

The TWO NOBLE KINSMEN

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

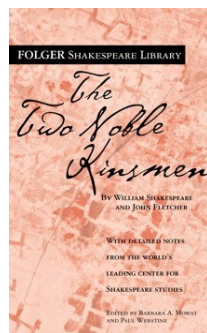
Edited by BARBARA A. MOWAT
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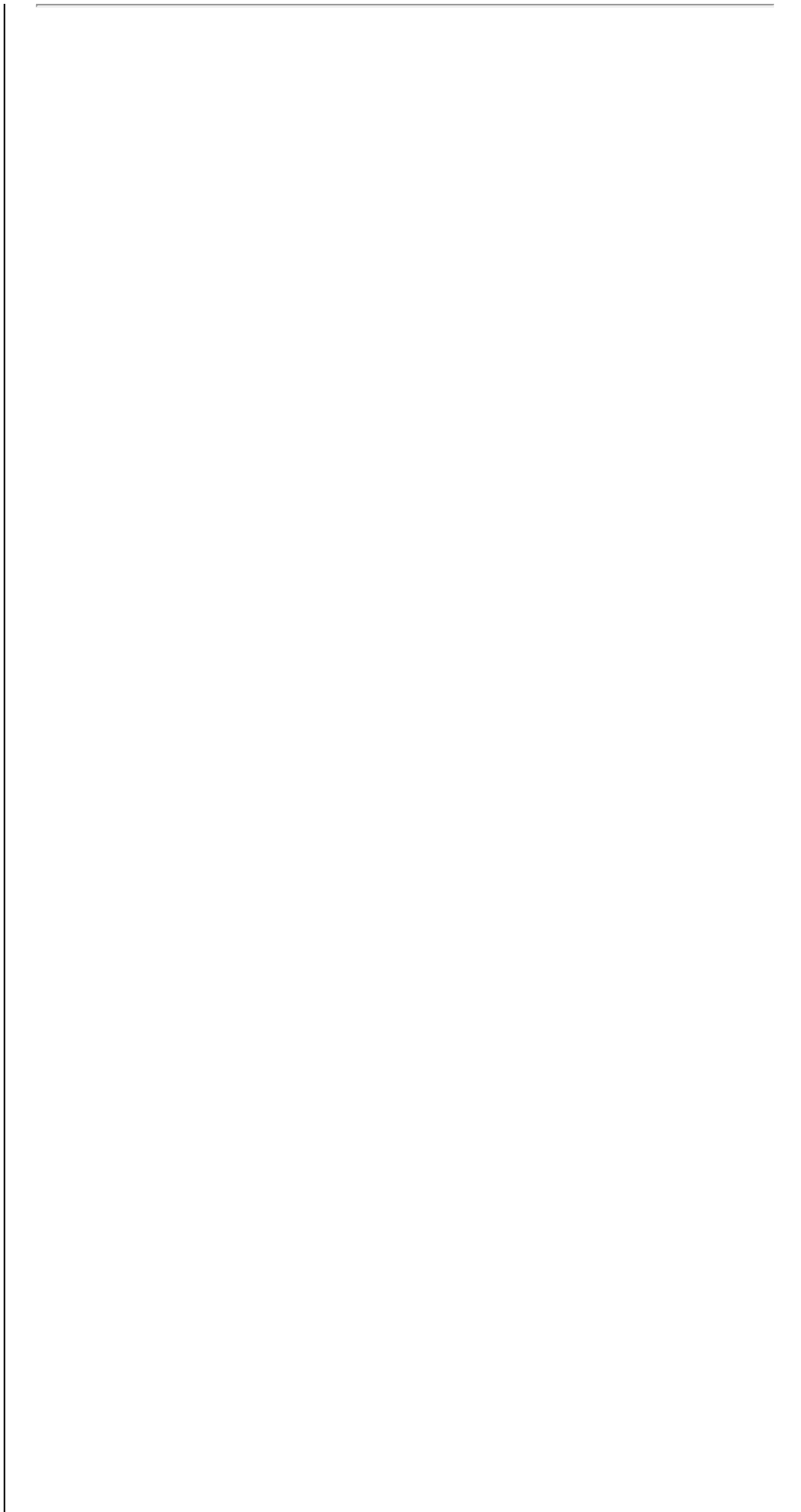
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Contents

Front Matter	From the Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library Textual Introduction Synopsis Characters in the Play
	Prologue
ACT 1	Scene 1 Scene 2 Scene 3 Scene 4 Scene 5
ACT 2	Scene 1 Scene 2 Scene 3 Scene 4 Scene 5 Scene 6
ACT 3	Scene 1 Scene 2 Scene 3 Scene 4 Scene 5 Scene 6
ACT 4	Scene 1 Scene 2 Scene 3
ACT 5	Scene 1 Scene 2 Scene 3 Scene 4 Epilogue



From the Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library

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

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

Michael Witmore
Director, Folger Shakespeare Library

Textual Introduction

By Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine

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

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

The editors of the Moby™ Shakespeare produced their text long before scholars fully understood the proper grounds on which to make the thousands of decisions that Shakespeare editors face. The Folger Library Shakespeare Editions, on which the Folger Shakespeare texts depend, make this editorial process as nearly transparent as is possible, in contrast to older texts, like the Moby™, which hide editorial interventions. The reader of the Folger Shakespeare knows where the text has been altered because editorial interventions are signaled by square brackets (for example, from *Othello*: "[If she in chains of magic were not bound,]"), half-square brackets (for example, from *Henry V*: "With [blood] and sword and fire to win your right,"), or angle brackets (for example, from

Hamlet: “O farewell, honest (soldier.) Who hath relieved/you?”). At any point in the text, you can hover your cursor over a bracket for more information.

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

Synopsis

The Two Noble Kinsmen, derived from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, begins as Athens defeats Thebes in war. Arcite and Palamon, Theban knights and devoted cousins, are imprisoned in Athens. From their cell, they see Emilia, the sister-in-law of Theseus, Duke of Athens. Both fall in love with her, becoming bitter rivals.

Arcite is released but, for love of Emilia, stays in Athens at the risk of his life. The jailer's daughter, who loves Palamon, helps him escape, but goes mad with anxiety. Her original wooer cures her by courting her while pretending to be Palamon.

Arcite encounters Palamon and challenges him to formal combat for Emilia. Theseus discovers them before they duel. He first sentences both to death, but then establishes a contest in which each will participate with Theban comrades. The loser and his knights will die. The winner will wed Emilia.

Arcite prays to Mars for victory; Palamon, to Venus for Emilia's love. Both prayers are answered. Arcite wins, but dies after a riding accident. Palamon, spared from execution, marries Emilia.

Characters in the Play

PROLOGUE

ARCITE } *the two noble kinsmen, cousins,*
PALAMON } *nephews of Creon, King of Thebes*

THESEUS, Duke of Athens

HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons, later Duchess of Athens

EMILIA, her sister

PIRITHOUS, friend to Theseus

Three QUEENS, widows of the kings killed in laying siege to Thebes

The JAILER of Theseus's prison

The Jailer's DAUGHTER

The Jailer's BROTHER

The WOOER of the Jailer's daughter

Two FRIENDS of the Jailer

A DOCTOR

ARTESIUS, an Athenian soldier

VALERIUS, a Theban

WOMAN, attending on Emilia

An Athenian GENTLEMAN

Six KNIGHTS, three accompanying Arcite, three Palamon

Six COUNTRYMEN, one dressed as a BAVIAN or baboon

A SCHOOLMASTER

NELL, a countrywoman

A TABORER

A singing BOY, a HERALD, MESSENGERS, a SERVANT

EPILOGUE

Hymen (god of weddings), lords, soldiers, four countrywomen
(Fritz, Maudlin, Luce, and Barbary), nymphs, attendants, maids,
executioner, guard

Flourish. [Enter Prologue.]

PROLOGUE

FTLN 0001	New plays and maidenheads are near akin:	
FTLN 0002	Much followed both, for both much money giv'n,	
FTLN 0003	If they stand sound and well. And a good play,	
FTLN 0004	Whose modest scenes blush on his marriage day	
FTLN 0005	And shake to lose his honor, is like her	5
FTLN 0006	That after holy tie and first night's stir	
FTLN 0007	Yet still is modesty, and still retains	
FTLN 0008	More of the maid, to sight, than husband's pains.	
FTLN 0009	We pray our play may be so, for I am sure	
FTLN 0010	It has a noble breeder and a pure,	10
FTLN 0011	A learnèd, and a poet never went	
FTLN 0012	More famous yet 'twixt Po and silver Trent.	
FTLN 0013	Chaucer, of all admired, the story gives;	
FTLN 0014	There, constant to eternity, it lives.	
FTLN 0015	If we let fall the nobleness of this,	15
FTLN 0016	And the first sound this child hear be a hiss,	
FTLN 0017	How will it shake the bones of that good man	
FTLN 0018	And make him cry from underground "O, fan	
FTLN 0019	From me the witless chaff of such a writer	
FTLN 0020	That blasts my bays and my famed works makes	20
FTLN 0021	lighter	
FTLN 0022	Than Robin Hood!" This is the fear we bring;	
FTLN 0023	For, to say truth, it were an endless thing	
FTLN 0024	And too ambitious, to aspire to him,	
FTLN 0025	Weak as we are, and, almost breathless, swim	25
FTLN 0026	In this deep water. Do but you hold out	
FTLN 0027	Your helping hands, and we shall [tack] about	
FTLN 0028	And something do to save us. You shall hear	
FTLN 0029	Scenes, though below his art, may yet appear	
FTLN 0030	Worth two hours' travel. To his bones sweet sleep;	30

FTLN 0031

Content to you. If this play do not keep

FTLN 0032

A little dull time from us, we perceive

FTLN 0033

Our losses fall so thick we must needs leave.

Flourish. [He exits.]

ACT 1

「Scene 1」

Music. Enter Hymen with a torch burning, a Boy in a white robe before, singing and strewing flowers. After Hymen, a Nymph encompassed in her tresses, bearing a wheaten garland; then Theseus between two other Nymphs with wheaten chaplets on their heads. Then Hippolyta, the bride, led by 「Pirithous,」 and another holding a garland over her head, her tresses likewise hanging. After her, Emilia, holding up her train. 「Then Artesius and Attendants.」

The Song, 「sung by the Boy.」

FTLN 0034
FTLN 0035
FTLN 0036
FTLN 0037
FTLN 0038
FTLN 0039
FTLN 0040
FTLN 0041
FTLN 0042
FTLN 0043
FTLN 0044
FTLN 0045
FTLN 0046
FTLN 0047

*Roses, their sharp spines being gone,
Not royal in their smells alone,
But in their hue;
Maiden pinks, of odor faint,
Daisies smell-less, yet most quaint, 5
And sweet thyme true;
Primrose, firstborn child of Ver,
Merry springtime's harbinger,
With her bells dim;
Oxlips in their cradles growing, 10
Marigolds on deathbeds blowing,
Lark's-heels trim;
All dear Nature's children 「sweet
Lie」 'fore bride and bridegroom's feet,
Strew flowers.*

FTLN 0048	<i>Blessing their sense.</i>	15
FTLN 0049	<i>Not an angel of the air,</i>	
FTLN 0050	<i>Bird melodious or bird fair,</i>	
FTLN 0051	<i>Is absent hence.</i>	
FTLN 0052	<i>The crow, the sland'rous cuckoo, nor</i>	
FTLN 0053	<i>The boding raven, nor</i> 「 <i>chough hoar,</i> 」	20
FTLN 0054	<i>Nor chatt'ring pie,</i>	
FTLN 0055	<i>May on our bridehouse perch or sing,</i>	
FTLN 0056	<i>Or with them any discord bring,</i>	
FTLN 0057	<i>But from it fly.</i>	
<i>Enter three Queens in black, with veils stained, with imperial crowns. The first Queen falls down at the foot of Theseus; the second falls down at the foot of Hippolyta; the third before Emilia.</i>		
	FIRST QUEEN, 「 <i>to Theseus</i> 」	
FTLN 0058	For pity's sake and true gentility's,	25
FTLN 0059	Hear and respect me.	
FTLN 0060	SECOND QUEEN, 「 <i>to Hippolyta</i> 」 For your mother's sake,	
FTLN 0061	And as you wish your womb may thrive with fair	
FTLN 0062	ones,	
FTLN 0063	Hear and respect me.	30
	THIRD QUEEN, 「 <i>to Emilia</i> 」	
FTLN 0064	Now for the love of him whom Jove hath marked	
FTLN 0065	The honor of your bed, and for the sake	
FTLN 0066	Of clear virginity, be advocate	
FTLN 0067	For us and our distresses. This good deed	
FTLN 0068	Shall raze you out o' th' book of trespasses	35
FTLN 0069	All you are set down there.	
	THESEUS, 「 <i>to First Queen</i> 」	
FTLN 0070	Sad lady, rise.	
FTLN 0071	HIPPOLYTA, 「 <i>to Second Queen</i> 」 Stand up.	
FTLN 0072	EMILIA, 「 <i>to Third Queen</i> 」 No knees to me.	
FTLN 0073	What woman I may stead that is distressed	40
FTLN 0074	Does bind me to her.	

FTLN 0109	He tumbled down upon his ¹ Nemean ¹ hide	
FTLN 0110	And swore his sinews thawed. O grief and time,	
FTLN 0111	Fearful consumers, you will all devour!	
FTLN 0112	FIRST QUEEN O, I hope some god,	
FTLN 0113	Some god hath put his mercy in your manhood,	80
FTLN 0114	Whereto he'll infuse power, and press you forth	
FTLN 0115	Our undertaker.	
FTLN 0116	THESEUS O, no knees, none, widow!	
FTLN 0117	Unto the helmeted Bellona use them	
FTLN 0118	And pray for me, your soldier. ¹ <i>The First Queen rises.</i> ¹	85
FTLN 0119	Troubled I am. <i>Turns away.</i>	
FTLN 0120	SECOND QUEEN Honored Hippolyta,	
FTLN 0121	Most dreaded Amazonian, that hast slain	
FTLN 0122	The scythe-tusked boar; that with thy arm, as strong	
FTLN 0123	As it is white, wast near to make the male	90
FTLN 0124	To thy sex captive, but that this thy lord,	
FTLN 0125	Born to uphold creation in that honor	
FTLN 0126	First nature styled it in, shrunk thee into	
FTLN 0127	The bound thou wast o'erflowing, at once subduing	
FTLN 0128	Thy force and thy affection; soldieress	95
FTLN 0129	That equally canst poise sternness with pity,	
FTLN 0130	Whom now I know hast much more power on him	
FTLN 0131	Than ever he had on thee, who ow'st his strength	
FTLN 0132	And his love too, who is a servant for	
FTLN 0133	The tenor of ¹ thy ¹ speech, dear glass of ladies,	100
FTLN 0134	Bid him that we, whom flaming war doth scorch,	
FTLN 0135	Under the shadow of his sword may cool us;	
FTLN 0136	Require him he advance it o'er our heads;	
FTLN 0137	Speak 't in a woman's key, like such a woman	
FTLN 0138	As any of us three; weep ere you fail.	105
FTLN 0139	Lend us a knee;	
FTLN 0140	But touch the ground for us no longer time	
FTLN 0141	Than a dove's motion when the head's plucked off.	
FTLN 0142	Tell him if he i' th' blood-sized field lay swoll'n,	
FTLN 0143	Showing the sun his teeth, grinning at the moon,	110
FTLN 0144	What you would do.	

FTLN 0145	HIPPOLYTA	Poor lady, say no more.	
FTLN 0146		I had as lief trace this good action with you	
FTLN 0147		As that whereto I am going, and never yet	
FTLN 0148		Went I so willing way. My lord is taken	115
FTLN 0149		Heart-deep with your distress; let him consider.	
FTLN 0150		I'll speak anon. <i>「Second Queen rises.」</i>	
FTLN 0151	THIRD QUEEN	O, my petition was	
FTLN 0152		Set down in ice, which by hot grief uncandied	
FTLN 0153		Melts into drops; so sorrow, wanting form,	120
FTLN 0154		Is pressed with deeper matter.	
FTLN 0155	EMILIA	Pray stand up.	
FTLN 0156		Your grief is written in your cheek.	
FTLN 0157	THIRD QUEEN	O, woe!	
FTLN 0158		You cannot read it there. <i>「She rises.」</i>	125
FTLN 0159		There through my tears,	
FTLN 0160		Like wrinkled pebbles in a <i>「glassy」</i> stream,	
FTLN 0161		You may behold 'em. Lady, lady, alack!	
FTLN 0162		He that will all the treasure know o' th' Earth	
FTLN 0163		Must know the center too; he that will fish	130
FTLN 0164		For my least minnow, let him lead his line	
FTLN 0165		To catch one at my heart. O, pardon me!	
FTLN 0166		Extremity, that sharpens sundry wits,	
FTLN 0167		Makes me a fool.	
FTLN 0168	EMILIA	Pray you say nothing, pray you.	135
FTLN 0169		Who cannot feel nor see the rain, being in 't,	
FTLN 0170		Knows neither wet nor dry. If that you were	
FTLN 0171		The groundpiece of some painter, I would buy you	
FTLN 0172		T' instruct me 'gainst a capital grief—indeed,	
FTLN 0173		Such heart-pierced demonstration. But, alas,	140
FTLN 0174		Being a natural sister of our sex,	
FTLN 0175		Your sorrow beats so ardently upon me	
FTLN 0176		That it shall make a counter-reflect 'gainst	
FTLN 0177		My brother's heart and warm it to some pity,	
FTLN 0178		Though it were made of stone. Pray have good	145
FTLN 0179		comfort.	

	THESEUS, <i>「coming forward」</i>	
FTLN 0180	Forward to th' temple. Leave not out a jot	
FTLN 0181	O' th' sacred ceremony.	
FTLN 0182	FIRST QUEEN	O, this celebration
FTLN 0183		Will <i>「longer」</i> last and be more costly than
FTLN 0184		Your suppliants' war. Remember that your fame
FTLN 0185		Knolls in the ear o' th' world; what you do quickly
FTLN 0186		Is not done rashly; your first thought is more
FTLN 0187		Than others' labored meditative, your premeditating
FTLN 0188		More than their actions. But, O Jove, your actions,
FTLN 0189		Soon as they <i>「move,」</i> as ospreys do the fish,
FTLN 0190		Subdue before they touch. Think, dear duke, think
FTLN 0191		What beds our slain kings have!
FTLN 0192	SECOND QUEEN	What griefs our beds,
FTLN 0193		That our dear lords have none!
FTLN 0194	THIRD QUEEN	None fit for th' dead.
FTLN 0195		Those that with cords, knives, drams, precipitance,
FTLN 0196		Weary of this world's light, have to themselves
FTLN 0197		Been death's most horrid agents, human grace
FTLN 0198		Affords them dust and shadow.
FTLN 0199	FIRST QUEEN	But our lords
FTLN 0200		Lie blis'tring 'fore the visitating sun,
FTLN 0201		And were good kings when living.
	THESEUS	
FTLN 0202		It is true, and I will give you comfort
FTLN 0203		To give your dead lords graves;
FTLN 0204		The which to do must make some work with Creon.
	FIRST QUEEN	
FTLN 0205		And that work presents itself to th' doing.
FTLN 0206		Now 'twill take form; the heats are gone tomorrow.
FTLN 0207		Then, bootless toil must recompense itself
FTLN 0208		With its own sweat. Now he's secure,
FTLN 0209		Not dreams we stand before your puissance,
FTLN 0210		Rinsing our holy begging in our eyes
FTLN 0211		To make petition clear.

FTLN 0212	SECOND QUEEN	Now you may take him,	
FTLN 0213		Drunk with his victory.	180
FTLN 0214	THIRD QUEEN	And his army full	
FTLN 0215		Of bread and sloth.	
FTLN 0216	THESEUS	Artesius, that best knowest	
FTLN 0217		How to draw out, fit to this enterprise,	
FTLN 0218		The prim'st for this proceeding, and the number	185
FTLN 0219		To carry such a business: forth and levy	
FTLN 0220		Our worthiest instruments, whilst we dispatch	
FTLN 0221		This grand act of our life, this daring deed	
FTLN 0222		Of fate in wedlock.	
	FIRST QUEEN, <i>['to Second and Third Queens']</i>		
FTLN 0223		Dowagers, take hands.	190
FTLN 0224		Let us be widows to our woes. Delay	
FTLN 0225		Commends us to a famishing hope.	
FTLN 0226	ALL <i>['THE QUEENS']</i>	Farewell.	
	SECOND QUEEN		
FTLN 0227		We come unseasonably; but when could grief	
FTLN 0228		Cull forth, as unpanged judgment can, fitt'st time	195
FTLN 0229		For best solicitation?	
FTLN 0230	THESEUS	Why, good ladies,	
FTLN 0231		This is a service whereto I am going	
FTLN 0232		Greater than any was; it more imports me	
FTLN 0233		Than all the actions that I have foregone,	200
FTLN 0234		Or futurely can cope.	
FTLN 0235	FIRST QUEEN	The more proclaiming	
FTLN 0236		Our suit shall be neglected when her arms,	
FTLN 0237		Able to lock Jove from a synod, shall	
FTLN 0238		By warranting moonlight corselet thee. O, when	205
FTLN 0239		Her twinning cherries shall their sweetness fall	
FTLN 0240		Upon thy tasteful lips, what wilt thou think	
FTLN 0241		Of rotten kings or blubbered queens? What care	
FTLN 0242		For what thou feel'st not, what thou feel'st being	
FTLN 0243		able	210
FTLN 0244		To make Mars spurn his drum? O, if thou couch	
FTLN 0245		But one night with her, every hour in 't will	

FTLN 0246	Take hostage of thee for a hundred, and	
FTLN 0247	Thou shalt remember nothing more than what	
FTLN 0248	That banquet bids thee to.	215
FTLN 0249	HIPPOLYTA, <i>「to Theseus」</i>	Though much unlike
FTLN 0250	You should be so transported, as much sorry	
FTLN 0251	I should be such a suitor, yet I think	
FTLN 0252	Did I not, by th' abstaining of my joy—	
FTLN 0253	Which breeds a deeper longing—cure their surfeit	220
FTLN 0254	That craves a present med'cine, I should pluck	
FTLN 0255	All ladies' scandal on me. <i>「She kneels.」</i>	
FTLN 0256		Therefore, sir,
FTLN 0257	As I shall here make trial of my prayers,	
FTLN 0258	Either presuming them to have some force,	225
FTLN 0259	Or sentencing for aye their vigor dumb,	
FTLN 0260	Prorogue this business we are going about, and	
FTLN 0261	hang	
FTLN 0262	Your shield afore your heart—about that neck	
FTLN 0263	Which is my fee, and which I freely lend	230
FTLN 0264	To do these poor queens service.	
FTLN 0265	ALL QUEENS, <i>「to Emilia」</i>	O, help now!
FTLN 0266	Our cause cries for your knee.	
FTLN 0267	EMILIA, <i>「to Theseus, kneeling」</i>	If you grant not
FTLN 0268	My sister her petition in that force,	235
FTLN 0269	With that celerity and nature which	
FTLN 0270	She makes it in, from henceforth I'll not dare	
FTLN 0271	To ask you anything, nor be so hardy	
FTLN 0272	Ever to take a husband.	
FTLN 0273	THESEUS	Pray stand up. 240
		<i>「Hippolyta and Emilia rise.」</i>
FTLN 0274	I am entreating of myself to do	
FTLN 0275	That which you kneel to have me.—Pirithous,	
FTLN 0276	Lead on the bride; get you and pray the gods	
FTLN 0277	For success and return; omit not anything	
FTLN 0278	In the pretended celebration.—Queens,	245
FTLN 0279	Follow your soldier. <i>「To Artesius.」</i> As before, hence	
FTLN 0280	you,	

FTLN 0281	And at the banks of 'Aulis' meet us with	
FTLN 0282	The forces you can raise, where we shall find	
FTLN 0283	The moiety of a number for a business	250
FTLN 0284	More bigger looked.	'Artesius exits.'
FTLN 0285	'To Hippolyta.' Since that our theme is haste,	
FTLN 0286	I stamp this kiss upon thy currant lip;	
FTLN 0287	Sweet, keep it as my token.—Set you forward,	
FTLN 0288	For I will see you gone.	255
		<i>'The wedding procession begins to' exit towards the temple.</i>
FTLN 0289	Farewell, my beauteous sister.—Pirithous,	
FTLN 0290	Keep the feast full; bate not an hour on 't.	
FTLN 0291	PIRITHOUS	Sir,
FTLN 0292	I'll follow you at heels. The feast's solemnity	
FTLN 0293	Shall want till your return.	260
FTLN 0294	THESEUS	Cousin, I charge you,
FTLN 0295	Budge not from Athens. We shall be returning	
FTLN 0296	Ere you can end this feast, of which I pray you	
FTLN 0297	Make no abatement.—Once more, farewell all.	
		<i>'All but Theseus and the Queens exit.'</i>
	FIRST QUEEN	
FTLN 0298	Thus dost thou still make good the tongue o' th'	265
FTLN 0299	world.	
	SECOND QUEEN	
FTLN 0300	And earn'st a deity equal with Mars.	
FTLN 0301	THIRD QUEEN	If not above him, for
FTLN 0302	Thou, being but mortal, makest affections bend	
FTLN 0303	To godlike honors; they themselves, some say,	270
FTLN 0304	Groan under such a mast'ry.	
FTLN 0305	THESEUS	As we are men,
FTLN 0306	Thus should we do; being sensually subdued,	
FTLN 0307	We lose our human title. Good cheer, ladies.	
FTLN 0308	Now turn we towards your comforts.	275
		<i>Flourish. They exit.</i>

Scene 2

Enter Palamon and Arcite.

