However, when there are a number of short verse-lines that can be linked in more than one way, we do not, with rare exceptions, indent any of them.

The Explanatory Notes

The notes that appear on the pages facing the text are designed to provide readers with the help that they may need to enjoy the play. Whenever the meaning of a word in the text is not readily accessible in a good contemporary dictionary, we offer the meaning in a note. Sometimes we provide a note even when the relevant meaning is to be found in the dictionary but when the word has acquired since Shakespeare's time other potentially confusing meanings. In our notes, we try to offer modern synonyms for Shakespeare's words. We also try to indicate to the reader the connection between the word in the play and the modern synonym. For example, Shakespeare sometimes uses the word head to mean "source," but, for modern readers, there may be no connection evident between these two words. We provide the connection by explaining Shakespeare's usage as follows: "head: fountainhead, source." On some occasions, a whole phrase or clause needs explanation. Then we rephrase in our own words the difficult passage, and add at the end synonyms for individual words in the passage. When scholars have been unable to determine the meaning of a word or phrase, we acknowledge the uncertainty.

THE WINTER'S TALE

The Names of the Actors.

Eontes, King of Sicellia. L. Mamilius, yong Prince of Sicillia. Camillo. Antigonus. Foure Cleomines. Lords of Sicilia. Dion. Hermione, Queene to Leontes. Perdita, Daughter to Leontes and Hermione. Paulina, wife to Antigonus. Emilia, a Lady. Polixenes, King of Bohemia. Florizell, Prince of Bohemia. Old Shepheard, reputed Father of Perdita. Clowne, his Sonne. Autolicus, a Rogne. Archidamus, a Lord of Bohemia. Other Lords, and Gentlemen, and Servants. Shepheards, and Shephearddesses.

From the 1623 First Folio.

Characters in the Play

LEONTES, King of SICILIA HERMIONE, Queen of Sicilia MAMILLIUS, their son PERDITA, their daughter

POLIXENES, King of BOHEMIA FLORIZELL, his son

CAMILLO, a courtier, friend to Leontes and then to Polixenes
ANTIGONUS, a Sicilian courtier
PAULINA, his wife and lady-in-waiting to Hermione
CLEOMENES

DION Control of Stellar Block Bridge Bridge

courtiers in Sicilia

SHEPHERD, foster father to Perdita SHEPHERD'S SON AUTOLYCUS, former servant to Florizell, now a rogue ARCHIDAMUS, a Bohemian courtier

TIME, as Chorus

TWO LADIES attending on Hermione
LORDS, SERVANTS, and GENTLEMEN attending on Leontes
An OFFICER of the court
A MARINER
A JAILER
MOPSA
DORCAS

SERVANT to the Shepherd

SHEPHERDS and SHEPHERDESSES
Twelve COUNTRYMEN disguised as satyrs

THE WINTER'S TALE

ACT 1

- 1.1 Archidamus, a Bohemian courtier, exclaims about the magnificent hospitality he has found in Sicilia. Camillo explains about the long friendship between the kings of the two countries. Both noblemen agree that Mamillius, Sicilia's prince, shows promise of greatness.
 - 1. shall: i.e., should
- 2-3. **on the . . . foot:** i.e., on an occasion similar to the one in which I am now employed
- 6. **Bohemia**: i.e., Polixenes, king of Bohemia; **visitation**: friendly visit
- 8. Wherein: i.e., during which; entertainment: hospitality
 - 10. Beseech: i.e., I beseech
- 12. **magnificence:** splendid ceremony; liberal expenditure combined with good taste
- 14. sleepy drinks: i.e., drinks that will put you to sleep; unintelligent of: i.e., unable to perceive
 - 15. insufficience: i.e., insufficiency
 - 17. dear: i.e., dearly
- 22-23. **Sicilia . . . Bohemia:** i.e., Leontes . . . Polixenes **over-kind:** too kind
- 23. **trained:** (1) brought up; (2) made to grow in a particular way, like plants (The gardening metaphor introduced by this second meaning is picked up in **rooted** [line 24] and in **branch** [line 25].)

ACT 1

Scene 1 Enter Camillo and Archidamus.

ARCHIDAMUS If you shall chance, Camillo, to visit Bohemia on the like occasion whereon my services are now on foot, you shall see, as I have said, great difference betwixt our Bohemia and your Sicilia.

CAMILLO I think this coming summer the King of Sicilia means to pay Bohemia the visitation which he justly owes him.

ARCHIDAMUS Wherein our entertainment shall shame us; we will be justified in our loves. For indeed—CAMILLO Beseech you—

10

ARCHIDAMUS Verily, I speak it in the freedom of my knowledge. We cannot with such magnificence—in so rare—I know not what to say. We will give you sleepy drinks, that your senses, unintelligent of our insufficience, may, though they cannot praise us, as 15 little accuse us.

CAMILLO You pay a great deal too dear for what's given freely.

ARCHIDAMUS Believe me, I speak as my understanding instructs me and as mine honesty puts it to utterance. 20

CAMILLO Sicilia cannot show himself over-kind to Bohemia. They were trained together in their childhoods, and there rooted betwixt them then such an

25. cannot choose: i.e., cannot help

26-27. **their more mature dignities and royal necessities:** i.e., the positions and duties that come with maturity and kingship

27. made . . . society: severed their companion-ship

28. personal: in person; hath: i.e., have

29. attorneyed: performed by agents

30. embassies: messages; that they: i.e., so that Leontes and Polixenes

31. as . . . vast: i.e., as if over an ocean

32-33. ends...winds: i.e., widely distant regions (For "Opposed winds," see page 50.)

33. The heavens: i.e., "May the heavens . . ."; or, perhaps, "Thus the heavens . . ."

35. matter: cause, reason

35-36. unspeakable: inexpressible

36. of your: i.e., in your; It: i.e., he

38. into my note: to my notice or knowledge

40. **gallant:** a general term of praise; **physics:** i.e., relieves (literally, provides medicine to)

41. **subject**: subjects, people

1.2 Leontes suddenly grows insanely jealous of the friendship between his queen, Hermione, and his visiting friend Polixenes. Leontes forces Camillo to promise to murder Polixenes. Camillo informs Polixenes of the murder threat and the two plan a hasty departure for Bohemia.

0 SD. Camillo: See longer note, page 237.

(continued)

affection which cannot choose but branch now. 25 Since their more mature dignities and royal necessities made separation of their society, their encounters, though not personal, hath been royally attorneyed with interchange of gifts, letters, loving embassies, that they have seemed to be together though absent, shook hands as over a vast, and embraced as it were from the ends of opposed winds. The heavens continue their loves.

ARCHIDAMUS I think there is not in the world either malice or matter to alter it. You have an unspeakable comfort of your young Prince Mamillius. It is a gentleman of the greatest promise that ever came into my note.

CAMILLO I very well agree with you in the hopes of him. It is a gallant child—one that indeed physics the subject, makes old hearts fresh. They that went on crutches ere he was born desire yet their life to see him a man.

ARCHIDAMUS Would they else be content to die?

CAMILLO Yes, if there were no other excuse why they 45 should desire to live.

ARCHIDAMUS If the King had no son, they would desire to live on crutches till he had one.

They exit.

Scene 2

Enter Leontes, Hermione, Mamillius, Polixenes, Camillo, 「and Attendants. ¬

POLIXENES

Nine changes of the wat'ry star hath been The shepherd's note since we have left our throne Without a burden. Time as long again 1. wat'ry star: i.e., the moon, called "wat'ry" because it controls the tides (See page 16.)

2. **note:** sign (of nine months passing); **we, our:** i.e., I, my (Polixenes, Leontes, and Hermione all vary between referring to themselves in the singular ["I," "my"] and using the "royal we.")

3. Without a burden: i.e., empty

6-9. like . . . before it: In this complicated metaphor, Polixenes (or his one "We thank you") is likened to the numerical zero. Valueless when standing alone, a zero at the end of a number multiplies the value of that which goes before it.

10. Stay: hold back

13-16. I am . . . truly: i.e., I am tormented by anxiety about affairs in my kingdom during my absence sneaping: nipping (See longer note, page 237.)

16. stayed: i.e., stayed so long as

17. your Royalty: perhaps, your Majesty (i.e., you)

19. you . . . to 't: i.e., any trial you can make of me

21. sev'nnight: week

22. Very sooth: i.e., in truth (a very mild oath)

23. part: i.e., divide equally; 's: i.e., us

24. I'll: i.e., I'll endure; gainsaying: contradiction

26-28. **There . . . me:** i.e., no one could persuade me more readily than you

32. whip: blow (as from a whip)

33. charge: burden

Would be filled up, my brother, with o	our thanks.
And yet we should for perpetuity	`
Go hence in debt. And therefore, like	a cipher.
Yet standing in rich place, I multiply	a cipitor,
With one "We thank you" many thous	ands more
That go before it.	
LEONTES Stay your thanks awh	nile.
And pay them when you part.	
	's tomorrow.
I am questioned by my fears of what r	
Or breed upon our absence, that may	blow
No sneaping winds at home to make u	
"This is put forth too truly." Besides,	
To tire your Royalty.	r mare stayed
LEONTES We are tougher, b	rother
Than you can put us to 't.	
POLIXENES No longer st	av.
LEONTES) (
One sev'nnight longer.	
POLIXENES Very sooth, tom	orrow.
LEONTES	
We'll part the time between 's, then, a	nd in that
I'll no gainsaying.	
POLIXENES Press me not, beseed	ch vou, so.
There is no tongue that moves, none,	
world,	
So soon as yours could win me. So it	should now
Were there necessity in your request,	
Twere needful I denied it. My affairs	8
Do even drag me homeward, which to	
Were in your love a whip to me, my st	
To you a charge and trouble. To save h	
Farewell, our brother.	
LEONTES Tongue-tied, our	queen?
Speak you.	4
1	

39. Charge: exhort, urge

40. satisfaction: assurance

41. **The bygone day:** the past day (perhaps, yesterday); **proclaimed:** made known

42. **beat . . . ward:** i.e., soundly defeated **beat:** i.e., beaten ward: defensive position

44. **To tell:** i.e., for him to say that; **strong:** i.e., a strong reason for going

47. **distaffs:** staffs used in spinning thread (hence symbolic of female authority) See page 46.

49. adventure: risk

50. borrow: borrowing

50-51. **When . . . lord:** i.e., when you have Leontes visit you in Bohemia **take:** receive

52. let him: i.e., stay, remain

52-53. **behind...parting:** beyond the date arranged in advance for his departure

53. good deed: indeed

54. jar: tick

54-55. **behind . . . lord:** i.e., less than any **lady** whatsoever loves **her lord**

56-108. No, madam...with us: See longer note, page 237.

58. verily: i.e., truly (a very mild oath)

60. limber: soft, weak; vows: oaths

61. unsphere the stars: i.e., dislodge the stars and the planets from the crystalline spheres that, according to Ptolemaic astronomy, carried them around the earth (See page xxxviii.)

66. Force: i.e., if you force

67. so you shall: i.e., you shall; pay your fees: As a prisoner, he would be expected to pay fees to the jailer when released.

HERMIONE I had thought, sir, to have held my peace until You had drawn oaths from him not to stay. You, sir, Charge him too coldly. Tell him you are sure All in Bohemia's well. This satisfaction 40 The bygone day proclaimed. Say this to him, He's beat from his best ward. Well said, Hermione. LEONTES HERMIONE To tell he longs to see his son were strong. But let him say so then, and let him go. 45 But let him swear so and he shall not stay; We'll thwack him hence with distaffs. To Polixenes. Yet of your royal presence I'll adventure The borrow of a week. When at Bohemia 50 You take my lord, I'll give him my commission To let him there a month behind the gest Prefixed for 's parting.—Yet, good deed, Leontes. I love thee not a jar o' th' clock behind What lady she her lord.—You'll stay? 55 No. madam. POLIXENES HERMIONE Nay, but you will? POLIXENES I may not, verily. Verily? HERMIONE You put me off with limber vows. But I, Though you would seek t' unsphere the stars with oaths. Should yet say "Sir, no going." Verily, You shall not go. A lady's "verily" is As potent as a lord's. Will you go yet? 65 Force me to keep you as a prisoner, Not like a guest, so you shall pay your fees When you depart and save your thanks. How say you?

72.	import offending:	i.e.,	imply I	was	guilty	of an
offens	e					

74. Than you: i.e., than it is for you

78. pretty lordings: fine little lords

80. behind: i.e., in the future

84. verier wag: more mischievous boy

86. changed: exchanged

87-88. **knew . . . ill-doing:** i.e., had no knowledge of evil

90. **spirits:** invisible, barely material entities carried throughout the body in the veins, arteries, and nerves; **higher reared:** i.e., made more active

91. **stronger blood:** i.e., the hotter and thicker **blood** of the mature male

91-92. we...heaven: i.e., we would have been able to answer God (The reference is to the Christian concept of a judgment after death of our actions on earth.)

93-94. the imposition . . . ours: i.e., innocent even of original sin; or, innocent except for original sin the imposition cleared: (1) freed from the accusation or charge, or (2) except for the accusation or charge Hereditary ours: i.e., inherited from Adam and Eve by all humans (See Romans 5.12-21.)

96. **tripped:** i.e., sinned ("Trip" could also mean, specifically, "copulate.")

97. sacred: i.e., royal, noble

98. 's: i.e., us

101. playfellow: playmate

102. Grace to boot: i.e., Heaven help us

103. this: i.e., this line of reasoning

Mr. prisoner or any anata Danasa da da da da da da	
My prisoner or my guest? By your dread "verily,"	=0
One of them you shall be.	70
POLIXENES Your guest, then, madam.	*)
To be your prisoner should import offending,	
Which is for me less easy to commit	
Than you to punish.	
HERMIONE Not your jailer, then,	75
But your kind hostess. Come, I'll question you	
Of my lord's tricks and yours when you were boys.	
You were pretty lordings then?	
POLIXENES We were, fair queen,	
Two lads that thought there was no more behind	80
But such a day tomorrow as today,	
And to be boy eternal.	
HERMIONE Was not my lord	
The verier wag o' th' two?	
POLIXENES	
We were as twinned lambs that did frisk i' th' sun	85
And bleat the one at th' other. What we changed	- 65
Was innocence for innocence. We knew not	
The doctrine of ill-doing, nor dreamed	
That any did. Had we pursued that life,	
And our weak spirits ne'er been higher reared	00
With stronger blood, we should have answered	90
heaven	
Boldly "Not guilty," the imposition cleared	
Hereditary ours.	
HERMIONE By this we gather	95
You have tripped since.	
POLIXENES O my most sacred lady,	
Temptations have since then been born to 's, for	
In those unfledged days was my wife a girl;	
Your precious self had then not crossed the eyes	100
Of my young playfellow.	
HERMIONE Grace to boot!	

Of this make no conclusion, lest you say

105. answer: i.e., answer for

106-7. that . . . that: i.e., if . . . if continue fault: i.e., continue to offend

119. tongueless: not spoken of

120. waiting upon that: i.e., accompanying it

121. **ride** 's: perhaps, ride me, or, perhaps, ride women (The sexual implications of **ride** may continue in **kiss**, **spur**, and **heat**.)

123. heat . . . acre: perhaps, race one furlong

126. would: i.e., I wish; Grace: (1) a name for a woman; (2) a gracious deed worthy of praise

127. But: only

130. **crabbèd:** harsh (alluding to the sour taste of the crab apple)

132–33. **open . . . love:** a reference to the custom of handfasting, in which a couple clasped hands and declared their intention to marry

136. lo: look



"The wat'ry star." (1.2.1)
From Laurentius Wolffgang Woyt, ... Emblematischer
Parnassus ... (1728-30).

Your queen and I are devils. Yet go on. Th' offenses we have made you do we'll answer. 105 If you first sinned with us, and that with us You did continue fault, and that you slipped not With any but with us. Is he won yet? LEONTES HERMIONE He'll stay, my lord. 110 LEONTES At my request he would not. Hermione, my dearest, thou never spok'st To better purpose. HERMIONE Never? Never but once. LEONTES 115 HERMIONE What. have I twice said well? When was 't before? I prithee tell me. Cram 's with praise, and make 's As fat as tame things. One good deed dving tongueless Slaughters a thousand waiting upon that. 120 Our praises are our wages. You may ride 's With one soft kiss a thousand furlongs ere With spur we heat an acre. But to th' goal: My last good deed was to entreat his stay. What was my first? It has an elder sister. 125 Or I mistake you. O, would her name were Grace! But once before I spoke to th' purpose? When? Nay, let me have 't; I long. Why, that was when LEONTES Three crabbèd months had soured themselves to death Ere I could make thee open thy white hand 「And clap thyself my love; then didst thou utter "I am yours forever." HERMIONE 'Tis grace indeed. 135 Why, lo you now, I have spoke to th' purpose twice.

137. one: i.e., first

138. **friend:** In line 140, Leontes plays with the secondary meaning of **friend** as "lover."

139. hot: lustful

140. **mingling bloods:** According to Aristotle, sexual intercourse was the **mingling** of **bloods.**

141. tremor cordis: agitation of the heart

142. **entertainment:** i.e., manner of social behavior (The word could also mean "hospitality," "manner of reception," and "spending of time," all of which may be present here and in line 149.)

143. free: innocent; a liberty: i.e., permission

144. heartiness: genuine friendliness; fertile bosom: i.e., from a generous heart

145. well become: do credit to

146. paddling: playfully or fondly fingering

149. mort . . . deer: note sounded on a hunter's horn at the death of the deer

150. brows: In popular thought, the cuckold (the man whose wife is unfaithful) sprouts horns on his forehead. (See page 48.)

153. I' fecks: i.e., in faith

154. bawcock: fellow (French beau coq, "fine bird")

156. out of: taken from

157. **neat:** Leontes rejects the adjective **neat**, because, as he makes clear in line 159, the noun **neat** refers to cattle and the word thus reminds him of horns. (See line 150.)

158. the steer, the heifer, and the calf: young cattle that have yet to grow horns steer: young ox

159. **virginalling:** tapping as on a virginal (a small keyboard instrument)

(continued)

15

The one forever earned a royal husband,	
Th' other for some while a friend.	
She gives Polixenes her hand.	
LEONTES, \[\text{aside} \] Too hot, too hot!	
To mingle friendship far is mingling bloods.	140
I have tremor cordis on me. My heart dances,	
But not for joy, not joy. This entertainment	
May a free face put on, derive a liberty	
From heartiness, from bounty, fertile bosom,	
And well become the agent. 'T may, I grant.	145
But to be paddling palms and pinching fingers,	
As now they are, and making practiced smiles	
As in a looking glass, and then to sigh, as 'twere	
The mort o' th' deer—O, that is entertainment	
My bosom likes not, nor my brows.—Mamillius,	150
Art thou my boy?	
MAMILLIUS Ay, my good lord.	
LEONTES I' fecks!	
Why, that's my bawcock. What, hast smutched thy	
nose?	155
They say it is a copy out of mine. Come, captain,	
We must be neat—not neat, but cleanly, captain.	
And yet the steer, the heifer, and the calf	
Are all called neat.—Still virginalling	
Upon his palm?—How now, you wanton calf?	160
Art thou my calf?	
MAMILLIUS Yes, if you will, my lord.	
LEONTES	
Thou want'st a rough pash and the shoots that I have	
To be full like me; yet they say we are	165
Almost as like as eggs. Women say so,	
That will say anything. But were they false	
As o'erdyed blacks, as wind, as waters, false	
As dice are to be wished by one that fixes	

160. wanton: playful; calf: a term of endearment 163. Thou want'st: i.e., you lack; pash: head: shoots: branches, i.e., horns (of the cuckold) 165. full: entirely 166. as like as eggs: Proverbial: "as like as one egg is to another." 167. false: inconstant, unstable (Proverbial: "as false as water," "as inconstant as the wind.") 168. blacks: perhaps, funeral clothing or hangings (See longer note, page 238.) 170. bourn: boundary 172. welkin: heavenly, or blue; villain: here, a term of endearment 173. collop: i.e., child (literally, a piece of flesh): dam: mother (a term usually reserved for animals) 175. Affection . . . center: Perhaps: Feeling (affection), your meaning (intention) hits the truth (center). (But see longer note, page 238.) 176. not so held: i.e., thought to be impossible 179. fellow'st: i.e., share in; credent: credible 180. co-join: i.e., conjoin 181. beyond commission: i.e., illicitly 183. hard'ning . . . brows: i.e., growing horns 185. something seems: i.e., seems somewhat 186. How: i.e., how is it 190. moved: angry, disturbed 193. pastime: diversion, amusement 194. bosoms: i.e., hearts: lines: contours 196. unbreeched: not yet dressed in breeches, but in the coat worn by little children 201. squash: unripened pea pod 202. take eggs for money: i.e., buy something worthless (proverbial)

No bourn 'twixt his and mine, yet were it true 170 To say this boy were like me. Come, sir page. Look on me with your welkin eve. Sweet villain, Most dear'st, my collop! Can thy dam?—may 't be?— Affection, thy intention stabs the center. 175 Thou dost make possible things not so held. Communicat'st with dreams—how can this be? With what's unreal thou coactive art. And fellow'st nothing. Then 'tis very credent Thou may'st co-join with something; and thou dost, And that beyond commission, and I find it. And that to the infection of my brains And hard'ning of my brows. POLIXENES What means Sicilia? HERMIONE He something seems unsettled. 185 **POLIXENES** How, my lord? LEONTES What cheer? How is 't with you, best brother? You look HERMIONE As if you held a brow of much distraction. Are you moved, my lord? 190 **LEONTES** No, in good earnest. How sometimes nature will betray its folly. Its tenderness, and make itself a pastime To harder bosoms! Looking on the lines Of my boy's face, methoughts I did recoil 195 Twenty-three years, and saw myself unbreeched. In my green velvet coat, my dagger muzzled Lest it should bite its master and so prove, As ornaments oft \(\frac{1}{2} \) too dangerous. How like, methought, I then was to this kernel, 200 This squash, this gentleman.—Mine honest friend, Will you take eggs for money? No, my lord, I'll fight. MAMILLIUS

204. happy	dole: a	proverbial	expression	for
wishing good luck	's: his	Ž.	- 8	

207. If at home: i.e., when I am at home

208. all...matter: i.e., my constant companion exercise: habitual employment (Mirth and matter were often opposed to indicate the whole range of human concerns.)

209-10. Now . . . all: i.e., he plays every courtly role

212. varying childness: i.e., childlike ways

213. **thick**: i.e., thicken (Thickening of the **blood** was associated with melancholy.)

214-16. **So . . . me:** i.e., such is the role of Mamillius in my life

216. We two: i.e., Mamillius and I

217. graver: more solemn or serious

219. dear: expensive; cheap: inexpensive

221. Apparent: heir apparent

223. We are yours: i.e., you will find us; Shall 's attend: i.e., shall we await

226. **give line:** i.e., give scope or latitude (as in "playing" a hooked fish)

227. Go to: an expression of disapproval

228. **neb:** mouth (but usually meaning a bird's **bill**)

229. **arms her:** i.e., gives her arm (to Polixenes, as if he were **her husband** [line 230])

230. allowing: approving

232-33. forked one: i.e., cuckold

234. plays: (1) pretends, acts; (2) has sexual intercourse

235. **issue:** (1) outcome; (2) offspring; (3) exit from a stage

LEONTES	
You will? Why, happy man be 's dole!—My brother,	
Are you so fond of your young prince as we	205
Do seem to be of ours?	
POLIXENES If at home, sir,	
He's all my exercise, my mirth, my matter,	
Now my sworn friend and then mine enemy,	
My parasite, my soldier, statesman, all.	210
He makes a July's day short as December,	210
And with his varying childness cures in me	
Thoughts that would thick my blood.	
LEONTES So stands this	
squire 30 stands this	215
Officed with me. We two will walk, my lord,	215
And leave you to your graver steps.—Hermione,	
How thou lov'st us show in our brother's welcome.	
: [2] - [2]	
Let what is dear in Sicily be cheap.	Name (Var)
Next to thyself and my young rover, he's	220
Apparent to my heart.	
HERMIONE If you would seek us,	
We are yours i' th' garden. Shall 's attend you there?	
LEONTES	
To your own bents dispose you. You'll be found,	
Be you beneath the sky. \(\backslash Aside. \end{aligned} \] I am angling now,	225
Though you perceive me not how I give line.	
Go to, go to!	
How she holds up the neb, the bill to him,	
And arms her with the boldness of a wife	
To her allowing husband!	230
Exit Hermione, Polixenes, and Attendants.	
Gone already.	
Inch thick, knee-deep, o'er head and ears a forked	
one!—	
Go play, boy, play. Thy mother plays, and I	
Play too but so disgraced a part, whose issue	235

236. hiss: perhaps, cause me to be hissed (by the displeased audience)

240. present: i.e., present moment

242. **sluiced:** The metaphor that begins here and continues through line 247 compares an unfaithful wife to a **pond fished** by a poaching **neighbor**. (The words "sluice," **pond**, and **gates** were all used to refer to female genitalia.)

243. pond: private fishpond; next: nearest

245. gates: floodgates of the private fishpond (but also gates of a city, opened to the enemy of line 254)

248. revolted: i.e., faithless

249. Physic: medicine, remedy

250-51. It . . . predominant: Perhaps: "Lust is like a bawdy planet that influences everyone when in the ascendant." strike: blast, destroy as a superhuman power (The word could also mean "to copulate.")

253. barricado: barricade; belly: womb

255. on 's: i.e., of us

256. Have the disease: i.e., are cuckolds

259. What: an interjection introducing a question

262. great sir: i.e., Polixenes

264. cast out: i.e., dropped the anchor; still came home: i.e., kept being dragged from its hold

Will hiss me to my grave. Contempt and clamor Will be my knell. Go play, boy, play. — There have been,	72
Or I am much deceived, cuckolds ere now; And many a man there is, even at this present, Now while I speak this, holds his wife by th' arm, That little thinks she has been sluiced in 's absence, And his pond fished by his next neighbor, by	240
Sir Smile, his neighbor. Nay, there's comfort in 't Whiles other men have gates and those gates opened,	245
As mine, against their will. Should all despair That have revolted wives, the tenth of mankind Would hang themselves. Physic for 't there's none. It is a bawdy planet, that will strike Where 'tis predominant; and 'tis powerful, think it, From east, west, north, and south. Be it concluded, No barricado for a belly. Know 't, It will let in and out the enemy	250
With bag and baggage. Many thousand on 's Have the disease and feel 't not.—How now, boy?	255
MAMILLIUS I am like you, 「they say. LEONTES Why, that's some comfort.— What, Camillo there?	
CAMILLO, 「coming forward Ay, my good lord. LEONTES Go play, Mamillius. Thou'rt an honest man. [Mamillius exits.]	260
Camillo, this great sir will yet stay longer. CAMILLO You had much ado to make his anchor hold. When you cast out, it still came home.	
LEONTES Didst note it?	265

267.	material:	important

269. **They're . . . me:** i.e., they know I am a cuckold (See longer note, page 239.)

270. rounding: whispering, muttering

271. so-forth: i.e., you-know-what

271-72. 'Tis... last: Proverbial: "The cuckold is the last to know." gust: taste

272. came 't: i.e., did it come about

276. **so it is:** i.e., as the case stands; **taken:** understood, apprehended

278. conceit: understanding; soaking: i.e., absorbent

279. blocks: i.e., minds (usually slang for "heads")

280. of: i.e., by; severals: individuals

281. headpiece: intellect; Lower messes: i.e., those of inferior rank

282. **purblind:** totally blind; or, perhaps, mentally dull

294. chamber-counsels: i.e., private affairs

294–96. **priestlike . . . reformed:** Camillo is figured here as a priest who has heard the confession of Leontes, the **penitent**, given him absolution (**cleansed** [his] **bosom**), and counseled him to amend or "reform" his life.

	T-1
CAMILLO	_
He would not stay at your petitions, made	
His business more material.	
LEONTES Didst perceive it?	
Aside. They're here with me already, whisp'ring, rounding:	270
"Sicilia is a so-forth." 'Tis far gone	210
When I shall gust it last.—How came 't, Camillo,	
That he did stay?	
CAMILLO At the good queen's entreaty.	
LEONTES	
"At the queen's" be 't. "Good" should be pertinent,	275
But so it is, it is not. Was this taken	213
By any understanding pate but thine?	
For thy conceit is soaking, will draw in	
More than the common blocks. Not noted, is 't	
But of the finer natures, by some severals	280
Of headpiece extraordinary? Lower messes	With the State of
Perchance are to this business purblind? Say.	
CAMILLO	
Business, my lord? I think most understand	
Bohemia stays here longer.	
LEONTES	
Ha?	285
CAMILLO Stays here longer.	
LEONTES Ay, but why?	
CAMILLO	
To satisfy your Highness and the entreaties	
Of our most gracious mistress.	
LEONTES Satisfy?	290
Th' entreaties of your mistress? Satisfy?	
Let that suffice. I have trusted thee, Camillo,	
With all the nearest things to my heart, as well	
My chamber-counsels, wherein, priestlike, thou	
Hast cleansed my bosom; I from thee departed	295
Thy penitent reformed. But we have been	

297. in: i.e., regarding

300. bide: dwell

301. that way: i.e., toward honesty

302. Which: i.e., which cowardice; hoxes honesty behind: hamstrings honesty

303. From . . . required: i.e., from the direction honesty should take

305. **grafted . . . trust:** i.e., completely in my confidence

307. home: i.e., to the end

307-8. stake drawn: i.e., bet won

315. Sometime puts forth: i.e., (he) sometimes displays; or, perhaps, (these weaknesses) sometimes appear

316. willful-negligent: i.e., willfully or perversely negligent

317. industriously: intentionally, designedly

320. **the issue doubted:** i.e., mistrusted or feared the outcome

321–22. **execution . . . non-performance:** i.e., accomplishment of the act was a reproach to my hesitation

324. allowed: permitted

325. free of: exempt from

329. Ha': i.e., have

330. eyeglass: crystalline lens of the eve

Deceived in thy integrity, deceived In that which seems so CAMILLO Be it forbid, my lord! LEONTES To bide upon 't: thou art not honest; or, 300 If thou inclin'st that way, thou art a coward, Which hoxes honesty behind, restraining From course required; or else thou must be counted A servant grafted in my serious trust 305 And therein negligent; or else a fool That seest a game played home, the rich stake drawn. And tak'st it all for jest. CAMILLO My gracious lord. 310 I may be negligent, foolish, and fearful. In every one of these no man is free. But that his negligence, his folly, fear, Among the infinite doings of the world, Sometime puts forth. In your affairs, my lord, 315 If ever I were willful-negligent. It was my folly; if industriously I played the fool, it was my negligence, Not weighing well the end; if ever fearful To do a thing where I the issue doubted. 320 Whereof the execution did cry out Against the non-performance, 'twas a fear Which oft infects the wisest. These, my lord, Are such allowed infirmities that honesty Is never free of. But, beseech your Grace. 325 Be plainer with me; let me know my trespass By its own visage. If I then deny it, 'Tis none of mine. LEONTES Ha' not you seen, Camillo-But that's past doubt; you have, or your eyeglass 330

	n: See no				
perhaps wo	rdplay on	the th	in horn	used as a	a trans-
parent prote	ective cove	ring.)			

