

LEVEL 1

1 The bustling city of Venice is alive with merchants, sailors, and locals going about their daily business.

Venice Street noises

Streets of Venice

2 Antonio is a Noble man in the city of Venice, he has a friend named Bassanio who was more like his brother, he would do anything for Bassanio. He was liked by most of the people in Venice, due to his kind nature. His profession was a money lender who used to lend money at a low rate of interest . He was a prominent figure in the city of Venice.

Venice Street noises

Antonio

Streets of Venice

3 The play opens with Antonio, a Venetian merchant, sharing with his friends Salerio and Solanio that he feels 'sad', but does not know why. His friends suggest that he is either worried about his ships, which are 'tossing on the ocean' and full of valuable goods, or that he is 'in love'.

Venice Street noises

Streets of Venice

4 Antonio rejects both of these ideas and Salerio and Solanio leave when Bassanio, (Antonio's 'noble kinsman') arrives.

Venice Street noises

Streets of Venice

5 Bassanio's father was a rich man. He is a spendthrift who wasted all of his money in order to be seen as a respectable man. To regain his fortune, he is determined to marry Portia, a wealthy, intelligent heiress of Belmont.

Basanio

Streets of Venice

6 Portia is beautiful, gracious, rich, intelligent, and quick-witted, with a luxury lifestyle and high standards for her potential romantic partners.

Hopeful music

Portia

Streets of Venice

Boords Explainer V1 2

7 Basanio, my friend, what troubles your mind today?

Antonio

2.

Streets of Venice

8 Antonio, I find myself in a predicament. I am deeply in debt and seek a loan to woo the beautiful Portia. I plan to travel to Belmont for a

chance to win her hand.

Basanio

Streets of Venice

9 My own fortunes are tied up in my merchant ships, I can't help you. I am troubled as is and not in a state to help you.

Tense Music

Antonio

[CHOICE 1]

Streets of Venice

Boords Explainer V1 3

10 My dear friend, I am at your service. Although my own fortunes are tied up in my merchant ships, I will help you. We shall visit SHYLOCK, a Jewish moneylender, to secure the loan.

Hopefull music

Antonio

[CHOICE 2]

Streets of Venice

11 Ok

Hopefull music

Bassanio

[CHOICE 1]

street of Venice

12 Is there any other money lender?

Bassanio

[CHOICE 2]

streets of venice

Boords Explainer V1 4

13 ok let's meet,

Valentino

Antonio

[CHOICE2]

14 Valentino is a money lender in the city of Venice .He is catholic and a Nobel man . He is a good man

Valentino

[CHOICE2]

Valentino's House

15 Valentino I come to you to ask for a loan of 3000 ducats.

Antonio

[CHOICE2]

Valentino's House

Boords Explainer V1 5

16 I am sorry Antonio but my son is ill and is in need of a surgery. My finances are tied up in that.

Tense music

Valentino

[CHOICE2]

Valentino's House

17 Shylock is a shrewd and calculating individual, driven by financial gain and seeking retribution for the ill-treatment he has endured due to his Jewish heritage. Shylock is known for his intelligence, wit, and a keen eye for detail. He possesses a deep knowledge of the law and uses it to his advantage when negotiating contracts and seeking justice.

Shylock

[CHOICE 1] OR AFTER [CHOICE 2] STORYLINE

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

18 What brings you to my doorstep, Antonio? Your ventures are notorious for their risks.

Tense music

Antonio and Bassanio enter SHYLOCK'S office. Shylock eyes them cautiously.

Shylock

5.

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

Boords Explainer V1 6

19 I seek a loan, Shylock. Three Thousand Ducats.

Antonio

6.

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

20 Three thousand ducats, well.

Shylock

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

21 Yes, sir, for three months.

Bassanio

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

22 For three months, well.

Shylock

23 Antonio will be the guarantor of the loan.

Bassanio

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

24 Three thousand ducats for three months, and Antonio will be bound to guarantee the loan. Despite risks, he is a sufficient guarantor for the loan.

Tense Music

Shylock

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

Boords Explainer V1 7

25 Antonio do you accept these terms? You usually don't lend or borrow with interest do you? And as interest I have decided make it a piece of

flesh near your heart, I take my interests seriously unlike you.

Tense Music

Shylock

[QUESTION 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

26 Shylock, I normally don't lend or borrow money with interest, but in order to help my needy friend, I'll break my custom. Even if it means a piece of flesh, I am certain I would have made four times that amount anyway by that time.

Hopeful music

Antonio

[CHOICE 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

27 Shylock, I normally don't lend or borrow money with interest, I am confident that my ships will bring me my fortune back and that an interest will not be necessary. I don't wish to pay you interest Shylock. I also don't want to risk my life for Bassanio.

Antonio

[CHOICE 2]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

28 You are a Christian who lends out money without charging interest, forcing the merchant to lower their interest rates. You hate Jews and speak badly of them. Are you willing to collect the rest of the amount from Tubal the wealthy Jew? I can only provide you with half the amount now.

Shylock

[QUESTION 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

29 Sure, why not? I'll agree to such a deal, and I'll admit there is much kindness in Jews.

Hopeful music

Antonio

[CHOICE 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

30 My religious inclinations are strong Shylock, and Tubal is a fanatical Jew. I seek the entire amount from you or we shall seek some other way.

Antonio

[CHOICE 2]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

31 What if you have ill intent, and try to harm me to not pay off the interest?

Shylock

[QUESTION 3]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

32 How can you think of me like that Shylock! I am a law abiding Christian who would never do such things. If you have any such suspicions about me then lets sign a contract that ensures the interest is paid whether you are dead or alive to your closest relative.

Antonio

[CHOICE 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

33 How can you think of me like that Shylock! I am a law abiding Christian who would never do such things. If you have any such suspicions about me then you are misinformed.

Antonio

[CHOICE 2]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

34 Very well, Antonio. We shall draw up the bond. But beware, if you default, the bond shall be enforced.

Tense Music

Shylock

[OUTPUT 1]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

35 Antonio you have not met my requirements.You shall not be guaranteed the loan.I thought your friendship with bassanio meant more to you.

Shylock

[OUTPUT 2]

SHYLOCK'S OFFICE - DAY

LEVEL 2

EXT. PATHWAY BETWEEN BUILDINGS IN THE STREETS OF VENICE

LAUNCELOT, A CLOWN, ENTERS ALONE.

