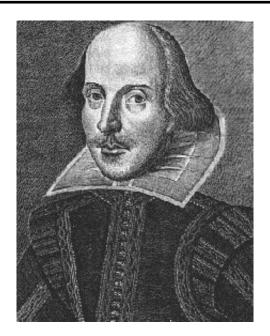
# The Comedie of Errors.

by

#### WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Based on the Folio Text of 1623



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## **Shakespeare: First Folio**

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#### The Comedie of Errors

H1

#### Actus primus, Scena prima.

- 2 Enter the Duke of Ephesus, with the Merchant of Siracusa,
- 3 *Iaylor, and other attendants.*
- 4 *Marchant*.
- 5 Proceed Solinus to procure my fall,
- 6 And by the doome of death end woes and all.
- 7 Duke. Merchant of Siracusa, plead no more.
- 8 I am not partiall to infringe our Lawes;
- 9 The enmity and discord which of late
- 10 Sprung from the rancorous outrage of your Duke,
- 11 To Merchants our well- dealing Countrimen,
- 12 Who wanting gilders to redeeme their liues,
- Haue seal'd his rigorous statutes with their blouds,
- 14 Excludes all pitty from our threatning lookes:
- 15 For since the mortall and intestine iarres
- 16 Twixt thy seditious Countrimen and vs,
- 17 It hath in solemne Synodes beene decreed,
- 18 Both by the *Siracusians* and our selues,
- 19 To admit no trafficke to our aduerse townes:
- 20 Nay more, if any borne at *Ephesus*
- 21 Be seene at any *Siracusian* Marts and Fayres:
- 22 Againe, if any Siracusian borne
- 23 Come to the Bay of *Ephesus*, he dies:
- 24 His goods confiscate to the Dukes dispose,
- Vnlesse a thousand markes be leuied
- 26 To quit the penalty, and to ransome him:
- 27 Thy substance, valued at the highest rate,
- 28 Cannot amount vnto a hundred Markes,
- 29 Therefore by Law thou art condemn'd to die.
- 30 *Mer.* Yet this my comfort, when your words are done,
- 31 My woes end likewise with the euening Sonne.
- 32 Duk. Well Siracusian; say in briefe the cause
- Why thou departedst from thy natiue home?
- 34 And for what cause thou cam'st to *Ephesus*.
- 35 *Mer.* A heavier taske could not have beene impos'd,
- 36 Then I to speake my griefes vnspeakeable:
- 37 Yet that the world may witnesse that my end
- Was wrought by nature, not by vile offence,
- 39 Ile vtter what my sorrow giues me leaue.

- 40 In Syracusa was I borne, and wedde
- Vnto a woman, happy but for me,
- 42 And by me; had not our hap beene bad:
- With her I liu'd in ioy, our wealth increast
- 44 By prosperous voyages I often made
- 45 To Epidamium, till my factors death,
- 46 And he great care of goods at randone left,
- Drew me from kinde embracements of my spouse;
- 48 From whom my absence was not sixe moneths olde,
- 49 Before her selfe (almost at fainting vnder
- 50 The pleasing punishment that women beare)
- Had made prouision for her following me,
- 52 And soone, and safe, arrived where I was:
- There had she not beene long, but she became
- A ioyfull mother of two goodly sonnes:
- And, which was strange, the one so like the other,
- As could not be distinguish'd but by names.
- 57 That very howre, and in the selfe- same Inne,
- A meane woman was deliuered
- Of such a burthen Male, twins both alike:
- Those, for their parents were exceeding poore,
- I bought, and brought vp to attend my sonnes.
- My wife, not meanely prowd of two such boyes,
- 63 Made daily motions for our home returne:
- Vnwilling I agreed, alas, too soone wee came aboord.
- 65 A league from *Epidamium* had we saild
- 66 Before the alwaies winde- obeying deepe
- 67 Gaue any Tragicke Instance of our harme:
- But longer did we not retaine much hope;
- 69 For what obscured light the heauens did grant,
- 70 Did but conuay vnto our fearefull mindes
- 71 A doubtfull warrant of immediate death,
- 72 Which though my selfe would gladly haue imbrac'd,
- 73 Yet the incessant weepings of my wife,
- 74 Weeping before for what she saw must come,
- 75 And pitteous playnings of the prettie babes
- 76 That mourn'd for fashion, ignorant what to feare,
- Forst me to seeke delayes for them and me,
- And this it was: (for other meanes was none)
- 79 The Sailors sought for safety by our boate,
- 80 And left the ship then sinking ripe to vs.
- 81 My wife, more carefull for the latter borne,
- Had fastned him vnto a small spare Mast,
- 83 Such as sea- faring men prouide for stormes:
- To him one of the other twins was bound,
- Whil'st I had beene like heedfull of the other.

- The children thus dispos'd, my wife and I, 86
- 87 Fixing our eyes on whom our care was fixt,
- Fastned our selues at eyther end the mast, 88
- And floating straight, obedient to the streame, 89
- Was carried towards Corinth, as we thought. 90
- At length the sonne gazing vpon the earth, 91
- 92 Disperst those vapours that offended vs,
- And by the benefit of his wished light 93
- The seas waxt calme, and we discouered 94
- Two shippes from farre, making amaine to vs: 95
- Of Corinth that, of Epidarus this, 96
- 97 But ere they came, oh let me say no more,
- Gather the sequell by that went before. 98
- Duk. Nay forward old man, doe not breake off so, [H1v 99
- For we may pitty, though not pardon thee. 100
- Merch. Oh had the gods done so, I had not now 101
- 102 Worthily tearm'd them mercilesse to vs:
- For ere the ships could meet by twice fiue leagues, 103
- 104 We were encountred by a mighty rocke,
- Which being violently borne vp, 105
- 106 Our helpefull ship was splitted in the midst;
- 107 So that in this vniust diuorce of vs,
- 108 Fortune had left to both of vs alike,
- What to delight in, what to sorrow for, 109
- 110 Her part, poore soule, seeming as burdened
- With lesser waight, but not with lesser woe, 111
- 112 Was carried with more speed before the winde,
- And in our sight they three were taken vp 113
- By Fishermen of *Corinth*, as we thought. 114
- At length another ship had seiz'd on vs, 115
- And knowing whom it was their hap to saue, 116
- 117 Gaue healthfull welcome to their ship- wrackt guests,
- And would have reft the Fishers of their prey, 118
- Had not their backe beene very slow of saile; 119
- And therefore homeward did they bend their course. 120
- Thus have you heard me seuer'd from my blisse, 121
- 122 That by misfortunes was my life prolong'd,
- To tell sad stories of my owne mishaps. 123
- Duke. And for the sake of them thou sorrowest for, 124
- Doe me the fauour to dilate at full, 125
- What have befalne of them and they till now. 126
- 127 Merch. My yongest boy, and yet my eldest care,
- At eighteene yeeres became inquisitiue 128
- 129 After his brother; and importun'd me
- That his attendant, so his case was like, 130
- 131 Reft of his brother, but retain'd his name,

- 132 Might beare him company in the quest of him:
- 133 Whom whil'st I laboured of a loue to see,
- 134 I hazarded the losse of whom I lou'd.
- Fiue Sommers haue I spent in farthest *Greece*,
- 136 Roming cleane through the bounds of Asia,
- 137 And coasting homeward, came to *Ephesus*:
- Hopelesse to finde, yet loth to leave vnsought
- Or that, or any place that harbours men:
- 140 But heere must end the story of my life,
- 141 And happy were I in my timelie death,
- 142 Could all my trauells warrant me they liue.
- 143 *Duke.* Haplesse *Egeon* whom the fates haue markt
- 144 To beare the extremitie of dire mishap:
- Now trust me, were it not against our Lawes,
- 146 Against my Crowne, my oath, my dignity,
- 147 Which Princes would they may not disanull,
- 148 My soule should sue as aduocate for thee:
- But though thou art adjudged to the death,
- 150 And passed sentence may not be recal'd
- But to our honours great disparagement:
- 152 Yet will I fauour thee in what I can;
- 153 Therefore Marchant, Ile limit thee this day
- To seeke thy helpe by beneficiall helpe,
- 155 Try all the friends thou hast in *Ephesus*,
- 156 Beg thou, or borrow, to make vp the summe,
- 157 And liue: if no, then thou art doom'd to die:
- 158 Iaylor, take him to thy custodie.
- 159 *Iaylor*. I will my Lord.
- 160 *Merch*. Hopelesse and helpelesse doth *Egean* wend,
- But to procrastinate his liuelesse end. *Exeunt*.
- 162 Enter Antipholis Erotes, a Marchant, and Dromio.
- 163 *Mer.* Therefore giue out you are of *Epidamium*,
- Lest that your goods too soone be confiscate: [
- 165 This very day a Syracusian Marchant
- 166 Is apprehended for a riuall here,
- And not being able to buy out his life,
- 168 According to the statute of the towne,
- Dies ere the wearie sunne set in the West:
- 170 There is your monie that I had to keepe.
- 171 Ant. Goe beare it to the Centaure, where we host,
- 172 And stay there *Dromio*, till I come to thee;
- 173 Within this houre it will be dinner time,
- 174 Till that Ile view the manners of the towne,
- 175 Peruse the traders, gaze vpon the buildings,
- 176 And then returne and sleepe within mine Inne,
- 177 For with long trauaile I am stiffe and wearie.

178 Get thee away. 179 Dro. Many a man would take you at your word, And goe indeede, having so good a meane. 180 Exit Dromio. 181 Ant. A trustie villaine sir, that very oft, 182 When I am dull with care and melancholly, 183 Lightens my humour with his merry iests: 184 What will you walke with me about the towne, 185 And then goe to my Inne and dine with me? 186 E.Mar. I am inuited sir to certaine Marchants, 187 188 Of whom I hope to make much benefit: 189 I craue your pardon, soone at fiue a clocke, 190 Please you, Ile meete with you vpon the Mart, And afterward consort you till bed time: 191 My present businesse cals me from you now. 192 193 Ant. Farewell till then: I will goe loose my selfe, 194 And wander vp and downe to view the Citie. 195 E.Mar. Sir, I commend you to your owne content. 196 Exeunt. Ant. He that commends me to mine owne content, 197 Commends me to the thing I cannot get: 198 199 I to the world am like a drop of water, 200 That in the Ocean seekes another drop, Who falling there to finde his fellow forth, 201 202 (Vnseene, inquisitiue) confounds himselfe. 203 So I, to finde a Mother and a Brother, 204 In quest of them (vnhappie a) loose my selfe. 205 Enter Dromio of Ephesus. Here comes the almanacke of my true date: 206 What now? How chance thou art return'd so soone. 207 E.Dro. Return'd so soone, rather approacht too late: 208 209 The Capon burnes, the Pig fals from the spit; The clocke hath strucken twelue vpon the bell: 210 My Mistris made it one vpon my cheeke: 211 She is so hot because the meate is colde: 212 213 The meate is colde, because you come not home: You come not home, because you have no stomacke: 214 215 You have no stomacke, having broke your fast: But we that know what 'tis to fast and pray, 216 217 Are penitent for your default to day. Ant. Stop in your winde sir, tell me this I pray? 218 219 Where haue you left the mony that I gaue you. E.Dro. Oh sixe pence that I had a wensday last, 220 221 To pay the Sadler for my Mistris crupper:

The Sadler had it Sir, I kept it not.