332. to: i.e., in response to; vision: object of sight

335. slippery: unchaste

336-37. else . . . thought: i.e., otherwise insolently deny that you have either eyes, ears, or thought

338. hobby-horse: unchaste woman, prostitute

339. rank: indecent, coarse; flax-wench: i.e., a girl who is a flax-worker (hence, lower class, and represented as therefore low in morals); puts to: begins (to be sexually active)

340. troth-plight: solemn promise to marry

343. **present:** immediate; 'Shrew my heart: literally, may my heart be cursed (a mild oath)

344. did become you less: i.e., was less appropriate to you

346. **deep:** heinous; **that:** perhaps, her supposed adultery; or, perhaps, your accusation; **though true:** i.e., even if it were **true**

348. meeting noses: i.e., in the act of kissing

349. career: course

350. note: sign

351. honesty: chastity; Horsing foot on foot: setting his foot on hers, hers on his

354. the pin and web: i.e., cataracts

357. Bohemia: i.e., the king of Bohemia, Polixenes

361. betimes: soon; before it is too late

363. Say it be: i.e., suppose it is (dangerous)

Is thicker than a cuckold's horn-or heard-For to a vision so apparent, rumor Cannot be mute—or thought—for cogitation Resides not in that man that does not think-My wife is slippery? If thou wilt confess— 335 Or else be impudently negative To have nor eyes nor ears nor thought—then say My wife's a hobby-horse, deserves a name As rank as any flax-wench that puts to Before her troth-plight. Say 't, and justify 't. 340 CAMILLO I would not be a stander-by to hear My sovereign mistress clouded so without My present vengeance taken. 'Shrew my heart, You never spoke what did become you less Than this, which to reiterate were sin 345 As deep as that, though true. LEONTES Is whispering nothing? Is leaning cheek to cheek? Is meeting noses? Kissing with inside lip? Stopping the career Of laughter with a sigh?—a note infallible 350 Of breaking honesty. Horsing foot on foot? Skulking in corners? Wishing clocks more swift? Hours minutes? Noon midnight? And all eyes Blind with the pin and web but theirs, theirs only, That would unseen be wicked? Is this nothing? 355 Why, then the world and all that's in 't is nothing. The covering sky is nothing, Bohemia nothing, My wife is nothing, nor nothing have these nothings, If this be nothing. CAMILLO Good my lord, be cured 360 Of this diseased opinion, and betimes, For 'tis most dangerous. LEONTES Say it be, 'tis true.

367. gross: stupid, dull

368. hovering temporizer: i.e., wavering opportunist

369. at once: i.e., at the same time

371. Infected: i.e., as infected

372. **running...glass:** i.e., an hour (measured by an hourglass) See page 64.

374. like her medal: perhaps, as if he were wear-

ing a medal with her figure on it

375-79. **Bohemia**, who . . . doing: The structure of Leontes' sentence is broken, with the subject who (i.e., **Bohemia**) shifting to they (i.e., servants) so that who is never given a predicate. bare: bore alike . . . as: i.e., my honor as well as thrifts: gains undo: cancel, destroy doing: action (perhaps, with wordplay on doing as sexual intercourse)

380-81. **from meaner...worship:** i.e., from humble condition have elevated to honor

383. bespice: i.e., season as with a spice

384. lasting wink: i.e., perpetual sleep

385. draft: drink

387. rash potion: i.e., quick-acting dose of poison (Rash may refer at the same time to the ill-considered hastiness of the perpetrator.)

389. Maliciously: violently

390. crack: flaw, failing

392. Make . . . rot: i.e., if you doubt the queen's misconduct, you can go rot

393. muddy: muddled, confused; unsettled: mentally affected

394. **appoint:** nominate (in a legal sense), assign, devote; **in:** i.e., to; **vexation:** distress, affliction

CAMILLO No, no, my lord. LEONTES It is. You lie, you lie. 365 I say thou liest. Camillo, and I hate thee. Pronounce thee a gross lout, a mindless slave. Or else a hovering temporizer that Canst with thine eyes at once see good and evil, Inclining to them both. Were my wife's liver 370 Infected as her life, she would not live The running of one glass. CAMILLO Who does infect her? LEONTES Why, he that wears her like her medal, hanging About his neck-Bohemia, who, if I 375 Had servants true about me, that bare eyes To see alike mine honor as their profits, Their own particular thrifts, they would do that Which should undo more doing. Ay, and thou, His cupbearer—whom I from meaner form 380 Have benched and reared to worship, who mayst see Plainly as heaven sees earth and earth sees heaven How I am galled-mightst bespice a cup To give mine enemy a lasting wink, Which draft to me were cordial. 385 CAMILLO Sir, my lord. I could do this, and that with no rash potion. But with a ling'ring dram that should not work Maliciously like poison. But I cannot Believe this crack to be in my dread mistress, 390 So sovereignly being honorable. I have loved thee-LEONTES Make that thy question, and go rot! Dost think I am so muddy, so unsettled. To appoint myself in this vexation, sully The purity and whiteness of my sheets-395 Which to preserve is sleep, which being spotted

398. **Give . . . blood:** i.e., cast doubt on the legitimacy

400. **ripe moving to 't:** i.e., having been moved to do it by careful considerations

401. **blench:** swerve (as to embrace affliction groundlessly)

403. fetch off: kill

405. at first: i.e., when you first married her

406. **thereby:** in addition to that; **for sealing:** i.e., for the sake of silencing

407. injury: calumny

410. set down: resolved

413. clear: innocent

414. keep with: keep company with

423. for: i.e., as for

425. to do 't: i.e., for doing it

427. with: i.e., against

428. To do: i.e., if I do



Stinging nettles. (1.2.397)
From John Gerard, The herball or generall historie of plantes . . . (1597).

Is goads, thorns, nettles, tails of wasps-Give scandal to the blood o' th' Prince, my son. Who I do think is mine and love as mine. Without ripe moving to 't? Would I do this? 400 Could man so blench? I must believe vou, sir. CAMILLO I do, and will fetch off Bohemia for 't-Provided that, when he's removed, your Highness Will take again your queen as yours at first, 405 Even for your son's sake, and thereby for sealing The injury of tongues in courts and kingdoms Known and allied to yours. Thou dost advise me LEONTES Even so as I mine own course have set down. 410 I'll give no blemish to her honor, none. CAMILLO My lord. Go then, and with a countenance as clear As friendship wears at feasts, keep with Bohemia And with your queen. I am his cupbearer. 415 If from me he have wholesome beverage. Account me not your servant. This is all. LEONTES Do 't and thou hast the one half of my heart: Do 't not, thou splitt'st thine own. 420 I'll do 't, my lord. CAMILLO LEONTES I will seem friendly, as thou hast advised me. He exits. CAMILLO O miserable lady! But, for me, What case stand I in? I must be the poisoner Of good Polixenes, and my ground to do 't 425 Is the obedience to a master, one Who in rebellion with himself will have All that are his so too. To do this deed.

432. **Nor:** i.e., neither; **not one:** i.e., a single one 434–35. **To...breakneck:** i.e., whether I poison Polixenes or not, I certainly face ruin **breakneck:** ruin, destruction

435. **Happy . . . now:** i.e., may a fortunate planet now be predominant

438. warp: shrink, shrivel

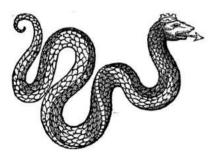
444. As: i.e., as if

447. **Wafting . . . contrary:** turning his eyes aside disdainfully

447–48. **falling...contempt:** expressing contempt by a movement of his lip

454. **intelligent:** communicative; intelligible; 'tisthereabouts: i.e., the meaning of your statement that you dare not know is that you know and dare not tell me

455-56. to yourself...dare not: i.e., as far as you yourself are concerned, you must know what you do know; you cannot say you dare not know it 457. complexions: looks



A basilisk. (1.2.466)
From Edward Topsell, The history of four-footed beasts and serpents . . . (1658).

Promotion follows. If I could find example Of thousands that had struck anointed kings 430 And flourished after, I'd not do 't. But since Nor brass, nor stone, nor parchment bears not one, Let villainy itself forswear 't. I must Forsake the court. To do 't or no is certain To me a breakneck. Happy star reign now! 435 Here comes Bohemia. Enter Polixenes. POLIXENES, \(\alpha side \) This is strange. Methinks My favor here begins to warp. Not speak?-Good day, Camillo. CAMILLO Hail, most royal sir. 440 POLIXENES What is the news i' th' court? **CAMILLO** None rare, my lord. POLIXENES The King hath on him such a countenance As he had lost some province and a region Loved as he loves himself. Even now I met him 445 With customary compliment, when he. Wafting his eyes to th' contrary and falling A lip of much contempt, speeds from me, and So leaves me to consider what is breeding That changes thus his manners. 450 CAMILLO I dare not know, my lord. POLIXENES How, dare not? Do not? Do you know and dare not? Be intelligent to me—'tis thereabouts; For to yourself what you do know, you must, 455 And cannot say you dare not. Good Camillo. Your changed complexions are to me a mirror Which shows me mine changed too, for I must be

464. Of: i.e., from

466. **basilisk:** a mythical serpent whose look could kill (See page 36.)

467. sped: succeeded

469. By: as a result of

470-73. As . . . gentle: i.e., you as a gentleman are adorned by your learning as I am ennobled by my ancestry thereto: moreover, besides Clerklike experienced: experienced as a scholar gentry: class below the nobility; gentlemen In whose . . . gentle: i.e., as whose successors we are noble

474–76. **which . . . informed:** i.e., that I need to know **knowledge:** understanding

476-77. **imprison...concealment:** i.e., do not keep me in ignorance by concealing it **ignorant:** i.e., causing ignorance

481. **conjure:** solemnly appeal to, implore; **parts:** duties

482-83. **whereof...mine:** i.e., not the least of which is your duty to respond to my petition

484. **incidency:** circumstance, incident; **harm:** evil

486. if to be: i.e., if it is to be prevented

490. mark: pay attention to

491. e'en as: even as, just as

492–93. **both . . . goodnight:** i.e., we are both finished

The state of the s	
A party in this alteration, finding	
Myself thus altered with 't.	460
CAMILLO There is a sickness	
Which puts some of us in distemper, but	
I cannot name the disease, and it is caught	
Of you that yet are well.	
POLIXENES How caught of me?	465
Make me not sighted like the basilisk.	
I have looked on thousands who have sped the better	
By my regard, but killed none so. Camillo,	
As you are certainly a gentleman, thereto	470
Clerklike experienced, which no less adorns	
Our gentry than our parents' noble names,	
In whose success we are gentle, I beseech you,	
If you know aught which does behoove my	
knowledge	475
Thereof to be informed, imprison 't not	113
In ignorant concealment.	
CAMILLO I may not answer.	
POLIXENES	
A sickness caught of me, and yet I well?	
I must be answered. Dost thou hear, Camillo?	480
I conjure thee by all the parts of man	100
Which honor does acknowledge, whereof the least	
Is not this suit of mine, that thou declare	
What incidency thou dost guess of harm	
Is creeping toward me; how far off, how near;	485
Which way to be prevented, if to be;	403
If not, how best to bear it.	
CAMILLO Sir, I will tell you,	
Since I am charged in honor and by him	
That I think honorable. Therefore mark my counsel,	400
Which must be e'en as swiftly followed as	490
I mean to utter it, or both yourself and me	
Cry lost, and so goodnight.	
ory rost, and so goodingm.	

The Winter's Tale ACT 1. SC.	2
POLIXENES On, good Camillo.	
CAMILLO	
I am appointed him to murder you.	495
POLIXENES	775
By whom, Camillo?	
CAMILLO By the King.	
POLIXENES For what?	
CAMILLO	
He thinks, nay with all confidence he swears,	
As he had seen 't or been an instrument	
To vice you to 't, that you have touched his queen	500
Forbiddenly.	
POLIXENES O, then my best blood turn	
To an infected jelly, and my name	
Be yoked with his that did betray the Best!	
Turn then my freshest reputation to	505
A sayor that may strike the 1-11	
A savor that may strike the dullest nostril	
Where I arrive, and my approach be shunned,	
Nay, hated too, worse than the great'st infection That e'er was heard or read.	100
111 mm	510
OWEAL HIS IDOUGHT OVER	
By each particular star in heaven and	
By all their influences, you may as well	
Forbid the sea for to obey the moon	
As or by oath remove or counsel shake	515
The fabric of his folly, whose foundation	
Is piled upon his faith and will continue	
The standing of his body.	
OLIXENES How should this grow?	
AMILLO	
I know not. But I am sure 'tis safer to	520
Avoid what's grown than question how 'tis born	520
If therefore you dare trust my honesty	
That lies enclosed in this trunk which you	
Shall bear along impawned, away tonight!	

525. whisper to: i.e., secretly instruct them to
assist in
527. Clear them o': i.e., get them out of; For: i.e.,
as for
528. to: i.e., at
529. discovery: disclosure
534-35. thereon sworn: i.e., just after the
king has imposed the death penalty
538. places: (1) dwellings; (2) positions in my
court
539. Still: always
540. hence departure: i.e., departure hence
542. As: i.e., to the same extent as
544. as: i.e., since, inasmuch as
545. which: i.e., who
546. Professed: i.e., professed friendship
547. In: on account of; o'ershades: overshadows
548. expedition: (1) voyage; (2) haste, promptness
549-50. nothing suspicion : i.e., who has
done nothing to provoke his unreasonable suspicion
552. avoid: depart
554. Please: i.e., may it please
334. Trease. I.c., may it prease
20 P 100 22 P
¥

Your followers I will whisper to the business,	525
And will by twos and threes at several posterns	323
Clear them o' th' city. For myself, I'll put	
My fortunes to your service, which are here	
By this discovery lost. Be not uncertain,	
For, by the honor of my parents, I	530
Have uttered truth—which if you seek to prove,	330
I dare not stand by; nor shall you be safer	
Than one condemned by the King's own mouth,	
thereon	
His execution sworn.	535
POLIXENES I do believe thee.	333
I saw his heart in 's face. Give me thy hand.	
Be pilot to me and thy places shall	
Still neighbor mine. My ships are ready and	
My people did expect my hence departure	540
Two days ago. This jealousy	340
Is for a precious creature. As she's rare,	
Must it be great; and as his person's mighty,	
Must it be violent; and as he does conceive	8 8
He is dishonored by a man which ever	545
Professed to him, why, his revenges must	545
In that be made more bitter. Fear o'ershades me.	
Good expedition be my friend, and comfort	
The gracious queen, part of his theme, but nothing	
Of his ill-ta'en suspicion. Come, Camillo,	
I will respect thee as a father if	550
Thou bear'st my life off hence. Let us avoid.	
CAMILLO	
It is in mine authority to command	
The keys of all the posterns. Please your Highness	
To take the urgent hour. Come, sir, away.	
	555
They exi	1.

THE WINTER'S TALE

ACT 2

2.1 Leontes learns of the departure of Polixenes and Camillo and has Hermione arrested for adultery and treason. He announces that he has sent couriers to the shrine of Apollo to obtain the god's advice about what action he should take.

5. I'll none of: i.e., I do not want

10. for because: i.e., because

11. brows: i.e., eyebrows

12. Become some women best: i.e., best suit some women; so: i.e., provided

15. taught: i.e., taught you



Woman with a distaff. (1.2.47) From Johann Engel, $Astrolabium \dots (1488)$.

ACT 2

Scene 1 Enter Hermione, Mamillius, \(\Gamma \) and \(\Gamma \) Ladies. HERMIONE Take the boy to you. He so troubles me 'Tis past enduring. Come, my gracious lord. FIRST LADY Shall I be your playfellow? MAMILLIUS No, I'll none of you. 5 FIRST LADY Why, my sweet lord? MAMILLIUS You'll kiss me hard and speak to me as if I were a baby still.—I love you better. SECOND LADY And why so, my lord? Not for because MAMILLIUS 10 Your brows are blacker—yet black brows, they say, Become some women best, so that there be not Too much hair there, but in a semicircle, Or a half-moon made with a pen. SECOND LADY Who taught this? 15 MAMILLIUS I learned it out of women's faces.—Pray now, What color are your eyebrows? FIRST LADY Blue, my lord.

19. mock: joke, jest

24. wanton: play

27. Good . . . her: i.e., good luck to her

30. tell 's: i.e., tell me

31. sad: calamitous, distressing

34. sprites: terrifying, hostile supernatural beings

41. Yond crickets: i.e., the ladies

42. give . . . ear: i.e., whisper it to me

43. he: i.e., Polixenes



A cuckold. (1.2.232–33, 239) From *Bagford Ballads* (printed in 1878).

MAMILLIUS Nay; that's a mock. I have seen a lady's nose That has been blue, but not her eyebrows. 20 FIRST LADY Hark ve. The Queen your mother rounds apace. We shall Present our services to a fine new prince One of these days, and then you'd wanton with us If we would have you. 25 She is spread of late SECOND LADY Into a goodly bulk. Good time encounter her! HERMIONE What wisdom stirs amongst you?—Come, sir, now I am for you again. Pray you sit by us. And tell 's a tale. 30 Merry or sad shall 't be? MAMILLIUS HERMIONE As merry as you will. MAMILLIUS A sad tale's best for winter. I have one Of sprites and goblins. Let's have that, good sir. HERMIONE 35 Come on, sit down. Come on, and do your best To fright me with your sprites. You're powerful at it. MAMILLIUS There was a man-Nay, come sit down, then on. HERMIONE MAMILLIUS Dwelt by a churchyard. I will tell it softly, Yond crickets shall not hear it. HERMIONE Come on then, and give 't me in mine ear. They talk privately. 「Enter Leontes, Antigonus, \(\sigma and \) Lords.

Was he met there? His train? Camillo with him?

48

LEONTES

45. scour so: go in such haste

49. Alack . . . knowledge: i.e., I wish there had been less for me to know

50-56. There . . . hefts: This metaphor alludes to the belief that a spider placed in a drink made the drink poisonous. Leontes claims that the venom does not work unless one sees the spider. hefts: heavings (in an effort to vomit)

57. his: i.e., Polixenes'

59. mistrusted: suspected

60. pre-employed: i.e., already employed

61. discovered my design: i.e., disclosed my plan

62. pinched: (1) tortured; (2) diminished; trick: toy, trifle

65. his: i.e., Camillo's

66. so: i.e., in this case

74. about: i.e., in contact with

75. sport: amuse



"Opposed winds." (1.1.32-33)
From Giulio Cesare Capaccio, Delle imprese trattato . . . (1592).

LORD	
Behind the tuft of pines I met them. Never	
Saw I men scour so on their way. I eyed them	
Even to their ships.	
LEONTES How blest am I	
In my just censure, in my true opinion!	
Alack, for lesser knowledge! How accursed	1021
In being so blest! There may be in the cup	
A spider steeped, and one may drink, depart,	
And yet partake no venom, for his knowledge	
Is not infected; but if one present	
Th' abhorred ingredient to his eye, make known	
How he hath drunk, he cracks his gorge, his sid	es,
With violent hefts. I have drunk, and seen the sp	ider.
Camillo was his help in this, his pander.	
There is a plot against my life, my crown.	
All's true that is mistrusted. That false villain	
Whom I employed was pre-employed by him.	
He has discovered my design, and I	
Remain a pinched thing, yea, a very trick For them to play at will. How came the posterns	
So easily open?	3
LORD By his great authority,	
Which often hath no less prevailed than so	
On your command.	74
LEONTES I know 't too well.	
To Hermione. Give me the boy. I am glad you of	did
not nurse him.	
Though he does bear some signs of me, yet you	
Have too much blood in him.	
HERMIONE What is this? Sport	?
LEONTES, \(\tau_to\) the Ladies\(\tau\)	
Bear the boy hence. He shall not come about he	er.
Away with him, and let her sport herself	

76. that: i.e., that which

79. I'd say: i.e., I would (simply) say

81. Howe'er...nayward: i.e., however much you are inclined toward disbelief

83. mark her well: i.e., observe her closely

83-95. Be . . . honest: In these lines, Leontes imagines his lords as unable to speak in praise of Hermione without also immediately expressing their doubts about her chastity. honest: chaste but: only without-door: outward high speech: i.e., praise in a lofty or exalted style straight: straightaway, immediately hum, ha: expressions of hesitation brands: (1) stigmas; (2) marks burned into flesh (See sear in line 92.) out: confused come between: i.e., intervene

96. grieve . . . be: i.e., grieve that it is true

99. replenished: perfect

100. as much more villain: i.e., that much more the villain for having said it

102. mistook: mistaken

104. Which . . . place: i.e., whom I'll not address by the title of your position (as queen)

105. barbarism: rude and unpolished language

106. a like language: i.e., the same terms; degrees: ranks

107. **distinguishment:** distinction (according to social rank)

111. federary: confederate, accomplice

With that she's big with, (\(\text{to Hermione} \) for 'tis Polixenes Has made thee swell thus. TA Lady exits with Mamillius. But I'd say he had not. HERMIONE And I'll be sworn you would believe my saying, 80 Howe'er you lean to th' nayward. LEONTES You, my lords. Look on her, mark her well. Be but about To say "She is a goodly lady," and The justice of your hearts will thereto add 85 "'Tis pity she's not honest, honorable." Praise her but for this her without-door form. Which on my faith deserves high speech, and straight The shrug, the "hum," or "ha," these petty brands 90 That calumny doth use-O, I am out, That mercy does, for calumny will sear Virtue itself—these shrugs, these "hum"s and "ha"s, When you have said she's goodly, come between Ere you can say she's honest. But be 't known, 95 From him that has most cause to grieve it should be. She's an adult'ress. HERMIONE Should a villain say so. The most replenished villain in the world. He were as much more villain. You, my lord, 100 Do but mistake. You have mistook, my lady. LEONTES Polixenes for Leontes. O thou thing. Which I'll not call a creature of thy place Lest barbarism, making me the precedent, 105 Should a like language use to all degrees, And mannerly distinguishment leave out Betwixt the prince and beggar.—I have said She's an adult'ress; I have said with whom. More, she's a traitor, and Camillo is 110 A federary with her, and one that knows

112. shame: i.e., be ashamed

113. **But:** except; **principal:** (1) person directly responsible for a crime; (2) prince

114. bed-swerver: i.e., adulteress

115. vulgars: common people

116. late: recent

120. **published:** proclaimed, denounced; **Gentle my lord:** i.e., my noble lord

121. scarce: i.e., scarcely; right: vindicate; throughly: thoroughly

124. foundations: (1) lowest parts of a building;

(2) principles

125. **center:** (1) i.e., the earth (as the **center** of the Ptolemaic universe); (2) the support for an arch or dome under construction

127. afar off guilty: i.e., indirectly guilty

128. But . . . speaks: i.e., merely for speaking

129. **ill:** pernicious, dangerous; **reigns:** i.e., is exerting its influence or power

131. aspect: configuration of planets (pronounced

aspéct)

133. want: lack

135. here: perhaps with a gesture toward her heart or bosom

137. **qualified:** moderated, mitigated; **charities:** dispositions to judge leniently

138. measure: judge

143. **My plight:** a reference to her advanced pregnancy; **fools:** a term of endearment

147. **As I come out:** i.e., when I am released from **prison; action...go on:** i.e., course I now embark on (The word **action** carries overtones of legal suits, military engagements, and theatrical roles.)

What she should shame to know herself But with her most vile principal: that she's A bed-swerver, even as bad as those That vulgars give bold'st titles; av, and privy 115 To this their late escape. HERMIONE No, by my life. Privy to none of this. How will this grieve you. When you shall come to clearer knowledge, that You thus have published me! Gentle my lord. 120 You scarce can right me throughly then to say You did mistake. LEONTES No. If I mistake In those foundations which I build upon, The center is not big enough to bear 125 A schoolboy's top.—Away with her to prison. He who shall speak for her is afar off guilty But that he speaks. HERMIONE There's some ill planet reigns. I must be patient till the heavens look 130 With an aspect more favoráble. Good my lords, I am not prone to weeping, as our sex Commonly are, the want of which vain dew Perchance shall dry your pities. But I have That honorable grief lodged here which burns 135 Worse than tears drown. Beseech you all, my lords, With thoughts so qualified as your charities Shall best instruct you, measure me; and so The King's will be performed. LEONTES Shall I be heard? 140 HERMIONE Who is 't that goes with me? Beseech your Highness My women may be with me, for you see My plight requires it.—Do not weep, good fools; There is no cause. When you shall know your mistress 145 Has deserved prison, then abound in tears As I come out. This action I now go on

148. **grace:** credit, honor (but with the strong sense of spiritual **grace** gained through suffering)

156. For: i.e., as for

158. Please: i.e., if it please

160. which: i.e., of which

161-63. **If . . . her:** i.e., if Hermione is unchaste, then I can no longer trust even **my wife** (See longer note, page 240.)

167. she be: i.e., Hermione is

170. **for you:** i.e., for your sake

171. abused: deceived; putter-on: instigator

174. land-damn: perhaps, curse energetically (The precise meaning is uncertain because the word is not recorded elsewhere.); honor-flawed: i.e., unchaste

176. some: about

178. geld: spay

178–79. **fourteen . . . generations:** i.e., they will be spayed by age fourteen so that they cannot produce illegitimate offspring

179. co-heirs: joint heirs

Is for my better grace.—Adieu, my lord. I never wished to see you sorry; now I trust I shall.—My women, come; you have leave. LEONTES Go, do our bidding. Hence! "Hermione exits, under guard, with her Ladies." LORD Beseech your Highness, call the Queen again. ANTIGONUS	
Hermione exits, under guard, with her Ladies. LORD Beseech your Highness, call the Queen again. ANTIGONUS	
Beseech your Highness, call the Queen again. ANTIGONUS	
ANTIGONUS	
	i
Be certain what you do, sir, lest your justice	;
Prove violence, in the which three great ones suffer:	j
Yourself, your queen, your son.	
LORD For her, my lord,	
I dare my life lay down—and will do 't, sir,	
Please you t' accept it—that the Oueen is spotless	
I' th' eyes of heaven, and to you—I mean	
In this which you accuse her.	1
ANTIGONUS If it prove	300
She's otherwise, I'll keep my stables where	
I lodge my wife. I'll go in couples with her:	
Than when I feel and see her, no farther trust her.	
For every inch of woman in the world,	
Ay, every dram of woman's flesh, is false,	
If she be.	
LEONTES Hold your peaces.	
LORD Good my lord—	
ANTIGONUS	
It is for you we speak, not for ourselves.	
You are abused, and by some putter-on	
That will be damned for 't. Would I knew the	
villain!	
I would land-damn him. Be she honor-flawed,	
I have three daughters—the eldest is eleven; 175	
The second and the third, nine and some five;	
If this prove true, they'll pay for 't. By mine honor,	
I'll geld 'em all; fourteen they shall not see	
To bring false generations. They are co-heirs,	

180.	glib: castrate
	fair: i.e., legitimate
185.	doing thus: Leonte
us' no	se or hair or strike l

eontes may here pull Antigotrike himself. withal: in addition

188. honesty: chastity (When applied to women, the word "honest" in Shakespeare generally means "chaste.")

190. dungy: abounding in dung, and therefore vile

191. credit: i.e., credibility

193. Upon this ground: i.e., in this matter

195. Be . . . might: i.e., however you might be blamed for suspecting her unjustly

197. Commune: confer, consult; but rather follow: i.e., instead of following

198. instigation: incentive (to act)

199. Calls not: does not require

199-200. our . . . this: i.e., I tell you this out of my own natural goodness

200-201. or . . . skill: either stunned or pretending to be so in skill: using discretion

202. Relish: appreciate; like us: i.e., as I do

204. ord'ring on 't: management or treatment of it

205. Properly ours: entirely mine

207. tried: examined, tested

208. overture: i.e., public disclosure

210. by age: i.e., as a consequence of old age

212. their familiarity: i.e., the intimacy between Hermione and Polixenes

213. touched conjecture: was apprehended by reason

214. approbation: proof, confirmation

ACI 2. SC	. 1
And I had rather glib myself than they Should not produce fair issue.	180
You smell this business with a sense as cold	
As is a dead man's posse Book I	
As is a dead man's nose. But I do see 't and feel 't, As you feel doing thus, and see withal	0
The instruments that feel.	185
ANTEROON	
We need no grave to bury honesty.	53
There's not a grain of it is	
There's not a grain of it the face to sweeten Of the whole dungy earth.	
	190
LORD What? Lack I credit?	
I had rather you did lack than I, my lord,	
Upon this ground. And more it would content me	
The real months and the real state of the real s	
Be blamed for 't how you might.	195
	•
Commune will voll of this but noth an full	
our forceful Histigation? (hir preparetion)	
Calls not your counsels, but our natural goodness	
mpar is this, which if voll—or stungfied	200
of seeining so in skill—cannot or will	
Kelish a truth like us inform yourseless	
we need no more of your advice. The matter	
The loss, the gain, the ord'ring on 't is all	
rioperty ours.	205
ANTIGONUS And I wish, my liege,	203
iou had only in your silent judgment tried it	
Transfer inore overture.	
LEONTES How could that be?	
Either thou art most ignorant by age	210
of thou wert born a fool. Camillo's flight	210
Added to their familiarity—	
Which was as gross as ever touched conjecture,	
That lacked sight only, naught for approbation	

216. **Made...deed:** approached or added up to the act (of adultery); **push on:** press forward, urge on

220. piteous: deplorable; wild: reckless; in post: in haste

221. **Delphos:** i.e., the island Delos (See longer note, page 240.) **Apollo's temple:** i.e., temple of the sun god of Greco-Roman mythology, one of whose functions was to prophesy through oracles

223. Of stuffed sufficiency: i.e., to be more than capable

224. had: i.e., once I have received it

230. he: i.e., anyone

232. Come up to: rise to the level of

234. the treachery: i.e., the plot against his life and crown (line 58)

237. raise: rouse

- 2.2 Paulina attempts to visit Hermione in prison. Learning that the queen has given birth to a baby girl, Paulina decides to take the baby to Leontes in the hope that the sight of his infant daughter will alter his state of mind.
- 3. Good lady: Paulina addresses Hermione as if she were present.

