

The **MERCHANT**
of **VENICE**

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Edited by BARBARA A. MOWAT
and PAUL WERSTINE

Folger Shakespeare Library

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From the Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library

It is hard to imagine a world without Shakespeare. Since their composition four hundred years ago, Shakespeare's plays and poems have traveled the globe, inviting those who see and read his works to make them their own.

Readers of the New Folger Editions are part of this ongoing process of "taking up Shakespeare," finding our own thoughts and feelings in language that strikes us as old or unusual and, for that very reason, new. We still struggle to keep up with a writer who could think a mile a minute, whose words paint pictures that shift like clouds. These expertly edited texts are presented to the public as a resource for study, artistic adaptation, and enjoyment. By making the classic texts of the New Folger Editions available in electronic form as Folger Digital Texts, we place a trusted resource in the hands of anyone who wants them.

The New Folger Editions of Shakespeare's plays, which are the basis for the texts realized here in digital form, are special because of their origin. The Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC, is the single greatest documentary source of Shakespeare's works. An unparalleled collection of early modern books, manuscripts, and artwork connected to Shakespeare, the Folger's holdings have been consulted extensively in the preparation of these texts. The Editions also reflect the expertise gained through the regular performance of Shakespeare's works in the Folger's Elizabethan Theater.

I want to express my deep thanks to editors Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine for creating these indispensable editions of Shakespeare's works, which incorporate the best of textual scholarship with a richness of commentary that is both inspired and engaging. Readers who want to know more about Shakespeare and his plays can follow the paths these distinguished scholars have tread by visiting the Folger either in-person or online, where a range of physical and digital resources exists to supplement the material in these texts. I commend to you these words, and hope that they inspire.

Michael Witmore
Director, Folger Shakespeare Library

Textual Introduction

By Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine

Until now, with the release of the Folger Digital Texts, readers in search of a free online text of Shakespeare's plays had to be content primarily with using the Moby™ Text, which reproduces a late-nineteenth century version of the plays. What is the difference? Many ordinary readers assume that there is a single text for the plays: what Shakespeare wrote. But Shakespeare's plays were not published the way modern novels or plays are published today: as a single, authoritative text. In some cases, the plays have come down to us in multiple published versions, represented by various Quartos (Qq) and by the great collection put together by his colleagues in 1623, called the First Folio (F). There are, for example, three very different versions of *Hamlet*, two of *King Lear*, *Henry V*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and others. Editors choose which version to use as their base text, and then amend that text with words, lines or speech prefixes from the other versions that, in their judgment, make for a better or more accurate text.

Other editorial decisions involve choices about whether an unfamiliar word could be understood in light of other writings of the period or whether it should be changed; decisions about words that made it into Shakespeare's text by accident through four hundred years of printings and misprinting; and even decisions based on cultural preference and taste. When the Moby™ Text was created, for example, it was deemed "improper" and "indecent" for Miranda to chastise Caliban for having attempted to rape her. (See *The Tempest*, 1.2: "Abhorred slave,/Which any print of goodness wilt not take,/Being capable of all ill! I pitied thee..."). All Shakespeare editors at the time took the speech away from her and gave it to her father, Prospero.

The editors of the Moby™ Shakespeare produced their text long before scholars fully understood the proper grounds on which to make the thousands of decisions that Shakespeare editors face. The Folger Library Shakespeare Editions, on which the Folger Digital Texts depend, make this editorial process as nearly transparent as is possible, in contrast to older texts, like the Moby™, which hide editorial interventions. The reader of the Folger Shakespeare knows where the text has been altered because editorial interventions are signaled by square brackets (for example, from *Othello*: "[If she in

chains of magic were not bound,]”), half-square brackets (for example, from *Henry V*: “With [blood] and sword and fire to win your right,”), or angle brackets (for example, from *Hamlet*: “O farewell, honest <soldier.> Who hath relieved/you?”). At any point in the text, you can hover your cursor over a bracket for more information.

Because the Folger Digital Texts are edited in accord with twenty-first century knowledge about Shakespeare’s texts, the Folger here provides them to readers, scholars, teachers, actors, directors, and students, free of charge, confident of their quality as texts of the plays and pleased to be able to make this contribution to the study and enjoyment of Shakespeare.

Synopsis

Antonio, the merchant in *The Merchant of Venice*, secures a loan from Shylock for his friend Bassanio, who seeks to court Portia. Shylock, a Jewish moneylender, recalls past insults from Antonio and, instead of asking interest on the loan, asks instead—in what he calls a “merry sport”—that if the loan is not repaid, Antonio will owe a pound of his own flesh.

Bassanio sails to Belmont, where the wealthy heiress Portia is being courted by suitors from around the world. Her father’s will requires that the successful suitor solve a riddle involving chests of gold, silver, and lead. Where others have failed, Bassanio succeeds by selecting the right chest. Portia marries Bassanio; her waiting woman, Nerissa, marries his friend Gratiano.

Shylock’s daughter, Jessica, has eloped with Bassanio’s friend Lorenzo, taking her father’s money with her. Shylock is devastated. When Antonio cannot repay the loan, Shylock demands the pound of flesh. When the news reaches Belmont, Bassanio returns to Venice. Portia and Nerissa also travel to Venice, disguised as a lawyer and his clerk. Portia uses the law to defeat Shylock and rescue Antonio.

Characters in the Play

PORTIA, an heiress of Belmont
NERISSA, her waiting-gentlewoman

BALTHAZAR }
STEPHANO } *servants to Portia*

Prince of MOROCCO }
Prince of ARRAGON } *suitors to Portia*

ANTONIO, a merchant of Venice

BASSANIO, a Venetian gentleman, suitor to Portia

SOLANIO }
SALARINO }
GRATIANO } *companions of Antonio and Bassanio*
LORENZO }

LEONARDO, servant to Bassanio

SHYLOCK, a Jewish moneylender in Venice

JESSICA, his daughter

TUBAL, another Jewish moneylender

LANCELET GOBBO, servant to Shylock and later to Bassanio

OLD GOBBO, Lancelet's father

SALERIO, a messenger from Venice

Jailer

Duke of Venice

Magnificoes of Venice

Servants

Attendants and followers

Messenger

Musicians

「ACT I」

「Scene 1」

Enter Antonio, Salarino, and Solanio.

ANTONIO

FTLN 0001 In sooth I know not why I am so sad.
FTLN 0002 It wearies me, you say it wearies you.
FTLN 0003 But how I caught it, found it, or came by it,
FTLN 0004 What stuff 'tis made of, whereof it is born,
FTLN 0005 I am to learn. 5
FTLN 0006 And such a want-wit sadness makes of me
FTLN 0007 That I have much ado to know myself.

SALARINO

FTLN 0008 Your mind is tossing on the ocean,
FTLN 0009 There where your argosies with portly sail
FTLN 0010 (Like signiors and rich burghers on the flood, 10
FTLN 0011 Or, as it were, the pageants of the sea)
FTLN 0012 Do overpeer the petty traffickers
FTLN 0013 That curtsy to them, do them reverence,
FTLN 0014 As they fly by them with their woven wings.

SOLANIO

FTLN 0015 Believe me, sir, had I such venture forth, 15
FTLN 0016 The better part of my affections would
FTLN 0017 Be with my hopes abroad. I should be still
FTLN 0018 Plucking the grass to know where sits the wind,
FTLN 0019 Piring in maps for ports and piers and roads;
FTLN 0020 And every object that might make me fear 20

FTLN 0021 Misfortune to my ventures, out of doubt
 FTLN 0022 Would make me sad.

FTLN 0023 SALARINO My wind cooling my broth
 FTLN 0024 Would blow me to an ague when I thought
 FTLN 0025 What harm a wind too great might do at sea. 25
 FTLN 0026 I should not see the sandy hourglass run
 FTLN 0027 But I should think of shallows and of flats,
 FTLN 0028 And see my wealthy *Andrew* 「docked」 in sand,
 FTLN 0029 Vailing her high top lower than her ribs
 FTLN 0030 To kiss her burial. Should I go to church 30
 FTLN 0031 And see the holy edifice of stone
 FTLN 0032 And not bethink me straight of dangerous rocks,
 FTLN 0033 Which, touching but my gentle vessel's side,
 FTLN 0034 Would scatter all her spices on the stream,
 FTLN 0035 Enrobe the roaring waters with my silks, 35
 FTLN 0036 And, in a word, but even now worth this
 FTLN 0037 And now worth nothing? Shall I have the thought
 FTLN 0038 To think on this, and shall I lack the thought
 FTLN 0039 That such a thing bechanced would make me sad?
 FTLN 0040 But tell not me: I know Antonio 40
 FTLN 0041 Is sad to think upon his merchandise.

FTLN 0042 ANTONIO
 FTLN 0043 Believe me, no. I thank my fortune for it,
 FTLN 0044 My ventures are not in one bottom trusted,
 FTLN 0045 Nor to one place; nor is my whole estate 45
 FTLN 0046 Upon the fortune of this present year:
 FTLN 0047 Therefore my merchandise makes me not sad.

FTLN 0048 SOLANIO
 FTLN 0049 Why then you are in love.

FTLN 0050 ANTONIO Fie, fie!

FTLN 0051 SOLANIO
 FTLN 0052 Not in love neither? Then let us say you are sad
 FTLN 0053 Because you are not merry; and 'twere as easy 50
 FTLN 0054 For you to laugh and leap, and say you are merry
 FTLN 0055 Because you are not sad. Now, by two-headed
 FTLN 0056 Janus,

FTLN 0054 Nature hath framed strange fellows in her time:
 FTLN 0055 Some that will evermore peep through their eyes 55
 FTLN 0056 And laugh like parrots at a bagpiper,
 FTLN 0057 And other of such vinegar aspect
 FTLN 0058 That they'll not show their teeth in way of smile
 FTLN 0059 Though Nestor swear the jest be laughable.

Enter Bassanio, Lorenzo, and Gratiano.

FTLN 0060 Here comes Bassanio, your most noble kinsman, 60
 FTLN 0061 Gratiano, and Lorenzo. Fare you well.
 FTLN 0062 We leave you now with better company.

SALARINO

FTLN 0063 I would have stayed till I had made you merry,
 FTLN 0064 If worthier friends had not prevented me.

ANTONIO

FTLN 0065 Your worth is very dear in my regard. 65
 FTLN 0066 I take it your own business calls on you,
 FTLN 0067 And you embrace th' occasion to depart.

SALARINO

FTLN 0068 Good morrow, my good lords.

BASSANIO

FTLN 0069 Good signiors both, when shall we laugh? Say,
 FTLN 0070 when? 70
 FTLN 0071 You grow exceeding strange. Must it be so?

SALARINO

FTLN 0072 We'll make our leisures to attend on yours.

Salarino and Solanio exit.

LORENZO

FTLN 0073 My Lord Bassanio, since you have found Antonio,
 FTLN 0074 We two will leave you. But at dinner time
 FTLN 0075 I pray you have in mind where we must meet. 75

BASSANIO

FTLN 0076 I will not fail you.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0077 You look not well, Signior Antonio.
 FTLN 0078 You have too much respect upon the world.

FTLN 0079	They lose it that do buy it with much care.	
FTLN 0080	Believe me, you are marvelously changed.	80
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0081	I hold the world but as the world, Gratiano,	
FTLN 0082	A stage where every man must play a part,	
FTLN 0083	And mine a sad one.	
FTLN 0084	GRATIANO	Let me play the fool.
FTLN 0085	With mirth and laughter let old wrinkles come,	85
FTLN 0086	And let my liver rather heat with wine	
FTLN 0087	Than my heart cool with mortifying groans.	
FTLN 0088	Why should a man whose blood is warm within	
FTLN 0089	Sit like his grandsire cut in alabaster?	
FTLN 0090	Sleep when he wakes? And creep into the jaundice	90
FTLN 0091	By being peevish? I tell thee what, Antonio	
FTLN 0092	(I love thee, and 'tis my love that speaks):	
FTLN 0093	There are a sort of men whose visages	
FTLN 0094	Do cream and mantle like a standing pond	
FTLN 0095	And do a willful stillness entertain	95
FTLN 0096	With purpose to be dressed in an opinion	
FTLN 0097	Of wisdom, gravity, profound conceit,	
FTLN 0098	As who should say "I am Sir Oracle,	
FTLN 0099	And when I ope my lips, let no dog bark."	
FTLN 0100	O my Antonio, I do know of these	100
FTLN 0101	That therefore only are reputed wise	
FTLN 0102	For saying nothing, when, I am very sure,	
FTLN 0103	If they should speak, would almost damn those ears	
FTLN 0104	Which, hearing them, would call their brothers	
FTLN 0105	fools.	105
FTLN 0106	I'll tell thee more of this another time.	
FTLN 0107	But fish not with this melancholy bait	
FTLN 0108	For this fool gudgeon, this opinion.—	
FTLN 0109	Come, good Lorenzo.—Fare you well a while.	
FTLN 0110	I'll end my exhortation after dinner.	110
	LORENZO	
FTLN 0111	Well, we will leave you then till dinner time.	
FTLN 0112	I must be one of these same dumb wise men,	
FTLN 0113	For Gratiano never lets me speak.	

GRATIANO

FTLN 0114 Well, keep me company but two years more,
 FTLN 0115 Thou shalt not know the sound of thine own 115
 FTLN 0116 tongue.

ANTONIO

FTLN 0117 Fare you well. I'll grow a talker for this gear.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0118 Thanks, i' faith, for silence is only commendable
 FTLN 0119 In a neat's tongue dried and a maid not vendible.
 「*Gratiano and Lorenzo*」 *exit.*

FTLN 0120 ANTONIO Is that anything now? 120

FTLN 0121 BASSANIO Gratiano speaks an infinite deal of nothing,
 FTLN 0122 more than any man in all Venice. His reasons are as
 FTLN 0123 two grains of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff: you
 FTLN 0124 shall seek all day ere you find them, and when you
 FTLN 0125 have them, they are not worth the search. 125

ANTONIO

FTLN 0126 Well, tell me now what lady is the same
 FTLN 0127 To whom you swore a secret pilgrimage,
 FTLN 0128 That you today promised to tell me of?

BASSANIO

FTLN 0129 'Tis not unknown to you, Antonio,
 FTLN 0130 How much I have disabled mine estate 130
 FTLN 0131 By something showing a more swelling port
 FTLN 0132 Than my faint means would grant continuance.

FTLN 0133 Nor do I now make moan to be abridged
 FTLN 0134 From such a noble rate. But my chief care
 FTLN 0135 Is to come fairly off from the great debts 135

FTLN 0136 Wherein my time, something too prodigal,
 FTLN 0137 Hath left me gaged. To you, Antonio,
 FTLN 0138 I owe the most in money and in love,
 FTLN 0139 And from your love I have a warranty
 FTLN 0140 To unburden all my plots and purposes 140
 FTLN 0141 How to get clear of all the debts I owe.

ANTONIO

FTLN 0142 I pray you, good Bassanio, let me know it;

FTLN 0143 And if it stand, as you yourself still do,
 FTLN 0144 Within the eye of honor, be assured
 FTLN 0145 My purse, my person, my extremest means 145
 FTLN 0146 Lie all unlocked to your occasions.

BASSANIO

FTLN 0147 In my school days, when I had lost one shaft,
 FTLN 0148 I shot his fellow of the selfsame flight
 FTLN 0149 The selfsame way with more advised watch
 FTLN 0150 To find the other forth; and by adventuring both 150
 FTLN 0151 I oft found both. I urge this childhood proof
 FTLN 0152 Because what follows is pure innocence.
 FTLN 0153 I owe you much, and, like a willful youth,
 FTLN 0154 That which I owe is lost. But if you please
 FTLN 0155 To shoot another arrow that self way 155
 FTLN 0156 Which you did shoot the first, I do not doubt,
 FTLN 0157 As I will watch the aim, or to find both
 FTLN 0158 Or bring your latter hazard back again,
 FTLN 0159 And thankfully rest debtor for the first.

ANTONIO

FTLN 0160 You know me well, and herein spend but time 160
 FTLN 0161 To wind about my love with circumstance;
 FTLN 0162 And out of doubt you do me now more wrong
 FTLN 0163 In making question of my uttermost
 FTLN 0164 Than if you had made waste of all I have.
 FTLN 0165 Then do but say to me what I should do 165
 FTLN 0166 That in your knowledge may by me be done,
 FTLN 0167 And I am prest unto it. Therefore speak.

BASSANIO

FTLN 0168 In Belmont is a lady richly left,
 FTLN 0169 And she is fair, and, fairer than that word,
 FTLN 0170 Of wondrous virtues. Sometimes from her eyes 170
 FTLN 0171 I did receive fair speechless messages.
 FTLN 0172 Her name is Portia, nothing undervalued
 FTLN 0173 To Cato's daughter, Brutus' Portia.
 FTLN 0174 Nor is the wide world ignorant of her worth,
 FTLN 0175 For the four winds blow in from every coast 175

FTLN 0176 Renownèd suitors, and her sunny locks
 FTLN 0177 Hang on her temples like a golden fleece,
 FTLN 0178 Which makes her seat of Belmont Colchos' strond,
 FTLN 0179 And many Jasons come in quest of her.
 FTLN 0180 O my Antonio, had I but the means 180
 FTLN 0181 To hold a rival place with one of them,
 FTLN 0182 I have a mind presages me such thrift
 FTLN 0183 That I should questionless be fortunate!

ANTONIO

FTLN 0184 Thou know'st that all my fortunes are at sea;
 FTLN 0185 Neither have I money nor commodity 185
 FTLN 0186 To raise a present sum. Therefore go forth:
 FTLN 0187 Try what my credit can in Venice do;
 FTLN 0188 That shall be racked even to the uttermost
 FTLN 0189 To furnish thee to Belmont to fair Portia.
 FTLN 0190 Go presently inquire, and so will I, 190
 FTLN 0191 Where money is, and I no question make
 FTLN 0192 To have it of my trust, or for my sake.

They exit.

「Scene 2」

Enter Portia with her waiting woman Nerissa.

FTLN 0193 PORTIA By my troth, Nerissa, my little body is awearry
 FTLN 0194 of this great world.
 FTLN 0195 NERISSA You would be, sweet madam, if your miseries
 FTLN 0196 were in the same abundance as your good fortunes
 FTLN 0197 are. And yet, for aught I see, they are as sick that 5
 FTLN 0198 surfeit with too much as they that starve with
 FTLN 0199 nothing. It is no mean happiness, therefore, to be
 FTLN 0200 seated in the mean. Superfluity comes sooner by
 FTLN 0201 white hairs, but competency lives longer.
 FTLN 0202 PORTIA Good sentences, and well pronounced. 10
 FTLN 0203 NERISSA They would be better if well followed.

FTLN 0204 PORTIA If to do were as easy as to know what were
 FTLN 0205 good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor
 FTLN 0206 men's cottages princes' palaces. It is a good divine
 FTLN 0207 that follows his own instructions. I can easier teach 15
 FTLN 0208 twenty what were good to be done than to be one of
 FTLN 0209 the twenty to follow mine own teaching. The brain
 FTLN 0210 may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper
 FTLN 0211 leaps o'er a cold decree: such a hare is madness the
 FTLN 0212 youth, to skip o'er the meshes of good counsel the 20
 FTLN 0213 cripple. But this reasoning is not in the fashion to
 FTLN 0214 choose me a husband. O, me, the word "choose"! I
 FTLN 0215 may neither choose who I would nor refuse who I
 FTLN 0216 dislike. So is the will of a living daughter curbed by
 FTLN 0217 the will of a dead father. Is it not hard, Nerissa, that 25
 FTLN 0218 I cannot choose one, nor refuse none?
 FTLN 0219 NERISSA Your father was ever virtuous, and holy men
 FTLN 0220 at their death have good inspirations. Therefore the
 FTLN 0221 lottery that he hath devised in these three chests of
 FTLN 0222 gold, silver, and lead, whereof who chooses his 30
 FTLN 0223 meaning chooses you, will no doubt never be
 FTLN 0224 chosen by any rightly but one who you shall rightly
 FTLN 0225 love. But what warmth is there in your affection
 FTLN 0226 towards any of these princely suitors that are already
 FTLN 0227 come? 35
 FTLN 0228 PORTIA I pray thee, overname them, and as thou
 FTLN 0229 namest them, I will describe them, and according
 FTLN 0230 to my description level at my affection.
 FTLN 0231 NERISSA First, there is the Neapolitan prince.
 FTLN 0232 PORTIA Ay, that's a colt indeed, for he doth nothing but 40
 FTLN 0233 talk of his horse, and he makes it a great appropriation
 FTLN 0234 to his own good parts that he can shoe him
 FTLN 0235 himself. I am much afeard my lady his mother
 FTLN 0236 played false with a smith.
 FTLN 0237 NERISSA Then is there the County Palatine. 45
 FTLN 0238 PORTIA He doth nothing but frown, as who should say
 FTLN 0239 "An you will not have me, choose." He hears

FTLN 0240	merry tales and smiles not. I fear he will prove the	
FTLN 0241	weeping philosopher when he grows old, being so	
FTLN 0242	full of unmannerly sadness in his youth. I had	50
FTLN 0243	rather be married to a death's-head with a bone in	
FTLN 0244	his mouth than to either of these. God defend me	
FTLN 0245	from these two!	
FTLN 0246	NERISSA How say you by the French lord, Monsieur Le	
FTLN 0247	«Bon»?	55
FTLN 0248	PORTIA God made him, and therefore let him pass for	
FTLN 0249	a man. In truth, I know it is a sin to be a mocker,	
FTLN 0250	but he!—why, he hath a horse better than the	
FTLN 0251	Neapolitan's, a better bad habit of frowning than	
FTLN 0252	the Count Palatine. He is every man in no man. If a	60
FTLN 0253	«throstle» sing, he falls straight a-cap'ring. He will	
FTLN 0254	fence with his own shadow. If I should marry him, I	
FTLN 0255	should marry twenty husbands! If he would despise	
FTLN 0256	me, I would forgive him, for if he love me to	
FTLN 0257	madness, I shall never requite him.	65
FTLN 0258	NERISSA What say you then to Falconbridge, the young	
FTLN 0259	baron of England?	
FTLN 0260	PORTIA You know I say nothing to him, for he understands	
FTLN 0261	not me, nor I him. He hath neither Latin,	
FTLN 0262	French, nor Italian; and you will come into the	70
FTLN 0263	court and swear that I have a poor pennyworth in	
FTLN 0264	the English. He is a proper man's picture, but alas,	
FTLN 0265	who can converse with a dumb show? How oddly	
FTLN 0266	he is suited! I think he bought his doublet in Italy,	
FTLN 0267	his round hose in France, his bonnet in Germany,	75
FTLN 0268	and his behavior everywhere.	
FTLN 0269	NERISSA What think you of the Scottish lord, his	
FTLN 0270	neighbor?	
FTLN 0271	PORTIA That he hath a neighborly charity in him, for	
FTLN 0272	he borrowed a box of the ear of the Englishman,	80
FTLN 0273	and swore he would pay him again when he was	
FTLN 0274	able. I think the Frenchman became his surety and	
FTLN 0275	sealed under for another.	

