

**RSC**

ROYAL  
SHAKESPEARE  
COMPANY

THE  
TAMING  
OF  
THE  
SHREW  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



**RSC  
ASSOCIATE  
SCHOOLS  
PROGRAMME**

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
REGIONAL THEATRES

RSC ASSOCIATE SCHOOLS  
PLAYMAKING FESTIVAL EDIT 2019/20

**ALHAMBRA**  
THEATRE

**THE GRAND**  
THEATRE | BLACKPOOL

**THE  
MARLOWE**

**NEW VIC THEATRE**

**INTER+MISSION**  
YOUTH THEATRE

**HFC**  
HALL FOR CORNWALL

**THEATRE  
ROYAL** **ROYAL  
CONCERT  
HALL**

**Hull  
TRUCK**  
THEATRE

**N**  
NORTHERN  
STAGE

**york  
theatre  
royal**

The Associate Schools programme is our partnership programme with regional theatres and schools across England. It is built around the principle of schools working in local partnerships to develop communities of practice inspired by Shakespeare's work. Each local partnership consists of a theatre partner (either the RSC or the school's local theatre) and a Lead Associate School who in turn recruits a number of Associate Schools. The programme aims to enrich the teaching, learning and enjoyment of Shakespeare's work across the country.

The Associate Schools programme also provides the opportunity for young people to perform Shakespeare's plays, engaging with his work as actors and theatre makers; exploring character and staging, making interpretive choices and speaking the language with understanding and confidence.

We are proud to work with a number of regional theatres from across the country, whose staff, venues and expertise are pivotal to the success of the Associate Schools programme.



# Notes \_\_\_\_\_

# Notes

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# THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

**BAPTISTA Minola** - a wealthy gentleman of Padua

**KATE (Katherina)** – Baptista's eldest daughter, a 'shrew'

**BIANCA** – Baptista's younger daughter

**PETRUCHIO** - a gentleman from Verona, suitor to Kate

**LUCENTIO** - in love with Bianca  
(disguises himself as 'Cambio', a Latin tutor)

**GREMIO** - an aged suitor to Bianca

**HORTENSIO** - friend of Petruchio and suitor to Bianca  
(disguises himself as 'Litio', a music tutor)

**TRANIO** - Lucentio's servant

**GRUMIO** - Petruchio's servant

**CURTIS** – Petruchio's servant

**WIDOW** - A wealthy widow, later married to Hortensio

**BIONDELLO** – A servant

**A Tailor**

**A Haberdasher**

**Servants**

**Wedding Guests**

# 1

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## Act 1 Scene 1

*Enter Lucentio and his man Tranio.*

### **LUCENTIO**

Tranio, since for the great desire I had  
To see fair Padua, nursery of arts,  
I am arrived with thy good company.  
My trusty servant, well approved in all.

### **LUCENTIO**

But stay a while, what company is this?

### **TRANIO**

Master, some show to welcome us to town.

# 2

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*Enter Baptista with his two daughters, Katherina and Bianca, Gremio and Hortensio. Lucentio and Tranio stand by.*

### **BAPTISTA**

Gentlemen, importune me no farther,  
For how I firmly am resolved you know:  
That is, not to bestow my youngest daughter  
Before I have a husband for the elder.  
If either of you both love Katherina,  
Leave shall you have to court her at your pleasure.

### **GREMIO**

To cart her rather. She's too rough for me.

### **KATE**

*(To Baptista)* I pray you, sir, is it your will  
To make a stale of me amongst these mates?

### **HORTENSIO**

'Mates', maid? How mean you that? No mates for you,  
Unless you were of gentler, milder mould.

### **KATE**

I'faith, sir, you shall never need to fear.  
I'll comb your noddle with a three-legged stool  
And paint your face and use you like a fool.

**TRANIO**

*(Aside to Lucentio)*

Husht, master! Here's some good pastime toward:  
That wench is stark mad or wonderful froward.

**LUCENTIO**

But in the other's silence do I see  
Maid's mild behaviour and sobriety.  
Peace, Tranio!

**TRANIO**

*(Aside to Lucentio)*

Well said, master. Shush, and gaze your fill.

**BAPTISTA**

Gentlemen, that I may soon make good  
What I have said, Bianca, get you in,  
And let it not displease thee, good Bianca,  
For I will love thee ne'er the less, my girl.

**KATE**

A pretty pet!

**BIANCA**

Sister, content you in my discontent.  
Sir, to your pleasure humbly I subscribe:  
My books and instruments shall be my company,  
On them to look and practise by myself.

**HORTENSIO**

Signor Baptista, will you be so strange?  
Sorry am I that our good will effects  
Bianca's grief.

**GREMIO**

Why will you mew her up?

**BAPTISTA**

Gentlemen, content ye, I am resolved.  
Go in, Bianca.

