

1608

PERICLES, PRINCE OF TYRE

by William Shakespeare

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

GOWER, as Chorus

ANTIOCHUS, King of Antioch

PERICLES, Prince of Tyre

two lords of Tyre

HELICANUS

ESCANES

SIMONIDES, King of Pentapolis

CLEON, Governor of Tharsus

LYSIMACHUS, Governor of Mytilene

CERIMON, a lord of Ephesus

THALIARD, a lord of Antioch

PHILEMON, servant to Cerimon

LEONINE, servant to Dionyza

MARSHAL

A PANDER

BOULT, his servant

THE DAUGHTER of Antiochus

DIONYZA, wife to Cleon

THAISA, daughter to Simonides

MARINA, daughter to Pericles and Thaisa

LYCHORIDA, nurse to Marina

A BAWD

DIANA

Lords, Ladies, Knights, Gentlemen, Sailors,
Pirates, Fishermen, and Messengers

SCENE:

Dispersedly in various countries

PERICLES, Prince of Tyre

ACT 1.

Antioch. Before the palace

Enter GOWER

To sing a song that old was sung,
From ashes ancient Gower is come,
Assuming man's infirmities,
To glad your ear and please your eyes.
It hath been sung at festivals,
On ember-eves and holy-ales;
And lords and ladies in their lives
Have read it for restoratives.
The purchase is to make men glorious;
Et bonum quo antiquius, eo melius.
If you, born in those latter times,
When wit's more ripe, accept my rhymes,
And that to hear an old man sing
May to your wishes pleasure bring,
I life would wish, and that I might
Waste it for you, like taper-light.
This Antioch, then, Antiochus the Great
Built up, this city, for his chiefest seat;

The fairest in all Syria-
I tell you what mine authors say.
This king unto him took a fere,
Who died and left a female heir,
So buxom, blithe, and full of face,
As heaven had lent her all his grace;
With whom the father liking took,
And her to incest did provoke.
Bad child! Worse father! To entice his own
To evil should be done by none.
But custom what they did begin
Was with long use account no sin.
The beauty of this sinful dame
Made many princes thither frame
To seek her as a bed-fellow,
In marriage-pleasures play-fellow;
Which to prevent he made a law-
To keep her still, and men in awe-
That whoso ask'd her for his wife,
His riddle told not, lost his life.
So for her many a wight did die,
As yon grim looks do testify.
What now ensues to the judgment of your eye
I give, my cause who best can justify.

Exit

SCENE 1.

Antioch. The palace

Enter ANTIOCHUS, PRINCE PERICLES, and followers

ANTIOCHUS. Young Prince of Tyre, you have at large
received

The danger of the task you undertake.

PERICLES. I have, Antiochus, and, with a soul
Embold'ned with the glory of her praise,
Think death no hazard in this enterprise.

ANTIOCHUS. Bring in our daughter, clothed like a bride
For the embracements even of Jove himself; [Music]
At whose conception, till Lucina reigned,
Nature this dowry gave to glad her presence:
The senate-house of planets all did sit,
To knit in her their best perfections.

Enter the DAUGHTER of ANTIOCHUS

PERICLES. See where she comes, apparell'd like the spring,
Graces her subjects, and her thoughts the king
Of every virtue gives renown to men.
Her face the book of praises, where is read
Nothing but curious pleasures, as from thence
Sorrow were ever raz'd, and testy wrath
Could never be her mild companion.
You gods that made me man, and sway in love,
That have inflam'd desire in my breast
To taste the fruit of yon celestial tree,
Or die in the adventure, be my helps,
As I am son and servant to your will,
To compass such a boundless happiness!

ANTIOCHUS. Prince Pericles-

PERICLES. That would be son to great Antiochus.

ANTIOCHUS. Before thee stands this fair Hesperides,
With golden fruit, but dangerous to be touch'd;
For death-like dragons here affright thee hard.
Her face, like heaven, enticeth thee to view
Her countless glory, which desert must gain;
And which, without desert, because thine eye

Presumes to reach, all the whole heap must die.
Yon sometimes famous princes, like thyself,
Drawn by report, advent'rous by desire,
Tell thee, with speechless tongues and semblance pale,
That, without covering, save yon field of stars,
Here they stand martyrs, slain in Cupid's wars;
And with dead cheeks advise thee to desist
For going on death's net, whom none resist.

PERICLES. Antiochus, I thank thee, who hath taught
My frail mortality to know itself,
And by those fearful objects to prepare
This body, like to them, to what I must;
For death remembered should be like a mirror,
Who tells us life's but breath, to trust it error.
I'll make my will then, and, as sick men do,
Who know the world, see heaven, but, feeling woe,
Gripe not at earthly joys as erst they did;
So I bequeath a happy peace to you
And all good men, as every prince should do;
My riches to the earth from whence they came;
[To the PRINCESS] But my unspotted fire of love to you.
Thus ready for the way of life or death,
I wait the sharpest blow, Antiochus.

ANTIOCHUS. Scorning advice, read the conclusion then:
Which read and not expounded, 'tis decreed,
As these before thee, thou thyself shalt bleed.

DAUGHTER. Of all 'say'd yet, mayst thou prove prosperous!
Of all 'say'd yet, I wish thee happiness!

PERICLES. Like a bold champion I assume the lists
Nor ask advice of any other thought
But faithfulness and courage.

[Reads]

THE RIDDLE.

I am no viper, yet I feed
On mother's flesh which did me breed.
I sought a husband, in which labour
I found that kindness in a father.
He's father, son, and husband mild;
I mother, wife, and yet his child.
How they may be, and yet in two,
As you will live, resolve it you.

[Aside] Sharp physic is the last. But, O you powers
That give heaven countless eyes to view men's acts,
Why cloud they not their sights perpetually,
If this be true, which makes me pale to read it?
Fair glass of light, I lov'd you, and could still,
Were not this glorious casket stor'd with ill.
But I must tell you now my thoughts revolt;
For he's no man on whom perfections wait
That, knowing sin within, will touch the gate.
You are a fair viol, and your sense the strings;
Who, finger'd to make man his lawful music,
Would draw heaven down, and all the gods, to hearken;
But, being play'd upon before your time,
Hell only danceth at so harsh a chime.
Good sooth, I care not for you.

ANTIOCHUS. Prince Pericles, touch not, upon thy life,
For that's an article within our law
As dangerous as the rest. Your time's expir'd:
Either expound now, or receive your sentence.

PERICLES. Great King,
Few love to hear the sins they love to act;
'Twould braid yourself too near for me to tell it.
Who has a book of all that monarchs do,

He's more secure to keep it shut than shown;
For vice repeated is like the wand'ring wind,
Blows dust in others' eyes, to spread itself;
And yet the end of all is bought thus dear,
The breath is gone, and the sore eyes see clear
To stop the air would hurt them. The blind mole casts
Copp'd hills towards heaven, to tell the earth is throng'd
By man's oppression, and the poor worm doth die for't.
kings are earth's gods; in vice their law's their will;
And if Jove stray, who dares say Jove doth ill?
It is enough you know; and it is fit,
What being more known grows worse, to smother it.
All love the womb that their first being bred;
Then give my tongue like leave to love my head.

ANTIOCHUS. [Aside] Heaven, that I had thy head! He has
found the meaning.

But I will gloze with him.-Young Prince of Tyre,
Though by the tenour of our strict edict,
Your exposition misinterpreting,
We might proceed to cancel of your days;
Yet hope, succeeding from so fair a tree
As your fair self, doth tune us otherwise.
Forty days longer we do respite you;
If by which time our secret be undone,
This mercy shows we'll joy in such a son;
And until then your entertain shall be
As doth befit our honour and your worth.

Exeunt all but PERICLES

PERICLES. How courtesy would seem to cover sin,
When what is done is like an hypocrite,
The which is good in nothing but in sight!
If it be true that I interpret false,
Then were it certain you were not so bad

As with foul incest to abuse your soul;
Where now you're both a father and a son
By your untimely claspings with your child-
Which pleasure fits a husband, not a father-
And she an eater of her mother's flesh
By the defiling of her parent's bed;
And both like serpents are, who, though they feed
On sweetest flowers, yet they poison breed.
Antioch, farewell! for wisdom sees those men
Blush not in actions blacker than the night
Will shun no course to keep them from the light.
One sin I know another doth provoke:
Murder's as near to lust as flame to smoke.
Poison and treason are the hands of sin,
Ay, and the targets to put off the shame.
Then, lest my life be cropp'd to keep you clear,
By flight I'll shun the danger which I fear. Exit

Re-enter ANTIOCHUS

ANTIOCHUS. He hath found the meaning,
For which we mean to have his head.
He must not live to trumpet forth my infamy,
Nor tell the world Antiochus doth sin
In such a loathed manner;
And therefore instantly this prince must die;
For by his fall my honour must keep high.
Who attends us there?

Enter THALIARD

THALIARD. Doth your Highness call?

ANTIOCHUS. Thaliard, you are of our chamber, and our
mind partakes

Her private actions to your secrecy;
And for your faithfulness we will advance you.
Thaliard, behold here's poison and here's gold;
We hate the Prince of Tyre, and thou must kill him.
It fits thee not to ask the reason why,
Because we bid it. Say, is it done?

THALIARD. My lord,

'Tis done.

ANTIOCHUS. Enough.

Enter a MESSENGER

Let your breath cool yourself, telling your haste.

MESSENGER. My lord, Prince Pericles is fled. Exit

ANTIOCHUS. As thou wilt live, fly after; and like an arrow
shot from a well-experienc'd archer hits the mark his eye
doth level at, so thou never return unless thou say Prince
Pericles is dead.

THALIARD. My lord, if I can get him within my pistol's
length I'll make him sure enough. So, farewell to your
Highness.

ANTIOCHUS. Thaliard, adieu! [Exit THALIARD] Till Pericles
be dead

My heart can lend no succour to my head. Exit

SCENE 2.

Tyre. The palace

Enter PERICLES with his LORDS

PERICLES. Let none disturb us. Exeunt LORDS

Why should this change of thoughts,
The sad companion, dull-ey'd melancholy,

Be my so us'd a guest as not an hour
In the day's glorious walk, or peaceful night,
The tomb where grief should sleep, can breed me quiet?
Here pleasures court mine eyes, and mine eyes shun them,
And danger, which I fear'd, is at Antioch,
Whose arm seems far too short to hit me here.
Yet neither pleasure's art can joy my spirits,
Nor yet the other's distance comfort me.
Then it is thus: the passions of the mind,
That have their first conception by misdread,
Have after-nourishment and life by care;
And what was first but fear what might be done
Grows elder now, and cares it be not done.
And so with me. The great Antiochus-
'Gainst whom I am too little to contend,
Since he's so great can make his will his act-
Will think me speaking, though I swear to silence;
Nor boots it me to say I honour him,
If he suspect I may dishonour him;
And what may make him blush in being known,
He'll stop the course by which it might be known.
With hostile forces he'll o'erspread the land,
And with th' ostent of war will look so huge
Amazement shall drive courage from the state;
Our men be vanquish'd ere they do resist,
And subjects punish'd that ne'er thought offence;
Which care of them, not pity of myself-
Who am no more but as the tops of trees
Which fence the roots they grow by and defend them-
Makes both my body pine and soul to languish,
And punish that before that he would punish.

Enter HELICANUS and all the LORDS

FIRST LORD. Joy and all comfort in your sacred breast!

SECOND LORD. And keep your mind till you return to us,
Peaceful and comfortable!

HELICANUS. Peace, peace, and give experience tongue.

They do abuse the king that flatter him,
For flattery is the bellows blows up sin;
The thing the which is flattered but a spark,
To which that blast gives heat and stronger glowing;
Whereas reproof, obedient, and in order,
Fits kings as they are men, for they may err.
When Signior Sooth here does proclaim a peace,
He flatters you, makes war upon your life.
Prince, pardon me, or strike me if you please;
I cannot be much lower than my knees. [Kneels]

PERICLES. All leave us else; but let your cares o'erlook
What shipping and what lading's in our haven,
And then return to us. [Exeunt LORDS] Helicanus, thou
Hast moved us. What seest thou in our looks?

HELICANUS. An angry brow, dread lord.

PERICLES. If there be such a dart in princes' frowns,
How durst thy tongue move anger to our face?

HELICANUS. How dare the plants look up to heaven, from whence
They have their nourishment?

PERICLES. Thou know'st I have power
To take thy life from thee.

HELICANUS. I have ground the axe myself;
Do but you strike the blow.

PERICLES. Rise, pr'ythee, rise.
Sit down. Thou art no flatterer.
I thank thee for't; and heaven forbid
That kings should let their cars hear their faults chid!
Fit counsellor and servant for a prince,

Who by thy wisdom mak'st a prince thy servant,
What wouldst thou have me do?

HELICANUS. To bear with patience

Such griefs as you yourself do lay upon yourself.

PERICLES. Thou speak'st like a physician, Helicanus,

That ministers a potion unto me

That thou wouldst tremble to receive thyself.

Attend me, then: I went to Antioch,

Where, as thou know'st, against the face of death,

I sought the purchase of a glorious beauty,

From whence an issue I might propagate

Are arms to princes and bring joys to subjects.

Her face was to mine eye beyond all wonder;

The rest-hark in thine ear-as black as incest;

Which by my knowledge found, the sinful father

Seem'd not to strike, but smooth. But thou know'st this,

'Tis time to fear when tyrants seem to kiss.

