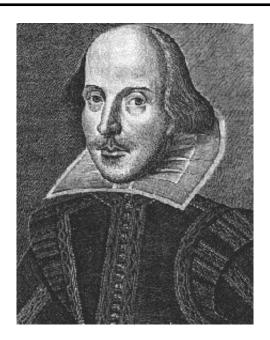
T H E Two Gentlemen of Verona.

XXX

by

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Based on the Folio Text of 1623



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Shakespeare: First Folio

Table of Contents

The Two Gentlemen of Veron	a.									1
Actus primus, Scena pr	rima.									1
Scoena Secunda										4
Scoena Tertia										7
Actus secundus: Scoen	a Pr	ima.								10
Scoena secunda										13
Scoena Tertia										14
Scena Quarta										15
Scena Quinta										20
Scoena Sexta										22
Scoena septima										23
Actus Tertius, Scena P	rima									25
Scena Secunda										33
Actus Quartus. Scoena	Prin	na.								35
Scoena Secunda										37
Scoena Tertia										40
Scena Quarta										42
Actus Quintus. Scoena	Prin	na.								46
Scoena Secunda										47
Scena Tertia										48
Scoena Quarta										48

The Two Gentlemen of Verona

B₄v

Actus primus, Scena prima.

- 2 Valentine: Protheus, and Speed.
- 3 Valentine.
- 4 Cease to perswade, my louing *Protheus*;
- 5 Home- keeping youth, haue euer homely wits,
- 6 Wer't not affection chaines thy tender dayes
- 7 To the sweet glaunces of thy honour'd Loue,
- 8 I rather would entreat thy company,
- 9 To see the wonders of the world abroad,
- 10 Then (liuing dully sluggardiz'd at home)
- 11 Weare out thy youth with shapelesse idlenesse.
- But since thou lou'st; loue still, and thriue therein,
- Euen as I would, when I to loue begin.
- 14 *Pro*. Wilt thou be gone? Sweet *Valentine* adew,
- 15 Thinke on thy *Protheus*, when thou (hap'ly) seest
- Some rare note- worthy object in thy trauaile.
- Wish me partaker in thy happinesse,
- When thou do'st meet good hap; and in thy danger,
- 19 (If euer danger doe enuiron thee)
- 20 Commend thy grieuance to my holy prayers,
- 21 For I will be thy beades- man, *Valentine*.
- 22 Val. And on a loue- booke pray for my successe?
- 23 *Pro.* Vpon some booke I loue, I'le pray for thee.
- Val. That's on some shallow Storie of deepe loue,
- 25 How yong *Leander* crost the *Hellespont*.
- 26 *Pro.* That's a deepe Storie, of a deeper loue,
- 27 For he was more then ouer- shooes in loue.
- 28 Val. 'Tis true; for you are ouer- bootes in loue,
- 29 And yet you neuer swom the *Hellespont*.
- 30 *Pro.* Ouer the Bootes? nay give me not the Boots.
- 31 *Val.* No. I will not: for it boots thee not.
- 32 *Pro.* What?
- 33 *Val.* To be in loue; where scorne is bought with |(grones:
- Coy looks, with hart- sore sighes: one fading moments |(mirth,
- With twenty watchfull, weary, tedious nights;
- 36 If hap'ly won, perhaps a haplesse gaine;
- 37 If lost, why then a grieuous labour won;
- 38 How euer: but a folly bought with wit,
- 39 Or else a wit, by folly vanquished.

```
Pro. So, by your circumstance, you call me foole.
40
41
        Val. So, by your circumstance, I feare you'll proue.
        Pro. 'Tis Loue you cauill at, I am not Loue.
42
        Val. Loue is your master, for he masters you;
43
      And he that is so yoked by a foole,
44
      Me thinkes should not be chronicled for wise.
45
46
        Pro. Yet Writers say; as in the sweetest Bud,
      The eating Canker dwels; so eating Loue
47
      Inhabits in the finest wits of all.
48
        Val. And Writers say; as the most forward Bud
49
      Is eaten by the Canker ere it blow,
50
51
      Euen so by Loue, the yong, and tender wit
      Is turn'd to folly, blasting in the Bud,
52
      Loosing his verdure, euen in the prime,
53
      And all the faire effects of future hopes.
54
      But wherefore waste I time to counsaile thee
55
56
      That art a votary to fond desire?
      Once more adieu: my Father at the Road
57
      Expects my comming, there to see me ship'd.
58
        Pro. And thither will I bring thee Valentine.
59
        Val. Sweet Protheus, no: Now let vs take our leaue:
60
61
      To Millaine let me heare from thee by Letters
62
      Of thy successe in loue; and what newes else
      Betideth here in absence of thy Friend:
63
      And I likewise will visite thee with mine.
64
        Pro. All happinesse bechance to thee in Millaine.
65
66
        Val. As much to you at home: and so farewell. Exit.
        Pro. He after Honour hunts, I after Loue;
67
      He leaves his friends, to dignifie them more;
68
      I loue my selfe, my friends, and all for loue:
69
      Thou Iulia, thou hast metamorphis'd me:
70
      Made me neglect my Studies, loose my time;
71
      Warre with good counsaile; set the world at nought;
72
      Made Wit with musing, weake; hart sick with thought.
73
        Sp. Sir Protheus: 'saue you: saw you my Master?
74
        Pro. But now he parted hence to embarque for Millain.
75
        Sp. Twenty to one then, he is ship'd already,
76
      And I have plaid the Sheepe in loosing him.
77
        Pro. Indeede a Sheepe doth very often stray,
78
      And if the Shepheard be awhile away.
79
        Sp. You conclude that my Master is a Shepheard then,
80
      and I Sheepe?
81
        Pro. I doe.
82
        Sp. Why then my hornes are his hornes, whether I
83
      wake or sleepe.
84
85
        Pro. A silly answere, and fitting well a Sheepe.
```

```
Sp. This proues me still a Sheepe.
86
87
        Pro. True: and thy Master a Shepheard.
        Sp. Nay, that I can deny by a circumstance.
88
        Pro. It shall goe hard but ile proue it by another.
89
        Sp. The Shepheard seekes the Sheepe, and not the
90
     Sheepe the Shepheard; but I seeke my Master, and my
91
92
     Master seekes not me: therefore I am no Sheepe.
        Pro. The Sheepe for fodder follow the Shepheard,
93
     the Shepheard for foode followes not the Sheepe: thou
94
     for wages followest thy Master, thy Master for wages
95
     followes not thee: therefore thou art a Sheepe.
96
97
        Sp. Such another proofe will make me cry baa.
        Pro. But do'st thou heare: gau'st thou my Letter
98
     to Iulia? [B5
99
        Sp. I Sir: I (a lost- Mutton) gaue your Letter to her
100
      (a lac'd- Mutton) and she (a lac'd- Mutton) gaue mee (a
101
102
      lost- Mutton) nothing for my labour.
        Pro. Here's too small a Pasture for such store of
103
104
      Muttons.
        Sp. If the ground be ouer- charg'd, you were best
105
106
      sticke her.
107
        Pro. Nay, in that you are astray: 'twere best pound
108
        Sp. Nay Sir, lesse then a pound shall serue me for car-rying
109
110
      your Letter.
        Pro. You mistake; I meane the pound, a Pinfold.
111
        Sp. From a pound to a pin? fold it ouer and ouer,
112
      'Tis threefold too little for carrying a letter to your louer
113
        Pro. But what said she?
114
        Sp. I.
115
        Pro. Nod- I, why that's noddy.
116
        Sp. You mistooke Sir: I say she did nod;
117
      And you aske me if she did nod, and I say I.
118
        Pro. And that set together is noddy.
119
        Sp. Now you have taken the paines to set it toge-ther,
120
      take it for your paines.
121
122
        Pro. No, no, you shall have it for bearing the letter.
        Sp. Well, I perceiue I must be faine to beare with you.
123
        Pro. Why Sir, how doe you beare with me?
124
        Sp. Marry Sir, the letter very orderly,
125
      Hauing nothing but the word noddy for my paines.
126
127
        Pro. Beshrew me, but you have a quicke wit.
        Sp. And yet it cannot ouer- take your slow purse.
128
129
        Pro. Come, come, open the matter in briefe; what
      said she.
130
        Sp. Open your purse, that the money, and the matter
131
```

- may be both at once deliuered.
- 133 *Pro.* Well Sir: here is for your paines: what said she?
- 134 *Sp.* Truely Sir, I thinke you'll hardly win her.
- 135 *Pro.* Why? could'st thou perceive so much from her?
- 136 Sp. Sir, I could perceive nothing at all from her;
- No, not so much as a ducket for deliuering your letter:
- And being so hard to me, that brought your minde;
- 139 I feare she'll proue as hard to you in telling your minde.
- Giue her no token but stones, for she's as hard as steele.
- 141 *Pro.* What said she, nothing?
- 142 Sp. No, not so much as take this for thy pains:
- To testifie your bounty, I thank you, you have cestern'd |(me;
- In requital whereof, henceforth, carry your letters your
- selfe; And so Sir, I'le commend you to my Master.
- 146 *Pro.* Go, go, be gone, to saue your Ship from wrack,
- 147 Which cannot perish having thee aboarde,
- Being destin'd to a drier death on shore:
- 149 I must goe send some better Messenger,
- 150 I feare my *Iulia* would not daigne my lines,
- Receiving them from such a worthlesse post. *Exit*.

Scoena Secunda.

- 153 Enter Iulia and Lucetta.
- 154 *Iul.* But say *Lucetta* (now we are alone)
- Would'st thou then counsaile me to fall in loue?
- Luc. I Madam, so you stumble not vnheedfully.
- 157 *Iul.* Of all the faire resort of Gentlemen,
- 158 That euery day with par'le encounter me,
- 159 In thy opinion which is worthiest loue?
- Lu. Please you repeat their names, ile shew my minde,
- 161 According to my shallow simple skill.
- *Iu.* What thinkst thou of the faire sir *Eglamoure*?
- Lu. As of a Knight, well-spoken, neat, and fine;
- But were I you, he neuer should be mine.
- 165 *Iu.* What think'st thou of the rich *Mercatio*?
- 166 Lu. Well of his wealth; but of himselfe, so, so.
- 167 *Iu.* What think'st thou of the gentle *Protheus*?
- Lu. Lord, Lord: to see what folly raignes in vs.
- 169 *Iu.* How now? what meanes this passion at his name?
- 170 Lu. Pardon deare Madam, 'tis a passing shame,
- 171 That I (vnworthy body as I am)
- 172 Should censure thus on louely Gentlemen.
- 173 *Iu.* Why not on *Protheus*, as of all the rest?

```
Lu. Then thus: of many good, I thinke him best.
174
175
         Iul. Your reason?
         Lu. I haue no other but a womans reason:
176
      I thinke him so, because I thinke him so.
177
         Iul. And would'st thou have me cast my loue on him?
178
         Lu. I: if you thought your loue not cast away.
179
180
         Iul. Why he, of all the rest, hath neuer mou'd me.
         Lu. Yet he, of all the rest, I thinke best loues ye.
181
         Iul. His little speaking, shewes his loue but small.
182
         Lu. Fire that's closest kept, burnes most of all.
183
         Iul. They doe not loue, that doe not shew their loue.
184
185
         Lu. Oh, they loue least, that let men know their loue.
         Iul. I would I knew his minde.
186
         Lu. Peruse this paper Madam.
187
        Iul. To Iulia: say, from whom?
188
        Lu. That the Contents will shew.
189
190
        Iul. Say, say: who gaue it thee?
        Lu. Sir Valentines page: & sent I think from Protheus;
191
192
      He would have given it you, but I being in the way,
      Did in your name receive it: pardon the fault I pray.
193
194
         Iul. Now (by my modesty) a goodly Broker:
195
      Dare you presume to harbour wanton lines?
196
      To whisper, and conspire against my youth?
      Now trust me, 'tis an office of great worth,
197
198
      And you an officer fit for the place:
      There: take the paper: see it be return'd,
199
200
      Or else returne no more into my sight.
        Lu. To plead for loue, deserues more fee, then hate.
201
         Iul. Will ye be gon?
202
        Lu. That you may ruminate. Exit.
203
        Iul. And yet I would I had ore-look'd the Letter;
204
205
      It were a shame to call her backe againe,
      And pray her to a fault, for which I chid her.
206
      What 'foole is she, that knowes I am a Maid,
207
      And would not force the letter to my view?
208
      Since Maides, in modesty, say no, to that,
209
      Which they would have the profferer construe, I.
210
      Fie, fie: how way- ward is this foolish loue;
211
      That (like a testie Babe) will scratch the Nurse,
212
      And presently, all humbled kisse the Rod?
213
      How churlishly, I chid Lucetta hence,
214
215
      When willingly, I would have had her here?
      How angerly I taught my brow to frowne,
216
217
      When inward ioy enforc'd my heart to smile?
      My pennance is, to call Lucetta backe
218
```

And aske remission, for my folly past.

219

```
What hoe: Lucetta.
220
221
        Lu. What would your Ladiship?
        Iul. Is't neere dinner time?
222
        Lu. I would it were.
223
      That you might kill your stomacke on your meat, [B5v
224
225
      And not vpon your Maid.
226
        Iu. What is't that you
      Tooke vp so gingerly?
227
        Lu. Nothing.
228
        Iu. Why didst thou stoope then?
229
        Lu. To take a paper vp, that I let fall.
230
231
        Iul. And is that paper nothing?
        Lu. Nothing concerning me.
232
        Iul. Then let it lye, for those that it concernes.
233
        Lu. Madam, it will not lye where it concernes,
234
235
      Vnlesse it haue a false Interpreter.
236
        Iul. Some loue of yours, hath writ to you in Rime.
        Lu. That I might sing it (Madam) to a tune:
237
238
      Giue me a Note, your Ladiship can set
        Iul. As little by such toyes, as may be possible:
239
      Best sing it to the tune of Light O, Loue.
240
241
        Lu. It is too heavy for so light a tune.
242
        Iu. Heauy? belike it hath some burden then?
        Lu. I: and melodious were it, would you sing it,
243
244
        Iu. And why not you?
        Lu. I cannot reach so high.
245
        Iu. Let's see your Song:
246
      How now Minion?
247
        Lu. Keepe tune there still; so you will sing it out:
248
      And yet me thinkes I do not like this tune.
249
        Iu. You doe not?
250
251
        Lu. No (Madam) tis too sharpe.
        Iu. You (Minion) are too saucie.
252
        Lu. Nay, now you are too flat;
253
      And marre the concord, with too harsh a descant:
254
255
      There wanteth but a Meane to fill your Song.
        Iu. The meane is dround with you vnruly base.
256
        Lu. Indeede I bid the base for Protheus.
257
        Iu. This babble shall not henceforth trouble me:
258
259
      Here is a coile with protestation:
      Goe, get you gone: and let the papers lye:
260
261
      You would be fingring them, to anger me.
        Lu. She makes it stra[n]ge, but she would be best pleas'd
262
263
      To be so angred with another Letter.
        Iu. Nay, would I were so angred with the same:
264
      Oh hatefull hands, to teare such louing words;
265
```

- 266 Iniurious Waspes, to feede on such sweet hony,
- 267 And kill the Bees that yeelde it, with your stings;
- 268 Ile kisse each seuerall paper, for amends:
- 269 Looke, here is writ, kinde *Iulia*: vnkinde *Iulia*,
- 270 As in reuenge of thy ingratitude,
- 271 I throw thy name against the bruzing- stones,
- 272 Trampling contemptuously on thy disdaine.
- 273 And here is writ, Loue wounded Protheus.
- 274 Poore wounded name: my bosome, as a bed,
- 275 Shall lodge thee till thy wound be throughly heal'd;
- 276 And thus I search it with a soueraigne kisse.
- 277 But twice, or thrice, was *Protheus* written downe:
- 278 Be calme (good winde) blow not a word away,
- 279 Till I haue found each letter, in the Letter,
- 280 Except mine own name: That, some whirle- winde beare
- Vnto a ragged, fearefull, hanging Rocke,
- 282 And throw it thence into the raging Sea.
- Loe, here in one line is his name twice writ:
- 284 Poore forlorne Protheus, passionate Protheus:
- 285 *To the sweet Iulia:* that ile teare away:
- 286 And yet I will not, sith so prettily
- 287 He couples it, to his complaining Names;
- 288 Thus will I fold them, one vpon another;
- Now kisse, embrace, contend, doe what you will.
- 290 Lu. Madam: dinner is ready: and your father staies.
- 291 Iu. Well, let vs goe.
- 292 Lu. What, shall these papers lye, like Tel-tales here?
- 293 *Iu.* If you respect them; best to take them vp.
- 294 Lu. Nay, I was taken vp, for laying them downe.
- Yet here they shall not lye, for catching cold.
- 296 *Iu.* I see you have a months minde to them.
- 297 Lu. I (Madam) you may say what sights you see;
- 298 I see things too, although you iudge I winke.
- 299 *Iu.* Come, come, wilt please you goe. *Exeunt*.

