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*1828*

*[Signature]*

Accessions

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*147*

A King and No King A<sup>to</sup> 1619.

This Play is highly commended by Doyden  
The first Edition says it was acted at the  
Globe, the others say at Black Friars.

This first Edition has no printed List of  
the Dramatis Personae

This first edit<sup>h</sup> is very scarce. Reid's copy  
produced £2-12-6

Long Short in a place the best of all  
in other the same & other words  
and the best of all in other words











# A King and no King.

Acted at the *Globe*, by his Maie-  
sties Servants:

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Written by *Francis Beaumont*, and *John Fletcher*.

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AT LONDON

Printed for *Thomas Walkley*, and are to be sold  
at his shoppe at the Eagle and Child in  
*Brittans-Burssse*. 1619.



TO  
THE RIGHT  
VVORSHIPFULL,  
AND WORTHIE  
Knight, Sir HENRIE  
NEVILL.

WORTHY SIR,

157. 648  
May 1878

I Present, or rather returne vnto your view,  
that which formerly hath beene receiued from  
you, hereby effecting what you did desire: To  
commend the worke in my vnlearned method,  
were rather to detract from it, then to giue it any  
luster. It sufficeth it hath your Worships ap-  
prohation and patronage, to the commendation  
of the Authors, and incouragement of their fur-  
ther labours: and thus wholly committing my  
selfe and it to your Worships dispose I rest, euer  
readie to doe you seruice, not onely in the like,  
but in what I may.

Thomas VValkley.





# A King and NO KING.

*Enter Mardonius and Bessus.*

*Mar:* **B**essus, the KING has made a fayre hand on't, has ended the warres at a blow, would my sword had a close basket hilt to hold wine, and the blade would make kniues, for we shall haue nothing but eating and drinking.

*Bes.* We that are commanders shall doe well enough.

*Mar.* Faith *Bes.* such cōmanders as thou may, I had as liue set thee *Perdue* for a pudding yth darke, as *Alexander* the great.

*Bes.* I loue these iests exceedingly.

*Mar.* I thinke thou lou'st them better then quarrelling *Bessus*, Ile say so much ythy behalfe, and yet thou art valiant enough vpon a retreat, I thinke thou wouldst kill any man that stopt thee, and thou couldst.

*Bes.* But was not this a braue combate *Mardonius*?

*Mar.* Why, didst thou see't?

*Bes.* You stood with me.

*Mar.* I did so, but me thought thou winkst euery blowe they strake.

*Bes.* Well, I belecue there are better Souldiers then I, that neuer saw two Princes fight in lists.

*Mar.* By my troth I thinke so too *Bessus*, many a thousand, but certenly all that are worse then thou haue seene as much.

*Bes.* Twas brauely done of our King.



*Mar.* Yes, if he had not ended the warres, I am glad thou darst talke of such dangerous busineses.

*Bess.* To take a Prince prisoner in the heart of his owne Countrey in single combate.

*Mar.* See how thy blood cruddles at this, I thinke thou wouldst be contented to be beaten in this passion.

*Bess.* Shall I tell you trulie.

*Mar.* I.

*Bess.* I could willingly venter for it.

*Mar.* Vm, no venter neither good *Bessus*.

*Bess.* Let me not liue, if I doe not thinke it is a brauer peece of seruice, then that I me so fam'd for.

*Mar.* V Why art thou fam'd for any valour?

*Bess.* I fam'd, I, I warrant you.

*Mar.* I am verie heartily glad on't, I haue beene with thee euer since thou cam'st ath' warres, and this is the first word that euer I heard on't, prethee who fames thee?

*Bess.* The Christian world.

*Mar.* Tis heathenishly done of them, in my conscience thou deseru'st it not.

*Bess.* Yes, I ha done good seruice.

*Mar.* I doe not know how thou maist waite of a man in's Chamber, or thy agilitie in shifting a trencher, but otherwise no seruice good *Bessus*.

*Bess.* You saw me doe the seruice your selfe.

*Mar.* Not so hastie sweet *Bessus*, where was it, is the place vanished.

*Bess.* At *Bessus* desperate redemption.

*Mar.* *Bessus* desperate redemption, wher's that.

*Bess.* There where I redeemed the day, the place beares my

*Mar.* Prethee who christned it.

*Bess.* The Souldier:

*Mar.* If I were not a very meerey dispos'd man, what would become of thee: one that had but a graine of coller in the whole composition of his body, would send thee of an arrand to the wormes, for putting thy name vpon that field: did not I beat thee there yth head, a th troupes with a truncheon, because thou wouldst needs run away with thy company,



pany, when we should charge the enimie.

*Bes.* True, but I did not runne.

*Mar.* Right *Bessus*, I beat thee out on't.

*Bes.* But came not I vp when the day was gone, and re-  
deem'd all?

*Mar.* Thou knowst, and so doe I, thou mean'st to flie, and  
thy feare making thee mistake, thou ranst vpon the enimie,  
and a hot charge thou gau'st, as Ile doe thee right, thou art  
furious in running away, and I thinke we owe thy feare for  
our victorie. If I were the King, and were sure thou wouldst  
mistake alwayes, and runne away vppon the enimie, thou  
shouldst be Generall by this light.

*Bess.* Youle neuer leaue this till I fall foule.

*Mar.* No more such words deare *Bessus*: for though I  
haue euer knowne thee a coward, and therefore durst neuer  
strike thee; yet if thou proceedst, I will allow thee valiant,  
and beate thee.

*Bes.* Come, come, our King's a braue fellow.

*Mar.* He is so *Bessus*, I wonder how thou com'st to know  
it: But if thou wert a man of vnderstanding, I would tell thee  
he is vain-glorious, and humble, and angric, and patient, and  
merrie, and dull, and ioyfull, and sorrowfull, in extremitie  
in an houre: Doe not thinke mee thy friend for this, for if I  
car'd who knew it, thou shouldst not heare it *Bessus*: here hee  
is with the prey in his foote.

*Enter Arbaces and Tigranes, with attendants.*

*Arb.* Thy sadnesse (braue *Tigranes*) takes away  
From my fall victorie; am I become  
Of so small fame, that any man should grieue  
When I orecome him: They that plac't me here,  
Intended it an honour large enough  
For the most valiant liuing; but to dare  
Oppose me single, though he lost the day,  
VVhat should afflict you, you are free as I,  
To be my prisoner, is to be more free  
Then you were formerlie; and neuer thinke  
The man I held worthy to combat me,  
Shall be vs'd seruilly: Thy ransome is

To take my onely sister to thy wife;  
A heauy one *Tigranes*: for shee is  
A Ladie that the neighbour Princes send  
Blanks to fetch home: I haue beene too ynkind  
To her *Tigranes*, shee but nine yeere old,  
I left her, and nere saw her since: your warres  
Haue held me long, and taught me, though a youth,  
The way to victorie: shee was a pretty childe  
Then, I was little better; but now fame  
Cries loudly on her, and my Messengers  
Make me belecue shee is a miracle;  
Sheele make you shrinke as I did, with a stroke  
But of her eye *Tigranes*.

Is it the course of  
*Iberia*, to vse their prisoners thus?  
Had Fortune throwne my name about *Arbaces*,  
I should not thus haue talkt: for in *Armenia*  
vve hold it base; you should haue kept your temper,  
Till you saw home agen; where tis the fashion.  
Perhaps to brag.

*Arb.* Bee you my witnesse Earth:  
Neede I to brag, doth not this captiue Prince  
Speake me sufficiently, and all the Acts  
That I haue wrought vpon his suffering Land?  
Should I then boast? Where lies that foot of ground  
Within his whole Realme, that I haue not past  
Fighting, and Conquering? Farre then from mee  
Be ostentation: I could tell the World  
How I haue laid his Kingdome desolate.  
With this sole arme, propt by Diuinity,  
Stript him out of his glories, and haue sent  
The pride of all his youth to people graues,  
And made his Virgins languish for their loues;  
If I would brag, Should I that haue the power  
To teach the Neighbour world humility,  
Mix with vaine glory.

*Mar.* In deede this is none?

*Arb.* *Tigranes*, no; did I but take delight



To stretch my deedes as others doe on words,  
I could amaze my hearers .

*Mar.* So you doe :

*Arb.* But he shall wrong his, and my modesty  
That thinkes me apt to boast : After an Act  
Fit for a God to doe vpon his foe,  
A little glory in a Souldiers mouth,  
Is well becomming , bec it farre from vaine.

*Mar.* Its pittie that valour should be thus drunke.

*Arba.* I offer you my Sister, and you answere,  
I doe insult : A Lady that no suit  
Nor treasure, nor thy Crowne could purchase thee,  
But that thou faughtst with mee.

*Tigr.* Though this bee worse  
Then that you spoke before, it strikes not mee  
But that you thinke to ouer-grace mee with  
The marriage of your Sister, troubles mee,  
I would giue worlds for ransomes were they mine,  
Rather then haue her .

*Arb.* See if I insult

That am the Conqueror, and for a ransome  
Offer rich treasure to the conquered,  
Which he refuses, and I beare his scorne.  
It cannot be selfe flattery to say,  
The daughters of your Country set by her  
Would see their shame ; runne home, and blush to death  
At their owne foulness, yet shee is not faire,  
Nor beautifull, those words expresse her not,  
They say her lookes are something excellent,  
That wants a name yet : were shee odious  
Her birth deserues the Empire of the world.  
Sister to such a Brother, that hath tane  
Victorie prisoner, and throughout the Earth  
Carries her bound ; and should hee let her loose,  
Shee durst not leaue him : Nature did her wrong  
To print continuall conquest on her cheekes,  
And make no man worthy for her to take,  
But mee that am too neare her ; and as strangely

Shee did for mee: But you will thinke I brag.

*Mar.* I doe Ile be sworne. Thy Valour and thy passions feuerd, would haue made two excellent fellowes in their kindes: I know not whether I should be sorry thou art so valiant, or so passionate, would one of vm were away.

*Tigr.* Doe I refuse her that I doubt her worth,  
Were shee as vertuous as shee would be thought,  
So perfect, that no owne of her owne sex  
Would finde a want, had shee so tempting faire,  
That shee could wish it off her damning soules,  
I would pay any Ransome, twenty times,  
Rather then meet her married in my bed:  
Perhaps I haue a Loue, where I haue fixt  
Mine eies, not to bee moou'd, and shee on mee:  
I am not fickle:

*Arb.* Is that all the cause?  
Thinke you, you can so knit your selfe in loue  
To any other, that her searching fight  
Cannot dissolue it? So before you tride  
You thought your selfe a match for mee in fight:  
Trust mee *Tigranes* shee can doe as much  
In peace, as I in Warre; shee le conquer too  
You shall see, if you haue the power to stand  
The force of her swift lookes; if you dislike,  
Ile send you home with loue, & name your ransome  
some other way: but if shee bee your choise  
Shee frees you: to *Ileria* you must.

*Tigr.* Sir, I haue learnt a Prisoners sufferance,  
And will obey, but giue mee leaue to talke  
In priuate with some friends before I goe:

*Arb.* Some two await him forth, and see him safe,  
But let him freely send for whom he please,  
And none dare to disturbe his conference:  
I will not haue him know what bondage is *Exe.*  
Till he be free from mee. This Prince *Mardonius*  
Is full of vvisdome, Valour, all the graces  
Man can receiue.

*Mar.* And yet you Conquered him?



*Arb.* And yet I conquered him, & could haue don  
Hadst thou ioynd with him, thogh thy name in Armes  
Bee great; Must all men that are vertuous  
Thinke suddenly to match themselues with mee:  
Iconquered him, and brauely; did I not?

*Bes.* And please your Maiesty I was afraid at first.

*Mar.* When wert thou other?

*Arb.* Of what?

*Bes.* That you would not haue spide your best aduantages,  
for your Maiesty in my opinion lay too high me thinkes, vn-  
der fauour, you should haue laine thus.

*Mar.* Like a Taylor at a vwake.

*Bes.* And then, ift please your Maiesty to remember, at  
one time, by my Troth, I wisht my selfe with you.

*Mar.* By my Troth thou wouldst haue funke vm both  
out oth lists.

*Arb.* vwhat to doe?

*Bes.* To put your Maiesty in mind of an occasion; you lay  
thus, and *Tigranes* falsified a blow at your leg, which you by  
doing thus auoided; but if you had whipt vp your leg thus,  
and reacht him on th'eare, you had made the bloud runne  
abouts head.

*Mar.* vwhat contry-fence-schoole didst thou learn that at?

*Arb.* Puft, did I not take him nobly?

*Mar.* VVhy you did, and you haue talkt enough on't.

*Arb.* Talke enough,  
vvhile you confine my words, by Heauen and Earth,  
I weremuch better bee a King of Beasts  
Then such a people: If I had not patience  
Aboue a god, I should be cald a Tyrant  
Throughout the VVorld. They will offend to death  
Each minute: Let me heare thee speake againe  
And thou art earth againe: vvhby this is like  
*Tigranes* speech that needs would say, I brag'd.  
*Bessus* hee said I brag'd.

*Bes.* Ha ha ha.

*Arb.* VVhy dost thou laugh?  
By all the world lme growne ridiculous

To my owne subiects: Tye me to a chaire  
And iest at mee, but I shall make a start  
And punish some, that other will take heede  
How they are haughty; who will answer mee?  
He said I boasted, speak *Mardonius*,  
Did I? He will not answer: O my Temper!  
I giue you thanks aboue, that taught my heart  
Patience, I can indure his silence; what will none  
Vouchsafe to giue mee audience, am I growne  
To such a poore respect, or doe you meane  
To breake my wind, speake, speake soone one of you,  
Or else by Heauen,

1 *Gent.* So please your,

*Arb.* Monstrous,

I cannot bee heard out, they cut me off  
As if I were too sawcy; I will liue  
In vwoods, and talke to Trees, they will allow mee  
To end what I begin. The meanest Subiect  
Can finde a freedome to discharge his soule,  
And not I, now it is a time to speake,  
I harken.

1 *Gent.* May it please,

*Arb.* I meane not you,

Did not I stop you once? but I am growne  
To balke, but I desire, let another speake.

2 *Gent.* I hope your Maiesty,

*Arb.* Thou drawest thy words

That I must waite an hower, where other men  
Can heare in instants; throw your words away  
Quicke, and to purpose, I haue told you this.

*Bes.* An't please your Maiesty:

*Arb.* Wilt thou deuoure me? this is such a rudenes:

As yet you neuer shewed mee, and I want  
Power to command mee, else *Mardonius*  
Would speake at my request; were you my King,  
I would haue answered at your word *Mardonius*,  
I pray you speake, and true y, did I boast?

*Mar.* Truth will offend you.

*Arb.*



*Arb.* You take all great care what will offend me,  
When you dare to vtter such things as these.

*Mar.* You told *Tigranes*, you had won his Land  
With that sole arme propt by Diuinity:  
Was not that bragging, and a wrong to vs  
That daily venturde liues?

*Arb.* O that thy name  
Were great as mine, would I had paid my wealth,  
It were as great, that I might combate thee;  
I would through all the Regions habitable  
Search thee, and hauing found thee, with my Sword  
Driue thee about the vworld, till I had met  
Some place that yet mans curiosity  
Hath mist of; there, there would I strike thee dead:  
Forgotten of Mankind, such Funerall Rites  
As Beasts would giue thee thou shouldst haue

*Bes.* The King  
Rages extremely, shall wee flinke away;  
Heele strike vs:

2 *Gent.* Content.

*Arb.* There I would make you know t'was this sole arme,  
I grant you were my Instruments, and did  
As I commanded you, but t'was this Arme  
Mou'd you like wheelles, it mou'd you as it pleas'd:  
vvhither slip you now? what are you too good  
To waite on mee? I had neede haue temper  
That rule such people; I haue nothing left  
At my owne choise, I would I might be priuate:  
Meane men enioy themselues, but tis our curse,  
To haue a tumult that out of their loues  
vwill waite on vs whether we will or no;  
vwill you be gone? why heere they stand like death,  
My word mooues nothing.

2 *Gent.* Must we goe?

*Bes.* I know not.

*Arb.* I pray you leaue me Sirs, I'me proud of this,  
That they will be intreated from my sight:  
vwhy now they leaue mee all: *Mardonius*,

*Mar.* Sir.

*Arb.* vwill you leaue me quite alone? me thinks  
Ciuity should teach you more then this,  
If I were but your friend: stay heere, and waite.

*Mar.* Sir, shall I speake?

*Arb.* vwhy you would now thinke much  
To bee denide, but I can scarce intreat  
vwhat I would haue: doe, speake.

*Mar.* But will you heare mee out?

*Arb.* vwith me you article to talke thus: well  
I will heare you out.

*Mar.* Sir, that I haue euer loued you, my sword hath spo-  
ken for me, that I doe, if it bee doubted, I dare call an oath a-  
great one to my witnesse: and were you not my King, from  
amongst men, I should haue chose you out to loue about the  
rest: nor can this challenge thanks: for my own sake I should  
haue doted, because I would haue lou'd the most deseruing  
man, for so you are.

*Arb.* Alas *Mardonius*, rise, you shall not kneele;  
vve all are Souldiers, and all venter liues:  
And where there is no difference in mens worths,  
Titles are iests: who can out vallew thee?

*Mardonius* thou hast lou'd me, and hast wrong,  
Thy loue is not rewarded, but belecue  
It shall be better, more then friend in armes,  
My Father, and my Tutor, good *Mardonius*.

*Mar.* Sir, you did promise you would heare me out.

*Arb.* And so I will, speake freely, for from thee  
Nothing can come but worthy things and true.

*Mar.* Though you haue al this worth, you hold som qualities  
that doe eclipse your vertues.

*Arb.* Eclipse my vertues?

*Mar.* Yes your passions, which are so manifold, that they  
appeare euen in this: when I commend you, you hug mee for  
that truth: when I speak of your faults, you make a start, and  
hic the hearing: but,

*Arb.* vwhen you commend me? O that I should liue  
To neede such commandations: If my deedes  
Blew not my praise themselues about the earth,

I were



I were most wretched: spare your idle praise:  
 If thou didst meane to flatter, and should'st vtter  
 vvords in my praise, that thou thoughtst impudence,  
 My deedes should make vñ modest: when you praise,  
 Thug you; 'tis so false, that wert thou worthy  
 Thou should'st receiue a death, a glorious death  
 From me: but thou shalt vnderstand thy lies,  
 For shouldst thou praise mee into Heauen, and there  
 Leauē me in thron'd, I would despise thee though  
 As much as now, which is as much as dust,  
 Because I see thy enuy.

*Mar.* How euer you will vse me after, yet for your owne  
 promise sake heare me the rest.

*Arb.* I will, and after call vnto the windes,  
 For they shall lend as large an eare as I  
 To what you vtter: speake.

*Mar.* vvould you but leauē these hasty tempers, which I  
 doe not say take from you all your worth; but darken vñ,  
 then you would shine indeede.

*Arb.* Well.

*Mar.* Yet I would haue you keepe some passions, least  
 men should take you for a god, your vertues are such.

*Arb.* Why now you flatter.

*Mar.* I neuer vnderstood the word, were you no King, &  
 free from these wilde moodes, should I chuse a companion  
 for wit and pleasure, it should bee you, or for honest, to en-  
 terchange my bosome with, it would be you; or wisdomē to  
 to giue me counsel, I would pick out you: or vallor to defend  
 my reputation, still I would find out you, for you are fit to  
 fight for all the vvorld, if it could come in question: Now I  
 haue spoke, consider to your selfe, finde out a vse? if so, then  
 what shall fall to mee is not materiall.