Which fear so grew in me I hither fled

Under the covering of a careful night,

Who seem'd my good protector; and, being here,

Bethought me what was past, what might succeed.

I knew him tyrannous; and tyrants' fears

Decrease not, but grow faster than the years;

And should he doubt it, as no doubt he doth,

That I should open to the list'ning air

How many worthy princes' bloods were shed

To keep his bed of blackness unlaid ope,

To lop that doubt, he'll fill this land with arms,

And make pretence of wrong that I have done him;

When all, for mine, if I may call offence,

Must feel war's blow, who spares not innocence;

Which love to all, of which thyself art one,

Who now reprov'dst me for't-

HELICANUS. Alas, sir!

PERICLES. Drew sleep out of mine eyes, blood from my
cheeks,

Musings into my mind, with thousand doubts
How I might stop this tempest ere it came;
And, finding little comfort to relieve them,
I thought it princely charity to grieve them.

HELICANUS. Well, my lord, since you have given me leave
to speak,

Freely will I speak. Antiochus you fear,
And justly too, I think, you fear the tyrant,
Who either by public war or private treason
Will take away your life.
Therefore, my lord, go travel for a while
Till that his rage and anger be forgot,
Or till the Destinies do cut his thread of life.
Your rule direct to any; if to me,
Day serves not light more faithful than I'll be.

PERICLES. I do not doubt thy faith;

But should he wrong my liberties in my absence?

HELICANUS. We'll mingle our bloods together in the earth,
From whence we had our being and our birth.

PERICLES. Tyre, I now look from thee then, and to Tharsus

Intend my travel, where I'll hear from thee;
And by whose letters I'll dispose myself.
The care I had and have of subjects' good
On thee I lay, whose wisdom's strength can bear it.
I'll take thy word for faith, not ask thine oath:
Who shuns not to break one will sure crack both.
But in our orbs we'll live so round and safe
That time of both this truth shall ne'er convince,
Thou show'dst a subject's shine, I a true prince.

Exeunt

SCENE 3.

Tyre. The palace

Enter THALIARD

THALIARD. So, this is Tyre, and this the court. Here must
kill King Pericles; and if I do it not, I am sure to be
hang'd at home. 'Tis dangerous. Well, I perceive he was
a wise fellow and had good discretion that, being bid to
ask what he would of the king, desired he might know
none of his secrets. Now do I see he had some reason
for't; for if a king bid a man be a villain, he's bound by
the indenture of his oath to be one. Husht! here comes
the lords of Tyre.

Enter HELICANUS, ESCANES, with other LORDS

HELICANUS. You shall not need, my fellow peers of Tyre,
Further to question me of your King's departure:
His seal'd commission, left in trust with me,
Does speak sufficiently he's gone to travel.

THALIARD. [Aside] How! the King gone!

HELICANUS. If further yet you will be satisfied
Why, as it were unlicens'd of your loves,
He would depart, I'll give some light unto you.
Being at Antioch-

THALIARD. [Aside] What from Antioch?

HELICANUS. Royal Antiochus, on what cause I know not,
Took some displeasure at him; at least he judg'd so;
And doubting lest that he had err'd or sinn'd,
To show his sorrow, he'd correct himself;
So puts himself unto the shipman's toil,
With whom each minute threatens life or death.

THALIARD. [Aside] Well, I perceive

I shall not be hang'd now although I would;
But since he's gone, the King's seas must please
He scap'd the land to perish at the seas.

I'll present myself.-Peace to the Lords of Tyre!

HELICANUS. Lord Thaliard from Antiochus is welcome.

THALIARD. From him I come

With message unto princely Pericles;
But since my landing I have understood
Your lord has betook himself to unknown travels,
Now message must return from whence it came.

HELICANUS. We have no reason to desire it,

Commended to our master, not to us;
Yet, ere you shall depart, this we desire-
As friends to Antioch, we may feast in Tyre.

Exeunt

SCENE 4.

Tharsus. The Governor's house

Enter CLEON the Governor of Tharsus, with DIONYZA
his wife, and others

CLEON. My Dionyza, shall we rest us here,
And by relating tales of others' griefs
See if 'twill teach us to forget our own?

DIONYZA. That were to blow at fire in hope to quench it;
For who digs hills because they do aspire
Throws down one mountain to cast up a higher.
O my distressed lord, even such our griefs are!
Here they are but felt and seen with mischief's eyes,
But like to groves, being topp'd, they higher rise.

CLEON. O Dionyza,
Who wanteth food, and will not say he wants it,
Or can conceal his hunger till he famish?

Our tongues and sorrows to sound deep
Our woes into the air; our eyes to weep?
Till tongues fetch breath that may proclaim them louder;
That, if heaven slumber while their creatures want,
They may awake their helps to comfort them.
I'll then discourse our woes, felt several years,
And, wanting breath to speak, help me with tears.

DIONYZA. I'll do my best, sir.

CLEON. This Tharsus, o'er which I have the government,
A city on whom plenty held full hand,
For Riches strew'd herself even in her streets;
Whose towers bore heads so high they kiss'd the clouds,
And strangers ne'er beheld but wond'red at;
Whose men and dames so jettied and adorn'd,
Like one another's glass to trim them by;
Their tables were stor'd full, to glad the sight,
And not so much to feed on as delight;
All poverty was scorn'd, and pride so great
The name of help grew odious to repeat.

DIONYZA. O, 'tis too true!

CLEON. But see what heaven can do! By this our change
These mouths who but of late earth, sea, and air,
Were all too little to content and please,
Although they gave their creatures in abundance,
As houses are defil'd for want of use,
They are now starv'd for want of exercise.
Those palates who, not yet two summers younger,
Must have inventions to delight the taste,
Would now be glad of bread, and beg for it.
Those mothers who to nouzle up their babes
Thought nought too curious are ready now
To eat those little darlings whom they lov'd.
So sharp are hunger's teeth that man and wife

Draw lots who first shall die to lengthen life.
Here stands a lord, and there a lady weeping;
Here many sink, yet those which see them fall
Have scarce strength left to give them burial.
Is not this true?

DIONYZA. Our cheeks and hollow eyes do witness it.

CLEON. O, let those cities that of Plenty's cup
And her prosperities so largely taste,
With their superfluous riots, hear these tears!
The misery of Tharsus may be theirs.

Enter a LORD

LORD. Where's the Lord Governor?

CLEON. Here.

Speak out thy sorrows which thou bring'st in haste,
For comfort is too far for us to expect.

LORD. We have descried, upon our neighbouring shore,
A portly sail of ships make hitherward.

CLEON. I thought as much.

One sorrow never comes but brings an heir
That may succeed as his inheritor;
And so in ours: some neighbouring nation,
Taking advantage of our misery,
Hath stuff'd the hollow vessels with their power,
To beat us down, the which are down already;
And make a conquest of unhappy me,
Whereas no glory's got to overcome.

LORD. That's the least fear; for by the semblance
Of their white flags display'd, they bring us peace,
And come to us as favourers, not as foes.

CLEON. Thou speak'st like him's untutor'd to repeat:
Who makes the fairest show means most deceit.

But bring they what they will and what they can,
What need we fear?

Our ground's the lowest, and we are halfway there.
Go tell their general we attend him here,
To know for what he comes, and whence he comes,
And what he craves.

LORD. I go, my lord.

Exit

CLEON. Welcome is peace, if he on peace consist;
If wars, we are unable to resist.

Enter PERICLES, with attendants

PERICLES. Lord Governor, for so we hear you are,
Let not our ships and number of our men
Be like a beacon fir'd t'amaze your eyes.
We have heard your miseries as far as Tyre,
And seen the desolation of your streets;
Nor come we to add sorrow to your tears,
But to relieve them of their heavy load;
And these our ships, you happily may think
Are like the Trojan horse war stuff'd within
With bloody veins, expecting overthrow,
Are stor'd with corn to make your needy bread,
And give them life whom hunger starv'd half dead.
ALL. The gods of Greece protect you!
And we'll pray for you.

[They kneel]

PERICLES. Arise, I pray you, rise.

We do not look for reverence, but for love,
And harbourage for ourself, our ships, and men.

CLEON. The which when any shall not gratify,
Or pay you with unthankfulness in thought,
Be it our wives, our children, or ourselves,
The curse of heaven and men succeed their evils!

Till when-the which I hope shall ne'er be seen-

Your Grace is welcome to our town and us.

PERICLES. Which welcome we'll accept; feast here awhile,

Until our stars that frown lend us a smile.

Exeunt

ACT II.

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Here have you seen a mighty king

His child I wis to incest bring;

A better prince and benign lord,

That will prove awful both in deed and word.

Be quiet then, as men should be,

Till he hath pass'd necessity.

I'll show you those in troubles reign,

Losing a mite, a mountain gain.

The good in conversation,

To whom I give my benison,

Is still at Tharsus, where each man

Thinks all is writ he spoken can;

And, to remember what he does,

Build his statue to make him glorious.

But tidings to the contrary

Are brought your eyes. What need speak I?

DUMB SHOW.

Enter, at one door, PERICLES, talking with CLEON;

all the train with them. Enter, at another door, a

GENTLEMAN with a letter to PERICLES; PERICLES

shows the letter to CLEON. PERICLES gives the messenger

a reward, and knights him. Exit PERICLES at one door

and CLEON at another

Good Helicane, that stay'd at home,
Not to eat honey like a drone
From others' labours; for though he strive
To killen bad, keep good alive;
And, to fulfil his prince' desire,
Sends word of all that haps in Tyre:
How Thaliard came full bent with sin
And had intent to murder him;
And that in Tharsus was not best
Longer for him to make his rest.
He, doing so, put forth to seas,
Where when men been, there's seldom ease;
For now the wind begins to blow;
Thunder above and deeps below
Makes such unquiet that the ship
Should house him safe is wreck'd and split;
And he, good prince, having all lost,
By waves from coast to coast is toss'd.
All perishen of man, of pelf,
Ne aught escapen but himself;
Till fortune, tir'd with doing bad,
Threw him ashore, to give him glad.
And here he comes. What shall be next,
Pardon old Gower-this longs the text. Exit

SCENE 1.

Pentapolis. An open place by the seaside

Enter PERICLES, wet

PERICLES. Yet cease your ire, you angry stars of heaven!
Wind, rain, and thunder, remember earthly man
Is but a substance that must yield to you;

And I, as fits my nature, do obey you.
Alas, the sea hath cast me on the rocks,
Wash'd me from shore to shore, and left me breath
Nothing to think on but ensuing death.
Let it suffice the greatness of your powers
To have bereft a prince of all his fortunes;
And having thrown him from your wat'ry grave,
Here to have death in peace is all he'll crave.

Enter three FISHERMEN

FIRST FISHERMAN. What, ho, Pilch!

SECOND FISHERMAN. Ha, come and bring away the nets.

FIRST FISHERMAN. What, patchbreech, I say!

THIRD FISHERMAN. What say you, master?

FIRST FISHERMAN. Look how thou stirr'st now. Come away,
or I'll fetch thee with a wanion.

THIRD FISHERMAN. Faith, master, I am thinking of the poor
men that were cast away before us even now.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Alas, poor souls! It grieved my heart to
hear what pitiful cries they made to us to help them, when,
well-a-day, we could scarce help ourselves.

THIRD FISHERMAN. Nay, master, said not I as much when I
saw the porpas how he bounc'd and tumbled? They say
they're half fish, half flesh. A plague on them! They ne'er
come but I look to be wash'd. Master, I marvel how the
fishes live in the sea.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Why, as men do a-land--the great ones
eat up the little ones. I can compare our rich misers to
nothing so fitly as to a whale: 'a plays and tumbles, driving
the poor fry before him, and at last devours them all
at a mouthful. Such whales have I heard on a' th' land,
who never leave gaping till they've swallow'd the whole

parish, church, steeple, bells, and all.

PERICLES. [Aside] A pretty moral.

THIRD FISHERMAN. But, master, if I had been the sexton, I
would have been that day in the belfry.

SECOND FISHERMAN. Why, man?

THIRD FISHERMAN. Because he should have swallowed me
too; and when I had been in his belly I would have kept
such a jangling of the bells that he should never have left
till he cast bells, steeple, church, and parish up again. But
if the good King Simonides were of my mind-

PERICLES. [Aside] Simonides!

THIRD FISHERMAN. We would purge the land of these drones
that rob the bee of her honey.

PERICLES. [Aside] How from the finny subject of the sea
These fishers tell the infirmities of men,
And from their wat'ry empire recollect
All that may men approve or men detect!-
Peace be at your labour, honest fishermen!

SECOND FISHERMAN. Honest-good fellow! What's that? If
it be a day fits you, scratch't out of the calendar,
and nobody look after it.

PERICLES. May see the sea hath cast upon your coast-

SECOND FISHERMAN. What a drunken knave was the sea to
cast thee in our way!

PERICLES. A man whom both the waters and the wind
In that vast tennis-court hath made the ball
For them to play upon entreats you pity him;
He asks of you that never us'd to beg.

FIRST FISHERMAN. No, friend, cannot you beg? Here's them
in our country of Greece gets more with begging than we
can do with working.

SECOND FISHERMAN. Canst thou catch any fishes, then?

PERICLES. I never practis'd it.

