

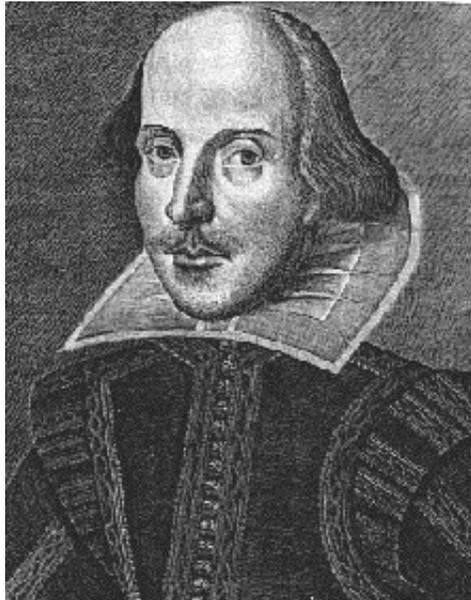
MEASURE,

For Measure.

by

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Based on the Folio Text of 1623



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Shakespeare: First Folio

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Measvre, For Measure

F1

Actus primus, Scena prima.

2 *Enter Duke, Escalus, Lords.*
 3 *Duke.*
 4 *Escalus.*
 5 *Esc.* My Lord.
 6 *Duk.* Of Gouernment, the properties to vn-|(fold,
 7 Would seeme in me t' affect speech & discourse,
 8 Since I am put to know, that your owne Science
 9 Exceedes (in that) the lists of all aduice
 10 My strength can giue you: Then no more remaines
 11 But that, to your sufficiency, as your worth is able,
 12 And let them worke: The nature of our People,
 13 Our *Cities Institutions*, and the Termes
 14 For Common Iustice, y'are as pregnant in
 15 As Art, and practise, hath inriched any
 16 That we remember: There is our Commission,
 17 From which, we would not haue you warpe; call hither,
 18 I say, bid come before vs *Angelo*:
 19 What figure of vs thinke you, he will beare.
 20 For you must know, we haue with speciall soule
 21 Elected him our absence to supply;
 22 Lent him our terror, drest him with our loue,
 23 And giuen his Deputation all the Organs
 24 Of our owne powre: What thinke you of it?
 25 *Esc.* If any in *Vienna* be of worth
 26 To vndergoe such ample grace, and honour,
 27 It is Lord *Angelo*.
 28 *Enter Angelo.*
 29 *Duk.* Looke where he comes.
 30 *Ang.* Alwayes obedient to your Graces will,
 31 I come to know your pleasure.
 32 *Duke. Angelo:*
 33 There is a kinde of Character in thy life,
 34 That to th' obseruer, doth thy history
 35 Fully vnfold: Thy selfe, and thy belongings
 36 Are not thine owne so proper, as to waste
 37 Thy selfe vpon thy vertues; they on thee:
 38 Heauen doth with vs, as we, with Torchets doe,
 39 Not light them for themselues: For if our vertues

40 Did not goe forth of vs, 'twere all alike
 41 As if we had them not: Spirits are not finely touch'd,
 42 But to fine issues: nor nature neuer lends
 43 The smallest scruple of her excellence,
 44 But like a thrifty goddesse, she determines
 45 Her selfe the glory of a creditour,
 46 Both thanks, and vse; but I do bend my speech [
 47 To one that can my part in him aduertise;
 48 Hold therefore *Angelo*:
 49 In our remoue, be thou at full, our selfe:
 50 Mortallitie and Mercie in *Vienna*
 51 Liue in thy tongue, and heart: Old *Escalus*
 52 Though first in question, is thy secondary.
 53 Take thy Commission.
 54 *Ang.* Now good my Lord
 55 Let there be some more test, made of my mettle,
 56 Before so noble, and so great a figure
 57 Be stamp't vpon it.
 58 *Duk.* No more euasion:
 59 We haue with a leauen'd, and prepared choice
 60 Proceeded to you; therefore take your honors:
 61 Our haste from hence is of so quicke condition,
 62 That it prefers it selfe, and leaues vnquestion'd
 63 Matters of needfull value: We shall write to you
 64 As time, and our concernings shall importune,
 65 How it goes with vs, and doe looke to know
 66 What doth befall you here. So fare you well:
 67 To th' hopefull execution doe I leaue you,
 68 Of your Commissions.
 69 *Ang.* Yet giue leaue (my Lord,)
 70 That we may bring you something on the way.
 71 *Duk.* My haste may not admit it,
 72 Nor neede you (on mine honor) haue to doe
 73 With any scruple: your scope is as mine owne,
 74 So to inforce, or qualifie the Lawes
 75 As to your soule seemes good: Giue me your hand,
 76 Ile priuily away: I loue the people,
 77 But doe not like to stage me to their eyes:
 78 Though it doe well, I doe not rellish well
 79 Their lowd applause, and Aues vehement:
 80 Nor doe I thinke the man of safe discretion
 81 That do's affect it. Once more fare you well.
 82 *Ang.* The heauens giue safety to your purposes.
 83 *Esc.* Lead forth, and bring you backe in happi-nesse.
 84 *Exit.*
 85 *Duk.* I thanke you, fare you well.

86 *Esc.* I shall desire you, Sir, to giue me leaue
 87 To haue free speech with you; and it concernes me
 88 To looke into the bottome of my place:
 89 A powre I haue, but of what strength and nature,
 90 I am not yet instructed.
 91 *Ang.* 'Tis so with me: Let vs with-draw together,
 92 And we may soone our satisfaction haue
 93 Touching that point.
 94 *Esc.* Ile wait vpon your honor. *Exeunt.* [F1v

Scena Secunda.

96 *Enter Lucio, and two other Gentlemen.*
 97 *Luc.* If the *Duke*, with the other Dukes, come not to
 98 composition with the King of *Hungary*, why then all the
 99 Dukes fall vpon the King.
 100 *1.Gent.* Heauen grant vs its peace, but not the King
 101 of *Hungaries*.
 102 *2.Gent.* Amen.
 103 *Luc.* Thou conclud'st like the Sanctimonious Pirat,
 104 that went to sea with the ten Commandements, but
 105 scrap'd one out of the Table.
 106 *2.Gent.* Thou shalt not Steale?
 107 *Luc.* I, that he raz'd.
 108 *1.Gent.* Why? 'twas a commandement, to command
 109 the Captaine and all the rest from their functions: they
 110 put forth to steale: There's not a Souldier of vs all, that
 111 in the thanks- giuing before meate, do rallish the petition
 112 well, that praies for peace.
 113 *2.Gent.* I neuer heard any Souldier dislike it.
 114 *Luc.* I beleeeue thee: for I thinke thou neuer was't
 115 where Grace was said.
 116 *2.Gent.* No? a dozen times at least.
 117 *1.Gent.* What? In meeter?
 118 *Luc.* In any proportion: or in any language.
 119 *1.Gent.* I thinke, or in any Religion.
 120 *Luc.* I, why not? Grace, is Grace, despight of all con-trouersie:
 121 as for example; Thou thy selfe art a wicked
 122 villaine, despight of all Grace.
 123 *1.Gent.* Well: there went but a paire of sheeres be-tweene
 124 vs.
 125 *Luc.* I grant: as there may betweene the Lists, and
 126 the Veluet. Thou art the List.
 127 *1.Gent.* And thou the Veluet; thou art good veluet;

128 thou'rt a three pild- peece I warrant thee: I had as lief
 129 be a Lyst of an English Kersey, as be pil'd, as thou art
 130 pil'd, for a French Veluet. Do I speake feelingly now?
 131 *Luc.* I thinke thou do'st: and indeed with most pain-full
 132 feeling of thy speech: I will, out of thine owne con-fession,
 133 learne to begin thy health; but, whilst I liue for-get
 134 to drinke after thee.
 135 *1.Gent.* I think I haue done my selfe wrong, haue I not?
 136 *2.Gent.* Yes, that thou hast; whether thou art tainted,
 137 or free. *Enter Bawde.*
 138 *Luc.* Behold, behold, where Madam *Mitigation* comes.
 139 I haue purchas'd as many diseases vnder her Roofe,
 140 As come to
 141 *2.Gent.* To what, I pray?
 142 *Luc.* Iudge.
 143 *2.Gent.* To three thousand Dollours a yeare.
 144 *1.Gent.* I, and more.
 145 *Luc.* A French crowne more.
 146 *1.Gent.* Thou art alwayes figuring diseases in me; but
 147 thou art full of error, I am sound.
 148 *Luc.* Nay, not (as one would say) healthy: but so
 149 sound, as things that are hollow; thy bones are hollow;
 150 Impiety has made a feast of thee.
 151 *1.Gent.* How now, which of your hips has the most
 152 profound Ciatica?
 153 *Bawd.* Well, well: there's one yonder arrested, and
 154 carried to prison, was worth fiue thousand of you all.
 155 *2.Gent.* Who's that I pray'thee?
 156 *Bawd.* Marry Sir, that's *Claudio*, Signior *Claudio*. [
 157 *1.Gent.* *Claudio* to prison? 'tis not so.
 158 *Bawd.* Nay, but I know 'tis so: I saw him arrested:
 159 saw him carried away: and which is more, within these
 160 three daies his head to be chop'd off.
 161 *Luc.* But, after all this fooling, I would not haue it so:
 162 Art thou sure of this?
 163 *Bawd.* I am too sure of it: and it is for getting Madam
 164 *Iulietta* with childe.
 165 *Luc.* Beleeue me this may be: he promis'd to meete
 166 me two howres since, and he was euer precise in promise
 167 keeping.
 168 *2.Gent.* Besides you know, it drawes something neere
 169 to the speech we had to such a purpose.
 170 *1.Gent.* But most of all agreeing with the proclamatio[n].
 171 *Luc.* Away: let's goe learne the truth of it. *Exit.*
 172 *Bawd.* Thus, what with the war; what with the sweat,
 173 what with the gallowes, and what with pouerty, I am

174 Custom- shrunke. How now? what's the newes with
 175 you. *Enter Clowne.*
 176 *Clo.* Yonder man is carried to prison.
 177 *Baw.* Well: what has he done?
 178 *Clo.* A Woman.
 179 *Baw.* But what's his offence?
 180 *Clo.* Groping for Trowts, in a peculiar Riuier.
 181 *Baw.* What? is there a maid with child by him?
 182 *Clo.* No: but there's a woman with maid by him:
 183 you haue not heard of the proclamation, haue you?
 184 *Baw.* What proclamation, man?
 185 *Clow.* All howses in the Suburbs of *Vienna* must bee
 186 pluck'd downe.
 187 *Bawd.* And what shall become of those in the Citie?
 188 *Clow.* They shall stand for seed: they had gon down
 189 to, but that a wise Burger put in for them.
 190 *Bawd.* But shall all our houses of resort in the Sub-urbs
 191 be puld downe?
 192 *Clow.* To the ground, Mistris.
 193 *Bawd.* Why heere's a change indeed in the Common-wealth:
 194 what shall become of me?
 195 *Clow.* Come: feare not you; good Counsellors lacke
 196 no Clients: though you change your place, you neede
 197 not change your Trade: Ile bee your Tapster still; cou-rage,
 198 there will bee pittie taken on you; you that haue
 199 worne your eyes almost out in the seruice, you will bee
 200 considered.
 201 *Bawd.* What's to doe heere, *Thomas Tapster*? let's
 202 withdraw?
 203 *Clo.* Here comes Signior *Claudio*, led by the Prouost
 204 to prison: and there's Madam *Iuliet*. *Exeunt.*

Scena Tertia.

206 *Enter Prouost, Claudio, Iuliet, Officers, Lucio, & 2.Gent.*
 207 *Cla.* Fellow, why do'st thou show me thus to th' world?
 208 Beare me to prison, where I am committed.
 209 *Pro.* I do it not in euill disposition,
 210 But from Lord *Angelo* by speciall charge.
 211 *Clau.* Thus can the demy- god (Authority)
 212 Make vs pay downe, for our offence, by waight
 213 The words of heauen; on whom it will, it will,
 214 On whom it will not (soe) yet still 'tis iust.
 215 *Luc.* Why how now *Claudio*? whence comes this re-(straint.

216 *Cla.* From too much liberty, (my *Lucio*) Liberty
 217 As surfet is the father of much fast,
 218 So euery Scope by the immoderate vse
 219 Turnes to restraint: Our Natures doe pursue [F2
 220 Like Rats that rauyn downe their proper Bane,
 221 A thirsty euill, and when we drinke, we die.
 222 *Luc.* If I could speake so wisely vnder an arrest, I
 223 would send for certaine of my Creditors: and yet, to say
 224 the truth, I had as lief haue the foppery of freedome, as
 225 the mortality of imprisonment: what's thy offence,
 226 *Claudio*?
 227 *Cla.* What (but to speake of) would offend againe.
 228 *Luc.* What, is't murder?
 229 *Cla.* No.
 230 *Luc.* Lecherie?
 231 *Cla.* Call it so.
 232 *Pro.* Away, Sir, you must goe.
 233 *Cla.* One word, good friend:
 234 *Lucio*, a word with you.
 235 *Luc.* A hundred:
 236 If they'll doe you any good: Is *Lechery* so look'd after?
 237 *Cla.* Thus stands it with me: vpon a true contract
 238 I got possession of *Iulietas* bed,
 239 You know the Lady, she is fast my wife,
 240 Saue that we doe the denunciation lacke
 241 Of outward Order. This we came not to,
 242 Onely for propogation of a Dowre
 243 Remaining in the Coffe of her friends,
 244 From whom we thought it meet to hide our Loue
 245 Till Time had made them for vs. But it chances
 246 The stealth of our most mutuall entertainment
 247 With Character too grosse, is writ on *Iuliet*.
 248 *Luc.* With childe, perhaps?
 249 *Cla.* Vnhappely, euen so.
 250 And the new Deputie, now for the Duke,
 251 Whether it be the fault and glimpse of newnes,
 252 Or whether that the body publique, be
 253 A horse whereon the Gouvernor doth ride,
 254 Who newly in the Seate, that it may know
 255 He can command; lets it strait feele the spur:
 256 Whether the Tirranny be in his place,
 257 Or in his Eminence that fills it vp
 258 I stagger in: But this new Gouvernor
 259 Awakes me all the inrolled penalties
 260 Which haue (like vn- scowr'd Armor) hung by th' wall
 261 So long, that ninteene Zodiacks haue gone round,

262 And none of them beene worne; and for a name
 263 Now puts the drowsie and neglected Act
 264 Freshly on me: 'tis surely for a name.
 265 *Luc.* I warrant it is: And thy head stands so tickle on
 266 thy shoulders, that a milke- maid, if she be in loue, may
 267 sigh it off: Send after the Duke, and appeale to him.
 268 *Cla.* I haue done so, but hee's not to be found.
 269 I pre'thee (*Lucio*) doe me this kinde seruice:
 270 This day, my sister should the Cloyster enter,
 271 And there receiue her approbation.
 272 Acquaint her with the danger of my state,
 273 Implore her, in my voice, that she make friends
 274 To the strict deputie: bid her selfe assay him,
 275 I haue great hope in that: for in her youth
 276 There is a prone and speechlesse dialect,
 277 Such as moue men: beside, she hath prosperous Art
 278 When she will play with reason, and discourse,
 279 And well she can perswade.
 280 *Luc.* I pray shee may; aswell for the encouragement
 281 of the like, which else would stand vnder greuous im-position:
 282 as for the enjoying of thy life, who I would be
 283 sorry should bee thus foolishly lost, at a game of ticke-tacke:
 284 Ile to her.
 285 *Cla.* I thanke you good friend *Lucio*. [
 286 *Luc.* Within two houres.
 287 *Cla.* Come Officer, away. *Exeunt.*

Scena Quarta.

289 *Enter Duke and Frier Thomas.*
 290 *Duk.* No: holy Father, throw away that thought,
 291 Beleeue not that the dribling dart of Loue
 292 Can pierce a compleat bosome: why, I desire thee
 293 To giue me secret harbour, hath a purpose
 294 More graue, and wrinkled, then the aimes, and ends
 295 Of burning youth.
 296 *Fri.* May your Grace speake of it?
 297 *Duk.* My holy Sir, none better knowes then you
 298 How I haue euer lou'd the life remoued
 299 And held in idle price, to haunt assemblies
 300 Where youth, and cost, witlesse brauery keeps.
 301 I haue deliuerd to Lord *Angelo*
 302 (A man of stricture and firme abstinence)
 303 My absolute power, and place here in *Vienna*,

304 And he supposes me trauaild to *Poland*,
 305 (For so I haue strewd it in the common eare)
 306 And so it is receiu'd: Now (pious Sir)
 307 You will demand of me, why I do this.
 308 *Fri.* Gladly, my Lord.
 309 *Duk.* We haue strict Statutes, and most biting Laws,
 310 (The needfull bits and curbess to headstrong weedes,)
 311 Which for this foureteene yeares, we haue let slip,
 312 Euen like an ore- growne Lyon in a Caue
 313 That goes not out to prey: Now, as fond Fathers,
 314 Hauling bound vp the threatning twigs of birch,
 315 Onely to sticke it in their childrens sight,
 316 For terror, not to vse: in time the rod
 317 More mock'd, then fear'd: so our Decrees,
 318 Dead to infliction, to themselues are dead,
 319 And libertie, plucks Iustice by the nose;
 320 The Baby beates the Nurse, and quite athwart
 321 Goes all decorum.
 322 *Fri.* It rested in your Grace
 323 To vnloose this tyde- vp Iustice, when you pleas'd:
 324 And it in you more dreadfull would haue seem'd
 325 Then in Lord *Angelo*.
 326 *Duk.* I doe feare: too dreadfull:
 327 Sith 'twas my fault, to giue the people scope,
 328 'Twould be my turrany to strike and gall them,
 329 For what I bid them doe: For, we bid this be done
 330 When euill deedes haue their permissiue passe,
 331 And not the punishment: therefore indeede (my father)
 332 I haue on *Angelo* impos'd the office,
 333 Who may in th' ambush of my name, strike home,
 334 And yet, my nature neuer in the sight
 335 To do in slander: And to behold his sway
 336 I will, as 'twere a brother of your Order,
 337 Visit both Prince, and People: Therefore I pre'thee
 338 Supply me with the habit, and instruct me
 339 How I may formally in person beare
 340 Like a true *Frier*: Moe reasons for this action
 341 At our more leysure, shall I render you;
 342 Onely, this one: Lord *Angelo* is precise,
 343 Stands at a guard with Enuie: scarce confesses
 344 That his blood flowes: or that his appetite
 345 Is more to bread then stone: hence shall we see
 346 If power change purpose: what our Seemers be. *Exit.* [F2v]

Scena Quinta.