But only seeing, all other circumstances	- 2
Made up to th' deed—doth push on this proceeding.	2
Yet, for a greater confirmation—	
For in an act of this importance 'twere	
Most piteous to be wild—I have dispatched in post	
To sacred Delphos, to Apollo's temple,	2
Cleamenes and Dion whom all	
Cleomenes and Dion, whom you know	
Of stuffed sufficiency. Now from the oracle	
They will bring all, whose spiritual counsel had	
Shall stop or spur me. Have I done well?	22
Well done.	
my lord.	
LEONTES	
Though I am satisfied and need no more	
Than what I know, yet shall the oracle	
Give rest to th' minds of others, such as he	23
Whose ignorant credulity will not	
Come up to th' truth. So have we thought it good	
From our free person she should be confined,	
Lest that the treachery of the two fled hence	
Be left her to perform. Come, follow us.	
We are to speak in public, for this business	23
Will raise us all.	
INTIGONUS, [aside] To laughter, as I take it,	
If the good truth were known.	
They exit.	

12.0

Scene 2
Enter Paulina, a Gentleman, \(\Gamma\) and Paulina's Attendants. \(\Gamma\)

PAULINA, To Gentleman

The keeper of the prison, call to him. Let him have knowledge who I am.

Good lady,

9. who: i.e., whom

10. Pray: i.e., I pray

15. access: pronounced accéss; gentle: noble

18. put apart: send away

22. conference: conversation

24-25. **such...coloring:** i.e., so much effort to make innocence look like undeniable guilt **no stain:** i.e., innocence **a stain/As passes coloring:** i.e., a discoloration that surpasses the dyer's skill

29. hold together: i.e., maintain control of herself;

On: as a consequence of

30. Which: i.e., than which

31. something: somewhat



A baby being delivered. (2.2.31) From Jakob Rüff, De conceptu et generatione hominis . . . (1580).

No court in Europe is too good for thee. What dost thou then in prison?	5
「Enter Jailer, √with the Gentleman. 7	
You know me, do you not?	
JAILER For a worthy lady	
And one who much I honor.	
PAULINA Pray you then,	10
Conduct me to the Queen.	
JAILER I may not, madam.	
To the contrary I have express commandment.	
PAULINA	
Here's ado, to lock up honesty and honor from	
Th' access of gentle visitors. Is 't lawful, pray you,	15
To see her women? Any of them? Emilia?	
JAILER So please you, madam,	
To put apart these your attendants, I	
Shall bring Emilia forth.	
PAULINA I pray now, call her.—	20
Withdraw yourselves.	50
「Attendants and Gentleman exit. ¬	
JAILER	
And, madam, I must be present at your conference.	
PAULINA Well, be 't so, prithee.	
Here's such ado to make no stain a stain	202000
As passes coloring.	25
Enter Emilia with Jailer.	
Dear gentlewoman,	
How fares our gracious lady?	
EMILIA	
As well as one so great and so forlorn	
May hold together. On her frights and griefs,	
Which never tender lady hath borne greater,	30
She is something before her time delivered.	

34. Lusty: vigorous; like: i.e., likely

35. in 't: i.e., from the baby

38. lunes: fits of lunacy; beshrew: curse

40. on 't: i.e., of it; office: business, function

41. **Becomes:** suits

43. red-looked: i.e., red-faced

45. Commend: present

53. is: i.e., are

54. free: generous

55. thriving issue: successful outcome

56. meet: suitable

57. presently: immediately

59. hammered of: earnestly debated; design: scheme, plan

60. **tempt:** try; venture to solicit; **minister of hon- or**: high-ranking agent

63. wit: wisdom, good judgment

64. bosom: heart



An hourglass. (1.2.372; 4.1.16)
From August Casimir Redel, Apophtegmata symbolica . . . [n.d.].

PAULINA A boy? EMILIA A daughter, and a goodly babe. Lusty and like to live. The Queen receives Much comfort in 't, says "My poor prisoner, 35 I am innocent as you." PAULINA I dare be sworn. These dangerous unsafe lunes i' th' King, beshrew He must be told on 't, and he shall. The office 40 Becomes a woman best. I'll take 't upon me. If I prove honey-mouthed, let my tongue blister And never to my red-looked anger be The trumpet anymore. Pray you, Emilia, Commend my best obedience to the Queen. 45 If she dares trust me with her little babe. I'll show 't the King and undertake to be Her advocate to th' loud'st. We do not know How he may soften at the sight o' th' child. The silence often of pure innocence 50 Persuades when speaking fails. **EMILIA** Most worthy madam, Your honor and your goodness is so evident That your free undertaking cannot miss A thriving issue. There is no lady living 55 So meet for this great errand. Please your Ladyship To visit the next room, I'll presently Acquaint the Queen of your most noble offer, Who but today hammered of this design, But durst not tempt a minister of honor 60 Lest she should be denied. **PAULINA** Tell her, Emilia, I'll use that tongue I have. If wit flow from 't As boldness from my bosom, let 't not be doubted I shall do good.

10

67. I'll: i.e., I'll go

67-68. **Please . . . nearer:** presumably a restatement of the invitation (lines 56-57) to Paulina to go into **the next room**

70. pass: allow

74. **process:** with wordplay on "legal proceeding," wordplay that begins earlier in the line with **law** and continues in the next line with **freed and enfranchised**—the doubling of synonymous words being a reflection of legal language (Possibly, **law and process** can be read to mean "legal process," an example of the figure of speech called *hendiadys*.)

2.3 Paulina brings the baby to the tormented Leontes, who first orders the baby burned, then orders Antigonus to take the baby to a deserted place and abandon it. News comes that the couriers have returned with the oracle from Apollo.

1. Nor: i.e., neither; no rest: i.e., any rest

2. mere: pure, sheer

3. The cause: i.e., those to blame; in being: i.e., alive

4. harlot: fornicator: villain

5. arm: power

5-6. **out...brain:** i.e., beyond the range of anything **my brain** can devise **blank:** in archery or gunnery, the target's white center **level:** aim

6. plot-proof: i.e., impervious to any plot against

him

7. **hook:** grapple (as with a ship's grappling hook)

8. **Given . . . fire:** Burning was the punishment for women convicted of treason.

EMILIA Now be you blest for it! I'll to the Queen. Please you come something nearer. JAILER, To Paulina Madam, if 't please the Queen to send the babe, I know not what I shall incur to pass it, 70 Having no warrant. PAULINA You need not fear it, sir. This child was prisoner to the womb, and is By law and process of great nature thence Freed and enfranchised, not a party to 75 The anger of the King, nor guilty of, If any be, the trespass of the Queen. JAILER I do believe it PAULINA Do not you fear. Upon mine honor, I Will stand betwixt you and danger. They exit.

Scene 3 Enter Leontes.

LEONTES

Nor night nor day no rest. It is but weakness
To bear the matter thus, mere weakness. If
The cause were not in being—part o' th' cause,
She th' adult'ress, for the harlot king
Is quite beyond mine arm, out of the blank
And level of my brain, plot-proof. But she
I can hook to me. Say that she were gone,
Given to the fire, a moiety of my rest
Might come to me again.—Who's there?

「Enter a Servant.

SERVANT My lord.

11. the boy: i.e., Mamillius

12. tonight: i.e., last night

16. straight: immediately; deeply: profoundly

17. **on** 't: i.e., of it

19. solely: alone

21. him: i.e., Polixenes

24. parties: confederates; alliance: kindred, allies

25. For: i.e., as for; present: immediate

26. Take: i.e., let me take

27. pastime: amusement

31. second: helpful

32-33. Fear . . . life?: i.e., do you fear his tyrannous anger more than you fear for the queen's life?

34. free: noble; he: i.e., Leontes

35. That's enough: i.e., she is gracious, innocent, and noble enough

37. come at: approach

38. hot: zealous



Aiming at "the blank." (2.3.5) From Gilles Corrozet, *Hecatongraphie* . . . (1543).

LEONTES How does the boy? SERVANT He took good rest tonight. 'Tis hoped His sickness is discharged. To see his nobleness. LEONTES Conceiving the dishonor of his mother. 15 He straight declined, drooped, took it deeply, Fastened and fixed the shame on 't in himself. Threw off his spirit, his appetite, his sleep, And downright languished. Leave me solely. Go, See how he fares. Servant exits 7 Fie, fie, no thought of him. The very thought of my revenges that way Recoil upon me—in himself too mighty, And in his parties, his alliance. Let him be Until a time may serve. For present vengeance, 25 Take it on her. Camillo and Polixenes Laugh at me, make their pastime at my sorrow. They should not laugh if I could reach them, nor Shall she within my power. Enter Paulina, \(\text{carrying the baby, with} \) Servants. Antigonus, and Lords. LORD You must not enter. 30 PAULINA Nay, rather, good my lords, be second to me. Fear you his tyrannous passion more, alas, Than the Queen's life? A gracious innocent soul, More free than he is jealous. That's enough. **ANTIGONUS** 35 SERVANT Madam, he hath not slept tonight, commanded None should come at him. Not so hot, good sir. **PAULINA** I come to bring him sleep. 'Tis such as you That creep like shadows by him and do sigh

41. each: i.e., each of; heavings: groans

44. either: i.e., either healing or truth; purge ... humor: i.e., cleanse him of that mental state (Both purge and humor had specific medical meanings. The word purge referred to laxatives or bleedings; the word humor referred either to the fluids that were thought to determine one's mental states or to the mental states themselves.)

47. conference: conversation

48. **gossips . . . Highness:** godparents for your Highness (needed at your daughter's christening)

54. On ... mine: i.e., that at risk of incurring

your Highness' displeasure and mine

59. **Commit...committing:** i.e., send me to prison for perpetrating

61. La you: an exclamation for emphasis

- 62. take the rein: i.e., take the bit between her teeth (as if she were a horse freeing herself from her rider-husband's control)
 - 65. professes: i.e., profess

67. dares: i.e., dare

69. **Than . . . yours:** i.e., than those who merely appear most loyal

At each his needless heavings, such as you	_
Nourish the cause of his awaking. I	
Do come with words as medicinal as true,	
Honest as either, to purge him of that humor	
That presses him from sleep.	-
LEONTES What noise there, ho	45
PAULINA What hoise there, no	?
No noise, my lord, but needful conference	
About some gossips for your Highness.	
LECVIERO	
Away with that audacious lady. Antigonus,	
I charged thee that she should not account	50
I charged thee that she should not come about me. I knew she would.	
a told lief 50, my lord,	
On your displeasure's peril and on mine,	
She should not visit you. LEONTES What canet not rule have	55
LEONTES What, canst not rule her?	
From all dishonesty he can. In this,	
Unless he take the course that you have done—	
Commit me for committing honor—trust it,	
He shall not rule me.	60
ANTIGONUS La you now, you hear.	
When she will take the rein I let her run,	
But she'll not stumble.	
PAULINA Good my liege, I come—	
And I beseech you hear me, who professes	65
Myself your loyal servant, your physician,	
Your most obedient counselor, yet that dares	
Less appear so in comforting your evils	
Than such as most seem yours—I say I come	
From your good queen.	70
LEONTES Good queen?	
PAULINA	
Good queen, my lord, good queen, I say "good	
queen,"	

74. **by . . . good:** i.e., prove her to be good through a trial by combat; **so were I:** i.e., if I were

75. worst: lowliest in rank

78. hand: lay hands on; off: i.e., leave

84. mankind: masculine, virago-like

85. intelligencing bawd: i.e., spy and go-between

94. woman-tired: hen-pecked

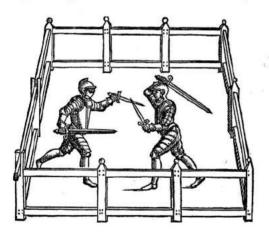
94-95. unroosted . . . Partlet: i.e., dislodged (from your perch) by your hen **Dame Parlet:** Pertilote (or **Partlet**) is Chauntecleer's favorite (but nagging) hen in Chaucer's "Nun's Priest's Tale"

99. forced baseness: i.e., enforced bastardy

100. put upon 't: imposed on the princess

101. **dreads:** fears (Paulina's response plays on another sense of "dread" as "respect.")

105. by . . . light: a conventional oath



A combat in a list. (2.3.74)
From [Sir William Segar,] The booke of honor
and armes . . . (1590).

And would by combat make her good, so were I	40
A man, the worst about you.	75
LEONTES Force her hence.	75
PAULINA	
Let him that makes but trifles of his eyes	
First hand me. On mine own accord I'll off,	
But first I'll do my amond. The and	
But first I'll do my errand.—The good queen,	
For she is good, hath brought you forth a daughter—	80
Here 'tis—commends it to your blessing.	
She lays down the baby.	
LEONTES Out!	
A mankind witch! Hence with her, out o' door.	
A most intelligencing bawd.	85
PAULINA Not so.	03
I am as ignorant in that as you	
In so entitling me, and no less honest	
Than you are mad—which is enough, I'll warrant,	
As this world goes, to pass for honest.	00
LEONTES Traitors.	90
Will you not push her out? To Antigonus. Give her	
the bastard,	
Thou dotard; thou art woman-tired, unroosted	
By thy Dame Partlet here. Take up the bastard,	-
Take 't up, I say. Give 't to thy crone.	95
PAULINA, to Antigonus Forever Unvenerable be thy hands if thou	
Tak'et up the Princess by that for 11	
Tak'st up the Princess by that forced baseness	
Which he has put upon 't. LEONTES He dreads his wife	100
and the state of t	
PAULINA	
So I would you did. Then 'twere past all doubt	
You'd call your children yours.	
LEONTES A nest of traitors!	
ANTIGONUS	
I am none, by this good light.	105

112. as stands: See longer note, page	240
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113. to 't: i.e., to change his opinion

116. callet: (1) lewd woman; (2) scold

117. late: i.e., lately, recently

121. dam: mother (usually only in reference to animals)

124. might . . . charge: i.e., if we may accuse you with th' old proverb

125. **So...worse**: Proverbial: "They are so like that they are the worse for it."

125-31. **Behold . . . finger:** Paulina compares the biological reproduction of Leontes in his child to the reproduction of a text through the art of printing. **print:** image **matter:** subject matter, contents

132. which: i.e., who; it: i.e., the baby

133. got: begot, fathered

135. **No...in** 't: i.e., don't include the color yellow, which is the color of jealousy

135-36. **she...husband's:** This suggestion that the female baby when grown into a woman could have doubts about the legitimacy of her children is, of course, absurd—just as absurd, Paulina may be saying, as Leontes' suspicions of his baby's legitimacy.

137. gross: rude

138. losel: worthless fellow

139. stay her tongue: i.e., prevent her talking

140. Hang: i.e., if you hang

PAULINA Nor I, nor any But one that's here, and that's himself. For he	
The sacred honor of himself, his queen's,	
His hopeful son's, his babe's, betrays to slander,	
Whose sting is sharper than the sword's; and will not—	110
For, as the case now stands, it is a curse	
He cannot be compelled to 't—once remove	
The root of his opinion, which is rotten	
As ever oak or stone was sound.	115
LEONTES A callet	113
Of boundless tongue, who late hath beat her husband	
And now baits me! This brat is none of mine.	
It is the issue of Polixenes.	120
Hence with it, and together with the dam	120
Commit them to the fire.	
PAULINA It is yours,	
And, might we lay th' old proverb to your charge,	100
So like you 'tis the worse.—Behold, my lords,	125
Although the print be little, the whole matter	125
And copy of the father—eye, nose, lip,	
The trick of 's frown, his forehead, nay, the valley,	
The pretty dimples of his chin and cheek, his	
smiles,	
The very mold and frame of hand, nail, finger.	130
And thou, good goddess Nature, which hast made it	
So like to him that got it, if thou hast	
The ordering of the mind too, 'mongst all colors	
No yellow in 't, lest she suspect, as he does,	
Her children not her husband's.	135
And, losel, thou art worthy to be hanged	
That wilt not stay her tongue.	
	1.00
That cannot do that feat, you'll leave yourself	140
Hardly one subject.	

148. **heretic . . . fire:** Heretics were punished by being burned at the stake.

151. **Not able:** i.e., you being unable; **more accusation:** i.e., more evidence for your accusation

152. weak-hinged fancy: i.e., unfounded imagining (Weak-hinged, a word whose only recorded use is in this play, probably refers to the hook-and-eye hinge then in use and indicates that Leontes' imagining is not firmly hooked or attached to any event.); something: somewhat

161. Look to: attend to, take care of; Jove: king of

the Greco-Roman gods

162. **better guiding spirit:** perhaps, a better temper or disposition than yours; **these hands:** i.e., the hands of those who, following Leontes' command, are trying to push her out

163. tender o'er: considerate of; follies: weak-

nesses or derangements of mind

166. set: urged

170. straight: straightaway, immediately

173. what . . . thine: i.e., whatever else you call yours

ne marie de la lace	
LEONTES	Once more, take her hence.
PAULINA	*
	orthy and unnatural lord
Can do no n	nore.
LEONTES	I'll ha' thee burnt.
PAULINA	I care not.
	tic that makes the fire,
Not she whi	ch burns in 't. I'll not call you tyrant;
	st cruel usage of your queen,
Not able to p	produce more accusation
Than your o	wn weak-hinged fancy, something
savors	552 1894 -
	and will ignoble make you,
Yea, scandal	ous to the world.
LEONTES, Tto At	ntigonus On your allegiance,
Out of the cl	hamber with her! Were I a tyrant,
Where were	her life? She durst not call me so
If she did kn	now me one. Away with her!
PAULINA, Tto Lo	ords 7
I pray you de	o not push me; I'll be gone.—
Look to your	r babe, my lord; 'tis yours. Jove send her
A better guid	ding spirit.—What needs these hands?
You that are	thus so tender o'er his follies
	o him good, not one of you.
So, so. Farev	well, we are gone. She exits.
LEONTES, Tto An	ntigonus
Thou, traitor	r, hast set on thy wife to this.
My child? Av	way with 't! Even thou, that hast
	ender o'er it, take it hence,
And see it in	stantly consumed with fire.
	nd none but thou. Take it up straight.
	nour bring me word 'tis done,
	testimony, or I'll seize thy life,
With what th	nou else call'st thine. If thou refuse
And wilt end	counter with my wrath, say so.

175. proper: own

185. beseech: i.e., beseech you

186. **So . . . us:** i.e., to have the opinion of us that we thereby deserve

187. dear: (1) loving; (2) valuable

190. **issue:** outcome; **We all kneel:** The stage action is clear in these words. It is not so clear when the courtiers again stand.

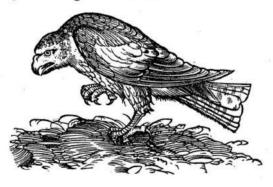
191. I... blows: Proverbial: "As wavering as feathers in the wind."

194. be it: perhaps, so be it

198. **Margery:** a margery-prater was a slang term for a hen (See note to lines 94–95.); **midwife:** perhaps because she brought the baby to him, as a **midwife** would do after a birth (But see longer note, page 241.)

200. **So:** i.e., as

204. my . . . undergo: i.e., I am capable of performing undergo: undertake



A kite. (2.3.227)
From Konrad Gesner, . . . Historiae
animalium . . . (1585–1604).

1110 11111111 0 2010	
The bastard brains with these my proper hands Shall I dash out. Go, take it to the fire, For thou sett'st on thy wife.	175
ANTIGONUS I did not, sir.	
These lords, my noble fellows, if they please,	
Can clear me in 't.	100
LORDS We can, my royal liege.	180
He is not guilty of her coming hither.	
LEONTES You're liars all.	
LORD	
Beseech your Highness, give us better credit.	
We have always truly served you, and beseech	185
So to esteem of us. And on our knees we beg,	103
As recompense of our dear services	
Past and to come, that you do change this purpose,	
Which being so horrible, so bloody, must	
Lead on to some foul issue. We all kneel.	190
LEONTES	. 170
I am a feather for each wind that blows.	
Shall I live on to see this bastard kneel	
And call me father? Better burn it now	
Than curse it then. But be it; let it live.	
It shall not neither. To Antigonus. You, sir, come	195
you hither,	
You that have been so tenderly officious	
With Lady Margery, your midwife there,	1.0
To save this bastard's life—for 'tis a bastard,	
So sure as this beard's gray. What will you	200
adventure	
To save this brat's life?	
ANTIGONUS Anything, my lord,	
That my ability may undergo	
And nobleness impose. At least thus much:	205
I'll pawn the little blood which I have left	
To save the innocent. Anything possible.	

211.	Mark:	pay	attention;	seest	thou:	perhaps,
"see to	it"	To.				

211-12. **the fail / Of:** i.e., your failure to perform **fail:** failure

213. lewd-: vulgar-, wicked-, foolish-

214. this time: i.e., the time being

217. desert: uninhabited; out: outside

219. it own: i.e., its own

222. **On...torture:** i.e., if you are to avoid the destruction of your soul and the torture of your body

223. strangely: perhaps, as a stranger; perhaps, coldly

225. a present: an immediate

227. kites: birds of prey, hawks (See page 78.)

230. Like: similar; offices of pity: compassionate duties (The allusion may be to the familiar story of the mythical Romulus and Remus, raised by a shewolf. See picture on page 82.)

231. **In more:** perhaps, to a greater extent; perhaps, in more ways; **this deed does require:** i.e., your cruelty calls for or deserves

233. loss: destruction

236. Please: i.e., if it please; posts: couriers

LEONTES	
It shall be possible. Swear by this sword	
Thou wilt perform my bidding.	
ANTIGONUS, his hand on the hilt I will, my lord.	210
LEONTES	210
Mark, and perform it, seest thou; for the fail	
Of any point in 't shall not only be	
Death to thyself but to thy lewd-tongued wife,	
Whom for this time we pardon. We enjoin thee,	Ξ.
As thou art liegeman to us, that thou carry	215
This female bastard hence, and that thou bear it	219
To some remote and desert place quite out	
Of our dominions, and that there thou leave it,	
Without more mercy, to it own protection	
And favor of the climate. As by strange fortune	220
It came to us, I do in justice charge thee.	
On thy soul's peril and thy body's torture.	
That thou commend it strangely to some place	
Where chance may nurse or end it. Take it up.	
ANTIGONUS	
I swear to do this, though a present death	225
Had been more merciful.—Come on, poor babe.	
He picks up the haby.	
Some powerful spirit instruct the kites and ravens	
To be thy nurses! Wolves and bears, they say.	
Casting their savageness aside have done	
Like offices of pity. To Leontes. Sir, be prosperous	230
In more than this deed does require.—And blessing	
Against this cruelty fight on thy side.	
Poor thing, condemned to loss.	
He exits, \(\scarrying the baby. \)	
LEONTES No, I'll not rear	
Another's issue.	235

80

Enter a Servant.

SERVANT

Please your Highness, posts

238. since: ago

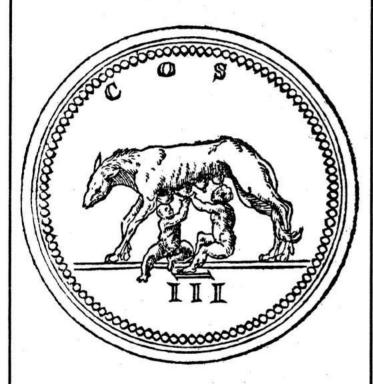
239. well: successfully, without harm or accident

241. **So please you:** i.e., if it please (a deferential phrase of address)

242. account: explanation

245. suddenly: immediately

247. session: sitting of a court



Wolf nursing Romulus and Remus. (2.3.227–30) From Guillaume Du Choul, Los discursos de la religion . . . (1579).

From those you sent to th' oracle are come An hour since. Cleomenes and Dion, Being well arrived from Delphos, are both landed, Hasting to th' court. 240 LORD, To Leontes So please you, sir, their speed Hath been beyond account. Twenty-three days LEONTES They have been absent. 'Tis good speed, foretells The great Apollo suddenly will have 245 The truth of this appear. Prepare you, lords. Summon a session, that we may arraign Our most disloyal lady; for, as she hath Been publicly accused, so shall she have A just and open trial. While she lives, 250 My heart will be a burden to me. Leave me, And think upon my bidding. They exit.

THE WINTER'S TALE

ACT 3

- **3.1** The couriers, en route from Delphos with the oracle's response, discuss the ceremony they observed and express their hopes for Hermione's good fortune.
- 2. **the isle:** Delphos (See longer note to 2.1.221, page 240.)
 - 3. common: usual
 - 5. caught: captivated, charmed; habits: garments
 - 6. Methinks: it seems to me
 - 7. grave: dignified, respected
- 12. Jove's thunder: Jove was the mythological god of thunder. (See page 92.) my sense: i.e., all my senses
 - 14. event: result
 - 17. is . . . on 't: i.e., was well spent
- 18-19. Great . . . best: Proverbial: "God turn all to good."
- 22. violent carriage: rapid, impetuous management
- 23-25. **the oracle...discover:** i.e., the oracle, sealed up by Apollo's eminent priest, will reveal its own contents by being opened **divine:** priest **discover:** reveal

ACT 3

Scene 1 Enter Cleomenes and Dion.

CLEOMENES	
The climate's delicate, the air most sweet,	
Fertile the isle, the temple much surpassing	
The common praise it bears.	
DION I shall report,	
For most it caught me, the celestial habits-	5
Methinks I so should term them—and the reverence	
Of the grave wearers. O, the sacrifice,	
How ceremonious, solemn, and unearthly	
It was i' th' off'ring!	
CLEOMENES But of all, the burst	10
And the ear-deaf'ning voice o' th' oracle,	
Kin to Jove's thunder, so surprised my sense	
That I was nothing.	
DION If th' event o' th' journey	
Prove as successful to the Queen—0, be 't so!—	15
As it hath been to us rare, pleasant, speedy,	
The time is worth the use on 't.	
CLEOMENES Great Apollo	
Turn all to th' best! These proclamations,	
So forcing faults upon Hermione,	20
I little like.	
DION The violent carriage of it	
Will clear or end the business when the oracle,	

27. **gracious:** prosperous, fortunate, happy; **issue:** outcome

3.2 As Hermione tries to defend herself in open court, the oracle is read and she is declared chaste and Polixenes innocent. Leontes pronounces the oracle false, and a messenger rushes in with news that Mamillius has died. Hermione swoons and is carried off by Paulina and others, while, at the same time, Leontes repents. Paulina enters with news that Hermione is dead. Leontes vows to spend the rest of his life grieving for the deaths of his wife and son.

1. sessions: i.e., session, sitting of a court

4. Of us: i.e., by me

7. purgation: i.e., acquittal

11. Silence: See longer note, page 241.

18-19. **pretense:** design, scheme, plot; **circumstances**: i.e., circumstantial evidence

19. laid open: revealed

Thus by Apollo's great divine sealed up, Shall the contents discover. Something rare Even then will rush to knowledge. Go. Fresh horses; And gracious be the issue.

They exit.

25

Scene 2 Enter Leontes, Lords, \(\Gamma \) officers.

LEONTES

This sessions, to our great grief we pronounce, Even pushes 'gainst our heart: the party tried The daughter of a king, our wife, and one Of us too much beloved. Let us be cleared Of being tyrannous, since we so openly Proceed in justice, which shall have due course Even to the guilt or the purgation.

Produce the prisoner.

OFFICER

It is his Highness' pleasure that the Queen Appear in person here in court.

10

5

[Enter] Hermione, as to her trial, [Paulina, and] Ladies.

Silence!

LEONTES Read the indictment.

OFFICER reads Hermione, queen to the worthy Leontes, King of Sicilia, thou art here accused and arraigned of high treason, in committing adultery with Polixenes, King of Bohemia, and conspiring with Camillo to take away the life of our sovereign lord the King, thy royal husband; the pretense whereof being by circumstances partly laid open, thou, Hermione, contrary to the faith and allegiance of a true subject, didst counsel and aid them, for their better safety, to fly away by night.

