

- BENVOLIO
198 Tell me in sadness, who is that you love?
ROMEO
What, shall I groan and tell thee?
BENVOLIO Groan? Why, no;
200 But sadly tell me who.
ROMEO
Bid a sick man in sadness make his will.
Ah, word ill urged to one that is so ill!
In sadness, cousin, I do love a woman.
BENVOLIO
I aimed so near when I supposed you loved.
ROMEO
A right good markman. And she's fair I love.
BENVOLIO
206 A right fair mark, fair coz, is soonest hit.
ROMEO
Well, in that hit you miss. She'll not be hit
208 With Cupid's arrow. She hath Dian's wit,
209 And, in strong proof of chastity well armed,
210 From love's weak childish bow she lives unharmed.
211 She will not stay the siege of loving terms,
Nor bide th' encounter of assailing eyes,
Nor ope her lap to saint-seducing gold.
O, she is rich in beauty; only poor
215 That, when she dies, with beauty dies her store.
BENVOLIO
216 Then she hath sworn that she will still live chaste?
ROMEO
217 She hath, and in that sparing makes huge waste;
For beauty, starved with her severity,

198 *in sadness* seriously 206 *fair mark* bright clean target 208 *Dian* Diana, virgin goddess of chastity and huntress 209 *proof* armor 210 *unharmed* (from Q1; Q2 reads "uncharmed," perhaps correctly) 211–12 *She . . . eyes* i.e., she gives me no chance to woo her 215 *with . . . store* she will leave no children to perpetuate her beauty 216 *still* always 217 *sparing* miserliness

- Cuts beauty off from all posterity.
She is too fair, too wise, wisely too fair, 220
To merit bliss by making me despair. 221
She hath forsworn to love, and in that vow
Do I live dead that live to tell it now.
BENVOLIO
Be ruled by me; forget to think of her.
ROMEO
O, teach me how I should forget to think!
BENVOLIO
By giving liberty unto thine eyes.
Examine other beauties.
ROMEO 'Tis the way
To call hers, exquisite, in question more. 228
These happy masks that kiss fair ladies' brows,
Being black puts us in mind they hide the fair. 230
He that is stricken blind cannot forget
The precious treasure of his eyesight lost.
Show me a mistress that is passing fair, 233
What doth her beauty serve but as a note
Where I may read who passed that passing fair?
Farewell. Thou canst not teach me to forget.
BENVOLIO
I'll pay that doctrine, or else die in debt. *Exeunt.* 237

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1.2 Enter Capulet, County Paris, and [Peter, Capulet's servant].

CAPULET

But Montague is bound as well as I,

1

221 *bliss* heaven 228 *in question* to my mind 233 *passing* surpassingly
237 *pay that doctrine* convince you otherwise

1.2 s.d. *County* count; *Peter* (the role was played by Will Kemp, the Clown of the company; the s.d. here reads "the Clowne" in Q2) 1 *bound* under bond (to keep the peace)

In penalty alike; and 'tis not hard, I think,
For men so old as we to keep the peace.

PARIS

4 Of honorable reckoning are you both,
And pity 'tis you lived at odds so long.
But now, my lord, what say you to my suit?

CAPULET

8 But saying o'er what I have said before:
My child is yet a stranger in the world,
She hath not seen the change of fourteen years;
10 Let two more summers wither in their pride
Ere we may think her ripe to be a bride.

PARIS

Younger than she are happy mothers made.

CAPULET

13 And too soon marred are those so early made.
14 Earth hath swallowèd all my hopes but she;
15 She is the hopeful lady of my earth.
But woo her, gentle Paris, get her heart;
My will to her consent is but a part.
18 An she agree, within her scope of choice
Lies my consent and fair according voice.
20 This night I hold an old accustomed feast,
Whereto I have invited many a guest,
Such as I love; and you among the store,
One more, most welcome, makes my number more.
At my poor house look to behold this night
25 Earth-treading stars that make dark heaven light.
Such comfort as do lusty young men feel
When well-appeared April on the heel
27 Of limping winter treads, even such delight

4 *reckoning* reputation 8 *world* world of society 13 *too soon . . . made* (a proverb) 14 *hopes* children 15 *hopeful . . . earth* my hope for posterity and heir to my land 18 *scope* range 19 *according* harmoniously agreeing 20 *old accustomed* by custom of long standing 25 *Earth-treading stars* mortal stars – i.e., maidens 27 *April* (Venus's month, the season of lovemaking)

Among fresh fennel buds shall you this night 29
Inherit at my house. Hear all, all sec, 30
And like her most whose merit most shall be;
Which, on more view of many, mine, being one, 32
May stand in number, though in reck'ning none.
Come, go with me. 34

[To Peter, giving him a paper]

Go, sirrah, trudge about
Through fair Verona; find those persons out
Whose names are written there, and to them say,
My house and welcome on their pleasure stay.

Exit [with Paris].

PETER Find them out whose names are written here? It is
written that the shoemaker should meddle with his
yard and the tailor with his last, the fisher with his pen- 40
cil and the painter with his nets; but I am sent to find
those persons whose names are here writ, and can never
find what names the writing person hath here writ. I 43
must to the learned. In good time! 44

Enter Benvolio and Romeo.

BENVOLIO

Tut, man, one fire burns out another's burning; 45
One pain is lessened by another's anguish; 46
Turn giddy, and be holp by backward turning; 47
One desperate grief cures with another's languish.

29 *fennel* a flowering herb supposed to awake sexual desire (but Q1 reads "femelle" – i.e., "female" – and may be the right reading) 32–33 *Which . . . none* my daughter will be numerically counted among those present, but possibly not among those you would wish to marry after seeing them all (cf. the common saying "One is no number") 34 *sirrah* (a usual form of address to servants) 40–41 *yard, last, pencil, nets* (occupational tools humorously reversed; since "yard" and "pencil" often mean "penis," there is probably a joke about masturbation here) 43 *find* find out (since I cannot read) 44 *In good time* help comes just when I need it 45 *one . . . burning* (proverb used often by Shakespeare) 46 *another's anguish* anguish from another pain 47 *Turn . . . turning* when giddy from whirling around, be helped by reversing direction