348 *Enter Isabell and Francisca a Nun.*
 349 *Isa.* And haue you *Nuns* no farther priuiledges?
 350 *Nun.* Are not these large enough?
 351 *Isa.* Yes truely; I speake not as desiring more,
 352 But rather wishing a more strict restraint
 353 Vpon the Sisterhood, the Votarists of Saint *Clare.*
 354 *Lucio within.*
 355 *Luc.* Hoa? peace be in this place.
 356 *Isa.* Who's that which cal's?
 357 *Nun.* It is a mans voice: gentle *Isabella*
 358 Turne you the key, and know his businesse of him;
 359 You may; I may not: you are yet vnsworne:
 360 When you haue vowd, you must not speake with men,
 361 But in the presence of the *Prioresse;*
 362 Then if you speake, you must not show your face;
 363 Or if you show your face, you must not speake.
 364 He cal's againe: I pray you answere him.
 365 *Isa.* Peace and prosperitie: who is't that cal's?
 366 *Luc.* Haile Virgin, (if you be) as those cheeke- Roses
 367 Proclaime you are no lesse: can you so steed me,
 368 As bring me to the sight of *Isabella,*
 369 A Nouice of this place, and the faire Sister
 370 To her vnhappy brother *Claudio?*
 371 *Isa.* Why her vnhappy Brother? Let me aske,
 372 The rather for I now must make you know
 373 I am that *Isabella,* and his Sister.
 374 *Luc.* Gentle & faire: your Brother kindly greets you;
 375 Not to be weary with you; he's in prison.
 376 *Isa.* Woe me; for what?
 377 *Luc.* For that, which if my selfe might be his Iudge,
 378 He should receiue his punishment, in thanks:
 379 He hath got his friend with childe.
 380 *Isa.* Sir, make me not your storie.
 381 *Luc.* 'Tis true; I would not, though 'tis my familiar sin,
 382 With Maids to seeme the Lapwing, and to iest
 383 Tongue, far from heart: play with all Virgins so:
 384 I hold you as a thing en- skied, and sainted,
 385 By your renoucement, an imortall spirit
 386 And to be talk'd with in sincerity,
 387 As with a Saint.
 388 *Isa.* You doe blaspheme the good, in mocking me.
 389 *Luc.* Doe not beleeeue it: fewnes, and truth; tis thus,
 390 Your brother, and his loue haue embrac'd;
 391 As those that feed, grow full: as blossoming Time

392 That from the seednes, the bare fallow brings
 393 To teeming foyson: euen so her plenteous wombe
 394 Expresseth his full Tilt, and husbandry.
 395 *Isa.* Some one with childe by him? my cosen *Iuliet*?
 396 *Luc.* Is she your cosen?
 397 *Isa.* Adoptedly, as schoole- maids change their names
 398 By vaine, though apt affection.
 399 *Luc.* She it is.
 400 *Isa.* Oh, let him marry her.
 401 *Luc.* This is the point.
 402 The Duke is very strangely gone from hence;
 403 Bore many gentlemen (my selfe being one)
 404 In hand, and hope of action: but we doe learne,
 405 By those that know the very Nerues of State,
 406 His giuing- out, were of an infinite distance
 407 From his true meant designe: vpon his place,
 408 (And with full line of his authority)
 409 Gouvernes Lord *Angelo*; A man, whose blood
 410 Is very snow- broth: one, who neuer feeles
 411 The wanton stings, and motions of the sence;
 412 But doth rebate, and blunt his naturall edge
 413 With profits of the minde: Studie, and fast
 414 He (to giue feare to vse, and libertie,
 415 Which haue, for long, run- by the hideous law,
 416 As Myce, by Lyons) hath pickt out an act,
 417 Vnder whose heauy sence, your brothers life
 418 Fals into forfeit: he arrests him on it,
 419 And followes close the rigor of the Statute
 420 To make him an example: all hope is gone,
 421 Vnlesse you haue the grace, by your faire praier
 422 To soften *Angelo*: And that's my pith of businesse
 423 'Twixt you, and your poore brother.
 424 *Isa.* Doth he so,
 425 Seeke his life?
 426 *Luc.* Has censur'd him already,
 427 And as I heare, the Prouost hath a warrant
 428 For's execution.
 429 *Isa.* Alas: what poore
 430 Abilitie's in me, to doe him good.
 431 *Luc.* Assay the powre you haue.
 432 *Isa.* My power? alas, I doubt.
 433 *Luc.* Our doubts are traitors
 434 And makes vs loose the good we oft might win,
 435 By fearing to attempt: Goe to Lord *Angelo*
 436 And let him learne to know, when Maidens sue
 437 Men giue like gods: but when they weepe and kneele,

438 All their petitions, are as freely theirs
 439 As they themselues would owe them.
 440 *Isa.* Ile see what I can doe.
 441 *Luc.* But speedily.
 442 *Isa.* I will about it strait;
 443 No longer staying, but to giue the Mother
 444 Notice of my affaire: I humbly thanke you:
 445 Commend me to my brother: soone at night
 446 Ile send him certaine word of my successe.
 447 *Luc.* I take my leaue of you.
 448 *Isa.* Good sir, adieu. *Exeunt.*

Actus Secundus. Scoena Prima.

450 *Enter Angelo, Escalus, and seruants, Iustice.*
 451 *Ang.* We must not make a scar- crow of the Law,
 452 Setting it vp to feare the Birds of prey,
 453 And let it keepe one shape, till custome make it
 454 Their pearch, and not their terror.
 455 *Esc.* I, but yet
 456 Let vs be keene, and rather cut a little
 457 Then fall, and bruise to death: alas, this gentleman
 458 Whom I would saue, had a most noble father,
 459 Let but your honour know
 460 (Whom I beleeeue to be most strait in vertue)
 461 That in the working of your owne affections,
 462 Had time coheard with Place, or place with wishing,
 463 Or that the resolute acting of our blood
 464 Could haue attaind th' effect of your owne purpose,
 465 Whether you had not sometime in your life
 466 Er'd in this point, which now you censure him,
 467 And puld the Law vpon you.
 468 *Ang.* 'Tis one thing to be tempted (*Escalus*) [F3
 469 Another thing to fall: I not deny
 470 The Iury passing on the Prisoners life
 471 May in the sworne- twelue haue a thiefe, or two
 472 Guiltier then him they try; what's open made to Iustice,
 473 That Iustice ceizes; What knowes the Lawes
 474 That theeues do passe on theeues? 'Tis very pregnant,
 475 The Jewell that we finde, we stoope, and take't,
 476 Because we see it; but what we doe not see,
 477 We tread vpon, and neuer thinke of it.
 478 You may not so extenuate his offence,
 479 For I haue had such faults; but rather tell me

480 When I, that censure him, do so offend,
 481 Let mine owne Iudgement patterne out my death,
 482 And nothing come in partiall. Sir, he must dye.
 483 *Enter Prouost.*
 484 *Esc.* Be it as your wisdom will.
 485 *Ang.* Where is the *Prouost*?
 486 *Pro.* Here if it like your honour.
 487 *Ang.* See that *Claudio*
 488 Be executed by nine to morrow morning,
 489 Bring him his Confessor, let him be prepar'd,
 490 For that's the vtmost of his pilgrimage.
 491 *Esc.* Well: heauen forgiue him; and forgiue vs all:
 492 *Some rise by sinne, and some by vertue fall:*
 493 Some run from brakes of Ice, and answere none,
 494 And some condemned for a fault alone.
 495 *Enter Elbow, Froth, Clowne, Officers.*
 496 *Elb.* Come, bring them away: if these be good peo-ple
 497 in a Common- weale, that doe nothing but vse their
 498 abuses in common houses, I know no law: bring them
 499 away.
 500 *Ang.* How now Sir, what's your name? And what's
 501 the matter?
 502 *Elb.* If it please your honour, I am the poore Dukes
 503 Constable, and my name is *Elbow*; I doe leane vpon Iu-stice
 504 Sir, and doe bring in here before your good honor,
 505 two notorious Benefactors.
 506 *Ang.* Benefactors? Well: What Benefactors are they?
 507 Are they not Malefactors?
 508 *Elb.* If it please your honour, I know not well what
 509 they are: But precise villaines they are, that I am sure of,
 510 and void of all prophanation in the world, that good
 511 Christians ought to haue.
 512 *Esc.* This comes off well: here's a wise Officer.
 513 *Ang.* Goe to: What quality are they of? *Elbow* is
 514 your name?
 515 Why do'st thou not speake *Elbow*?
 516 *Clo.* He cannot Sir: he's out at Elbow.
 517 *Ang.* What are you Sir?
 518 *Elb.* He Sir: a Tapster Sir: parcell Baud: one that
 519 serues a bad woman: whose house Sir was (as they say)
 520 pluckt downe in the Suborbs: and now shee professes a
 521 hot- house; which, I thinke is a very ill house too.
 522 *Esc.* How know you that?
 523 *Elb.* My wife Sir? whom I detest before heauen, and
 524 your honour.
 525 *Esc.* How? thy wife?

526 *Elb.* I Sir: whom I thanke heauen is an honest wo-man.
528 *Esc.* Do'st thou detest her therefore?
529 *Elb.* I say sir, I will detest my selfe also, as well as she,
530 that this house, if it be not a Bauds house, it is pittie of her
531 life, for it is a naughty house.
532 *Esc.* How do'st thou know that, Constable?
533 *Elb.* Marry sir, by my wife, who, if she had bin a wo-man
534 Cardinally giuen, might haue bin accus'd in forni-cation,
535 adultery, and all vncleanliness there.
536 *Esc.* By the womans meanes?
537 *Elb.* I sir, by Mistris *Ouer-dons* meanes: but as she spit
538 in his face, so she defide him.
539 *Clo.* Sir, if it please your honor, this is not so.
540 *Elb.* Proue it before these varlets here, thou honora-ble
541 man, proue it.
542 *Esc.* Doe you heare how he misplaces?
543 *Clo.* Sir, she came in great with childe: and longing
544 (sauing your honors reuerence) for stewd prewyns; sir,
545 we had but two in the house, which at that very distant
546 time stood, as it were in a fruit dish (a dish of some three
547 pence; your honours haue seene such dishes) they are not
548 China- dishes, but very good dishes.
549 *Esc.* Go too: go too: no matter for the dish sir.
550 *Clo.* No indeede sir not of a pin; you are therein in
551 the right: but, to the point: As I say, this Mistris *Elbow*,
552 being (as I say) with childe, and being great bellied, and
553 longing (as I said) for prewyns: and hauing but two in
554 the dish (as I said) Master *Froth* here, this very man, ha-uing
555 eaten the rest (as I said) & (as I say) paying for them
556 very honestly: for, as you know Master *Froth*, I could not
557 giue you three pence againe.
558 *Fro.* No indeede.
559 *Clo.* Very well: you being then (if you be remem-bred)
560 cracking the stones of the foresaid prewyns.
561 *Fro.* I, so I did indeede.
562 *Clo.* Why, very well: I telling you then (if you be
563 remembred) that such a one, and such a one, were past
564 cure of the thing you wot of, vnlesse they kept very good
565 diet, as I told you.
566 *Fro.* All this is true.
567 *Clo.* Why very well then.
568 *Esc.* Come: you are a tedious foole: to the purpose:
569 what was done to *Elbowes* wife, that hee hath cause to
570 complaine of? Come me to what was done to her.
571 *Clo.* Sir, your honor cannot come to that yet.
572 *Esc.* No sir, nor I meane it not.

573 *Clo.* Sir, but you shall come to it, by your honours
574 leaue: And I beseech you, looke into Master *Froth* here
575 sir, a man of foure- score pound a yeare; whose father
576 died at *Hallowmas*: Was't not at *Hallowmas* Master
577 *Froth*?

578 *Fro.* Allhallond- Eue.

579 *Clo.* Why very well: I hope here be truthes: he Sir,
580 sitting (as I say) in a lower chaire, Sir, 'twas in the bunch
581 of Grapes, where indeede you haue a delight to sit, haue
582 you not?

583 *Fro.* I haue so, because it is an open roome, and good
584 for winter.

585 *Clo.* Why very well then: I hope here be truthes.

586 *Ang.* This will last out a night in *Russia*
587 When nights are longest there: Ile take my leaue,
588 And leaue you to the hearing of the cause;
589 Hoping youle finde good cause to whip them all. *Exit.*

590 *Esc.* I thinke no lesse: good morrow to your Lord-ship.
591 Now Sir, come on: What was done to *Elbowes*
592 wife, once more?

593 *Clo.* Once Sir? there was nothing done to her once.

594 *Elb.* I beseech you Sir, aske him what this man did to
595 my wife.

596 *Clo.* I beseech your honor, aske me.

597 *Esc.* Well sir, what did this Gentleman to her?

598 *Clo.* I beseech you sir, looke in this Gentlemans face:
599 good Master *Froth* looke vpon his honor; 'tis for a good
600 purpose: doth your honor marke his face? [F3v

601 *Esc.* I sir, very well.

602 *Clo.* Nay, I beseech you marke it well.

603 *Esc.* Well, I doe so.

604 *Clo.* Doth your honor see any harme in his face?

605 *Esc.* Why no.

606 *Clo.* Ile be supposd vpon a booke, his face is the worst
607 thing about him: good then: if his face be the worst
608 thing about him, how could Master *Froth* doe the Con-stables
609 wife any harme? I would know that of your
610 honour.

611 *Esc.* He's in the right (Constable) what say you to it?

612 *Elb.* First, and it like you, the house is a respected
613 house; next, this is a respected fellow; and his Mistris is
614 a respected woman.

615 *Clo.* By this hand Sir, his wife is a more respected per-son
616 then any of vs all.

617 *Elb.* Varlet, thou lvest; thou lvest wicked varlet: the
618 time is yet to come that shee was euer respected with

619 man, woman, or childe.
620 *Clo.* Sir, she was respected with him, before he mar-ried
621 with her.
622 *Esc.* Which is the wiser here; *Iustice* or *Iniquitie*? Is
623 this true?
624 *Elb.* O thou caytiffe: O thou varlet: O thou wick-ed
625 *Hanniball*; I respected with her, before I was married
626 to her? If euer I was respected with her, or she with me,
627 let not your worship thinke mee the poore *Dukes* Offi-cer:
628 proue this, thou wicked *Hanniball*, or ile haue
629 mine action of battry on thee.
630 *Esc.* If he tooke you a box o'th' eare, you might haue
631 your action of slander too.
632 *Elb.* Marry I thanke your good worship for it: what
633 is't your Worships pleasure I shall doe with this wick-ed
634 Caitiffe?
635 *Esc.* Truly Officer, because he hath some offences in
636 him, that thou wouldst discover, if thou couldst, let him
637 continue in his courses, till thou knowst what they are.
638 *Elb.* Marry I thanke your worship for it: Thou seest
639 thou wicked varlet now, what's come vpon thee. Thou
640 art to continue now thou Varlet, thou art to continue.
641 *Esc.* Where were you borne, friend?
642 *Froth.* Here in *Vienna*, Sir.
643 *Esc.* Are you of fourescore pounds a yeere?
644 *Froth.* Yes, and't please you sir.
645 *Esc.* So: what trade are you of, sir?
646 *Clo.* A Tapster, a poore widdowes Tapster.
647 *Esc.* Your Mistris name?
648 *Clo.* Mistris *Ouer-don*.
649 *Esc.* Hath she had any more then one husband?
650 *Clo.* Nine, sir: *Ouer-don* by the last.
651 *Esc.* Nine? come hether to me, Master *Froth*; Master
652 *Froth*, I would not haue you acquainted with Tapsters;
653 they will draw you Master *Froth*, and you wil hang them:
654 get you gon, and let me heare no more of you.
655 *Fro.* I thanke your worship: for mine owne part, I
656 neuer come into any roome in a Tap- house, but I am
657 drawne in.
658 *Esc.* Well: no more of it Master *Froth*: farewell:
659 Come you hether to me, Mr. Tapster: what's your name
660 Mr. Tapster?
661 *Clo.* *Pompey*.
662 *Esc.* What else?
663 *Clo.* *Bum*, Sir.
664 *Esc.* Troth, and your bum is the greatest thing about

665 you, so that in the beastliest sence, you are *Pompey* the
 666 great; *Pompey*, you are partly a bawd, *Pompey*; howso-euer
 667 you colour it in being a Tapster, are you not? come,
 668 tell me true, it shall be the better for you.

669 *Clo.* Truly sir, I am a poore fellow that would liue.

670 *Esc.* How would you liue *Pompey*? by being a bawd?
 671 what doe you thinke of the trade *Pompey*? is it a lawfull
 672 trade?

673 *Clo.* If the Law would allow it, sir.

674 *Esc.* But the Law will not allow it *Pompey*; nor it
 675 shall not be allowed in *Vienna*.

676 *Clo.* Do's your Worship meane to geld and splay all
 677 the youth of the City?

678 *Esc.* No, *Pompey*.

679 *Clo.* Truly Sir, in my poore opinion they will too't
 680 then: if your worship will take order for the drabs and
 681 the knaues, you need not to feare the bawds.

682 *Esc.* There is pretty orders beginning I can tell you:
 683 It is but heading, and hanging.

684 *Clo.* If you head, and hang all that offend that way
 685 but for ten yeare together; you'll be glad to giue out a
 686 Commission for more heads: if this law hold in *Vienna*
 687 ten yeare, ile rent the fairest house in it after three pence
 688 a Bay: if you liue to see this come to passe, say *Pompey*
 689 told you so.

690 *Esc.* Thanke you good *Pompey*; and in requitall of
 691 your prophesie, harke you: I aduise you let me not finde
 692 you before me againe vpon any complaint whatsoever;
 693 no, not for dwelling where you doe: if I doe *Pompey*, I
 694 shall beat you to your Tent, and proue a shrewd *Caesar*
 695 to you: in plaine dealing *Pompey*, I shall haue you whipt;
 696 so for this time, *Pompey*, fare you well.

697 *Clo.* I thanke your Worship for your good counsell;
 698 but I shall follow it as the flesh and fortune shall better
 699 determine. Whip me? no, no, let Carman whip his Iade,
 700 The valiant heart's not whipt out of his trade. *Exit.*

701 *Esc.* Come hether to me, Master *Elbow*: come hither
 702 Master Constable: how long haue you bin in this place
 703 of Constable?

704 *Elb.* Seuen yeere, and a halfe sir.

705 *Esc.* I thought by the readinesse in the office, you had
 706 continued in it some time: you say seauen yeares toge-ther.

708 *Elb.* And a halfe sir.

709 *Esc.* Alas, it hath beene great paines to you: they do
 710 you wrong to put you so oft vpon't. Are there not men
 711 in your Ward sufficient to serue it?

712 *Elb.* 'Faith sir, few of any wit in such matters: as they
 713 are chosen, they are glad to choose me for them; I do it
 714 for some peece of money, and goe through with all.
 715 *Esc.* Looke you bring mee in the names of some sixe
 716 or seuen, the most sufficient of your parish.
 717 *Elb.* To your Worships house sir?
 718 *Esc.* To my house: fare you well: what's a clocke,
 719 thinke you?
 720 *Iust.* Eleuen, Sir.
 721 *Esc.* I pray you home to dinner with me.
 722 *Iust.* I humbly thanke you.
 723 *Esc.* It grieues me for the death of *Claudio*
 724 But there's no remedie:
 725 *Iust.* Lord *Angelo* is seuer.
 726 *Esc.* It is but needfull.
 727 Mercy is not it selfe, that oft lookes so,
 728 Pardon is still the nurse of second woe:
 729 But yet, poore *Claudio*; there is no remedie.
 730 Come Sir. *Exeunt.* [F4

Scena Secunda.

732 *Enter Prouost, Seruant.*
 733 *Ser.* Hee's hearing of a Cause; he will come straight,
 734 I'll tell him of you.
 735 *Pro.* 'Pray you doe; Ile know
 736 His pleasure, may be he will relent; alas
 737 He hath but as offended in a dreame,
 738 All Sects, all Ages smack of this vice, and he
 739 To die for't?
 740 *Enter Angelo.*
 741 *Ang.* Now, what's the matter *Prouost*?
 742 *Pro.* Is it your will *Claudio* shall die to morrow?
 743 *Ang.* Did not I tell thee yea? hadst thou not order?
 744 Why do'st thou aske againe?
 745 *Pro.* Lest I might be too rash:
 746 Vnder your good correction I haue seene
 747 When after execution, Iudgement hath
 748 Repented ore his doome.
 749 *Ang.* Goe to; let that be mine,
 750 Doe you your office, or giue vp your Place,
 751 And you shall well be spar'd.
 752 *Pro.* I craue your Honours pardon:
 753 What shall be done Sir, with the groaning *Iuliet*?

