

All Romans Are Bastards

A Satire

by
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CHARACTER NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	AGE	GENDER
JESUS	With an H sound. On Vacation.	22	Male
ERECTICUS	Roman Vigile. Wants a promotion.	33	Male
FLACCIDIUS	Roman Vigile. "Trigger Happy"	25	Male

Place: Israel.

Setting: Golgotha. A rocky hillside on the outskirts of Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified.

Time: Time is a mixture of both modern day and close to 0 AD.

Summary: Jesus (with an H sound) is on vacation when the Roman soldiers confuse him for the currently wanted Jesus (with a J sound).

NOTES:

Jesus is darker skinned than the Roman Soldiers.

"Stuffed Bird" - there is a visual gag of the romans using stuffed birds to communicate long-distance. Feel free to change this to other silly means of sending out a message. Other ideas could be shadow puppets, yodeling, screeches of past victims they keep in jars, etc. As long as it is not normal.

"Swords" - Similar to above, swords are not necessary. Feel free to use noodles, broomsticks, rubber penises if you are feeling daring, etc.

Enter JESUS, carrying a camera and taking pictures of the beautiful environment.

Enter ERECTICUS.

Jesus tries to avoid him, still taking pictures. He passes behind Erecticus and then snaps a picture passed him.

ERECTICUS

Citizen! What are you doing?

JESUS

Nothing. Just walking...taking a few pictures...on vacation. You know how it is.

ERECTICUS

Mind if I take a look?

JESUS

I'd rather you didn't.

ERECTICUS

Why? Are you hiding something?

JESUS

N..no.

ERECTICUS

You hesitated there for a moment.

JESUS

You're creeping me out a little.

ERECTICUS

You know. Only one type of person would be creeped out by a man of the law...A man of the...not law.

JESUS

I haven't done anything wrong. I'm just making some memories of my trip.

ERECTICUS

Really? Is that all? Don't think I haven't seen you scoping out that residence over there!

JESUS

That's a tree...

ERECTICUS

No. No. To the left of that.

JESUS

That's a...gazelle I think.

ERECTICUS

No you blind idiot! The settlement!

JESUS

You're pointing at Jerusalem man! That's a city...

ERECTICUS

A valuable city!

JESUS

The hell does that mean?

ERECTICUS

I'm not trying to insinuate anything sir. I'm just saying you've been taking a lot of pictures of it. People around here are feeling a little uncomfortable.

JESUS

Who? There's no one here!

ERECTICUS

There's a gazelle here.

JESUS

I don't have to take this! I'm going to my hotel. I got a plane to catch tomorrow.

Erecticus blocks him.

ERECTICUS

Can I see your ID sir?

JESUS

My what? No!

ERECTICUS

Sir. I ask that you comply with the order.

JESUS

You're ordering me? Well what if I don't?

ERECTICUS

Then you will be obstructing justice./ That's a five year sentence friend.

JESUS

/You're shitting me.

ERECTICUS

We can make this a resisting arrest as well if you don't comply.

Jesus sighs and pulls out his ID.

JESUS

This what you're looking for? You want this?

He tosses the ID the other way. Erecticus reaches into his bag and pulls out a stuffed bird with a note tied to it. He writes something down then tosses it offstage.

FLACCIDIUS enters from the opposite side immediately.

FLACCIDIUS

I got your call for backup! I came as soon as I could Erecticus!

ERECTICUS

Ah! Loyal Flaccidius. You came so quick! This man is resisting a lawful order. Please...check that card on the floor there and tell me the name on it.

Flaccidius checks the card, then quickly puts it to his chest and rushes over to Erecticus.

FLACCIDIUS
Loyal Erecticus...

ERECTICUS
Yes?

FLACCIDIUS
It's Jesus!

ERECTICUS
You mean the Jesus? The leader of the potential rebellion?

FLACCIDIUS
Yes.

ERECTICUS
The Jesus who destroyed the property and assaulted the money changers in the temple a few months ago?

FLACCIDIUS
Absolutely!

ERECTICUS
The Jesus who cursed a tree?

FLACCIDIUS
Indeed!

ERECTICUS
The tree lawyers will have a field day with him! Imagine the promotion after we bring him in!...And we're sure it's him this time?

FLACCIDIUS
Absolutely! No doubt in my mind that he looks just as I remember him...

The two get giddy and laugh. Jesus sneaks between the two

JESUS
Can I have my ID back?

The two jump away with a yelp. Flaccidius draws his blade.

ERECTICUS

Flaccidius! Put that away!

FLACCIDIUS

Sorry! I feared for my life.

ERECTICUS

Understandable...Now. Now. Now. Look what we have here. You thought you could dress up as a tourist/

JESUS

/I AM/ a tourist.

ERECTICUS

/Take a few fancy pictures, and then skip town? It almost worked, but we know who you really are Jesus!

JESUS

Wha...? Oh! No. My name is Jesus. You know, with an H sound. Jesus. I'm Mexican on my mom's side.

FLACCIDIUS

Even worse!

ERECTICUS

Shush Flaccidius! He doesn't mean that. We have a Mexican friend. In fact, we get...tacos and...chalupas with him every Tuesday.

JESUS

Really?

ERECTICUS

Don't try to sidetrack me. You are under official investigation now! Hand over that...device in your hands there!

JESUS

Hell no man! Do you know how much this cost?

ERECTICUS

Just comply sir! It looks scary. It could be a weapon!

JESUS

Man, it's a camera! It shoots pictures!

FLACCIDIUS

Shoots? I fear for my life!