FTLN 0276	NERISSA	How like you the young German, the Duke of Saxony's nephew?	85
FTLN 0277			
FTLN 0278	PORTIA	Very vilely in the morning, when he is sober,	
FTLN 0279		and most vilely in the afternoon, when he is drunk.	
FTLN 0280		When he is best he is a little worse than a man, and	
FTLN 0281		when he is worst he is little better than a beast. An	
FTLN 0282		the worst fall that ever fell, I hope I shall make shift	90
FTLN 0283		to go without him.	
FTLN 0284	NERISSA	If he should offer to choose, and choose the	
FTLN 0285		right casket, you should refuse to perform your	
FTLN 0286		father's will if you should refuse to accept him.	
FTLN 0287	PORTIA	Therefore, for fear of the worst, I pray thee set	95
FTLN 0288		a deep glass of Rhenish wine on the contrary	
FTLN 0289		casket, for if the devil be within and that temptation	
FTLN 0290		without, I know he will choose it. I will do	
FTLN 0291		anything, Nerissa, ere I will be married to a sponge.	
FTLN 0292	NERISSA	You need not fear, lady, the having any of	100
FTLN 0293		these lords. They have acquainted me with their	
FTLN 0294		determinations, which is indeed to return to their	
FTLN 0295		home and to trouble you with no more suit, unless	
FTLN 0296		you may be won by some other sort than your	
FTLN 0297		father's imposition depending on the caskets.	105
FTLN 0298	PORTIA	If I live to be as old as Sibylla, I will die as	
FTLN 0299		chaste as Diana unless I be obtained by the manner	
FTLN 0300		of my father's will. I am glad this parcel of wooers	
FTLN 0301		are so reasonable, for there is not one among them	
FTLN 0302		but I dote on his very absence. And I pray God	110
FTLN 0303		grant them a fair departure!	
FTLN 0304	NERISSA	Do you not remember, lady, in your father's	
FTLN 0305		time, a Venetian, a scholar and a soldier, that came	
FTLN 0306		hither in company of the Marquess of Montferrat?	
FTLN 0307	PORTIA	Yes, yes, it was Bassanio—as I think so was he	115
FTLN 0308		called.	
FTLN 0309	NERISSA	True, madam. He, of all the men that ever my	
FTLN 0310		foolish eyes looked upon, was the best deserving a	
FTLN 0311		fair lady.	

FTLN 0312 PORTIA I remember him well, and I remember him 120
 FTLN 0313 worthy of thy praise.

Enter a Servingman.

FTLN 0314 How now, what news?
 FTLN 0315 SERVINGMAN The four strangers seek for you, madam,
 FTLN 0316 to take their leave. And there is a forerunner come
 FTLN 0317 from a fifth, the Prince of Morocco, who brings 125
 FTLN 0318 word the Prince his master will be here tonight.
 FTLN 0319 PORTIA If I could bid the fifth welcome with so good
 FTLN 0320 heart as I can bid the other four farewell, I should
 FTLN 0321 be glad of his approach. If he have the condition of
 FTLN 0322 a saint and the complexion of a devil, I had rather 130
 FTLN 0323 he should shrive me than wive me.
 FTLN 0324 Come, Nerissa. 「*To Servingman.*」 Sirrah, go before.—
 FTLN 0325 Whiles we shut the gate upon one wooer, another
 FTLN 0326 knocks at the door.

They exit.

「Scene 3」

Enter Bassanio with Shylock the Jew.

FTLN 0327 SHYLOCK Three thousand ducats, well.
 FTLN 0328 BASSANIO Ay, sir, for three months.
 FTLN 0329 SHYLOCK For three months, well.
 FTLN 0330 BASSANIO For the which, as I told you, Antonio shall
 FTLN 0331 be bound. 5
 FTLN 0332 SHYLOCK Antonio shall become bound, well.
 FTLN 0333 BASSANIO May you stead me? Will you pleasure me?
 FTLN 0334 Shall I know your answer?
 FTLN 0335 SHYLOCK Three thousand ducats for three months,
 FTLN 0336 and Antonio bound. 10
 FTLN 0337 BASSANIO Your answer to that?
 FTLN 0338 SHYLOCK Antonio is a good man.
 FTLN 0339 BASSANIO Have you heard any imputation to the
 FTLN 0340 contrary?

FTLN 0341 SHYLOCK Ho, no, no, no, no! My meaning in saying he 15
 FTLN 0342 is a good man is to have you understand me that he
 FTLN 0343 is sufficient. Yet his means are in supposition: he
 FTLN 0344 hath an argosy bound to Tripolis, another to the
 FTLN 0345 Indies. I understand, moreover, upon the Rialto,
 FTLN 0346 he hath a third at Mexico, a fourth for England, and 20
 FTLN 0347 other ventures he hath squandered abroad. But
 FTLN 0348 ships are but boards, sailors but men; there be land
 FTLN 0349 rats and water rats, water thieves and land
 FTLN 0350 thieves—I mean pirates—and then there is the
 FTLN 0351 peril of waters, winds, and rocks. The man is, 25
 FTLN 0352 notwithstanding, sufficient. Three thousand ducats.
 FTLN 0353 I think I may take his bond.

FTLN 0354 BASSANIO Be assured you may.

FTLN 0355 SHYLOCK I will be assured I may. And that I may be
 FTLN 0356 assured, I will bethink me. May I speak with 30
 FTLN 0357 Antonio?

FTLN 0358 BASSANIO If it please you to dine with us.

FTLN 0359 SHYLOCK Yes, to smell pork! To eat of the habitation
 FTLN 0360 which your prophet the Nazarite conjured the
 FTLN 0361 devil into! I will buy with you, sell with you, talk 35
 FTLN 0362 with you, walk with you, and so following; but I
 FTLN 0363 will not eat with you, drink with you, nor pray with
 FTLN 0364 you.—What news on the Rialto?—Who is he comes
 FTLN 0365 here?

Enter Antonio.

FTLN 0366 BASSANIO This is Signior Antonio. 40
 SHYLOCK, [*aside*]

FTLN 0367 How like a fawning publican he looks!
 FTLN 0368 I hate him for he is a Christian,
 FTLN 0369 But more for that in low simplicity
 FTLN 0370 He lends out money gratis and brings down
 FTLN 0371 The rate of usance here with us in Venice. 45
 FTLN 0372 If I can catch him once upon the hip,
 FTLN 0373 I will feed fat the ancient grudge I bear him.

FTLN 0374	He hates our sacred nation, and he rails,	
FTLN 0375	Even there where merchants most do congregate,	
FTLN 0376	On me, my bargains, and my well-won thrift,	50
FTLN 0377	Which he calls “interest.” Cursèd be my tribe	
FTLN 0378	If I forgive him!	
FTLN 0379	BASSANIO Shylock, do you hear?	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0380	I am debating of my present store,	
FTLN 0381	And, by the near guess of my memory,	55
FTLN 0382	I cannot instantly raise up the gross	
FTLN 0383	Of full three thousand ducats. What of that?	
FTLN 0384	Tubal, a wealthy Hebrew of my tribe,	
FTLN 0385	Will furnish me. But soft, how many months	
FTLN 0386	Do you desire? <i>‘To Antonio.’</i> Rest you fair, good	60
FTLN 0387	signior!	
FTLN 0388	Your Worship was the last man in our mouths.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0389	Shylock, albeit I neither lend nor borrow	
FTLN 0390	By taking nor by giving of excess,	
FTLN 0391	Yet, to supply the ripe wants of my friend,	65
FTLN 0392	I’ll break a custom. <i>‘To Bassanio.’</i> Is he yet	
FTLN 0393	possessed	
FTLN 0394	How much you would?	
FTLN 0395	SHYLOCK Ay, ay, three thousand	
FTLN 0396	ducats.	70
FTLN 0397	ANTONIO And for three months.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0398	I had forgot—three months. <i>‘To Bassanio.’</i>	
FTLN 0399	You told me so.—	
FTLN 0400	Well then, your bond. And let me see—but hear	
FTLN 0401	you:	75
FTLN 0402	Methoughts you said you neither lend nor borrow	
FTLN 0403	Upon advantage.	
FTLN 0404	ANTONIO I do never use it.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0405	When Jacob grazed his Uncle Laban’s sheep—	
FTLN 0406	This Jacob from our holy Abram was	80

FTLN 0407	(As his wise mother wrought in his behalf)	
FTLN 0408	The third possessor; ay, he was the third—	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0409	And what of him? Did he take interest?	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0410	No, not take interest, not, as you would say,	
FTLN 0411	Directly “interest.” Mark what Jacob did.	85
FTLN 0412	When Laban and himself were compromised	
FTLN 0413	That all the eanlings which were streaked and pied	
FTLN 0414	Should fall as Jacob’s hire, the ewes being rank	
FTLN 0415	In end of autumn turnèd to the rams,	
FTLN 0416	And when the work of generation was	90
FTLN 0417	Between these woolly breeders in the act,	
FTLN 0418	The skillful shepherd pilled me certain wands,	
FTLN 0419	And in the doing of the deed of kind	
FTLN 0420	He stuck them up before the fulsome ewes,	
FTLN 0421	Who then conceiving did in eaning time	95
FTLN 0422	Fall parti-colored lambs, and those were Jacob’s.	
FTLN 0423	This was a way to thrive, and he was blest;	
FTLN 0424	And thrift is blessing if men steal it not.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0425	This was a venture, sir, that Jacob served for,	
FTLN 0426	A thing not in his power to bring to pass,	100
FTLN 0427	But swayed and fashioned by the hand of heaven.	
FTLN 0428	Was this inserted to make interest good?	
FTLN 0429	Or is your gold and silver ewes and rams?	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0430	I cannot tell; I make it breed as fast.	
FTLN 0431	But note me, signior—	105
	ANTONIO, <i>〔aside to Bassanio〕</i>	
FTLN 0432	Mark you this, Bassanio,	
FTLN 0433	The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose!	
FTLN 0434	An evil soul producing holy witness	
FTLN 0435	Is like a villain with a smiling cheek,	
FTLN 0436	A goodly apple rotten at the heart.	110
FTLN 0437	O, what a goodly outside falsehood hath!	

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0438 Three thousand ducats. 'Tis a good round sum.
 FTLN 0439 Three months from twelve, then let me see, the
 FTLN 0440 rate—

ANTONIO

FTLN 0441 Well, Shylock, shall we be beholding to you? 115

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0442 Signior Antonio, many a time and oft
 FTLN 0443 In the Rialto you have rated me
 FTLN 0444 About my moneys and my usances.
 FTLN 0445 Still have I borne it with a patient shrug
 FTLN 0446 (For suff'rance is the badge of all our tribe). 120

FTLN 0447 You call me misbeliever, cutthroat dog,
 FTLN 0448 And spet upon my Jewish gaberdine,
 FTLN 0449 And all for use of that which is mine own.
 FTLN 0450 Well then, it now appears you need my help.
 FTLN 0451 Go to, then. You come to me and you say 125

FTLN 0452 "Shylock, we would have moneys"—you say so,
 FTLN 0453 You, that did void your rheum upon my beard,
 FTLN 0454 And foot me as you spurn a stranger cur
 FTLN 0455 Over your threshold. Moneys is your suit.
 FTLN 0456 What should I say to you? Should I not say 130

FTLN 0457 "Hath a dog money? Is it possible
 FTLN 0458 A cur can lend three thousand ducats?" Or
 FTLN 0459 Shall I bend low, and in a bondman's key,
 FTLN 0460 With bated breath and whisp'ring humbleness,
 FTLN 0461 Say this: "Fair sir, you spet on me on Wednesday 135

FTLN 0462 last;
 FTLN 0463 You spurned me such a day; another time
 FTLN 0464 You called me 'dog'; and for these courtesies
 FTLN 0465 I'll lend you thus much moneys"?

ANTONIO

FTLN 0466 I am as like to call thee so again, 140
 FTLN 0467 To spet on thee again, to spurn thee, too.
 FTLN 0468 If thou wilt lend this money, lend it not
 FTLN 0469 As to thy friends, for when did friendship take

FTLN 0470	A breed for barren metal of his friend?	
FTLN 0471	But lend it rather to thine enemy,	145
FTLN 0472	Who, if he break, thou mayst with better face	
FTLN 0473	Exact the penalty.	
FTLN 0474	SHYLOCK Why, look you how you storm!	
FTLN 0475	I would be friends with you and have your love,	
FTLN 0476	Forget the shames that you have stained me with,	150
FTLN 0477	Supply your present wants, and take no doit	
FTLN 0478	Of usance for my moneys, and you'll not hear me!	
FTLN 0479	This is kind I offer.	
FTLN 0480	BASSANIO This were kindness!	
FTLN 0481	SHYLOCK This kindness will I show.	155
FTLN 0482	Go with me to a notary, seal me there	
FTLN 0483	Your single bond; and in a merry sport,	
FTLN 0484	If you repay me not on such a day,	
FTLN 0485	In such a place, such sum or sums as are	
FTLN 0486	Expressed in the condition, let the forfeit	160
FTLN 0487	Be nominated for an equal pound	
FTLN 0488	Of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken	
FTLN 0489	In what part of your body pleaseth me.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0490	Content, in faith. I'll seal to such a bond,	
FTLN 0491	And say there is much kindness in the Jew.	165
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 0492	You shall not seal to such a bond for me!	
FTLN 0493	I'll rather dwell in my necessity.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 0494	Why, fear not, man, I will not forfeit it!	
FTLN 0495	Within these two months—that's a month before	
FTLN 0496	This bond expires—I do expect return	170
FTLN 0497	Of thrice three times the value of this bond.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 0498	O father Abram, what these Christians are,	
FTLN 0499	Whose own hard dealings teaches them suspect	
FTLN 0500	The thoughts of others! Pray you tell me this:	
FTLN 0501	If he should break his day, what should I gain	175

「Scene 1」

Enter 「the Prince of」 Morocco, a tawny Moor all in white, and three or four followers accordingly, with Portia, Nerissa, and their train.

MOROCCO

FTLN 0521 Mislike me not for my complexion,
FTLN 0522 The shadowed livery of the burnished sun,
FTLN 0523 To whom I am a neighbor and near bred.
FTLN 0524 Bring me the fairest creature northward born,
FTLN 0525 Where Phoebus' fire scarce thaws the icicles, 5
FTLN 0526 And let us make incision for your love
FTLN 0527 To prove whose blood is reddest, his or mine.
FTLN 0528 I tell thee, lady, this aspect of mine
FTLN 0529 Hath feared the valiant; by my love I swear
FTLN 0530 The best regarded virgins of our clime 10
FTLN 0531 Have loved it too. I would not change this hue
FTLN 0532 Except to steal your thoughts, my gentle queen.

PORTIA

FTLN 0533 In terms of choice I am not solely led
FTLN 0534 By nice direction of a maiden's eyes;
FTLN 0535 Besides, the lott'ry of my destiny 15
FTLN 0536 Bars me the right of voluntary choosing.
FTLN 0537 But if my father had not scanted me
FTLN 0538 And hedged me by his wit to yield myself
FTLN 0539 His wife who wins me by that means I told you,

[Scene 2]

Enter [Lancelet Gobbo] the Clown, alone.

FTLN 0570 LANCELET Certainly my conscience will serve me to
 FTLN 0571 run from this Jew my master. The fiend is at mine
 FTLN 0572 elbow and tempts me, saying to me “Gobbo,
 FTLN 0573 Lancelet Gobbo, good Lancelet,” or “good Gobbo,”
 FTLN 0574 or “good Lancelet Gobbo, use your legs, take 5
 FTLN 0575 the start, run away.” My conscience says “No. Take
 FTLN 0576 heed, honest Lancelet, take heed, honest Gobbo,”
 FTLN 0577 or, as aforesaid, “honest Lancelet Gobbo, do not
 FTLN 0578 run; scorn running with thy heels.” Well, the most
 FTLN 0579 courageous fiend bids me pack. “Fia!” says the 10
 FTLN 0580 fiend. “Away!” says the fiend. “For the heavens,
 FTLN 0581 rouse up a brave mind,” says the fiend, “and run!”
 FTLN 0582 Well, my conscience, hanging about the neck of my
 FTLN 0583 heart, says very wisely to me “My honest friend
 FTLN 0584 Lancelet, being an honest man’s son”—or rather, 15
 FTLN 0585 an honest woman’s son, for indeed my father did
 FTLN 0586 something smack, something grow to—he had a
 FTLN 0587 kind of taste—well, my conscience says “Lancelet,
 FTLN 0588 budge not.” “Budge,” says the fiend. “Budge not,”
 FTLN 0589 says my conscience. “Conscience,” say I, “you 20
 FTLN 0590 counsel well.” “Fiend,” say I, “you counsel well.”
 FTLN 0591 To be ruled by my conscience, I should stay with the
 FTLN 0592 Jew my master, who (God bless the mark) is a kind
 FTLN 0593 of devil; and to run away from the Jew, I should be
 FTLN 0594 ruled by the fiend, who (saving your reverence) is 25
 FTLN 0595 the devil himself. Certainly the Jew is the very devil
 FTLN 0596 incarnation, and, in my conscience, my conscience
 FTLN 0597 is but a kind of hard conscience to offer to counsel
 FTLN 0598 me to stay with the Jew. The fiend gives the more
 FTLN 0599 friendly counsel. I will run, fiend. My heels are at 30
 FTLN 0600 your commandment. I will run.

Enter old Gobbo with a basket.

FTLN 0601 GOBBO Master young man, you, I pray you, which is
 FTLN 0602 the way to Master Jew's?

FTLN 0603 LANCELET, *「aside」* O heavens, this is my true begotten
 FTLN 0604 father, who being more than sandblind, high gravelblind, 35
 FTLN 0605 knows me not. I will try confusions with him.

FTLN 0606 GOBBO Master young gentleman, I pray you, which is
 FTLN 0607 the way to Master Jew's?

FTLN 0608 LANCELET Turn up on your right hand at the next
 FTLN 0609 turning, but at the next turning of all on your left; 40
 FTLN 0610 marry, at the very next turning, turn of no hand,
 FTLN 0611 but turn down indirectly to the Jew's house.

FTLN 0612 GOBBO Be God's sonties, 'twill be a hard way to hit.
 FTLN 0613 Can you tell me whether one Lancelet, that dwells
 FTLN 0614 with him, dwell with him or no? 45

FTLN 0615 LANCELET Talk you of young Master Lancelet? *「Aside」*
 FTLN 0616 Mark me now, now will I raise the waters.—Talk
 FTLN 0617 you of young Master Lancelet?

FTLN 0618 GOBBO No master, sir, but a poor man's son. His
 FTLN 0619 father, though I say 't, is an honest exceeding poor 50
 FTLN 0620 man and, God be thanked, well to live.

FTLN 0621 LANCELET Well, let his father be what he will, we talk
 FTLN 0622 of young Master Lancelet.

FTLN 0623 GOBBO Your Worship's friend, and Lancelet, sir.

FTLN 0624 LANCELET But I pray you, *ergo*, old man, *ergo*, I beseech 55
 FTLN 0625 you, talk you of young Master Lancelet?