Scoena Tertia.

- 301 Enter Antonio and Panthino. Protheus.
- 302 Ant. Tell me Panthino, what sad talke was that,
- 303 Wherewith my brother held you in the Cloyster?
- 304 Pan. 'Twas of his Nephew Protheus, your Sonne.
- 305 Ant. Why? what of him?
- 306 Pan. He wondred that your Lordship
- Would suffer him, to spend his youth at home,

- 308 While other men, of slender reputation
- 309 Put forth their Sonnes, to seeke preferment out.
- 310 Some to the warres, to try their fortune there;
- 311 Some, to discouer Islands farre away:
- 312 Some, to the studious Vniuersities;
- For any, or for all these exercises,
- 314 He said, that *Protheus*, your sonne, was meet;
- 315 And did request me, to importune you
- To let him spend his time no more at home;
- Which would be great impeachment to his age,
- 318 In hauing knowne no trauaile in his youth.
- 319 Ant. Nor need'st thou much importune me to that
- Whereon, this month I have bin hamering.
- 321 I haue consider'd well, his losse of time,
- 322 And how he cannot be a perfect man,
- Not being tryed, and tutord in the world:
- 324 Experience is by industry atchieu'd,
- 325 And perfected by the swift course of time:
- Then tell me, whether were I best to send him?
- 327 Pan. I thinke your Lordship is not ignorant
- 328 How his companion, youthfull Valentine,
- 329 Attends the Emperour in his royall Court.
- 330 Ant. I know it well.
- 331 Pan. 'Twere good, I thinke, your Lordship sent him
- 332 (thither,
- 333 There shall he practise Tilts, and Turnaments;
- Heare sweet discourse, conuerse with Noble-men,
- 335 And be in eye of euery Exercise
- Worthy his youth, and noblenesse of birth.
- 337 Ant. I like thy counsaile: well hast thou aduis'd:
- 338 And that thou maist perceive how well I like it,
- 339 The execution of it shall make knowne;
- 340 Euen with the speediest expedition,
- 341 I will dispatch him to the Emperors Court.
- 342 Pan. To morrow, may it please you, Don Alphonso,
- 343 With other Gentlemen of good esteeme
- 344 Are iournying, to salute the *Emperor*,
- 345 And to commend their seruice to his will.
- 346 Ant. Good company: with them shall Protheus go:
- And in good time: now will we breake with him.
- 348 *Pro.* Sweet Loue, sweet lines, sweet life,
- Here is her hand, the agent of her heart;
- 350 Here is her oath for loue, her honors paune; [B6
- 351 O that our Fathers would applaud our loues
- 352 To seale our happinesse with their consents.
- 353 *Pro.* Oh heauenly *Iulia*.

Ant. How now? What Letter are you reading there? 354 355 Pro. May't please your Lordship, 'tis a word or two Of commendations sent from Valentine; 356 Deliuer'd by a friend, that came from him. 357 Ant. Lend me the Letter: Let me see what newes. 358 Pro. There is no newes (my Lord) but that he writes 359 How happily he liues, how well-belou'd, 360 And daily graced by the Emperor; 361 Wishing me with him, partner of his fortune. 362 Ant. And how stand you affected to his wish? 363 *Pro.* As one relying on your Lordships will, 364 And not depending on his friendly wish. 365 Ant. My will is something sorted with his wish: 366 Muse not that I thus sodainly proceed; 367 For what I will, I will, and there an end: 368 I am resolu'd, that thou shalt spend some time 369 370 With *Valentinus*, in the Emperors Court: What maintenance he from his friends receives, 371 372 Like exhibition thou shalt have from me, To morrow be in readinesse, to goe, 373 374 Excuse it not: for I am peremptory. 375 Pro. My Lord I cannot be so soone prouided, 376 Please you deliberate a day or two. Ant. Look what thou want'st shalbe sent after thee: 377 378 No more of stay: to morrow thou must goe; Come on Panthino; you shall be imployd, 379 380 To hasten on his Expedition. *Pro.* Thus have I shund the fire, for feare of burning, 381 And drench'd me in the sea, where I am drown'd. 382 I fear'd to shew my Father Iulias Letter, 383 Least he should take exceptions to my loue, 384 385 And with the vantage of mine owne excuse Hath he excepted most against my loue. 386 Oh, how this spring of loue resembleth 387 The vncertaine glory of an Aprill day, 388 Which now shewes all the beauty of the Sun, 389 390 And by and by a clowd takes all away. Pan. Sir Protheus, your Fathers call's for you, 391 He is in hast, therefore I pray you go. 392 Pro. Why this it is: my heart accords thereto, 393 And yet a thousand times it answer's no. 394 395 Exeunt. Finis.

Actus secundus: Scoena Prima.

```
Enter Valentine, Speed, Siluia.
397
398
        Speed. Sir, your Gloue.
399
         Valen. Not mine: my Gloues are on.
        Sp. Why then this may be yours: for this is but one.
400
         Val. Ha? Let me see: I, giue it me, it's mine:
401
      Sweet Ornament, that deckes a thing diuine,
402
      Ah Siluia, Siluia.
403
404
        Speed. Madam Siluia: Madam Siluia.
         Val. How now Sirha?
405
        Speed. Shee is not within hearing Sir.
406
         Val. Why sir, who bad you call her?
407
408
        Speed. Your worship sir, or else I mistooke.
409
         Val. Well: you'll still be too forward.
410
        Speed. And yet I was last chidden for being too slow.
         Val. Goe to, sir, tell me: do you know Madam Siluia?
411
412
        Speed. Shee that your worship loues?
        Val. Why, how know you that I am in loue?
413
414
        Speed. Marry by these speciall markes: first, you have
      learn'd (like Sir Protheus) to wreath your Armes like a
415
      Male- content: to rellish a Loue- song, like a Robin- red-breast:
416
      to walke alone like one that had the pestilence:
417
418
      to sigh, like a Schoole- boy that had lost his A.B.C. to
419
      weep like a yong wench that had buried her Grandam:
      to fast, like one that takes diet: to watch, like one that
420
      feares robbing: to speake puling, like a beggar at Hal-low- Masse:
421
      You were wont, when you laughed, to crow
422
      like a cocke; when you walk'd, to walke like one of the
423
424
      Lions: when you fasted, it was presently after dinner:
      when you look'd sadly, it was for want of money: And
425
      now you are Metamorphis'd with a Mistris, that when I
426
      looke on you, I can hardly thinke you my Master.
427
428
         Val. Are all these things perceiu'd in me?
        Speed. They are all perceiu'd without ye.
429
        Val. Without me? they cannot.
430
431
        Speed. Without you? nay, that's certaine: for with-out
      you were so simple, none else would: but you are
432
433
      so without these follies, that these follies are within you,
434
      and shine through you like the water in an Vrinall: that
435
      not an eye that sees you, but is a Physician to comment
436
      on your Malady.
         Val. But tell me: do'st thou know my Lady Siluia?
437
        Speed. Shee that you gaze on so, as she sits at supper?
438
439
         Val. Hast thou obseru'd that? euen she I meane.
440
        Speed. Why sir, I know her not.
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```
441
         Val. Do'st thou know her by my gazing on her, and
442
      yet know'st her not?
        Speed. Is she not hard-fauour'd, sir?
443
         Val. Not so faire (boy) as well fauour'd.
444
        Speed. Sir, I know that well enough.
445
        Val. What dost thou know?
446
        Speed. That shee is not so faire, as (of you) well-fa-uourd?
447
        Val. I meane that her beauty is exquisite,
449
      But her fauour infinite.
450
        Speed. That's because the one is painted, and the o-ther
451
452
      out of all count.
        Val. How painted? and how out of count?
453
454
        Speed. Marry sir, so painted to make her faire, that no
      man counts of her beauty.
455
        Val. How esteem'st thou me? I account of her beauty.
456
        Speed. You neuer saw her since she was deform'd.
457
458
         Val. How long hath she beene deform'd?
        Speed. Euer since you lou'd her.
459
        Val. I have lou'd her euer since I saw her,
460
      And still I see her beautifull.
461
        Speed. If you loue her, you cannot see her.
462
        Val. Why?
463
        Speed. Because Loue is blinde: O that you had mine
464
      eyes, or your owne eyes had the lights they were wont
465
      to haue, when you chidde at Sir Protheus, for going vn-garter'd.
466
        Val. What should I see then?
467
        Speed. Your owne present folly, and her passing de-formitie:
468
      for hee beeing in loue, could not see to garter
469
      his hose; and you, beeing in loue, cannot see to put on
470
471
      your hose.
         Val. Belike (boy) then you are in loue, for last mor-|(ning
472
473
      You could not see to wipe my shooes.
        Speed. True sir: I was in loue with my bed, I thanke
474
475
      you, you swing'd me for my loue, which makes mee the [B6v
      bolder to chide you, for yours.
476
477
         Val. In conclusion, I stand affected to her.
        Speed. I would you were set, so your affection would
478
479
      cease.
480
         Val. Last night she enioyn'd me,
      To write some lines to one she loues.
481
        Speed. And haue you?
482
483
        Val. I haue.
        Speed. Are they not lamely writt?
484
485
        Val. No (Boy) but as well as I can do them:
      Peace, here she comes.
486
        Speed. Oh excellent motion; oh exceeding Puppet:
487
```

```
488
      Now will he interpret to her.
489
        Val. Madam & Mistres, a thousand good- morrows.
        Speed. Oh, 'giue ye- good- ev'n: heer's a million of
490
491
      manners.
        Sil. Sir Valentine, and seruant, to you two thousand.
492
        Speed. He should give her interest: & she gives it him.
493
494
        Val. As you inioynd me; I have writ your Letter
      Vnto the secret, nameles friend of yours:
495
      Which I was much vnwilling to proceed in,
496
      But for my duty to your Ladiship.
497
        Sil. I thanke you (gentle Seruant) 'tis very Clerkly-|(done.
498
499
        Val. Now trust me (Madam) it came hardly- off:
      For being ignorant to whom it goes,
500
      I writ at randome, very doubtfully.
501
        Sil. Perchance you think too much of so much pains?
502
503
        Val. No (Madam) so it steed you, I will write
504
      (Please you command) a thousand times as much:
505
      And yet —
        Sil. A pretty period: well: I ghesse the sequell;
506
      And yet I will not name it: and yet I care not.
507
      And yet, take this againe: and yet I thanke you:
508
      Meaning henceforth to trouble you no more.
509
        Speed. And yet you will: and yet, another yet.
510
        Val. What meanes your Ladiship?
511
512
      Doe you not like it?
        Sil. Yes, yes: the lines are very queintly writ,
513
      But (since vnwillingly) take them againe.
514
      Nay, take them.
515
        Val. Madam, they are for you.
516
        Silu. I, I: you writ them Sir, at my request,
517
      But I will none of them: they are for you:
518
      I would have had them writ more mouingly:
519
        Val. Please you, Ile write your Ladiship another.
520
        Sil. And when it's writ: for my sake read it ouer,
521
      And if it please you, so: if not: why so:
522
        Val. If it please me, (Madam?) what then?
523
524
        Sil. Why if it please you, take it for your labour;
525
      And so good- morrow Seruant. Exit. Sil.
        Speed. Oh Iest vnseene: inscrutible: inuisible,
526
      As a nose on a mans face, or a Wethercocke on a steeple:
527
      My Master sues to her: and she hath taught her Sutor,
528
529
      He being her Pupill, to become her Tutor.
      Oh excellent deuise, was there euer heard a better?
530
531
      That my master being scribe,
      To himselfe should write the Letter?
532
        Val. How now Sir?
533
```

- What are you reasoning with your selfe?
- 535 *Speed.* Nay: I was riming: 'tis you y haue the reason.
- 536 *Val.* To doe what?
- 537 Speed. To be a Spokes- man from Madam Siluia.
- 538 Val. To whom?
- 539 *Speed.* To your selfe: why, she woes you by a figure.
- 540 *Val.* What figure?
- 541 Speed. By a Letter, I should say.
- 542 *Val.* Why she hath not writ to me?
- 543 Speed. What need she,
- When shee hath made you write to your selfe?
- 545 Why, doe you not perceive the iest?
- 546 Val. No, beleeue me.
- 547 *Speed.* No beleeuing you indeed sir:
- 548 But did you perceiue her earnest?
- 549 *Val.* She gaue me none, except an angry word.
- *Speed.* Why she hath given you a Letter.
- 551 *Val.* That's the Letter I writ to her friend.
- *Speed.* And y letter hath she deliuer'd, & there an end.
- 553 *Val.* I would it were no worse.
- 554 *Speed.* Ile warrant you, 'tis as well:
- For often haue you writ to her: and she in modesty,
- Or else for want of idle time, could not againe reply,
- Or fearing els some messe[n]ger, y might her mind discouer
- Her self hath taught her Loue himself, to write vnto her |(louer.
- All this I speak in print, for in print I found it.
- 560 Why muse you sir, 'tis dinner time.
- 561 *Val.* I haue dyn'd.
- *Speed.* I, but hearken sir: though the Cameleon Loue
- can feed on the ayre, I am one that am nourish'd by my
- victuals; and would faine haue meate: oh bee not like
- your Mistresse, be moued, be moued. *Exeunt*.

Scoena secunda.

- 567 Enter Protheus, Iulia, Panthion.
- 568 *Pro.* Haue patience, gentle *Iulia*:
- 569 *Iul.* I must where is no remedy.
- 570 *Pro.* When possibly I can, I will returne.
- 571 *Iul.* If you turne not: you will return the sooner:
- 572 Keepe this remembrance for thy *Iulia*'s sake.
- 573 *Pro.* Why then wee'll make exchange;
- Here, take you this.
- 575 *Iul.* And seale the bargaine with a holy kisse.