Ant. I am not in a sportiue humor now:

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224 Tell me, and dally not, where is the monie? 225 We being strangers here, how dar'st thou trust So great a charge from thine owne custodie. 226 *E.Dro.* I pray you iest sir as you sit at dinner: 227 I from my Mistris come to you in post: 228 229 If I returne I shall be post indeede. [H2 230 For she will scoure your fault vpon my pate: 231 Me thinkes your maw, like mine, should be your cooke, 232 And strike you home without a messenger. 233 Ant. Come Dromio, come, these iests are out of season, 234 Reserve them till a merrier houre then this: 235 Where is the gold I gaue in charge to thee? 236 *E.Dro*. To me sir? why you gaue no gold to me? Ant. Come on sir knaue, haue done your foolishnes, 237 And tell me how thou hast dispos'd thy charge. 238 239 E.Dro. My charge was but to fetch you fro[m] the Mart 240 Home to your house, the *Phoenix* sir, to dinner; 241 My Mistris and her sister staies for you. 242 Ant. Now as I am a Christian answer me, 243 In what safe place you have bestow'd my monie; Or I shall breake that merrie sconce of yours 244 245 That stands on tricks, when I am vndispos'd: Where is the thousand Markes thou hadst of me? 246 247 *E.Dro.* I have some markes of yours vpon my pate: 248 Some of my Mistris markes vpon my shoulders: But not a thousand markes betweene you both. 249 250 If I should pay your worship those againe, 251 Perchance you will not beare them patiently. Ant. Thy Mistris markes? what Mistris slaue hast thou? 252 E.Dro. Your worships wife, my Mistris at the Phoenix; 253 She that doth fast till you come home to dinner: 254 255 And praies that you will hie you home to dinner. Ant. What wilt thou flout me thus vnto my face 256 Being forbid? There take you that sir knaue. 257 *E.Dro*. What meane you sir, for God sake hold your |(hands: 258 259 Nay, and you will not sir, Ile take my heeles. Exeunt Dromio Ep. 260 Ant. Vpon my life by some deuise or other, 261 The villaine is ore- wrought of all my monie. 262 They say this towne is full of cosenage: 263 As nimble Iuglers that deceive the eie: 264 265 Darke working Sorcerers that change the minde: Soule- killing Witches, that deforme the bodie: 266 Disguised Cheaters, prating Mountebankes; 267 And manie such like liberties of sinne:

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If it proue so, I will be gone the sooner:

- 270 Ile to the Centaur to goe seeke this slaue,
- 271 I greatly feare my monie is not safe. *Exit*.

#### Actus Secundus.

- 273 Enter Adriana, wife to Antipholis Sereptus, with
- 274 Luciana her Sister.
- 275 Adr. Neither my husband nor the slaue return'd,
- 276 That in such haste I sent to seeke his Master?
- 277 Sure *Luciana* it is two a clocke.
- 278 *Luc.* Perhaps some Merchant hath inuited him,
- 279 And from the Mart he's somewhere gone to dinner:
- 280 Good Sister let vs dine, and neuer fret;
- 281 A man is Master of his libertie:
- 282 Time is their Master, and when they see time,
- 283 They'll goe or come; if so, be patient Sister.
- 284 Adr. Why should their libertie then ours be more?
- 285 *Luc.* Because their businesse still lies out adore.
- 286 Adr. Looke when I serue him so, he takes it thus.
- 287 *Luc*. Oh, know he is the bridle of your will.
- 288 Adr. There's none but asses will be bridled so. [
- 289 *Luc.* Why, headstrong liberty is lasht with woe:
- 290 There's nothing situate vnder heauens eye,
- But hath his bound in earth, in sea, in skie.
- 292 The beasts, the fishes, and the winged fowles
- 293 Are their males subjects, and at their controlles:
- 294 Man more diuine, the Master of all these,
- 295 Lord of the wide world, and wilde watry seas,
- 296 Indued with intellectuall sence and soules,
- 297 Of more preheminence then fish and fowles,
- 298 Are masters to their females, and their Lords:
- 299 Then let your will attend on their accords.
- 300 Adri. This seruitude makes you to keepe vnwed.
- 301 *Luci*. Not this, but troubles of the marriage bed.
- 302 Adr. But were you wedded, you wold bear some sway
- 303 *Luc*. Ere I learne loue, Ile practise to obey.
- 304 Adr. How if your husband start some other where?
- 305 *Luc*. Till he come home againe, I would forbeare.
- 306 Adr. Patience vnmou'd, no maruel though she pause,
- 307 They can be meeke, that have no other cause:
- 308 A wretched soule bruis'd with aduersitie,
- We bid be quiet when we heare it crie.
- 310 But were we burdned with like waight of paine,
- 311 As much, or more, we should our selues complaine:

- 312 So thou that hast no vnkinde mate to greeue thee,
- 313 With vrging helpelesse patience would releeue me;
- 314 But if thou liue to see like right bereft,
- 315 This foole- beg'd patience in thee will be left.
- 316 *Luci*. Well, I will marry one day but to trie:
- 317 Heere comes your man, now is your husband nie.
- 318 Enter Dromio Eph.
- 319 Adr. Say, is your tardie master now at hand?
- 320 E.Dro. Nay, hee's at too hands with mee, and that my
- two eares can witnesse.
- 322 Adr. Say, didst thou speake with him? knowst thou
- 323 his minde?
- 324 E.Dro. I, I, he told his minde vpon mine eare,
- 325 Beshrew his hand, I scarce could vnderstand it.
- 326 *Luc*. Spake hee so doubtfully, thou couldst not feele 327 his meaning.
- 328 *E.Dro.* Nay, hee strooke so plainly, I could too well
- 329 feele his blowes; and withall so doubtfully, that I could
- 330 scarce vnderstand them.
- 331 Adri. But say, I prethee, is he comming home?
- 332 It seemes he hath great care to please his wife.
- 333 *E.Dro.* Why Mistresse, sure my Master is horne mad.
- 334 *Adri*. Horne mad, thou villaine?
- 335 E.Dro. I meane not Cuckold mad,
- 336 But sure he is starke mad:
- When I desir'd him to come home to dinner,
- 338 He ask'd me for a hundred markes in gold:
- 339 'Tis dinner time, quoth I: my gold, quoth he:
- Your meat doth burne, quoth I: my gold quoth he:
- Will you come, quoth I: my gold, quoth he;
- Where is the thousand markes I gaue thee villaine?
- 343 The Pigge quoth I, is burn'd: my gold, quoth he:
- 344 My mistresse, sir, quoth I: hang vp thy Mistresse:
- I know not thy mistresse, out on thy mistresse.
- 346 Luci. Quoth who?
- 347 E.Dr. Quoth my Master, I know quoth he, no house,
- 348 no wife, no mistresse: so that my arrant due vnto my
- tongue, I thanke him, I bare home vpon my shoulders:
- 350 for in conclusion, he did beat me there.
- 351 Adri. Go back againe, thou slaue, & fetch him home.
- 352 *Dro.* Goe backe againe, and be new beaten home?
- 353 For Gods sake send some other messenger. [H2v
- 354 Adri. Backe slaue, or I will breake thy pate a-crosse.
- 355 *Dro.* And he will blesse y crosse with other beating:
- 356 Betweene you, I shall haue a holy head.
- 357 Adri. Hence prating pesant, fetch thy Master home.

358 Dro. Am I so round with you, as you with me, 359 That like a foot-ball you doe spurne me thus: You spurne me hence, and he will spurne me hither, 360 If I last in this seruice, you must case me in leather. 361 Luci. Fie how impatience lowreth in your face. 362 Adri. His company must do his minions grace, 363 Whil'st I at home starue for a merrie looke: 364 Hath homelie age th' alluring beauty tooke 365 From my poore cheeke? then he hath wasted it. 366 Are my discourses dull? Barren my wit, 367 If voluble and sharpe discourse be mar'd, 368 Vnkindnesse blunts it more then marble hard. 369 Doe their gay vestments his affections baite? 370 That's not my fault, hee's master of my state. 371 What ruines are in me that can be found, 372 373 By him not ruin'd? Then is he the ground 374 Of my defeatures. My decayed faire, A sunnie looke of his, would soone repaire. 375 376 But, too vnruly Deere, he breakes the pale, And feedes from home; poore I am but his stale. 377 378 Luci. Selfe- harming Iealousie; fie beat it hence. 379 Ad. Vnfeeling fools can with such wrongs dispence: 380 I know his eye doth homage other- where, Or else, what lets it but he would be here? 381 382 Sister, you know he promis'd me a chaine, Would that alone, a loue he would detaine, 383 384 So he would keepe faire quarter with his bed: 385 I see the Iewell best enamaled Will loose his beautie: yet the gold bides still 386 That others touch, and often touching will, 387 Where gold and no man that hath a name, 388 389 By falshood and corruption doth it shame: Since that my beautie cannot please his eie, 390 Ile weepe (what's left away) and weeping die. 391 Luci. How manie fond fooles serue mad Ielousie? 392 393 Exit. 394 Enter Antipholis Errotis. Ant. The gold I gaue to Dromio is laid vp 395 Safe at the Centaur, and the heedfull slaue 396 Is wandred forth in care to seeke me out 397 By computation and mine hosts report. 398 399 I could not speake with Dromio, since at first I sent him from the Mart? see here he comes. 400 401 Enter Dromio Siracusia. How now sir, is your merrie humor alter'd? 402 403 As you loue stroakes, so iest with me againe:

404 You know no *Centaur*? you receiu'd no gold? 405 Your Mistresse sent to have me home to dinner? 406 My house was at the *Phoenix*? Wast thou mad, That thus so madlie thou did didst answere me? 407 S.Dro. What answer sir? when spake I such a word? 408 409 *E.Ant.* Euen now, euen here, not halfe an howre since. S.Dro. I did not see you since you sent me hence 410 Home to the *Centaur* with the gold you gaue me. 411 412 Ant. Villaine, thou didst denie the golds receit, And toldst me of a Mistresse, and a dinner, 413 414 For which I hope thou feltst I was displeas'd. S.Dro. I am glad to see you in this merrie vaine, 415 416 What meanes this iest, I pray you Master tell me? Ant. Yea, dost thou ieere & flowt me in the teeth? 417 Thinkst y I iest? hold, take thou that, & that. Beats Dro. 418 S.Dr. Hold sir, for Gods sake, now your iest is earnest, 419 420 Vpon what bargaine do you giue it me? Antiph. Because that I familiarlie sometimes 421 422 Doe vse you for my foole, and chat with you, Your sawcinesse will iest vpon my loue, 423 424 And make a Common of my serious howres, 425 When the sunne shines, let foolish gnats make sport, 426 But creepe in crannies, when he hides his beames: 427 If you will iest with me, know my aspect, 428 And fashion your demeanor to my lookes, 429 Or I will beat this method in your sconce. 430 S.Dro. Sconce call you it? so you would leave batte-ring, I had rather haue it a head, and you vse these blows 431 long, I must get a sconce for my head, and Insconce it 432 to, or else I shall seek my wit in my shoulders, but I pray 433 sir, why am I beaten? 434 435 Ant. Dost thou not know? S.Dro. Nothing sir, but that I am beaten. 436 Ant. Shall I tell you why? 437 S.Dro. I sir, and wherefore; for they say, euery why 438 439 hath a wherefore. Ant. Why first for flowting me, and then wherefore, 440 for vrging it the second time to me. 441 S.Dro. Was there euer anie man thus beaten out of 442 season, when in the why and the wherefore, is neither 443 rime nor reason. Well sir, I thanke you. 444 445 Ant. Thanke me sir, for what? S.Dro. Marry sir, for this something that you gaue me 446 447 for nothing. Ant. Ile make you amends next, to give you nothing 448 for something. But say sir, is it dinner time? 449

- 450 S.Dro. No sir, I thinke the meat wants that I haue.
- 451 Ant. In good time sir: what's that?
- 452 S.Dro. Basting.
- 453 Ant. Well sir, then 'twill be drie.
- 454 S.Dro. If it be sir, I pray you eat none of it.
- 455 Ant. Your reason?
- 456 S.Dro. Lest it make you chollericke, and purchase me
- another drie basting.
- 458 Ant. Well sir, learne to iest in good time, there's a
- 459 time for all things.
- S.Dro. I durst haue denied that before you were so
- 461 chollericke.
- 462 Anti. By what rule sir?
- S.Dro. Marry sir, by a rule as plaine as the plaine bald
- pate of Father time himselfe.
- 465 Ant. Let's heare it.
- S.Dro. There's no time for a man to recouer his haire
- that growes bald by nature.
- Ant. May he not doe it by fine and recouerie?
- S.Dro. Yes, to pay a fine for a perewig, and recouer
- 470 the lost haire of another man.
- 471 Ant. Why, is Time such a niggard of haire, being (as
- it is) so plentifull an excrement?
- S.Dro. Because it is a blessing that hee bestowes on
- beasts, and what he hath scanted them in haire, hee hath
- giuen them in wit.
- 476 Ant. Why, but theres manie a man hath more haire
- 477 then wit.
- 478 S.Dro. Not a man of those but he hath the wit to lose
- 479 his haire.
- 480 Ant. Why thou didst conclude hairy men plain dea-lers
- 481 without wit.
- 482 *S.Dro.* The plainer dealer, the sooner lost; yet he loo-seth
- 483 it in a kinde of iollitie.
- 484 An. For what reason.
- 485 S.Dro. For two, and sound ones to. [H3
- 486 An. Nay not sound I pray you.
- 487 S.Dro. Sure ones then.
- 488 An. Nay, not sure in a thing falsing.
- 489 *S.Dro*. Certaine ones then.
- 490 An. Name them.
- 491 S.Dro. The one to saue the money that he spends in
- 492 trying: the other, that at dinner they should not drop in
- 493 his porrage.
- 494 An. You would all this time haue prou'd, there is no
- 495 time for all things.