SECOND FISHERMAN. Nay, then thou wilt starve, sure; for
here's nothing to be got now-a-days unless thou canst fish
for't.

PERICLES. What I have been I have forgot to know;
But what I am want teaches me to think on:
A man throng'd up with cold; my veins are chill,
And have no more of life than may suffice
To give my tongue that heat to ask your help;
Which if you shall refuse, when I am dead,
For that I am a man, pray see me buried.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Die quoth-a? Now gods forbid't! And I
have a gown here! Come, put it on; keep thee warm.
Now, afore me, a handsome fellow! Come, thou shalt go
home, and we'll have flesh for holidays, fish for fasting
days, and moreo'er puddings and flapjacks; and thou shalt
be welcome.

PERICLES. I thank you, sir.

SECOND FISHERMAN. Hark you, my friend; you said you
could not beg.

PERICLES. I did but crave.

SECOND FISHERMAN. But crave! Then I'll turn craver too,
and so I shall scape whipping.

PERICLES. Why, are all your beggars whipp'd, then?

SECOND FISHERMAN. O, not all, my friend, not an! For if all
your beggars were whipp'd, I would wish no better office
than to be beadle. But, master, I'll go draw up the net.

Exit with THIRD FISHERMAN

PERICLES. [Aside] How well this honest mirth becomes their
labour!

FIRST FISHERMAN. Hark you, sir; do you know where ye are?

PERICLES. Not well.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Why, I'll tell you: this is call'd Pentapolis,
and our king the good Simonides.

PERICLES. The good Simonides, do you call him?

FIRST FISHERMAN. Ay, sir; and he deserves so to be call'd for his peaceable reign and good government.

PERICLES. He is a happy king, since he gains from his subjects the name of good by his government. How far is his court distant from this shore?

FIRST FISHERMAN. Marry, sir, half a day's journey; and I'll tell you, he hath a fair daughter, and to-morrow is her birthday, and there are princes and knights come from all parts of the world to joust and tourney for her love.

PERICLES. Were my fortunes equal to my desires, I could wish to make one there.

FIRST FISHERMAN. O sir, things must be as they may; and what a man cannot get he may lawfully deal for-his wife's soul.

Re-enter SECOND and THIRD FISHERMEN, drawing up a net

SECOND FISHERMAN. Help, master, help! Here's a fish hangs in the net like a poor man's right in the law; 'twill hardly come out. Ha! Bots on't! 'Tis come at last, and 'tis turn'd to a rusty armour.

PERICLES. An armour, friends! I pray you let me see it.

Thanks, Fortune, yet, that after an my crosses

Thou givest me somewhat to repair myself;

And though it was mine own, part of my heritage

Which my dead father did bequeath to me,

With this strict charge, even as he left his life:

'Keep it, my Pericles. It hath been a shield

'Twixt me and death'; and pointed to this brace

'For that it sav'd me, keep it. In like necessity-

The which the gods protect thee from!-may't defend thee!'

It kept where I kept, I so dearly lov'd it;

Tiff the rough seas, that spare not any man,
Took it in rage, though calm'd have given't again-
I thank thee for't. My shipwreck now's no in,
Since I have here my father's gift in his will.

FIRST FISHERMAN. What mean you, sir?

PERICLES. To beg of you, kind friends, this coat of worth
For it was sometime target to a king;
I know it by this mark. He lov'd me dearly,
And for his sake I wish the having of it;
And that you'd guide me to your sovereign's court,
Where with it I may appear a gentleman;
And if that ever my low fortune's better,
I'll pay your bounties; till then rest your debtor.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Why, wilt thou tourney for the lady?

PERICLES. I'll show the virtue I have borne in arms.

FIRST FISHERMAN. Why, do 'e take it, and the gods give thee
good on't!

SECOND FISHERMAN. Ay, but hark you, my friend; 'twas we
that made up this garment through the rough seams of the
waters; there are certain condolences, certain vails. I
hope, sir, if you thrive, you'll remember from whence you
had them.

PERICLES. Believe't, I will.

By your furtherance I am cloth'd in steel;
And spite of all the rupture of the sea
This jewel holds his building on my arm.
Unto thy value I will mount myself
Upon a courser whose delightful steps
Shall make the gazer joy to see him tread.
Only, my friend, I yet am unprovided
Of a pair of bases.

SECOND FISHERMAN. We'll sure provide. Thou shalt have my
best gown to make thee a pair; and I'll bring thee to the

court myself.

PERICLES. Then honour be but a goal to my will;

This day I'll rise, or else add ill to ill.

Exeunt

SCENE 2.

Pentapolis. A public way or platform leading to the lists. A pavilion by the side of it for the reception of the KING, PRINCESS, LORDS, &C.

Enter SIMONIDES, THAISA, LORDS, and attendants

SIMONIDES. Are the knights ready to begin the triumph?

FIRST LORD. They are, my liege;

And stay your coming to present themselves.

SIMONIDES. Return them we are ready; and our daughter here,

In honour of whose birth these triumphs are,
Sits here like beauty's child, whom nature gat
For men to see, and seeing wonder at.

Exit a LORD

THAISA. It pleaseth you, my royal father, to express
My commendations great, whose merit's less.

SIMONIDES. It's fit it should be so; for princes are
A model which heaven makes like to itself:
As jewels lose their glory if neglected,
So princes their renowns if not respected.

'Tis now your honour, daughter, to entertain
The labour of each knight in his device.

THAISA. Which, to preserve mine honour, I'll perform.

Enter a KNIGHT; he passes over, and his SQUIRE
presents his shield to the PRINCESS

SIMONIDES. Who is the first that doth prefer himself?

THAISA. A knight of Sparta, my renowned father;
And the device he bears upon his shield
Is a black Ethiopie reaching at the sun;
The word, 'Lux tua vita mihi.'

SIMONIDES. He loves you well that holds his life of you.

The SECOND KNIGHT passes by

Who is the second that presents himself?

THAISA. A prince of Macedon, my royal father;
And the device he bears upon his shield
Is an arm'd knight that's conquer'd by a lady;
The motto thus, in Spanish, 'Piu por dulzura que por fuerza.'

The THIRD KNIGHT passes by

SIMONIDES. And what's the third?

THAISA. The third of Antioch
And his device a wreath of chivalry;
The word, 'Me pompae provexit apex.'

The FOURTH KNIGHT passes by

SIMONIDES. What is the fourth?

THAISA. A burning torch that's turned upside down;
The word, 'Quod me alit, me extinguit.'

SIMONIDES. Which shows that beauty hath his power and
will,
Which can as well inflame as it can kill.

The FIFTH KNIGHT passes by

THAISA. The fifth, an hand environed with clouds,
Holding out gold that's by the touchstone tried;

The motto thus, 'Sic spectanda fides.'

PERICLES as SIXTH KNIGHT passes by

SIMONIDES. And what's the sixth and last, the which the
knight himself

With such a graceful courtesy deliver'd?

THAISA. He seems to be a stranger; but his present is

A withered branch, that's only green at top;

The motto, 'In hac spe vivo.'

SIMONIDES. A pretty moral;

From the dejected state wherein he is,

He hopes by you his fortunes yet may flourish.

FIRST LORD. He had need mean better than his outward show

Can any way speak in his just commend;

For by his rusty outside he appears

To have practis'd more the whipstock than the lance.

SECOND LORD. He well may be a stranger, for he comes

To an honour'd triumph strangely furnished.

THIRD LORD. And on set purpose let his armour rust

Until this day, to scour it in the dust.

SIMONIDES. Opinion's but a fool, that makes us scan

The outward habit by the inward man.

But stay, the knights are coming. We will withdraw

Into the gallery.

Exeunt

[Great shouts within, and all cry 'The mean knight!']

SCENE 3.

Pentapolis. A ball of state. A banquet prepared

Enter KING SIMONIDES, THAISA, LADIES, MARSHAL, LORDS,

KNIGHTS, from tilting, and attendants

SIMONIDES. Knights!

To say you're welcome were superfluous.
To place upon the volume of your deeds,
As in a title-page, your worth in arms
Were more than you expect, or more than's fit,
Since every worth in show commends itself.
Prepare for mirth, for mirth becomes a feast;
You are princes and my guests.

THAISA. But you my knight and guest;

To whom this wreath of victory I give,
And crown you king of this day's happiness.

PERICLES. 'Tis more by fortune, lady, than my merit.

SIMONIDES. Call it by what you will, the day is yours;

And here I hope is none that envies it.
In framing an artist, aft hath thus decreed,
To make some good, but others to exceed;
And you are her labour'd scholar. Come, queen o' th'
feast-

For, daughter, so you are-here take your place.
marshal the rest as they deserve their grace.

KNIGHTS. We are honour'd much by good Simonides.

SIMONIDES. Your presence glads our days. Honour we love;

For who hates honour hates the gods above.

MARSHAL. Sir, yonder is your place.

PERICLES. Some other is more fit.

FIRST KNIGHT. Contend not, sir; for we are gentlemen

That neither in our hearts nor outward eyes
Envy the great nor shall the low despise.

PERICLES. You are right courteous knights.

SIMONIDES. Sit, sir, sit.

[Aside] By Jove, I wonder, that is king of thoughts,
These cates resist me, she but thought upon.

THAISA. [Aside] By Juno, that is queen of marriage,

All viands that I eat do seem unsavoury,
Wishing him my meat.-Sure he's a gallant gentleman.

SIMONIDES. He's but a country gentleman;

Has done no more than other knights have done;
Has broken a staff or so; so let it pass.

THAISA. [Aside] To me he seems like diamond to glass.

PERICLES. [Aside] Yon king's to me like to my father's
picture,

Which tells me in that glory once he was;
Had princes sit like stars about his throne,
And he the sun, for them to reverence;
None that beheld him but, like lesser lights,
Did vail their crowns to his supremacy:
Where now his son's like a glowworm in the night,
The which hath fire in darkness, none in light.
Whereby I see that Time's the king of men;
He's both their parent, and he is their grave,
And gives them what he will, not what they crave.

SIMONIDES. What, are you merry, Knights?

FIRST KNIGHT. Who can be other in this royal presence?

SIMONIDES. Here, with a cup that's stor'd unto the brim-
As you do love, fill to your mistress' lips-
We drink this health to you.

KNIGHTS. We thank your Grace.

SIMONIDES. Yet pause awhile.

Yon knight doth sit too melancholy,
As if the entertainment in our court
Had not a show might countervail his worth.
Note it not you, Thaisa?

THAISA. What is't

To me, my father?

SIMONIDES. O, attend, my daughter:

Princes, in this, should live like gods above,

Who freely give to every one that comes
To honour them;
And princes not doing so are like to gnats,
Which make a sound, but kill'd are wond'red at.
Therefore to make his entertain more sweet,
Here, say we drink this standing-bowl of wine to him.

THAISA. Alas, my father, it befits not me
Unto a stranger knight to be so bold:
He may my proffer take for an offence,
Since men take women's gifts for impudence.

SIMONIDES. How!

Do as I bid you, or you'll move me else.

THAISA. [Aside] Now, by the gods, he could not please me
better.

SIMONIDES. And furthermore tell him we desire to know of
him

Of whence he is, his name and parentage.

THAISA. The King my father, sir, has drunk to you.

PERICLES. I thank him.

THAISA. Wishing it so much blood unto your life.

PERICLES. I thank both him and you, and pledge him freely.

THAISA. And further he desires to know of you
Of whence you are, your name and parentage.

PERICLES. A gentleman of Tyre-my name, Pericles;

My education been in arts and arms;
Who, looking for adventures in the world,
Was by the rough seas reft of ships and men,
And after shipwreck driven upon this shore.

THAISA. He thanks your Grace; names himself Pericles,
A gentleman of Tyre,
Who only by misfortune of the seas,
Bereft of ships and men, cast on this shore.

SIMONIDES. Now, by the gods, I pity his misfortune,

And will awake him from his melancholy.

Come, gentlemen, we sit too long on trifles

And waste the time which looks for other revels.

Even in your armours, as you are address'd,

Will very well become a soldier's dance.

I will not have excuse, with saying this

Loud music is too harsh for ladies' heads,

Since they love men in arms as well as beds. [They dance]

So, this was well ask'd, 'twas so well perform'd.

Come, sir;

Here is a lady that wants breathing too;

And I have heard you knights of Tyre

Are excellent in making ladies trip;

And that their measures are as excellent.

PERICLES. In those that practise them they are, my lord.

SIMONIDES. O, that's as much as you would be denied

Of your fair courtesy. [The KNIGHTS and LADIES dance]

Unclasp, unclasp.

Thanks, gentlemen, to all; all have done well,

[To PERICLES] But you the best.-Pages and lights, to
conduct

These knights unto their several lodgings!-Yours, sir,

We have given order to be next our own.

PERICLES. I am at your Grace's pleasure.

SIMONIDES. Princes, it is too late to talk of love,

And that's the mark I know you level at.

Therefore each one betake him to his rest;

To-morrow all for speeding do their best. Exeunt

SCENE 4.

Tyre. The Governor's house

Enter HELICANUS and ESCANES

HELICANUS. No, Escanes; know this of me-

Antiochus from incest liv'd not free;
For which, the most high gods not minding longer
To withhold the vengeance that they had in store,
Due to this heinous capital offence,
Even in the height and pride of all his glory,
When he was seated in a chariot
Of an inestimable value, and his daughter with him,
A fire from heaven came and shrivell'd up
Their bodies, even to loathing; for they so stunk
That all those eyes ador'd them ere their fall
Scorn now their hand should give them burial.