*Exit Bianca.*

And for I know she taketh most delight  
In music, instruments and poetry,  
So teachers will I keep within my house  
Fit to instruct her youth. If you, Hortensio,  
Or Signior Gremio, you, know any such,

Prefer them hither.  
And so farewell.— Katherina, you may stay,  
For I have more to commune with Bianca.

*Exit.*

**KATE**

Why, and I trust I may go too, may I not? What, shall I be appointed hours, as though, belike, I knew not what to take and what to leave? Ha?

*Exit.*

**GREMIO**

You may go to the devil's dam. Farewell. Yet for the love I bear my sweet Bianca, if I can by any means light on a fit man to teach her that wherein she delights, I will wish him to her father.

**HORTENSIO**

So will I, Signior Gremio. But we may yet again have access to our fair mistress and be happy rivals in Bianca's love.

**GREMIO**

How's that, I pray?

**HORTENSIO**

Marry, sir, to get a husband for her sister.

**GREMIO**

A husband? A devil.

**HORTENSIO**

Tush, Gremio, there be good fellows in the world, that would take her for all her faults. And by helping Baptista's eldest daughter to a husband we set her youngest free for a husband. Sweet Bianca! How say you, Signior Gremio?

**GREMIO**

I am agreed.

*Exeunt both Gremio and Hortensio.*

*Tranio and Lucentio remain.*

**TRANIO**

I pray, sir, tell me, is it possible  
That love should of a sudden take such hold?

**LUCENTIO**

O Tranio, till I found it to be true,  
I never thought it possible or likely.  
But see, while idly I stood looking on,  
I found the effect of love in idleness.

**TRANIO**

Master, you looked so longly on the maid,  
Perhaps you marked not what's the pith of all.

**LUCENTIO**

O, yes, I saw sweet beauty in her face.

**TRANIO**

Saw you no more? Marked you not how her sister  
Began to scold and raise up such a storm  
That mortal ears might hardly endure the din?

**LUCENTIO**

Tranio, I saw her coral lips to move  
And with her breath she did perfume the air.  
Sacred and sweet was all I saw in her.

**TRANIO**

*(Aside)* Nay, then, 'tis time to stir him from his trance.—  
Her eldest sister is so curst and shrewd  
That till the father rid his hands of her,  
Master, your love must live a maid at home,  
Because she will not be annoyed with suitors.

**LUCENTIO**

Ah, Tranio, what a cruel father's he!  
But art thou not advised he took some care  
To get her cunning schoolmasters to instruct her?

**TRANIO**

Ay, marry, am I, sir, and now 'tis plotted.  
You will be schoolmaster  
And undertake the teaching of the maid:  
That's your device.

**LUCENTIO**

May it be done?

**TRANIO**

Not possible, for who shall bear your part,  
And be in Padua here Vincentio's son.

**LUCENTIO**

We have not yet been seen in any house,  
Nor can we be distinguished by our faces  
For man or master. Then it follows thus:  
Thou shalt be master, Tranio, in my stead.  
'Tis hatched and shall be so. Tranio, at once  
Uncase thee: take my coloured hat and coat.  
They exchange clothes.

**TRANIO**

I am content to be Lucentio,  
Because so well I love Lucentio.

**LUCENTIO**

Tranio, be so, because Lucentio loves.  
And not a jot of Tranio in your mouth.  
Tranio is changed into Lucentio.

*Exeunt.*

## 4

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**Act 1 Scene 2**

*Enter Petruchio and his man Grumio (with cases).*

**PETRUCHIO**

Verona, for a while I take my leave,  
To see my friends in Padua; but of all  
My best belovèd and approvèd friend,  
Hortensio, and I trow this is his house.  
Here, sirrah Grumio, knock, I say.

**GRUMIO**

Knock, sir? Whom should I knock? Is there any man has abused  
your worship?

**PETRUCHIO**

Villain, I say, knock me here soundly.

**GRUMIO**

Knock you here, sir? Why, sir, what am I, sir, that I should knock  
you here, sir?

**PETRUCHIO**

Villain, I say, knock me at this gate  
And rap me well, or I'll knock your knave's pate.

*He goes to hit him.*

**GRUMIO**

Help, someone, help! My master is mad.

*Enter Hortensio.*

**HORTENSIO**

How now? My dear friend Petruchio?  
But tell me now, sweet friend, what happy gale  
Blows you to Padua here from old Verona?

**PETRUCHIO**

Such wind as scatters young men through the world,  
To seek their fortunes farther than at home.  
Antonio, my father, is deceased,  
And I have thrust myself into this maze,  
Happily to wive and thrive as best I may.  
Crowns in my purse I have and goods at home,  
And so am come abroad to see the world.

**HORTENSIO**

Petruchio, shall I then come roundly to thee  
And wish thee to a shrewd ill-favoured wife?  
Thou'ldst thank me but a little for my counsel.  
And yet I'll promise thee she shall be rich.  
No I'll not wish thee to her.

**PETRUCHIO**

Signior Hortensio, 'twixt such friends as we  
Few words suffice: and therefore, if thou know  
One bold enough to be Petruchio's wife —  
I come to wive her wealthily in Padua,  
If wealthily, then happily in Padua.

