Greek city that rivaled Rome. The battle is a **SLAUGHTER** we witness firsthand through Julius's perspective.



THE STYLE

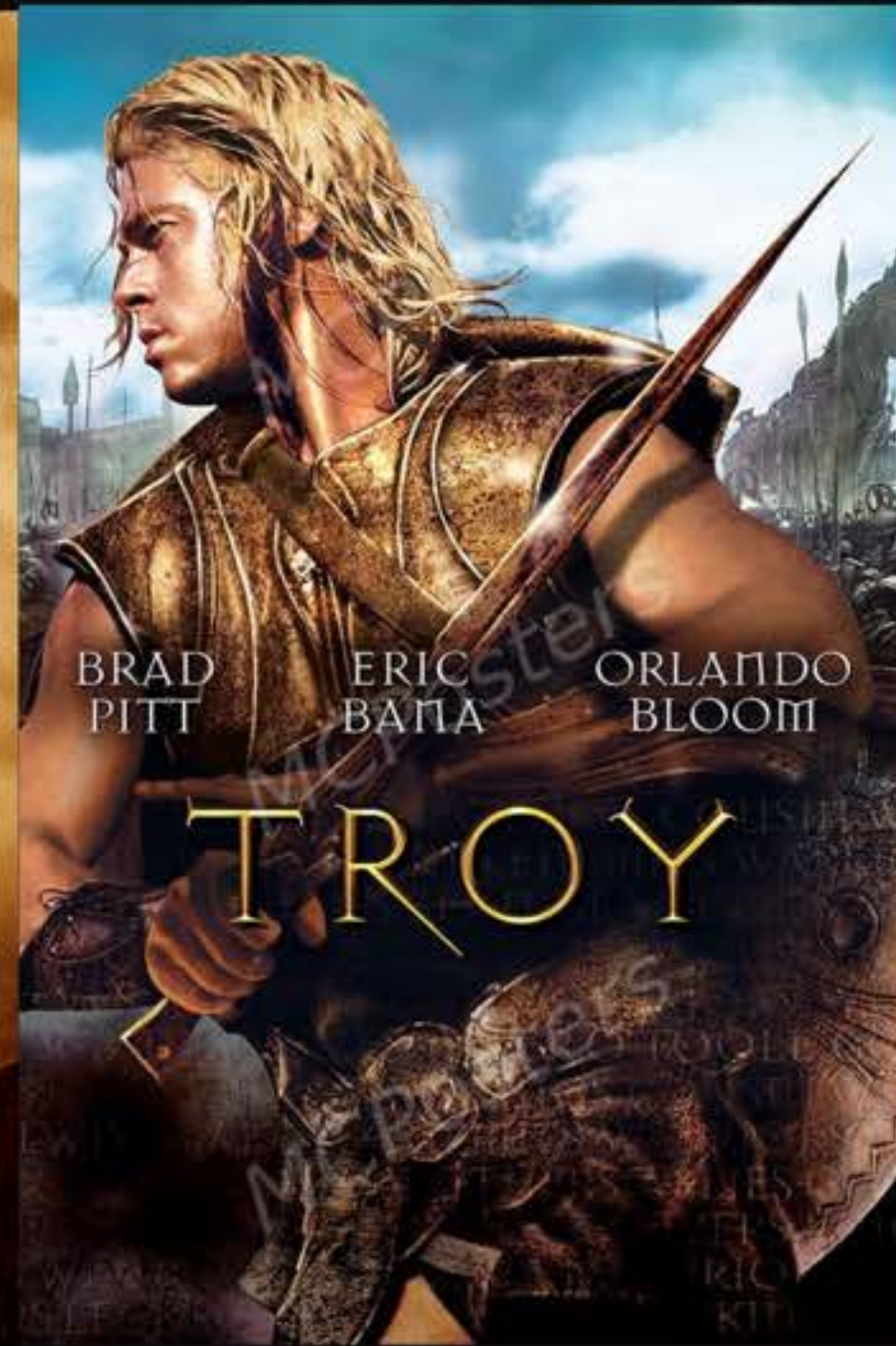


The look of *Enemy of All Mankind* is a war waged between **SHADOW AND LIGHT**. Inspired by the **CHIRASCURO STYLE** of *The Godfather*, *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, and *The Handmaid's Tale*, we want every frame of this film to feel like you are looking upon a classic work of art. Rome is a bleak and oppressive place, painted in **STARK SHADOWS**, and by contrast, the golden shores of Greece are surrounded by endless cerulean waters.



In the grand tradition of event films like **BEN-HUR** and **BRAVEHEART**, this film combines the **WIDEST ASPECT RATIOS** with **VOLUME SCREENS** resulting in a film of **CINEMATIC SCOPE**





ENEMY OF ALL MANKIND takes both the aesthetic style of THE GODFATHER, as well as the character arc of Michael Corleone, set against the backdrop of classic sword and sandals epics like TROY and GLADIATOR, but framed through a ransom story like ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD.





THEMES



PRODIGAL SON

Though framed as a historical war story of epic proportions, at the center of this Shakespearean **TRAGEDY** is the story of a boy trying to prove to himself and the **SPECTRE OF HIS FATHER** that he is worthy of his family name.



**"FEW SONS
ARE LIKE
THEIR
FATHERS..."**

**... MOST ARE
WORSE."**

**-HOMER,
THE ODYSSEY**



WOMEN IN POWER

Back in Rome, Aurelia and Cornelia are fighting a **BATTLE OF A DIFFERENT KIND**. Aurelia is an evasive master of **MIND GAMES**, but stripped of wealth and titles. Cornelia can either **MARRY SULLA** to save Julius or be killed herself when Sulla learns she is pregnant with his heir.