ARCITE

FTLN 0309 Dear Palamon, dearer in love than blood
 FTLN 0310 And our prime cousin, yet unhardened in
 FTLN 0311 The crimes of nature, let us leave the city
 FTLN 0312 Thebes, and the temptings in 't, before we further
 FTLN 0313 Sully our gloss of youth, 5
 FTLN 0314 And here to keep in abstinence we shame
 FTLN 0315 As in incontinence; for not to swim
 FTLN 0316 I' th' aid o' th' current were almost to sink,
 FTLN 0317 At least to frustrate striving; and to follow
 FTLN 0318 The common stream, 'twould bring us to an eddy 10
 FTLN 0319 Where we should turn or drown; if labor through,
 FTLN 0320 Our gain but life and weakness.

PALAMON

Your advice

FTLN 0322 Is cried up with example. What strange ruins,
 FTLN 0323 Since first we went to school, may we perceive 15
 FTLN 0324 Walking in Thebes! Scars and bare weeds
 FTLN 0325 The gain o' th' martialist, who did propound
 FTLN 0326 To his bold ends honor and golden ingots,
 FTLN 0327 Which though he won, he had not, and now flirted
 FTLN 0328 By peace for whom he fought. Who then shall offer 20
 FTLN 0329 To Mars's so-scorned altar? I do bleed
 FTLN 0330 When such I meet, and wish great Juno would
 FTLN 0331 Resume her ancient fit of jealousy
 FTLN 0332 To get the soldier work, that peace might purge
 FTLN 0333 For her repletion, and retain anew 25
 FTLN 0334 Her charitable heart, now hard and harsher
 FTLN 0335 Than strife or war could be.

ARCITE

Are you not out?

FTLN 0337 Meet you no ruin but the soldier in
 FTLN 0338 The cranks and turns of Thebes? You did begin 30
 FTLN 0339 As if you met decays of many kinds.

FTLN 0340	Perceive you none that do arouse your pity	
FTLN 0341	But th' unconsidered soldier?	
FTLN 0342	PALAMON	Yes, I pity
FTLN 0343	Decays where'er I find them, but such most	35
FTLN 0344	That, sweating in an honorable toil,	
FTLN 0345	Are paid with ice to cool 'em.	
FTLN 0346	ARCITE	'Tis not this
FTLN 0347	I did begin to speak of. This is virtue	
FTLN 0348	Of no respect in Thebes. I spake of Thebes—	40
FTLN 0349	How dangerous, if we will keep our honors,	
FTLN 0350	It is for our residing, where every evil	
FTLN 0351	Hath a good color; where every seeming good's	
FTLN 0352	A certain evil; where not to be e'en jump	
FTLN 0353	As they are here were to be strangers, and,	45
FTLN 0354	Such things to be, mere monsters.	
FTLN 0355	PALAMON	'Tis in our power—
FTLN 0356	Unless we fear that apes can tutor 's—to	
FTLN 0357	Be masters of our manners. What need I	
FTLN 0358	Affect another's gait, which is not catching	50
FTLN 0359	Where there is faith? Or to be fond upon	
FTLN 0360	Another's way of speech, when by mine own	
FTLN 0361	I may be reasonably conceived—saved too,	
FTLN 0362	Speaking it truly? Why am I bound	
FTLN 0363	By any generous bond to follow him	55
FTLN 0364	Follows his tailor, haply so long until	
FTLN 0365	The followed make pursuit? Or let me know	
FTLN 0366	Why mine own barber is unblest, with him	
FTLN 0367	My poor chin too, for 'tis not scissored just	
FTLN 0368	To such a favorite's glass? What canon is there	60
FTLN 0369	That does command my rapier from my hip	
FTLN 0370	To dangle 't in my hand, or to go tiptoe	
FTLN 0371	Before the street be foul? Either I am	
FTLN 0372	The forehorse in the team, or I am none	
FTLN 0373	That draw i' th' sequent trace. These poor slight	65
FTLN 0374	sores	

FTLN 0375	Need not a plantain. That which rips my bosom	
FTLN 0376	Almost to th' heart's—	
FTLN 0377	ARCITE	Our Uncle Creon.
FTLN 0378	PALAMON	He. 70
FTLN 0379	A most unbounded tyrant, whose successes	
FTLN 0380	Makes heaven unfeared and villainy assured	
FTLN 0381	Beyond its power there's nothing; almost puts	
FTLN 0382	Faith in a fever, and deifies alone	
FTLN 0383	Voluble chance; who only attributes	75
FTLN 0384	The faculties of other instruments	
FTLN 0385	To his own nerves and act; commands men service,	
FTLN 0386	And what they win in 't, boot and glory; one	
FTLN 0387	That fears not to do harm; good, dares not. Let	
FTLN 0388	The blood of mine that's sib to him be sucked	80
FTLN 0389	From me with leeches; let them break and fall	
FTLN 0390	Off me with that corruption.	
FTLN 0391	ARCITE	Clear-spirited cousin,
FTLN 0392	Let's leave his court, that we may nothing share	
FTLN 0393	Of his loud infamy; for our milk	85
FTLN 0394	Will relish of the pasture, and we must	
FTLN 0395	Be vile or disobedient, not his kinsmen	
FTLN 0396	In blood unless in quality.	
FTLN 0397	PALAMON	Nothing truer.
FTLN 0398	I think the echoes of his shames have deafed	90
FTLN 0399	The ears of heav'nly justice. Widows' cries	
FTLN 0400	Descend again into their throats and have not	
FTLN 0401	Due audience of the gods.	
<i>Enter Valerius.</i>		
FTLN 0402	Valerius.	
	VALERIUS	
FTLN 0403	The King calls for you; yet be leaden-footed	95
FTLN 0404	Till his great rage be off him. Phoebus, when	
FTLN 0405	He broke his whipstock and exclaimed against	
FTLN 0406	The horses of the sun, but whispered to	
FTLN 0407	The loudness of his fury.	

FTLN 0408	PALAMON	Small winds shake him.	100
FTLN 0409		But what's the matter?	
	VALERIUS		
FTLN 0410		Theseus, who where he threats appalls, hath sent	
FTLN 0411		Deadly defiance to him and pronounces	
FTLN 0412		Ruin to Thebes, who is at hand to seal	
FTLN 0413		The promise of his wrath.	105
FTLN 0414	ARCITE	Let him approach.	
FTLN 0415		But that we fear the gods in him, he brings not	
FTLN 0416		A jot of terror to us. Yet what man	
FTLN 0417		Thirds his own worth—the case is each of ours—	
FTLN 0418		When that his action's dregged with mind assured	110
FTLN 0419		'Tis bad he goes about?	
FTLN 0420	PALAMON	Leave that unreasoned.	
FTLN 0421		Our services stand now for Thebes, not Creon.	
FTLN 0422		Yet to be neutral to him were dishonor,	
FTLN 0423		Rebellious to oppose. Therefore we must	115
FTLN 0424		With him stand to the mercy of our fate,	
FTLN 0425		Who hath bounded our last minute.	
FTLN 0426	ARCITE	So we must.	
FTLN 0427		「 <i>To Valerius.</i> 」 Is 't said this war's afoot? Or, it shall	
FTLN 0428		be,	120
FTLN 0429		On fail of some condition?	
FTLN 0430	VALERIUS	'Tis in motion;	
FTLN 0431		The intelligence of state came in the instant	
FTLN 0432		With the defier.	
FTLN 0433	PALAMON	Let's to the King, who, were he	125
FTLN 0434		A quarter carrier of that honor which	
FTLN 0435		His enemy come in, the blood we venture	
FTLN 0436		Should be as for our health, which were not spent,	
FTLN 0437		Rather laid out for purchase. But alas,	
FTLN 0438		Our hands advanced before our hearts, what will	130
FTLN 0439		The fall o' th' stroke do damage?	
FTLN 0440	ARCITE	Let th' event,	
FTLN 0441		That never-erring arbitrator, tell us	

FTLN 0442
FTLN 0443

When we know all ourselves, and let us follow
The becking of our chance.

135

They exit.

Scene 3

Enter Pirithous, Hippolyta, Emilia.

PIRITHOUS

FTLN 0444

No further.

FTLN 0445

HIPPOLYTA Sir, farewell. Repeat my wishes

FTLN 0446

To our great lord, of whose success I dare not

FTLN 0447

Make any timorous question; yet I wish him

FTLN 0448

Excess and overflow of power, an 't might be,

FTLN 0449

To dure ill-dealing fortune. Speed to him.

FTLN 0450

Store never hurts good governors.

5

FTLN 0451

PIRITHOUS

Though I know

FTLN 0452

His ocean needs not my poor drops, yet they

FTLN 0453

Must yield their tribute there.—My precious maid,

FTLN 0454

Those best affections that the heavens infuse

FTLN 0455

In their best-tempered pieces keep enthroned

FTLN 0456

In your dear heart!

10

FTLN 0457

EMILIA

Thanks, sir. Remember me

FTLN 0458

To our all-royal brother, for whose speed

FTLN 0459

The great Bellona I'll solicit; and

FTLN 0460

Since in our terrene state petitions are not

FTLN 0461

Without gifts understood, I'll offer to her

FTLN 0462

What I shall be advised she likes. Our hearts

FTLN 0463

Are in his army, in his tent.

20

FTLN 0464

HIPPOLYTA

In 's bosom.

FTLN 0465

We have been soldiers, and we cannot weep

FTLN 0466

When our friends don their helms or put to sea,

FTLN 0467

Or tell of babes broached on the lance, or women

FTLN 0468

That have sod their infants in—and after ate them—

FTLN 0469

The brine they wept at killing 'em. Then if

25

FTLN 0470	You stay to see of us such spinsters, we	
FTLN 0471	Should hold you here forever.	
FTLN 0472	PIRITHOUS	Peace be to you
FTLN 0473	As I pursue this war, which shall be then	30
FTLN 0474	Beyond further requiring.	<i>Pirithous exits.</i>
FTLN 0475	EMILIA	How his longing
FTLN 0476	Follows his friend! Since his depart, his sports,	
FTLN 0477	Though craving seriousness and skill, passed slightly	
FTLN 0478	His careless execution, where nor gain	35
FTLN 0479	Made him regard, or loss consider, but	
FTLN 0480	Playing «one» business in his hand, another	
FTLN 0481	Directing in his head, his mind nurse equal	
FTLN 0482	To these so diff'ring twins. Have you observed him	
FTLN 0483	Since our great lord departed?	40
FTLN 0484	HIPPOLYTA	With much labor,
FTLN 0485	And I did love him for 't. They two have cabined	
FTLN 0486	In many as dangerous as poor a corner,	
FTLN 0487	Peril and want contending; they have skiffed	
FTLN 0488	Torrents whose roaring tyranny and power	45
FTLN 0489	I' th' least of these was dreadful, and they have	
FTLN 0490	Fought out together where Death's self was lodged.	
FTLN 0491	Yet fate hath brought them off. Their knot of love,	
FTLN 0492	Tied, weaved, entangled, with so true, so long,	
FTLN 0493	And with a finger of so deep a cunning,	50
FTLN 0494	May be outworn, never undone. I think	
FTLN 0495	Theseus cannot be umpire to himself,	
FTLN 0496	Cleaving his conscience into twain and doing	
FTLN 0497	Each side like justice, which he loves best.	
FTLN 0498	EMILIA	Doubtless
FTLN 0499	There is a best, and reason has no manners	55
FTLN 0500	To say it is not you. I was acquainted	
FTLN 0501	Once with a time when I enjoyed a playfellow;	
FTLN 0502	You were at wars when she the grave enriched,	
FTLN 0503	Who made too proud the bed; took leave o' th' moon,	60
FTLN 0504	Which then looked pale at parting, when our count	
FTLN 0505	Was each eleven.	

FTLN 0506	HIPPOLYTA	'Twas 'Flavina.'	
FTLN 0507	EMILIA	Yes.	
FTLN 0508		You talk of Pirithous' and Theseus' love.	65
FTLN 0509		Theirs has more ground, is more maturely seasoned,	
FTLN 0510		More buckled with strong judgment, and their needs	
FTLN 0511		The one of th' other may be said to water	
FTLN 0512		Their intertangled roots of love. But I,	
FTLN 0513		And she I sigh and spoke of, were things innocent,	70
FTLN 0514		Loved for we did, and like the elements	
FTLN 0515		That know not what nor why, yet do effect	
FTLN 0516		Rare issues by their operance, our souls	
FTLN 0517		Did so to one another. What she liked	
FTLN 0518		Was then of me approved, what not, condemned,	75
FTLN 0519		No more arraignment. The flower that I would pluck	
FTLN 0520		And put between my breasts—O, then but beginning	
FTLN 0521		To swell about the blossom—she would long	
FTLN 0522		Till she had such another, and commit it	
FTLN 0523		To the like innocent cradle, where, Phoenix-like,	80
FTLN 0524		They died in perfume. On my head no toy	
FTLN 0525		But was her pattern; her affections—pretty,	
FTLN 0526		Though haply 'hers' careless were—I followed	
FTLN 0527		For my most serious decking. Had mine ear	
FTLN 0528		Stol'n some new air, or at adventure hummed one	85
FTLN 0529		From musical coinage, why, it was a note	
FTLN 0530		Whereon her spirits would sojourn—rather, dwell	
FTLN 0531		on—	
FTLN 0532		And sing it in her slumbers. This rehearsal—	
FTLN 0533		Which fury-innocent wots well comes in	90
FTLN 0534		Like old importment's bastard—has this end,	
FTLN 0535		That the true love 'tween maid and maid may be	
FTLN 0536		More than in sex individual.	
FTLN 0537	HIPPOLYTA	You're out of breath,	
FTLN 0538		And this high-speeded pace is but to say	95
FTLN 0539		That you shall never—like the maid Flavina—	
FTLN 0540		Love any that's called man.	
FTLN 0541	EMILIA	I am sure I shall not.	

FTLN 0542 HIPPOLYTA Now, alack, weak sister,
 FTLN 0543 I must no more believe thee in this point— 100
 FTLN 0544 Though in 't I know thou dost believe thyself—
 FTLN 0545 Than I will trust a sickly appetite,
 FTLN 0546 That loathes even as it longs. But sure, my sister,
 FTLN 0547 If I were ripe for your persuasion, you
 FTLN 0548 Have said enough to shake me from the arm 105
 FTLN 0549 Of the all-noble Theseus, for whose fortunes
 FTLN 0550 I will now in and kneel, with great assurance
 FTLN 0551 That we, more than his Pirithous, possess
 FTLN 0552 The high throne in his heart.
 FTLN 0553 EMILIA I am not 110
 FTLN 0554 Against your faith, yet I continue mine.

They exit.

Scene 4

*Cornets. A battle struck within; then a retreat.
 Flourish. Then enter, [through one door,] Theseus,
 victor, [accompanied by Lords and Soldiers.
 Entering through another door,] the three Queens
 meet him, and fall on their faces before him.*

FIRST QUEEN
 FTLN 0555 To thee no star be dark!
 SECOND QUEEN Both heaven and Earth
 FTLN 0556 Friend thee forever.
 THIRD QUEEN All the good that may
 FTLN 0557 Be wished upon thy head, I cry "Amen" to 't! 5
 FTLN 0558
 THESEUS
 FTLN 0560 Th' impartial gods, who from the mounted heavens
 FTLN 0561 View us their mortal herd, behold who err
 FTLN 0562 And, in their time, chastise. Go and find out
 FTLN 0563 The bones of your dead lords and honor them
 FTLN 0564 With treble ceremony; rather than a gap 10
 FTLN 0565 Should be in their dear rites, we would supply 't;

FTLN 0566 But those we will depute which shall invest
 FTLN 0567 You in your dignities and even each thing
 FTLN 0568 Our haste does leave imperfect. So, adieu,
 FTLN 0569 And heaven's good eyes look on you. *Queens exit.* 15

*¶Enter a Herald and Soldiers bearing Palamon
 and Arcite on biers. ¶*

FTLN 0570 What are those?

HERALD

FTLN 0571 Men of great quality, as may be judged
 FTLN 0572 By their appointment. Some of Thebes have told 's
 FTLN 0573 They are sisters' children, nephews to the King.

THESEUS

FTLN 0574 By th' helm of Mars, I saw them in the war, 20
 FTLN 0575 Like to a pair of lions, smeared with prey,
 FTLN 0576 Make lanes in troops aghast. I fixed my note
 FTLN 0577 Constantly on them, for they were a mark
 FTLN 0578 Worth a god's view. What prisoner was 't that told me
 FTLN 0579 When I enquired their names? 25

HERALD

¶Wi' leave, they're called

FTLN 0581 Arcite and Palamon.

THESEUS

'Tis right; those, those.

FTLN 0582 They are not dead?
 FTLN 0583

HERALD

FTLN 0584 Nor in a state of life. Had they been taken 30
 FTLN 0585 When their last hurts were given, 'twas possible
 FTLN 0586 They might have been recovered. Yet they breathe
 FTLN 0587 And have the name of men.

THESEUS

Then like men use 'em.

FTLN 0589 The very lees of such, millions of rates, 35
 FTLN 0590 Exceed the wine of others. All our surgeons
 FTLN 0591 Convent in their behoof; our richest balms,
 FTLN 0592 Rather than niggard, waste. Their lives concern us
 FTLN 0593 Much more than Thebes is worth. Rather than have
 FTLN 0594 'em 40

FTLN 0595 Freed of this plight, and in their morning state,
 FTLN 0596 Sound and at liberty, I would 'em dead.
 FTLN 0597 But forty-thousandfold we had rather have 'em
 FTLN 0598 Prisoners to us than Death. Bear 'em speedily
 FTLN 0599 From our kind air, to them unkind, and minister 45
 FTLN 0600 What man to man may do—for our sake, more,
 FTLN 0601 Since I have known frights, fury, friends' behests,
 FTLN 0602 Love's provocations, zeal, a mistress' task,
 FTLN 0603 Desire of liberty, a fever, madness,
 FTLN 0604 Hath set a mark which nature could not reach to 50
 FTLN 0605 Without some imposition, sickness in will
 FTLN 0606 「O'er-wrestling」 strength in reason. For our love
 FTLN 0607 And great Apollo's mercy, all our best
 FTLN 0608 Their best skill tender.—Lead into the city,
 FTLN 0609 Where, having bound things scattered, we will post 55
 FTLN 0610 To Athens 「fore」 our army.

Flourish. They exit.

Scene 5

*Music. Enter the Queens with the hearses of their
 knights, in a funeral solemnity, &c.*

「The dirge.」

FTLN 0611 *Urns and odors bring away;*
 FTLN 0612 *Vapors, sighs, darken the day;*
 FTLN 0613 *Our dole more deadly looks than dying;*
 FTLN 0614 *Balms and gums and heavy cheers,*
 FTLN 0615 *Sacred vials filled with tears, 5*
 FTLN 0616 *And clamors through the wild air flying.*
 FTLN 0617 *Come, all sad and solemn shows*
 FTLN 0618 *That are quick-eyed Pleasure's foes;*
 FTLN 0619 *We convent naught else but woes.*
 FTLN 0620 *We convent naught else but woes. 10*

THIRD QUEEN, 「*to Second Queen*」

FTLN 0621

This funeral path brings to your household's grave.

FTLN 0622

Joy seize on you again; peace sleep with him.

SECOND QUEEN, 「*to First Queen*」

FTLN 0623

And this to yours.

FTLN 0624

FIRST QUEEN, 「*to Third Queen*」 Yours this way. Heavens

FTLN 0625

lend

15

FTLN 0626

A thousand differing ways to one sure end.

THIRD QUEEN

FTLN 0627

This world's a city full of straying streets,

FTLN 0628

And death's the market-place where each one meets.

They exit severally.

ACT 2

Scene 1 *Enter Jailer and Wooer.*

FTLN 0629 JAILER I may depart with little while I live; something I
FTLN 0630 may cast to you, not much. Alas, the prison I keep,
FTLN 0631 though it be for great ones, yet they seldom come;
FTLN 0632 before one salmon you shall take a number of minnows.
FTLN 0633 I am given out to be better lined than it can 5
FTLN 0634 appear to me report is a true speaker. I would I
FTLN 0635 were really that I am delivered to be. Marry, what
FTLN 0636 I have, be it what it will, I will assure upon my
FTLN 0637 daughter at the day of my death.
FTLN 0638 WOOER Sir, I demand no more than your own offer, 10
FTLN 0639 and I will estate your daughter in what I have
FTLN 0640 promised.
FTLN 0641 JAILER Well, we will talk more of this when the solemnity
FTLN 0642 is past. But have you a full promise of her?
FTLN 0643 When that shall be seen, I tender my consent. 15

Enter [the Jailer's] Daughter, [carrying rushes.]

FTLN 0644 WOOER I have sir. Here she comes.
FTLN 0645 JAILER, [to Daughter] Your friend and I have chanced
FTLN 0646 to name you here, upon the old business. But no
FTLN 0647 more of that now; so soon as the court hurry is
FTLN 0648 over, we will have an end of it. I' th' meantime, 20

FTLN 0649 look tenderly to the two prisoners. I can tell you
FTLN 0650 they are princes.

FTLN 0651 DAUGHTER These strewings are for their chamber. 'Tis
FTLN 0652 pity they are in prison, and 'twere pity they should
FTLN 0653 be out. I do think they have patience to make any 25
FTLN 0654 adversity ashamed. The prison itself is proud of
FTLN 0655 'em, and they have all the world in their chamber.

FTLN 0656 JAILER They are famed to be a pair of absolute men.

FTLN 0657 DAUGHTER By my troth, I think fame but stammers
FTLN 0658 'em. They stand a grise above the reach of report. 30

FTLN 0659 JAILER I heard them reported in the battle to be the
FTLN 0660 only doers.

FTLN 0661 DAUGHTER Nay, most likely, for they are noble suff'ers.
FTLN 0662 I marvel how they would have looked had they
FTLN 0663 been victors, that with such a constant nobility enforce 35
FTLN 0664 a freedom out of bondage, making misery
FTLN 0665 their mirth and affliction a toy to jest at.

FTLN 0666 JAILER Do they so?

FTLN 0667 DAUGHTER It seems to me they have no more sense
FTLN 0668 of their captivity than I of ruling Athens. They eat 40
FTLN 0669 well, look merrily, discourse of many things, but
FTLN 0670 nothing of their own restraint and disasters. Yet
FTLN 0671 sometimes a divided sigh, martyred as 'twere i' th'
FTLN 0672 deliverance, will break from one of them—when
FTLN 0673 the other presently gives it so sweet a rebuke that 45
FTLN 0674 I could wish myself a sigh to be so chid, or at least
FTLN 0675 a sigher to be comforted.

FTLN 0676 WOOER I never saw 'em.

FTLN 0677 JAILER The Duke himself came privately in the night,
FTLN 0678 and so did they. 50

Enter Palamon and Arcite, [in shackles,] above.

FTLN 0679 What the reason of it is, I know not. Look, yonder
FTLN 0680 they are; that's Arcite looks out.

FTLN 0681 DAUGHTER No, sir, no, that's Palamon. Arcite is the

FTLN 0682 lower of the twain; you may perceive a part of
 FTLN 0683 him. 55
 FTLN 0684 JAILER Go to, leave your pointing; they would not
 FTLN 0685 make us their object. Out of their sight.
 FTLN 0686 DAUGHTER It is a holiday to look on them. Lord, the
 FTLN 0687 diff'rence of men!
 〔Jailer, Daughter, and Wooer〕 exit.

