

JULIET

- 30 Conceit, more rich in matter than in words,  
 Brags of his substance, not of ornament.  
 They are but beggars that can count their worth;  
 33 But my true love is grown to such excess  
 I cannot sum up sum of half my wealth.

FRIAR

Come, come with me, and we will make short work,  
 For, by your leaves, you shall not stay alone  
 Till Holy Church incorporate two in one. [Exeunt.]

\*

◊ III.1 Enter Mercutio [, his Page], Benvolio, and Men.

BENVOLIO

I pray thee, good Mercutio, let's retire.

The day is hot, the Capels are abroad,  
 And, if we meet, we shall not scape a brawl,  
 For now, these hot days, is the mad blood stirring.

MERCUTIO Thou art like one of these fellows that, when  
 he enters the confines of a tavern, claps me his sword  
 upon the table and says "God send me no need of  
 thee!" and by the operation of the second cup draws  
 8 him on the drawer, when indeed there is no need.

10 BENVOLIO Am I like such a fellow?

MERCUTIO Come, come, thou art as hot a jack in thy  
 12 mood as any in Italy; and as soon moved to be moody,  
 and as soon moody to be moved.

BENVOLIO And what to?

30–31 *Conceit* . . . *ornament* understanding, enriched more by the substance than by words, takes pride in the reality of my great love, not in its outward show 33 *love* . . . *excess* (cf. II.2.135 and n.)

III.1 A public place in Verona 8–9 *by the operation* . . . *drawer* after drinking only two cups of wine, draws his sword against the waiter 12 *moody* angry

MERCUTIO Nay, an there were two such, we should have 15  
 none shortly, for one would kill the other. Thou! why,  
 thou wilt quarrel with a man that hath a hair more or a  
 hair less in his beard than thou hast. Thou wilt quarrel  
 with a man for cracking nuts, having no other reason  
 but because thou hast hazel eyes. What eye but such an 20  
 eye would spy out such a quarrel? Thy head is as full of  
 quarrels as an egg is full of meat; and yet thy head hath 22  
 been beaten as addle as an egg for quarreling. Thou 23  
 hast quarreled with a man for coughing in the street,  
 because he hath wakened thy dog that hath lain asleep  
 in the sun. Didst thou not fall out with a tailor for  
 wearing his new doublet before Easter? with another 27  
 for tying his new shoes with old ribbon? And yet thou  
 wilt tutor me from quarreling!

BENVOLIO An I were so apt to quarrel as thou art, any 30  
 man should buy the fee simple of my life for an hour 31  
 and a quarter.

MERCUTIO The fee simple? O simple! 33

*Enter Tybalt and others.*

BENVOLIO By my head, here come the Capulets.

MERCUTIO By my heel, I care not.

TYBALT

Follow me close, for I will speak to them.

Gentlemen, good-den. A word with one of you. 37

MERCUTIO

And but one word with one of us?

Couple it with something; make it a word and a blow.

TYBALT You shall find me apt enough to that, sir, an 40  
 you will give me occasion.

15 *two* (punning on Benvolio's "to") 21 *spy out* see occasion for 22 *meat* edible matter 23 *addle* addled, confused 27 *doublet* jacket 31 *fee simple* permanent lease 31–32 *hour and a quarter* probable duration of the lease – i.e., of my life 33 *O simple* O stupid; s.d. (Q2 includes the name "Petruccio") 37 *good-den* good afternoon