

[The Duke has entered, unobserved.]

PROTEUS My shame and guilt confounds me.  
Forgive me, Valentine. If hearty sorrow  
Be a sufficient ransom for offense,  
I tender 't here. I do as truly suffer  
As e'er I did commit.

~~VALENTINE Then I am paid,  
And once again I do receive thee honest.  
Who by repentance is not satisfied  
Is nor of heaven nor Earth, for these are pleased;  
By penitence th' Eternal's wrath's appeased.  
And that my love may appear plain and free,  
All that was mine in Sylvia I give thee.~~

JULIA, *[aside]*  
O me unhappy!—~~[She swoons.]~~

~~PROTEUS Look to the boy.~~

~~VALENTINE Why, boy!  
Why, wag, how now? What's the matter? Look up.  
Speak.~~

~~JULIA, [as Sebastian] O, good sir, my master charged  
me to deliver a ring to Madam Sylvia, which out of  
my neglect was never done.~~

~~PROTEUS Where is that ring, boy?~~

~~JULIA, [as Sebastian] Here 'tis; this is it.  
[She rises, and hands him a ring.]~~

~~PROTEUS How, let me see.  
Why, this is the ring I gave to Julia.~~

~~JULIA, [as Sebastian]  
O, cry you mercy, sir, I have mistook.  
This is the ring you sent to Sylvia.  
[She offers another ring.]~~

PROTEUS  
But how cam'st thou by this ring? At my depart  
I gave this unto Julia.

JULIA  
And Julia herself did give it me,  
And Julia herself hath brought it hither.  
[She reveals herself.]

~~PROTEUS How? Julia!~~

JULIA  
Behold her that gave aim to all thy oaths  
And entertained 'em deeply in her heart.  
How oft hast thou with perjury cleft the root!

O, Proteus, ~~let this habit make thee blush.~~  
Be thou ashamed ~~that I have took upon me~~  
~~Such an immodest raiment,~~ if shame live  
In a ~~disguise of love.~~  
~~It is the lesser blot, modesty finds,~~  
~~Women to change their shapes than men their minds.~~

PROTEUS

~~"Than men their minds"? 'Tis true. O heaven, were~~  
~~man~~  
~~But constant, he were perfect; that one error~~  
~~Fills him with faults, makes him run through all th'~~  
~~sins;~~  
~~Inconstancy falls off ere it begins.~~  
~~What is in Sylvia's face but I may spy~~  
~~More fresh in Julia's, with a constant eye?~~

VALENTINE, ~~[to Julia and Proteus][drawing his sword] -Come, come, a~~  
~~hand from either.~~

~~Let me be blest to make this happy close.~~  
~~'Twere pity two such friends should be long foes.~~  
~~[Valentine joins the hands of Julia and Proteus.]~~

PROTEUS

~~Bear witness, heaven, I have my wish forever.~~

JULIA

~~And I mine.~~

~~[Enter Thurio, Duke, and Outlaws.]~~

OUTLAWS ~~A prize, a prize, a prize!~~

VALENTINE

~~Forbear, forbear, I say. It is my lord the Duke.~~  
~~[The Outlaws release the Duke and Thurio.]~~  
~~Your Grace is welcome to a man disgraced,~~  
~~Banished Valentine.~~

DUKE

~~Sir Valentine?~~

THURIO ~~Yonder is Sylvia, and Sylvia's mine.~~

VALENTINE

~~Thurio, give back, or else embrace thy death;~~  
~~Come not within the measure of my wrath.~~  
~~Do not name Sylvia thine; if once again,~~  
~~Verona shall not hold thee. Here she stands;~~  
~~Take but possession of her with a touch—~~  
~~I dare thee but to breathe upon my love!~~

~~[The Duke reveals himself. Valentine puts away his sword.]~~

THURIO

~~Sir Valentine, I care not for her, I.~~

~~I hold him but a fool that will endanger  
His body for a girl that loves him not.  
I claim her not, and therefore she is thine.~~

DUKE

~~The more degenerate and base art thou  
To make such means for her as thou hast done,  
And leave her on such slight conditions.—~~

Now, by the honor of my ancestry,  
I do applaud thy spirit, Valentine,  
And think thee worthy of an empress' love.  
Know, then, I here forget all former griefs,  
Cancel all grudge, repeal thee home again,  
Plead a new state in thy unrivaled merit,  
To which I thus subscribe: Sir Valentine,  
Thou art a gentleman, and well derived;  
Take thou thy Sylvia, for thou hast deserved her.

VALENTINE

I thank your Grace, the gift hath made me happy.  
I now beseech you, for your daughter's sake,  
To grant one boon that I shall ask of you.

DUKE

I grant ~~it for thine own,~~ whate'er it be.

VALENTINE

~~These banished men, that I have kept withal,  
Are men endued with worthy qualities.  
Forgive them what they have committed here,  
And let them be recalled from their exile;  
They are reformed, civil, full of good,  
And fit for great employment, worthy lord.~~

DUKE

~~Thou hast prevailed; I pardon them and thee.  
Dispose of them as thou know'st their deserts.  
Come, let us go; we will include all jars  
With triumphs, mirth, and rare solemnity.~~

VALENTINE

~~And as we walk along, I dare be bold  
With our discourse to make your Grace to smile.  
[Pointing to Julia.] What think you of this page, my  
lord?~~

DUKE

~~I think the boy hath grace in him; he blushes.~~

VALENTINE

~~I warrant you, my lord, more grace than boy.~~

~~DUKE—What mean you by that saying?~~

VALENTINE

~~Please you, I'll tell you as we pass along,  
That you will wonder what hath fortun'd.—~~

~~Come, Proteus, [to Proteus] 'tis your penance but to hear  
The story of your loves discovered.  
That done, our day of marriage shall be yours,  
One feast, one house, one mutual happiness.  
[They exit, leaving Proteus alone.]~~