ESCANES. 'Twas very strange.

HELICANUS. And yet but justice: for though

This king were great, his greatness was no guard
To bar heaven's shaft, but sin had his reward.

ESCANES. 'Tis very true.

Enter two or three LORDS

FIRST LORD. See, not a man in private conference

Or council has respect with him but he.

SECOND LORD. It shall no longer grieve without reproof.

THIRD LORD. And curs'd be he that will not second it!

FIRST LORD. Follow me, then. Lord Helicane, a word.

HELICANUS. With me? and welcome. Happy day, my lords.

FIRST LORD. Know that our griefs are risen to the top,
And now at length they overflow their banks.

HELICANUS. Your griefs! for what? Wrong not your prince
you love.

FIRST LORD. Wrong not yourself, then, noble Helicane;
But if the prince do live, let us salute him,

Or know what ground's made happy by his breath.
If in the world he live, we'll seek him out;
If in his grave he rest, we'll find him there;
And be resolv'd he lives to govern us,
Or, dead, give's cause to mourn his funeral,
And leave us to our free election.

SECOND LORD. Whose death's indeed the strongest in our
censure;

And knowing this kingdom, if without a head,
Like goodly buildings left without a roof,
Soon fall to ruin, your noble self,
That best know how to rule and how to reign,
We thus submit unto-our sovereign.

ALL. Live, noble Helicane!

HELICANUS. By honour's cause, forbear your suffrages.

If that you love Prince Pericles, forbear.
Take I your wish, I leap into the seas,
Where's hourly trouble for a minute's ease.
A twelvemonth longer let me entreat you
To forbear the absence of your king;
If in which time expir'd he not return,
I shall with aged patience bear your yoke.
But if I cannot win you to this love,
Go search like nobles, like noble subjects,
And in your search spend your adventurous worth;
Whom if you find, and win unto return,
You shall like diamonds sit about his crown.

FIRST LORD. To wisdom he's a fool that will not yield;
And since Lord Helicane enjoineth us,
We with our travels will endeavour it.

HELICANUS. Then you love us, we you, and we'll clasp
hands:

When peers thus knit, a kingdom ever stands.

Exeunt

SCENE 5.

Pentapolis. The palace

Enter SIMONIDES, reading of a letter,
at one door. The KNIGHTS meet him

FIRST KNIGHT. Good morrow to the good Simonides.

SIMONIDES. Knights, from my daughter this I let you know,
That for this twelvemonth she'll not undertake
A married life.

Her reason to herself is only known,
Which from her by no means can I get.

SECOND KNIGHT. May we not get access to her, my lord?

SIMONIDES. Faith, by no means; she hath so strictly tied her
To her chamber that it is impossible.
One twelve moons more she'll wear Diana's livery.
This by the eye of Cynthia hath she vow'd,
And on her virgin honour will not break it.

THIRD KNIGHT. Loath to bid farewell, we take our leaves.

Exeunt KNIGHTS

SIMONIDES. So,
They are well dispatch'd. Now to my daughter's letter.
She tells me here she'll wed the stranger knight,
Or never more to view nor day nor light.
'Tis well, mistress; your choice agrees with mine;
I like that well. Nay, how absolute she's in't,
Not minding whether I dislike or no!
Well, I do commend her choice;
And will no longer have it be delay'd.
Soft! here he comes: I must dissemble it.

Enter PERICLES

PERICLES. All fortune to the good Simonides!

SIMONIDES. To you as much, sir! I am beholding to you

For your sweet music this last night. I do

Protest my ears were never better fed

With such delightful pleasing harmony.

PERICLES. It is your Grace's pleasure to commend;

Not my desert.

SIMONIDES. Sir, you are music's master.

PERICLES. The worst of all her scholars, my good lord.

SIMONIDES. Let me ask you one thing:

What do you think of my daughter, sir?

PERICLES. A most virtuous princess.

SIMONIDES. And she is fair too, is she not?

PERICLES. As a fair day in summer-wondrous fair.

SIMONIDES. Sir, my daughter thinks very well of you;

Ay, so well that you must be her master,

And she will be your scholar; therefore look to it.

PERICLES. I am unworthy for her schoolmaster.

SIMONIDES. She thinks not so; peruse this writing else.

PERICLES. [Aside] What's here?

A letter, that she loves the knight of Tyre.

'Tis the king's subtlety to have my life.-

O, seek not to entrap me, gracious lord,

A stranger and distressed gentleman,

That never aim'd so high to love your daughter,

But bent all offices to honour her!

SIMONIDES. Thou hast bewitch'd my daughter, and thou art

A villain.

PERICLES. By the gods, I have not.

Never did thought of mine levy offence;

Nor never did my actions yet commence

A deed might gain her love or your displeasure.

SIMONIDES. Traitor, thou liest.

PERICLES. Traitor!

SIMONIDES. Ay, traitor.

PERICLES. Even in his throat-unless it be the King-

That calls me traitor I return the lie.

SIMONIDES. [Aside] Now, by the gods, I do applaud his
courage.

PERICLES. My actions are as noble as my thoughts,

That never relish'd of a base descent.

I came unto your court for honour's cause,

And not to be a rebel to her state;

And he that otherwise accounts of me,

This sword shall prove he's honour's enemy.

SIMONIDES. No?

Here comes my daughter, she can witness it.

Enter THAISA

PERICLES. Then, as you are as virtuous as fair,

Resolve your angry father if my tongue

Did e'er solicit, or my hand subscribe

To any syllable that made love to you.

THAISA. Why, sir, say if you had,

Who takes offence at that would make me glad?

SIMONIDES. Yea, mistress, are you so peremptory?

[Aside] I am glad on't with all my heart.-

I'll tame you; I'll bring you in subjection.

Will you, not having my consent,

Bestow your love and your affections

Upon a stranger?-[Aside] who, for aught I know,

May be, nor can I think the contrary,

As great in blood as I myself.-

Therefore, hear you, mistress: either frame

Your will to mine-and you, sir, hear you,

Either be rul'd by me-or I will make you-
Man and wife.

Nay, come, your hands and lips must seal it too;
And being join'd, I'll thus your hopes destroy,
And for further grief-God give you joy!

What, are you both pleas'd?

THAISA. Yes, if you love me, sir.

PERICLES. Even as my life my blood that fosters it.

SIMONIDES. What, are you both agreed?

BOTH. Yes, if't please your Majesty.

SIMONIDES. It pleaseth me so well that I will see you wed;
And then, with what haste you can, get you to bed.

Exeunt

ACT III.

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Now sleep yslaked hath the rout;
No din but snores the house about,
Made louder by the o'er-fed breast
Of this most pompous marriage feast.
The cat, with eyne of burning coal,
Now couches fore the mouse's hole;
And crickets sing at the oven's mouth,
Aye the blither for their drouth.
Hymen hath brought the bride to bed,
Where, by the loss of maidenhead,
A babe is moulded. Be attent,
And time that is so briefly spent
With your fine fancies quaintly eche.
What's dumb in show I'll plain with speech.

DUMB SHOW.

Enter PERICLES and SIMONIDES at one door, with attendants; a MESSENGER meets them, kneels, and gives PERICLES a letter. PERICLES shows it SIMONIDES; the LORDS kneel to PERICLES. Then enter THAISA, With child, With LYCHORIDA, a nurse. The king shows her the letter; she rejoices. She and PERICLES take leave of her father, and depart with LYCHORIDA and their attendants. Then exeunt SIMONIDES and the rest

By many a dern and painful perch
Of Pericles the careful search,
By the four opposing coigns
Which the world together joins,
Is made with all due diligence
That horse and sail and high expense
Can stead the quest. At last from Tyre-
Fame answering the most strange inquire-
To the court of King Simonides
Are letters brought, the tenour these:
Antiochus and his daughter dead,
The men of Tyrus on the head
Of Helicanus would set on
The crown of Tyre, but he will none.
The mutiny he there hastes t' oppress;
Says to 'em, if King Pericles
Come not home in twice six moons,
He, obedient to their dooms,
Will take the crown. The sum of this,
Brought hither to Pentapolis,
Y-ravished the regions round,
And every one with claps can sound
'Our heir-apparent is a king!

Who dream'd, who thought of such a thing?'

Brief, he must hence depart to Tyre.

His queen with child makes her desire-

Which who shall cross?-along to go.

Omit we all their dole and woe.

Lychorida, her nurse, she takes,

And so to sea. Their vessel shakes

On Neptune's billow; half the flood

Hath their keel cut: but fortune's mood

Varies again; the grizzled north

Disgorges such a tempest forth

That, as a duck for life that dives,

So up and down the poor ship drives.

The lady shrieks, and, well-a-near,

Does fall in travail with her fear;

And what ensues in this fell storm

Shall for itself itself perform.

I nill relate, action may

Conveniently the rest convey;

Which might not what by me is told.

In your imagination hold

This stage the ship, upon whose deck

The sea-toss'd Pericles appears to speak.

Exit

SCENE 1.

Enter PERICLES, a-shipboard

PERICLES. Thou god of this great vast, rebuke these surges,
Which wash both heaven and hell; and thou that hast
Upon the winds command, bind them in brass,
Having call'd them from the deep! O, still
Thy deaf'ning dreadful thunders; gently quench
Thy nimble sulphurous flashes!-O, how, Lychorida,

How does my queen?-Thou stormest venomously;
Wilt thou spit all thyself? The seaman's whistle
Is as a whisper in the ears of death,
Unheard.-Lychorida!-Lucina, O
Divinest patroness, and midwife gentle
To those that cry by night, convey thy deity
Aboard our dancing boat; make swift the pangs
Of my queen's travails!

Enter LYCHORIDA, with an INFANT

Now, Lychorida!

LYCHORIDA. Here is a thing too young for such a place,
Who, if it had conceit, would die, as I
Am like to do. Take in your arms this piece
Of your dead queen.

PERICLES. How, how, Lychorida?

LYCHORIDA. Patience, good sir; do not assist the storm.
Here's all that is left living of your queen-
A little daughter. For the sake of it,
Be manly, and take comfort.

PERICLES. O you gods!

Why do you make us love your goodly gifts,
And snatch them straight away? We here below
Recall not what we give, and therein may
Use honour with you.

LYCHORIDA. Patience, good sir, even for this charge.

PERICLES. Now, mild may be thy life!

For a more blustering birth had never babe;
Quiet and gentle thy conditions! for
Thou art the rudeliest welcome to this world
That ever was prince's child. Happy what follows!
Thou hast as chiding a nativity

As fire, air, water, earth, and heaven, can make,
To herald thee from the womb.
Even at the first thy loss is more than can
Thy portage quit with all thou canst find here.
Now the good gods throw their best eyes upon't!

Enter two SAILORS

FIRST SAILOR. What courage, sir? God save you!

PERICLES. Courage enough: I do not fear the flaw;
It hath done to me the worst. Yet, for the love
Of this poor infant, this fresh-new seafarer,
I would it would be quiet.

FIRST SAILOR. Slack the bolins there.-Thou wilt not, wilt
thou? Blow, and split thyself.

SECOND SAILOR. But sea-room, an the brine and cloudy
billow kiss the moon, I care not.

FIRST SAILOR. Sir, your queen must overboard: the sea
works high, the wind is loud, and will not lie till the ship
be clear'd of the dead.

PERICLES. That's your superstition.

FIRST SAILOR. Pardon us, sir; with us at sea it hath been still
observed, and we are strong in custom. Therefore briefly
yield 'er; for she must overboard straight.

PERICLES. As you think meet. Most wretched queen!

LYCHORIDA. Here she lies, sir.

PERICLES. A terrible childbed hast thou had, my dear;
No light, no fire. Th' unfriendly elements
Forgot thee utterly; nor have I time
To give thee hallow'd to thy grave, but straight
Must cast thee, scarcely coffin'd, in the ooze;
Where, for a monument upon thy bones,
And aye-remaining lamps, the belching whale

And humming water must o'erwhelm thy corpse,
Lying with simple shells. O Lychorida,
Bid Nestor bring me spices, ink and paper,
My casket and my jewels; and bid Nicander
Bring me the satin coffer. Lay the babe
Upon the pillow. Hie thee, whiles I say
A priestly farewell to her. Suddenly, woman.

Exit LYCHORIDA

SECOND SAILOR. Sir, we have a chest beneath the hatches,
caulk'd and bitum'd ready.

PERICLES. I thank thee. Mariner, say what coast is this?

SECOND SAILOR. We are near Tharsus.

PERICLES. Thither, gentle mariner,

Alter thy course for Tyre. When canst thou reach it?

SECOND SAILOR. By break of day, if the wind cease.

PERICLES. O, make for Tharsus!

There will I visit Cleon, for the babe

Cannot hold out to Tyrus; there I'll leave it

At careful nursing. Go thy ways, good mariner:

I'll bring the body presently.

Exeunt

SCENE 2.

Ephesus. CERIMON'S house

Enter CERIMON, with a SERVANT, and
some persons who have been shipwrecked

CERIMON. Philemon, ho!

Enter PHILEMON

PHILEMON. Doth my lord call?

CERIMON. Get fire and meat for these poor men.