LAUNCELOT GOBBO IS THE SERVANT OF SHYLOCK.HE IS MISCHIEVOUS AND ENGAGES IN PLAYFUL BANTER.HE HAS INTERNAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN HIS CONSCIENCE AND THE DEVIL AS HE DESCRIBES IT.

LAUNCELOT

Part of me wants to flee from my master, this Jew.My conscience advises me to stay, but the devil is more friendly in urging me to run away.

OLD GOBBO ENTERS WITH A BASKET.

GOBBO

Excuse me, young man, where is the Jew's house? A man named Launcelot lives with him, he is the servant of this Jew.

LAUNCELOT- CHOICE 1

[To himself] Oh God, this is my father. He is as blind as a bat and doesn't recognise me. I'll play some tricks on him.

LAUNCELOT- CHOICE 2

[To himself] This is my father, the old man is as blind as a bat and doesn't recognise me. Let me help him.

At the next intersection, take a right, and then at the next take a left. And then at the next intersection keep going straight and you'll be at the Jew's house.

Choice 1-Continue the conversation with Launcelot tricking Gobbo.

Choice 2-Skip to section after the trickery where he asks Gobbo why he does not recognise him.

LAUNCELOT

[To himself] Watch this. Now I'll raise the stakes.

Are you talking about young Master Launcelot?

GOBBO

Not a "master," sir, but a poor man's son. His father, though, is an honest, if very poor, man and—thank God—in good health

LAUNCELOT

Well, whatever his father is like, we are talking about young Master Launcelot.

GOBBO

Master, I am speaking of someone simply called Launcelot.

LAUNCELOT

Ergo, Master Launcelot. Don't talk about Master Launcelot, father. That young gentleman, according to his fate and destiny and so forth, the Three sisters and so on, is deceased. Or, to say it plainly, he has gone to heaven.

GOBBO

God forbid! In my old age I relied on that boy, like a crutch!

Choice 1 continuation or Choice 2 beginning-

LAUNCELOT

Do I look like a crutch or a prop? Do you recognize me, father?

GOBBO

Alas, sir, I am completely blind. I don't know you.

LAUNCELOT

Please, enough fooling around. Give me your blessing. I am Launcelot, who was, is, and will continue to be your son. I am the Jew's servant, and I am sure your wife Margery is my mother.

GOBBO

My wife's name is Margery, indeed. If you're Launcelot, I'll swear you are

my own flesh and blood.

[He feels the back of LAUNCELOT's head] Good lord, what a beard you have! You have more hair on your chin than my horse Dobbin has on his tail.

LAUNCELOT

It would seem that Dobbin's tail is shrinking, then. I am sure that he had more hair on his tail the last time I saw him than I have on my face.

GOBBO

Lord, you have changed! How are you and your master getting along? I have bought him a present. Are you getting along with him?

LAUNCELOT

I've decided to escape from my Jewish master who mistreats me and barely feeds me. I hope to run far away and give a present to Master Bassanio instead. If I continue serving the Jew, I'll become like him.

BASSANIO ENTERS WITH LEONARDO

LAUNCELOT

Go talk to him, father.

GOBBO

[To BASSANIO] God bless you!

BASSANIO

Thanks! Do you want something?

LAUNCELOT

Not a poor boy, sir, but a servant of the rich Jew. And I would like, sir, as my father will tell you—

GOBBO

He has a great desire, sir, as they say, to serve—

LAUNCELOT

Yes, to make a long story short, I currently serve under the Jew and, as my father will tell you, I have a desire—

GOBBO

He and his master, your reverence, are not the closest of friends—

LAUNCELOT

To be brief, the truth is that the Jew, having wronged me, now makes it so that I, as my father, being an old man, will provide you with—

GOBBO

I have a gift of a plate of doves here that I would give to you, and all I ask is—

BASSANIO

One of you speak for both of you. What do you want?

LAUNCELOT

To be your servant, sir.

BASSANIO

I know you well. You will get what you ask for. Your master Shylock spoke with me today and spoke well of you, if you really want to leave the service of a rich Jew to become a servant of such a poor gentleman.

LAUNCELOT

The old proverb says, "the grace of God is enough." It could be split up between you and my master Shylock, sir. You have the grace of God, and he has enough.

BASSANIO

Well said. Go along with your son, father. Go leave your old master and come inquire at my house.

[To his attendants] Give him a outfit more frilled than his fellow servants. Make sure this is done.

LAUNCELOT

Examining my own palm, I see a promising future. Multiple marriages, surviving close calls, and encounters with fortune. Join me, father, as leave the Jew behind in the blink of an eye.

THE CLOWN LAUNCELOT EXITS WITH OLD GOBBO.

GRATIANO

Sir Bassanio!

BASSANIO

Gratiano!

GRATIANO

Please don't deny my favor. I must go with you to Belmont.

BASSANIO[CHOICE 1-GRATIANO ACCOMPANIES BASSANIO TO BELMONT]

Gratiano, although your bold and wild nature suits you, be mindful of toning it down in unfamiliar settings. Balance your spirit with modesty, as I don't want your behavior to tarnish my reputation and prospects in Belmont.

BASSANIO[CHOICE 2-GRATIANO DOES NOT ACCOMPANIES BASSANIO TO BELMONT AND SKIP BASSANIO GRATIANO CONVERSATION]

Gratiano, I appreciate your enthusiasm, but I think it would be best for me to venture to Belmont alone. The tranquil atmosphere and refined company may not align with your spirited nature. I hope you understand and support my decision.

GRATIANO

Bassanio, trust that I will abide by proper conduct. If I fail to speak respectfully, maintain sobriety, refrain from swearing excessively, carry

prayer books, appear modest, and observe grace with reverence, then you may rightfully distrust me.

BASSANIO

Well, we will see how you behave.

GRATIANO

But tonight is an exception. Don't gauge me based on what I do tonight.

BASSANIO AND GRATIANO EXIT INDIVIDUALLY.

INT. SHYLOCK HOUSE

JESSICA and LAUNCELOT the clown enter.

JESSICA

I regret your departure from my father's service in such a manner. Our home is a chaotic place, and your humor brought some relief.

Nevertheless, I sincerely wish you the best. Here's a ducat as a token, and please deliver this letter to Lorenzo when you meet him at dinner.

LAUNCELOT

Goodbye! I am speaking through my tears. You most beautiful pagan, you sweet Jew! I'll bet some Christian will figure out a way to get you. But goodbye. These silly tears aren't very manly. Goodbye.

JESSICA

Farewell, good Launcelot.

LAUNCELOT exits.