*Arb.* Is not materiall: more then ten such liues  
 As mine *Mardonius*: it was Nobly said,  
 Thou hast spoake truth, and boldly, such a truth  
 As might offend another. I haue bin  
 Too passionate, and idle, thou shalt see  
 A swift amendment: But I want those parts

You:

*King with the King.*  
You praise me for : I fight for all the vworld:  
Giue thee a Sword, and thou wilt goe as farre  
Beyond mee, as thou art beyond in yeares,  
I know thou dar'st, and wilt; It troubles mee  
That I should vse so rough a phrase to thee,  
Impute it to my folly, what thou wilt,  
So thou wilt pardon mee; that thou and I  
Should differ thus.

*Mar.* vvhy 'tis no matter Sir :

*Arb.* Faith but tis, but thou dost euer take  
All things I doe thus patiently, for which  
I neuer can requite thee but with loue,  
And that thou shalt bee sure of. Thou and I  
Haue not bin merry lately : pray thee tell mee  
vvhere hadst thou that same iewell in thine care ?

*Mar.* vvhy at the taking of a Towne.

*Arb.* A vvench vpon my life, a wench *Mardonius*  
Gauē thee that Iewell.

*Mar.* vvench, they respect not mee, Ime old and rough,  
and euery limbe about mee, but that which should growes  
stiffer : Ith those busnesses I may sweare I am truly honest:  
for I pay iustly for what I take, and would bee glad to be at  
a certainty.

*Arb.* vvhy doe the wenches incroch vpon thee ?

*Mar.* I by this light doe they :

*Arb.* Didst thou sit at an old rent with vm ?

*Mar.* Yes faith.

*Arb.* And doe they improoue themselues ?

*Mar.* I, ten shillings to mee, euery new yong fellow they  
come acquainted with.

*Arb.* How canst liue on't ?

*Mar.* Why I thinke I must petition to you.

*Arb.* Thou shalt take vm vp at my price.

*Mar.* Your price ?

*Arb.* I at the Kings price.

*Mar.* That may be more then I am worth.

1 *Gent.* Is he not merry now ?

2 *Gent.* I thinke not.



*Bes.* He is, he is, weele shew our selues.

*Arb.* *Bessus* I thought you had beene in *Iberia* by this, I had you; halfe *Gobrias* will want entertainment for me.

*Bes.* An't please your Maiestie I haue a sute.

*Arb.* Ist not low sic *Bessus*, what ist?

*Bes.* I am to carrie a Lady with me.

*Arb.* Then thou hast two sutes.

*Bes.* And if I can preferre her to the Ladie *Panthan* your Maiesties sister, to learne fashions as her friends terme it, it will be worth something to me.

*Arb.* So many nights lodgings as tis thither, will not?

*Bes.* I know not that, but gold I shall be sure of.

*Arb.* Why thou shalt bid her entertaine her from mee, so thou wilt resolue me one thing.

*Bes.* If I can.

*Arb.* Faith tis a very disputable question, yet I thinke thou canst decide it.

*Bes.* Your Maiestie has a good opinion of my vnderstanding.

*Arb.* I haue so good an opinion of it: 'tis whether thou be valiant.

*Bes.* Some bodie has tradust me to you: doe you see this sword Sir?

*Arb.* Yes.

*Bes.* If I doe not make my back-biters eat it to a knife within this weeke, say I am not valiant. *Enter Messenger.*

*Mess.* Health to your Maiestie.

*Arb.* From *Gobrias*?

*Mess.* Yes Sir.

*Arb.* How does he, is he well?

*Mess.* In perfect health.

*Arb.* Thanke thee for thy good newes,  
A trustier seruant to his Prince there liues not  
Then is good *Gobrias*.

*1 Gent.* The King starts backe.

*Mar.* His blood goes backe as fast:

*2 Gent.* And now it comes againe:

*Mar.* He alters strangely.

*Arb.* The hand of Heauen is on me, be it farre  
 From me to struggle; if my secret finnes  
 Haue pul'd this curse vpon me, lend me teares  
 Enough to wash me white, that I may feele  
 A childlike innocence within my brest;  
 Which once perform'd, O giue me leaue to stand  
 As fixt as constancie her selfe, my eyes  
 Set here vnmou'd, regardlesse of the World,  
 Though thousand miseries incompass me.

*Mar.* This is strange, Sir, how doe you?

*Arb.* *Mardonius* my mother:

*Mar.* Is shee dead?

*Arb.* Alas, shees not so happie; thou dost know  
 How shee hath labour'd since my Father died  
 To take by treason hence this loathed life,  
 That would but be to serue her, I haue pardon'd  
 And pardon'd, and by that haue made her fit  
 To praetise new finnes, not repent the olde;  
 Shee now has hir'd a slaue to come from thence  
 And strike me here, whom *Gobrias* sifting out,  
 Tooke, and condemn'd, and executed there  
 The carefulst seruant: Heauen let me but liue  
 To pay that man; Nature is poore to me,  
 That will not let me haue as many deaths  
 As are the times that he hath sau'd my life,  
 That I might die vniouer all for him.

*Mar.* Sir, let her beare her sins on her owne head,  
 Vex not your selfe.

*Arb.* VVhat will the world  
 Conceiue of me? with what vnnaturall finnes  
 VVill they suppose me laden, when my life  
 Is sought by her that gaue it to the world?  
 But yet he writes me comfort here, my sister  
 He sayes is growne in beautie, and in grace,  
 In all the innocent vertues that become  
 A tender spotlesse maide: shee staines her cheekes  
 VVith mourning teares to purge her Mothers ill,  
 And mongst her sacred dew shee mingles prayers,



Her pure oblations for my safe returne :  
If I haue lost the dutie of a sonne,  
If any pompe or vanitie of state  
Made me forget my naturall offices ;  
Nay farther, if I haue not euerie night  
Expoltulated with my wandring thoughts,  
If ought vnto my Parent they haue err'd,  
And cald vni backe : doe you direct her arme  
Vnto this foule dissembling heart of mine :  
But if I haue beene iust to her, send out  
Your power to compasse me, and hold me safe  
From searching treason; I will vse no meanes  
But prayers: for rather suffer me to see  
From mine own veines issue a deadly floud,  
Then wash my dangers off with Mothers bloud :

*Mar.* I nere saw such sudden extremities.

*Enter Tigranes, and Spaconia.*

*Tigr.* Why, wilt thou haue me die *Spaconia*,  
What should I doe?

*Spa.* Nay, let me stay alone,  
And when you see *Armenia* againe,  
You shall behold a Toombe more worth then I,  
Some friend that either loues me, or my cause,  
Will build me something to distinguish me  
From other women: Many a weeping verse  
He will lay on, and much lament those maides  
That place their loues vnfortunately too light,  
As I haue done, where they can neuer reach :  
But why should you goe to *Iberia*?

*Tigr.* Alas, that thou wilt aske me; Aske the man  
That rages in a feauer, why hee lies  
Distemper'd there, when all the other youths  
Are coursing ore the Meadows with their lo ues?  
Can I resist it? am I not a slaue  
To him that conquer'd me?

*Spa.* That conquer'd thee, *Tigranes* he has won but halfe of  
Thy bodie; but thy minde may be as free  
As his, his will did neuer combate thine,

And take it prisoner :

*Tigr.* But if hee by force  
Conuey my bodie hence, what helps it me  
Or thee to be vnwilling ?

*Spa.* O *Tigranes*,  
I know you are to see a Ladie there,  
To see, and like I feare : perhaps the hope  
Of her makes you forget me; ere we part  
Be happier then you know to wish : farewell.

*Tigr.* *Spaconia* stay, and heare me what I say :  
In short destruction meeete me, that I may  
See it, and not auoid it when I leape  
To be thy faithfull Louer : part with me  
Thou shalt not, there are none that know our loue;  
And I haue giuen gold to a Captaine  
That goes vnto *Iberia* from the King,  
That he would place a Ladie of our Land  
With the Kings sister that is offer'd me;  
Thither shall you, and being once got in,  
Perswade her by what subtile meanes you can  
To be as backward in her loue as I.

*Spa.* Can you imagine that a longing maide  
VVhen shee beholds you, can be puld away  
VVith words from louing you ?

*Tigr.* Dispraise my health,  
My honestie, and tell her I am ieaalous :

*Spa.* VVhy, I had rather loose you: Can my heart  
Consent to let my tongue throw out such words,  
And I that euer yet spoke what I thought,  
Shall find it such a thing: at first to lie :

*Tigr.* Yet doe thy best. *Ent. Bessus.*

*Bes.* VVhat is your Maieslie readie ?

*Tigr.* There is the Ladie Captaine.

*Bes.* Sweet Ladie by your leaue, I could wish my selfe  
more full of Courtship for your faire sake.

*Spa.* Sir I shall find no want of that.

*Bes.* Lady, you must haste, I haue receiued new letters  
from the King, that requires more speed then I expected he  
will



will follow me suddenly himselfe, and beginnes to call for your Maiestie alreadie.

*Tigr.* He shall not doe so long.

*Bes.* Sweet Ladie shall I call you my charge hereafter?

*Spa.* I will not take vpon me to gouerne your tongue Sir, you shall call me what you please: *Finis Actus Primi.*

## Actus Secundus Scena Prima.

*Enter Gobrias, Bacurius, Arane, Panthaea, and Mandane, waiting women, with attendance.*

*Gob.* **M**Y Lord *Bacurius*, you must haue regard  
Vnto the Queene, shee is your prisoner,  
Tis at your perill if shee make escape.

*Bac.* My Lord I know't, shee is my prisoner  
From you committed; yet shee is a woman,  
And so I keepe her safe: you will not vrge me  
To keepe her close, I shall not shame to say  
I sorrow for her.

*Gob.* So doe I my Lord.  
I sorrow for her that so little grace  
Doth gouerne her, that shee should stretch her arme  
Against her King, so little womanhood  
And naturall goodnesse, as to thinke the death  
Of her owne Sonne.

*Ara.* Thou know'st the reason why,  
Dissembling as thou art, and wilt not speake.

*Gob.* There is a Ladie takes not after you,  
Her Father is within her, that good man  
Whose teares paid downe his sinnes, marke how shee weeps,  
How well it does become her; and if you  
Can find no disposition in your selfe  
To sorrow, yet by gracefullnesse in her  
Find out the way, and by your reason weepe:  
All this shee does for you, and more shee needes,  
When for your selfe you will not lose a teare,

Thinke how this want of grieffe discredits you,  
And you will weepe, because you cannot weepe:

*Ara.* You talke to me as hauing got a time  
Fit for your purpose; but you know I know  
You speake not what you thinke.

*Pan.* I would my heart  
Were stone, before my softnesse should be vrg'd  
Against my Mother, a more troubled thought  
No Virgin beares about her; should I excuse  
My Mothers fault, I should let light a life,  
In loosing which, a brother and a King  
Were taken from me; If I seeke to saue  
That life so lou'd, I loose another life  
That gaue me being, I shall loose a Mother,  
A word of such a sound in a childes care,  
That it strikes reuerence through it: May the will  
Of Heauen be done, and if one needes must fall,  
Take a poore Virgins life to answere all.

*Ara.* But *Gobrias* let vs talke; you know this fault  
Is not in me as in another woman:

*Gob.* I know it is not:

*Ara.* Yet you make it so:

*Gob.* Why, is not all that's past beyond your helpe?

*Ara.* I know it is:

*Gob.* Nay, should you publish it  
Before the world, thinke you twill be belieu'd?

*Ara.* I know it would not.

*Gob.* Nay, should I roine with you,  
Should we not both be torne? and yet both die  
Vncredited?

*Ara.* I thinke we should.

*Gob.* Why then  
Take you such violent courses? as for me,  
I doe but right in sauing of the King  
From all your plots.

*Ara.* The King?

*Gob.* I bad you rest with patience, and a time  
VVould come for me.



To reconcile all to your owne content :  
 But by this way you take away my power,  
 And what was done vnknowne, was not by me,  
 But you, your vrging, being done,  
 I must preferue mine owne; but time may bring  
 All this to light, and happily for all.

*Ara.* Accursed be this ouercurious braine,  
 That gaue that plot a birth; accurst this wombe,  
 That after did conceiue to my disgrace.

*Bac.* My Lord Protector, they say there are diuers Letters  
 come from *Armenia* that *Bessus* has done good seruice, and  
 brought againe a day by his particular valour: receiu'd you  
 any to that effect?

*Gob.* Yes, tis most certaine.

*Bac.* Ime sorrie fort, not that the day was wonne, but that  
 twas wonne by him; wee held him here a coward, hee did me  
 wrong once, at which I laught, and so did all the world: for,  
 nor I, nor any other held time worth my Sword.

*Enter Bessus, and Spaconia.*

*Bes.* Health to my Lord Protector, from the King these  
 Letters, and to your grace Madam these:

*Go.* How does his Maiestie?

*Bes.* As well as conquest by his owne meanes, and his va-  
 liant commanders can make him: your letters will tel you all.

*Pan.* I will not open mine till I doe know  
 My brothers health; good Captaine is he well?

*Bes.* As the rest of vs that fought are:

*Pan.* But howes that, is he hurt?

*Bes.* Hees a strange Souldier that gets not a knock,

*Pan.* I doe not aske how strange that Souldier is  
 That gets no hurt; but whether he haue one?

*Bes.* He had diuers.

*Pan.* And is he well againe?

*Bes.* VVell againe, ant please your grace; why I was run  
 twice through the bodie, and shot ith head with a crosse ar-  
 row, and yet am well againe.

*Pan.* I doe not care how thou dost, is he well?

*Bes.* Not care how I doe, let a man out of the mightinesse

of his spirit fructifie forraigne Countries with his bloud for the good of his owne, and thus he shall be answered: why, I may like to relieue with speare and shield such a Ladie distressed.

*Pan.* Why, I will care, I am glad that thou art well; I prethee is he so?

*Gob.* The King is well, and will be here to morrow.

*Pan.* My prayers are heard; now I will open mine.

*Gob. Bacurins,* I must ease you of your charge: Madam, the wonted mercie of the King That ouertakes your faults, has met with this, And strucke it out; he has forgiuen you freelic, Your owne will is your Law, be where you please.

*Ara.* I thanke him.

*Gob.* You will be readie To waite vpon his Maiestie to morrow?

*Ara.* I will.

*Bac.* Madam, be wise hereafter: I am glad I haue lost this Office. *Exit.*

*Gob.* Good Captaine *Bessus*, tell vs the discourse Betweene *Tigranes* and our King, and how We got the victorie.

*Pan.* I prethee doe, And if my brother were in any danger, Let not thy tale make him abide there long, Before thou bring him off; for all that while My heart will beate.

*Bes.* Madam, let what will beate, I must tell truth, and thus it was: They fought single in lists but one to one, as for my own part I was dangerousslie hurt but three dayes before, else perhaps wee had beene two to two; I cannot tell, some thought wee had; and the occasion of my hurt was this, the enemie had made trenches.

*Gob.* Captaine, without the manner of your hurt be much materiall to this businesse, weele heare it some other time.

*Pan.* I, I prethee leaue it, and goe on with my brother.

*Bes.* I will, but 'twould be worth your hearing: To the lists they came, and single sword and gauntlet was their fight.

*Pan.*



*Pan.* Alas.

*Bes.* Without the lists there stood some dozen Captaines of either side mingled, all which were sworne, and one of those was I: and twas my chance to stand neere a Captaine of the Enemies side, called *Tiribasus*; valiant they said he was: whilst these two Kings were stretching themselues, this *Tiribasus* cast something a scornfull looke on mee, and askt mee whom I thought would ouercome: I smilde, and told him, if hee would fight with me, he should perceiue by the euent of that whose King would winne; something hee answered, and a scuffle was like to grow, when one *Zipetus* offerd to helpe him: I —

*Pan.* All this is of thy selfe, I prethee *Bessus* Tell something of my brother, did he nothing?

*Bes.* Why yes, Ile tell your Grace; they were not to fight till the word giuen, which for my owne part by my troth I was not to giue.

*Pan.* See, for his owne part.

*Bac.* I feare yet this fellowe's abusd with a good report.

*Bes.* I, but I:

*Pan.* Still of himselfe.

*Bes.* Cride, giue the word, when as some of them saide *Tigranes* was stooping, but the word was not giuen then: when one *Cosroes* of the enemies part held vp his finger to me, which is as much with vs Marshallists, as I will fight with you: I said not a word, nor made signe during the combate; but that once done.

*Pan.* He flips ore all the fight.

*Bes.* I cald him to me, *Cosroes* said I:

*Pan.* I will heare no more.

*Bes.* No, no, I lie.

*Bac.* I dare be sworne thou dost.

*Bes.* Captaine said I, twas so.

*Pan.* I tell thee, I will heare no further.

*Bes.* No, your Grace will wish you had.

*Pan.* I will not wish it: what is this the Ladie My Brother writes to me to take?

*Bes.* An't please your Grace this is shee: Charge will  
D you



you come neerer the Princes?

*Pan.* Y'are welcome from your Countrey, and this Land  
Shall shew vnto you all the kindnesse  
That I can make it; what's your name?

*Spa.* *Thalestris.*

*Pan.* Y'are verie welcome, you haue got a letter  
To put you to me, that has power enough  
To place mine Enemy here; then much more you,  
That are so farre from being so to me,  
That you nere saw me.

*Bes.* Madam, I dare passe my word for her truth.

*Spa.* My truth.

*Pan.* Why Captaine, doe you thinke I am afraid shee  
steale?

*Bes.* I cannot tell, seruants are slipperie; but I dare giue  
my word for her, and for her honestie: shee came along with  
me, and many fauours shee did me by the way; but by this  
light none but what shee might doe with modestie, to a man  
of my ranke.

*Pan.* Why Captaine, heres no body thinkes otherwise.

*Bes.* Nay, if you should, your Grace may thinke your plea-  
sure; but I am sure I brought her from *Armenia*, and in all that  
way if euer I toucht any bare on her about her knee, I pray  
God I may sinke where I stand.

*Spa.* About my knee?

*Bes.* No, you know I did not, and if any man will say I did,  
this Sword shall answer: Nay, Ile defend the reputation of  
my charge whilst I liue; your Grace shall vnderstand I am se-  
cret in these businesse, and know how to defend a Ladies  
honour.

*Spa.* I hope your Grace knowes him so well already,  
I shall not neede to tell you hee's vaine and foolish;

*Bes.* I, you may call mee what you please, but Ile defend  
your good name against the World; and so I take my leaue  
of your Grace, and of you my Lord Protector, I am likewise  
glad to see your Lordship well.

*Bac.* O Captaine *Bessus*, I thanke you, I would speake with  
you anon.

*Bes.*



*Bes.* When you please, I will attend your Lordship: *Exit.*

*Bac.* Madam, Ile take my leaue too: *Exit.*

*Pan.* Good *Bacurinus*:

*Gob.* Madam, what writes his Maiesty to you?

*Pan.* O my Lord,

The kindest words, Ile keepe v<sup>m</sup> whilst I liue  
Here in my bosome; theres no art in v<sup>m</sup>,  
They lie disordred in this paper, Iust  
As hearty Nature speakes v<sup>m</sup>.

*Gob.* And to mee

He writes, what teares of ioy he shed to heare  
How you were growne in euery vertuous way,  
And yeilds all thanks to me, for that deare care  
Which I was bound to haue in training you:  
There is no Princes liuing that enioyes  
A Brother of that worth.

*Pan.* My Lord, no Maide longs more for any thing, or  
feeles more heate and cold within her brest, then I doe now,  
In hope to see him.

*Gob.* Yet I wonder much at this, hee writes he brings a-  
long with him a husband for you, that same Captiue Prince;  
And if he loue you as he makes a shew,  
He will allow you freedome in your choise.

*Pan.* And so he will my Lord, I warrant you  
He will but offer, and giue me the power  
To take, or leaue.

*Gob.* Trust me, were I a Ladie, I could not like  
That man were bargain'd with before I chuse him.

*Pan.* But I am not built on such wild humors,  
If I find time worthy, he is not lesse,  
Because hee's offerd.

*Spa.* Tis true, he is not, would he would seem lesse:

*Gob.* I thinke there is no Ladie can affect  
Another Prince, your Brother standing by;  
He does eclipse mens vertues so with this.