FTLN 0626 GOBBO Of Lancelet, an 't please your mastership.

FTLN 0627 LANCELET *Ergo*, Master Lancelet. Talk not of Master
 FTLN 0628 Lancelet, father, for the young gentleman, according
 FTLN 0629 to Fates and Destinies, and such odd sayings, the 60
 FTLN 0630 Sisters Three, and such branches of learning, is
 FTLN 0631 indeed deceased, or, as you would say in plain
 FTLN 0632 terms, gone to heaven.

FTLN 0633 GOBBO Marry, God forbid! The boy was the very staff
 FTLN 0634 of my age, my very prop. 65

FTLN 0635 LANCELET, *「aside」* Do I look like a cudgel or a hovel-post,
 FTLN 0636 a staff or a prop?—Do you know me, father?

FTLN 0637	GOBBO	Alack the day, I know you not, young gentleman.	
FTLN 0638		But I pray you tell me, is my boy, God rest his	
FTLN 0639		soul, alive or dead?	70
FTLN 0640	LANCELET	Do you not know me, father?	
FTLN 0641	GOBBO	Alack, sir, I am sandblind. I know you not.	
FTLN 0642	LANCELET	Nay, indeed, if you had your eyes, you might	
FTLN 0643		fail of the knowing me. It is a wise father that	
FTLN 0644		knows his own child. Well, old man, I will tell you	75
FTLN 0645		news of your son. <i>['He kneels.']</i> Give me your blessing.	
FTLN 0646		Truth will come to light, murder cannot be hid	
FTLN 0647		long—a man's son may, but in the end, truth will	
FTLN 0648		out.	
FTLN 0649	GOBBO	Pray you, sir, stand up! I am sure you are not	80
FTLN 0650		Lancelet my boy.	
FTLN 0651	LANCELET	Pray you, let's have no more fooling about	
FTLN 0652		it, but give me your blessing. I am Lancelet, your	
FTLN 0653		boy that was, your son that is, your child that shall	
FTLN 0654		be.	85
FTLN 0655	GOBBO	I cannot think you are my son.	
FTLN 0656	LANCELET	I know not what I shall think of that; but I	
FTLN 0657		am Lancelet, the Jew's man, and I am sure Margery	
FTLN 0658		your wife is my mother.	
FTLN 0659	GOBBO	Her name is Margery, indeed. I'll be sworn if	90
FTLN 0660		thou be Lancelet, thou art mine own flesh and	
FTLN 0661		blood. Lord worshiped might He be, what a beard	
FTLN 0662		hast thou got! Thou hast got more hair on thy chin	
FTLN 0663		than Dobbin my fill-horse has on his tail.	
FTLN 0664	LANCELET, <i>['standing up']</i>	It should seem, then, that	95
FTLN 0665		Dobbin's tail grows backward. I am sure he had	
FTLN 0666		more hair of his tail than I have of my face when I	
FTLN 0667		<i>['last']</i> saw him.	
FTLN 0668	GOBBO	Lord, how art thou changed! How dost thou	
FTLN 0669		and thy master agree? I have brought him a present.	100
FTLN 0670		How 'gree you now?	
FTLN 0671	LANCELET	Well, well. But for mine own part, as I have	
FTLN 0672		set up my rest to run away, so I will not rest till I	

FTLN 0673 have run some ground. My master's a very Jew.
 FTLN 0674 Give him a present! Give him a halter. I am 105
 FTLN 0675 famished in his service. You may tell every finger I
 FTLN 0676 have with my ribs. Father, I am glad you are come!
 FTLN 0677 Give me your present to one Master Bassanio, who
 FTLN 0678 indeed gives rare new liveries. If I serve not him, I
 FTLN 0679 will run as far as God has any ground. O rare 110
 FTLN 0680 fortune, here comes the man! To him, father, for I
 FTLN 0681 am a Jew if I serve the Jew any longer.

Enter Bassanio with 「Leonardo and」 *a follower or two.*

FTLN 0682 BASSANIO, 「to an Attendant」 You may do so, but let it be
 FTLN 0683 so hasted that supper be ready at the farthest by five
 FTLN 0684 of the clock. See these letters delivered, put the 115
 FTLN 0685 liveries to making, and desire Gratiano to come
 FTLN 0686 anon to my lodging. 「The Attendant exits.」
 FTLN 0687 LANCELET To him, father.
 FTLN 0688 GOBBO, 「to Bassanio」 God bless your Worship.
 FTLN 0689 BASSANIO Gramercy. Wouldst thou aught with me? 120
 FTLN 0690 GOBBO Here's my son, sir, a poor boy—
 FTLN 0691 LANCELET Not a poor boy, sir, but the rich Jew's man,
 FTLN 0692 that would, sir, as my father shall specify—
 FTLN 0693 GOBBO He hath a great infection, sir, as one would say,
 FTLN 0694 to serve— 125
 FTLN 0695 LANCELET Indeed, the short and the long is, I serve the
 FTLN 0696 Jew, and have a desire, as my father shall specify—
 FTLN 0697 GOBBO His master and he (saving your Worship's
 FTLN 0698 reverence) are scarce cater-cousins—
 FTLN 0699 LANCELET To be brief, the very truth is that the Jew, 130
 FTLN 0700 having done me wrong, doth cause me, as my
 FTLN 0701 father being, I hope, an old man, shall frutify unto
 FTLN 0702 you—
 FTLN 0703 GOBBO I have here a dish of doves that I would bestow
 FTLN 0704 upon your Worship, and my suit is— 135
 FTLN 0705 LANCELET In very brief, the suit is impertinent to
 FTLN 0706 myself, as your Worship shall know by this honest

FTLN 0707	old man, and though I say it, though old man yet	
FTLN 0708	poor man, my father—	
FTLN 0709	BASSANIO One speak for both. What would you?	140
FTLN 0710	LANCELET Serve you, sir.	
FTLN 0711	GOBBO That is the very defect of the matter, sir.	
	BASSANIO, <i>「to Lancelot」</i>	
FTLN 0712	I know thee well. Thou hast obtained thy suit.	
FTLN 0713	Shylock thy master spoke with me this day,	
FTLN 0714	And hath preferred thee, if it be preferment	145
FTLN 0715	To leave a rich Jew's service, to become	
FTLN 0716	The follower of so poor a gentleman.	
FTLN 0717	LANCELET The old proverb is very well parted between	
FTLN 0718	my master Shylock and you, sir: you have “the	
FTLN 0719	grace of God,” sir, and he hath “enough.”	150
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 0720	Thou speak'st it well.—Go, father, with thy son.—	
FTLN 0721	Take leave of thy old master, and inquire	
FTLN 0722	My lodging out. <i>「To an Attendant.」</i> Give him a livery	
FTLN 0723	More guarded than his fellows'. See it done.	
	<i>「Attendant exits. Bassanio and Leonardo talk apart.」</i>	
FTLN 0724	LANCELET Father, in. I cannot get a service, no! I have	155
FTLN 0725	ne'er a tongue in my head! Well, <i>「studying his palm」</i>	
FTLN 0726	if any man in Italy have a fairer table which doth	
FTLN 0727	offer to swear upon a book—I shall have good	
FTLN 0728	fortune, go to! Here's a simple line of life. Here's a	
FTLN 0729	small trifle of wives—alas, fifteen wives is nothing;	160
FTLN 0730	eleven widows and nine maids is a simple coming-in	
FTLN 0731	for one man—and then to 'scape drowning	
FTLN 0732	thrice, and to be in peril of my life with the edge of a	
FTLN 0733	featherbed! Here are simple 'scapes. Well, if Fortune	
FTLN 0734	be a woman, she's a good wench for this gear.	165
FTLN 0735	Father, come. I'll take my leave of the Jew in the	
FTLN 0736	twinkling. <i>「Lancelot and old Gobbo」 exit.</i>	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 0737	I pray thee, good Leonardo, think on this.	
	<i>「Handing him a paper.」</i>	

FTLN 0738 These things being bought and orderly bestowed,
 FTLN 0739 Return in haste, for I do feast tonight 170
 FTLN 0740 My best esteemed acquaintance. Hie thee, go.

LEONARDO

FTLN 0741 My best endeavors shall be done herein.

Enter Gratiano.

FTLN 0742 GRATIANO, [to Leonardo] Where's your master?

FTLN 0743 LEONARDO Yonder, sir, he walks. *Leonardo exits.*

FTLN 0744 GRATIANO Signior Bassanio! 175

FTLN 0745 BASSANIO Gratiano!

FTLN 0746 GRATIANO I have suit to you.

FTLN 0747 BASSANIO You have obtained it.

FTLN 0748 GRATIANO You must not deny me. I must go with you

FTLN 0749 to Belmont. 180

BASSANIO

FTLN 0750 Why then you must. But hear thee, Gratiano,

FTLN 0751 Thou art too wild, too rude and bold of voice—

FTLN 0752 Parts that become thee happily enough,

FTLN 0753 And in such eyes as ours appear not faults.

FTLN 0754 But where thou art not known—why, there they 185

FTLN 0755 show

FTLN 0756 Something too liberal. Pray thee take pain

FTLN 0757 To allay with some cold drops of modesty

FTLN 0758 Thy skipping spirit, lest through thy wild behavior

FTLN 0759 I be misconstered in the place I go to, 190

FTLN 0760 And lose my hopes.

FTLN 0761 GRATIANO Signior Bassanio, hear me.

FTLN 0762 If I do not put on a sober habit,

FTLN 0763 Talk with respect, and swear but now and then,

FTLN 0764 Wear prayer books in my pocket, look demurely, 195

FTLN 0765 Nay more, while grace is saying, hood mine eyes

FTLN 0766 Thus with my hat, and sigh and say “amen,”

FTLN 0767 Use all the observance of civility

FTLN 0768 Like one well studied in a sad ostent

FTLN 0769 To please his grandam, never trust me more. 200

FTLN 0770 BASSANIO Well, we shall see your bearing.
 GRATIANO
 FTLN 0771 Nay, but I bar tonight. You shall not gauge me
 FTLN 0772 By what we do tonight.
 FTLN 0773 BASSANIO No, that were pity.
 FTLN 0774 I would entreat you rather to put on 205
 FTLN 0775 Your boldest suit of mirth, for we have friends
 FTLN 0776 That purpose merriment. But fare you well.
 FTLN 0777 I have some business.
 GRATIANO
 FTLN 0778 And I must to Lorenzo and the rest.
 FTLN 0779 But we will visit you at supper time. 210

They exit.

「Scene 3」

Enter Jessica and 「Lancelet Gobbo.」

JESSICA
 FTLN 0780 I am sorry thou wilt leave my father so.
 FTLN 0781 Our house is hell and thou, a merry devil,
 FTLN 0782 Didst rob it of some taste of tediousness.
 FTLN 0783 But fare thee well. There is a ducat for thee,
 FTLN 0784 And, Lancelet, soon at supper shalt thou see 5
 FTLN 0785 Lorenzo, who is thy new master's guest.
 FTLN 0786 Give him this letter, do it secretly,
 FTLN 0787 And so farewell. I would not have my father
 FTLN 0788 See me in talk with thee.
 FTLN 0789 LANCELET Adieu. Tears exhibit my tongue, most beautiful 10
 FTLN 0790 pagan, most sweet Jew. If a Christian do not
 FTLN 0791 play the knave and get thee, I am much deceived.
 FTLN 0792 But adieu. These foolish drops do something drown
 FTLN 0793 my manly spirit. Adieu.
 FTLN 0794 JESSICA Farewell, good Lancelet. 15

「Lancelet exits.」

FTLN 0795 Alack, what heinous sin is it in me
 FTLN 0796 To be ashamed to be my father's child?
 FTLN 0797 But though I am a daughter to his blood,
 FTLN 0798 I am not to his manners. O Lorenzo,
 FTLN 0799 If thou keep promise, I shall end this strife, 20
 FTLN 0800 Become a Christian and thy loving wife.

She exits.

「Scene 4」

Enter Gratiano, Lorenzo, Salarino, and Solanio.

LORENZO

FTLN 0801 Nay, we will slink away in supper time,
 FTLN 0802 Disguise us at my lodging, and return
 FTLN 0803 All in an hour.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0804 We have not made good preparation.

SALARINO

FTLN 0805 We have not spoke us yet of torchbearers. 5

SOLANIO

FTLN 0806 'Tis vile, unless it may be quaintly ordered,
 FTLN 0807 And better in my mind not undertook.

LORENZO

FTLN 0808 'Tis now but four o'clock. We have two hours
 FTLN 0809 To furnish us.

Enter Lancelet.

FTLN 0810 Friend Lancelet, what's the news? 10

FTLN 0811 LANCELET An it shall please you to break up this, it
 FTLN 0812 shall seem to signify. 「*Handing him Jessica's letter.*」

LORENZO

FTLN 0813 I know the hand; in faith, 'tis a fair hand,
 FTLN 0814 And whiter than the paper it writ on
 FTLN 0815 Is the fair hand that writ. 15

FTLN 0816 GRATIANO Love news, in faith!

FTLN 0817 LANCELET By your leave, sir.

FTLN 0818 LORENZO Whither goest thou?

FTLN 0819 LANCELET Marry, sir, to bid my old master the Jew to
 FTLN 0820 sup tonight with my new master the Christian. 20

LORENZO

FTLN 0821 Hold here, take this. *〔Giving him money.〕* Tell gentle
 FTLN 0822 Jessica
 FTLN 0823 I will not fail her. Speak it privately.

〔Lancelet〕 exits.

FTLN 0824 Go, gentlemen,
 FTLN 0825 Will you prepare you for this masque tonight? 25
 FTLN 0826 I am provided of a torchbearer.

SALARINO

FTLN 0827 Ay, marry, I'll be gone about it straight.

SOLANIO

FTLN 0828 And so will I.

FTLN 0829 LORENZO Meet me and Gratiano
 FTLN 0830 At Gratiano's lodging some hour hence. 30
 FTLN 0831 SALARINO 'Tis good we do so.

〔Salarino and Solanio〕 exit.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0832 Was not that letter from fair Jessica?

LORENZO

FTLN 0833 I must needs tell thee all. She hath directed
 FTLN 0834 How I shall take her from her father's house,
 FTLN 0835 What gold and jewels she is furnished with, 35
 FTLN 0836 What page's suit she hath in readiness.
 FTLN 0837 If e'er the Jew her father come to heaven,
 FTLN 0838 It will be for his gentle daughter's sake;
 FTLN 0839 And never dare misfortune cross her foot
 FTLN 0840 Unless she do it under this excuse, 40
 FTLN 0841 That she is issue to a faithless Jew.
 FTLN 0842 Come, go with me. Peruse this as thou goest;
 style="text-align: right;">*〔Handing him the letter.〕*

FTLN 0843 Fair Jessica shall be my torchbearer.

〔They〕 exit.

[Scene 5]

*Enter [Shylock, the Jew, and [Lancelet,]
his man that was, the Clown.*

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0844 Well, thou shalt see, thy eyes shall be thy judge,
FTLN 0845 The difference of old Shylock and Bassanio.—
FTLN 0846 What, Jessica!—Thou shalt not gormandize
FTLN 0847 As thou hast done with me—what, Jessica!—
FTLN 0848 And sleep, and snore, and rend apparel out.— 5
FTLN 0849 Why, Jessica, I say!

FTLN 0850 LANCELET Why, Jessica!

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0851 Who bids thee call? I do not bid thee call.

FTLN 0852 LANCELET Your Worship was wont to tell me I could
FTLN 0853 do nothing without bidding. 10

Enter Jessica.

FTLN 0854 JESSICA Call you? What is your will?

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0855 I am bid forth to supper, Jessica.
FTLN 0856 There are my keys.—But wherefore should I go?
FTLN 0857 I am not bid for love. They flatter me.
FTLN 0858 But yet I'll go in hate, to feed upon 15
FTLN 0859 The prodigal Christian.—Jessica, my girl,
FTLN 0860 Look to my house.—I am right loath to go.
FTLN 0861 There is some ill a-brewing towards my rest,
FTLN 0862 For I did dream of money bags tonight.

FTLN 0863 LANCELET I beseech you, sir, go. My young master 20
FTLN 0864 doth expect your reproach.

FTLN 0865 SHYLOCK So do I his.

FTLN 0866 LANCELET And they have conspired together—I will
FTLN 0867 not say you shall see a masque, but if you do, then it
FTLN 0868 was not for nothing that my nose fell a-bleeding on 25
FTLN 0869 Black Monday last, at six o'clock i' th' morning,
FTLN 0870 falling out that year on Ash Wednesday was four
FTLN 0871 year in th' afternoon.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0872 What, are there masques? Hear you me, Jessica,
 FTLN 0873 Lock up my doors, and when you hear the drum 30
 FTLN 0874 And the vile squealing of the wry-necked fife,
 FTLN 0875 Clamber not you up to the casements then,
 FTLN 0876 Nor thrust your head into the public street
 FTLN 0877 To gaze on Christian fools with varnished faces,
 FTLN 0878 But stop my house's ears (I mean my casements). 35
 FTLN 0879 Let not the sound of shallow fopp'ry enter
 FTLN 0880 My sober house. By Jacob's staff I swear
 FTLN 0881 I have no mind of feasting forth tonight.
 FTLN 0882 But I will go.—Go you before me, sirrah.
 FTLN 0883 Say I will come. 40

FTLN 0884 LANCELET I will go before, sir. *「Aside to Jessica.」* Mistress,
 FTLN 0885 look out at window for all this.
 FTLN 0886 There will come a Christian by
 FTLN 0887 Will be worth a *「Jewess」* eye. *「He exits.」*

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0888 What says that fool of Hagar's offspring, ha? 45

JESSICA

FTLN 0889 His words were “Farewell, mistress,” nothing else.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 0890 The patch is kind enough, but a huge feeder,
 FTLN 0891 Snail-slow in profit, and he sleeps by day
 FTLN 0892 More than the wildcat. Drones hive not with me,
 FTLN 0893 Therefore I part with him, and part with him 50
 FTLN 0894 To one that I would have him help to waste
 FTLN 0895 His borrowed purse. Well, Jessica, go in.
 FTLN 0896 Perhaps I will return immediately.
 FTLN 0897 Do as I bid you. Shut doors after you.
 FTLN 0898 Fast bind, fast find— 55
 FTLN 0899 A proverb never stale in thrifty mind. *He exits.*

JESSICA

FTLN 0900 Farewell, and if my fortune be not crossed,
 FTLN 0901 I have a father, you a daughter, lost.

She exits.

[Scene 6]

Enter the masquers, Gratiano and Salarino.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0902 This is the penthouse under which Lorenzo
 FTLN 0903 Desired us to make stand.

FTLN 0904 SALARINO His hour is almost past.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0905 And it is marvel he outdwells his hour,
 FTLN 0906 For lovers ever run before the clock. 5

SALARINO

FTLN 0907 O, ten times faster Venus' pigeons fly
 FTLN 0908 To seal love's bonds new-made than they are wont
 FTLN 0909 To keep obligèd faith unforfeited.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0910 That ever holds. Who riseth from a feast
 FTLN 0911 With that keen appetite that he sits down? 10
 FTLN 0912 Where is the horse that doth untread again
 FTLN 0913 His tedious measures with the unbated fire
 FTLN 0914 That he did pace them first? All things that are,
 FTLN 0915 Are with more spirit chasèd than enjoyed.
 FTLN 0916 How like a younger or a prodigal 15
 FTLN 0917 The scarfèd bark puts from her native bay,
 FTLN 0918 Hugged and embracèd by the strumpet wind;
 FTLN 0919 How like the prodigal doth she return
 FTLN 0920 With overweathered ribs and raggèd sails,
 FTLN 0921 Lean, rent, and beggared by the strumpet wind! 20

Enter Lorenzo.

SALARINO

FTLN 0922 Here comes Lorenzo. More of this hereafter.

LORENZO

FTLN 0923 Sweet friends, your patience for my long abode.
 FTLN 0924 Not I but my affairs have made you wait.
 FTLN 0925 When you shall please to play the thieves for wives,
 FTLN 0926 I'll watch as long for you then. Approach. 25
 FTLN 0927 Here dwells my father Jew.—Ho! Who's within?

Enter Jessica above, dressed as a boy.

JESSICA

FTLN 0928 Who are you? Tell me for more certainty,
FTLN 0929 Albeit I'll swear that I do know your tongue.

FTLN 0930 LORENZO Lorenzo, and thy love.

JESSICA

FTLN 0931 Lorenzo certain, and my love indeed, 30
FTLN 0932 For who love I so much? And now who knows
FTLN 0933 But you, Lorenzo, whether I am yours?

LORENZO

FTLN 0934 Heaven and thy thoughts are witness that thou art.

JESSICA

FTLN 0935 Here, catch this casket; it is worth the pains.
FTLN 0936 I am glad 'tis night, you do not look on me, 35
FTLN 0937 For I am much ashamed of my exchange.
FTLN 0938 But love is blind, and lovers cannot see
FTLN 0939 The pretty follies that themselves commit,
FTLN 0940 For if they could, Cupid himself would blush
FTLN 0941 To see me thus transformèd to a boy. 40

LORENZO

FTLN 0942 Descend, for you must be my torchbearer.