- 576 *Pro.* Here is my hand, for my true constancie:
- 577 And when that howre ore- slips me in the day,
- 578 Wherein I sigh not (*Iulia*) for thy sake,
- 579 The next ensuing howre, some foule mischance
- 580 Torment me for my Loues forgetfulnesse:
- My father staies my comming: answere not:
- The tide is now; nay, not thy tide of teares,
- That tide will stay me longer then I should,
- 584 *Iulia*, farewell: what, gon without a word?
- 585 I, so true loue should doe: it cannot speake,
- For truth hath better deeds, then words to grace it.
- 587 Panth. Sir Protheus: you are staid for.
- 588 *Pro.* Goe: I come, I come:
- Alas, this parting strikes poore Louers dumbe.
- 590 Exeunt.

Scoena Tertia.

- 592 Enter Launce, Panthion.
- 593 Launce. Nay, 'twill bee this howre ere I haue done
- 594 weeping: all the kinde of the *Launces*, haue this very
- fault: I have receiv'd my proportion, like the prodigious [C1]
- 596 Sonne, and am going with Sir *Protheus* to the Imperialls
- 597 Court: I thinke *Crab* my dog, be the sowrest natured
- 598 dogge that liues: My Mother weeping: my Father
- 599 wayling: my Sister crying: our Maid howling: our
- 600 Catte wringing her hands, and all our house in a great
- perplexitie, yet did not this cruell- hearted Curre shedde
- one teare: he is a stone, a very pibble stone, and has no
- more pitty in him then a dogge: a Iew would have wept
- to have seene our parting: why my Grandam having
- no eyes, looke you, wept her selfe blinde at my parting:
- 606 nay, Ile shew you the manner of it. This shooe is my fa-ther:
- no, this left shooe is my father; no, no, this left
- shooe is my mother: nay, that cannot bee so neyther:
- yes; it is so, it is so: it hath the worser sole: this shooe
- with the hole in it, is my mother: and this my father:
- a veng'ance on't, there 'tis: Now sir, this staffe is my si-ster:
- for, looke you, she is as white as a lilly, and as
- small as a wand: this hat is Nan our maid: I am the
- dogge: no, the dogge is himselfe, and I am the dogge:
- oh, the dogge is me, and I am my selfe: I; so, so: now
- come I to my Father; Father, your blessing: now
- should not the shooe speake a word for weeping:

- now should I kisse my Father; well, hee weepes on:
- Now come I to my Mother: Oh that she could speake
- 620 now, like a would- woman: well, I kisse her: why
- there 'tis; heere's my mothers breath vp and downe:
- Now come I to my sister; marke the moane she makes:
- now the dogge all this while sheds not a teare: nor
- speakes a word: but see how I lay the dust with my
- 625 teares.
- 626 Panth. Launce, away, away: a Boord: thy Master is
- ship'd, and thou art to post after with oares; what's the
- matter? why weep'st thou man? away asse, you'l loose
- 629 the Tide, if you tarry any longer.
- 630 Laun. It is no matter if the tide were lost, for it is the
- vnkindest Tide, that euer any man tide.
- 632 *Panth.* What's the vnkindest tide?
- 633 Lau. Why, he that's tide here, Crab my dog.
- 634 Pant. Tut, man: I meane thou'lt loose the flood, and
- in loosing the flood, loose thy voyage, and in loosing thy
- voyage, loose thy Master, and in loosing thy Master,
- loose thy seruice, and in loosing thy seruice: why
- 638 dost thou stop my mouth?
- 639 *Laun.* For feare thou shouldst loose thy tongue.
- 640 Panth. Where should I loose my tongue?
- 641 Laun. In thy Tale.
- 642 *Panth*. In thy Taile.
- 643 Laun. Loose the Tide, and the voyage, and the Ma-ster,
- and the Seruice, and the tide: why man, if the Riuer
- were drie, I am able to fill it with my teares: if the winde
- were downe, I could drive the boate with my sighes.
- 647 Panth. Come: come away man, I was sent to call
- 648 thee.
- 649 Lau. Sir: call me what thou dar'st.
- 650 Pant. Wilt thou goe?
- 651 Laun. Well, I will goe.
- 652 Exeunt.

Scena Quarta.

- 654 Enter Valentine, Siluia, Thurio, Speed, Duke, Protheus.
- 655 Sil. Seruant.
- 656 Val. Mistris.
- 657 Spee. Master, Sir Thurio frownes on you.
- 658 Val. I Boy, it's for loue.
- 659 Spee. Not of you.

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660
        Val. Of my Mistresse then.
661
        Spee. 'Twere good you knockt him.
        Sil. Seruant, you are sad.
662
        Val. Indeed, Madam, I seeme so.
663
        Thu. Seeme you that you are not?
664
        Val. Hap'ly I doe.
665
        Thu. So doe Counterfeyts.
666
        Val. So doe you.
667
        Thu. What seeme I that I am not?
668
        Val. Wise.
669
670
        Thu. What instance of the contrary?
        Val. Your folly.
671
        Thu. And how quoat you my folly?
672
        Val. I quoat it in your Ierkin.
673
        Thu. My Ierkin is a doublet.
674
675
        Val. Well then, Ile double your folly.
676
        Thu. How?
        Sil. What, angry, Sir Thurio, do you change colour?
677
678
        Val. Giue him leaue, Madam, he is a kind of Camelion.
        Thu. That hath more minde to feed on your bloud,
679
      then liue in your ayre.
680
        Val. You have said Sir.
681
682
        Thu. I Sir, and done too for this time.
        Val. I know it wel sir, you alwaies end ere you begin.
683
684
        Sil. A fine volly of words, gentleme[n], & quickly shot off
        Val. 'Tis indeed, Madam, we thank the giuer.
685
        Sil. Who is that Seruant?
686
        Val. Your selfe (sweet Lady) for you gaue the fire,
687
      Sir Thurio borrows his wit from your Ladiships lookes,
688
      And spends what he borrowes kindly in your company.
689
        Thu. Sir, if you spend word for word with me, I shall
690
      make your wit bankrupt.
691
         Val. I know it well sir: you have an Exchequer of |(words,
692
      And I thinke, no other treasure to give your followers:
693
      For it appeares by their bare Liueries
694
      That they liue by your bare words.
695
        Sil. No more, gentlemen, no more:
696
697
      Here comes my father.
        Duk. Now, daughter Siluia, you are hard beset.
698
      Sir Valentine, your father is in good health,
699
      What say you to a Letter from your friends
700
701
      Of much good newes?
        Val. My Lord, I will be thankfull,
702
703
      To any happy messenger from thence.
        Duk. Know ye Don Antonio, your Countriman?
704
705
        Val. I, my good Lord, I know the Gentleman
```

706 To be of worth, and worthy estimation, 707 And not without desert so well reputed. Duk. Hath he not a Sonne? 708 Val. I, my good Lord, a Son, that well deserues 709 The honor, and regard of such a father. 710 Duk. You know him well? 711 Val. I knew him as my selfe: for from our Infancie 712 We have converst, and spent our howres together, 713 And though my selfe haue beene an idle Trewant, 714 Omitting the sweet benefit of time 715 To cloath mine age with Angel-like perfection: 716 717 Yet hath Sir *Protheus* (for that's his name) Made vse, and faire aduantage of his daies: 718 His yeares but yong, but his experience old: 719 His head vn- mellowed, but his Iudgement ripe; 720 And in a word (for far behinde his worth 721 722 Comes all the praises that I now bestow.) [C1v He is compleat in feature, and in minde, 723 724 With all good grace, to grace a Gentleman. Duk. Beshrew me sir, but if he make this good 725 726 He is as worthy for an Empresse loue, 727 As meet to be an Emperors Councellor: 728 Well, Sir: this Gentleman is come to me With Commendation from great Potentates, 729 730 And heere he meanes to spend his time a while, I thinke 'tis no vn- welcome newes to you. 731 732 Val. Should I have wish'd a thing, it had beene he. Duk. Welcome him then according to his worth: 733 Siluia, I speake to you, and you Sir Thurio, 734 For Valentine, I need not cite him to it, 735 I will send him hither to you presently. 736 Val. This is the Gentleman I told your Ladiship 737 Had come along with me, but that his Mistresse 738 Did hold his eyes, lockt in her Christall lookes. 739 Sil. Be-like that now she hath enfranchis'd them 740 Vpon some other pawne for fealty. 741 742 Val. Nay sure, I thinke she holds them prisoners stil. Sil. Nay then he should be blind, and being blind 743 How could he see his way to seeke out you? 744 Val. Why Lady, Loue hath twenty paire of eyes. 745 Thur. They say that Loue hath not an eye at all. 746

751 Confirme his welcome, with some special fauor.

Vpon a homely object, Loue can winke.

Val. To see such Louers, Thurio, as your selfe,

Sil. Haue done, haue done: here comes y gentleman. Val. Welcome, deer Protheus: Mistris, I beseech you

747

748 749

750

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752
        Sil. His worth is warrant for his welcome hether,
753
      If this be he you oft haue wish'd to heare from.
        Val. Mistris, it is: sweet Lady, entertaine him
754
      To be my fellow- seruant to your Ladiship.
755
        Sil. Too low a Mistres for so high a seruant.
756
        Pro. Not so, sweet Lady, but too meane a seruant
757
      To haue a looke of such a worthy a Mistresse.
758
        Val. Leaue off discourse of disabilitie:
759
      Sweet Lady, entertaine him for your Seruant.
760
        Pro. My dutie will I boast of, nothing else.
761
        Sil. And dutie neuer yet did want his meed.
762
      Seruant, you are welcome to a worthlesse Mistresse.
763
        Pro. Ile die on him that saies so but your selfe.
764
        Sil. That you are welcome?
765
        Pro. That you are worthlesse.
766
        Thur. Madam, my Lord your father wold speak with |(you.
767
768
        Sil. I wait vpon his pleasure: Come Sir Thurio,
      Goe with me: once more, new Seruant welcome;
769
770
      Ile leaue you to confer of home affaires,
      When you have done, we looke too heare from you.
771
        Pro. Wee'll both attend vpon your Ladiship.
772
        Val. Now tell me: how do al from whence you came?
773
774
        Pro. Your frends are wel, & haue the[m] much co[m]mended.
        Val. And how doe yours?
775
776
        Pro. I left them all in health.
        Val. How does your Lady? & how thriues your loue?
777
778
        Pro. My tales of Loue were wont to weary you,
      I know you ioy not in a Loue- discourse.
779
         Val. I Protheus, but that life is alter'd now,
780
      I have done pennance for contemning Loue,
781
      Whose high emperious thoughts have punish'd me
782
783
      With bitter fasts, with penitentiall grones,
      With nightly teares, and daily hart- sore sighes,
784
      For in reuenge of my contempt of loue,
785
      Loue hath chas'd sleepe from my enthralled eyes,
786
      And made them watchers of mine owne hearts sorrow.
787
      O gentle Protheus, Loue's a mighty Lord,
788
      And hath so humbled me, as I confesse
789
      There is no woe to his correction.
790
      Nor to his Seruice, no such ioy on earth:
791
      Now, no discourse, except it be of loue:
792
793
      Now can I breake my fast, dine, sup, and sleepe,
      Vpon the very naked name of Loue.
794
795
        Pro. Enough; I read your fortune in your eye:
      Was this the Idoll, that you worship so?
796
797
         Val. Euen She; and is she not a heauenly Saint?
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```
798
        Pro. No; But she is an earthly Paragon.
799
        Val. Call her diuine.
        Pro. I will not flatter her.
800
        Val. O flatter me: for Loue delights in praises.
801
        Pro. When I was sick, you gaue me bitter pils,
802
      And I must minister the like to you.
803
804
         Val. Then speake the truth by her; if not divine,
      Yet let her be a principalitie,
805
      Soueraigne to all the Creatures on the earth.
806
        Pro. Except my Mistresse.
807
        Val. Sweet: except not any,
808
      Except thou wilt except against my Loue.
809
        Pro. Haue I not reason to prefer mine owne?
810
        Val. And I will help thee to prefer her to:
811
      Shee shall be dignified with this high honour,
812
      To beare my Ladies traine, lest the base earth
813
814
      Should from her vesture chance to steale a kisse,
      And of so great a fauor growing proud,
815
      Disdaine to roote the Sommer- swelling flowre,
816
      And make rough winter euerlastingly.
817
        Pro. Why Valentine, what Bragadisme is this?
818
819
        Val. Pardon me (Protheus) all I can is nothing,
820
      To her, whose worth, make other worthies nothing;
      Shee is alone.
82.1
822
        Pro. Then let her alone.
        Val. Not for the world: why man, she is mine owne,
823
824
      And I as rich in hauing such a Iewell
      As twenty Seas, if all their sand were pearle,
825
      The water, Nectar, and the Rocks pure gold.
826
      Forgiue me, that I doe not dreame on thee,
827
      Because thou seest me doate vpon my loue:
828
829
      My foolish Riuall that her Father likes
      (Onely for his possessions are so huge)
830
      Is gone with her along, and I must after,
831
      For Loue (thou know'st is full of iealousie.)
832
833
        Pro. But she loues you?
834
        Val. I, and we are betroathd: nay more, our mariage |(howre,
      With all the cunning manner of our flight
835
      Determin'd of: how I must climbe her window,
836
      The Ladder made of Cords, and all the means
837
      Plotted, and 'greed on for my happinesse.
838
839
      Good Protheus goe with me to my chamber,
      In these affaires to aid me with thy counsaile.
840
841
        Pro. Goe on before: I shall enquire you forth:
      I must vnto the Road, to dis-embarque
842
      Some necessaries, that I needs must vse,
843
```

- And then Ile presently attend you.
- 845 *Val.* Will you make haste? *Exit*.
- 846 Pro. I will.
- 847 Euen as one heate, another heate expels,
- 848 Or as one naile, by strength driues out another.
- 849 So the remembrance of my former Loue
- 850 Is by a newer object quite forgotten,
- 851 It is mine, or *Valentines* praise?
- Her true perfection, or my false transgression?
- 853 That makes me reasonlesse, to reason thus?
- Shee is faire: and so is *Iulia* that I loue, [C2]
- 855 (That I did loue, for now my loue is thaw'd,
- Which like a waxen Image 'gainst a fire
- 857 Beares no impression of the thing it was.)
- 858 Me thinkes my zeale to Valentine is cold,
- 859 And that I loue him not as I was wont:
- 860 O, but I loue his Lady too- too much,
- And that's the reason I loue him so little.
- How shall I doate on her with more aduice,
- 863 That thus without aduice begin to loue her?
- 364 'Tis but her picture I haue yet beheld,
- And that hath dazel'd my reasons light:
- 866 But when I looke on her perfections,
- There is no reason, but I shall be blinde.
- 868 If I can checke my erring loue, I will,
- 869 If not, to compasse her Ile vse my skill.
- 870 Exeunt.

Scena Quinta.