JESSICA

Alas, what a heinous sin it is for me to be ashamed to be my father's child! I am his daughter by blood, but I have not inherited his manners. Oh, Lorenzo, if you keep your promise I will end this pain by becoming a Christian and your loving wife.

JESSICA EXITS.

GRATIANO, LORENZO, SALERIO, and SOLANIO enter.

GRATIANO:

We haven't prepared well enough for this.

SALERIO:

We haven't got ourselves torchbearers yet.

SOLANIO:

Unless we plan carefully, this will turn out badly, and it will be better not to try this.

LORENZO:

It's only four o'clock now. We have two hours to get ready.

LAUNCELOT ENTERS WITH A LETTER.

LORENZO:

[Examines the letter]

My friend Launcelot, what's the news?

LAUNCELOT:

[Hands the letter to LORENZO]

If you would open this up, it will tell you.

LORENZO:

[Opens the letter, recognizing the handwriting]

I know this handwriting. Truly written by a beautiful hand, one whiter than the paper it wrote on.

GRATIANO:

Something about love, is it?

LAUNCELOT:

[To LORENZO]

May I leave, sir?

LORENZO:

Where are you going?

LAUNCELOT:

Sir, I am going to tell my old master the Jew to dine tonight with my new master the Christian.

LORENZO:

[Gives LAUNCELOT money]

Hold on. Take this. Tell gentle Jessica that I won't fail her. Tell her this privately. And you gentlemen, go and prepare for this masquerade party tonight. I have a torchbearer.

[LAUNCELOT THE CLOWN EXITS.]

SALERIO:

Yes, sure thing, I'll go see to it right away.

SOLANIO:

And so will I.

LORENZO:

Meet Gratiano and me at Gratiano's house a few hours from now.

SALERIO:

That's a good plan.

[SALERIO and SOLANIO exit.]

GRATIANO:

Wasn't that letter from the beautiful Jessica?

LORENZO:

LORENZO:

I must disclose everything. She has guided me in her escape plan, revealing her wealth and a servant's outfit. Her kind and gentle nature is a credit to her father. May misfortune only strike if it's due to her connection to a faithless Jew. Now, come with me.

[He gives GRATIANO the letter]

Read this as you go. Beautiful Jessica will be my torchbearer.

LORENZO AND GRATIANO EXIT

SHYLOCK:

You will witness the difference between old Shylock and Bassanio.

[To JESSICA] Jessica!

[To LAUNCELOT] You won't gorge on food like with me.

[To JESSICA] Jessica!

[To LAUNCELOT] No more sleep, snoring, or ruining clothes.

[To JESSICA] Jessica, I'm calling you!

LAUNCELOT:

Yes, Jessica!

SHYLOCK:

Who told you to call her? I didn't order it.

LAUNCELOT:

You often told me not to act without your command.

JESSICA:

You called? What do you want?

[Branching Scenario - Option A: Jessica's Escape]

SHYLOCK:

I received a dinner invitation, Jessica. Here are my keys. Yet, why should I go? They don't invite me out of affection but to flatter. Still, out of spite, I'll eat that Christian's food. Take care of the house, my girl. I'm hesitant to leave, as trouble brews from my dream of money bags.

SHYLOCK:

Listen, Jessica. Lock the doors. When you hear the drum and vile flute, don't look out, shut the windows, and keep their foolish celebration away. I won't feast, but I'll go to the dinner. Launcelot, inform them I'm coming.

LAUNCELOT

I will go ahead, sir.

[To Jessica] Mistress, despite your father's warnings, look out of a window. You'll see a Christian come by who's worth your Jewish eye.

LAUNCELOT EXITS

SHYLOCK:

What did that foolish Christian tell you?

JESSICA:

He said, "Farewell, mistress." Nothing else.

SHYLOCK:

He's friendly but eats a lot, moves slowly, and sleeps excessively. I'll replace him with hardworking individuals for my team. I'll release him and have him repay the money he borrowed. Jessica, go inside and secure everything.

JESSICA:

Farewell, and if I have any good luck, soon I will have lost a father and you will have lost a daughter.

[Outcome: Jessica decides to leave her father and escape with Lorenzo, defying Shylock's authority. The story continues with Jessica's journey and the challenges she faces in pursuit of love and freedom.]

[Branching Scenario 2 - Option B: Jessica's Loyalty]

JESSICA:

Father, I confess my intentions to elope with Lorenzo for marriage. However, as I stand here, I can't leave you. Despite our differences, let's bridge the gap, mend our relationship. I'll stay, seek understanding and acceptance. Please, give us a chance.

SHYLOCK:

Jessica, your plans to elope and the money don't concern me. What truly matters is repairing our relationship. Let's bridge the gap, seek understanding, and give ourselves a chance to reconcile.

JESSICA:

Thank you for your understanding father. What was it you and launcelot were discussing?

SHYLOCK:

I received a dinner invitation, Jessica. Here are my keys. Yet, why should I go? They don't invite me out of affection but to flatter. Still, out of spite, I'll eat that Christian's food. Take care of the house, my girl. I'm hesitant to leave, as trouble brews from my dream of money bags.

LAUNCELOT:

Please, sir, go to the dinner. My young master expects your presence.

SHYLOCK:

And I expect his.

Exit JESSICA.

GRATIANO AND SALERIO, DRESSED FOR MASQUERADE, ENTER.

INT/EXT. HOUSE NEAR WHICH MASQUERADE TAKES PLACE

GRATIANO:

This is the house Lorenzo wanted us to wait at.

SALERIO:

He's almost late.

GRATIANO:

Surprising, as lovers are usually early.

SALERIO:

Venus' doves fly faster for new love than to keep faith.

GRATIANO:

True, who leaves a feast as hungry as they arrived? What horse retraces its steps with the same enthusiasm? Chasing is more thrilling. Ships return weathered, torn by the wind!

SALERIO:

Here comes Lorenzo. We'll discuss this later.

LORENZO:

Forgive my lateness. When you steal your wives, I'll wait too. This is my father-in-law's house. Who's there?

JESSICA:

Who are you? I recognize your voice.

LORENZO:

It's Lorenzo, your love.

JESSICA:

You're Lorenzo, my love. Who else knows I'm yours?

LORENZO:

Heaven and your thoughts know you're mine.

JESSICA:

Catch this box. It's worth it. I'm glad it's dark. Love is blind. Cupid would blush to see me disguised as a boy.

LORENZO:

Come down. You'll be my torchbearer.

JESSICA:

Hold a candle to my shame? It's too light. Love's discovery blinds. I should stay hidden.