Scene 2

Palamon and Arcite 〔remain, above.〕

PALAMON
 FTLN 0688 How do you, noble cousin?
 FTLN 0689 ARCITE How do you, sir?
 PALAMON
 FTLN 0690 Why, strong enough to laugh at misery
 FTLN 0691 And bear the chance of war; yet we are prisoners
 FTLN 0692 I fear forever, cousin. 5
 FTLN 0693 ARCITE I believe it,
 FTLN 0694 And to that destiny have patiently
 FTLN 0695 Laid up my hour to come.
 FTLN 0696 PALAMON O, cousin Arcite,
 FTLN 0697 Where is Thebes now? Where is our noble country? 10
 FTLN 0698 Where are our friends and kindreds? Never more
 FTLN 0699 Must we behold those comforts, never see
 FTLN 0700 The hardy youths strive for the games of honor,
 FTLN 0701 Hung with the painted favors of their ladies,
 FTLN 0702 Like tall ships under sail; then start amongst 'em 15
 FTLN 0703 And as an east wind leave 'em all behind us,
 FTLN 0704 Like lazy clouds, whilst Palamon and Arcite,
 FTLN 0705 Even in the wagging of a wanton leg,
 FTLN 0706 Outstripped the people's praises, won the garlands
 FTLN 0707 Ere they have time to wish 'em ours. O, never 20
 FTLN 0708 Shall we two exercise, like twins of honor,
 FTLN 0709 Our arms again, and feel our fiery horses

FTLN 0745	Which is the curse of honor, lastly,	
FTLN 0746	Children of grief and ignorance.	
FTLN 0747	ARCITE	Yet, cousin, 60
FTLN 0748	Even from the bottom of these miseries,	
FTLN 0749	From all that fortune can inflict upon us,	
FTLN 0750	I see two comforts rising, two mere blessings,	
FTLN 0751	If the gods please: to hold here a brave patience,	
FTLN 0752	And the enjoying of our griefs together.	65
FTLN 0753	Whilst Palamon is with me, let me perish	
FTLN 0754	If I think this our prison!	
FTLN 0755	PALAMON	Certainly
FTLN 0756	'Tis a main goodness, cousin, that our fortunes	
FTLN 0757	Were twined together. 'Tis most true, two souls	70
FTLN 0758	Put in two noble bodies, let 'em suffer	
FTLN 0759	The gall of hazard, so they grow together,	
FTLN 0760	Will never sink; they must not, say they could.	
FTLN 0761	A willing man dies sleeping and all's done.	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 0762	Shall we make worthy uses of this place	75
FTLN 0763	That all men hate so much?	
FTLN 0764	PALAMON	How, gentle cousin?
	ARCITE	
FTLN 0765	Let's think this prison holy sanctuary	
FTLN 0766	To keep us from corruption of worse men.	
FTLN 0767	We are young and yet desire the ways of honor	80
FTLN 0768	That liberty and common conversation,	
FTLN 0769	The poison of pure spirits, might like women	
FTLN 0770	Woo us to wander from. What worthy blessing	
FTLN 0771	Can be but our imaginations	
FTLN 0772	May make it ours? And here being thus together,	85
FTLN 0773	We are an endless mine to one another;	
FTLN 0774	We are one another's wife, ever begetting	
FTLN 0775	New births of love; we are father, friends,	
FTLN 0776	acquaintance;	
FTLN 0777	We are, in one another, families;	90
FTLN 0778	I am your heir, and you are mine. This place	

FTLN 0779	Is our inheritance; no hard oppressor	
FTLN 0780	Dare take this from us; here with a little patience	
FTLN 0781	We shall live long and loving. No surfeits seek us;	
FTLN 0782	The hand of war hurts none here, nor the seas	95
FTLN 0783	Swallow their youth. Were we at liberty,	
FTLN 0784	A wife might part us lawfully, or business;	
FTLN 0785	Quarrels consume us; envy of ill men	
FTLN 0786	Crave our acquaintance. I might sicken, cousin,	
FTLN 0787	Where you should never know it, and so perish	100
FTLN 0788	Without your noble hand to close mine eyes,	
FTLN 0789	Or prayers to the gods. A thousand chances,	
FTLN 0790	Were we from hence, would sever us.	
FTLN 0791	PALAMON	You have made
FTLN 0792	me—	105
FTLN 0793	I thank you, cousin Arcite—almost wanton	
FTLN 0794	With my captivity. What a misery	
FTLN 0795	It is to live abroad and everywhere!	
FTLN 0796	'Tis like a beast, methinks. I find the court here,	
FTLN 0797	I am sure, a more content; and all those pleasures	110
FTLN 0798	That woo the wills of men to vanity	
FTLN 0799	I see through now, and am sufficient	
FTLN 0800	To tell the world 'tis but a gaudy shadow	
FTLN 0801	That old Time as he passes by takes with him.	
FTLN 0802	What had we been, old in the court of Creon,	115
FTLN 0803	Where sin is justice, lust and ignorance	
FTLN 0804	The virtues of the great ones? Cousin Arcite,	
FTLN 0805	Had not the loving gods found this place for us,	
FTLN 0806	We had died as they do, ill old men, unwept,	
FTLN 0807	And had their epitaphs, the people's curses.	120
FTLN 0808	Shall I say more?	
FTLN 0809	ARCITE	I would hear you still.
FTLN 0810	PALAMON	You shall.
FTLN 0811	Is there record of any two that loved	
FTLN 0812	Better than we do, Arcite?	125
FTLN 0813	ARCITE	Sure there cannot.

PALAMON

FTLN 0814 I do not think it possible our friendship
FTLN 0815 Should ever leave us.

FTLN 0816 ARCITE Till our deaths it cannot.

Enter Emilia and her Woman, [below.]

FTLN 0817 And after death our spirits shall be led 130
FTLN 0818 To those that love eternally. *[Palamon catches sight
of Emilia.]*

FTLN 0819 Speak on, sir.

[EMILIA, to her Woman]

FTLN 0820 This garden has a world of pleasures in 't.
FTLN 0821 What flower is this?

FTLN 0822 WOMAN 'Tis called narcissus, madam. 135

EMILIA

FTLN 0823 That was a fair boy certain, but a fool
FTLN 0824 To love himself. Were there not maids enough?

FTLN 0825 ARCITE, *[to Palamon, who is stunned by the sight of Emilia]*
Pray, forward.

FTLN 0826 PALAMON Yes.

FTLN 0827 EMILIA, *[to Woman]* Or were they all hard-hearted? 140

WOMAN

FTLN 0828 They could not be to one so fair.

FTLN 0829 EMILIA Thou wouldst not.

WOMAN

FTLN 0830 I think I should not, madam.

FTLN 0831 EMILIA That's a good wench.

FTLN 0832 But take heed to your kindness, though. 145

FTLN 0833 WOMAN Why,

FTLN 0834 madam?

EMILIA

FTLN 0835 Men are mad things.

FTLN 0836 ARCITE, *[to Palamon]* Will you go forward,

FTLN 0837 cousin? 150

EMILIA, *[to Woman]*

FTLN 0838 Canst not thou work such flowers in silk, wench?

FTLN 0839 WOMAN Yes.

	EMILIA		
FTLN 0840	I'll have a gown full of 'em, and of these.		
FTLN 0841	This is pretty color. Will 't not do		
FTLN 0842	Rarely upon a skirt, wench?		155
FTLN 0843	WOMAN	Dainty, madam.	
	ARCITE, 「 <i>to Palamon</i> 」		
FTLN 0844	Cousin, cousin! How do you, sir? Why, Palamon!		
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0845	Never till now I was in prison, Arcite.		
	ARCITE		
FTLN 0846	Why, what's the matter, man?		
FTLN 0847	PALAMON	Behold, and wonder!	160
FTLN 0848	By heaven, she is a goddess.		
FTLN 0849	ARCITE, 「 <i>seeing Emilia</i> 」	Ha!	
FTLN 0850	PALAMON	Do reverence.	
FTLN 0851	She is a goddess, Arcite.		
FTLN 0852	EMILIA, 「 <i>to Woman</i> 」	Of all flowers	165
FTLN 0853	Methinks a rose is best.		
FTLN 0854	WOMAN	Why, gentle madam?	
	EMILIA		
FTLN 0855	It is the very emblem of a maid.		
FTLN 0856	For when the west wind courts her gently,		
FTLN 0857	How modestly she blows and paints the sun		170
FTLN 0858	With her chaste blushes! When the north comes		
FTLN 0859	near her,		
FTLN 0860	Rude and impatient, then, like chastity,		
FTLN 0861	She locks her beauties in her bud again,		
FTLN 0862	And leaves him to base briers.		175
FTLN 0863	WOMAN	Yet, good madam,	
FTLN 0864	Sometimes her modesty will blow so far		
FTLN 0865	She falls for 't. A maid,		
FTLN 0866	If she have any honor, would be loath		
FTLN 0867	To take example by her.		180
FTLN 0868	EMILIA	Thou art wanton!	
	ARCITE, 「 <i>to Palamon</i> 」		
FTLN 0869	She is wondrous fair.		

FTLN 0870	PALAMON	She is all the beauty extant.	
	EMILIA, [to Woman]		
FTLN 0871		The sun grows high. Let's walk in. Keep these	
FTLN 0872		flowers.	185
FTLN 0873		We'll see how near art can come near their colors.	
FTLN 0874		I am wondrous merry-hearted. I could laugh now.	
	WOMAN		
FTLN 0875		I could lie down, I am sure.	
FTLN 0876	EMILIA	And take one with you?	
	WOMAN		
FTLN 0877		That's as we bargain, madam.	190
FTLN 0878	EMILIA	Well, agree then.	
		<i>Emilia and Woman exit.</i>	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0879		What think you of this beauty?	
FTLN 0880	ARCITE	'Tis a rare one.	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0881		Is 't but a rare one?	
FTLN 0882	ARCITE	Yes, a matchless beauty.	195
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0883		Might not a man well lose himself and love her?	
	ARCITE		
FTLN 0884		I cannot tell what you have done; I have,	
FTLN 0885		Beshrew mine eyes for 't! Now I feel my shackles.	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0886		You love her, then?	
FTLN 0887	ARCITE	Who would not?	200
FTLN 0888	PALAMON	And desire her?	
	ARCITE		
FTLN 0889		Before my liberty.	
FTLN 0890	PALAMON	I saw her first.	
	ARCITE		
FTLN 0891		That's nothing.	
FTLN 0892	PALAMON	But it shall be.	205
FTLN 0893	ARCITE	I saw her, too.	
FTLN 0894	PALAMON	Yes, but you must not love her.	

ARCITE

FTLN 0895 I will not, as you do, to worship her
 FTLN 0896 As she is heavenly and a blessed goddess.
 FTLN 0897 I love her as a woman, to enjoy her. 210
 FTLN 0898 So both may love.

FTLN 0899 PALAMON You shall not love at all.

FTLN 0900 ARCITE Not love at all! Who shall deny me?

PALAMON

FTLN 0901 I, that first saw her; I that took possession
 FTLN 0902 First with mine eye of all those beauties 215
 FTLN 0903 In her revealed to mankind. If thou lov'st her,
 FTLN 0904 Or entertain'st a hope to blast my wishes,
 FTLN 0905 Thou art a traitor, Arcite, and a fellow
 FTLN 0906 False as thy title to her. Friendship, blood,
 FTLN 0907 And all the ties between us I disclaim 220
 FTLN 0908 If thou once think upon her.

FTLN 0909 ARCITE Yes, I love her,
 FTLN 0910 And, if the lives of all my name lay on it,
 FTLN 0911 I must do so. I love her with my soul.
 FTLN 0912 If that will lose you, farewell, Palamon. 225

FTLN 0913 I say again, I love, and in loving her maintain
 FTLN 0914 I am as worthy and as free a lover
 FTLN 0915 And have as just a title to her beauty
 FTLN 0916 As any Palamon or any living
 FTLN 0917 That is a man's son. 230
 FTLN 0918

PALAMON Have I called thee friend?

ARCITE

FTLN 0919 Yes, and have found me so. Why are you moved
 FTLN 0920 thus?
 FTLN 0921 Let me deal coldly with you: am not I
 FTLN 0922 Part of ^{your} blood, part of your soul? You have 235
 FTLN 0923 told me

FTLN 0924 That I was Palamon and you were Arcite.

PALAMON

FTLN 0925 Yes.

FTLN 0926	ARCITE	Am not I liable to those affections,	
FTLN 0927		Those joys, griefs, angers, fears, my friend shall	240
FTLN 0928		suffer?	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0929		You may be.	
FTLN 0930	ARCITE	Why then would you deal so cunningly,	
FTLN 0931		So strangely, so unlike a noble kinsman,	
FTLN 0932		To love alone? Speak truly, do you think me	245
FTLN 0933		Unworthy of her sight?	
FTLN 0934	PALAMON	No, but unjust	
FTLN 0935		If thou pursue that sight.	
FTLN 0936	ARCITE	Because another	
FTLN 0937		First sees the enemy, shall I stand still	250
FTLN 0938		And let mine honor down, and never charge?	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 0939		Yes, if he be but one.	
FTLN 0940	ARCITE	But say that one	
FTLN 0941		Had rather combat me?	
FTLN 0942	PALAMON	Let that one say so,	255
FTLN 0943		And use thy freedom. Else, if thou pursuest her,	
FTLN 0944		Be as that cursèd man that hates his country,	
FTLN 0945		A branded villain.	
FTLN 0946	ARCITE	You are mad.	
FTLN 0947	PALAMON	I must be.	260
FTLN 0948		Till thou art worthy, Arcite, it concerns me.	
FTLN 0949		And in this madness if I hazard thee	
FTLN 0950		And take thy life, I deal but truly.	
FTLN 0951	ARCITE	Fie, sir!	
FTLN 0952		You play the child extremely. I will love her;	265
FTLN 0953		I must, I ought to do so, and I dare,	
FTLN 0954		And all this justly.	
FTLN 0955	PALAMON	O, that now, that now,	
FTLN 0956		Thy false self and thy friend had but this fortune	
FTLN 0957		To be one hour at liberty, and grasp	270
FTLN 0958		Our good swords in our hands, I would quickly	
FTLN 0959		teach thee	

FTLN 0960	What 'twere to filch affection from another.	
FTLN 0961	Thou art baser in it than a cutpurse.	
FTLN 0962	Put but thy head out of this window more	275
FTLN 0963	And, as I have a soul, I'll nail thy life to 't.	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 0964	Thou dar'st not, fool; thou canst not; thou art feeble.	
FTLN 0965	Put my head out? I'll throw my body out	
FTLN 0966	And leap the garden when I see her next,	
FTLN 0967	And pitch between her arms to anger thee.	280
	<i>Enter [Jailer, above.]</i>	
	PALAMON	
FTLN 0968	No more; the keeper's coming. I shall live	
FTLN 0969	To knock thy brains out with my shackles.	
FTLN 0970	ARCITE	Do!
	JAILER	
FTLN 0971	By your leave, gentlemen.	
FTLN 0972	PALAMON	Now, honest keeper? 285
	JAILER	
FTLN 0973	Lord Arcite, you must presently to th' Duke;	
FTLN 0974	The cause I know not yet.	
FTLN 0975	ARCITE	I am ready, keeper.
	JAILER	
FTLN 0976	Prince Palamon, I must awhile bereave you	
FTLN 0977	Of your fair cousin's company.	290
	<i>Arcite and Jailer exit.</i>	
FTLN 0978	PALAMON	And me too,
FTLN 0979	Even when you please, of life.—Why is he sent for?	
FTLN 0980	It may be he shall marry her; he's goodly,	
FTLN 0981	And like enough the Duke hath taken notice	
FTLN 0982	Both of his blood and body. But his falsehood!	295
FTLN 0983	Why should a friend be treacherous? If that	
FTLN 0984	Get him a wife so noble and so fair,	
FTLN 0985	Let honest men ne'er love again. Once more	
FTLN 0986	I would but see this fair one. Blessèd garden	

	JAILER	
FTLN 1021	No, but from this place to remove your Lordship;	
FTLN 1022	The windows are too open.	335
FTLN 1023	PALAMON Devils take 'em	
FTLN 1024	That are so envious to me! Prithee, kill me.	
	JAILER	
FTLN 1025	And hang for 't afterward!	
FTLN 1026	PALAMON By this good light,	
FTLN 1027	Had I a sword I would kill thee.	340
FTLN 1028	JAILER Why, my lord?	
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1029	Thou bringst such pelting, scurvy news continually,	
FTLN 1030	Thou art not worthy life. I will not go.	
	JAILER	
FTLN 1031	Indeed 'you' must, my lord.	
FTLN 1032	PALAMON May I see the garden?	345
	JAILER	
FTLN 1033	No.	
FTLN 1034	PALAMON Then I am resolved, I will not go.	
	JAILER	
FTLN 1035	I must constrain you then; and, for you are	
FTLN 1036	dangerous,	
FTLN 1037	I'll clap more irons on you.	350
FTLN 1038	PALAMON Do, good keeper.	
FTLN 1039	I'll shake 'em so, you shall not sleep;	
FTLN 1040	I'll make you a new morris. Must I go?	
	JAILER	
FTLN 1041	There is no remedy.	
FTLN 1042	PALAMON Farewell, kind window.	355
FTLN 1043	May rude wind never hurt thee. O, my lady,	
FTLN 1044	If ever thou hast felt what sorrow was,	
FTLN 1045	Dream how I suffer.—Come; now bury me.	
	<i>Palamon and Jailer exit.</i>	

Scene 3
Enter Arcite.

ARCITE

FTLN 1046	Banished the kingdom? 'Tis a benefit,	
FTLN 1047	A mercy I must thank 'em for; but banished	
FTLN 1048	The free enjoying of that face I die for,	
FTLN 1049	O, 'twas a studied punishment, a death	
FTLN 1050	Beyond imagination—such a vengeance	5
FTLN 1051	That, were I old and wicked, all my sins	
FTLN 1052	Could never pluck upon me. Palamon,	
FTLN 1053	Thou hast the start now; thou shalt stay and see	
FTLN 1054	Her bright eyes break each morning 'gainst thy	
FTLN 1055	window	10
FTLN 1056	And let in life into thee; thou shalt feed	
FTLN 1057	Upon the sweetness of a noble beauty	
FTLN 1058	That nature ne'er exceeded nor ne'er shall.	
FTLN 1059	Good gods, what happiness has Palamon!	
FTLN 1060	Twenty to one he'll come to speak to her,	15
FTLN 1061	And if she be as gentle as she's fair,	
FTLN 1062	I know she's his. He has a tongue will tame	
FTLN 1063	Tempests and make the wild rocks wanton.	
FTLN 1064	Come what can come,	
FTLN 1065	The worst is death. I will not leave the kingdom.	20
FTLN 1066	I know mine own is but a heap of ruins,	
FTLN 1067	And no redress there. If I go, he has her.	
FTLN 1068	I am resolved another shape shall make me	
FTLN 1069	Or end my fortunes. Either way I am happy.	
FTLN 1070	I'll see her and be near her, or no more.	25

*Enter four Country people, and one with
a garland before them.*

[*Arcite steps aside.*]

FTLN 1071	FIRST COUNTRYMAN	My masters, I'll be there, that's
FTLN 1072		certain.
FTLN 1073	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	And I'll be there.

FTLN 1074	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	And I.	
FTLN 1075	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Why, then, have with you, boys.	30
FTLN 1076		'Tis but a chiding. Let the plough play today; I'll	
FTLN 1077		tickle 't out of the jades' tails tomorrow.	
FTLN 1078	FIRST COUNTRYMAN	I am sure to have my wife as jealous	
FTLN 1079		as a turkey, but that's all one. I'll go through;	
FTLN 1080		let her mumble.	35
FTLN 1081	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	Clap her aboard tomorrow night	
FTLN 1082		and stow her, and all's made up again.	
FTLN 1083	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	Ay, do but put a fescue in her fist	
FTLN 1084		and you shall see her take a new lesson out and be	
FTLN 1085		a good wench. Do we all hold against the Maying?	40
FTLN 1086	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Hold? What should ail us?	
FTLN 1087	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	Arcas will be there.	
FTLN 1088	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	And Sennois and Rycas; and	
FTLN 1089		three better lads ne'er danced under green tree.	
FTLN 1090		And 'you' know what wenches, ha! But will the	45
FTLN 1091		dainty domine, the Schoolmaster, keep touch, do	
FTLN 1092		you think? For he does all, you know.	
FTLN 1093	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	He'll eat a hornbook ere he fail.	
FTLN 1094		Go to, the matter's too far driven between him and	
FTLN 1095		the tanner's daughter to let slip now; and she must	50
FTLN 1096		see the Duke, and she must dance too.	
FTLN 1097	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Shall we be lusty?	
FTLN 1098	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	All the boys in Athens blow wind	
FTLN 1099		i' th' breech on 's. And here I'll be and there I'll be,	
FTLN 1100		for our town, and here again, and there again. Ha,	55
FTLN 1101		boys, hey for the weavers!	
FTLN 1102	FIRST COUNTRYMAN	This must be done i' th' woods.	
FTLN 1103	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	O pardon me.	
FTLN 1104	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	By any means; our thing of learning	
FTLN 1105		'says' so—where he himself will edify the Duke	60
FTLN 1106		most parlously in our behalves. He's excellent i' th'	
FTLN 1107		woods; bring him to th' plains, his learning makes	
FTLN 1108		no cry.	

FTLN 1109	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	We'll see the sports, then every	
FTLN 1110		man to 's tackle. And, sweet companions, let's rehearse,	65
FTLN 1111		by any means, before the ladies see us, and	
FTLN 1112		do sweetly, and God knows what may come on 't.	
FTLN 1113	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Content. The sports once ended,	
FTLN 1114		we'll perform. Away, boys, and hold.	
		<i>「Arcite comes forward.」</i>	
FTLN 1115	ARCITE	By your leaves, honest friends: pray you,	70
FTLN 1116		whither go you?	
FTLN 1117	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Whither?	
FTLN 1118		Why, what a question's that?	
FTLN 1119	ARCITE	Yes, 'tis a question	
FTLN 1120		To me that know not.	75
FTLN 1121	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	To the games, my friend.	
	SECOND COUNTRYMAN		
FTLN 1122		Where were you bred, you know it not?	
FTLN 1123	ARCITE	Not far, sir.	
FTLN 1124		Are there such games today?	
FTLN 1125	FIRST COUNTRYMAN	Yes, marry, are there,	80
FTLN 1126		And such as you never saw. The Duke himself	
FTLN 1127		Will be in person there.	
FTLN 1128	ARCITE	What pastimes are they?	
	SECOND COUNTRYMAN		
FTLN 1129		Wrestling and running.—'Tis a pretty fellow.	
	THIRD COUNTRYMAN		
FTLN 1130		Thou wilt not go along?	85
FTLN 1131	ARCITE	Not yet, sir.	
FTLN 1132	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN	Well, sir,	
FTLN 1133		Take your own time.—Come, boys.	
FTLN 1134	FIRST COUNTRYMAN, <i>「aside to the others」</i>	My mind misgives	
FTLN 1135		me. This fellow has a vengeance trick o' th'	90
FTLN 1136		hip. Mark how his body's made for 't.	
FTLN 1137	SECOND COUNTRYMAN, <i>「aside to the others」</i>	I'll be	
FTLN 1138		hanged, though, if he dare venture. Hang him,	
FTLN 1139		plum porridge! He wrestle? He roast eggs! Come,	
FTLN 1140		let's be gone, lads. <i>The four exit.</i>	95

ARCITE

FTLN 1141 This is an offered opportunity
 FTLN 1142 I durst not wish for. Well I could have wrestled—
 FTLN 1143 The best men called it excellent—and run
 FTLN 1144 Swifter than wind upon a field of corn,
 FTLN 1145 Curling the wealthy ears, never flew. I'll venture, 100
 FTLN 1146 And in some poor disguise be there. Who knows
 FTLN 1147 Whether my brows may not be girt with garlands,
 FTLN 1148 And happiness prefer me to a place
 FTLN 1149 Where I may ever dwell in sight of her?

Arcite exits.

Scene 4

Enter Jailer's Daughter, alone.

DAUGHTER

FTLN 1150 Why should I love this gentleman? 'Tis odds
 FTLN 1151 He never will affect me. I am base,
 FTLN 1152 My father the mean keeper of his prison,
 FTLN 1153 And he a prince. To marry him is hopeless;
 FTLN 1154 To be his whore is witless. Out upon 't! 5
 FTLN 1155 What pushes are we wenches driven to
 FTLN 1156 When fifteen once has found us! First, I saw him;
 FTLN 1157 I, seeing, thought he was a goodly man;
 FTLN 1158 He has as much to please a woman in him,
 FTLN 1159 If he please to bestow it so, as ever 10
 FTLN 1160 These eyes yet looked on. Next, I pitied him,
 FTLN 1161 And so would any young wench, o' my conscience,
 FTLN 1162 That ever dreamed, or vowed her maidenhead
 FTLN 1163 To a young handsome man. Then I loved him,
 FTLN 1164 Extremely loved him, infinitely loved him! 15
 FTLN 1165 And yet he had a cousin, fair as he too.
 FTLN 1166 But in my heart was Palamon, and there,
 FTLN 1167 Lord, what a coil he keeps! To hear him
 FTLN 1168 Sing in an evening, what a heaven it is!