- 872 Enter Speed and Launce.
- 873 Speed. Launce, by mine honesty welcome to Padua.
- 874 Laun. Forsweare not thy selfe, sweet youth, for I am
- not welcome. I reckon this alwaies, that a man is neuer
- vndon till hee be hang'd, nor neuer welcome to a place,
- till some certaine shot be paid, and the Hostesse say wel-come.
- 879 Speed. Come- on you mad- cap: Ile to the Ale- house
- with you presently; where, for one shot of fiue pence,
- thou shalt have five thousand welcomes: But sirha, how
- 882 did thy Master part with Madam *Iulia*?
- 883 Lau. Marry after they cloas'd in earnest, they parted
- very fairely in iest.
- Spee. But shall she marry him?
- 886 *Lau.* No.

```
Spee. How then? shall he marry her?
887
888
         Lau. No, neither.
         Spee. What, are they broken?
889
        Lau. No; they are both as whole as a fish.
890
         Spee. Why then, how stands the matter with them?
891
        Lau. Marry thus, when it stands well with him, it
892
      stands well with her.
893
         Spee. What an asse art thou, I vnderstand thee not.
894
         Lau. What a blocke art thou, that thou canst not?
895
      My staffe vnderstands me?
896
         Spee. What thou saist?
897
898
        Lau. I, and what I do too: looke thee, Ile but leane,
      and my staffe vnderstands me.
899
         Spee. It stands vnder thee indeed.
900
        Lau. Why, stand- vnder: and vnder- stand is all one.
901
        Spee. But tell me true, wil't be a match?
902
903
        Lau. Aske my dogge, if he say I, it will: if hee say
      no, it will: if hee shake his taile, and say nothing, it
904
905
      will.
906
         Spee. The conclusion is then, that it will.
907
        Lau. Thou shalt neuer get such a secret from me, but
      by a parable.
908
909
         Spee. 'Tis well that I get it so: but Launce, how saist
      thou that that my master is become a notable Louer?
910
911
         Lau. I neuer knew him otherwise.
         Spee. Then how?
912
913
        Lau. A notable Lubber: as thou reportest him to
914
      bee.
         Spee. Why, thou whorson Asse, thou mistak'st me,
915
        Lau. Why Foole, I meant not thee, I meant thy
916
      Master.
917
918
        Spee. I tell thee, my Master is become a hot Louer.
         Lau. Why, I tell thee, I care not, though hee burne
919
      himselfe in Loue. If thou wilt goe with me to the Ale-house:
920
      if not, thou art an Hebrew, a Iew, and not worth
921
      the name of a Christian.
922
923
        Spee. Why?
        Lau. Because thou hast not so much charity in thee as
924
      to goe to the Ale with a Christian: Wilt thou goe?
925
        Spee. At thy seruice.
926
927
      Exeunt.
```

Scoena Sexta.

929 Enter Protheus solus.

- 930 *Pro.* To leaue my *Iulia*; shall I be forsworne?
- 931 To loue faire *Siluia*; shall I be forsworne?
- 932 To wrong my friend, I shall be much forsworne.
- And ev'n that Powre which gaue me first my oath
- 934 Prouokes me to this three- fold periurie.
- 935 Loue bad mee sweare, and Loue bids me for- sweare;
- 936 O sweet- suggesting Loue, if thou hast sin'd,
- 937 Teach me (thy tempted subject) to excuse it.
- 938 At first I did adore a twinkling Starre,
- 939 But now I worship a celestiall Sunne:
- 940 Vn- heedfull vowes may heedfully be broken,
- And he wants wit, that wants resolued will,
- To learne his wit, t' exchange the bad for better;
- 943 Fie, fie, vnreuerend tongue, to call her bad,
- Whose soueraignty so oft thou hast preferd,
- 945 With twenty thousand soule- confirming oathes.
- 946 I cannot leaue to loue; and yet I doe:
- 947 But there I leaue to loue, where I should loue.
- 948 Iulia I loose, and Valentine I loose,
- 949 If I keepe them, I needs must loose my selfe:
- 950 If I loose them, thus finde I by their losse,
- 951 For Valentine, my selfe: for Iulia, Siluia.
- 952 I to my selfe am deerer then a friend,
- 953 For Loue is still most precious in it selfe,
- 954 And *Siluia* (witnesse heauen that made her faire)
- 955 Shewes *Iulia* but a swarthy Ethiope.
- 956 I will forget that *Iulia* is aliue,
- 957 Remembring that my Loue to her is dead.
- 958 And *Valentine* Ile hold an Enemie,
- 959 Ayming at Siluia as a sweeter friend.
- 960 I cannot now proue constant to my selfe,
- 961 Without some treachery vs'd to *Valentine*.
- This night he meaneth with a Corded-ladder
- 963 To climbe celestiall *Siluia's* chamber window,
- 964 My selfe in counsaile his competitor.
- Now presently Ile giue her father notice
- 966 Of their disguising and pretended flight:
- 967 Who (all inrag'd) will banish *Valentine*:
- 968 For *Thurio* he intends shall wed his daughter,
- 969 But Valentine being gon, Ile quickely crosse
- 970 By some slie tricke, blunt *Thurio's* dull proceeding.
- 971 Loue lend me wings, to make my purpose swift
- As thou hast lent me wit, to plot this drift.

973 Exit. [C2v

Scoena septima.

```
975
      Enter Iulia and Lucetta.
976
        Iul. Counsaile, Lucetta, gentle girle assist me,
      And eu'n in kinde loue, I doe coniure thee,
977
      Who art the Table wherein all my thoughts
978
      Are visibly Character'd, and engrau'd,
979
      To lesson me, and tell me some good meane
980
      How with my honour I may vndertake
981
      A iourney to my louing Protheus.
982
        Luc. Alas, the way is wearisome and long.
983
        Iul. A true- deuoted Pilgrime is not weary
984
      To measure Kingdomes with his feeble steps,
985
      Much lesse shall she that hath Loues wings to flie,
986
      And when the flight is made to one so deere,
987
      Of such divine perfection as Sir Protheus.
988
        Luc. Better forbeare, till Protheus make returne.
989
990
        Iul. Oh, know'st y not, his looks are my soules food?
      Pitty the dearth that I have pined in,
991
992
      By longing for that food so long a time.
      Didst thou but know the inly touch of Loue,
993
994
      Thou wouldst as soone goe kindle fire with snow
995
      As seeke to quench the fire of Loue with words.
        Luc. I doe not seeke to quench your Loues hot fire,
996
      But qualifie the fires extreame rage,
997
998
      Lest it should burne aboue the bounds of reason.
        Iul. The more thou dam'st it vp, the more it burnes:
999
      The Current that with gentle murmure glides
1000
      (Thou know'st) being stop'd, impatiently doth rage:
1001
      But when his faire course is not hindered,
1002
      He makes sweet musicke with th' enameld stones,
1003
      Giuing a gentle kisse to euery sedge
1004
      He ouer- taketh in his pilgrimage.
1005
      And so by many winding nookes he straies
1006
      With willing sport to the wilde Ocean.
1007
      Then let me goe, and hinder not my course:
1008
      Ile be as patient as a gentle streame,
1009
      And make a pastime of each weary step,
1010
      Till the last step haue brought me to my Loue,
1011
```

And there Ile rest, as after much turmoile

Luc. But in what habit will you goe along?

A blessed soule doth in Elizium.

1012

1013

1014

```
1015
        Iul. Not like a woman, for I would preuent
1016
      The loose encounters of lasciulous men:
1017
      Gentle Lucetta, fit me with such weedes
      As may be eeme some well reputed Page.
1018
        Luc. Why then your Ladiship must cut your haire.
1019
        Iul. No girle, Ile knit it vp in silken strings,
1020
1021
      With twentie od- conceited true- loue knots:
1022
      To be fantastique, may become a youth
      Of greater time then I shall shew to be.
1023
        Luc. What fashion (Madam) shall I make your bree-|(ches?
1024
        Iul. That fits as well, as tell me (good my Lord)
1025
1026
      What compasse will you weare your Farthingale?
      Why eu'n what fashion thou best likes (Lucetta.)
1027
        Luc. You must needs have the [m] with a cod-peece | (Ma-[dam]
1028
        Iul. Out, out, (Lucetta) that wilbe illfauourd.
1029
1030
        Luc. A round hose (Madam) now's not worth a pin
1031
      Vnlesse you have a cod- peece to stick pins on.
1032
        Iul. Lucetta, as thou lou'st me let me haue
1033
      What thou think'st meet, and is most mannerly.
1034
      But tell me (wench) how will the world repute me
1035
      For vndertaking so vnstaid a iourney?
1036
      I feare me it will make me scandaliz'd.
1037
        Luc. If you thinke so, then stay at home, and go not.
1038
        Iul. Nay, that I will not.
1039
        Luc. Then neuer dreame on Infamy, but go:
      If Protheus like your iourney, when you come,
1040
1041
      No matter who's displeas'd, when you are gone:
      I feare me he will scarce be pleas'd with all.
1042
        Iul. That is the least (Lucetta) of my feare:
1043
      A thousand oathes, an Ocean of his teares,
1044
      And instances of infinite of Loue,
1045
1046
      Warrant me welcome to my Protheus.
        Luc. All these are seruants to deceitfull men.
1047
        Iul. Base men, that vse them to so base effect;
1048
      But truer starres did gouerne Protheus birth,
1049
1050
      His words are bonds, his oathes are oracles,
1051
      His loue sincere, his thoughts immaculate,
1052
      His teares, pure messengers, sent from his heart,
      His heart, as far from fraud, as heauen from earth.
1053
1054
        Luc. Pray heau'n he proue so when you come to him.
1055
        Iul. Now, as thou lou'st me, do him not that wrong,
1056
      To beare a hard opinion of his truth:
      Onely deserue my loue, by louing him,
1057
1058
      And presently goe with me to my chamber
      To take a note of what I stand in need of,
1059
      To furnish me vpon my longing iourney:
1060
```

- 1061 All that is mine I leave at thy dispose,
- 1062 My goods, my Lands, my reputation,
- 1063 Onely, in lieu thereof, dispatch me hence:
- 1064 Come; answere not: but to it presently,
- 1065 I am impatient of my tarriance.
- 1066 Exeunt.

Actus Tertius, Scena Prima.

- 1068 Enter Duke, Thurio, Protheus, Valentine,
- 1069 Launce, Speed.
- 1070 Duke. Sir Thurio, giue vs leaue (I pray) a while,
- 1071 We have some secrets to confer about.
- 1072 Now tell me *Protheus*, what's your will with me?
- 1073 Pro. My gracious Lord, that which I wold discouer,
- 1074 The Law of friendship bids me to conceale,
- 1075 But when I call to minde your gracious fauours
- 1076 Done to me (vndeseruing as I am)
- 1077 My dutie pricks me on to vtter that
- 1078 Which else, no worldly good should draw from me:
- 1079 Know (worthy Prince) Sir Valentine my friend
- 1080 This night intends to steale away your daughter:
- 1081 My selfe am one made priuy to the plot.
- 1082 I know you have determin'd to bestow her
- 1083 On Thurio, whom your gentle daughter hates,
- 1084 And should she thus be stolne away from you,
- 1085 It would be much vexation to your age.
- 1086 Thus (for my duties sake) I rather chose
- 1087 To crosse my friend in his intended drift,
- 1088 Then (by concealing it) heap on your head
- 1089 A pack of sorrowes, which would presse you downe
- 1090 (Being vnpreuented) to your timelesse graue.
- 1091 Duke. Protheus, I thank thee for thine honest care,
- 1092 Which to requite, command me while I liue.
- 1093 This loue of theirs, my selfe haue often seene,
- 1094 Haply when they haue iudg'd me fast asleepe,
- 1095 And oftentimes have purpos'd to forbid [C3]
- 1096 Sir Valentine her companie, and my Court.
- 1097 But fearing lest my iealous ayme might erre,
- 1098 And so (vnworthily) disgrace the man
- 1099 (A rashnesse that I euer yet haue shun'd)
- 1100 I gaue him gentle lookes, thereby to finde
- 1101 That which thy selfe hast now disclos'd to me.
- 1102 And that thou maist perceiue my feare of this,

- 1103 Knowing that tender youth is soone suggested,
- 1104 I nightly lodge her in an vpper Towre,
- 1105 The key whereof, my selfe haue euer kept:
- 1106 And thence she cannot be conuay'd away.
- 1107 *Pro.* Know (noble Lord) they have deuis'd a meane
- 1108 How he her chamber- window will ascend,
- 1109 And with a Corded-ladder fetch her downe:
- 1110 For which, the youthfull Louer now is gone,
- 1111 And this way comes he with it presently.
- 1112 Where (if it please you) you may intercept him.
- 1113 But (good my Lord) doe it so cunningly
- 1114 That my discouery be not aimed at:
- 1115 For, loue of you, not hate vnto my friend,
- 1116 Hath made me publisher of this pretence.
- 1117 Duke. Vpon mine Honor, he shall neuer know
- 1118 That I had any light from thee of this.
- 1119 *Pro.* Adiew, my Lord, Sir *Valentine* is comming.
- 1120 Duk. Sir Valentine, whether away so fast?
- 1121 Val. Please it your Grace, there is a Messenger
- 1122 That stayes to beare my Letters to my friends,
- 1123 And I am going to deliuer them.
- 1124 Duk. Be they of much import?
- 1125 *Val.* The tenure of them doth but signifie
- 1126 My health, and happy being at your Court.
- 1127 Duk. Nay then no matter: stay with me a while,
- 1128 I am to breake with thee of some affaires
- 1129 That touch me neere: wherein thou must be secret.
- 1130 'Tis not vnknown to thee, that I have sought
- 1131 To match my friend Sir *Thurio*, to my daughter.
- 1132 Val. I know it well (my Lord) and sure the Match
- 1133 Were rich and honourable: besides, the gentleman
- 1134 Is full of Vertue, Bounty, Worth, and Qualities
- 1135 Beseeming such a Wife, as your faire daughter:
- 1136 Cannot your Grace win her to fancie him?
- 1137 Duk. No, trust me, She is peeuish, sullen, froward,
- 1138 Prowd, disobedient, stubborne, lacking duty,
- 1139 Neither regarding that she is my childe,
- 1140 Nor fearing me, as if I were her father:
- 1141 And may I say to thee, this pride of hers
- 1142 (Vpon aduice) hath drawne my loue from her,
- 1143 And where I thought the remnant of mine age
- 1144 Should have beene cherish'd by her child-like dutie,
- 1145 I now am full resolu'd to take a wife,
- 1146 And turne her out, to who will take her in:
- 1147 Then let her beauty be her wedding dowre:
- For me, and my possessions she esteemes not.

1149 *Val.* What would your Grace haue me to do in this?

1150 Duk. There is a Lady in Verona heere

1151 Whom I affect: but she is nice, and coy,

1152 And naught esteemes my aged eloquence.

Now therefore would I have thee to my Tutor

1154 (For long agone I have forgot to court,

1155 Besides the fashion of the time is chang'd)

1156 How, and which way I may bestow my selfe

1157 To be regarded in her sun- bright eye.

1158 Val. Win her with gifts, if she respect not words,

1159 Dumbe Iewels often in their silent kinde

1160 More then quicke words, doe moue a womans minde.

1161 Duk. But she did scorne a present that I sent her,

1162 Val. A woman somtime scorns what best co[n]tents her.

1163 Send her another: neuer giue her ore,

1164 For scorne at first, makes after-loue the more.

1165 If she doe frowne, 'tis not in hate of you,

But rather to beget more loue in you.

1167 If she doe chide, 'tis not to haue you gone,

For why, the fooles are mad, if left alone.

1169 Take no repulse, what euer she doth say,

1170 For, get you gon, she doth not meane away.

1171 Flatter, and praise, commend, extoll their graces:

1172 Though nere so blacke, say they have Angells faces,

1173 That man that hath a tongue, I say is no man,

1174 If with his tongue he cannot win a woman.

1175 Duk. But she I meane, is promis'd by her friends

1176 Vnto a youthfull Gentleman of worth,

1177 And kept seuerely from resort of men,

1178 That no man hath accesse by day to her.

1179 *Val.* Why then I would resort to her by night.