**HORTENSIO**

I can, Petruchio, help thee to a wife.  
Her only fault, and that is faults enough,  
Is that she is intolerable curst.

**PETRUCHIO**

Tell me her father's name and 'tis enough,  
For I will wed her, though she chide as loud  
As thunder when the clouds in autumn crack.

**HORTENSIO**

Her father is Baptista Minola.  
The girl is Katherina Minola,  
Renowned in Padua for her scolding tongue.

**PETRUCHIO**

I know her father, though I know not her,  
And he knew my deceased father well.  
I will not sleep, Hortensio, till I see her.

**HORTENSIO**

Tarry, Petruchio, I must go with thee,  
For in Baptista's keep my treasure is:  
She hath the jewel of my life in hold,  
Her youngest daughter, beautiful Bianca  
And her withholds from me and others too,  
That none shall have access unto my love  
Till Katherine the curst have got a husband.  
So offer me disguised in sober robes  
To old Baptista as a schoolmaster  
Well seen in music, to instruct Bianca.

**5**

*Enter Gremio and Lucentio disguised as 'Cambio', a school master.*

**GRUMIO**

Master, look about you. Who goes there, ha?

**HORTENSIO**

Peace, Grumio, it is the rival of my love.

*They stand aside.*

**GREMIO**

What will you read to her?

**LUCENTIO**

Whate'er I read to her, I'll plead for you  
As for my patron, stand you so assured,  
As firmly as yourself were still in place.

**GREMIO**

O, this learning, what a thing it is!

**GRUMIO**

*(Aside)* O, this woodcock, what an ass it is!

**PETRUCHIO**

Peace, sirrah!

**HORTENSIO**

God save you, Signior Gremio.

**GREMIO**

And you are well met, Signior Hortensio.  
Trow you whither I am going? To Baptista Minola.  
I promised to inquire carefully  
About a schoolmaster for the fair Bianca,  
And by good fortune I have lighted well  
On this young man, for learning and behaviour  
Fit for her turn, well read in poetry  
And other books, good ones, I warrant ye.

**HORTENSIO**

'Tis well. And I have met a gentleman  
Hath promised me to help me to another,  
A fine musician to instruct our mistress.  
So shall I no whit be behind in duty  
To fair Bianca, so beloved of me.

**GREMIO**

Beloved of me, and that my deeds shall prove.

**HORTENSIO**

Gremio, 'tis now no time to vent our love.  
Here is a gentleman whom by chance I met,  
Upon agreement from us to his liking,  
Will undertake to woo curst Katherine.

**GREMIO**

Hortensio, have you told him all her faults?

**PETRUCHIO**

I hear she is an irksome brawling scold.  
If that be all, masters, I hear no harm.

**GREMIO**

But will you woo this wild cat?

**PETRUCHIO**

Why came I hither but to that intent?  
Think you a little din can daunt mine ears?  
Have I not in my time heard lions roar?  
Have I not heard the sea, puffed up with winds,  
Rage like an angry boar chafèd with sweat?  
And do you tell me of a woman's tongue?  
Tush, tush! Fear boys with bugs.

**GRUMIO**

For he fears none.

*Enter Tranio disguised as Lucentio.*

**TRANIO**

Gentlemen, God save you. If I may be bold,  
Tell me, I beseech you, which is the readiest way  
To the house of Baptista Minola?  
He that has the two fair daughters:  
The one as famous for a scolding tongue  
As is the other for beauteous modesty.  
And were this daughter fairer than she is  
She may more suitors have, and me for one.

**PETRUCHIO**

Sir, understand you this of me, in sooth:  
The youngest daughter whom you hearken for,  
Her father keeps from all access of suitors,  
And will not promise her to any man  
Until the elder sister first be wed.  
The younger then is free, and not before.

**TRANIO**

If it be so, sir, that you are the man  
Must stead us all and me amongst the rest.

**TRANIO**

Please ye we may contrive this afternoon  
And quaff carouses to our mistress' health,  
And do as adversaries do in law,  
Strive mightily, but eat and drink as friends.

**GRUMIO**

O excellent motion! Fellows, let's be gone.

*Exeunt.*

# 6

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## Act 2 Scene 1

*Enter Katherina and Bianca with her hands bound.*

### **BIANCA**

Good sister, wrong me not, nor wrong yourself,  
To make a bondmaid and a slave of me.  
And what you will command me will I do,  
So well I know my duty to my elders.

### **KATE**

Of all thy suitors here I charge thee tell  
Whom thou lov'st best: see thou dissemble not.

### **BIANCA**

Believe me, sister, of all the men alive  
I never yet beheld that special face  
Which I could fancy more than any other.

### **KATE**

Minion, thou liest. Is't not Hortensio?

### **BIANCA**

If you affect him, sister, here I swear  
I'll plead for you myself, but you shall have him.

### **KATE**

O, then belike you fancy old age more:  
You will have Gremio to keep you fair.