91

23. but: only

25. on my part: i.e., in my support

26. scarce boot: hardly help

28. counted: accounted, considered

31. but: i.e., that

33. patience: suffering endured with calmness

34. Whom: i.e., who

35. continent: marked by self-restraint

36. unhappy: unfortunate; which is more: i.e., which misfortune is greater

37. history: narrative or drama; pattern: equal

38. take: captivate, charm

39. which owe: i.e., who owns, possesses

41. hopeful: promising

42. fore: in the presence of

43. Who please: i.e., whoever chooses; For: i.e., as for

44. weigh: value; spare: avoid

44-46. For honor . . . stand for: i.e., as for (my) honor, I defend it only because it is a thing flowing from me to my children derivative: thing flowing or originating stand for: defend, uphold

48. grace: favor

49. merited: i.e., I merited, deserved

50-51. With ... thus: This obscure and muchdebated passage may mean "with what unacceptable behavior I have so transgressed that I must stand here." encounter: behavior uncurrent: unacceptable strained: perhaps, transgressed (though the usual meaning was "endeavored, tried my hardest")

52. **or . . . or:** either . . . or

HERMIONE Since what I am to say must be but that Which contradicts my accusation, and The testimony on my part no other But what comes from myself, it shall scarce boot me 25 To say "Not guilty." Mine integrity, Being counted falsehood, shall, as I express it, Be so received. But thus: if powers divine Behold our human actions, as they do, 30 I doubt not then but innocence shall make False accusation blush and tyranny Tremble at patience. You, my lord, best know, Whom least will seem to do so, my past life Hath been as continent, as chaste, as true, 35 As I am now unhappy; which is more Than history can pattern, though devised And played to take spectators. For behold me, A fellow of the royal bed, which owe A moiety of the throne, a great king's daughter, 40 The mother to a hopeful prince, here standing To prate and talk for life and honor fore Who please to come and hear. For life, I prize it As I weigh grief, which I would spare. For honor, Tis a derivative from me to mine, And only that I stand for. I appeal 45 To your own conscience, sir, before Polixenes Came to your court, how I was in your grace, How merited to be so; since he came, With what encounter so uncurrent I 50 Have strained t' appear thus; if one jot beyond The bound of honor, or in act or will That way inclining, hardened be the hearts Of all that hear me, and my near'st of kin Cry fie upon my grave.

57-58. wanted / Less impudence: i.e., lacked any less shameless effrontery or insolence

61. due: appropriate (Leontes' reply in the next

line plays on the sense of due as payable.)

62. **own:** admit to, acknowledge (with wordplay on the sense of **own** as "possess" something paid one)

63-65. **More...acknowledge:** i.e., I must not admit to any faults that are not mine **mistress of:** in my possession

65. For: i.e., as for

67. he required: was his right

68. become: be appropriate to

74. spoke: i.e., spoken

81. Wotting: knowing

83. in 's: i.e., in his

86. level: line of fire

87. Which: i.e., my life; lay down: sacrifice; or, wager



Jove throwing a thunderbolt. (3.1.12)
From Vincenzo Cartari, Le vere e noue imagini de gli
dei delli antichi . . . (1615).

LEONTES I ne'er heard vet That any of these bolder vices wanted Less impudence to gainsay what they did Than to perform it first. HERMIONE That's true enough. Though 'tis a saying, sir, not due to me. LEONTES You will not own it. HERMIONE More than mistress of Which comes to me in name of fault, I must not At all acknowledge. For Polixenes, 65 With whom I am accused, I do confess I loved him as in honor he required. With such a kind of love as might become A lady like me, with a love even such. So and no other, as yourself commanded. 70 Which not to have done, I think, had been in me Both disobedience and ingratitude To you and toward your friend, whose love had spoke. Even since it could speak, from an infant, freely 75 That it was yours. Now, for conspiracy, I know not how it tastes, though it be dished For me to try how. All I know of it Is that Camillo was an honest man: And why he left your court, the gods themselves. 80 Wotting no more than I, are ignorant. **LEONTES** You knew of his departure, as you know What you have underta'en to do in 's absence. HERMIONE Sir. You speak a language that I understand not. 85 My life stands in the level of your dreams, Which I'll lay down. Your actions are my dreams. LEONTES

91. of your fact: guilty of your crime

92. to deny: i.e., for you to deny; concerns . . . avails: i.e., is of more concern than of help to you

93. like to itself: i.e., as is appropriate to it

94. owning: i.e., acknowledging as his own

96. easiest passage: least painful proceeding

99. bug: bugbear

100. commodity: benefit

102. give: i.e., give up as

106. **Starred most unluckily:** born under a most unlucky star

107. it: i.e., its

108. **Haled...murder:** dragged out to be murdered; **post:** It was the custom to fix proclamations to posts in front of sheriffs' offices.

109. immodest: excessive, arrogant

110. **childbed privilege:** i.e., the privilege of bed rest after childbirth; **longs:** i.e., belongs

111. fashion: sorts

113. **of limit:** perhaps, through the prescribed period of repose after child-bearing (a much-debated passage, since the phrase does not appear elsewhere)

116. no life: i.e., it is not to preserve my life that I

speak

118. free: clear from blame or stain

119. all...else: i.e., all other proofs left sleeping

122. refer me: submit myself

You had a bastard by Polixenes. And I but dreamed it. As you were past all shame— Those of your fact are so—so past all truth. Which to deny concerns more than avails; for as Thy brat hath been cast out, like to itself, No father owning it-which is indeed More criminal in thee than it—so thou 95 Shalt feel our justice, in whose easiest passage Look for no less than death. HERMIONE Sir. spare your threats. The bug which you would fright me with I seek. To me can life be no commodity. 100 The crown and comfort of my life, your favor. I do give lost, for I do feel it gone, But know not how it went. My second joy And first fruits of my body, from his presence I am barred like one infectious. My third comfort, 105 Starred most unluckily, is from my breast, The innocent milk in it most innocent mouth, Haled out to murder; myself on every post Proclaimed a strumpet; with immodest hatred The childbed privilege denied, which longs 110 To women of all fashion; lastly, hurried Here to this place, i' th' open air, before I have got strength of limit. Now, my liege, Tell me what blessings I have here alive, That I should fear to die? Therefore proceed. 115 But yet hear this (mistake me not: no life, I prize it not a straw, but for mine honor, Which I would free), if I shall be condemned Upon surmises, all proofs sleeping else But what your jealousies awake, I tell you 120 'Tis rigor, and not law. Your Honors all, I do refer me to the oracle. Apollo be my judge. This your request LORD

94

144. truly: legitimately

152. mere: sheer, absolute



Justice. (3.2.132)
From Thomas Peyton, The glasse of time . . . (1620).

Is altogether just. Therefore bring forth, 125 And in Apollo's name, his oracle. 「Officers exit. ☐ HERMIONE The Emperor of Russia was my father. O. that he were alive and here beholding His daughter's trial, that he did but see The flatness of my misery, yet with eyes 130 Of pity, not revenge. 「Enter Cleomenes, Dion, \u00edwith Officers. \u00ed OFFICER, [presenting a sword] You here shall swear upon this sword of justice That you, Cleomenes and Dion, have Been both at Delphos, and from thence have brought 135 This sealed-up oracle, by the hand delivered Of great Apollo's priest, and that since then You have not dared to break the holy seal Nor read the secrets in 't. CLEOMENES, DION All this we swear. 140 LEONTES Break up the seals and read. OFFICER Treads Hermione is chaste, Polixenes blameless, Camillo a true subject, Leontes a jealous tyrant, his innocent babe truly begotten; and the King shall live without an heir if that which is lost be not 145 found. LORDS Now blessèd be the great Apollo! HERMIONE Praised! LEONTES Hast thou read truth? OFFICER Ay, my lord, even so as it is here set down. 150 LEONTES There is no truth at all i' th' oracle. The sessions shall proceed. This is mere falsehood.

The Winter's Tale

ACT 3. SC. 2

97

154. business: errand on which you come

155. to report: i.e., for reporting
156. conceit: thought, imaginings
157. Of: concerning; speed: success
166. but o'ercharged: i.e., simply overburdened

172. me: i.e., myself

173. New: i.e., newly

177. minister: agent



"The innocent milk in it most innocent mouth." (3.2.107) From Desiderius Erasmus, Morias enkomion [transl.] Stultitiae laus . . . (1676).

99	The Winter's Tale	ACT 3. SC. 2
	「Enter a Servant. ¬	
SERVANT		1/2
My lord t	the King, the King!	
LEONTES	What is the b	ousiness?
SERVANT		
O sir, I sł	hall be hated to report it.	155
The Princ	ce your son, with mere conceit	and fear
or the Qu	ieen's speed, is gone.	
LEONTES	How? Gon	e?
SERVANT	982	Is dead.
LEONTES		1000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 00
Apollo's a	ingry, and the heavens themselv	res 160
Do strike	at my injustice.	100
	Γ_{Herr}	nione falls. ¬
	How now there?	,
PAULINA		
This news	is mortal to the Queen. Look d	lown
And see w	hat death is doing.	
EONTES	Take her hen	ice. 165
Her heart	is but o'ercharged. She will rec	over
I have too	much believed mine own suspi	cion.
Beseech y	ou, tenderly apply to her	
Some rem	edies for life.	
Γ_{Pai}	ulina exits with Officers carrying	Hermione.
M	Apollo, pardon	170
My great p	profaneness 'gainst thine oracle.	
I II reconc	ile me to Polixenes,	
New Woo I	my queen, recall the good Cami	llo,
For being	roclaim a man of truth, of merc	y; ·
To blood	transported by my jealousies	175
Comilla	thoughts and to revenge, I chos	e
Camillo for	r the minister to poison	

179. tardied: delayed (in carrying out)

180. **swift command:** i.e., order that Polixenes be immediately killed

180-82. **though . . . done:** i.e., though I threatened him with death if he did not do it, and encouraged him with reward if he did it

184. Unclasped: opened up, displayed; practice: scheming, treachery; fortunes: success, wealth, position

185. you knew great: i.e., you know were great

186. incertainties: uncertainties

187. **No richer . . . honor:** i.e., with his integrity as his only wealth

188. rust: moral corrosion, corruption

191. lace: cord that draws closed the bodice of her dress; cracking: splitting, breaking

195. wheels, racks: instruments of torture (See page 186.)

196. old: long-used

200. green: simple-minded; idle: silly

203. spices of it: i.e., traces or slight touches of what you have now done

205. of a fool: i.e., a fool

206. damnable ingrateful: i.e., damnably ungrateful

207. Thou: i.e., that thou

My friend Polixenes, which had been done
But that the good mind of Camillo tardied
My swift command, though I with death and with
Reward did threaten and encourage him,
Not doing it and being done. He, most humane
And filled with honor, to my kingly guest
Unclasped my practice, quit his fortunes here,
Which you knew great, and to the hazard
Of all incertainties himself commended,
No richer than his honor. How he glisters
Through my rust, and how his piety
Does my deeds make the blacker!

「Enter Paulina. ¬

PAULINA Woe the while! 190 O, cut my lace, lest my heart, cracking it, Break too! LORD What fit is this, good lady? PAULINA. Tto Leontes What studied torments, tyrant, hast for me? What wheels, racks, fires? What flaying? Boiling 195 In leads or oils? What old or newer torture Must I receive, whose every word deserves To taste of thy most worst? Thy tyranny, Together working with thy jealousies, Fancies too weak for boys, too green and idle 200 For girls of nine, O, think what they have done, And then run mad indeed, stark mad, for all Thy bygone fooleries were but spices of it. That thou betrayedst Polixenes, 'twas nothing; That did but show thee of a fool, inconstant 205 And damnable ingrateful. Nor was 't much Thou wouldst have poisoned good Camillo's honor, To have him kill a king: poor trespasses,

More monstrous standing by, whereof I reckon

211. or or: i.e., either or
212. water: i.e., tears of pity: done 't: i.e. he ha
done it
213. Nor death: i.e., neither are you entirel
(or immediately) at fault in the death
215. high: noble
216. conceive: imagine or understand that; gros
and ioonsn: pernaps, grossly foolish
217. Blemished: i.e., stained the reputation of
210. Laid answer: brought as a charge against
which you must detend yourself
224-25. If / Prevail: i.e., if neither my work
nor my oath persuades you
226. Tincture eve: i.e., color to her lin or
originitiess to ner eye
227. Heat outwardly: external heat
229. heavier: (1) weightier: (2) more oppressive
230. woes can stir: lamentations can move be
take thee: i.e., deliver yourself
231. knees: i.e., supplicants offering prayers or
their knees
232. together: without intermission
233. still: always
234. move: persuade
240. business: matter; made fault: done wrong
a

The casting forth to crows thy baby daughter To be or none or little, though a devil	210
Would have shed water out of fire ere done 't.	
Nor is 't directly laid to thee the death	
Of the young prince, whose honorable thoughts.	
Thoughts high for one so tender, cleft the heart	215
That could conceive a gross and foolish sire	
Blemished his gracious dam. This is not, no.	
Laid to thy answer. But the last—O lords,	
When I have said, cry woe!—the Queen, the Queen.	
The sweet'st, dear'st creature's dead, and vengeance	220
for 't	
Not dropped down yet.	
ORD The higher powers forbid!	
PAULINA	
I say she's dead. I'll swear 't. If word nor oath	
Prevail not, go and see. If you can bring	225
Tincture or luster in her lip, her eye,	
Heat outwardly or breath within, I'll serve you	
As I would do the gods.—But, O thou tyrant,	
Do not repent these things, for they are heavier	
Than all thy woes can stir. Therefore betake thee	230
To nothing but despair. A thousand knees	
Ten thousand years together, naked, fasting,	
Upon a barren mountain, and still winter	
In storm perpetual, could not move the gods	-
To look that way thou wert.	235
EONTES Go on, go on.	
Thou canst not speak too much. I have deserved	
All tongues to talk their bitt'rest.	
ORD, \[\text{to Paulina} \] Say no more.	
Howe'er the business goes, you have made fault	240
I' th' boldness of your speech.	
AULINA I am sorry for 't.	
All faults I make, when I shall come to know them,	

245. touched: moved or stirred (emotionally) 246-48. What's gone . . . grief: Proverbial: "Past

cure past care."

248-49. Do ... petition: At lines 230-31 Paulina had committed Leontes to perpetual affliction: "Therefore betake thee / To . . . despair."

250. that have minded: i.e., who have reminded

253. fool: addressed to herself in (real or feigned) anger at having mentioned Hermione

255. remember: remind

256. patience: capacity to bear suffering

258. **but**: only

262. them: i.e., their gravestones

266. nature: i.e., my physical strength

267. bear up with: withstand; exercise: spiritual exercise, act of devotion

268. daily . . . it: i.e., vow to observe or perform it daily

3.3 Antigonus leaves the baby in Bohemia, where Polixenes is king. In a sudden storm, the ship sinks and Antigonus is chased by a bear, who then eats him. The baby, along with the gold left with her, is found by a shepherd and his son.

1. perfect, then: i.e., certain then that

2. deserts: wilderness; Bohemia: The fact that Shakespeare gives his Bohemia a seacoast has occasioned much comment. Some think it an error; others think it a deliberate strategy to make the setting clearly fictional.

I do repent. Alas, I have showed too much The rashness of a woman. He is touched 245 To th' noble heart.—What's gone and what's past help Should be past grief. Do not receive affliction At my petition. I beseech you, rather Let me be punished, that have minded you 250 Of what you should forget. Now, good my liege, Sir, royal sir, forgive a foolish woman. The love I bore your queen—lo, fool again!— I'll speak of her no more, nor of your children. I'll not remember you of my own lord, 255 Who is lost too. Take your patience to you, And I'll say nothing. Thou didst speak but well LEONTES When most the truth, which I receive much better Than to be pitied of thee. Prithee, bring me 260 To the dead bodies of my queen and son. One grave shall be for both. Upon them shall The causes of their death appear, unto Our shame perpetual. Once a day I'll visit The chapel where they lie, and tears shed there 265 Shall be my recreation. So long as nature Will bear up with this exercise, so long I daily vow to use it. Come, and lead me To these sorrows.

They exit.

Scene 3

Enter Antigonus \(\text{carrying the} \) babe, \(\text{and} \) a Mariner.

ANTIGONUS

Thou art perfect, then, our ship hath touched upon The deserts of Bohemia?

4. grimly: forbidding

5. present: immediate; blusters: stormy blasts; In my conscience: i.e., truly

6. that ... hand: what we are doing

9. bark: ship

12. i' th' land: i.e., inland; like: likely

14. keep: dwell

23. waking: i.e., waking experience

24. some another: i.e., sometimes on the other

26. **So...becoming:** i.e., so full of becoming sorrow

27. very sanctity: holiness itself

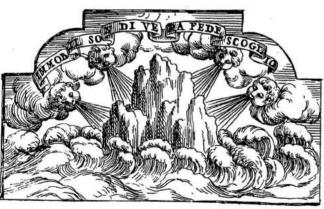
28. cabin: berth

30. fury: fierce passion; anon: soon

33. **for:** i.e., to be

36. for: because

37. **counted:** accounted, considered; **Perdita:** she who is lost (Latin)



"The storm begins." (3.3.53)
From Lodovico Dolce, Imprese nobili . . . (1583).

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MARINER Ay, my lord, and fear We have landed in ill time. The skies look grimly And threaten present blusters. In my conscience, 5 The heavens with that we have in hand are angry And frown upon 's. ANTIGONUS Their sacred wills be done. Go, get aboard. Look to thy bark. I'll not be long before I call upon thee. 10 Make your best haste, and go not MARINER Too far i' th' land. 'Tis like to be loud weather. Besides, this place is famous for the creatures Of prey that keep upon 't. ANTIGONUS Go thou away. 15 I'll follow instantly. I am glad at heart MARINER To be so rid o' th' business. He exits. ANTIGONUS Come, poor babe. I have heard, but not believed, the spirits o' th' dead 20 May walk again. If such thing be, thy mother Appeared to me last night, for ne'er was dream So like a waking. To me comes a creature. Sometimes her head on one side, some another. I never saw a vessel of like sorrow, 25 So filled and so becoming. In pure white robes, Like very sanctity, she did approach My cabin where I lay, thrice bowed before me. And, gasping to begin some speech, her eyes Became two spouts. The fury spent, anon 30 Did this break from her: "Good Antigonus. Since fate, against thy better disposition. Hath made thy person for the thrower-out Of my poor babe, according to thine oath, Places remote enough are in Bohemia. 35 There weep, and leave it crying. And, for the babe Is counted lost forever, Perdita

38. For: because of; ungentle: violent, harsh

39. Put: imposed

43. was so: i.e., was real; toys: trifles

45. squared: directed

47. would: wishes; issue: offspring

49. for...death: i.e., either to live or to die; earth: land

50. right: true; speed: prosper

51. **thy character:** i.e., letters containing, among other things, her name (Literally, **character** means simply "writing.")

52. breed thee: i.e., pay for upbringing and/or

education

53. **rest thine:** remain yours (The gold and treasure left with her will, he hopes, exceed the costs of her rearing.)

56. loss: ruin and separation from family

63. **the chase:** the hunt; or, perhaps, the hunted animal (here, the bear)

65. would: wish

67. rest: i.e., years between

68. ancientry: elders, old people

I prithee call 't. For this ungentle business Put on thee by my lord, thou ne'er shalt see Thy wife Paulina more." And so, with shrieks, She melted into air. Affrighted much, I did in time collect myself and thought This was so and no slumber. Dreams are toys, Yet for this once, yea, superstitiously, I will be squared by this. I do believe 45 Hermione hath suffered death, and that Apollo would, this being indeed the issue Of King Polixenes, it should here be laid, Either for life or death, upon the earth Of its right father.—Blossom, speed thee well. 50 There lie, and there thy character; there these, THe lays down the baby, a bundle, and a box. Which may, if fortune please, both breed thee, pretty, And still rest thine. Thunder. The storm begins. Poor wretch. That for thy mother's fault art thus exposed 55 To loss and what may follow. Weep I cannot, But my heart bleeds, and most accurst am I To be by oath enjoined to this. Farewell. The day frowns more and more. Thou'rt like to have A lullaby too rough. I never saw 60 The heavens so dim by day. Thunder, and sounds of hunting. A savage clamor! Well may I get aboard! This is the chase. I am gone forever! He exits, pursued by a bear. 「Enter Shepherd.

SHEPHERD I would there were no age between ten and three-and-twenty, or that youth would sleep out the rest, for there is nothing in the between but getting

wenches with child, wronging the ancientry, steal-

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74. ivy: perhaps, sea holly or seaweed

76. child: baby girl

77. scape: sexual transgression

78-79. waiting-gentlewoman: a gentlewoman who serves a lady of higher rank

79-80. **stair-work...behind-door work:** perhaps, furtive lovemaking in stairwells, on trunks, behind doors

81. got: begot, conceived

90. and it: i.e., and the sea

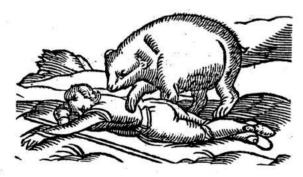
93. chafes: frets, fumes

94. takes up: begins to occupy

98. anon: immediately; yeast: foam

99. **thrust . . . hogshead:** i.e., drive a **cork** stopper into a large cask (in order to draw out the beer)

99-100. land service: i.e., action on land (Service could be either military action or the serving of food.)



Bears "are never curst but when they are hungry." (3.3.136-37)
From Henry Peacham, Minerua Britanna . . . (1612).

ing, fighting—Hark you now. Would any but these boiled brains of nineteen and two-and-twenty hunt this weather? They have scared away two of my best sheep, which I fear the wolf will sooner find than the master. If anywhere I have them, 'tis by the seaside, browsing of ivy. Good luck, an 't be thy will, what have we here? Mercy on 's, a bairn! A very pretty bairn. A boy or a child, I wonder? A pretty one, a very pretty one. Sure some scape. Though I am not bookish, yet I can read waiting-gentle-woman in the scape. This has been some stair-work, some trunk-work, some behind-door work. They were warmer that got this than the poor thing is here. I'll take it up for pity. Yet I'll tarry till my son come. He halloed but even now.—Whoa-ho-ho!

Enter \Shepherd's Son.

SHEPHERD'S SON Hilloa, loa!

SHEPHERD What, art so near? If thou'lt see a thing to talk on when thou art dead and rotten, come hither. What ail'st thou, man?

SHEPHERD'S SON I have seen two such sights, by sea and by land—but I am not to say it is a sea, for it is now the sky; betwixt the firmament and it, you 90 cannot thrust a bodkin's point.

SHEPHERD Why, boy, how is it?

SHEPHERD'S SON I would you did but see how it chafes, how it rages, how it takes up the shore. But that's not to the point. O, the most piteous cry of the poor souls! Sometimes to see 'em, and not to see 'em. Now the ship boring the moon with her mainmast, and anon swallowed with yeast and froth, as you'd thrust a cork into a hogshead. And then for the land service, to see how the bear tore out his shoulderbone, how he cried to me for help, and said his

102-3. to make an end: to finish the story (with wordplay on "to destroy")

103. flap-dragoned it: i.e., swallowed it the way revelers would catch raisins out of flaming brandy and swallow them

105. mocked: i.e., by imitating

109. winked: blinked

113. by: i.e., nearby

115. ship: i.e., ship's

117. footing: a secure place to stand (with wordplay on charitable "foundation")

118. Heavy: sad

121. bearing cloth: (ornamental) christening robe; squire's: A squire was the rank just below knight and perhaps the highest rank with which the shepherd is familiar.

124. changeling: child left by the fairies

126-27. made old man: an old man whose fortune has been made

128. you're . . . live: perhaps, you'll live well; or, vou're well-to-do

129. fairy gold: gold given by fairies (Folklore about fairy gold includes the belief that to tell about the gold brings bad luck.)

130. close: secret; next: nearest (i.e., fastest)

131. to be so still: i.e., to continue to be so

name was Antigonus, a nobleman. But to make an end of the ship: to see how the sea flap-dragoned it. But, first, how the poor souls roared and the sea mocked them, and how the poor gentleman roared 105 and the bear mocked him, both roaring louder than the sea or weather.

SHEPHERD Name of mercy, when was this, boy?

SHEPHERD'S SON Now, now. I have not winked since I saw these sights. The men are not yet cold under 110 water, nor the bear half dined on the gentleman. He's at it now.

SHEPHERD Would I had been by to have helped the old man.

SHEPHERD'S SON I would you had been by the ship side, 115 to have helped her. There your charity would have lacked footing.

SHEPHERD Heavy matters, heavy matters. But look thee here, boy. Now bless thyself. Thou met'st with things dying, I with things newborn. Here's a sight 120 for thee. Look thee, a bearing cloth for a squire's child. Look thee here. Take up, take up, boy. Open 't. So, let's see. It was told me I should be rich by the fairies. This is some changeling. Open 't. What's within, boy? 125

SHEPHERD'S SON, Topening the box You're a made old man. If the sins of your youth are forgiven you,

you're well to live. Gold, all gold.

SHEPHERD This is fairy gold, boy, and 'twill prove so. Up with 't, keep it close. Home, home, the next way. 130 We are lucky, boy, and to be so still requires nothing but secrecy. Let my sheep go. Come, good boy, the next way home.

SHEPHERD'S SON Go you the next way with your findings. I'll go see if the bear be gone from the 135 gentleman and how much he hath eaten. They are

137. curst: savage

142. **Marry**: i.e., indeed (formerly an oath on the name of the Virgin Mary)



"Thou met'st with things dying, I with things newborn." (3.3.119-20)
From Andrea Alciati, . . . Emblemata . . . (1661).

never curst but when they are hungry. If there be any of him left, I'll bury it.

SHEPHERD That's a good deed. If thou mayest discern by that which is left of him what he is, fetch me to 140 th' sight of him.

SHEPHERD'S SON Marry, will I, and you shall help to put him i' th' ground.

SHEPHERD 'Tis a lucky day, boy, and we'll do good deeds on 't.

14

They exit.

THE WINTER'S TALE

ACT 4

- **4.1** Father Time appears and bridges the sixteenyear gap following the abandonment of Perdita in Bohemia.
- 0 SD. **Time**, **the Chorus**: This character, probably appearing as an old man, carries an hourglass and wears wings (proverbially, "Time has wings"). As **Chorus**, he comments on the action. See longer note, page 241, and picture, page xix.
 - 1. that: i.e., who; try all: i.e., test everyone
 - 2. unfolds: reveals; error: mistaken idea
 - 6. growth untried: i.e., developments unexamined
- 8-9. law . . . custom: See longer note, page 242. one self-born hour: one and the same hour
- 9. pass: (1) proceed; (2) elapse; (3) be allowed to go uncensured
- 10. **The . . . was:** i.e., as I was before laws and customs were established
 - 11. received: generally accepted
- 14-15. **as my tale . . . it:** i.e., just as my tale (the play you are viewing) seems stale in comparison to the shining (**glistering**) present
 - 16. glass: hourglass (See page 64.)
- 16-17. **give . . . between:** i.e., advance the action of the play as if you had slept between acts **scene:** play **growing:** advance, progress
 - 17. Leontes leaving: i.e., as we now leave Leontes
 - 18. fond: foolish
- 22. th' King's: Polixenes'; which: whom (See longer note, page 242.)
 - 23. pace: proceed or advance

ACT 4

Scene 1 Enter Time, the Chorus.

TIME

I. that please some, try all—both joy and terror Of good and bad, that makes and unfolds error— Now take upon me, in the name of Time. To use my wings. Impute it not a crime To me or my swift passage that I slide 5 O'er sixteen years, and leave the growth untried Of that wide gap, since it is in my power To o'erthrow law and in one self-born hour To plant and o'erwhelm custom. Let me pass The same I am ere ancient'st order was 10 Or what is now received. I witness to The times that brought them in. So shall I do To th' freshest things now reigning, and make stale The glistering of this present, as my tale Now seems to it. Your patience this allowing, 15 I turn my glass and give my scene such growing As you had slept between. Leontes leaving, Th' effects of his fond jealousies so grieving That he shuts up himself, imagine me, Gentle spectators, that I now may be 20 In fair Bohemia. And remember well I mentioned a son o' th' King's, which Florizell I now name to you, and with speed so pace

- 25. wond'ring: i.e., the wonder she inspires in others
 - 26. list not: choose not to
- 30. argument: subject, theme; Of this allow: accept this
- **4.2** Camillo asks permission to return to Sicilia. Polixenes refuses his request and asks Camillo instead to go with him in disguise to the shepherd's home where Polixenes' son is spending his time.
- 5. **been aired:** i.e., lived (literally, exposed to the open air)
 - 7. feeling: deeply felt, heartfelt
- 8. be some allay: i.e., provide some relief; o'erween: i.e., am presumptuous enough
 - 13. want: lack
- 14. made me businesses: i.e., created projects for me
 - 18. considered: recompensed
 - 19. study: pursuit, concern
- 20. **the heaping friendships:** perhaps, an increase in your friendly services (But see longer note, page 242.)

To speak of Perdita, now grown in grace

Equal with wond'ring. What of her ensues

I list not prophesy; but let Time's news

Be known when 'tis brought forth. A shepherd's
daughter

And what to her adheres, which follows after,
Is th' argument of Time. Of this allow,
If ever you have spent time worse ere now.

If never, yet that Time himself doth say

He exits.

Scene 2 Enter Polixenes and Camillo.

POLIXENES I pray thee, good Camillo, be no more importunate. Tis a sickness denying thee anything, a death to grant this.

CAMILLO It is fifteen years since I saw my country. Though I have for the most part been aired abroad, I desire to lay my bones there. Besides, the penitent king, my master, hath sent for me, to whose feeling sorrows I might be some allay—or I o'erween to think so—which is another spur to my departure.

POLIXENES As thou lov'st me, Camillo, wipe not out the rest of thy services by leaving me now. The need I have of thee thine own goodness hath made. Better not to have had thee than thus to want thee. Thou, having made me businesses which none without thee can sufficiently manage, must either stay to execute them thyself or take away with thee the very services thou hast done, which if I have not enough considered, as too much I cannot, to be more thankful to thee shall be my study, and my profit therein the heaping friendships. Of that fatal coun-

- 23. **reconciled:** alluding presumably to a restoration of good, if distant, relations between Leontes and Polixenes
 - 25. are: i.e., is
 - 29. approved: proved
 - 31. are: i.e., is
- 32. **missingly noted:** i.e., observed with a sense of loss that
- 33. **retired:** withdrawn, removed; **frequent to:** frequently at
- 34. **princely exercises:** aristocratic activities, e.g., athletics, hunting, military training
- 35. **considered so much:** i.e., noticed the same thing
- 36-37. **so far . . . service:** i.e., so much so that I have spies
 - 37. his removedness: i.e., him in his absence
 - 39. homely: simple
- 40-41. **the imagination . . . neighbors:** i.e., what his neighbors could have imagined
- 41–42. **an unspeakable estate:** a fortune beyond description
 - 44. note: distinction
- 44-46. **The report...cottage:** i.e., her reputation is more widely known than one would expect from her low social condition **cottage:** small, humble dwelling
- 48. **angle:** fishhook; **our son:** Polixenes here shifts to the "royal we," which he uses through line 50.
- 49-50. not appearing what we are: i.e., in disguise

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- 50. question: talk
- 52. uneasy: difficult

try Sicilia, prithee speak no more, whose very naming punishes me with the remembrance of that penitent, as thou call'st him, and reconciled king my brother, whose loss of his most precious queen and children are even now to be afresh lamented.