*Spa.* I know a Lady may, and more I feare  
Another Lady will.

*Pan.* Would I might see him:

*Gob.* Why so you shall : my busineses are great,  
I will attend you when it is his pleasure  
To see you Madam.

*Pan.* I thanke you good my Lord.

*Gob.* You will be ready Madam : *Exit:*

*Pan.* Yes.

*Spa.* I doe beseech you Madam send away  
Your other women, and receiue from me  
A few sad words, which set against your ioyes,  
May make v<sup>m</sup> shine the more.

*Pan.* Sirs leaue me all.

*Spa.* I kneele a stranger here to beg a thing  
Vnfit for me to aske, and you to grant,  
Tis such another strange ill laid request,  
As if a beggar should intreat a King  
To leaue his Scepter and his Throne to him,  
And take his rags to wander ore the World  
Hungry and cold.

*Pan.* That were a strange request.

*Spa.* As ill is mine.

*Pan.* Then doe not vtter it.

*Spa.* Alas, tis of that nature, that it must  
Be vtterd, I, and granted, or I die :  
I am asham'd to speake it; but where life  
Lies at the stake, I cannot thinke her woman,  
That will not take something vnreasonably  
To hazard sauing of it: I shall seeme  
A strange petitioner, that wish all ill  
To them I beg of, ere they giue mee ought,  
Yet so I must: I would you were not faire,  
Nor wise, for in your ill consists my good :  
If you were foolish, you would heare my prayer ;  
If foule, you had not power to hinder me :  
He would not loue you.

*Pan.* VVhats the meaning of it ?

*Spa.* Nay, my request is more without the bounds  
Of reason yet ; for tis not in the power  
Of you to doe what I would haue you grant.



*Pan.* Why then tis idle, prethee speake it out.

*Spa.* Your brother brings a Prince into this Land  
Of such a noble shape, so sweete a grace,  
So full of worth withall, that euery maide  
That lookes vpon him, giues away her selfe  
To him for euer; and for you to haue  
He brings him: and so mad is my demand,  
That I desire you not to haue this man,  
This excellent man, for whom you needs must die,  
If you should misse him. I doe now expect  
You should laugh at me.

*Pan.* Trust me, I could weepe  
Rather, for I haue feund in all thy words  
A strange disioynted sorrow.

*Spa.* Tis by me,  
His owne desire too, that you would not loue him.

*Pan.* His owne desire, why credit me *Thalestris*  
I am no common wooer: If he shall wooe me,  
His worth may be such, that I dare not sweare  
I will not loue him; but if he will stay  
To haue me wooe him, I will promise thee  
He may keepe all his graces to-himselfe,  
And feare no rauishing from me.

*Spa.* Tis yet  
His owne desire, but when he sees your face,  
I feare it will not be; therefore I charge you  
As you haue pittie, stop those tender cares  
From his enchanting voice, close vp those eyes,  
That you may neither catch a dart from him,  
Nor he from you: I charge you as you hope  
To liue in quiet, for when I am dead  
For certaine I shall walke to visit him,  
If he breake promise with me: for as fast  
As oathes without a formall ceremony  
Can make me, I am to him:

*Pan.* Then be fearelesse,  
For if he were a thing twixt God and man,  
I could gaze on him; (if I knew it siune,

To loue him) without passion: Dry your eyes,  
 I sweare you shall enioy him still for me,  
 I will not hinder you; but I perceiue  
 You are not what you seeme: Rise, rise, *Thalestris*.  
 If your right name be so.

*Spa.* Indeed it is not  
*Spaconia* is name; but I desire  
 Not to be knowne to others:

*Pan.* Why, by me  
 You shall not, I will neuer doe you wrong,  
 What good I can, I will; thinke not my birth,  
 Or education such, that I should iniure  
 A stranger Virgin: you are welcome hither.  
 In company you wish to be commanded,  
 But when we are alone, I shall be ready  
 To be your seruant. *Exit.*

*Enter three men, and a woman.*

1. Come, come, run, run, runne:
2. We shall out-goe her.
3. One were better be hang'd, then carry women out sid-  
 ling to these shewes.

*Weo.* Is the King hard by?

1. You heard hee with the bottles say, hee thought wee  
 should come too late, what abundance of people here is.

*Weo.* But what had he in those bottles?

3. I know not.

2. Why, Inke good man foole:

3. Inke, what to doe?

1. Why, the King looke you, will many times call for  
 those bottles, and breake his minde to his friends.

*Weo.* Lets take our places quickly, we shall haue no roome  
 else.

2. The man told vs hee would walke a foote through the  
 people.

3. I marry did he.

1. Our shops are well looke to now:

2. S'life yonders my Master I thinke.

1. No, tis not he.



*Enter two Citizens wives, and Philip.*

**1 Cit.** Lord, how fine the fields be, what sweete liuing tis in the Countrey.

**2 Cit.** I, poore soules, God helpe v<sup>m</sup>; they liue as contentedly as one of vs.

**1 Cit.** My Husbands cousen would haue had me gone into the Countrey last yeere, wert thou euer there?

**2 Cit.** I, poore soules, I was amongst v<sup>m</sup> once.

**1 Cit.** And what kinde of creatures are they for loue of God?

**2 Cit.** Very good people, God helpe v<sup>m</sup>:

**1 Cit.** Wilt thou goe with me downe this summer, when I am brought abed?

**2 Cit.** Alas, tis no place for vs.

**1 Cit.** VVhy prethee?

**2 Cit.** VVhy, you can haue nothing there; theres no body cries broomes.

**1 Cit.** No?

**2 Cit.** No truly, nor milke.

**1 Cit.** Nor milke, how doe they?

**2 Cit.** They are faine to milke themselues ith Countrey.

**1 Cit.** Good Lord: but the people there I thinke will be very dutifull to one of vs?

**2 Cit.** I, God knowes will they, and yet they doe not greatly care for our Husbands.

**1 Cit.** Doe they not, alas? In good faith I cannot blame them: for we doe not greatly care for them our selues. *Philip* I pray choose vs a place.

*Phil.* Theres the best forfooth.

**1 Cit.** By your leaue good people a little:

**1.** VVhats the matter?

*Phi.* I pray my friend doe not thrust my Mistris so, shees with childe.

**2.** Let her looke to her selfe then, has shee not had thrusting enough yet; if shee stay shouldring here, shee may hap to goe home with a Cake in her bellie.

**3.** How now Goodman Squitterbreech, why doe you leane so on me?

*Phi.*



*Phil.* Because I will.

3. *V*ill you fir sawce-box?

1 *Cit.* Looke if one haue not strucke *Philip*, come hither *Philip*, why did he strike thee?

*Phil.* For leaning on him.

1 *Cit.* *V*hy didst thou leane on him?

*Phil.* I did not thinke he would haue strucke me.

1 *Cit.* As God saue me law, thou art as wilde as a Bucke, there is no quarrell, but thou art at one end or other of it.

3. Its at the first end then; for he will neuer stay the last.

1 *Cit.* *V*ell stripling, I shall meete with you.

3. vwhen you will,

1 *Cit.* He giue a crowne to meete with you:

3. At a bawdy house.

1 *Cit.* I, you are full of your rogerie; but if I doe meete you it shall cost me a fall.

3. The King, the King, the King, the King:  
Now, now, now, now.

*Enter Arbaces, Tigranes, Mardonius, and others.*

*All.* God preferue your Maiestie.

*Arb.* I thanke you all: Now are my ioyes at full,  
vwhen I behold you safe my louing Subiects;  
By you I grow, tis your vnited loue  
That lifts me to this height:

All the account that I can render you  
For all the loue you haue bestowed on me,  
All your expences to maintaine my warre,  
Is but a little word: you will imagine  
Tis slender payment; yet tis such a word  
As is not to be bought without our blouds;  
Tis peace.

*All.* God preferue your Maiestie.

*Arb.* Now you may liue securely in your Townes,  
Your Children round about you; you may sit  
Vnder your vines, and make the miseries  
Of other Kingdomes a discourse for you,  
And lend them sorrowes: For your selues you may  
Safely forget there are such things as teares;

And



Your children round about you ; you may sit  
Vnder your vines, and make the miseries  
Of other kingdomes, a discourse for you,  
And lend them sorrowes : For your selues, you may  
Safely forget there are such things as teares,  
And you may all, whose good thoughts I haue gain'd  
Hold me vnworthy, where I thinke my life  
A sacrifice too great to keepe you thus  
In such a calme estate.

*All.* God blesse your Maiestie.

*Arb.* See all good people, I haue brought the man,  
Whose very name you fear'd, a captiue home ;  
Behold him, 'tis *Tigranes* ; In your heart  
Sing songs of gladnesse, and deliuerance.

1. *Cit.* Out vpon him.

2. *Cit.* How he lookes.

3. *Woms.* Hang him, hang him.

*Mard.* These are sweet people.

*Tigr.* Sir, you doe mee wrong,  
To render me a scorned spectacle  
To common people.

*Arb.* It was so farre from me  
To meane it so ; if I haue ought deseru'd,  
My louing Subjects let me begge of you  
Not to reuile this Prince, in whom there dwels  
All worth of which the nature of a man  
Is capable, valour beyond compare,  
The terrour of his name haz stretcht it selfe  
Where euer there is sunne : and yet for you  
I fought with him single, and won him too ;  
I made his valleur stoope, and brought that name,  
Soar'd to so vn-belieu'd a height, to fall  
Beneath mine : This inspir'd with all your loues,  
I did performe, and well for your content  
Be euer ready for a greater word.

*All.* The Lord blesse your Maiestie.

*Tig.* So he haz made me amends now, with a speech in  
commendation of himselfe: I would not be so vaine-glorious.

*Arb.* If there be any thing in which I may  
 Doe good to any creature, here, speake out;  
 For I must leaue you : and it troubles me,  
 That my occasions for the good of you,  
 Are such as call me from you ; else, my ioy  
 Would be to spend my dayes amongst you all,  
 You shew your loues in these large multitudes  
 That come to meete me, I will pray for you,  
 Heauen prosper you, that you may know old yeares,  
 And liue to see your Childrens Children  
 Sit at your boards with plenty : when there is  
 A want of any thing, let it be knowne  
 To me, and I will be a father to you :  
 God keepe you all.

*Flourish,*

*Exeunt Kings and their traine.*

*All.* God blasse your Maiesty, God blasse your Maiesty.

1. Come, shall we goe? all's done.

*Wom.* I for Gods sake, I haue not made a fire yet.

2. Away, away, all's done.

3. Content, farewell *Phillip.*

1. *Cit.* Away you halter-sacke you.

2. *Phillip* will not fight, hee's afraid on's face.

*Phil.* I marry am I afraid of my face.

3. Thou would'st be *Phillip*, if thou saw'st it in a glasse; it  
 lookes so like a visour.

*Exeunt 2. 3. and women.*

1. *Cit.* You'le be hang'd sirra : Come *Phillip* walke afore  
 vs homewards ; did not his Maiesty say hee had brought vs  
 home Pease for all our money ?

2. *Cit.* Yes marry did he.

1. *Cit.* The'are the first I heard on this yeare by my troth,  
 I long'd for some of'em? did he not say we should haue some ?

2. *Cit.* Yes, and so we shal anon I warrant you haue euery  
 one a pecke brought home to our houses.

*The end of the Second Act.*

Actus.



Actus Tertius.

*Euter Arbaces and Gobrias.*

*Arb.* MY SISTER take it ill?

*Gob.* Not very ill,  
Something vn' indly she does take it Sir,  
To haue her husband chosen to her hands.

*Arb.* Why *Gobrias* let her, I must haue her I now  
My will, and not her owne, must gouerne her:  
What will shee marry with some slaue at home?

*Gob.* () shee is farre from any stubbornnesse,  
You much mistake her, and no doubt will like  
Where you will haue her; but when you behold her  
You will be loath to part with such a iewell.

*Arb.* To part with her, why *Gobrias*, art thou mad?  
Shee is my sister.

*Gob.* Sir, I know shee is:  
But it were pittie to make poore our Land  
With such a beauty, to enrich another.

*Arb.* Pish, will she haue him?

*Gob.* I doe hope she will not, I thinke she will sir.

*Arb.* Were she my Father, and my Mother too,  
And all the names for which we thinke folkes friends,  
She should be forc't to haue him; when I know  
'Tis fit: I will not heare her say shee's loath.

*Gob.* Heauen bring my purpose luckily to passe  
You know't is iust, shee will not need constraint  
Shee loues you so.

*A-b.* How does she loue me, speake?

*Gob.* She loues you more then people loue their health,  
That liue by labour; more then I could loue  
A man that died for mee, if he could liue againe.

*Arb.* She is not like her Mother then.

*Gob.* O no, when you were in *Armenia*,  
I durst not let her know when you were hurt:  
For at the first on euery little scratch,

She kept her chamber, wept, and could not eate,  
Till you were well, and many times the newes  
Was so long comming, that before we heard  
She was as neere her death, as your health.

*Arb.* Alas poore soule, but yet she must be rul'd;  
I know not how I shall requite her well.  
I long to see her : haue you sent for her,  
To tell her I am ready?

*Gob.* Sir I haue.

*Ent. 1. Gent. and Tigranes*

*1. Gent.* Sir, here is the *Armenian King.*

*Arb.* Hee's welcome,

*1. Gen.* And the *Queene-Mother,* and the *Princesse*  
waite without.

*Arb.* Good *Gobrias* bring'em in.  
*Tigranes* you will thinke you are ariu'd  
In a strange Land, where Mothers cast to poyson  
Their onely sonnes ; thinke you you shall be safe?

*Tigr.* Too safe I am sir.

*Enter Gobrias, Arane, Panthea, Spaconia, Bagurims, Mardonius*  
*us and Bessus, and two Gentlemen.*

*Arane.* As low as this I bow to you, and would  
As low as is my graue, to shew a mind  
Thankfull for all your mercies.

*Arb.* O stand vp,  
And let me kneele, the light will be asham'd  
To see obseruance done to me by you.

*Ara.* You are my King

*Arb.* You are my mother, rise ;  
As farre be all your faults from your owne soule,  
As from my memorie ; then you shall be  
As white as innocence her selfe.

*Ara.* I came  
Onely to shew my duty, and acknowledge  
My Sorrowes for my finnes ; longer to stay  
Were but to draw eyes more attentinely  
Vpon my shame : That power that kept you safe  
From me, preserue you still.

*Ara.* Your owne desires shall be your guide. *Exit Arane.*



*Pan.* Now let me die,  
 Since I haue seene my Lord the King return  
 In safety, I haue seene all good that life  
 Can shew me ; I haue nere another wish  
 For heauen to grant, nor were it fit I should :  
 For I am bound to spend my age to come  
 In giuing thanks that this was granted me.

*Gob.* Why does not your Maiestie speake ?

*Arb.* To whom ?

*Gob.* To the Princeesse.

*Pan.* Alas Sir, I am fearefull you doe looke  
 On me, as if I were some leathed thing  
 That you were finding out a way to shunne.

*Gob.* Sir, you should speake to her.

*Arb.* Ha ?

*Pan.* I know I am vnworthy, yet not ill  
 Arm'd, with which innocence here I will kneele,  
 Till I am one with earth, but I will gaine  
 Some words and kindnesse from you.

*Tigr.* Will you speake Sir ?

*Arb.* Speake, am I vvhath I vvas ?

What art thou that doest creepe into my breast,  
 And dar'st not see my face ? shew foorth thy selfe:  
 I feele a payre of fiery wings displai'd  
 Hither, from hence; you shall not tarry there,  
 Vp and be gone, if thou beest Loue, be gone.  
 Or I will teare thee from my vvounded breast,  
 Pull thy lou'd downe away, and with thy quill  
 By this right arme drawn from thy wanton wing  
 Write to thy laughing Mother i'thy bloud,  
 That you are Powers beli'd, and all your darts  
 Are to be blowne away by men resolu'd  
 Like dust ; I know thou fear'st my words, away,

*Tigr.* O miserie, why should he be so slow,  
 There can no falshood come of louing her,  
 Though I haue giuen my faith ; shee is a thing  
 Both to be lou'd and seru'd beyond my faith :  
 I would he would present me to her quickly.

*Pan.* Will you not speake at all? are you so farre  
From kind words? yet to saue my modesty,  
That must talke till you answere, do not stand  
As you were dumbe, say something; though it be  
Poyson'd with anger, that it may strike me dead.

*Mar.* Haue you no life at all? for manhood sake  
Let her not kneele, and talke neglected thus;  
A tree would find a tongue to answere her,  
Did shee but giue it such a lou'd respect.

*Arb.* You meane this Lady: lift her from the earth;  
Why doe you let her kneele so long? alas,  
Madame your beauty vses to command,  
And not to beg; what is your sute to me?  
It shall be granted, yet the time is short,  
And my affaires are great: but wher's my Sister?  
I had she should be brought.

*Mar.* What is he mad?

*Arb.* *Gobrias*, where is shee?

*Gob.* Sir.

*Arb.* Where is she man?

*Gob.* Who Sir?

*Arb.* Who hast thou forgot my Sister?

*Gob.* Your Sister sir?

*Arb.* Your Sister sir? some one that hath a wit, answere;  
where is she.

*Gob.* Doe you not see her there?

*Arb.* Where?

*Gob.* There.

*Arb.* There, where?

*Mar.* S'light there, are you blind?

*Arb.* Which doe you meane, that little one?

*Gob.* No Sir.

*Arb.* No sir, why doe you mocke me? I can see  
No other here but that petitioning Lady.

*Gob.* That's she.

*Arb.* Away.

*Gob.* Sir, it is shee.

*Arb.* T'is false.



*Gob.* Is it ?

*Arb.* As hell by heauen, as false as hell,  
My sister : is she dead ? if it be so,  
Speake boldly to me : for I am a man  
And dare not quarrell with Diuinity ;  
And doe not thinke to coasen me with this :  
I see you all are mute and stand amaz'd,  
Feare full to answer me ; it is too true,  
A decreed instant cut's off eu'ry life,  
For which to mourne, is to repine ; She di'de  
A Virgin, though more innocent then sheepe,  
As cleare as her owne eyes, and blessednesse  
Eternall waits vpon her where shee is :  
I know she could not make a wish to change  
Her state for new, and you shall see me beare  
My crosses like a man ; wee all must die,  
And she hath taught vs how.

*Cob.* Doe not mistake,  
And vexe your selfe for nothing ; for her death  
Is a long life off, I hope : 'Tis shee,  
And if my speech deserue not faith, lay death  
Vpon me, and my latest words shall force  
A credit from you.

*Arb.* Which good *Gobrias* ?  
That Lady dost thou meane ?

*Gob.* That Lady Sir,  
She is your sister, and she is your sister  
That loues you so, 'tis she for whom I weepe  
To see you vse her thus.

*Arb.* It cannot be.

*Tigr.* Pish, this is tedious,  
I cannot hold, I must present my selfe ;  
And yet the sight of my *Spaconia*  
Touches me, as a sudden thunder-clap  
Do's one that is about to sinne.

*Arb.* Away.

No more of this ; here I pronounce him traitor,  
The direct plotter of my death, that names

Or thinks her for my sister, 'tis a lie,  
 The most malicious of the world, inuented  
 To mad your King; he that vwill say so next,  
 Let him drawv out his svword, and sheath it here,  
 It is a sinne fully as pardonable:

She is no kinne to me, nor shall she be;

If she vvere euer, I create her none:

And vvhich of you can question this? My pouer  
 Is like the Sea, that is to be obey'd,  
 And not disputed vwith: I haue decreed her  
 As farre from hauing part of blood vwith me,  
 As the nak'd Indians: come, and ansvvere me,  
 He that is boldest novv; is that my sister?

*Mar.* O this is fine.

*Bes.* No marry she is not an't please your Maiesty,  
 I neuer thought shee vvas, shee's nothing like you.