	THESEUS		
FTLN 1193	Are you his heir?		
FTLN 1194	ARCITE	His youngest, sir.	
FTLN 1195	THESEUS	Your father,	
FTLN 1196	Sure, is a happy sire, then. What proves you?		
	ARCITE		
FTLN 1197	A little of all noble qualities.		15
FTLN 1198	I could have kept a hawk and well have hallowed		
FTLN 1199	To a deep cry of dogs. I dare not praise		
FTLN 1200	My feat in horsemanship, yet they that knew me		
FTLN 1201	Would say it was my best piece. Last, and greatest,		
FTLN 1202	I would be thought a soldier.		20
FTLN 1203	THESEUS	You are perfect.	
	PIRITHOUS		
FTLN 1204	Upon my soul, a proper man.		
FTLN 1205	EMILIA	He is so.	
	PIRITHOUS, <i>['to Hippolyta']</i>		
FTLN 1206	How do you like him, lady?		
FTLN 1207	HIPPOLYTA	I admire him.	25
FTLN 1208	I have not seen so young a man so noble,		
FTLN 1209	If he say true, of his sort.		
FTLN 1210	EMILIA	Believe,	
FTLN 1211	His mother was a wondrous handsome woman;		
FTLN 1212	His face, methinks, goes that way.		30
FTLN 1213	HIPPOLYTA	But his body	
FTLN 1214	And fiery mind illustrate a brave father.		
	PIRITHOUS		
FTLN 1215	Mark how his virtue, like a hidden sun,		
FTLN 1216	Breaks through his baser garments.		
FTLN 1217	HIPPOLYTA	He's well got, sure.	35
	THESEUS, <i>['to Arcite']</i>		
FTLN 1218	What made you seek this place, sir?		
FTLN 1219	ARCITE	Noble Theseus,	
FTLN 1220	To purchase name and do my ablest service		
FTLN 1221	To such a well-found wonder as thy worth;		

FTLN 1222	For only in thy court, of all the world,	40
FTLN 1223	Dwells fair-eyed Honor.	
FTLN 1224	PIRITHOUS All his words are worthy.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 1225	Sir, we are much indebted to your travel,	
FTLN 1226	Nor shall you lose your wish.—Pirithous,	
FTLN 1227	Dispose of this fair gentleman.	45
FTLN 1228	PIRITHOUS Thanks, Theseus.—	
FTLN 1229	Whate'er you are, you're mine, and I shall give you	
FTLN 1230	To a most noble service: to this lady,	
FTLN 1231	This bright young virgin.	
	<i>¶ He brings Arcite to Emilia. ¶</i>	
FTLN 1232	Pray observe her goodness;	50
FTLN 1233	You have honored her fair birthday with your	
FTLN 1234	virtues,	
FTLN 1235	And, as your due, you're hers. Kiss her fair hand, sir.	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1236	Sir, you're a noble giver.—Dearest beauty,	
FTLN 1237	Thus let me seal my vowed faith.	55
	<i>¶ He kisses her hand. ¶</i>	
FTLN 1238	When your servant,	
FTLN 1239	Your most unworthy creature, but offends you,	
FTLN 1240	Command him die, he shall.	
FTLN 1241	EMILIA That were too cruel.	
FTLN 1242	If you deserve well, sir, I shall soon see 't.	60
FTLN 1243	You're mine, and somewhat better than your rank	
FTLN 1244	I'll use you.	
	PIRITHOUS, <i>¶ to Arcite ¶</i>	
FTLN 1245	I'll see you furnished, and because you say	
FTLN 1246	You are a horseman, I must needs entreat you	
FTLN 1247	This afternoon to ride—but 'tis a rough one.	65
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1248	I like him better, prince; I shall not then	
FTLN 1249	Freeze in my saddle.	
FTLN 1250	THESEUS, <i>¶ to Hippolyta ¶</i> Sweet, you must be ready,—	
FTLN 1251	And you, Emilia,—and you, friend,—and all,	

FTLN 1281 I love him beyond love and beyond reason
 FTLN 1282 Or wit or safety. I have made him know it;
 FTLN 1283 I care not, I am desperate. If the law
 FTLN 1284 Find me and then condemn me for 't, some wenches,
 FTLN 1285 Some honest-hearted maids, will sing my dirge 15
 FTLN 1286 And tell to memory my death was noble,
 FTLN 1287 Dying almost a martyr. That way he takes
 FTLN 1288 I purpose is my way too. Sure he cannot
 FTLN 1289 Be so unmanly as to leave me here.
 FTLN 1290 If he do, maids will not so easily 20
 FTLN 1291 Trust men again. And yet he has not thanked me
 FTLN 1292 For what I have done; no, not so much as kissed me,
 FTLN 1293 And that, methinks, is not so well; nor scarcely
 FTLN 1294 Could I persuade him to become a free man,
 FTLN 1295 He made such scruples of the wrong he did 25
 FTLN 1296 To me and to my father. Yet I hope,
 FTLN 1297 When he considers more, this love of mine
 FTLN 1298 Will take more root within him. Let him do
 FTLN 1299 What he will with me, so he use me kindly;
 FTLN 1300 For use me so he shall, or I'll proclaim him, 30
 FTLN 1301 And to his face, no man. I'll presently
 FTLN 1302 Provide him necessaries and pack my clothes up,
 FTLN 1303 And where there is a path of ground I'll venture,
 FTLN 1304 So he be with me. By him like a shadow
 FTLN 1305 I'll ever dwell. Within this hour the hubbub 35
 FTLN 1306 Will be all o'er the prison. I am then
 FTLN 1307 Kissing the man they look for. Farewell, father!
 FTLN 1308 Get many more such prisoners and such daughters,
 FTLN 1309 And shortly you may keep yourself. Now to him.

She exits.

ACT 3

Scene 1

*Cornets in sundry places. Noise and hallowing
as people a-Maying. Enter Arcite alone.*

ARCITE

FTLN 1310	The Duke has lost Hippolyta; each took	
FTLN 1311	A several laund. This is a solemn rite	
FTLN 1312	They owe bloomed May, and the Athenians pay it	
FTLN 1313	To th' heart of ceremony. O Queen Emilia,	
FTLN 1314	Fresher than May, sweeter	5
FTLN 1315	Than her gold buttons on the boughs, or all	
FTLN 1316	Th' enameled knacks o' th' mead or garden—yea,	
FTLN 1317	We challenge too the bank of any nymph	
FTLN 1318	That makes the stream seem flowers; thou, O jewel	
FTLN 1319	O' th' wood, o' th' world, hast likewise blessed a pace	10
FTLN 1320	With thy sole presence. In thy rumination	
FTLN 1321	That I, poor man, might eftsoons come between	
FTLN 1322	And chop on some cold thought! Thrice blessed	
FTLN 1323	chance	
FTLN 1324	To drop on such a mistress, expectation	15
FTLN 1325	Most guiltless on 't. Tell me, O Lady Fortune,	
FTLN 1326	Next after Emily my sovereign, how far	
FTLN 1327	I may be proud. She takes strong note of me,	
FTLN 1328	Hath made me near her; and this beauteous morn,	
FTLN 1329	The prim'st of all the year, presents me with	20
FTLN 1330	A brace of horses; two such steeds might well	

FTLN 1331 Be by a pair of kings backed, in a field
 FTLN 1332 That their crowns' titles tried. Alas, alas,
 FTLN 1333 Poor cousin Palamon, poor prisoner, thou
 FTLN 1334 So little dream'st upon my fortune that 25
 FTLN 1335 Thou think'st thyself the happier thing, to be
 FTLN 1336 So near Emilia; me thou deem'st at Thebes,
 FTLN 1337 And therein wretched, although free. But if
 FTLN 1338 Thou knew'st my mistress breathed on me, and that
 FTLN 1339 I eared her language, lived in her eye—O coz, 30
 FTLN 1340 What passion would enclose thee!

*Enter Palamon as out of a bush, with his shackles;
 he bends his fist at Arcite.*

FTLN 1341 PALAMON Traitor kinsman,
 FTLN 1342 Thou shouldst perceive my passion if these signs
 FTLN 1343 Of prisonment were off me, and this hand
 FTLN 1344 But owner of a sword. By all oaths in one, 35
 FTLN 1345 I and the justice of my love would make thee
 FTLN 1346 A confessed traitor, O thou most perfidious
 FTLN 1347 That ever gently looked, the 'void'st' of honor
 FTLN 1348 That e'er bore gentle token, falsest cousin
 FTLN 1349 That ever blood made kin! Call'st thou her thine? 40
 FTLN 1350 I'll prove it in my shackles, with these hands,
 FTLN 1351 Void of appointment, that thou liest, and art
 FTLN 1352 A very thief in love, a chaffy lord,
 FTLN 1353 Nor worth the name of villain. Had I a sword,
 FTLN 1354 And these house clogs away— 45
 FTLN 1355 ARCITE Dear cousin Palamon—

FTLN 1356 PALAMON Cozener Arcite, give me language such
 FTLN 1357 As thou hast showed me feat.
 FTLN 1358 ARCITE Not finding in
 FTLN 1359 The circuit of my breast any gross stuff 50
 FTLN 1360 To form me like your blazon holds me to
 FTLN 1361 This gentleness of answer: 'tis your passion
 FTLN 1362 That thus mistakes, the which, to you being enemy,

FTLN 1398	Some news from Earth, they shall get none but this:	
FTLN 1399	That thou art brave and noble.	90
FTLN 1400	ARCITE	Be content.
FTLN 1401	Again betake you to your hawthorn house.	
FTLN 1402	With counsel of the night I will be here	
FTLN 1403	With wholesome viands. These impediments	
FTLN 1404	Will I file off. You shall have garments and	95
FTLN 1405	Perfumes to kill the smell o' th' prison. After,	
FTLN 1406	When you shall stretch yourself and say but "Arcite,	
FTLN 1407	I am in plight," there shall be at your choice	
FTLN 1408	Both sword and armor.	
FTLN 1409	PALAMON	O you heavens, dares any
FTLN 1410	So noble bear a guilty business? None	100
FTLN 1411	But only Arcite. Therefore none but Arcite	
FTLN 1412	In this kind is so bold.	
FTLN 1413	ARCITE	Sweet Palamon.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1414	I do embrace you and your offer; for	105
FTLN 1415	Your offer do 't I only. Sir, your person	
FTLN 1416	Without hypocrisy I may not wish	
FTLN 1417	More than my sword's edge on 't.	
		<i>Wind horns off; [sound] cornets.</i>
FTLN 1418	ARCITE	You hear the horns.
FTLN 1419	Enter your [muset,] lest this match between 's	110
FTLN 1420	Be crossed ere met. Give me your hand; farewell.	
FTLN 1421	I'll bring you every needful thing. I pray you,	
FTLN 1422	Take comfort and be strong.	
FTLN 1423	PALAMON	Pray hold your promise,
FTLN 1424	And do the deed with a bent brow. Most certain	115
FTLN 1425	You love me not; be rough with me, and pour	
FTLN 1426	This oil out of your language. By this air,	
FTLN 1427	I could for each word give a cuff, my stomach	
FTLN 1428	Not reconciled by reason.	
FTLN 1429	ARCITE	Plainly spoken,
FTLN 1430	Yet pardon me hard language. When I spur	120
FTLN 1431	My horse, I chide him not; content and anger	

FTLN 1432	In me have but one face.	<i>Wind horns.</i>	
FTLN 1433		Hark, sir, they call	
FTLN 1434	The scattered to the banquet; you must guess		125
FTLN 1435	I have an office there.		
FTLN 1436	PALAMON	Sir, your attendance	
FTLN 1437		Cannot please heaven, and I know your office	
FTLN 1438		Unjustly is achieved.	
FTLN 1439	ARCITE	‘Tis a good title.	130
FTLN 1440		I am persuaded this question, sick between ’s,	
FTLN 1441		By bleeding must be cured. I am a suitor	
FTLN 1442		That to your sword you will bequeath this plea,	
FTLN 1443		And talk of it no more.	
FTLN 1444	PALAMON	But this one word:	135
FTLN 1445		You are going now to gaze upon my mistress,	
FTLN 1446		For note you, mine she is—	
FTLN 1447	ARCITE	Nay then,—	
FTLN 1448	PALAMON	Nay, pray you,	
FTLN 1449		You talk of feeding me to breed me strength.	140
FTLN 1450		You are going now to look upon a sun	
FTLN 1451		That strengthens what it looks on; there	
FTLN 1452		You have a vantage o’er me, but enjoy ’t till	
FTLN 1453		I may enforce my remedy. Farewell.	
		<i>They exit.</i>	

Scene 2

Enter Jailer’s Daughter, alone.

	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 1454		He has mistook the ‘brake’ I meant, is gone	
FTLN 1455		After his fancy. ’Tis now well-nigh morning.	
FTLN 1456		No matter; would it were perpetual night,	
FTLN 1457		And darkness lord o’ th’ world. Hark, ’tis a wolf!	
FTLN 1458		In me hath grief slain fear, and but for one thing,	5
FTLN 1459		I care for nothing, and that’s Palamon.	
FTLN 1460		I reckon not if the wolves would jaw me, so	

FTLN 1461 He had this file. What if I hallowed for him?
 FTLN 1462 I cannot hallow. If I whooped, what then?
 FTLN 1463 If he not answered, I should call a wolf, 10
 FTLN 1464 And do him but that service. I have heard
 FTLN 1465 Strange howls this livelong night; why may 't not be
 FTLN 1466 They have made prey of him? He has no weapons;
 FTLN 1467 He cannot run; the jingling of his gyves
 FTLN 1468 Might call fell things to listen, who have in them 15
 FTLN 1469 A sense to know a man unarmed and can
 FTLN 1470 Smell where resistance is. I'll set it down
 FTLN 1471 He's torn to pieces; they howled many together,
 FTLN 1472 And then they 'fed' on him; so much for that.
 FTLN 1473 Be bold to ring the bell. How stand I then? 20
 FTLN 1474 All's chared when he is gone. No, no, I lie.
 FTLN 1475 My father's to be hanged for his escape;
 FTLN 1476 Myself to beg, if I prized life so much
 FTLN 1477 As to deny my act, but that I would not,
 FTLN 1478 Should I try death by dozens. I am moped; 25
 FTLN 1479 Food took I none these two days;
 FTLN 1480 Sipped some water. I have not closed mine eyes
 FTLN 1481 Save when my lids scoured off their brine. Alas,
 FTLN 1482 Dissolve, my life! Let not my sense unsettle,
 FTLN 1483 Lest I should drown, or stab, or hang myself. 30
 FTLN 1484 O state of nature, fail together in me,
 FTLN 1485 Since thy best props are warped! So, which way now?
 FTLN 1486 The best way is the next way to a grave;
 FTLN 1487 Each errant step beside is torment. Lo,
 FTLN 1488 The moon is down, the crickets chirp, the screech 35
 FTLN 1489 owl
 FTLN 1490 Calls in the dawn. All offices are done
 FTLN 1491 Save what I fail in. But the point is this—
 FTLN 1492 An end, and that is all.

She exits.

Scene 3

Enter Arcite with meat, wine, and files.

ARCITE

FTLN 1493

I should be near the place.—Ho! Cousin Palamon!

PALAMON, 「*within*」

FTLN 1494

Arcite?

FTLN 1495

ARCITE The same. I have brought you food and files.

FTLN 1496

Come forth and fear not; here's no Theseus.

Enter Palamon.

PALAMON

FTLN 1497

Nor none so honest, Arcite. 5

FTLN 1498

ARCITE That's no matter.

FTLN 1499

We'll argue that hereafter. Come, take courage;

FTLN 1500

You shall not die thus beastly. Here, sir, drink—

FTLN 1501

I know you are faint—then I'll talk further with you.

PALAMON

FTLN 1502

Arcite, thou mightst now poison me. 10

FTLN 1503

ARCITE I might;

FTLN 1504

But I must fear you first. Sit down and, good now,

FTLN 1505

No more of these vain parleys. Let us not,

FTLN 1506

Having our ancient reputation with us,

FTLN 1507

Make talk for fools and cowards. To your health. 15

「*He drinks.*」

FTLN 1508

PALAMON Do!

ARCITE

FTLN 1509

Pray sit down, then, and let me entreat you,

FTLN 1510

By all the honesty and honor in you,

FTLN 1511

No mention of this woman; 'twill disturb us.

FTLN 1512

We shall have time enough. 20

FTLN 1513

PALAMON Well, sir, I'll pledge you.

「*He drinks.*」

	ARCITE		
FTLN 1514	Drink a good hearty draught; it breeds good blood,		
FTLN 1515	man.		
FTLN 1516	Do not you feel it thaw you?		
FTLN 1517	PALAMON	Stay, I'll tell you	25
FTLN 1518	After a draught or two more.		
FTLN 1519	ARCITE	Spare it not.	
FTLN 1520	The Duke has more, coz. Eat now.		
FTLN 1521	PALAMON	Yes. <i>「He eats.」</i>	
FTLN 1522	ARCITE	I am glad	30
FTLN 1523	You have so good a stomach.		
FTLN 1524	PALAMON	I am gladder	
FTLN 1525	I have so good meat to 't.		
FTLN 1526	ARCITE	Is 't not mad lodging	
FTLN 1527	Here in the wild woods, cousin?		35
FTLN 1528	PALAMON	Yes, for <i>「them」</i>	
FTLN 1529	That have wild consciences.		
FTLN 1530	ARCITE	How tastes your	
FTLN 1531	victuals?		
FTLN 1532	Your hunger needs no sauce, I see.		40
FTLN 1533	PALAMON	Not much.	
FTLN 1534	But if it did, yours is too tart, sweet cousin.		
FTLN 1535	What is this?		
FTLN 1536	ARCITE	Venison.	
FTLN 1537	PALAMON	'Tis a lusty meat.	45
FTLN 1538	Give me more wine. Here, Arcite, to the wenches		
FTLN 1539	We have known in our days!		
		<i>「He raises his cup in a toast.」</i>	
FTLN 1540		The Lord Steward's	
FTLN 1541	daughter!		
FTLN 1542	Do you remember her?		50
FTLN 1543	ARCITE	After you, coz.	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 1544	She loved a black-haired man.		
FTLN 1545	ARCITE	She did so; well, sir?	

	PALAMON	
FTLN 1546	And I have heard some call him Arcite, and—	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1547	Out with 't, faith.	55
FTLN 1548	PALAMON	She met him in an arbor.
FTLN 1549	What did she there, coz? Play o' th' virginals?	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1550	Something she did, sir.	
FTLN 1551	PALAMON	Made her groan a month
FTLN 1552	for 't—	60
FTLN 1553	Or two, or three, or ten.	
FTLN 1554	ARCITE	The Marshal's sister
FTLN 1555	Had her share, too, as I remember, cousin,	
FTLN 1556	Else there be tales abroad. You'll pledge her?	
FTLN 1557	PALAMON	Yes. 65
		<i>〔He lifts his cup and then drinks.〕</i>
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1558	A pretty brown wench 'tis. There was a time	
FTLN 1559	When young men went a-hunting, and a wood,	
FTLN 1560	And a broad beech—and thereby hangs a tale.	
FTLN 1561	Heigh ho!	
FTLN 1562	PALAMON	For Emily, upon my life! Fool, 70
FTLN 1563	Away with this strained mirth. I say again	
FTLN 1564	That sigh was breathed for Emily. Base cousin,	
FTLN 1565	Dar'st thou break first?	
FTLN 1566	ARCITE	You are wide.
FTLN 1567	PALAMON	By heaven and 75
FTLN 1568	Earth,	
FTLN 1569	There's nothing in thee honest.	
FTLN 1570	ARCITE	Then I'll leave you.
FTLN 1571	You are a beast now.	
FTLN 1572	PALAMON	As thou mak'st me, traitor. 80
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1573	There's all things needful: files and shirts and	
FTLN 1574	perfumes.	

FTLN 1575	I'll come again some two hours hence and bring	
FTLN 1576	That that shall quiet all.	
FTLN 1577	PALAMON	A sword and armor. 85
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1578	Fear me not. You are now too foul. Farewell.	
FTLN 1579	Get off your trinkets; you shall want naught.	
FTLN 1580	PALAMON	Sirrah—
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1581	I'll hear no more.	
		<i>He exits.</i>
FTLN 1582	PALAMON	If he keep touch, he dies for 't. 90
		<i>He exits.</i>

Scene 4

Enter Jailer's Daughter.

DAUGHTER

FTLN 1583	I am very cold, and all the stars are out too,	
FTLN 1584	The little stars and all, that look like aglets.	
FTLN 1585	The sun has seen my folly.—Palamon!	
FTLN 1586	Alas, no; he's in heaven. Where am I now?	
FTLN 1587	Yonder's the sea, and there's a ship. How 't tumbles!	5
FTLN 1588	And there's a rock lies watching under water.	
FTLN 1589	Now, now, it beats upon it; now, now, now,	
FTLN 1590	There's a leak sprung, a sound one! How they cry!	
FTLN 1591	「Open」 her before the wind; you'll lose all else.	
FTLN 1592	Up with a course or two, and 「tack」 about, boys!	10
FTLN 1593	Good night, good night; you're gone. I am very	
FTLN 1594	hungry.	
FTLN 1595	Would I could find a fine frog; he would tell me	
FTLN 1596	News from all parts o' th' world; then would I make	
FTLN 1597	A carrack of a cockleshell, and sail	15
FTLN 1598	By east and northeast to the king of pygmies,	
FTLN 1599	For he tells fortunes rarely. Now my father,	

FTLN 1600 Twenty to one, is trussed up in a trice
 FTLN 1601 Tomorrow morning. I'll say never a word.
 (Sing.)
 FTLN 1602 *For I'll cut my green coat a foot above my knee,* 20
 FTLN 1603 *And I'll clip my yellow locks an inch below mine*
 FTLN 1604 *eye.*
 FTLN 1605 *Hey nonny, nonny, nonny.*
 FTLN 1606 *He's buy me a white cut, forth for to ride,*
 FTLN 1607 *And I'll go seek him through the world that is so* 25
 FTLN 1608 *wide.*
 FTLN 1609 *Hey nonny, nonny, nonny.*
 FTLN 1610 O, for a prick now, like a nightingale,
 FTLN 1611 To put my breast against. I shall sleep like a top else.
She exits.

Scene 「5」

*Enter a Schoolmaster and 「six」 Countrymen,
 「one dressed as a Bavian.」*

FTLN 1612 SCHOOLMASTER Fie, fie, what tediousity and disinsanity
 FTLN 1613 is here among you! Have my rudiments been labored
 FTLN 1614 so long with you, milked unto you, and, by a
 FTLN 1615 figure, even the very plum broth and marrow of
 FTLN 1616 my understanding laid upon you, and do you still 5
 FTLN 1617 cry "Where?" and "How?" and "Wherefore?" You
 FTLN 1618 most coarse-frieze capacities, you 「jean」 judgments,
 FTLN 1619 have I said "Thus let be" and "There let be"
 FTLN 1620 and "Then let be" and no man understand me? *Proh*
 FTLN 1621 *deum, medius fidius*, you are all dunces! Forwhy, 10
 FTLN 1622 here stand I; here the Duke comes; there are you,
 FTLN 1623 close in the thicket; the Duke appears; I meet him
 FTLN 1624 and unto him I utter learnèd things and many figures;
 FTLN 1625 he hears, and nods, and hums, and then cries
 FTLN 1626 "Rare!" and I go forward. At length I fling my cap 15
 FTLN 1627 up—mark there! Then do you as once did Meleager

FTLN 1628	and the boar—break comely out before him;	
FTLN 1629	like true lovers, cast yourselves in a body decently,	
FTLN 1630	and sweetly, by a figure, trace and turn, boys.	
FTLN 1631	FIRST COUNTRYMAN And sweetly we will do it, Master	20
FTLN 1632	Gerald.	
FTLN 1633	SECOND COUNTRYMAN Draw up the company. Where's	
FTLN 1634	the taborer?	
FTLN 1635	THIRD COUNTRYMAN Why, Timothy!	
<i>Enter the Taborer.</i>		
FTLN 1636	TABORER Here, my mad boys. Have at you!	25
FTLN 1637	SCHOOLMASTER But I say, where's their women?	
<i>Enter five Wenches.</i>		
FTLN 1638	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN Here's Fritz and Maudlin.	
FTLN 1639	SECOND COUNTRYMAN And little Luce with the white	
FTLN 1640	legs, and bouncing Barbary.	
FTLN 1641	FIRST COUNTRYMAN And freckled Nell, that never failed	30
FTLN 1642	her master.	
FTLN 1643	SCHOOLMASTER Where be your ribbons, maids? Swim	
FTLN 1644	with your bodies, and carry it sweetly and deliverly,	
FTLN 1645	and now and then a favor and a frisk.	
FTLN 1646	NELL Let us alone, sir.	35
FTLN 1647	SCHOOLMASTER Where's the rest o' th' music?	
FTLN 1648	THIRD COUNTRYMAN Dispersed, as you commanded.	
FTLN 1649	SCHOOLMASTER Couple, then, and see what's wanting.	
FTLN 1650	Where's the Bavian?—My friend, carry your tail	
FTLN 1651	without offense or scandal to the ladies; and be	40
FTLN 1652	sure you tumble with audacity and manhood, and	
FTLN 1653	when you bark, do it with judgment.	
FTLN 1654	BAVIAN Yes, sir.	
FTLN 1655	SCHOOLMASTER <i>Quo usque tandem?</i> Here is a woman	
FTLN 1656	wanting.	45
FTLN 1657	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN We may go whistle; all the fat's i'	
FTLN 1658	th' fire.	
FTLN 1659	SCHOOLMASTER We have, as learnèd authors utter,	

FTLN 1660	washed a tile; we have been <i>fatuus</i> and labored	
FTLN 1661	vainly.	50
FTLN 1662	SECOND COUNTRYMAN This is that scornful piece, that	
FTLN 1663	scurvy hilding that gave her promise faithfully she	
FTLN 1664	would be here—Cicely, the sempster's daughter.	
FTLN 1665	The next gloves that I give her shall be dogskin;	
FTLN 1666	nay, an she fail me once—you can tell, Arcas, she	55
FTLN 1667	swore by wine and bread she would not break.	
FTLN 1668	SCHOOLMASTER An eel and woman, a learned poet	
FTLN 1669	says, unless by th' tail and with thy teeth thou hold,	
FTLN 1670	will either fail. In manners, this was false	
FTLN 1671	position.	60
FTLN 1672	FIRST COUNTRYMAN A fire ill take her! Does she flinch	
FTLN 1673	now?	
FTLN 1674	THIRD COUNTRYMAN What shall we determine, sir?	
FTLN 1675	SCHOOLMASTER Nothing. Our business is become a	
FTLN 1676	nullity, yea, and a woeful and a piteous nullity.	65
FTLN 1677	FOURTH COUNTRYMAN Now, when the credit of our town	
FTLN 1678	lay on it, now to be frampold, now to piss o' th'	
FTLN 1679	nettle! Go thy ways; I'll remember thee. I'll fit	
FTLN 1680	thee!	