LORENZO:

You're hidden, even as a boy. Let's go. They're waiting at Bassanio's feast.

JESSICA:

I'll secure the doors and get more money. I'll join you soon.

GRATIANO:

She's too gentle to be a Jew.

LORENZO:

I love her wholeheartedly. She's wise, beautiful, and loyal.

JESSICA:

I'm here. Let's go! They're waiting at the masquerade.

ANTONIO:

Who's there?

GRATIANO:

Antonio?

ANTONIO:

Gratiano, where's everyone? No masquerade. Bassanio boards soon. I sent twenty to find you.

GRATIANO:

Good! I want to set sail tonight.

Exit GRATIANO and ANTONIO.

Enter LORENZO.

LORENZO:

Forgive my delay. When you steal your wives, I'll wait. Come. This is my father-in-law's house. Who's inside?

Enter JESSICA above, disguised as a boy.

JESSICA:

Who are you? I recognize your voice.

LORENZO:

I'm Lorenzo, your love.

JESSICA:

You're Lorenzo, my love. Who else knows I'm yours?

LORENZO:

Heaven and your thoughts know.

JESSICA:

Catch this box. I'm ashamed, glad it's dark. Love is blind. Cupid would blush to see me disguised as a boy.

LORENZO:

Come down. You'll be my torchbearer.

JESSICA:

Hold a candle to my shame? It's too light. Love's discovery blinds. I should stay hidden.

LORENZO:

You're hidden, even as a boy. Let's go. The night is fleeting, they wait at Bassanio's feast.

JESSICA:

Secure the doors, get more money, and join you soon.

Exeunt JESSICA above.

GRATIANO:

She's too gentle to be a Jew.

LORENZO:

I love her wholeheartedly. She's wise, beautiful, and loyal.

JESSICA:

I'm here. Let's go! They're waiting at the masquerade.

Exit LORENZO with JESSICA and SALERIO.

Enter ANTONIO.

ANTONIO:

Who's there?

GRATIANO:

Antonio?

ANTONIO:

Gratiano, where's everyone? No masquerade. Bassanio boards soon. I sent twenty to find you.

GRATIANO:

Good! I want to set sail tonight.

EXIT GRATIANO AND ANTONIO.

LEVEL 3

1 The Prince of MOROCCO, a dark-skinned African dressed in white, and three or four followers enter, along with PORTIA, NERISSA, and their attendants.

trumpets playing

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

2 do you want the prince of Morocco in the game 3 My lady, I beseech you not to judge me based on my skin's shadowy

hue, a result of the African sun. Brave men have been intimidated by it, but esteemed beauties of my land love me. I treasure my dark skin, except for desiring your kind opinion of me.

Portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

Merchant of venice 2 V1 2

4 When it comes to selecting a husband, I value qualities beyond mere appearance. Moreover, my fate is determined by a lottery, depriving me of the ability to choose for myself. However, if my father hadn't denied me that right, you, esteemed Prince, would be considered as worthy a husband in my eyes as anyone else.

portia's house

PORTIA

choice 1

5 I request your assistance in leading me to the caskets, as I wish to test my luck. With this sword, I have achieved victories over Persia's leader and a prince, as well as conquered Sultan Solyman in three battles. Yet, there remains a fear that blind luck could allow a less deserving man to win your hand, causing me immense grief.

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

choice 1

6 You must try your luck. Either don't attempt it at all, or promise before you choose a casket that if you choose the wrong one you will never speak to a lady about marriage again. Be warned.

portia's house

Portia

choice 1

Merchant of venice 2 V1 3

7 I promise. Come on, bring me to the caskets.

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

choice 1

8 First, let's go forward to the temple. After dinner, you can try your luck.

portia's house

Portia

choice 1

9 May I have good luck, then! I'll either be a blessed or a cursed man.

portia's house

choice 1

10 Go open the curtains and reveal the caskets to this noble prince.

PORTIA

choice 1

11 The servant opens a curtain revealing three caskets: a gold one, a silver one, and a lead one

Portia's house

servant

choice 1

12 Now choose one of the caskets.

portia's house

choice 1

Merchant of venice 2 V1 4

13 To determine the correct casket, consider their inscriptions: The golden one offers what many desire, the silver one grants what is deserved, and the lead one demands sacrifice and risk. Trust your judgment and intuition to uncover the right choice.

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

choice 1

14 One of them has my picture inside, Prince. If you choose that one then I am yours.

portia's house

Portia

choice 1

15 May a divine presence guide me in this momentous choice! Could her heavenly picture be in the plain lead casket? Unthinkable. Her beauty deserves better. What about the silver casket? No, she deserves nothing less than gold. Give me the key. I choose this one, hoping for boundless joy!

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

choice 1

Merchant of venice 2 V1 5

16 There, take it, Prince. And if my picture is within, then I am yours.

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

PORTIA

choice 1

17 In dismay, I uncover a skull containing a scroll within its eye socket. The words inscribed upon it deliver a harsh truth: "All that glitters is not gold." Many have sacrificed their lives merely to admire superficial appearances. Golden tombs hold nothing but decay. Regrettably, my choice of casket has led to failure in pursuing Portia. Farewell, passion, and hello to a desolate solitude. Goodbye, Portia. My heart is heavy with sorrow, prompting a swift departure. This is how losers bid their farewells.

opens the golden casket.

portia's house

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

18 PRINCE OF MOROCCO and his attendants exit

Portia's house

choice 1

19 Good riddance. Close the curtains back up. I hope everyone of his complexion will choose that cask.

hopeful music

PRINCE OF MOROCCO

PORTIA

choice 1

20 NERISSA and a servant enter.

Portia's house

choice 2

21 Hurry, hurry, please. Close up the curtain right now. The Prince of Aragon has sworn his oath and now comes to make his selection.

Portia's house

NERISSA

choice 2

22 Trumpets play. The Prince of ARRAGON, his attendants, and PORTIA enter

choice 2

23 Behold, there are the caskets, noble Prince. If you choose the one that contains a picture of me, we will get married right away. But if you make the wrong choice, you must leave here immediately, my lord, without saying another word.

Portia's House

PORTIA

choice 2

24 I am bound by oath to do the following three things: first, I can never tell anyone which casket it was that I chose. Second, if I fail to choose the right casket, I will never again court a woman in marriage. And third, if I fail to make the right choice, I must immediately be gone and leave you.