25 Say to me, when sawst thou the Prince Florizell, my son? Kings are no less unhappy, their issue not being gracious, than they are in losing them when they have approved their virtues.

CAMILLO Sir, it is three days since I saw the Prince. 30 What his happier affairs may be are to me unknown, but I have missingly noted he is of late much retired from court and is less frequent to his princely exercises than formerly he hath appeared.

POLIXENES I have considered so much, Camillo, and with some care, so far that I have eyes under my service which look upon his removedness, from whom I have this intelligence: that he is seldom from the house of a most hómely shepherd, a man, they say, that from very nothing, and beyond the imagination of his neighbors, is grown into an unspeakable estate.

CAMILLO I have heard, sir, of such a man, who hath a daughter of most rare note. The report of her is extended more than can be thought to begin from 45 such a cottage.

POLIXENES That's likewise part of my intelligence, but, I fear, the angle that plucks our son thither. Thou shalt accompany us to the place, where we will, not appearing what we are, have some question with the shepherd, from whose simplicity I think it not uneasy to get the cause of my son's resort thither. Prithee be my present partner in this business, and lay aside the thoughts of Sicilia.

CAMILLO I willingly obey your command.

4.3 Autolycus, a con man, steals the shepherd's son's money and decides to use the upcoming sheep-shearing feast as an occasion for yet more thievery.

1. peer: (1) peep out; (2) appear

2. doxy: beggar's woman

3. sweet: pleasant part

4. winter's pale: Winter is being pictured as an enclosed area (a pale); there is also wordplay on paleness of skin occasioned by winter.

7. **pugging:** perhaps, thieving (a word not recorded elsewhere) "To set the tooth on edge" was proverbial for "to whet the appetite." **an**: i.e., on

11. aunts: i.e., whores

14. three-pile: i.e., rich velvet with a deep pile

20. sow-skin budget: bag made of pigskin

21. account: explanation for one's behavior

22. in the stocks: i.e., for vagrancy



A man in the stocks. (4.3.22)
From August Casimir Redel, Apophtegmata symbolica . . . [n.d.]

POLIXENES My best Camillo. We must disguise ourselves.

 $\lceil They \rceil exit.$

Scene 3 Enter Autolycus singing.

[AUTOLYCUS]

When daffodils begin to peer,
With heigh, the doxy over the dale,
Why, then comes in the sweet o' the year,
For the red blood reigns in the winter's pale.

The white sheet bleaching on the hedge, With heigh, the sweet birds, O how they sing! Doth set my pugging tooth an edge, For a quart of ale is a dish for a king.

The lark, that tirralirra chants,

With heigh, \(\text{with heigh}, \) the thrush and the jay,

Are summer songs for me and my aunts,

While we lie tumbling in the hay.

I have served Prince Florizell and in my time wore three-pile, but now I am out of service.

But shall I go mourn for that, my dear?
The pale moon shines by night,
And when I wander here and there,
I then do most go right.

If tinkers may have leave to live,
And bear the sow-skin budget,
Then my account I well may give,
And in the stocks avouch it.

20

15

23. traffic: goods or merchandise

23-24. When . . . linen: i.e., when the hawk is nest-building, protect your small linens (The kite steals lesser linen, while the white sheet bleaching on the hedge [line 5] is Autolycus' prey.)

24. Autolycus: See longer note, page 243.

25. littered under Mercury: born when the planet Mercury was in the ascendant Mercury: in classical mythology, the winged messenger god who sometimes stole from the other gods (See longer note to Autolycus, line 24, page 243.)

26. snapper-up: thief

26-27. With . . . caparison: i.e., through gambling and whoring I acquired this outfit (namely, the rags he is wearing) die: one of a pair of dice drab: slut, prostitute

28. the silly cheat: petty theft

- 28-29. **Gallows . . . highway:** perhaps, fear of the gallows and of being beaten deter me from committing highway robbery
 - 30. For: i.e., as for
- 31. **prize:** booty (or someone from whom it may be taken)
- 31 SD. **Shepherd's Son:** See longer note, page 243.
- 32-33. **every...shilling:** i.e., the fleeces from eleven wethers (gelded sheep) weigh a **tod** (twenty-eight pounds); **every tod** of wool will bring in a **pound** and one **shilling**

33-34. fifteen hundred: i.e., sheep

34. what . . . to: i.e., what is the total value of the wool?

(continued)

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My traffic is sheets. When the kite builds, look to lesser linen. My father named me Autolycus, who, being, as I am, littered under Mercury, was likewise a snapper-up of unconsidered trifles. With die and drab I purchased this caparison, and my revenue is the silly cheat. Gallows and knock are too powerful on the highway. Beating and hanging are terrors to me. For the life to come, I sleep out the thought of it. A prize, a prize!

Enter \Shepherd's Son.

SHEPHERD'S SON Let me see, every 'leven wether tods, every tod yields pound and odd shilling; fifteen hundred shorn, what comes the wool to?

AUTOLYCUS, 「aside If the springe hold, the cock's 35 mine.

The lies down.

The lies down

SHEPHERD'S SON I cannot do 't without counters. Let me see, what am I to buy for our sheep-shearing feast? (「He reads a paper. Three pound of sugar, five pound of currants, rice—what will this sister of mine do with rice? But my father hath made her mistress of the feast, and she lays it on. She hath made me four-and-twenty nosegays for the shearers, three-man song men all, and very good ones; but they are most of them means and basses, but one Puritan amongst them, and he sings psalms to hornpipes. I must have saffron to color the warden pies; mace; dates, none, that's out of my note; nutmegs, seven; a race or two of ginger, but that I may beg; four pound of prunes, and as many of raisins o' th' sun.

AUTOLYCUS, [writhing as if in pain] O, that ever I was born!

SHEPHERD'S SON I' th' name of me!

AUTOLYCUS O halmma halm - DL 1 1

37. **counters:** round pieces of metal (or some other substance) used to do arithmetic

42. lays it on: is lavish in expense

43. made me: i.e., made

44. **three-man song men:** singers of songs written for three voices (countertenor or alto, tenor, and bass)

45. means: i.e., tenors

45-47. but . . . hornpipes: i.e., except for one Puritan, who sings psalms even to dance tunes

47. warden: i.e., warden pear

48. out of my note: i.e., not on my list; or, not something I need to take note of (See longer note, page 244.)

49. race: root

51. o' th' sun: i.e., sun-dried

67. footman: i.e., a man on foot

68. footman: attendant (as Autolycus once was)

69-71. **should . . . service:** The shepherd's son here plays with yet another meaning of **footman**—i.e., a foot soldier, whose clothing would be inferior to that of a **horseman**—i.e., a mounted soldier—unless the **horseman** had been in furious combat.

76. softly: gently

77. out: dislocated

80-81. charitable office: i.e., act of kindness

85. past: more than

89. manner: kind

AUTOLYCUS O, help me, help me! Pluck but off these rags, and then death, death.	55
SHEPHERD'S SON Alack, poor soul, thou hast need of	
more rags to lay on thee rather than have these off.	
AUTOLYCUS O sir, the loathsomeness of them offends	
me more than the stripes I have received, which are	60
mighty ones and millions.	
SHEPHERD'S SON Alas, poor man, a million of beating	
may come to a great matter.	
AUTOLYCUS I am robbed, sir, and beaten, my money	
and apparel ta'en from me, and these detestable	65
things put upon me.	
SHEPHERD'S SON What, by a horseman, or a footman?	
AUTOLYCUS A footman, sweet sir, a footman	
SHEPHERD'S SON Indeed, he should be a footman by	
the garments he has left with thee. If this be a	-70
horseman's coat, it hath seen very hot service. Lend	
me thy hand; I'll help thee. Come, lend me thy hand.	
AUTOLYCUS O, good sir, tenderly, O!	
SHEPHERD'S SON Alas, poor soul.	120101
AUTOLYCUS O, good sir, softly, good sir. I fear, sir, my	75
shoulder blade is out.	
SHEPHERD'S SON How now? Canst stand?	
AUTOLYCUS, [stealing the Shepherd's Son's purse] Softly,	
dear sir, good sir, softly. You ha' done me a chari-	80
table office.	00
SHEPHERD'S SON Dost lack any money? I have a little	
money for thee.	
AUTOLYCUS No, good sweet sir, no, I beseech you, sir. I	
have a kinsman not past three-quarters of a mile	85
hence, unto whom I was going. I shall there have	7.50
money or anything I want. Offer me no money, I	
pray you; that kills my heart.	
SHEPHERD'S SON What manner of fellow was he that	
robbed you?	90

- 92. **troll-my-dames:** i.e., troll-madams, literally a board game, but here probably meaning whores ("Troll" could mean "pass around"; it was also sometimes spelled "trull," which, as a noun, meant "strumpet."); **once:** i.e., to have once been
 - 96. would: i.e., should
- 98. no...abide: i.e., only pause before going away
- 100. ape-bearer: an itinerant entertainer with a trained monkey
- 101. **process-server:** sheriff's officer who serves summonses; **compassed:** obtained; devised
 - 101-2. motion: puppet show
- 102. **Prodigal Son:** For the parable of the Prodigal Son, see Luke 15.11–32; **wife:** perhaps, woman; or, perhaps, widow
 - 103. living: property
- 105. in rogue: i.e., on rogue (See longer note, page 244.)
- 106. **Out upon him:** an expression of abhorrence; **Prig:** thief
 - 107. wakes: rural feasts
 - 111. big: haughty, pretentious
 - 119. softly: i.e., slowly
 - 120. bring: accompany
 - 124. Prosper you: i.e., may you prosper
- 125. **not hot enough:** i.e., too cold because it is empty (with wordplay on the **hot** flavor of spices)

AUTOLYCUS A fellow, sir, that I have known to go about with troll-my-dames. I knew him once a servant of the Prince. I cannot tell, good sir, for which of his virtues it was, but he was certainly whipped out of the court. 95 SHEPHERD'S SON His vices, you would say. There's no virtue whipped out of the court. They cherish it to make it stay there, and yet it will no more but abide. AUTOLYCUS Vices, I would say, sir. I know this man well. He hath been since an ape-bearer, then a 100 process-server, a bailiff. Then he compassed a motion of the Prodigal Son, and married a tinker's wife within a mile where my land and living lies, and, having flown over many knavish professions, he settled only in rogue. Some call him Autolycus. 105 SHEPHERD'S SON Out upon him! Prig, for my life, prig! He haunts wakes, fairs, and bearbaitings. AUTOLYCUS Very true, sir: he, sir, he. That's the rogue that put me into this apparel. SHEPHERD'S SON Not a more cowardly rogue in all 110 Bohemia. If you had but looked big and spit at him. he'd have run. AUTOLYCUS I must confess to you, sir, I am no fighter. I am false of heart that way, and that he knew. I warrant him. 115 SHEPHERD'S SON How do you now? AUTOLYCUS Sweet sir, much better than I was. I can stand and walk. I will even take my leave of you and pace softly towards my kinsman's. SHEPHERD'S SON Shall I bring thee on the way? 120 AUTOLYCUS No, good-faced sir, no, sweet sir. SHEPHERD'S SON Then fare thee well. I must go buy spices for our sheep-shearing. AUTOLYCUS Prosper you, sweet sir. 「Shepherd's Son Texits.

Your purse is not hot enough to purchase your 125

127. cheat: theft; bring out: produce

128. **sheep:** i.e., to be fleeced or robbed; **let . . . unrolled:** i.e., let my name be deleted (presumably, from the roll of thieves)

130. Jog on: trudge

131. hent: lay hold of; stile-a: A stile is a set of steps for crossing a fence. The suffix -a merely adds a syllable needed for the song's rhythm.

133. Your sad: i.e., any sad (heart)

- 4.4 At the sheepshearing feast, Florizell and Perdita declare their love before the disguised Polixenes and Camillo. When Polixenes orders Florizell never to see Perdita again, the two decide to flee. Camillo, for his own ends, advises them to go to Sicilia. The shepherd and his son, seeking the king to protest their innocence, are steered by Autolycus to Florizell's ship.
 - 1. weeds: garments
- 2. a life: an animation, vitality; no . . . Flora: i.e., you are no shepherdess, but instead the Roman goddess of flowers and spring

3. **Peering... front:** showing herself in the beginning of April **front:** literally, brow or forehead

4. petty gods: lesser deities of classical mythology

5. on 't: i.e., of it

7. extremes: extravagances (in praise); not becomes: is not appropriate for

9. mark . . . land: object of attention throughout the country

(continued)

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spice. I'll be with you at your sheep-shearing too. If I make not this cheat bring out another, and the shearers prove sheep, let me be unrolled and my name put in the book of virtue.

Sings. Jog on, jog on, the footpath way,
And merrily hent the stile-a.
A merry heart goes all the day,
Your sad tires in a mile-a.

He exits.

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Scene 4 Enter Florizell \(\bar{\cappa} \) and \(\bar{\cappa} \) Perdita.

FLORIZELL These your unusual weeds to each part of you Does give a life-no shepherdess, but Flora Peering in April's front. This your sheep-shearing Is as a meeting of the petty gods, . And you the queen on 't. 5 PERDITA Sir, my gracious lord. To chide at your extremes it not becomes me: O, pardon that I name them! Your high self, The gracious mark o' th' land, you have obscured With a swain's wearing, and me, poor lowly maid, 10 Most goddesslike pranked up. But that our feasts In every mess have folly, and the feeders Digest Fit with a custom, I should blush To see you so attired, \(\supersymbol{\supe To show myself a glass. 15 I bless the time FLORIZELL When my good falcon made her flight across Thy father's ground. PERDITA Now Jove afford you cause. To me the difference forges dread. Your greatness 20

12. In . . . folly: i.e., in every group of diners there are some who act foolishly; **feeders:** i.e., those who feed on folly

13. with a custom: i.e., because they are used to it

15. show . . . glass: i.e., see myself in a mirror

17. her: i.e., its (Shakespeare uses her because the falcon is female; the male of the species is called a "tercel.")

19. afford you cause: give you reason (to bless the time)

20. difference: i.e., in rank

23. Fates: In Greek mythology, the three Fates wove one's life and brought about one's death by cutting life's thread.

24. work: i.e., son

26. flaunts: finery

28. Apprehend: anticipate; fear, dread

31–34. Jupiter . . . swain: In classical mythology, Jupiter (or Jove) assumed the shape of a bull in order to carry off Europa; Neptune, god of the sea, became a ram to carry off Theophane; Apollo, the sun god, became a shepherd in an effort to seduce Issa. (See longer note, page 245, and picture, page 202.)

36. piece: masterpiece

37. way: (1) manner; (2) course of action

38. honor: sense of what is right

39. faith: duty to fulfill your trust in me

43. necessities: i.e., unavoidable

46. **Or I my life:** i.e., I must change my life (a line much debated by editors and critics, many of whom suggest that it means "I must exchange my life for death")

(continued)

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Hath not been used to fear. Even now I tremble	
To think your father by some accident	
Should pass this way as you did. O the Fates,	
How would he look to see his work, so noble,	
Vilely bound up? What would he say? Or how	
Should I, in these my borrowed flaunts, behold	
The sternness of his presence?	
FLORIZELL Apprehend	
Nothing but jollity. The gods themselves,	
Humbling their deities to love, have taken	
	3
The shapes of beasts upon them. Jupiter	
Became a bull, and bellowed; the green Neptune	
A ram, and bleated; and the fire-robed god,	
Golden Apollo, a poor humble swain,	
As I seem now. Their transformations	
Were never for a piece of beauty rarer,	
Nor in a way so chaste, since my desires	9
Run not before mine honor, nor my lusts	
Burn hotter than my faith.	
PERDITA O, but sir,	
Your resolution cannot hold when 'tis	
Opposed, as it must be, by th' power of the King.	
One of these two must be necessities,	
Which then will speak: that you must change this	
purpose	
Or I my life.	
FLORIZELL Thou dear'st Perdita.	
With these forced thoughts I prithee darken not	
The mirth o' th' feast. Or I'll be thine, my fair,	
Or not my father's. For I cannot be	
Mine own, nor anything to any, if	
I be not thine. To this I am most constant,	
Though destiny say no. Be merry, gentle.	
Strangle such thoughts as these with anything	
That you behold the while. Your guests are coming.	

- 48. **forced:** strained, distorted (See longer note, page 245.)
 - 49. Or: i.e., either; fair: beautiful one
 - 51. any: i.e., anyone
- 54-55. **anything . . . while:** i.e., whatever you see around you in the meantime
 - 56. Lift . . . countenance: look up; as: i.e., as if
- 59. Lady Fortune: i.e., the goddess Fortuna, who distributes one's good and bad luck as she chooses (See page 210.)
 - 63. red: i.e., red-faced, flushed
- 65. pantler, butler: servants who supplied bread (the pantler) and liquor (the butler)
 - 69. On: i.e., at
- 71. **She...sip:** i.e., she would offer as a toast to each guest in turn; **retired:** withdrawn into yourself
- 72. a feasted one: i.e., one of the guests being entertained
- 73. meeting: party
- 74. unknown . . . welcome: i.e., welcome these friends yet unknown to us
 - 75. more known: better acquainted
 - 76. yourself: i.e., yourself as
 - 79. **As:** i.e., so (that)
 - 80 SD. to Polixenes: See longer note, page 245.

Lift up your countenance as it were the day Of celebration of that nuptial which We two have sworn shall come. PERDITA O Lady Fortune, Stand you auspicious! FLORIZELL See, your guests approach. Address yourself to entertain them sprightly, And let's be red with mirth.	60
「Enter Shepherd, 「Shepherd's Son, Mopsa, Dorcas, Shepherds and Shepherdesses, Servants, Musicians, and Polixenes and Camillo in disguise.	
SHEPHERD	
Fie, daughter, when my old wife lived, upon This day she was both pantler, butler, cook, Both dame and servant; welcomed all; served all; Would sing her song and dance her turn, now here	65
At upper end o' th' table, now i' th' middle;	
On his shoulder, and his; her face afire	
With labor, and the thing she took to quench it She would to each one sip. You are retired	70
As if you were a feasted one and not	
The hostess of the meeting. Pray you bid	
These unknown friends to 's welcome, for it is	
A way to make us better friends, more known.	75
Come, quench your blushes and present yourself	
That which you are, mistress o' th' feast. Come on,	
And bid us welcome to your sheep-shearing, As your good flock shall prosper.	
PERDITA, To Polixenes Sir, welcome.	80
It is my father's will I should take on me	00
The hostess-ship o' th' day. To Camillo. You're	
welcome, sir.—	
Give me those flowers there, Dorcas.—Reverend	
sirs,	85

86-88. **rosemary...both:** Compare Ophelia's speeches in *Hamlet* 4.5.199-206: "There's **rosemary**, that's for **remembrance...** There's **rue** for you, and here's some for me; we may call it herb of **grace** o' Sundays." **Seeming:** appearance **savor:** fragrance **Grace and remembrance:** i.e., God's grace and remembrance (after your deaths) See page 198.

93. **the year growing ancient:** perhaps, "when fall arrives" (with the suggestion that autumn rather than winter flowers would suit the men's age)

96. gillyvors: i.e., gillyflowers

97. **bastards:** a word used to refer to hybrids and to things spurious or counterfeit (See longer note, page 246.)

103. art: human skill (here, horticultural skill in altering flowers' colors); piedness: variegation

106. mean: i.e., means (to effect a purpose)

107. But: unless; over that art: i.e., above the human skill

108-9. **an art...makes:** perhaps a reference to the idea that human skills are themselves a product of nature

109-12. **we marry...race:** i.e., we graft a twig (**scion**) from a cultivated plant onto a wild **stock** to produce, from this "base **bark**," a **nobler** flower **marry:** permanently join **gentler:** i.e., more cultivated, domesticated

For you there's rosemary and rue. These keep	
Seeming and savor all the winter long.	
Grace and remembrance be to you both,	
And welcome to our shearing.	
POLIXENES Shepherdess—	90
A fair one are you—well you fit our ages	
With flowers of winter.	
PERDITA Sir, the year growing ancient,	
Not yet on summer's death nor on the birth	
Of trembling winter, the fairest flowers o' th' season	95
Are our carnations and streaked gillyvors.	
Which some call nature's bastards. Of that kind	
Our rustic garden's barren, and I care not	
To get slips of them.	
POLIXENES Wherefore, gentle maiden,	100
Do you neglect them?	
PERDITA For I have heard it said	
There is an art which in their piedness shares	
With great creating nature.	
POLIXENES Say there be;	105
Yet nature is made better by no mean	
But nature makes that mean. So, over that art	
Which you say adds to nature is an art	
That nature makes. You see, sweet maid, we marry	
A gentler scion to the wildest stock,	110
And make conceive a bark of baser kind	
By bud of nobler race. This is an art	
Which does mend nature, change it rather, but	
The art itself is nature.	
PERDITA So it is.	115
POLIXENES	
Then make your garden rich in gillyvors,	
And do not call them bastards.	
PERDITA I'll not put	
The dibble in earth to set one slip of them,	
grid W. W.	

120. painted: i.e., wearing cosmetics

122. therefore: i.e., because of my artificial beauty

125–26. marigold . . . weeping: The marigold was called "the spouse of the sun" because it closes its petals at the end of the day and opens them at dawn. weeping: i.e., wet with dew

127. given: i.e., customarily given

131. Out: an exclamation expressing reproach

135. would: wish

136. Become: suit; day: i.e., life

139-41. **O** Proserpina ... wagon: According to Ovid's *Metamorphoses* (5.391-99), when the maid Proserpina, daughter of Ceres, was gathering flowers in a grove, the king of the underworld, Dis or Pluto, carried her off in his wagon (i.e., chariot). See picture on page 270.

142. take: captivate, charm

144. Juno's eyes: the eyes of the mythological queen of the gods

145. **Cytherea's breath:** the breath of Venus, goddess of love (born from the waves near the island of Cythera)

147. **Phoebus:** i.e., the sun (literally, Phoebus Apollo, the sun god of mythology)

147-48. a malady...maids: a reference to the parallel perceived between the pale-green primrose, which dies before spring fully arrives, and the disease of "green-sickness" (perhaps, anemia) that was fatal to young girls

149. **crown imperial**: a showy plant whose flowers (according to Gerard's *Herbal* [1597]) encompass the stalk "in form of an imperial crown"

150. flower-de-luce: i.e., fleur-de-lis, or iris

153. corse: i.e., corpse

No more than, were I painted, I would wish 120 This youth should say 'twere well, and only therefore Desire to breed by me. Here's flowers for you: Hot lavender, mints, savory, marjoram, The marigold, that goes to bed wi' th' sun 125 And with him rises weeping. These are flowers Of middle summer, and I think they are given To men of middle age. You're very welcome. CAMILLO. I should leave grazing, were I of your flock, And only live by gazing. 130 PERDITA Out, alas! You'd be so lean that blasts of January Would blow you through and through. (To Florizell. Now, my fair'st friend, I would I had some flowers o' th' spring, that might 135 Become your time of day, (\(\text{to the Shepherdesses} \)\) and yours, and yours. That wear upon your virgin branches yet Your maidenheads growing. O Proserpina, For the flowers now that, frighted, thou let'st fall 140 From Dis's wagon! Daffodils, That come before the swallow dares, and take The winds of March with beauty; violets dim, But sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes Or Cytherea's breath; pale primroses, 145 That die unmarried ere they can behold Bright Phoebus in his strength—a malady Most incident to maids; bold oxlips and The crown imperial; lilies of all kinds, The flower-de-luce being one-O, these I lack 150 To make you garlands of, and my sweet friend, To strew him o'er and o'er. FLORIZELL What, like a corse?

154. bank: i.e., bank of flowers

155. **or if:** i.e., or if you are a body (the more general meaning of **corse**)

156. quick: alive

158. Methinks: i.e., it seems to me

159. Whitsun pastorals: i.e., May games and morris dances associated with the late spring feast of Pentecost (see page 230); Sure: i.e., surely

162. Still . . . done: i.e., always raises in value the

thing you are doing

165. for: i.e., as for; ord'ring: giving orders about

168. **still:** always (but with wordplay on the stillness of the wave as it crests)

169. own . . . function: i.e., have nothing else to do; Each your doing: i.e., your performance of each thing you do

171. what . . . deeds: i.e., whatever you are doing at the moment

172. That: i.e., so that

173. **Doricles:** the name Florizell has assumed in disguise

174. large: extravagant; But that: i.e., if it were not that

175. blood: disposition; peeps: shows itself

176. **give you out:** proclaim you; **unstained:** pure, morally unsullied

180. skill: reason

181. put: i.e., force

182. turtles: turtledoves; pair: mate

184. I'll . . . 'em: a general term of agreement

187. greater: of higher social rank

PERDITA	
No, like a bank for love to lie and play on,	
Not like a corse; or if, not to be buried,	155
But quick and in mine arms. Come, take your	
flowers.	
Methinks I play as I have seen them do	
In Whitsun pastorals. Sure this robe of mine	
Does change my disposition.	160
FLORIZELL What you do	
Still betters what is done. When you speak, sweet,	
I'd have you do it ever. When you sing,	
I'd have you buy and sell so, so give alms,	
Pray so; and for the ord'ring your affairs,	165
To sing them too. When you do dance, I wish you	
A wave o' th' sea, that you might ever do	
Nothing but that, move still, still so,	
And own no other function. Each your doing,	
So singular in each particular,	170
Crowns what you are doing in the present deeds,	
That all your acts are queens.	
PERDITA O Doricles,	
Your praises are too large. But that your youth	
And the true blood which peeps fairly through 't	175
Do plainly give you out an unstained shepherd,	
With wisdom I might fear, my Doricles,	
You wooed me the false way.	
FLORIZELL I think you have	
As little skill to fear as I have purpose	180
To put you to 't. But come, our dance, I pray.	
Your hand, my Perdita. So turtles pair	
That never mean to part.	
PERDITA _ I'll swear for 'em.	
POLIXENES, To Camillo	
This is the prettiest lowborn lass that ever	185
Ran on the greensward. Nothing she does or seems	
But smacks of something greater than herself,	
Too noble for this place.	

CAMILLO

He tells her something

190. look out: appear; Good sooth: a mild oath

193. mistress: sweetheart; garlic: i.e., give her some garlic

195. in good time: i.e., indeed!

196. stand upon: i.e., must mind

200-201. **boasts...feeding:** i.e., (they say he) brags about owning good pasture land

203. like sooth: i.e., truthful

208. another: i.e., the other

209. featly: nimbly, gracefully

211. That: i.e., who

215. after a tabor: i.e., to the music of a drum (See page 220.)



A peddler with his wares. (4.4.214–66) From Hartmann Schopper, Panoplia omnium illiberalium . . . (1568).

That makes her blood look Fout. Good sooth, she is 190 The queen of curds and cream. SHEPHERD'S SON, To Musicians Come on, strike up. DORCAS Mopsa must be your mistress? Marry, garlic To mend her kissing with. Now, in good time! MOPSA 195 SHEPHERD'S SON Not a word, a word. We stand upon our manners.— Come, strike up. Music begins. Here a Dance of Shepherds and Shepherdesses. POLIXENES Pray, good shepherd, what fair swain is this Which dances with your daughter? SHEPHERD They call him Doricles, and boasts himself 200 To have a worthy feeding. But I have it Upon his own report, and I believe it. He looks like sooth. He says he loves my daughter. I think so too, for never gazed the moon Upon the water as he'll stand and read, 205 As 'twere, my daughter's eyes. And, to be plain, I think there is not half a kiss to choose Who loves another best. She dances featly. POLIXENES SHEPHERD So she does anything, though I report it 210 That should be silent. If young Doricles Do light upon her, she shall bring him that Which he not dreams of. Enter $\lceil a \rceil$ Servant.

SERVANT O, master, if you did but hear the peddler at the door, you would never dance again after a tabor 215 and pipe; no, the bagpipe could not move you. He

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- 217. several: different; you'll tell: i.e., you can count
- 218. as: i.e., as if; ballads: See longer note, page 246.
 - 220. come better: i.e., be more welcome
 - 222. pleasant: amusing
- 223. lamentably: mournfully (the word can also mean "deplorably")
- 225. milliner: seller of ribbons, gloves, and other fancy apparel
- 227. bawdry: indecency (The servant's claim seems contradicted by his examples in lines 227–29.)
 - 227-28. delicate burdens: fastidious refrains
- 228. dildos and fadings: nonsense words used in ballad refrains (but the word "dildo" means an artificial phallus, and the refrain "With a fading" occurred in an indecent popular song)
- 230-31. break ... matter: perhaps, insert indecent words or gestures into the song
 - 232. puts: i.e., she puts
 - 235. brave: excellent
- 236-37. **admirable conceited:** i.e., admirably ingenious or amusing
- 237. unbraided: perhaps, untarnished or undamaged
- 240. **points:** tagged laces used instead of buttons to fasten clothing (with wordplay on "items or clauses in legal documents")
- 241–42. **by th' gross:** in great numbers (literally twelve dozen at a time)
- 242. **inkles:** linen tapes; **caddises:** i.e., caddis ribbon (worsted tape or binding, used for garters)
 - 243. sings 'em over: describes them in song

(continued)

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sings several tunes faster than you'll tell money. He utters them as he had eaten ballads and all men's ears grew to his tunes.