754 Shee's very neere her howre.
 755 *Ang.* Dispose of her
 756 To some more fitter place; and that with speed.
 757 *Ser.* Here is the sister of the man condemn'd,
 758 Desires accesse to you.
 759 *Ang.* Hath he a Sister?
 760 *Pro.* I my good Lord, a very vertuous maid,
 761 And to be shortlie of a Sister- hood,
 762 If not alreadie.
 763 *Ang.* Well: let her be admitted,
 764 See you the Fornicatresse be remou'd,
 765 Let her haue needfull, but not lauish meanes,
 766 There shall be order for't.
 767 *Enter Lucio and Isabella.*
 768 *Pro.* 'Sauce your Honour.
 769 *Ang.* Stay a little while: y'are welcome: what's your |(will?
 770 *Isab.* I am a wofull Sutor to your Honour,
 771 'Please but your Honor heare me.
 772 *Ang.* Well: what's your suite.
 773 *Isab.* There is a vice that most I doe abhorre,
 774 And most desire should meet the blow of Iustice;
 775 For which I would not plead, but that I must,
 776 For which I must not plead, but that I am
 777 At warre, twixt will, and will not.
 778 *Ang.* Well: the matter?
 779 *Isab.* I haue a brother is condemn'd to die,
 780 I doe beseech you let it be his fault,
 781 And not my brother.
 782 *Pro.* Heauen giue thee mouing graces.
 783 *Ang.* Condemne the fault, and not the actor of it,
 784 Why euery fault's condemnd ere it be done:
 785 Mine were the verie Cipher of a Function
 786 To fine the faults, whose fine stands in record,
 787 And let goe by the Actor.
 788 *Isab.* Oh iust, but seure Law:
 789 I had a brother then; heauen keepe your honour.
 790 *Luc.* Giue't not ore so: to him againe, entreat him,
 791 Kneele downe before him, hang vpon his gowne,
 792 You are too cold: if you should need a pin,
 793 You could not with more tame a tongue desire it:
 794 To him, I say.
 795 *Isab.* Must he needs die?
 796 *Ang.* Maiden, no remedie.
 797 *Isab.* Yes: I doe thinke that you might pardon him,
 798 And neither heauen, nor man grieue at the mercy.
 799 *Ang.* I will not doe't.

800 *Isab.* But can you if you would?
 801 *Ang.* Looke what I will not, that I cannot doe.
 802 *Isab.* But might you doe't & do the world no wrong
 803 If so your heart were touch'd with that remorse,
 804 As mine is to him?
 805 *Ang.* Hee's sentenc'd, tis too late.
 806 *Luc.* You are too cold.
 807 *Isab.* Too late? why no: I that doe speak a word
 808 May call it againe: well, beleue this
 809 No ceremony that to great ones longs,
 810 Not the Kings Crowne; nor the deputed sword,
 811 The Marshalls Truncheon, nor the Iudges Robe
 812 Become them with one halfe so good a grace
 813 As mercie does: If he had bin as you, and you as he,
 814 You would haue slipt like him, but he like you
 815 Would not haue beene so sterne.
 816 *Ang.* Pray you be gone.
 817 *Isab.* I would to heauen I had your potencie,
 818 And you were *Isabell*: should it then be thus?
 819 No: I would tell what 'twere to be a Iudge,
 820 And what a prisoner.
 821 *Luc.* I, touch him: there's the veine.
 822 *Ang.* Your Brother is a forfeit of the Law,
 823 And you but waste your words.
 824 *Isab.* Alas, alas:
 825 Why all the soules that were, were forfeit once,
 826 And he that might the vantage best haue tooke,
 827 Found out the remedie: how would you be,
 828 If he, which is the top of Iudgement, should
 829 But iudge you, as you are? Oh, thinke on that,
 830 And mercie then will breathe within your lips
 831 Like man new made.
 832 *Ang.* Be you content, (faire Maid)
 833 It is the Law, not I, condemne your brother,
 834 Were he my kinsman, brother, or my sonne,
 835 It should be thus with him: he must die to morrow.
 836 *Isab.* To morrow? oh, that's sodaine,
 837 Spare him, spare him:
 838 Hee's not prepar'd for death; euen for our kitchins
 839 We kill the fowle of season: shall we serue heauen
 840 With lesse respect then we doe minister
 841 To our grosse- selues? good, good my Lord, bethink you;
 842 Who is it that hath di'd for this offence?
 843 There's many haue committed it.
 844 *Luc.* I, well said.
 845 *Ang.* The Law hath not bin dead, though it hath slept

846 Those many had not dar'd to doe that euill
 847 If the first, that did th' Edict infringe
 848 Had answer'd for his deed. Now 'tis awake,
 849 Takes note of what is done, and like a Prophet
 850 Lookes in a glasse that shewes what future euils
 851 Either now, or by remissenesse, new conceiu'd,
 852 And so in progresse to be hatch'd, and borne,
 853 Are now to haue no successiue degrees,
 854 But here they liue to end.
 855 *Isab.* Yet shew some pittie.
 856 *Ang.* I shew it most of all, when I show Iustice;
 857 For then I pittie those I doe not know,
 858 Which a dismis'd offence, would after gaule [F4v
 859 And doe him right, that answering one foule wrong
 860 Liues not to act another. Be satisfied;
 861 Your Brother dies to morrow; be content.
 862 *Isab.* So you must be y first that giues this sentence,
 863 And hee, that suffers: Oh, it is excellent
 864 To haue a Giants strength: but it is tyrannous
 865 To vse it like a Giant.
 866 *Luc.* That's well said.
 867 *Isab.* Could great men thunder
 868 As *Ioue* himselfe do's, *Ioue* would neuer be quiet,
 869 For euery pelting petty Officer
 870 Would vse his heauen for thunder;
 871 Nothing but thunder: Mercifull heauen,
 872 Thou rather with thy sharpe and sulphurous bolt
 873 Splits the vn- wedgable and gnarled Oke,
 874 Then the soft Mertill: But man, proud man,
 875 Drest in a little briefe authoritie,
 876 Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd,
 877 (His glassie Essence) like an angry Ape
 878 Plaies such phantastique tricks before high heauen,
 879 As makes the Angels weepe: who with our spleenes,
 880 Would all themselues laugh mortall.
 881 *Luc.* Oh, to him, to him wench: he will relent,
 882 Hee's comming: I perceiue't.
 883 *Pro.* Pray heauen she win him.
 884 *Isab.* We cannot weigh our brother with our selfe,
 885 Great men may iest with Saints: tis wit in them,
 886 But in the lesse fowle prophanation.
 887 *Luc.* Thou'rt i'th right (Girle) more o'that.
 888 *Isab.* That in the Captaine's but a chollericke word,
 889 Which in the Souldier is flat blasphemie.
 890 *Luc.* Art auis'd o'that? more on't.
 891 *Ang.* Why doe you put these sayings vpon me?

892 *Isab.* Because Authoritie, though it erre like others,
 893 Hath yet a kinde of medicine in it selfe
 894 That skins the vice o'th top; goe to your bosome,
 895 Knock there, and aske your heart what it doth know
 896 That's like my brothers fault: if it confesse
 897 A naturall guiltinesse, such as is his,
 898 Let it not sound a thought vpon your tongue
 899 Against my brothers life.
 900 *Ang.* Shee speakes, and 'tis such sence
 901 That my Sence breeds with it; fare you well.
 902 *Isab.* Gentle my Lord, turne backe.
 903 *Ang.* I will bethinke me: come againe to morrow.
 904 *Isa.* Hark, how Ile bribe you: good my Lord turn back.
 905 *Ang.* How? bribe me?
 906 *Is.* I, with such gifts that heauen shall share with you.
 907 *Luc.* You had mar'd all else.
 908 *Isab.* Not with fond Sickles of the tested- gold,
 909 Or Stones, whose rate are either rich, or poore
 910 As fancie values them: but with true prayers,
 911 That shall be vp at heauen, and enter there
 912 Ere Sunne rise: prayers from preserued soules,
 913 From fasting Maides, whose mindes are dedicate
 914 To nothing temporall.
 915 *Ang.* Well: come to me to morrow.
 916 *Luc.* Goe to: 'tis well; away.
 917 *Isab.* Heauen keepe your honour safe.
 918 *Ang.* Amen.
 919 For I am that way going to temptation,
 920 Where prayers crosse.
 921 *Isab.* At what hower to morrow,
 922 Shall I attend your Lordship?
 923 *Ang.* At any time 'fore- noone.
 924 *Isab.* 'Sauce your Honour.
 925 *Ang.* From thee: euen from thy vertue.
 926 What's this? what's this? is this her fault, or mine?
 927 The Tempter, or the Tempted, who sins most? ha?
 928 Not she: nor doth she tempt: but it is I,
 929 That, lying by the Violet in the Sunne,
 930 Doe as the Carrion do's, not as the flowre,
 931 Corrupt with vertuous season: Can it be,
 932 That Modesty may more betray our Sence
 933 Then womans lightnesse? hauing waste ground enough,
 934 Shall we desire to raze the Sanctuary
 935 And pitch our euils there? oh fie, fie, fie:
 936 What dost thou? or what art thou *Angelo*?
 937 Dost thou desire her fowly, for those things

938 That make her good? oh, let her brother liue:
 939 Theeues for their robbery haue authority,
 940 When Iudges steale themselues: what, doe I loue her,
 941 That I desire to heare her speake againe?
 942 And feast vpon her eyes? what is't I dreame on?
 943 Oh cunning enemy, that to catch a Saint,
 944 With Saints dost bait thy hooke: most dangerous
 945 Is that temptation, that doth goad vs on
 946 To sinne, in louing vertue: neuer could the Strumpet
 947 With all her double vigor, Art, and Nature
 948 Once stir my temper: but this vertuous Maid
 949 Subdues me quite: Euer till now
 950 When men were fond, I smild, and wondred how. *Exit.*

Scena Tertia.

952 *Enter Duke and Prouost.*
 953 *Duke.* Haile to you, *Prouost*, so I thinke you are.
 954 *Pro.* I am the Prouost: whats your will, good Frier?
 955 *Duke.* Bound by my charity, and my blest order,
 956 I come to visite the afflicted spirits
 957 Here in the prison: doe me the common right
 958 To let me see them: and to make me know
 959 The nature of their crimes, that I may minister
 960 To them accordingly.
 961 *Pro.* I would do more then that, if more were needfull
 962 *Enter Iuliet.*
 963 Looke here comes one: a Gentlewoman of mine,
 964 Who falling in the flawes of her owne youth,
 965 Hath blisterd her report: She is with childe,
 966 And he that got it, sentenc'd: a yong man,
 967 More fit to doe another such offence,
 968 Then dye for this.
 969 *Duk.* When must he dye?
 970 *Pro.* As I do thinke to morrow.
 971 I haue prouided for you, stay a while
 972 And you shall be conducted.
 973 *Duk.* Repent you (faire one) of the sin you carry?
 974 *Iul.* I doe; and beare the shame most patiently.
 975 *Du.* Ile teach you how you shal araign your conscie[n]ce
 976 And try your penitence, if it be sound,
 977 Or hollowly put on.
 978 *Iul.* Ile gladly learne.
 979 *Duk.* Loue you the man that wrong'd you?

980 *Iul.* Yes, as I loue the woman that wrong'd him.
 981 *Duk.* So then it seemes your most offence full act
 982 Was mutually committed.
 983 *Iul.* Mutually.
 984 *Duk.* Then was your sin of heauier kinde then his.
 985 *Iul.* I doe confesse it, and repent it (Father.) [F5
 986 *Duk.* 'Tis meet so (daughter) but least you do repent
 987 As that the sin hath brought you to this shame,
 988 Which sorrow is alwaies toward our selues, not heauen,
 989 Showing we would not spare heauen, as we loue it,
 990 But as we stand in feare.
 991 *Iul.* I doe repent me, as it is an euill,
 992 And take the shame with ioy.
 993 *Duke.* There rest:
 994 Your partner (as I heare) must die to morrow,
 995 And I am going with instruction to him:
 996 Grace goe with you, *Benedicite. Exit.*
 997 *Iul.* Must die to morrow? oh iniurious Loue
 998 That respits me a life, whose very comfort
 999 Is still a dying horror.
 1000 *Pro.* 'Tis pittie of him. *Exeunt.*

Scena Quarta.

1002 *Enter Angelo.*
 1003 *An.* When I would pray, & think, I thinke, and pray
 1004 To seuerall subiects: heauen hath my empty words,
 1005 Whilst my Inuention, hearing not my Tongue,
 1006 Anchors on *Isabell*: heauen in my mouth,
 1007 As if I did but onely chew his name,
 1008 And in my heart the strong and swelling euill
 1009 Of my conception: the state whereon I studied
 1010 Is like a good thing, being often read
 1011 Growne feard, and tedious: yea, my Grauitie
 1012 Wherein (let no man heare me) I take pride,
 1013 Could I, with boote, change for an idle plume
 1014 Which the ayre beats for vaine: oh place, oh forme,
 1015 How often dost thou with thy case, thy habit
 1016 Wrench awe from fooles, and tye the wiser soules
 1017 To thy false seeming? Blood, thou art blood,
 1018 Let's write good Angell on the Deuills horne
 1019 'Tis not the Deuills Crest: how now? who's there?
 1020 *Enter Seruant.*
 1021 *Ser.* One *Isabell*, a Sister, desires accesse to you.

1022 *Ang.* Teach her the way: oh, heuens
 1023 Why doe's my bloud thus muster to my heart,
 1024 Making both it vnable for it selfe,
 1025 And dispossessing all my other parts
 1026 Of necessary fitnessse?
 1027 So play the foolish throngs with one that swounds,
 1028 Come all to help him, and so stop the ayre
 1029 By which hee should reuiue: and euen so
 1030 The generall subiect to a wel- wisht King
 1031 Quit their owne part, and in obsequious fondnesse
 1032 Crowd to his presence, where their vn- taught loue
 1033 Must needs appear offence: how now faire Maid.
 1034 *Enter Isabella.*
 1035 *Isab.* I am come to know your pleasure.
 1036 *An.* That you might know it, wold much better please | (me,
 1037 Then to demand what 'tis: your Brother cannot liue.
 1038 *Isab.* Euen so: heauen keepe your Honor.
 1039 *Ang.* Yet may he liue a while: and it may be
 1040 As long as you, or I: yet he must die.
 1041 *Isab.* Vnder your Sentence?
 1042 *Ang.* Yea.
 1043 *Isab.* When, I beseech you: that in his Reprieue
 1044 (Longer, or shorter) he may be so fitted
 1045 That his soule sicken not.
 1046 *Ang.* Ha? fie, these filthy vices: It were as good [
 1047 To pardon him, that hath from nature stolne
 1048 A man already made, as to remit
 1049 Their sawcie sweetnes, that do coyne heuens Image
 1050 In stamps that are forbid: 'tis all as easie,
 1051 Falsely to take away a life true made,
 1052 As to put mettle in restrained meanes
 1053 To make a false one.
 1054 *Isab.* 'Tis set downe so in heauen, but not in earth.
 1055 *Ang.* Say you so: then I shall poze you quickly.
 1056 Which had you rather, that the most iust Law
 1057 Now tooke your brothers life, and to redeeme him
 1058 Giue vp your body to such sweet vnclennesse
 1059 As she that he hath staine?
 1060 *Isab.* Sir, beleeeue this.
 1061 I had rather giue my body, then my soule.
 1062 *Ang.* I talke not of your soule: our compel'd sins
 1063 Stand more for number, then for accompt.
 1064 *Isab.* How say you?
 1065 *Ang.* Nay Ile not warrant that: for I can speake
 1066 Against the thing I say: Answere to this,
 1067 I (now the voyce of the recorded Law)

1068 Pronounce a sentence on your Brothers life,
1069 Might there not be a charitie in sinne,
1070 To saue this Brothers life?
1071 *Isab.* Please you to doo't,
1072 Ile take it as a perill to my soule,
1073 It is no sinne at all, but charitie.
1074 *Ang.* Pleas'd you to doo't, at perill of your soule
1075 Were equall poize of sinne, and charitie.
1076 *Isab.* That I do beg his life, if it be sinne
1077 Heauen let me beare it: you granting of my suit,
1078 If that be sin, Ile make it my Morne- praier,
1079 To haue it added to the faults of mine,
1080 And nothing of your answer.
1081 *Ang.* Nay, but heare me,
1082 Your sence pursues not mine: either you are ignorant,
1083 Or seeme so crafty; and that's not good.
1084 *Isab.* Let be ignorant, and in nothing good,
1085 But graciously to know I am no better.
1086 *Ang.* Thus wisdom wishes to appeare most bright,
1087 When it doth taxe it selfe: As these blacke Masques
1088 Proclaime an en- shield beauty ten times louder
1089 Then beauty could displaid: But marke me,
1090 To be receiued plaine, Ile speake more grosse:
1091 Your Brother is to dye.
1092 *Isab.* So.
1093 *Ang.* And his offence is so, as it appeares,
1094 Accountant to the Law, vpon that paine.
1095 *Isab.* True.
1096 *Ang.* Admit no other way to saue his life
1097 (As I subscribe not that, nor any other,
1098 But in the losse of question) that you, his Sister,
1099 Finding your selfe desir'd of such a person,
1100 Whose creadit with the Iudge, or owne great place,
1101 Could fetch your Brother from the Manacles
1102 Of the all- building- Law: and that there were
1103 No earthly meane to saue him, but that either
1104 You must lay downe the treasures of your body,
1105 To this supposed, or else to let him suffer:
1106 What would you doe?
1107 *Isab.* As much for my poore Brother, as my selfe;
1108 That is: were I vnder the tearmes of death,
1109 Th' impression of keene whips, I'd weare as Rubies,
1110 And strip my selfe to death, as to a bed,
1111 That longing haue bin sicke for, ere I'd yeeld
1112 My body vp to shame. [F5v
1113 *Ang.* Then must your brother die.

1114 *Isa.* And 'twere the cheaper way:
 1115 Better it were a brother dide at once,
 1116 Then that a sister, by redeeming him
 1117 Should die for euer.
 1118 *Ang.* Were not you then as cruell as the Sentence,
 1119 That you haue slander'd so?
 1120 *Isa.* Ignomie in ransome, and free pardon
 1121 Are of two houses: lawfull mercie,
 1122 Is nothing kin to fowle redemption.
 1123 *Ang.* You seem'd of late to make the Law a tirant,
 1124 And rather prou'd the sliding of your brother
 1125 A merriment, then a vice.
 1126 *Isa.* Oh pardon me my Lord, it oft fals out
 1127 To haue, what we would haue,
 1128 We speake not what we meane;
 1129 I something do excuse the thing I hate,
 1130 For his aduantage that I dearely loue.
 1131 *Ang.* We are all fraile.
 1132 *Isa.* Else let my brother die,
 1133 If not a fedarie but onely he
 1134 Owe, and succeed thy weaknesse.
 1135 *Ang.* Nay, women are fraile too.
 1136 *Isa.* I, as the glasses where they view themselues,
 1137 Which are as easie broke as they make formes:
 1138 Women? Helpe heauen; men their creation marre
 1139 In profiting by them: Nay, call vs ten times fraile,
 1140 For we are soft, as our complexions are,
 1141 And credulous to false prints.
 1142 *Ang.* I thinke it well:
 1143 And from this testimonie of your owne sex
 1144 (Since I suppose we are made to be no stronger
 1145 Then faults may shake our frames) let me be bold;
 1146 I do arrest your words. Be that you are,
 1147 That is a woman; if you be more, you'r none.
 1148 If you be one (as you are well exprest
 1149 By all externall warrants) shew it now,
 1150 By putting on the destin'd Liuerie.
 1151 *Isa.* I haue no tongue but one; gentle my Lord,
 1152 Let me entreate you speake the former language.
 1153 *Ang.* Plainlie conceiue I loue you.
 1154 *Isa.* My brother did loue *Iuliet*,
 1155 And you tell me that he shall die for't.
 1156 *Ang.* He shall not *Isabell* if you giue me loue.
 1157 *Isa.* I know your vertue hath a licence in't,
 1158 Which seemes a little fouler then it is,
 1159 To plucke on others.