1180 Duk. I, but the doores be lockt, and keyes kept safe,

1181 That no man hath recourse to her by night.

1182 *Val.* What letts but one may enter at her window?

1183 Duk. Her chamber is aloft, far from the ground,

And built so sheluing, that one cannot climbe it

1185 Without apparant hazard of his life.

1186 *Val.* Why then a Ladder quaintly made of Cords

1187 To cast vp, with a paire of anchoring hookes,

1188 Would serue to scale another *Hero's* towre,

1189 So bold *Leander* would aduenture it.

1190 Duk. Now as thou art a Gentleman of blood

1191 Aduise me, where I may have such a Ladder.

1192 *Val.* When would you vse it? pray sir, tell me that.

1193 Duk. This very night; for Loue is like a childe

1194 That longs for euery thing that he can come by.

- 1195 *Val.* By seauen a clock, ile get you such a Ladder.
- 1196 Duk But harke thee: I will goe to her alone,
- 1197 How shall I best conuey the Ladder thither?
- 1198 Val. It will be light (my Lord) that you may beare it
- 1199 Vnder a cloake, that is of any length.
- 1200 Duk. A cloake as long as thine will serue the turne?
- 1201 Val. I my good Lord.
- 1202 Duk. Then let me see thy cloake,
- 1203 Ile get me one of such another length.
- 1204 Val. Why any cloake will serue the turn (my Lord)
- 1205 Duk. How shall I fashion me to weare a cloake?
- 1206 I pray thee let me feele thy cloake vpon me.
- 1207 What Letter is this same? what's here? to Siluia?
- 1208 And heere an Engine fit for my proceeding,
- 1209 Ile be so bold to breake the seale for once.
- 1210 My thoughts do harbour with my Siluia nightly,
- 1211 And slaues they are to me, that send them flying.
- 1212 Oh, could their Master come, and goe as lightly,
- 1213 Himselfe would lodge where (senceles) they are lying.
- 1214 My Herald Thoughts, in thy pure bosome rest-them,
- 1215 While I (their King) that thither them importune
- 1216 Doe curse the grace, that with such grace hath blest them,
- 1217 Because my selfe doe want my seruants fortune.
- 1218 I curse my selfe, for they are sent by me,
- 1219 That they should harbour where their Lord should be.
- 1220 What's here? Siluia, this night I will enfranchise thee.
- 'Tis so: and heere's the Ladder for the purpose.
- 1222 Why *Phaeton* (for thou art *Merops* sonne)
- 1223 Wilt thou aspire to guide the heauenly Car?
- 1224 And with thy daring folly burne the world?
- 1225 Wilt thou reach stars, because they shine on thee? [C3v
- 1226 Goe base Intruder, ouer- weening Slaue,
- 1227 Bestow thy fawning smiles on equal mates,
- 1228 And thinke my patience, (more then thy desert)
- 1229 Is priuiledge for thy departure hence.
- 1230 Thanke me for this, more then for all the fauors
- 1231 Which (all too- much) I have bestowed on thee.
- 1232 But if thou linger in my Territories
- 1233 Longer then swiftest expedition
- 1234 Will giue thee time to leaue our royall Court,
- 1235 By heauen, my wrath shall farre exceed the loue
- 1236 I euer bore my daughter, or thy selfe.
- 1237 Be gone, I will not heare thy vaine excuse,
- But as thou lou'st thy life, make speed from hence.
- 1239 *Val.* And why not death, rather then liuing torment?
- 1240 To die, is to be banisht from my selfe,

- 1241 And Siluia is my selfe: banish'd from her
- 1242 Is selfe from selfe. A deadly banishment:
- 1243 What light, is light, if *Siluia* be not seene?
- 1244 What ioy is ioy, if *Siluia* be not by?
- 1245 Vnlesse it be to thinke that she is by
- 1246 And feed vpon the shadow of perfection.
- 1247 Except I be by Siluia in the night,
- 1248 There is no musicke in the Nightingale.
- 1249 Vnlesse I looke on Siluia in the day,
- 1250 There is no day for me to looke vpon.
- 1251 Shee is my essence, and I leaue to be;
- 1252 If I be not by her faire influence
- 1253 Foster'd, illumin'd, cherish'd, kept aliue.
- 1254 I flie not death, to flie his deadly doome,
- 1255 Tarry I heere, I but attend on death,
- 1256 But flie I hence, I flie away from life.
- 1257 *Pro.* Run (boy) run, run, and seeke him out.
- 1258 Lau. So-hough, Soa hough—
- 1259 *Pro.* What seest thou?
- 1260 Lau. Him we goe to finde,
- 1261 There's not a haire on's head, but 'tis a Valentine.
- 1262 Pro. Valentine?
- 1263 Val. No.
- 1264 *Pro.* Who then? his Spirit?
- 1265 Val. Neither,
- 1266 *Pro.* What then?
- 1267 *Val.* Nothing.
- 1268 Lau. Can nothing speake? Master, shall I strike?
- 1269 *Pro.* Who wouldst thou strike?
- 1270 Lau. Nothing.
- 1271 *Pro.* Villaine, forbeare.
- 1272 Lau. Why Sir, Ile strike nothing: I pray you.
- 1273 *Pro.* Sirha, I say forbeare: friend *Valentine*, a word.
- 1274 Val. My eares are stopt, & cannot hear good newes,
- 1275 So much of bad already hath possest them.
- 1276 *Pro.* Then in dumbe silence will I bury mine,
- 1277 For they are harsh, vn- tuneable, and bad.
- 1278 Val. Is Siluia dead?
- 1279 Pro. No. Valentine.
- 1280 Val. No Valentine indeed, for sacred Siluia,
- 1281 Hath she forsworne me?
- 1282 Pro. No, Valentine.
- 1283 *Val.* No *Valentine*, if *Siluia* haue forsworne me.
- 1284 What is your newes?
- 1285 Lau. Sir, there is a proclamation, y you are vanished.
- 1286 *Pro.* That thou art banish'd: oh that's the newes,

- 1287 From hence, from Siluia, and from me thy friend.
- 1288 *Val.* Oh, I have fed vpon this woe already,
- 1289 And now excesse of it will make me surfet.
- 1290 Doth Siluia know that I am banish'd?
- 1291 *Pro.* I, I: and she hath offered to the doome
- 1292 (Which vn- reuerst stands in effectual force)
- 1293 A Sea of melting pearle, which some call teares;
- 1294 Those at her fathers churlish feete she tenderd,
- 1295 With them vpon her knees, her humble selfe,
- 1296 Wringing her hands, whose whitenes so became them,
- 1297 As if but now they waxed pale for woe:
- 1298 But neither bended knees, pure hands held vp,
- 1299 Sad sighes, deepe grones, nor siluer- shedding teares
- 1300 Could penetrate her vncompassionate Sire;
- 1301 But Valentine, if he be tane, must die.
- 1302 Besides, her intercession chaf'd him so,
- 1303 When she for thy repeale was suppliant,
- 1304 That to close prison he commanded her,
- 1305 With many bitter threats of biding there.
- 1306 Val. No more: vnles the next word that thou speak'st
- 1307 Haue some malignant power vpon my life:
- 1308 If so: I pray thee breath it in mine eare,
- 1309 As ending Antheme of my endlesse dolor.
- 1310 *Pro.* Cease to lament for that thou canst not helpe,
- 1311 And study helpe for that which thou lament'st,
- 1312 Time is the Nurse, and breeder of all good;
- 1313 Here, if thou stay, thou canst not see thy loue:
- 1314 Besides, thy staying will abridge thy life:
- 1315 Hope is a louers staffe, walke hence with that
- 1316 And manage it, against despairing thoughts:
- 1317 Thy letters may be here, though thou art hence,
- 1318 Which, being writ to me, shall be deliuer'd
- Euen in the milke- white bosome of thy Loue.
- 1320 The time now serues not to expostulate,
- 1321 Come, Ile conuey thee through the City- gate.
- 1322 And ere I part with thee, confer at large
- 1323 Of all that may concerne thy Loue- affaires:
- 1324 As thou lou'st *Siluia* (though not for thy selfe)
- 1325 Regard thy danger, and along with me.
- 1326 *Val.* I pray thee *Launce*, and if thou seest my Boy
- 1327 Bid him make haste, and meet me at the North- gate.
- 1328 *Pro.* Goe sirha, finde him out: Come *Valentine*.
- 1329 *Val.* Oh my deere *Siluia*; haplesse *Valentine*.
- 1330 Launce. I am but a foole, looke you, and yet I haue
- the wit to thinke my Master is a kinde of a knaue: but
- that's all one, if he be but one knaue: He liues not now

- that knowes me to be in loue, yet I am in loue, but a
- 1334 Teeme of horse shall not plucke that from me: nor who
- 1335 'tis I loue: and yet 'tis a woman; but what woman, I
- will not tell my selfe: and yet 'tis a Milke- maid: yet 'tis
- not a maid: for shee hath had Gossips: yet 'tis a maid,
- 1338 for she is her Masters maid, and serues for wages. Shee
- 1339 hath more qualities then a Water- Spaniell, which is
- much in a bare Christian: Heere is the Cate-log of her
- 1341 Condition. *Inprimis*. Shee can fetch and carry: why
- a horse can doe no more; nay, a horse cannot fetch, but
- onely carry, therefore is shee better then a Iade. *Item*.
- 1344 She can milke, looke you, a sweet vertue in a maid with
- 1345 cleane hands.
- 1346 Speed. How now Signior Launce? what newes with
- 1347 your Mastership?
- 1348 *La.* With my Mastership? why, it is at Sea:
- 1349 Sp. Well, your old vice still: mistake the word: what
- 1350 newes then in your paper?
- 1351 La. The black'st newes that euer thou heard'st.
- 1352 Sp. Why man? how blacke?
- 1353 La. Why, as blacke as Inke.
- 1354 *Sp.* Let me read them?
- 1355 La. Fie on thee Iolt- head, thou canst not read.
- 1356 *Sp.* Thou lyest: I can.
- 1357 La. I will try thee: tell me this: who begot thee? [C4
- 1358 Sp. Marry, the son of my Grand- father.
- 1359 La. Oh illiterate loyterer; it was the sonne of thy
- 1360 Grand- mother: this proues that thou canst not read.
- 1361 Sp. Come foole, come: try me in thy paper.
- 1362 *La*. There: and S[aint]. *Nicholas* be thy speed.
- 1363 Sp. Inprimis she can milke.
- 1364 La. I that she can.
- 1365 *Sp.* Item, she brewes good Ale.
- 1366 La. And thereof comes the prouerbe: (Blessing of
- 1367 your heart, you brew good Ale.)
- 1368 Sp. Item, she can sowe.
- 1369 La. That's as much as to say (Can she so?)
- 1370 *Sp.* Item she can knit.
- 1371 La. What neede a man care for a stock with a wench,
- 1372 When she can knit him a stocke?
- 1373 Sp. Item, she can wash and scoure.
- 1374 La. A speciall vertue: for then shee neede not be
- 1375 wash'd, and scowr'd.
- 1376 Sp. Item, she can spin.
- 1377 La. Then may I set the world on wheeles, when she
- 1378 can spin for her liuing.

- 1379 Sp. Item, she hath many namelesse vertues.
- 1380 La. That's as much as to say Bastard- vertues: that
- indeede know not their fathers; and therefore haue no
- 1382 names.
- 1383 Sp. Here follow her vices.
- 1384 *La.* Close at the heeles of her vertues.
- 1385 Sp. Item, shee is not to be fasting in respect of her
- 1386 breath.
- 1387 *La*. Well: that fault may be mended with a break-fast:
- 1388 read on.
- 1389 *Sp.* Item, she hath a sweet mouth.
- 1390 La. That makes amends for her soure breath.
- 1391 *Sp.* Item, she doth talke in her sleepe.
- 1392 La. It's no matter for that; so shee sleepe not in her
- 1393 talke.
- 1394 *Sp.* Item, she is slow in words.
- 1395 La. Oh villaine, that set this downe among her vices;
- 1396 To be slow in words, is a womans onely vertue:
- 1397 I pray thee out with't, and place it for her chiefe vertue.
- 1398 Sp. Item, she is proud.
- 1399 *La*. Out with that too:
- 1400 It was *Eues* legacie, and cannot be t'ane from her.
- 1401 Sp. Item, she hath no teeth.
- 1402 La. I care not for that neither: because I loue crusts.
- 1403 Sp. Item, she is curst.
- 1404 *La.* Well: the best is, she hath no teeth to bite.
- 1405 Sp. Item, she will often praise her liquor.
- 1406 La. If her liquor be good, she shall: if she will not,
- 1407 I will; for good things should be praised.
- 1408 *Sp.* Item, she is too liberall.
- 1409 La. Of her tongue she cannot; for that's writ downe
- she is slow of: of her purse, shee shall not, for that ile
- 1411 keepe shut: Now, of another thing shee may, and that
- 1412 cannot I helpe. Well, proceede.
- 1413 Sp. Item, shee hath more haire then wit, and more
- 1414 faults then haires, and more wealth then faults.
- 1415 La. Stop there: Ile haue her: she was mine, and not
- 1416 mine, twice or thrice in that last Article: rehearse that
- 1417 once more.
- 1418 *Sp.* Item, she hath more haire then wit.
- 1419 La. More haire then wit: it may be ile proue it: The
- 1420 couer of the salt, hides the salt, and therefore it is more
- then the salt; the haire that couers the wit, is more
- then the wit; for the greater hides the lesse: What's
- 1423 next?
- 1424 Sp. And more faults then haires.

- 1425 La. That's monstrous: oh that that were out.
- 1426 Sp. And more wealth then faults.
- 1427 La. Why that word makes the faults gracious:
- 1428 Well, ile haue her: and if it be a match, as nothing is
- 1429 impossible.
- 1430 *Sp.* What then?
- 1431 La. Why then, will I tell thee, that thy Master staies
- 1432 for thee at the *North gate*.
- 1433 *Sp.* For me?
- 1434 La. For thee? I, who art thou? he hath staid for a bet-ter
- 1435 man then thee.
- 1436 Sp. And must I goe to him?
- 1437 La. Thou must run to him; for thou hast staid so long,
- that going will scarce serue the turne.
- 1439 Sp. Why didst not tell me sooner? 'pox of your loue
- 1440 Letters.
- 1441 *La.* Now will he be swing'd for reading my Letter;
- 1442 An vnmannerly slaue, that will thrust himselfe into se-crets:
- 1443 Ile after, to reioyce in the boyes correctio[n]. *Exeunt*.

Scena Secunda.

- 1445 Enter Duke, Thurio, Protheus.
- 1446 Du. Sir Thurio, feare not, but that she will loue you
- 1447 Now Valentine is banish'd from her sight.
- 1448 Th. Since his exile she hath despis'd me most,
- 1449 Forsworne my company, and rail'd at me,
- 1450 That I am desperate of obtaining her.
- 1451 Du. This weake impresse of Loue, is as a figure
- 1452 Trenched in ice, which with an houres heate
- Dissolues to water, and doth loose his forme.
- 1454 A little time will melt her frozen thoughts,
- 1455 And worthlesse *Valentine* shall be forgot.
- 1456 How now sir *Protheus*, is your countriman
- 1457 (According to our Proclamation) gon?
- 1458 *Pro.* Gon, my good Lord.
- 1459 Du. My daughter takes his going grieuously?
- 1460 *Pro.* A little time (my Lord) will kill that griefe.
- 1461 Du. So I beleeue: but Thurio thinkes not so:
- 1462 Protheus, the good conceit I hold of thee,
- 1463 (For thou hast showne some signe of good desert)
- 1464 Makes me the better to confer with thee.
- 1465 *Pro.* Longer then I proue loyall to your Grace,
- 1466 Let me not liue, to looke vpon your Grace.