### **BIANCA**

Is it for him you do envy me so?  
I prithee sister Kate, untie my hands.

*Enter Baptista.*

### **BAPTISTA**

Why, how now, dame? Whence grows this insolence?—  
Bianca, stand aside. Poor girl, she weeps. *(Unties her.)*  
For shame, thou hilding, meddle not with her.  
Why dost thou wrong her that did ne'er wrong thee?  
When did she cross thee with a bitter word?

### **KATE**

Her silence flouts me, and I'll be revenged.

*Goes to hit Bianca.*

**BAPTISTA**

What, in my sight? Bianca, get thee in.

*Exit Bianca.*

**KATE**

What, will you not suffer me? Nay, now I see  
She is your treasure, she must have a husband,  
I must dance barefoot on her wedding day,  
And for your love to her lead apes in hell.  
Talk not to me. I will go sit and weep  
Till I can find occasion of revenge.

*Exit.*

**BAPTISTA**

Was ever a gentleman thus grieved as I?

## 7

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*Enter Gremio, Lucentio (as 'Cambio'), Petruchio with Hortensio (disguised as 'Lutio' a music teacher) bearing a lute and books and Tranio (disguised as Lucentio).*

**GREMIO**

Good morrow, neighbour Baptista.

**BAPTISTA**

Good morrow, neighbour Gremio.

**PETRUCHIO**

And you, good sir. Pray, have you not a daughter  
Called Katherina, fair and virtuous?

**BAPTISTA**

I have a daughter, sir, called Katherina.

**PETRUCHIO**

I am a gentleman of Verona, sir,  
That, hearing of her beauty and her wit,  
Her affability and bashful modesty,  
Her wondrous qualities and mild behaviour,  
Am bold to show myself a forward guest  
And for an entrance to my entertainment,  
I do present you with a man of mine,

*Presents Hortensio.*

Cunning in music and the mathematics,  
To instruct her fully in those sciences,  
Whereof I know she is not ignorant.  
Accept of him, or else you do me wrong  
His name is Lelio, born in Mantua.

**BAPTISTA**

You're welcome, sir, and he, for your good sake.  
But for my daughter Katherine, this I know,  
She is not for your turn, the more my grief.

**PETRUCHIO**

I see you do not mean to part with her,  
Or else you like not of my company.

**BAPTISTA**

Mistake me not, I speak but as I find.  
Whence are you, sir? What may I call your name?

**PETRUCHIO**

Petruchio is my name, Antonio's son.

**BAPTISTA**

I know him well. You are welcome for his sake.

**GREMIO**

*(Presents Lucentio)* I freely give unto you this young scholar, as  
cunning in Greek, Latin, and other languages, as the other in music  
and mathematics. His name is Cambio. Pray, accept his service.

**BAPTISTA**

A thousand thanks, Signior Gremio. Welcome, good Cambio.  
*(To Tranio)* But, gentle sir, methinks you walk like a stranger.  
May I be so bold to know the cause of your coming?

**TRANIO**

Pardon me, sir, the boldness is mine own,  
That, being a stranger in this city here,  
Do make myself a suitor to your daughter,  
Unto Bianca, fair and virtuous.  
Lucentio is my name.

**BAPTISTA**

Of whence, I pray?

**TRANIO**

Of Pisa, sir, son to Vincentio.

**BAPTISTA**

A mighty man of Pisa. By report  
I know him well. You are very welcome, sir.—

*(To Hortensio and Lucentio)*

Take you the lute, and you the set of books,  
You shall go see your pupils presently.

*Exit Hortensio and Lucentio.*

**PETRUCHIO**

Signior Baptista, my business asketh haste,  
And every day I cannot come to woo.  
Then tell me, if I get your daughter's love,  
What dowry shall I have with her to wife?

**BAPTISTA**

After my death the one half of my lands,  
And in possession twenty thousand crowns.  
But, when the special thing is well obtained,  
That is, her love, for that is all in all.

**PETRUCHIO**

Why, that is nothing, for I tell you, father,  
That when two raging fires meet together  
They do consume the thing that feeds their fury.  
And I am rough and woo not like a babe.

**BAPTISTA**

Well mayst thou woo, and happy be thy speed!  
But be thou armed for some unhappy words.

*Enter Hortensio (disguised as Litio), with his head broke.*

**BAPTISTA**

How now, my friend? Why dost thou look so pale?

**HORTENSIO**

For fear, I promise you, if I look pale.

**BAPTISTA**

Why, then thou canst not break her to the lute?

**HORTENSIO**

Why, no, for she hath broke the lute to me.

**PETRUCHIO**

Now, by the world, it is a lusty wench.  
I love her ten times more than e'er I did.

**BAPTISTA**

Signior Petruchio, will you go with us,  
Or shall I send my daughter Kate to you?

**PETRUCHIO**

I pray you do.