1160 *Ang.* Beleeue me on mine Honor,
1161 My words expresse my purpose.
1162 *Isa.* Ha? Little honor, to be much beleeu'd,
1163 And most pernicious purpose: Seeming, seeming.
1164 I will proclaime thee *Angelo*, looke for't.
1165 Signe me a present pardon for my brother,
1166 Or with an out- stretcht throate Ile tell the world aloud
1167 What man thou art.
1168 *Ang.* Who will beleeue thee *Isabell*?
1169 My vnsoild name, th' austeerenesse of my life,
1170 My vouch against you, and my place i'th State,
1171 Will so your accusation ouer- weigh,
1172 That you shall stifle in your owne report,
1173 And smell of calumnie. I haue begun,
1174 And now I giue my sensuall race, the reine,
1175 Fit thy consent to my sharpe appetite,
1176 Lay by all nicetie, and proluxious blushes
1177 That banish what they sue for: Redeeme thy brother,
1178 By yeelding vp thy bodie to my will,
1179 Or else he must not onelie die the death,
1180 But thy vnkindnesse shall his death draw out
1181 To lingring sufferance: Answer me to morrow,
1182 Or by the affection that now guides me most,
1183 Ile proue a Tirant to him. As for you,
1184 Say what you can; my false, ore- weighs your true. *Exit*
1185 *Isa.* To whom should I complaine? Did I tell this,
1186 Who would beleeue me? O perilous mouthes
1187 That beare in them, one and the selfesame tongue,
1188 Either of condemnation, or approofe,
1189 Bidding the Law make curtsie to their will,
1190 Hooking both right and wrong to th' appetite,
1191 To follow as it drawes. Ile to my brother,
1192 Though he hath falne by prompture of the blood,
1193 Yet hath he in him such a minde of Honor,
1194 That had he twentie heads to tender downe
1195 On twentie bloodie blockes, hee'ld yeeld them vp,
1196 Before his sister should her bodie stoope
1197 To such abhord pollution.
1198 Then *Isabell* liue chaste, and brother die;
1199 "More then our Brother, is our Chastitie.
1200 Ile tell him yet of *Angelo*'s request,
1201 And fit his minde to death, for his soules rest. *Exit.*

Actus Tertius. Scena Prima.

1203 *Enter Duke, Claudio, and Prouost.*

1204 *Du.* So then you hope of pardon from Lord *Angelo*?

1205 *Cla.* The miserable haue no other medicine

1206 But onely hope: I'haue hope to liue, and am prepar'd to
1207 die.

1208 *Duke.* Be absolute for death: either death or life

1209 Shall thereby be the sweeter. Reason thus with life:

1210 If I do loose thee, I do loose a thing

1211 That none but fooles would keepe: a breath thou art,

1212 Seruile to all the skyie- influences

1213 That dost this habitation where thou keepst

1214 Houerly afflict: Meerely, thou art deaths foole,

1215 For him thou labourst by thy flight to shun,

1216 And yet runst toward him still. Thou art not noble,

1217 For all th' accommodations that thou bearst,

1218 Are nurst by basenesse: Thou'rt by no meanes valiant,

1219 For thou dost feare the soft and tender forke

1220 Of a poore worme: thy best of rest is sleepe,

1221 And that thou oft prouokst, yet grosselie fearst

1222 Thy death, which is no more. Thou art not thy selfe,

1223 For thou exists on manie a thousand graines

1224 That issue out of dust. Happie thou art not,

1225 For what thou hast not, still thou striu'st to get,

1226 And what thou hast forgetst. Thou art not certaine,

1227 For thy complexion shifts to strange effects,

1228 After the Moone: If thou art rich, thou'rt poore,

1229 For like an Asse, whose backe with Ingots bowes;

1230 Thou bearst thy heauie riches but a iournie,

1231 And death vnloads thee; Friend hast thou none.

1232 For thine owne bowels which do call thee, fire

1233 The meere effusion of thy proper loines

1234 Do curse the Gowt, Sapego, and the Rheume

1235 For ending thee no sooner. Thou hast nor youth, nor age

1236 But as it were an after- dinners sleepe

1237 Dreaming on both, for all thy blessed youth

1238 Becomes as aged, and doth begge the almes

1239 Of palsied- Eld: and when thou art old, and rich [F6

1240 Thou hast neither heate, affection, limbe, nor beautie

1241 To make thy riches pleasant: what's yet in this

1242 That beares the name of life? Yet in this life

1243 Lie hid moe thousand deaths; yet death we feare

1244 That makes these oddes, all euen.

1245 *Cla.* I humblie thanke you.

1246 To sue to liue, I finde I seeke to die,

1247 And seeking death, finde life: Let it come on.
1248 *Enter Isabella.*
1249 *Isab.* What hoa? Peace heere; Grace, and good com-panie.
1251 *Pro.* Who's there? Come in, the wish deserues a
1252 welcome.
1253 *Duke.* Deere sir, ere long Ile visit you againe.
1254 *Cla.* Most holie Sir, I thanke you.
1255 *Isa.* My businesse is a word or two with *Claudio.*
1256 *Pro.* And verie welcom: looke Signior, here's your
1257 sister.
1258 *Duke.* Prouost, a word with you.
1259 *Pro.* As manie as you please.
1260 *Duke.* Bring them to heare me speak, where I may be
1261 conceal'd.
1262 *Cla.* Now sister, what's the comfort?
1263 *Isa.* Why,
1264 As all comforts are: most good, most good indeede,
1265 Lord *Angelo* hauing affaires to heauen
1266 Intends you for his swift Ambassador,
1267 Where you shall be an euerlasting Leiger;
1268 Therefore your best appointment make with speed,
1269 To Morrow you set on.
1270 *Clau.* Is there no remedie?
1271 *Isa.* None, but such remedie, as to saue a head
1272 To cleaue a heart in twaine:
1273 *Clau.* But is there anie?
1274 *Isa.* Yes brother, you may liue;
1275 There is a diuellish mercie in the Iudge,
1276 If you'l implore it, that will free your life,
1277 But fetter you till death.
1278 *Cla.* Perpetuall durance?
1279 *Isa.* I iust, perpetuall durance, a restraint
1280 Through all the worlds vastiditie you had
1281 To a determin'd scope.
1282 *Clau.* But in what nature?
1283 *Isa.* In such a one, as you consenting too't,
1284 Would barke your honor from that trunke you beare,
1285 And leaue you naked.
1286 *Clau.* Let me know the point.
1287 *Isa.* Oh, I do feare thee *Claudio*, and I quake,
1288 Least thou a feauorous life shouldst entertaine,
1289 And six or seuen winters more respect
1290 Then a perpetuall Honor. Dar'st thou die?
1291 The sence of death is most in apprehension,
1292 And the poore Beetle that we treade vpon
1293 In corporall sufferance, finds a pang as great,

1294 As when a Giant dies.
 1295 *Cla.* Why giue you me this shame?
 1296 Thinke you I can a resolution fetch
 1297 From flowrie tendernesse? If I must die,
 1298 I will encounter darknesse as a bride,
 1299 And hugge it in mine armes.
 1300 *Isa.* There spake my brother: there my fathers graue
 1301 Did vtter forth a voice. Yes, thou must die:
 1302 Thou art too noble, to conserue a life
 1303 In base appliances. This outward sainted Deputie,
 1304 Whose settled visage, and deliberate word
 1305 Nips youth i'th head, and follies doth emmew
 1306 As Falcon doth the Fowle, is yet a diuell:
 1307 His filth within being cast, he would appeare
 1308 A pond, as deepe as hell.
 1309 *Cla.* The prenzie, *Angelo*?
 1310 *Isa.* Oh 'tis the cunning Liuerie of hell,
 1311 The damnest bodie to inuest, and couer
 1312 In prenzie gardes; dost thou thinke *Claudio*,
 1313 If I would yeeld him my virginie
 1314 Thou might'st be freed?
 1315 *Cla.* Oh heauens, it cannot be.
 1316 *Isa.* Yes, he would giu't thee; from this rank offence
 1317 So to offend him still. This night's the time
 1318 That I should do what I abhorre to name,
 1319 Or else thou diest to morrow.
 1320 *Clau.* Thou shalt not do't.
 1321 *Isa.* O, were it but my life,
 1322 I'de throw it downe for your deliuerance
 1323 As frankely as a pin.
 1324 *Clau.* Thankes deere *Isabell*.
 1325 *Isa.* Be readie *Claudio*, for your death to morrow.
 1326 *Clau.* Yes. Has he affections in him,
 1327 That thus can make him bite the Law by th' nose,
 1328 When he would force it? Sure it is no sinne,
 1329 Or of the deadly seuen it is the least.
 1330 *Isa.* Which is the least?
 1331 *Cla.* If it were damnable, he being so wise,
 1332 Why would he for the momentarie trick
 1333 Be perdurable fin'de? Oh *Isabell*.
 1334 *Isa.* What saies my brother?
 1335 *Cla.* Death is a fearefull thing.
 1336 *Isa.* And shamed life, a hatefull.
 1337 *Cla.* I, but to die, and go we know not where,
 1338 To lie in cold obstruction, and to rot,
 1339 This sensible warme motion, to become

1340 A kneaded clod; And the delighted spirit
 1341 To bath in fierie floods, or to recide
 1342 In thrilling Region of thicke-ribbed Ice,
 1343 To be imprison'd in the viewlesse windes
 1344 And blowne with restlesse violence round about
 1345 The pendant world: or to be worse then worst
 1346 Of those, that lawlesse and incertaine thought,
 1347 Imagine howling, 'tis too horrible.
 1348 The weariest, and most loathed worldly life
 1349 That Age, Ache, periury, and imprisonment
 1350 Can lay on nature, is a Paradise
 1351 To what we feare of death.
 1352 *Isa.* Alas, alas.
 1353 *Cla.* Sweet Sister, let me liue.
 1354 What sinne you do, to saue a brothers life,
 1355 Nature dispenses with the deede so farre,
 1356 That it becomes a vertue.
 1357 *Isa.* Oh you beast,
 1358 Oh faithlesse Coward, oh dishonest wretch,
 1359 Wilt thou be made a man, out of my vice?
 1360 Is't not a kinde of Incest, to take life
 1361 From thine owne sisters shame? What should I thinke,
 1362 Heauen shield my Mother plaid my Father faire:
 1363 For such a warped slip of wildernesse
 1364 Nere issu'd from his blood. Take my defiance,
 1365 Die, perish: Might but my bending downe
 1366 Repreeue thee from thy fate, it should proceede.
 1367 Ile pray a thousand praiers for thy death,
 1368 No word to saue thee.
 1369 *Cla.* Nay heare me *Isabell*.
 1370 *Isa.* Oh fie, fie, fie:
 1371 Thy sinn's not accidentall, but a Trade; [F6v
 1372 Mercy to thee would proue it selfe a Bawd,
 1373 'Tis best that thou diest quickly.
 1374 *Cla.* Oh heare me *Isabella*.
 1375 *Duk.* Vouchsafe a word, yong sister, but one word.
 1376 *Isa.* What is your Will.
 1377 *Duk.* Might you dispense with your leysure, I would
 1378 by and by haue some speech with you: the satisfaction I
 1379 would require, is likewise your owne benefit.
 1380 *Isa.* I haue no superfluous leysure, my stay must be
 1381 stolen out of other affaires: but I will attend you a while.
 1382 *Duke.* Son, I haue ouer- heard what hath past between
 1383 you & your sister. *Angelo* had neuer the purpose to cor-rupt
 1384 her; onely he hath made an assay of her vertue, to
 1385 practise his iudgement with the disposition of natures.

1386 She (hauing the truth of honour in her) hath made him
 1387 that gracious deniall, which he is most glad to receiue: I
 1388 am Confessor to *Angelo*, and I know this to be true, ther-fore
 1389 prepare your selfe to death: do not satisfie your re-solution
 1390 with hopes that are fallible, to morrow you
 1391 must die, goe to your knees, and make ready.
 1392 *Cla.* Let me ask my sister pardon, I am so out of loue
 1393 with life, that I will sue to be rid of it.
 1394 *Duke.* Hold you there: farewell: *Prouost*, a word
 1395 with you.
 1396 *Pro.* What's your will (father?)
 1397 *Duk.* That now you are come, you wil be gone: leaue
 1398 me a while with the Maid, my minde promises with my
 1399 habit, no losse shall touch her by my company.
 1400 *Pro.* In good time. *Exit.*
 1401 *Duk.* The hand that hath made you faire, hath made
 1402 you good: the goodnes that is cheape in beauty, makes
 1403 beauty briefe in goodnes; but grace being the soule of
 1404 your complexion, shall keepe the body of it euer faire:
 1405 the assault that *Angelo* hath made to you, Fortune hath
 1406 conuaid to my vnderstanding; and but that frailty hath
 1407 examples for his falling, I should wonder at *Angelo*: how
 1408 will you doe to content this Substitute, and to saue your
 1409 Brother?
 1410 *Isab.* I am now going to resolue him: I had rather
 1411 my brother die by the Law, then my sonne should be vn-lawfullie
 1412 borne. But (oh) how much is the good Duke
 1413 deceiu'd in *Angelo*: if euer he returne, and I can speake
 1414 to him, I will open my lips in vaine, or discouer his go-uernment.
 1416 *Duke.* That shall not be much amisse: yet, as the mat-ter
 1417 now stands, he will auoid your accusation: he made
 1418 triall of you onelie. Therefore fasten your eare on my
 1419 aduisings, to the loue I haue in doing good; a remedie
 1420 presents it selfe. I doe make my selfe beleeeue that you
 1421 may most vprightously do a poor wronged Lady a me-rited
 1422 benefit; redeem your brother from the angry Law;
 1423 doe no staine to your owne gracious person, and much
 1424 please the absent Duke, if peraduenture he shall euer re-terne
 1425 to haue hearing of this businesse.
 1426 *Isab.* Let me heare you speake farther; I haue spirit to
 1427 do any thing that appeares not fowle in the truth of my
 1428 spirit.
 1429 *Duke.* Vertue is bold, and goodnes neuer fearefull:
 1430 Haue you not heard speake of *Mariana* the sister of *Fre-dericke*
 1431 the great Souldier, who miscarried at Sea?
 1432 *Isa.* I haue heard of the Lady, and good words went

1433 with her name.

1434 *Duke.* Shee should this *Angelo* haue married: was af-fianced
 1435 to her oath, and the nuptiall appointed: between
 1436 which time of the contract, and limit of the solemnitie,
 1437 her brother *Fredericke* was wrackt at Sea, hauing in that
 1438 perished vessell, the dowry of his sister: but marke how
 1439 heauily this befell to the poore Gentlewoman, there she
 1440 lost a noble and renowned brother, in his loue toward
 1441 her, euer most kinde and naturall: with him the portion
 1442 and sinew of her fortune, her marriage dowry: with
 1443 both, her combynate- husband, this well- seeming
 1444 *Angelo*.

1445 *Isab.* Can this be so? did *Angelo* so leaue her?

1446 *Duke.* Left her in her teares, & dried not one of them
 1447 with his comfort: swallowed his vowes whole, preten-ding
 1448 in her, discoueries of dishonor: in few, bestow'd
 1449 her on her owne lamentation, which she yet weares for
 1450 his sake: and he, a marble to her teares, is washed with
 1451 them, but relents not.

1452 *Isab.* What a merit were it in death to take this poore
 1453 maid from the world? what corruption in this life, that
 1454 it will let this man liue? But how out of this can shee a-uaile?

1456 *Duke.* It is a rupture that you may easily heale: and the
 1457 cure of it not onely saues your brother, but keepes you
 1458 from dishonor in doing it.

1459 *Isab.* Shew me how (good Father.)

1460 *Duk.* This fore- named Maid hath yet in her the con-tinuance
 1461 of her first affection: his vniust vnkindenesse
 1462 (that in all reason should haue quenched her loue) hath
 1463 (like an impediment in the Current) made it more vio-lent
 1464 and vnruely: Goe you to *Angelo*, answere his requi-ring
 1465 with a plausible obedience, agree with his demands
 1466 to the point: onely referre your selfe to this aduantage;
 1467 first, that your stay with him may not be long: that the
 1468 time may haue all shadow, and silence in it: and the place
 1469 answere to conuenience: this being granted in course,
 1470 and now followes all: wee shall aduise this wronged
 1471 maid to steed vp your appointment, goe in your place:
 1472 if the encounter acknowledge it selfe heereafter, it may
 1473 compell him to her recompence; and heere, by this is
 1474 your brother saued, your honor vntainted, the poore
 1475 *Mariana* aduantaged, and the corrupt Deputy scaled.
 1476 The Maid will I frame, and make fit for his attempt: if
 1477 you thinke well to carry this as you may, the doublenes
 1478 of the benefit defends the deceit from reproofe. What
 1479 thinke you of it?

1480 *Isab.* The image of it giues me content already, and I
 1481 trust it will grow to a most prosperous perfection.

1482 *Duk.* It lies much in your holding vp: haste you spee-dily
 1483 to *Angelo*, if for this night he intreat you to his bed,
 1484 giue him promise of satisfaction: I will presently to S[aint].
 1485 *Lukes*, there at the moated- Grange recides this deie-cted
 1486 *Mariana*; at that place call vpon me, and dispatch
 1487 with *Angelo*, that it may be quickly.

1488 *Isab.* I thank you for this comfort: fare you well good
 1489 father. *Exit.*

1490 *Enter Elbow, Clowne, Officers.*

1491 *Elb.* Nay, if there be no remedy for it, but that you
 1492 will needes buy and sell men and women like beasts, we
 1493 shall haue all the world drinke browne & white bastard.

1494 *Duk.* Oh heauens, what stuffe is heere.

1495 *Clow.* Twas neuer merry world since of two vsuries
 1496 the merriest was put downe, and the worser allow'd by
 1497 order of Law; a fur'd gowne to keepe him warme; and
 1498 furd with Foxe and Lamb- skins too, to signifie, that craft
 1499 being richer then Innocency, stands for the facing.

1500 *Elb.* Come your way sir: 'blesse you good Father
 1501 Frier.

1502 *Duk.* And you good Brother Father; what offence
 1503 hath this man made you, Sir? [G1]

1504 *Elb.* Marry Sir, he hath offended the Law; and Sir,
 1505 we take him to be a Theefe too Sir: for wee haue found
 1506 vpon him Sir, a strange Pick- lock, which we haue sent
 1507 to the Deputie.

