



## SHORT SUMMARY

The parts of Paul and Tudio are played by the same actor.

Likewise, the parts of Jess and Ursillina are played by the same actor.

The actor portraying Caesar doubles as the Wondong coach.

The lives and activities of Paul and Tudio are intertwined such as to reveal how alike both men are.

Not only that, but often (for dramatic effect) the lives overlap (more so towards the end of the film).

In a cunning reflection of Shakespeare's Prince Hal, both Paul and Tudio are under pressure due to poor past performance and to their poor choice of friends. However, both men find positives out of events which had taken place with their mates. They pull themselves together: Paul through meeting Jess and Tudio through marrying Ursillina.

### Dramatis Personae 2010 - 2011

All speak with Australian accents; some more refined than others.

Aside from the rover, all the footballers must be tall, with the ruckman excessively so.

All ex-footballers will likewise be tall, and even tending towards largeness.

Alison Goodwood (nee Arnett)	Jess's mother.  Libby and Rae were past students of The Sanctuary school in Wondong, and thereby know Alison Goodwood (nee Arnett).
Allan Bryant	Anchorman for AUS Footy Show
Antoinette Boyne	Doing VCE at The Sanctuary School with Jess.  Comes from the Torres Strait Islands on a scholarship. Her brother Daniel is a present student

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	at Wondong Grammar; he is a very promising footballer
Ben Armide	Current Wondong player: rover
"Bluey" D'Argent	Wondong administrator
Buckley-medal female interviewer	
Caroline Armitage	Doing VCE at The Sanctuary School with Jess.
Chiu Fong	Doing VCE at The Sanctuary School with Jess. Daughter of famous Melbourne restaurateurs
Dr Daniel Monaro	The Wondong club doctor
<b>David Bryce</b>	Ex-Ballarat champion wingman, and now Wondong coach.  <b>Played by the same actor who plays Caesar.</b>
Frances Badger-Fyfe	At Ocean Grove, , married to John. The book belonged to John's grandfather
Frank Bilton	Wondong administrator
His Most Reverend Gerald Tate	Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, and renowned Latin scholar
Geraldine Lucas (nee McDermid)	An older sister of Paul is married to Graham Lucas, and lives in Forbes, NSW. She is also an ex-student of The Sanctuary.
Glen Tucker	Wondong's conditioning coach
Glynn Unmac	Senior Wondong player
Graham Lucas	Paul's brother-in-law.

Harry Grant	Current Wondong player: full-forward
Heather Peach	Doing VCE at The Sanctuary School with Jess.  Her mother was a well-known model.
Ivan Lincoln	Member of AUS Footy Show
Jarrod Hurst	Senior Wondong player and team Captain
<b>Jess Goodwood</b>	17-year-old student at The Sanctuary, taking Economics and Latin (amongst other subjects) for her VCE.  <b>Played by the same actor who plays Ursillina.</b>
Joe Bunce	Member of AUS Footy Show
Josh Ramon	Current Wondong player: ruckman
Juan De Vulio	Current at Wondong: back-pocket player
Kate Sanders	TV presenter, "Wondong File"
Kelly	Small girl at the kid's footy funfest.
Laurie Miner	Past winner of the Buckley Medal who presents Paul with his medal.
Libby McDermid (nee Polglaze)	Tony's wife, the mother of Paul, Mick and Geraldine.
Lucy Whittan	Doing VCE at The Sanctuary School with Jess.
Mick McDermid	Paul's unmarried older brother.
Mike Collie	Senior Wondong player
"Mopsy" Karney	Wondong administrator
<b>Paul McDermid ("Macca")</b>	Current mid-fielder for Wondong Wild Dogs.

	<b>Played by the same actor who plays Tudio Tribulates.</b>
Mrs Rachael Lowe	Teacher at The Sanctuary. Cousin and friend of Mrs Frances Badger-Fyfe, also a past student of The Sanctuary.
Rae Philpott (nee Polglaze)	Libby's sister. Her husband is Bill Philpott.
Reg Ellis	Wondong administrator
Ron Goodwood	Father of Jess, Mark and Travis.  Brother of Anne Goodwood, who was a past student at The Sanctuary with Libby McDermid/Polglaze.  Husband of Alison Goodwood.
Rosco	Biker and friend of Paul.
Sarah Collie	Wondong WAG, wife of Mike Collie.
Teamon Jones	Member of AUS Footy Show
Tim Keenau	Paul's rough, tough biker friend.
Tony McDermid ("Macca")	Paul's father, ex-Wondong footballer from the 1970's.
Travis Goodwood	Jess's older brother.
Xavier Flaherty ("Sonny")	TV presenter (AUS Footy Show), Paul's agent, and former Wondong champion full-forward.