Enter Jailer's Daughter.

	DAUGHTER, <i>〔sings〕</i>	
FTLN 1681	<i>The George Alow came from the south,</i>	70
FTLN 1682	<i>From the coast of Barbary-a,</i>	
FTLN 1683	<i>And there he met with brave gallants of war,</i>	
FTLN 1684	<i>By one, by two, by three-a.</i>	
FTLN 1685	<i>“Well hailed, well hailed, you jolly gallants,</i>	
FTLN 1686	<i>And whither now are you bound-a?</i>	75
FTLN 1687	<i>O, let me have your company</i>	
FTLN 1688	<i>Till <i>〔T〕</i> come to the sound-a.”</i>	
FTLN 1689	There was three fools, fell out about an owlet—	
FTLN 1690	<i>〔Sings〕 The one <i>〔he〕</i> said it was an owl,</i>	
FTLN 1691	<i>The other he said nay,</i>	80

FTLN 1692	<i>The third he said it was a hawk,</i>	
FTLN 1693	<i>And her bells were cut away.</i>	
FTLN 1694	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	
FTLN 1695	There's a dainty madwoman, master,	
FTLN 1696	comes i' th' nick, as mad as a March hare. If we	85
FTLN 1697	can get her dance, we are made again. I warrant	
	her, she'll do the rarest gambols.	
FTLN 1698	FIRST COUNTRYMAN	
FTLN 1699	A madwoman? We are made, boys.	
FTLN 1700	SCHOOLMASTER, <i>['to Jailer's Daughter']</i>	
	And are you mad,	
	good woman?	
FTLN 1701	DAUGHTER	90
	I would be sorry else. Give me your hand.	
FTLN 1702	SCHOOLMASTER	
	Why?	
FTLN 1703	DAUGHTER	
	I can tell your fortune. <i>['She looks at his</i>	
FTLN 1704	<i>hand.']</i> You are a fool. Tell ten.—I have posed him.	
FTLN 1705	Buzz!—Friend, you must eat no white bread; if	
FTLN 1706	you do, your teeth will bleed extremely. Shall we	95
FTLN 1707	dance, ho? I know you, you're a tinker. Sirrah tinker,	
FTLN 1708	stop no more holes but what you should.	
FTLN 1709	SCHOOLMASTER	
	<i>Dii boni!</i> A tinker, damsel?	
FTLN 1710	DAUGHTER	
	Or a conjurer. Raise me a devil now, and let	
FTLN 1711	him play <i>['Chi'] passa o' th' bells and bones.</i>	100
FTLN 1712	SCHOOLMASTER	
	Go, take her, and fluently persuade her	
FTLN 1713	to a peace. <i>Et opus exegi, quod nec Iovis ira, nec</i>	
FTLN 1714	<i>ignis.</i> Strike up, and lead her in.	
FTLN 1715	SECOND COUNTRYMAN	
	Come, lass, let's trip it.	
FTLN 1716	DAUGHTER	105
	I'll lead.	
FTLN 1717	THIRD COUNTRYMAN	
	Do, do!	
FTLN 1718	SCHOOLMASTER	
	Persuasively, and cunningly.	
	<i>Wind horns.</i>	
FTLN 1719	Away, boys! I hear the horns. Give me some	
FTLN 1720	meditation, and mark your cue.	
	<i>All but Schoolmaster exit.</i>	
FTLN 1721	Pallas, inspire me!	110
	<i>Enter Theseus, Pirithous, Hippolyta, Emilia, and train.</i>	
FTLN 1722	THESEUS	
	This way the stag took.	
FTLN 1723	SCHOOLMASTER	
	Stay, and edify!	

FTLN 1724	THESEUS	What have we here?	
FTLN 1725	PIRITHOUS	Some country sport, upon my life, sir.	
FTLN 1726	「THESEUS, <i>to Schoolmaster</i> 」	Well, sir, go forward. We	115
FTLN 1727		will “edify.” <i>Chairs and stools</i> 「brought」 out.	
FTLN 1728		Ladies, sit down. We’ll stay it.	
		「 <i>Theseus, Hippolyta, and Emilia sit.</i> 」	
	SCHOOLMASTER		
FTLN 1729		Thou doughty duke, all hail!—All hail, sweet ladies!	
FTLN 1730	THESEUS, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	This is a cold beginning.	
	SCHOOLMASTER		
FTLN 1731		If you but favor, our country pastime made is.	120
FTLN 1732		We are a few of those collected here	
FTLN 1733		That ruder tongues distinguish “villager.”	
FTLN 1734		And to say verity, and not to fable,	
FTLN 1735		We are a merry rout, or else a rabble,	
FTLN 1736		Or company, or by a figure, chorus,	125
FTLN 1737		That ’fore thy dignity will dance a morris.	
FTLN 1738		And I that am the rectifier of all,	
FTLN 1739		By title <i>pedagogus</i> , that let fall	
FTLN 1740		The birch upon the breeches of the small ones,	
FTLN 1741		And humble with a ferula the tall ones,	130
FTLN 1742		Do here present this machine, or this frame.	
FTLN 1743		And, dainty duke, whose doughty dismal fame	
FTLN 1744		From Dis to Daedalus, from post to pillar,	
FTLN 1745		Is blown abroad, help me, thy poor well-willer,	
FTLN 1746		And with thy twinkling eyes look right and straight	135
FTLN 1747		Upon this mighty “Morr,” of mickle weight—	
FTLN 1748		“Is” now comes in, which being glued together	
FTLN 1749		Makes “Morris,” and the cause that we came hither.	
FTLN 1750		The body of our sport, of no small study,	
FTLN 1751		I first appear, though rude, and raw, and muddy,	140
FTLN 1752		To speak before thy noble grace this tenner,	
FTLN 1753		At whose great feet I offer up my penner.	
FTLN 1754		The next, the Lord of May and Lady bright,	
FTLN 1755		The Chambermaid and Servingman by night	
FTLN 1756		That seek out silent hanging; then mine Host	145

FTLN 1757 And his fat Spouse, that welcomes to their cost
 FTLN 1758 The gallèd traveler, and with a beck'ning
 FTLN 1759 Informs the tapster to inflame the reck'ning;
 FTLN 1760 Then the beest-eating Clown; and next the Fool,
 FTLN 1761 The Bavian with long tail and eke long tool, 150
 FTLN 1762 *Cum multis aliis* that make a dance;
 FTLN 1763 Say "ay," and all shall presently advance.

THESEUS

FTLN 1764 Ay, ay, by any means, dear Domine.

FTLN 1765 PIRITHOUS Produce!

SCHOOLMASTER

FTLN 1766 *Intrate, filii.* Come forth and foot it. 155

Music. [Enter the Countrymen, Countrywomen, and
 Jailer's Daughter; they perform a morris dance.]

[SCHOOLMASTER]

FTLN 1767 Ladies, if we have been merry
 FTLN 1768 And have pleased [ye] with a derry,
 FTLN 1769 And a derry and a down,
 FTLN 1770 Say the Schoolmaster's no clown.—
 FTLN 1771 Duke, if we have pleased [thee] too 160
 FTLN 1772 And have done as good boys should do,
 FTLN 1773 Give us but a tree or twain
 FTLN 1774 For a Maypole, and again,
 FTLN 1775 Ere another year run out,
 FTLN 1776 We'll make thee laugh, and all this rout. 165

THESEUS

FTLN 1777 Take twenty, Domine.—How does my sweetheart?

HIPPOLYTA

FTLN 1778 Never so pleased, sir.

FTLN 1779 EMILIA 'Twas an excellent dance,

FTLN 1780 And, for a preface, I never heard a better.

THESEUS

FTLN 1781 Schoolmaster, I thank you.—One see 'em all 170
 FTLN 1782 rewarded. [An Attendant gives money.]

PIRITHOUS

FTLN 1783

And here's something to paint your pole withal.

「He gives money.」

FTLN 1784

THESEUS Now to our sports again.

SCHOOLMASTER

FTLN 1785

May the stag thou hunt'st stand long,

FTLN 1786

And thy dogs be swift and strong;

175

FTLN 1787

May they kill him without lets,

FTLN 1788

And the ladies eat his dowsets.

*Wind horns 「within. Theseus, Hippolyta,
Emilia, Pirithous, and Train exit.」*

FTLN 1789

Come, we are all made. *Dii deaeque omnes,*

FTLN 1790

You have danced rarely, wenches.

*They exit.**「Scene 6」**Enter Palamon from the bush.*

PALAMON

FTLN 1791

About this hour my cousin gave his faith

FTLN 1792

To visit me again, and with him bring

FTLN 1793

Two swords and two good armors. If he fail,

FTLN 1794

He's neither man nor soldier. When he left me,

FTLN 1795

I did not think a week could have restored

5

FTLN 1796

My lost strength to me, I was grown so low

FTLN 1797

And crestfall'n with my wants. I thank thee, Arcite,

FTLN 1798

Thou art yet a fair foe, and I feel myself,

FTLN 1799

With this refreshing, able once again

FTLN 1800

To outdure danger. To delay it longer

10

FTLN 1801

Would make the world think, when it comes to

FTLN 1802

hearing,

FTLN 1803

That I lay fattening like a swine to fight

FTLN 1804

And not a soldier. Therefore, this blest morning

FTLN 1805

Shall be the last; and that sword he refuses,

15

FTLN 1806 If it but hold, I kill him with. 'Tis justice.
 FTLN 1807 So, love and fortune for me!

Enter Arcite with armors and swords.

FTLN 1808 O, good morrow.

ARCITE

FTLN 1809 Good morrow, noble kinsman.

FTLN 1810 PALAMON I have put you 20

FTLN 1811 To too much pains, sir.

FTLN 1812 ARCITE That too much, fair cousin,

FTLN 1813 Is but a debt to honor and my duty.

PALAMON

FTLN 1814 Would you were so in all, sir; I could wish you

FTLN 1815 As kind a kinsman as you force me find 25

FTLN 1816 A beneficial foe, that my embraces

FTLN 1817 Might thank you, not my blows.

FTLN 1818 ARCITE I shall think either,

FTLN 1819 Well done, a noble recompense.

FTLN 1820 PALAMON Then I shall quit you. 30

ARCITE

FTLN 1821 Defy me in these fair terms, and you show

FTLN 1822 More than a mistress to me. No more anger,

FTLN 1823 As you love anything that's honorable!

FTLN 1824 We were not bred to talk, man; when we are armed

FTLN 1825 And both upon our guards, then let our fury, 35

FTLN 1826 Like meeting of two tides, fly strongly from us,

FTLN 1827 And then to whom the birthright of this beauty

FTLN 1828 Truly pertains—without upbraidings, scorns,

FTLN 1829 Despising of our persons, and such poutings,

FTLN 1830 Fitter for girls and schoolboys—will be seen, 40

FTLN 1831 And quickly, yours or mine. Will 't please you arm,

FTLN 1832 sir?

FTLN 1833 Or if you feel yourself not fitting yet

FTLN 1834 And furnished with your old strength, I'll stay,

FTLN 1835 cousin, 45

FTLN 1836 And ev'ry day discourse you into health,

FTLN 1837	As I am spared. Your person I am friends with,	
FTLN 1838	And I could wish I had not said I loved her,	
FTLN 1839	Though I had died. But loving such a lady,	
FTLN 1840	And justifying my love, I must not fly from 't.	50
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1841	Arcite, thou art so brave an enemy	
FTLN 1842	That no man but thy cousin's fit to kill thee.	
FTLN 1843	I am well and lusty. Choose your arms.	
FTLN 1844	ARCITE	Choose you, sir.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1845	Wilt thou exceed in all, or dost thou do it	55
FTLN 1846	To make me spare thee?	
FTLN 1847	ARCITE	If you think so, cousin,
FTLN 1848	You are deceived, for as I am a soldier,	
FTLN 1849	I will not spare you.	
FTLN 1850	PALAMON	That's well said.
FTLN 1851	ARCITE	You'll find it.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1852	Then, as I am an honest man and love	
FTLN 1853	With all the justice of affection,	
FTLN 1854	I'll pay thee soundly.	<i>〔He chooses armor.〕</i>
FTLN 1855		This I'll take.
FTLN 1856	ARCITE <i>〔taking the other〕</i>	That's mine, then.
FTLN 1857	I'll arm you first.	
FTLN 1858	PALAMON	Do. <i>〔Arcite begins arming him.〕</i>
FTLN 1859		Pray thee tell me, cousin,
FTLN 1860	Where got'st thou this good armor?	70
FTLN 1861	ARCITE	'Tis the Duke's,
FTLN 1862	And to say true, I stole it. Do I pinch you?	
FTLN 1863	PALAMON	No.
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1864	Is 't not too heavy?	
FTLN 1865	PALAMON	I have worn a lighter,
FTLN 1866	But I shall make it serve.	75
FTLN 1867	ARCITE	I'll buckle 't close.

	PALAMON	
FTLN 1868	By any means.	
FTLN 1869	ARCITE	You care not for a grand guard?
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1870	No, no, we'll use no horses. I perceive	80
FTLN 1871	You would fain be at that fight.	
FTLN 1872	ARCITE	I am indifferent.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1873	Faith, so am I. Good cousin, thrust the buckle	
FTLN 1874	Through far enough.	
FTLN 1875	ARCITE	I warrant you.
FTLN 1876	PALAMON	My casque now.
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1877	Will you fight bare-armed?	
FTLN 1878	PALAMON	We shall be the nimbler.
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1879	But use your gauntlets though. Those are o' th' least.	
FTLN 1880	Prithee take mine, good cousin.	90
FTLN 1881	PALAMON	Thank you, Arcite.
FTLN 1882	How do I look? Am I fall'n much away?	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1883	Faith, very little; love has used you kindly.	
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1884	I'll warrant thee, I'll strike home.	
FTLN 1885	ARCITE	Do, and spare not.
FTLN 1886	I'll give you cause, sweet cousin.	95
FTLN 1887	PALAMON	Now to you, sir.
		<i>〔He begins to arm Arcite.〕</i>
FTLN 1888	Methinks this armor's very like that, Arcite,	
FTLN 1889	Thou wor'st that day the three kings fell, but lighter.	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1890	That was a very good one, and that day,	100
FTLN 1891	I well remember, you outdid me, cousin.	
FTLN 1892	I never saw such valor. When you charged	
FTLN 1893	Upon the left wing of the enemy,	

FTLN 1894	I spurred hard to come up, and under me	
FTLN 1895	I had a right good horse.	105
FTLN 1896	PALAMON	You had, indeed;
FTLN 1897	A bright bay, I remember.	
FTLN 1898	ARCITE	Yes, but all
FTLN 1899	Was vainly labored in me; you outwent me,	
FTLN 1900	Nor could my wishes reach you; yet a little	110
FTLN 1901	I did by imitation.	
FTLN 1902	PALAMON	More by virtue;
FTLN 1903	You are modest, cousin.	
FTLN 1904	ARCITE	When I saw you charge first,
FTLN 1905	Methought I heard a dreadful clap of thunder	115
FTLN 1906	Break from the troop.	
FTLN 1907	PALAMON	But still before that flew
FTLN 1908	The lightning of your valor. Stay a little;	
FTLN 1909	Is not this piece too strait?	
FTLN 1910	ARCITE	No, no, 'tis well.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1911	I would have nothing hurt thee but my sword.	
FTLN 1912	A bruise would be dishonor.	
FTLN 1913	ARCITE	Now I am perfect.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1914	Stand off, then.	
FTLN 1915	ARCITE	Take my sword; I hold it better.
	PALAMON	125
FTLN 1916	I thank you, no; keep it; your life lies on it.	
FTLN 1917	Here's one; if it but hold, I ask no more	
FTLN 1918	For all my hopes. My cause and honor guard me!	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1919	And me my love!	
	<i>They bow several ways, then advance and stand.</i>	
FTLN 1920	Is there aught else to say?	130
	PALAMON	
FTLN 1921	This only, and no more: thou art mine aunt's son.	
FTLN 1922	And that blood we desire to shed is mutual—	
FTLN 1923	In me thine, and in thee mine. My sword	

FTLN 1924	Is in my hand, and if thou kill'st me,	
FTLN 1925	The gods and I forgive thee. If there be	135
FTLN 1926	A place prepared for those that sleep in honor,	
FTLN 1927	I wish his weary soul that falls may win it.	
FTLN 1928	Fight bravely, cousin. Give me thy noble hand.	
	ARCITE, <i>['as they shake hands']</i>	
FTLN 1929	Here, Palamon. This hand shall never more	
FTLN 1930	Come near thee with such friendship.	140
FTLN 1931	PALAMON	I commend thee.
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1932	If I fall, curse me, and say I was a coward,	
FTLN 1933	For none but such dare die in these just trials.	
FTLN 1934	Once more farewell, my cousin.	
FTLN 1935	PALAMON	Farewell, Arcite. 145
		<i>Fight.</i>
		<i>Horns within. They stand.</i>
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1936	Lo, cousin, lo, our folly has undone us!	
FTLN 1937	PALAMON Why?	
	ARCITE	
FTLN 1938	This is the Duke, a-hunting, as I told you.	
FTLN 1939	If we be found, we are wretched. O, retire,	
FTLN 1940	For honor's sake, and safely, presently	150
FTLN 1941	Into your bush again. Sir, we shall find	
FTLN 1942	Too many hours to die in. Gentle cousin,	
FTLN 1943	If you be seen, you perish instantly	
FTLN 1944	For breaking prison, and I, if you reveal me,	
FTLN 1945	For my contempt. Then all the world will scorn us,	155
FTLN 1946	And say we had a noble difference,	
FTLN 1947	But base disposers of it.	
FTLN 1948	PALAMON	No, no, cousin,
FTLN 1949	I will no more be hidden, nor put off	
FTLN 1950	This great adventure to a second trial.	160
FTLN 1951	I know your cunning, and I know your cause.	
FTLN 1952	He that faints now, shame take him! Put thyself	
FTLN 1953	Upon thy present guard—	

FTLN 1954	ARCITE	You are not mad?	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 1955		Or I will make th' advantage of this hour	165
FTLN 1956		Mine own, and what to come shall threaten me	
FTLN 1957		I fear less than my fortune. Know, weak cousin,	
FTLN 1958		I love Emilia, and in that I'll bury	
FTLN 1959		Thee and all crosses else.	
FTLN 1960	ARCITE	Then come what can come,	170
FTLN 1961		Thou shalt know, Palamon, I dare as well	
FTLN 1962		Die as discourse or sleep. Only this fears me:	
FTLN 1963		The law will have the honor of our ends.	
FTLN 1964		Have at thy life!	
FTLN 1965	PALAMON	Look to thine own well, Arcite.	175
		<i>Fight again.</i>	

*Horns. Enter Theseus, Hippolyta, Emilia,
Pirithous and train.*

	THESEUS		
FTLN 1966		What ignorant and mad malicious traitors	
FTLN 1967		Are you, that 'gainst the tenor of my laws	
FTLN 1968		Are making battle, thus like knights appointed,	
FTLN 1969		Without my leave and officers of arms?	
FTLN 1970		By Castor, both shall die.	180
FTLN 1971	PALAMON	Hold thy word, Theseus.	
FTLN 1972		We are certainly both traitors, both despisers	
FTLN 1973		Of thee and of thy goodness. I am Palamon,	
FTLN 1974		That cannot love thee, he that broke thy prison.	
FTLN 1975		Think well what that deserves. And this is Arcite.	185
FTLN 1976		A bolder traitor never trod thy ground,	
FTLN 1977		A falser ne'er seemed friend. This is the man	
FTLN 1978		Was begged and banished; this is he contemns thee	
FTLN 1979		And what thou dar'st do; and in this disguise,	
FTLN 1980		Against 'thine' own edict, follows thy sister,	190
FTLN 1981		That fortunate bright star, the fair Emilia,	
FTLN 1982		Whose servant—if there be a right in seeing	
FTLN 1983		And first bequeathing of the soul to—justly	

FTLN 1984	I am; and, which is more, dares think her his.	
FTLN 1985	This treachery, like a most trusty lover,	195
FTLN 1986	I called him now to answer. If thou be'st	
FTLN 1987	As thou art spoken, great and virtuous,	
FTLN 1988	The true decider of all injuries,	
FTLN 1989	Say "Fight again," and thou shalt see me, Theseus,	
FTLN 1990	Do such a justice thou thyself wilt envy.	200
FTLN 1991	Then take my life; I'll woo thee to 't.	
FTLN 1992	PIRITHOUS	O heaven,
FTLN 1993	What more than man is this!	
FTLN 1994	THESEUS	I have sworn.
FTLN 1995	ARCITE	We seek not
FTLN 1996	Thy breath of mercy, Theseus. 'Tis to me	205
FTLN 1997	A thing as soon to die as thee to say it,	
FTLN 1998	And no more moved. Where this man calls me	
FTLN 1999	traitor,	
FTLN 2000	Let me say thus much: if in love be treason,	210
FTLN 2001	In service of so excellent a beauty,	
FTLN 2002	As I love most, and in that faith will perish,	
FTLN 2003	As I have brought my life here to confirm it,	
FTLN 2004	As I have served her truest, worthiest,	
FTLN 2005	As I dare kill this cousin that denies it,	215
FTLN 2006	So let me be most traitor, and you please me.	
FTLN 2007	For scorning thy edict, duke, ask that lady	
FTLN 2008	Why she is fair, and why her eyes command me	
FTLN 2009	Stay here to love her; and if she say "traitor,"	
FTLN 2010	I am a villain fit to lie unburied.	220
	PALAMON	
FTLN 2011	Thou shalt have pity of us both, O Theseus,	
FTLN 2012	If unto neither thou show mercy. Stop,	
FTLN 2013	As thou art just, thy noble ear against us;	
FTLN 2014	As thou art valiant, for thy cousin's soul,	
FTLN 2015	Whose twelve strong labors crown his memory,	225
FTLN 2016	Let's die together at one instant, duke;	
FTLN 2017	Only a little let him fall before me,	
FTLN 2018	That I may tell my soul he shall not have her.	

FTLN 2046	By all our friendship, sir, by all our dangers;	
FTLN 2047	By all you love most, wars and this sweet lady—	
	EMILIA	
FTLN 2048	By that you would have trembled to deny	
FTLN 2049	A blushing maid—	
FTLN 2050	HIPPOLYTA By your own eyes; by strength,	260
FTLN 2051	In which you swore I went beyond all women,	
FTLN 2052	Almost all men, and yet I yielded, Theseus—	
	PIRITHOUS	
FTLN 2053	To crown all this: by your most noble soul,	
FTLN 2054	Which cannot want due mercy, I beg first—	
	HIPPOLYTA	
FTLN 2055	Next hear my prayers—	265
FTLN 2056	EMILIA Last let me entreat, sir—	
	PIRITHOUS	
FTLN 2057	For mercy.	
FTLN 2058	HIPPOLYTA Mercy.	
FTLN 2059	EMILIA Mercy on these princes.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2060	You make my faith reel. (‘ <i>To Emilia.</i> ’) Say I felt	270
FTLN 2061	Compassion to ’em both, how would you place it?	
	‘ <i>They rise from their knees.</i> ’	
	EMILIA	
FTLN 2062	Upon their lives, but with their banishments.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2063	You are a right woman, sister: you have pity,	
FTLN 2064	But want the understanding where to use it.	
FTLN 2065	If you desire their lives, invent a way	275
FTLN 2066	Safer than banishment. Can these two live,	
FTLN 2067	And have the agony of love about ’em,	
FTLN 2068	And not kill one another? Every day	
FTLN 2069	They’d fight about you, hourly bring your honor	
FTLN 2070	In public question with their swords. Be wise, then,	280
FTLN 2071	And here forget ’em; it concerns your credit	
FTLN 2072	And my oath equally. I have said they die.	