1508 *Duke.* Fie, sirrah, a Bawd, a wicked bawd,
 1509 The euill that thou causest to be done,
 1510 That is thy meanes to liue. Do thou but thinke
 1511 What 'tis to cram a maw, or cloath a backe
 1512 From such a filthie vice: say to thy selfe,
 1513 From their abhominable and beastly touches
 1514 I drinke, I eate away my selfe, and liue:
 1515 Canst thou beleue thy liuing is a life,
 1516 So stinkingly depending? Go mend, go mend.

1517 *Clo.* Indeed, it do's stinke in some sort, Sir:
 1518 But yet Sir I would proue.

1519 *Duke.* Nay, if the diuell haue giuen thee proofs for sin
 1520 Thou wilt proue his. Take him to prison Officer:
 1521 Correction, and Instruction must both worke
 1522 Ere this rude beast will profit.

1523 *Elb.* He must before the Deputy Sir, he ha's giuen
 1524 him warning: the Deputy cannot abide a Whore- ma-ster:
 1525 if he be a Whore- monger, and comes before him,

1526 he were as good go a mile on his errand.
 1527 *Duke.* That we were all, as some would seeme to bee
 1528 From our faults, as faults from seeming free.
 1529 *Enter Lucio.*
 1530 *Elb.* His necke will come to your wast, a Cord sir.
 1531 *Clo.* I spy comfort, I cry baile: Here's a Gentleman,
 1532 and a friend of mine.
 1533 *Luc.* How now noble *Pompey*? What, at the wheels
 1534 of *Caesar*? Art thou led in triumph? What is there none
 1535 of *Pigmaliions* Images newly made woman to bee had
 1536 now, for putting the hand in the pocket, and extracting
 1537 clutch'd? What reply? Ha? What saist thou to this
 1538 Tune, Matter, and Method? Is't not drown'd i'th last
 1539 raine? Ha? What saist thou Trot? Is the world as it was
 1540 Man? Which is the way? Is it sad, and few words?
 1541 Or how? The tricke of it?
 1542 *Duke.* Still thus, and thus: still worse?
 1543 *Luc.* How doth my deere Morsell, thy Mistris? Pro-cures
 1544 she still? Ha?
 1545 *Clo.* Troth sir, shee hath eaten vp all her beefe, and
 1546 she is her selfe in the tub.
 1547 *Luc.* Why 'tis good: It is the right of it: it must be
 1548 so. Euer your fresh Whore, and your powder'd Baud, an
 1549 vnshun'd consequence, it must be so. Art going to pri-son
 1550 *Pompey*?
 1551 *Clo.* Yes faith sir.
 1552 *Luc.* Why 'tis not amisse *Pompey*: farewell: goe say
 1553 I sent thee thether: for debt *Pompey*? Or how?
 1554 *Elb.* For being a baud, for being a baud.
 1555 *Luc.* Well, then imprison him: If imprisonment be
 1556 the due of a baud, why 'tis his right. Baud is he doubt-lesse,
 1557 and of antiquity too: Baud borne. Farwell good
 1558 *Pompey*: Commend me to the prison *Pompey*, you will
 1559 turne good husband now *Pompey*, you will keepe the
 1560 house.
 1561 *Clo.* I hope Sir, your good Worship wil be my baile?
 1562 *Luc.* No indeed wil I not *Pompey*, it is not the wear:
 1563 I will pray (*Pompey*) to encrease your bondage if you
 1564 take it not patiently: Why, your mettle is the more:
 1565 Adieu trustie *Pompey*.
 1566 Blesse you Friar.
 1567 *Duke.* And you.
 1568 *Luc.* Do's *Bridget* paint still, *Pompey*? Ha?
 1569 *Elb.* Come your waies sir, come. [
 1570 *Clo.* You will not baile me then Sir?
 1571 *Luc.* Then *Pompey*, nor now: what newes abroad *Fri-er*?

1572 What newes?
 1573 *Elb.* Come your waies sir, come.
 1574 *Luc.* Goe to kennell (*Pompey*) goe:
 1575 What newes *Frier* of the Duke?
 1576 *Duke.* I know none: can you tell me of any?
 1577 *Luc.* Some say he is with the Emperor of *Russia*: other
 1578 some, he is in *Rome*: but where is he thinke you?
 1579 *Duke.* I know not where: but wheresoeuer, I wish
 1580 him well.
 1581 *Luc.* It was a mad fantasticall tricke of him to steale
 1582 from the State, and vsurpe the beggerie hee was neuer
 1583 borne to: Lord *Angelo* Dukes it well in his absence: he
 1584 puts transgression too't.
 1585 *Duke.* He do's well in't.
 1586 *Luc.* A little more lenitie to Lecherie would doe no
 1587 harme in him: Something too crabbed that way, *Frier*.
 1588 *Duk.* It is too general a vice, and seueritie must cure it.
 1589 *Luc.* Yes in good sooth, the vice is of a great kindred;
 1590 it is well allied, but it is impossible to extirpe it quite,
 1591 *Frier*, till eating and drinking be put downe. They say
 1592 this *Angelo* was not made by Man and Woman, after [
 1593 this downe- right way of Creation: is it true, thinke
 1594 you?
 1595 *Duke.* How should he be made then?
 1596 *Luc.* Some report, a Sea- maid spawn'd him. Some,
 1597 that he was begot betweene two Stock- fishes. But it
 1598 is certaine, that when he makes water, his Vrine is con-geal'd
 1599 ice, that I know to bee true: and he is a motion
 1600 generatiue, that's infallible.
 1601 *Duke.* You are pleasant sir, and speake apace.
 1602 *Luc.* Why, what a ruthlesse thing is this in him, for
 1603 the rebellion of a Cod- peece, to take away the life of a
 1604 man? Would the Duke that is absent haue done this?
 1605 Ere he would haue hang'd a man for the getting a hun-dred
 1606 Bastards, he would haue paide for the Nursing a
 1607 thousand. He had some feeling of the sport, hee knew
 1608 the seruice, and that instructed him to mercie.
 1609 *Duke.* I neuer heard the absent Duke much detected [
 1610 for Women, he was not enclin'd that way.
 1611 *Luc.* Oh Sir, you are deceiu'd.
 1612 *Duke.* 'Tis not possible.
 1613 *Luc.* Who, not the Duke? Yes, your beggar of fifty:
 1614 and his vse was, to put a ducket in her Clack- dish; the
 1615 Duke had Crochets in him. Hee would be drunke too,
 1616 that let me informe you.
 1617 *Duke.* You do him wrong, surely.

1618 *Luc.* Sir, I was an inward of his: a shie fellow was
 1619 the Duke, and I beleue I know the cause of his with-drawing.
 1621 *Duke.* What (I prethee) might be the cause?
 1622 *Luc.* No, pardon: 'Tis a secret must bee lockt with-in
 1623 the teeth and the lippes: but this I can let you vnder-stand,
 1624 the greater file of the subiect held the Duke to be
 1625 wise.
 1626 *Duke.* Wise? Why no question but he was.
 1627 *Luc.* A very superficiall, ignorant, vnweighing fellow
 1628 *Duke.* Either this is Enuie in you, Folly, or mista-king:
 1629 The very streame of his life, and the businesse he
 1630 hath helmed, must vpon a warranted neede, giue him
 1631 a better proclamation. Let him be but testimonied in
 1632 his owne bringings forth, and hee shall appeare to the
 1633 enuious, a Scholler, a Statesman, and a Soldier: there-fore
 1634 you speake vnskilfully: or, if your knowledge bee
 1635 more, it is much darkned in your malice. [G1v
 1636 *Luc.* Sir, I know him, and I loue him.
 1637 *Duke.* Loue talkes with better knowledge, & know-ledge
 1638 with deare loue.
 1639 *Luc.* Come Sir, I know what I know.
 1640 *Duke.* I can hardly beleue that, since you know not
 1641 what you speake. But if euer the Duke returne (as our
 1642 praers are he may) let mee desire you to make your an-swer
 1643 before him: if it bee honest you haue spoke, you
 1644 haue courage to maintaine it; I am bound to call vpon
 1645 you, and I pray you your name?
 1646 *Luc.* Sir my name is *Lucio*, wel known to the Duke.
 1647 *Duke.* He shall know you better Sir, if I may liue to
 1648 report you.
 1649 *Luc.* I feare you not.
 1650 *Duke.* O, you hope the Duke will returne no more:
 1651 or you imagine me to vnhurtfull an opposite: but indeed
 1652 I can doe you little harme: You'll for- swear this a-gaine?
 1654 *Luc.* Ile be hang'd first: Thou art deceiu'd in mee
 1655 Friar. But no more of this: Canst thou tell if *Claudio*
 1656 die to morrow, or no?
 1657 *Duke.* Why should he die Sir?
 1658 *Luc.* Why? For filling a bottle with a Tunne- dish:
 1659 I would the Duke we talke of were return'd againe: this
 1660 vngenitur'd Agent will vn- people the Prouince with
 1661 Continencie. Sparrowes must not build in his house- eues,
 1662 because they are lecherous: The Duke yet would
 1663 haue darke deeds darkelie answered, hee would neuer
 1664 bring them to light: would hee were return'd. Marrie
 1665 this *Claudio* is condemned for vntrussing. Farwell good

1666 Friar, I prethee pray for me: The Duke (I say to thee
 1667 againe) would eate Mutton on Fridaies. He's now past
 1668 it, yet (and I say to thee) hee would mouth with a beg-gar,
 1669 though she smelt browne- bread and Garlicke: say
 1670 that I said so: Farewell. *Exit.*
 1671 *Duke.* No might, nor greatnesse in mortality
 1672 Can censure scape: Back- wounding calummie
 1673 The whitest vertue strikes. What King so strong,
 1674 Can tie the gall vp in the slanderous tong?
 1675 But who comes heere?
 1676 *Enter Escalus, Prouost, and Bawd.*
 1677 *Esc.* Go, away with her to prison.
 1678 *Bawd.* Good my Lord be good to mee, your Honor
 1679 is accounted a mercifull man: good my Lord.
 1680 *Esc.* Double, and trebble admonition, and still for-feite
 1681 in the same kinde? This would make mercy sweare
 1682 and play the Tirant.
 1683 *Pro.* A Bawd of eleuen yeares continuance, may it
 1684 please your Honor.
 1685 *Bawd.* My Lord, this is one *Lucio's* information a-gainst
 1686 me, Mistris *Kate Keepe-downe* was with childe by
 1687 him in the Dukes time, he promis'd her marriage: his
 1688 Childe is a yeere and a quarter olde come *Philip* and *Ia-cob*:
 1689 I haue kept it my selfe; and see how hee goes about
 1690 to abuse me.
 1691 *Esc.* That fellow is a fellow of much License: Let
 1692 him be call'd before vs, Away with her to prison: Goe
 1693 too, no more words. Prouost, my Brother *Angelo* will
 1694 not be alter'd, *Claudio* must die to morrow: Let him be
 1695 furnish'd with Diuines, and haue all charitable prepara-tion.
 1696 If my brother wrought by my pitie, it should not
 1697 be so with him.
 1698 *Pro.* So please you, this Friar hath beene with him,
 1699 and aduis'd him for th' entertainment of death.
 1700 *Esc.* Good' euen, good Father.
 1701 *Duke.* Blisse, and goodnesse on you.
 1702 *Esc.* Of whence are you?
 1703 *Duke.* Not of this Countrie, though my chance is now
 1704 To vse it for my time: I am a brother
 1705 Of gracious Order, late come from the Sea,
 1706 In speciall businesse from his Holinesse.
 1707 *Esc.* What newes abroad i'th World?
 1708 *Duke.* None, but that there is so great a Feaueur on
 1709 goodnesse, that the dissolution of it must cure it. No-ueltie
 1710 is onely in request, and as it is as dangerous to be
 1711 aged in any kinde of course, as it is vertuous to be con-stant

1712 in any vndertaking. There is scarce truth enough
 1713 aliue to make Societies secure, but Securitie enough to
 1714 make Fellowships accurst: Much vpon this riddle runs
 1715 the wisdom of the world: This newes is old enough,
 1716 yet it is euerie daies newes. I pray you Sir, of what dis-position
 1717 was the Duke?
 1718 *Esc.* One, that aboue all other strifes,
 1719 Contended especially to know himselfe.
 1720 *Duke.* What pleasure was he giuen to?
 1721 *Esc.* Rather reioycing to see another merry, then
 1722 merrie at anie thing which profest to make him reioice.
 1723 A Gentleman of all temperance. But leaue wee him to
 1724 his euent, with a praier they may proue prosperous, &
 1725 let me desire to know, how you finde *Claudio* prepar'd?
 1726 I am made to vnderstand, that you haue lent him visita-tion.
 1728 *Duke.* He professes to haue receiued no sinister mea-sure
 1729 from his Iudge, but most willingly humbles him-selfe
 1730 to the determination of Iustice: yet had he framed
 1731 to himselfe (by the instruction of his frailty) manie de-ceyuing
 1732 promises of life, which I (by my good leisure)
 1733 haue discredited to him, and now is he resolu'd to die.
 1734 *Esc.* You haue paid the heauens your Function, and
 1735 the prisoner the verie debt of your Calling. I haue la-bour'd
 1736 for the poore Gentleman, to the extremest shore
 1737 of my modestie, but my brother- Iustice haue I found so
 1738 seuer, that he hath forc'd me to tell him, hee is indeede
 1739 Iustice.
 1740 *Duke.* If his owne life,
 1741 Answer the straitnesse of his proceeding,
 1742 It shall become him well: wherein if he chance to faile
 1743 he hath sentenc'd himselfe.
 1744 *Esc.* I am going to visit the prisoner, Fare you well.
 1745 *Duke.* Peace be with you.
 1746 He who the sword of Heauen will beare,
 1747 Should be as holy, as seueare:
 1748 Patterne in himselfe to know,
 1749 Grace to stand, and Vertue go:
 1750 More, nor lesse to others paying,
 1751 Then by selfe- offences weighing.
 1752 Shame to him, whose cruell striking,
 1753 Kils for faults of his owne liking:
 1754 Twice trebble shame on *Angelo*,
 1755 To weede my vice, and let his grow.
 1756 Oh, what may Man within him hide,
 1757 Though Angel on the outward side?
 1758 How may likenesse made in crimes,

1759 Making practise on the Times,
 1760 To draw with ydle Spiders strings
 1761 Most ponderous and substantiall things?
 1762 Craft against vice, I must applie.
 1763 With *Angelo* to night shall lye
 1764 His old betroathed (but despised:)
 1765 So disguise shall by th' disguised
 1766 Pay with falshood, false exacting,
 1767 And performe an olde contracting. *Exit* [G2

Actus Quartus. Scoena Prima.

1769 *Enter Mariana, and Boy singing.*
 1770 Song. *Take, oh take those lips away,*
 1771 *that so sweetly were forsworne,*
 1772 *And those eyes: the breake of day*
 1773 *lights that doe mislead the Morne;*
 1774 *But my kisses bring againe, bring againe,*
 1775 *Seales of loue, but seal'd in vaine, seal'd in vaine.*
 1776 *Enter Duke.*
 1777 *Mar.* Breake off thy song, and haste thee quick away,
 1778 Here comes a man of comfort, whose aduice
 1779 Hath often still'd my brawling discontent.
 1780 I cry you mercie, Sir, and well could wish
 1781 You had not found me here so musicall.
 1782 Let me excuse me, and beleeeue me so,
 1783 My mirth it much displeas'd, but pleas'd my woe.
 1784 *Duk.* 'Tis good; though Musick oft hath such a charme
 1785 To make bad, good; and good prouoake to harme.
 1786 I pray you tell me, hath any body enquir'd for mee here
 1787 to day; much vpon this time haue I promis'd here to
 1788 meete.
 1789 *Mar.* You haue not bin enquir'd after: I haue sat
 1790 here all day.
 1791 *Enter Isabell.*
 1792 *Duk.* I doe constantly beleeeue you: the time is come
 1793 euen now. I shall craue your forbearance a little, may be
 1794 I will call vpon you anone for some aduantage to your
 1795 selfe.
 1796 *Mar.* I am alwayes bound to you. *Exit.*
 1797 *Duk.* Very well met, and well come:
 1798 What is the newes from this good Deputie?
 1799 *Isab.* He hath a Garden circummur'd with Bricke,
 1800 Whose westerne side is with a Vineyard back't;

1801 And to that Vineyard is a planched gate,
 1802 That makes his opening with this bigger Key:
 1803 This other doth command a little doore,
 1804 Which from the Vineyard to the Garden leades,
 1805 There haue I made my promise, vpon the
 1806 Heauy midle of the night, to call vpon him.
 1807 *Duk.* But shall you on your knowledge find this way?
 1808 *Isab.* I haue t'ane a due, and wary note vpon't,
 1809 With whispering, and most guiltie diligence,
 1810 In action all of precept, he did show me
 1811 The way twice ore.
 1812 *Duk.* Are there no other tokens
 1813 Betweene you 'greed, concerning her obseruance?
 1814 *Isab.* No: none but onely a repaire ith' darke,
 1815 And that I haue possest him, my most stay
 1816 Can be but briefe: for I haue made him know,
 1817 I haue a Seruant comes with me along
 1818 That staies vpon me; whose perswasion is,
 1819 I come about my Brother.
 1820 *Duk.* 'Tis well borne vp.
 1821 I haue not yet made knowne to *Mariana*
 1822 *Enter Mariana.*
 1823 A word of this: what hoa, within; come forth,
 1824 I pray you be acquainted with this Maid,
 1825 She comes to doe you good.
 1826 *Isab.* I doe desire the like.
 1827 *Duk.* Do you perswade your selfe that I respect you? [
 1828 *Mar.* Good Frier, I know you do, and haue found it.
 1829 *Duke.* Take then this your companion by the hand
 1830 Who hath a storie readie for your eare:
 1831 I shall attend your leisure, but make haste
 1832 The vaporous night approaches.
 1833 *Mar.* Wilt please you walke aside. *Exit.*
 1834 *Duke.* Oh Place, and greatnes: millions of false eies
 1835 Are stucke vpon thee: volumes of report
 1836 Run with these false, and most contrarious Quest
 1837 Vpon thy doings: thousand escapes of wit
 1838 Make thee the father of their idle dreame,
 1839 And racke thee in their fancies. Welcome, how agreed?
 1840 *Enter Mariana and Isabella.*
 1841 *Isab.* Shee'll take the enterprize vpon her father,
 1842 If you aduise it.
 1843 *Duke.* It is not my consent,
 1844 But my entreaty too.
 1845 *Isa.* Little haue you to say
 1846 When you depart from him, but soft and low,

1847 Remember now my brother.
 1848 *Mar.* Feare me not.
 1849 *Duk.* Nor gentle daughter, feare you not at all:
 1850 He is your husband on a pre- contract:
 1851 To bring you thus together 'tis no sinne,
 1852 Sith that the Iustice of your title to him
 1853 Doth flourish the deceit. Come, let vs goe,
 1854 Our Corne's to reape, for yet our Tithes to sow. *Exeunt.*

Scena Secunda.