*Arb.* No, 'tis true, she is not.

*Mar.* Thou should'ft be hang'd.

*Pau.* Sir, I vwill speake but once: by the same pouer  
 You make my blood a stranger vnto yours;  
 You may command me dead, and so much loue  
 A stranger may importune, pray you doe;  
 If this request appeare too much to grant,  
 Adopt me of some other Familie,  
 By your vnquestion'd vword; else I shall liue  
 Like sinfull issues that are left in streets  
 By their regardlesse Mothers, and no name  
 Will be found for me.

*Arb.* I vwill heare no more,

Why should there be such musicke in a voyce,  
 And sinne for me to heare it? All the vworld  
 May take delight in this, and 'tis damnation  
 For me to doe so: You are faire and vvise,  
 And vertuous I thinke, and he is blest  
 That is so neere you as my brother is:

But you are naught to mee but a disease;

Continuall torment vwithout hope of ease;

Such an vngodly sicknesse I haue got,



That he that vndertakes my cure, must first  
 Ore-throw Diuinity, all morall Lawes,  
 And leaue mankind as vnconfin'd as beasts,  
 Allowing'em to doe all actions  
 As freely as they drinke when they desire:  
 Let me not heare you speake againe; yet see  
 I shall but languish for the want of that  
 The hauing which would kill me: No man here  
 Offer to speake for her; for I consider  
 As much as you can say: I will not toyle  
 My body and my mind too, rest thou there,  
 Here's one within wil labour for you both.

*Pan.* I would I were past speaking.

*Gob.* Feare not Madam,

The King will alter, 'tis some sodaine rage,  
 And you shall see it end some other way.

*Pan.* Pray heauen it doe.

*Tigr.* Though shee to whom I swore, be here, I cannot  
 Stifle my passion longer. if my father  
 Should rise againe disquieted with this,  
 And charge me to forbear, yet it would out,  
 Madame, a stranger, and a prisoner begs  
 To be bid welcome.

*Pan.* You are welcome Sir

I thinke, but if you be not, 'tis past me  
 To make you so: for I am here a stranger  
 Greater then you: we know from whence you come,  
 But I appeare a lost thing, and by whom  
 Is yet vncertaine; found here i'th Court,  
 And onely suffer'd to walke vp and downe,  
 As one not worth the owning.

*Spa.* O I feare

*Tigranes* will be caught, he lookes me thinkes,  
 As he would change his eyes with her; some helpe  
 There is about for me I hope.

*Tigr.* Why doe you turne away and weepe so fast,  
 And vtter things that mis-become your lookes,  
 Can you want owning?

*Spa.* O'tis certaine so.

*Tigr.* Acknowledge your selfe mine.

*Arb.* How novv?

*Tigr.* And then see if you want an oovner.

*Arb.* They are talking.

*Tigr.* Nations shal owne you for their Queene.

*Arb.* *Tigranes*, art not thou my prifoner?

*Tigr.* I am.

*Arb.* And who is this?

*Tigr.* Shee is your sister.

*Arb.* She is so.

*Mar.* Is shee so againe? thats well.

*Arb.* And how then dare you offer to change words  
with her?

*Tigr.* Dare doe it, why? you brought me hither Sir  
To that intent.

*Arb.* Perhaps I told you so,

If I had sworne it, had you so much folly  
To credit it? The least word that shee speakes  
Is worth a life: rule your disordered tongue,  
Or I will temper it.

*Spa.* Blest be the breath.

*Tigr.* Temper my tongue; such inciuilities  
As these, no barbarous people euer knew:  
You breake the laws of Nature, and of Nations,  
You talke to me as if I were a prisoner  
For theft: my tongue be temper'd? I must speake  
If thunder checke me, and I will.

*Arb.* You will.

*Spa.* Alas my Fortune.

*Tigr.* Do not feare his frowne, deare Madam heare me.

*Arb.* Feare not my frowne? but that'twere bale in mee  
To fight with one I know I can'ore-come,  
Againe thou should'st be conquer'd by me.

*Mar.* Hee haz one ransome with him already; me thinks  
'twere good to fight double, or quit.

*Arb.* Away with him to prison: Now Sir see  
If my frowne be regardlesse: why delay you?



Seize him *Bacurius*, you shall know my vword  
Sweepes like a wind. and all it graples with,  
Are as the chaffe before it.

*Tigr.* Touch me not.

*Arb.* Helpe there.

*Tigr.* Away

1 *Gent.* It is in vaine to strugle.

2 *Gent.* You must be forc't.

*Bac.* Sir you must pardon vs, vve must obey.

*Arb.* Why doe you dally there? dragge him avway  
By any thing.

*Bac.* Come Sir.

*Tigr.* Iustice, thou ought'st to giue me strength enough  
To shake all these off; This is tyrannie,

*Arbaces* sutler then the burning Buls,

Or that fram'd Titans bed. Thou might'st as vwell

Search i the deepe of vwinter, through the Snow

For halfe staru'd people, to bring home vwith thee

To shev' em fire, and send' em backe againe,

As vse me thus.

*Arb.* Let him be close *Bacurius*.

*Exit Tig. and Bac.*

*Spa.* I nere reioyc'd at any ill to him,  
But this imprisonm. nt: vwhat shall become  
Of me forsaken?

*Gob.* You vwill not let your Sister  
Depart thus discontented from you Sir.

*Arb.* By no meanes *Gobrias*, I haue done her vvrong,  
And made my selfe belecue much of my selfe,  
That is not in me: You did kneele to me,  
Whilst I stood stubborne and regardlesse by,  
And like a god incensed, gaue no care  
To all your prayers: behold, I kneele to you,  
Shev' a contempt as large as vvas my ovvne,  
And I vwill suffer it, yet at the last forgiue me.

*Pan.* O you vvrong me more in this,  
Then in your rage you did: you mocke me novv.

*Arb.* Neuer forgiue me then, vvhich is the vvorst  
can happen to me.

*Pan.* If you be in earnest,  
Stand vp, and giue me but a gentle looke,  
And two kind words, and I shall be in heauen.

*Arb.* Rise you then to heare; I acknowledge thee  
My hope, the only iewell of my life,  
The best of sisters, dearer then my breath,  
A happinesse as high as I could thinke;  
And when my actions call thee otherwise,  
Perdition light vpon me.

*Pan.* This is better  
Then if you had not frown'd, it comes to me  
Like mercy at the blocke, and when I leaue  
To serue you with my life, your curse be with mee.

*Arb.* Then thus I doe salute thee, and againe,  
To make this knot the stronger, Paradise  
Is there: It may be you are yet in doubt,  
This third kisse blots it out, I wade in sinne,  
And foolishly intice my selfe along;  
Take her away, see her a prisoner  
In her owne chamber, closely *Gobrias*.

*Pan.* Alas Sir, why?

*Arb.* I must not stay the answer, doe it.

*Gob.* Good Sir.

*Arb.* No more, doe it I say.

*Mar.* This is better and better.

*Pan.* Yet heare me speake:

*Arb.* I will not heare you speake,  
Away with her, let no man thinke to speake  
For such a creature: for shee is a witch,  
A poysoner, and a Traytor.

*Gob.* Madam, this Office grieues me.

*Pan.* Nay, 'tis well the king is pleased with it.

*Arb.* *Bessus*, goe you along too with her; I will prooue  
All this that I haue sayd, if I may liue  
So long: but I am desperately sicke,  
For shee haz giuen me poyson in a kisse;  
She had't betwixt her lips, and with her eyes  
She witches people; goe without a word!



Why should you that haue made me stand in warre  
 Like fate it selfe, cutting what threds I pleas'd,  
 Decree such an vnworthy end of me,  
 And all my glories? What am I alas,  
 That you oppose me? if my secret thoughts  
 Haue euer harbour'd swellings against you,  
 They could not hurt you, and it is in you  
 To giue me sorrow, that will render me  
 Apt to receiue your mercie; rather so,  
 Let it be rather so, then punish me  
 With such vnmanly sinnes: Incest is in me  
 Dwelling already, and it must be holy  
 That puls it thence, where ar't *Mardonius*?

*Mar.* Heere Sir.

*Arb.* I pray thee beare me, if thou canst,  
 Am I not growne a strange weight?

*Mar.* As you were.

*Arb.* No heauier?

*Mar.* No Sir.

*Arb.* Why, my legs

Refuse to beare my body; O *Mardonius*,  
 Thou hast in field beheld me, when thou know'st  
 I could haue gone, though I could neuer runne.

*Mar.* And so I shall againe.

*Arb.* O no, 'tis past.

*Mar.* Pray you goe rest your selfe.

*Arb.* Wilt thou hereafter when they talke of me,  
 As thou shalt heare nothing but infamy,  
 Remember some of those things?

*Mar.* Yes, I will.

*Arb.* I pray thee doe: for thou shalt neuer see me so  
 againe.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Bossus alone.*

*Bos.* They talke of fame, I haue gotten it in the warres,  
 and will afford any man a reasonable penni-worth: some  
 will say they could be content to haue it, but that it is to be  
 atchieu'd with danger; but my opinion is otherwise; for if I  
 might stand still in Cannon prooffe, and haue fame fall vpon



mee, I would refuse it: my reputation came principally by thinking to runne away, which nobody knowes but *Mardonius*: and I think he conceales it to anger me. Before I went to the warres, I came to the towne a young fellow, without meanes, or parts to deserue friends; and my empty guts perswaded me to lie, and abuse people for my meate, which I did, and they beate me: then would I fast two dayes, till my hunger cry'd out o' me, raile still, then mee thought I had a monstrous stomacke to abuse 'em againe, and did it. I' this state I continu'd till they hung me vpb' the heeles, and beate me wi' harte stickes, as if they would haue baked mee, and haue coulen'd some body wi' mee for Venison: After this, I rayl'd, and eate quietly: for the whole Kingdome tooke notice of me for a bassel'd whipt fellow, and what I said, was remembred in mirth but neuer in anger, of which I was glad, I would it were at that passe againe. After this, heauen cald an Aunt of mine, that left two hundred pound in a couens hand for me, who taking me to be a gallant young spirit, rayfd a company for me with the money, and sent me into *Armenia* with'em: Away I would haue runne from them, but that I could get no company, and alone I durst not runne. I was neuer at battle but once, and there I was running, but *Mardonius* cudgel'd me; yet I got loose at last, but was so fraide, that I saw no more then my shoulders doe, but fled with my whole company amongst my enemies, and ouerthrew'em: Now the report of my valour is come ouer before mee, and they say I was a raw young fellow, but now I am improu'd, A plague of their eloquence, 'twill cost mee many a beating: And *Mardonius* might helpe this too, if he would; for now they thinke to get honour on me, and all the men I haue abused call me freshly, worthily, as they call it. by the way of Challenge.

*Enter a Gent.*

3. *Gent.* Good morrow Captaine *Bessus*.

*Bes.* Good morrow sir,

2. *Gent.* I come to speake with you.

*Bes.* You'r very welcome.

3. *Gent.* From one that holds himselfe wrong'd by you some three yeares since: your worth hee saies is fam'd, and  
he



he doth nothing doubt but you will doe him right, as be-  
seemes a souldier.

*Bes.* A pox on'em, so they cry all.

3 *Gent.* And a slight note I haue about me for you, for  
the deliery of which you must excuse me; it is an office that  
friendship calls vpon me to doe, and no way offensive to you,  
since I desire but right on both sides.

*Bes.* 'Tis a challenge Sir, is it not?

3 *Gent.* 'Tis an inuiting to the field.

*Bes.* An inuiting? O cry you mercie, what a comple-  
ment he deliuers it with? he might as agreeable to my na-  
ture, present me poyson with such a speech: v m v m v m re-  
putation, v m v m v m call you to account, v m v m v m forc'd  
to this, v m v m v m with my sword, v m v m v m like a gentle-  
man, v m v m v m deare to me, v m v m v m satisfaction: 'Tis  
very well Sir, I doe accept it, but he must awaite an answer  
t. is thirteene weekes.

3 *Gent.* Why Sir, he would be glad to vvipe off his staine  
as soone as he could.

*Bes.* Sir, vpon my credit I am already ingag'd to two  
hundred and twelue, all which must haue their staines vvipt  
off, if that be the word, before him.

3 *Gent.* Sir, if you bee truly ingag'd but to one, hee shall  
stay a competent time.

*Bes.* Vpon my faith Sir, to two hundred and twelue, and I  
haue a spent body, too much bruis'd in battle, so that I can-  
not fight, I must bee plaine, aboue three combats a day: All  
the kindnesse I can shew him, is to set him resolutely in my  
bowle, the tvvo hundreth and thirteenth man, which is some-  
thing, for I tell you, I thinke there will bee more after him  
hen before him, I thinke so, pray you commend me to him,  
and tell him this.

3 *Gent.* I will Sir, good morrov to you. *Exit 3 Gen.*

*Bes.* Good morrow good Sir. Certainly my safest way  
were to print my selfe a coward, with a discouery how I  
came by my credit, and clap it vpon euery post: I haue re-  
viued aboue thirty challenges within this two houres, marry  
but the first I put off with ingagement, and by good  
fortune



fortune, the first is no madder of fighting then I, so that that's referd the place where it must be end d, is foure dayes iourney off, and our arbitratours are these: Hee haz chosen a Gentleman in trauaile, and I haue a speciall friend with a quartaine ague, like to hold him this five yeare, for mine; and when his man comes home. we are to expect my friends health: If they would find mee Challenges thus thicke, as long as I liu'd, I would haue no other living; I can make seauen shillings a day o'th paper to the Grocers: yet I learne nothing by all these but a little skill in comparing of stiles. I doe find evidently, that there is some one Scriuener in this Towne, that haz a great hand in writing of Challenges, for they are all of a cut, and fixe of 'em in a hand; and they all end, my reputation is deare to mee, and I must require satisfaction: Who's there? more paper I hope, no, tis my Lord *Bacurins*, I feare all is not well betwixt vs. *Enter Bac.*

*Bac.* Now Captaine *Bessus*, I come about a friuolous matter, caus'd by as idle a report: you know you were a coward.

*Bes.* Very right.

*Bac.* And wronged me.

*Bes.* True my Lord.

*Bac.* But now people will call you valiant, desertlessly I thinke, yet for their satisfaction, I will haue you fight with me.

*Bes.* O my good Lord, my deepe ingagements.

*Bac.* Tell not me of your ingagements, Captaine *Bessus*; it is not to be put off with an excuse: for my owne part, I am none of the multitude that beleue your conuersion from coward.

*Bes.* My Lord, I seeke not quarrels, and this belongs not to me, I am not to maintaine it.

*Bac.* Who then pray?

*Bes.* *Bessus* the coward wrong'd you.

*Bac.* Right.

*Bes.* And shall *Bessus* the valiant, maintaine what *Bessus* the coward did?

*Bac.* I pray thee leaue these cheating trickes, I sweare



thou shalt fight with mee, or thou shalt be beat extreame-ly, and kick'd

*Bes.* Since you prouoke me thus farre my Lord, I will fight with you, and by my Sword it shall cost me twenty pound, but I will haue my leg well a week sooner purposely.

*Bac.* Your legge? Why? what ayles your legge? I do a cure on you, stand vp.

*Bes.* My Lord, this is not noble in you.

*Bac.* What doest thou with such a phrase in thy mouth, I will kicke thee out of all good wordes before I leaue thee.

*Bes.* My Lord, I take this as a punishment for the offence I did when I was a coward.

*Bac.* When thou wert? confesse thy selfe a coward still, or by this light ile beate thee in o' spunge.

*Bes.* Why I am one.

*Bac.* Are you so Sir? and why do youf were a sword then? Come vn buckle, quicke.

*Bes.* My Lord.

*Bac.* Vn buckle say, and giue it me, or as I liue thy head will ake extreame-ly.

*Bes.* It is a pretty hilt, and if your Lord-ship take an affection to it, with all my heart I present it to you for a new-yeares gift.

*Bac.* I thanke you very heartily, sweet Captaine farewell.

*Bes.* One word more, I beseech your Lordship to render me my knife againe.

*Bac.* Marry by all meanes Captaine, cherish your selfe with it, and eate hard good Captaine; wee cannot tell whether we shall haue any more such: Adue deere Captaine.

*Exit Bacurius.*

*Bes.* I will make better vse of this, then of my sword: A base spirit haz this vantage of a braue one; it keeps alwaies at a stay, nothing brings it downe, not beating. I remember I promis'd the King in a great audience, that I would n' ake my backbiters eate my sword to a knife, how to get another sword I know not, nor know any means left for me to maintaine my credit but impudence: Therefore I will out-swear him and all his followers, that this is all that's left vn-eaten



of my sword.

*Exit Bessus.*

*Enter Mardonius.*

*Mar.* He moue the King, he is most strangely alter'd; I guesse the cause I feare too right, heauen haz some secret end in't and 'tis a scourge no question iustly layd vpon him: He haz followed me through twenty roomes, and euer when I stay to wait his command, he blushes like a girle, and lookes vpon me, as if mod. sty ke pt. in his businesse: so turns away from me, but if I goe on, he followes me againe. *Ent Arba.* See, heere he is, I doe not vse this, yet I know not how, I cannot chuse but weepe to see him: his very enemies I thinke, whose wounds haue bred his fame, if they shoule see him now, would find teares i'their eyes.

*Arb.* I cannot vtter it, why should I keepe  
A breast to harbour thoughts? I dare not speake:  
Darker esse is in my bosome, and there lyes  
A thousand thoughts that cannot brooke the light:  
How wilt thou yexe me when this deed is done?  
Conscience, that art afraid to let me name it.

*Mar.* How doe you sir?

*Arb.* Why very well *Mardonius*, how dost thou doe?

*Mar.* Better then you I feare:

*Arb.* I hope thou art; for to be plaine with thee,  
Thou art in hell else, secret scorching flames  
That farre transcend earthly materiall fires  
Are crept into me, and there is no cure,  
Is it not strange *Mardonius*, ther's no cure?

*Mar.* Sir, either I mistake, or there is something hid  
That you would vtter to me.

*Arb.* So there is, but yet I cannot doe it.

*Mar.* Out with it Sir, if it be dangerous I will not shrink.  
To doe you seruice, I shall not esteeme my life a waightier  
matter then indeed it is, I know 'tis subiect to more chances  
then it haz houres, and I were better loose it in my Kings  
cause, then with an ague, or a fall, or sleeping, to a thiefe; as  
all these are probable enough: let me but know what I shall  
doe for you.

*Arb.* It will not out: were you with *Gobrias*,

And



And bad him giue my sifter all content  
The place affords, and giue her leaue to send  
And speake to whom she please?

*Mar.* Yes sir, I was.

*Arb.* And did you to *Bacurius* say as much  
About *Tigranes*?

*Mar.* Yes.

*Arb.* That's all my businesse.

*Mar.* O say not so,  
You had an answer of this before;  
Besides, I thinke this businesse might be vtter'd  
More carelesly.

*Arb.* Come, thou shalt haue it out; I doe beseech thee  
By all the loue thou hast profest to mee,  
To see my sifter from me.

*Mar.* Well, and what?

*Arb.* That's all.

*Mar.* That's strange, I shall say nothing to her?

*Arb.* Not a word;

But if thou louest me, find some subtill way  
To make her vnderstand by signes.

*Mar.* But what shall I make her vnderstand;

*Arb.* O *Mardonius*, for that I must be pardon'd,

*Mar.* You may, but I can only see her then.

*Arb.* 'Tis true;

Beare her this Ring then, and one more aduice  
Thou shalt speake to her: tell her I doe loue  
My kinned all; wilt thou?

*Mar.* Is there no more?

*Arb.* O yes, and her the best;

Better then any brother loues his sifter: That's all.

*Mar.* Me thinkes this

Need not haue bene deliuered with such a caution;  
He doe it.

*Arb.* There is more yet,  
Wilt thou be faithfull to me?