*Exeunt all but Petruchio.*

## 8

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**PETRUCHIO**

I'll attend her here,  
And woo her with some spirit when she comes.  
Say that she rail, why then I'll tell her plain  
She sings as sweetly as a nightingale:  
Say that she frown, I'll say she looks as clear  
As morning roses newly washed with dew.

*Enter Kate.*

But here she comes, and now, Petruchio, speak.  
Good morrow, Kate, for that's your name, I hear.

**KATE**

Well have you heard, but something hard of hearing:  
They call me Katherine that do talk of me.

**PETRUCHIO**

You lie, in faith, for you are called plain Kate,  
And bonny Kate and sometimes Kate the curst,  
But Kate, the prettiest Kate in Christendom,  
Kate of Kate Hall, my super-dainty Kate.  
Take this of me, Kate of my consolation,  
Hearing thy mildness praised in every town,  
Thy virtues spoke of, and thy beauty sounded,  
Yet not so deeply as to thee belongs,  
Myself am moved to woo thee for my wife.

**KATE**

Moved? In good time! Let him that moved you hither  
Remove you hence.

**PETRUCHIO**

Come, come, you wasp, i'faith, you are too angry.

**KATE**

If I be waspish, best beware my sting.

**PETRUCHIO**

My remedy is then to pluck it out.

**KATE**

Ay, if the fool could find it where it lies.

**PETRUCHIO**

Who knows not where a wasp does wear his sting? In his tail.

**KATE**

In his tongue.

**PETRUCHIO**

Good Kate, I am a gentleman.

**KATE**

That I'll try.

*She spits at him*

**PETRUCHIO**

Nay, come, Kate, come, you must not look so sour.

**KATE**

It is my fashion, when I see a crab.

**PETRUCHIO**

I was told you were rough and coy and sullen,  
And now I find report a very liar,  
For thou are pleasant, gamesome, passing courteous,  
But slow in speech, yet sweet as spring-time flowers.

**KATE**

Where did you study all this goodly speech?

**PETRUCHIO**

It is extempore, from my mother-wit.

**KATE**

A witty mother, witless else her son.

**PETRUCHIO**

Thus in plain terms: your father hath consented  
That you shall be my wife. I will marry you.  
Thou must be married to no man but me,  
For I am he am born to tame you, Kate,  
And bring you from a wild Kate to a kind Kate.  
I must and will have Katherine to my wife.

*Enter Baptista, Hortensio (as Litio), Gremio, Grumio, Tranio  
(as Lucentio).*

**BAPTISTA**

Now, Signior Petruchio, how speed you with my daughter?

**PETRUCHIO**

How but well, sir? How but well?  
It were impossible I should speed amiss.

**BAPTISTA**

Why, how now, daughter Katherine? In your dumps?

**KATE**

Call you me 'daughter'? Now, I promise you  
You have showed a tender fatherly regard,  
To wish me wed to one half-lunatic,  
A mad-cap ruffian and a swearing Jack.

**PETRUCHIO**

Father, 'tis thus: yourself and all the world  
That talked of her, have talked amiss of her:  
For she's not froward, but modest as the dove,  
She is not hot, but temperate as the morn,  
And to conclude, we have 'greed so well together  
That upon Sunday is the wedding day.

**KATE**

I'll see thee hanged on Sunday first.

**GRUMIO**

Hark, Petruchio, she says she'll see thee hanged first.

**PETRUCHIO**

I tell you, 'tis incredible to believe  
How much she loves me: O, the kindest Kate!  
She hung about my neck, and kiss on kiss  
She vied so fast, protesting oath on oath,  
That in a twink she won me to her love.  
Give me thy hand, Kate. I will unto Venice  
To buy apparel 'gainst the wedding day;  
Provide the feast, father, and bid the guests.  
I will be sure my Katherine shall be fine.

**BAPTISTA**

I know not what to say, but give me your hands.  
God send you joy, Petruchio! 'Tis a match.

**PETRUCHIO**

Father, and wife, and gentlemen, adieu.  
I will to Venice. Sunday comes apace.  
We will have rings and things and fine array,  
And kiss me, Kate, we will be married o'Sunday.

*Exeunt Petruchio and Katherine separately.*

**BAPTISTA**

Faith, gentlemen,  
I am thus resolved: on Sunday next, you know  
My daughter Katherine is to be married,  
Now on the Sunday after, so shall Bianca.

*Exeunt.*

# 10

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**Act 3 Scene 1**

*Enter Lucentio (disguised as Cambio), Hortensio (disguised as Litio) and Bianca.*

**LUCENTIO**

Fiddler, forbear. You grow too forward, sir.

**HORTENSIO**

Sirrah, I will not bear these braves of thine.

**BIANCA**

Why, gentlemen, you do me double wrong  
To strive for that which resteth in my choice.  
I am no breeching scholar in the schools,  
I'll not be tied to hours nor 'pointed times,  
But learn my lessons as I please myself.  
And, to cut off all strife, here sit we down.  
Take you your instrument, play you the whiles.  
His lecture will be done ere you have tuned.