FTLN 2073	Better they fall by th' law than one another.	
FTLN 2074	Bow not my honor.	
FTLN 2075	EMILIA O, my noble brother,	285
FTLN 2076	That oath was rashly made, and in your anger;	
FTLN 2077	Your reason will not hold it. If such vows	
FTLN 2078	Stand for express will, all the world must perish.	
FTLN 2079	Besides, I have another oath 'gainst yours,	
FTLN 2080	Of more authority, I am sure more love,	290
FTLN 2081	Not made in passion neither, but good heed.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2082	What is it, sister?	
FTLN 2083	PIRITHOUS Urge it home, brave lady.	
	EMILIA	
FTLN 2084	That you would ne'er deny me anything	
FTLN 2085	Fit for my modest suit and your free granting.	295
FTLN 2086	I tie you to your word now; if you 'fail' in 't,	
FTLN 2087	Think how you maim your honor—	
FTLN 2088	For now I am set a-begging, sir, I am deaf	
FTLN 2089	To all but your compassion—how their lives	
FTLN 2090	Might breed the ruin of my name. Opinion!	300
FTLN 2091	Shall anything that loves me perish for me?	
FTLN 2092	That were a cruel wisdom. Do men prune	
FTLN 2093	The straight young boughs that blush with thousand	
FTLN 2094	blossoms	
FTLN 2095	Because they may be rotten? O, Duke Theseus,	305
FTLN 2096	The goodly mothers that have groaned for these,	
FTLN 2097	And all the longing maids that ever loved,	
FTLN 2098	If your vow stand, shall curse me and my beauty,	
FTLN 2099	And in their funeral songs for these two cousins	
FTLN 2100	Despise my cruelty, and cry woe worth me,	310
FTLN 2101	Till I am nothing but the scorn of women.	
FTLN 2102	For heaven's sake, save their lives, and banish 'em.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2103	On what conditions?	
FTLN 2104	EMILIA Swear 'em never more	
FTLN 2105	To make me their contention, or to know me,	315

FTLN 2106	To tread upon thy dukedom, and to be,	
FTLN 2107	Wherever they shall travel, ever strangers	
FTLN 2108	To one another.	
FTLN 2109	PALAMON I'll be cut a-pieces	
FTLN 2110	Before I take this oath! Forget I love her?	320
FTLN 2111	O, all you gods, despise me then! Thy banishment	
FTLN 2112	I not dislike, so we may fairly carry	
FTLN 2113	Our swords and cause along; else never trifle,	
FTLN 2114	But take our lives, duke. I must love, and will,	
FTLN 2115	And for that love must and dare kill this cousin	325
FTLN 2116	On any piece the Earth has.	
FTLN 2117	THESEUS Will you, Arcite,	
FTLN 2118	Take these conditions?	
FTLN 2119	PALAMON He's a villain, then.	
FTLN 2120	PIRITHOUS These are men!	330
	ARCITE	
FTLN 2121	No, never, duke. 'Tis worse to me than begging	
FTLN 2122	To take my life so basely; though I think	
FTLN 2123	I never shall enjoy her, yet I'll preserve	
FTLN 2124	The honor of affection, and die for her,	
FTLN 2125	Make death a devil!	335
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2126	What may be done? For now I feel compassion.	
	PIRITHOUS	
FTLN 2127	Let it not fall again, sir.	
FTLN 2128	THESEUS Say, Emilia,	
FTLN 2129	If one of them were dead, as one must, are you	
FTLN 2130	Content to take th' other to your husband?	340
FTLN 2131	They cannot both enjoy you. They are princes	
FTLN 2132	As goodly as your own eyes, and as noble	
FTLN 2133	As ever fame yet spoke of. Look upon 'em,	
FTLN 2134	And, if you can love, end this difference.	
FTLN 2135	I give consent.—Are you content too, princes?	345
	BOTH	
FTLN 2136	With all our souls.	
FTLN 2137	THESEUS He that she refuses	
FTLN 2138	Must die then.	

FTLN 2139	BOTH	Any death thou canst invent, duke.	
	PALAMON		
FTLN 2140		If I fall from that mouth, I fall with favor,	350
FTLN 2141		And lovers yet unborn shall bless my ashes.	
	ARCITE		
FTLN 2142		If she refuse me, yet my grave will wed me,	
FTLN 2143		And soldiers sing my epitaph.	
FTLN 2144	THESEUS, <i>['to Emilia']</i>	Make choice, then.	
	EMILIA		
FTLN 2145		I cannot, sir; they are both too excellent.	355
FTLN 2146		For me, a hair shall never fall of these men.	
	HIPPOLYTA		
FTLN 2147		What will become of 'em?	
FTLN 2148	THESEUS	Thus I ordain it—	
FTLN 2149		And, by mine honor, once again, it stands,	
FTLN 2150		Or both shall die: you shall both to your country,	360
FTLN 2151		And each within this month, accompanied	
FTLN 2152		With three fair knights, appear again in this place,	
FTLN 2153		In which I'll plant a pyramid; and whether,	
FTLN 2154		Before us that are here, can force his cousin	
FTLN 2155		By fair and knightly strength to touch the pillar,	365
FTLN 2156		He shall enjoy her; the other lose his head,	
FTLN 2157		And all his friends; nor shall he grudge to fall,	
FTLN 2158		Nor think he dies with interest in this lady.	
FTLN 2159		Will this content you?	
FTLN 2160	PALAMON	Yes.—Here, Cousin Arcite,	370
FTLN 2161		I am friends again till that hour. <i>['He offers his hand.']</i>	
FTLN 2162	ARCITE	I embrace you.	
		<i>['They shake hands.']</i>	
	THESEUS		
FTLN 2163		Are you content, sister?	
FTLN 2164	EMILIA	Yes, I must, sir,	
FTLN 2165		Else both miscarry.	375
	THESEUS, <i>['to Palamon and Arcite']</i>		
FTLN 2166		Come, shake hands again, then,	

FTLN 2167

And take heed, as you are gentlemen, this quarrel

FTLN 2168

Sleep till the hour prefixed, and hold your course.

PALAMON

FTLN 2169

We dare not fail thee, Theseus.

〔They shake hands again.〕

FTLN 2170

THESEUS

Come, I'll give you

380

FTLN 2171

Now usage like to princes and to friends.

FTLN 2172

When you return, who wins I'll settle here;

FTLN 2173

Who loses, yet I'll weep upon his bier.

They exit.

ACT 4

Scene 1

Enter Jailer and his Friend.

JAILER

FTLN 2174 「Heard」 you no more? Was nothing said of me
FTLN 2175 Concerning the escape of Palamon?
FTLN 2176 Good sir, remember!

FTLN 2177 FIRST FRIEND Nothing that I heard,
FTLN 2178 For I came home before the business 5
FTLN 2179 Was fully ended. Yet I might perceive,
FTLN 2180 Ere I departed, a great likelihood
FTLN 2181 Of both their pardons; for Hippolyta
FTLN 2182 And fair-eyed Emily, upon their knees,
FTLN 2183 Begged with such handsome pity that the Duke, 10
FTLN 2184 Methought, stood staggering whether he should
FTLN 2185 follow
FTLN 2186 His rash oath or the sweet compassion
FTLN 2187 Of those two ladies. And, to second them,
FTLN 2188 That truly noble prince, Pirithous— 15
FTLN 2189 Half his own heart—set in too, that I hope
FTLN 2190 All shall be well. Neither heard I one question
FTLN 2191 Of your name or his 'scape.

FTLN 2192 JAILER Pray heaven it hold so.

Enter Second Friend.

	SECOND FRIEND	
FTLN 2193	Be of good comfort, man; I bring you news,	20
FTLN 2194	Good news.	
FTLN 2195	JAILER They are welcome.	
FTLN 2196	SECOND FRIEND Palamon has cleared	
FTLN 2197	you	
FTLN 2198	And got your pardon, and discovered how	25
FTLN 2199	And by whose means he escaped, which was your	
FTLN 2200	daughter's,	
FTLN 2201	Whose pardon is procured too; and the prisoner,	
FTLN 2202	Not to be held ungrateful to her goodness,	
FTLN 2203	Has given a sum of money to her marriage—	30
FTLN 2204	A large one, I'll assure you.	
FTLN 2205	JAILER You are a good man	
FTLN 2206	And ever bring good news.	
FTLN 2207	FIRST FRIEND How was it ended?	
	SECOND FRIEND	
FTLN 2208	Why, as it should be: they that ne'er begged	35
FTLN 2209	But they prevailed had their suits fairly granted;	
FTLN 2210	The prisoners have their lives.	
FTLN 2211	FIRST FRIEND I knew 'twould be so.	
	SECOND FRIEND	
FTLN 2212	But there be new conditions, which you'll hear of	
FTLN 2213	At better time.	40
FTLN 2214	JAILER I hope they are good.	
FTLN 2215	SECOND FRIEND They are	
FTLN 2216	honorable;	
FTLN 2217	How good they'll prove I know not.	
FTLN 2218	FIRST FRIEND 'Twill be known.	45

Enter Wooer.

	WOOER	
FTLN 2219	Alas, sir, where's your daughter?	
FTLN 2220	JAILER Why do you ask?	
	WOOER	
FTLN 2221	O, sir, when did you see her?	

FTLN 2222	SECOND FRIEND, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	How he looks!	
	JAILER		
FTLN 2223	This morning.		50
FTLN 2224	WOOER	Was she well? Was she in health?	
FTLN 2225	Sir, when did she sleep?		
FTLN 2226	FIRST FRIEND, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	These are strange questions.	
	JAILER		
FTLN 2227	I do not think she was very well—for now		
FTLN 2228	You make me mind her; but this very day		55
FTLN 2229	I asked her questions, and she answered me		
FTLN 2230	So far from what she was, so childishly,		
FTLN 2231	So sillily, as if she were a fool,		
FTLN 2232	An innocent, and I was very angry.		
FTLN 2233	But what of her, sir?		60
FTLN 2234	WOOER	Nothing but my pity;	
FTLN 2235	But you must know it, and as good by me		
FTLN 2236	As by another that less loves her.		
FTLN 2237	JAILER	Well, sir?	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2238	No, sir, not well.		65
FTLN 2239	FIRST FRIEND	Not right?	
FTLN 2240	SECOND FRIEND	Not well?	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2241	'Tis too true; she is mad.		
FTLN 2242	FIRST FRIEND	It cannot be.	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2243	Believe you'll find it so.		70
FTLN 2244	JAILER	I half suspected	
FTLN 2245	What you told me. The gods comfort her!		
FTLN 2246	Either this was her love to Palamon,		
FTLN 2247	Or fear of my miscarrying on his 'scape,		
FTLN 2248	Or both.		75
FTLN 2249	WOOER	'Tis likely.	
FTLN 2250	JAILER	But why all this haste, sir?	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2251	I'll tell you quickly. As I late was angling		

FTLN 2286 A [wreath] of bulrush rounded; about her stuck
 FTLN 2287 Thousand freshwater flowers of several colors,
 FTLN 2288 That methought she appeared like the fair nymph 115
 FTLN 2289 That feeds the lake with waters, or as Iris
 FTLN 2290 Newly dropped down from heaven. Rings she made
 FTLN 2291 Of rushes that grew by, and to 'em spoke
 FTLN 2292 The prettiest posies: "Thus our true love's tied,"
 FTLN 2293 "This you may lose, not me," and many a one; 120
 FTLN 2294 And then she wept, and sung again, and sighed,
 FTLN 2295 And with the same breath smiled and kissed her
 FTLN 2296 hand.

SECOND FRIEND

FTLN 2297 Alas, what pity it is!
 FTLN 2298 WOOER I made in to her. 125
 FTLN 2299 She saw me, and straight sought the flood. I saved
 FTLN 2300 her
 FTLN 2301 And set her safe to land, when presently
 FTLN 2302 She slipped away, and to the city made
 FTLN 2303 With such a cry and swiftness that, believe me, 130
 FTLN 2304 She left me far behind her. Three or four
 FTLN 2305 I saw from far off cross her—one of 'em
 FTLN 2306 I knew to be your brother—where she stayed
 FTLN 2307 And fell, scarce to be got away. I left them with her
 FTLN 2308 And hither came to tell you. 135

Enter [Jailer's] Brother, [Jailer's] Daughter, and others.

FTLN 2309 Here they are.
 FTLN 2310 DAUGHTER, [sings]
 FTLN 2311 *May you never more enjoy the light, etc.*
 FTLN 2312 Is not this a fine song?
 FTLN 2313 BROTHER O, a very fine one.
 FTLN 2314 DAUGHTER I can sing twenty more. 140
 FTLN 2315 BROTHER I think you can.
 FTLN 2316 DAUGHTER Yes, truly can I. I can sing "The Broom"
 FTLN 2317 and "Bonny Robin." Are not you a tailor?
 BROTHER Yes.

FTLN 2318	DAUGHTER	Where's my wedding gown?	145
FTLN 2319	BROTHER	I'll bring it tomorrow.	
FTLN 2320	DAUGHTER	Do, very rarely, I must be abroad else to	
FTLN 2321		call the maids and pay the minstrels, for I must	
FTLN 2322		lose my maidenhead by cocklight. 'Twill never	
FTLN 2323		thrive else.	150
FTLN 2324	<i>Sings.</i>	<i>O fair; O sweet, etc.</i>	
FTLN 2325	BROTHER, [to Jailer]	You must e'en take it patiently.	
FTLN 2326	JAILER	'Tis true.	
FTLN 2327	DAUGHTER	Good e'en, good men. Pray, did you ever	
FTLN 2328		hear of one young Palamon?	155
FTLN 2329	JAILER	Yes, wench, we know him.	
FTLN 2330	DAUGHTER	Is 't not a fine young gentleman?	
FTLN 2331	JAILER	'Tis, love.	
FTLN 2332	BROTHER, [aside to others]	By no mean cross her; she	
FTLN 2333		is then distempered [far] worse than now she	160
FTLN 2334		shows.	
FTLN 2335	FIRST FRIEND, [to Daughter]	Yes, he's a fine man.	
FTLN 2336	DAUGHTER	O, is he so? You have a sister.	
FTLN 2337	FIRST FRIEND	Yes.	
FTLN 2338	DAUGHTER	But she shall never have him—tell her so—	165
FTLN 2339		for a trick that I know; you'd best look to her, for	
FTLN 2340		if she see him once, she's gone, she's done and	
FTLN 2341		undone in an hour. All the young maids of our	
FTLN 2342		town are in love with him, but I laugh at 'em and	
FTLN 2343		let 'em all alone. Is 't not a wise course?	170
FTLN 2344	FIRST FRIEND	Yes.	
FTLN 2345	DAUGHTER	There is at least two hundred now with	
FTLN 2346		child by him—there must be four; yet I keep close	
FTLN 2347		for all this, close as a cockle; and all these must be	
FTLN 2348		boys—he has the trick on 't—and at ten years old	175
FTLN 2349		they must be all gelt for musicians and sing the	
FTLN 2350		wars of Theseus.	
FTLN 2351	SECOND FRIEND	This is strange.	
FTLN 2352	DAUGHTER	As ever you heard, but say nothing.	
FTLN 2353	FIRST FRIEND	No.	180

FTLN 2354	DAUGHTER	They come from all parts of the dukedom	
FTLN 2355		to him; I'll warrant you, he had not so few last	
FTLN 2356		night as twenty to dispatch. He'll tickle 't up in two	
FTLN 2357		hours, if his hand be in.	
FTLN 2358	JAILER, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	She's lost past all cure.	185
FTLN 2359	BROTHER	Heaven forbid, man!	
FTLN 2360	DAUGHTER, 「 <i>to Jailer</i> 」	Come hither; you are a wise	
FTLN 2361		man.	
FTLN 2362	FIRST FRIEND, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	Does she know him?	
FTLN 2363	「SECOND」 FRIEND	No; would she did.	190
FTLN 2364	DAUGHTER	You are master of a ship?	
FTLN 2365	JAILER	Yes.	
FTLN 2366	DAUGHTER	Where's your compass?	
FTLN 2367	JAILER	Here.	
FTLN 2368	DAUGHTER	Set it to th' north. And now direct your	195
FTLN 2369		course to th' wood, where Palamon lies longing for	
FTLN 2370		me. For the tackling, let me alone.—Come, weigh,	
FTLN 2371		my hearts, cheerly.	
FTLN 2372	ALL, 「 <i>as if sailing a ship</i> 」	Owgh, owgh, owgh!—'Tis up!	
FTLN 2373		The wind's fair!—Top the bowline!—Out with the	200
FTLN 2374		main sail! Where's your whistle, master?	
FTLN 2375	BROTHER	Let's get her in!	
FTLN 2376	JAILER	Up to the top, boy!	
FTLN 2377	BROTHER	Where's the pilot?	
FTLN 2378	FIRST FRIEND	Here.	205
FTLN 2379	DAUGHTER	What kenn'st thou?	
FTLN 2380	SECOND FRIEND	A fair wood.	
FTLN 2381	DAUGHTER	Bear for it, master. 「Tack」 about!	
		<i>Sings.</i>	
FTLN 2382		<i>When Cynthia with her borrowed light, etc.</i>	
		<i>They exit.</i>	

Scene 2

Enter Emilia alone, with two pictures.

EMILIA

FTLN 2383	Yet I may bind those wounds up that must open	
FTLN 2384	And bleed to death for my sake else. I'll choose,	
FTLN 2385	And end their strife. Two such young handsome men	
FTLN 2386	Shall never fall for me; their weeping mothers,	
FTLN 2387	Following the dead cold ashes of their sons,	5
FTLN 2388	Shall never curse my cruelty.	
	<i>「Looks at one of the pictures.」</i>	
FTLN 2389	Good heaven,	
FTLN 2390	What a sweet face has Arcite! If wise Nature,	
FTLN 2391	With all her best endowments, all those beauties	
FTLN 2392	She sows into the births of noble bodies,	10
FTLN 2393	Were here a mortal woman, and had in her	
FTLN 2394	The coy denials of young maids, yet doubtless	
FTLN 2395	She would run mad for this man. What an eye,	
FTLN 2396	Of what a fiery sparkle and quick sweetness,	
FTLN 2397	Has this young prince! Here Love himself sits	15
FTLN 2398	smiling;	
FTLN 2399	Just such another wanton Ganymede	
FTLN 2400	Set <i>「Jove」</i> afire with, and enforced the god	
FTLN 2401	Snatch up the goodly boy and set him by him,	
FTLN 2402	A shining constellation. What a brow,	20
FTLN 2403	Of what a spacious majesty, he carries,	
FTLN 2404	Arched like the great-eyed Juno's but far sweeter,	
FTLN 2405	Smoother than Pelops' shoulder! Fame and Honor,	
FTLN 2406	Methinks, from hence as from a promontory	
FTLN 2407	Pointed in heaven, should clap their wings and sing	25
FTLN 2408	To all the under world the loves and fights	
FTLN 2409	Of gods and such men near 'em.	
	<i>「Looks at the other picture.」</i>	
FTLN 2410	Palamon	
FTLN 2411	Is but his foil, to him a mere dull shadow;	
FTLN 2412	He's swart and meager, of an eye as heavy	30

FTLN 2413	As if he had lost his mother; a still temper,	
FTLN 2414	No stirring in him, no alacrity;	
FTLN 2415	Of all this sprightly sharpness not a smile.	
FTLN 2416	Yet these that we count errors may become him;	
FTLN 2417	Narcissus was a sad boy but a heavenly.	35
FTLN 2418	O, who can find the bent of woman's fancy?	
FTLN 2419	I am a fool; my reason is lost in me;	
FTLN 2420	I have no choice, and I have lied so lewdly	
FTLN 2421	That women ought to beat me. On my knees	
FTLN 2422	I ask thy pardon: Palamon, thou art alone	40
FTLN 2423	And only beautiful, and these the eyes,	
FTLN 2424	These the bright lamps of beauty, that command	
FTLN 2425	And threaten love, and what young maid dare cross	
FTLN 2426	'em?	
FTLN 2427	What a bold gravity, and yet inviting,	45
FTLN 2428	Has this brown manly face! O Love, this only	
FTLN 2429	From this hour is complexion. Lie there, Arcite.	
	<i>「She puts aside his picture.」</i>	
FTLN 2430	Thou art a changeling to him, a mere gypsy,	
FTLN 2431	And this the noble body. I am sotted,	
FTLN 2432	Utterly lost. My virgin's faith has fled me.	50
FTLN 2433	For if my brother but even now had asked me	
FTLN 2434	Whether I loved, I had run mad for Arcite.	
FTLN 2435	Now, if my sister, more for Palamon.	
FTLN 2436	Stand both together. Now, come ask me, brother.	
FTLN 2437	Alas, I know not! Ask me now, sweet sister.	55
FTLN 2438	I may go look! What a mere child is Fancy,	
FTLN 2439	That, having two fair gauds of equal sweetness,	
FTLN 2440	Cannot distinguish, but must cry for both.	
	<i>Enter 「a」 Gentleman.</i>	
FTLN 2441	How now, sir?	
FTLN 2442	GENTLEMAN From the noble duke, your brother,	60
FTLN 2443	Madam, I bring you news: the knights are come.	
	EMILIA	
FTLN 2444	To end the quarrel?	

FTLN 2445 GENTLEMAN Yes.
 FTLN 2446 EMILIA Would I might end first!
 FTLN 2447 What sins have I committed, chaste Diana, 65
 FTLN 2448 That my unspotted youth must now be soiled
 FTLN 2449 With blood of princes, and my chastity
 FTLN 2450 Be made the altar where the lives of lovers—
 FTLN 2451 Two greater and two better never yet
 FTLN 2452 Made mothers joy—must be the sacrifice 70
 FTLN 2453 To my unhappy beauty?

Enter Theseus, Hippolyta, Pirithous and Attendants.

FTLN 2454 THESEUS, *['to Attendant']* Bring 'em in
 FTLN 2455 Quickly, by any means; I long to see 'em.
 FTLN 2456 *['To Emilia.']* Your two contending lovers are
 FTLN 2457 returned, 75
 FTLN 2458 And with them their fair knights. Now, my fair
 FTLN 2459 sister,
 FTLN 2460 You must love one of them.
 FTLN 2461 EMILIA I had rather both,
 FTLN 2462 So neither for my sake should fall untimely. 80
 THESEUS
 FTLN 2463 Who saw 'em?
 FTLN 2464 PIRITHOUS I awhile.
 FTLN 2465 GENTLEMAN And I.

Enter ['a'] Messenger.

THESEUS
 FTLN 2466 From whence come you, sir?
 FTLN 2467 MESSENGER From the knights. 85
 FTLN 2468 THESEUS Pray
 FTLN 2469 speak,
 FTLN 2470 You that have seen them, what they are.
 FTLN 2471 MESSENGER I will, sir,
 FTLN 2472 And truly what I think. Six braver spirits 90
 FTLN 2473 Than these they have brought, if we judge by the
 FTLN 2474 outside,

FTLN 2475	I never saw nor read of. He that stands	
FTLN 2476	In the first place with Arcite, by his seeming,	
FTLN 2477	Should be a stout man, by his face a prince—	95
FTLN 2478	His very looks so say him; his complexion	
FTLN 2479	Nearer a brown than black—stern and yet noble—	
FTLN 2480	Which shows him hardy, fearless, proud of dangers;	
FTLN 2481	The circles of his eyes show ¹ fire ¹ within him,	
FTLN 2482	And as a heated lion, so he looks.	100
FTLN 2483	His hair hangs long behind him, black and shining	
FTLN 2484	Like ravens' wings; his shoulders broad and strong,	
FTLN 2485	Armed long and round; and on his thigh a sword	
FTLN 2486	Hung by a curious baldric, when he frowns	
FTLN 2487	To seal his will with. Better, o' my conscience,	105
FTLN 2488	Was never soldier's friend.	
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2489	Thou hast well described him.	
FTLN 2490	PIRITHOUS	Yet a great
FTLN 2491	deal short,	
FTLN 2492	Methinks, of him that's first with Palamon.	110
	THESEUS	
FTLN 2493	Pray speak him, friend.	
FTLN 2494	PIRITHOUS	I guess he is a prince too,
FTLN 2495	And, if it may be, greater; for his show	
FTLN 2496	Has all the ornament of honor in 't:	
FTLN 2497	He's somewhat bigger than the knight he spoke of,	115
FTLN 2498	But of a face far sweeter; his complexion	
FTLN 2499	Is, as a ripe grape, ruddy. He has felt	
FTLN 2500	Without doubt what he fights for, and so apter	
FTLN 2501	To make this cause his own. In 's face appears	
FTLN 2502	All the fair hopes of what he undertakes,	120
FTLN 2503	And when he's angry, then a settled valor,	
FTLN 2504	Not tainted with extremes, runs through his body	
FTLN 2505	And guides his arm to brave things. Fear he cannot;	
FTLN 2506	He shows no such soft temper. His head's yellow,	
FTLN 2507	Hard-haired and curled, thick-twined like ivy ¹ tods, ¹	125
FTLN 2508	Not to undo with thunder. In his face	
FTLN 2509	The livery of the warlike maid appears,	

FTLN 2543 Nor takes none. He's round-faced, and when he
 FTLN 2544 smiles
 FTLN 2545 He shows a lover; when he frowns, a soldier.
 FTLN 2546 About his head he wears the winner's oak,
 FTLN 2547 And in it stuck the favor of his lady. 165
 FTLN 2548 His age some six-and-thirty. In his hand
 FTLN 2549 He bears a charging-staff embossed with silver.

THESEUS
 FTLN 2550 Are they all thus?
 FTLN 2551 PIRITHOUS They are all the sons of honor.

THESEUS
 FTLN 2552 Now, as I have a soul, I long to see 'em.— 170
 FTLN 2553 Lady, you shall see men fight now.

HIPPOLYTA I wish it,
 FTLN 2555 But not the cause, my lord. They would show
 FTLN 2556 Bravely about the titles of two kingdoms;
 FTLN 2557 'Tis pity love should be so tyrannous.— 175
 FTLN 2558 O, my soft-hearted sister, what think you?
 FTLN 2559 Weep not till they weep blood. Wench, it must be.

THESEUS, *['to Emilia']*
 FTLN 2560 You have steeled 'em with your beauty. (*['To*
 FTLN 2561 *Pirithous.']*) Honored friend,
 FTLN 2562 To you I give the field; pray order it 180
 FTLN 2563 Fitting the persons that must use it.