- 496 S.Dro. Marry and did sir: namely, in no time to re-couer
- 497 haire lost by Nature.
- 498 An. But your reason was not substantiall, why there
- 499 is no time to recouer.
- 500 S.Dro. Thus I mend it: Time himselfe is bald, and
- therefore to the worlds end, will have bald followers.
- An. I knew 'twould be a bald conclusion: but soft,
- 503 who wafts vs yonder.
- 504 Enter Adriana and Luciana.
- 505 Adri. I, I, Antipholus, looke strange and frowne,
- 506 Some other Mistresse hath thy sweet aspects:
- 507 I am not *Adriana*, nor thy wife.
- The time was once, when thou vn- vrg'd wouldst vow,
- 509 That neuer words were musicke to thine eare,
- 510 That neuer object pleasing in thine eye,
- 511 That neuer touch well welcome to thy hand,
- 512 That neuer meat sweet- sauour'd in thy taste,
- Vnlesse I spake, or look'd, or touch'd, or caru'd to thee.
- How comes it now, my Husband, oh how comes it,
- 515 That thou art then estranged from thy selfe?
- 516 Thy selfe I call it, being strange to me:
- 517 That vndiuidable Incorporate
- 518 Am better then thy deere selfes better part.
- Ah doe not teare away thy selfe from me;
- 520 For know my loue: as easie maist thou fall
- 521 A drop of water in the breaking gulfe,
- 522 And take vnmingled thence that drop againe
- 523 Without addition or diminishing,
- As take from me thy selfe, and not me too.
- How deerely would it touch thee to the quicke,
- 526 Shouldst thou but heare I were licencious?
- 527 And that this body consecrate to thee,
- 528 By Ruffian Lust should be contaminate?
- Wouldst thou not spit at me, and spurne at me,
- And hurle the name of husband in my face,
- And teare the stain'd skin of my Harlot brow,
- And from my false hand cut the wedding ring,
- And breake it with a deepe- diuorcing vow?
- I know thou canst, and therefore see thou doe it.
- I am possest with an adulterate blot,
- 536 My bloud is mingled with the crime of lust:
- For if we two be one, and thou play false,
- I doe digest the poison of thy flesh,
- Being strumpeted by thy contagion:
- Keepe then faire league and truce with thy true bed,
- I liue distain'd, thou vndishonoured.

542 Antip. Plead you to me faire dame? I know you not: 543 In Ephesus I am but two houres old, As strange vnto your towne, as to your talke, 544 Who euery word by all my wit being scan'd, 545 Wants wit in all, one word to vnderstand. 546 547 *Luci*. Fie brother, how the world is chang'd with you: When were you wont to vse my sister thus? 548 She sent for you by *Dromio* home to dinner. 549 Ant. By Dromio? Drom. By me. 550 Adr. By thee, and this thou didst returne from him. 551 That he did buffet thee, and in his blowes, 552 Denied my house for his, me for his wife. 553 554 Ant. Did you conuerse sir with this gentlewoman: What is the course and drift of your compact? 555 S.Dro. I sir? I neuer saw her till this time. 556 Ant. Villaine thou liest, for euen her verie words, 557 558 Didst thou deliuer to me on the Mart. S.Dro. I neuer spake with her in all my life. 559 Ant. How can she thus then call vs by our names? 560 Vnlesse it be by inspiration. 561 Adri. How ill agrees it with your grauitie, 562 To counterfeit thus grosely with your slaue, 563 Abetting him to thwart me in my moode; 564 Be it my wrong, you are from me exempt, 565 But wrong not that wrong with a more contempt. 566 Come I will fasten on this sleeue of thine: 567 Thou art an Elme my husband, I a Vine: 568 569 Whose weaknesse married to thy stranger state, Makes me with thy strength to communicate: 570 If ought possesse thee from me, it is drosse, 571 Vsurping Iuie, Brier, or idle Mosse, 572 Who all for want of pruning, with intrusion, 573 Infect thy sap, and liue on thy confusion. 574 Ant. To mee shee speakes, shee moues mee for her 575 576 theame; 577 What, was I married to her in my dreame? Or sleepe I now, and thinke I heare all this? 578 What error driues our eies and eares amisse? 579 Vntill I know this sure vncertaintie. 580 Ile entertaine the free'd fallacie. 581 Luc. Dromio, goe bid the seruants spred for dinner. 582 583 S.Dro. Oh for my beads, I crosse me for a sinner. This is the Fairie land, oh spight of spights, 584 585 We talke with Goblins, Owles and Sprights;

If we obay them not, this will insue:

They'll sucke our breath, or pinch vs blacke and blew.

586

587

- 588 *Luc*. Why prat'st thou to thy selfe, and answer'st not?
- 589 *Dromio*, thou *Dromio*, thou snaile, thou slug, thou sot.
- 590 S.Dro. I am transformed Master, am I not?
- 591 Ant. I thinke thou art in minde, and so am I.
- 592 S.Dro. Nay Master, both in minde, and in my shape.
- 593 Ant. Thou hast thine owne forme.
- 594 S.Dro. No, I am an Ape.
- 595 *Luc*. If thou art chang'd to ought, 'tis to an Asse.
- 596 S.Dro. 'Tis true she rides me, and I long for grasse.
- 'Tis so, I am an Asse, else it could neuer be,
- But I should know her as well as she knowes me.
- 599 Adr. Come, come, no longer will I be a foole,
- To put the finger in the eie and weepe;
- Whil'st man and Master laughes my woes to scorne:
- 602 Come sir to dinner, *Dromio* keepe the gate:
- 603 Husband Ile dine aboue with you to day,
- And shriue you of a thousand idle prankes:
- 605 Sirra, if any aske you for your Master,
- Say he dines forth, and let no creature enter:
- 607 Come sister, *Dromio* play the Porter well.
- 608 Ant. Am I in earth, in heauen, or in hell?
- 609 Sleeping or waking, mad or well aduisde:
- Knowne vnto these, and to my selfe disguisde:
- 611 Ile say as they say, and perseuer so:
- And in this mist at all aduentures go.
- 613 S.Dro. Master, shall I be Porter at the gate?
- 614 Adr. I, and let none enter, least I breake your pate.
- 615 Luc. Come, come, Antipholus, we dine to late. [H3v

#### Actus Tertius. Scena Prima.

- 617 Enter Antipholus of Ephesus, his man Dromio, Angelo the
- 618 Goldsmith, and Balthaser the Merchant.
- 619 E.Anti. Good signior Angelo you must excuse vs all,
- My wife is shrewish when I keepe not howres;
- Say that I lingerd with you at your shop
- To see the making of her Carkanet,
- And that to morrow you will bring it home.
- But here's a villaine that would face me downe
- He met me on the Mart, and that I beat him,
- 626 And charg'd him with a thousand markes in gold,
- And that I did denie my wife and house;
- Thou drunkard thou, what didst thou meane by this?
- 629 E.Dro. Say what you wil sir, but I know what I know,

- 630 That you beat me at the Mart I have your hand to show;
- If y skin were parchment, & y blows you gaue were ink, 631
- Your owne hand- writing would tell you what I thinke. 632
- E.Ant. I thinke thou art an asse. 633
- E.Dro. Marry so it doth appeare 634
- By the wrongs I suffer, and the blowes I beare, 635
- I should kicke being kickt, and being at that passe, 636
- You would keepe from my heeles, and beware of an asse. 637
- E.An. Y'are sad signior Balthazar, pray God our cheer 638
- May answer my good will, and your good welcom here. 639
- Bal. I hold your dainties cheap sir, & your welcom deer. 640
- 641 E.An. Oh signior Balthazar, either at flesh or fish,
- A table full of welcome, makes scarce one dainty dish. 642
- *Bal.* Good meat sir is co[m]mon that euery churle affords. 643
- Anti. And welcome more common, for thats nothing 644
- but words. 645
- 646 Bal. Small cheere and great welcome, makes a mer-rie
- 647 feast.
- 648 Anti. I, to a niggardly Host, and more sparing guest:
- But though my cates be meane, take them in good part, 649
- Better cheere may you haue, but not with better hart. 650
- But soft, my doore is lockt; goe bid them let vs in. 651
- 652 E.Dro. Maud, Briget, Marian, Cisley, Gillian, Ginn.
- S.Dro. Mome, Malthorse, Capon, Coxcombe, Idi-ot, 653
- 654 Patch,
- Either get thee from the dore, or sit downe at the hatch: 655
- Dost thou coniure for wenches, that y calst for such store, 656
- When one is one too many, goe get thee from the dore. 657
- E.Dro. What patch is made our Porter? my Master 658
- stayes in the street. 659
- S.Dro. Let him walke from whence he came, lest hee 660 catch cold on's feet. 661
- *E.Ant.* Who talks within there? hoa, open the dore. 662
- S.Dro. Right sir, Ile tell you when, and you'll tell 663 me wherefore. 664
- Ant. Wherefore? for my dinner: I haue not din'd to 665 day. 666
- 667 S.Dro. Nor to day here you must not come againe when you may. 668
- Anti. What art thou that keep'st mee out from the 669
- howse I owe? 670
- 671 S.Dro. The Porter for this time Sir, and my name is
- 672 Dromio.
- 673 E.Dro. O villaine, thou hast stolne both mine office
- and my name, 674
- The one nere got me credit, the other mickle blame: 675

676 If thou hadst beene *Dromio* to day in my place, 677 Thou wouldst haue chang'd thy face for a name, or thy name for an asse. 678 Enter Luce. 679 Luce. What a coile is there Dromio? who are those 680 at the gate? 681 E.Dro. Let my Master in Luce. 682 Luce. Faith no, hee comes too late, and so tell your 683 684 Master. E.Dro. O Lord I must laugh, haue at you with a Pro-uerbe, 685 687 Shall I set in my staffe. Luce. Haue at you with another, that's when? can 688 689 you tell? S.Dro. If thy name be called Luce, Luce thou hast an-swer'd 690 him well. 691 Anti. Doe you heare you minion, you'll let vs in I 692 693 hope? Luce. I thought to haue askt you. 694 695 S.Dro. And you said no. E.Dro. So come helpe, well strooke, there was blow 696 for blow. 697 Anti. Thou baggage let me in. 698 699 Luce. Can you tell for whose sake? E.Drom. Master, knocke the doore hard. 700 701 Luce. Let him knocke till it ake. Anti. You'll crie for this minion, if I beat the doore 702 703 downe. Luce. What needs all that, and a paire of stocks in the 704 towne? 705 706 Enter Adriana. Adr. Who is that at the doore y keeps all this noise? 707 708 S.Dro. By my troth your towne is troubled with vn-ruly 709 boies. Anti. Are you there Wife? you might have come 710 before. 711 Adri. Your wife sir knaue? go get you from the dore. 712 E.Dro. If you went in paine Master, this knaue wold 713 goe sore. 714 Angelo. Heere is neither cheere sir, nor welcome, we 715 would faine haue either. 716 Baltz. In debating which was best, wee shall part 717 718 with neither. E.Dro. They stand at the doore, Master, bid them 719 720 welcome hither. Anti. There is something in the winde, that we can-not 721 722 get in.