Du. Thou know'st how willingly, I would effect 1467 1468 The match betweene sir *Thurio*, and my daughter? Pro. I doe my Lord. 1469 1470 Du. And also, I thinke, thou art not ignorant How she opposes her against my will? 1471 *Pro.* She did my Lord, when *Valentine* was here. 1472 Du. I, and peruersly, she perseuers so: 1473 1474 What might we doe to make the girle forget The loue of *Valentine*, and loue sir *Thurio*? 1475 1476 *Pro*. The best way is, to slander *Valentine*, 1477 With falsehood, cowardize, and poore discent: Three things, that women highly hold in hate. 1478 1479 Du. I, but she'll thinke, that it is spoke in hate. 1480 *Pro.* I, if his enemy deliuer it. 1481 Therefore it must with circumstance be spoken

1482 By one, whom she esteemeth as his friend.

1483 Du. Then you must vndertake to slander him. [C4v

1484 *Pro.* And that (my Lord) I shall be loath to doe:

'Tis an ill office for a Gentleman,

1486 Especially against his very friend.

1487 Du. Where your good word cannot aduantage him,

1488 Your slander neuer can endamage him;

1489 Therefore the office is indifferent,

1490 Being intreated to it by your friend.

1491 *Pro.* You haue preuail'd (my Lord) if I can doe it

1492 By ought that I can speake in his dispraise,

1493 She shall not long continue loue to him:

1494 But say this weede her loue from *Valentine*,

1495 It follows not that she will loue sir *Thurio*.

1496 *Th.* Therefore, as you vnwinde her loue from him;

Least it should rauell, and be good to none,

1498 You must prouide to bottome it on me:

1499 Which must be done, by praising me as much

1500 As you, in worth dispraise, sir *Valentine*.

1501 Du. And Protheus, we dare trust you in this kinde,

1502 Because we know (on *Valentines* report)

1503 You are already loues firme votary,

1504 And cannot soone reuolt, and change your minde.

1505 Vpon this warrant, shall you have accesse,

1506 Where you, with *Siluia*, may conferre at large.

1507 For she is lumpish, heavy, mellancholly,

1508 And (for your friends sake) will be glad of you;

1509 Where you may temper her, by your perswasion,

1510 To hate yong *Valentine*, and loue my friend.

1511 *Pro.* As much as I can doe, I will effect:

1512 But you sir *Thurio*, are not sharpe enough:

- 1513 You must lay Lime, to tangle her desires
- 1514 By walefull Sonnets, whose composed Rimes
- 1515 Should be full fraught with seruiceable vowes.
- 1516 Du. I, much is the force of heaven-bred Poesie.
- 1517 *Pro.* Say that vpon the altar of her beauty
- 1518 You sacrifice your teares, your sighes, your heart:
- 1519 Write till your inke be dry: and with your teares
- 1520 Moist it againe: and frame some feeling line,
- 1521 That may discouer such integrity:
- 1522 For Orpheus Lute, was strung with Poets sinewes,
- 1523 Whose golden touch could soften steele and stones;
- 1524 Make Tygers tame, and huge Leuiathans
- 1525 Forsake vnsounded deepes, to dance on Sands.
- 1526 After your dire- lamenting Elegies,
- 1527 Visit by night your Ladies chamber- window
- 1528 With some sweet Consort; To their Instruments
- 1529 Tune a deploring dumpe: the nights dead silence
- 1530 Will well become such sweet complaining grieuance:
- 1531 This, or else nothing, will inherit her.
- 1532 Du. This discipline, showes thou hast bin in loue.
- 1533 *Th.* And thy aduice, this night, ile put in practise:
- 1534 Therefore, sweet *Protheus*, my direction-giuer,
- 1535 Let vs into the City presently
- 1536 To sort some Gentlemen, well skil'd in Musicke.
- 1537 I have a Sonnet, that will serve the turne
- 1538 To give the on- set to thy good aduise.
- 1539 Du. About it Gentlemen.
- 1540 *Pro.* We'll wait vpon your Grace, till after Supper,
- 1541 And afterward determine our proceedings.
- 1542 Du. Euen now about it, I will pardon you. Exeunt.

Actus Quartus. Scoena Prima.

- 1544 Enter Valentine, Speed, and certaine Out-lawes.
- 1545 1.*Out-l*. Fellowes, stand fast: I see a passenger.
- 1546 2.*Out*. If there be ten, shrinke not, but down with 'em.
- 3.Out. Stand sir, and throw vs that you have about 'ye.
- 1548 If not: we'll make you sit, and rifle you.
- 1549 Sp. Sir we are vndone; these are the Villaines
- 1550 That all the Trauailers doe feare so much.
- 1551 Val. My friends.
- 1.552 1.Out. That's not so, sir: we are your enemies.
- 1553 2.Out. Peace: we'll heare him.
- 3.Out. I by my beard will we: for he is a proper man.