JESSICA

FTLN 0943 What, must I hold a candle to my shames?
FTLN 0944 They in themselves, good sooth, are too too light.
FTLN 0945 Why, 'tis an office of discovery, love,
FTLN 0946 And I should be obscured. 45

LORENZO

FTLN 0947 So are you, sweet,
FTLN 0948 Even in the lovely garnish of a boy.
FTLN 0949 But come at once,
FTLN 0950 For the close night doth play the runaway,
FTLN 0951 And we are stayed for at Bassanio's feast. 50

JESSICA

FTLN 0952 I will make fast the doors and gild myself
FTLN 0953 With some more ducats, and be with you straight.

Jessica exits, above.

GRATIANO

FTLN 0954 Now, by my hood, a gentle and no Jew!

LORENZO

FTLN 0955 Beshrew me but I love her heartily,
 FTLN 0956 For she is wise, if I can judge of her, 55
 FTLN 0957 And fair she is, if that mine eyes be true,
 FTLN 0958 And true she is, as she hath proved herself.
 FTLN 0959 And therefore, like herself, wise, fair, and true,
 FTLN 0960 Shall she be placèd in my constant soul.

Enter Jessica, 「below」

FTLN 0961 What, art thou come? On, gentleman, away! 60
 FTLN 0962 Our masquing mates by this time for us stay.
「All but Gratiano」 exit.

Enter Antonio.

FTLN 0963 ANTONIO Who's there?
 FTLN 0964 GRATIANO Signior Antonio?
 ANTONIO
 FTLN 0965 Fie, fie, Gratiano, where are all the rest?
 FTLN 0966 'Tis nine o'clock! Our friends all stay for you. 65
 FTLN 0967 No masque tonight; the wind is come about;
 FTLN 0968 Bassanio presently will go aboard.
 FTLN 0969 I have sent twenty out to seek for you.
 GRATIANO
 FTLN 0970 I am glad on 't. I desire no more delight
 FTLN 0971 Than to be under sail and gone tonight. 70

They exit.

「Scene 7」

*Enter Portia with 「the Prince of」 Morocco and both
 their trains.*

PORTIA

FTLN 0972 Go, draw aside the curtains and discover

FTLN 0973	The several caskets to this noble prince.	
		<i>「A curtain is drawn.」</i>
FTLN 0974	Now make your choice.	
	MOROCCO	
FTLN 0975	This first, of gold, who this inscription bears,	
FTLN 0976	“Who chooseth me shall gain what many men	5
FTLN 0977	desire”;	
FTLN 0978	The second, silver, which this promise carries,	
FTLN 0979	“Who chooseth me shall get as much as he	
FTLN 0980	deserves”;	
FTLN 0981	This third, dull lead, with warning all as blunt,	10
FTLN 0982	“Who chooseth me must give and hazard all he	
FTLN 0983	hath.”	
FTLN 0984	How shall I know if I do choose the right?	
	PORTIA	
FTLN 0985	The one of them contains my picture, prince.	
FTLN 0986	If you choose that, then I am yours withal.	15
	MOROCCO	
FTLN 0987	Some god direct my judgment! Let me see.	
FTLN 0988	I will survey th’ inscriptions back again.	
FTLN 0989	What says this leaden casket?	
FTLN 0990	“Who chooseth me must give and hazard all he	
FTLN 0991	hath.”	20
FTLN 0992	Must give—for what? For lead? Hazard for lead?	
FTLN 0993	This casket threatens. Men that hazard all	
FTLN 0994	Do it in hope of fair advantages.	
FTLN 0995	A golden mind stoops not to shows of dross.	
FTLN 0996	I’ll then nor give nor hazard aught for lead.	25
FTLN 0997	What says the silver with her virgin hue?	
FTLN 0998	“Who chooseth me shall get as much as he	
FTLN 0999	deserves.”	
FTLN 1000	As much as he deserves—pause there, Morocco,	
FTLN 1001	And weigh thy value with an even hand.	30
FTLN 1002	If thou beest rated by thy estimation,	
FTLN 1003	Thou dost deserve enough; and yet enough	
FTLN 1004	May not extend so far as to the lady.	

FTLN 1005 And yet to be afeard of my deserving
 FTLN 1006 Were but a weak disabling of myself. 35
 FTLN 1007 As much as I deserve—why, that’s the lady!
 FTLN 1008 I do in birth deserve her, and in fortunes,
 FTLN 1009 In graces, and in qualities of breeding,
 FTLN 1010 But more than these, in love I do deserve.
 FTLN 1011 What if I strayed no farther, but chose here? 40
 FTLN 1012 Let’s see once more this saying graved in gold:
 FTLN 1013 “Who chooseth me shall gain what many men
 FTLN 1014 desire.”
 FTLN 1015 Why, that’s the lady! All the world desires her.
 FTLN 1016 From the four corners of the Earth they come 45
 FTLN 1017 To kiss this shrine, this mortal, breathing saint.
 FTLN 1018 The Hyrcanian deserts and the vasty wilds
 FTLN 1019 Of wide Arabia are as throughfares now
 FTLN 1020 For princes to come view fair Portia.
 FTLN 1021 The watery kingdom, whose ambitious head 50
 FTLN 1022 Spets in the face of heaven, is no bar
 FTLN 1023 To stop the foreign spirits, but they come
 FTLN 1024 As o’er a brook to see fair Portia.
 FTLN 1025 One of these three contains her heavenly picture.
 FTLN 1026 Is ’t like that lead contains her? ’Twere damnation 55
 FTLN 1027 To think so base a thought. It were too gross
 FTLN 1028 To rib her cerecloth in the obscure grave.
 FTLN 1029 Or shall I think in silver she’s immured,
 FTLN 1030 Being ten times undervalued to tried gold?
 FTLN 1031 O, sinful thought! Never so rich a gem 60
 FTLN 1032 Was set in worse than gold. They have in England
 FTLN 1033 A coin that bears the figure of an angel
 FTLN 1034 Stamped in gold, but that’s insculped upon;
 FTLN 1035 But here an angel in a golden bed
 FTLN 1036 Lies all within.—Deliver me the key. 65
 FTLN 1037 Here do I choose, and thrive I as I may.

PORTIA

FTLN 1038 There, take it, prince. *[Handing him the key.]* And if
 FTLN 1039 my form lie there,
 FTLN 1040 Then I am yours.

「*Morocco opens the gold casket.*」

FTLN 1041 MOROCCO O hell! What have we here? 70
 FTLN 1042 A carrion death within whose empty eye
 FTLN 1043 There is a written scroll. I'll read the writing:
 FTLN 1044 *All that glisters is not gold—*
 FTLN 1045 *Often have you heard that told.*
 FTLN 1046 *Many a man his life hath sold* 75
 FTLN 1047 *But my outside to behold.*
 FTLN 1048 *Gilded 「tombs」 do worms infold.*
 FTLN 1049 *Had you been as wise as bold,*
 FTLN 1050 *Young in limbs, in judgment old,*
 FTLN 1051 *Your answer had not been enscrolled.* 80
 FTLN 1052 *Fare you well, your suit is cold.*
 FTLN 1053 Cold indeed and labor lost!
 FTLN 1054 Then, farewell, heat, and welcome, frost.
 FTLN 1055 Portia, adieu. I have too grieved a heart
 FTLN 1056 To take a tedious leave. Thus losers part. 85
He exits, 「with his train.」

PORTIA

FTLN 1057 A gentle riddance! Draw the curtains, go.
 FTLN 1058 Let all of his complexion choose me so.

They exit.

「Scene 8」

Enter Salarino and Solanio.

SALARINO

FTLN 1059 Why, man, I saw Bassanio under sail;
 FTLN 1060 With him is Gratiano gone along;
 FTLN 1061 And in their ship I am sure Lorenzo is not.

SOLANIO

FTLN 1062 The villain Jew with outcries raised the Duke,
 FTLN 1063 Who went with him to search Bassanio's ship. 5

SALARINO

FTLN 1064 He came too late; the ship was under sail.

FTLN 1065	But there the Duke was given to understand	
FTLN 1066	That in a gondola were seen together	
FTLN 1067	Lorenzo and his amorous Jessica.	
FTLN 1068	Besides, Antonio certified the Duke	10
FTLN 1069	They were not with Bassanio in his ship.	
	SOLANIO	
FTLN 1070	I never heard a passion so confused,	
FTLN 1071	So strange, outrageous, and so variable	
FTLN 1072	As the dog Jew did utter in the streets.	
FTLN 1073	“My daughter, O my ducats, O my daughter!	15
FTLN 1074	Fled with a Christian! O my Christian ducats!	
FTLN 1075	Justice, the law, my ducats, and my daughter,	
FTLN 1076	A sealèd bag, two sealèd bags of ducats,	
FTLN 1077	Of double ducats, stol’n from me by my daughter,	
FTLN 1078	And jewels—two stones, two rich and precious	20
FTLN 1079	stones—	
FTLN 1080	Stol’n by my daughter! Justice! Find the girl!	
FTLN 1081	She hath the stones upon her, and the ducats.”	
	SALARINO	
FTLN 1082	Why, all the boys in Venice follow him,	
FTLN 1083	Crying “His stones, his daughter, and his ducats.”	25
	SOLANIO	
FTLN 1084	Let good Antonio look he keep his day,	
FTLN 1085	Or he shall pay for this.	
FTLN 1086	SALARINO Marry, well remembered.	
FTLN 1087	I reasoned with a Frenchman yesterday	
FTLN 1088	Who told me, in the Narrow Seas that part	30
FTLN 1089	The French and English, there miscarrièd	
FTLN 1090	A vessel of our country richly fraught.	
FTLN 1091	I thought upon Antonio when he told me,	
FTLN 1092	And wished in silence that it were not his.	
	SOLANIO	
FTLN 1093	You were best to tell Antonio what you hear—	35
FTLN 1094	Yet do not suddenly, for it may grieve him.	
	SALARINO	
FTLN 1095	A kinder gentleman treads not the Earth.	

FTLN 1096 I saw Bassanio and Antonio part.
 FTLN 1097 Bassanio told him he would make some speed
 FTLN 1098 Of his return. He answered “Do not so. 40
 FTLN 1099 「Slubber」 not business for my sake, Bassanio,
 FTLN 1100 But stay the very riping of the time;
 FTLN 1101 And for the Jew’s bond which he hath of me,
 FTLN 1102 Let it not enter in your mind of love.
 FTLN 1103 Be merry, and employ your chiefest thoughts 45
 FTLN 1104 To courtship and such fair ostents of love
 FTLN 1105 As shall conveniently become you there.”
 FTLN 1106 And even there, his eye being big with tears,
 FTLN 1107 Turning his face, he put his hand behind him,
 FTLN 1108 And with affection wondrous sensible 50
 FTLN 1109 He wrung Bassanio’s hand—and so they parted.

SOLANIO
 FTLN 1110 I think he only loves the world for him.
 FTLN 1111 I pray thee, let us go and find him out
 FTLN 1112 And quicken his embracèd heaviness
 FTLN 1113 With some delight or other. 55
 FTLN 1114 SALARINO Do we so.

They exit.

「Scene 9」

Enter Nerissa and a Servitor.

NERISSA
 FTLN 1115 Quick, quick, I pray thee, draw the curtain straight.
 FTLN 1116 The Prince of Arragon hath ta’en his oath
 FTLN 1117 And comes to his election presently.

Enter 「the Prince of」 Arragon, his train, and Portia.

PORTIA
 FTLN 1118 Behold, there stand the caskets, noble prince.
 FTLN 1119 If you choose that wherein I am contained, 5
 FTLN 1120 Straight shall our nuptial rites be solemnized.

FTLN 1121	But if you fail, without more speech, my lord,	
FTLN 1122	You must be gone from hence immediately.	
	ARRAGON	
FTLN 1123	I am enjoined by oath to observe three things:	
FTLN 1124	First, never to unfold to anyone	10
FTLN 1125	Which casket 'twas I chose; next, if I fail	
FTLN 1126	Of the right casket, never in my life	
FTLN 1127	To woo a maid in way of marriage;	
FTLN 1128	Lastly, if I do fail in fortune of my choice,	
FTLN 1129	Immediately to leave you, and be gone.	15
	PORTIA	
FTLN 1130	To these injunctions everyone doth swear	
FTLN 1131	That comes to hazard for my worthless self.	
	ARRAGON	
FTLN 1132	And so have I addressed me. Fortune now	
FTLN 1133	To my heart's hope! Gold, silver, and base lead.	
FTLN 1134	“Who chooseth me must give and hazard all he	20
FTLN 1135	hath.”	
FTLN 1136	You shall look fairer ere I give or hazard.	
FTLN 1137	What says the golden chest? Ha, let me see:	
FTLN 1138	“Who chooseth me shall gain what many men	
FTLN 1139	desire.”	25
FTLN 1140	What many men desire—that “many” may be	
FTLN 1141	meant	
FTLN 1142	By the fool multitude that choose by show,	
FTLN 1143	Not learning more than the fond eye doth teach,	
FTLN 1144	Which pries not to th' interior, but like the martlet	30
FTLN 1145	Builds in the weather on the outward wall,	
FTLN 1146	Even in the force and road of casualty.	
FTLN 1147	I will not choose what many men desire,	
FTLN 1148	Because I will not jump with common spirits	
FTLN 1149	And rank me with the barbarous multitudes.	35
FTLN 1150	Why, then, to thee, thou silver treasure house.	
FTLN 1151	Tell me once more what title thou dost bear.	
FTLN 1152	“Who chooseth me shall get as much as he	
FTLN 1153	deserves.”	

FTLN 1154	And well said, too; for who shall go about	40
FTLN 1155	To cozen fortune and be honorable	
FTLN 1156	Without the stamp of merit? Let none presume	
FTLN 1157	To wear an undeservèd dignity.	
FTLN 1158	O, that estates, degrees, and offices	
FTLN 1159	Were not derived corruptly, and that clear honor	45
FTLN 1160	Were purchased by the merit of the wearer!	
FTLN 1161	How many then should cover that stand bare?	
FTLN 1162	How many be commanded that command?	
FTLN 1163	How much low peasantry would then be gleaned	
FTLN 1164	From the true seed of honor? And how much honor	50
FTLN 1165	Picked from the chaff and ruin of the times,	
FTLN 1166	To be new varnished? Well, but to my choice.	
FTLN 1167	“Who chooseth me shall get as much as he	
FTLN 1168	deserves.”	
FTLN 1169	I will assume desert. Give me a key for this,	55
	<i>「He is given a key.」</i>	
FTLN 1170	And instantly unlock my fortunes here.	
	<i>「He opens the silver casket.」</i>	
PORTIA		
FTLN 1171	Too long a pause for that which you find there.	
ARRAGON		
FTLN 1172	What’s here? The portrait of a blinking idiot	
FTLN 1173	Presenting me a schedule! I will read it.—	
FTLN 1174	How much unlike art thou to Portia!	60
FTLN 1175	How much unlike my hopes and my deservings.	
FTLN 1176	“Who chooseth me shall have as much as he	
FTLN 1177	deserves”?	
FTLN 1178	Did I deserve no more than a fool’s head?	
FTLN 1179	Is that my prize? Are my deserts no better?	65
PORTIA		
FTLN 1180	To offend and judge are distinct offices	
FTLN 1181	And of opposèd natures.	
FTLN 1182	ARRAGON	What is here?
	<i>「He reads.」</i>	

「Scene 1」

「Enter」 *Solanio and Salarino.*

FTLN 1224 SOLANIO Now, what news on the Rialto?
FTLN 1225 SALARINO Why, yet it lives there unchecked that Antonio
FTLN 1226 hath a ship of rich lading wracked on the
FTLN 1227 Narrow Seas—the Goodwins, I think they call the
FTLN 1228 place—a very dangerous flat, and fatal, where the 5
FTLN 1229 carcasses of many a tall ship lie buried, as they say,
FTLN 1230 if my gossip Report be an honest woman of her
FTLN 1231 word.
FTLN 1232 SOLANIO I would she were as lying a gossip in that as
FTLN 1233 ever knapped ginger or made her neighbors believe 10
FTLN 1234 she wept for the death of a third husband. But
FTLN 1235 it is true, without any slips of prolixity or crossing
FTLN 1236 the plain highway of talk, that the good Antonio,
FTLN 1237 the honest Antonio—O, that I had a title good
FTLN 1238 enough to keep his name company!— 15
FTLN 1239 SALARINO Come, the full stop.
FTLN 1240 SOLANIO Ha, what sayest thou? Why, the end is, he
FTLN 1241 hath lost a ship.
FTLN 1242 SALARINO I would it might prove the end of his losses.
FTLN 1243 SOLANIO Let me say “amen” betimes, lest the devil 20
FTLN 1244 cross my prayer, for here he comes in the likeness
FTLN 1245 of a Jew.

Enter Shylock.

FTLN 1246 How now, Shylock, what news among the
FTLN 1247 merchants?

FTLN 1248 SHYLOCK You knew, none so well, none so well as you, 25
FTLN 1249 of my daughter's flight.

FTLN 1250 SALARINO That's certain. I for my part knew the tailor
FTLN 1251 that made the wings she flew withal.

FTLN 1252 SOLANIO And Shylock for his own part knew the bird
FTLN 1253 was fledge, and then it is the complexion of them 30
FTLN 1254 all to leave the dam.

FTLN 1255 SHYLOCK She is damned for it.

FTLN 1256 SALARINO That's certain, if the devil may be her judge.

FTLN 1257 SHYLOCK My own flesh and blood to rebel!

FTLN 1258 SOLANIO Out upon it, old carrion! Rebels it at these 35
FTLN 1259 years?

FTLN 1260 SHYLOCK I say my daughter is my flesh and my blood.

FTLN 1261 SALARINO There is more difference between thy flesh
FTLN 1262 and hers than between jet and ivory, more between
FTLN 1263 your bloods than there is between red wine and 40
FTLN 1264 Rhenish. But tell us, do you hear whether Antonio
FTLN 1265 have had any loss at sea or no?

FTLN 1266 SHYLOCK There I have another bad match! A bankrout,
FTLN 1267 a prodigal, who dare scarce show his head on
FTLN 1268 the Rialto, a beggar that was used to come so smug 45
FTLN 1269 upon the mart! Let him look to his bond. He was
FTLN 1270 wont to call me usurer; let him look to his bond. He
FTLN 1271 was wont to lend money for a Christian cur'sy; let
FTLN 1272 him look to his bond.

FTLN 1273 SALARINO Why, I am sure if he forfeit, thou wilt not 50
FTLN 1274 take his flesh! What's that good for?

FTLN 1275 SHYLOCK To bait fish withal; if it will feed nothing else,
FTLN 1276 it will feed my revenge. He hath disgraced me and
FTLN 1277 hindered me half a million, laughed at my losses,
FTLN 1278 mocked at my gains, scorned my nation, thwarted 55
FTLN 1279 my bargains, cooled my friends, heated mine enemies—
FTLN 1280 and what's his reason? I am a Jew. Hath not
FTLN 1281 a Jew eyes? Hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions,

FTLN 1282 senses, affections, passions? Fed with the
 FTLN 1283 same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to 60
 FTLN 1284 the same diseases, healed by the same means,
 FTLN 1285 warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer
 FTLN 1286 as a Christian is? If you prick us, do we not
 FTLN 1287 bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you
 FTLN 1288 poison us, do we not die? And if you wrong us, shall 65
 FTLN 1289 we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will
 FTLN 1290 resemble you in that. If a Jew wrong a Christian,
 FTLN 1291 what is his humility? Revenge. If a Christian wrong
 FTLN 1292 a Jew, what should his sufferance be by Christian
 FTLN 1293 example? Why, revenge! The villainy you teach me I 70
 FTLN 1294 will execute, and it shall go hard but I will better the
 FTLN 1295 instruction.

Enter a man from Antonio.

FTLN 1296 「SERVINGMAN」 Gentlemen, my master Antonio is at his
 FTLN 1297 house and desires to speak with you both.
 FTLN 1298 SALARINO We have been up and down to seek him. 75

Enter Tubal.