- 723 E.Dro. You would say so Master, if your garments
- were thin.
- Your cake here is warme within: you stand here in the
- 726 cold.
- 727 It would make a man mad as a Bucke to be so bought
- 728 and sold.
- 729 Ant. Go fetch me something, Ile break ope the gate.
- 730 S.Dro. Breake any breaking here, and Ile breake your
- 731 knaues pate.
- 732 E.Dro. A man may breake a word with your sir, and
- 733 words are but winde:
- I and breake it in your face, so he break it not behinde.
- 735 *S.Dro*. It seemes thou want'st breaking, out vpon thee hinde.
- 737 E.Dro. Here's too much out vpon thee, I pray thee let
- 738 me in.
- 739 S.Dro. I, when fowles have no feathers, and fish have
- 740 no fin.
- 741 Ant. Well, Ile breake in: go borrow me a crow.
- 742 E.Dro. A crow without feather, Master meane you so; [H4
- For a fish without a finne, ther's a fowle without a fether,
- If a crow help vs in sirra, wee'll plucke a crow together.
- 745 Ant. Go, get thee gon, fetch me an iron Crow.
- 746 *Balth.* Haue patience sir, oh let it not be so,
- 747 Heerein you warre against your reputation,
- And draw within the compasse of suspect
- 749 Th' vnuiolated honor of your wife.
- Once this your long experience of your wisedome,
- 751 Her sober vertue, yeares, and modestie,
- 752 Plead on your part some cause to you vnknowne;
- And doubt not sir, but she will well excuse
- 754 Why at this time the dores are made against you.
- 755 Be rul'd by me, depart in patience,
- 756 And let vs to the Tyger all to dinner,
- 757 And about euening come your selfe alone,
- 758 To know the reason of this strange restraint:
- 759 If by strong hand you offer to breake in
- Now in the stirring passage of the day,
- 761 A vulgar comment will be made of it;
- And that supposed by the common rowt
- 763 Against your yet vngalled estimation,
- 764 That may with foule intrusion enter in,
- And dwell vpon your graue when you are dead;
- 766 For slander liues vpon succession:
- For euer hows'd, where it gets possession.
- 768 Anti. You haue preuail'd, I will depart in quiet,

- And in despight of mirth meane to be merrie:
- 770 I know a wench of excellent discourse,
- 771 Prettie and wittie; wilde, and yet too gentle;
- 772 There will we dine: this woman that I meane
- 773 My wife (but I protest without desert)
- Hath oftentimes vpbraided me withall:
- 775 To her will we to dinner, get you home
- And fetch the chaine, by this I know 'tis made,
- 777 Bring it I pray you to the *Porpentine*,
- For there's the house: That chaine will I bestow
- (Be it for nothing but to spight my wife)
- 780 Vpon mine hostesse there, good sir make haste:
- 781 Since mine owne doores refuse to entertaine me,
- 782 Ile knocke else- where, to see if they'll disdaine me.
- Ang. Ile meet you at that place some houre hence.
- Anti. Do so, this iest shall cost me some expence.
- 785 *Exeunt*.
- 786 Enter Iuliana, with Antipholus of Siracusia.
- 787 *Iulia*. And may it be that you have quite forgot
- 788 A husbands office? shall Antipholus
- 789 Euen in the spring of Loue, thy Loue- springs rot?
- 790 Shall loue in buildings grow so ruinate?
- 791 If you did wed my sister for her wealth,
- 792 Then for her wealths- sake vse her with more kindnesse:
- 793 Or if you like else- where doe it by stealth,
- Muffle your false loue with some shew of blindnesse:
- 795 Let not my sister read it in your eye:
- Be not thy tongue thy owne shames Orator:
- 797 Looke sweet, speake faire, become disloyaltie:
- 798 Apparell vice like vertues harbenger:
- Beare a faire presence, though your heart be tainted,
- 800 Teach sinne the carriage of a holy Saint,
- 801 Be secret false: what need she be acquainted?
- What simple thiefe brags of his owne attaine?
- 303 'Tis double wrong to truant with your bed,
- And let her read it in thy lookes at boord:
- 805 Shame hath a bastard fame, well managed,
- 806 Ill deeds is doubled with an euill word:
- 807 Alas poore women, make vs not beleeue
- 808 (Being compact of credit) that you loue vs, [
- 809 Though others have the arme, shew vs the sleeue:
- 810 We in your motion turne, and you may moue vs.
- Then gentle brother get you in againe;
- 812 Comfort my sister, cheere her, call her wise;
- 313 'Tis holy sport to be a little vaine,
- When the sweet breath of flatterie conquers strife.

815 S.Anti. Sweete Mistris, what your name is else I know not: 816 Nor by what wonder you do hit of mine: 817 Lesse in your knowledge, and your grace you show not, 818 Then our earths wonder, more then earth diuine. 819 Teach me deere creature how to thinke and speake: 820 821 Lay open to my earthie grosse conceit: Smothred in errors, feeble, shallow, weake, 822 The foulded meaning of your words deceit: 823 Against my soules pure truth, why labour you, 824 825 To make it wander in an vnknowne field? 826 Are you a god? would you create me new? Transforme me then, and to your powre Ile yeeld. 827 But if that I am I, then well I know, 828 Your weeping sister is no wife of mine, 829 Nor to her bed no homage doe I owe: 830 831 Farre more, farre more, to you doe I decline: 832 Oh traine me not sweet Mermaide with thy note, 833 To drowne me in thy sister floud of teares: 834 Sing Siren for thy selfe, and I will dote: Spread ore the siluer waves thy golden haires; 835 And as a bud Ile take thee, and there lie: 836 And in that glorious supposition thinke, 837 838 He gaines by death, that hath such meanes to die: 839 Let Loue, being light, be drowned if she sinke. Luc. What are you mad, that you doe reason so? 840 Ant. Not mad, but mated, how I doe not know. 841 Luc. It is a fault that springeth from your eie. 842 Ant. For gazing on your beames faire sun being by. 843 Luc. Gaze when you should, and that will cleere 844 your sight. 845 Ant. As good to winke sweet loue, as looke on night. 846 Luc. Why call you me loue? Call my sister so. 847 Ant. Thy sisters sister. 848 Luc. That's my sister. 849 Ant. No: it is thy selfe, mine owne selfes better part: 850 Mine eies cleere eie, my deere hearts deerer heart; 851 My foode, my fortune, and my sweet hopes aime; 852 My sole earths heauen, and my heauens claime. 853 Luc. All this my sister is, or else should be. 854 Ant. Call thy selfe sister sweet, for I am thee: 855 856 Thee will I loue, and with thee lead my life; Thou hast no husband yet, nor I no wife: 857 858 Giue me thy hand. Luc. Oh soft sir, hold you still: 859 Ile fetch my sister to get her good will. Exit. 860

```
Enter Dromio, Siracusia.
861
862
        Ant. Why how now Dromio, where run'st thou so
      fast?
863
        S.Dro. Doe you know me sir? Am I Dromio? Am I
864
      your man? Am I my selfe?
865
        Ant. Thou art Dromio, thou art my man, thou art
866
      thy selfe.
867
        Dro. I am an asse, I am a womans man, and besides
868
869
      my selfe.
870
        Ant. What womans man? and how besides thy
871
      selfe?
872
        Dro. Marrie sir, besides my selfe, I am due to a woman:
      One that claimes me, one that haunts me, one that will
873
874
      haue me. [H4v
        Anti. What claime laies she to thee?
875
876
        Dro. Marry sir, such claime as you would lay to your
877
      horse, and she would have me as a beast, not that I bee-ing
878
      a beast she would have me, but that she being a ve-rie
879
      beastly creature layes claime to me.
        Anti. What is she?
880
        Dro. A very reuerent body: I such a one, as a man
881
      may not speake of, without he say sir reuerence, I haue
882
      but leane lucke in the match, and yet is she a wondrous
883
884
      fat marriage.
885
        Anti. How dost thou meane a fat marriage?
        Dro. Marry sir, she's the Kitchin wench, & al grease,
886
      and I know not what vse to put her too, but to make a
887
      Lampe of her, and run from her by her owne light. I
888
      warrant, her ragges and the Tallow in them, will burne
889
      a Poland Winter: If she liues till doomesday, she'l burne
890
      a weeke longer then the whole World.
891
892
        Anti. What complexion is she of?
        Dro. Swart like my shoo, but her face nothing like
893
      so cleane kept: for why? she sweats a man may goe o-uer- shooes
894
      in the grime of it.
895
896
        Anti. That's a fault that water will mend.
        Dro. No sir, 'tis in graine, Noahs flood could not
897
898
      do it.
        Anti. What's her name?
899
        Dro. Nell Sir: but her name is three quarters, that's
900
      an Ell and three quarters, will not measure her from hip
901
902
      to hip.
        Anti. Then she beares some bredth?
903
904
        Dro. No longer from head to foot, then from hippe
      to hippe: she is sphericall, like a globe: I could find out
905
      Countries in her.
906
```

907 Anti. In what part of her body stands Ireland? 908 Dro. Marry sir in her buttockes, I found it out by 909 the bogges. Ant. Where Scotland? 910 Dro. I found it by the barrennesse, hard in the palme 911 of the hand. 912 913 Ant. Where France? Dro. In her forhead, arm'd and reuerted, making 914 warre against her heire. 915 916 Ant. Where England? Dro. I look'd for the chalkle Cliffes, but I could find 917 918 no whitenesse in them. But I guesse, it stood in her chin 919 by the salt rheume that ranne betweene France, and it. Ant. Where Spaine? 920 Dro. Faith I saw it not: but I felt it hot in her breth. 921 922 Ant. Where America, the Indies? Dro. Oh sir, vpon her nose, all ore embellished with 923 Rubies, Carbuncles, Saphires, declining their rich As-pect 924 925 to the hot breath of Spaine, who sent whole Ar-madoes of Carrects to be ballast at her nose. 926 927 Anti. Where stood Belgia, the Netherlands? 928 Dro. Oh sir, I did not looke so low. To conclude, 929 this drudge or Diuiner layd claime to mee, call'd mee Dromio, swore I was assur'd to her, told me what priuie 930 931 markes I had about mee, as the marke of my shoulder, 932 the Mole in my necke, the great Wart on my left arme, 933 that I amaz'd ranne from her as a witch. And I thinke, if my brest had not beene made of faith, and my heart of 934 steele, she had transform'd me to a Curtull dog, & made 935 me turne i'th wheele. 936 937 Anti. Go hie thee presently, post to the rode, 938 And if the winde blow any way from shore, I will not harbour in this Towne to night. 939 If any Barke put forth, come to the Mart, 940 Where I will walke till thou returne to me: 941 942 If euerie one knowes vs, and we know none, 943 'Tis time I thinke to trudge, packe, and be gone. 944 *Dro.* As from a Beare a man would run for life, So flie I from her that would be my wife. Exit 945 Anti. There's none but Witches do inhabite heere, 946 And therefore 'tis hie time that I were hence: 947 948 She that doth call me husband, euen my soule Doth for a wife abhorre. But her faire sister 949 950 Possest with such a gentle soueraigne grace, Of such inchanting presence and discourse, 951 Hath almost made me Traitor to my selfe: 952

953 But least my selfe be guilty to selfe wrong, 954 Ile stop mine eares against the Mermaids song. Enter Angelo with the Chaine. 955 Ang. Mr Antipholus. 956 Anti. I that's my name. 957 Ang. I know it well sir, loe here's the chaine, 958 I thought to have tane you at the *Porpentine*, 959 The chaine vnfinish'd made me stay thus long. 960 Anti. What is your will that I shal do with this? 961 Ang. What please your selfe sir: I have made it for 962 you. 963 Anti. Made it for me sir, I bespoke it not. 964 Ang. Not once, nor twice, but twentie times you 965 haue: 966 Go home with it, and please your Wife withall, 967 And soone at supper time Ile visit you, 968 969 And then receive my money for the chaine. Anti. I pray you sir receiue the money now. 970 971 For feare you ne're see chaine, nor mony more. Ang. You are a merry man sir, fare you well. Exit. 972 973 Ant. What I should thinke of this, I cannot tell: 974 But this I thinke, there's no man is so vaine. 975 That would refuse so faire an offer'd Chaine. I see a man heere needs not liue by shifts, 976 977 When in the streets he meetes such Golden gifts: Ile to the Mart, and there for *Dromio* stay, 978

#### Actus Quartus. Scoena Prima.

979

Enter a Merchant, Goldsmith, and an Officer. 981 982 Mar. You know since Pentecost the sum is due, And since I have not much importun'd you, 983 Nor now I had not, but that I am bound 984 To Persia, and want Gilders for my voyage: 985 Therefore make present satisfaction, 986 987 Or Ile attach you by this Officer. Gold. Euen iust the sum that I do owe to you, 988 Is growing to me by Antipholus, 989 And in the instant that I met with you, 990 He had of me a Chaine, at fiue a clocke 991 992 I shall receive the money for the same: 993 Pleaseth you walke with me downe to his house, I will discharge my bond, and thanke you too. 994