1856 *Enter Prouost and Clowne.*
 1857 *Pro.* Come hither sirha; can you cut off a mans head?
 1858 *Clo.* If the man be a Bachelor Sir, I can:
 1859 But if he be a married man, he's his wiues head,
 1860 And I can neuer cut off a womans head.
 1861 *Pro.* Come sir, leaue me your snatches, and yeeld mee
 1862 a direct answere. To morrow morning are to die *Clau-dio*
 1863 and *Barnardine*: heere is in our prison a common exe-cutioner,
 1864 who in his office lacks a helper, if you will take
 1865 it on you to assist him, it shall redeeme you from your
 1866 Gyues: if not, you shall haue your full time of imprison-ment,
 1867 and your deliuerance with an vn-pittied whipping;
 1868 for you haue beene a notorious bawd.
 1869 *Clo.* Sir, I haue beene an vnlawfull bawd, time out of
 1870 minde, but yet I will bee content to be a lawfull hang-man:
 1871 I would bee glad to receiue some instruction from
 1872 my fellow partner.
 1873 *Pro.* What hoa, *Abhorson*: where's *Abhorson* there?
 1874 *Enter Abhorson.*
 1875 *Abh.* Doe you call sir?
 1876 *Pro.* Sirha, here's a fellow will helpe you to morrow
 1877 in your execution: if you thinke it meet, compound with
 1878 him by the yeere, and let him abide here with you, if not,
 1879 vse him for the present, and dismisse him, hee cannot
 1880 plead his estimation with you: he hath beene a Bawd.
 1881 *Abh.* A Bawd Sir? fie vpon him, he will discredit our
 1882 mysterie.
 1883 *Pro.* Goe too Sir, you waigh equallie: a feather will
 1884 turne the Scale. *Exit.*
 1885 *Clo.* Pray sir, by your good fauor: for surely sir, a
 1886 good fauor you haue, but that you haue a hanging look:
 1887 Doe you call sir, your occupation a Mysterie? [G2v
 1888 *Abh.* I Sir, a Misterie.

1889 *Clo.* Painting Sir, I haue heard say, is a Misterie; and
 1890 your Whores sir, being members of my occupation, v-sing
 1891 painting, do proue my Occupation, a Misterie: but
 1892 what Misterie there should be in hanging, if I should
 1893 be hang'd, I cannot imagine.

1894 *Abh.* Sir, it is a Misterie.

1895 *Clo.* Proofe.

1896 *Abh.* Euerie true mans apparrell fits your Theefe.

1897 *Clo.* If it be too little for your theefe, your true man
 1898 thinkes it bigge enough. If it bee too bigge for your
 1899 Theefe, your Theefe thinkes it little enough: So euerie
 1900 true mans apparrell fits your Theefe.

1901 *Enter Prouost.*

1902 *Pro.* Are you agreed?

1903 *Clo.* Sir, I will serue him: For I do finde your Hang-man
 1904 is a more penitent Trade then your Bawd: he doth
 1905 oftner aske forgiuenesse.

1906 *Pro.* You sirrah, prouide your blocke and your Axe
 1907 to morrow, foure a clocke.

1908 *Abh.* Come on (Bawd) I will instruct thee in my
 1909 Trade: follow.

1910 *Clo.* I do desire to learne sir: and I hope, if you haue
 1911 occasion to vse me for your owne turne, you shall finde
 1912 me y'are. For truly sir, for your kindnesse, I owe you a
 1913 good turne. *Exit*

1914 *Pro.* Call hether *Barnardine* and *Claudio*:

1915 Th' one has my pitie; not a iot the other,
 1916 Being a Murtherer, though he were my brother.

1917 *Enter Claudio.*

1918 Looke, here's the Warrant *Claudio*, for thy death,
 1919 'Tis now dead midnight, and by eight to morrow
 1920 Thou must be made immortall. Where's *Barnardine*?

1921 *Cla.* As fast lock'd vp in sleepe, as guiltlesse labour,
 1922 When it lies starkely in the Trauellers bones,
 1923 He will not wake.

1924 *Pro.* Who can do good on him?

1925 Well, go, prepare your selfe. But harke, what noise?

1926 Heauen giue your spirits comfort: by, and by,

1927 I hope it is some pardon, or repreeue

1928 For the most gentle *Claudio*. Welcome Father.

1929 *Enter Duke.*

1930 *Duke.* The best, and wholsomst spirits of the night,
 1931 Inuellop you, good Prouost: who call'd heere of late?

1932 *Pro.* None since the Curphew rung.

1933 *Duke.* Not *Isabell*?

1934 *Pro.* No.

1935 *Duke.* They will then er't be long.
 1936 *Pro.* What comfort is for *Claudio*?
 1937 *Duke.* There's some in hope.
 1938 *Pro.* It is a bitter Deputie.
 1939 *Duke.* Not so, not so: his life is paralel'd
 1940 Euen with the stroke and line of his great Iustice:
 1941 He doth with holie abstinence subdue
 1942 That in himselfe, which he spures on his powre
 1943 To qualifie in others: were he meal'd with that
 1944 Which he corrects, then were he tirrannous,
 1945 But this being so, he's iust. Now are they come.
 1946 This is a gentle Prouost, sildome when
 1947 The steeled Gaoler is the friend of men:
 1948 How now? what noise? That spirit's possest with hast,
 1949 That wounds th' vnsisting Posterne with these strokes.
 1950 *Pro.* There he must stay vntil the Officer
 1951 Arise to let him in: he is call'd vp.
 1952 *Duke.* Haue you no countermand for *Claudio* yet?
 1953 But he must die to morrow?
 1954 *Pro.* None Sir, none.
 1955 *Duke.* As neere the dawning Prouost, as it is,
 1956 You shall heare more ere Morning.
 1957 *Pro.* Happely
 1958 You something know: yet I beleeeue there comes
 1959 No countermand: no such example haue we:
 1960 Besides, vpon the verie siege of Iustice,
 1961 Lord *Angelo* hath to the publike eare
 1962 Profest the contrarie.
 1963 *Enter a Messenger.*
 1964 *Duke.* This is his Lords man.
 1965 *Pro.* And heere comes *Claudio's* pardon.
 1966 *Mess.* My Lord hath sent you this note,
 1967 And by mee this further charge;
 1968 That you swerue not from the smallest Article of it,
 1969 Neither in time, matter, or other circumstance.
 1970 Good morrow: for as I take it, it is almost day.
 1971 *Pro.* I shall obey him.
 1972 *Duke.* This is his Pardon purchas'd by such sin,
 1973 For which the Pardoner himselfe is in:
 1974 Hence hath offence his quicke celeritie,
 1975 When it is borne in high Authority.
 1976 When Vice makes Mercie; Mercie's so extended,
 1977 That for the faults loue, is th' offender friended.
 1978 Now Sir, what newes?
 1979 *Pro.* I told you:
 1980 Lord *Angelo* (be- like) thinking me remisse

1981 In mine Office, awakens mee
 1982 With this vnwonted putting on, methinks strangely:
 1983 For he hath not vs'd it before.
 1984 *Duk.* Pray you let's heare.
 1985 *The Letter.*
 1986 *Whatsoeuer you may heare to the contrary, let Claudio be ex-ecuted*
 1987 *by foure of the clocke, and in the afternoone Bernar-dine:*
 1988 *For my better satisfaction, let mee haue Claudios*
 1989 *head sent me by fiue. Let this be duely performed with a*
 1990 *thought that more depends on it, then we must yet deliuer.*
 1991 *Thus faile not to doe your Office, as you will answere it at*
 1992 *your perill.*
 1993 What say you to this Sir?
 1994 *Duke.* What is that *Barnardine*, who is to be execu-ted
 1995 in th' afternoone?
 1996 *Pro.* A Bohemian borne: But here nurst vp & bred,
 1997 One that is a prisoner nine yeeres old.
 1998 *Duke.* How came it, that the absent Duke had not
 1999 either deliuer'd him to his libertie, or executed him? I
 2000 haue heard it was euer his manner to do so.
 2001 *Pro.* His friends still wrought Repreeues for him:
 2002 And indeed his fact till now in the gouernment of Lord
 2003 *Angelo*, came not to an vndoubtfull prooffe.
 2004 *Duke.* It is now apparant?
 2005 *Pro.* Most manifest, and not denied by himselfe.
 2006 *Duke.* Hath he borne himselfe penitently in prison?
 2007 How seemes he to be touch'd?
 2008 *Pro.* A man that apprehends death no more dread-fully,
 2009 but as a drunken sleepe, carelesse, wreklesse, and
 2010 fearelesse of what's past, present, or to come: insensible
 2011 of mortality, and desperately mortall.
 2012 *Duke.* He wants aduice.
 2013 *Pro.* He wil heare none: he hath euermore had the li-berty
 2014 of the prison: giue him leaue to escape hence, hee
 2015 would not. Drunke many times a day, if not many daies
 2016 entirely drunke. We haue verie oft awak'd him, as if to
 2017 carrie him to execution, and shew'd him a seeming war-rant
 2018 for it, it hath not moued him at all. [G3
 2019 *Duke.* More of him anon: There is written in your
 2020 brow Prouost, honesty and constancie; if I reade it not
 2021 truly, my ancient skill beguiles me: but in the boldnes
 2022 of my cunning, I will lay my selfe in hazard: *Claudio*,
 2023 whom heere you haue warrant to execute, is no greater
 2024 forfeit to the Law, then *Angelo* who hath sentenc'd him.
 2025 To make you vnderstand this in a manifested effect, I
 2026 craue but foure daies respit: for the which, you are to

2027 do me both a present, and a dangerous courtesie.
 2028 *Pro.* Pray Sir, in what?
 2029 *Duke.* In the delaying death.
 2030 *Pro.* Alacke, how may I do it? Hauing the houre li-mited,
 2031 and an expresse command, vnder penaltie, to de-liuer
 2032 his head in the view of *Angelo*? I may make my
 2033 case as *Claudio*'s, to crosse this in the smallest.
 2034 *Duke.* By the vow of mine Order, I warrant you,
 2035 If my instructions may be your guide,
 2036 Let this *Barnardine* be this morning executed,
 2037 And his head borne to *Angelo*.
 2038 *Pro.* *Angelo* hath seene them both,
 2039 And will discouer the fauour.
 2040 *Duke.* Oh, death's a great disguiser, and you may
 2041 adde to it; Shaue the head, and tie the beard, and say it
 2042 was the desire of the penitent to be so bar'de before his
 2043 death: you know the course is common. If any thing
 2044 fall to you vpon this, more then thankes and good for-tune,
 2045 by the Saint whom I professe, I will plead against
 2046 it with my life.
 2047 *Pro.* Pardon me, good Father, it is against my oath.
 2048 *Duke.* Were you sworne to the Duke, or to the De-putie?
 2049 *Pro.* To him, and to his Substitutes.
 2050 *Duke.* You will thinke you haue made no offence, if
 2051 the Duke auouch the iustice of your dealing?
 2052 *Pro.* But what likelihood is in that?
 2053 *Duke.* Not a resemblance, but a certainty; yet since
 2054 I see you fearfull, that neither my coate, integrity, nor
 2055 perswasion, can with ease attempt you, I wil go further
 2056 then I meant, to plucke all feares out of you. Looke
 2057 you Sir, heere is the hand and Seale of the Duke: you
 2058 know the Charracter I doubt not, and the Signet is not
 2059 strange to you?
 2060 *Pro.* I know them both.
 2061 *Duke.* The Contents of this, is the returne of the
 2062 Duke; you shall anon ouer- reade it at your pleasure:
 2063 where you shall finde within these two daies, he wil be
 2064 heere. This is a thing that *Angelo* knowes not, for hee
 2065 this very day receiues letters of strange tenor, perchance
 2066 of the Dukes death, perchance entering into some Mo-nasterie,
 2067 but by chance nothing of what is writ. Looke,
 2068 th' vnfoldings Starre calles vp the Shepheard; put not
 2069 your selfe into amazement, how these things should be;
 2070 all difficulties are but easie when they are knowne. Call
 2071 your executioner, and off with *Barnardines* head: I will
 2072 giue him a present shrift, and aduise him for a better
 2073

2074 place. Yet you are amaz'd, but this shall absolutely re-solue
 2075 you: Come away, it is almost cleere dawne. *Exit.*

Scena Tertia.

2077 *Enter Clowne.*

2078 *Clo.* I am as well acquainted heere, as I was in our
 2079 house of profession: one would thinke it were Mistris
 2080 *Ouer-dons* owne house, for heere be manie of her olde
 2081 Customers. First, here's yong Mr *Rash*, hee's in for a
 2082 commoditie of browne paper, and olde Ginger, nine
 2083 score and seunteene pounds, of which hee made fiue
 2084 Markes readie money: marrie then, Ginger was not
 2085 much in request, for the olde Women were all dead.
 2086 Then is there heere one Mr *Caper*, at the suite of Master
 2087 *Three- Pile* the Mercer, for some foure suites of Peach-colour'd
 2088 Satten, which now peaches him a beggar.
 2089 Then haue we heere, yong *Dizie*, and yong Mr *Deepe-vow*,
 2090 and Mr *Copperspurre*, and Mr *Starue- Lackey* the Ra-pier
 2091 and dagger man, and yong *Drop- heire* that kild lu-stie
 2092 *Pudding*, and Mr *Forthlight* the Tilter, and braue Mr
 2093 *Shootie* the great Traueller, and wilde *Halfe- Canne* that
 2094 stabb'd Pots, and I thinke fortie more, all great doers in
 2095 our Trade, and are now for the Lords sake.

2096 *Enter Abhorson.*

2097 *Abh.* Sirrah, bring *Barnardine* hether.

2098 *Clo.* Mr *Barnardine*, you must rise and be hang'd,
 2099 Mr *Barnardine*.

2100 *Abh.* What hoa *Barnardine*.

2101 *Barnardine* within.

2102 *Bar.* A pox o'your throats: who makes that noyse
 2103 there? What are you?

2104 *Clo.* Your friends Sir, the Hangman:
 2105 You must be so good Sir to rise, and be put to death.

2106 *Bar.* Away you Rogue, away, I am sleepeie.

2107 *Abh.* Tell him he must awake,

2108 And that quickly too.

2109 *Clo.* Pray Master *Barnardine*, awake till you are ex-ecuted,
 2110 and sleepe afterwards.

2111 *Ab.* Go in to him, and fetch him out.

2112 *Clo.* He is comming Sir, he is comming: I heare his
 2113 Straw russle.

2114 *Enter Barnardine.*

2115 *Abh.* Is the Axe vpon the blocke, sirrah?

2116 *Clo.* Verie readie Sir.
 2117 *Bar.* How now *Abhorson*?
 2118 What's the newes with you?
 2119 *Abh.* Truly Sir, I would desire you to clap into your
 2120 prayers: for looke you, the Warrants come.
 2121 *Bar.* You Rogue, I haue bin drinking all night,
 2122 I am not fitted for't.
 2123 *Clo.* Oh, the better Sir: for he that drinkes all night,
 2124 and is hanged betimes in the morning, may sleepe the
 2125 sounder all the next day.
 2126 *Enter Duke.*
 2127 *Abh.* Looke you Sir, heere comes your ghostly Fa-ther:
 2128 do we iest now thinke you?
 2129 *Duke.* Sir, induced by my charitie, and hearing how
 2130 hastily you are to depart, I am come to aduise you,
 2131 Comfort you, and pray with you.
 2132 *Bar.* Friar, not I: I haue bin drinking hard all night,
 2133 and I will haue more time to prepare mee, or they shall
 2134 beat out my braines with billets: I will not consent to
 2135 die this day, that's certaine.
 2136 *Duke.* Oh sir, you must: and therefore I beseech you
 2137 Looke forward on the iournie you shall go.
 2138 *Bar.* I swear I will not die to day for anie mans per-swasion.
 2140 *Duke.* But heare you:
 2141 *Bar.* Not a word: if you haue anie thing to say to me,
 2142 come to my Ward: for thence will not I to day.
 2143 *Exit*
 2144 *Enter Prouost.*
 2145 *Duke.* Vnfit to liue, or die: oh grauell heart. [G3v
 2146 After him (Fellowes) bring him to the blocke.
 2147 *Pro.* Now Sir, how do you finde the prisoner?
 2148 *Duke.* A creature vnpre-par'd, vnmeet for death,
 2149 And to transport him in the minde he is,
 2150 Were damnable.
 2151 *Pro.* Heere in the prison, Father,
 2152 There died this morning of a cruell Feauor,
 2153 One *Ragozine*, a most notorious Pirate,
 2154 A man of *Claudio*'s yeares: his beard, and head
 2155 Iust of his colour. What if we do omit
 2156 This Reprobate, til he were wel enclin'd,
 2157 And satisfie the Deputie with the visage
 2158 Of *Ragozine*, more like to *Claudio*?
 2159 *Duke.* Oh, 'tis an accident that heauen prouides:
 2160 Dispatch it presently, the houre drawes on
 2161 Prefixt by *Angelo*: See this be done,
 2162 And sent according to command, whiles I

2163 Perswade this rude wretch willingly to die.
 2164 *Pro.* This shall be done (good Father) presently:
 2165 But *Barnardine* must die this afternoone,
 2166 And how shall we continue *Claudio*,
 2167 To saue me from the danger that might come,
 2168 If he were knowne aliue?
 2169 *Duke.* Let this be done,
 2170 Put them in secret holds, both *Barnardine* and *Claudio*,
 2171 Ere twice the Sun hath made his iournall greeting
 2172 To yond generation, you shal finde
 2173 Your safetie manifested.
 2174 *Pro.* I am your free dependant. *Exit.*
 2175 *Duke.* Quicke, dispatch, and send the head to *Angelo*
 2176 Now wil I write Letters to *Angelo*,
 2177 (The Prouost he shal beare them) whose contents
 2178 Shal witnesse to him I am neere at home:
 2179 And that by great Iniunctions I am bound
 2180 To enter publikely: him Ile desire
 2181 To meet me at the consecrated Fount,
 2182 A League below the Citie: and from thence,
 2183 By cold gradation, and weale- ballanc'd forme.
 2184 We shal proceed with *Angelo*.
 2185 *Enter Prouost.*
 2186 *Pro.* Heere is the head, Ile carrie it my selfe.
 2187 *Duke.* Conuenient is it: Make a swift returne,
 2188 For I would commune with you of such things,
 2189 That want no eare but yours.
 2190 *Pro.* Ile make all speede. *Exit*
 2191 *Isabell within.*
 2192 *Isa.* Peace hoa, be heere.
 2193 *Duke.* The tongue of *Isabell*. She's come to know,
 2194 If yet her brothers pardon be come hither:
 2195 But I will keepe her ignorant of her good,
 2196 To make her heauenly comforts of dispaire,
 2197 When it is least expected.
 2198 *Enter Isabella.*
 2199 *Isa.* Hoa, by your leaue.
 2200 *Duke.* Good morning to you, faire, and gracious
 2201 daughter.
 2202 *Isa.* The better giuen me by so holy a man,
 2203 Hath yet the Deputie sent my brothers pardon?
 2204 *Duke.* He hath releasd him, *Isabell*, from the world,
 2205 His head is off, and sent to *Angelo*.
 2206 *Isa.* Nay, but it is not so.
 2207 *Duke.* It is no other,
 2208 Shew your wisdome daughter in your close patience.