PIRITHOUS Yes, sir.

THESEUS
 FTLN 2565 Come, I'll go visit 'em. I cannot stay—
 FTLN 2566 Their fame has fired me so—till they appear.
 FTLN 2567 Good friend, be royal. 185
 FTLN 2568 PIRITHOUS There shall want no bravery.
['All but Emilia'] exit.

EMILIA
 FTLN 2569 Poor wench, go weep, for whosoever wins
 FTLN 2570 Loses a noble cousin for thy sins.

She exits.

Scene 3

Enter Jailer, Wooer, Doctor.

FTLN 2571	DOCTOR	Her distraction is more at some time of the	
FTLN 2572		moon than at other some, is it not?	
FTLN 2573	JAILER	She is continually in a harmless distemper,	
FTLN 2574		sleeps little, altogether without appetite, save often	
FTLN 2575		drinking, dreaming of another world, and a better;	5
FTLN 2576		and what broken piece of matter soe'er she's about,	
FTLN 2577		the name <i>Palamon</i> lards it, that she farces ev'ry	
FTLN 2578		business withal, fits it to every question.	
<i>Enter [Jailer's] Daughter.</i>			
FTLN 2579		Look where she comes; you shall perceive her	
FTLN 2580		behavior. <i>[They stand aside.]</i>	10
FTLN 2581	DAUGHTER	I have forgot it quite. The burden on 't was	
FTLN 2582		"down-a down-a," and penned by no worse man	
FTLN 2583		than Geraldo, Emilia's schoolmaster. He's as fantastical,	
FTLN 2584		too, as ever he may go upon 's legs, for in	
FTLN 2585		the next world will Dido see <i>Palamon</i> , and then	15
FTLN 2586		will she be out of love with <i>Aeneas</i> .	
FTLN 2587	DOCTOR, <i>[aside to Jailer and Wooer]</i>	What stuff's here?	
FTLN 2588		Poor soul.	
FTLN 2589	JAILER	E'en thus all day long.	
FTLN 2590	DAUGHTER	Now for this charm that I told you of, you	20
FTLN 2591		must bring a piece of silver on the tip of your	
FTLN 2592		tongue, or no ferry; then if it be your chance to	
FTLN 2593		come where the blessed spirits <i>[are,]</i> there's a	
FTLN 2594		sight now! We maids that have our livers perished,	
FTLN 2595		cracked to pieces with love, we shall come there,	25
FTLN 2596		and do nothing all day long but pick flowers with	
FTLN 2597		<i>Proserpine</i> . Then will I make <i>Palamon</i> a nosegay;	
FTLN 2598		then let him mark me then.	
FTLN 2599	DOCTOR	How prettily she's amiss! Note her a little	
FTLN 2600		further.	30
FTLN 2601	DAUGHTER	Faith, I'll tell you, sometime we go to	

FTLN 2602	barley-break, we of the blessed. Alas, 'tis a sore life	
FTLN 2603	they have i' th' other place—such burning, frying,	
FTLN 2604	boiling, hissing, howling, chatt'ring, cursing—O,	
FTLN 2605	they have shrewd measure, take heed! If one be	35
FTLN 2606	mad, or hang or drown themselves, thither they	
FTLN 2607	go, Jupiter bless us, and there shall we be put in	
FTLN 2608	a cauldron of lead and usurers' grease, amongst a	
FTLN 2609	whole million of cutpurses, and there boil like a	
FTLN 2610	gammon of bacon that will never be enough.	40
FTLN 2611	DOCTOR How her brains coins!	
FTLN 2612	DAUGHTER Lords and courtiers that have got maids	
FTLN 2613	with child, they are in this place. They shall stand	
FTLN 2614	in fire up to the navel and in ice up to th' heart, and	
FTLN 2615	there th' offending part burns and the deceiving	45
FTLN 2616	part freezes: in troth, a very grievous punishment,	
FTLN 2617	as one would think, for such a trifle. Believe me,	
FTLN 2618	one would marry a leprous witch to be rid on 't, I'll	
FTLN 2619	assure you.	
FTLN 2620	DOCTOR How she continues this fancy! 'Tis not an engrafted	50
FTLN 2621	madness, but a most thick and profound	
FTLN 2622	melancholy.	
FTLN 2623	DAUGHTER To hear there a proud lady and a proud city	
FTLN 2624	wife howl together—I were a beast an I'd call it	
FTLN 2625	good sport. One cries "O this smoke!" [th' other,]	55
FTLN 2626	"This fire!"; one cries, "O, that ever I did it behind	
FTLN 2627	the arras!" and then howls; th' other curses a suing	
FTLN 2628	fellow and her garden house.	
	<i>Sings.</i>	
FTLN 2629	<i>I will be true, my stars, my fate, etc.</i>	
	<i>Daughter exits.</i>	
FTLN 2630	JAILER What think you of her, sir?	60
FTLN 2631	DOCTOR I think she has a perturbed mind, which I	
FTLN 2632	cannot minister to.	
FTLN 2633	JAILER Alas, what then?	
FTLN 2634	DOCTOR Understand you she ever affected any man	
FTLN 2635	ere she beheld Palamon?	65

FTLN 2636	JAILER	I was once, sir, in great hope she had fixed her	
FTLN 2637		liking on this gentleman, my friend.	
FTLN 2638	WOOER	I did think so, too, and would account I had a	
FTLN 2639		great penn'orth on 't to give half my state that both	
FTLN 2640		she and I, at this present, stood unfeignedly on the	70
FTLN 2641		same terms.	
FTLN 2642	DOCTOR	That intemp'rate surfeit of her eye hath distempered	
FTLN 2643		the other senses. They may return and	
FTLN 2644		settle again to execute their preordained faculties,	
FTLN 2645		but they are now in a most extravagant vagary.	75
FTLN 2646		This you must do: confine her to a place where	
FTLN 2647		the light may rather seem to steal in than be	
FTLN 2648		permitted.—Take upon you, young sir, her friend,	
FTLN 2649		the name of Palamon; say you come to eat with	
FTLN 2650		her, and to commune of love. This will catch her	80
FTLN 2651		attention, for this her mind beats upon; other	
FTLN 2652		objects that are inserted 'tween her mind and eye	
FTLN 2653		become the pranks and friskins of her madness.	
FTLN 2654		Sing to her such green songs of love as she says	
FTLN 2655		Palamon hath sung in prison. Come to her stuck	85
FTLN 2656		in as sweet flowers as the season is mistress of,	
FTLN 2657		and thereto make an addition of some other compounded	
FTLN 2658		odors which are grateful to the sense.	
FTLN 2659		All this shall become Palamon, for Palamon can	
FTLN 2660		sing, and Palamon is sweet and ev'ry good thing.	90
FTLN 2661		Desire to eat with her, 「carve」 her, drink to her, and	
FTLN 2662		still among intermingle your petition of grace and	
FTLN 2663		acceptance into her favor. Learn what maids have	
FTLN 2664		been her companions and playferes, and let them	
FTLN 2665		repair to her with <i>Palamon</i> in their mouths, and	95
FTLN 2666		appear with tokens, as if they suggested for him.—	
FTLN 2667		It is a falsehood she is in, which is with falsehoods	
FTLN 2668		to be combated. This may bring her to eat,	
FTLN 2669		to sleep, and reduce what's now out of square in	
FTLN 2670		her into their former law and regiment. I have seen	100
FTLN 2671		it approved, how many times I know not, but to	

FTLN 2672

make the number more, I have great hope in this.

FTLN 2673

I will between the passages of this project come

FTLN 2674

in with my appliance. Let us put it in execution

FTLN 2675

and hasten the success, which doubt not will bring

105

FTLN 2676

forth comfort.

They exit.

ACT 5

Scene 1

*Flourish. Enter Theseus, Pirithous, Hippolyta,
and Attendants. Three altars set up onstage.*

THESEUS

FTLN 2677 Now let 'em enter and before the gods
FTLN 2678 Tender their holy prayers. Let the temples
FTLN 2679 Burn bright with sacred fires, and the altars
FTLN 2680 In hallowed clouds commend their swelling incense
FTLN 2681 To those above us. Let no due be wanting. 5
FTLN 2682 They have a noble work in hand will honor
FTLN 2683 The very powers that love 'em.
FTLN 2684 PIRITHOUS Sir, they enter.

*Flourish of cornets. Enter Palamon and Arcite
and their Knights.*

THESEUS

FTLN 2685 You valiant and strong-hearted enemies,
FTLN 2686 You royal german foes, that this day come 10
FTLN 2687 To blow that nearness out that flames between you,
FTLN 2688 Lay by your anger for an hour and, dove-like,
FTLN 2689 Before the holy altars of your helpers,
FTLN 2690 The all-feared gods, bow down your stubborn
FTLN 2691 bodies. 15
FTLN 2692 Your ire is more than mortal; so your help be.
FTLN 2693 And as the gods regard you, fight with justice.

FTLN 2694	I'll leave you to your prayers, and betwixt you	
FTLN 2695	I part my wishes.	
FTLN 2696	PIRITHOUS	Honor crown the worthiest! 20
		<i>Theseus and his train exit.</i>
	PALAMON	
FTLN 2697	The glass is running now that cannot finish	
FTLN 2698	Till one of us expire. Think you but thus,	
FTLN 2699	That were there aught in me which strove to show	
FTLN 2700	Mine enemy in this business, were 't one eye	
FTLN 2701	Against another, arm oppressed by arm,	25
FTLN 2702	I would destroy th' offender, coz—I would	
FTLN 2703	Though parcel of myself. Then from this gather	
FTLN 2704	How I should tender you.	
FTLN 2705	ARCITE	I am in labor
FTLN 2706	To push your name, your ancient love, our kindred	30
FTLN 2707	Out of my memory, and i' th' selfsame place	
FTLN 2708	To seat something I would confound. So hoist we	
FTLN 2709	The sails that must these vessels port even where	
FTLN 2710	The heavenly Limiter pleases.	
FTLN 2711	PALAMON	You speak well. 35
FTLN 2712	Before I turn, let me embrace thee, cousin.	
		<i>「They embrace.」</i>
FTLN 2713	This I shall never do again.	
FTLN 2714	ARCITE	One farewell.
	PALAMON	
FTLN 2715	Why, let it be so. Farewell, coz.	
FTLN 2716	ARCITE	Farewell, sir. 40
		<i>Palamon and his Knights exit.</i>
FTLN 2717	Knights, kinsmen, lovers, yea, my sacrifices,	
FTLN 2718	True worshippers of Mars, whose spirit in you	
FTLN 2719	Expels the seeds of fear and th' apprehension	
FTLN 2720	Which still is 'father of' it, go with me	
FTLN 2721	Before the god of our profession. There	45
FTLN 2722	Require of him the hearts of lions and	
FTLN 2723	The breath of tigers, yea, the fierceness too,	
FTLN 2724	Yea, the speed also—to go on, I mean;	

FTLN 2725	Else wish we to be snails. You know my prize	
FTLN 2726	Must be dragged out of blood; force and great feat	50
FTLN 2727	Must put my garland on, where she sticks,	
FTLN 2728	The queen of flowers. Our intercession, then,	
FTLN 2729	Must be to him that makes the camp a cistern	
FTLN 2730	Brimmed with the blood of men. Give me your aid,	
FTLN 2731	And bend your spirits towards him.	55
	<i>They</i> [↑] <i>go to Mars's altar, fall on</i> <i>their faces before it, and then</i> [↓] <i>kneel.</i>	
FTLN 2732	Thou mighty one, that with thy power hast turned	
FTLN 2733	Green Neptune into purple, [↑] whose approach [↓]	
FTLN 2734	Comets prewarn, whose havoc in vast field	
FTLN 2735	Unearthèd skulls proclaim, whose breath blows	
FTLN 2736	down	60
FTLN 2737	The teeming Ceres' foison, who dost pluck	
FTLN 2738	With hand armipotent from forth blue clouds	
FTLN 2739	The masoned turrets, that both mak'st and break'st	
FTLN 2740	The stony girths of cities; me thy pupil,	
FTLN 2741	Youngest follower of thy drum, instruct this day	65
FTLN 2742	With military skill, that to thy laud	
FTLN 2743	I may advance my streamer, and by thee	
FTLN 2744	Be styled the lord o' th' day. Give me, great Mars,	
FTLN 2745	Some token of thy pleasure.	
	<i>Here they fall on their faces as formerly, and</i> <i>there is heard clanging of armor, with a short</i> <i>thunder, as the burst of a battle, whereupon</i> <i>they all rise and bow to the altar.</i>	
FTLN 2746	O, great corrector of enormous times,	70
FTLN 2747	Shaker of o'er-rank states, thou grand decider	
FTLN 2748	Of dusty and old titles, that heal'st with blood	
FTLN 2749	The Earth when it is sick, and [↑] cur'st [↓] the world	
FTLN 2750	O' th' pleurisy of people, I do take	
FTLN 2751	Thy signs auspiciously, and in thy name	75
FTLN 2752	To my design march boldly.—Let us go.	
	<i>They exit.</i>	

*Enter Palamon and his Knights,
with the former observance.*

PALAMON

FTLN 2753	Our stars must glister with new fire, or be	
FTLN 2754	Today extinct. Our argument is love,	
FTLN 2755	Which, if the goddess of it grant, she gives	
FTLN 2756	Victory too. Then blend your spirits with mine,	80
FTLN 2757	You whose free nobleness do make my cause	
FTLN 2758	Your personal hazard. To the goddess Venus	
FTLN 2759	Commend we our proceeding, and implore	
FTLN 2760	Her power unto our party.	
	<i>Here they ¹go to Venus's altar; fall on their faces before it, and then ¹kneel.</i>	
FTLN 2761	Hail, sovereign queen of secrets, who hast power	85
FTLN 2762	To call the fiercest tyrant from his rage	
FTLN 2763	And weep unto a girl; that hast the might	
FTLN 2764	Even with an eye-glance to choke Mars's drum	
FTLN 2765	And turn th' alarm to whispers; that canst make	
FTLN 2766	A cripple flourish with his crutch, and cure him	90
FTLN 2767	Before Apollo; that mayst force the king	
FTLN 2768	To be his subject's vassal, and induce	
FTLN 2769	Stale gravity to dance. The polled bachelor,	
FTLN 2770	Whose youth, like wanton boys through bonfires,	
FTLN 2771	Have skipped thy flame, at seventy thou canst catch,	95
FTLN 2772	And make him, to the scorn of his hoarse throat,	
FTLN 2773	Abuse young lays of love. What godlike power	
FTLN 2774	Hast thou not power upon? To Phoebus thou	
FTLN 2775	Add'st flames hotter than his; the heavenly fires	
FTLN 2776	Did scorch his mortal son, thine him. The huntress,	100
FTLN 2777	All moist and cold, some say, began to throw	
FTLN 2778	Her bow away and sigh. Take to thy grace	
FTLN 2779	Me, thy vowed soldier, who do bear thy yoke	
FTLN 2780	As 'twere a wreath of roses, yet is heavier	
FTLN 2781	Than lead itself, stings more than nettles.	105
FTLN 2782	I have never been foul-mouthed against thy law,	

FTLN 2783 Ne'er revealed secret, for I knew none—would not,
 FTLN 2784 Had I kenned all that were. I never practiced
 FTLN 2785 Upon man's wife, nor would the libels read
 FTLN 2786 Of liberal wits. I never at great feasts 110
 FTLN 2787 Sought to betray a beauty, but have blushed
 FTLN 2788 At simp'ring sirs that did. I have been harsh
 FTLN 2789 To large confessors, and have hotly asked them
 FTLN 2790 If they had mothers—I had one, a woman,
 FTLN 2791 And women 'twere they wronged. I knew a man 115
 FTLN 2792 Of eighty winters—this I told them—who
 FTLN 2793 A lass of fourteen bridged; 'twas thy power
 FTLN 2794 To put life into dust. The aged cramp
 FTLN 2795 Had screwed his square foot round;
 FTLN 2796 The gout had knit his fingers into knots; 120
 FTLN 2797 Torturing convulsions from his globy eyes
 FTLN 2798 Had almost drawn their spheres, that what was life
 FTLN 2799 In him seemed torture. This anatomy
 FTLN 2800 Had by his young fair fere a boy, and I
 FTLN 2801 Believed it was his, for she swore it was, 125
 FTLN 2802 And who would not believe her? Brief, I am
 FTLN 2803 To those that prate and have done, no companion;
 FTLN 2804 To those that boast and have not, a defier;
 FTLN 2805 To those that would and cannot, a rejoicer.
 FTLN 2806 Yea, him I do not love that tells close offices 130
 FTLN 2807 The foulest way, nor names concealments in
 FTLN 2808 The boldest language. Such a one I am,
 FTLN 2809 And vow that lover never yet made sigh
 FTLN 2810 Truer than I. O, then, most soft sweet goddess,
 FTLN 2811 Give me the victory of this question, which 135
 FTLN 2812 Is true love's merit, and bless me with a sign
 FTLN 2813 Of thy great pleasure.

*Here music is heard; doves are
 seen to flutter. They fall again upon
 their faces, then on their knees.*

FTLN 2814 O thou that from eleven to ninety reign'st
 FTLN 2815 In mortal bosoms, whose chase is this world

FTLN 2816 And we in herds thy game, I give thee thanks 140
 FTLN 2817 For this fair token, which being laid unto
 FTLN 2818 Mine innocent true heart, arms in assurance
 FTLN 2819 My body to this business.—Let us rise
 FTLN 2820 And bow before the goddess. *They* †rise and† bow.
 FTLN 2821 Time comes on. 145
They exit.

Still music of †recorders.† Enter Emilia in white, her hair about her shoulders, †wearing† a wheaten wreath; one in white holding up her train, her hair stuck with flowers; one before her carrying a silver hind, in which is conveyed incense and sweet odors, which being set upon the altar †of Diana,† her maids standing aloof, she sets fire to it. Then they curtsy and kneel.

EMILIA

FTLN 2822 O sacred, shadowy, cold, and constant queen,
 FTLN 2823 Abandoner of revels, mute contemplative,
 FTLN 2824 Sweet, solitary, white as chaste, and pure
 FTLN 2825 As wind-fanned snow, who to thy female knights
 FTLN 2826 Allow'st no more blood than will make a blush, 150
 FTLN 2827 Which is their order's robe, I here, thy priest,
 FTLN 2828 Am humbled 'fore thine altar. O, vouchsafe
 FTLN 2829 With that thy rare green eye, which never yet
 FTLN 2830 Beheld thing maculate, look on thy virgin,
 FTLN 2831 And, sacred silver mistress, lend thine ear— 155
 FTLN 2832 Which ne'er heard scurrile term, into whose port
 FTLN 2833 Ne'er entered wanton sound—to my petition,
 FTLN 2834 Seasoned with holy fear. This is my last
 FTLN 2835 Of vestal office. I am bride-habited
 FTLN 2836 But maiden-hearted. A husband I have 'pointed, 160
 FTLN 2837 But do not know him. Out of two I should
 FTLN 2838 Choose one, and pray for his success, but I
 FTLN 2839 Am guiltless of election. Of mine eyes,
 FTLN 2840 Were I to lose one—they are equal precious—
 FTLN 2841 I could doom neither; that which perished should 165

FTLN 2842 Go to 't unsentenced. Therefore, most modest queen,
 FTLN 2843 He of the two pretenders that best loves me
 FTLN 2844 And has the truest title in 't, let him
 FTLN 2845 Take off my wheaten garland, or else grant
 FTLN 2846 The file and quality I hold I may 170
 FTLN 2847 Continue in thy band.

*Here the hind vanishes under the
 altar, and in the place ascends a rose
 tree, having one rose upon it.*

FTLN 2848 See what our general of ebbs and flows
 FTLN 2849 Out from the bowels of her holy altar
 FTLN 2850 With sacred act advances: but one rose.
 FTLN 2851 If well inspired, this battle shall confound 175
 FTLN 2852 Both these brave knights, and I, a virgin flower,
 FTLN 2853 Must grow alone unplucked.

*Here is heard a sudden twang of instruments,
 and the rose falls from the tree.*

FTLN 2854 The flower is fall'n, the tree descends. O mistress,
 FTLN 2855 Thou here dischargest me. I shall be gathered;
 FTLN 2856 I think so, but I know not thine own will. 180
 FTLN 2857 Unclasp thy mystery!—I hope she's pleased;
 FTLN 2858 Her signs were gracious.

They curtsy and exit.

Scene 2

*Enter Doctor, Jailer, and Wooer in
 'the' habit of Palamon.*

DOCTOR

FTLN 2859 Has this advice I told you done any good upon her?

WOOER

FTLN 2860 O, very much. The maids that kept her company
 FTLN 2861 Have half-persuaded her that I am Palamon;
 FTLN 2862 Within this half-hour she came smiling to me,

FTLN 2863	And asked me what I would eat, and when I would	5
FTLN 2864	kiss her.	
FTLN 2865	I told her "Presently," and kissed her twice.	
	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2866	'Twas well done; twenty times had been far better,	
FTLN 2867	For there the cure lies mainly.	
FTLN 2868	WOOER	10
FTLN 2869	Then she told me	
FTLN 2870	She would watch with me tonight, for well she knew	
FTLN 2871	What hour my fit would take me.	
FTLN 2872	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2873	Let her do so,	
FTLN 2874	And when your fit comes, fit her home,	15
FTLN 2875	And presently.	
FTLN 2876	WOOER	
FTLN 2877	She would have me sing.	
FTLN 2878	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2879	You did so?	
FTLN 2880	WOOER	
FTLN 2881	No.	
FTLN 2882	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2883	'Twas very ill done, then.	
FTLN 2884	You should observe her ev'ry way.	20
FTLN 2885	WOOER	
FTLN 2886	Alas,	
FTLN 2887	I have no voice, sir, to confirm her that way.	
FTLN 2888	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2889	That's all one, if you make a noise.	
FTLN 2890	If she entreat again, do anything.	
FTLN 2891	Lie with her, if she ask you.	25
FTLN 2892	JAILER	
FTLN 2893	Ho there, doctor!	
FTLN 2894	DOCTOR	
FTLN 2895	Yes, in the way of cure.	
FTLN 2896	JAILER	
FTLN 2897	But first, by your leave,	
FTLN 2898	I' th' way of honesty.	
FTLN 2899	DOCTOR	30
FTLN 2900	That's but a niceness.	
FTLN 2901	Ne'er cast your child away for honesty.	
FTLN 2902	Cure her first this way; then if she will be honest,	
FTLN 2903	She has the path before her.	
FTLN 2904	JAILER	
FTLN 2905	Thank you, doctor.	

FTLN 2893	DOCTOR	Pray bring her in	35
FTLN 2894		And let's see how she is.	
FTLN 2895	JAILER	I will, and tell her	
FTLN 2896		Her Palamon stays for her. But, doctor,	
FTLN 2897		Methinks you are i' th' wrong still. <i>Jailer exits.</i>	
FTLN 2898	DOCTOR	Go, go.	40
FTLN 2899		You fathers are fine fools. Her honesty?	
FTLN 2900		And we should give her physic till we find that!	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2901		Why, do you think she is not honest, sir?	
	DOCTOR		
FTLN 2902		How old is she?	
FTLN 2903	WOOER	She's eighteen.	45
FTLN 2904	DOCTOR	She may be.	
FTLN 2905		But that's all one; 'tis nothing to our purpose.	
FTLN 2906		Whate'er her father says, if you perceive	
FTLN 2907		Her mood inclining that way that I spoke of,	
FTLN 2908		<i>Videlicet</i> , the way of flesh—you have me?	50
	WOOER		
FTLN 2909		「Yes,」 very well, sir.	
FTLN 2910	DOCTOR	Please her appetite,	
FTLN 2911		And do it home; it cures her, <i>ipso facto</i> ,	
FTLN 2912		The melancholy humor that infects her.	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2913		I am of your mind, doctor.	55
FTLN 2914	DOCTOR	You'll find it so.	
		<i>Enter Jailer, Daughter, 「and」 Maid.</i>	
FTLN 2915		She comes; pray 「humor」 her.	
		「 <i>Wooer and Doctor stand aside.</i> 」	
	JAILER, 「to Daughter」		
FTLN 2916		Come, your love Palamon stays for you, child,	
FTLN 2917		And has done this long hour, to visit you.	
	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 2918		I thank him for his gentle patience.	60

FTLN 2919	He's a kind gentleman, and I am much bound to	
FTLN 2920	him.	
FTLN 2921	Did you ne'er see the horse he gave me?	
FTLN 2922	JAILER	Yes.
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2923	How do you like him?	65
FTLN 2924	JAILER	He's a very fair one.
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2925	You never saw him dance?	
FTLN 2926	JAILER	No.
FTLN 2927	DAUGHTER	I have, often.
FTLN 2928	He dances very finely, very comely,	70
FTLN 2929	And for a jig, come cut and long tail to him,	
FTLN 2930	He turns you like a top.	
FTLN 2931	JAILER	That's fine indeed.
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2932	He'll dance the morris twenty mile an hour,	
FTLN 2933	And that will founder the best hobbyhorse,	75
FTLN 2934	If I have any skill, in all the parish,	
FTLN 2935	And gallops to the ¹ tune of "Light o' love."	
FTLN 2936	What think you of this horse?	
FTLN 2937	JAILER	Having these virtues,
FTLN 2938	I think he might be brought to play at tennis.	80
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2939	Alas, that's nothing.	
FTLN 2940	JAILER	Can he write and read too?
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2941	A very fair hand, and casts himself th' accounts	
FTLN 2942	Of all his hay and provender. That hostler	
FTLN 2943	Must rise betime that cozens him. You know	85
FTLN 2944	The chestnut mare the Duke has?	
FTLN 2945	JAILER	Very well.
	DAUGHTER	
FTLN 2946	She is horribly in love with him, poor beast,	
FTLN 2947	But he is like his master, coy and scornful.	