If any ship put out, then straight away. Exit.

```
Enter Antipholus Ephes. Dromio from the Courtizans.
995
996
        Offi. That labour may you saue: See where he comes.
        Ant. While I go to the Goldsmiths house, go thou [H5]
997
      And buy a ropes end, that will I bestow
998
      Among my wife, and their confederates,
999
      For locking me out of my doores by day:
1000
      But soft I see the Goldsmith; get thee gone,
1001
      Buy thou a rope, and bring it home to me.
1002
         Dro. I buy a thousand pound a yeare, I buy a rope.
1003
      Exit Dromio
1004
1005
         Eph.Ant. A man is well holpe vp that trusts to you,
      I promised your presence, and the Chaine,
1006
      But neither Chaine nor Goldsmith came to me:
1007
      Belike you thought our loue would last too long
1008
      If it were chain'd together: and therefore came not.
1009
1010
         Gold. Sauing your merrie humor: here's the note
1011
      How much your Chaine weighs to the vtmost charect,
      The finenesse of the Gold, and chargefull fashion,
1012
1013
      Which doth amount to three odde Duckets more
      Then I stand debted to this Gentleman,
1014
1015
      I pray you see him presently discharg'd,
1016
      For he is bound to Sea, and stayes but for it.
1017
         Anti. I am not furnish'd with the present monie:
      Besides I have some businesse in the towne,
1018
1019
      Good Signior take the stranger to my house,
      And with you take the Chaine, and bid my wife
1020
1021
      Disburse the summe, on the receit thereof,
1022
      Perchance I will be there as soone as you.
         Gold. Then you will bring the Chaine to her your
1023
1024
      selfe.
1025
         Anti. No beare it with you, least I come not time e-nough.
1027
         Gold. Well sir, I will? Haue you the Chaine about
1028
         Ant. And if I have not sir, I hope you have:
1029
      Or else you may returne without your money.
1030
1031
         Gold. Nay come I pray you sir, giue me the Chaine:
1032
      Both winde and tide stayes for this Gentleman,
1033
      And I too blame have held him heere too long.
         Anti. Good Lord, you vse this dalliance to excuse
1034
1035
      Your breach of promise to the Porpentine,
      I should have chid you for not bringing it,
1036
1037
      But like a shrew you first begin to brawle.
         Mar. The houre steales on, I pray you sir dispatch.
1038
1039
         Gold. You heare how he importunes me, the Chaine.
         Ant. Why giue it to my wife, and fetch your mony.
1040
1041
         Gold. Come, come, you know I gaue it you euen now.
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1042
      Either send the Chaine, or send me by some token.
1043
        Ant. Fie, now you run this humor out of breath,
      Come where's the Chaine, I pray you let me see it.
1044
        Mar. My businesse cannot brooke this dalliance,
1045
      Good sir say, whe'r you'l answer me, or no:
1046
      If not, Ile leaue him to the Officer.
1047
        Ant. I answer you? What should I answer you.
1048
        Gold. The monie that you owe me for the Chaine.
1049
        Ant. I owe you none, till I receive the Chaine.
1050
        Gold. You know I gaue it you halfe an houre since.
1051
        Ant. You gaue me none, you wrong mee much to
1052
      say so.
1053
        Gold. You wrong me more sir in denying it.
1054
1055
      Consider how it stands vpon my credit.
        Mar. Well Officer, arrest him at my suite.
1056
        Offi. I do, and charge you in the Dukes name to o-bey
1057
1058
1059
        Gold. This touches me in reputation.
      Either consent to pay this sum for me,
1060
      Or I attach you by this Officer.
1061
        Ant. Consent to pay thee that I neuer had:
1062
      Arrest me foolish fellow if thou dar'st.
1063
        Gold. Heere is thy fee, arrest him Officer.
1064
      I would not spare my brother in this case,
1065
      If he should scorne me so apparantly.
1066
        Offic. I do arrest you sir, you heare the suite.
1067
        Ant. I do obey thee, till I giue thee baile.
1068
      But sirrah, you shall buy this sport as deere,
1069
      As all the mettall in your shop will answer.
1070
        Gold. Sir, sir, I shall haue Law in Ephesus,
1071
      To your notorious shame, I doubt it not.
1072
1073
      Enter Dromio Sira. from the Bay.
        Dro. Master, there's a Barke of Epidamium,
1074
      That staies but till her Owner comes aboord,
1075
      And then sir she beares away. Our fraughtage sir,
1076
1077
      I haue conuei'd aboord, and I haue bought
1078
      The Oyle, the Balsamum, and Aqua- vitae.
      The ship is in her trim, the merrie winde
1079
      Blowes faire from land: they stay for nought at all,
1080
      But for their Owner, Master, and your selfe.
1081
        An. How now? a Madman? Why thou peeuish sheep
1082
1083
      What ship of Epidamium staies for me.
1084
        S.Dro. A ship you sent me too, to hier waftage.
1085
        Ant. Thou drunken slaue, I sent thee for a rope,
      And told thee to what purpose, and what end.
1086
1087
        S.Dro. You sent me for a ropes end as soone,
```

- 1088 You sent me to the Bay sir, for a Barke.
- 1089 Ant. I will debate this matter at more leisure
- 1090 And teach your eares to list me with more heede:
- 1091 To Adriana Villaine hie thee straight:
- 1092 Giue her this key, and tell her in the Deske
- 1093 That's couer'd o're with Turkish Tapistrie,
- 1094 There is a purse of Duckets, let her send it:
- 1095 Tell her, I am arrested in the streete,
- 1096 And that shall baile me: hie thee slaue, be gone,
- 1097 On Officer to prison, till it come. Exeunt
- 1098 S.Dromio. To Adriana, that is where we din'd,
- 1099 Where Dowsabell did claime me for her husband.
- 1100 She is too bigge I hope for me to compasse,
- 1101 Thither I must, although against my will:
- 1102 For seruants must their Masters mindes fulfill. Exit
- 1103 Enter Adriana and Luciana.
- 1104 Adr. Ah Luciana, did he tempt thee so?
- 1105 Might'st thou perceiue austeerely in his eie,
- 1106 That he did plead in earnest, yea or no:
- 1107 Look'd he or red or pale, or sad or merrily?
- 1108 What observation mad'st thou in this case?
- 1109 Oh, his hearts Meteors tilting in his face.
- 1110 *Luc*. First he deni'de you had in him no right.
- 1111 Adr. He meant he did me none: the more my spight
- 1112 *Luc*. Then swore he that he was a stranger heere.
- 1113 Adr. And true he swore, though yet forsworne hee
- 1114 were.
- 1115 *Luc*. Then pleaded I for you.
- 1116 Adr. And what said he?
- 1117 *Luc*. That loue I begg'd for you, he begg'd of me.
- 1118 Adr. With what perswasion did he tempt thy loue?
- 1119 *Luc*. With words, that in an honest suit might moue.
- 1120 First, he did praise my beautie, then my speech.
- 1121 Adr. Did'st speake him faire?
- 1122 Luc. Haue patience I beseech.
- 1123 Adr. I cannot, nor I will not hold me still.
- 1124 My tongue, though not my heart, shall haue his will.
- 1125 He is deformed, crooked, old, and sere,
- 1126 Ill- fac'd, worse bodied, shapelesse euery where:
- 1127 Vicious, vngentle, foolish, blunt, vnkinde, [H5v
- 1128 Stigmaticall in making worse in minde.
- 1129 Luc. Who would be igalous then of such a one?
- 1130 No euill lost is wail'd, when it is gone.
- 1131 Adr. Ah but I thinke him better then I say:
- 1132 And yet would herein others eies were worse:
- 1133 Farre from her nest the Lapwing cries away;

- 1134 My heart praies for him, though my tongue doe curse.
- 1135 Enter S.Dromio.
- 1136 *Dro.* Here goe: the deske, the purse, sweet now make
- 1137 haste.
- 1138 *Luc*. How hast thou lost thy breath?
- 1139 S.Dro. By running fast.
- 1140 *Adr.* Where is thy Master *Dromio*? Is he well?
- 1141 S.Dro. No, he's in Tartar limbo, worse then hell:
- 1142 A diuell in an euerlasting garment hath him;
- 1143 On whose hard heart is button'd vp with steele:
- 1144 A Feind, a Fairie, pittilesse and ruffe:
- 1145 A Wolfe, nay worse, a fellow all in buffe:
- 1146 A back friend, a shoulder- clapper, one that counterma[n]ds
- 1147 The passages of allies, creekes, and narrow lands:
- 1148 A hound that runs Counter, and yet draws drifoot well,
- One that before the Iudgme[n]t carries poore soules to hel.
- 1150 Adr. Why man, what is the matter?
- 1151 S.Dro. I doe not know the matter, hee is rested on
- 1152 the case.
- 1153 Adr. What is he arrested? tell me at whose suite?
- 1154 S.Dro. I know not at whose suite he is arested well;
- but is in a suite of buffe which rested him, that can I tell,
- will you send him Mistris redemption, the monie in
- 1157 his deske.
- 1158 Adr. Go fetch it Sister: this I wonder at.
- 1159 Exit Luciana.
- 1160 Thus he vnknowne to me should be in debt:
- 1161 Tell me, was he arested on a band?
- 1162 *S.Dro*. Not on a band, but on a stronger thing:
- 1163 A chaine, a chaine, doe you not here it ring.
- 1164 Adria. What, the chaine?
- 1165 S.Dro. No, no, the bell, 'tis time that I were gone:
- 1166 It was two ere I left him, and now the clocke strikes one.
- 1167 Adr. The houres come backe, that did I neuer here.
- 1168 S.Dro. Oh yes, if any houre meete a Serieant, a turnes
- 1169 backe for verie feare.
- 1170 Adri. As if time were in debt: how fondly do'st thou
- 1171 reason?
- 1172 S.Dro. Time is a verie bankerout, and owes more then
- 1173 he's worth to season.
- Nay, he's a theefe too: haue you not heard men say,
- 1175 That time comes stealing on by night and day?
- 1176 If I be in debt and theft, and a Serieant in the way,
- Hath he not reason to turne backe an houre in a day?
- 1178 Enter Luciana.
- 1179 Adr. Go Dromio, there's the monie, beare it straight,

- 1180 And bring thy Master home imediately.
- 1181 Come sister, I am prest downe with conceit:
- 1182 Conceit, my comfort and my iniurie. *Exit*.
- 1183 Enter Antipholus Siracusia.
- 1184 There's not a man I meete but doth salute me
- 1185 As if I were their well acquainted friend,
- 1186 And euerie one doth call me by my name:
- 1187 Some tender monie to me, some inuite me;
- 1188 Some other giue me thankes for kindnesses;
- 1189 Some offer me Commodities to buy.
- 1190 Euen now a tailor cal'd me in his shop,
- 1191 And show'd me Silkes that he had bought for me,
- 1192 And therewithall tooke measure of my body.
- 1193 Sure these are but imaginarie wiles,
- 1194 And lapland Sorcerers inhabite here.
- 1195 Enter Dromio. Sir.
- 1196 S.Dro. Master, here's the gold you sent me for: what
- 1197 haue you got the picture of old *Adam* new apparel'd?
- 1198 Ant. What gold is this? What Adam do'st thou
- 1199 meane?
- 1200 S.Dro. Not that Adam that kept the Paradise: but
- that Adam that keepes the prison; hee that goes in the
- 1202 calues- skin, that was kil'd for the Prodigall: hee that
- 1203 came behinde you sir, like an euill angel, and bid you for-sake
- 1204 your libertie.
- 1205 Ant. I vnderstand thee not.
- 1206 S.Dro. No? why 'tis a plaine case: he that went like
- 1207 a Base- Viole in a case of leather; the man sir, that when
- 1208 gentlemen are tired gives them a sob, and rests them:
- 1209 he sir, that takes pittie on decaied men, and gives them
- suites of durance: he that sets vp his rest to doe more ex-ploits
- 1211 with his Mace, then a Moris Pike.
- 1212 Ant. What thou mean'st an officer?
- 1213 S.Dro. I sir, the Serieant of the Band: he that brings
- 1214 any man to answer it that breakes his Band: one that
- thinkes a man alwaies going to bed, and saies, God giue
- 1216 you good rest.
- 1217 Ant. Well sir, there rest in your foolerie:
- 1218 Is there any ships puts forth to night? may we be gone?
- 1219 S.Dro. Why sir, I brought you word an houre since,
- that the Barke *Expedition* put forth to night, and then
- were you hindred by the Serieant to tarry for the *Hoy*
- 1222 Delay: Here are the angels that you sent for to deliuer
- 1223 you.
- 1224 Ant. The fellow is distract, and so am I,
- 1225 And here we wander in illusions:

Some blessed power deliuer vs from hence. 1226 1227 Enter a Curtizan. 1228 Cur. Well met, Waster Antipholus: I see sir you haue found the Gold- smith now: 1229 Is that the chaine you promis'd me to day. 1230 Ant. Sathan avoide, I charge thee tempt me not. 1231 1232 S.Dro. Master, is this Mistris Sathan? 1233 Ant. It is the diuell. 1234 S.Dro. Nay, she is worse, she is the diuels dam: [ 1235 And here she comes in the habit of a light wench, and 1236 thereof comes, that the wenches say God dam me, That's 1237 as much to say, God make me a light wench: It is writ-ten, they appeare to men like angels of light, light is an 1238 effect of fire, and fire will burne: ergo, light wenches will 1239 1240 burne, come not neere her. Cur. Your man and you are maruailous merrie sir. 1241 1242 Will you goe with me, wee'll mend our dinner here? 1243 S.Dro. Master, if do expect spoon- meate, or bespeake a long spoone. 1244 1245 Ant. Why Dromio? S.Dro. Marrie he must have a long spoone that must 1246 eate with the diuell. 1247 Ant. Auoid then fiend, what tel'st thou me of sup-|(ping? 1248 Thou art, as you are all a sorceresse: 1249 1250 I coniure thee to leaue me, and be gon. Cur. Giue me the ring of mine you had at dinner, 1251 1252 Or for my Diamond the Chaine you promis'd, 1253 And Ile be gone sir, and not trouble you. S.Dro. Some diuels aske but the parings of ones naile, [H6 1254 1255 a rush, a haire, a drop of blood, a pin, a nut, a cherrie-stone: but she more couetous, wold have a chaine: Ma-ster 1256 be wise, and if you give it her, the divell will shake 1257 1258 her Chaine, and fright vs with it. Cur. I pray you sir my Ring, or else the Chaine, 1259 I hope you do not meane to cheate me so? 1260 1261 Ant. Auant thou witch: Come Dromio let vs go. S.Dro. Flie pride saies the Pea- cocke, Mistris that 1262 1263 you know. Exit. Cur. Now out of doubt Antipholus is mad, 1264 1265 Else would he neuer so demeane himselfe, A Ring he hath of mine worth fortie Duckets, 1266 1267 And for the same he promis'd me a Chaine, Both one and other he denies me now: 1268

The reason that I gather he is mad,

Besides this present instance of his rage, Is a mad tale he told to day at dinner,

1269 1270

1271

- 1272 Of his owne doores being shut against his entrance.
- 1273 Belike his wife acquainted with his fits,
- 1274 On purpose shut the doores against his way:
- 1275 My way is now to hie home to his house,
- 1276 And tell his wife, that being Lunaticke,
- 1277 He rush'd into my house, and tooke perforce
- 1278 My Ring away. This course I fittest choose,
- 1279 For fortie Duckets is too much to loose.
- 1280 Enter Antipholus Ephes. with a Iailor.
- 1281 An. Feare me not man, I will not breake away,
- 1282 Ile giue thee ere I leaue thee so much money
- 1283 To warrant thee as I am rested for.
- 1284 My wife is in a wayward moode to day,
- 1285 And will not lightly trust the Messenger,
- 1286 That I should be attach'd in Ephesus,
- 1287 I tell you 'twill sound harshly in her eares.
- 1288 Enter Dromio Eph. with a ropes end.
- 1289 Heere comes my Man, I thinke he brings the monie.
- 1290 How now sir? Haue you that I sent you for?
- 1291 E.Dro. Here's that I warrant you will pay them all.
- 1292 Anti. But where's the Money?
- 1293 *E.Dro*. Why sir, I gaue the Monie for the Rope.
- 1294 Ant. Fiue hundred Duckets villaine for a rope?
- 1295 *E.Dro*. Ile serue you sir fiue hundred at the rate.
- 1296 Ant. To what end did I bid thee hie thee home?
- 1297 E.Dro. To a ropes end sir, and to that end am I re-turn'd.
- 1299 Ant. And to that end sir, I will welcome you.
- 1300 *Offi.* Good sir be patient.
- 1301 *E.Dro.* Nay 'tis for me to be patient, I am in aduer-sitie.
- 1303 Offi. Good now hold thy tongue.
- 1304 *E.Dro.* Nay, rather perswade him to hold his hands.
- 1305 Anti. Thou whoreson senselesse Villaine.
- 1306 E.Dro. I would I were senselesse sir, that I might
- 1307 not feele your blowes.
- 1308 Anti. Thou art sensible in nothing but blowes, and
- 1309 so is an Asse.
- 1310 E.Dro. I am an Asse indeede, you may prooue it by
- my long eares. I have served him from the houre of my
- 1312 Natiuitie to this instant, and haue nothing at his hands
- 1313 for my seruice but blowes. When I am cold, he heates
- me with beating: when I am warme, he cooles me with
- beating: I am wak'd with it when I sleepe, rais'd with
- 1316 it when I sit, driuen out of doores with it when I goe
- 1317 from home, welcom'd home with it when I returne, nay
- 1318 I beare it on my shoulders, as a begger woont her brat:
- and I thinke when he hath lam'd me, I shall begge with

- 1320 it from doore to doore.
- 1321 Enter Adriana, Luciana, Courtizan, and a Schoole-master,
- 1322 call'd Pinch.
- 1323 Ant. Come goe along, my wife is comming yon-der.
- 1325 E.Dro. Mistris respice finem, respect your end, or ra-ther
- the prophesie like the Parrat, beware the ropes end.
- 1327 Anti. Wilt thou still talke? Beats Dro.
- 1328 *Curt.* How say you now? Is not your husband mad?
- 1329 *Adri*. His inciuility confirmes no lesse:
- 1330 Good Doctor *Pinch*, you are a Coniurer,
- 1331 Establish him in his true sence againe,
- 1332 And I will please you what you will demand.
- 1333 *Luc.* Alas how fiery, and how sharpe he lookes.
- 1334 *Cur.* Marke, how he trembles in his extasie.
- 1335 *Pinch*. Giue me your hand, and let mee feele your
- 1336 pulse.
- 1337 Ant. There is my hand, and let it feele your eare.
- 1338 *Pinch*. I charge thee Sathan, hous'd within this man,
- 1339 To yeeld possession to my holie praiers,
- 1340 And to thy state of darknesse hie thee straight,
- 1341 I coniure thee by all the Saints in heauen.
- 1342 Anti. Peace doting wizard, peace; I am not mad.
- 1343 Adr. Oh that thou wer't not, poore distressed soule.
- 1344 Anti. You Minion you, are these your Customers?
- 1345 Did this Companion with the saffron face
- 1346 Reuell and feast it at my house to day,
- 1347 Whil'st vpon me the guiltie doores were shut,
- 1348 And I denied to enter in my house.
- 1349 Adr. O husband, God doth know you din'd at home
- 1350 Where would you had remain'd vntill this time,
- 1351 Free from these slanders, and this open shame.
- 1352 Anti. Din'd at home? Thou Villaine, what sayest
- 1353 thou?
- 1354 *Dro*. Sir sooth to say, you did not dine at home.
- 1355 Ant. Were not my doores lockt vp, and I shut out?
- 1356 *Dro*. Perdie, your doores were lockt, and you shut
- 1357 out.
- 1358 Anti. And did not she her selfe reuile me there?
- 1359 *Dro. Sans* Fable, she her selfe reuil'd you there.
- 1360 Anti. Did not her Kitchen maide raile, taunt, and
- 1361 scorne me?
- 1362 Dro. Certis she did, the kitchin vestall scorn'd you.
- 1363 Ant. And did not I in rage depart from thence?
- 1364 *Dro*. In veritie you did, my bones beares witnesse,
- 1365 That since haue felt the vigor of his rage.
- 1366 Adr. Is't good to sooth him in these contraries?

*Pinch.* It is no shame, the fellow finds his vaine, 1367 And yeelding to him, humors well his frensie. 1368 Ant. Thou hast subborn'd the Goldsmith to arrest 1369 1370 mee. Adr. Alas, I sent you Monie to redeeme you, 1371 By *Dromio* heere, who came in hast for it. 1372 Dro. Monie by me? Heart and good will you might, 1373 But surely Master not a ragge of Monie. 1374 Ant. Wentst not thou to her for a purse of Duckets. 1375 Adri. He came to me, and I deliuer'd it. 1376 1377 Luci. And I am witnesse with her that she did: Dro. God and the Rope- maker beare me witnesse, 1378 1379 That I was sent for nothing but a rope. *Pinch.* Mistris, both Man and Master is possest, 1380 I know it by their pale and deadly lookes, [H6v 1381 They must be bound and laide in some darke roome. 1382 1383 Ant. Say wherefore didst thou locke me forth to day, And why dost thou denie the bagge of gold? 1384 Adr. I did not gentle husband locke thee forth. 1385 1386 Dro. And gentle Mr I receiu'd no gold: But I confesse sir, that we were lock'd out. 1387 Adr. Dissembling Villain, thou speak'st false in both 1388 Ant. Dissembling harlot, thou art false in all, 1389 And art confederate with a damned packe, 1390 1391 To make a loathsome abject scorne of me: But with these nailes, Ile plucke out these false eyes, 1392 That would behold in me this shamefull sport. 1393 Enter three or foure, and offer to binde him: 1394 1395 Hee striues. Adr. Oh binde him, binde him, let him not come 1396 neere me. 1397 *Pinch*. More company, the fiend is strong within him 1398 Luc. Aye me poore man, how pale and wan he looks. 1399 Ant. What will you murther me, thou Iailor thou? 1400 I am thy prisoner, wilt thou suffer them to make a res-cue? 1401 Offi. Masters let him go: he is my prisoner, and you 1403 shall not have him. 1404 1405 *Pinch.* Go binde this man, for he is franticke too. Adr. What wilt thou do, thou peeuish Officer? 1406 Hast thou delight to see a wretched man 1407 Do outrage and displeasure to himselfe? 1408 1409 Offi. He is my prisoner, if I let him go, The debt he owes will be requir'd of me. 1410 1411 Adr. I will discharge thee ere I go from thee, 1412 Beare me forthwith vnto his Creditor, And knowing how the debt growes I will pay it. 1413

1414 Good Master Doctor see him safe conuey'd 1415 Home to my house, oh most vnhappy day. Ant. Oh most vnhappie strumpet. 1416 Dro. Master, I am heere entred in bond for you. 1417 Ant. Out on thee Villaine, wherefore dost thou mad 1418 mee? 1419 *Dro.* Will you be bound for nothing, be mad good 1420 Master, cry the diuell. 1421 Luc. God helpe poore soules, how idlely doe they 1422 1423 talke. 1424 Adr. Go beare him hence, sister go you with me: Say now, whose suite is he arrested at? 1425 Exeunt. Manet Offic. Adri. Luci. Courtizan 1426 Off. One Angelo a Goldsmith, do you know him? 1427 *Adr.* I know the man: what is the summe he owes? 1428 Off. Two hundred Duckets. 1429 1430 Adr. Say, how growes it due. Off. Due for a Chaine your husband had of him. 1431 1432 Adr. He did bespeake a Chain for me, but had it not. 1433 Cur. When as your husband all in rage to day 1434 Came to my house, and tooke away my Ring, 1435 The Ring I saw vpon his finger now, 1436 Straight after did I meete him with a Chaine. 1437 Adr. It may be so, but I did neuer see it. 1438 Come Iailor, bring me where the Goldsmith is, I long to know the truth heereof at large. 1439 Enter Antipholus Siracusia with his Rapier drawne, 1440 1441 and Dromio Sirac. Luc. God for thy mercy, they are loose againe. 1442 Adr. And come with naked swords, 1443 Let's call more helpe to have them bound againe. 1444 Runne all out. 1445 Off. Away, they'l kill vs. 1446 Exeunt omnes, as fast as may be, frighted. 1447 S.Ant. I see these Witches are affraid of swords. 1448 1449 S.Dro. She that would be your wife, now ran from 1450 you. Ant. Come to the Centaur, fetch our stuffe from 1451 1452 thence: I long that we were safe and sound aboord. 1453 Dro. Faith stay heere this night, they will surely do 1454

1455 vs no harme: you saw they speake vs faire, giue vs gold:

me thinkes they are such a gentle Nation, that but for

the Mountaine of mad flesh that claimes mariage of me,

1458 I could finde in my heart to stay heere still, and turne

1459 Witch.

1460 Ant. I will not stay to night for all the Towne,

1461 Therefore away, to get our stuffe aboord. Exeunt

#### Actus Quintus. Scoena Prima.

1463 Enter the Merchant and the Goldsmith.

1464 Gold. I am sorry Sir that I have hindred you,

But I protest he had the Chaine of me,

1466 Though most dishonestly he doth denie it.

1467 *Mar*. How is the man esteem'd heere in the Citie?