**HORTENSIO**

You'll leave his lecture when I am in tune?

**LUCENTIO**

That will be never. Tune your instrument.

**BIANCA**

Where left we last?

*As Hortensio tunes while Bianca and Lucentio pretend to read Latin from a book.*

**LUCENTIO**

Here, madam:

'Hic ibat', as I told you before, 'Simois', I am Lucentio, 'hic est', son unto Vincentio of Pisa, 'Sigeia tellus', disguised thus to get your love, 'Hic steterat', and that Lucentio that comes a-wooing, 'Priami', is my man Tranio. 'Regia.'

**HORTENSIO**

Madam, my instrument's in tune.

**BIANCA**

Let's hear (*Hortensio plays*) O fie! The treble jars.

**LUCENTIO**

Spit in the hole, man, and tune again.

**BIANCA**

(*To Lucentio*) In time I may believe, yet I mistrust.

**HORTENSIO**

(*To Lucentio*) You may go walk, and give me leave a while.  
My lessons make no music in three parts.

**LUCENTIO**

Are you so formal, sir? Well, I must wait —  
(*Aside*) And watch withal, for, but I be deceived,  
Our fine musician groweth amorous.

*He stands aside.*

**HORTENSIO**

Madam, before you touch the instrument,  
To learn the order of my fingering,  
I must begin with rudiments of art...

*Enter Servants suddenly.*

**SERVANT**

Mistress, your father prays you leave your books  
And help dress your sister's chamber up.

**SERVANT**

You know tomorrow is the wedding day.

**BIANCA**

Farewell, sweet masters both, I must be gone.

*Exeunt Bianca.*

**LUCENTIO**

Faith, mistress, then I have no cause to stay.

*Exit.*

**HORTENSIO**

But I have cause to pry into this teacher.  
Methinks he looks as though he were in love.

*Exit.*

# 11

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**Act 3 Scene 2**

*Enter Baptista, Gremio, Tranio (as Lucentio), Katherine, Bianca, Lucentio (as Cambio).*

**BAPTISTA**

Signor Lucentio, this is the appointed day,  
That Katherine and Petruchio should be married,  
And yet we hear not of our son-in-law.  
What will be said? What mockery will it be,  
To want the bridegroom when the priest attends  
To speak the ceremonial rites of marriage?

**KATE**

I told you, I, he was a frantic fool,  
Hiding his bitter jests in blunt behaviour.  
Now must the world point at poor Katherine,  
And say, 'Lo, there is mad Petruchio's wife,  
If it would please him come and marry her.

**HORTENSIO**

Patience, good Katherine, and Baptista too.  
Though he be blunt, I know him passing wise,  
Though he be merry, yet withal he's honest.

**KATE**

Would Katherine had never seen him though!

*Exit weeping followed by Bianca.*

**BAPTISTA**

Go, girl. I cannot blame thee now to weep,  
For such an injury would vex a very saint,  
Much more a shrew of thy impatient humour.

*Enter Servants.*

**SERVANT**

Master, master, news! Old news, and such news as you never heard of!

**BAPTISTA**

Is it new and old too? How may that be?

**SERVANT**

Why, is it not news to hear of Petruchio's coming?

**BAPTISTA**

Is he come?

**SERVANT**

Why, no, sir.

**BAPTISTA**

What then?

**SERVANT**

He is coming.

**BAPTISTA**

When will he be here?

**SERVANT**

When he stands where I am and sees you there.

**TRANIO**

But say, what to thine old news?

**SERVANT(S)**

Why, Petruchio is coming in a new hat and an old jerkin!

*Enter Petruchio strangely dressed with Grumio.*

**TRANIO**

'Tis some odd humour pricks him to this fashion.

**PETRUCHIO**

Come, where be these gallants? Who's at home?

**BAPTISTA**

You are welcome, sir.

**PETRUCHIO**

But where is Kate? Where is my lovely bride?  
How does my father? Gentles, methinks you frown.  
And wherefore gaze this goodly company,  
As if they saw some wondrous monument,  
Some comet or unusual prodigy?

**BAPTISTA**

Why, sir, you know this is your wedding day.  
First were we sad, fearing you would not come,  
Now sadder that you come so unprovided.

**PETRUCHIO**

But where is Kate? I stay too long from her.  
The morning wears, 'tis time we were at church.

**HORTENSIO**

See not your bride in these unreverent robes.  
Go to my chamber, put on clothes of mine.

**PETRUCHIO**

Not I, believe me. Thus I'll visit her.

**BAPTISTA**

But thus, I trust, you will not marry her.

**PETRUCHIO**

To me she's married, not unto my clothes.  
Could I repair what she will wear in me,  
As I can change these poor accoutrements,  
'Twere well for Kate and better for myself.  
But what a fool am I to chat with you,  
When I should bid good morrow to my bride,  
And seal the title with a lovely kiss!

*Exeunt Petruchio and Grumio.*

**TRANIO**

He hath some meaning in his mad attire.