*Mar.* Sir, If I take vpon me to deliuer it, after I heare it,  
He passe through fire to doe it.

*Arb.* I loue her better then a brother ought;  
Doeſt thou conceiue me?

*Mar.* I hope you doe not Sir.

*Arb.* No, thou art dull, kneele down before her,  
And nere riſe againe, till ſhe will loue me.

*Mar.* Why, I thinke ſhee does.

*Arb.* But better then ſhe does, another way;  
As wiues loue husbands.

*Mar.* Why, I thinke there are few wiues that loue their  
Husbands, better then ſhe does you.

*Arb.* Thou wilt not vnderſtand me: is it fit

This ſhould be vttered plainely; take it then

Naked as it is: I would deſire her loue

Lasciuouſly, lewdly, inceſtuouſly,

To doe a ſinne, that needs muſt damne vs both;

And thee too: Doſt thou vnderſtand me now?

*Mar.* Yes, ther's your Ring againe; What haue I done  
Diſhoneſtly in my whole life, name it

That you ſhould put ſo baſe a buſineſſe to me?

*Arb.* Didſt thou not tell me thou would'ſt doe it?

*Mar.* Yes, if I vndertooke it, but if all

My haires were liues, I would not be engag'd

In ſuch a caſe, to ſaue my laſt life.

*Arb.* O guilt, how poore, and weake a thing art thou?

This man that is my ſeruant, whom my breath

Might blow about the world, might beate me here

Hauiug this cauſe, whilſt I preſt d'wne with ſinne

Could not reſiſt him, heare *Mardonius*

It was a motion miſ-beſeeming man;

And I am ſorry for it.

*Mar.* Heauen grant you may be ſo: you muſt vnderſtand,  
nothing that you can vtter, can remoue my loue and ſeruiſe  
from my Prince. But otherwiſe, I thinke I ſhall not loue you  
more. For you are ſinfull, and if you doe this crime, you  
ought to haue no lawes. For after this, it will be great iniu-  
ſtice in you to puniſh any offender for any crime: For my  
ſelfe I find my heart too big: I feele I haue not patience to  
looke on whilſt you runne theſe forbidden courſes: Meane



I haue none but your Fauour, and I am rather glad that I shall loose 'em both together, then keepe'em with such conditions; I shall find a dwelling amongst some people, where though our garments perhaps be courser, we shall be richer farre within, and harbour no such vices in'em: the Gods preserve you, and mend.

*Arb.* *Mardonius*, stay *Mardonius*, For though My present state requires nothing but knaues, To bee about me, such as are prepar'd For euery wicked act yet who does know But that my loathed Fate may turne about, And I haue vse for honest men againe: I hope I may, I prethee leaue me not.

*Enter Bessus.*

*Bes.* Where is the King?

*Mar.* There.

*Bes.* An't please your Maiesty, ther's the knife.

*Arb.* What knife?

*Bes.* The sword is eaten.

*Mar.* Away you Foole, the King is serious, And cannot now admit your vanities.

*Bes.* Vanities, I'me no honest man if my enemies haue not brought it to this, what doe you thinke I lie?

*Arb.* No, no, 'tis well *Bessus*, 'tis very well, I'me glad on't.

*Mar.* If your enemies brought it to this, your enemies are Cutlers, come, leaue the King.

*Bes.* Why, may not valour approach him?

*Mar.* Ye, but he haz affaires, depart, or I shall be something vnmannery vvith you.

*Arb.* No let him stay *Mardonius*, let him stay, I haue occasion vvith him very vveighty, And I can spare you now.

*Mar.* Sirs

*Arb.* Why I can spare you now.

*Bes.* *Mardonius* giue vway to the state affaires.

*Mar.* Indeed you are fitter for his present purpose.

*Exit Mar.*

*Arb.* *Bessus*, I should employ thee, vvilt thou do't.

*Bes.* Do't for you, by this ayre I will do any thing  
out exception, be it a good, bad, or indifferent thing.

*Arb.* Doe not sweare.

*Bes.* By this light but I will, any thing whatsoeuer.

*Arb.* But I shall name the thing  
Thy conscience will not suffer thee to doe.

*Bes.* I would faine heare that thing.

*Arb.* Why I would haue thee get my sister for me :  
Thou vnderstand'st me, in a wicked manner.

*Bes.* O you would haue a bout with her?  
Ile do't, Ile do't, I'faith.

*Arb.* Wilt thou, do'st thou make no more en't?

*Bes.* More? no, why is there any thing elle? if there be  
me, it shall be done too.

*Arb.* Hast thou no greater sence of such a sinne?  
Thou art too wicked for my company,  
Though I haue hell within me, and may'st yet  
Corrupt me further : pray thee answeare me,  
How doe I shew to thee after this motion :

*Bes.* Why your Maiesty lookes as well in my opinion, as  
euer you did since you were borne,

*Arb.* But thou appear'st to mee after thy grant,  
The vglieft, lo thed, detestable thing  
That I haue euer met with. Thou hast eyes  
Like the flames of *Sulphur*, which me thinkes doe dart  
Infection on me, and thou hast a mouth  
Enough to take me in, where there doe stand  
Foure rowes of Iron teeth,

*Bes.* I feele no such thing, but 'tis no matter how I looke,  
Ile doe your businesse as well as they that looke better, and  
when this is dispatch'd, if you haue a mind to your Mother,  
tell me, and you shall see Ile set it hard.

*Arb.* My Mother, heauen forgie me to heare this,  
I am inspir'd with horreur : now I hate thee  
Worse then my sinne, which if I could come by,  
Should suffer death eternall nere to rise  
In any breast againe. Know I will dye  
Languishing madde, as I resolute I shall,  
Ere I will deale by such an instrument :

Thou



Thou art too sinfull to imploy in this ;  
Out of the world, away.

*Bes.* What doe you meane Sir ?

*A b.* Hung round with curses, take thy fearefull flight  
Into the desarts, where' mongst all the monsters  
If thou find'st one so beastly as thy selfe,  
Thou shalt be held as innocent.

*Bes.* Good Sir.

*Arb.* If there were no such instruments as thou,  
We Kings could neuer act such wicked deedes :  
Seeke out a man that mockes Diuinity,  
That breaks each precept both of Gods and mans,  
And natures too, and does it without lust,  
Meerely because it is a law, and good,  
And liue with him : for him thou canst not spoyle.  
Away I say, I will not doe this sinne.  
Ile presse it here, till it doe breake my breast,  
It heau's to get out, but thou art a sinne,  
And spight of torture I will keepe thee in.

*Exit Bessus.*

*The end of the third Act.*

## Actus Quartus.

*Enter Gobrias, Panthea, Spaconia.*

*Gob,* **H** Aue you written Madame,  
*Pan.* Yes good Gobrias.

*Gob* And with a kindnesse, and such winning words  
As may prouoke him at one instant feele  
His double fault, your wrong, and his owne rashnesse ?

*Pan.* I haue sent words enough, if words may winne him  
From his displeasure ; and such words I hope  
As shall gaine much vpon his goodnesse, *Gobrias,*  
Yet fearing since they are many, and a womans,  
A poore beliefe may follow, I haue wouen  
As many truths within'em to speake for me,  
That if he be but gracious, and receiue'em.

*Gob.* Good Lady bee not fearefull, though hee should not  
Giue you your present end in this ; beleeue it,

You shall feele, if your vertue can induce you  
 To labour on't, this tempest vvhich I know  
 Is but a poore prooffe gainst your patience:  
 All those contents, your spirit vwill ariue at,  
 Nevver and sveter to you; you Royall Brother,  
 When he shall once collect himselfe, and see  
 How far he haz bin asunder from himselfe;  
 What a meere stranger to his golden temper:  
 Must from those rootes of vertue, neuer dying  
 Though somevvhath stop't with humor, shoot againe  
 Into a thousand glories, bearing his faire branches  
 High as our hopes can looke at straight as iustice,  
 Loaden vwith ripe contents, he loues you deereely,  
 I knowv it, and I hope I need not farther  
 Winne you to vnderstand it.

*Pan.* I beleue it.

But how soeuer, I am sure I loue him dearely;  
 So dearely, that if any thing I write  
 For my enlarging should beget his anger,  
 Heauen be a witnesse with me and my faith,  
 I had rather lye in tomb'd here.

*Gob.* You shall not feele a worse stroake then your grieffe,  
 I am sorry 'tis so sharpe, I kisse your hand,  
 And this night will deliuer this true story,  
 With this hand to your brother.

*Pan.* Peace goe with you, you are a good man. *Ex. Go.*  
 My *Spaonia* why are you euer sad thus?

*Spa.* O deare Lady!

*Pan.* Prethee discouer not a way to sadnesse,  
 Neerer then I haue in me, our two sorrowes  
 Worke like two eager Hawkes, who shall get highest:  
 How shall I lessen thine, for mine I feare  
 Is easier knowne then cur'd,

*Spa.* Heauen comfort both,  
 And giue you happy ends, how euer I  
 Fall in my stubborne fortunes.

*Pan.* This but teaches  
 How to be more familiar with our sorrowes,



That are too much our Masters : good *Spaconia*  
How shall I doe you seruice ?

*Spa.* Noblest Lady,  
You make me more a slaue stil to your goodnesse,  
And only line to purchase thanks to pay you,  
For that is all the businesse, of my life now  
I will be bold, since you will haue it so,  
To aske a noble fauour of you.

*Pan.* Speake it, 'tis yours, for from so sweet a vertue,  
No ill demand haz issue.

*Spa.* Then euer vertuous, let me begge your will  
In helping me to see the Prince *Tigranes*,  
With whom I am equall prisoner, if not more.

*Pan.* Reserue me to a greater end *Spaconia*;  
*Bacchus* cannot want so much good manners  
As to deny your gentle visitation,  
Though you came only with your owne command.

*Spa.* I know they will deny me gracious Madame,  
Being a stranger, and so little fam'd  
So vtter empty of these excellencies,  
That tame authority ; but in you sweet Lady,  
All these are naturall ; beside, a power  
Deriu'd immediate from your Royall Brother,  
Whose least word in you, may command the kingdome.

*Pan.* More then my word *Spaconia*, you shall carry,  
For feare it faile you.

*Spa.* Dare you trust a token ?  
Madame, I feare I am growne too bold a begger.

*Pan.* You are a pretty one, and trust me Lady  
It ioyes me, I shall doe a good to you,  
Though to my selfe I neuer shall be happie :  
Here take this Ring, and from me as a token  
Deliuer it ; I thinke they will not stay you :  
So all your owne desires goe with you Lady.

*Spa.* And sweet peace to your Grace.

*Pan.* Pray Heauen I find it.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Tigranes in prison.*

*Tigr.* Foole that I am, I haue vndone my selfe,

And with my owne hand turn'd my fortune round.  
 That was a faire one : I haue childishly  
 Playde with my hope so long, till I haue broke it,  
 And now too late I mourne for't. *O Spaconia*  
 Thou hast found an euen way to thy reuenge now,  
 Why didst thou follow me like a faint shadow,  
 To wither my desires : but wretched foole,  
 Why did I plant thee 'twixt the Sunne and me,  
 To make me freeze thus ? Why did I preferre her  
 To the faire Princessse ? O thou foole, thou foole,  
 Thou family of fooles, liue like a slaue still,  
 And in thee beare thine owne hell and thy torment ;  
 Thou hast deseru'd : Couldst thou find no Lady  
 But she that haz thy hopes to put her to,  
 And hazard all thy peace ? None to abuse  
 But shee that lou'd thee euer ? poore *Spaconia*,  
 And so much lou'd thee, that in honesty  
 And honour thou art bound to meet her vertues :  
 She that for got the greatnesse of her grieffe  
 And miseries, that must follow such mad passions,  
 Endlesse and wild as women : Shee that for thee  
 And with thee left her libertie, her name,  
 And countrey, you haue payde me equall, Heauens.  
 And sent my owne rod to correct me with ;  
 A woman : for inconstancy ile suffer,  
 Lay it on Iustice, till my soule melt in me  
 For ray vnmanly, beastly, sodaine dotting  
 Vpon a new face : after all my oathes  
 Many and strange ones,  
 I feele my old fire flame againe and burne  
 So strong and violent, that should I see her  
 Againe, the grieffe, and that would kill me.

*Enter Bacurins and Spaconia.*

*Bac.* Lady,  
 Your token I acknowledge, you may passe;  
 There is the King.

*Spa.* I thanke your Lordship for it. *Exit Bac.*  
*Tigr.* She comes, she comes, shame hide me euer from her,  
 Would



Would I were buried, or so farre remou'd  
Light might not find me out : I dare not see her.

*Spa.* Nay, neuer hide your selfe; or were you hid  
Where earth hides all her riches, neere her center;  
My wrongs without more day would light me to you:  
I must speake ere I dye; were all your greatnesse  
Doubled vpon you, y'are a perior'd man  
And onely mighty in your wickednesse  
Of wronging women, Thou art false, false Prince;  
I liue to see it, poore *Spaonia* liues  
To tell thee thou art false; and then no more;  
She liues to tell thee thou art more vnconstant,  
Then all ill women euer were together;  
Thy faith is firme as raging ouerflowes,  
That no banke can command; as lasting  
As boyes gay bubbles blowne in th'ayre and broken:  
The wind is fixt to thee, and sooner shall  
The beaten Marriner with his shrill whistle,  
Calme the loud murmure of the troubled maine  
And strike it smooth againe; then thy soule fall  
To haue peace in loue with any: Thou art all,  
That all good men must hate, and if thy story  
Shall tell succeeding ages what thou wert,  
O let it spare me in it, lest True Louers  
In pittie of my wrongs, burne thy blacke legend,  
And with their curses shake thy sleeping ashes.

*Tigr.* Oh! oh!

*Spa.* The destinies I hope haue pointed out  
Our ends alike, that thou maist dy for loue  
Though not for me: for this assure thy selfe,  
The Princesse hates thee deadly, and will sooner  
Be worne to marry with a Bull, and safer  
Then such a beast as thou art: I haue strooke  
I feare too deep; be shrew me for't Sir,  
This sorrow wor' s me like a cunning friendship  
Into the same piece with it; 'tis asham'd  
Alas, I haue beene too rugged: Deare my Lord,  
I am sorry I haue spoken any thing,



Indeed I am, that may adde more restraint  
To that too much you haue: Good sir be pleas'd  
To thinke it was a fault of loue, not malice;  
And doe as I will doe, forgine it Prince,  
I doe, and can forgine the greatest sinnes  
To me you can repeat of; pray belecue.

*Tigr.* O my *Spaconia*! O thou vertuous woman.

*Spa.* Nay more, the King Sir.

*Enter Arbaces, Bacurius, Mardonius.*

*Arb.* Haue you beene carefull of our noble prisoner  
That he want nothing fitting for his greatnesse?

*Bac.* I hope his Grace will quite me for my care Sir.

*Arb.* 'Tis well; Royall *Tigranes* health.

*Tigr.* More then the strictnesse of this place can giue Sir,  
I offer backe againe to great *Arbaces*.

*Arb.* We thanke you worthy Prince, and pray excuse vs,  
We haue not seene you since your being here,  
I hope your noble vsage haz beene equall  
With your owne person: your imprisonment  
If it be any, I dare say is easie,  
And shall not out-last two dayes.

*Tigr.* I thanke you:  
My vsage here haz bene the same it was,  
Worthy a Royall Conquerour. For my restraint  
It came vnkindly, because much vnlook't for;  
But I must beare it.

*Arb.* What Ladie's that *Bacurius*.

*Bac.* One of the Princes women Sir.

*Arb.* I fear'd it, why comes she hither?

*Bac.* To speake with the Prince *Tigranes*.

*Arb.* From whom *Bacurius*?

*Bac.* From the Princess Sir.

*Arb.* I knew I had seene her.

*Mar.* His fit begins to take him now againe,  
'Tis a strange Feauer; and't will shake vs all anone, I feare;  
Would he were well cur'd of this raging folly:  
Giue me the warres, where men are madde, and may talke  
what they list, and held the brauest Fellowes; This pelting



prating peace is good for nothing : drinking's a vertue to't.

*Arb.* I see ther's truth in no man, nor obedience,  
But for his owne ends, why did you let her in?

*Bac.* It was your owne command to barre none from him  
Beside the Princessse sent her Ring Sir, for my warrant.

*Arb.* A token to *Tigranes*, did she not?  
Sir, tell trueth.

*Bac.* I doe not vse to lye Sir,  
'Tis no' way I eate or liue by, and I thinke,  
This is no token Sir.

*Mar.* This combat haz yndone him : If he had been well  
beaten, hee had beene temperate : I shall neuer see him hand-  
some againe, till he haue a Horse-mans staffe yoakt through  
his shoulders, or an arme broke with a bullet.

*Arb.* I am trifled with.

*Bac.* Sir.

*Arb.* I know it, as I know thee to be false.

*Mar.* Now the clap comes.

*Bac.* You neuer knew me so Sir, I dare speake it,  
And durst a worse man tell me though my better

*Mar.* 'Tis well sed by my Soule.

*Arb.* Sirra you answere, as you had no life.

*Bac.* That I feare Sir to lose Nobly.

*Arb.* I say Sir once againe.

*Bac.* You may say what you please Sir,  
Would I might doe so.

*Arb.* I wil Sir, and say openly this woman carries letters,  
By my life I know she carries letters, this woman does it.

*Mar.* Would *Bessus* were here to take her aside and search  
her, he would quickly tell you what she carried Sir.

*Arb.* I haue found it out; this woman carries letters.

*Mar.* If this hold, 'twill bee an ill world for Bawdes,  
Chamber-maids, and Post-boyes, I thank heauen I haue none  
but his letters patents, things of his owne indighting.

*Arb.* Prince, this cunning cannot do't.

*Tigr.* Doe, what Sir? I reach you not.

*Arb.* It shall not serue your turne Prince,

*Tigr.* Serue my turne Sir?

*Arb.* I Sir; it shal not serue your turne.

*Tigr.* Be plainer good Sir.

*Arb.* This woman shall carry no more letters backe to your loue *Panthea*, by heauen she shall not, I say she shall not.

*Mar.* This would make a Saint sweare like a souldier.

*Tigr.* This beates me more King then the blowes you gaue me.

*Arb.* Take'em away both, and together let them prisoners bee, strictly and closely kept, or Sirra your life shall answer it, and let no body speake with'em hereafter.

*Tigr.* Well, I am subiect to you,  
And must endure these passions:  
This is the imprisonment I haue look'r for alwayes,  
And the deare place I would chuse, *Exeunt Tigr. Spa. Bac.*

*Mar.* Sir haue you done well now?

*Arb.* Dare you re proue it?

*Mar.* No.

*Arb.* You must be crossing me.

*Mar.* I haue no letters Sir, to anger you,  
But a dry Sonnet of my Corporals  
To an old Sutlers wife, and that Ile burne Sir:  
'Tis like to proue a fine age for the Ignorant.

*Arb.* How dar'st thou so often forsaite thy life?  
Thou know'st 'tis in my power to take it.

*Mar.* Yes, and I know you won-not, or if you doe you'le misse it quickly.

*Arb.* Why?

*Mar.* Who shall tell you of these childish follies  
When I am dead? who shall put to his power  
To draw those vertues out of a flood of humors,  
When they are drown'd, and make'em shine againe?  
No, cut my head off:

Then you may talke, and be beleued, and grow worse,  
And haue your too selfe-glorious temper rot  
Into a dead sleepe, and the kingdome with you,  
Till forraine swords be in your throats, and slaughter  
Be euery where about you like your flatterers.  
Doe, kill me.



*Arb.* Prethee be tamer good *Mardonius*,  
 Thou know'st I loue thee, nay I honour thee,  
 Beleeue it good old Souldiour, I am thine,  
 But I am rackt cleane from my selfe, beare with me,  
 Woot thou beare with me my *Mardonius*? *Enter Gobrias.*

*Mar.* There comes a good man, loue him too,  
 Hee's temperate,  
 You may liue to haue need of such a vertue,  
 Rage is not still in fashion.