SHEPHERD'S SON He could never come better. He shall 220 come in. I love a ballad but even too well if it be doleful matter merrily set down, or a very pleasant thing indeed and sung lamentably.

SERVANT He hath songs for man or woman, of all sizes.

No milliner can so fit his customers with gloves. He 225 has the prettiest love songs for maids, so without bawdry, which is strange, with such delicate burdens of dildos and fadings, "Jump her and thump her." And where some stretch-mouthed rascal would, as it were, mean mischief and break a foul 230 gap into the matter, he makes the maid to answer "Whoop, do me no harm, good man"; puts him off, slights him, with "Whoop, do me no harm, good man."

POLIXENES This is a brave fellow.

SHEPHERD'S SON Believe me, thou talkest of an admirable conceited fellow. Has he any unbraided wares?

SERVANT He hath ribbons of all the colors i' th' rainbow; points more than all the lawyers in Bohemia 240 can learnedly handle, though they come to him by th' gross; inkles, caddises, cambrics, lawns—why, he sings 'em over as they were gods or goddesses. You would think a smock were a she-angel, he so chants to the sleeve-hand and the work about the 245 square on 't.

SHEPHERD'S SON Prithee bring him in, and let him approach singing.

PERDITA Forewarn him that he use no scurrilous words in 's tunes. | Servant exits. | 250

SHEPHERD'S SON You have of these peddlers that have more in them than you'd think, sister.

255

260

265

244. smock: woman's shirtlike undergarment

245. chants to: i.e., sings the praises of; sleeve-hand: sleeve's cuff

245-46. work . . . on 't: embroidery around the smock's breast-piece

250. in 's: i.e., in his

251. You have of: i.e., there are some

253. go about: i.e., have any desire

255. Cypress: a light transparent fabric (often used for mourning)

256. sweet: scented, perfumed

257. **Masks . . . noses:** worn by upper-class women to protect themselves from the sun or to conceal their identity

258. Bugle bracelet: a bracelet of glass beads

260. coifs: tight-fitting caps

262. **poking-sticks:** rods used to stiffen the pleats of ruffs

263. lack: need

268. **enthralled:** captivated (with wordplay on "enslaved," "put into bondage")

269. it: i.e., my love for Mopsa (and my enslavement)

271. against: in time for

277. again: i.e., back again

279-80. Will ... faces: i.e., will they announce what they should keep hidden? plackets: openings in petticoats or in skirts (and, by extension, women's private parts)

281. kiln-hole: i.e., fireplace (literally, fire-hole of a kiln): whistle: whisper

284. Clamor: perhaps, silence (though the word usually means just the opposite)

PERDITA Ay, good brother, or go about to think.

Enter Autolycus, \(\text{\text{wearing a false beard,}} \) singing.

AUTOLYCUS \(\text{\text{\text{T}}} \)

Lawn as white as driven snow,
Cypress black as e'er was crow,
Gloves as sweet as damask roses,
Masks for faces and for noses,
Bugle bracelet, necklace amber,
Perfume for a lady's chamber,
Golden coifs and stomachers
For my lads to give their dears,
Pins and poking-sticks of steel,
What maids lack from head to heel,
Come buy of me, come. Come buy, come buy.
Buy, lads, or else your lasses cry.
Come buy.

SHEPHERD'S SON If I were not in love with Mopsa, thou shouldst take no money of me; but being enthralled as I am, it will also be the bondage of certain ribbons and gloves.

MOPSA I was promised them against the feast, but they come not too late now.

DORCAS He hath promised you more than that, or there be liars.

MOPSA He hath paid you all he promised you. Maybe 275 he has paid you more, which will shame you to give him again.

SHEPHERD'S SON Is there no manners left among maids? Will they wear their plackets where they should bear their faces? Is there not milking time, 280 when you are going to bed, or kiln-hole, to whistle of these secrets, but you must be tittle-tattling before all our guests? 'Tis well they are whisp'ring. Clamor your tongues, and not a word more.

291. Fear not thou: don't be afraid

294. parcels of charge: i.e., expensive items

296. ballad in print: See longer note to 4.4.218.

297. alife: dearly

299. brought to bed: delivered

300. at a burden: at a single birth

305. to 't: i.e., as a witness to it

306. **Taleporter:** The name means "tale bearer" or "gossip." wives: women

311. **anon:** soon

313-14. the fourscore of April: i.e., the 80th of April

317. **for:** because; **exchange flesh:** i.e., have sexual intercourse



Shearing sheep. (4.4)
From Pietro de Crescenzi, [Ruralia commoda, 1561].

MOPSA I have done. Come, you promised me a tawdry 285 lace and a pair of sweet gloves. SHEPHERD'S SON Have I not told thee how I was cozened by the way and lost all my money? AUTOLYCUS And indeed, sir, there are cozeners abroad; therefore it behooves men to be wary. 290 SHEPHERD'S SON Fear not thou, man. Thou shalt lose nothing here. AUTOLYCUS I hope so, sir, for I have about me many parcels of charge. SHEPHERD'S SON What hast here? Ballads? 295 MOPSA Pray now, buy some. I love a ballad in print alife, for then we are sure they are true. AUTOLYCUS Here's one to a very doleful tune, how a usurer's wife was brought to bed of twenty moneybags at a burden, and how she longed to eat adders' 300 heads and toads carbonadoed. MOPSA Is it true, think you? AUTOLYCUS Very true, and but a month old. DORCAS Bless me from marrying a usurer! AUTOLYCUS Here's the midwife's name to 't, one Mis- 305 tress Taleporter, and five or six honest wives that were present. Why should I carry lies abroad? MOPSA, To Shepherd's Son Pray you now, buy it. SHEPHERD'S SON, To Autolycus Come on, lay it by, and let's first see more ballads. We'll buy the other 310 things anon. AUTOLYCUS Here's another ballad, of a fish that appeared upon the coast on Wednesday the fourscore of April, forty thousand fathom above water, and sung this ballad against the hard hearts of maids. It 315 was thought she was a woman, and was turned into a cold fish for she would not exchange flesh with one that loved her. The ballad is very pitiful, and as

150

DORCAS Is it true too, think you?

true.

321.	Five	at it: i.e.	its truth is	attested by the
			witnesses:	

327. passing: exceedingly

327-28. goes to: i.e., is set to

329. westward: i.e., in the west country

333. on 't: i.e., of it

337. fits not: is not fitting for

344. Or thou goest: i.e., you are going either; grange: barn

345. ill: evil

352. have this song out: finish this song

353. sad: serious



A sheepcote. (4.4.911)
From August Casimir Redel, Annus symbolicus . . . [c. 1695].

AUTOLYCUS Five justices' hands at it, and witnesses more than my pack will hold. SHEPHERD'S SON Lay it by too. Another. AUTOLYCUS This is a merry ballad, but a very pretty 325 MOPSA Let's have some merry ones. AUTOLYCUS Why, this is a passing merry one and goes to the tune of "Two Maids Wooing a Man." There's scarce a maid westward but she sings it. 'Tis in request, I can tell you. 330 MOPSA We can both sing it. If thou'lt bear a part, thou shalt hear; 'tis in three parts. DORCAS We had the tune on 't a month ago. AUTOLYCUS I can bear my part. You must know 'tis my occupation. Have at it with you. 335

Song.

AUTOLYCUS	Get you hence, for I must go	
	Where it fits not you to know.	
DORCAS	Whither?	
MOPSA	O, whither?	
DORCAS	Whither?	340
MOPSA	It becomes thy oath full well	
	Thou to me thy secrets tell.	
DORCAS	Me too. Let me go thither.	
MOPSA	Or thou goest to th' grange or mill.	22
DORCAS	If to either, thou dost ill.	345
AUTOLYCUS	Neither.	-
DORCAS	What, neither?	
AUTOLYCUS	Neither.	
DORCAS	Thou hast sworn my love to be.	
MOPSA	Thou hast sworn it more to me. Then whither goest? Say whither.	350
E.T. Waster		

SHEPHERD'S SON We'll have this song out anon by ourselves. My father and the gentlemen are in sad

361. duck: a term of endearment; dear-a: i.e., dear

363. toys: trifles, knickknacks

367. utter: put on the market, put into circulation

370. made . . . hair: i.e., dressed up in animal skins

371. **saultiers:** leapers, dancers (The Servant may be confusing the word with **Satyrs**—mythological woodland gods with animal forms and covered all in hair. See 388 SD, which uses the word **Satyrs** to describe them.)

372-73. gallimaufry of gambols: confused jumble of leaps

377. on 't: i.e., of it

381. threes of: i.e., groups of three



A satyr. (4.4.388 SD)
From Vincenzo Cartari, Le vere e noue imagini . . . (1615).

talk, and we'll not trouble them. Come, bring away thy pack after me.—Wenches, I'll buy for you 355 both.—Peddler, let's have the first choice.—Follow me, girls.

THe exits with Mopsa, Dorcas, Shepherds and Shepherdesses.

AUTOLYCUS And you shall pay well for 'em.

Song.

Will you buy any tape,
Or lace for your cape,
My dainty duck, my dear-a?
Any silk, any thread,
Any toys for your head,
Of the new'st and fin'st, fin'st wear-a?
Come to the peddler.
Money's a meddler
That doth utter all men's ware-a.
He exits.

「Enter a Servant. ¬

SERVANT, To Shepherd Master, there is three carters, three shepherds, three neatherds, three swine-herds, that have made themselves all men of hair. 370 They call themselves saultiers, and they have a dance which the wenches say is a gallimaufry of gambols, because they are not in 't, but they themselves are o' th' mind, if it be not too rough for some that know little but bowling, it will please 375 plentifully.

SHEPHERD Away! We'll none on 't. Here has been too much homely foolery already.—I know, sir, we weary you.

POLIXENES You weary those that refresh us. Pray, let's 380 see these four threes of herdsmen.

384-85. by th' square: exactly, precisely

388. door: i.e., the door

389. **O** father...hereafter: Polixenes is presented as answering some question put to him by the shepherd. father: term of address to an old man

391. them: i.e., Florizell and Perdita

392. **simple:** honest and straightforward (referring to the Shepherd)

395. Sooth: i.e., in truth

396. handed: dealt with; wont: accustomed

397. she: ladylove; knacks: trinkets

400. nothing marted with: i.e., bought nothing from

401. **Interpretation should abuse:** i.e., should misunderstand, interpret wrongly

402. were straited: would be at a loss

403-4. make a care / Of: i.e., are seriously concerned with

404. happy holding her: (1) keeping her happy; (2) happily keeping her

407. looks: i.e., looks for

409. **delivered:** (1) uttered, spoken; (2) formally transferred into her possession (legal term)

SERVANT One three of them, by their own report, sir hath danced before the King, and not the worst o the three but jumps twelve foot and a half by th square. SHEPHERD Leave your prating. Since these good mer are pleased, let them come in—but quickly now. SERVANT Why, they stay at door, sir.	f ,
THe admits the herdsmen.	
Here a Dance of twelve herdsmen, dressed as Satyrs. Herdsmen, Musicians, and Servants exit. POLIXENES, to Shepherd	
O father, you'll know more of that hereafter.	
[Aside to Camillo.] Is it not too far gone? 'Tis time to	390
part them.	
He's simple, and tells much. To Florizell. How now,	
fair shepherd?	
Your heart is full of something that does take	
Your mind from feasting. Sooth, when I was young	395
And handed love, as you do, I was wont	
To load my she with knacks. I would have ransacked	
The peddler's silken treasury and have poured it	
To her acceptance. You have let him go	
And nothing marted with him. If your lass	400
Interpretation should abuse and call this	
Your lack of love or bounty, you were straited	
For a reply, at least if you make a care	
Of happy holding her.	
FLORIZELL Old sir, I know	405
She prizes not such trifles as these are.	
The gifts she looks from me are packed and locked	
Up in my heart, which I have given already,	
But not delivered. To Perdita. O, hear me breathe	
my life	410
Before this ancient sir, \(\subseteq \text{who}, \(\gamma \) it should seem,	

417.	What	follows	this:	i.e.,	what	is	this	speech
leading				* 2				•

418. **swain:** here perhaps meaning "lover" as well as "shepherd"

418-19. to . . . before: i.e., to make whiter (through his words) the hand that was already fair

419. put you out: disconcerted you, confused you

427. most imperial: supreme, most exalted

428. **Thereof most worthy:** i.e., and most deserving of being so

429. force: power

432-33. Commend . . . perdition: i.e., either commend them . . . to her service or condemn them to destruction

442. **Take...bargain:** proverbial (See longer note, page 246, and picture, page 208.)

445. **portion:** dowry



A carnation. (4.4.96)
From John Gerard, The herball or generall historie of plantes . . . (1597).

Hath sometime loved. I take thy hand, this hand As soft as dove's down and as white as it. Or Ethiopian's tooth, or the fanned snow that's bolted 415 By th' northern blasts twice o'er. POLIXENES What follows this?-How prettily th' young swain seems to wash The hand was fair before.—I have put you out. But to your protestation. Let me hear 420 What you profess. Do. and be witness to 't. FLORIZELL POLIXENES And this my neighbor too? FLORIZELL And he, and more Than he, and men—the earth, the heavens, and 425 all— That were I crowned the most imperial monarch, Thereof most worthy, were I the fairest youth That ever made eve swerve, had force and knowledge More than was ever man's, I would not prize them Without her love; for her employ them all. Commend them and condemn them to her service Or to their own perdition. Fairly offered. POLIXENES CAMILLO This shows a sound affection. 435 But my daughter, SHEPHERD Say you the like to him? I cannot speak PERDITA So well, nothing so well, no, nor mean better. By th' pattern of mine own thoughts I cut out 440 The purity of his. Take hands, a bargain.-SHEPHERD And, friends unknown, you shall bear witness to 't: I give my daughter to him and will make Her portion equal his. 445 450. **Contract us:** i.e., bind us, perhaps, in a contract of marriage, or, perhaps, to a promise to marry (betrothal); **fore:** i.e., before

453. **Soft:** an exclamation meaning "wait"; **beseech:** i.e., I beseech

459. Methinks: i.e., it seems to me

461. **That best becomes:** i.e., who is most appropriate to be present at

462-63. **incapable . . . affairs:** i.e., unable to attend to concerns requiring the use of reason

463. stupid: in a stupor

464. **alt'ring rheums:** perhaps, abnormal or diseased secretions; or perhaps, inflammations of the nose or throat that have altered his health

465. **Know man from man:** i.e., distinguish one man from another; **Dispute...estate:** i.e., reason concerning his own condition

467. being childish: i.e., when he was a child

473. **Something:** somewhat; **unfilial:** i.e., unbecoming to a dutiful son; **Reason my son:** i.e., it is reasonable that the **son**

474. as good reason: i.e., equally reasonable that

475. all whose: i.e., all of whose

476. **fair posterity:** i.e., descendants who give promise of success, who are reputable

478. yield: grant

Service and the service and th	
FLORIZELL O, that must be	
I' th' virtue of your daughter. One being dead,	
I shall have more than you can dream of yet,	
Enough then for your wonder. But come on,	
Contract us fore these witnesses.	450
SHEPHERD Come, your hand—	430
And daughter, yours.	
POLIXENES, To Florizell Soft, swain, awhile, beseech	
you.	
Have you a father?	455
FLORIZELL I have, but what of him?	455
POLIXENES	
Knows he of this?	
FLORIZELL He neither does nor shall.	
POLIXENES Methinks a father	
Is at the nuptial of his son a guest	460
That best becomes the table. Pray you once more,	100
Is not your father grown incapable	
Of reasonable affairs? Is he not stupid	
With age and alt'ring rheums? Can he speak? Hear?	
Know man from man? Dispute his own estate?	465
Lies he not bedrid, and again does nothing	
But what he did being childish?	
FLORIZELL No, good sir.	
He has his health and ampler strength indeed	
Than most have of his age.	470
POLIXENES By my white beard,	
You offer him, if this be so, a wrong	
Something unfilial. Reason my son	
Should choose himself a wife, but as good reason	140
The father, all whose joy is nothing else	475
But fair posterity, should hold some counsel	
In such a business.	
FLORIZELL I yield all this;	
But for some other reasons, my grave sir	

480. I not: i.e., I cannot or will not

489. **Mark:** observe, attend to; **contract:** probably accented on the second syllable

494. **That:** who; **affects:** i.e., desires, aspires to (**Sheep-hook** is set in opposition to royal **scepter** and may signify Perdita, the shepherd's life, or an actual shepherd's crook.)

496. fresh: young, vigorous

497. piece: masterpiece

498. whom of force: i.e., who necessarily, unavoidably

499. thou cop'st: you have to do

502. homely: ugly (but with the meaning "lacking refinement" in reference to her state, or social condition); fond: (1) foolish; (2) immoderately affectionate

503. may: should

504. knack: trifle; choice dish; crafty device

505. we'll: Polixenes here uses the royal "we."

506. hold thee: i.e., regard you as

507. Far'r . . . off: i.e., further removed from any relation to me than **Deucalion** (a Noah-like figure who, in mythology, was the only man to survive when Zeus flooded the earth, and who repeopled the earth by casting stones over his shoulder; see page 164); **Mark thou:** pay attention to

511. dead: deadly

512. yea, him too: i.e., and worthy to marry Florizell

Which 'tis not fit you know, I not acquaint	480
My father of this business.	
POLIXENES Let him know 't.	
FLORIZELL	
He shall not.	
POLIXENES Prithee let him.	
FLORIZELL No, he must not.	485
SHEPHERD	
Let him, my son. He shall not need to grieve	
At knowing of thy choice.	
FLORIZELL Come, come, he must not.	
Mark our contract.	
POLIXENES, [removing his disguise] Mark your divorce, young sir,	490
Whom son I dare not call. Thou art too base	
To be \(\text{racknowledged.} \) Thou a scepter's heir	
That thus affects a sheep-hook!—Thou, old traitor,	
I am sorry that by hanging thee I can	495
But shorten thy life one week.—And thou, fresh	1,,,
piece	
Of excellent witchcraft, whom of force must know	
The royal fool thou cop'st with—	
SHEPHERD O, my heart!	500
POLIXENES	500
I'll have thy beauty scratched with briers and made	
More homely than thy state.—For thee, fond boy,	
If I may ever know thou dost but sigh	
That thou no more shalt see this knack—as never	
I mean thou shalt—we'll bar thee from succession,	505
Not hold thee of our blood, no, not our kin,	303
Far'r than Deucalion off. Mark thou my words.	
Follow us to the court. To Shepherd. Thou, churl,	
for this time,	
Though full of our displeasure, yet we free thee	510
From the dead blow of it.—And you, enchantment,	210
Worthy enough a herdsman—yea, him too,	
wormy chough a herushian—yea, illin 100,	

513-14. That . . . thee: i.e., who, were it not for his royal blood, has made himself unworthy of you

518. **tender to 't:** i.e., vulnerable to such cruelty (The word **tender** could refer to her youth, her fragility, or perhaps her sensitivity to pain.)

519. undone: ruined

522-24. **The selfsame . . . alike:** Proverbial: "The sun shines upon all alike."

527. state: (1) rank (as heir to the throne); (2) condition; This: i.e., as for this

535. fourscore three: eighty-three

536. thought: expected

537. bed: i.e., bed on which

540. Where ... dust: i.e., in unconsecrated ground, because he is a felon (See longer note, page 246.)

543. adventure: dare

544. mingle faith: exchange vows



Deucalion and Pyrrha repopulating the earth. (4.4.507) From Lodovico Dolce, *Le trasformationi* . . . (1570).

That makes himself, but for our honor therein, Unworthy thee—if ever henceforth thou These rural latches to his entrance open, 515 Or hoop his body more with thy embraces, I will devise a death as cruel for thee As thou art tender to 't. He exits. PERDITA Even here undone. I was not much afeard, for once or twice 520 I was about to speak and tell him plainly The selfsame sun that shines upon his court Hides not his visage from our cottage but Looks on alike. To Florizell. Will't please you, sir, be gone? 525 I told you what would come of this. Beseech you, Of your own state take care. This dream of mine-Being now awake, I'll queen it no inch farther. But milk my ewes and weep. CAMILLO, To Shepherd Why, how now, father? 530 Speak ere thou diest. I cannot speak, nor think, SHEPHERD Nor dare to know that which I know. To Florizell. You have undone a man of fourscore three, 535 That thought to fill his grave in quiet, yea. To die upon the bed my father died. To lie close by his honest bones; but now Some hangman must put on my shroud and lay me Where no priest shovels in dust. To Perdita. O 540 cursèd wretch. That knew'st this was the Prince, and wouldst adventure To mingle faith with him!—Undone, undone! If I might die within this hour, I have lived 545 To die when I desire. He exits. FLORIZELL, To Perdita Why look you so upon me? I am but sorry, not afeard; delayed.

550-	51. More unwillingly: Florizell pictures
himself	as a hunting dog straining at its leash to move
forward	, not being dragged unwillingly along by its
leash.	plucking: i.e., being plucked
	Gracious my lord: i.e., my gracious lord

552. **Gracious my lord:** i.e., my gracious lord 555. **purpose:** i.e., intend to offer; **as hardly:** i.e.,

with as great difficulty, as painfully

560. think: i.e., think you are

563. dignity: high position (as the prince's beloved)

565. but by: except through

566. faith: vow (of love); then: i.e., when that happens

568. **seeds:** i.e., sources of all life and growth;

Lift . . . looks: look up

571. advised: cautious (Florizell replies as if advised had its meaning "counseled.")

572. fancy: (1) imagination; (2) love

573. thereto: i.e., to my fancy

578. needs must: i.e., am obliged to

580. thereat gleaned: i.e., got by ruling Bohemia

581. **close:** closed, shut; **wombs:** encloses as if in a womb

	23
But nothing altered. What I was, I am,	0 5
More straining on for plucking back, not following	550
My leash unwillingly.	
CAMILLO Gracious my lord,	
You know \(\text{your} \) father's temper. At this time	
He will allow no speech, which I do guess	
You do not purpose to him; and as hardly	555
Will he endure your sight as yet, I fear.	
Then, till the fury of his Highness settle,	
Come not before him.	
FLORIZELL I not purpose it.	
I think Camillo?	560
CAMILLO, removing his disguise Even he, my lord.	
PERDITA, to Florizell	
How often have I told you 'twould be thus?	
How often said my dignity would last	
But till 'twere known?	
FLORIZELL It cannot fail but by	565
The violation of my faith; and then	
Let nature crush the sides o' th' earth together	00
And mar the seeds within. Lift up thy looks.	
From my succession wipe me, father. I	
Am heir to my affection.	570
CAMILLO Be advised.	
FLORIZELL	
I am, and by my fancy. If my reason	
Will thereto be obedient, I have reason.	
If not, my senses, better pleased with madness,	
Do bid it welcome.	575
CAMILLO This is desperate, sir.	
FLORIZELL	
So call it; but it does fulfill my vow.	
I needs must think it honesty. Camillo,	
Not for Bohemia nor the pomp that may	
Be thereat gleaned, for all the sun sees or	580
The close earth wombs or the profound seas hides	

587-88. Let come: i.e., let me contend with
fortune to determine my own future
589. deliver: report, communicate
590. who: i.e., whom
591. opportune: accent on second syllable
592. rides: lies at anchor; fast by: nearby
593. this design: i.e., my present plan to depart
594. benefit: improve
595. Concern reporting: i.e., am I interested
in telling you
597. would: wish; easier for: i.e., readier to take
598. for: i.e., considering
601. irremovable: immovable, inflexible
603. serve my turn: i.e., serve my purpose
604. do: i.e., show
605. Purchase: obtain; win
606. unhappy: unfortunate
609. curious business: i.e., matters that cause me
anxiety and care
610. leave out ceremony: i.e., neglect the courte-
sy (I owe you)
615. music: i.e., delight
2 g

In unknown fathoms, will I break my oath To this my fair beloved. Therefore, I pray you, As you have ever been my father's honored friend, When he shall miss me, as in faith I mean not To see him anymore, cast your good counsels Upon his passion. Let myself and fortune Tug for the time to come. This you may know And so deliver: I am put to sea	585
With her who here I cannot hold on shore. And most opportune to Four need I have	590
A vessel rides fast by, but not prepared	
For this design. What course I mean to hold	
Shall nothing benefit your knowledge, nor	
Concern me the reporting.	595
CAMILLO O my lord,	0,0
I would your spirit were easier for advice	
Or stronger for your need.	
FLORIZELL Hark, Perdita.—	
I'll hear you by and by.	600
Florizell and Perdita walk aside.	
CAMILLO He's irremovable,	
Resolved for flight. Now were I happy if	
His going I could frame to serve my turn,	
Save him from danger, do him love and honor,	
Purchase the sight again of dear Sicilia	605
And that unhappy king, my master, whom	
I so much thirst to see.	
FLORIZELL, \(\script{coming forward} \) Now, good Camillo,	4
I am so fraught with curious business that	
I leave out ceremony.	610
CAMILLO Sir, I think	
You have heard of my poor services i' th' love	
That I have borne your father?	
FLORIZELL Very nobly	
Have you deserved. It is my father's music	615

617. as thought on: i.e., as he thinks of them	_
620. If think: a courteous way of saying "i	íf
you think"	
623. more ponderous: weightier, more serious	
settled: fixed, firmly embraced	,
624. suffer: allow, permit	
625. receiving: reception, welcome	
626. shall become: is appropriate to	
627. the whom: i.e., whom	
629. As forfend: i.e., may heaven forbid	
631. discontenting: discontented; strive: i.e.,	T
will strive; qualify: pacify, moderate	•
632. bring liking: i.e., raise (his opinion) to	1
the point of approval	,
640. unthought-on accident: i.e., unexpected dis	_
covery (of us by Polixenes)	333
640-41. guilty / To: responsible for	
641. wildly: in confusion	
644. list: listen	
646. undergo: undertake	
648. 'fore: i.e., before	
649. habited: dressed	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

To speak your deeds, not little of his care	
To have them recompensed as thought on.	
CAMILLO Well, my	
lord,	
If you may please to think I love the King	620
And, through him, what's nearest to him, which is	
Your gracious self, embrace but my direction,	
If your more ponderous and settled project	
May suffer alteration. On mine honor,	it.
I'll point you where you shall have such receiving	625
As shall become your Highness, where you may	
Enjoy your mistress—from the whom I see	
There's no disjunction to be made but by,	
As heavens forfend, your ruin—marry her,	
And with my best endeavors in your absence,	630
Your discontenting father strive to qualify	
And bring him up to liking.	
FLORIZELL How, Camillo,	
May this, almost a miracle, be done,	
That I may call thee something more than man,	635
And after that trust to thee?	
CAMILLO Have you thought on	
A place whereto you'll go?	**
FLORIZELL Not any yet.	
But as th' unthought-on accident is guilty	640
To what we wildly do, so we profess	
Ourselves to be the slaves of chance, and flies	
Of every wind that blows.	
CAMILLO Then list to me.	
This follows: if you will not change your purpose	645
But undergo this flight, make for Sicilia,	
And there present yourself and your fair princess,	
For so I see she must be, 'fore Leontes.	
She shall be habited as it becomes	
The partner of your bed. Methinks I see	650

651.	free:	noble,	magnanimous
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653. **As 'twere . . . person:** i.e., as though he were asking **forgiveness** of your father

654. him: i.e., himself

659. color: pretext

660. Hold up before: present to

661. Sent: i.e., say that you were sent

664. as: i.e., as if; deliver: speak

665. **betwixt us three:** i.e., only among Polixenes, Leontes, and Camillo

666. point you forth: i.e., guide; sitting: conference

668. bosom: thoughts, counsel, secrets

671. sap: life, vitality

673. wild dedication: rash giving-up

674. unpathed: pathless, trackless; undreamed: unimagined

675. certain: i.e., certainly

677. one: i.e., one misery; take: contract (as if a disease)

678. **Nothing:** i.e., in no way; **your anchors, who:** i.e., anchors (in general), which (The anchor is the traditional symbol of **hope.**)

679. **Do . . . can:** i.e., at best

679-80. **but . . . be:** i.e., merely hold you where you hate to be

681. bond: cementing force

682. fresh: blooming and youthful; together: simultaneously

686. take in: conquer

Leontes opening his free arms and weeping His welcomes forth, asks thee, Tthe son, forgiveness, As 'twere i' th' father's person; kisses the hands Of your fresh princess; o'er and o'er divides him 'Twixt his unkindness and his kindness. Th' one 655 He chides to hell and bids the other grow Faster than thought or time. FLORIZELL Worthy Camillo. What color for my visitation shall I Hold up before him? 660 CAMILLO Sent by the King your father To greet him and to give him comforts. Sir. The manner of your bearing towards him, with What you, as from your father, shall deliver, Things known betwixt us three, I'll write you down, 665 The which shall point you forth at every sitting What you must say, that he shall not perceive But that you have your father's bosom there And speak his very heart. FLORIZELL I am bound to you. 670 There is some sap in this. CAMILLO A course more promising Than a wild dedication of yourselves To unpathed waters, undreamed shores, most certain 675 To miseries enough; no hope to help you, But as you shake off one to take another: Nothing so certain as your anchors, who Do their best office if they can but stay you Where you'll be loath to be. Besides, you know 680 Prosperity's the very bond of love. Whose fresh complexion and whose heart together Affliction alters. PERDITA One of these is true. I think affliction may subdue the cheek 685 But not take in the mind.

688-89. these seven years: i.e., in a long time

690. another such: i.e., such a one (as Perdita)

692-93. **as forward . . . birth:** i.e., as far ahead of her (lowly) upbringing as she lags behind my (royal) birth

695. **instructions:** schooling; **mistress:** woman of mastery (in learning)

696. To: i.e., in comparison to

700. the thorns...upon: "To sit or stand on thorns" was proverbial for "to be impatient."

704. appear: i.e., appear as such

708. royally appointed: furnished like a prince

710. want: lack (anything)

712. simple: (1) innocent; (2) stupid

714. glass: looking glass, mirror; table book: memorandum book, pocket notebook

715. **shoe tie:** shoelace; **horn ring:** cheap ring made of animals' horn

719. best in picture: perhaps, best looking



A pomander. (4.4.714) From Walther Hermann Ryff, Confect Buch . . . [1563].