**BAPTISTA**

I'll after him, and see the event of this.

*Exeunt Baptista and Gremio.*

## 12

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**TRANIO**

*(To Lucentio)* Good sir, love concerneth us to add  
Her father's liking, which to bring to pass,  
As before I imparted to your worship,  
Must make assurance here in Padua  
Of greater sums than I have promised.  
So shall you quietly enjoy your hope,  
And marry sweet Bianca with consent.

**LUCENTIO**

Were it not that my fellow schoolmaster  
Doth watch Bianca's steps so narrowly,  
'Twere good, methinks, to steal our marriage,  
Which once performed, let all the world say no,  
I'll keep mine own, despite of all the world.

# 13

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*Enter wedding guests.*

**TRANIO**

Signior and madam, came you from the church?

**GUEST**

As willingly as e'er I came from school.

**TRANIO**

And is the bride and bridegroom coming home?

**GUEST**

A bridegroom, say you? 'Tis a groom indeed,  
A grumbling groom, and that the girl shall find.

**TRANIO**

Curster than she? Why, 'tis impossible.

**GUEST**

Tut, she's a lamb, a dove, a fool to him.  
Such a mad marriage never was before.

*Enter Petruchio, Kate, Lucentio (as Cambio), Bianca, Hortensio  
Baptista, Grumio and other guests.*

**PETRUCHIO**

Gentlemen and friends, I thank you for your pains.  
I know you wish to dine with me today,  
And have prepared great store of wedding cheer,  
But so it is, my haste doth call me hence,  
And therefore here I mean to take my leave.

**BAPTISTA**

Is't possible you will away tonight?

**PETRUCHIO**

I must away today, before night come.  
And honest company, I thank you all,  
That have beheld me give away myself  
To this most patient, sweet and virtuous wife.  
Dine with my father, drink a health to me,  
For I must hence, and farewell to you all.

**TRANIO**

Let us entreat you stay till after dinner.

**PETRUCHIO**

It may not be.

**GREMIO**

Let me entreat you.

**PETRUCHIO**

It cannot be.

**KATE**

Let me entreat you.

**PETRUCHIO**

I am content.

**KATE**

Are you content to stay?

**PETRUCHIO**

I am content you shall entreat me stay,  
But yet not stay, entreat me how you can.

**KATE**

Now, if you love me, stay.

**PETRUCHIO**

Grumio, my horse.

**GRUMIO**

Ay, sir, they be ready, the oats have eaten the horses.

**KATE**

Nay, then,  
Do what thou canst, I will not go today,  
No, nor tomorrow, not till I please myself.  
The door is open, sir, there lies your way;  
For me, I'll not be gone till I please myself.  
Gentlemen, onward with the bridal dinner.  
I see a woman may be made a fool,  
If she had not a spirit to resist.

**PETRUCHIO**

They shall go onward, Kate, at thy command.—  
Obey the bride, you that attend on her.  
On with the feast, revel and domineer,  
Be mad and merry, or go hang yourselves.  
But for my bonny Kate, she must with me.  
Nay, look not big, nor stamp, nor stare, nor fret.  
She is my goods, my chattels, she is my house,  
My household stuff, my field, my barn,  
My horse, my ox, my ass, my everything,  
And here she stands, touch her whoever dare.  
Fear not, sweet wench, they shall not touch thee, Kate.  
I'll buckler thee against a million.

*Exeunt Petruchio, Kate and Grumio.*

**BAPTISTA**

Nay, let them go, a couple of quiet ones.

**TRANIO**

Of all mad matches never was the like.

**LUCENTIO**

Mistress, what's your opinion of your sister?

**BIANCA**

That, being mad herself, she's madly mated.

**GREMIO**

I warrant him, Petruchio is Kated.

*Exeunt.*

# 14

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**Act 4 Scene 1**

*Petruchio's house. Enter Petruchio and Kate.*

**PETRUCHIO**

Where be these knaves? What, no man at door  
To hold my stirrup nor to take my horse?  
Where is Nathaniel, Gregory, Philip?

*Enter Grumio, Curtis and other servants.*

**SERVANTS**

Here! Here sir, here sir!

**PETRUCHIO**

Where is the foolish knave I sent before?

**GRUMIO**

Here, sir, as foolish as I was before.

**PETRUCHIO**

You peasant swain. You whoreson malt-horse drudge.  
Did I not bid thee meet me in the park,  
Go, rascal, go, and fetch my supper in.

*Exit Grumio.*

Sit down, Kate, and welcome.  
Food, food, food, food!

*Enter Grumio and with supper.*

Why, when, I say? Nay, good sweet Kate, be merry.—  
Off with my boots, you rogues! You villains! **When?**

*A servant takes off his boot.*

Out, you rogue! You pluck my foot awry.  
Take that, and mend the plucking of the other.