Bikers	Banna  Flattie
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	Rennie
	Wal

<b>Dramatis Personae 58 - 50 BC</b>	
Tudio, Cration and Linus have extremely broad Australian accents.	
Other players have BBC English accents except where indicated (Dravidus and Zeffron).	
<b>Antoninus Tudio Tribulates</b>	"The boy who kept Caesar waiting" (was Antoninus Tudio Quentax).  <b>Played by the same actor who plays Paul McDermid.</b>
Aurelius Publius Quentax	Tudio's adoptive father.  He is also the adoptive father of his step-son Lucilius.
Boduognatus	Chieftain of the Nervii, Gallia Nartonensis
Cartos	Chief of Tudio's slaves.
Chief of Guard	The head of the body of guards called in to assist at the Sextius villa, Subiaco
Cration Nidus	Friend of Tudio
<b>Dravidus</b>	Teaches Tudio Astrology, Science and Mathematics.  An Indian of very slim build; middle-aged.  Accent: delightful mix of cultured Indian and British.
Enesta Theronius	Ursillina's mother
Frastus Lirrin	Perdenter's assistant and body guard to Caesar
<b>Gaius Julius Caesar</b>	The General of the Roman Legions which invaded

	Gaul, 58 - 50 BC.  <b>Played by the same actor who plays David Bryce</b>  (the Wondong coach).
Gaius Ranillus	Perdenter's messenger
<b>Hashmi</b>	Teaches Tudio the martial arts and Ethics.  An African who is somewhat severe; tall and strong.
Linus Paulliac	Friend of Tudio
Lucilius Sextius Quentax	Magula's son, from an earlier marriage to Publius Sextius Sabinus
Magula Drusilla Quentax	Tudio's adoptive mother
Marius Robinus Tresca	Caesar's rival
Nymphidias	Chief of slaves to Publius Sextius Sabinus
Orbex	One of Tudio's slaves.
Osirinus Perdenter	Caesar's usher and chief body guard
Publius Sextius Sabinus	Father of Lucilius, a boy-crazy lush
Tresca's lover	Unnamed woman, the lover of Tresca
<b>Ursillina Enesta Theronius</b>	Future wife of Tudio; 17 years old when we first meet her. Daughter of Ravellis Theronius and Enesta.  <b>Played by the same actor who plays Jess Goodwood.</b>
<b>Zeffron</b>	Teaches Tudio Grammar, and is his doctor of medicine.  An Egyptian who is fat and jolly.

	Accent: a Middle-Eastern accent.
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Tudio's horse	Acron
Tudio's sword	Cosimo
Tudio's other slaves	Loni Phrasus
Slaves, soldiers, Romans, Greek dancing boys	

## FULL SYNOPSIS

### ACT I

There is great disappointment at the end of the football season that the Wondong Wild Dogs have dipped-out of the finals race. None more so from the senior girls at The Sanctuary.

With an older escort, some of the girls attend a Grand Final party (even despite the fact that Wondong are not in the Grand Final). Their hosts are the Badger-Fyfe family.

At the party, Jess makes a surprise discovery. A literary treasure comes to light: the novel written in Latin "Tribulates".

The McDermid family (of which Paul is a member) travels to another party. The chief point of discussion is Paul's past behaviour.

Although he is innocent, Paul has difficulty in coming to terms with his past misdemeanours.

Back at the Badger-Fyfe Grand Final party, Jess is entranced.

In the Latin book, Jess reads of the incident where Tudio and Hashmi practise martial arts in a sylvan courtyard.

The Wondong officials short-list players who will be sacked from the club. Paul's poor form and even worse attitude almost get him sacked. He is saved for one last try.

Paul's mother further sticks the knife in: Paul appears to be washed-up as a top-level footballer.

Paul makes a public appearance with his mother, who meets an old school friend (Jess's mother).

Jess is studying for her school final exams when Paul wanders in on her. He disbelieves that she can read Latin, and demands that she translate a short passage. Then, by mobile phone, Paul officially receives his second chance with the team (via his agent).

### ACT II

Squealing with delight, Jess's school friends hear about her chance meeting with their footy hero, Paul.

The members of the Wondong leadership group serve it up to Paul: he either pulls his weight in the coming season (next year) or he is out. They give him a mantra to work with.

At an Anglesea reserve, Paul is tempted by one of his no-good mates (Tim). However, it is evident that Paul's attitude has changed.

Paul explains to one of the Wondong leadership group that he feels "right" now. His meeting with Jess has inspired him with hope and confidence.

Jess is undergoing examination. Confident, Jess delivers her Latin orals before the R. C. Archbishop of Melbourne.

Boxing Day has arrived. Inconveniently, Paul is asked for autographs in an inappropriate place (viz the Gents at the MCG, members).

Paul is spotted in the huge crowd at the MCG at the Boxing Day. Paul then organizes with Jess to meet at the Anglesea beach house to resume their reading of the Latin book, of which the hero is Antoninus Tudio Quentax – a newly-appointed centurion of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legion.