*Arb.* Welcome good *Gobrias*.

*Gob.* My seruice and this letter to your grace.

*Arb.* From whom?

*Gob.* From the rich Mine of vertue, and beauty.  
 Your mournfull Sister.

*Arb.* Shee is in prison *Gobrias*, is she not?

*Gob.* She is Sir, till your pleasure to enlarge her,  
 Which on my knees I begge. O'tis not fit  
 That all the sweetnesse of the world in one,  
 The youth, and vertue that would tame wilde Tygers  
 And wilder people, that haue knowne no manners,  
 Should liue thus cloystered vp; for your loues sake,  
 If there be any in that Noble heart  
 To her a wretched Lady, and forlorne,  
 Or for her loue to you, which is as much  
 As nature and obedience euer gaue,  
 Haue pitie on her beauties.

*Arb.* Pray thee stand vp; 'Tis true she is too faire,  
 And all these commendations but her owne,  
 Would thou had'st neuer so commended her,  
 Or I nere h'u'd to haue heard it *Gobrias*;  
 If thou but knew'st the wrong her beauty does her.  
 Thou wouldst in pity of her be a lyer.  
 Thy ignorance haz rawne me wretched man  
 Whether my selfe nor thou canst well tell: O my fate?  
 I thinke she loues mee, but I feare another  
 Is deeper in her heart: How think'st thou *Gobrias*.

*Gob.* I doe beseech your Grace beleeue it not;  
 For let me perisha if it be not false,

Good Sir read her Letter.

*Mar.* This Loue, or what a diuell it is I know not, begets more mischief then a Wake. I had rather be well beaten, staru'd, or low sic, then liue within the ayre on't. He that had seene this braue fellow charge through a groue of pikes but tother day, and looke vpon him now, will nere belecue his eyes againe: If he continue thus but two dayes more, a Taylor may beat him with one hand tied behind him.

*Arb.* Alas, she would be at liberty.

And there be thousand reasons *Gobrias*,  
Thousands that will deny't:

Which if she knew she would contentedly  
Be where she is, and blesse her vertues for it  
And me, though she were closer. She would *Gobrias*,  
Good man indeed she would.

*Gob.* Then good Sir, for her satisfaction,  
Send for her, and with reason make her know  
Why she must liue thus from you.

*Arb.* I will, goe bring her to me.

*Exeunt all.*

*Enter Bessus, and two Sword-men, and a boy.*

*Bes.* Y'are very vwelcome both. Some stooles there boy,  
And reach a Table; Gentlemen oth'Sword,  
Pray sit without more complement: be gone child,  
I haue bin curious in the searching of you,  
Because I vnderstand you wife, and valiant persons.

1 We vnderstand our selues Sir.

*Bes.* Nay Gentlemen, and deare friends oth'Sword,  
No complement I pray, but to'th cause  
I hang vpon, which in fevv, is my honour.

2 You cannot hang too much Sir for your honour,  
But to your cause.

*Bes.* Be wise, and speake trueth, my first doubt is, my beating by my Prince.

1 Stay there a little Sir, doe you doubt a beating?  
Or haue you had a beating by your Prince?

*Bes.* Gentlemen oth'Sword, my Prince haz beaten me.

2 Brother, what thinke you of this case?

1 If he haz beaten him, the case is cleere.



2 If a haue beaten him, I grant the case ;  
But how ? Wee cannot be too subtill in this businesse  
I say; but how ?

*Bes.* Euen with his royall hand.

1 Was it a blow of loue or indignation.

*Bes.* 'Twas twenty blowes of indignation Gentlemen,  
Besides two blowes oth'face.

2 Those blowes oth'face haue made a new cause on't,  
The rest were but an horrible rudenesse.

1 Two blowes oth'face, and giuen by a worse man, I  
must confesse as the Sword-men say, had turn'd the businesse:  
Marke me brother, by a worse man ; but being by his Priace,  
had they beene ten, and those ten drawen teeth, beside the  
hazard of his nose for euer ; all this had beene but fauours ;  
This is my flat opinion, which Ile die in.

2 The King may doe much Captaine, beleue it, for had  
a crackt your scull through like a bottle, or broke a ribbe or  
two with tossing of you, yet you had lost no honour: This  
is strange you may imagine, but this is truth now Captaine.

*Bes.* I will be glad to embrace it Gentlemen ;  
But how farre may he strike me.

1 There's another :

A new cause rising from the time and distance,  
In which I will deliuer my opinion :

He may strike, beate, or cause to be beaten ; for these are na-  
turall to man : Your Prince, I say may beate you, so farre  
foorth as his dominion reacheth ; that's for the distance ; the  
time, ten mile a day, I take it.

2 Brother, you erre, 'tis fifteene mile a day,  
His stage is ten, his beatings are fifteene.

*Bes.* 'Tis a the longest, but wee subiects must.

1 Be subiect to it : you are wise and vertuous.

*Bes.* Obedience euer makes that noble vse on't,  
To which I dedicate my beaten body ;  
I must trouble you a little further Gentlemen oth'Svord.

2 No trouble at all to vs Sir, if we may  
Profit your vnderstanding ; we are bound  
By vertue of our calling, to vtter our opinions.



shortly, and discreetly.

*Bes.* My forest businesse is, I haue bin kickt.

2 How farre Sir?

*Bes.* Not to flatter my selfe in it, all ouer, my sword forst, but not lost, for discreetly I renderd it to saue that imputation,

1 It shew'd discretion, the best part of valour.

2 Brother, this is a pretty case, pray ponder on;  
Our friend here haz beene kickt.

1 He haz so brother.

2 Soerly he saies: Now had he set downe here  
Vpon the meere kicke, r'had bine cowardly.

1 I thinke it had beene cowardly indeed.

2 But our friend haz redeem'd it in deliuering  
His sword without compulsion; and that man  
That tooke it of him, I pronounce a weake one,  
And his kicks nullities.

A should haue kickt him after the deliuey,  
Which is the confirmation of a coward.

1 Brother, I take it, you mistake the question;  
For say that I were kickt.

2 I must not say so;

Nor I must not heare it spoke by the tongue of man,  
You kickt deere brother? you'r merry.

1 But put the case I were kickt?

2 Let them put it that are things weary of their liues, and  
know not honour: put the case you were kickt?

1 I doe not say, I was kickt.

2 Nor no silly creature, that weares his head without a  
case, his soule in a skinne coate: You kickt deere brother?

*Bes.* Nay Gentlemen, let vs doe what we shall doe,  
Truely and honestly: Good Sirs to the question.

1 Why then I say, suppose your boy kickt, Captaine.

2 The boy may be suppos'd is lyable.

1 A foolish forward zeale Sir, in my friend;  
But to the boy, suppose the boy were kickt;

*Bes.* I doe suppose it.

1 Haz your boy a sword?



*Bes.* Surely no : I pray suppose a sword too.

1 I doe suppose it : you grant your boy was kickt then.

2 By no meanes Captaine , let it bee supposed still ; the word grant, makes not for vs,

1 I say this must be granted.

2 This must be granted Brother ?

1 I, This must be granted.

2 Still this must ?

1 I say this must be granted.

2 Giue me the must againe, brother you palter.

1 I will not heare you waspe.

2 Brother, I say you palter, the must three times together;

I weare as sharpe Steele as another man,

And my foxe bites as deepe, musted my deere brother ?

But to the cause againe.

*Bes.* Nay, looke you Gentlemen.

2 In a word, I ha done.

1 A tall man but vntemperate, 'tis great pity,  
Once more suppose the boy kickt.

2 Forward.

1 And being thoroughly kickt, laughes at the kicker.

2 So much for vs ; proceede,

1 And in this beaten scorne, as I may call it,  
Deliuers vp his weapon : where lies the errour,

*Bes.* It lies i'th beating Sir,  
I found it foure dayes since.

2 The errour and a sore one, as I take it,  
Lies in the thing kicking.

*Bes.* I vnderstand that well, 'tis sore indeed Sir.

1 That is according to the man that did it.

2 There springs a new branch, whose was the foote ?

*Bes.* A Lords.

1 The cause is mighty but had it beene two Lords,  
And both had kickt you, if you laugh, 'tis cleere.

*Bes.* I did laugh.

But how will that helpe me Gentlemen ?

2 Yes, it shal helpe you, if you laugh a lowvd.

*Bes.* As lowd as a kickt man could laugh, I laugh Sir :

1 My reason now, the valiant man is knowne  
By suffering and contemning ; you haue  
Enough o' both, and you are valiant.

2 If he be sure he haz bin kickt enough :  
For that braue sufferance you speake of brother,  
Consists not in a beating and away,  
But in a cudgel'd body, from eighteene  
To eight and thirty : in a head rebuk't  
With pots of all size, daggers, stooles, and bedstaues,  
This showes a valiant man.

*Bes.* Then I am valiant, as valiant as the proudest,  
For these are all familiar things to me :  
Familiar as my sleepe, or want of money,  
All my whole bodie's but one bruise with beating,  
I thinke I haue beene cudgeld with all nations,  
And almost a'l religions.

2 Imbrace him brother, this man is valiant,  
I know it by my selfe, hee's valiant.

2 Captaine, thou art a valiant Gentleman  
To bide vpon, a very valiant man.

*Bes.* My equall friends oth'sword, I must request your  
hands to this.

2 'Tis fit it should be.

*Bes.* Boy, get some wine, and pen and Inke within :  
Am I cleere gentlemen ?

1 Sir, the world haz taken notice what we haue done,  
Make much of your body, for Ile pawne my steele,  
Men will be coyer of their legs hereafter.

*Bes.* I must request you goe along and testifie to the  
Lord *Bacurius*, whose foote haz strucke mee, how you find  
my cause.

2 We will, and teil that Lord, he must be rul'd,  
Or there be those abroad, will rule his Lordship. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Arbaces at one doore, and Gob, and Ponthea at another,*

*Gob.* Sir, heere's the Princeesse.

*Arb.* Leaue vs then alone,  
For the maine cause of her imprisonment  
Must not be heard by any but her selfe.

*Exit Gob.*



You'r welcome Sister, and I would to heauen  
I could so bid you by another name :  
If you aboue loue not such finnes as these,  
Circle my heart with thoughts as cold as snow  
To quench these rising flames that harbour here.

*Pan.* Sir, does it please you, I shall speake?

*Arb.* Please me?

I more then all the art of Musicke can ;  
Thy speech doth please me, for it euer sounds  
As thou brought'st ioyfull v unexpected newes :  
And yet it is not fit thou should'st be heard,  
I pray thee thinke so.

*Pan.* Be it so; I will,

Am I the first that euer had a wrong  
So farre from being fit to haue redresse  
That'twas vnfit to heare it; I will backe  
To prison; rather then disquiet you,  
And waite till it be fit;

*Arb.* No, doe not goe;

For I will heare thee with a serious thought :  
I haue collected all that's man about me  
Together strongly, and I am resolu'd  
To heare thee largely, but I doe beseech thee  
Doe not come neerer to me, for there is  
Something in that, that will vndoe vs both:

*Pan.* Alas Sir, am I venome?

*Arb.* Yes to me;

Though of thy selfe I thinke thee to bee  
In equall a degree of heate, or cold,  
As nature can make : yet as vnfound men  
Conuert the sweetest and the nourishing't meates  
Into diseases, so shall I distemper'd,  
Doe thee, I pray thee draw no neerer to me.

*Pan.* Sir, this is that I would : I am of late  
Shut from the world, and why it should be thus  
Is all I wish to know.

*Arb.* Why credit me *Pantha*,  
Credit me that am thy brother,

Thy louing brother, and there is a cause:

Sufficient yet unfit for thee to know,

That might vndoe thee euerlastingly,

Only to heare; wilt thou but credit this;

By heauen'tis true; beleuee it if thou canst.

*Pan.* Children and fooles are euer credulous,

And I am both I thinke, for I beleuee:

If you dissemble; be it on your head;

He backe vnto my prison: yet me thinks

I might be kept in some place where you are;

For in my selfe, I finde I know not what

To call it: but it is a great desire

To see you often.

*Arb.* Fye, you come in a fier, what doe you meane?

Deare Sister, doe not so: Alas *Panthea*.

Where I am would you be? Why that's the cause.

You are imprison'd, that you may not be

Where I am

*Pan.* Then I must indure it Sir, Heauen keepe you.

*Arb.* Nay, you shall heare the cause in short *Panthea*,

And when thou hear' it, it, thou wilt blush for me,

And hang thy head downe like a Violet

Full of the mornings dew: There is a way

To gaine thy freedom, but 'tis such aouer

As puts thee in worse bondage, and I know,

Thou would'st encounter fire, and make a prooue

Whether the gods haue care of innocence,

Rather then follow it: *Khorethia* I haue lost,

The onely difference betwixt man and beaust,

My reason.

*Pan.* Heauen forbid, all men are not alike

*Arb.* Nay, tis gone; I haue lost it, and I know

And I am left as faine without aound,

As the wilde Ocean, that obliueth the windes;

Each sodaine passion thro' waues where it lifts,

And ouerwhelms all that oppose my will:

I haue beheld thee with a lustfull eye;

My heart is set on wickedness: to get,



Such finnes with thee, as I haue baene afraid  
To thinke of, if thou dar'st consent to this,  
Which I beseech thee doe not, thou maist gaine

Thy liberty, and yeeld me a content :

If not thy dwelling must be darke, and close,

Where I may neuer see thee ; For heauen knowes

That layd this punishment vpon my pride,

Thy sight at so netime will enforce my madnesse

To make a starteeue to thy rauiishing :

Now spit vpon me and call all reproaches

Thou canst deuise to, either and at once

Hurle'em against me : for I am a sicknesse

As killing as the plague, ready to seize thee.

*Pan.* Farre be it from me to reuile the King :

But it is true, that I shall rather chuse

To search out death, than else would search out me,

And in a graue sleepe with my innocencie,

Then welcome such a fine : It is my fate,

To these crosse accidents I was ordain'd,

And must haue patience ; and but that my eyes

Haue more of woman in em then my heart,

I would not weepe : Peace enter you againe.

*Arb.* Farewell, and good *Panthea* pray for me,

Thy prayers are pure, that I may find a death

How euer soone, before my passions grow

That they forget what I desire is siene ;

For thither they are tending : if that happen,

Then I shall force thee though thou wert a Virgin

By vow to heauen, and shall pull a heape

Of strange, yet vniuented sinne vpon me.

*Pan* Sir, I will pray for you, yet you shall know

It is a sullen fate that gouerns vs,

For I could wish as heartily as you

I were no Sister to you. I should then

Imbrace your lawfull loue, sooner then health.

*Arb.* Could'st thou affect me then ?

*Pan,* So perfectly,

That as it is, I nere shall sway my heart,

To like another.

*Arb.* Then I curse my birth,  
Must this be added to my miseries  
That thou art willing too? Is there no stop  
To our full happinesse, but these meere sounds  
Brother and Sister?

*Pan.* There is nothing else,  
But these alas will separate vs more  
Then twenty worlds betwixt vs.

*Arb.* I haue liu'd  
To conquer men, and now am ouerthrowne  
Only by words, Brother and Sister: where  
Haue those words, dwelling? I will find'em out  
And vtterly destroy'em; but they are  
Not to be grasp'd: let'em be men or beasts,  
And I will cut'em from the earth; or townes,  
And I will raze'em, and then blow'em vp:  
Let'em be Seas, and I will drinke'em off,  
And yet haue vnquench't fire left in my breast:  
Let'em be any thing but meere voice.

*Pan.* But'tis not in the power of any force  
Or pollicy to conquer them.

*Arb.* *Panthea*, What shall we doe?  
Shall we stand firmly here, and gaze our eyes out?

*Pan.* Would I could doe so.  
But I shall weepe out mine.

*Arb.* Accursed man,  
Thou bought'st thy reason at too deare a rate,  
For thou hast all thy actions bounded in  
With curious rules, when euery beast is free:  
What is there that acknowledges a kinred  
But wretched Man? Who euer saw the Bull  
Fearefully leaue the Heifer that he lik'd  
Becaute th y had one Damme?

*Pan.* Sir, I disturbe you, and my selfe too;  
'Twere better I were gone.

*Arb.* I will not be so foolish as I was,  
Stay, we will loue iust as becomes our births,



No otherwise: Brothers and Sisters may  
Walke hand in hand together: so will we,  
Come nearer: Is there any hurt in this?

*Pan.* I hope not.

*Arb.* Faith there is none at all:  
And tell me truly now, is there not one  
You loue about me?

*Pan.* No by heauen.

*Arb.* Why yet you sent vnto *Tigranes*, Sift

*Pan.* True, but for another: for the trueth.

*Arb.* No more,

Ile credit thee, thou canst not lye,  
Thou art all Trueth.

*Pan.* But is there nothing else,  
That we may doe, but onely walke; me thinks  
Brothers and Sisters lawfully may kisse.

*Arb.* And so they may *Panthea*, so will wee,  
And kisse againe too; we were too scrupulous,  
And foolish, but wee vwill be so no more.

*Pan.* If you haue any mercy, let me goe  
To prison, to my death, to any thing:  
I feele a sinne growing vpon my bloud,  
Worse then all these, hotter then yours.

*Arb.* That is impossible, what should we doe?

*Pan.* Fly Sir, for heauens sake.

*Arb.* So wee must away,  
Sin grows vpon vs more by this delay. *Exeunt seueral ways.*

*The end of the Fourth Act.*

## Actus Quintus.

*Enter Mardonius and Lygones.*

*Mar.* SIR, the King haz seene your Commission, and  
beleuees it, & freely by this warrant gius you  
power to visit Prince *Tigranes*, your Noble Master.

*Lyg.* I thanke his Grace, and kisse his hand,

*Mar.* But is the maine of all your businesse Ended in this?

*Lig.* I haue another, but a worse, I am asham'd, it is a businesse —

*Mar.* You serue a worthy person, and a stranger I am sure you are; you may employ mee if you please without your purse, such offices should euer be their owne rewards.

*Lig.* I am bound to your Noblenesse.

*Mar.* I may haue need of you; and then this courtesie, If it be any, is not ill bestowed:

But may I ciuilly desire the rest?

I shall not be a hurter, if no helper.

*Lig.* Sir you shall know, I haue lost a foolish daughter, and with her all my patience pilfer'd away.

By a meane Captaine of your Kings.

*Mar.* Stay there Sir;

If he haue reacht the noble worth of Captaine,

He may well claime a worthy Gentlewoman,

Though she were yours, and Noble.

*Lig.* I grant all that too: but this wretched fellow

Reaches no further then the empty name,

That serues to feede him; were a valiant,

Or had but in him any noble nature

That might hereafter promise him a good man;

My cares were so much lighter, and my graue

A span yet from me.

*Mar.* I confesse such fellowes

Be in all Royall camps, and haue, and must be,

To make the sinne of coward more detested

In the meane souldier, that with such a foyle

Sets off much valour: By description

I should now guesse him to you, it was *Bessus*,

I dare almost with confidence pronounce it.

*Lig.* His such a scuruy name as *Bessus*, and now I thinke 'tis he.

*Mar.* Captaine, doe you call him?

Beleeue me Sir, you haue a misery

Too mighty for your age: A poxe vpon him.



For that must be the end of all his seruice :  
Your daughter was not mad Sir ?

*Lyg.* No, would she had bene,  
The fault had had more credit : I would doe something.

*Mar.* I would faine counsel you, but to what I know not  
Hee's so below a beating, that the women

Find him not worthy of their distaues, and to hang him,

Were to cast away a rope ;

Hee's such an ayrie, thinne, vn bodied coward,

That no reuenge can catch him :

Ile tell you Sir, and tell you trueth ; this rascall

Feares neither God nor man, haz bin so beaten :

Sufferance haz made him wanscoate : he haz had

Since a was first a sloue, at least three hundred daggers

Set in's head, as little boyes doe new kniues in hot meate,

Ther's not a rib in's body a my conscience

That haz not bin thrice broken with dry beating ;

And now his sides looke like two wicker Targets,

Euery way bended,

Children will shortly take him for a wall.