WRITER'S STATEMENT - CALEB DILLON

I came across this story seemingly by fate: Julius Caesar is kidnapped by pirates, held for ransom, and eventually crucifies those very pirates. The kidnapping is only part of the story, which began years earlier when Julius fled Rome, leaving behind all he knew. The more I learned about Julius' origins, the more fascinated I became. Why would Julius join the army when Sulla controlled the army? Why did Julius become a priest when he studied oratory? How could a young man so callously crucify his captors? Everything I learned pointed to one unavoidable truth; this crucible was the first step on his journey to DICTATOR.

I've been writing screenplays for over TWENTY YEARS, across multiple mediums and genres. I write about BROKEN FAMILIES in the form of epic historicals, family dramas, and period horror. Growing up on the East Coast, I became an independent filmmaker, fostering my own projects in North Carolina. But some stories are too big for an independent filmmaker to tackle alone.

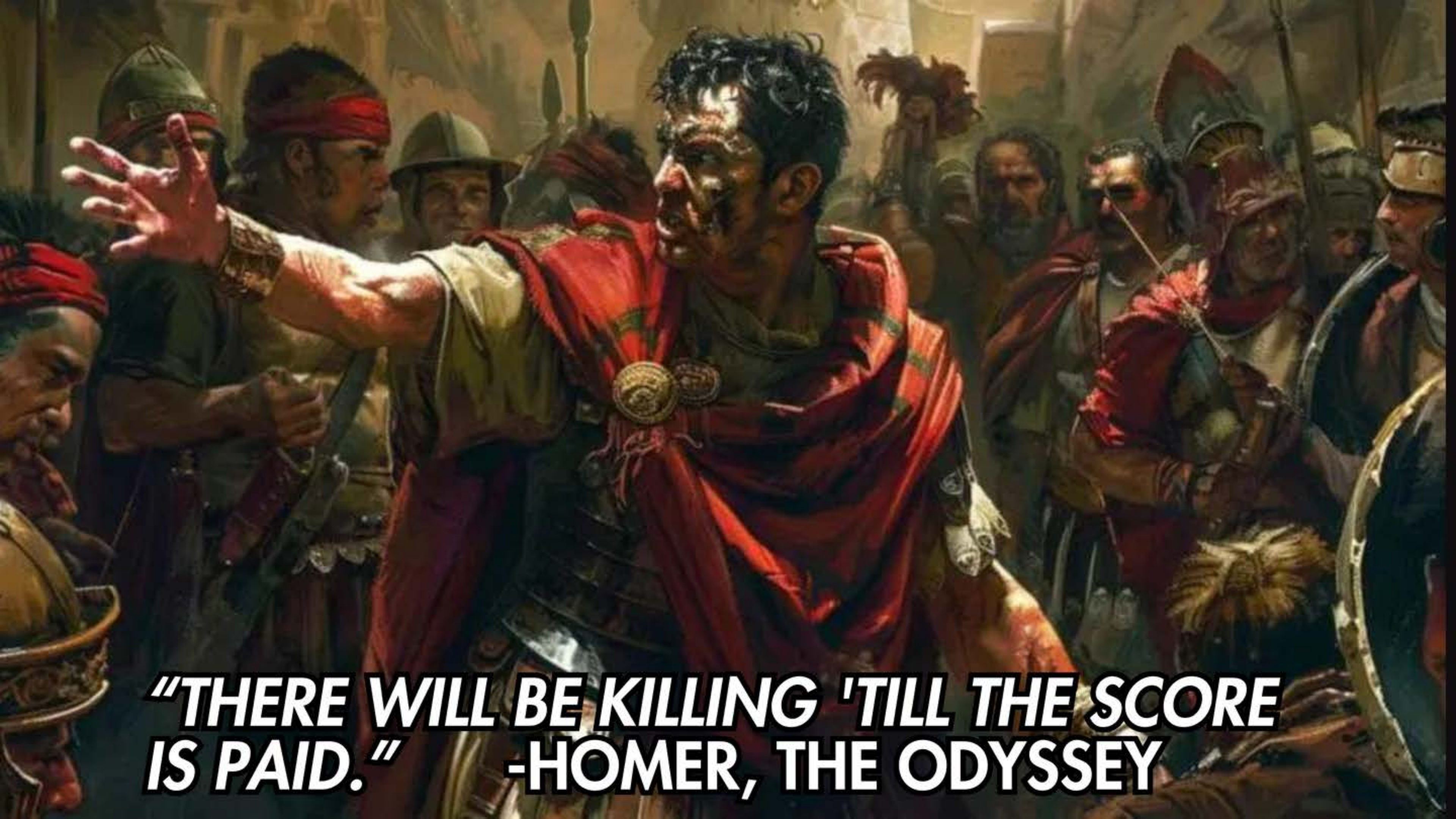


TYRANTS AREN'T BORN



A man with dark, curly hair and a serious expression stands in the center of the frame. He is wearing a dark tunic and a vibrant red cape with ornate gold embroidery on the shoulders. The background is a dramatic, fiery scene of a city in flames, with bright orange and yellow fire consuming the lower half of the image. The sky is dark and smoky, with some light filtering through the clouds. The overall mood is intense and epic.

**THEY'RE
MADE**



**"THERE WILL BE KILLING 'TILL THE SCORE
IS PAID."** **-HOMER, THE ODYSSEY**



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THANK YOU