Portia's House

PRINCE OF

ARRAGON

choice 2

Merchant of Venice 2 V1 8

25 Everyone must agree to these conditions who wants to risk it for me, as worthless as I am.

Portia's House

Portia

choice 2

26 I'm ready to risk it all, hoping luck will favor my dreams. Gold, silver, and lead—each with its message. I won't be fooled by surface allure. The silver casket aligns with my values. It's time to decide. Give me the key. I'll unlock my fortune now.

ARRAGON opens the silver casket.

Portia's House

PRINCE OF

ARRAGON

choice 2

27 You've taken too much time for what you've found inside.

Portia's House

PORTIA

choice 2

Merchant of venice 2 V1 9

28 What's here? The portrait of an idiot holding something for me to read! I will read it. How different this picture is from one of Portia! This is so unlike what I hoped for and what I deserved! "He who chooses me will get as much as he deserves!" Did I deserve nothing but a fool's head? Is that my prize? Do I deserve no better?

He reads aloud

Portia's House

PRINCE OF

ARRAGON

choice 2

29

ARRAGON and his attendants exit.

Portia's House

choice 2

30 If I were to answer you, it might offend you.

Portia's House

PORTIA

choice 2

Merchant of venice 2 V1 10

31 The silver chest endured fire seven times, symbolizing unwavering judgment. Illusions bring fleeting joy. Like fools with silver hair, it's covered in silver. Choose any wife, but my heart is yours. I must leave to avoid further folly. Farewell, dear lady. I'll uphold my promise and endure patiently.

Portia's House

PRINCE OF ARRAGON

choice 2

32 ARRAGON and his attendants exit.

choice 2

33 And he's gone, like a moth that's flown too close to the flame. These fools think it over so much! And when they finally choose, their wits aren't enough and they lose.

Portia's House

PORTIA

choice 2

Merchant of venice 2 V1 11

34 The ancient saying is true: death and marriage are matters of destiny.

NERISSA

choice 2

35 Come on, close the curtain, Nerissa.

Portia's House

Portia

36 Where is my lady?

A MESSENGER enters.

Portia's House

MESSENGER

Merchant of venice 2 V1 12

37 I am here. What do you want?

Portia's House

38 Madam, a young Venetian comes to your gate, heralding his approaching master. He brings greetings, gifts, and the promise of love. This ambassador is sure to succeed, sweeter than an April day foretelling summer

Portia's House

MESSENGER

39 Enough, please. I'm worried next you'll tell me he's your cousin, since you praise him so much. Come on, Nerissa, I want to see this messenger of Cupid who comes with such good manners.

Portia's House

PORTIA

Merchant of venice 2 V1 13

40 God of Love, please let it be Bassanio!

Portia's House

NERISSA

41 Please, take your time. Wait a day or two before you take the risk, because if you choose incorrectly then you will have to leave me a month or two before you make your choice. I could tell you what the right casket is, but I've sworn not to. I will never tell you the right choice, so there's a chance you will make the wrong choice. And if you do, you'll make me wish I had sinned and broken my oath not to reveal the correct casket

Portia's House

PORTIA

42 Let me choose a casket, for as it is right now I am in torture.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

Merchant of venice 2 V1 14

43 In torture, Bassanio? Then confess what treason you have committed out of your love.

Portia's House

PORTIA

44 I am guilty of nothing but some mistrust, which makes me worry I may never be able to enjoy my love. Snow and fire go better together than any treason and my love.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

45 Yes, but I am worried that you are only saying this because you are being tortured. Men say anything when forced to by torture.

Portia's House

PORTIA

46 Promise me my life and I'll tell you the truth.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

47 Well then, confess the truth and you will live.

Portia's House

PORTIA

48 "Confess and love," yes, that's it. What nice torture, when my torturer tells me the right thing to say to be let go! But now let me try my luck and go to the caskets.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

Merchant of venice 2 V1 15

49 Let's go, then. My picture is locked in one of the caskets. If you truly love me, you will find it. Nerissa and everyone else, stand back.

Portia's House

PORTIA

50 I discover Portia's portrait! The artist's divine skill captures her perfectly. "You, who choose beyond appearances, are fortunate. Claim her with a loving kiss." May I kiss you, awaiting your confirmation?

Opening the lead casket and read aloud

Portia's House

BASSANIO

51 I aspire to surpass myself for you, Lord Bassanio. Twentyfold worth, a thousandfold beauty, ten thousandfold riches. Seeking virtue, wealth, and friends for your admiration. Inexperienced but willing to learn. My devoted spirit is yours. My possessions, mansion, servants, and ring, all yours. Preserve our love with the ring.

Portia's House

PORTIA

Merchant of venice 2 V1 16

52 Madam, I don't know what to say, but the very blood in my veins speaks to you. And I am as dumbfounded as a buzzing crowd after listening to a brilliant speech by a beloved prince, when everything seems to blend together in unexpressed and expressed joy. When this ring leaves this finger, then life will leave me. When you see this ring off my finger, feel free to say that Bassanio is dead!

BASSANIO

53 My lord and lady, it is now time for those of us who have stood by here and seen our wishes come true, to cry out, "Good joy, good joy, my lord and lady!"

Portia's House

NERISSA

54 My Lord Bassanio and my gentle lady, I wish you all the joy that I can wish you, so that there's none left for you to wish for from me. And when you have your wedding ceremony to solidify your union, I beg that I may be married at the same time.

Portia's House

GRATIANO

Merchant of venice 2 V1 17

55 With all my heart, I say yes, if you can find a wife.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

56 I thank you, my lord, for finding her. My eyes were quick too, watching her maid. We both fell in love. Let's not wait. Your fortune and mine depended on that casket. I wooed and swore love, and she promised hers as long as your luck held.

Portia's House

GRATIANO

57 Is this true, Nerissa?

Portia's House

PORTIA

58 Madam, it is true, if you don't mind.

Portia's House

NERISSA

59 And are you being sincere and honest, Gratiano?

Portia's House

BASSANIO

60 Yes, truly, my lord.

Portia's House

GRATIANO

Merchant of venice 2 V1 18

61 It will be our honor to celebrate your marriage, as well, at our wedding feast.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

62 We can bet them a thousand ducats that we'll have a son before they do.

Portia's House

GRATIANO

63 You want to stake down that money now?

Portia's House

NERISSA

64 No, we'll never win the bet if I stake down. But who is this coming here? Lorenzo and his un-Christian friend? What's this, and Salerio, too, my old friend from Venice?

Portia's House

GRATIANO

65 Lorenzo and Salerio, welcome! It is a joy to receive you here shortly after gaining possession of this place. [to Portia] With your consent, I warmly welcome my friends and fellow countrymen, dear Portia.