And set their stone-bowes in his forehead, He is of so base a  
sense, I cannot in a weeke imagine what shalbe done to him.

*Lyg.* Sure I haue committed some great sinne

That this fellow should be made my rod,

I would see him, but I shall haue no patience.

*Mar.* 'Tis no great matter if you haue not ; if a laming of  
him, or such a toy may do you pleasure Sir, he haz it for you,

and Ile helpe you to him : 'tis no newes to him to haue a leg  
broke, or a shoulder out, with being turn'd ath' stones like a

Tanzie ; Draw not your sword, if you loue it ; for on my con-  
science his head will breake it : we vse him i'th warres like a

Ramme to shake a wall withall ; here comes the very person  
of him, doe as you shall find your temper, I must leaue you :

but if you doe not breake him like a Bisket, you are much  
to blame Sir.

*Exit Mar.*

*Enter Bessus and the Sword men.*

*Lyg.* Is your name *Bessus* ?

*Bes.* Men call me Captaine *Bessus*.



*Lyg.* Then Captaine *Bessus*, you are a ranke rascall, without more exordiums, a durty frozen slaue; and with the fauour of your friends here, I will beate you.

2 *Sword.* Pray vse your pleasure Sir, you seeme to bee a Gentleman.

*Lyg.* Thus Captaine *Bessus*, thus; thus twinge your nose, thus kicke, thus tread you.

*Bes.* I doe beseech you yeeld your cause Sir quickly.

*Lyg.* Indeed I should haue told you that first.

*Bes.* I take it so.

1. *Sword.* Captaine, a should indeed, he is mistaken.

*Lyg.* Sir, you shall haue it quickly, and more beating, You haue stolne away a Lady, Captaine coward, And such a one. *Beates him.*

*Bes.* Hold, I beseech you, hold Sir, I neuer yet stole any living thing that had a tooth about it.

*Lyg.* I know you dare lye.

*Bes.* With none but Summer Whores vpon my life sir, My meanes and manners neuer could attempt Aboue a hedge or hey-cocke.

*Lyg.* Sirra, that quits not me, where is this Lady? Doe that you doe not vse not to doe; tell trueth, Or by my hand, Ile beate your Captaines braines out, Wash'em, and put 'em in againe, that will I.

*Bes.* There was a Lady Sir, I must confesse, Once in my charge: the Prince *Tigranes* gaue her To my guard for her safety, how I vs'd her, She may her selfe report, shee's with the Prince now: I did but waite vpon her like a Groome, Which shee will testifie I am sure: If not, My braines are at your seruice when you please Sir, And glad I haue 'em for you.

*Lyg.* This is most likely, Sir, I aske you pardon, And am sorry I was so intemperate.

*Bes.* Well, I can aske no more, you will thinke it strange Now to haue me beate you at first sight.

*Lyg.* Indeed I would, but I know your goodnes can forg. t  
Twenty beatings, You must forgieue me,



*Bes.* Yes, ther's my hand, goe where you will, I shall thinke you a valiant fellow for all this.

*Lig.* My daughter is a Whore,  
I feele it now too sensible; yet I will see her,  
Discharge my selfe from being Father to her,  
And then backe to my countrey, and there dye,  
Farewell Captaine, *Exit Lygo.*

*Bes.* Farewell Sir, farewell, commend mee to the Gentlewoman I pray.

1. *Sword.* How now Captaine? beare vp man.

*Bes.* Gentlemen oth'sword, your hands once more, I haue Bin kickt agen, but the foolish fellow is penitent, Haz askt me mercy, and my honours'safe.

2 *Sword.* Wee knew that, or the foolish fellow had better hane kickt his Grandfire.

*Bes.* Confirme, confirme I pray.

1 *Sword.* There be our hands agen,  
Now let him come and say a was not sorry,  
Aud a sleepes for it.

*Bes.* Alas good ignorant old man, let him goe,  
Let him goe, these courses will vndoe him. *Exeunt cleare.*

*Enter Lygones and Bacurins.*

*Bac.* My Lord, your authority is good, and I am glad it is so, for my consent would neuer hinder you, from seeing your owne King, I am a Minister, but not a gouernour of this state, yonder is your King; he leaue you. *Exit.*

*Enter Tigranes and Spaconia.*

*Lyg.* There he is indeed,  
And with him my disloy all childe.

*Tigr.* I do perceiue my fault so much, that yet Methinks thou shouldst not haue forgiuen me.

*Lyg.* Health to your Maiestie.

*Tigr.* What? good *Lygones*, welcome, vwhat businesse brought thee hither?

*Ligo.* Seuerall Businesse.

My publike businesse will appeare by this:  
I haue a message to deliuer, which  
If it please you so to authorise, is



An embassage from the Armenian state,  
Vnto *Arbaces* for your liberty :

The offer's there set downe, please you to reade it.

*Tigr.* There is no alteration happined  
Since I came thence?

*Lig.* None Sir, all is as it was.

*Tigr.* And all our friends are well.

*Lyg.* All very well.

*Spa.* Though I haue done nothing but what was good,  
I dare not see my Father, It was fault  
Enough not to acquaint him with that good.

*Lyg.* Madame I should haue seene you.

*Spa.* O good Sir forgiue me.

*Lyg.* Forgiue you, why? I am no kin to you, am I?

*Spa.* Should it be measur'd by my meane deserts,  
Indeed you are not.

*Lig.* Thou could'st prate vnhappily  
Ere thou couldst goe, would thou couldst doe as well,  
And how does your custome hold out here?

*Spa.* Sir?

*Lyg.* Are you in priuate still, or how?

*Spa.* What doe you meane?

*Lyg.* Doe you take money? are you come to sell sin yet?  
perhaps I can helpe you to liberall Clients: or haz not the  
King cast you off yet? O thou vilde creature, whose best com-  
mendations is, that thou art a young Whore, I would thy  
Mother had liu'd to see this: or rather that I had died ere  
I had seen it: why did'st not make me acquainted when thou  
wert first resolu'd to be a Whore?

I would haue seene thy hot lust satisfied  
More priuatly: I would haue kept a Dancer,  
And a whole consort of Musicians  
In my owne house, onely to fiddle thee.

*Spa.* Sir, I was neuer Whore.

*Lig.* If thou couldst not say so much for thy selfe, thou  
shouldst be Carted,

*Tigr.* *Lygones*, I haue read it, and I like it,  
You shall deliuer it.



*Lyg.* Well Sir, I wil: but I haue priuate busines with you

*Tigr.* Speake, what ist?

*Lyg.* How haz my age defera'd so ill of you,  
That you can pick no strumpets i'the Land,  
but out of my breed?

*Tigr.* Strumpets good *Lygones,*

*Lyg.* Yes, and I wish to haue you know, I scorne  
to get a Whore for any Prince aliue,

And yet scorne will not helpe me thinkes: My daughter  
Might haue beene spar'd, there were enow besides.

*Tigr.* May I not prosper, but shee's innocent  
As morning light for me, and I dare sweare,  
For all the world

*Lyg.* Why is she with you then?  
Can shee waite on you better then your man,  
Haz she a gift in plucking off your stockings,  
Can she make Cawdles well or cut your cornes,  
Why do you keepe her with you? For a Queene  
I know you doe contemne her, so should I,  
And euery subiect else thinke much at it.

*Tigr.* Let'em thinke much, but tis more firme then earth  
Thou see'st thy Queene there.

*Lyg.* Then haue I made a faire hand, I cal'd her Whore,  
If I shall speake now as her father, I cannot chuse  
But greatly reioyce that shee shall be a Queene: but if  
I shall speake to you as a States-man, she were more fit  
To be your Whore.

*Tigr.* Get you about your businesse to *Arbaces,*  
Now you talke idlie.

*Lig.* Yes Sir, I will goe,  
And shall she be a Queene? shee had more wit  
Then her old Father when shee ran away:  
Shall she be Queene? now by my troth 'tis fine,  
Ile dance out of all measure at her wedding:  
Shall I not sir?

*Tigr.* Yes marry shalt thou.

*Lyg.* Ile make these withered kexes beare my body  
Two houres together aboue ground.



*Tigr.* Nay goe, my businesse requires hast.

*Lyg.* Good heauen preserue you, you are an excellent king.

*Spa.* Farewell good Father,

*Lyg.* Farewell sweete vertuous Daughter,  
I neuer was so ioyfull in all my life,  
That I remember : shall she be a Queene?  
Now I perceiue a man may weepe for ioy,  
I had thought they had lyed that said so.

*Exit Lygo.*

*Tygr.* Come my deare loue.

*Spa.* But you may see another  
May alter that againe.

*Tigr.* Vrge it no more,  
I haue made vp a new strong constancy,  
Not to be shooke with eyes : I know I haue  
The passions of a man, but if I meete  
With any subiect that should hold my eyes,  
More firmly then is fit; Ile thinke of thee,  
And runne away from it : let that suffice.

*Exeunt all.*

*Enter Bacurinus and his seruant.*

*Bac.* Three gentlemen without to speake with me?

*Ser.* Yes Sir.

*Bac.* Let them come in.

*Enter Bessus with the two Sword-men.*

*Ser.* They are entred Sir already.

*Bac.* Now fellows, your businesse are these the gentlemen?

*Bes.* My Lord I haue made bold to bring these gentlemen  
my Friends ath' sword along with me.

*Bac.* I am a fraid youle fight then.

*Bes.* My good Lord, I will not, your Lorship is mistaken,  
Feare not Lord :

*Bac.* Sir I am sorry for't.

*Bes.* I aske no more in honour, Gentlemen you heare my  
Lord is sorry.

*Bac.* Not that I haue beaten you, but beaten one that  
will be beaten : one whose dull body will require a laming:  
As surfeits doe the diet, spring and fall.

Now to your Sword-men.

What come they for good Captaine Stock-fish?



*Bes.* It seemes your Lordship haz forgot my name.

*Bac.* No, nor your nature neither, though they are things fitter I must confesse for any thing, then my remembrance, or any honest mans? what shall these billets doe; be pilde vp in my Wood-yard?

*Bes.* Your Lordship holds your mirth still, heauen continue it: but for these Gentlemen they come.

*Bac.* To sweare you are a coward, spare your booke, I doe beleue it.

*Bes.* Your Lordship still drawes wide, they come to vouch vnder their valiant handes, I am no coward.

*Bac.* That would bee a show indeed worth seeing: sirra bee wise, and take money for this motion, trauaile with it, and where the name of *Bessus* haz beene knowne, or a good Coward stirring, 'twill yeeld more then a tilting. This will proue more beneficiall to you, if you be thriftie, then your Captaineship, and more naturall; Men of most valiant hands is this true?

2 *Sword.* It is so most renowned.

*Bac.* Tis somewhat strange.

1 *Sword.* Lord, it is strange, yet true; wee haue examined from your Lordships foote there, to this mans head, the nature of the beatings; and we doe find his honour is come off cleane and sufficient: This as our swords shall helpe vs.

*Bac.* You are much bound to your bil-bow men, I am glad you are straight againe Captaine; 'twere good you would thinke some way to gratifie them, they haue vnder-gone a labour for you *Bessus*, would haue puzzeld *Hercules* with all his vallour.

2 *Sword.* Your Lorship must vnderstand wee are no men ath'Law, that take pay for our opinions: it is sufficient we haue cleer'd our friend.

*Bac.* Yet there is something due, which I as toucht in conscience will discharge Captaine; Ile pay this rent for you.

*Bes.* Spare your selfe my good Lord; my brane friendes ayme at nothing but the vertue.

*Bac.* That's but a cold discharge Sir for the paines.

2. *Sword.* O Lord, my good Lord.



*Bac.* Be not so modest, I will giue you something.

*Bes.* They shall dine with your Lordship that's sufficient

*Bac.* Something in hand the while; you rogues, you applesquires: doe you come hither with your botled vallour, your windie froth, to limmit out my beatings?

1. *Sword.* I doe beseech your Lordship.

2. *Sword.* O good Lord.

*Bac.* Sfoote what a beauy of beaten flaues are here? get me a cudgell sirra, and a tough one.

2 *Swor.* More of your foot, I doe beseech your Lordship.

*Bac.* You shall, you shall dog, and your fellow Beagle.

1 *Sword.* A this side good my Lord.

*Bac.* Off with your swords, for if you hurt my foote, Ile haue you fleade you rascals.

1 *Sword.* Mine's off my Lord.

2 *Sword.* I beseech your Lordship stay a little, my strap's tide to my cod-piece poynt: now when you please.

*Bac.* Captaine, these are your valiant friends, you long for a little too?

*Bes.* I am very well I humbly thanke your Lordship.

*Bac.* What's that in your pocket, hurts my toe you mungrell? thy buttockes cannot be so hard, out with it quickly,

2 *Swor.* Here'tis Sir, a small piece of Artillery, that a gentleman a deare friend of your Lordships sent me with; to get it mended Sir; for if you marke the nose is somewhat loose.

*Bac.* A friend of mine you rascall, I was neuer wearier of doing nothing, then kicking these two foot-bals.

*Enter seruants.*

*Ser.* Here's a good cudgell Sir.

*Bac.* It comes too late, I'me weary, pray thee doe thou beate them.

2 *Swo.* My Lord this is foule play ifaith, to put a fresh man vpon vs, Men are but men Sir.

*Bac.* That icast shall saue your bones; Captaine, rally vp your rotten regiment, and be gone; I had rather thrash, then be bound to kicke these rascals, till they cryde ho: *Bessus* you may put your hand to them now, and then you are quit,



Farewell, as you like this, pray visit me againe, 'twill keepe me in good health. *Exit Bac.*

2 *Swor.* Haz a dcuelish hard foote, I neuer felt the like,

1 *Swor.* Nor I, and yet I am sure I haue felt a hundred.

2 *Swor.* If a kicke thus ith dog-dayes, a will be dry foundred: what cure now Captaine; beside oyle of baies?

*Bes.* Why well enough I warrant you, you can goe?

2 *Swor.* Yes heauen be thanked; but I feele a shrewd ach, sure haz sprang my huckle-bone.

1 *Swor.* I ha lost a hanch.

*Bes.* A little butter, friend a little butter, butter and parselley is a soueraigne matter: *probatum est.*

2 *Sword.* Captaine wee must request your hand now to our honours.

*Bes.* Yes marry shall ye, and then let all the world come, we are valiant to our selues, and there's an end.

1 *Swo.* Nay then we must be valiant; O my ribs.

2 *Swor.* O my small guts, a plague vpon these sharpe-toed shoes, they are murtherers. *Exeunt cleere.*

*Enter Arbaces with his sword drawne.*

*Arb.* It is resolu'd, I bore it whilst I could,  
I can no more,  
I must beginne  
With murder of my friend, and so goe on  
To that incestuous rauishing, and end  
My life and sinnes with a forbidden blow,  
Vpon my selfe.

*Enter Mardonius*

*Mar.* What Tragedy is neere  
That hand was neuer wont to draw a sword,  
But it cride dead to something.

*Arb.* Mardonius haue you bid *Gobrias* come?

*Mar.* How doe you Sir?

*Arb.* Well, is a comming.

*Mar.* Why fir are you thus?  
Why does your hand proclaime a lawlesse warre  
Against your selfe?

*Arb.* Thou answerest me one question with another,  
Is *Gobrias* comming?

*Mar.* Sir, he is.

*Arb.* 'Tis well, I can forbear your questions then, bee  
gone.

*Mar.* Sir, I haue mark't.

*Arb.* Marke lesse, it troubles you and me.

*Mar.* You are more variable then you were.

*Arb.* It may be so.

*Mar.* To day no Hermit could be humbler  
Then you were to vs all.

*Arb.* And what of this?

*Mar.* And now you take new rage into your eyes,  
As you would looke vs all out of the Land.

*Arb.* I doe confesse it, will that satisfie?  
I prethee get thee gone.

*Mar.* Sir, I will speake,

*Arb.* Will ye?

*Mag.* It is my duty,  
I feare you will kill your selfe: I am a subiect,  
And you shall doe me wrong in't: 'tis my cause,  
And I may speake,

*Arb.* Thou art not train'd in sinne,  
It seemes *Mardonius*: kill my selfe, by heauen  
I will not doe it yet; and when I will,  
He tell thee then: I shall be such a creature,  
That thou wilt giue me leaue without a word.

There is a method in mans wickednesse,  
It growes vp by degrees; I am not come  
So high as killing of my selfe, there are  
A hundred thousand finnes'twixt me and it,  
Which I must doe, and I shall come to't at last;  
But take my oath not now, be satisfied,



And get thee hence.

*Mar.* I am forry 'tis so ill.

*Arb.* Be sorry then,

True sorrow is alone, grieue by thy selfe.

*Mar.* I pray you let me see your sword put vp  
Before I goe: Ile leaue you then.

*Arb.* Why so?

What folly is this in thee, is it not

As apt to mischief as it was before?

Can I not reach it think'st thou? these are toies

For children to be pleas'd with, and not men,

Now I am safe you thinke: I would the booke

Of fate were here, my sword is not so sure,

But I should get it out, and mangle that

That all the destinies should quite forget

Their fixt decrees, and hast to make vs new,

For other fortunes, mine could not be worse,

Wilt thou now leaue me?

*Mar.* Heauen put into your bosome temperate thoughts,  
Ile leaue you though I feare

*Arb.* Goe, thou art honest.

Why should the hastie errors of my youth

Be so vnardonable to draw a sinne

Helpelesse vpon me?

*Enter Gobrias.*

*Gob.* There is the King, now it is ripe.

*Arb.* Draw nere thou guilty man,

That art the authour of the loathedst crime

Fiue ages haue brought footh, and heare me speake;

Curfes more incurable, and all the euils

Mans body or his spirit can receiue

Be with thee.

*Gob.* Why Sir doe you curse me thus?

*Arb.* Why doe I curse thee, if there be a man  
Subtill in curfes, that exceeds the rest,

His worst wish on thee. Thou hast broke my heart?

*Gob.* How Sir haue I preseru'd you from a child,  
From all the arrowes, malice, or ambition  
Could shoot at you, and haue I this for pay?

*Arb.* 'Tis true, thou didst preserue me, and in that  
Wert crueller then hardened murderers  
Of Infants and their mothers; thou didst saue mee  
Only till thou hadst studied out a way  
How to destrey me cunningly thy selfe:  
This was a curious way of torturing.

*Gob.* What doe you meane?

*Arb.* Thou know'st the euils thou hast done to mee;  
Dost thou remember all those witching letters  
Thou sentst vnto me to *Armenia*,  
Filld with the praise of my beloued Sister,  
Where thou extolst her beauty, what had I  
To doe with that: what could her beauty be  
To me? & thou didst write how wel she lou'd me,  
Dost thou remember this, so that I doated  
Something before I saw her.

*Gob.* This is true

*Arb.* Is it, and when I was return'd thou know'st  
Thou didst pursue it, till thou woundst me in  
To such a strange and vabelecu'd affection.  
As good men cannot thinke on.

*Gob.* This I grant, I thinke I was the cause.

*Arb.* Wert thou? Nay more, I thinke thou meantst it.

*Gob.* Sir, I hate a lye.

As I loue heauen and honesty, I did:  
It was my meaning.

*Arb.* Be thine owne sad Iudge,  
A further condemnation will not need,  
Prepare thy selfe to dye.

*Gob.* Why fir to die?

*Arb.* Why shouldst thou liue? was euer yet offender  
So impudent, that had a thought of mercy



After confession of a crime like this?

Get out I cannot where thou hurl'it me in,  
But I can take reuenge, that's all the sweernesse  
Lef for me.