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Val. Then know that I have little wealth to loose;
1555
      A man I am, cross'd with aduersitie:
1556
      My riches, are these poore habiliments,
1557
      Of which, if you should here disfurnish me,
1558
      You take the sum and substance that I haue.
1559
        2. Out. Whether trauell you?
1560
        Val. To Verona.
1561
        1. Out. Whence came you?
1562
1563
        Val. From Millaine.
        3. Out. Haue you long soiourn'd there?
1564
        Val. Some sixteene moneths, and longer might haue |(staid,
1565
      If crooked fortune had not thwarted me.
1566
         1. Out. What, were you banish'd thence?
1567
        Val. I was.
1568
        2. Out. For what offence?
1569
        Val. For that which now torments me to rehearse;
1570
1571
      I kil'd a man, whose death I much repent,
      But yet I slew him manfully, in fight,
1572
1573
      Without false vantage, or base treachery.
         1. Out. Why nere repent it, if it were done so;
1574
      But were you banisht for so small a fault?
1575
         Val. I was, and held me glad of such a doome.
1576
        2. Out. Haue you the Tongues?
1577
        Val. My youthfull trauaile, therein made me happy,
1578
1579
      Or else I often had beene often miserable.
        3.Out. By the bare scalpe of Robin Hoods fat Fryer,
1580
      This fellow were a King, for our wilde faction.
1581
        1. Out. We'll have him: Sirs, a word.
1582
        Sp. Master, be one of them:
1583
      It's an honourable kinde of theeuery.
1584
        Val. Peace villaine.
1585
        2.Out. Tell vs this: have you any thing to take to?
1586
        Val. Nothing but my fortune.
1587
        3.Out. Know then, that some of vs are Gentlemen,
1588
      Such as the fury of vngouern'd youth
1589
1590
      Thrust from the company of awfull men.
1591
      My selfe was from Verona banished,
      For practising to steale away a Lady,
1592
      And heire and Neece, alide vnto the Duke.
1593
        2.Out. And I from Mantua, for a Gentleman,
1594
      Who, in my moode, I stab'd vnto the heart.
1595
1596
         1. Out. And I, for such like petty crimes as these.
      But to the purpose: for we cite our faults,
1597
      That they may hold excus'd our lawlesse liues;
1598
      And partly seeing you are beautifide
1599
```

With goodly shape; and by your owne report,

1600

- 1601 A Linguist, and a man of such perfection,
- 1602 As we doe in our quality much want.
- 1603 2.Out. Indeede because you are a banish'd man,
- 1604 Therefore, aboue the rest, we parley to you:
- 1605 Are you content to be our Generall?
- 1606 To make a vertue of necessity,
- 1607 And liue as we doe in this wildernesse?
- 3.Out. What saist thou? wilt thou be of our consort?
- 1609 Say I, and be the captaine of vs all:
- 1610 We'll doe thee homage, and be rul'd by thee,
- Loue thee, as our Commander, and our King. [C5
- 1.Out. But if thou scorne our curtesie, thou dyest.
- 1613 2.Out. Thou shalt not liue, to brag what we have of-|(fer'd.
- 1614 *Val.* I take your offer, and will liue with you,
- 1615 Prouided that you do no outrages
- 1616 On silly women, or poore passengers.
- 3.Out. No, we detest such vile base practises.
- 1618 Come, goe with vs, we'll bring thee to our Crewes,
- 1619 And show thee all the Treasure we have got;
- 1620 Which, with our selues, all rest at thy dispose. Exeunt.

Scoena Secunda.

- 1622 Enter Protheus, Thurio, Iulia, Host, Musitian, Siluia.
- 1623 *Pro.* Already haue I bin false to *Valentine*,
- 1624 And now I must be as vniust to *Thurio*,
- Vnder the colour of commending him,
- 1626 I have accesse my owne loue to prefer.
- But Siluia is too faire, too true, too holy,
- 1628 To be corrupted with my worthlesse guifts;
- 1629 When I protest true loyalty to her,
- 1630 She twits me with my falsehood to my friend;
- 1631 When to her beauty I commend my vowes,
- 1632 She bids me thinke how I have bin forsworne
- 1633 In breaking faith with *Iulia*, whom I lou'd;
- 1634 And notwithstanding all her sodaine quips,
- 1635 The least whereof would quell a louers hope:
- 1636 Yet (Spaniel-like) the more she spurnes my loue,
- 1637 The more it growes, and fawneth on her still;
- But here comes *Thurio*; now must we to her window,
- 1639 And give some evening Musique to her eare.
- 1640 Th. How now, sir *Protheus*, are you crept before vs?
- 1641 *Pro.* I gentle *Thurio*, for you know that loue
- 1642 Will creepe in seruice, where it cannot goe.

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Th. I, but I hope, Sir, that you loue not here.
1643
1644
         Pro. Sir, but I doe: or else I would be hence.
         Th. Who, Siluia?
1645
         Pro. I, Siluia, for your sake.
1646
         Th. I thanke you for your owne: Now Gentlemen
1647
      Let's tune: and too it lustily a while.
1648
         Ho. Now, my yong guest; me thinks your' allycholly;
1649
      I pray you why is it?
1650
         Iu. Marry (mine Host) because I cannot be merry.
1651
         Ho. Come, we'll haue you merry: ile bring you where
1652
      you shall heare Musique, and see the Gentleman that
1653
      you ask'd for.
1654
         Iu. But shall I heare him speake.
1655
         Ho. I that you shall.
1656
         Iu. That will be Musique.
1657
         Ho. Harke, harke.
1658
1659
         Iu. Is he among these?
         Ho. I: but peace, let's heare'm.
1660
         Song. Who is Siluia? what is she?
1661
      That all our Swaines commend her?
1662
      Holy, faire, and wise is she,
1663
      The heaven such grace did lend her,
1664
      that she might admired be.
1665
      Is she kinde as she is faire?
1666
      For beauty liues with kindnesse:
1667
     Loue doth to her eyes repaire,
1668
      To helpe him of his blindnesse:
1669
      And being help'd, inhabits there.
1670
      Then to Siluia, let vs sing,
1671
1672
      That Siluia is excelling;
      She excels each mortall thing
1673
      Vpon the dull earth dwelling.
1674
      To her let vs Garlands bring.
1675
         Ho. How now? are you sadder then you were before;
1676
      How doe you, man? the Musicke likes you not.
1677
         Iu. You mistake: the Musitian likes me not.
1678
         Ho. Why, my pretty youth?
1679
1680
         Iu. He plaies false (father.)
         Ho. How, out of tune on the strings.
1681
1682
         Iu. Not so: but yet
      So false that he grieues my very heart- strings.
1683
1684
         Ho. You have a quicke eare.
         Iu. I, I would I were deafe: it makes me haue a slow |(heart.
1685
         Ho. I perceiue you delight not in Musique.
1686
         Iu. Not a whit, when it iars so.
1687
         Ho. Harke, what fine change is in the Musique.
1688
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- 1689 *Iu*. I: that change is the spight.
- 1690 Ho. You would have them alwaies play but one thing.
- 1691 *Iu*. I would alwaies haue one play but one thing.
- 1692 But Host, doth this Sir *Protheus*, that we talke on,
- 1693 Often resort vnto this Gentlewoman?
- 1694 Ho. I tell you what Launce his man told me,
- 1695 He lou'd her out of all nicke.
- 1696 *Iu.* Where is *Launce*?
- 1697 *Ho.* Gone to seeke his dog, which to morrow, by his
- 1698 Masters command, hee must carry for a present to his
- 1699 Lady.
- 1700 *Iu.* Peace, stand aside, the company parts.
- 1701 Pro. Sir Thurio, feare not you, I will so pleade,
- 1702 That you shall say, my cunning drift excels.
- 1703 Th. Where meete we?
- 1704 *Pro.* At Saint *Gregories* well.
- 1705 *Th.* Farewell.
- 1706 *Pro.* Madam: good eu'n to your Ladiship.
- 1707 Sil. I thanke you for your Musique (Gentlemen)
- 1708 Who is that that spake?
- 1709 *Pro.* One (Lady) if you knew his pure hearts truth,
- 1710 You would quickly learne to know him by his voice.
- 1711 Sil. Sir Protheus, as I take it.
- 1712 *Pro.* Sir *Protheus* (gentle Lady) and your Seruant.
- 1713 Sil. What's your will?
- 1714 *Pro.* That I may compasse yours.
- 1715 Sil. You have your wish: my will is even this,
- 1716 That presently you hie you home to bed:
- 1717 Thou subtile, periur'd, false, disloyall man:
- 1718 Think'st thou I am so shallow, so conceitlesse,
- 1719 To be seduced by thy flattery,
- 1720 That has't deceiu'd so many with thy vowes?
- 1721 Returne, returne, and make thy loue amends:
- 1722 For me (by this pale queene of night I sweare)
- 1723 I am so farre from granting thy request,
- 1724 That I despise thee, for thy wrongfull suite;
- 1725 And by and by intend to chide my selfe,
- Euen for this time I spend in talking to thee.
- 1727 *Pro.* I grant (sweet loue) that I did loue a Lady,
- 1728 But she is dead.
- 1729 *Iu.* 'Twere false, if I should speake it;
- 1730 For I am sure she is not buried.
- 1731 Sil. Say that she be: yet Valentine thy friend
- 1732 Suruiues; to whom (thy selfe art witnesse)
- 1733 I am betroth'd; and art thou not asham'd
- 1734 To wrong him, with thy importunacy? [C5v

- 1735 *Pro.* I likewise heare that *Valentine* is dead.
- 1736 Sil. And so suppose am I; for in her graue
- 1737 Assure thy selfe, my loue is buried.
- 1738 *Pro.* Sweet Lady, let me rake it from the earth.
- 1739 Sil. Goe to thy Ladies graue and call hers thence,
- 1740 Or at the least, in hers, sepulcher thine.
- 1741 *Iul*. He heard not that.
- 1742 *Pro.* Madam: if your heart be so obdurate:
- 1743 Vouchsafe me yet your Picture for my loue,
- 1744 The Picture that is hanging in your chamber:
- 1745 To that ile speake, to that ile sigh and weepe:
- 1746 For since the substance of your perfect selfe
- 1747 Is else deuoted, I am but a shadow;
- 1748 And to your shadow, will I make true loue.
- 1749 *Iul*. If 'twere a substance you would sure deceiue it,
- 1750 And make it but a shadow, as I am.
- 1751 Sil. I am very loath to be your Idoll Sir;
- But, since your falsehood shall become you well
- 1753 To worship shadowes, and adore false shapes,
- 1754 Send to me in the morning, and ile send it:
- 1755 And so, good rest.
- 1756 *Pro.* As wretches haue ore- night
- 1757 That wait for execution in the morne.
- 1758 *Iul. Host*, will you goe?
- 1759 *Ho.* By my hallidome, I was fast asleepe.
- 1760 *Iul.* Pray you, where lies Sir *Protheus*?
- 1761 *Ho.* Marry, at my house:
- 1762 Trust me, I thinke 'tis almost day.
- 1763 *Iul.* Not so: but it hath bin the longest night
- 1764 That ere I watch'd, and the most heauiest.

Scoena Tertia.

- 1766 Enter Eglamore, Siluia.
- 1767 Eg. This is the houre that Madam Siluia
- 1768 Entreated me to call, and know her minde:
- 1769 Ther's some great matter she'ld employ me in.
- 1770 Madam, Madam.
- 1771 *Sil.* Who cals?
- 1772 Eg. Your seruant, and your friend;
- 1773 One that attends your Ladiships command.
- 1774 Sil. Sir Eglamore, a thousand times good morrow.
- 1775 Eg. As many (worthy Lady) to your selfe:
- 1776 According to your Ladiships impose,

- 1777 I am thus early come, to know what seruice
- 1778 It is your pleasure to command me in.
- 1779 Sil. Oh Eglamoure, thou art a Gentleman:
- 1780 Thinke not I flatter (for I sweare I doe not)
- 1781 Valiant, wise, remorse-full, well accomplish'd.
- 1782 Thou art not ignorant what deere good will
- 1783 I beare vnto the banish'd Valentine:
- 1784 Nor how my father would enforce me marry
- 1785 Vaine *Thurio* (whom my very soule abhor'd.)
- 1786 Thy selfe hast lou'd, and I have heard thee say
- 1787 No griefe did euer come so neere thy heart,
- 1788 As when thy Lady, and thy true- loue dide,
- 1789 Vpon whose Graue thou vow'dst pure chastitie:
- 1790 Sir Eglamoure: I would to Valentine
- 1791 To Mantua, where I heare, he makes aboad;
- 1792 And for the waies are dangerous to passe,
- 1793 I doe desire thy worthy company,
- 1794 Vpon whose faith and honor, I repose.
- 1795 Vrge not my fathers anger (*Eglamoure*)
- 1796 But thinke vpon my griefe (a Ladies griefe)
- 1797 And on the iustice of my flying hence,
- 1798 To keepe me from a most vnholy match,
- 1799 Which heaven and fortune still rewards with plagues.
- 1800 I doe desire thee, euen from a heart
- 1801 As full of sorrowes, as the Sea of sands,
- 1802 To beare me company, and goe with me:
- 1803 If not, to hide what I have said to thee,
- 1804 That I may venture to depart alone.
- 1805 Egl. Madam, I pitty much your grieuances,
- 1806 Which, since I know they vertuously are plac'd,
- 1807 I giue consent to goe along with you,
- 1808 Wreaking as little what betideth me,
- 1809 As much, I wish all good befortune you.
- 1810 When will you goe?
- 1811 Sil. This euening comming.
- 1812 Eg. Where shall I meete you?
- 1813 Sil. At Frier Patrickes Cell,
- 1814 Where I intend holy Confession.
- 1815 Eg. I will not faile your Ladiship:
- 1816 Good morrow (gentle Lady.)
- 1817 Sil. Good morrow, kinde Sir Eglamoure. Exeunt.

Scena Quarta.

Enter Launce, Protheus, Iulia, Siluia. 1819 1820 Lau. When a mans seruant shall play the Curre with 1821 him (looke you) it goes hard: one that I brought vp of 1822 a puppy: one that I sau'd from drowning, when three or 1823 foure of his blinde brothers and sisters went to it: I have 1824 taught him (euen as one would say precisely, thus I would teach a dog) I was sent to deliuer him, as a pre-sent 1825 1826 to Mistris Siluia, from my Master; and I came no 1827 sooner into the dyning- chamber, but he steps me to her 1828 Trencher, and steales her Capons- leg: O, 'tis a foule thing, when a Cur cannot keepe himselfe in all compa-nies: 1829 I would have (as one should say) one that takes vp-on 1830 him to be a dog indeede, to be, as it were, a dog at all 1831 things. If I had not had more wit then he, to take a fault 1832 vpon me that he did, I thinke verily hee had bin hang'd 1833 for't: sure as I liue he had suffer'd for't: you shall iudge: 1834 Hee thrusts me himselfe into the company of three or 1835 foure gentleman- like- dogs, vnder the Dukes table: hee 1836 had not bin there (blesse the marke) a pissing while, but 1837 all the chamber smelt him: out with the dog (saies one) 1838 what cur is that (saies another) whip him out (saies the 1839 third) hang him vp (saies the Duke.) I having bin ac-quainted 1840 with the smell before, knew it was Crab; and 1841 goes me to the fellow that whips the dogges: friend 1842 1843 (quoth I) you meane to whip the dog: I marry doe I (quoth he) you doe him the more wrong (quoth I) 'twas 1844 1845 I did the thing you wot of: he makes me no more adoe, but whips me out of the chamber: how many Masters 1846 1847 would doe this for his Seruant? nay, ile be sworne I haue sat in the stockes, for puddings he hath stolne, otherwise 1848 he had bin executed: I have stood on the Pillorie for 1849 Geese he hath kil'd, otherwise he had sufferd for't: thou 1850 1851 think'st not of this now: nay, I remember the tricke you seru'd me, when I tooke my leaue of Madam Siluia: did [C6] 1852 1853 not I bid thee still marke me, and doe as I do; when did'st thou see me heaue vp my leg, and make water against a 1854 Gentlewomans farthingale? did'st thou euer see me doe 1855 such a tricke? 1856 *Pro. Sebastian* is thy name: I like thee well, 1857 And will imploy thee in some seruice presently. 1858 Iu. In what you please, ile doe what I can. 1859 *Pro*. I hope thou wilt. 1860 How now you whor-son pezant, 1861 Where have you bin these two dayes loytering? 1862

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1863
         La. Marry Sir, I carried Mistris Siluia the dogge you
      bad me.
1864
         Pro. And what saies she to my little Iewell?
1865
         La. Marry she saies your dog was a cur, and tels you
1866
      currish thanks is good enough for such a present.
1867
         Pro. But she receiu'd my dog?
1868
         La. No indeede did she not:
1869
      Here haue I brought him backe againe.
1870
         Pro. What, didst thou offer her this from me?
1871
         La. I Sir, the other Squirrill was stolne from me
1872
1873
      By the Hangmans boyes in the market place,
      And then I offer'd her mine owne, who is a dog
1874
      As big as ten of yours, & therefore the guift the greater.
1875
         Pro. Goe, get thee hence, and finde my dog againe,
1876
      Or nere returne againe into my sight.
1877
      Away, I say: stayest thou to vexe me here;
1878
1879
      A Slaue, that still an end, turnes me to shame:
      Sebastian, I have entertained thee,
1880
1881
      Partly that I have neede of such a youth,
      That can with some discretion doe my businesse:
1882
      For 'tis no trusting to yond foolish Lowt;
1883
1884
      But chiefely, for thy face, and thy behauiour,
1885
      Which (if my Augury deceiue me not)
      Witnesse good bringing vp, fortune, and truth:
1886
1887
      Therefore know thee, for this I entertaine thee.
      Go presently, and take this Ring with thee,
1888
      Deliuer it to Madam Siluia:
1889
      She lou'd me well, deliuer'd it to me.
1890
         Iul. It seemes you lou'd not her, not leaue her token:
1891
      She is dead belike?
1892
         Pro. Not so: I thinke she liues.
1893
         Iul. Alas.
1894
         Pro. Why do'st thou cry alas?
1895
         Iul. I cannot choose but pitty her.
1896
         Pro. Wherefore should'st thou pitty her?
1897
         Iul. Because, me thinkes that she lou'd you as well
1898
1899
      As you doe loue your Lady Siluia:
      She dreames on him, that has forgot her loue,
1900
      You doate on her, that cares not for your loue.
1901
      'Tis pitty Loue, should be so contrary:
1902
      And thinking on it, makes me cry alas.
1903
1904
         Pro. Well: giue her that Ring, and therewithall
      This Letter: that's her chamber: Tell my Lady,
1905
1906
      I claime the promise for her heauenly Picture:
      Your message done, hye home vnto my chamber,
1907
1908
      Where thou shalt finde me sad, and solitarie.
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- 1909 *Iul.* How many women would doe such a message?
- 1910 Alas poore Protheus, thou hast entertain'd
- 1911 A Foxe, to be the Shepheard of thy Lambs;
- 1912 Alas, poore foole, why doe I pitty him
- 1913 That with his very heart despiseth me?
- 1914 Because he loues her, he despiseth me,
- 1915 Because I loue him, I must pitty him.
- 1916 This Ring I gaue him, when he parted from me,
- 1917 To binde him to remember my good will:
- 1918 And now am I (vnhappy Messenger)
- 1919 To plead for that, which I would not obtaine;
- 1920 To carry that, which I would have refus'd;
- 1921 To praise his faith, which I would have disprais'd.
- 1922 I am my Masters true confirmed Loue,
- 1923 But cannot be true seruant to my Master,
- 1924 Vnlesse I proue false traitor to my selfe.
- 1925 Yet will I woe for him, but yet so coldly,
- 1926 As (heauen it knowes) I would not have him speed.
- 1927 Gentlewoman, good day: I pray you be my meane