Jess begins by describing Tudio's life in Ancient Rome: despite having been reared in luxury, Tudio was wild to a fault.

Tudio is exciting as he takes a dangerous waterslide, only to be called to order by an emissary of Caesar. We also learn more of Tudio's undesirable acquaintances. As well, Tudio has adopted a new cognomen: Tribulates.

Tudio (magnificent in his uniform) prepares for his interview with Caesar.

The interview with Caesar echoes both the Prince Hal scenario and the Paul scenario: "shake off your evil companions and stop being a wastrel".

Ursillina's mother proudly announces to her daughter that she (Ursillina) is to be married to Tudio. Paul (listening to Jess's reading of the old Latin book) balks at this possibility. Paul discloses that he believes that he represents Tudio and that Jess is the reincarnation of Ursullina. (Just as well, since that's how we've cast it!)

A battle in Northern Cisalpine Gaul Between Romans and Helvetii ensues.

A very exciting ambush provides a win for Caesar, whose tactics were based on Tudio's previous knowledge of the area. (Underlying this is the fact that the knowledge came from his "wasted" youth. Similarly, during the bushfires, Paul will have a similar experience).

Tudio reveals that he is able to converse with the enemy. We gain an important insight into the enemy: the Gauls joined forces against Rome and/or split-up from these coalitions. They could not be trusted.

Jess and Paul reach a rather ghastly agreement which seems to suit them both. Paul wants a nice girl whom he can squire around, and occasionally kiss, without any ties. Jess (who will be busy at her Uni studies) can thereby enjoy a social life without strings.

### **ACT III**

Whilst running along the beach, Paul relives his terrible footy season: how badly he played. The day is looming as hot and windy: perfect bushfire weather. From the book, Jess introduces Paul to Tudio's adopted brother: the evil Lucilius.

The 3 slaves (Hashmi, Dravidus and Zeffron) join Magula in planning to welcome Tudio home. We discover what a ghastly toad Lucilius is, and of the depth of his jealousy of Tudio.

The military parade brings Tudio back to Rome.

This is the marvellous scene where Ursillina wins the hearts of the 3 slaves (Hashmi, Dravidus and Zeffron). Then Tudio swings onto the balcony in the manner of an ape. He reveals himself to be a thoroughly lovable, but knock-about character. This is Tudio's first meeting with Lady Ursillina.

At a feast in his honour, Tudio describes how he has come home to marry. He reveals the depth of depravity of the Gauls, and lauds Caesar's skilfulness.

Tudio reveals to his adoptive father that he (Tudio) has become dependable, resolute and admirable.

Tudio has been married some time, but been on manoeuvres. A comic interlude passes for a honeymoon.

Paul baulks at Jess's descriptions of "romance" in the Latin book, but admits that the sexy bits are quite okay. The bushfire threat rises, and Jess firmly announces that she will form part of the fire-fighting party.

The horror of the bushfire is displayed via aerial reconnaissance. We see Paul's new mantra on display in the toilet as fire nears the vineyards.

Then Paul demonstrates that it is not all bad to have had a wild past. At the vineyards, Paul along with Jess's brother get set-up to do some fire-fighting.

By only the barest possible margin, the estate is saved. It is a family effort to save the estate, which seems doomed until more fire-fighters arrive. Paul is in the thick of it.

Then follows a quick medley of scenes related to the bushfire. The scenes wring out emotion and tears.

Paul is seen at the rest point, doing some tummy tucks and reciting his mantra.

## **ACT IV**

Paul upwardly revises his opinion of Jess. The women and other non-fire-fighters treat the wounded as they arrive at base camp.

At the height of the drama, Paul and his brother have a difficult time in fighting the fires.

A wound to Paul's leg causes concern. The Wondong team's doctor rushes to the casualty ward to treat Paul. As he commends Jess's first aid efforts, the fire threat abates.

Whilst convalescing, Paul expresses a desire to hear more of Tribulates.

The story continues. 2 of the slaves receive a promising letter from Tudio (at the war front).

Tudio's letter promised to be of major importance, but turns out to be merely a plaint about conditions in Gaul. While in the garden, the 3 slaves learn that a plot exists to murder Caesar, and that it involves Lucilius. Via a flashback, we learn that the preferred assassination method is black mamba.

As he surveys the terrain from an escarpment, we get a riveting view of Caesar at his most majestic.

This is juxtaposed with scenes of Paul continues to show promise with his footy.

Tim and Paul accidentally meet up. During their conversation, there is an undercurrent of concern about how the bushfires might have started.

Jess spends her time at University as well as having fun modelling with the WAGS.

Paul and Jess return to the story.

An urgent plan is formulated by the 3 slaves to rescue Caesar. The plan is to forge a letter that Tudio is sick and then proceed to Gaul in order to “nurse” him.