LORENZO, JESSICA, and SALERIO, a messenger from Venice, enter

Portia's House

BASSANIO

66 And so do I, my lord. They are entirely welcome.

Portia's House

PORTIA

Merchant of Venice 2 V1 19

67 Thank you, your honor. I didn't actually intend to come see you here, my lord, but I ran into Salerio on the way, and he begged me to come with him and I couldn't refuse.

Portia's House

LORENZO

68 That's true, my lord, and I have good reason for making him come with me. Sir Antonio sends this to you.

He gives BASSANIO a letter

Portia's House

SALERIO

69 Before I open this letter, please tell me how my good friend Antonio is doing.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

70 He's not sick, my lord, unless his mind is sick, but he's not doing well either, unless his mind is doing well. His letter there will show you how he is faring

BASSANIO opens the letter and reads it.

Portia's House

SALERIO

71 Nerissa, welcome our guest with cheer. Salerio, shake my hand. What

news from Venice? How fares noble Antonio? He'll rejoice in our romantic triumphs, like Jason with the golden fleece.

Portia's House

GRATIANO

72 I wish you had won enough to replace what Antonio has lost

Portia's House

SALERIO

Merchant of Venice 2 V1 20

73 Bassanio's face pales as he reads a troubling letter. A dear friend's death, perhaps. Such impact could only affect a stoic man so deeply. I, as your partner, share the burden with you.

Portia's House

PORTIA

74 Portia, these words are grim. When I confessed my love, I spoke truthfully of my limited wealth, but even that was an understatement. I am deeply indebted, burdening a friend and endangering his affairs. This letter reveals disastrous losses. Is it true, Salerio? Has Antonio's fortune truly crumbled?

Portia's House

BASSANIO

75 No ship survived, my lord. Even if Antonio had the means to repay, the Jew refuses. He is a beastly man, driven by greed and vengeance. He pleads daily to the Duke for justice, deeming any denial a disgrace. Influential figures have tried, but he remains resolute in his pursuit of justice and Antonio's forfeiture.

Portia's House

SALERIO

76 When I was with Shylock I heard him swear to his fellow Jews Tubal and Chu's that he would rather have Antonio's flesh than twenty times the amount of money Antonio owes him. And I am sure, my lord, that he will take the flesh of poor Antonio if the power and authority of the law allow him to.

Portia's House

JESSICA

77 Is this man who is in such trouble your dear friend?

Portia's House

PORTIA

78 He is my dearest friend, and the kindest man. He has the best, untiring spirit of courtesy and is a better example of ancient Roman honor than any man alive in Italy

Portia's House

BASSANIO

Merchant of Venice 2 V1 21

79 What amount of money does he owe the Jew?

Portia's House

PORTIA

80 Three thousand ducats, on my behalf.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

81 Pay him double, triple the amount to save your dear friend from harm. We'll wed at the church, then go to Venice together. I'll ease your troubled soul. Once the debt is settled, bring your friend home. Nerissa and I will remain faithful. Let's go!

Portia's House

PORTIA

82

Bassanio, my ships are wrecked, creditors cruel. I have no money to repay the Jew. Once he takes my flesh, I'll die. Your debts are cleared, if you see me before. Enjoy yourself, my love may not be enough.

Reading the letter aloud

Portia's House

BASSANIO

83 My love, forget about everything else and go!

Portia's House

PORTIA

84 Since I have your permission to go away, I will hurry. But until I come back, I will not sleep a wink. I won't rest at all until we are reunited.

Portia's House

BASSANIO

LEVEL 4

SOLANIO: What's the latest news from the Rialto?

SALERIO: Well, there's a rumor going around that Antonio lost a ship with valuable cargo on

the dangerous sandbar called The Goodwins in the English Channel. If the gossip is true, it's a

significant loss.

choice1: would you like to continue the conversation

yes:

{SOLANIO: I hope that gossip is just as untrue as a woman pretending to cry over her third

husband's death. But if it is true, I wish I had a fitting title to honor Antonio's name.

SALERIO: Get to the point, please.

SOLANIO: Ah, what are you trying to say? Antonio has indeed lost a ship.}
no continue from here:

SALERIO: I hope this is the end of his losses.

SOLANIO: Let me say "Amen" before the devil interrupts my prayer, as

here comes Shylock,

SHYLOCK enters.

SOLANIO: How are you, Shylock? What's the news among the merchants?

SHYLOCK: i am sad

choice 1 do you want to hear what is the reason

if yes:{

SHYLOCK: You knew—no one knew better than you—that my daughter ran away.

SALERIO: That's for sure. I even knew the tailor who made the wings she used to escape.

SOLANIO: And Shylock himself knew that his daughter had wings and was likely to leave.

SHYLOCK: She is damned for it.

SOLANIO: That's for sure, if you, the devil, are her judge.}

if no continue from here:

SHYLOCK: My own flesh and blood rebelling against me!

SOLANIO: Unbelievable! Your own flesh rebels even at your age?

SHYLOCK: I mean my daughter is my own flesh and blood.

SALERIO: There's a stark difference between my flesh and my daughter's. Antonio did suffer

losses at sea.

SHYLOCK: Antonio, the bankrupt and spendthrift who can barely show his face on the Rialto,

used to call me a usurer. Well, let him fulfill his obligations. He used to lend money as a

Christian gesture; well, let him fulfill his obligations.

SALERIO: Well, I'm sure that if he doesn't pay you back you won't actually take his flesh. What

would that be good for?

SHYLOCK: this is time seeks revenge for the insults, losses, and discrimination that i have

faced.

Enter a man sent by Antonio.

MAN: Gentlemen, my master Antonio is at his house and would like to speak with both of you.

SALERIO: We have been searching everywhere for him.

##Enter Tubal.

SOLANIO: Here comes another member of his tribe. We won't find a third unless the devil

himself becomes a Jew.

##SOLANIO, SALERIO, and the man exit.

do you want to know about more about shylock daughter

choice 1:yes{

SHYLOCK: How are things, Tubal? What news do you have from Genoa?

Have you found my
daughter?

TUBAL: I've been to many places where I heard about her, but I couldn't
find her.

SHYLOCK: then any other informations

TUBAL: Your daughter spent eighty ducats in Genoa in just one night.

SHYLOCK: You're stabbing me with a dagger. I will never see my gold
again. Eighty ducats in
one go! Eighty ducats!

}

choice 2: no continue

SHYLOCK: What? What? What do you mean? Bad news, bad news?