'T 'as been a turbulent and stormy night.

SERVANT. I have been in many; but such a night as this,
Till now, I ne'er endured.

CERIMON. Your master will be dead ere you return;
There's nothing can be minist'red to nature
That can recover him. [TO PHILEMON] Give this to the
'pothecary,

And tell me how it works.

Exeunt all but CERIMON

Enter two GENTLEMEN

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Good morrow.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. Good morrow to your lordship.

CERIMON. Gentlemen, why do you stir so early?

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Sir,

Our lodgings, standing bleak upon the sea,
Shook as the earth did quake;
The very principals did seem to rend,
And all to topple. Pure surprise and fear
Made me to quit the house.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. That is the cause we trouble you so
early;

'Tis not our husbandry.

CERIMON. O, you say well.

FIRST GENTLEMAN. But I much marvel that your lordship,
having

Rich t're about you, should at these early hours
Shake off the golden slumber of repose.

'Tis most strange

Nature should be so conversant with pain,
Being thereto not compell'd.

CERIMON. I hold it ever

Virtue and cunning were endowments greater

Than nobleness and riches: careless heirs
May the two latter darken and expend;
But immortality attends the former,
Making a man a god. 'Tis known I ever
Have studied physic, through which secret art,
By turning o'er authorities, I have,
Together with my practice, made familiar
To me and to my aid the blest infusions
That dwell in vegetives, in metals, stones;
And I can speak of the disturbances
That nature works, and of her cures; which doth give me
A more content in course of true delight
Than to be thirsty after tottering honour,
Or tie my treasure up in silken bags,
To please the fool and death.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. Your honour has through Ephesus

pour'd forth

Your charity, and hundreds call themselves
Your creatures, who by you have been restor'd:
And not your knowledge, your personal pain, but even
Your purse, still open, hath built Lord Cerimon
Such strong renown as time shall never raze.

Enter two or three servants with a chest

FIRST SERVANT. So, lift there.

CERIMON. What's that?

FIRST SERVANT. Sir, even now did the sea toss up upon our
shore this chest. 'Tis of some wreck.

CERIMON. Set't down, let's look upon't.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. 'Tis like a coffin, sir.

CERIMON. Whate'er it be,

'Tis wondrous heavy. Wrench it open straight.

If the sea's stomach be o'ercharg'd with gold,
'Tis a good constraint of fortune it belches upon us.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. 'Tis so, my lord.

CERIMON. How close 'tis caulk'd and bitumed!

Did the sea cast it up?

FIRST SERVANT. I never saw so huge a billow, sir, as toss'd it
upon shore.

CERIMON. Wrench it open. Soft! It smells most sweetly in
my sense.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. A delicate odour.

CERIMON. As ever hit my nostril. So, up with it.

O you most potent gods! What's here? A corse!

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Most strange!

CERIMON. Shrouded in cloth of state; balm'd and entreasur'd
with full bags of spices. A passport too. Apollo, perfect
me in the characters! [Reads from a scroll]

Here I give to understand-
If e'er this coffin drives a-land-
I, King Pericles, have lost
This queen, worth all our mundane cost.
Who finds her, give her burying;
She was the daughter of a king.
Besides this treasure for a fee,
The gods requite his charity!

If thou livest, Pericles, thou hast a heart
That ever cracks for woe! This chanc'd to-night.

SECOND GENTLEMAN. Most likely, sir.

CERIMON. Nay, certainly to-night;

For look how fresh she looks! They were too rough
That threw her in the sea. Make a fire within.

Fetch hither all my boxes in my closet.

Exit a SERVANT

Death may usurp on nature many hours,
And yet the fire of life kindle again
The o'erpress'd spirits. I heard of an Egyptian
That had nine hours lien dead,
Who was by good appliance recovered.

Re-enter a servant, with boxes, napkins, and fire

Well said, well said! The fire and cloths.
The rough and woeful music that we have,
Cause it to sound, beseech you.
The vial once more. How thou stirr'st, thou block!
The music there! I pray you give her air.
Gentlemen,
This queen will live; nature awakes; a warmth
Breathes out of her. She hath not been entranc'd
Above five hours. See how she gins to blow
Into life's flower again!

FIRST GENTLEMAN. The heavens,
Through you, increase our wonder, and set up
Your fame for ever.

CERIMON. She is alive. Behold,
Her eyelids, cases to those heavenly jewels
Which Pericles hath lost, begin to part
Their fringes of bright gold; the diamonds
Of a most praised water do appear,
To make the world twice rich. Live, and make
Us weep to hear your fate, fair creature,
Rare as you seem to be.

[She moves]

THAISA. O dear Diana, where am I?
Where's my lord? What world is this?

SECOND GENTLEMAN. Is not this strange?

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Most rare.

CERIMON. Hush, my gentle neighbours!

Lend me your hands: to the next chamber bear her;

Get linen. Now this matter must be look'd to,

For her relapse is mortal.

Come, come; and Aesculapius guide us!

Exeunt, carrying her away

SCENE 3.

Tharsus. CLEON'S house

Enter PERICLES, CLEON, DIONYZA, and LYCHORIDA

with MARINA in her arms

PERICLES. Most honour'd Cleon, I must needs be gone;

My twelve months are expir'd, and Tyrus stands

In a litigious peace. You and your lady

Take from my heart all thankfulness! The gods

Make up the rest upon you!

CLEON. Your shafts of fortune, though they hurt you mortally,

Yet glance full wand'ringly on us.

DIONYZA. O your sweet queen!

That the strict Fates had pleas'd you had brought her

hither,

To have bless'd mine eyes with her!

PERICLES. We cannot but obey

The powers above us. Could I rage and roar

As doth the sea she lies in, yet the end

Must be as 'tis. My gentle babe Marina, whom,

For she was born at sea, I have nam'd so, here

I charge your charity withal, leaving her

The infant of your care; beseeching you

To give her princely training, that she may

Be manner'd as she is born.

CLEON. Fear not, my lord, but think

Your grace, that fed my country with your corn,
For which the people's prayers still fall upon you,
Must in your child be thought on. If neglect
Should therein make me vile, the common body,
By you reliev'd, would force me to my duty.
But if to that my nature need a spur,
The gods revenge it upon me and mine
To the end of generation!

PERICLES. I believe you;

Your honour and your goodness teach me to't
Without your vows. Till she be married, madam,
By bright Diana, whom we honour all,
Unscissor'd shall this hair of mine remain,
Though I show ill in't. So I take my leave.
Good madam, make me blessed in your care
In bringing up my child.

DIONYZA. I have one myself,

Who shall not be more dear to my respect
Than yours, my lord.

PERICLES. Madam, my thanks and prayers.

CLEON. We'll bring your Grace e'en to the edge o' th'
shore,

Then give you up to the mask'd Neptune and
The gentlest winds of heaven.

PERICLES. I will embrace

Your offer. Come, dearest madam. O, no tears,
Lychorida, no tears.
Look to your little mistress, on whose grace
You may depend hereafter. Come, my lord.

Exeunt

SCENE 4.

Ephesus. CERIMON'S house

Enter CERIMON THAISA

CERIMON. Madam, this letter, and some certain jewels,
Lay with you in your coffer; which are
At your command. Know you the character?

THAISA. It is my lord's.

That I was shipp'd at sea I well remember,
Even on my caning time; but whether there
Delivered, by the holy gods,
I cannot rightly say. But since King Pericles,
My wedded lord, I ne'er shall see again,
A vestal livery will I take me to,
And never more have joy.

CERIMON. Madam, if this you purpose as ye speak,
Diana's temple is not distant far,
Where you may abide till your date expire.
Moreover, if you please, a niece of mine
Shall there attend you.

THAISA. My recompense is thanks, that's all;
Yet my good will is great, though the gift small.

Exeunt

ACT IV.

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Imagine Pericles arriv'd at Tyre,
Welcom'd and settled to his own desire.
His woeful queen we leave at Ephesus,
Unto Diana there a votaress.
Now to Marina bend your mind,
Whom our fast-growing scene must find
At Tharsus, and by Cleon train'd
In music, letters; who hath gain'd

Of education all the grace,
Which makes her both the heart and place
Of general wonder. But, alack,
That monster Envy, oft the wrack
Of earned praise, Marina's life
Seeks to take off by treason's knife.
And in this kind hath our Cleon
One daughter, and a wench full grown,
Even ripe for marriage-rite; this maid
Hight Philoten; and it is said
For certain in our story, she
Would ever with Marina be.
Be't when she weav'd the sleided silk
With fingers long, small, white as milk;
Or when she would with sharp needle wound
The cambric, which she made more sound
By hurting it; or when to th' lute
She sung, and made the night-bird mute,
That still records with moan; or when
She would with rich and constant pen
Vail to her mistress Dian; still
This Philoten contends in skill
With absolute Marina. So
The dove of Paphos might with the crow
Vie feathers white. Marina gets
All praises, which are paid as debts,
And not as given. This so darks
In Philoten all graceful marks
That Cleon's wife, with envy rare,
A present murderer does prepare
For good Marina, that her daughter
Might stand peerless by this slaughter.
The sooner her vile thoughts to stead,

Lychorida, our nurse, is dead;
And cursed Dionyza hath
The pregnant instrument of wrath
Prest for this blow. The unborn event
I do commend to your content;
Only I carry winged time
Post on the lame feet of my rhyme;
Which never could I so convey
Unless your thoughts went on my way.
Dionyza does appear,
With Leonine, a murderer.

Exit

SCENE 1.

Tharsus. An open place near the seashore

Enter DIONYZA and LEONINE

DIONYZA. Thy oath remember; thou hast sworn to do't.

'Tis but a blow, which never shall be known.

Thou canst not do a thing in the world so soon
To yield thee so much profit. Let not conscience,
Which is but cold, inflaming love in thy bosom,
Inflame too nicely; nor let pity, which
Even women have cast off, melt thee, but be
A soldier to thy purpose.

LEONINE. I will do't; but yet she is a goodly creature.

DIONYZA. The fitter, then, the gods should have her.

Here she comes weeping for her only mistress' death.

Thou art resolv'd?

LEONINE. I am resolv'd.

Enter MARINA with a basket of flowers

MARINA. No, I will rob Tellus of her weed,
To strew thy green with flowers. The yellows, blues,
The purple violets, and marigolds,
Shall as a carpet hang upon thy grave
While summer days do last. Ay me! poor maid,
Born in a tempest, when my mother died,
This world to me is like a lasting storm,
Whirring me from my friends.

DIONYZA. How now, Marina! Why do you keep alone?
How chance my daughter is not with you? Do not
Consume your blood with sorrowing; you have
A nurse of me. Lord, how your favour's chang'd
With this unprofitable woe! Come,
Give me your flowers. On the sea margent
Walk with Leonine; the air is quick there,
And it pierces and sharpens the stomach. Come,
Leonine, take her by the arm, walk with her.

MARINA. No, I pray you;
I'll not bereave you of your servant.

DIONYZA. Come, come;
I love the king your father, and yourself,
With more than foreign heart. We every day
Expect him here. When he shall come, and find
Our paragon to all reports thus blasted,
He will repent the breadth of his great voyage;
Blame both my lord and me that we have taken
No care to your best courses. Go, I pray you,
Walk, and be cheerful once again; reserve
That excellent complexion which did steal
The eyes of young and old. Care not for me;
I can go home alone.

MARINA. Well, I will go;
But yet I have no desire to it.

DIONYZA. Come, come, I know 'tis good for you.

Walk half an hour, Leonine, at the least.

Remember what I have said.

LEONINE. I warrant you, madam.

DIONYZA. I'll leave you, my sweet lady, for a while.

Pray walk softly; do not heat your blood.

What! I must have a care of you.

MARINA. My thanks, sweet madam.

Exit DIONYZA

Is this wind westerly that blows?

LEONINE. South-west.

MARINA. When I was born the wind was north.

LEONINE. Was't so?

MARINA. My father, as nurse says, did never fear,
But cried 'Good seamen!' to the sailors, galling
His kingly hands hauling ropes;
And, clasping to the mast, endur'd a sea
That almost burst the deck.

LEONINE. When was this?

MARINA. When I was born.

Never was waves nor wind more violent;
And from the ladder-tackle washes of
A canvas-climber. 'Ha!' says one 'wilt out?'
And with a dropping industry they skip
From stern to stern; the boatswain whistles, and
The master calls, and trebles their confusion.

LEONINE. Come, say your prayers.

MARINA. What mean you?

LEONINE. If you require a little space for prayer,
I grant it. Pray; but be not tedious, for
The gods are quick of ear, and I am sworn
To do my work with haste.

MARINA. Why will you kill me?

LEONINE. To satisfy my lady.

MARINA. Why would she have me kill'd?

Now, as I can remember, by my troth,
I never did her hurt in all my life.
I never spake bad word, nor did ill turn
To any living creature. Believe me, la,
I never kill'd a mouse, nor hurt a fly;
I trod upon a worm against my will,
But I wept for it. How have I offended,
Wherein my death might yield her any profit,
Or my life imply her any danger?

LEONINE. My commission

Is not to reason of the deed, but do't.

MARINA. You will not do't for all the world, I hope.

You are well-favour'd, and your looks foreshow
You have a gentle heart. I saw you lately
When you caught hurt in parting two that fought.
Good sooth, it show'd well in you. Do so now:
Your lady seeks my life; come you between,
And save poor me, the weaker.