CAMILLO Yea, say you so? There shall not at your father's house these seven years Be born another such. 690 My good Camillo. FLORIZELL She's as forward of her breeding as she is I' th' rear our birth. I cannot say 'tis pity CAMILLO She lacks instructions, for she seems a mistress 695 To most that teach. Your pardon, sir. For this PERDITA I'll blush you thanks. My prettiest Perdita. FLORIZELL But O, the thorns we stand upon!-Camillo, 700 Preserver of my father, now of me. The medicine of our house, how shall we do? We are not furnished like Bohemia's son. Nor shall appear in Sicilia. CAMILLO · My lord. 705 Fear none of this. I think you know my fortunes Do all lie there. It shall be so my care To have you royally appointed as if The scene you play were mine. For instance, sir. That you may know you shall not want, one word. 710 They step aside and talk.

Enter Autolycus.

AUTOLYCUS Ha, ha, what a fool honesty is! And trust, his sworn brother, a very simple gentleman! I have sold all my trumpery. Not a counterfeit stone, not a ribbon, glass, pomander, brooch, table book, ballad, knife, tape, glove, shoe tie, bracelet, horn ring, to keep my pack from fasting. They throng who should buy first, as if my trinkets had been hallowed and brought a benediction to the buyer; by which means I saw whose purse was best in picture, and

740

720-21. My clown: i.e., the Shepherd's Son (The word clown here has its meaning of "rustic simpleton." See longer note to 4.3.31 SD, page 243.)

723. pettitoes: i.e., feet (literally, pig's feet, usually as an article of food); had: i.e., had mastered

725. all . . . ears: i.e., they became all ears

726. placket: See note to 4.4.279-80. senseless: without sense or feeling

727. geld . . . purse: i.e., cut a purse from a codpiece (See longer note, page 246.)

729. my sir's: i.e., the Shepherd's Son's; nothing:

(1) nothingness; (2) noting

730. lethargy: i.e., unconsciousness of all senses but hearing

733. choughs: (1) easily captured birds; (2) chuffs or rustics

735. letters: i.e., letter (Latin litterae)

736. **So:** i.e., as

739. Happy be you: i.e., may you have good fortune

740. shows fair: seems plausible, gives promise of success

744. hanging: the punishment for all felonies. except thefts of goods valued at less than twelve pence

748. that: i.e., your poverty

749. outside . . . poverty: i.e., your clothes

what I saw, to my good use I remembered. My 720 clown, who wants but something to be a reasonable man, grew so in love with the wenches' song that he would not stir his pettitoes till he had both tune and words, which so drew the rest of the herd to me that all their other senses stuck in ears. You might have 725 pinched a placket, it was senseless; 'twas nothing to geld a codpiece of a purse. I could have filed keys off that hung in chains. No hearing, no feeling, but my sir's song and admiring the nothing of it. So that in this time of lethargy I picked and cut most of 730 their festival purses. And had not the old man come in with a hubbub against his daughter and the King's son, and scared my choughs from the chaff, I had not left a purse alive in the whole army.

「Camillo, Florizell, and Perdita come forward. ¬

CAMILLO, Tto Florizell

Nay, but my letters, by this means being there 735 So soon as you arrive, shall clear that doubt. FLORIZELL

And those that you'll procure from King Leontes— CAMILLO

Shall satisfy your father.

Happy be you! PERDITA

All that you speak shows fair.

CAMILLO, [noticing Autolycus] Who have we here?

We'll make an instrument of this, omit

Nothing may give us aid.

AUTOLYCUS, [aside]

If they have overheard me now, why, hanging.

CAMILLO How now, good fellow? Why shak'st thou so? 745 Fear not, man. Here's no harm intended to thee.

AUTOLYCUS I am a poor fellow, sir.

CAMILLO Why, be so still. Here's nobody will steal that from thee. Yet for the outside of thy poverty we

750.	discase	thee:	undress
100.	uiscusc.	LLICC.	unuicss

751. think: realize

752. change garments: exchange clothes (See longer note, page 247.)

753. pennyworth: bargain

754. some boot: something in addition

755-56. **I know . . . enough:** proverbial for "I see your villainy"

757. dispatch: be quick

758. flayed: stripped

760. on 't: i.e., of it

762. **earnest:** a small payment to seal a bargain (i.e., the money given him by Camillo)

765-66. let . . . to you: i.e., may you indeed be fortunate

766. retire yourself: withdraw

767. covert: thicket

769. **Dismantle:** remove your mantle or cloak; **disliken:** disguise

770. The truth of your own seeming: i.e., how you actually look (See longer note, page 247.)

771. eyes over: possibly, spies

772. Get undescried: i.e., arrive undiscovered

must make an exchange. Therefore discase thee instantly—thou must think there's a necessity in 't—and change garments with this gentleman.	750
Though the pennyworth on his side be the worst,	
yet hold thee, there's some boot.	
THe hands Autolycus money.	
AUTOLYCUS I am a poor fellow, sir. \(\frac{1}{Aside.} \) I know you	755
well enough.	, 55
CAMILLO Nay, prithee, dispatch. The gentleman is half	
flayed already.	
AUTOLYCUS Are you in earnest, sir? \(\frac{1}{A} \) side. \(\frac{1}{3} \) I smell the	
trick on 't.	760
FLORIZELL Dispatch, I prithee.	700
AUTOLYCUS Indeed, I have had earnest, but I cannot	
with conscience take it.	
CAMILLO Unbuckle, unbuckle.	
Florizell and Autolycus exchange garments.	
Fortunate mistress—let my prophecy	7/5
Come home to your voice must retire yourself	765
Come home to you!—you must retire yourself	
Into some covert. Take your sweetheart's hat	
And pluck it o'er your brows, muffle your face,	
Dismantle you, and, as you can, disliken	
The truth of your own seeming, that you may—	770
For I do fear eyes over—to shipboard	
Get undescried.	
PERDITA I see the play so lies	
That I must bear a part.	
CAMILLO No remedy.—	775
Have you done there?	
FLORIZELL Should I now meet my father,	
He would not call me son.	
CAMILLO Nay, you shall have no hat.	
He gives Florizell's hat to Perdita.	
Come, lady, come.—Farewell, my friend.	780
AUTOLYCUS Adieu, sir.	

FLORIZELL

785

790

789. a...longing: proverbial for an intense longing

790. speed: bring success to

798. without boot: i.e., without the money thrown in; a boot: a profit

800. connive: shut their eyes

801. about: engaged in

802. clog: hindrance, impediment (a reference to Perdita, but literally a block of wood attached to the leg or neck of a man to prevent escape)

804. withal: with this information

807. matter: business; hot: eager; keen

808. session: i.e., of a court

809. careful: attentive, watchful



A courtier and a countryman. (4.4.841-963) From [Robert Greene,] A quip for an vpstart courtier . . . (1592).

180

O Perdita, what have we twain forgot?

They talk aside. Pray you, a word. CAMILLO, \(\Gamma\) aside

What I do next shall be to tell the King

Of this escape, and whither they are bound:

Wherein my hope is I shall so prevail

To force him after, in whose company

I shall re-view Sicilia, for whose sight

I have a woman's longing.

FLORIZELL Fortune speed us!—

Thus we set on, Camillo, to th' seaside. CAMILLO The swifter speed the better.

「Camillo, Florizell, and Perdita exit.

AUTOLYCUS I understand the business; I hear it. To have an open ear, a quick eye, and a nimble hand is necessary for a cutpurse; a good nose is requisite 795 also, to smell out work for th' other senses. I see this is the time that the unjust man doth thrive. What an exchange had this been without boot! What a boot is here with this exchange! Sure the gods do this year connive at us, and we may do anything extem- 800 pore. The Prince himself is about a piece of iniquity, stealing away from his father with his clog at his heels. If I thought it were a piece of honesty to acquaint the King withal, I would not do 't. I hold it the more knavery to conceal it, and therein am I 805 constant to my profession.

Enter \Shepherd's Son \and Shepherd, \scarrying the bundle and the box.7

Aside, aside! Here is more matter for a hot brain. Every lane's end, every shop, church, session, hanging, yields a careful man work. The moves aside.

815

812. changeling: child left by the fairies

812-13. none... blood: i.e., not your child (By line 819, the phrase your flesh and blood has acquired its more literal sense as well.)

816. Go to: i.e., go on

822. let . . . go whistle: an expression of contemptuous dismissal

826. go about: set to work

827. **the King's brother-in-law:** a humorous misuse of **brother-in-law** to mean the father of the king's daughter-in-law

830. **dearer:** more valuable; **I know how much:** The usual expression is "I know *not* how much."

834. fardel: bundle

836. my master: i.e., Florizell, his former master

837. at' palace: i.e., at the palace

840. excrement: (false) beard

842. an it like: i.e., if it please

843. Your affairs: In addressing the shepherd and his son, Autolycus affects a grand style of speech that might have been almost as difficult for the ordinary person to understand then as it is now.

844. condition: nature

SHEPHERD'S SON, \(\text{To Shepherd} \) See, see, what a man 810 you are now! There is no other way but to tell the King she's a changeling and none of your flesh and blood.

SHEPHERD Nay, but hear me.

SHEPHERD'S SON Nay, but hear me!

SHEPHERD Go to, then.

SHEPHERD'S SON She being none of your flesh and blood, your flesh and blood has not offended the King, and so your flesh and blood is not to be punished by him. Show those things you found 820 about her, those secret things, all but what she has with her. This being done, let the law go whistle, I warrant you.

SHEPHERD I will tell the King all, every word, yea, and his son's pranks too; who, I may say, is no honest 825 man, neither to his father nor to me, to go about to make me the King's brother-in-law.

SHEPHERD'S SON Indeed, brother-in-law was the farthest off you could have been to him, and then your blood had been the dearer by I know how much an 830 ounce.

AUTOLYCUS, \(\sigma side \rangle \) Very wisely, puppies.

SHEPHERD Well, let us to the King. There is that in this fardel will make him scratch his beard.

AUTOLYCUS, 「aside I know not what impediment this 835 complaint may be to the flight of my master.

SHEPHERD'S SON Pray heartily he be at' palace.

AUTOLYCUS, 「aside Though I am not naturally honest, I am so sometimes by chance. Let me pocket up my peddler's excrement. (「He removes his false beard. 1) 840 How now, rustics, whither are you bound?

SHEPHERD To th' palace, an it like your Worship.

AUTOLYCUS Your affairs there? What, with whom, the condition of that fardel, the place of your dwelling,

875

This cannot be but a

846. fitting: appropriate; discover: reveal

847. plain: ordinary (but Autolycus plays on plain in the sense of "smooth")

849. becomes: is appropriate to

850. give . . . the lie: i.e., cheat us soldiers with inferior goods ("To give [someone] the lie" usually meant "to accuse [someone] of lying," an insult to which a soldier's response would be stabbing steel [line 851].)

852. they . . . lie: i.e., they do not give it; instead, they are paid for it (line 850)

853-55. Your . . . manner: i.e., you were likely to have lied to us if you had not caught yourself in the act

858. air: (1) style; (2) odor

858-59. **enfoldings:** garments

859-60. measure of the court: the grave and stately step of a court dance called the measure

861. baseness: low social status

862. for that: because; insinuate and toze: cajole and tease

864. cap-a-pie: from head to toe

865. Whereupon: on which account

866. open thy affair: disclose your business

871. pheasant: perhaps, a satiric allusion to the use of game to pay country lawyers' fees

874. simple: ignorant, uneducated

your names, your ages, of what having, breeding, 845 and anything that is fitting to be known, discover! SHEPHERD'S SON We are but plain fellows, sir. AUTOLYCUS A lie; you are rough and hairy. Let me have no lying. It becomes none but tradesmen, and they often give us soldiers the lie, but we pay them for it 850 with stamped coin, not stabbing steel; therefore they do not give us the lie. SHEPHERD'S SON Your Worship had like to have given us one, if you had not taken yourself with the manner. 855 SHEPHERD Are you a courtier, an 't like you, sir? AUTOLYCUS Whether it like me or no. I am a courtier. Seest thou not the air of the court in these enfoldings? Hath not my gait in it the measure of the court? Receives not thy nose court odor from me? 860 Reflect I not on thy baseness court contempt? Think'st thou, for that I insinuate and toze from thee thy business, I am therefore no courtier? I am courtier cap-a-pie; and one that will either push on or pluck back thy business there. Whereupon I 865 command thee to open thy affair. SHEPHERD My business, sir, is to the King. AUTOLYCUS What advocate hast thou to him? SHEPHERD I know not, an 't like vou. SHEPHERD'S SON, \(\sigma side to Shepherd \) Advocate's the 870 court word for a pheasant. Say you have none. SHEPHERD, to Autolycus None, sir. I have no pheasant, cock nor hen. AUTOLYCUS How blest are we that are not simple men! Yet Nature might have made me as these are.

Therefore I will not disdain. SHEPHERD'S SON, To Shepherd

great courtier.

882. fantastical: extraordinarily odd in behavior; or, eccentric in clothing

883. the . . . teeth: i.e., the fact that he picks his teeth (Toothpicks were then a new fashion imported from the Continent.)

885. Wherefore: i.e., for what purpose is

889. to th' speech of: i.e., where I may speak to

894. beest capable of: i.e., can comprehend

898. in handfast: i.e., imprisoned

903. wit: ingenuity

904. heavy: hard to endure, grievous

905. germane: related, akin

908. offer: attempt

909. grace: favor (by marrying Prince Florizell)

911. sheepcote: a shelter for sheep (See page 152.)

911–12. **sharpest**: severest

913. e'er a son: i.e., by any chance a son



Victims tortured on a rack. (3.2.195)
From Girolamo Maggi, . . . De tintinnabulis liber . . . (1689).

SHEPHERD His garments are rich, but he wears them not handsomely. 880 SHEPHERD'S SON He seems to be the more noble in being fantastical. A great man, I'll warrant. I know by the picking on 's teeth. AUTOLYCUS The fardel there. What's i' th' fardel? Wherefore that box? 885 SHEPHERD Sir, there lies such secrets in this fardel and box which none must know but the King, and which he shall know within this hour if I may come to th' speech of him. AUTOLYCUS Age, thou hast lost thy labor. 890 SHEPHERD Why, sir? AUTOLYCUS The King is not at the palace. He is gone aboard a new ship to purge melancholy and air himself, for, if thou beest capable of things serious. thou must know the King is full of grief. 895 SHEPHERD So 'tis said, sir-about his son, that should have married a shepherd's daughter. AUTOLYCUS If that shepherd be not in handfast, let him fly. The curses he shall have, the tortures he shall feel, will break the back of man, the heart of 900 monster. SHEPHERD'S SON Think you so, sir? AUTOLYCUS Not he alone shall suffer what wit can make heavy and vengeance bitter; but those that are germane to him, though removed fifty times, shall 905 all come under the hangman-which, though it be great pity, yet it is necessary. An old sheep-whistling rogue, a ram tender, to offer to have his daughter come into grace! Some say he shall be stoned, but that death is too soft for him, say I. Draw our throne 910 into a sheepcote? All deaths are too few, the sharpest too easy. SHEPHERD'S SON Has the old man e'er a son, sir, do you

hear, an 't like you, sir?

945

917. stand: i.e., made to stand

918. a dram: a bit more; aqua vitae: strong drink, usually brandy

920. prognostication: i.e., the almanac

921-22. with . . . eye: i.e., from the south

922. he: perhaps, the sun; perhaps, his father

923. with flies blown: i.e., infected and swollen with the eggs of flies; what: i.e., for what, why

924. traitorly: treacherous

925. **capital:** serious (with wordplay on "punishable by death")

926. what: i.e., what business

927. **Being . . . considered:** i.e., given a somewhat gentlemanly consideration (a bribe) **something:** somewhat

928-29. **tender . . . presence:** i.e., present you to him

929. whisper him: i.e., speak secretly to him

930. in man: i.e., in any man's power; effect your suits: i.e., achieve success for your petitions

931. man: i.e., the man who

933. Close: come to terms

934-35. authority ... nose: i.e., authority can be made a fool of (Tame bears were literally led by the nose.)

938. An 't: i.e., if it

941. in pawn: as your hostage

944. the moiety: half

946. In some sort: i.e., in a way; case: (1) situation; (2) hide

950. Comfort: i.e., take comfort

AUTOLYCUS He has a son, who shall be flaved alive; then 915 'nointed over with honey, set on the head of a wasps'-nest; then stand till he be three-quarters and a dram dead, then recovered again with aqua vitae or some other hot infusion; then, raw as he is, and in the hottest day prognostication proclaims, shall 920 he be set against a brick wall, the sun looking with a southward eye upon him, where he is to behold him with flies blown to death. But what talk we of these traitorly rascals, whose miseries are to be smiled at. their offenses being so capital? Tell me—for you 925 seem to be honest plain men—what you have to the King. Being something gently considered, I'll bring you where he is aboard, tender your persons to his presence, whisper him in your behalfs; and if it be in man besides the King to effect your suits, here is 930 man shall do it.

SHEPHERD'S SON, \(\text{to Shepherd} \) He seems to be of great authority. Close with him, give him gold; and though authority be a stubborn bear, yet he is oft led by the nose with gold. Show the inside of your 935 purse to the outside of his hand, and no more ado. Remember: "stoned," and "flayed alive."

SHEPHERD, \(\text{to Autolycus} \) An 't please you, sir, to undertake the business for us, here is that gold I have. I'll make it as much more, and leave this 940 young man in pawn till I bring it you.

AUTOLYCUS After I have done what I promised? SHEPHERD Av. sir.

AUTOLYCUS Well, give me the moiety. \(\subseteq Shepherd hands \) him money. \(\subseteq Are you a party in this business? \)

SHEPHERD'S SON In some sort, sir; but though my case be a pitiful one, I hope I shall not be flayed out of it.

AUTOLYCUS O, that's the case of the shepherd's son! Hang him, he'll be made an example.

SHEPHERD'S SON, To Shepherd Comfort, good com- 950

951. must: i.e., must go

952. 'tis none of: i.e., Perdita is not

953. gone: undone, lost, ruined; else: otherwise

957. before: ahead of me

958. look upon: i.e., urinate by

962. Let's before: i.e., let's go on ahead

965. suffer: allow; booties: spoils, gains

966. courted: enticed; occasion: opportunity

968. that: i.e., doing Florizell a good turn; turn back: return, recoil

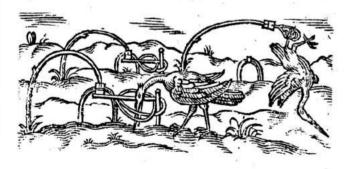
970. blind: Proverbial: "As blind as a mole." aboard him: i.e., on board Florizell's ship; fit: appropriate

970-71. shore them: put them ashore

972. **concerns him nothing:** i.e., is of no concern to him

973. proof against: impervious to

975. matter in it: i.e., some importance to it



Woodcocks caught in a springe. (4.3.35–36) From Henry Parrot, *Laquei ridiculosi* . . . (1613).

fort. We must to the King, and show our strange sights. He must know 'tis none of your daughter nor my sister. We are gone else.—Sir, I will give you as much as this old man does when the business is performed, and remain, as he says, your pawn till it 955 be brought you.

AUTOLYCUS I will trust you. Walk before toward the seaside. Go on the right hand. I will but look upon the hedge, and follow you.

SHEPHERD'S SON, To Shepherd We are blessed in this 960 man, as I may say, even blessed.

SHEPHERD Let's before, as he bids us. He was provided to do us good.

Shepherd and his son exit.

AUTOLYCUS If I had a mind to be honest, I see Fortune would not suffer me. She drops booties in my 965 mouth. I am courted now with a double occasion: gold, and a means to do the Prince my master good; which who knows how that may turn back to my advancement? I will bring these two moles, these blind ones, aboard him. If he think it fit to shore 970 them again and that the complaint they have to the King concerns him nothing, let him call me rogue for being so far officious, for I am proof against that title and what shame else belongs to 't. To him will I present them. There may be matter in it.

THE WINTER'S TALE

ACT 5

- 5.1 Paulina insists that Leontes must not remarry, despite the urgings of his courtiers. Florizell and Perdita arrive, and are greeted warmly. Then news comes that Polixenes and Camillo are in Sicilia. Leontes agrees to speak to Polixenes on the young couple's behalf.
- 2. No . . . make: i.e., there is no offence that you might have committed
 - 3. redeemed: (1) made up for; (2) paid off
 - 4. At the last: i.e., now at last
 - 6. them: i.e., the gods
 - 8. Her: i.e., Hermione
 - 9. still: always
- 16. **from . . . good:** i.e., from each woman took one good quality
 - 17. To make: i.e., and combined them to make
 - 21. **Sorely**: severely



A penitent at prayer. (5.1.2-6)
From August Casimir Redel, Apophtegmata symbolica . . . [n.d.].

ACT 5

Scene 1 Enter Leontes, Cleomenes, Dion, Paulina, \(\Gamma \) Servants.

CLEOMENES

Sir, you have done enough, and have performed A saintlike sorrow. No fault could you make Which you have not redeemed—indeed, paid down More penitence than done trespass. At the last, Do as the heavens have done: forget your evil; With them forgive yourself.

LEONTES Whilst I remember

Her and her virtues, I cannot forget

My blemishes in them, and so still think of
The wrong I did myself, which was so much
That heirless it hath made my kingdom and
Destroyed the sweet'st companion that e'er man
Bred his hopes out of.

PAULINA True, too true, my lord.

If one by one you wedded all the world,

Or from the all that are took something good

To make a perfect woman, she you killed Would be unparalleled.

She I killed? I did so, but thou strik'st me Sorely to say I did. It is as bitter

20

15

5

195

194

22. good now: an expression of entreaty

30. Would have him: i.e., want him to

32. remembrance: i.e., the future memory

34. fail of issue: lack of an heir

36. Incertain: uncertain

37. **well:** dead ("She is well" was a phrase used for one who had died.)

38. royalty's repair: i.e., the restoration of the royal dynasty

43. Respecting: i.e., in comparison to

44. Will have fulfilled: i.e., demand the fulfillment of

48. Which: i.e., and

49. all as monstrous to: altogether as unnatural from the point of view of

50. As: i.e., as for

54. Care not for: do not worry about

55-56. Great Alexander . . . worthiest: According to classical historians, Alexander the Great, the Macedonian conqueror of Asia, on his deathbed named as his heir "the worthiest."

57. like: i.e., likely



"Great Alexander." (5.1.55)
From Valentin Thilo, Icones heroum . . . (1589).

Upon thy tongue as in my thought. Now, good now, Say so but seldom. CLEOMENES Not at all, good lady. You might have spoken a thousand things that 25 would Have done the time more benefit and graced Your kindness better. You are one of those PAULINA Would have him wed again. 30 DION If you would not so. You pity not the state nor the remembrance Of his most sovereign name, consider little What dangers by his Highness' fail of issue May drop upon his kingdom and devour 35 Incertain lookers-on. What were more holy Than to rejoice the former queen is well? What holier than, for royalty's repair, For present comfort, and for future good. To bless the bed of majesty again With a sweet fellow to 't? PAULINA There is none worthy. Respecting her that's gone. Besides, the gods Will have fulfilled their secret purposes. For has not the divine Apollo said, 45 Is 't not the tenor of his oracle. That King Leontes shall not have an heir Till his lost child be found? Which that it shall Is all as monstrous to our human reason As my Antigonus to break his grave 50 And come again to me-who, on my life. Did perish with the infant. 'Tis your counsel My lord should to the heavens be contrary. Oppose against their wills. Care not for issue. The crown will find an heir. Great Alexander 55 Left his to th' worthiest; so his successor Was like to be the best.

61. squared me to: i.e., governed myself according to

62. full: large

69-70. and on . . . soul-vexed: See longer note, page 248, for a variety of editorial attempts to cope with these difficult lines. If one follows the Folio (as we do), it is helpful to read "on this stage" as meaning "appear on this stage."

71. Why to me: presumably, an expression of remonstrance against Leontes for remarrying

74. incense: incite

77. mark: observe

80. rift: split

83. eyes else: i.e., other eyes

86. but by . . . leave: i.e., unless I freely give you permission



Rosemary. (4.4.86) From The grete herball...(1529).

Good Paulina. LEONTES Who hast the memory of Hermione, I know, in honor, O, that ever I Had squared me to thy counsel! Then even now I might have looked upon my queen's full eyes, Have taken treasure from her lips-PAULINA And left them More rich for what they vielded. Thou speak'st truth. LEONTES No more such wives, therefore no wife. One worse. And better used, would make her sainted spirit Again possess her corpse, and on this stage. Where we offenders now appear, soul-vexed, 70 And begin "Why to me?" PAULINA Had she such power. She had just cause. She had, and would incense me LEONTES To murder her I married. 75 I should so. PAULINA Were I the ghost that walked, I'd bid you mark Her eye, and tell me for what dull part in 't You chose her. Then I'd shriek, that even your ears Should rift to hear me, and the words that followed Should be "Remember mine." LEONTES Stars, stars, And all eyes else dead coals! Fear thou no wife: I'll have no wife, Paulina. Will you swear PAULINA 85 Never to marry but by my free leave? LEONTES Never, Paulina, so be blest my spirit. PAULINA Then, good my lords, bear witness to his oath. CLEOMENES You tempt him over-much.

94. I have done: In the Folio, these words complete Cleomenes' speech.

96. No remedy: i.e., if there is no other way

96–97. **office** / **To choose:** i.e., duty or function of choosing

99. walked . . . ghost: i.e., if the ghost of your first queen were to appear; it should: i.e., that ghost would

103. **We:** i.e., I (the royal "we")

107. gives out himself: claims to be

111. What with him: i.e., what retinue accompanies him

112. Like: in a manner appropriate

113. out of circumstance: unceremonious

114. forced: enforced

115. What train: i.e., what retinue

117. mean: low in social status

119. piece of earth: i.e., person (Earth could refer to the human body.)

Unless another **PAULINA** 90 As like Hermione as is her picture Affront his eve. Good madam-CLEOMENES PAULINA. I have done Yet if my lord will marry—if you will, sir, 95 No remedy but you will—give me the office To choose you a queen. She shall not be so young As was your former, but she shall be such As, walked your first queen's ghost, it should take joy 100 To see her in your arms. LEONTES My true Paulina. We shall not marry till thou bid'st us. PAULINA . Shall be when your first queen's again in breath. 105 Never till then. Enter a Servant. SERVANT One that gives out himself Prince Florizell. Son of Polixenes, with his princess—she The fairest I have yet beheld—desires access To your high presence. 110 LEONTES What with him? He comes not Like to his father's greatness. His approach, So out of circumstance and sudden, tells us 'Tis not a visitation framed, but forced By need and accident. What train? 115 SERVANT But few. And those but mean. LEONTES His princess, say you, with him? SERVANT Ay, the most peerless piece of earth, I think, That e'er the sun shone bright on. 120

The Winter's Tale

ACT 5, SC, 1

201

123. Above . . . gone: i.e., as superior to a time past that was actually better; grave: i.e., your beauty now in the grave

127. that theme: i.e., Hermione's beauty, now cold in the grave

129. shrewdly: grievously

132. The one: i.e., Hermione

134. tongue: voice, vote (as the more beautiful)

135. Would she: i.e., who, if she chose to; sect: religion (devoted to herself as its goddess)

136. all professors else: all those who affirmed a belief in other religions

143. assisted with: attended by

148. paired: matched (so as to form a pair)



"Jupiter became a bull." (4.4.31–32)
From Gabriele Simeoni, *La vita . . . d'Ouidio . . .* (1559).

PAULINA	O Hermione,	
As every present time of		
Above a better gone, so		
	now. To Servant. Sir, you	
yourself	, 3	125
Have said and writ so-	-but your writing now	
Is colder than that ther		
Nor was not to be equa	(A) 전통 전	
	once. 'Tis shrewdly ebbed	
To say you have seen a		130
SERVANT	Pardon, madam.	
The one I have almost		
The other, when she ha		
Will have your tongue		
	, might quench the zeal	135
Of all professors else, r		7.70.70
Of who she but bid foll		
PAULINA	How, not women?	
SERVANT	·	
Women will love her th	at she is a woman	
More worth than any n	nan; men, that she is	140
The rarest of all women	n.	
LEONTES	Go, Cleomenes.	
Yourself, assisted with	your honored friends,	
Bring them to our emb	racement.	
	「Cleomenes and others exit.	
	Still, 'tis strange	145
He thus should steal up	oon us.	
PAULINA ~	Had our prince,	
	this hour, he had paired	
	ere was not full a month	
Between their births.		150
	rithee, no more; cease. Thou	
know'st		
He dies to me again wl		
When I shall see this g	entleman, thy speeches	

156. Unfurnish: deprive

158. **print your royal father off:** exactly reproduce the image of your father

160. hit: exactly represented

166. **begetting wonder:** i.e., producing admiration (in onlookers)

169. brave: worthy

170. **Though . . . life:** i.e., even though I am miserable, I desire to live

174. at friend: as a friend

175. but: i.e., except for the fact that

176. waits . . . times: attends on old age

176–78. **something . . . ability:** i.e., somewhat taken prisoner the **ability** he wishes he still had

180. Measured: traveled

185. offices: kindnesses

186. rarely: exceptionally



A man "grown incapable" through "age and alt'ring rheums." (4.4.462-64)

From August Casimir Redel, Apophtegmata symbolica . . . [n.d.].