Flaccidius draws his blade again.

ERECTICUS

Sheath your sword Flaccidius! No one wants to see that!

Erecticus draws his sword.

ERECTICUS

Now there's no need to get violent. Just give me that camera before you make me do something I will regret!

Jesus pulls out his phone.

JESUS

Look what I got here. Boop! /Say hello to Instagram Live!

ERECTICUS

(Recoiling in pain)

/Agh! Ahhh! Ahhhhhhh! Flaccidius! Stop him!

Flaccidius rushes over and wrestles Jesus to the ground. Erecticus runs over and knocks the phone to the ground then snatches the camera.

JESUS

The hell? Get off of me man!

FLACCIDIUS

Are you alright Erecticus?

ERECTICUS

Thank the Gods. I don't know what I would have done without you Flaccidius. I fear he may have shown the world that I was a monster!

FLACCIDIUS

You? A monster?! Nooooooooo. No? Nooooooooo.

Erecticus looks through the pictures on the camera.

JESUS

Hey man! You need a warrant to look through that!

ERECTICUS

I have probable cause. No. No...I see you spent some time with your apostles last night. Ah-ha! I recognize these locations. Bethlehem. Galilee, Judea...Jerusalem!

JESUS

Dude. I don't know who this Jesus guy is, but he ain't me!

FLACCIDIUS

Prove it!

JESUS

You prove it! It's innocent until proven guilty, right?

ERECTICUS

The proof is all here. These pictures all track down with previous sights of your crimes and the name matches!

JESUS

It's a common name dude! Do you even know what this guy looks like.

A pause. Occasionally one goes to speak but stops to think some more.

JESUS

Was this a racial profile?

FLACCIDIUS

He's onto us!

ERECTICUS

Speak for yourself. I mean...he's certainly of darker...tone!

JESUS

Not helping your case.

FLACCIDIUS

Some people across the sea were saying he's white with blond hair and blue eyes.

ERECTICUS

What?! An Aryan would never do such heinous crimes. Must be a mistake.

JESUS

You don't even know what he looks like!

ERECTICUS

Shut up! A quick note to base will clear this up!

Erecticus pulls out another stuffed bird with a note. Writes on it and tosses it off-stage.
They wait two seconds.

FLACCIDIUS

No response!

ERECTICUS

We must be out of range! Damn it....Flaccidius! Go back to base and get a full description of Jesus and bring it back here. I'll watch this man who is absolutely the man we are looking for.

FLACCIDIUS

Yes sir!

Flaccidius exits. Erecticus sits next to Jesus.

JESUS

Come on man. We can just let this go.

ERECTICUS

No. If you aren't the person we are after (which I know you are), I can't have you going to the press and-

JESUS

The press?! Ha! I can't wait to see that headline. "*Another* POC Killed After Not Complying." First sentence will say something like "Officer Erecticus put on paid leave while alleged allegations are allegedly inspected." No, its like the only time anything happens with this shit is if someone posts it to social media. That's an idea. Maybe with enough public pressure your boss will throw you out on your ass.

ERECTICUS

That's hardly a threat. The only people around here are Gazelles, and I'm sure they won't say anything. And if they do, I can just get a job with the vigiles on the east side of-

Jesus blows raspberries at him then runs off.

ERECTICUS

Ah! You got spit in my eye!

Erecticus chases. He catches and wrestles Jesus back to the ground before he can get away.

JESUS

Man! Get off of me! Where are my rights? I want a lawyer!

ERECTICUS

Shut up already! If I couldn't arrest you before. I can now for assaulting an officer!

JESUS

Man, go to hell!

Jesus spits in his face. Erecticus slowly wipes it away. He pulls out another stuffed bird with note, writes something on it, and tosses it off-stage.

ERECTICUS

(Faking)

Stop! What are you doing! He's got a sword! Auuggghhh.

Erecticus falls over. "Dead" Flaccidius enters immediately in tears.

FLACCIDIUS

I see I came too late. I got your message Erecticus.

(reading)

Flaccidius! I am in need of assistance. The suspect has a knife. He has stabbed me. Ow it hurts. Tell my wife and sixteen children I love them. Auuggghhhh. (To Jesus) Get up you murderous scum!

Flaccidius draws his sword.

JESUS

Dude, put that away! I didn't even touch him! He just fell over...

Jesus grabs Erecticus' weapon.

FLACCIDIUS

I fear for my life!

JESUS

Stay right there man! Don't think I won't use this!

The two clash for a bit.

FLACCIDIUS

Erecticus! Get him!

JESUS

Wha-?

Jesus turns around. Flaccidius stabs him in the back. Jesus drops.

JESUS

M-my legs! I can't feel them. Oh my God. Help! Someone!

Jesus moans in pain throughout the rest of the play.

FLACCIDIUS

Shut up you roach! If you had just complied, none of this would have happened!

Erecticus stands up.

ERECTICUS

Good going Loyal Flaccidius! I knew you could do it!

FLACCIDIUS

Loyal Erecticus! You're alive! But how?

ERECTICUS

He missed anything vital. It's not important. Anyway!

A stuffed bird and note is tossed onto stage.
Flaccidius checks it out.

FLACCIDIUS

Ah! It's the description of Jesus.

ERECTICUS

Perfect! Time to prove ourselves right!

Flaccidius opens the note to reveal a
comically large poster of Jesus Christ.

ERECTICUS

Close enough!

FLACCIDIUS

Close enough!

They grab Jesus and drag him off.

JESUS

Jesus Christ, why won't anybody help me!

END OF PLAY