LEONINE. I am sworn,

And will dispatch. [Seizes her]

Enter PIRATES

FIRST PIRATE. Hold, villain! [LEONINE runs away]

SECOND PIRATE. A prize! a prize!

THIRD PIRATE. Half part, mates, half part!

Come, let's have her aboard suddenly.

Exeunt PIRATES With MARINA

Re-enter LEONINE

LEONINE. These roguing thieves serve the great pirate Valdes,
And they have seiz'd Marina. Let her go;

There's no hope she will return. I'll swear she's dead
And thrown into the sea. But I'll see further.
Perhaps they will but please themselves upon her,
Not carry her aboard. If she remain,
Whom they have ravish'd must by me be slain.

Exit

SCENE 2.

Mytilene. A brothel

Enter PANDER, BAWD, and BOULT

PANDER. Boul't!

BOULT. Sir?

PANDER. Search the market narrowly. Mytilene is full of gallants.

We lost too much money this mart by being to
wenchless.

BAWD. We were never so much out of creatures. We have
but poor three, and they can do no more than they can
do; and they with continual action are even as good as
rotten.

PANDER. Therefore let's have fresh ones, whate'er we pay
for them. If there be not a conscience to be us'd in every
trade, we shall never prosper.

BAWD. Thou say'st true; 'tis not our bringing up of poor
bastards-as, I think, I have brought up some eleven-

BOULT. Ay, to eleven; and brought them down again. But
shall I search the market?

BAWD. What else, man? The stuff we have, a strong wind
will blow it to pieces, they are so pitifully sodden.

PANDER. Thou sayest true; they are too unwholesome,
o' conscience. The poor Transylvanian is dead that lay with the
little baggage.

BOULT. Ay, she quickly poop'd him; she made him roast

meat for worms. But I'll go search the market.

Exit

PANDER. Three or four thousand chequins were as pretty proportion to live quietly, and so give over.

BAWD. Why to give over, I pray you? Is it a shame to get when we are old?

PANDER. O, our credit comes not in like the commodity, nor the commodity wages not with the danger; therefore, if in our youths we could pick up some pretty estate, 'twere not amiss to keep our door hatch'd. Besides, the sore terms we stand upon with the gods will be strong with us for giving o'er.

BAWD. Come, other sorts offend as well as we.

PANDER. As well as we! Ay, and better too; we offend worse. Neither is our profession any trade; it's no calling. But here comes Boulton.

Re-enter BOULT, with the PIRATES and MARINA

BOULT. [To MARINA] Come your ways.-My masters, you say she's a virgin?

FIRST PIRATE. O, sir, we doubt it not.

BOULT. Master, I have gone through for this piece you see. If you like her, so; if not, I have lost my earnest.

BAWD. Boulton, has she any qualities?

BOULT. She has a good face, speaks well, and has excellent good clothes; there's no further necessity of qualities can make her be refus'd.

BAWD. What's her price, Boulton?

BOULT. I cannot be bated one doit of a thousand pieces.

PANDER. Well, follow me, my master; you shall have your money presently. Wife, take her in; instruct her what she has to do, that she may not be raw in her entertainment.

Exeunt PANDER and PIRATES

BAWD. Boulton, take you the marks of her-the colour of her hair, complexion, height, her age, with warrant of her virginity, and cry 'He that will give most shall have her first.' Such a maidenhead were no cheap thing, if men were as they have been. Get this done as I command you.

BOULT. Performance shall follow.

Exit

MARINA. Alack that Leonine was so slack, so slow!

He should have struck, not spoke; or that these pirates,
Not enough barbarous, had not o'erboard thrown me
For to seek my mother!

BAWD. Why lament you, pretty one?

MARINA. That I am pretty.

BAWD. Come, the gods have done their part in you.

MARINA. I accuse them not.

BAWD. You are light into my hands, where you are like to live.

MARINA. The more my fault

To scape his hands where I was like to die.

BAWD. Ay, and you shall live in pleasure.

MARINA. No.

BAWD. Yes, indeed shall you, and taste gentlemen of all fashions. You shall fare well; you shall have the difference of all complexions. What! do you stop your ears?

MARINA. Are you a woman?

BAWD. What would you have me be, and I be not a woman?

MARINA. An honest woman, or not a woman.

BAWD. Marry, whip thee, gosling! I think I shall have something to do with you. Come, you're a young foolish sapling, and must be bow'd as I would have you.

MARINA. The gods defend me!

BAWD. If it please the gods to defend you by men, then men must comfort you, men must feed you, men must stir you up. Boulton's return'd.

Re-enter BOULT

Now, sir, hast thou cried her through the market?

BOULT. I have cried her almost to the number of her hairs; I have drawn her picture with my voice.

BAWD. And I prithee tell me how dost thou find the inclination of the people, especially of the younger sort?

BOULT. Faith, they listened to me as they would have hearkened to their father's testament. There was a Spaniard's mouth so wat'red that he went to bed to her very description.

BAWD. We shall have him here to-morrow with his best ruff on.

BOULT. To-night, to-night. But, mistress, do you know the French knight that cowers i' th' hams?

BAWD. Who? Monsieur Veroles?

BOULT. Ay, he; he offered to cut a caper at the proclamation; but he made a groan at it, and swore he would see her to-morrow.

BAWD. Well, well; as for him, he brought his disease hither: here he does but repair it. I know he will come in our shadow to scatter his crowns in the sun.

BOULT. Well, if we had of every nation a traveller, we should lodge them with this sign.

BAWD. [To MARINA] Pray you, come hither awhile. You have fortunes coming upon you. Mark me: you must seem to do that fearfully which you commit willingly; to despise profit where you have most gain. To weep that you live as ye do makes pity in your lovers; seldom but that pity begets you a good opinion, and that opinion a mere profit.

MARINA. I understand you not.

BOULT. O, take her home, mistress, take her home. These

blushes of hers must be quench'd with some present practice.

BAWD. Thou sayest true, i' faith, so they must; for your
bride goes to that with shame which is her way to go with
warrant.

BOULT. Faith, some do, and some do not. But, mistress, if I
have bargain'd for the joint-

BAWD. Thou mayest cut a morsel off the spit.

BOULT. I may so.

BAWD. Who should deny it? Come, young one, I like the
manner of your garments well.

BOULT. Ay, by my faith, they shall not be chang'd yet.

BAWD. Boul't, spend thou that in the town; report what
sojourner we have; you'll lose nothing by custom. When
nature fram'd this piece she meant thee a good turn;
therefore say what a paragon she is, and thou hast the harvest
out of thine own report.

BOULT. I warrant you, mistress, thunder shall not so awake
the beds of eels as my giving out her beauty stir up the
lewdly inclined. I'll bring home some to-night.

BAWD. Come your ways; follow me.

MARINA. If fires be hot, knives sharp, or water deep,
Untied I still my virgin knot will keep.

Diana aid my purpose!

BAWD. What have we to do with Diana? Pray you, will you
go with us?

Exeunt

SCENE 3.

Tharsus. CLEON'S house

Enter CLEON and DIONYZA

DIONYZA. Why are you foolish? Can it be undone?

CLEON. O Dionyza, such a piece of slaughter

The sun and moon ne'er look'd upon!

DIONYZA. I think

You'll turn a child again.

CLEON. Were I chief lord of all this spacious world,

I'd give it to undo the deed. O lady,

Much less in blood than virtue, yet a princes

To equal any single crown o' th' earth

I' th' justice of compare! O villain Leonine!

Whom thou hast pois'ned too.

If thou hadst drunk to him, 't had been a kindness

Becoming well thy fact. What canst thou say

When noble Pericles shall demand his child?

DIONYZA. That she is dead. Nurses are not the Fates,

To foster it, nor ever to preserve.

She died at night; I'll say so. Who can cross it?

Unless you play the pious innocent,

And for an honest attribute cry out

'She died by foul play.'

CLEON. O, go to. Well, well.

Of all the faults beneath the heavens the gods

Do like this worst.

DIONYZA. Be one of those that thinks

The petty wrens of Tharsus will fly hence,

And open this to Pericles. I do shame

To think of what a noble strain you are,

And of how coward a spirit.

CLEON. To such proceeding

Who ever but his approbation added,

Though not his prime consent, he did not flow

From honourable sources.

DIONYZA. Be it so, then.

Yet none does know, but you, how she came dead,

Nor none can know, Leonine being gone.

She did distain my child, and stood between
Her and her fortunes. None would look on her,
But cast their gazes on Marina's face;
Whilst ours was blurted at, and held a mawkin,
Not worth the time of day. It pierc'd me thorough;
And though you call my course unnatural,
You not your child well loving, yet I find
It greets me as an enterprise of kindness
Perform'd to your sole daughter.

CLEON. Heavens forgive it!

DIONYZA. And as for Pericles,
What should he say? We wept after her hearse,
And yet we mourn; her monument
Is almost finish'd, and her epitaphs
In glittering golden characters express
A general praise to her, and care in us
At whose expense 'tis done.

CLEON. Thou art like the harpy,
Which, to betray, dost, with thine angel's face,
Seize with thine eagle's talons.

DIONYZA. You are like one that superstitiously
Doth swear to the gods that winter kills the flies;
But yet I know you'll do as I advise.

Exeunt

SCENE 4.

Before MARINA'S monument at Tharsus

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Thus time we waste, and longest leagues make short;
Sail seas in cockles, have an wish but for't;
Making, to take our imagination,
From bourn to bourn, region to region.

By you being pardon'd, we commit no crime
To use one language in each several clime
Where our scenes seem to live. I do beseech you
To learn of me, who stand i' th' gaps to teach you
The stages of our story. Pericles
Is now again thwarting the wayward seas,
Attended on by many a lord and knight,
To see his daughter, all his life's delight.
Old Helicanus goes along. Behind
Is left to govern it, you bear in mind,
Old Escanes, whom Helicanus late
Advanc'd in time to great and high estate.
Well-sailing ships and bounteous winds have brought
This king to Tharsus-think this pilot thought;
So with his steerage shall your thoughts grow on-
To fetch his daughter home, who first is gone.
Like motes and shadows see them move awhile;
Your ears unto your eyes I'll reconcile.

DUMB SHOW.

Enter PERICLES, at one door, with all his train:
CLEON and DIONYZA at the other. CLEON shows
PERICLES the tomb of MARINA, whereat PERICLES
makes lamentation, puts on sackcloth, and in
mighty passion departs. Then exeunt CLEON and DIONYZA

See how belief may suffer by foul show!
This borrowed passion stands for true old woe;
And Pericles, in sorrow all devour'd,
With sighs shot through and biggest tears o'ershower'd,
Leaves Tharsus, and again embarks. He swears
Never to wash his face nor cut his hairs;

He puts on sackcloth, and to sea. He bears
A tempest which his mortal vessel tears,
And yet he rides it out. Now please you wit
The epitaph is for Marina writ

By wicked Dionyza.

[Reads the inscription on
MARINA'S monument]

'The fairest, sweetest, and best lies here,
Who withered in her spring of year.
She was of Tyrus the King's daughter,
On whom foul death hath made this slaughter;
Marina was she call'd; and at her birth,
Thetis, being proud, swallowed some part o' th' earth;
Therefore the earth, fearing to be o'er-flowed,
Hath Thetis' birth-child on the heavens bestowed;
Wherefore she does-and swears she'll never stint-
Make raging battery upon shores of flint.'

No visor does become black villainy
So well as soft and tender flattery.
Let Pericles believe his daughter's dead,
And bear his courses to be ordered
By Lady Fortune; while our scene must play
His daughter's woe and heavy well-a-day
In her unholy service. Patience, then,
And think you now are all in Mytilen.

Exit

SCENE 5.

Mytilene. A street before the brothel

Enter, from the brothel, two GENTLEMEN

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Did you ever hear the like?

SECOND GENTLEMAN. No, nor never shall do in such a place

as this, she being once gone.

FIRST GENTLEMAN. But to have divinity preach'd there!

Did you ever dream of such a thing?

SECOND GENTLEMAN. No, no. Come, I am for no more

bawdy-houses. Shall's go hear the vestals sing?

FIRST GENTLEMAN. I'll do anything now that is virtuous;

but I am out of the road of rutting for ever.

Exeunt

SCENE 6.

Mytilene. A room in the brothel

Enter PANDER, BAWD, and BOULT

PANDER. Well, I had rather than twice the worth of her she
had ne'er come here.

BAWD. Fie, fie, upon her! She's able to freeze the god Priapus,
and undo a whole generation. We must either get her
ravished or be rid of her. When she should do for clients
ravisher fitment, and do me the kindness of our profession, she
has me her quirks, her reasons, her master-reasons, her
prayers, her knees; that she would make a puritan of the
devil, if he should cheapen a kiss of her.

BOULT. Faith, I must ravish her, or she'll disfurnish us of all
our cavalleria and make our swearers priests.

PANDER. Now the pox upon her green-sickness for me!

BAWD. Faith, there's no way to be rid on't but by the way
to the pox. Here comes the Lord Lysimachus disguised.

BOULT. We should have both lord and lown, if the peevish
baggage would but give way to customers.

Enter LYSIMACHUS

LYSIMACHUS. How now! How a dozen of virginities?

BAWD. Now, the gods to bless your Honour!

BOULT. I am glad to see your Honour in good health.

