



0. Jesse James - Story Preface

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9. ROBERT FORD ASSASSINATES JESSE JAMES

Photograph of the outlaw Jesse James. Date is unknown. Image online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

*Let not Caesar's servile minions,
Mock the lion thus laid low:
'Twas no foeman's hand that slew him.
'Twas his own that struck the blow.*

From

Antony and Cleopatra
by William Haines Lytle

Quoted by John Newman Edwards in "The Killing of Jesse James"
Sedalia Democrat, April, 1882

His St. Joseph neighbors knew the man living at 1318 Lafayette Street as Tom Howard. How would they know that the dark-haired gentleman, with a full beard, was really the lighter-haired outlaw Jesse James? How would they know his wife was actually Zee James, not Mary Howard?

But Bob Ford knew. So did his brother Charlie. And they knew something else which the man with an alias did not.

The governor of Missouri had a pending deal with Bob Ford. If he killed Jesse James, Bob would no longer have to face a murder charge for the death of someone else. An enticing proposition, in 1882, but how would Ford kill a man who seemed invincible?

And...how did Jesse James become an outlaw in the first place?

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Jesse-James>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Jesse-James>

Media Stream



St. Joseph, Missouri - Map Locator

Image online, courtesy the city-data.com website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/St.-Joseph-Missouri-Map-Locator>



Jesse James, c. 1875

Library of Congress, image LC-USZ62-3854.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Jesse-James-c.-1875>



Zee James

Photo source, unknown.

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Jesse James

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Assassination of Jesse James - Trailer

Trailer, *Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*.

Director: Andrew Dominik

Screenplay: Andrew Dominik

Based on eponymous novel by: Ron Hansen

USA release date: 21 September 2007

Cast members:

Brad Pitt as Jesse James

Casey Affleck as Robert Ford

Sam Rockwell as Charley Ford

Sam Shepard as **Frank James**

Mary-Louise Parker as Zerelda "Zee" James

James Carville as Governor Thomas T. Crittenden

Film trailer, released by Warner Brothers Pictures.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Assassination-of-Jesse-James-Trailer>

