

*Enter JESSICA and [LAUNCELOT] the clown.*

*Jes.* I am sorry thou wilt leave my father so,  
Our house is hell, and thou (a merry devil)  
Didst rob it of some taste of tediousness,—  
But fare thee well, there is a ducat for thee,  
And Launcelot, soon at supper shalt thou see  
Lorenzo, who is thy new master's guest,  
Give him this letter,—do it secretly,—  
And so farewell: I would not have my father  
See me in talk with thee.

*Laun.* Adieu! tears exhibit my tongue, most beautiful pagan, most sweet  
Jew!—if a Christian do not play the knave and get thee, I am much  
deceived; but adieu! these foolish drops do something drown my  
manly spirit: adieu! [*Exit.*]

*Jes.* Farewell good Launcelot.

Alack, what heinous sin is it in me  
To be ashamed to be my father's child!

Scene III] *Capell*; *om.* *Q*, *F*; Scene IV *Pope*. *Venice*] *om.* *Q*, *F*; *Shylock's house Theobald*;  
*The same. A Room in Shylock's House Capell*. Launcelot] *Rowe*; *om.* *Q*, *F*. 1. I am] *Q*,  
*F*; I'm *Pope*. 9. in] *Q*; *om.* *F*. 10. *Laun.*] *Q2*; *Clowne*. *Q*, *F*. 10. Adieu!] Adieu, *Q*, *F*.  
11. Jew!] Iew, *Q*, *F*. do] *Q*, *F*; did *F2*. 12. adieu!] adieu, *Q*, *F*. 12. something] *Q*;  
somewhat *F*. 13. adieu!] adieu. *Q*, *F*. S.D.] *Q2*, *F*; *om.* *Q*; after l. 15 *Capell*. 16. child!]  
child, *Q*, *F*; Child? *Rowe*.

5. *soon*] early.

10. *exhibit*] *Eccles* paraphrased "My tears  
serve to express what my tongue should, if  
sorrow would permit it," but probably it is  
Launcelot's blunder for prohibit (*Halliwell*)  
or inhibit (*Clarendon*).

10. *pagan*] This may have a scurrilous un-  
dertone: cf. 2 *H* 4, II. ii. 168.

11. *do*] *Malone* upheld the reading of *Qq*

and *F* by comparing II. vi. 23: "When you  
shall please to play the thieves for wives";  
Launcelot seems fond of hinting at what is  
going to happen (cf. II. v. 22–3). If *F2*'s "did"  
is accepted, *get* is used for *beget*, as in III. v.  
9.

12–13. *foolish. . . spirit*] "tears do not be-  
come a man" (*AYL.*, III. iv. 3); cf. also *H* 5,  
IV. vi. 28–32.