FTLN 1299 SOLANIO Here comes another of the tribe; a third
 FTLN 1300 cannot be matched unless the devil himself turn
 FTLN 1301 Jew.
 「Salarino, Solanio, and the Servingman」 *exit.*
 FTLN 1302 SHYLOCK How now, Tubal, what news from Genoa?
 FTLN 1303 Hast thou found my daughter? 80
 FTLN 1304 TUBAL I often came where I did hear of her, but
 FTLN 1305 cannot find her.
 FTLN 1306 SHYLOCK Why, there, there, there, there! A diamond
 FTLN 1307 gone cost me two thousand ducats in Frankfurt!
 FTLN 1308 The curse never fell upon our nation till now, I 85
 FTLN 1309 never felt it till now. Two thousand ducats in that,
 FTLN 1310 and other precious, precious jewels! I would my
 FTLN 1311 daughter were dead at my foot and the jewels in her
 FTLN 1312 ear; would she were hearsed at my foot and the

FTLN 1313	ducats in her coffin. No news of them? Why so? And	90
FTLN 1314	I know not what's spent in the search! Why, thou	
FTLN 1315	loss upon loss! The thief gone with so much, and so	
FTLN 1316	much to find the thief, and no satisfaction, no	
FTLN 1317	revenge, nor no ill luck stirring but what lights a' my	
FTLN 1318	shoulders, no sighs but a' my breathing, no tears but	95
FTLN 1319	a' my shedding.	
FTLN 1320	TUBAL Yes, other men have ill luck, too. Antonio, as I	
FTLN 1321	heard in Genoa—	
FTLN 1322	SHYLOCK What, what, what? Ill luck, ill luck?	
FTLN 1323	TUBAL —hath an argosy cast away coming from	100
FTLN 1324	Tripolis.	
FTLN 1325	SHYLOCK I thank God, I thank God! Is it true, is it true?	
FTLN 1326	TUBAL I spoke with some of the sailors that escaped	
FTLN 1327	the wrack.	
FTLN 1328	SHYLOCK I thank thee, good Tubal. Good news, good	105
FTLN 1329	news! Ha, ha, 「heard」 in Genoa—	
FTLN 1330	TUBAL Your daughter spent in Genoa, as I heard, one	
FTLN 1331	night fourscore ducats.	
FTLN 1332	SHYLOCK Thou stick'st a dagger in me. I shall never	
FTLN 1333	see my gold again. Fourscore ducats at a sitting,	110
FTLN 1334	fourscore ducats!	
FTLN 1335	TUBAL There came divers of Antonio's creditors in my	
FTLN 1336	company to Venice that swear he cannot choose	
FTLN 1337	but break.	
FTLN 1338	SHYLOCK I am very glad of it. I'll plague him, I'll	115
FTLN 1339	torture him. I am glad of it.	
FTLN 1340	TUBAL One of them showed me a ring that he had of	
FTLN 1341	your daughter for a monkey.	
FTLN 1342	SHYLOCK Out upon her! Thou torturest me, Tubal. It	
FTLN 1343	was my 「turquoise!」 I had it of Leah when I was a	120
FTLN 1344	bachelor. I would not have given it for a wilderness	
FTLN 1345	of monkeys.	
FTLN 1346	TUBAL But Antonio is certainly undone.	
FTLN 1347	SHYLOCK Nay, that's true, that's very true. Go, Tubal,	
FTLN 1348	fee me an officer. Bespeak him a fortnight before. I	125

FTLN 1349 will have the heart of him if he forfeit, for were he
 FTLN 1350 out of Venice I can make what merchandise I will.
 FTLN 1351 Go, Tubal, and meet me at our synagogue. Go, good
 FTLN 1352 Tubal, at our synagogue, Tubal.

They exit.

「Scene 2」

*Enter Bassanio, Portia, and all their trains, Gratiano,
 「Nerissa.」*

PORTIA

FTLN 1353 I pray you tarry, pause a day or two
 FTLN 1354 Before you hazard, for in choosing wrong
 FTLN 1355 I lose your company; therefore forbear a while.
 FTLN 1356 There's something tells me (but it is not love)
 FTLN 1357 I would not lose you, and you know yourself 5
 FTLN 1358 Hate counsels not in such a quality.
 FTLN 1359 But lest you should not understand me well
 FTLN 1360 (And yet a maiden hath no tongue but thought)
 FTLN 1361 I would detain you here some month or two
 FTLN 1362 Before you venture for me. I could teach you 10
 FTLN 1363 How to choose right, but then I am forsworn.
 FTLN 1364 So will I never be. So may you miss me.
 FTLN 1365 But if you do, you'll make me wish a sin,
 FTLN 1366 That I had been forsworn. Beshrew your eyes,
 FTLN 1367 They have o'erlooked me and divided me. 15
 FTLN 1368 One half of me is yours, the other half yours—
 FTLN 1369 Mine own, I would say—but if mine, then yours,
 FTLN 1370 And so all yours. O, these naughty times
 FTLN 1371 Puts bars between the owners and their rights!
 FTLN 1372 And so though yours, not yours. Prove it so, 20
 FTLN 1373 Let Fortune go to hell for it, not I.
 FTLN 1374 I speak too long, but 'tis to peize the time,
 FTLN 1375 To eche it, and to draw it out in length,
 FTLN 1376 To stay you from election.

FTLN 1377	BASSANIO	Let me choose,	25
FTLN 1378		For as I am, I live upon the rack.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1379		Upon the rack, Bassanio? Then confess	
FTLN 1380		What treason there is mingled with your love.	
	BASSANIO		
FTLN 1381		None but that ugly treason of mistrust,	
FTLN 1382		Which makes me fear th' enjoying of my love.	30
FTLN 1383		There may as well be amity and life	
FTLN 1384		'Tween snow and fire, as treason and my love.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1385		Ay, but I fear you speak upon the rack	
FTLN 1386		Where men enforcèd do speak anything.	
	BASSANIO		
FTLN 1387		Promise me life and I'll confess the truth.	35
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1388		Well, then, confess and live.	
FTLN 1389	BASSANIO	“Confess and love”	
FTLN 1390		Had been the very sum of my confession.	
FTLN 1391		O happy torment, when my torturer	
FTLN 1392		Doth teach me answers for deliverance!	40
FTLN 1393		But let me to my fortune and the caskets.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1394		Away, then. I am locked in one of them.	
FTLN 1395		If you do love me, you will find me out.—	
FTLN 1396		Nerissa and the rest, stand all aloof.	
FTLN 1397		Let music sound while he doth make his choice.	45
FTLN 1398		Then if he lose he makes a swanlike end,	
FTLN 1399		Fading in music. That the comparison	
FTLN 1400		May stand more proper, my eye shall be the stream	
FTLN 1401		And wat'ry deathbed for him. He may win,	
FTLN 1402		And what is music then? Then music is	50
FTLN 1403		Even as the flourish when true subjects bow	
FTLN 1404		To a new-crownèd monarch. Such it is	
FTLN 1405		As are those dulcet sounds in break of day	
FTLN 1406		That creep into the dreaming bridegroom's ear	
FTLN 1407		And summon him to marriage. Now he goes,	55

FTLN 1408 With no less presence but with much more love
 FTLN 1409 Than young Alcides when he did redeem
 FTLN 1410 The virgin tribute paid by howling Troy
 FTLN 1411 To the sea-monster. I stand for sacrifice;
 FTLN 1412 The rest aloof are the Dardanian wives, 60
 FTLN 1413 With blearèd visages, come forth to view
 FTLN 1414 The issue of th' exploit. Go, Hercules!
 FTLN 1415 Live thou, I live. With much much more dismay
 FTLN 1416 I view the fight than thou that mak'st the fray.

*A song the whilst Bassanio comments on
the caskets to himself.*

FTLN 1417 *Tell me where is fancy bred, 65*
 FTLN 1418 *Or in the heart, or in the head?*
 FTLN 1419 *How begot, how nourishèd?*
 FTLN 1420 *Reply, reply.*
 FTLN 1421 *It is engendered in the eye,*
 FTLN 1422 *With gazing fed, and fancy dies 70*
 FTLN 1423 *In the cradle where it lies.*
 FTLN 1424 *Let us all ring fancy's knell.*
 FTLN 1425 *I'll begin it.—Ding, dong, bell.*
 FTLN 1426 ALL *Ding, dong, bell.*

BASSANIO

FTLN 1427 So may the outward shows be least themselves; 75
 FTLN 1428 The world is still deceived with ornament.
 FTLN 1429 In law, what plea so tainted and corrupt
 FTLN 1430 But, being seasoned with a gracious voice,
 FTLN 1431 Obscures the show of evil? In religion,
 FTLN 1432 What damnèd error but some sober brow 80
 FTLN 1433 Will bless it and approve it with a text,
 FTLN 1434 Hiding the grossness with fair ornament?
 FTLN 1435 There is no ¹vice so simple but assumes
 FTLN 1436 Some mark of virtue on his outward parts.
 FTLN 1437 How many cowards whose hearts are all as false 85
 FTLN 1438 As ¹stairs of sand, wear yet upon their chins
 FTLN 1439 The beards of Hercules and frowning Mars,

FTLN 1440 Who inward searched have livers white as milk,
 FTLN 1441 And these assume but valor's excrement
 FTLN 1442 To render them redoubted. Look on beauty, 90
 FTLN 1443 And you shall see 'tis purchased by the weight,
 FTLN 1444 Which therein works a miracle in nature,
 FTLN 1445 Making them lightest that wear most of it.
 FTLN 1446 So are those crispèd snaky golden locks,
 FTLN 1447 Which maketh such wanton gambols with the wind 95
 FTLN 1448 Upon supposed fairness, often known
 FTLN 1449 To be the dowry of a second head,
 FTLN 1450 The skull that bred them in the sepulcher.
 FTLN 1451 Thus ornament is but the guilèd shore
 FTLN 1452 To a most dangerous sea, the beauteous scarf 100
 FTLN 1453 Veiling an Indian beauty; in a word,
 FTLN 1454 The seeming truth which cunning times put on
 FTLN 1455 To entrap the wisest. Therefore, then, thou gaudy
 FTLN 1456 gold,
 FTLN 1457 Hard food for Midas, I will none of thee. 105
 FTLN 1458 Nor none of thee, thou pale and common drudge
 FTLN 1459 'Tween man and man. But thou, thou meager lead,
 FTLN 1460 Which rather threaten'st than dost promise aught,
 FTLN 1461 Thy paleness moves me more than eloquence,
 FTLN 1462 And here choose I. Joy be the consequence! 110

[*Bassanio is given a key.*]

PORTIA, [*aside*]

FTLN 1463 How all the other passions fleet to air,
 FTLN 1464 As doubtful thoughts and rash embraced despair,
 FTLN 1465 And shudd'ring fear, and green-eyed jealousy!
 FTLN 1466 O love, be moderate, allay thy ecstasy,
 FTLN 1467 In measure rain thy joy, scant this excess! 115
 FTLN 1468 I feel too much thy blessing. Make it less,
 FTLN 1469 For fear I surfeit.

[*Bassanio opens the lead casket.*]

FTLN 1470 BASSANIO What find I here?
 FTLN 1471 Fair Portia's counterfeit! What demigod
 FTLN 1472 Hath come so near creation? Move these eyes? 120

FTLN 1473	Or whether, riding on the balls of mine,	
FTLN 1474	Seem they in motion? Here are severed lips	
FTLN 1475	Parted with sugar breath; so sweet a bar	
FTLN 1476	Should sunder such sweet friends. Here in her hairs	
FTLN 1477	The painter plays the spider, and hath woven	125
FTLN 1478	A golden mesh t' entrap the hearts of men	
FTLN 1479	Faster than gnats in cobwebs. But her eyes!	
FTLN 1480	How could he see to do them? Having made one,	
FTLN 1481	Methinks it should have power to steal both his	
FTLN 1482	And leave itself unfurnished. Yet look how far	130
FTLN 1483	The substance of my praise doth wrong this shadow	
FTLN 1484	In underprizing it, so far this shadow	
FTLN 1485	Doth limp behind the substance. Here's the scroll,	
FTLN 1486	The continent and summary of my fortune.	
	<i>['He reads the scroll.']</i>	
FTLN 1487	<i>You that choose not by the view</i>	135
FTLN 1488	<i>Chance as fair and choose as true.</i>	
FTLN 1489	<i>Since this fortune falls to you,</i>	
FTLN 1490	<i>Be content and seek no new.</i>	
FTLN 1491	<i>If you be well pleased with this</i>	
FTLN 1492	<i>And hold your fortune for your bliss,</i>	140
FTLN 1493	<i>Turn you where your lady is,</i>	
FTLN 1494	<i>And claim her with a loving kiss.</i>	
FTLN 1495	A gentle scroll! Fair lady, by your leave,	
FTLN 1496	I come by note to give and to receive.	
FTLN 1497	Like one of two contending in a prize	145
FTLN 1498	That thinks he hath done well in people's eyes,	
FTLN 1499	Hearing applause and universal shout,	
FTLN 1500	Giddy in spirit, still gazing in a doubt	
FTLN 1501	Whether those peals of praise be his or no,	
FTLN 1502	So, thrice-fair lady, stand I even so,	150
FTLN 1503	As doubtful whether what I see be true,	
FTLN 1504	Until confirmed, signed, ratified by you.	
	PORTIA	
FTLN 1505	You see me, Lord Bassanio, where I stand,	
FTLN 1506	Such as I am. Though for myself alone	

FTLN 1507	I would not be ambitious in my wish	155
FTLN 1508	To wish myself much better, yet for you	
FTLN 1509	I would be trebled twenty times myself,	
FTLN 1510	A thousand times more fair, ten thousand times	
FTLN 1511	More rich, that only to stand high in your account	
FTLN 1512	I might in virtues, beauties, livings, friends,	160
FTLN 1513	Exceed account. But the full sum of me	
FTLN 1514	Is sum of something, which, to term in gross,	
FTLN 1515	Is an unlessoned girl, unschooled, unpracticed;	
FTLN 1516	Happy in this, she is not yet so old	
FTLN 1517	But she may learn; happier than this,	165
FTLN 1518	She is not bred so dull but she can learn;	
FTLN 1519	Happiest of all, is that her gentle spirit	
FTLN 1520	Commits itself to yours to be directed	
FTLN 1521	As from her lord, her governor, her king.	
FTLN 1522	Myself, and what is mine, to you and yours	170
FTLN 1523	Is now converted. But now I was the lord	
FTLN 1524	Of this fair mansion, master of my servants,	
FTLN 1525	Queen o'er myself; and even now, but now,	
FTLN 1526	This house, these servants, and this same myself	
FTLN 1527	Are yours, my lord's. I give them with this ring,	175
	<i>Handing him a ring.</i>	
FTLN 1528	Which, when you part from, lose, or give away,	
FTLN 1529	Let it presage the ruin of your love,	
FTLN 1530	And be my vantage to exclaim on you.	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 1531	Madam, you have bereft me of all words.	
FTLN 1532	Only my blood speaks to you in my veins,	180
FTLN 1533	And there is such confusion in my powers	
FTLN 1534	As after some oration fairly spoke	
FTLN 1535	By a belovèd prince there doth appear	
FTLN 1536	Among the buzzing pleasèd multitude,	
FTLN 1537	Where every something being blent together	185
FTLN 1538	Turns to a wild of nothing, save of joy	
FTLN 1539	Expressed and not expressed. But when this ring	
FTLN 1540	Parts from this finger, then parts life from hence.	
FTLN 1541	O, then be bold to say Bassanio's dead!	

NERISSA

FTLN 1542 My lord and lady, it is now our time, 190
 FTLN 1543 That have stood by and seen our wishes prosper,
 FTLN 1544 To cry "Good joy, good joy, my lord and lady!"

GRATIANO

FTLN 1545 My Lord Bassanio, and my gentle lady,
 FTLN 1546 I wish you all the joy that you can wish,
 FTLN 1547 For I am sure you can wish none from me. 195
 FTLN 1548 And when your honors mean to solemnize
 FTLN 1549 The bargain of your faith, I do beseech you
 FTLN 1550 Even at that time I may be married too.

BASSANIO

FTLN 1551 With all my heart, so thou canst get a wife.

GRATIANO

FTLN 1552 I thank your Lordship, you have got me one. 200
 FTLN 1553 My eyes, my lord, can look as swift as yours:
 FTLN 1554 You saw the mistress, I beheld the maid.
 FTLN 1555 You loved, I loved; for intermission
 FTLN 1556 No more pertains to me, my lord, than you.
 FTLN 1557 Your fortune stood upon the caskets there, 205
 FTLN 1558 And so did mine, too, as the matter falls.
 FTLN 1559 For wooing here until I sweat again,
 FTLN 1560 And swearing till my very roof was dry
 FTLN 1561 With oaths of love, at last (if promise last)
 FTLN 1562 I got a promise of this fair one here 210
 FTLN 1563 To have her love, provided that your fortune
 FTLN 1564 Achieved her mistress.

FTLN 1565 PORTIA Is this true, Nerissa?

NERISSA

FTLN 1566 Madam, it is, so you stand pleased withal.

BASSANIO

FTLN 1567 And do you, Gratiano, mean good faith? 215

FTLN 1568 GRATIANO Yes, faith, my lord.

BASSANIO

FTLN 1569 Our feast shall be much honored in your marriage.

FTLN 1570 GRATIANO We'll play with them the first boy for a
 FTLN 1571 thousand ducats.

FTLN 1572 NERISSA What, and stake down? 220
 FTLN 1573 GRATIANO No, we shall ne'er win at that sport and
 FTLN 1574 stake down.

*Enter Lorenzo, Jessica, and Salerio, a messenger
 from Venice.*

FTLN 1575 But who comes here? Lorenzo and his infidel?
 FTLN 1576 What, and my old Venetian friend Salerio?

BASSANIO

FTLN 1577 Lorenzo and Salerio, welcome hither— 225
 FTLN 1578 If that the youth of my new int'rest here
 FTLN 1579 Have power to bid you welcome. *['To Portia.']* By
 FTLN 1580 your leave,
 FTLN 1581 I bid my very friends and countrymen,
 FTLN 1582 Sweet Portia, welcome. 230

PORTIA

FTLN 1583 So do I, my lord. They are entirely welcome.

LORENZO, *['to Bassanio']*

FTLN 1584 I thank your Honor. For my part, my lord,
 FTLN 1585 My purpose was not to have seen you here,
 FTLN 1586 But meeting with Salerio by the way,
 FTLN 1587 He did entreat me past all saying nay 235
 FTLN 1588 To come with him along.

FTLN 1589 SALERIO I did, my lord,
 FTLN 1590 And I have reason for it. *['Handing him a paper.']*
 FTLN 1591 Signior Antonio
 FTLN 1592 Commends him to you. 240

FTLN 1593 BASSANIO Ere I ope his letter,
 FTLN 1594 I pray you tell me how my good friend doth.

SALERIO

FTLN 1595 Not sick, my lord, unless it be in mind,
 FTLN 1596 Nor well, unless in mind. His letter there
 FTLN 1597 Will show you his estate. 245

['Bassanio'] opens the letter.

GRATIANO

FTLN 1598 Nerissa, cheer yond stranger, bid her welcome.—
 FTLN 1599 Your hand, Salerio. What's the news from Venice?

FTLN 1600	How doth that royal merchant, good Antonio?	
FTLN 1601	I know he will be glad of our success.	
FTLN 1602	We are the Jasons, we have won the Fleece.	250
	SALERIO	
FTLN 1603	I would you had won the fleece that he hath lost.	
	PORTIA	
FTLN 1604	There are some shrewd contents in yond same	
FTLN 1605	paper	
FTLN 1606	That steals the color from Bassanio's cheek.	
FTLN 1607	Some dear friend dead, else nothing in the world	255
FTLN 1608	Could turn so much the constitution	
FTLN 1609	Of any constant man. What, worse and worse?—	
FTLN 1610	With leave, Bassanio, I am half yourself,	
FTLN 1611	And I must freely have the half of anything	
FTLN 1612	That this same paper brings you.	260
FTLN 1613	BASSANIO	O sweet Portia,
FTLN 1614	Here are a few of the unpleasant'st words	
FTLN 1615	That ever blotted paper. Gentle lady,	
FTLN 1616	When I did first impart my love to you,	
FTLN 1617	I freely told you all the wealth I had	265
FTLN 1618	Ran in my veins: I was a gentleman.	
FTLN 1619	And then I told you true; and yet, dear lady,	
FTLN 1620	Rating myself at nothing, you shall see	
FTLN 1621	How much I was a braggart. When I told you	
FTLN 1622	My state was nothing, I should then have told you	270
FTLN 1623	That I was worse than nothing; for indeed	
FTLN 1624	I have engaged myself to a dear friend,	
FTLN 1625	Engaged my friend to his mere enemy	
FTLN 1626	To feed my means. Here is a letter, lady,	
FTLN 1627	The paper as the body of my friend,	275
FTLN 1628	And every word in it a gaping wound	
FTLN 1629	Issuing life blood.—But is it true, Salerio?	
FTLN 1630	Hath all his ventures failed? What, not one hit?	
FTLN 1631	From Tripolis, from Mexico and England,	
FTLN 1632	From Lisbon, Barbary, and India,	280
FTLN 1633	And not one vessel 'scape the dreadful touch	
FTLN 1634	Of merchant-marring rocks?	