2209 *Isa.* Oh, I wil to him, and plucke out his eies.
 2210 *Duk.* You shal not be admitted to his sight.
 2211 *Isa.* Vnhappie *Claudio*, wretched *Isabell*,
 2212 Iniurious world, most damned *Angelo*.
 2213 *Duke.* This nor hurts him, nor profits you a iot,
 2214 Forbeare it therefore, giue your cause to heauen.
 2215 Marke what I say, which you shal finde
 2216 By euery sillable a faithful veritie.
 2217 The Duke comes home to morrow: nay drie your eyes,
 2218 One of our Couent, and his Confessor
 2219 Giues me this instance: Already he hath carried
 2220 Notice to *Escalus* and *Angelo*,
 2221 Who do prepare to meete him at the gates,
 2222 There to giue vp their powre: If you can pace your wis-|(dome,
 2223 In that good path that I would wish it go,
 2224 And you shal haue your bosome on this wretch,
 2225 Grace of the Duke, reuenges to your heart,
 2226 And general Honor.
 2227 *Isa.* I am directed by you.
 2228 *Duk.* This Letter then to Friar *Peter* giue,
 2229 'Tis that he sent me of the Dukes returne:
 2230 Say, by this token, I desire his companie
 2231 At *Mariana's* house to night. Her cause, and yours
 2232 Ile perfect him withall, and he shal bring you
 2233 Before the Duke; and to the head of *Angelo*
 2234 Accuse him home and home. For my poore selfe,
 2235 I am combined by a sacred Vow,
 2236 And shall be absent. Wend you with this Letter:
 2237 Command these fretting waters from your eies
 2238 With a light heart; trust not my holie Order
 2239 If I peruert your course: whose heere?
 2240 *Enter Lucio.*
 2241 *Luc.* Good' euen;
 2242 Frier, where's the Prouost?
 2243 *Duke.* Not within Sir.
 2244 *Luc.* Oh prettie *Isabella*, I am pale at mine heart, to
 2245 see thine eyes so red: thou must be patient; I am faine
 2246 to dine and sup with water and bran: I dare not for my
 2247 head fill my belly. One fruitful Meale would set mee
 2248 too't: but they say the Duke will be heere to Morrow.
 2249 By my troth *Isabell* I lou'd thy brother, if the olde fan-tastical
 2250 Duke of darke corners had bene at home, he had
 2251 liued.
 2252 *Duke.* Sir, the Duke is marueilous little beholding
 2253 to your reports, but the best is, he liues not in them.
 2254 *Luc.* Frier, thou knowest not the Duke so wel as I

2255 do: he's a better woodman then thou tak'st him for.
 2256 *Duke.* Well: you'll answer this one day. Fare ye well.
 2257 *Luc.* Nay tarrie, Ile go along with thee,
 2258 I can tel thee pretty tales of the Duke.
 2259 *Duke.* You haue told me too many of him already sir
 2260 if they be true: if not true, none were enough.
 2261 *Lucio.* I was once before him for getting a Wench
 2262 with childe.
 2263 *Duke.* Did you such a thing?
 2264 *Luc.* Yes marrie did I; but I was faine to forswear it,
 2265 They would else haue married me to the rotten Medler.
 2266 *Duke.* Sir your company is fairer then honest, rest you
 2267 well.
 2268 *Lucio.* By my troth Ile go with thee to the lanes end:
 2269 if baudy talke offend you, wee'l haue very litle of it: nay
 2270 Friar, I am a kind of Burre, I shal sticke. *Exeunt*

Scena Quarta.

2272 *Enter Angelo & Escalus.*
 2273 *Esc.* Euery Letter he hath writ, hath disuouch'd other. [G4
 2274 *An.* In most vneuen and distracted manner, his actions
 2275 show much like to madnesse, pray heauen his wisdome
 2276 bee not tainted: and why meet him at the gates and de-liuer
 2277 our authorities there?
 2278 *Esc.* I ghesse not.
 2279 *Ang.* And why should wee proclaime it in an howre
 2280 before his entring, that if any craue redresse of iniustice,
 2281 they should exhibit their petitions in the street?
 2282 *Esc.* He shoves his reason for that: to haue a dispatch
 2283 of Complaints, and to deliuer vs from deuices heere-after,
 2284 which shall then haue no power to stand against
 2285 vs.
 2286 *Ang.* Well: I beseech you let it bee proclaim'd be-times
 2287 i'th' morne, Ile call you at your house: giue notice
 2288 to such men of sort and suite as are to meete him.
 2289 *Esc.* I shall sir: fareyouwell. *Exit.*
 2290 *Ang.* Good night.
 2291 This deede vnshapes me quite, makes me vnpregnant
 2292 And dull to all proceedings. A deflowred maid,
 2293 And by an eminent body, that enforc'd
 2294 The Law against it? But that her tender shame
 2295 Will not proclaime against her maiden losse,
 2296 How might she tongue me? yet reason dares her no,

2297 For my Authority beares of a credent bulke,
 2298 That no particular scandall once can touch
 2299 But it confounds the breather. He should haue liu'd,
 2300 Saue that his riotous youth with dangerous sense
 2301 Might in the times to come haue ta'ne reuenge
 2302 By so receiuing a dishonor'd life
 2303 With ransome of such shame: would yet he had liued.
 2304 Alack, when once our grace we haue forgot,
 2305 Nothing goes right, we would, and we would not. *Exit.*

Scena Quinta.

2307 *Enter Duke and Frier Peter.*
 2308 *Duke.* These Letters at fit time deliuer me,
 2309 The Prouost knowes our purpose and our plot,
 2310 The matter being a foote, keepe your instruction
 2311 And hold you euer to our speciall drift,
 2312 Though sometimes you doe blench from this to that
 2313 As cause doth minister: Goe call at *Flauia's* house,
 2314 And tell him where I stay: giue the like notice
 2315 To *Valencius*, *Rowland*, and to *Crassus*,
 2316 And bid them bring the Trumpets to the gate:
 2317 But send me *Flaius* first.
 2318 *Peter.* It shall be speeded well.
 2319 *Enter Varrius.*
 2320 *Duke.* I thank thee *Varrius*, thou hast made good hast,
 2321 Come, we will walke: There's other of our friends
 2322 Will greet vs heere anon: my gentle *Varrius.* *Exeunt.*

Scena Sexta.

2324 *Enter Isabella and Mariana.*
 2325 *Isab.* To speake so indirectly I am loath,
 2326 I would say the truth, but to accuse him so
 2327 That is your part, yet I am aduis'd to doe it,
 2328 He saies, to vaile full purpose.
 2329 *Mar.* Be rul'd by him. [
 2330 *Isab.* Besides he tells me, that if peradventure
 2331 He speake against me on the aduerse side,
 2332 I should not thinke it strange, for 'tis a physicke
 2333 That's bitter, to sweet end.
 2334 *Enter Peter.*

2335 *Mar.* I would *Frier Peter*
 2336 *Isab.* Oh peace, the *Frier* is come.
 2337 *Peter.* Come I haue found you out a stand most fit,
 2338 Where you may haue such vantage on the *Duke*
 2339 He shall not passe you:
 2340 Twice haue the Trumpets sounded.
 2341 The generous, and grauest Citizens
 2342 Haue hent the gates, and very neere vpon
 2343 The *Duke* is entring:
 2344 Therefore hence away. *Exeunt.*

Actus Quintus. Scoena Prima.

2346 *Enter Duke, Varrius, Lords, Angelo, Esculus, Lucio,*
 2347 *Citizens at seuerall doores.*
 2348 *Duk.* My very worthy Cosen, fairely met,
 2349 Our old, and faithfull friend, we are glad to see you.
 2350 *Ang. Esc.* Happy returne be to your royall grace.
 2351 *Duk.* Many and hartly thankings to you both:
 2352 We haue made enquiry of you, and we heare
 2353 Such goodnesse of your Iustice, that our soule
 2354 Cannot but yeeld you forth to publique thanks
 2355 Forerunning more requitall.
 2356 *Ang.* You make my bonds still greater.
 2357 *Duk.* Oh your desert speaks loud, & I should wrong it
 2358 To locke it in the wards of couert bosome
 2359 When it deserues with characters of brasse
 2360 A fortified residence 'gainst the tooth of time,
 2361 And razure of obliuion: Giue we your hand
 2362 And let the Subiect see, to make them know
 2363 That outward curtesies would faine proclaime
 2364 Fauours that keepe within: Come *Escalus,*
 2365 You must walke by vs, on our other hand:
 2366 And good supporters are you.
 2367 *Enter Peter and Isabella.*
 2368 *Peter.* Now is your time
 2369 Speake loud, and kneele before him.
 2370 *Isab.* Iustice, O royall *Duke,* vaile your regard
 2371 Vpon a wrong'd (I would faine haue said a Maid)
 2372 Oh worthy Prince, dishonor not your eye
 2373 By throwing it on any other obiect,
 2374 Till you haue heard me, in my true complaint,
 2375 And giuen me Iustice, Iustice, Iustice, Iustice.
 2376 *Duk.* Relate your wrongs;

2377 In what, by whom? be briefe:
 2378 Here is Lord *Angelo* shall giue you Iustice,
 2379 Reueale your selfe to him.
 2380 *Isab.* Oh worthy *Duke*,
 2381 You bid me seeke redemption of the diuell,
 2382 Heare me your selfe: for that which I must speake
 2383 Must either punish me, not being beleeu'd,
 2384 Or wring redresse from you:
 2385 Heare me: oh heare me, heere.
 2386 *Ang.* My Lord, her wits I feare me are not firme:
 2387 She hath bin a suitor to me, for her Brother
 2388 Cut off by course of Iustice.
 2389 *Isab.* By course of Iustice.
 2390 *Ang.* And she will speake most bitterly, and strange. [G4v
 2391 *Isab.* Most strange: but yet most truely wil I speake,
 2392 That *Angelo*'s forsworne, is it not strange?
 2393 That *Angelo*'s a murtherer, is't not strange?
 2394 That *Angelo* is an adulterous thiefe,
 2395 An hypocrite, a virgin violator,
 2396 Is it not strange? and strange?
 2397 *Duke.* Nay it is ten times strange?
 2398 *Isa.* It is not truer he is *Angelo*,
 2399 Then this is all as true, as it is strange;
 2400 Nay, it is ten times true, for truth is truth
 2401 To th' end of reckning.
 2402 *Duke.* Away with her: poore soule
 2403 She speakes this, in th' infirmity of sence.
 2404 *Isa.* Oh Prince, I coniure thee, as thou beleeu'st
 2405 There is another comfort, then this world,
 2406 That thou neglect me not, with that opinion
 2407 That I am touch'd with madnesse: make not impossible
 2408 That which but seemes vnlike, 'tis not impossible
 2409 But one, the wickedst caitiffe on the ground
 2410 May seeme as shie, as graue, as iust, as absolute:
 2411 As *Angelo*, euen so may *Angelo*
 2412 In all his dressings, caracts, titles, formes,
 2413 Be an arch- villaine: Beleeue it, royall Prince
 2414 If he be lesse, he's nothing, but he's more,
 2415 Had I more name for badnesse.
 2416 *Duke.* By mine honesty
 2417 If she be mad, as I beleeue no other,
 2418 Her madnesse hath the oddest frame of sense,
 2419 Such a dependancy of thing, on thing,
 2420 As ere I heard in madnesse.
 2421 *Isab.* Oh gracious *Duke*
 2422 Harpe not on that; nor do not banish reason

2423 For inequality, but let your reason serue
 2424 To make the truth appeare, where it seemes hid,
 2425 And hide the false seemes true.
 2426 *Duk.* Many that are not mad
 2427 Haue sure more lacke of reason:
 2428 What would you say?
 2429 *Isab.* I am the Sister of one *Claudio*,
 2430 Condemnd vpon the Act of Fornication
 2431 To loose his head, condemn'd by *Angelo*,
 2432 I, (in probation of a Sisterhood)
 2433 Was sent to by my Brother; one *Lucio*
 2434 As then the Messenger.
 2435 *Luc.* That's I, and't like your Grace:
 2436 I came to her from *Claudio*, and desir'd her,
 2437 To try her gracious fortune with Lord *Angelo*,
 2438 For her poore Brothers pardon.
 2439 *Isab.* That's he indeede.
 2440 *Duk.* You were not bid to speake.
 2441 *Luc.* No, my good Lord,
 2442 Nor wish'd to hold my peace.
 2443 *Duk.* I wish you now then,
 2444 Pray you take note of it: and when you haue
 2445 A businesse for your selfe: pray heauen you then
 2446 Be perfect.
 2447 *Luc.* I warrant your honor.
 2448 *Duk.* The warrant's for your selfe: take heede to't.
 2449 *Isab.* This Gentleman told somewhat of my Tale.
 2450 *Luc.* Right.
 2451 *Duk.* It may be right, but you are i'the wrong
 2452 To speake before your time: proceed,
 2453 *Isab.* I went
 2454 To this pernicious Caitiffe Deputie.
 2455 *Duk.* That's somewhat madly spoken.
 2456 *Isab.* Pardon it, [
 2457 The phrase is to the matter.
 2458 *Duke.* Mended againe: the matter: proceed.
 2459 *Isab.* In briefe, to set the needlesse processe by:
 2460 How I perswaded, how I praid, and kneel'd,
 2461 How he refeld me, and how I replide
 2462 (For this was of much length) the vild conclusion
 2463 I now begin with grieffe, and shame to vtter.
 2464 He would not, but by gift of my chaste body
 2465 To his concupiscible intemperate lust
 2466 Release my brother; and after much debatement,
 2467 My sisterly remorse, confutes mine honour,
 2468 And I did yeeld to him: But the next morne betimes,

2469 His purpose surfetting, he sends a warrant
 2470 For my poore brothers head.
 2471 *Duke.* This is most likely.
 2472 *Isab.* Oh that it were as like as it is true.
 2473 *Duk.* By heauen (fond wretch) y knowst not what thou |(speak'st,
 2474 Or else thou art suborn'd against his honor
 2475 In hatefull practise: first his Integritie
 2476 Stands without blemish: next it imports no reason,
 2477 That with such vehemency he should pursue
 2478 Faults proper to himselfe: if he had so offended
 2479 He would haue waigh'd thy brother by himselfe,
 2480 And not haue cut him off: some one hath set you on:
 2481 Confesse the truth, and say by whose aduice
 2482 Thou cam'st heere to complaine.
 2483 *Isab.* And is this all?
 2484 Then oh you blessed Ministers aboue
 2485 Keepe me in patience, and with ripened time
 2486 Vnfold the euill, which is heere wrapt vp
 2487 In countenance: heauen shield your Grace from woe,
 2488 As I thus wrong'd, hence vnbeleueed goe.
 2489 *Duke.* I know you'ld faine be gone: An Officer:
 2490 To prison with her: Shall we thus permit
 2491 A blasting and a scandalous breath to fall,
 2492 On him so neere vs? This needs must be a practise:
 2493 Who knew of your intent and comming hither?
 2494 *Isa.* One that I would were heere, *Frier Lodowick.*
 2495 *Duk.* A ghostly Father, belike:
 2496 Who knowes that *Lodowicke*?
 2497 *Luc.* My Lord, I know him, 'tis a meddling Fryer,
 2498 I doe not like the man: had he been Lay my Lord,
 2499 For certaine words he spake against your Grace
 2500 In your retirment, I had swing'd him soundly.
 2501 *Duke.* Words against mee? this' a good Fryer belike
 2502 And to set on this wretched woman here
 2503 Against our Substitute: Let this Fryer be found.
 2504 *Luc.* But yesternight my Lord, she and that Fryer
 2505 I saw them at the prison: a sawcy Fryar,
 2506 A very scuruy fellow.
 2507 *Peter.* Blessed be your Royall Grace:
 2508 I haue stood by my Lord, and I haue heard
 2509 Your royall eare abus'd: first hath this woman
 2510 Most wrongfully accus'd your Substitute,
 2511 Who is as free from touch, or soyle with her
 2512 As she from one vngot.
 2513 *Duke.* We did beleuee no lesse.
 2514 Know you that Frier *Lodowick* that she speakes of?

2515 *Peter.* I know him for a man diuine and holy,
 2516 Not scuruy, nor a temporary medler
 2517 As he's reported by this Gentleman:
 2518 And on my trust, a man that neuer yet
 2519 Did (as he vouches) mis- report your Grace.
 2520 *Luc.* My Lord, most villanously, beleeeue it.
 2521 *Peter.* Well: he in time may come to cleere himselfe;
 2522 But at this instant he is sicke, my Lord: [G5
 2523 Of a strange Feauor: vpon his meere request
 2524 Being come to knowledge, that there was complaint
 2525 Intended 'gainst Lord *Angelo*, came I hether
 2526 To speake as from his mouth, what he doth know
 2527 Is true, and false: And what he with his oath
 2528 And all probation will make vp full cleare
 2529 Whensoever he's conuented: First for this woman,
 2530 To iustifie this worthy Noble man
 2531 So vulgarly and personally accus'd,
 2532 Her shall you heare disproued to her eyes,
 2533 Till she her selfe confesse it.
 2534 *Duk.* Good Frier, let's heare it:
 2535 Doe you not smile at this, Lord *Angelo*?
 2536 Oh heauen, the vanity of wretched fooles.
 2537 Giue vs some seates, Come cosen *Angelo*,
 2538 In this I'll be impartiall: be you Iudge
 2539 Of your owne Cause: Is this the Witnes Frier?
 2540 *Enter Mariana.*
 2541 First, let her shew your face, and after, speake.
 2542 *Mar.* Pardon my Lord, I will not shew my face
 2543 Vntill my husband bid me.
 2544 *Duke.* What, are you married?
 2545 *Mar.* No my Lord.
 2546 *Duke.* Are you a Maid?
 2547 *Mar.* No my Lord.
 2548 *Duk.* A Widow then?
 2549 *Mar.* Neither, my Lord.
 2550 *Duk.* Why you are nothing then: neither Maid, Wi-dow,
 2551 nor Wife?
 2552 *Luc.* My Lord, she may be a Puncke: for many of
 2553 them, are neither Maid, Widow, nor Wife.
 2554 *Duk.* Silence that fellow: I would he had some cause
 2555 to prattle for himselfe.
 2556 *Luc.* Well my Lord.
 2557 *Mar.* My Lord, I doe confesse I nere was married,
 2558 And I confesse besides, I am no Maid,
 2559 I haue known my husband, yet my husband
 2560 Knowes not, that euer he knew me.