	JAILER		
FTLN 2948	What dowry has she?		90
FTLN 2949	DAUGHTER	Some two hundred bottles,	
FTLN 2950	And twenty strike of oats, but he'll ne'er have her.		
FTLN 2951	He lisps in 's neighing able to entice		
FTLN 2952	A miller's mare. He'll be the death of her.		
FTLN 2953	DOCTOR, <i>「aside」</i>	What stuff she utters!	95
	<i>「Wooer and Doctor come forward.」</i>		
	JAILER		
FTLN 2954	Make curtsy; here your love comes.		
FTLN 2955	WOOER	Pretty soul,	
FTLN 2956	How do you?	<i>「Daughter curtsies.」</i>	
FTLN 2957		That's a fine maid; there's a curtsy!	
	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 2958	Yours to command i' th' way of honesty.—		100
FTLN 2959	How far is 't now to th' end o' th' world, my masters?		
	DOCTOR		
FTLN 2960	Why, a day's journey, wench.		
FTLN 2961	DAUGHTER, <i>「to Wooer」</i>	Will you go with me?	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2962	What shall we do there, wench?		
FTLN 2963	DAUGHTER	Why, play at	105
FTLN 2964	stool-ball.		
FTLN 2965	What is there else to do?		
FTLN 2966	WOOER	I am content,	
FTLN 2967	If we shall keep our wedding there.		
FTLN 2968	DAUGHTER	'Tis true,	110
FTLN 2969	For there, I will assure you, we shall find		
FTLN 2970	Some blind priest for the purpose, that will venture		
FTLN 2971	To marry us; for here they are nice and foolish.		
FTLN 2972	Besides, my father must be hanged tomorrow,		
FTLN 2973	And that would be a blot i' th' business.		115
FTLN 2974	Are not you Palamon?		
FTLN 2975	WOOER	Do not you know me?	

	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 2976	Yes, but you care not for me; I have nothing		
FTLN 2977	But this poor petticoat and two coarse smocks.		
	WOOER		
FTLN 2978	That's all one; I will have you.	120	
FTLN 2979	DAUGHTER	Will you surely?	
	WOOER, <i>〔taking her hand〕</i>		
FTLN 2980	Yes, by this fair hand, will I.		
FTLN 2981	DAUGHTER	We'll to bed then.	
	WOOER		
FTLN 2982	E'en when you will.	<i>〔He kisses her.〕</i>	
FTLN 2983	DAUGHTER, <i>〔wiping her face〕</i>	O, sir, you would fain	125
FTLN 2984	be nibbling.		
	WOOER		
FTLN 2985	Why do you rub my kiss off?		
FTLN 2986	DAUGHTER	'Tis a sweet one,	
FTLN 2987	And will perfume me finely against the wedding.		
FTLN 2988	Is not this your cousin Arcite?	<i>〔She indicates Doctor.〕</i>	130
FTLN 2989	DOCTOR	Yes, sweetheart,	
FTLN 2990	And I am glad my cousin Palamon		
FTLN 2991	Has made so fair a choice.		
FTLN 2992	DAUGHTER	Do you think he'll have me?	
	DOCTOR		
FTLN 2993	Yes, without doubt.	135	
FTLN 2994	DAUGHTER, <i>〔to Jailer〕</i>	Do you think so too?	
FTLN 2995	JAILER	Yes.	
	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 2996	We shall have many children. (<i>〔To Doctor.〕</i>) Lord,		
FTLN 2997	how you're grown!		
FTLN 2998	My Palamon, I hope, will grow too, finely,	140	
FTLN 2999	Now he's at liberty. Alas, poor chicken,		
FTLN 3000	He was kept down with hard meat and ill lodging,		
FTLN 3001	But I'll kiss him up again.		

Enter a Messenger.

	MESSENGER		
FTLN 3002	What do you here? You'll lose the noblest sight		
FTLN 3003	That e'er was seen.		145
FTLN 3004	JAILER	Are they i' th' field?	
FTLN 3005	MESSENGER	They are.	
FTLN 3006	You bear a charge there too.		
FTLN 3007	JAILER	I'll away straight.—	
FTLN 3008	I must e'en leave you here.		150
FTLN 3009	DOCTOR	Nay, we'll go with you.	
FTLN 3010	I will not lose the [⌈] sight. [⌋]		
FTLN 3011	JAILER, [⌈] <i>aside to Doctor</i> [⌋]	How did you like her?	
	DOCTOR		
FTLN 3012	I'll warrant you, within these three or four days		
FTLN 3013	I'll make her right again. [⌈] <i>Jailer and Messenger exit.</i> [⌋]		155
FTLN 3014	([⌈] <i>To Wooer.</i> [⌋])	You must not from her,	
FTLN 3015	But still preserve her in this way.		
FTLN 3016	WOOER	I will.	
	DOCTOR		
FTLN 3017	Let's get her in.		
FTLN 3018	WOOER	Come, sweet, we'll go to dinner	160
FTLN 3019	And then we'll play at cards.		
FTLN 3020	DAUGHTER	And shall we kiss too?	
	WOOER		
FTLN 3021	A hundred times.		
FTLN 3022	DAUGHTER	And twenty.	
FTLN 3023	WOOER	Ay, and twenty.	165
	DAUGHTER		
FTLN 3024	And then we'll sleep together.		
FTLN 3025	DOCTOR, [⌈] <i>to Wooer</i> [⌋]	Take her offer.	
	WOOER		
FTLN 3026	Yes, marry, will we.		
FTLN 3027	DAUGHTER	But you shall not hurt me.	
	WOOER		
FTLN 3028	I will not, sweet.		170
FTLN 3029	DAUGHTER	If you do, love, I'll cry.	
		<i>They exit.</i>	

Scene 3

*Flourish. Enter Theseus, Hippolyta,
Emilia, Pirithous, and some Attendants.*

EMILIA

FTLN 3030 I'll no step further.

FTLN 3031 PIRITHOUS Will you lose this sight?

EMILIA

FTLN 3032 I had rather see a wren hawk at a fly
FTLN 3033 Than this decision; ev'ry blow that falls
FTLN 3034 Threats a brave life; each stroke laments 5
FTLN 3035 The place whereon it falls, and sounds more like
FTLN 3036 A bell than blade. I will stay here.

FTLN 3037 It is enough my hearing shall be punished
FTLN 3038 With what shall happen, 'gainst the which there is
FTLN 3039 No deafing but to hear; not taint mine eye 10
FTLN 3040 With dread sights it may shun.

FTLN 3041 PIRITHOUS, *['to Theseus']* Sir, my good lord,
FTLN 3042 Your sister will no further.

FTLN 3043 THESEUS O, she must.
FTLN 3044 She shall see deeds of honor in their kind, 15
FTLN 3045 Which sometime show well, penciled. Nature now
FTLN 3046 Shall make and act the story, the belief
FTLN 3047 Both sealed with eye and ear.—You must be present;
FTLN 3048 You are the victor's meed, the price and garland
FTLN 3049 To crown the question's title. 20

FTLN 3050 EMILIA Pardon me.
FTLN 3051 If I were there, I'd wink.

FTLN 3052 THESEUS You must be there;
FTLN 3053 This trial is as 'twere i' th' night, and you
FTLN 3054 The only star to shine. 25

FTLN 3055 EMILIA I am extinct;
FTLN 3056 There is but envy in that light which shows
FTLN 3057 The one the other. Darkness, which ever was
FTLN 3058 The dam of horror, who does stand accursed
FTLN 3059 Of many mortal millions, may even now, 30

FTLN 3060	By casting her black mantle over both,	
FTLN 3061	That neither could find other, get herself	
FTLN 3062	Some part of a good name, and many a murder	
FTLN 3063	Set off whereto she's guilty.	
FTLN 3064	HIPPOLYTA	You must go. 35
	EMILIA	
FTLN 3065	In faith, I will not.	
FTLN 3066	THESEUS	Why, the knights must kindle
FTLN 3067	Their valor at your eye. Know, of this war	
FTLN 3068	You are the treasure, and must needs be by	
FTLN 3069	To give the service pay. 40	
FTLN 3070	EMILIA	Sir, pardon me.
FTLN 3071	The title of a kingdom may be tried	
FTLN 3072	Out of itself.	
FTLN 3073	THESEUS	Well, well, then; at your pleasure.
FTLN 3074	Those that remain with you could wish their office	45
FTLN 3075	To any of their enemies.	
FTLN 3076	HIPPOLYTA	Farewell, sister.
FTLN 3077	I am like to know your husband 'fore yourself	
FTLN 3078	By some small start of time. He whom the gods	
FTLN 3079	Do of the two know best, I pray them he	50
FTLN 3080	Be made your lot.	
	<i>Theseus, Hippolyta, Pirithous, [and others,] exit. [Emilia remains, comparing again the pictures of Arcite and Palamon.]</i>	
	EMILIA	
FTLN 3081	Arcite is gently visaged, yet his eye	
FTLN 3082	Is like an engine bent, or a sharp weapon	
FTLN 3083	In a soft sheath; mercy and manly courage	
FTLN 3084	Are bedfellows in his visage. Palamon	55
FTLN 3085	Has a most menacing aspect; his brow	
FTLN 3086	Is graved, and seems to bury what it frowns on;	
FTLN 3087	Yet sometimes 'tis not so, but alters to	
FTLN 3088	The quality of his thoughts. Long time his eye	
FTLN 3089	Will dwell upon his object. Melancholy	60
FTLN 3090	Becomes him nobly; so does Arcite's mirth;	

FTLN 3091	But Palamon's sadness is a kind of mirth,	
FTLN 3092	So mingled, as if mirth did make him sad	
FTLN 3093	And sadness merry. Those darker humors that	
FTLN 3094	Stick misbecomingly on others, on them	65
FTLN 3095	Live in fair dwelling.	
	<i>Cornets. Trumpets sound as to a charge.</i>	
FTLN 3096	Hark how yon spurs to spirit do incite	
FTLN 3097	The princes to their proof! Arcite may win me,	
FTLN 3098	And yet may Palamon wound Arcite to	
FTLN 3099	The spoiling of his figure. O, what pity	70
FTLN 3100	Enough for such a chance? If I were by,	
FTLN 3101	I might do hurt, for they would glance their eyes	
FTLN 3102	Towards my seat, and in that motion might	
FTLN 3103	Omit a ward or forfeit an offense	
FTLN 3104	Which craved that very time.	75
	<i>Cornets. A great cry and noise within crying "À Palamon!"</i>	
FTLN 3105	It is much better	
FTLN 3106	I am not there. O, better never born	
FTLN 3107	Than minister to such harm!	
	<i>Enter Servant.</i>	
FTLN 3108	What is the chance?	
FTLN 3109	SERVANT The cry's "À Palamon."	80
FTLN 3110	EMILIA Then he has won. 'Twas ever likely.	
FTLN 3111	He looked all grace and success, and he is	
FTLN 3112	Doubtless the prim'st of men. I prithee run	
FTLN 3113	And tell me how it goes.	
	<i>Shout and cornets, crying "À Palamon!"</i>	
FTLN 3114	SERVANT Still "Palamon."	85
	EMILIA	
FTLN 3115	Run and inquire. [<i>Servant exits.</i>]	
FTLN 3116	[<i>Addressing Arcite's picture.</i>] Poor servant, thou hast	
FTLN 3117	lost.	
FTLN 3118	Upon my right side still I wore thy picture,	
FTLN 3119	Palamon's on the left—why so, I know not.	90

FTLN 3149 No more be hid in him than fire in flax, 120
 FTLN 3150 Than humble banks can go to law with waters
 FTLN 3151 That drift-winds force to raging. I did think
 FTLN 3152 Good Palamon would miscarry, yet I knew not
 FTLN 3153 Why I did think so. Our reasons are not prophets
 FTLN 3154 When oft our fancies are. They are coming off. 125
 FTLN 3155 Alas, poor Palamon!

*Cornets. Enter Theseus, Hippolyta, Pirithous,
 Arcite as victor, and Attendants [and others.]*

THESEUS

FTLN 3156 Lo, where our sister is in expectation,
 FTLN 3157 Yet quaking and unsettled.—Fairest Emily,
 FTLN 3158 The gods by their divine arbitrament
 FTLN 3159 Have given you this knight; he is a good one 130
 FTLN 3160 As ever struck at head.—Give me your hands.
 FTLN 3161 Receive you her, you him. Be plighted with
 FTLN 3162 A love that grows as you decay.

ARCITE

Emily,

FTLN 3164 To buy you I have lost what's dearest to me 135
 FTLN 3165 Save what is bought, and yet I purchase cheaply,
 FTLN 3166 As I do rate your value.

THESEUS

O loved sister,

FTLN 3168 He speaks now of as brave a knight as e'er
 FTLN 3169 Did spur a noble steed. Surely the gods 140
 FTLN 3170 Would have him die a bachelor, lest his race
 FTLN 3171 Should show i' th' world too godlike. His behavior
 FTLN 3172 So charmed me that methought Alcides was
 FTLN 3173 To him a sow of lead. If I could praise
 FTLN 3174 Each part of him to th' all I have spoke, your Arcite 145
 FTLN 3175 Did not lose by 't, for he that was thus good
 FTLN 3176 Encountered yet his better. I have heard
 FTLN 3177 Two emulous Philomels beat the ear o' th' night
 FTLN 3178 With their contentious throats, now one the higher,
 FTLN 3179 Anon the other, then again the first, 150
 FTLN 3180 And by-and-by out-breasted, that the sense

FTLN 3208	Have their good wishes; we prevent	
FTLN 3209	The loathsome misery of age, beguile	
FTLN 3210	The gout and rheum that in lag hours attend	
FTLN 3211	For gray approachers; we come towards the gods	
FTLN 3212	Young and unwappered, not halting under crimes	10
FTLN 3213	Many and stale. That sure shall please the gods	
FTLN 3214	Sooner than such, to give us nectar with 'em,	
FTLN 3215	For we are more clear spirits. My dear kinsmen,	
FTLN 3216	Whose lives for this poor comfort are laid down,	
FTLN 3217	You have sold 'em too too cheap.	15
FTLN 3218	FIRST KNIGHT	What ending could be
FTLN 3219	Of more content? O'er us the victors have	
FTLN 3220	Fortune, whose title is as momentary	
FTLN 3221	As to us death is certain. A grain of honor	
FTLN 3222	They not o'er-weigh us.	20
FTLN 3223	SECOND KNIGHT	Let us bid farewell;
FTLN 3224	And with our patience anger tott'ring Fortune,	
FTLN 3225	Who at her certain'st reels.	
FTLN 3226	THIRD KNIGHT	Come, who begins?
	PALAMON	
FTLN 3227	E'en he that led you to this banquet shall	25
FTLN 3228	Taste to you all. <i>['To Jailer.']</i> Ah ha, my friend, my	
FTLN 3229	friend,	
FTLN 3230	Your gentle daughter gave me freedom once;	
FTLN 3231	You'll see 't done now forever. Pray, how does she?	
FTLN 3232	I heard she was not well; her kind of ill	30
FTLN 3233	Gave me some sorrow.	
FTLN 3234	JAILER	Sir, she's well restored,
FTLN 3235	And to be married shortly.	
FTLN 3236	PALAMON	By my short life,
FTLN 3237	I am most glad on 't. 'Tis the latest thing	35
FTLN 3238	I shall be glad of; prithee, tell her so.	
FTLN 3239	Commend me to her, and to piece her portion,	
FTLN 3240	Tender her this. <i>['He gives his purse to Jailer.']</i>	
FTLN 3241	FIRST KNIGHT	Nay, let's be offerers all.

	SECOND KNIGHT	
FTLN 3242	Is it a maid?	40
FTLN 3243	PALAMON Verily, I think so.	
FTLN 3244	A right good creature, more to me deserving	
FTLN 3245	Than I can quit or speak of.	
FTLN 3246	ALL KNIGHTS Commend us to her.	
	<i>They give their purses.</i>	
	JAILER	
FTLN 3247	The gods requite you all and make her thankful!	45
	PALAMON	
FTLN 3248	Adieu, and let my life be now as short	
FTLN 3249	As my leave-taking. <i>「Lays his head」 on the block.</i>	
FTLN 3250	FIRST KNIGHT Lead, courageous cousin.	
FTLN 3251	SECOND <i>「AND THIRD」</i> KNIGHTS We'll follow cheerfully.	
	<i>A great noise within crying "Run!" "Save!" "Hold!"</i>	
	<i>Enter in haste a Messenger.</i>	
	MESSENGER	
FTLN 3252	Hold, hold! O, hold, hold, hold!	50
	<i>Enter Pirithous in haste.</i>	
	PIRITHOUS	
FTLN 3253	Hold, ho! It is a cursèd haste you made	
FTLN 3254	If you have done so quickly!—Noble Palamon,	
FTLN 3255	The gods will show their glory in a life	
FTLN 3256	That thou art yet to lead.	
FTLN 3257	PALAMON Can that be,	55
FTLN 3258	When Venus, I have said, is false? How do things	
FTLN 3259	fare?	
	PIRITHOUS	
FTLN 3260	Arise, great sir, and give the tidings ear	
FTLN 3261	That are most <i>「dearly」</i> sweet and bitter.	
FTLN 3262	PALAMON, <i>「rising」</i> What	60
FTLN 3263	Hath waked us from our dream?	
FTLN 3264	PIRITHOUS List then: your	
FTLN 3265	cousin,	

FTLN 3266	Mounted upon a steed that Emily	
FTLN 3267	Did first bestow on him—a black one, owing	65
FTLN 3268	Not a hair worth of white, which some will say	
FTLN 3269	Weakens his price, and many will not buy	
FTLN 3270	His goodness with this note, which superstition	
FTLN 3271	Here finds allowance—on this horse is Arcite	
FTLN 3272	Trotting the stones of Athens—which the calkins	70
FTLN 3273	Did rather tell than trample, for the horse	
FTLN 3274	Would make his length a mile, if 't pleased his rider	
FTLN 3275	To put pride in him. As he thus went counting	
FTLN 3276	The flinty pavement, dancing, as 'twere, to th' music	
FTLN 3277	His own hooves made—for, as they say, from iron	75
FTLN 3278	Came music's origin—what envious flint,	
FTLN 3279	Cold as old Saturn, and like him possessed	
FTLN 3280	With fire malevolent, darted a spark,	
FTLN 3281	Or what fierce sulphur else, to this end made,	
FTLN 3282	I comment not; the hot horse, hot as fire,	80
FTLN 3283	Took toy at this and fell to what disorder	
FTLN 3284	His power could give his will; bounds, comes on end,	
FTLN 3285	Forgets school-doing, being therein trained	
FTLN 3286	And of kind manage. Pig-like he whines	
FTLN 3287	At the sharp rowel, which he frets at rather	85
FTLN 3288	Than any jot obeys; seeks all foul means	
FTLN 3289	Of boist'rous and rough jadery to disseat	
FTLN 3290	His lord that kept it bravely. When naught served,	
FTLN 3291	When neither curb would crack, girth break, nor	
FTLN 3292	diff'ring plunges	90
FTLN 3293	Disroot his rider whence he grew, but that	
FTLN 3294	He kept him 'tween his legs, on his hind hoofs	
FTLN 3295	On end he stands	
FTLN 3296	That Arcite's legs, being higher than his head,	
FTLN 3297	Seemed with strange art to hang. His victor's wreath	95
FTLN 3298	Even then fell off his head, and presently	
FTLN 3299	Backward the jade comes o'er, and his full poise	
FTLN 3300	Becomes the rider's load. Yet is he living,	
FTLN 3301	But such a vessel 'tis that floats but for	

FTLN 3302 The surge that next approaches. He much desires 100
 FTLN 3303 To have some speech with you. Lo, he appears.

*Enter Theseus, Hippolyta, Emilia,
 and Arcite carried in a chair.*

PALAMON

FTLN 3304 O, miserable end of our alliance!
 FTLN 3305 The gods are mighty, Arcite. If thy heart,
 FTLN 3306 Thy worthy, manly heart, be yet unbroken,
 FTLN 3307 Give me thy last words. I am Palamon, 105
 FTLN 3308 One that yet loves thee dying.

ARCITE

Take Emilia

FTLN 3310 And with her all the world's joy. Reach thy hand;
 FTLN 3311 Farewell. I have told my last hour. I was false,
 FTLN 3312 Yet never treacherous. Forgive me, cousin. 110
 FTLN 3313 One kiss from fair Emilia. *She kisses him.*
 FTLN 3314 'Tis done.

Take her. I die. *He dies.*

FTLN 3316 PALAMON Thy brave soul seek Elysium!

EMILIA

FTLN 3317 I'll close thine eyes, prince. Blessed souls be with 115
 FTLN 3318 thee!
 FTLN 3319 Thou art a right good man, and while I live,
 FTLN 3320 This day I give to tears.

FTLN 3321 PALAMON And I to honor.

THESEUS

FTLN 3322 In this place first you fought; e'en very here 120
 FTLN 3323 I sundered you. Acknowledge to the gods
 FTLN 3324 Our thanks that you are living.
 FTLN 3325 His part is played, and though it were too short,
 FTLN 3326 He did it well. Your day is lengthened, and
 FTLN 3327 The blissful dew of heaven does arouse you. 125
 FTLN 3328 The powerful Venus well hath graced her altar,
 FTLN 3329 And given you your love. Our master, Mars,
 FTLN 3330 Hath vouch'd his oracle, and to Arcite gave

FTLN 3331	The grace of the contention. So the deities	
FTLN 3332	Have showed due justice.—Bear this hence.	130
FTLN 3333	PALAMON	O cousin,
FTLN 3334	That we should things desire which do cost us	
FTLN 3335	The loss of our desire, that naught could buy	
FTLN 3336	Dear love but loss of dear love.	
		[<i>Arcite's body is carried out.</i>]
FTLN 3337	THESEUS	Never Fortune
FTLN 3338	Did play a subtler game. The conquered triumphs;	135
FTLN 3339	The victor has the loss; yet in the passage	
FTLN 3340	The gods have been most equal.—Palamon,	
FTLN 3341	Your kinsman hath confessed the right o' th' lady	
FTLN 3342	Did lie in you, for you first saw her and	140
FTLN 3343	Even then proclaimed your fancy. He restored her	
FTLN 3344	As your stol'n jewel and desired your spirit	
FTLN 3345	To send him hence forgiven. The gods my justice	
FTLN 3346	Take from my hand and they themselves become	
FTLN 3347	The executioners. Lead your lady off,	145
FTLN 3348	And call your lovers from the stage of death,	
FTLN 3349	Whom I adopt my friends. A day or two	
FTLN 3350	Let us look sadly, and give grace unto	
FTLN 3351	The funeral of Arcite, in whose end	
FTLN 3352	The visages of bridegrooms we'll put on	150
FTLN 3353	And smile with Palamon—for whom an hour,	
FTLN 3354	But one hour since, I was as dearly sorry	
FTLN 3355	As glad of Arcite, and am now as glad	
FTLN 3356	As for him sorry. O you heavenly charmers,	
FTLN 3357	What things you make of us! For what we lack	155
FTLN 3358	We laugh, for what we have are sorry, still	
FTLN 3359	Are children in some kind. Let us be thankful	
FTLN 3360	For that which is, and with you leave dispute	
FTLN 3361	That are above our question. Let's go off	
FTLN 3362	And bear us like the time.	160

Flourish. They exit.

「*Enter Epilogue.*」

EPILOGUE

FTLN 3363	I would now ask you how you like the play,	
FTLN 3364	But, as it is with schoolboys, cannot say.	
FTLN 3365	I am cruel fearful! Pray yet, stay a while,	
FTLN 3366	And let me look upon you. No man smile?	
FTLN 3367	Then it goes hard, I see. He that has	5
FTLN 3368	Loved a young handsome wench, then, show his	
FTLN 3369	face—	
FTLN 3370	'Tis strange if none be here—and, if he will,	
FTLN 3371	Against his conscience let him hiss and kill	
FTLN 3372	Our market. 'Tis in vain, I see, to stay you.	10
FTLN 3373	Have at the worst can come, then! Now what say	
FTLN 3374	you?	
FTLN 3375	And yet mistake me not: I am not bold.	
FTLN 3376	We have no such cause. If the tale we have told—	
FTLN 3377	For 'tis no other—any way content you—	15
FTLN 3378	For to that honest purpose it was meant you—	
FTLN 3379	We have our end; and you shall have ere long,	
FTLN 3380	I dare say, many a better, to prolong	
FTLN 3381	Your old loves to us. We, and all our might,	
FTLN 3382	Rest at your service. Gentlemen, good night.	20

Flourish. 「*He exits.*」