FTLN 1635	SALERIO	Not one, my lord.	
FTLN 1636		Besides, it should appear that if he had	
FTLN 1637		The present money to discharge the Jew,	285
FTLN 1638		He would not take it. Never did I know	
FTLN 1639		A creature that did bear the shape of man	
FTLN 1640		So keen and greedy to confound a man.	
FTLN 1641		He plies the Duke at morning and at night,	
FTLN 1642		And doth impeach the freedom of the state	290
FTLN 1643		If they deny him justice. Twenty merchants,	
FTLN 1644		The Duke himself, and the magnificoes	
FTLN 1645		Of greatest port have all persuaded with him,	
FTLN 1646		But none can drive him from the envious plea	
FTLN 1647		Of forfeiture, of justice, and his bond.	295
	JESSICA		
FTLN 1648		When I was with him, I have heard him swear	
FTLN 1649		To Tubal and to Chus, his countrymen,	
FTLN 1650		That he would rather have Antonio's flesh	
FTLN 1651		Than twenty times the value of the sum	
FTLN 1652		That he did owe him. And I know, my lord,	300
FTLN 1653		If law, authority, and power deny not,	
FTLN 1654		It will go hard with poor Antonio.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1655		Is it your dear friend that is thus in trouble?	
	BASSANIO		
FTLN 1656		The dearest friend to me, the kindest man,	
FTLN 1657		The best conditioned and unwearied spirit	305
FTLN 1658		In doing courtesies, and one in whom	
FTLN 1659		The ancient Roman honor more appears	
FTLN 1660		Than any that draws breath in Italy.	
FTLN 1661	PORTIA	What sum owes he the Jew?	
	BASSANIO		
FTLN 1662		For me, three thousand ducats.	310
FTLN 1663	PORTIA	What, no more?	
FTLN 1664		Pay him six thousand and deface the bond.	
FTLN 1665		Double six thousand and then treble that,	
FTLN 1666		Before a friend of this description	
FTLN 1667		Shall lose a hair through Bassanio's fault.	315

FTLN 1668 First go with me to church and call me wife,
 FTLN 1669 And then away to Venice to your friend!
 FTLN 1670 For never shall you lie by Portia's side
 FTLN 1671 With an unquiet soul. You shall have gold
 FTLN 1672 To pay the petty debt twenty times over. 320
 FTLN 1673 When it is paid, bring your true friend along.
 FTLN 1674 My maid Nerissa and myself meantime
 FTLN 1675 Will live as maids and widows. Come, away,
 FTLN 1676 For you shall hence upon your wedding day.
 FTLN 1677 Bid your friends welcome, show a merry cheer; 325
 FTLN 1678 Since you are dear bought, I will love you dear.
 FTLN 1679 But let me hear the letter of your friend.

〔BASSANIO reads〕

FTLN 1680 *Sweet Bassanio, my ships have all miscarried, my*
 FTLN 1681 *creditors grow cruel, my estate is very low, my bond to*
 FTLN 1682 *the Jew is forfeit, and since in paying it, it is impossible* 330
 FTLN 1683 *I should live, all debts are cleared between you and I if*
 FTLN 1684 *I might but see you at my death. Notwithstanding, use*
 FTLN 1685 *your pleasure. If your love do not persuade you to*
 FTLN 1686 *come, let not my letter.*

PORTIA

FTLN 1687 O love, dispatch all business and begone! 335

BASSANIO

FTLN 1688 Since I have your good leave to go away,
 FTLN 1689 I will make haste. But till I come again,
 FTLN 1690 No bed shall e'er be guilty of my stay,
 FTLN 1691 Nor rest be interposer 'twixt us twain.

They exit.

〔Scene 3〕

*Enter 〔Shylock,〕 the Jew, and 〔Solanio,〕 and Antonio,
 and the Jailer.*

SHYLOCK

FTLN 1692 Jailer, look to him. Tell not me of mercy.

FTLN 1693	This is the fool that lent out money gratis.	
FTLN 1694	Jailer, look to him.	
FTLN 1695	ANTONIO Hear me yet, good Shylock—	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1696	I'll have my bond. Speak not against my bond.	5
FTLN 1697	I have sworn an oath that I will have my bond.	
FTLN 1698	Thou call'dst me dog before thou hadst a cause,	
FTLN 1699	But since I am a dog, beware my fangs.	
FTLN 1700	The Duke shall grant me justice.—I do wonder,	
FTLN 1701	Thou naughty jailer, that thou art so fond	10
FTLN 1702	To come abroad with him at his request.	
FTLN 1703	ANTONIO I pray thee, hear me speak—	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1704	I'll have my bond. I will not hear thee speak.	
FTLN 1705	I'll have my bond, and therefore speak no more.	
FTLN 1706	I'll not be made a soft and dull-eyed fool,	15
FTLN 1707	To shake the head, relent, and sigh, and yield	
FTLN 1708	To Christian intercessors. Follow not!	
FTLN 1709	I'll have no speaking. I will have my bond. <i>[He] exits.</i>	
	SOLANIO	
FTLN 1710	It is the most impenetrable cur	
FTLN 1711	That ever kept with men.	20
FTLN 1712	ANTONIO Let him alone.	
FTLN 1713	I'll follow him no more with bootless prayers.	
FTLN 1714	He seeks my life. His reason well I know:	
FTLN 1715	I oft delivered from his forfeitures	
FTLN 1716	Many that have at times made moan to me.	25
FTLN 1717	Therefore he hates me.	
FTLN 1718	SOLANIO I am sure the Duke	
FTLN 1719	Will never grant this forfeiture to hold.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 1720	The Duke cannot deny the course of law,	
FTLN 1721	For the commodity that strangers have	30
FTLN 1722	With us in Venice, if it be denied,	
FTLN 1723	Will much impeach the justice of the state,	
FTLN 1724	Since that the trade and profit of the city	

FTLN 1725 Consisteth of all nations. Therefore go.
 FTLN 1726 These griefs and losses have so bated me 35
 FTLN 1727 That I shall hardly spare a pound of flesh
 FTLN 1728 Tomorrow to my bloody creditor.—
 FTLN 1729 Well, jailer, on.—Pray God Bassanio come
 FTLN 1730 To see me pay his debt, and then I care not.

They exit.

「Scene 4」

*Enter Portia, Nerissa, Lorenzo, Jessica, and 「Balthazar,」
 a man of Portia's.*

LORENZO

FTLN 1731 Madam, although I speak it in your presence,
 FTLN 1732 You have a noble and a true conceit
 FTLN 1733 Of godlike amity, which appears most strongly
 FTLN 1734 In bearing thus the absence of your lord.
 FTLN 1735 But if you knew to whom you show this honor, 5
 FTLN 1736 How true a gentleman you send relief,
 FTLN 1737 How dear a lover of my lord your husband,
 FTLN 1738 I know you would be prouder of the work
 FTLN 1739 Than customary bounty can enforce you.

PORTIA

FTLN 1740 I never did repent for doing good, 10
 FTLN 1741 Nor shall not now; for in companions
 FTLN 1742 That do converse and waste the time together,
 FTLN 1743 Whose souls do bear an equal yoke of love,
 FTLN 1744 There must be needs a like proportion
 FTLN 1745 Of lineaments, of manners, and of spirit; 15
 FTLN 1746 Which makes me think that this Antonio,
 FTLN 1747 Being the bosom lover of my lord,
 FTLN 1748 Must needs be like my lord. If it be so,
 FTLN 1749 How little is the cost I have bestowed
 FTLN 1750 In purchasing the semblance of my soul 20
 FTLN 1751 From out the state of hellish cruelty!

FTLN 1752	This comes too near the praising of myself;		
FTLN 1753	Therefore no more of it. Hear other things:		
FTLN 1754	Lorenzo, I commit into your hands		
FTLN 1755	The husbandry and manage of my house	25	
FTLN 1756	Until my lord's return. For mine own part,		
FTLN 1757	I have toward heaven breathed a secret vow		
FTLN 1758	To live in prayer and contemplation,		
FTLN 1759	Only attended by Nerissa here,		
FTLN 1760	Until her husband and my lord's return.	30	
FTLN 1761	There is a monastery two miles off,		
FTLN 1762	And there we will abide. I do desire you		
FTLN 1763	Not to deny this imposition,		
FTLN 1764	The which my love and some necessity		
FTLN 1765	Now lays upon you.	35	
FTLN 1766	LORENZO	Madam, with all my heart.	
FTLN 1767		I shall obey you in all fair commands.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1768		My people do already know my mind	
FTLN 1769		And will acknowledge you and Jessica	
FTLN 1770		In place of Lord Bassanio and myself.	40
FTLN 1771		So fare you well till we shall meet again.	
	LORENZO		
FTLN 1772		Fair thoughts and happy hours attend on you!	
	JESSICA		
FTLN 1773		I wish your Ladyship all heart's content.	
	PORTIA		
FTLN 1774		I thank you for your wish, and am well pleased	
FTLN 1775		To wish it back on you. Fare you well, Jessica.	45
		<i>「Lorenzo and Jessica」 exit.</i>	
FTLN 1776		Now, Balthazar,	
FTLN 1777		As I have ever found thee honest true,	
FTLN 1778		So let me find thee still: take this same letter,	
FTLN 1779		And use thou all th' endeavor of a man	
FTLN 1780		In speed to 「Padua.」 See thou render this	50
FTLN 1781		Into my 「cousin's」 hands, Doctor Bellario.	
		<i>「She gives him a paper.」</i>	

FTLN 1782 And look what notes and garments he doth give
 FTLN 1783 thee,
 FTLN 1784 Bring them, I pray thee, with imagined speed
 FTLN 1785 Unto the ¹traject,¹ to the common ferry 55
 FTLN 1786 Which trades to Venice. Waste no time in words,
 FTLN 1787 But get thee gone. I shall be there before thee.

BALTHAZAR

FTLN 1788 Madam, I go with all convenient speed. *[He exits.]*

PORTIA

FTLN 1789 Come on, Nerissa, I have work in hand
 FTLN 1790 That you yet know not of. We'll see our husbands 60
 FTLN 1791 Before they think of us.

FTLN 1792 NERISSA Shall they see us?

PORTIA

FTLN 1793 They shall, Nerissa, but in such a habit
 FTLN 1794 That they shall think we are accomplishèd
 FTLN 1795 With that we lack. I'll hold thee any wager, 65
 FTLN 1796 When we are both accoutered like young men,
 FTLN 1797 I'll prove the prettier fellow of the two,
 FTLN 1798 And wear my dagger with the braver grace,
 FTLN 1799 And speak between the change of man and boy
 FTLN 1800 With a reed voice, and turn two mincing steps 70
 FTLN 1801 Into a manly stride, and speak of frays
 FTLN 1802 Like a fine bragging youth, and tell quaint lies
 FTLN 1803 How honorable ladies sought my love,
 FTLN 1804 Which I denying, they fell sick and died—
 FTLN 1805 I could not do withal!—then I'll repent, 75
 FTLN 1806 And wish, for all that, that I had not killed them.
 FTLN 1807 And twenty of these puny lies I'll tell,
 FTLN 1808 That men shall swear I have discontinued school
 FTLN 1809 Above a twelvemonth. I have within my mind
 FTLN 1810 A thousand raw tricks of these bragging jacks 80
 FTLN 1811 Which I will practice.

FTLN 1812 NERISSA Why, shall we turn to men?

FTLN 1813 PORTIA Fie, what a question's that,
 FTLN 1814 If thou wert near a lewd interpreter!

FTLN 1815 But come, I'll tell thee all my whole device 85
 FTLN 1816 When I am in my coach, which stays for us
 FTLN 1817 At the park gate; and therefore haste away,
 FTLN 1818 For we must measure twenty miles today.

They exit.

「Scene 5」

Enter 「Lancelet, the」 Clown, and Jessica.

FTLN 1819 LANCELET Yes, truly, for look you, the sins of the father
 FTLN 1820 are to be laid upon the children. Therefore I
 FTLN 1821 promise you I fear you. I was always plain with you,
 FTLN 1822 and so now I speak my agitation of the matter.
 FTLN 1823 Therefore be o' good cheer, for truly I think you 5
 FTLN 1824 are damned. There is but one hope in it that can do
 FTLN 1825 you any good, and that is but a kind of bastard hope
 FTLN 1826 neither.
 FTLN 1827 JESSICA And what hope is that, I pray thee?
 FTLN 1828 LANCELET Marry, you may partly hope that your father 10
 FTLN 1829 got you not, that you are not the Jew's daughter.
 FTLN 1830 JESSICA That were a kind of bastard hope indeed; so
 FTLN 1831 the sins of my mother should be visited upon me!
 FTLN 1832 LANCELET Truly, then, I fear you are damned both by
 FTLN 1833 father and mother; thus when I shun Scylla your 15
 FTLN 1834 father, I fall into Charybdis your mother. Well, you
 FTLN 1835 are gone both ways.
 FTLN 1836 JESSICA I shall be saved by my husband. He hath made
 FTLN 1837 me a Christian.
 FTLN 1838 LANCELET Truly the more to blame he! We were Christians 20
 FTLN 1839 enow before, e'en as many as could well live
 FTLN 1840 one by another. This making of Christians will
 FTLN 1841 raise the price of hogs. If we grow all to be pork
 FTLN 1842 eaters, we shall not shortly have a rasher on the
 FTLN 1843 coals for money. 25

Enter Lorenzo.

FTLN 1844 JESSICA I'll tell my husband, Lancelet, what you say.
 FTLN 1845 Here he 「comes.」

FTLN 1846 LORENZO I shall grow jealous of you shortly, Lancelet,
 FTLN 1847 if you thus get my wife into corners!

FTLN 1848 JESSICA Nay, you need not fear us, Lorenzo. Lancelet 30
 FTLN 1849 and I are out. He tells me flatly there's no mercy for
 FTLN 1850 me in heaven because I am a Jew's daughter; and
 FTLN 1851 he says you are no good member of the commonwealth,
 FTLN 1852 for in converting Jews to Christians you
 FTLN 1853 raise the price of pork. 35

FTLN 1854 LORENZO I shall answer that better to the commonwealth
 FTLN 1855 than you can the getting up of the Negro's
 FTLN 1856 belly! The Moor is with child by you, Lancelet.

FTLN 1857 LANCELET It is much that the Moor should be more
 FTLN 1858 than reason; but if she be less than an honest 40
 FTLN 1859 woman, she is indeed more than I took her for.

FTLN 1860 LORENZO How every fool can play upon the word! I
 FTLN 1861 think the best grace of wit will shortly turn into
 FTLN 1862 silence, and discourse grow commendable in none
 FTLN 1863 only but parrots. Go in, sirrah, bid them prepare for 45
 FTLN 1864 dinner.

FTLN 1865 LANCELET That is done, sir. They have all stomachs.

FTLN 1866 LORENZO Goodly Lord, what a wit-snapper are you!
 FTLN 1867 Then bid them prepare dinner.

FTLN 1868 LANCELET That is done too, sir, only "cover" is the 50
 FTLN 1869 word.

FTLN 1870 LORENZO Will you cover, then, sir?

FTLN 1871 LANCELET Not so, sir, neither! I know my duty.

FTLN 1872 LORENZO Yet more quarreling with occasion! Wilt
 FTLN 1873 thou show the whole wealth of thy wit in an 55
 FTLN 1874 instant? I pray thee understand a plain man in his
 FTLN 1875 plain meaning: go to thy fellows, bid them cover the
 FTLN 1876 table, serve in the meat, and we will come in to
 FTLN 1877 dinner.

FTLN 1878 LANCELET For the table, sir, it shall be served in; for 60
 FTLN 1879 the meat, sir, it shall be covered; for your coming in

FTLN 1880	to dinner, sir, why, let it be as humors and conceits	
FTLN 1881	shall govern.	「 <i>Lancelet</i> 」 <i>exits.</i>
	LORENZO	
FTLN 1882	O dear discretion, how his words are suited!	
FTLN 1883	The fool hath planted in his memory	65
FTLN 1884	An army of good words, and I do know	
FTLN 1885	A many fools that stand in better place,	
FTLN 1886	Garnished like him, that for a tricky word	
FTLN 1887	Defy the matter. How cheer'st thou, Jessica?	
FTLN 1888	And now, good sweet, say thy opinion	70
FTLN 1889	How dost thou like the Lord Bassanio's wife?	
	JESSICA	
FTLN 1890	Past all expressing. It is very meet	
FTLN 1891	The Lord Bassanio live an upright life,	
FTLN 1892	For having such a blessing in his lady	
FTLN 1893	He finds the joys of heaven here on Earth,	75
FTLN 1894	And if on Earth he do not 「merit」 it,	
FTLN 1895	In reason he should never come to heaven.	
FTLN 1896	Why, if two gods should play some heavenly match,	
FTLN 1897	And on the wager lay two earthly women,	
FTLN 1898	And Portia one, there must be something else	80
FTLN 1899	Pawned with the other, for the poor rude world	
FTLN 1900	Hath not her fellow.	
FTLN 1901	LORENZO	Even such a husband
FTLN 1902	Hast thou of me as she is for 「a」 wife.	
	JESSICA	
FTLN 1903	Nay, but ask my opinion too of that!	85
	LORENZO	
FTLN 1904	I will anon. First let us go to dinner.	
	JESSICA	
FTLN 1905	Nay, let me praise you while I have a stomach!	
	LORENZO	
FTLN 1906	No, pray thee, let it serve for table talk.	
FTLN 1907	Then howsome'er thou speak'st, 'mong other things	
FTLN 1908	I shall digest it.	90
FTLN 1909	JESSICA	Well, I'll set you forth.
		「 <i>They</i> 」 <i>exit.</i>

「Scene 1」

*Enter the Duke, the Magnificoes, Antonio, Bassanio,
「Salerio,」 and Gratiano, 「with Attendants.」*

FTLN 1910 DUKE What, is Antonio here?
FTLN 1911 ANTONIO Ready, so please your Grace.
DUKE
FTLN 1912 I am sorry for thee. Thou art come to answer
FTLN 1913 A stony adversary, an inhuman wretch,
FTLN 1914 Uncapable of pity, void and empty 5
FTLN 1915 From any dram of mercy.
FTLN 1916 ANTONIO I have heard
FTLN 1917 Your Grace hath ta'en great pains to qualify
FTLN 1918 His rigorous course; but since he stands obdurate,
FTLN 1919 And that no lawful means can carry me 10
FTLN 1920 Out of his envy's reach, I do oppose
FTLN 1921 My patience to his fury, and am armed
FTLN 1922 To suffer with a quietness of spirit
FTLN 1923 The very tyranny and rage of his.
DUKE
FTLN 1924 Go, one, and call the Jew into the court. 15
SALERIO
FTLN 1925 He is ready at the door. He comes, my lord.

Enter Shylock.

DUKE
FTLN 1926 Make room, and let him stand before our face.—

FTLN 1927 Shylock, the world thinks, and I think so too,
 FTLN 1928 That thou but ledest this fashion of thy malice
 FTLN 1929 To the last hour of act, and then, 'tis thought, 20
 FTLN 1930 Thou 'lt show thy mercy and remorse more strange
 FTLN 1931 Than is thy strange apparent cruelty;
 FTLN 1932 And where thou now exacts the penalty,
 FTLN 1933 Which is a pound of this poor merchant's flesh,
 FTLN 1934 Thou wilt not only loose the forfeiture, 25
 FTLN 1935 But, touched with humane gentleness and love,
 FTLN 1936 Forgive a moi'ty of the principal,
 FTLN 1937 Glancing an eye of pity on his losses
 FTLN 1938 That have of late so huddled on his back,
 FTLN 1939 Enow to press a royal merchant down 30
 FTLN 1940 And pluck commiseration of 「his state」
 FTLN 1941 From brassy bosoms and rough hearts of 「flint,」
 FTLN 1942 From stubborn Turks, and Tartars never trained
 FTLN 1943 To offices of tender courtesy.
 FTLN 1944 We all expect a gentle answer, Jew. 35

SHYLOCK

FTLN 1945 I have possessed your Grace of what I purpose,
 FTLN 1946 And by our holy Sabbath have I sworn
 FTLN 1947 To have the due and forfeit of my bond.
 FTLN 1948 If you deny it, let the danger light
 FTLN 1949 Upon your charter and your city's freedom! 40
 FTLN 1950 You'll ask me why I rather choose to have
 FTLN 1951 A weight of carrion flesh than to receive
 FTLN 1952 Three thousand ducats. I'll not answer that,
 FTLN 1953 But say it is my humor. Is it answered?
 FTLN 1954 What if my house be troubled with a rat, 45
 FTLN 1955 And I be pleased to give ten thousand ducats
 FTLN 1956 To have it baned? What, are you answered yet?
 FTLN 1957 Some men there are love not a gaping pig,
 FTLN 1958 Some that are mad if they behold a cat,
 FTLN 1959 And others, when the bagpipe sings i' th' nose, 50
 FTLN 1960 Cannot contain their urine; for affection
 FTLN 1961 Masters 「oft」 passion, sways it to the mood

FTLN 1962	Of what it likes or loathes. Now for your answer:	
FTLN 1963	As there is no firm reason to be rendered	
FTLN 1964	Why he cannot abide a gaping pig,	55
FTLN 1965	Why he a harmless necessary cat,	
FTLN 1966	Why he a woollen bagpipe, but of force	
FTLN 1967	Must yield to such inevitable shame	
FTLN 1968	As to offend, himself being offended,	
FTLN 1969	So can I give no reason, nor I will not,	60
FTLN 1970	More than a lodged hate and a certain loathing	
FTLN 1971	I bear Antonio, that I follow thus	
FTLN 1972	A losing suit against him. Are you answered?	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 1973	This is no answer, thou unfeeling man,	
FTLN 1974	To excuse the current of thy cruelty.	65
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1975	I am not bound to please thee with my answers.	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 1976	Do all men kill the things they do not love?	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1977	Hates any man the thing he would not kill?	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 1978	Every offence is not a hate at first.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1979	What, wouldst thou have a serpent sting thee twice?	70
	ANTONIO, <i>['to Bassanio']</i>	
FTLN 1980	I pray you, think you question with the Jew.	
FTLN 1981	You may as well go stand upon the beach	
FTLN 1982	And bid the main flood bate his usual height;	
FTLN 1983	You may as well use question with the wolf	
FTLN 1984	Why he hath made the ewe <i>['bleat']</i> for the lamb;	75
FTLN 1985	You may as well forbid the mountain pines	
FTLN 1986	To wag their high tops and to make no noise	
FTLN 1987	When they are fretten with the gusts of heaven;	
FTLN 1988	You may as well do anything most hard	
FTLN 1989	As seek to soften that than which what's harder?—	80
FTLN 1990	His Jewish heart. Therefore I do beseech you	

FTLN 1991	Make no more offers, use no farther means,	
FTLN 1992	But with all brief and plain conveniency	
FTLN 1993	Let me have judgment and the Jew his will.	
	BASSANIO	
FTLN 1994	For thy three thousand ducats here is six.	85
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1995	If every ducat in six thousand ducats	
FTLN 1996	Were in six parts, and every part a ducat,	
FTLN 1997	I would not draw them. I would have my bond.	
	DUKE	
FTLN 1998	How shalt thou hope for mercy, rend'ring none?	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 1999	What judgment shall I dread, doing no wrong?	90
FTLN 2000	You have among you many a purchased slave,	
FTLN 2001	Which, like your asses and your dogs and mules,	
FTLN 2002	You use in abject and in slavish parts	
FTLN 2003	Because you bought them. Shall I say to you	
FTLN 2004	“Let them be free! Marry them to your heirs!	95
FTLN 2005	Why sweat they under burdens? Let their beds	
FTLN 2006	Be made as soft as yours, and let their palates	
FTLN 2007	Be seasoned with such viands”? You will answer	
FTLN 2008	“The slaves are ours!” So do I answer you:	
FTLN 2009	The pound of flesh which I demand of him	100
FTLN 2010	Is dearly bought; ‘tis mine and I will have it.	
FTLN 2011	If you deny me, fie upon your law:	
FTLN 2012	There is no force in the decrees of Venice.	
FTLN 2013	I stand for judgment. Answer: shall I have it?	
	DUKE	
FTLN 2014	Upon my power I may dismiss this court	105
FTLN 2015	Unless Bellario, a learned doctor	
FTLN 2016	Whom I have sent for to determine this,	
FTLN 2017	Come here today.	
FTLN 2018	SALERIO My lord, here stays without	
FTLN 2019	A messenger with letters from the doctor,	110
FTLN 2020	New come from Padua.	