LYSIMACHUS. You may so; 'tis the better for you that your resorters stand upon sound legs. How now! Wholesome iniquity have you, that a man may deal withal and defy the surgeon?

BAWD. We have here one, sir, if she would-but there never came her like in Mytilene.

LYSIMACHUS. If she'd do the deed of darkness, thou wouldst say.

BAWD. Your Honour knows what 'tis to say well enough.

LYSIMACHUS. Well, call forth, call forth.

BOULT. For flesh and blood, sir, white and red, you shall see a rose; and she were a rose indeed, if she had but-

LYSIMACHUS. What, prithee?

BOULT. O, sir, I can be modest.

LYSIMACHUS. That dignifies the renown of a bawd no less than it gives a good report to a number to be chaste.

Exit BOULT

BAWD. Here comes that which grows to the stalk-never plucked yet, I can assure you.

Re-enter BOULT With MARINA

Is she not a fair creature?

LYSIMACHUS. Faith, she would serve after a long voyage at sea. Well, there's for you. Leave us.

BAWD. I beseech your Honour, give me leave: a word, and I'll have done presently.

LYSIMACHUS. I beseech you, do.

BAWD. [Aside to MARINA] First, I would have you note this is an honourable man.

MARINA. I desire to find him so, that I may worthily note him.

BAWD. Next, he's the governor of this country, and a man
whom I am bound to.

MARINA. If he govern the country, you are bound to him
indeed; but how honourable he is in that I know not.

BAWD. Pray you, without any more virginal fencing, will
you use him kindly? He will line your apron with gold.

MARINA. What he will do graciously I will thankfully receive.

LYSIMACHUS. Ha' you done?

BAWD. My lord, she's not pac'd yet; you must take some
pains to work her to your manage. Come, we will leave
his Honour and her together. Go thy ways.

Exeunt BAWD, PANDER, and BOULT

LYSIMACHUS. Now, pretty one, how long have you been at
this trade?

MARINA. What trade, sir?

LYSIMACHUS. Why, I cannot name't but I shall offend.

MARINA. I cannot be offended with my trade. Please you
to name it.

LYSIMACHUS. How long have you been of this profession?

MARINA. E'er since I can remember.

LYSIMACHUS. Did you go to't so young? Were you
gamester at five or at seven?

MARINA. Earlier too, sir, if now I be one.

LYSIMACHUS. Why, the house you dwell in proclaims you
to be a creature of sale.

MARINA. Do you know this house to be a place of such
resort, and will come into't? I hear say you're of honourable
parts, and are the governor of this place.

LYSIMACHUS. Why, hath your principal made known unto
you who I am?

MARINA. Who is my principal?

LYSIMACHUS. Why, your herb-woman; she that sets seeds
and roots of shame and iniquity. O, you have heard something

of my power, and so stand aloof for more serious wooing. But I protest to thee, pretty one, my authority shall not see thee, or else look friendly upon thee. Come, bring me to some private place. Come, come.

MARINA. If you were born to honour, show it now;
If put upon you, make the judgment good
That thought you worthy of it.

LYSIMACHUS. How's this? how's this? Some more; be sage.

MARINA. For me,
That am a maid, though most ungentle fortune
Have plac'd me in this sty, where, since I came,
Diseases have been sold dearer than physic-
That the gods
Would set me free from this unhallowed place,
Though they did change me to the meanest bird
That flies i' th' purer air!

LYSIMACHUS. I did not think
Thou couldst have spoke so well; ne'er dreamt thou
couldst.
Had I brought hither a corrupted mind,
Thy speech had altered it. Hold, here's gold for thee:
Persever in that clear way thou goest,
And the gods strengthen thee!

MARINA. The good gods preserve you!

LYSIMACHUS. For me, be you thoughten
That I came with no ill intent; for to me
The very doors and windows savour vilely.
Fare thee well. Thou art a piece of virtue, and
I doubt not but thy training hath been noble.
Hold, here's more gold for thee.
A curse upon him, die he like a thief,
That robs thee of thy goodness! If thou dost
Hear from me, it shall be for thy good.

Re-enter BOULT

BOULT. I beseech your Honour, one piece for me.

LYSIMACHUS. Avaunt, thou damned doorkeeper!

Your house, but for this virgin that doth prop it,
Would sink and overwhelm you. Away!

Exit

BOULT. How's this? We must take another course with you.

If your peevish chastity, which is not worth a breakfast
in the cheapest country under the cope, shall undo
whole household, let me be gelded like a spaniel. Come
your ways.

MARINA. Whither would you have me?

BOULT. I must have your maidenhead taken off, or the common
hangman shall execute it. Come your ways. We'll
have no more gentlemen driven away. Come your ways,
I say.

Re-enter BAWD

BAWD. How now! What's the matter?

BOULT. Worse and worse, mistress; she has here spoken holy
words to the Lord Lysimachus.

BAWD. O abominable!

BOULT. The nobleman would have dealt with her like
nobleman, and she sent him away as cold as a snowball;
saying his prayers too.

BAWD. Boulton, take her away; use her at thy pleasure. Crack
the glass of her virginity, and make the rest malleable.

BOULT. An if she were a thornier piece of ground than she
is, she shall be ploughed.

MARINA. Hark, hark, you gods!

BAWD. She conjures. Away with her. Would she had never

come within my doors! Marry, hang you! She's born to
undo us. Will you not go the way of womenkind? Marry,
come up, my dish of chastity with rosemary and bays!

Exit

BOULT. Come, mistress; come your ways with me.

MARINA. Whither wilt thou have me?

BOULT. To take from you the jewel you hold so dear.

MARINA. Prithee tell me one thing first.

BOULT. Come now, your one thing.

MARINA. What canst thou wish thine enemy to be?

BOULT. Why, I could wish him to be my master, or, rather,
my mistress.

MARINA. Neither of these are so bad as thou art,
Since they do better thee in their command.
Thou hold'st a place for which the pained'st fiend
Of hell would not in reputation change;
Thou art the damned doorkeeper to every
Coistrel that comes inquiring for his Tib;
To the choleric fisting of every rogue
Thy ear is liable; thy food is such
As hath been belch'd on by infected lungs.

BOULT. What would you have me do? Go to the wars,
would you, where a man may serve seven years for the
loss of a leg, and have not money enough in the end to
buy him a wooden one?

MARINA. Do anything but this thou doest. Empty
Old receptacles, or common shores, of filth;
Serve by indenture to the common hangman.
Any of these ways are yet better than this;
For what thou professest, a baboon, could he speak,
Would own a name too dear. That the gods
Would safely deliver me from this place!
Here, here's gold for thee.

If that thy master would gain by me,
Proclaim that I can sing, weave, sew, and dance,
With other virtues which I'll keep from boast;
And I will undertake all these to teach.
I doubt not but this populous city will
Yield many scholars.

BOULT. But can you teach all this you speak of?

MARINA. Prove that I cannot, take me home again

And prostitute me to the basest groom
That doth frequent your house.

BOULT. Well, I will see what I can do for thee. If I can
place thee, I will.

MARINA. But amongst honest women?

BOULT. Faith, my acquaintance lies little amongst them. But
since my master and mistress have bought you, there's no
going but by their consent. Therefore I will make them
acquainted with your purpose, and I doubt not but I
shall find them tractable enough. Come, I'll do for thee
what I can; come your ways.

Exeunt

ACT V.

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Marina thus the brothel scapes and chances

Into an honest house, our story says.
She sings like one immortal, and she dances
As goddess-like to her admired lays;
Deep clerks she dumbs; and with her needle composes
Nature's own shape of bud, bird, branch, or berry,
That even her art sisters the natural roses;
Her inkle, silk, twin with the rubied cherry;
That pupils lacks she none of noble race,
Who pour their bounty on her; and her gain

She gives the cursed bawd. Here we her place;
And to her father turn our thoughts again,
Where we left him on the sea. We there him lost;
Whence, driven before the winds, he is arriv'd
Here where his daughter dwells; and on this coast
Suppose him now at anchor. The city striv'd
God Neptune's annual feast to keep; from whence
Lysimachus our Tyrian ship espies,
His banners sable, trimm'd with rich expense;
And to him in his barge with fervour hies.
In your supposing once more put your sight.
Of heavy Pericles, think this his bark;
Where what is done in action, more, if might,
Shall be discover'd; please you sit and hark.

Exit

SCENE 1.

On board PERICLES' Ship, off Mytilene. A pavilion
on deck with a curtain before it; PERICLES within
it, reclining on a couch. A barge lying beside the
Tyrian vessel

Enter two SAILORS, One belonging to the Tyrian vessel, the
other to the barge; to them HELICANUS

TYRIAN SAILOR. [To the SAILOR of Mytilene] Where is
Lord Helicanus? He can resolve you.

O, here he is.

Sir, there is a barge put off from Mytilene,
And in it is Lysimachus the Governor,

Who craves to come aboard. What is your will?

HELICANUS. That he have his. Call up some gentlemen.

TYRIAN SAILOR. Ho, gentlemen! my lord calls.

Enter two or three GENTLEMEN

FIRST GENTLEMAN. Doth your lordship call?

HELICANUS. Gentlemen, there is some of worth would come aboard;

I pray greet him fairly.

The GENTLEMEN and the two SAILORS descend, and
go on board the barge. Enter, from thence,
LYSIMACHUS and LORDS, with the GENTLEMEN and the
two SAILORS

TYRIAN SAILOR. Sir,

This is the man that can, in aught you would, Resolve you.

LYSIMACHUS. Hail, reverend sir! The gods preserve you!

HELICANUS. And you, sir, to outlive the age I am,

And die as I would do.

LYSIMACHUS. You wish me well.

Being on shore, honouring of Neptune's triumphs,

Seeing this goodly vessel ride before us,

I made to it, to know of whence you are.

HELICANUS. First, what is your place?

LYSIMACHUS. I am the Governor

Of this place you lie before.

HELICANUS. Sir,

Our vessel is of Tyre, in it the King;

A man who for this three months hath not spoken

To any one, nor taken sustenance

But to prorogue his grief.

LYSIMACHUS. Upon what ground is his distemperature?

HELICANUS. 'Twould be too tedious to repeat;

But the main grief springs from the loss

Of a beloved daughter and a wife.

LYSIMACHUS. May we not see him?

HELICANUS. You may;

But bootless is your sight-he will not speak
To any.

LYSIMACHUS. Yet let me obtain my wish.

HELICANUS. Behold him. [PERICLES discovered] This was
a goodly person
Till the disaster that, one mortal night,
Drove him to this.

LYSIMACHUS. Sir King, all hail! The gods preserve you!
Hail, royal sir!

HELICANUS. It is in vain; he will not speak to you.

FIRST LORD. Sir, we have a maid in Mytilene, I durst wager,
Would win some words of him.

LYSIMACHUS. 'Tis well bethought.

She, questionless, with her sweet harmony
And other chosen attractions, would allure,
And make a batt'ry through his deafen'd parts,
Which now are midway stopp'd.
She is all happy as the fairest of all,
And, with her fellow maids, is now upon
The leafy shelter that abuts against
The island's side.

[He whispers FIRST LORD, who goes off in
the barge of LYSIMACHUS]

HELICANUS. Sure, all's effectless; yet nothing we'll omit
That bears recovery's name. But, since your kindness
We have stretch'd thus far, let us beseech you
That for our gold we may provision have,
Wherein we are not destitute for want,
But weary for the staleness.

LYSIMACHUS. O sir, a courtesy
Which if we should deny, the most just gods
For every graff would send a caterpillar,
And so inflict our province. Yet once more

Let me entreat to know at large the cause
Of your king's sorrow.

HELICANUS. Sit, sir, I will recount it to you.

But, see, I am prevented.

Re-enter, from the barge, FIRST LORD, With MARINA and another girl

LYSIMACHUS. O, here is

The lady that I sent for. Welcome, fair one!

Is't not a goodly presence?

HELICANUS. She's a gallant lady.

LYSIMACHUS. She's such a one that, were I well assur'd

Came of gentle kind and noble stock,

I'd wish no better choice, and think me rarely wed.

Fair one, all goodness that consists in bounty

Expect even here, where is a kingly patient.

If that thy prosperous and artificial feat

Can draw him but to answer thee in aught,

Thy sacred physic shall receive such pay

As thy desires can wish.

MARINA. Sir, I will use

My utmost skill in his recovery,

Provided

That none but I and my companion maid

Be suffered to come near him.

LYSIMACHUS. Come, let us leave her;

And the gods make her prosperous!

[MARINA Sings]

LYSIMACHUS. Mark'd he your music?

MARINA. No, nor look'd on us.

LYSIMACHUS. See, she will speak to him.

MARINA. Hail sir! my lord, lend ear.

PERICLES. Hum, ha!

MARINA. I am a maid,

My lord, that ne'er before invited eyes,
But have been gaz'd on like a comet. She speaks,
My lord, that, may be, hath endur'd a grief
Might equal yours, if both were justly weigh'd.
Though wayward fortune did malign my state,
My derivation was from ancestors
Who stood equivalent with mighty kings;
But time hath rooted out my parentage,
And to the world and awkward casualties
Bound me in servitude. [Aside] I will desist;
But there is something glows upon my cheek,
And whispers in mine ear 'Go not till he speak.'

PERICLES. My fortunes-parentage-good parentage-
To equal mine!-was it not thus? What say you?