Magola’s grand cavalcade (prepared owing to the erroneous letter) appears disastrous to the 3 slaves. It would seem to throw into disarray their plans to rescue Caesar and assist Tudio.

## **ACT V**

Tresca and his lover have to show that Caesar is a coward prior to murdering him in order to forestall an expected troop rebellion.

After surviving an ambush, Hashmi, Dravidus and Zeffron meet up with Tudio and his men in their tent. Linus had been badly injured. This scene covers a lot of ground: ancient medicine, Tudio’s good side and the benefits of Caesar’s touch.

Then follows a scene which has a surreal quality. Tudio and his wife embrace lovingly, watched by Paul and Jess.

There is an ordeal by fire whereby Tresca is tricked into accepting the Gaul’s dare. Tudio and Caesar end up looking good.

Paul and Jess sit about in a shady courtyard reminiscent of the Roman courtyard in which Hashmi and Tudio practised martial arts.

It is an interesting scene, juxtaposing the need of friends for friends when they are down with the basic mandatory requirements of a sporting team for 100% commitment.

We now turn to a TV footy show. Six games into the season and the footy pundits decide that Paul has turned the corner, and is now playing to his peak ability. As a sidebar, it is revealed to the public that Paul was considered for sacking by the Wondong hierarchy.

This scene also gives some comic relief in the way that TV footy shows stoop to the lowest levels in order to get a cheap laugh.

An under-aged girl has tried to get herself laid by a group of Wondong players (including Paul) in a hotel room in Subiaco.

In this scene, the players are quizzed in quick succession as to the nature of the scandal at the hotel. It is clear that Paul's single-mindedness has averted a major catastrophe for the team.

Following this disclosure, Jess's parents discuss the possibility that an attempt to entrap Paul was made.

Now we see overlapping scenes where Paul plays football, and the Latin story continues.

We view a heady, exciting scene. Hashmi (through brain-power and trickery) manages to slay the brutish slave Nymphidias and Tudio's evil half-brother Lucilius whilst appearing innocent throughout. Using the black mamba, he kills the lascivious Sextius (who is Lucilius's biological father). Hashmi escapes still appearing innocent (claiming that Caesar and Tudio must be told the heinous news) leaving slaves to deal with the mess.

We learn that Tudio is an able commander. Some historical interest is included.

Battle scene. A rather disturbing scene whereby Tudio explains to Dravidus the reason why the Roman soldiers rape and degrade the women of Gaul. This scene illustrates Tudio's dark side.

A comic interlude appears whereby Tudio is posing with Acron for a marble statue (prelim sketches).

## **ACT VI**

Affection is demonstrated between the lovers (Tudio and Ursillina).

Paul learns from Libby that Tim has been killed overnight in a motorbike accident.

Paul attends Tim's funeral and realizes that he no longer belongs to the biker milieu.

A film supposedly about Ancient Rome disappoints Jess and Paul in that there was scant regard to historical accuracy. On walking home, Paul proposed to Jess in a non-convincing fashion and is accepted.

On the Monday before the Grand Final, the team have a beach run. The men are strictly warned to behave themselves at tonight's Buckley Medal count (televised to millions).

Buckley Medal night is a plush affair where the WAGs dress up to the nines. On being interviewed, Jess reveals that she is engaged to Paul.

The official count of points awarded per match begins. There is a quick flick-over to the last few votes: Paul wins. In his emotional acceptance speech, Paul acknowledges Jess's contribution to his success.

The lovers sleep together in a top-class hotel, and then get ready for the post-Buckley photo op. Outwardly, this is an official AFL training session prior to a game (in this case, the most important one of all). But here, instead of dealing with the coach, Paul discusses the progress of the Gallic Wars with Caesar/Bryce.

Only minutes into the Grand Final, and Paul is badly injured with suspected concussion. Paul wills himself to slip past the concussion test, with the help of Tudio's Roman pals.

Paul returns to the field for the second half of the Grand Final.

The deceased Tim appears on his motorcycle before Paul to explain his guilt in the bushfires and to spur Paul on to win.

In an unforgettable scene, Paul runs around the perimeter of the MCG oval, bouncing the football as he is bombarded by Gallic spears and fire.

As the game draws to a mesmerizing close, with only a hair's breadth between both sides, Paul imagines that he is soaring onto Caesar's horse as he takes a game-changing mark. Wondong wins the Grand Final because of this colossal effort.

There is an emotional flashback where Mick and Paul as children admire their father's success.

In the Epilogue, Tudio and Ursillina with their several children enjoy a stroll under the delighted gaze of Hashmi, Dravidus and Zeffron.

Post-Match Interview:

This is very amusing (almost surreal) whereby the normal post-Grand Final rehash includes other matters covered during the film.