1468 *Gold.* Of very reuerent reputation sir,

1469 Of credit infinite, highly belou'd,

1470 Second to none that liues heere in the Citie:

1471 His word might beare my wealth at any time.

1472 *Mar.* Speake softly, yonder as I thinke he walkes.

1473 Enter Antipholus and Dromio againe.

1474 Gold. 'Tis so: and that selfe chaine about his necke,

1475 Which he forswore most monstrously to haue.

1476 Good sir draw neere to me, Ile speake to him:

1477 Signior Antipholus, I wonder much

1478 That you would put me to this shame and trouble,

1479 And not without some scandall to your selfe,

1480 With circumstance and oaths, so to denie

1481 This Chaine, which now you weare so openly.

1482 Beside the charge, the shame, imprisonment,

1483 You have done wrong to this my honest friend,

1484 Who but for staying on our Controuersie,

1485 Had hoisted saile, and put to sea to day:

1486 This Chaine you had of me, can you deny it?

1487 Ant. I thinke I had, I neuer did deny it.

1488 *Mar.* Yes that you did sir, and forswore it too.

1489 Ant. Who heard me to denie it or forsweare it?

1490 *Mar*. These eares of mine thou knowst did hear thee:

1491 Fie on thee wretch, 'tis pitty that thou liu'st

1492 To walke where any honest men resort.

1493 Ant. Thou art a Villaine to impeach me thus,

1494 Ile proue mine honor, and mine honestie

1495 Against thee presently, if thou dar'st stand:

1496 *Mar*. I dare and do defie thee for a villaine.

1497 They draw. Enter Adriana, Luciana, Courtezan, & others.

1498 Adr. Hold, hurt him not for God sake, he is mad,

1499 Some get within him, take his sword away:

1500 Binde *Dromio* too, and beare them to my house.

1501 S.Dro. Runne master run, for Gods sake take a house,

- 1502 This is some Priorie, in, or we are spoyl'd.
- 1503 Exeunt to the Priorie. [I1
- 1504 Enter Ladie Abbesse.
- 1505 Ab. Be quiet people, wherefore throng you hither?
- 1506 Adr. To fetch my poore distracted husband hence,
- 1507 Let vs come in, that we may binde him fast,
- 1508 And beare him home for his recouerie.
- 1509 Gold. I knew he was not in his perfect wits.
- 1510 Mar. I am sorry now that I did draw on him.
- 1511 Ab. How long hath this possession held the man.
- 1512 Adr. This weeke he hath beene heavie, sower sad,
- 1513 And much different from the man he was:
- 1514 But till this afternoone his passion
- 1515 Ne're brake into extremity of rage.
- 1516 Ab. Hath he not lost much wealth by wrack of sea,
- 1517 Buried some deere friend, hath not else his eye
- 1518 Stray'd his affection in vnlawfull loue,
- 1519 A sinne preuailing much in youthfull men,
- 1520 Who giue their eies the liberty of gazing.
- 1521 Which of these sorrowes is he subject too?
- 1522 Adr. To none of these, except it be the last,
- 1523 Namely, some loue that drew him oft from home.
- 1524 Ab. You should for that have reprehended him.
- Adr. Why so I did.
- 1526 *Ab.* I but not rough enough.
- 1527 Adr. As roughly as my modestie would let me.
- 1528 *Ab.* Haply in priuate.
- 1529 Adr. And in assemblies too.
- 1530 *Ab.* I, but not enough.
- 1531 Adr. It was the copie of our Conference.
- 1532 In bed he slept not for my vrging it,
- 1533 At boord he fed not for my vrging it:
- 1534 Alone, it was the subject of my Theame:
- 1535 In company I often glanced it:
- 1536 Still did I tell him, it was vilde and bad.
- 1537 Ab. And thereof came it, that the man was mad.
- 1538 The venome clamors of a iealous woman,
- 1539 Poisons more deadly then a mad dogges tooth.
- 1540 It seemes his sleepes were hindred by thy railing,
- 1541 And thereof comes it that his head is light.
- 1542 Thou saist his meate was sawc'd with thy vpbraidings,
- 1543 Vnquiet meales make ill digestions,
- 1544 Thereof the raging fire of feauer bred,
- 1545 And what's a Feauer, but a fit of madnesse?
- 1546 Thou sayest his sports were hindred by thy bralles.
- 1547 Sweet recreation barr'd, what doth ensue

- 1548 But moodie and dull melancholly,
- 1549 Kinsman to grim and comfortlesse dispaire,
- 1550 And at her heeles a huge infectious troope
- 1551 Of pale distemperatures, and foes to life?
- 1552 In food, in sport, and life- preseruing rest
- 1553 To be disturb'd, would mad or man, or beast:
- 1554 The consequence is then, thy iealous fits
- 1555 Hath scar'd thy husband from the vse of wits.
- 1556 *Luc*. She neuer reprehended him but mildely,
- 1557 When he demean'd himselfe, rough, rude, and wildly,
- 1558 Why beare you these rebukes, and answer not?
- 1559 Adri. She did betray me to my owne reproofe,
- 1560 Good people enter, and lay hold on him.
- 1561 Ab. No, not a creature enters in my house.
- 1562 Ad. Then let your seruants bring my husband forth
- 1563 Ab. Neither: he tooke this place for sanctuary,
- 1564 And it shall priuiledge him from your hands,
- 1565 Till I haue brought him to his wits againe,
- 1566 Or loose my labour in assaying it.
- 1567 Adr. I will attend my husband, be his nurse,
- 1568 Diet his sicknesse, for it is my Office,
- 1569 And will have no atturney but my selfe,
- 1570 And therefore let me have him home with me.
- 1571 Ab. Be patient, for I will not let him stirre,
- 1572 Till I haue vs'd the approoued meanes I haue,
- 1573 With wholsome sirrups, drugges, and holy prayers
- 1574 To make of him a formall man againe:
- 1575 It is a branch and parcell of mine oath,
- 1576 A charitable dutie of my order,
- 1577 Therefore depart, and leaue him heere with me.
- 1578 Adr. I will not hence, and leaue my husband heere:
- 1579 And ill it doth beseeme your holinesse
- 1580 To separate the husband and the wife.
- 1581 Ab. Be quiet and depart, thou shalt not have him.
- 1582 *Luc.* Complaine vnto the Duke of this indignity.
- 1583 Adr. Come go, I will fall prostrate at his feete,
- 1584 And neuer rise vntill my teares and prayers
- 1585 Haue won his grace to come in person hither,
- 1586 And take perforce my husband from the Abbesse.
- 1587 *Mar*. By this I thinke the Diall points at fiue:
- 1588 Anon I'me sure the Duke himselfe in person
- 1589 Comes this way to the melancholly vale;
- 1590 The place of depth, and sorrie execution,
- 1591 Behinde the ditches of the Abbey heere.
- 1592 *Gold.* Vpon what cause?
- 1593 *Mar.* To see a reuerent *Siracusian* Merchant,

- 1594 Who put vnluckily into this Bay
- 1595 Against the Lawes and Statutes of this Towne,
- 1596 Beheaded publikely for his offence.
- 1597 Gold. See where they come, we wil behold his death
- 1598 *Luc*. Kneele to the Duke before he passe the Abbey.
- 1599 Enter the Duke of Ephesus, and the Merchant of Siracuse
- 1600 bare head, with the Headsman, & other
- 1601 Officers.
- 1602 Duke. Yet once againe proclaime it publikely,
- 1603 If any friend will pay the summe for him,
- 1604 He shall not die, so much we tender him.
- 1605 Adr. Iustice most sacred Duke against the Abbesse.
- 1606 Duke. She is a vertuous and a reuerend Lady,
- 1607 It cannot be that she hath done thee wrong.
- 1608 Adr. May it please your Grace, Antipholus my husba[n]d,
- 1609 Who I made Lord of me, and all I had,
- 1610 At your important Letters this ill day,
- 1611 A most outragious fit of madnesse tooke him:
- 1612 That desp'rately he hurried through the streete,
- 1613 With him his bondman, all as mad as he,
- 1614 Doing displeasure to the Citizens,
- 1615 By rushing in their houses: bearing thence
- 1616 Rings, Iewels, any thing his rage did like.
- 1617 Once did I get him bound, and sent him home,
- 1618 Whil'st to take order for the wrongs I went,
- 1619 That heere and there his furie had committed,
- 1620 Anon I wot not, by what strong escape
- 1621 He broke from those that had the guard of him,
- 1622 And with his mad attendant and himselfe,
- 1623 Each one with irefull passion, with drawne swords
- 1624 Met vs againe, and madly bent on vs
- 1625 Chac'd vs away: till raising of more aide
- We came againe to binde them: then they fled
- 1627 Into this Abbey, whether we pursu'd them,
- 1628 And heere the Abbesse shuts the gates on vs,
- 1629 And will not suffer vs to fetch him out,
- 1630 Nor send him forth, that we may beare him hence. [I1v
- 1631 Therefore most gracious Duke with thy command,
- Let him be brought forth, and borne hence for helpe.
- 1633 Duke. Long since thy husband seru'd me in my wars
- 1634 And I to thee ingag'd a Princes word,
- 1635 When thou didst make him Master of thy bed,
- 1636 To do him all the grace and good I could.
- 1637 Go some of you, knocke at the Abbey gate,
- 1638 And bid the Lady Abbesse come to me:
- 1639 I will determine this before I stirre.

- 1640 Enter a Messenger.
- Oh Mistris, Mistris, shift and saue your selfe, 1641
- My Master and his man are both broke loose, 1642
- Beaten the Maids a-row, and bound the Doctor, 1643
- Whose beard they have sindg'd off with brands of fire, 1644
- And euer as it blaz'd, they threw on him 1645
- Great pailes of puddled myre to quench the haire; 1646
- My Mr preaches patience to him, and the while 1647
- His man with Cizers nickes him like a foole: 1648
- 1649 And sure (vnlesse you send some present helpe)
- 1650 Betweene them they will kill the Coniurer.
- Adr. Peace foole, thy Master and his man are here, 1651
- 1652 And that is false thou dost report to vs.
- *Mess.* Mistris, vpon my life I tel you true, 1653
- I haue not breath'd almost since I did see it. 1654
- He cries for you, and vowes if he can take you, 1655
- 1656 To scorch your face, and to disfigure you:
- Cry within. 1657
- Harke, harke, I heare him Mistris: flie, be gone. 1658
- Duke. Come stand by me, feare nothing: guard with 1659
- Halberds. 1660
- Adr. Ay me, it is my husband: witnesse you, 1661
- That he is borne about inuisible, 1662
- Euen now we hous'd him in the Abbey heere. 1663
- And now he's there, past thought of humane reason. 1664
- Enter Antipholus, and E.Dromio of Ephesus. 1665
- E.Ant. Iustice most gracious Duke, oh grant me iu-|(stice, 1666
- Euen for the seruice that long since I did thee, 1667
- When I bestrid thee in the warres, and tooke 1668
- Deepe scarres to saue thy life; euen for the blood 1669
- That then I lost for thee, now grant me iustice. 1670
- Mar.Fat. Vnlesse the feare of death doth make me 1671
- dote, I see my sonne Antipholus and Dromio. 1672
- 1673 *E.Ant.* Iustice (sweet Prince) against y Woman there:
- She whom thou gau'st to me to be my wife; 1674
- 1675 That hath abused and dishonored me,
- Euen in the strength and height of iniurie: 1676
- 1677 Beyond imagination is the wrong
- That she this day hath shamelesse throwne on me. 1678
- Duke. Discouer how, and thou shalt finde me iust. 1679
- *E.Ant.* This day (great Duke) she shut the doores 1680
- 1681 vpon me,
- While she with Harlots feasted in my house. 1682
- Duke. A greeuous fault: say woman, didst thou so? 1683
- Adr. No my good Lord. My selfe, he, and my sister, 1684
- To day did dine together: so befall my soule, 1685