FTLN 2043 That souls of animals infuse themselves
 FTLN 2044 Into the trunks of men. Thy currish spirit 135
 FTLN 2045 Governed a wolf who, hanged for human slaughter,
 FTLN 2046 Even from the gallows did his fell soul fleet,
 FTLN 2047 And whilst thou layest in thy unhallowed dam,
 FTLN 2048 Infused itself in thee, for thy desires
 FTLN 2049 Are wolfish, bloody, starved, and ravenous. 140

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2050 Till thou canst rail the seal from off my bond,
 FTLN 2051 Thou but offend'st thy lungs to speak so loud.
 FTLN 2052 Repair thy wit, good youth, or it will fall
 FTLN 2053 To cureless ruin. I stand here for law.

DUKE

FTLN 2054 This letter from Bellario doth commend 145
 FTLN 2055 A young and learnèd doctor to our court.
 FTLN 2056 Where is he?

FTLN 2057 NERISSA, *['as Clerk']* He attendeth here hard by
 FTLN 2058 To know your answer whether you'll admit him.

DUKE

FTLN 2059 With all my heart.—Some three or four of you 150
 FTLN 2060 Go give him courteous conduct to this place.

['Attendants exit.']

FTLN 2061 Meantime the court shall hear Bellario's letter.

['He reads.']

FTLN 2062 *Your Grace shall understand that, at the receipt of*
 FTLN 2063 *your letter, I am very sick, but in the instant that your*
 FTLN 2064 *messenger came, in loving visitation was with me a 155*
 FTLN 2065 *young doctor of Rome. His name is Balthazar. I*
 FTLN 2066 *acquainted him with the cause in controversy between*
 FTLN 2067 *the Jew and Antonio the merchant. We turned o'er*
 FTLN 2068 *many books together. He is furnished with my opinion,*
 FTLN 2069 *which, bettered with his own learning (the greatness 160*
 FTLN 2070 *whereof I cannot enough commend), comes with*
 FTLN 2071 *him at my importunity to fill up your Grace's request*
 FTLN 2072 *in my stead. I beseech you let his lack of years be no*
 FTLN 2073 *impediment to let him lack a reverend estimation, for I*

FTLN 2074 *never knew so young a body with so old a head. I* 165
 FTLN 2075 *leave him to your gracious acceptance, whose trial*
 FTLN 2076 *shall better publish his commendation.*

FTLN 2077 You hear the learnèd Bellario what he writes.

Enter Portia for Balthazar, [disguised as a doctor of laws, with Attendants.]

FTLN 2078 And here I take it is the doctor come.—
 FTLN 2079 Give me your hand. Come you from old Bellario? 170

PORTIA, [as Balthazar]

FTLN 2080 I did, my lord.

FTLN 2081 DUKE You are welcome. Take your place.

FTLN 2082 Are you acquainted with the difference
 FTLN 2083 That holds this present question in the court?

PORTIA, [as Balthazar]

FTLN 2084 I am informèd throughly of the cause. 175

FTLN 2085 Which is the merchant here? And which the Jew?

DUKE

FTLN 2086 Antonio and old Shylock, both stand forth.

PORTIA, [as Balthazar]

FTLN 2087 Is your name Shylock?

FTLN 2088 SHYLOCK Shylock is my name.

PORTIA, [as Balthazar]

FTLN 2089 Of a strange nature is the suit you follow, 180

FTLN 2090 Yet in such rule that the Venetian law

FTLN 2091 Cannot impugn you as you do proceed.

FTLN 2092 [To Antonio.] You stand within his danger, do you
 FTLN 2093 not?

ANTONIO

FTLN 2094 Ay, so he says. 185

FTLN 2095 PORTIA, [as Balthazar] Do you confess the bond?

ANTONIO

FTLN 2096 I do.

FTLN 2097 PORTIA, [as Balthazar] Then must the Jew be merciful.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2098 On what compulsion must I? Tell me that.

FTLN 2130 That malice bears down truth. *「To the Duke.」* And I
 FTLN 2131 beseech you,
 FTLN 2132 Wrest once the law to your authority.
 FTLN 2133 To do a great right, do a little wrong,
 FTLN 2134 And curb this cruel devil of his will. 225

PORTIA, *「as Balthazar」*
 FTLN 2135 It must not be. There is no power in Venice
 FTLN 2136 Can alter a decree established;
 FTLN 2137 'Twill be recorded for a precedent
 FTLN 2138 And many an error by the same example
 FTLN 2139 Will rush into the state. It cannot be. 230

SHYLOCK
 FTLN 2140 A Daniel come to judgment! Yea, a Daniel.
 FTLN 2141 O wise young judge, how I do honor thee!

PORTIA, *「as Balthazar」*
 FTLN 2142 I pray you let me look upon the bond.

SHYLOCK
 FTLN 2143 Here 'tis, most reverend doctor, here it is.
「Handing Portia a paper.」

PORTIA, *「as Balthazar」*
 FTLN 2144 Shylock, there's thrice thy money offered thee. 235

SHYLOCK
 FTLN 2145 An oath, an oath, I have an oath in heaven!
 FTLN 2146 Shall I lay perjury upon my soul?
 FTLN 2147 *「No,」* not for Venice!

PORTIA, *「as Balthazar」* Why, this bond is forfeit,
 FTLN 2149 And lawfully by this the Jew may claim 240
 FTLN 2150 A pound of flesh, to be by him cut off
 FTLN 2151 Nearest the merchant's heart.—Be merciful;
 FTLN 2152 Take thrice thy money; bid me tear the bond.

SHYLOCK
 FTLN 2153 When it is paid according to the tenor.
 FTLN 2154 It doth appear you are a worthy judge; 245
 FTLN 2155 You know the law; your exposition
 FTLN 2156 Hath been most sound. I charge you by the law,
 FTLN 2157 Whereof you are a well-deserving pillar,

FTLN 2158	Proceed to judgment. By my soul I swear	
FTLN 2159	There is no power in the tongue of man	250
FTLN 2160	To alter me. I stay here on my bond.	
	ANTONIO	
FTLN 2161	Most heartily I do beseech the court	
FTLN 2162	To give the judgment.	
FTLN 2163	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar</i> 」 Why, then, thus it is:	
FTLN 2164	You must prepare your bosom for his knife—	255
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 2165	O noble judge! O excellent young man!	
	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar</i> 」	
FTLN 2166	For the intent and purpose of the law	
FTLN 2167	Hath full relation to the penalty,	
FTLN 2168	Which here appeareth due upon the bond.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 2169	'Tis very true. O wise and upright judge,	260
FTLN 2170	How much more elder art thou than thy looks!	
	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar, to Antonio</i> 」	
FTLN 2171	Therefore lay bare your bosom—	
FTLN 2172	SHYLOCK Ay, his breast!	
FTLN 2173	So says the bond, doth it not, noble judge?	
FTLN 2174	“Nearest his heart.” Those are the very words.	265
	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar</i> 」	
FTLN 2175	It is so.	
FTLN 2176	Are there balance here to weigh the flesh?	
FTLN 2177	SHYLOCK I have them ready.	
	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar</i> 」	
FTLN 2178	Have by some surgeon, Shylock, on your charge,	
FTLN 2179	To stop his wounds, lest he do bleed to death.	270
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 2180	Is it so nominated in the bond?	
	PORTIA, 「 <i>as Balthazar</i> 」	
FTLN 2181	It is not so expressed, but what of that?	
FTLN 2182	'Twere good you do so much for charity.	
	SHYLOCK	
FTLN 2183	I cannot find it. 'Tis not in the bond.	

NERISSA, [*aside*]

FTLN 2214 'Tis well you offer it behind her back. 305

FTLN 2215 The wish would make else an unquiet house.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2216 These be the Christian husbands! I have a
FTLN 2217 daughter—

FTLN 2218 Would any of the stock of Barabbas
FTLN 2219 Had been her husband, rather than a Christian! 310

FTLN 2220 We trifle time. I pray thee, pursue sentence.

PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*]

FTLN 2221 A pound of that same merchant's flesh is thine:

FTLN 2222 The court awards it, and the law doth give it.

FTLN 2223 SHYLOCK Most rightful judge!

PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*]

FTLN 2224 And you must cut this flesh from off his breast: 315

FTLN 2225 The law allows it, and the court awards it.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2226 Most learnèd judge! A sentence!—Come, prepare.

PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*]

FTLN 2227 Tarry a little. There is something else.

FTLN 2228 This bond doth give thee here no jot of blood.

FTLN 2229 The words expressly are “a pound of flesh.” 320

FTLN 2230 Take then thy bond, take thou thy pound of flesh,

FTLN 2231 But in the cutting it, if thou dost shed

FTLN 2232 One drop of Christian blood, thy lands and goods

FTLN 2233 Are by the laws of Venice confiscate

FTLN 2234 Unto the state of Venice. 325

GRATIANO

FTLN 2235 O upright judge!—Mark, Jew.—O learnèd judge!

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2236 Is that the law?

FTLN 2237 PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*] Thyself shalt see the act.

FTLN 2238 For, as thou urgest justice, be assured

FTLN 2239 Thou shalt have justice more than thou desir'st. 330

GRATIANO

FTLN 2240 O learnèd judge!—Mark, Jew, a learnèd judge!

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2241 I take this offer then. Pay the bond thrice
FTLN 2242 And let the Christian go.

FTLN 2243 BASSANIO Here is the money.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2244 Soft! The Jew shall have all justice. Soft, no haste! 335
FTLN 2245 He shall have nothing but the penalty.

GRATIANO

FTLN 2246 O Jew, an upright judge, a learned judge!

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2247 Therefore prepare thee to cut off the flesh.
FTLN 2248 Shed thou no blood, nor cut thou less nor more
FTLN 2249 But just a pound of flesh. If thou tak'st more 340

FTLN 2250 Or less than a just pound, be it but so much
FTLN 2251 As makes it light or heavy in the substance
FTLN 2252 Or the division of the twentieth part
FTLN 2253 Of one poor scruple—nay, if the scale do turn
FTLN 2254 But in the estimation of a hair, 345

FTLN 2255 Thou diest, and all thy goods are confiscate.

GRATIANO

FTLN 2256 A second Daniel! A Daniel, Jew!
FTLN 2257 Now, infidel, I have you on the hip.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2258 Why doth the Jew pause? Take thy forfeiture.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2259 Give me my principal and let me go. 350

BASSANIO

FTLN 2260 I have it ready for thee. Here it is.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2261 He hath refused it in the open court.
FTLN 2262 He shall have merely justice and his bond.

GRATIANO

FTLN 2263 A Daniel still, say I! A second Daniel!—
FTLN 2264 I thank thee, Jew, for teaching me that word. 355

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2265 Shall I not have barely my principal?

PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*]

FTLN 2266 Thou shalt have nothing but the forfeiture
FTLN 2267 To be so taken at thy peril, Jew.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2268 Why, then, the devil give him good of it!
FTLN 2269 I'll stay no longer question. [*He begins to exit.*] 360

PORTIA, [*as Balthazar*] Tarry, Jew.

FTLN 2270 The law hath yet another hold on you.
FTLN 2271 It is enacted in the laws of Venice,
FTLN 2272 If it be proved against an alien
FTLN 2273 That by direct or indirect attempts 365
FTLN 2274 He seek the life of any citizen,

FTLN 2275 The party 'gainst the which he doth contrive
FTLN 2276 Shall seize one half his goods; the other half
FTLN 2277 Comes to the privy coffer of the state,
FTLN 2278 And the offender's life lies in the mercy 370
FTLN 2279 Of the Duke only, 'gainst all other voice.

FTLN 2280 In which predicament I say thou stand'st,
FTLN 2281 For it appears by manifest proceeding
FTLN 2282 That indirectly, and directly too,
FTLN 2283 Thou hast contrived against the very life 375
FTLN 2284 Of the defendant, and thou hast incurred

FTLN 2285 The danger formerly by me rehearsed.
FTLN 2286 Down, therefore, and beg mercy of the Duke.
FTLN 2287

GRATIANO

FTLN 2288 Beg that thou mayst have leave to hang thyself!
FTLN 2289 And yet, thy wealth being forfeit to the state, 380
FTLN 2290 Thou hast not left the value of a cord;
FTLN 2291 Therefore thou must be hanged at the state's
FTLN 2292 charge.

DUKE

FTLN 2293 That thou shalt see the difference of our spirit,
FTLN 2294 I pardon thee thy life before thou ask it. 385
FTLN 2295 For half thy wealth, it is Antonio's;
FTLN 2296 The other half comes to the general state,
FTLN 2297 Which humbleness may drive unto a fine.

PORTIA, *as Balthazar*

FTLN 2298 Ay, for the state, not for Antonio.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2299 Nay, take my life and all. Pardon not that. 390

FTLN 2300 You take my house when you do take the prop

FTLN 2301 That doth sustain my house; you take my life

FTLN 2302 When you do take the means whereby I live.

PORTIA, *as Balthazar*

FTLN 2303 What mercy can you render him, Antonio?

GRATIANO

FTLN 2304 A halter gratis, nothing else, for God's sake! 395

ANTONIO

FTLN 2305 So please my lord the Duke and all the court

FTLN 2306 To quit the fine for one half of his goods,

FTLN 2307 I am content, so he will let me have

FTLN 2308 The other half in use, to render it

FTLN 2309 Upon his death unto the gentleman 400

FTLN 2310 That lately stole his daughter.

FTLN 2311 Two things provided more: that for this favor

FTLN 2312 He presently become a Christian;

FTLN 2313 The other, that he do record a gift,

FTLN 2314 Here in the court, of all he dies possessed 405

FTLN 2315 Unto his son Lorenzo and his daughter.

DUKE

FTLN 2316 He shall do this, or else I do recant

FTLN 2317 The pardon that I late pronouncèd here.

PORTIA, *as Balthazar*

FTLN 2318 Art thou contented, Jew? What dost thou say?

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2319 I am content. 410

FTLN 2320 PORTIA, *as Balthazar* Clerk, draw a deed of gift.

SHYLOCK

FTLN 2321 I pray you give me leave to go from hence.

FTLN 2322 I am not well. Send the deed after me

FTLN 2323 And I will sign it.

FTLN 2324 DUKE Get thee gone, but do it. 415

「GRATIANO」

FTLN 2325 In christ'ning shalt thou have two godfathers.
 FTLN 2326 Had I been judge, thou shouldst have had ten more,
 FTLN 2327 To bring thee to the gallows, not to the font.
「Shylock」 exits.

DUKE, 「to Portia as Balthazar」

FTLN 2328 Sir, I entreat you home with me to dinner.

PORTIA, 「as Balthazar」

FTLN 2329 I humbly do desire your Grace of pardon. 420
 FTLN 2330 I must away this night toward Padua,
 FTLN 2331 And it is meet I presently set forth.

DUKE

FTLN 2332 I am sorry that your leisure serves you not.—
 FTLN 2333 Antonio, gratify this gentleman,
 FTLN 2334 For in my mind you are much bound to him. 425
The Duke and his train exit.

BASSANIO, 「to Portia as Balthazar」

FTLN 2335 Most worthy gentleman, I and my friend
 FTLN 2336 Have by your wisdom been this day acquitted
 FTLN 2337 Of grievous penalties, in lieu whereof
 FTLN 2338 Three thousand ducats due unto the Jew
 FTLN 2339 We freely cope your courteous pains withal. 430

ANTONIO

FTLN 2340 And stand indebted, over and above,
 FTLN 2341 In love and service to you evermore.

PORTIA, 「as Balthazar」

FTLN 2342 He is well paid that is well satisfied,
 FTLN 2343 And I, delivering you, am satisfied,
 FTLN 2344 And therein do account myself well paid. 435
 FTLN 2345 My mind was never yet more mercenary.
 FTLN 2346 I pray you know me when we meet again.
 FTLN 2347 I wish you well, and so I take my leave.
「She begins to exit.」

BASSANIO

FTLN 2348 Dear sir, of force I must attempt you further.
 FTLN 2349 Take some remembrance of us as a tribute, 440

FTLN 2350 Not as fee. Grant me two things, I pray you:
 FTLN 2351 Not to deny me, and to pardon me.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2352 You press me far, and therefore I will yield.
 FTLN 2353 Give me your gloves; I'll wear them for your sake—
 FTLN 2354 And for your love I'll take this ring from you. 445
 FTLN 2355 Do not draw back your hand; I'll take no more,
 FTLN 2356 And you in love shall not deny me this.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2357 This ring, good sir? Alas, it is a trifle.
 FTLN 2358 I will not shame myself to give you this.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2359 I will have nothing else but only this. 450
 FTLN 2360 And now methinks I have a mind to it.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2361 There's more depends on this than on the value.
 FTLN 2362 The dearest ring in Venice will I give you,
 FTLN 2363 And find it out by proclamation.
 FTLN 2364 Only for this, I pray you pardon me. 455

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2365 I see, sir, you are liberal in offers.
 FTLN 2366 You taught me first to beg, and now methinks
 FTLN 2367 You teach me how a beggar should be answered.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2368 Good sir, this ring was given me by my wife,
 FTLN 2369 And when she put it on, she made me vow 460
 FTLN 2370 That I should neither sell nor give nor lose it.

PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」

FTLN 2371 That 'scuse serves many men to save their gifts.
 FTLN 2372 And if your wife be not a madwoman,
 FTLN 2373 And know how well I have deserved this ring,
 FTLN 2374 She would not hold out enemy forever 465
 FTLN 2375 For giving it to me. Well, peace be with you.

「*Portia and Nerissa*」 *exit.*

ANTONIO

FTLN 2376 My Lord Bassanio, let him have the ring.

FTLN 2377 Let his deservings and my love withal
 FTLN 2378 Be valued 'gainst your wife's commandment.
 BASSANIO
 FTLN 2379 Go, Gratiano, run and overtake him. 470
 FTLN 2380 Give him the ring, and bring him if thou canst
 FTLN 2381 Unto Antonio's house. Away, make haste.
Gratiano exits.
 FTLN 2382 Come, you and I will thither presently,
 FTLN 2383 And in the morning early will we both
 FTLN 2384 Fly toward Belmont.—Come, Antonio. 475
They exit.

「Scene 2」

Enter 「Portia and」 Nerissa, 「still in disguise.」

PORTIA
 FTLN 2385 Inquire the Jew's house out; give him this deed
 FTLN 2386 And let him sign it. 「*She gives Nerissa a paper.*」 We'll
 FTLN 2387 away tonight,
 FTLN 2388 And be a day before our husbands home.
 FTLN 2389 This deed will be well welcome to Lorenzo. 5

Enter Gratiano.

