

*Faust. Pheles. In Faust's dorm during Fall 2021.*

*Faust.* Dude, my dad is killing me.  
He does not know biology.  
Although I am only a student in pre-med,  
I know not to use ivermectin to treat COVID.

*Pheles.* Bro, you should not worry.  
Tonight, come to my party.  
We'll honor the prosperity  
Of our startup company,  
And bask in all our riches and our money.

*Faust.* I hope you know that I trust you.  
After all we've been through  
Together when we met this quarter,  
My life has never been better.  
You showed me ambition and power,  
And that knowledge is the answer.

*Faust. Margarete. In the living room of Pheles' apartment after a party, Margarete is unconscious on the couch with Faust.*

*Faust.* Soon, day will be breaking! Darling, darling!  
[He kisses Margarete until her eyelids flutter  
open.]

*Margarete.* Day? Yes, day, my last one, dawning,  
How ever did I love you so?  
When your heart is growing very cold.  
[Pheles enters.]

It's him, him, oh drive him away!  
*Faust.* Oh darling, why can he not stay?  
Perhaps, you are misunderstood?  
*Margarete.* Your business partner brings no good.  
He made a move on me last night,  
With poisoned drink so I couldn't fight.  
Darling, darling, don't you see  
How wretched and foul this man can be?  
I don't feel safe here. It's him or me.

*Faust.* I can't abandon my career.  
For Pheles brings good fortune near.  
It's hard to choose between you two.  
I don't know what I should pursue,  
Since you're the girl I want to wed.

*Pheles.* They're many others you can bed.  
A woman now will mean nothing  
Compared to money, don't you think?

*Faust.* I am already on the brink,  
Of riches in our firm's success.  
I cannot turn without regret  
Or find myself in crushing debt.  
For me, all hope is gone.  
Our relationship is done.

*Pheles.* She's condemned.

*Margarete.* She is saved.  
[Margarete exits as Faust and Pheles bro hug.]

*Faust. Pheles. Faust is sitting in a chair holding a tattoo gun over his own arm. Pheles standing over him.*

*Pheles.* Forget about that hoe.  
You only need your bro.  
It's you and me forever,  
Through this and that whatever.  
You are my ride or die.

*Faust.* Whether I live or die,  
Through this and that whatever,  
It's you and me forever.  
I only need my bro.

*Pheles.* Remember for eternity,  
[*Aside.*] Or for the next 24 years,  
Words marking our fraternity:  
"Bros Before Hoes".

*Faust.* But what is this inscription on my arm?  
I think it may be cause for an alarm.  
"*Homo fuge!*" What does it mean?

*Pheles.* Do not fly, dear Faustus!  
O, whatever shall we do?  
You messed up writing the tattoo!  
Alack! Alack! We must fix this!

*Faust.* Dude, why must I not take flight,  
For what is wrong and what is right?  
While man still strives, still he must err  
I shan't, I promise, interfere  
With any wrong that you commit.  
For they are many, I admit.  
You overlook my faults, in kind,  
And reaffirm my peace of mind.  
You showed me what it means to dream.

We'll reach the stars, us, as a team.

*Pheles.* I pledge myself to you.  
In sickness and in health,  
Through poverty or wealth,  
So long as I shall live.

*Faust.* How can you pledge your life to me  
When we've only met for a couple of weeks?  
You've already made my life amazing,  
And acted as my rock and saving  
Grace. Yet, I still wonder why  
Are you so scared that I may fly?  
As Margarete clipped my wings,  
And you have only been the wind  
To help me bring my life success.  
So tell me, love, why do you stress?

*Pheles.* I spent four hundred years to make you mine.  
And yet the story resets everytime.  
A bargain, bet, or contract still may fail.  
Your soul belongs to me, so goes the tale  
Of love across all time written in stars.  
When we align, the universe is ours.  
I'll conjure any truth that you may please,  
To hear you call me Mephistopheles.  
So take my hand and live with me in sin.  
Engrave our matrimony in your skin.

*Faust.* Your name in ink, on mine arm, I will sign.  
So do not fret, for Faustus shall not fly.

*End*