Will bring me to consider that which may 155 Unfurnish me of reason. They are come. Enter Florizell, Perdita, Cleomenes, and others. Your mother was most true to wedlock, prince, For she did print your royal father off, Conceiving you. Were I but twenty-one. Your father's image is so hit in you, 160 His very air, that I should call you brother, As I did him, and speak of something wildly By us performed before. Most dearly welcome, And your fair princess—goddess! O. alas. I lost a couple that 'twixt heaven and earth 165 Might thus have stood, begetting wonder, as You, gracious couple, do. And then I lost-All mine own folly—the society. Amity too, of your brave father, whom, Though bearing misery, I desire my life 170 Once more to look on him. FLORIZELL By his command Have I here touched Sicilia, and from him Give you all greetings that a king, at friend, Can send his brother. And but infirmity, 175 Which waits upon worn times, hath something seized His wished ability, he had himself The lands and waters 'twixt your throne and his Measured to look upon you, whom he loves-180 He bade me say so-more than all the scepters And those that bear them living. LEONTES O my brother. Good gentleman, the wrongs I have done thee stir Afresh within me, and these thy offices, 185 So rarely kind, are as interpreters Of my behindhand slackness. Welcome hither, As is the spring to th' earth. And hath he too

204

189-90. **fearful . . . ungentle:** i.e., terrible, or at least rough, **usage**

190. Neptune: in Roman mythology, god of the sea

192. adventure: risk

195. **Smalus:** No historical source has been found for this name.

200. friendly: i.e., being friendly or favorable

201. charge: command

202. **My best train:** perhaps, the greatest part of my retinue; or, perhaps, the most noble members of my retinue

204. for Bohemia bend: i.e., proceed to Bohemia

210. climate: i.e., visit; holy: i.e., of high and reverend excellence (The emphasis on Polixenes' sanctity as a monarch continues in the next lines with graceful [literally meaning "full of divine grace"] and sacred.)

216. Worthy his goodness: i.e., who are worthy of him and his goodness

220. will bear no credit: i.e., would not be be-

Exposed this paragon to th' fearful usage,	
At least ungentle, of the dreadful Neptune,	190
To greet a man not worth her pains, much less	
Th' adventure of her person?	
FLORIZELL Good my lord,	
She came from Libya.	
LEONTES Where the warlike Smalus,	195
That noble honored lord, is feared and loved?	
FLORIZELL	
Most royal sir, from thence, from him, whose	
daughter .	
His tears proclaimed his, parting with her. Thence,	
A prosperous south wind friendly, we have crossed	200
To execute the charge my father gave me	
For visiting your Highness. My best train	
I have from your Sicilian shores dismissed,	
Who for Bohemia bend, to signify	
Not only my success in Libya, sir,	205
But my arrival and my wife's in safety	
Here where we are.	
LEONTES The blessèd gods	
Purge all infection from our air whilst you	
Do climate here! You have a holy father,	210
A graceful gentleman, against whose person,	7
So sacred as it is, I have done sin,	
For which the heavens, taking angry note,	
Have left me issueless. And your father's blest,	
As he from heaven merits it, with you,	215
Worthy his goodness. What might I have been	
Might I a son and daughter now have looked on,	
Such goodly things as you?	
Enter a Lord.	

Most noble sir.

220

That which I shall report will bear no credit,

LORD

221. Please: i.e., if it please (a deferential phrase)

222. Bohemia: Polixenes, king of Bohemia

223. attach: arrest, seize

224. dignity: rank

229. **amazedly:** in a state of bewilderment, as if in a maze; **becomes:** is appropriate to

239. Lay . . . charge: i.e., rightly blame it on him

243. in question: under judicial examination

245. **Forswear...speak:** i.e., deny under oath everything that they assert

250. **contract:** betrothal; **celebrated:** i.e., completed or ratified in the celebration of our wedding



A handfasting. (4.4.412–52)
From George Wither, A collection of emblemes . . . (1635).

Were not the proof so nigh. Please you, great sir, Bohemia greets you from himself by me, Desires you to attach his son, who has-His dignity and duty both cast off-Fled from his father, from his hopes, and with 225 A shepherd's daughter. LEONTES Where's Bohemia? Speak. LORD Here in your city. I now came from him. I speak amazedly, and it becomes My marvel and my message. To your court 230 Whiles he was hast'ning—in the chase, it seems, Of this fair couple—meets he on the way The father of this seeming lady and Her brother, having both their country quitted With this young prince. 235 Camillo has betrayed me, FLORIZELL Whose honor and whose honesty till now Endured all weathers. LORD Lay 't so to his charge. He's with the King your father. 240 LEONTES Who? Camillo? LORD Camillo, sir. I spake with him, who now Has these poor men in question. Never saw I Wretches so quake. They kneel, they kiss the earth, Forswear themselves as often as they speak. 245 Bohemia stops his ears and threatens them With divers deaths in death. PERDITA O my poor father! The heaven sets spies upon us, will not have Our contract celebrated. 250 LEONTES You are married? FLORIZELL. We are not, sir, nor are we like to be.

254. **The odds...alike:** perhaps, the chances (of success or happiness) are the same for people of all social conditions, high and low

256. daughter: Florizell replies (line 258) as if daughter had its sense of "daughter-in-law."

261. broken . . . liking: i.e., displeased him

263. worth: rank

265. look up: cheer up

266. visible: i.e., visibly

269-70. **since . . . now:** i.e., when you were as young as I

270. **thought . . . affections:** i.e., recalling what your feelings then were

284. Your honor: i.e., since your honor is



"Lady Fortune." (4.4.59; 5.1.266)
From [John Lydgate,] The hystorye sege and dystruccyon of Troye . . . [1513].

The stars, I see, will kiss the valleys first. The odds for high and low's alike. LEONTES My lord. 255 Is this the daughter of a king? FLORIZELL She is When once she is my wife. LEONTES That "once," I see, by your good father's speed Will come on very slowly. I am sorry, 260 Most sorry, you have broken from his liking. Where you were tied in duty, and as sorry Your choice is not so rich in worth as beauty, That you might well enjoy her. FLORIZELL, To Perdita Dear, look up. 265 Though Fortune, visible an enemy, Should chase us with my father, power no jot Hath she to change our loves.—Beseech you, sir, Remember since you owed no more to time Than I do now. With thought of such affections, 270 Step forth mine advocate. At your request. My father will grant precious things as trifles. LEONTES Would he do so, I'd beg your precious mistress, Which he counts but a trifle. PAULINA Sir, my liege. 275 Your eye hath too much youth in 't. Not a month 'Fore your queen died, she was more worth such gazes Than what you look on now. I thought of her LEONTES 280 Even in these looks I made. To Florizell. But your petition Is yet unanswered. I will to your father. Your honor not o'erthrown by your desires, I am friend to them and you. Upon which errand 285

287. mark...make: i.e., observe how I remove obstacles to (your) progress

5.2 Autolycus learns from courtiers that Leontes' lost daughter has been found; he then meets the newly elevated shepherd and shepherd's son, who promise to recommend Autolycus to Florizell.

1-2. this relation: the telling of this story

4. deliver: tell

5. amazedness: overwhelming astonishment

9. issue: outcome

10. a broken delivery: an incomplete statement

12. notes of admiration: exclamation marks

13. staring on: i.e., staring at

14. cases: i.e., lids

16. as: i.e., as if

19. **seeing:** i.e., what could be seen; **importance:** import

20. of the one: i.e., of one or the other

21. must needs: i.e., must

22. happily: perhaps

24. bonfires: outdoor fires lit on festive occasions

I now go toward him. Therefore follow me, And mark what way I make. Come, good my lord. They exit.

Scene 2 Enter Autolycus and a Gentleman.

AUTOLYCUS Beseech you, sir, were you present at this relation?

FIRST GENTLEMAN I was by at the opening of the fardel, heard the old shepherd deliver the manner how he found it, whereupon, after a little amazedness, we were all commanded out of the chamber. Only this, methought, I heard the shepherd say: he found the child.

AUTOLYCUS I would most gladly know the issue of it.

FIRST GENTLEMAN I make a broken delivery of the business, but the changes I perceived in the King and Camillo were very notes of admiration. They seemed almost, with staring on one another, to tear the cases of their eyes. There was speech in their dumbness, language in their very gesture. They looked as they had heard of a world ransomed, or one destroyed. A notable passion of wonder appeared in them, but the wisest beholder that knew no more but seeing could not say if th' importance were joy or sorrow; but in the extremity of the one it must needs be.

Enter another Gentleman.

Here comes a gentleman that happily knows more.—
The news, Rogero?

SECOND GENTLEMAN Nothing but bonfires. The oracle is fulfilled: the King's daughter is found! Such a 25

- 27. **ballad makers:** i.e., even writers of ballads (See longer note to 4.4.218, page 246.); **cannot:** i.e., will not
 - 29. deliver: tell
- 33-34. **pregnant by circumstance:** compelling in its details
- 35. **unity:** agreement; **proofs:** items of physical evidence (listed in the lines that follow)
- 36. **jewel:** costly ornament of gold, silver, or precious stones
 - 37. letters: i.e., letter
 - 38. character: handwriting
 - 39. creature: i.e., Perdita
- 40-41. **affection...breeding:** i.e., her naturally noble disposition, which surpasses her upbringing
 - 46. was to: i.e., needed to
 - 47. crown: add the finishing touch to
- 52. known by garment: i.e., recognizable only through their clothing; favor: face
- 57. worries...clipping her: i.e., vehemently kisses and hugs his daughter (Literally, worries means "attacks" or "strangles.") clipping: embracing
 - 58. which: i.e., who

deal of wonder is broken out within this hour that ballad makers cannot be able to express it.

Enter another Gentleman.

Here comes the Lady Paulina's steward. He can deliver you more.—How goes it now, sir? This news which is called true is so like an old tale that the verity of it is in strong suspicion. Has the King found his heir?

THIRD GENTLEMAN Most true, if ever truth were pregnant by circumstance. That which you hear you'll swear you see, there is such unity in the proofs. The mantle of Queen Hermione's, her jewel about the neck of it, the letters of Antigonus found with it, which they know to be his character, the majesty of the creature in resemblance of the mother, the affection of nobleness which nature shows above her breeding, and many other evidences proclaim her with all certainty to be the King's daughter. Did you see the meeting of the two kings?

SECOND GENTLEMAN No.

THIRD GENTLEMAN Then have you lost a sight which was to be seen, cannot be spoken of. There might you have beheld one joy crown another, so and in such manner that it seemed sorrow wept to take leave of them, for their joy waded in tears. There was casting up of eyes, holding up of hands, with countenance of such distraction that they were to be known by garment, not by favor. Our king, being ready to leap out of himself for joy of his found daughter, as if that joy were now become a loss, cries "O, thy mother, thy mother!" then asks Bohemia forgiveness, then embraces his son-in-law, then again worries he his daughter with clipping her. Now he thanks the old shepherd, which stands by

59. **weather-bitten:** weather-corroded; **conduit:** fountain (with reference to his tears); **of many:** i.e., who has lived through many

61-62. **undoes...do it:** ruins description's attempt to describe it

65. Like: i.e., as in

66. matter: subject matter; rehearse: recount, narrate; credit: belief (in the tale)

67. with a bear: i.e., by a bear

69. innocence: simplicity, guilelessness

70. his: i.e., Antigonus'

72. bark: ship

74. Wracked: i.e., shipwrecked at

76. instruments: agents

83-84. **she . . . losing:** i.e., Perdita . . . being lost (or, perhaps, Paulina might not again be in danger of losing Perdita)

85. dignity: excellence; act: performance

89. angled for: (1) artfully caught; (2) fished for

90. water: i.e., tears

like a weather-bitten conduit of many kings' reigns.

I never heard of such another encounter, which lames report to follow it and undoes description to do it.

SECOND GENTLEMAN What, pray you, became of Antigonus, that carried hence the child?

THIRD GENTLEMAN Like an old tale still, which will have matter to rehearse though credit be asleep and not an ear open: he was torn to pieces with a bear. This avouches the shepherd's son, who has not only his innocence, which seems much, to justify him, but a handkerchief and rings of his that Paulina 70 knows.

FIRST GENTLEMAN What became of his bark and his followers?

THIRD GENTLEMAN Wracked the same instant of their master's death and in the view of the shepherd, so that all the instruments which aided to expose the child were even then lost when it was found. But O, the noble combat that 'twixt joy and sorrow was fought in Paulina. She had one eye declined for the loss of her husband, another elevated that the oracle was fulfilled. She lifted the Princess from the earth, and so locks her in embracing as if she would pin her to her heart that she might no more be in danger of losing.

FIRST GENTLEMAN The dignity of this act was worth the audience of kings and princes, for by such was it acted.

THIRD GENTLEMAN One of the prettiest touches of all, and that which angled for mine eyes—caught the water, though not the fish—was when at the relation of the Queen's death—with the manner how she came to 't bravely confessed and lamented by the King—how attentiveness wounded his daugh-

100

94. from one sign . . . another: i.e., passing from one visible indication of sorrow to another

96. marble: hard-hearted, unfeeling

103. piece: work of art; in doing: i.e., in the course of its creation

104. performed: completed

104-5. Julio Romano: a famous Italian artist (See longer note, page 248.)

106-7. beguile . . . custom: i.e., deprive the goddess Nature of her customers

107. ape: imitator

108-9. one would: i.e., an observer of his statue (line 102) would be likely to

110. greediness of affection: eager love (If sup [line 111] means "feed their eyes" rather than "have supper." the word greediness would also carry its meaning of "gluttony.")

112. she: i.e., Paulina

116. piece: join

117. be thence: i.e., stay away from there

118. benefit of access: advantage of being admitted; wink: blink

119. unthrifty: harmful

121. dash: touch, tinge

123. Prince: i.e., Prince's ship

ter, till, from one sign of dolor to another, she did, with an "Alas," I would fain say bleed tears, for I am 95 sure my heart wept blood. Who was most marble there changed color; some swooned, all sorrowed. If all the world could have seen 't, the woe had been universal.

FIRST GENTLEMAN Are they returned to the court? THIRD GENTLEMAN No. The Princess hearing of her mother's statue, which is in the keeping of Paulina-a piece many years in doing and now newly performed by that rare Italian master, Julio Romano, who, had he himself eternity and could 105 put breath into his work, would beguile Nature of her custom, so perfectly he is her ape; he so near to Hermione hath done Hermione that they say one would speak to her and stand in hope of answer. Thither with all greediness of affection are they 110 gone, and there they intend to sup.

SECOND GENTLEMAN I thought she had some great matter there in hand, for she hath privately twice or thrice a day, ever since the death of Hermione, visited that removed house. Shall we thither and 115

with our company piece the rejoicing?

FIRST GENTLEMAN Who would be thence that has the benefit of access? Every wink of an eye some new grace will be born. Our absence makes us unthrifty to our knowledge. Let's along.

The Three Gentlemen exit.

AUTOLYCUS Now, had I not the dash of my former life in me, would preferment drop on my head. I brought the old man and his son aboard the Prince, told him I heard them talk of a fardel and I know not what. But he at that time, overfond of the 125 shepherd's daughter-so he then took her to bewho began to be much seasick, and himself little

135

129. **remained undiscovered:** i.e., was not then revealed

129-30. all one to me: i.e., all the same to me

131. relished: found acceptance or favor

136. past: i.e., past fathering

137. **gentlemen born:** i.e., born gentlemen, but with continuing comedy about the phrase "gentleman born" (See longer note, page 248.)

142. were best: i.e., might as well

143. Give me the lie: i.e., call me a liar (a provocation that would, according to those who prescribed rules for duelling, require a gentleman to fight)

146-47. any time . . . hours: i.e., for at least four hours ("Four" was often used to denote an indefinite number.)

158. **preposterous estate:** i.e., prosperous condition (See longer note, page 248.)



Playing "a tabor and pipe." (4.4.215-16) From William Kemp, ... Kempes nine daies wonder ... (1600; 1884 facs.). better, extremity of weather continuing, this mystery remained undiscovered. But 'tis all one to me, for had I been the finder-out of this secret, it 130 would not have relished among my other discredits.

Enter Shepherd and \(\shepherd's Son, \) both dressed in rich clothing. \(\ship \)

Here come those I have done good to against my will, and already appearing in the blossoms of their fortune.

SHEPHERD Come, boy, I am past more children, but thy sons and daughters will be all gentlemen born.

SHEPHERD'S SON, to Autolycus You are well met, sir. You denied to fight with me this other day because I was no gentleman born. See you these clothes? Say 140 you see them not and think me still no gentleman born. You were best say these robes are not gentlemen born. Give me the lie, do, and try whether I am not now a gentleman born.

AUTOLYCUS I know you are now, sir, a gentleman born. 145 SHEPHERD'S SON Ay, and have been so any time these four hours.

SHEPHERD And so have I, boy.

SHEPHERD'S SON So you have—but I was a gentleman born before my father. For the King's son took me 150 by the hand and called me brother, and then the two kings called my father brother, and then the Prince my brother and the Princess my sister called my father father; and so we wept, and there was the first gentlemanlike tears that ever we shed.

SHEPHERD We may live, son, to shed many more.

SHEPHERD'S SON Ay, or else 'twere hard luck, being in so preposterous estate as we are.

AUTOLYCUS I humbly beseech you, sir, to pardon me all

161. me: i.e., on my behalf

162. gentle: generous; mild or forgiving

172. **boors:** peasants; **franklins:** landowners lower in status than gentlemen

174. If ... false: i.e., no matter how false it is 176-77. tall ... hands: a strong fellow who is formidable with weapons

179. would: wish

181. to my power: i.e., to the best of my power

185. Princes: i.e., Perdita and Florizell

186. picture: statue



A shepherd. (3.3; 4.4) From Hortus sanitatis . . . (1536).

the faults I have committed to your Worship and to 160 give me your good report to the Prince my master. SHEPHERD Prithee, son, do, for we must be gentle now we are gentlemen. SHEPHERD'S SON. To Autolycus Thou wilt amend thy life? 165 AUTOLYCUS Ay, an it like your good Worship. SHEPHERD'S SON Give me thy hand. I will swear to the Prince thou art as honest a true fellow as any is in Bohemia. SHEPHERD You may say it, but not swear it. 170 SHEPHERD'S SON Not swear it, now I am a gentleman? Let boors and franklins say it; I'll swear it. SHEPHERD How if it be false, son? SHEPHERD'S SON If it be ne'er so false, a true gentleman may swear it in the behalf of his friend.—And 175 I'll swear to the Prince thou art a tall fellow of thy hands and that thou wilt not be drunk; but I know thou art no tall fellow of thy hands and that thou wilt be drunk. But I'll swear it, and I would thou wouldst be a tall fellow of thy hands. AUTOLYCUS I will prove so, sir, to my power. SHEPHERD'S SON Ay, by any means prove a tall fellow. If I do not wonder how thou dar'st venture to be drunk, not being a tall fellow, trust me not. Hark, the Kings and Princes, our kindred, are going to see 185 the Queen's picture. Come, follow us. We'll be thy good masters. They exit.

Scene 3

3. What: i.e., that which

5. home: in full

9. answer: return in kind

11. with trouble: i.e., only by imposing on you pains and exertion

13. content: pleasure

14. singularities: special excellences; rarities

22. lively mocked: vividly imitated

24. shows off: displays

26. near: i.e., close to lifelikeness

ocche 5	
Enter Leontes, Polixenes, Florizell, Perdita, Camillo,	
Paulina, $\lceil and \rceil$ Lords.	
LEONTES	
O grave and good Paulina, the great comfort	
That I have had of thee!	
PAULINA What, sovereign sir,	
I did not well, I meant well. All my services	
You have paid home. But that you have vouchsafed,	5
With your crowned brother and these your contracted	5
Heirs of your kingdoms, my poor house to visit.	
It is a surplus of your grace which never	
My life may last to answer.	
LEONTES O Paulina,	10
We honor you with trouble. But we came	
To see the statue of our queen. Your gallery	
Have we passed through, not without much content	
In many singularities; but we saw not	
That which my daughter came to look upon,	15
The statue of her mother.	
PAULINA As she lived peerless,	
So her dead likeness, I do well believe,	
Excels whatever yet you looked upon	
Or hand of man hath done. Therefore I keep it	20
Lonely, apart. But here it is. Prepare	
To see the life as lively mocked as ever	
Still sleep mocked death. Behold, and say 'tis well.	
She draws a curtain	
to reveal Hermione (like a statue).	
I like your silence. It the more shows off	
Your wonder. But yet speak. First you, my liege.	25
Comes it not something near? Her natural postural	
Tier natural posture:—	
Chide me, dear stone, that I may say indeed	

Thou art Hermione; or rather, thou art she

- 30. tender: kind, loving, gentle
- 32. nothing; not at all
- 36. lets go by: i.e., indicates the passage of
- 37. As she: i.e., as if she
- 44. **more stone:** i.e., more unfeeling; **piece:** work of art; masterpiece
 - 46. conjured: magically invoked
- 47. **admiring:** astonished; **spirits:** i.e., "animal spirits" that were thought to mediate between mind and body and to be the source of motion
- 50. **superstition:** an idolatrous religious observance (Perdita's kneeling before a statue to ask for a blessing might well have reminded audiences in Shakespeare's day that the Church of England attacked as **superstition** the Roman Catholic practice of kneeling in prayer before statues of Christ or of saints.)
 - 55. patience: wait a little
- 56. **fixed**: put in place (See longer note, page 249.) **the color's**: i.e., the paint is (Greek statues, as well as effigies in Shakespeare's day, were painted so as to look lifelike.)
- 58. sore: intensely; laid on: inflicted, imposed ("Laid on" could also mean "applied as a coat of paint." This meaning—along with the words "blow away" and "dry" in the following lines—may pick up on the reference to the paint on the statue.)
- 60. So . . . dry: i.e., nor can sixteen summers dry up your sorrow (line 58)

In thy not chiding, for she was as tender	
As infancy and grace.—But yet, Paulina,	-
Hermione was not so much wrinkled, nothing	
So agèd as this seems.	
POLIXENES O, not by much!	
PAULINA	
So much the more our carver's excellence,	
Which lets go by some sixteen years and makes her	
As she lived now.	
LEONTES As now she might have done,	
So much to my good comfort as it is	
Now piercing to my soul. O, thus she stood,	2
Even with such life of majesty—warm life,	
As now it coldly stands—when first I wooed her.	
I am ashamed. Does not the stone rebuke me	
For being more stone than it?—O royal piece,	
There's magic in thy majesty, which has	
My evils conjured to remembrance and	
From thy admiring daughter took the spirits,	
Standing like stone with thee.	
PERDITA And give me leave,	
And do not say 'tis superstition, that	
I kneel, and then implore her blessing. She kneels.	(8
Lady,	
Dear queen, that ended when I but began,	
Give me that hand of yours to kiss.	
PAULINA O, patience!	
The statue is but newly fixed; the color's	
Not dry.	
CAMILLO, to Leontes, who weeps?	
My lord, your sorrow was too sore laid on,	
Which sixteen winters cannot blow away,	
So many summers dry. Scarce any joy	(
Did ever so long live; no sorrow	
But killed itself much sooner.	

64-66. Let himself: Polixene self as the cause of Leontes' pain.	s refers to him-
haps, repair or patch up	proce up, per
69. wrought: agitated	
72. draw: i.e., close	

73. fancy: inagination
83. fixture: fixed position
84. mocked with: deceived by
89. together: i.e., in a row
90. No . . . world: i.e., no calm mind in the world

included and the state of the s	5
POLIXENES Dear my brother,	
Let him that was the cause of this have power	
To take off so much grief from you as he	
Will piece up in himself.	
PAULINA Indeed, my lord,	
If I had thought the sight of my poor image	
Would thus have wrought you—for the stone is	
mine—	-
I'd not have showed it.	7
LEONTES Do not draw the curtain.	
PAULINA	
No longer shall you gaze on 't, lest your fancy May think anon it moves.	
Let be, let be.	7
Would I were dead but that methinks already—	
What was he that did make it?—See, my lord,	
Would you not deem it breathed? And that those veins	
43 13	
Did verily bear blood?	8
POLIXENES Masterly done.	
The very life seems warm upon her lip.	
LEONTES	
The fixture of her eye has motion in 't,	
As we are mocked with art.	
PAULINA I'll draw the curtain.	8.
My lord's almost so far transported that	
He'll think anon it lives.	
LEONTES O sweet Paulina,	
Make me to think so twenty years together!	
No settled senses of the world can match	9
The pleasure of that madness. Let 't alone.	
PAULINA	
I am sorry, sir, I have thus far stirred you, but	
I could afflict you farther.	
LEONTES Do, Paulina,	
For this affliction has a taste as sweet	9
	7.

96. cordial: restorative

97. an air: a breath

103. painting: paint

108. presently: at once

108-9. **resolve you** / **For:** i.e., make up your minds (to experience)

114. What: i.e., whatever

120. **unlawful business:** i.e., witchcraft, which was outlawed and punishable by death

124. Strike: i.e., strike up

127, come away: i.e., come

128. Bequeath: assign, hand over; him: i.e., it (death)



"Methinks I play as . . . in Whitsun pastorals." (4.4.158–59) From Charles Grignion, Morris dancers . . . [n.d.].

As any cordial comfort. Still methinks There is an air comes from her. What fine chisel Could ever yet cut breath? Let no man mock me. For I will kiss her. PAULINA Good my lord, forbear. 100 The ruddiness upon her lip is wet. You'll mar it if you kiss it, stain your own With oily painting. Shall I draw the curtain? LEONTES No, not these twenty years. PERDITA, Trising So long could I 105 Stand by, a looker-on. PAULINA Either forbear. Quit presently the chapel, or resolve you For more amazement. If you can behold it. I'll make the statue move indeed, descend 110 And take you by the hand. But then you'll think-Which I protest against-I am assisted By wicked powers. LEONTES What you can make her do I am content to look on; what to speak. 115 I am content to hear, for 'tis as easy To make her speak as move. PAULINA It is required You do awake your faith. Then all stand still-Or those that think it is unlawful business 120 I am about, let them depart. LEONTES Proceed. No foot shall stir. Music, awake her! Strike! PAULINA Music sounds. 'Tis time. Descend. Be stone no more. Approach. 125 Strike all that look upon with marvel. Come, I'll fill your grave up. Stir, nay, come away. Bequeath to death your numbness, for from him Dear life redeems you.—You perceive she stirs.

130. Start not: i.e., don't shy away; holy: sinless

133. double: i.e., a second time

138. Lawful: i.e., as lawful

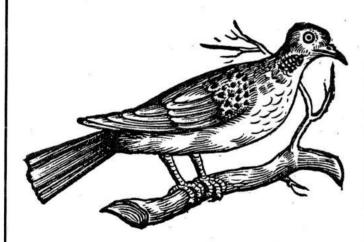
147. Mark: observe

150. pray: entreat, ask for

160. in being: alive

161. issue: outcome

163. push: provocation



A turtledove on a "withered bough." (5.3.166–67) From Konrad Gesner, . . . Historiae animalium . . . (1585–1604).

	THermione descends.	
	Start not. Her actions shall be holy as You hear my spell is lawful. Do not shun her	130
	Until you see her die again, for then	
	You kill her double. Nay, present your hand. When she was young, you wooed her; now in age	
	Is she become the suitor?	125
	EONTES O, she's warm!	135
	If this be magic, let it be an art	
	Lawful as eating.	
2(OLIXENES She embraces him.	
	AMILLO She hangs about his neck.	140
	If she pertain to life, let her speak too.	
2(DLIXENES	
	Ay, and make it manifest where she has lived,	
	Or how stol'n from the dead.	
2	That she is living,	
	Were it but told you, should be hooted at	145
	Like an old tale, but it appears she lives,	
	Though yet she speak not. Mark a little while.	
	To Perdita. Please you to interpose, fair madam.	
	Kneel _	
	And pray your mother's blessing. \(\tau \) Hermione. \(\tau \)	150
	Turn, good lady.	
	Our Perdita is found.	
I	ERMIONE You gods, look down,	
	And from your sacred vials pour your graces	
	Upon my daughter's head! Tell me, mine own,	155
	Where hast thou been preserved? Where lived? How	
	found	
	Thy father's court? For thou shalt hear that I,	
	Knowing by Paulina that the oracle	
1	Gave hope thou wast in being, have preserved	160
	Myself to see the issue.	
1	AULINA There's time enough for that,	
	Lest they desire upon this push to trouble	

164. like relation: i.e., stories like the one you have just requested from Perdita

165. **precious winners:** i.e., winners of what you value as precious

166. Partake: communicate; turtle: turtledove, symbolic of fidelity in love (See page 232.)

167. wing me: fly

168. My mate: i.e., Antigonus

169. lost: destroyed, dead

171-73. **Thou...vows:** Although the audience has heard Leontes agree to marry only at Paulina's direction, these lines are the first mention of Paulina's agreeing to marry a husband of Leontes' choosing.

178. For him: i.e., as for him

181. Is: i.e., are; richly: fully; justified: maintained as true

182. Let's: i.e., let's go

185. holy: sinless

186. ill: evil

187. whom heavens directing: i.e., who, as directed by heaven

188. troth-plight: betrothed, engaged

190-91. **demand . . . Performed:** i.e., ask questions and provide answers about the parts we have **performed**

	E.
Your joys with like relation. Go together,	
You precious winners all. Your exultation	165
Partake to everyone. I, an old turtle,	
Will wing me to some withered bough and there	
My mate, that's never to be found again,	
Lament till I am lost.	
LEONTES O peace, Paulina.	170
Thou shouldst a husband take by my consent,	110
As I by thine a wife. This is a match,	
And made between 's by vows. Thou hast found	
mine—	
But how is to be questioned, for I saw her,	175
As I thought, dead, and have in vain said many	175
A prayer upon her grave. I'll not seek far—	
For him, I partly know his mind—to find thee	
An honorable husband.—Come, Camillo,	
And take her by the hand, whose worth and honesty	180
Is richly noted and here justified	100
By us, a pair of kings. Let's from this place.	
To Hermione. What, look upon my brother! Both	
your pardons	
That e'er I put between your holy looks	185
My ill suspicion. This your son-in-law	105
And son unto the King, whom heavens directing,	36.
Is troth-plight to your daughter.—Good Paulina,	
Lead us from hence, where we may leisurely	
Each one demand and answer to his part	190
Performed in this wide gap of time since first	170
We were dissevered. Hastily lead away.	
They exit.	
They exti.	