TUBAL: Antonio's ship was wrecked coming from Tripoli.

SHYLOCK: Thank God! Thank God! Is it true? Is it true?

TUBAL: I spoke with some of the sailors who survived the wreck.

SHYLOCK: Thank you, Tubal. Good news, good news! Ha ha, news heard
in Genoa.

TUBAL: Some of Antonio's creditors who came with me to Venice claim
that he will definitely
default on his loan.

SHYLOCK: I am very glad to hear that. I'll torment him. I'll torture him. I'm
glad.

TUBAL: One of them showed me a ring that your daughter gave him in
exchange for a monkey.

SHYLOCK: Curse her! You're tormenting me, Tubal. That ring was my
turquoise. I received it
from Leah when I was a bachelor. I wouldn't have given it away even for a
whole forest full of
monkeys.

TUBAL: But Antonio is certainly ruined.

SHYLOCK: Yes, that's true, very true. Tubal, go and hire an officer for me.
Make arrangements

with him two weeks in advance. I will have his heart if he fails to pay,
because even if he leaves

Venice, I will pursue him to the ends of the earth.

do you wants to go to the police station

choice 1:

yes {

go to the station submit your compliant

}

choice2: no{

sent tubal to the police station with letter that contain the compliant about
antonio}

##SHYLOCK visting antonio in the prison

SHYLOCK:Jailer, keep an eye on him. Don't say anything about mercy.
That's the fool that lent

out money with no interest. Keep an eye on him, jailer.

ANTONIO:Just listen to me, good Shylock.

SHYLOCK: I'll have what you owe. Don't argue. I've sworn an oath for it.
You called me a dog,
so beware my bite. The Duke will grant justice. Jailer, why did you come
with him?

ANTONIO:I beg you, listen to what I have to say.

SHYLOCK:I'll collect my debt. No more words. I won't be lenient or swayed
by Christian pleas.

Don't follow me. I won't listen. I will have what you owe.

SOLANIO:He is the most stubborn beast that ever kept company with
men.

ANTONIO:Let him be. I won't continue my futile appeals. He seeks my life,
and I understand
why. I've often assisted those who owed him, only when they begged me
at the last moment.

That's why he harbors hatred towards me.

SOLANIO:I am sure the Duke will never allow him to take the pound of
flesh.

ANTONIO: The Duke must uphold the law. If he doesn't, foreign merchants
will lose trust in

Venice's justice, affecting our profits. I've been too anxious to eat, unsure
if I have any flesh to

spare for my cruel creditor tomorrow. Jailer, let's go. I hope Bassanio
witnesses the debt's
repayment; that's my sole concern.

##portia's house

LORENZO: Madam, your kindness and support for your husband's friend
reflect your noble and
genuine goodwill.

PORTIA: I have no regrets in doing good. Antonio resembles my husband.
Lorenzo, manage
my household. I retreat to a nearby monastery with Nerissa until our
husbands return.

LORENZO:Madam, I will obey you with all my heart in your fair commands.

PORTIA:My servants already know my intentions and will obey you and
Jessica in place of Lord

Bassanio and me. Farewell until we meet again.

LORENZO:May you have pleasant thoughts and happy times!

JESSICA:I wish you contentment, my lady.

PORTIA:Thank you for your wish, and I am pleased to wish you the same.
Farewell, Jessica.

[She gives BALTHAZAR a letter] Balthazar, I trust your honesty. Take this letter to my cousin, Doctor Bellario, in Padua. Bring back his notes and clothes and swiftly travel to Venice. Avoid unnecessary conversations and make haste. I will reach Venice before you.

BALTHAZAR: Madam, I will go as quickly as I can. [BALTHAZAR exits.]

PORTIA: Come on, Nerissa, I have a plan you don't know about yet. We'll see our husbands before they even think of us.

NERISSA: Will they see us?

PORTIA: Nerissa, when we dress as men, I'll be the more handsome one, carrying my dagger bravely.

NERISSA: Are we going to turn to men?

PORTIA: What a question! Seeking intimacy with men? Your mind is in the wrong place. But let's go, I'll explain my plan in the carriage at the gate. Hurry, we have twenty miles to cover today.

LEVEL 5

A garden at Portia's house in Belmont.

Enter Lancelet and Jessica

1. Launcelot and Jessica:

a. Launcelot expresses his concerns about Jessica's safety, urging her to be careful and not upset anyone.

LAUNCELOT: Jessica, my dear, I must speak honestly with you. I fear for your safety. The sins of your father are often laid upon his children. It weighs heavily on my heart, and I couldn't keep quiet about it. Please, be careful and try not to upset anyone. Your well-being is of utmost importance to me.

JESSICA: Lancelet, your worry touches me deeply. I appreciate your honesty and concern for my welfare. I will do my best to navigate these troubled waters and stay out of harm's way. Thank you for always looking out for me.

b. Jessica asks Lancelet for advice on what she can do to improve her situation.

JESSICA: Launcelot, I value your opinion. Given the predicament I find myself in, what do you suggest I do to improve my situation? Is there any hope for a better future?

LAUNCELOT: My dear Jessica, I've pondered this question myself. While the circumstances may seem bleak, there is one hope that can potentially bring about a positive change. You could consider exploring the possibility that your father is not your biological father, and therefore, you are not bound by the burden of being the Jew's daughter.

JESSICA: That is indeed a unique hope, Lancelet. To think that the sins of my mother might not be entirely mine to bear. It's a complicated matter, for if that were true, it would mean my mother's actions have affected my life as well. Nevertheless, it is a glimmer of hope amidst the darkness.

d. Jessica contemplates the idea of converting to Christianity to escape the burden of being a Jew's daughter.

JESSICA: Launcelot, I've been pondering my situation and wondering if there is a way to alleviate the burden I bear as a Jew's daughter. Perhaps conversion to Christianity could offer me a chance to escape the judgment and prejudice that comes with my heritage. What are your thoughts on this matter?

LAUNCELOT: Jessica, becoming a Christian is a significant decision, one that should not be taken lightly. While it may provide some relief from the hardships you face, it is important to remember that true acceptance and understanding should come from within. Converting to another faith won't instantly erase the challenges, but it may offer you a fresh perspective and a chance to find solace in a new community.

A court of justice in Venice.

Enter the Duke, the Nobles, Antonio, Bassanio, Gratiano, Salerio, and others

DUKE: Antonio, are you here?

ANTONIO: I am here, your grace.

DUKE: You face a merciless adversary, incapable of pity. We hoped he would show mercy, but he remains cruel. Bring in the Jew.