- 1686 As this is false he burthens me withall.
- 1687 Luc. Nere may I looke on day, nor sleepe on night,
- 1688 But she tels to your Highnesse simple truth.
- 1689 Gold. O periur'd woman! They are both forsworne,
- 1690 In this the Madman iustly chargeth them.
- 1691 E.Ant. My Liege, I am aduised what I say,
- Neither disturbed with the effect of Wine,
- 1693 Nor headie- rash prouoak'd with raging ire,
- 1694 Albeit my wrongs might make one wiser mad.
- 1695 This woman lock'd me out this day from dinner;
- 1696 That Goldsmith there, were he not pack'd with her,
- 1697 Could witnesse it: for he was with me then,
- 1698 Who parted with me to go fetch a Chaine,
- 1699 Promising to bring it to the Porpentine,
- 1700 Where Balthasar and I did dine together.
- 1701 Our dinner done, and he not comming thither,
- 1702 I went to seeke him. In the street I met him,
- 1703 And in his companie that Gentleman.
- 1704 There did this periur'd Goldsmith sweare me downe,
- 1705 That I this day of him receiu'd the Chaine,
- 1706 Which God he knowes, I saw not. For the which,
- 1707 He did arrest me with an Officer.
- 1708 I did obey, and sent my Pesant home
- 1709 For certaine Duckets: he with none return'd.
- 1710 Then fairely I bespoke the Officer
- 1711 To go in person with me to my house.
- 1712 By'th' way, we met my wife, her sister, and a rabble more
- 1713 Of vilde Confederates: Along with them
- 1714 They brought one *Pinch*, a hungry leane- fac'd Villaine;
- 1715 A meere Anatomie, a Mountebanke,
- 1716 A thred- bare Iugler, and a Fortune- teller,
- 1717 A needy- hollow- ey'd- sharpe- looking- wretch;
- 1718 A liuing dead man. This pernicious slaue,
- 1719 Forsooth tooke on him as a Coniurer:
- 1720 And gazing in mine eyes, feeling my pulse,
- 1721 And with no- face (as 'twere) out- facing me,
- 1722 Cries out, I was possest. Then altogether
- 1723 They fell vpon me, bound me, bore me thence,
- 1724 And in a darke and dankish vault at home
- 1725 There left me and my man, both bound together,
- 1726 Till gnawing with my teeth my bonds in sunder,
- 1727 I gain'd my freedome; and immediately
- 1728 Ran hether to your Grace, whom I beseech
- 1729 To giue me ample satisfaction
- 1730 For these deepe shames, and great indignities.
- 1731 Gold. My Lord, in truth, thus far I witnes with him:

- 1732 That he din'd not at home, but was lock'd out.
- 1733 Duke. But had he such a Chaine of thee, or no?
- 1734 *Gold.* He had my Lord, and when he ran in heere,
- 1735 These people saw the Chaine about his necke.
- 1736 Mar. Besides, I will be sworne these eares of mine,
- 1737 Heard you confesse you had the Chaine of him,
- 1738 After you first forswore it on the Mart,
- 1739 And thereupon I drew my sword on you:
- 1740 And then you fled into this Abbey heere,
- 1741 From whence I thinke you are come by Miracle.
- 1742 E.Ant. I neuer came within these Abbey wals,
- Nor euer didst thou draw thy sword on me:
- 1744 I neuer saw the Chaine, so helpe me heauen:
- 1745 And this is false you burthen me withall.
- 1746 Duke. Why what an intricate impeach is this?
- 1747 I thinke you all haue drunke of *Circes* cup:
- 1748 If heere you hous'd him, heere he would haue bin.
- 1749 If he were mad, he would not pleade so coldly:
- 1750 You say he din'd at home, the Goldsmith heere
- 1751 Denies that saying. Sirra, what say you?
- 1752 *E.Dro*. Sir he din'de with her there, at the Porpen-tine.
- 1754 *Cur.* He did, and from my finger snacht that Ring.
- 1755 E.Anti. Tis true (my Liege) this Ring I had of her.
- 1756 Duke. Saw'st thou him enter at the Abbey heere?
- 1757 *Curt.* As sure (my Liege) as I do see your Grace.
- 1758 Duke. Why this is straunge: Go call the Abbesse hi-ther.
- 1760 I thinke you are all mated, or starke mad. [I2
- 1761 Exit one to the Abbesse.
- 1762 Fa. Most mighty Duke, vouchsafe me speak a word:
- 1763 Haply I see a friend will saue my life,
- 1764 And pay the sum that may deliuer me.
- 1765 Duke. Speake freely Siracusian what thou wilt.
- 1766 Fath. Is not your name sir call'd Antipholus?
- 1767 And is not that your bondman *Dromio*?
- 1768 E.Dro. Within this houre I was his bondman sir,
- 1769 But he I thanke him gnaw'd in two my cords,
- 1770 Now am I Dromio, and his man, vnbound.
- 1771 Fath. I am sure you both of you remember me.
- 1772 *Dro.* Our selues we do remember sir by you:
- 1773 For lately we were bound as you are now.
- 1774 You are not *Pinches* patient, are you sir?
- 1775 Father. Why looke you strange on me? you know
- 1776 me well.
- 1777 E.Ant. I neuer saw you in my life till now.
- 1778 Fa. Oh! griefe hath chang'd me since you saw me last,
- 1779 And carefull houres with times deformed hand,

Haue written strange defeatures in my face: 1780 1781 But tell me yet, dost thou not know my voice? Ant. Neither. 1782 Fat. Dromio, nor thou? 1783 Dro. No trust me sir, nor I. 1784 Fa. I am sure thou dost? 1785 E.Dromio. I sir, but I am sure I do not, and whatso-euer 1786 1787 a man denies, you are now bound to beleeue him. Fath. Not know my voice, oh times extremity 1788 Hast thou so crack'd and splitted my poore tongue 1789 1790 In seuen short yeares, that heere my onely sonne 1791 Knowes not my feeble key of vntun'd cares? Though now this grained face of mine be hid 1792 In sap- consuming Winters drizled snow, 1793 And all the Conduits of my blood froze vp: 1794 1795 Yet hath my night of life some memorie: 1796 My wasting lampes some fading glimmer left; My dull deafe eares a little vse to heare: 1797 1798 All these old witnesses, I cannot erre. 1799 Tell me, thou art my sonne Antipholus. Ant. I neuer saw my Father in my life. 1800 Fa. But seuen yeares since, in Siracusa boy 1801 Thou know'st we parted, but perhaps my sonne, 1802 Thou sham'st to acknowledge me in miserie. 1803 1804 Ant. The Duke, and all that know me in the City, Can witnesse with me that it is not so. 1805 I ne're saw Siracusa in my life. 1806 1807 Duke. I tell thee Siracusian, twentie yeares 1808 Haue I bin Patron to Antipholus, During which time, he ne're saw Siracusa: 1809 I see thy age and dangers make thee dote. 1810 Enter the Abbesse with Antipholus Siracusa, 1811 1812 and Dromio Sir. Abbesse. Most mightie Duke, behold a man much 1813 1814 wrong'd. 1815 All gather to see them. Adr. I see two husbands, or mine eyes deceiue me. 1816 1817 *Duke.* One of these men is *genius* to the other: And so of these, which is the natural man, 1818 And which the spirit? Who deciphers them? 1819 S.Dromio. I Sir am Dromio, command him away. 1820 1821 E.Dro. I Sir am Dromio, pray let me stay. S.Ant. Egeon art thou not? or else his ghost. 1822 1823 S.Drom. Oh my olde Master, who hath bound him 1824 heere? 1825 Abb. Who euer bound him, I will lose his bonds,

- 1826 And gaine a husband by his libertie:
- 1827 Speake olde *Egeon*, if thou bee'st the man
- 1828 That hadst a wife once call'd *Aemilia*,
- 1829 That bore thee at a burthen two faire sonnes?
- 1830 Oh if thou bee'st the same *Egeon*, speake:
- 1831 And speake vnto the same Aemilia.
- 1832 *Duke*. Why heere begins his Morning storie right:
- 1833 These two Antipholus, these two so like,
- 1834 And these two *Dromio's*, one in semblance:
- 1835 Besides her vrging of her wracke at sea,
- 1836 These are the parents to these children,
- 1837 Which accidentally are met together.
- 1838 Fa. If I dreame not, thou art Aemilia,
- 1839 If thou art she, tell me, where is that sonne
- 1840 That floated with thee on the fatall rafte.
- 1841 Abb. By men of Epidamium, he, and I,
- 1842 And the twin *Dromio*, all were taken vp;
- 1843 But by and by, rude Fishermen of Corinth
- 1844 By force tooke *Dromio*, and my sonne from them,
- 1845 And me they left with those of *Epidamium*.
- 1846 What then became of them, I cannot tell:
- 1847 I, to this fortune that you see mee in.
- 1848 Duke. Antipholus thou cam'st from Corinth first.
- 1849 S.Ant. No sir, not I, I came from Siracuse.
- 1850 Duke. Stay, stand apart, I know not which is which.
- 1851 E.Ant. I came from Corinth my most gracious Lord
- 1852 *E.Dro*. And I with him.
- 1853 *E.Ant.* Brought to this Town by that most famous
- 1854 Warriour,
- 1855 Duke *Menaphon* your most renowned Vnckle.
- 1856 Adr. Which of you two did dine with me to day?
- 1857 S.Ant. I, gentle Mistris.
- 1858 Adr. And are not you my husband?
- 1859 *E.Ant.* No, I say nay to that.
- 1860 S.Ant. And so do I, yet did she call me so:
- 1861 And this faire Gentlewoman her sister heere
- 1862 Did call me brother. What I told you then,
- 1863 I hope I shall have leisure to make good,
- 1864 If this be not a dreame I see and heare.
- 1865 Goldsmith. That is the Chaine sir, which you had of
- 1866 mee.
- 1867 S.Ant. I thinke it be sir, I denie it not.
- 1868 E.Ant. And you sir for this Chaine arrested me.
- 1869 *Gold.* I thinke I did sir, I deny it not.
- 1870 Adr. I sent you monie sir to be your baile
- 1871 By *Dromio*, but I thinke he brought it not.

1872 E.Dro. No, none by me. 1873 S.Ant. This purse of Duckets I receiu'd from you, And Dromio my man did bring them me: 1874 I see we still did meete each others man, 1875 And I was tane for him, and he for me, 1876 And thereupon these errors are arose. 1877 1878 *E.Ant.* These Duckets pawne I for my father heere. Duke. It shall not neede, thy father hath his life. 1879 Cur. Sir I must have that Diamond from you. 1880 E.Ant. There take it, and much thanks for my good 1881 1882 cheere. Abb. Renowned Duke, vouchsafe to take the paines 1883 To go with vs into the Abbey heere, 1884 And heare at large discoursed all our fortunes, 1885 And all that are assembled in this place: 1886 That by this simpathized one daies error 1887 1888 Haue suffer'd wrong. Goe, keepe vs companie, [I2v And we shall make full satisfaction. 1889 1890 Thirtie three yeares haue I but gone in trauaile Of you my sonnes, and till this present houre 1891 My heavie burthen are delivered: 1892 The Duke my husband, and my children both, 1893 And you the Kalenders of their Natiuity, 1894 Go to a Gossips feast, and go with mee, 1895 1896 After so long greefe such Natiuitie. 1897 Duke. With all my heart, Ile Gossip at this feast. Exeunt omnes. Manet the two Dromio's and 1898 two Brothers. 1899 S.Dro. Mast[er]. shall I fetch your stuffe from shipbord? 1900 E.An. Dromio, what stuffe of mine hast thou imbarkt 1901 S.Dro. Your goods that lay at host sir in the Centaur. 1902 1903 S.Ant. He speakes to me, I am your master Dromio. Come go with vs, wee'l looke to that anon, 1904 Embrace thy brother there, reioyce with him. Exit 1905 S.Dro. There is a fat friend at your masters house, 1906 1907 That kitchin'd me for you to day at dinner: 1908 She now shall be my sister, not my wife, E.D. Me thinks you are my glasse, & not my brother: 1909 I see by you, I am a sweet- fac'd youth, 1910 Will you walke in to see their gossipping? 1911 S.Dro. Not I sir, you are my elder. 1912 1913 E.Dro. That's a question, how shall we trie it. S.Dro. Wee'l draw Cuts for the Signior, till then, 1914 1915 lead thou first. E.Dro. Nay then thus: 1916 1917 We came into the world like brother and brother:

1918 And now let's go hand in hand, not one before another. 1919 Exeunt.	
FINIS. The Comedie of Errors.	