2561 *Luc.* He was drunk then, my Lord, it can be no better.
 2562 *Duk.* For the benefit of silence, would thou wert so to.
 2563 *Luc.* Well, my Lord.
 2564 *Duk.* This is no witness for Lord *Angelo*.
 2565 *Mar.* Now I come to't, my Lord.
 2566 Shee that accuses him of Fornication,
 2567 In selfe- same manner, doth accuse my husband,
 2568 And charges him, my Lord, with such a time,
 2569 When I'le depose I had him in mine Armes
 2570 With all th' effect of Loue.
 2571 *Ang.* Charges shee moe then me?
 2572 *Mar.* Not that I know.
 2573 *Duk.* No? you say your husband.
 2574 *Mar.* Why iust, my Lord, and that is *Angelo*,
 2575 Who thinkes he knowes, that he nere knew my body,
 2576 But knowes, he thinkes, that he knowes *Isabells*.
 2577 *Ang.* This is a strange abuse: Let's see thy face.
 2578 *Mar.* My husband bids me, now I will vnmaske.
 2579 This is that face, thou cruell *Angelo*
 2580 Which once thou sworst, was worth the looking on:
 2581 This is the hand, which with a vowd contract
 2582 Was fast belockt in thine: This is the body
 2583 That tooke away the match from *Isabell*,
 2584 And did supply thee at thy garden- house
 2585 In her Imagin'd person.
 2586 *Duke.* Know you this woman?
 2587 *Luc.* Carnallie she saies.
 2588 *Duk.* Sirha, no more.
 2589 *Luc.* Enough my Lord.
 2590 *Ang.* My Lord, I must confesse, I know this woman,
 2591 And fiue yeres since there was some speech of marriage
 2592 Betwixt my selfe, and her: which was broke off,
 2593 Partly for that her promis'd proportions
 2594 Came short of Composition: But in chiefe
 2595 For that her reputation was dis- valued
 2596 In leuitie: Since which time of fiue yeres
 2597 I neuer spake with her, saw her, nor heard from her
 2598 Vpon my faith, and honor.
 2599 *Mar.* Noble Prince,
 2600 As there comes light from heauen, and words fro[m] breath,
 2601 As there is sence in truth, and truth in vertue,
 2602 I am affianced this mans wife, as strongly
 2603 As words could make vp vowes: And my good Lord,
 2604 But Tuesday night last gon, in's garden house,
 2605 He knew me as a wife. As this is true,
 2606 Let me in safety raise me from my knees,

2607 Or else for euer be confixed here
 2608 A Marble Monument.
 2609 *Ang.* I did but smile till now,
 2610 Now, good my Lord, giue me the scope of Iustice,
 2611 My patience here is touch'd: I doe perceiue
 2612 These poore informall women, are no more
 2613 But instruments of some more mightier member
 2614 That sets them on. Let me haue way, my Lord
 2615 To finde this practise out.
 2616 *Duke.* I, with my heart,
 2617 And punish them to your height of pleasure.
 2618 Thou foolish Frier, and thou pernicious woman
 2619 Compact with her that's gone: thinkst thou, thy oathes,
 2620 Though they would swear downe each particular Saint,
 2621 Were testimonies against his worth, and credit
 2622 That's seald in approbation? you, Lord *Escalus*
 2623 Sit with my Cozen, lend him your kinde paines
 2624 To finde out this abuse, whence 'tis deriu'd.
 2625 There is another Frier that set them on,
 2626 Let him be sent for.
 2627 *Peter.* Would he were here, my Lord, for he indeed
 2628 Hath set the women on to this Complaint;
 2629 Your Prouost knowes the place where he abides,
 2630 And he may fetch him.
 2631 *Duke.* Goe, doe it instantly:
 2632 And you, my noble and well- warranted Cosen
 2633 Whom it concernes to heare this matter forth,
 2634 Doe with your iniuries as seemes you best
 2635 In any chastisement; I for a while
 2636 Will leaue you; but stir not you till you haue
 2637 Well determin'd vpon these Slanderers. *Exit.*
 2638 *Esc.* My Lord, wee'll doe it throughly: Signior *Lu-cio*,
 2639 did not you say you knew that Frier *Lodowick* to be a
 2640 dishonest person?
 2641 *Luc.* *Cucullus non facit Monachum*, honest in nothing
 2642 but in his Clothes, and one that hath spoke most villa-nous
 2643 speeches of the Duke.
 2644 *Esc.* We shall intreat you to abide heere till he come,
 2645 and inforce them against him: we shall finde this Frier a
 2646 notable fellow.
 2647 *Luc.* As any in *Vienna*, on my word.
 2648 *Esc.* Call that same *Isabell* here once againe, I would
 2649 speake with her: pray you, my Lord, giue mee leaue to
 2650 question, you shall see how Ile handle her.
 2651 *Luc.* Not better then he, by her owne report.
 2652 *Esc.* Say you?

2653 *Luc.* Marry sir, I thinke, if you handled her priuately [G5v
 2654 She would sooner confesse, perchance publikely she'll be
 2655 asham'd.
 2656 *Enter Duke, Prouost, Isabella.*
 2657 *Esc.* I will goe darkely to worke with her.
 2658 *Luc.* That's the way: for women are light at mid-night.
 2660 *Esc.* Come on Mistris, here's a Gentlewoman,
 2661 Denies all that you haue said.
 2662 *Luc.* My Lord, here comes the rascall I spoke of,
 2663 Here, with the *Prouost*.
 2664 *Esc.* In very good time: speake not you to him, till
 2665 we call vpon you.
 2666 *Luc.* Mum.
 2667 *Esc.* Come Sir, did you set these women on to slan-der
 2668 Lord *Angelo*? they haue confes'd you did.
 2669 *Duk.* 'Tis false.
 2670 *Esc.* How? Know you where you are?
 2671 *Duk.* Respect to your great place; and let the diuell
 2672 Be sometime honour'd, for his burning throne.
 2673 Where is the *Duke*? 'tis he should heare me speake.
 2674 *Esc.* The *Duke's* in vs: and we will heare you speake,
 2675 Looke you speake iustly.
 2676 *Duk.* Boldly, at least. But oh poore soules,
 2677 Come you to seeke the Lamb here of the Fox;
 2678 Good night to your redresse: Is the *Duke* gone?
 2679 Then is your cause gone too: The *Duke's* vniust,
 2680 Thus to retort your manifest Appeale,
 2681 And put your triall in the villaines mouth,
 2682 Which here you come to accuse.
 2683 *Luc.* This is the rascall: this is he I spoke of.
 2684 *Esc.* Why thou vnreuerend, and vnhalloved Fryer:
 2685 Is't not enough thou hast suborn'd these women,
 2686 To accuse this worthy man? but in foule mouth,
 2687 And in the wisse of his proper eare,
 2688 To call him villaine; and then to glance from him,
 2689 To th'*Duke* himselfe, to taxe him with Iniustice?
 2690 Take him hence; to th' racke with him: we'll towze you
 2691 Ioynt by ioynt, but we will know his purpose:
 2692 What? vniust?
 2693 *Duk.* Be not so hot: the *Duke* dare
 2694 No more stretch this finger of mine, then he
 2695 Dare racke his owne: his Subiect am I not,
 2696 Nor here Prouinciall: My businesse in this State
 2697 Made me a looker on here in *Vienna*,
 2698 Where I haue seene corruption boyle and bubble,
 2699 Till it ore- run the Stew: Lawes, for all faults,

2700 But faults so countenanc'd, that the strong Statutes
 2701 Stand like the forfeites in a Barbers shop,
 2702 As much in mocke, as marke.
 2703 *Esc.* Slander to th' State:
 2704 Away with him to prison.
 2705 *Ang.* What can you vouch against him Signior *Lucio*?
 2706 Is this the man you did tell vs of?
 2707 *Luc.* 'Tis he, my Lord: come hither goodman bald- pate,
 2708 doe you know me?
 2709 *Duk.* I remember you Sir, by the sound of your voice,
 2710 I met you at the Prison, in the absence of the *Duke*.
 2711 *Luc.* Oh, did you so? and do you remember what you
 2712 said of the *Duke*.
 2713 *Duk.* Most notably Sir.
 2714 *Luc.* Do you so Sir: And was the *Duke* a flesh- mon-ger,
 2715 a foole, and a coward, as you then reported him
 2716 to be?
 2717 *Duk.* You must (Sir) change persons with me, ere you
 2718 make that my report: you indeede spoke so of him, and
 2719 much more, much worse.
 2720 *Luc.* Oh thou damnable fellow: did I not plucke thee
 2721 by the nose, for thy speeches?
 2722 *Duk.* I protest, I loue the *Duke*, as I loue my selfe.
 2723 *Ang.* Harke how the villaine would close now, after
 2724 his treasonable abuses.
 2725 *Esc.* Such a fellow is not to be talk'd withall: Away
 2726 with him to prison: Where is the *Prouost*? away with
 2727 him to prison: lay bolts enough vpon him: let him speak
 2728 no more: away with those Giglets too, and with the o-ther
 2729 confederate companion.
 2730 *Duk.* Stay Sir, stay a while.
 2731 *Ang.* What, resists he? helpe him *Lucio*.
 2732 *Luc.* Come sir, come sir, come sir: foh sir, why you
 2733 bald- pated lying rascall: you must be hooded must you?
 2734 show your knaues visage with a poxe to you: show your
 2735 sheepe- biting face, and be hang'd an houre: Will't
 2736 not off?
 2737 *Duk.* Thou art the first knaue, that ere mad'st a *Duke*.
 2738 First *Prouost*, let me bayle these gentle three:
 2739 Sneake not away Sir, for the Fryer, and you,
 2740 Must haue a word anon: lay hold on him.
 2741 *Luc.* This may proue worse then hanging.
 2742 *Duk.* What you haue spoke, I pardon: sit you downe,
 2743 We'll borrow place of him; Sir, by your leaue:
 2744 Ha'st thou or word, or wit, or impudence,
 2745 That yet can doe thee office? If thou ha'st

2746 Rely vpon it, till my tale be heard,
 2747 And hold no longer out.
 2748 *Ang.* Oh, my dread Lord,
 2749 I should be guiltier then my guiltinesse,
 2750 To thinke I can be vndiscerneable,
 2751 When I perceiue your grace, like powre diuine,
 2752 Hath look'd vpon my passes. Then good Prince,
 2753 No longer Session hold vpon my shame,
 2754 But let my Triall, be mine owne Confession:
 2755 Immediate sentence then, and sequent death,
 2756 Is all the grace I beg.
 2757 *Duk.* Come hither *Mariana*,
 2758 Say: was't thou ere contracted to this woman?
 2759 *Ang.* I was my Lord.
 2760 *Duk.* Goe take her hence, and marry her instantly.
 2761 Doe you the office (*Fryer*) which consummate,
 2762 Returne him here againe: goe with him *Prouost. Exit.*
 2763 *Esc.* My Lord, I am more amaz'd at his dishonor,
 2764 Then at the strangenesse of it.
 2765 *Duk.* Come hither *Isabell*,
 2766 Your *Frier* is now your Prince: As I was then
 2767 Aduertysing, and holy to your businesse,
 2768 (Not changing heart with habit) I am still,
 2769 Atturried at your seruice.
 2770 *Isab.* Oh giue me pardon
 2771 That I, your vassaile, haue imploid, and pain'd
 2772 Your vnknowne Soueraigntie.
 2773 *Duk.* You are pardon'd *Isabell*:
 2774 And now, deere Maide, be you as free to vs.
 2775 Your Brothers death I know sits at your heart:
 2776 And you may maruaile, why I obscur'd my selfe,
 2777 Labouring to saue his life: and would not rather
 2778 Make rash remonstrance of my hidden powre,
 2779 Then let him so be lost: oh most kinde Maid,
 2780 It was the swift celeritie of his death,
 2781 Which I did thinke, with slower foot came on,
 2782 That brain'd my purpose: but peace be with him,
 2783 That life is better life past fearing death,
 2784 Then that which liues to feare: make it your comfort, [G6
 2785 So happy is your Brother.
 2786 *Enter Angelo, Maria, Peter, Prouost.*
 2787 *Isab.* I doe my Lord.
 2788 *Duk.* For this new- married man, approaching here,
 2789 Whose salt imagination yet hath wrong'd
 2790 Your well defended honor: you must pardon
 2791 For *Mariana's* sake: But as he adiudg'd your Brother,

2792 Being criminall, in double violation
 2793 Of sacred Chastitie, and of promise- breach,
 2794 Thereon dependant for your Brothers life,
 2795 The very mercy of the Law cries out
 2796 Most audible, euen from his proper tongue.
 2797 *An Angelo* for *Claudio*, death for death:
 2798 Haste still paies haste, and leasure, answers leasure;
 2799 Like doth quit like, and *Measure* still for *Measure*:
 2800 Then *Angelo*, thy fault's thus manifested;
 2801 Which though thou would'st deny, denies thee vantage.
 2802 We doe condemne thee to the very Blocke
 2803 Where *Claudio* stoop'd to death, and with like haste.
 2804 Away with him.
 2805 *Mar.* Oh my most gracious Lord,
 2806 I hope you will not mocke me with a husband?
 2807 *Duk.* It is your husband mock't you with a husband,
 2808 Consenting to the safe- guard of your honor,
 2809 I thought your marriage fit: else Imputation,
 2810 For that he knew you, might reproach your life,
 2811 And choake your good to come: For his Possessions,
 2812 Although by confutation they are ours;
 2813 We doe en- state, and widow you with all,
 2814 To buy you a better husband.
 2815 *Mar.* Oh my deere Lord,
 2816 I craue no other, nor no better man.
 2817 *Duke.* Neuer craue him, we are definitiue.
 2818 *Mar.* Gentle my Liege.
 2819 *Duke.* You doe but loose your labour.
 2820 Away with him to death: Now Sir, to you.
 2821 *Mar.* Oh my good Lord, sweet *Isabell*, take my part,
 2822 Lend me your knees, and all my life to come,
 2823 I'll lend you all my life to doe you seruice.
 2824 *Duke.* Against all sence you doe importune her,
 2825 Should she kneele downe, in mercie of this fact,
 2826 Her Brothers ghost, his pauered bed would breake,
 2827 And take her hence in horror.
 2828 *Mar. Isabell:*
 2829 Sweet *Isabel*, doe yet but kneele by me,
 2830 Hold vp your hands, say nothing: I'll speake all.
 2831 They say best men are moulded out of faults,
 2832 And for the most, become much more the better
 2833 For being a little bad: So may my husband.
 2834 Oh *Isabel*: will you not lend a knee?
 2835 *Duke.* He dies for *Claudio*'s death.
 2836 *Isab.* Most bounteous Sir.
 2837 Looke if it please you, on this man condemn'd,

2838 As if my Brother liu'd: I partly thinke,
 2839 A due sinceritie gouerned his deedes,
 2840 Till he did looke on me: Since it is so,
 2841 Let him not die: my Brother had but Iustice,
 2842 In that he did the thing for which he dide.
 2843 For *Angelo*, his Act did not ore- take his bad intent,
 2844 And must be buried but as an intent
 2845 That perish'd by the way: thoughts are no subiects
 2846 Intents, but meerely thoughts.
 2847 *Mar.* Meerely my Lord.
 2848 *Duk.* Your suite's vnprofitable: stand vp I say:
 2849 I haue bethought me of another fault.
 2850 *Prouost*, how came it *Claudio* was beheaded [
 2851 At an vnusuall howre?
 2852 *Pro.* It was commanded so.
 2853 *Duke.* Had you a speciall warrant for the deed?
 2854 *Pro.* No my good Lord: it was by priuate message.
 2855 *Duk.* For which I doe discharge you of your office,
 2856 Giue vp your keyes.
 2857 *Pro.* Pardon me, noble Lord,
 2858 I thought it was a fault, but knew it not,
 2859 Yet did repent me after more aduice,
 2860 For testimony whereof, one in the prison
 2861 That should by priuate order else haue dide,
 2862 I haue reseru'd aliue.
 2863 *Duk.* What's he?
 2864 *Pro.* His name is *Barnardine*.
 2865 *Duke.* I would thou hadst done so by *Claudio*:
 2866 Goe fetch him hither, let me looke vpon him.
 2867 *Esc.* I am sorry, one so learned, and so wise
 2868 As you, Lord *Angelo*, haue stil appear'd,
 2869 Should slip so grosselie, both in the heat of bloud
 2870 And lacke of temper'd iudgement afterward.
 2871 *Ang.* I am sorrie, that such sorrow I procure,
 2872 And so deepe sticks it in my penitent heart,
 2873 That I craue death more willingly then mercy,
 2874 'Tis my deseruing, and I doe entreat it.
 2875 *Enter Barnardine and Prouost, Claudio, Iulietta.*
 2876 *Duke.* Which is that *Barnardine*?
 2877 *Pro.* This my Lord.
 2878 *Duke.* There was a Friar told me of this man.
 2879 Sirha, thou art said to haue a stubborne soule
 2880 That apprehends no further then this world,
 2881 And squar'st thy life according: Thou'rt condemn'd,
 2882 But for those earthly faults, I quit them all,
 2883 And pray thee take this mercie to prouide

2884 For better times to come: Frier aduise him,
 2885 I leaue him to your hand. What muffeld fellow's that?
 2886 *Pro.* This is another prisoner that I sau'd,
 2887 Who should haue di'd when *Claudio* lost his head,
 2888 As like almost to *Claudio*, as himselfe.
 2889 *Duke.* If he be like your brother, for his sake
 2890 Is he pardon'd, and for your louelie sake
 2891 Giue me your hand, and say you will be mine,
 2892 He is my brother too: But fitter time for that:
 2893 By this Lord *Angelo* perceiues he's safe,
 2894 Methinkes I see a quickning in his eye:
 2895 Well *Angelo*, your euill quits you well.
 2896 Looke that you loue your wife: her worth, worth yours
 2897 I finde an apt remission in my selfe:
 2898 And yet heere's one in place I cannot pardon,
 2899 You sirha, that knew me for a foole, a Coward,
 2900 One all of Luxurie, an asse, a mad man:
 2901 Wherein haue I so deseru'd of you
 2902 That you extoll me thus?
 2903 *Luc.* 'Faith my Lord, I spoke it but according to the
 2904 trick: if you will hang me for it you may: but I had ra-ther
 2905 it would please you, I might be whipt.
 2906 *Duke.* Whipt first, sir, and hang'd after.
 2907 Proclaime it Prouost round about the Citie,
 2908 If any woman wrong'd by this lewd fellow
 2909 (As I haue heard him sweare himselfe there's one
 2910 whom he begot with childe) let her appeare,
 2911 And he shall marry her: the nuptiall finish'd,
 2912 Let him be whipt and hang'd.
 2913 *Luc.* I beseech your Highnesse doe not marry me to
 2914 a Whore: your Highnesse said euen now I made you a
 2915 Duke, good my Lord do not recompence me, in making
 2916 me a Cuckold. [G6v
 2917 *Duke.* Vpon mine honor thou shalt marrie her.
 2918 Thy slanders I forgiue, and therewithall
 2919 Remit thy other forfeits: take him to prison,
 2920 And see our pleasure herein executed.
 2921 *Luc.* Marrying a punke my Lord, is pressing to death,
 2922 Whipping and hanging.
 2923 *Duke.* Slandering a Prince deserues it.
 2924 She *Claudio* that you wrong'd, looke you restore.
 2925 Ioy to you *Mariana*, loue her *Angelo*:
 2926 I haue confes'd her, and I know her vertue.
 2927 Thanks good friend, *Escalus*, for thy much goodnesse,
 2928 There's more behinde that is more gratefull.
 2929 Thanks *Prouost* for thy care, and secrecie,

2930 We shall imploy thee in a worthier place.
 2931 Forgiue him *Angelo*, that brought you home
 2932 The head of *Ragozine* for *Claudio*'s,
 2933 Th' offence pardons it selfe. Deere *Isabell*,
 2934 I haue a motion much imports your good,
 2935 Whereto if you'll a willing eare incline;
 2936 What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine.
 2937 So bring vs to our Pallace, where wee'll show
 2938 What's yet behinde, that meete you all should know.

The Scene Vienna.

2940 **The names of all the Actors.**
 2941 *Vincentio: the Duke.*
 2942 *Angelo, the Deputie.*
 2943 *Escalus, an ancient Lord.*
 2944 *Claudio, a yong Gentleman.*
 2945 *Lucio, a fantastique.*
 2946 **2. Other like Gentlemen.**
 2947 *Prouost.*
 2948 *Thomas. 2. Friers.*
 2949 *Peter.*
 2950 *Elbow, a simple Constable.*
 2951 *Froth, a foolish Gentleman.*
 2952 *Clowne.*
 2953 *Abhorson, an Executioner.*
 2954 *Barnardine, a dissolute prisoner.*
 2955 *Isabella, sister to Claudio.*
 2956 *Mariana, betrothed to Angelo.*
 2957 *Iuliet, beloued of Claudio.*
 2958 *Francisca, a Nun.*
 2959 *Mistris Ouer- don, a Bawd.*
 2960 **FINIS.**
 2961 **MEASVRE,**
For Measure.