MARINA. I said, my lord, if you did know my parentage
You would not do me violence.

PERICLES. I do think so. Pray you turn your eyes upon me.
You are like something that- What countrywoman?
Here of these shores?

MARINA. No, nor of any shores.
Yet I was mortally brought forth, and am
No other than I appear.

PERICLES. I am great with woe, and shall deliver weeping.
My dearest wife was like this maid, and such a one
My daughter might have been: my queen's square brows
Her stature to an inch; as wand-like straight;
As silver-voic'd; her eyes as jewel-like,
And cas'd as richly; in pace another Juno;
Who starves the ears she feeds, and makes them hungry
The more she gives them speech. Where do you live?

MARINA. Where I am but a stranger. From the deck
You may discern the place.

PERICLES. Where were you bred?

And how achiev'd you these endowments, which
You make more rich to owe?

MARINA. If I should tell my history, it would seem
Like lies, disdain'd in the reporting.

PERICLES. Prithee speak.

Falseness cannot come from thee; for thou lookest
Modest as Justice, and thou seem'st a palace
For the crown'd Truth to dwell in. I will believe thee,
And make my senses credit thy relation
To points that seem impossible; for thou lookest
Like one I lov'd indeed. What were thy friends?
Didst thou not say, when I did push thee back-
Which was when I perceiv'd thee-that thou cam'st
From good descending?

MARINA. So indeed I did.

PERICLES. Report thy parentage. I think thou said'st
Thou hadst been toss'd from wrong to injury,
And that thou thought'st thy griefs might equal mine,
If both were opened.

MARINA. Some such thing

I said, and said no more but what my thoughts
Did warrant me was likely.

PERICLES. Tell thy story;

If thine consider'd prove the thousand part
Of my endurance, thou art a man, and I
Have suffered like a girl. Yet thou dost look
Like Patience gazing on kings' graves, and smiling
Extremity out of act. What were thy friends?
How lost thou them? Thy name, my most kind virgin?
Recount, I do beseech thee. Come, sit by me.

MARINA. My name is Marina.

PERICLES. O, I am mock'd,
And thou by some incensed god sent hither

To make the world to laugh at me.

MARINA. Patience, good sir,

Or here I'll cease.

PERICLES. Nay, I'll be patient.

Thou little know'st how thou dost startle me

To call thyself Marina.

MARINA. The name

Was given me by one that had some power,

My father, and a king.

PERICLES. How! a king's daughter?

And call'd Marina?

MARINA. You said you would believe me;

But, not to be a troubler of your peace,

I will end here.

PERICLES. But are you flesh and blood?

Have you a working pulse, and are no fairy?

Motion! Well; speak on. Where were you born?

And wherefore call'd Marina?

MARINA. Call'd Marina

For I was born at sea.

PERICLES. At sea! what mother?

MARINA. My mother was the daughter of a king;

Who died the minute I was born,

As my good nurse Lychorida hath oft

Delivered weeping.

PERICLES. O, stop there a little!

[Aside] This is the rarest dream that e'er dull sleep

Did mock sad fools withal. This cannot be:

My daughter's buried.-Well, where were you bred?

I'll hear you more, to th' bottom of your story,

And never interrupt you.

MARINA. You scorn; believe me, 'twere best I did give o'er.

PERICLES. I will believe you by the syllable

Of what you shall deliver. Yet give me leave-

How came you in these parts? where were you bred?

MARINA. The King my father did in Tharsus leave me;

Till cruel Cleon, with his wicked wife,

Did seek to murder me; and having woo'd

A villain to attempt it, who having drawn to do't,

A crew of pirates came and rescued me;

Brought me to Mytilene. But, good sir,

Whither will you have me? Why do you weep? It

may be

You think me an impostor. No, good faith;

I am the daughter to King Pericles,

If good King Pericles be.

PERICLES. Ho, Helicanus!

HELICANUS. Calls my lord?

PERICLES. Thou art a grave and noble counsellor,

Most wise in general. Tell me, if thou canst,

What this maid is, or what is like to be,

That thus hath made me weep?

HELICANUS. I know not; but

Here is the regent, sir, of Mytilene

Speaks nobly of her.

LYSIMACHUS. She never would tell

Her parentage; being demanded that,

She would sit still and weep.

PERICLES. O Helicanus, strike me, honour'd sir;

Give me a gash, put me to present pain,

Lest this great sea of joys rushing upon me

O'erbear the shores of my mortality,

And drown me with their sweetness. O, come hither,

Thou that beget'st him that did thee beget;

Thou that wast born at sea, buried at Tharsus,

And found at sea again! O Helicanus,

Down on thy knees, thank the holy gods as loud
As thunder threatens us. This is Marina.
What was thy mother's name? Tell me but that,
For truth can never be confirm'd enough,
Though doubts did ever sleep.

MARINA. First, sir, I pray,
What is your title?

PERICLES. I am Pericles of Tyre; but tell me now
My drown'd queen's name, as in the rest you said
Thou hast been godlike perfect,
The heir of kingdoms and another life
To Pericles thy father.

MARINA. Is it no more to be your daughter than
To say my mother's name was Thaisa?
Thaisa was my mother, who did end
The minute I began.

PERICLES. Now blessing on thee! Rise; thou art my child.
Give me fresh garments. Mine own, Helicanus-
She is not dead at Tharsus, as she should have been
By savage Cleon. She shall tell thee all;
When thou shalt kneel, and justify in knowledge
She is thy very princess. Who is this?

HELICANUS. Sir, 'tis the Governor of Mytilene,
Who, hearing of your melancholy state,
Did come to see you.

PERICLES. I embrace you.
Give me my robes. I am wild in my beholding.
O heavens bless my girl! But hark, what music?
Tell Helicanus, my Marina, tell him
O'er, point by point, for yet he seems to doubt,
How sure you are my daughter. But, what music?

HELICANUS. My lord, I hear none.

PERICLES. None?

The music of the spheres! List, my Marina.

LYSIMACHUS. It is not good to cross him; give him way.

PERICLES. Rarest sounds! Do ye not hear?

LYSIMACHUS. My lord, I hear. [Music]

PERICLES. Most heavenly music!

It nips me unto list'ning, and thick slumber

Hangs upon mine eyes: let me rest. [Sleeps]

LYSIMACHUS. A pillow for his head.

So, leave him all. Well, my companion-friends,

If this but answer to my just belief,

I'll well remember you. Exeunt all but PERICLES

DIANA appears to PERICLES as in vision

DIANA. My temple stands in Ephesus. Hie thee thither,

And do upon mine altar sacrifice.

There, when my maiden priests are met together,

Before the people all,

Reveal how thou at sea didst lose thy wife.

To mourn thy crosses, with thy daughter's, call,

And give them repetition to the life.

Or perform my bidding or thou liv'st in woe;

Do it, and happy-by my silver bow!

Awake and tell thy dream. [Disappears]

PERICLES. Celestial Dian, goddess argentine,

I will obey thee. Helicanus!

Re-enter HELICANUS, LYSIMACHUS, MARINA, &C.

HELICANUS. Sir?

PERICLES. My purpose was for Tharsus, there to strike

The inhospitable Cleon; but I am

For other service first: toward Ephesus

Turn our blown sails; eftsoons I'll tell thee why.

[To LYSIMACHUS] Shall we refresh us, sir, upon your
shore,

And give you gold for such provision

As our intents will need?

LYSIMACHUS. Sir,

With all my heart; and when you come ashore

I have another suit.

PERICLES. You shall prevail,

Were it to woo my daughter; for it seems

You have been noble towards her.

LYSIMACHUS. Sir, lend me your arm.

PERICLES. Come, my Marina.

Exeunt

SCENE 2.

Ephesus. Before the Temple of Diana

Enter GOWER

GOWER. Now our sands are almost run;

More a little, and then dumb.

This, my last boon, give me,

For such kindness must relieve me-

That you aptly will suppose

What pageantry, what feats, what shows,

What minstrelsy, and pretty din,

The regent made in Mytilen

To greet the King. So he thrived,

That he is promis'd to be wived

To fair Marina; but in no wise

Till he had done his sacrifice,

As Dian bade; whereto being bound,

The interim, pray you, an confound.

In feather'd briefness sails are fill'd,
And wishes fall out as they're will'd.
At Ephesus the temple see,
Our king, and all his company.
That he can hither come so soon,
Is by your fancies' thankful boon.

Exit

SCENE 3.

Ephesus. The Temple of Diana; THAISA standing
near the altar as High Priestess; a number of virgins
on each side; CERIMON and other inhabitants of
Ephesus attending

Enter PERICLES, With his train;
LYSIMACHUS, HELICANUS, MARINA, and a LADY

PERICLES. Hail, Dian! to perform thy just command,
I here confess myself the King of Tyre;
Who, frightened from my country, did wed
At Pentapolis the fair Thaisa.
At sea in childbed died she, but brought forth
A maid-child, call'd Marina; who, O goddess,
Wears yet thy silver livery. She at Tharsus
Was nurs'd with Cleon; who at fourteen years
He sought to murder; but her better stars
Brought her to Mytilene; 'gainst whose shore
Riding, her fortunes brought the maid aboard us,
Where, by her own most clear remembrance, she
Made known herself my daughter.

THAISA. Voice and favour!

You are, you are-O royal Pericles!

[Swoons]

PERICLES. What means the nun? She dies! Help, gentlemen!

CERIMON. Noble sir,

If you have told Diana's altar true,
This is your wife.

PERICLES. Reverend appearer, no;

I threw her o'erboard with these very arms.

CERIMON. Upon this coast, I warrant you.

PERICLES. 'Tis most certain.

CERIMON. Look to the lady. O, she's but overjoy'd.

Early in blustering morn this lady was
Thrown upon this shore. I op'd the coffin,
Found there rich jewels; recover'd her, and plac'd her
Here in Diana's temple.

PERICLES. May we see them?

CERIMON. Great sir, they shall be brought you to my house,
Whither I invite you. Look, Thaisa is
Recovered.

THAISA. O, let me look!

If he be none of mine, my sanctity
Will to my sense bend no licentious ear,
But curb it, spite of seeing. O, my lord,
Are you not Pericles? Like him you spake,
Like him you are. Did you not name a tempest,
A birth and death?

PERICLES. The voice of dead Thaisa!

THAISA. That Thaisa am I, supposed dead
And drown'd.

PERICLES. Immortal Dian!

THAISA. Now I know you better.

When we with tears parted Pentapolis,
The King my father gave you such a ring. [Shows a ring]

PERICLES. This, this! No more, you gods! your present kindness
Makes my past miseries sports. You shall do well
That on the touching of her lips I may
Melt and no more be seen. O, come, be buried

A second time within these arms!

MARINA. My heart

Leaps to be gone into my mother's bosom.

[Kneels to THAISA]

PERICLES. Look who kneels here! Flesh of thy flesh, Thaisa;

Thy burden at the sea, and call'd Marina,

For she was yielded there.

THAISA. Blest and mine own!

HELICANUS. Hail, madam, and my queen!

THAISA. I know you not.

PERICLES. You have heard me say, when I did fly from

Tyre,

I left behind an ancient substitute.

Can you remember what I call'd the man?

I have nam'd him oft.

THAISA. 'Twas Helicanus then.

PERICLES. Still confirmation.

Embrace him, dear Thaisa; this is he.

Now do I long to hear how you were found;

How possibly preserv'd; and who to thank,

Besides the gods, for this great miracle.

THAISA. Lord Cerimon, my lord-this man

Through whom the gods have shown their power-that can

From first to last resolve you.

PERICLES. Reverend sir,

The gods can have no mortal officer

More like a god than you. Will you deliver

How this dead queen re-lives?

CERIMON. I will, my lord.

Beseech you, first, go with me to my house,

Where shall be shown you all was found with her;

How she came plac'd here in the temple;

No needful thing omitted.

PERICLES. Pure Dian, bless thee for thy vision! I
Will offer night-oblations to thee. Thaisa,
This Prince, the fair-betrothed of your daughter,
Shall marry her at Pentapolis. And now,
This ornament
Makes me look dismal will I clip to form;
And what this fourteen years no razor touch'd,
To grace thy marriage-day I'll beautify.

THAISA. Lord Cerimon hath letters of good credit, sir,
My father's dead.

PERICLES. Heavens make a star of him! Yet there, my queen,
We'll celebrate their nuptials, and ourselves
Will in that kingdom spend our following days.
Our son and daughter shall in Tyrus reign.
Lord Cerimon, we do our longing stay
To hear the rest untold. Sir, lead's the way.

Exeunt

Enter GOWER

GOWER. In Antiochus and his daughter you have heard
Of monstrous lust the due and just reward:
In Pericles, his queen, and daughter, seen,
Although assail'd with fortune fierce and keen,
Virtue preserv'd from fell destruction's blast,
Led on by heaven, and crown'd with joy at last.
In Helicanus may you well descry
A figure of truth, of faith, of loyalty;
In reverend Cerimon there well appears
The worth that learned charity aye wears.
For wicked Cleon and his wife, when fame
Had spread their cursed deed, and honour'd name
Of Pericles, to rage the city turn,
That him and his they in his palace burn;

The gods for murder seemed so content

To punish-although not done, but meant.

So, on your patience evermore attending,

New joy wait on you! Here our play has ending.

Exit

THE END

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