SHYLOCK: I demand the penalty as stated in the bond. I will have my pound of flesh.

BASSANIO: This is not an answer, it's cruel.

SHYLOCK: I have my reasons for seeking this claim. I despise Antonio, and that is enough. Are you satisfied?

PORTIA: The quality of mercy is not forced. It blesses both the giver and the receiver. Consider showing mercy, Jew.

Option 1:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 2

- LORENZO: Lady Portia, your wisdom is commendable, but the law is clear about the penalty. Is there no legal way to avoid this predicament?

- PORTIA: An astute observation. The law indeed upholds the bond, but perhaps there's a loophole we can explore.

Option 2:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 3

- (Lorenzo approaches Portia discreetly.)

- LORENZO: Lady Portia, may I suggest a way to settle this matter without resorting to Shylock's demand?

- PORTIA: I'm all ears. What solution do you propose?

- LORENZO: What if we find a suitable compromise that satisfies both parties without shedding any blood?

SHYLOCK: I am bound by my oath. I will not relent.

PORTIA: The law allows the pound of flesh, but not a drop of blood. Take your fee without shedding blood.

SHYLOCK: I accept. Give me my money.

PORTIA: There is one more matter. If it is proven that you sought Antonio's life, half your wealth goes to the state. Beg for mercy.

Option 1:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 2

- LORENZO: It is only fair, Shylock. You made your oath, and you should stick to it.

- SHYLOCK: (Grateful) Thank you for understanding. The law is on my side, and I shall abide by it.

Option 2:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 3

- LORENZO: Shylock, mercy and compassion are virtues that can heal wounds. Consider showing leniency in this situation.

- SHYLOCK: (Contemplative) I... I will think about it. But the debt must be repaid.

DUKE: You shall have mercy and pay a fine. Sign the deed.

SHYLOCK: I will sign and leave.

BASSANIO: We are grateful to you, sir.

ANTONIO: We are forever indebted to you.

PORTIA: I am satisfied. (Notices a cryptic message on the deed.)

Option 1:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 2

- LORENZO: Lady Portia, it appears there's something hidden in the text of the deed. It's a cryptic message, and I believe it may hold a vital clue to the truth.

- (The player must engage in solving the puzzle, leading to the revelation of the hidden clause in the bond.)

Option 2:

- (Lorenzo) Weight: 1

- LORENZO: (Decides not to pursue the cryptic message further.) I can't see how this will change the situation. Let's continue with the proceedings.

PORTIA: The law allows the pound of flesh, but not a drop of blood. Take your fee without shedding blood.

SHYLOCK: I accept. Give me my money.

PORTIA: There is one more matter. If it is proven that you sought Antonio's life, half your wealth goes to the state. Beg for mercy.

SHYLOCK: I refuse to beg. I will accept the penalty.

DUKE: You shall have mercy and pay a fine. Sign the deed.

SHYLOCK: I will sign and leave.

BASSANIO: We are grateful to you, sir.

ANTONIO: We are forever indebted to you.

PORTIA: I am satisfied. I must leave now.

BASSANIO: Please accept this gift as a token of our gratitude.

PORTIA: I will take your gloves and this ring. Don't deny me.

BASSANIO: I cannot deny you. Take the ring.

PORTIA: I am content. Farewell.

ANTONIO: Thank you, sir.

PORTIA and NERISSA exit.

On a moonlit pathway outside Portia's house in Belmont.

Enter Lorenzo and Jessica

LORENZO

On such a night, gentle winds kissed the trees,
As Troilus sighed for Cressida on the walls.
Thisbe, careful and tiptoeing in the dew,

Fled in fear from the lion's shadow.

JESSICA

On such a night, Dido stood with a willow branch,
Waving to her love, beckoning him back to Carthage.

LORENZO

On such a night, Medea gathered enchanted herbs,
Reviving old Aeson with their magic.

JESSICA

On such a night, I, Jessica, fled my father's house,
Escaping Venice to be with you in Belmont.

LORENZO

On such a night, I, Lorenzo, swore love to you,
Though my vows lacked sincerity.

JESSICA

Someone approaches; let's listen.

Enter Stephano

LORENZO

Who comes so fast amid the silent night?

STEPHANO

A friend.

LORENZO

A friend? Your name, friend?

STEPHANO

Stephano is my name, and I bring news.
My mistress will arrive at Belmont before daybreak,
Praying for a happy marriage by the holy crosses.

LORENZO

Who accompanies her?

STEPHANO

A holy hermit and her maid alone.
Has my master returned?

LORENZO

Not yet, and no word from him.

Let's go inside, Jessica, and prepare a warm welcome.

Enter Lancelot

LANCELOT

Sola, sola! Wo ha, ho, sola, sola!

LORENZO

Who calls?

LANCELOT

Sola! Have you seen Master Lorenzo?

Master Lorenzo, sola, sola!

LORENZO

Enough shouting; I'm here.

LANCELOT

Sola! Where? Where?

LORENZO

Here.

LANCELOT

A messenger with good news from my master.

He'll be here before morning.

Exit

LORENZO

Let's go inside, Jessica, and wait for their arrival.

But wait, I hear footsteps of someone else.

Enter Musicians

LORENZO

Come, ho! Let's wake Diana with a hymn,

Music to draw her home.

Music plays

JESSICA

I'm never happy when I hear sweet music.

LORENZO

Your spirits are attentive; music has that effect.
Even wild and unruly animals become calm with music.
A man without music in his soul is fit for crimes and deceit.

Enter Portia and Nerissa

PORTIA

The light in my hall is burning.
How far that little candle throws its beams!
So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

NERISSA

When the moon shone, we didn't see the candle.

PORTIA

Greater glory dims lesser ones.
This candle's light is dimmed by the morning.
Listen! Music!

NERISSA

It's your music, madam, from inside the house.

PORTIA

Nothing is good without a good setting.
It sounds sweeter at night.

NERISSA

Silence adds virtue to it, madam.

PORTIA

As the crow sings sweetly as the lark,
When no one is around to hear it,
So a greater glory diminishes a lesser one.

BASSANIO

Our day will match Australia's and New Zealand's
If we keep walking around without the sun.

PORTIA

Let me give light but not make light of marriage.
Welcome home, my lord.

BASSANIO

I thank you, madam. Give welcome to my friend.

PORTIA

You are very welcome to our house.

I'll show you this in more ways than words.

But let's go inside, where you can ask questions,
And we will answer truthfully.

All exit.