GRATIANO
 FTLN 2390 Fair sir, you are well o'erta'en.
 FTLN 2391 My Lord Bassanio, upon more advice,
 FTLN 2392 Hath sent you here this ring, and doth entreat
 FTLN 2393 Your company at dinner. 「*He gives her a ring.*」
 FTLN 2394 PORTIA, 「*as Balthazar*」 That cannot be. 10
 FTLN 2395 His ring I do accept most thankfully,
 FTLN 2396 And so I pray you tell him. Furthermore,
 FTLN 2397 I pray you show my youth old Shylock's house.
 GRATIANO
 FTLN 2398 That will I do.

FTLN 2399 NERISSA, *「as Clerk」* Sir, I would speak with you. 15
FTLN 2400 *「Aside to Portia.」* I'll see if I can get my husband's
FTLN 2401 ring,
FTLN 2402 Which I did make him swear to keep forever.
PORTIA, *「aside to Nerissa」*
FTLN 2403 Thou mayst, I warrant! We shall have old swearing
FTLN 2404 That they did give the rings away to men; 20
FTLN 2405 But we'll outface them, and outswear them, too.—
FTLN 2406 Away, make haste! Thou know'st where I will tarry.
「She exits.」
NERISSA, *「as Clerk」*
FTLN 2407 Come, good sir, will you show me to this house?
「They exit.」

「Scene 1」

Enter Lorenzo and Jessica.

LORENZO

FTLN 2408 The moon shines bright. In such a night as this,
FTLN 2409 When the sweet wind did gently kiss the trees
FTLN 2410 And they did make no noise, in such a night
FTLN 2411 Troilus, methinks, mounted the Trojan walls
FTLN 2412 And sighed his soul toward the Grecian tents 5
FTLN 2413 Where Cressid lay that night.

FTLN 2414 JESSICA In such a night

FTLN 2415 Did Thisbe fearfully o'ertrip the dew
FTLN 2416 And saw the lion's shadow ere himself
FTLN 2417 And ran dismayed away. 10

FTLN 2418 LORENZO In such a night

FTLN 2419 Stood Dido with a willow in her hand
FTLN 2420 Upon the wild sea-banks, and waft her love
FTLN 2421 To come again to Carthage.

FTLN 2422 JESSICA In such a night 15

FTLN 2423 Medea gathered the enchanted herbs
FTLN 2424 That did renew old Aeson.

FTLN 2425 LORENZO In such a night

FTLN 2426 Did Jessica steal from the wealthy Jew,
FTLN 2427 And with an unthrift love did run from Venice 20
FTLN 2428 As far as Belmont.

FTLN 2429 JESSICA In such a night

FTLN 2430 Did young Lorenzo swear he loved her well,

FTLN 2431 Stealing her soul with many vows of faith,
 FTLN 2432 And ne'er a true one. 25

FTLN 2433 LORENZO In such a night
 FTLN 2434 Did pretty Jessica, like a little shrew,
 FTLN 2435 Slander her love, and he forgave it her.

JESSICA
 FTLN 2436 I would out-night you did nobody come,
 FTLN 2437 But hark, I hear the footing of a man. 30

Enter [Stephano,] a Messenger.

LORENZO
 FTLN 2438 Who comes so fast in silence of the night?

FTLN 2439 STEPHANO A friend.

LORENZO
 FTLN 2440 A friend? What friend? Your name, I pray you,
 FTLN 2441 friend.

STEPHANO
 FTLN 2442 Stephano is my name, and I bring word 35
 FTLN 2443 My mistress will before the break of day
 FTLN 2444 Be here at Belmont. She doth stray about
 FTLN 2445 By holy crosses, where she kneels and prays
 FTLN 2446 For happy wedlock hours.

FTLN 2447 LORENZO Who comes with her? 40

STEPHANO
 FTLN 2448 None but a holy hermit and her maid.

FTLN 2449 I pray you, is my master yet returned?

LORENZO
 FTLN 2450 He is not, nor we have not heard from him.—
 FTLN 2451 But go we in, I pray thee, Jessica,
 FTLN 2452 And ceremoniously let us prepare 45
 FTLN 2453 Some welcome for the mistress of the house.

Enter [Lancelet, the] Clown.

FTLN 2454 LANCELET Sola, sola! Wo ha, ho! Sola, sola!

FTLN 2455 LORENZO Who calls?

FTLN 2456 LANCELET Sola! Did you see Master Lorenzo? Master
 FTLN 2457 Lorenzo, sola, sola! 50

FTLN 2458	LORENZO	Leave holloaing, man! Here.	
FTLN 2459	LANCELET	Sola! Where, where?	
FTLN 2460	LORENZO	Here!	
FTLN 2461	LANCELET	Tell him there's a post come from my master	
FTLN 2462		with his horn full of good news. My master will	55
FTLN 2463		be here ere morning, sweet soul. <i>「Lancelet exits.」</i>	
	LORENZO, <i>「to Jessica」</i>		
FTLN 2464		Let's in, and there expect their coming.	
FTLN 2465		And yet no matter; why should we go in?—	
FTLN 2466		My friend <i>「Stephano,」</i> signify, I pray you,	
FTLN 2467		Within the house, your mistress is at hand,	60
FTLN 2468		And bring your music forth into the air.	
		<i>「Stephano exits.」</i>	
FTLN 2469		How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank.	
FTLN 2470		Here will we sit and let the sounds of music	
FTLN 2471		Creep in our ears; soft stillness and the night	
FTLN 2472		Become the touches of sweet harmony.	65
FTLN 2473		Sit, Jessica. Look how the floor of heaven	
FTLN 2474		Is thick inlaid with patens of bright gold.	
FTLN 2475		There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st	
FTLN 2476		But in his motion like an angel sings,	
FTLN 2477		Still choring to the young-eyed cherubins.	70
FTLN 2478		Such harmony is in immortal souls,	
FTLN 2479		But whilst this muddy vesture of decay	
FTLN 2480		Doth grossly close it in, we cannot hear it.	
		<i>「Enter Stephano and musicians.」</i>	
FTLN 2481		Come, ho! and wake Diana with a hymn.	
FTLN 2482		With sweetest touches pierce your mistress' ear,	75
FTLN 2483		And draw her home with music.	
		<i>「Music plays.」</i>	
	JESSICA		
FTLN 2484		I am never merry when I hear sweet music.	
	LORENZO		
FTLN 2485		The reason is, your spirits are attentive.	
FTLN 2486		For do but note a wild and wanton herd	

FTLN 2487 Or race of youthful and unhandled colts, 80
 FTLN 2488 Fetching mad bounds, bellowing and neighing loud,
 FTLN 2489 Which is the hot condition of their blood,
 FTLN 2490 If they but hear perchance a trumpet sound,
 FTLN 2491 Or any air of music touch their ears,
 FTLN 2492 You shall perceive them make a mutual stand, 85
 FTLN 2493 Their savage eyes turned to a modest gaze
 FTLN 2494 By the sweet power of music. Therefore the poet
 FTLN 2495 Did feign that Orpheus drew trees, stones, and
 FTLN 2496 floods,
 FTLN 2497 Since naught so stockish, hard, and full of rage, 90
 FTLN 2498 But music for the time doth change his nature.
 FTLN 2499 The man that hath no music in himself,
 FTLN 2500 Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
 FTLN 2501 Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils;
 FTLN 2502 The motions of his spirit are dull as night, 95
 FTLN 2503 And his affections dark as 「Erebus.」
 FTLN 2504 Let no such man be trusted. Mark the music.

Enter Portia and Nerissa.

PORTIA

FTLN 2505 That light we see is burning in my hall.
 FTLN 2506 How far that little candle throws his beams!
 FTLN 2507 So shines a good deed in a naughty world. 100

NERISSA

FTLN 2508 When the moon shone we did not see the candle.

PORTIA

FTLN 2509 So doth the greater glory dim the less.
 FTLN 2510 A substitute shines brightly as a king
 FTLN 2511 Until a king be by, and then his state
 FTLN 2512 Empties itself as doth an inland brook 105
 FTLN 2513 Into the main of waters. Music, hark!

NERISSA

FTLN 2514 It is your music, madam, of the house.

PORTIA

FTLN 2515 Nothing is good, I see, without respect.
 FTLN 2516 Methinks it sounds much sweeter than by day.

NERISSA

FTLN 2517 Silence bestows that virtue on it, madam. 110

PORTIA

FTLN 2518 The crow doth sing as sweetly as the lark
 FTLN 2519 When neither is attended, and I think
 FTLN 2520 The nightingale, if she should sing by day
 FTLN 2521 When every goose is cackling, would be thought
 FTLN 2522 No better a musician than the wren. 115

FTLN 2523 How many things by season seasoned are
 FTLN 2524 To their right praise and true perfection!
 FTLN 2525 Peace—how the moon sleeps with Endymion
 FTLN 2526 And would not be awaked!

[*Music ceases.*]

FTLN 2527 LORENZO That is the voice, 120
 FTLN 2528 Or I am much deceived, of Portia.

PORTIA

FTLN 2529 He knows me as the blind man knows the cuckoo,
 FTLN 2530 By the bad voice.

FTLN 2531 LORENZO Dear lady, welcome home.

PORTIA

FTLN 2532 We have been praying for our husbands' welfare, 125
 FTLN 2533 Which speed we hope the better for our words.
 FTLN 2534 Are they returned?

FTLN 2535 LORENZO Madam, they are not yet,

FTLN 2536 But there is come a messenger before
 FTLN 2537 To signify their coming. 130

FTLN 2538 PORTIA Go in, Nerissa.

FTLN 2539 Give order to my servants that they take
 FTLN 2540 No note at all of our being absent hence—
 FTLN 2541 Nor you, Lorenzo—Jessica, nor you.

[*A trumpet sounds.*]

LORENZO

FTLN 2542 Your husband is at hand. I hear his trumpet. 135
 FTLN 2543 We are no tell-tales, madam, fear you not.

PORTIA

FTLN 2544 This night methinks is but the daylight sick;

FTLN 2545 It looks a little paler. 'Tis a day
FTLN 2546 Such as the day is when the sun is hid.

Enter Bassanio, Antonio, Gratiano, and their followers.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2547 We should hold day with the Antipodes 140
FTLN 2548 If you would walk in absence of the sun.

PORTIA

FTLN 2549 Let me give light, but let me not be light,
FTLN 2550 For a light wife doth make a heavy husband,
FTLN 2551 And never be Bassanio so for me.
FTLN 2552 But God sort all! You are welcome home, my lord. 145

〔Gratiano and Nerissa talk aside.〕

BASSANIO

FTLN 2553 I thank you, madam. Give welcome to my friend.
FTLN 2554 This is the man, this is Antonio,
FTLN 2555 To whom I am so infinitely bound.

PORTIA

FTLN 2556 You should in all sense be much bound to him,
FTLN 2557 For as I hear he was much bound for you. 150

ANTONIO

FTLN 2558 No more than I am well acquitted of.

PORTIA

FTLN 2559 Sir, you are very welcome to our house.
FTLN 2560 It must appear in other ways than words;
FTLN 2561 Therefore I scant this breathing courtesy.

GRATIANO, *〔to Nerissa〕*

FTLN 2562 By yonder moon I swear you do me wrong! 155
FTLN 2563 In faith, I gave it to the judge's clerk.
FTLN 2564 Would he were gelt that had it, for my part,
FTLN 2565 Since you do take it, love, so much at heart.

PORTIA

FTLN 2566 A quarrel ho, already! What's the matter?

GRATIANO

FTLN 2567 About a hoop of gold, a paltry ring 160
FTLN 2568 That she did give me, whose posy was

FTLN 2569	For all the world like cutler's poetry	
FTLN 2570	Upon a knife, "Love me, and leave me not."	
	NERISSA	
FTLN 2571	What talk you of the posy or the value?	
FTLN 2572	You swore to me when I did give 「it」 you	165
FTLN 2573	That you would wear it till your hour of death,	
FTLN 2574	And that it should lie with you in your grave.	
FTLN 2575	Though not for me, yet for your vehement oaths,	
FTLN 2576	You should have been respective and have kept it.	
FTLN 2577	Gave it a judge's clerk! No, God's my judge,	170
FTLN 2578	The clerk will ne'er wear hair on 's face that had it.	
	GRATIANO	
FTLN 2579	He will, an if he live to be a man.	
	NERISSA	
FTLN 2580	Ay, if a woman live to be a man.	
	GRATIANO	
FTLN 2581	Now, by this hand, I gave it to a youth,	
FTLN 2582	A kind of boy, a little scrubbèd boy,	175
FTLN 2583	No higher than thyself, the judge's clerk,	
FTLN 2584	A prating boy that begged it as a fee.	
FTLN 2585	I could not for my heart deny it him.	
	PORTIA	
FTLN 2586	You were to blame, I must be plain with you,	
FTLN 2587	To part so slightly with your wife's first gift,	180
FTLN 2588	A thing stuck on with oaths upon your finger,	
FTLN 2589	And so riveted with faith unto your flesh.	
FTLN 2590	I gave my love a ring and made him swear	
FTLN 2591	Never to part with it, and here he stands.	
FTLN 2592	I dare be sworn for him he would not leave it	185
FTLN 2593	Nor pluck it from his finger for the wealth	
FTLN 2594	That the world masters. Now, in faith, Gratiano,	
FTLN 2595	You give your wife too unkind a cause of grief.	
FTLN 2596	An 'twere to me I should be mad at it.	
	BASSANIO, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	
FTLN 2597	Why, I were best to cut my left hand off	190
FTLN 2598	And swear I lost the ring defending it.	

GRATIANO

FTLN 2599 My Lord Bassanio gave his ring away
 FTLN 2600 Unto the judge that begged it, and indeed
 FTLN 2601 Deserved it, too. And then the boy, his clerk,
 FTLN 2602 That took some pains in writing, he begged mine, 195
 FTLN 2603 And neither man nor master would take aught
 FTLN 2604 But the two rings.

PORTIA What ring gave you, my lord?

FTLN 2605 Not that, I hope, which you received of me.
 FTLN 2606

BASSANIO

FTLN 2607 If I could add a lie unto a fault, 200
 FTLN 2608 I would deny it, but you see my finger
 FTLN 2609 Hath not the ring upon it. It is gone.

PORTIA

FTLN 2610 Even so void is your false heart of truth.
 FTLN 2611 By heaven, I will ne'er come in your bed
 FTLN 2612 Until I see the ring! 205

FTLN 2613 NERISSA, *['to Gratiano']* Nor I in yours
 FTLN 2614 Till I again see mine!

BASSANIO Sweet Portia,

FTLN 2615 If you did know to whom I gave the ring,
 FTLN 2616 If you did know for whom I gave the ring, 210
 FTLN 2617 And would conceive for what I gave the ring,
 FTLN 2618 And how unwillingly I left the ring,
 FTLN 2619 When naught would be accepted but the ring,
 FTLN 2620 You would abate the strength of your displeasure.
 FTLN 2621

PORTIA

FTLN 2622 If you had known the virtue of the ring, 215
 FTLN 2623 Or half her worthiness that gave the ring,
 FTLN 2624 Or your own honor to contain the ring,
 FTLN 2625 You would not then have parted with the ring.
 FTLN 2626 What man is there so much unreasonable,
 FTLN 2627 If you had pleased to have defended it 220
 FTLN 2628 With any terms of zeal, wanted the modesty
 FTLN 2629 To urge the thing held as a ceremony?
 FTLN 2630 Nerissa teaches me what to believe:
 FTLN 2631 I'll die for 't but some woman had the ring!

BASSANIO

FTLN 2632 No, by my honor, madam, by my soul, 225
 FTLN 2633 No woman had it, but a civil doctor,
 FTLN 2634 Which did refuse three thousand ducats of me
 FTLN 2635 And begged the ring, the which I did deny him
 FTLN 2636 And suffered him to go displeasèd away,
 FTLN 2637 Even he that had held up the very life 230
 FTLN 2638 Of my dear friend. What should I say, sweet lady?
 FTLN 2639 I was enforced to send it after him.
 FTLN 2640 I was beset with shame and courtesy.
 FTLN 2641 My honor would not let ingratitude
 FTLN 2642 So much besmear it. Pardon me, good lady, 235
 FTLN 2643 For by these blessèd candles of the night,
 FTLN 2644 Had you been there, I think you would have begged
 FTLN 2645 The ring of me to give the worthy doctor.

PORTIA

FTLN 2646 Let not that doctor e'er come near my house!
 FTLN 2647 Since he hath got the jewel that I loved, 240
 FTLN 2648 And that which you did swear to keep for me,
 FTLN 2649 I will become as liberal as you:
 FTLN 2650 I'll not deny him anything I have,
 FTLN 2651 No, not my body, nor my husband's bed.
 FTLN 2652 Know him I shall, I am well sure of it. 245
 FTLN 2653 Lie not a night from home. Watch me like Argus.
 FTLN 2654 If you do not, if I be left alone,
 FTLN 2655 Now by mine honor, which is yet mine own,
 FTLN 2656 I'll have that doctor for ^{my} bedfellow.

NERISSA

FTLN 2657 And I his clerk. Therefore be well advised 250
 FTLN 2658 How you do leave me to mine own protection.

GRATIANO

FTLN 2659 Well, do you so. Let not me take him, then,
 FTLN 2660 For if I do, I'll mar the young clerk's pen.

ANTONIO

FTLN 2661 I am th' unhappy subject of these quarrels.

PORTIA

FTLN 2662 Sir, grieve not you. You are welcome 255
 FTLN 2663 notwithstanding.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2664 Portia, forgive me this enforcèd wrong,
 FTLN 2665 And in the hearing of these many friends
 FTLN 2666 I swear to thee, even by thine own fair eyes,
 FTLN 2667 Wherein I see myself— 260

PORTIA Mark you but that!

FTLN 2669 In both my eyes he doubly sees himself,
 FTLN 2670 In each eye one. Swear by your double self,
 FTLN 2671 And there's an oath of credit.

BASSANIO Nay, but hear me. 265

FTLN 2673 Pardon this fault, and by my soul I swear
 FTLN 2674 I never more will break an oath with thee.

ANTONIO

FTLN 2675 I once did lend my body for his wealth,
 FTLN 2676 Which but for him that had your husband's ring
 FTLN 2677 Had quite miscarried. I dare be bound again, 270
 FTLN 2678 My soul upon the forfeit, that your lord
 FTLN 2679 Will never more break faith advisedly.

PORTIA

FTLN 2680 Then you shall be his surety. Give him this,
「Giving Antonio a ring.」

FTLN 2681 And bid him keep it better than the other.

ANTONIO

FTLN 2682 Here, Lord Bassanio, swear to keep this ring. 275

BASSANIO

FTLN 2683 By heaven, it is the same I gave the doctor!

PORTIA

FTLN 2684 I had it of him. Pardon me, Bassanio,
 FTLN 2685 For by this ring, the doctor lay with me.

NERISSA

FTLN 2686 And pardon me, my gentle Gratiano,
 FTLN 2687 For that same scrubbed boy, the doctor's clerk, 280
 FTLN 2688 In lieu of this, last night did lie with me.

「She shows a ring.」

GRATIANO

FTLN 2689 Why, this is like the mending of highways
 FTLN 2690 In summer, where the ways are fair enough!
 FTLN 2691 What, are we cuckolds ere we have deserved it?

PORTIA

FTLN 2692 Speak not so grossly.—You are all amazed. 285
 〔She hands a paper to Bassanio.〕

FTLN 2693 Here is a letter; read it at your leisure.
 FTLN 2694 It comes from Padua from Bellario.
 FTLN 2695 There you shall find that Portia was the doctor,
 FTLN 2696 Nerissa there, her clerk. Lorenzo here
 FTLN 2697 Shall witness I set forth as soon as you, 290
 FTLN 2698 And even but now returned. I have not yet
 FTLN 2699 Entered my house.—Antonio, you are welcome,
 FTLN 2700 And I have better news in store for you
 FTLN 2701 Than you expect. Unseal this letter soon.

〔Handing him a paper.〕

FTLN 2702 There you shall find three of your argosies 295
 FTLN 2703 Are richly come to harbor suddenly.
 FTLN 2704 You shall not know by what strange accident
 FTLN 2705 I chanced on this letter.

FTLN 2706 ANTONIO I am dumb.

BASSANIO

FTLN 2707 Were you the doctor and I knew you not? 300

GRATIANO

FTLN 2708 Were you the clerk that is to make me cuckold?

NERISSA

FTLN 2709 Ay, but the clerk that never means to do it,
 FTLN 2710 Unless he live until he be a man.

BASSANIO, *〔to Portia〕*

FTLN 2711 Sweet doctor, you shall be my bedfellow.
 FTLN 2712 When I am absent, then lie with my wife. 305

ANTONIO

FTLN 2713 Sweet lady, you have given me life and living;
 FTLN 2714 For here I read for certain that my ships
 FTLN 2715 Are safely come to road.