*Gob.* Now is the time, heare me but speake,

*Arb.* No, yet I will be farre more mercifull,  
Thenthou wert to me; thou didst steale into me  
And neuer gau'it me warning: so much time  
As I giue thee now, had preuented thee  
For ever. Notwithstanding all thy sinnes,  
If thou hast hope; that there is yet a prayer  
To saue thee, turne and speake it to thy selfe.

*Goe* Sir, you shall know your sinnes before you doe'em,  
If you kill me.

*Arb.* I will not stay then.

*Gob.* Know you kill your Father.

*Hrb.* How?

*Gob.* You kill your Father.

*Arb.* My Father? though I know't for a lie,  
Made out of feare to saue thy stained life:  
The very reuerence of the word comes crosse me,  
And tyes mine arme downe.

*Gob.* I will tell you that shall heighten you again, I am thy  
Father, I charge thee heare me

*Arb.* If it should be so,  
As'tis most false, and that I should be found  
A bastard issue, the despised fruit  
Of lawlesse lust, I should no more admire  
All my wild passions: but another trueth  
Shall be wrung from thee: if I could come by  
The spirit of pain, it should be powr'd on thee,  
Till thou allow'st thy selfe more full of lyes  
Then he that teaches thee.

*Enter Arane.*

*Ara.* Turne thee about.

I come to speake to thee thou wicked man,  
Hearc me thou tyrant.

*Arb.* I will turne to thee.

Hearc me thou Strumpet : I haue blotted out  
The name of Mother, as thou hast thy shame.

*Ara.* My shame, thou hast lesse shame then any thing ;  
Why doest thou keepe my daughter in a prison?  
Why doest thou call her Sister, and doe this?

*Arb.* Cease thou strange impudence,  
And answere quickly, if thou contemnest me,  
This will aske an answere,  
And haue it.

*Ara.* Helpe me gentle *Gobrias*.

*Arb.* Guilt dare not help guilt though they grow together  
In doing ill, yet at the punishment  
They seuer, and each flies the noise of other,  
Thinke not of helpe, answere.

*Ara.* I will, to what?

*Arb.* To such a thing, as if it be a trueth  
Thinke what a creature thou hast made thy selfe,  
That didst not shame to doe, what I must blush  
Onely to aske thee : tell me who I am,  
Whose sonne I am, without all circumstance  
Be thou as hasty as my sword will be  
If thou refusest.

*Ara.* Why you are his sonne.

*Arb.* His sonne?

Sweare, sweare, thou worse then woman damn'd.

*Ara.* By all that's good you are.

*Arb.* Then art thou all

That euer was knowne bad, now is the cause  
Of all my strange misfortunes come to light :  
What reuerence expect's thou from a child  
To bring forth which thou hast offended Heauen,  
Thy hus band and the Land : Adultrous witch  
I know now why thou wouldst haue poyson'd me,



I was thy lust which thou wouldst haue forgot:  
Then wicked mother of my sinnes, and me,  
Show me the way to the inheritance  
I haue by thee: which is a spacious world  
Of impious acts, that I may soone possesse it:  
Plagues rot thee, as thou liu'st, and such diseases,  
A vse to pay lust, recompence thy deed,

*Gob.* You doe not know why you curse thus:

*Arb.* Too well;

You are a paire of Vipers; and behold  
The serpent you haue got; there is no beast  
But if he knew it, has a pettigree  
As braue as mine, for they haue more discents,  
And I am euery way as beastly got,  
As farre without the compasse of a law  
As they.

*Ara.* You spend your rage and words in vaine,  
And raile vpon a guesse: heare vs a little.

*Arb.* No I will neuer heare, but talke away  
My breath, and die,

*Gob.* Why but you are no Bastard,

*Arb.* How's that?

*Ara.* Not child of mine.

*Arb.* Still you goe on in wonders to me.

*Gob.* Pray you be more patient, I may bring comfort to  
You.

*Ara.* I will kneele,  
And here with the obedience of a child;  
Good Father speake, I doe acknowledge you,  
So you bring comfort,

*Gob.* If it know, our last King, your supposed Father  
Was old and feeble when he married her,  
And almost all the Land as she past hope  
Of issue from him.

*Arb.* Therefore shee tooke leaue  
To play the whore, because the King was old:

Is this the comfort?

*Ara.* What will you find out  
To giue me satisfaction, when you find  
How you haue iniur'd me? let fire consume me,  
If euer I were whore.

*Gob.* Forbear these starts,  
Or I will leaue you wedded to despaire.  
As you are now: if you can find a temper,  
My breath shall be a pleasant westerne wind,  
That cooles and blaistes not.

*Arb.* Bring it out good Father,  
Ile lie, and listen here as reuerently  
As to an Angel: If I breath too loud,  
Tell me; for I would be as still as night.

*Gob.* Our King I say was old, and this our Queene  
Desir'd to bring an heire, but yet her husband  
She thought was past it, and to be dishonest  
I thinke she would not: if she would haue beene,  
The trueth is, she was watcht so narrowly,  
And had so slender opportunities,  
She hardly could haue beene: but yet her cunning  
Found out this way: she fain'd her selfe with child,  
And posts were sent in hast throughout the Land,  
And humble thanks was giuen in euery Church,  
And prayers were made  
For her safe going, and deliuey:  
She faind now to grow bigger, and perceiu'd  
This hope of issue made her fear'd, and brought  
A farre more large respect from euery man,  
And saw her power increase, and was resolu'd,  
Since she beleeu'd, she could not hau't indeed;  
At least she would be thought to haue a child.

*Arb.* Doe I not heare it well: nay I will make  
No noyse at all; but pray you to the poynt,  
Quicke as you can.

*Gob.* Now when the time was full,



She should be brought to bed, I had a sonne  
Borne, which was you, This the Queene hearing of  
Mou'd me to let her haue you; and such reasons  
She shewed me, as she knew would tie  
My secrecy, she swore you should be King,  
And to be short, I did deliuer you  
Vnto her, and pretended you were dead,  
And in mine owne house kept a funerall,  
And had an empty coffin put in earth,  
That night this Queene fain'd hastily to labour  
And by a paire of women of her owne,  
Which she had char'n'd, she made the world beleue  
She was deliuered of you. You grew vp  
As the Kings sonne, till you were sixe yeare old;  
Then did the King dye, and did leaue to me  
Prot:ction of the Realme; and contrary  
To his owne expectation, left this Queene  
Truely with child indeed, of the faire Princessse  
*Panthea*: then she could haue torne her haire,  
And did alone to me, yet durst not speake  
In publike, for she knew she should be found  
A traytor; and her tale would haue bin thought  
Madn. she, or any thing rather then trueth.  
This was the onely cause why shee did seeke  
To poyson you, and I to keepe you safe;  
And this the reason, why I sought to kinde  
Some sparkes of loue in you to faire *Panthea*,  
That she might get part of her right againe.

*Arb.* And haue you made an end now? is this all?  
If not, I will be still till I be aged,  
Till all my haire be siluer.

*Gob.* This is all.

*Arb.* And is it true say you too Madame?

*Ara.* Yes heauen knowes, it is most true,

*Arb.* *Panthea* then is not my siller.

*Gob.* No.

*Arb.* But can you prooue this ?

*Gob.* If you will giue consent, else who dares goe about it ?

*Arb.* Giue consent ?

Why I will haue'em all that know it rackt,  
To get this from'em, all that waits without,  
Come in, what ere you be, come in and be  
Partakers of my ioy ; O you are welcome.

*Enter Bessus, Gentlemen, Mardonius, and other Attendants.*

*Arb.* The best newes, nay, draw no neerer,  
They all shall heare it, I am found no King.

*Mar.* Is that so good newes ?

*Arb.* Yes, the happiest newes that ere was heard.

*Mar.* Iudeed 'twere well for you  
If you might be a little lesse obaide.

*Arb.* One call the Queene.

*Mar.* Why, she is there.

*Arb.* The Queene *Mardonius* ? *Panthea* is the Queene,  
Hnd I am plaine *Arbaces* : goe some one,  
She is in *Gobrius* house, since I saw you  
There are a thousand things deliuered to me,  
You little dreame of.

*Exit a Gent.*

*Mar.* So it should seeme my Lord, what farie's this ?

*Gob.* Beleeue me 'tis no furie, all that he saies is truth.

*Mar.* 'Tis very strange.

*Arb.* Why doe you keepe your hats off Gentlemen ?  
Is it to me ? I sweare it must not be :

Nay, trust me, in good faith it must not be ;  
I cannot now command you, but I pray you  
For the respect you beare me, when you tooke  
Mee for your King, each man clap on his hat  
At my desire.

*Mar.* We will, you are not found  
So meane a man, but that you may be couer'd  
As well as we, may you not.



*Arb.* O not here,  
You may, but not I, for here is my father  
In presence.

*Mar.* Where?

*Arb.* Why there : O the whole story  
Would be a wilderness to loose thy selfe  
For euer : O pardon me deare Father  
For all the idle and vnrerent words  
That I haue spoke in idle moods to you :  
I am *Arbaces*, we all fellow-subiects,  
Nor is the Queene *Panthea* now my Sister.

*Bes.* Why, if you remember fellow-subiect *Arbaces*; I  
told you once shee was not your Sister : I, and shee lookt no-  
thing like you.

*Arb.* I thinke you did good Captaine *Bessus*.

*Bes.* Here will arise another question now amongst the  
Sword-men, whether I be to call him to account for beating  
me, now he is proued no King,

*Enter Lygones.*

*Mar.* Sir, here's *Lygones*, the agent for the *Armenian* state:

*Arb.* Where is he? I know your businesse good *Lygones*.

*Lyg.* We must haue our King againe, and wil.

*Arb.* I knew that was your businesse : you shall haue  
Your King againe, and haue him so againe ;  
As neuer King was had : goe one of you  
And bid *Bacurinus* bring *Tigranes* hither ;  
And bring the Lady with him, that *Panthea*;  
The Queene *Panthea* sent me word this morning,  
Was braue *Tigranes* Mistresse.

*Exit two Gent,*

*Lyg.* 'Tis *Spaconia*.

*Arb.* I, I, *Spaconia*.

*Lyg.* She is my daughter.

*Arb.* She is so : I could now tell any thing  
I neuer heard : your King shall goe so home,  
As neuer man went.

*Mar.* Shall he goe on's head?

*Arb.* He shall haue chariots easier then ayre,  
That I will haue inuented, and nere thinke  
An shall pay any raosome, and thy selfe  
That art the messenger, shall ride before him  
On a horse cut out of an intire Diamond,  
That shall be made to goe with golden wheelles,  
I know not how yet.

*Lyg.* Why I shall be made for euer?  
They beli'd this King with vs,  
And sayd he was vnkind.

*Arb.* And then thy daughter,  
She shall haue some strange thing, weel'e haue the kingdome  
Sold vtterly, and put into a toy,  
Which she shall weare about her carelesly  
Some where or other. See the vertuous Queene;  
Behold the humblest subiect that you haue  
Kneele heere before you.

*Enter Panthea, and 1. Gent.*

*Pan.* Why kneele you to me that am your Vassaile?

*Arb.* Grant me one request.

*Pan.* Alas, what can I grant you? what I can, I will,

*Arb.* That you will please to marry me  
If I can proue it lawfull.

*Pan.* Is that all?

More willingly then I would draw this ayre.

*Arb.* He kisse this hand in earnest.

*2 Gent.* Sit, *Tigranes* is comming though he made it strange  
At first, to see the Princeesse any more.

*Enter Tigranes and Spaconis*

*Arb.* The Queene

Thou meanest. O my *Tigranes* pardon mee,  
Tread on my necke, I freely offer it,  
And if thou beest so giuen, take reuenge,



For I haue iniur'd thee.

*Tigr.* No, I forgiue,  
And reioyce more that you haue found repentance,  
Then I my liberty.

*A:b.* Mayest thou be happy  
In thy faire choise, for thou art temperate,  
You owe no ransome to the state, know that  
I haue a thousand ioyes to tell you of,  
Which yet I dare not vtter till I pay  
My thanks to heauen for 'em : Will you goe  
With me and helpe me ? pray you doe.

*Tigr.* I will.

*Arb.* Take then your faire one with you, and your Queene  
Of goodnesse and of vs, O giue me leaue  
To take your arme in wine : Come euery one  
That takes delight in goodnesse, helpe to sing  
Lovvd thanks, for me that I am prou'd no King,

*F F N F S.*



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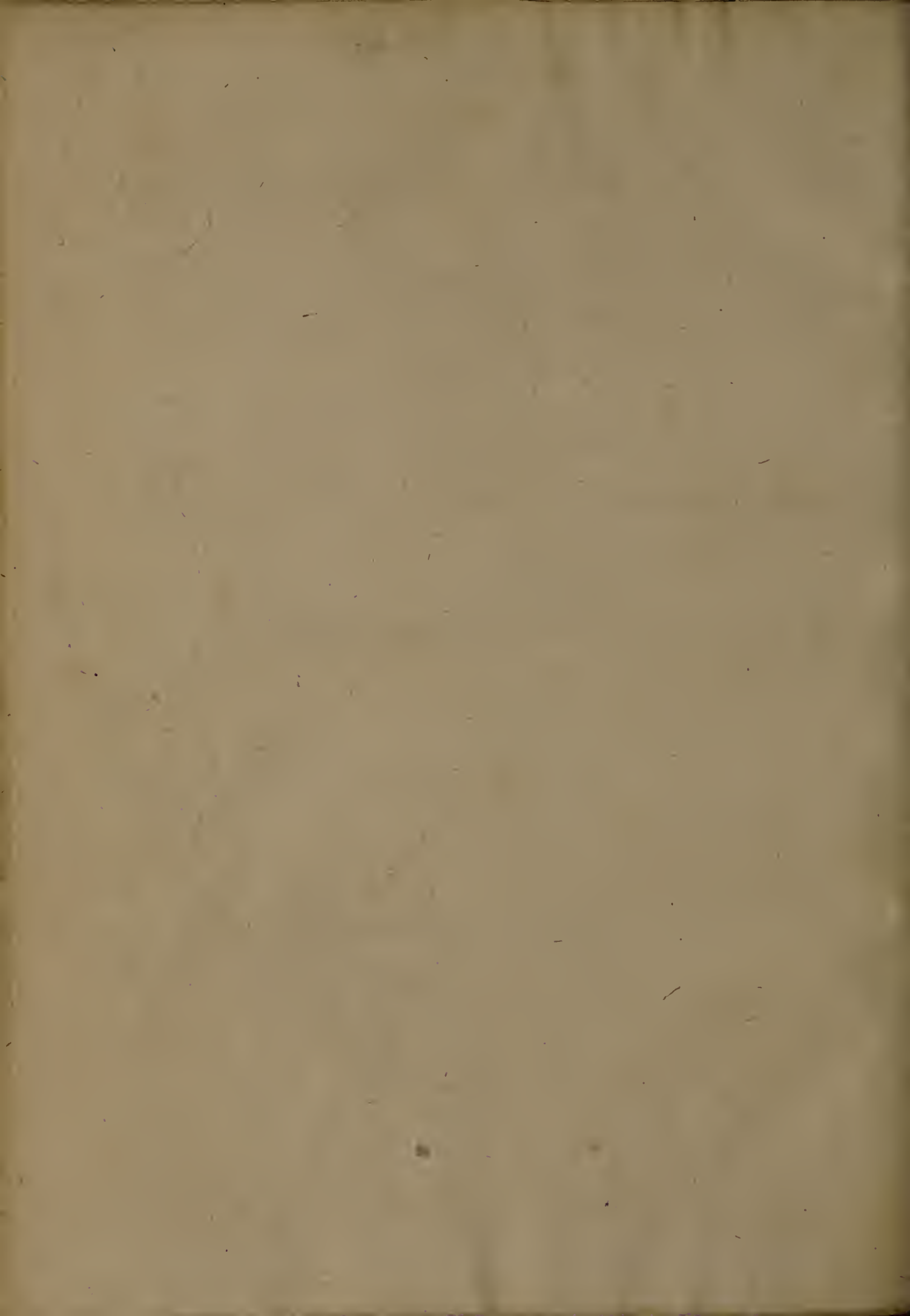
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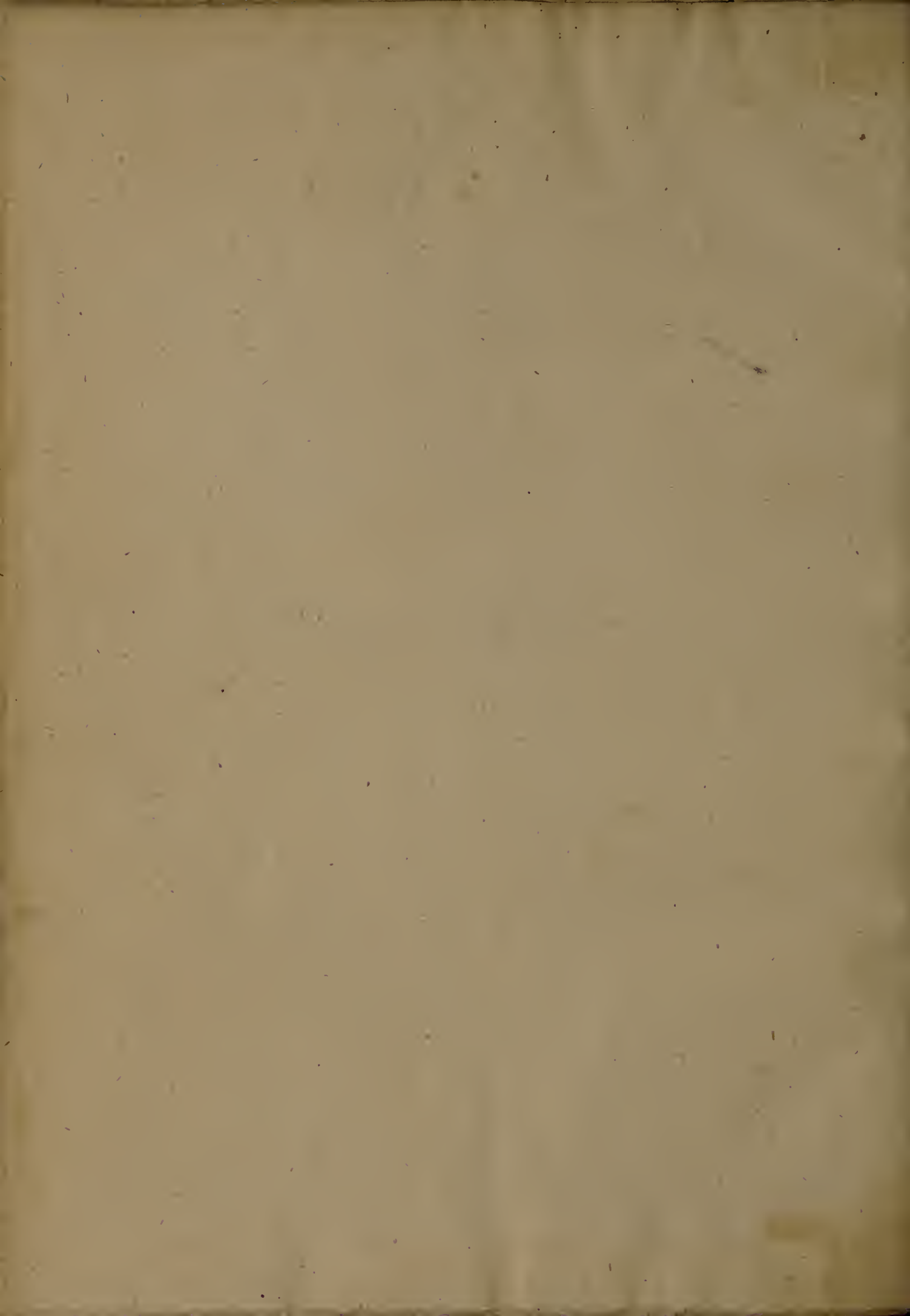


BIV





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