- 1928 To bring me where to speake with Madam Siluia.
- 1929 Sil. What would you with her, if that I be she?
- 1930 *Iul*. If you be she, I doe intreat your patience
- 1931 To heare me speake the message I am sent on.
- 1932 *Sil.* From whom?
- 1933 *Iul.* From my Master, Sir *Protheus*, Madam.
- 1934 Sil. Oh: he sends you for a Picture?
- 1935 *Iul.* I, Madam.
- 1936 Sil. Vrsula, bring my Picture there,
- 1937 Goe, giue your Master this: tell him from me,
- 1938 One Iulia, that his changing thoughts forget
- 1939 Would better fit his Chamber, then this Shadow.
- 1940 *Iul.* Madam, please you peruse this Letter;
- 1941 Pardon me (Madam) I haue vnaduis'd
- 1942 Deliuer'd you a paper that I should not;
- 1943 This is the Letter to your Ladiship.
- 1944 Sil. I pray thee let me looke on that againe.
- 1945 *Iul*. It may not be: good Madam pardon me.
- 1946 Sil. There, hold:
- 1947 I will not looke vpon your Masters lines:
- 1948 I know they are stuft with protestations,
- 1949 And full of new- found oathes, which he will breake
- 1950 As easily, as I doe teare his paper.
- 1951 *Iul.* Madam, he sends your Ladiship this Ring.
- 1952 Sil. The more shame for him, that he sends it me;
- 1953 For I have heard him say a thousand times,
- 1954 His *Iulia* gaue it him, at his departure:

Though his false finger haue prophan'd the Ring, 1955 1956 Mine shall not doe his *Iulia* so much wrong. Iul. She thankes you. 1957 Sil. What sai'st thou? 1958 Iul. I thanke you Madam, that you tender her: 1959 Poore Gentlewoman, my Master wrongs her much. 1960 Sil. Do'st thou know her? 1961 1962 *Iul.* Almost as well as I doe know my selfe. To thinke vpon her woes, I doe protest 1963 1964 That I have wept a hundred seuerall times. Sil. Belike she thinks that Protheus hath forsook her? 1965 *Iul.* I thinke she doth: and that's her cause of sorrow. 1966 1967 *Sil.* Is she not passing faire? Iul. She hath bin fairer (Madam) then she is, 1968 When she did thinke my Master lou'd her well; 1969 1970 She, in my iudgement, was as faire as you. 1971 But since she did neglect her looking- glasse, And threw her Sun- expelling Masque away, 1972 1973 The ayre hath staru'd the roses in her cheekes, And pinch'd the lilly-tincture of her face, 1974 1975 That now she is become as blacke as I. 1976 Sil. How tall was she? 1977 *Iul.* About my stature: for at *Pentecost*, When all our Pageants of delight were plaid, 1978 1979 Our youth got me to play the womans part, 1980 And I was trim'd in Madam Iulias gowne, 1981 Which serued me as fit, by all mens iudgements, 1982 As if the garment had bin made for me: Therefore I know she is about my height, 1983 1984 And at that time I made her weepe a good, [C6v For I did play a lamentable part. 1985 (Madam) 'twas Ariadne, passioning 1986 For *Thesus* periury, and vniust flight; 1987 Which I so lively acted with my teares: 1988 That my poore Mistris moued therewithall, 1989 Wept bitterly: and would I might be dead, 1990 1991 If I in thought felt not her very sorrow. Sil. She is beholding to thee (gentle youth) 1992 Alas (poore Lady) desolate, and left; 1993 I weepe my selfe to thinke vpon thy words: 1994 Here youth: there is my purse; I give thee this 1995 1996 For thy sweet Mistris sake, because thou lou'st her. Fare-|(well. *Iul*. And she shall thanke you for't, if ere you know |(her. 1997 1998 A vertuous gentlewoman, milde, and beautifull. I hope my Masters suit will be but cold, 1999 Since she respects my Mistris loue so much. 2000

- 2001 Alas, how loue can trifle with it selfe:
- 2002 Here is her Picture: let me see, I thinke
- 2003 If I had such a Tyre, this face of mine
- 2004 Were full as louely, as is this of hers;
- 2005 And yet the Painter flatter'd her a little,
- 2006 Vnlesse I flatter with my selfe too much.
- 2007 Her haire is Aburne, mine is perfect Yellow;
- 2008 If that be all the difference in his loue,
- 2009 Ile get me such a coulour'd Perrywig:
- 2010 Her eyes are grey as glasse, and so are mine.
- 2011 I, but her fore- head's low, and mine's as high:
- 2012 What should it be that he respects in her,
- 2013 But I can make respective in my selfe?
- 2014 If this fond Loue, were not a blinded god.
- 2015 Come shadow, come, and take this shadow vp,
- 2016 For 'tis thy riuall: O thou sencelesse forme,
- 2017 Thou shalt be worship'd, kiss'd, lou'd, and ador'd;
- 2018 And were there sence in his Idolatry,
- 2019 My substance should be statue in thy stead.
- 2020 Ile vse thee kindly, for thy Mistris sake
- 2021 That vs'd me so: or else by *Ioue*, I vow,
- 2022 I should have scratch'd out your vnseeing eyes,
- 2023 To make my Master out of loue with thee. Exeunt.

Actus Quintus. Scoena Prima.

- 2025 Enter Eglamoure, Siluia.
- 2026 Egl. The Sun begins to guild the westerne skie,
- 2027 And now it is about the very houre
- 2028 That Siluia, at Fryer Patricks Cell should meet me,
- 2029 She will not faile; for Louers breake not houres,
- 2030 Vnlesse it be to come before their time,
- 2031 So much they spur their expedition.
- 2032 See where she comes: Lady a happy euening.
- 2033 Sil. Amen, Amen: goe on (good Eglamoure)
- 2034 Out at the Posterne by the Abbey wall;
- 2035 I feare I am attended by some Spies.
- 2036 Egl. Feare not: the Forrest is not three leagues off,
- 2037 If we recouer that, we are sure enough. *Exeunt*.

Scoena Secunda.

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Enter Thurio, Protheus, Iulia, Duke.
2039
2040
         Th. Sir Protheus, what saies Siluia to my suit?
2041
         Pro. Oh Sir, I finde her milder then she was,
      And yet she takes exceptions at your person.
2042
         Thu. What? that my leg is too long?
2043
         Pro. No, that it is too little.
2044
         Thu. Ile weare a Boote, to make it somewhat roun-|(der.
2045
2046
         Pro. But loue will not be spurd to what it loathes.
         Thu. What saies she to my face?
2047
2048
         Pro. She saies it is a faire one.
         Thu. Nay then the wanton lyes: my face is blacke.
2049
         Pro. But Pearles are faire; and the old saying is,
2050
      Blacke men are Pearles, in beauteous Ladies eyes.
2051
2052
         Thu. 'Tis true, such Pearles as put out Ladies eyes,
      For I had rather winke, then looke on them.
2053
         Thu. How likes she my discourse?
2054
         Pro. Ill, when you talke of war.
2055
         Thu. But well, when I discourse of loue and peace.
2056
         Iul. But better indeede, when you hold you peace.
2057
         Thu. What sayes she to my valour?
2058
         Pro. Oh Sir, she makes no doubt of that.
2059
         Iul. She needes not, when she knowes it cowardize.
2060
         Thu. What saies she to my birth?
2061
         Pro. That you are well deriu'd.
2062
         Iul. True: from a Gentleman, to a foole.
2063
         Thu. Considers she my Possessions?
2064
         Pro. Oh, I: and pitties them.
2065
         Thu. Wherefore?
2066
         Iul. That such an Asse should owe them.
2067
         Pro. That they are out by Lease.
2068
         Iul. Here comes the Duke.
2069
         Du. How now sir Protheus; how now Thurio?
2070
2071
      Which of you saw Eglamoure of late?
         Thu. Not I.
2072
         Pro. Nor I.
2073
         Du. Saw you my daughter?
2074
2075
         Pro. Neither.
         Du. Why then
2076
2077
      She's fled vnto that pezant, Valentine;
      And Eglamoure is in her Company:
2078
       'Tis true: for Frier Laurence met them both
2079
      As he, in pennance wander'd through the Forrest:
2080
2081
      Him he knew well: and guesd that it was she,
      But being mask'd, he was not sure of it.
2082
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- 2083 Besides she did intend Confession
- 2084 At *Patricks* Cell this euen, and there she was not.
- 2085 These likelihoods confirme her flight from hence;
- 2086 Therefore I pray you stand, not to discourse,
- 2087 But mount you presently, and meete with me
- 2088 Vpon the rising of the Mountaine foote
- 2089 That leads toward *Mantua*, whether they are fled:
- 2090 Dispatch (sweet Gentlemen) and follow me.
- 2091 Thu. Why this it is, to be a peeuish Girle,
- 2092 That flies her fortune when it followes her:
- 2093 Ile after; more to be reueng'd on Eglamoure,
- 2094 Then for the loue of reck-lesse Siluia.
- 2095 *Pro.* And I will follow, more for *Siluias* loue
- 2096 Then hate of *Eglamoure* that goes with her.
- 2097 *Iul.* And I will follow, more to crosse that loue
- 2098 Then hate for *Siluia*, that is gone for loue. *Exeunt*.

Scena Tertia.

- 2100 Siluia, Out-lawes.
- 2101 1.Out. Come, come be patient: [D1
- 2102 We must bring you to our Captaine.
- 2103 Sil. A thousand more mischances then this one
- 2104 Haue learn'd me how to brooke this patiently.
- 2105 2 *Out*. Come, bring her away.
- 2106 1 *Out*. Where is the Gentleman that was with her?
- 2107 3 *Out*. Being nimble footed, he hath out- run vs.
- 2108 But Moyses and Valerius follow him:
- 2109 Goe thou with her to the West end of the wood,
- 2110 There is our Captaine: Wee'll follow him that's fled,
- 2111 The Thicket is beset, he cannot scape.
- 2112 1 *Out*. Come, I must bring you to our Captains caue.
- 2113 Feare not: he beares an honourable minde,
- 2114 And will not vse a woman lawlesly.
- 2115 Sil. O Valentine: this I endure for thee.
- 2116 Exeunt.

Scoena Quarta.

- 2118 Enter Valentine, Protheus, Siluia, Iulia, Duke, Thurio,
- 2119 Out-lawes.
- 2120 Val. How vse doth breed a habit in a man?

- 2121 This shadowy desart, vnfrequented woods
- 2122 I better brooke then flourishing peopled Townes:
- 2123 Here can I sit alone, vn- seene of any,
- 2124 And to the Nightingales complaining Notes
- 2125 Tune my distresses, and record my woes.
- 2126 O thou that dost inhabit in my brest,
- 2127 Leaue not the Mansion so long Tenant-lesse,
- 2128 Lest growing ruinous, the building fall,
- 2129 And leaue no memory of what it was,
- 2130 Repaire me, with thy presence, *Siluia*:
- 2131 Thou gentle Nimph, cherish thy for-lorne swaine.
- 2132 What hallowing, and what stir is this to day?
- 2133 These are my mates, that make their wills their Law,
- 2134 Haue some vnhappy passenger in chace;
- 2135 They loue me well: yet I haue much to doe
- 2136 To keepe them from vnciuill outrages.
- 2137 Withdraw thee *Valentine*: who's this comes heere?
- 2138 *Pro.* Madam, this seruice I have done for you
- 2139 (Though you respect not aught your seruant doth)
- 2140 To hazard life, and reskew you from him,
- 2141 That would have forc'd your honour, and your loue,
- Vouchsafe me for my meed, but one faire looke:
- 2143 (A smaller boone then this I cannot beg,
- 2144 And lesse then this, I am sure you cannot giue.)
- Val. How like a dreame is this? I see, and heare:
- 2146 Loue, lend me patience to forbeare a while.
- 2147 Sil. O miserable, vnhappy that I am.
- 2148 *Pro.* Vnhappy were you (Madam) ere I came:
- 2149 But by my comming, I haue made you happy.
- 2150 Sil. By thy approach thou mak'st me most vnhappy.
- 2151 *Iul.* And me, when he approacheth to your presence.
- 2152 Sil. Had I beene ceazed by a hungry Lion,
- 2153 I would have beene a break-fast to the Beast,
- 2154 Rather then have false *Protheus* reskue me:
- 2155 Oh heauen be iudge how I loue Valentine,
- 2156 Whose life's as tender to me as my soule,
- 2157 And full as much (for more there cannot be)
- 2137 And full as much (for more there cannot t
- 2158 I doe detest false periur'd *Protheus*:
- 2159 Therefore be gone, sollicit me no more.
- 2160 *Pro.* What dangerous action, stood it next to death
- 2161 Would I not vndergoe, for one calme looke:
- 2162 Oh 'tis the curse in Loue, and still approu'd
- 2163 When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd.
- 2164 Sil. When Protheus cannot loue, where he's belou'd:
- 2165 Read ouer *Iulia's* heart, (thy first best Loue)
- 2166 For whose deare sake, thou didst then rend thy faith

- Into a thousand oathes; and all those oathes,Descended into periury, to loue me,
- 2169 Thou hast no faith left now, vnlesse thou'dst two,
- 2170 And that's farre worse then none: better haue none
- 2171 Then plurall faith, which is too much by one:
- 2172 Thou Counterfeyt, to thy true friend.
- 2173 *Pro.* In Loue,
- 2174 Who respects friend?
- 2175 Sil. All men but Protheus.
- 2176 *Pro.* Nay, if the gentle spirit of mouing words
- 2177 Can no way change you to a milder forme;
- 2178 Ile wooe you like a Souldier, at armes end,
- 2179 And loue you 'gainst the nature of Loue: force ye.
- 2180 Sil. Oh heauen.
- 2181 *Pro*. Ile force thee yeeld to my desire.
- 2182 *Val.* Ruffian: let goe that rude vnciuill touch,
- 2183 Thou friend of an ill fashion.
- 2184 Pro. Valentine.
- 2185 Val. Thou co[m]mon friend, that's without faith or loue,
- 2186 For such is a friend now: treacherous man,
- 2187 Thou hast beguil'd my hopes; nought but mine eye
- 2188 Could have perswaded me: now I dare not say
- 2189 I have one friend aliue; thou wouldst disprove me:
- 2190 Who should be trusted, when ones right hand
- 2191 Is periured to the bosome? Protheus
- 2192 I am sorry I must neuer trust thee more,
- 2193 But count the world a stranger for thy sake:
- 2194 The private wound is deepest: oh time, most accurst.
- 2195 'Mongst all foes that a friend should be the worst?
- 2196 *Pro.* My shame and guilt confounds me:
- 2197 Forgiue me *Valentine*: if hearty sorrow
- 2198 Be a sufficient Ransome for offence,
- 2199 I tender't heere: I doe as truely suffer,
- 2200 As ere I did commit.
- 2201 *Val.* Then I am paid:
- 2202 And once againe, I doe receive thee honest;
- 2203 Who by Repentance is not satisfied,
- 2204 Is nor of heauen, nor earth; for these are pleas'd:
- 2205 By Penitence th' Eternalls wrath's appeas'd:
- 2206 And that my loue may appeare plaine and free,
- 2207 All that was mine, in Siluia, I giue thee.
- 2208 *Iul*. Oh me vnhappy.
- 2209 *Pro.* Looke to the Boy.
- 2210 *Val.* Why, Boy?
- 2211 Why wag: how now? what's the matter? look vp: speak.
- 2212 *Iul.* O good sir, my master charg'd me to deliuer a ring

- to Madam Siluia: w (out of my neglect) was neuer done. 2213 2214 *Pro*. Where is that ring? boy? Iul. Heere 'tis: this is it. 2215 Pro. How? let me see. 2216 Why this is the ring I gaue to Iulia. 2217 Iul. Oh, cry you mercy sir, I haue mistooke: 2218 2219 This is the ring you sent to Siluia. 2220 *Pro.* But how cam'st thou by this ring? at my depart I gaue this vnto Iulia. 2221 Iul. And Iulia her selfe did giue it me, 2222 And *Iulia* her selfe hath brought it hither. 2223 2224 Pro. How? Iulia? 2225 *Iul.* Behold her, that gaue ayme to all thy oathes, And entertain'd 'em deepely in her heart. 2226 How oft hast thou with periury cleft the roote? 2227 2228 Oh *Protheus*, let this habit make thee blush. [D1v 2229 Be thou asham'd that I haue tooke vpon me, 2230 Such an immodest rayment; if shame liue 2231 In a disguise of loue? 2232 It is the lesser blot modesty findes, 2233 Women to change their shapes, then men their minds. Pro. Then men their minds? tis true: oh heuen, were man 2234 2235 But Constant, he were perfect; that one error 2236 Fils him with faults: makes him run through all th' sins; 2237 Inconstancy falls- off, ere it begins: What is in *Siluia's* face, but I may spie 2238 2239 More fresh in *Iulia's*, with a constant eye? 2240 Val. Come, come: a hand from either: 2241 Let me be blest to make this happy close: 2242 'Twere pitty two such friends should be long foes. 2243 *Pro.* Beare witnes (heauen) I have my wish for euer. Iul. And I mine. 2244 2245 Out-1. A prize: a prize: a prize. Val. Forbeare, forbeare I say: It is my Lord the Duke. 2246 Your Grace is welcome to a man disgrac'd, 2247 Banished Valentine. 2248 2249 Duke. Sir Valentine? Thu. Yonder is Siluia: and Siluia's mine. 2250 Val. Thurio giue backe; or else embrace thy death: 2251 Come not within the measure of my wrath: 2252
- 2255 Take but possession of her, with a Touch: 2256 I dare thee, but to breath vpon my Loue. Thur. Sir Valentine, I care not for her, I: 2257

Doe not name Siluia thine: if once againe,

Verona shall not hold thee: heere she stands,

2253

2254

I hold him but a foole that will endanger 2258

- His Body, for a Girle that loues him not: 2259
- 2260 I claime her not, and therefore she is thine.
- 2261 Duke. The more degenerate and base art thou
- To make such meanes for her, as thou hast done, 2262
- 2263 And leave her on such slight conditions.
- Now, by the honor of my Ancestry, 2264
- I doe applaud thy spirit, Valentine, 2265
- And thinke thee worthy of an Empresse loue: 2266
- Know then, I heere forget all former greefes, 2267
- 2268 Cancell all grudge, repeale thee home againe,
- 2269 Plead a new state in thy vn- riual'd merit,
- 2270 To which I thus subscribe: Sir Valentine,
- 2271 Thou art a Gentleman, and well deriu'd,
- Take thou thy Siluia, for thou hast deseru'd her. 2272
- Val. I thank your Grace, y gift hath made me happy: 2273
- 2274 I now beseech you (for your daughters sake)
- 2275 To grant one Boone that I shall aske of you.
- 2276 Duke. I grant it (for thine owne) what ere it be.
- 2277 Val. These banish'd men, that I have kept withall,
- 2278 Are men endu'd with worthy qualities:
- 2279 Forgiue them what they have committed here,
- 2280 And let them be recall'd from their Exile:
- 2281 They are reformed, ciuill, full of good,
- 2282 And fit for great employment (worthy Lord.)
- 2283 Duke. Thou hast preuaild, I pardon them and thee:
- Dispose of them, as thou knowst their deserts. 2284
- 2285 Come, let vs goe, we will include all iarres,
- 2286 With Triumphes, Mirth, and rare solemnity.
- Val. And as we walke along, I dare be bold 2287
- 2288 With our discourse, to make your Grace to smile.
- 2289 What thinke you of this Page (my Lord?)
- 2290 Duke. I think the Boy hath grace in him, he blushes.
- 2291 Val. I warrant you (my Lord) more grace, then Boy.
- 2292 *Duke.* What meane you by that saying?
- Val. Please you, Ile tell you, as we passe along, 2293
- 2294 That you will wonder what hath fortuned:
- 2295 Come Protheus, 'tis your pennance, but to heare
- 2296 The story of your Loues discouered.
- That done, our day of marriage shall be yours, 2297
- One Feast, one house, one mutuall happinesse. Exeunt. 2298

The names of all the Actors.

- Duke: Father to Siluia. 2300
- Valentine. 2301
- Protheus. the two Gentlemen. 2302

- 2303 Anthonio: father to Protheus.
- 2304 Thurio: a foolish riuall to Valentine.
- 2305 Eglamoure: Agent for Siluia in her escape.
- 2306 Host: where Iulia lodges.
- 2307 Out-lawes with Valentine.
- 2308 Speed: a clownish seruant to Valentine.
- 2309 Launce: the like to Protheus.
- 2310 Panthion: seruant to Antonio.
- 2311 Iulia: beloued of Protheus.
- 2312 Siluia: beloued of Valentine.

Lucetta: waighting- woman to Iulia.

- 2314 FINIS.
- 2315 THE
- 2316 Two Gentlemen of Verona.