*Strikes him.*

Be merry, Kate.— Some water, here. What, ho!  
Where's my spaniel Troilus? Sirrah, get you hence.  
Where are my slippers? Shall I have some water?  
A servant brings a bowl of water.  
Come, Kate, and wash, and welcome heartily.—

*A servant spills water.*

You whoreson villain, will you let it fall?

*Strikes servant.*

**KATE**

Patience, I pray you. 'Twas a fault unwilling.

**PETRUCHIO**

Come, Kate, sit down, I know you have a stomach.  
What's this? Mutton?

**GRUMIO**

Ay.

**PETRUCHIO**

Who brought it?

**GRUMIO**

I.

**PETRUCHIO**

'Tis burnt, and so is all the meat.  
What dog is this? Where is the rascal cook?

*Throws the meat and dishes.*

**KATE**

I pray you, husband, be not so disquiet.  
The meat was well, if you were so contented.

**PETRUCHIO**

I tell thee, Kate, 'twas burnt and dried away,  
And I expressly am forbid to touch it.  
Be patient, tomorrow it shall be mended,  
And for this night we'll fast for company.  
Come, I will bring thee to thy bridal chamber.

*Exit Petruchio and Kate.*

# 15

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*Grumio, Curtis and servants come forward.*

**GRUMIO**

Curtis, didst ever see the like?  
He kills her in her own humour.

**CURTIS**

Where is he now?

**GRUMIO**

In her chamber.  
He rails and swears and rates that she, poor soul,  
Knows not which way to stand, to look, to speak,  
And sits as one new-risen from a dream.

*All exit and re-enter Petruchio alone.*

**PETRUCHIO**

Thus have I politicly begun my reign,  
And 'tis my hope to end successfully.  
So now amid this hurly I intend  
That all is done in reverend care of her.  
He that knows better how to tame a shrew,  
Now let him speak. 'Tis charity to show.

*Exit.*

# 16

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## Act 4 Scene 2

*Padua. Enter Tranio (as Lucentio) and Hortensio (as Litio).*

### **TRANIO**

Is't possible, friend Litio, that Mistress Bianca  
Doth fancy any other but Lucentio?  
I tell you, sir, she bears me fair in hand.

### **HORTENSIO**

Sir, to satisfy you in what I have said,  
Stand by and mark the manner of his teaching.

*Enter Bianca and Lucentio (as Cambio).*

### **LUCENTIO**

Now, mistress, profit you in what you read?

### **BIANCA**

What, master, read you? First resolve me that.

### **LUCENTIO**

I read that I profess, the Art of Love.

### **BIANCA**

And may you prove, sir, master of your art.

### **LUCENTIO**

While you, sweet dear, prove mistress of my heart.

*Lucentio and Bianca talk aside.*

### **TRANIO**

I tell thee, Litio, this is monstrous.

### **HORTENSIO**

Mistake no more, I am not Litio,  
Nor a musician, as I seem to be,  
But one that scorn to live in this disguise.  
Know, sir, that I am called Hortensio.

### **TRANIO**

Signior Hortensio, I have often heard  
Of your entire affection to Bianca.

### **HORTENSIO**

See how they kiss and court! Signior Lucentio,  
Here is my hand, and here I firmly vow  
Never to woo her more, but do forswear her.

And so farewell, Signior Lucentio.  
I will be married to a widow ere three days past,  
Which hath as long loved me as I have loved  
That proud, disdainful haggard.

*Enter Baptista.*

Kindness in women, not their beauteous looks,  
Shall win my love. And so I take my leave.

*Exit Hortensio.*

## 17

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### **BAPTISTA**

You sir shall have my daughter with constent.

*Tranio indicates to Lucentio, and secretly gives him the thumbs up.*

It likes me well. Cambio, hie you home,  
And sweet Bianca make you ready straight.  
And, if you will, tell what hath happened:  
And how you soon shall be Lucentio's wife.

*Exit Lucentio and Bianca.*

### **TRANIO**

Signior Baptista, shall I lead the way?  
Welcome! One mess is like to be your cheer.

### **BAPTISTA**

I follow you.

*Exeunt Tranio and Baptista.*

## 18

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### **Act 4, Scene 3**

*Petrucio's house. Enter Kate and Petruchio's servants.*

### **KATE**

What, did he marry me to famish me?  
I'm starved for meat, giddy for lack of sleep,  
With oaths kept waking and with brawling fed.  
And that which spites me more than all these wants,

He does it under name of perfect love.  
I prithee go and get me some repast,  
I care not what, so it be wholesome food.

*Enter Petruchio and Hortensio eating.*

**PETRUCHIO**

How fares my Kate? What, sweeting, all ammort?  
Mistress, what cheer?

**KATE**

Faith, as cold as can be.

**PETRUCHIO**

Pluck up thy spirits. Now, my honey love,  
Will we return unto thy father's house  
And revel it as bravely as the best,  
With silken coats and caps and golden rings,  
With ruffs and cuffs and fardingales and things,  
What, hast thou dined? The tailor stays thy leisure  
To deck thy body with his ruffling treasure.

*Enter a Tailor with a fancy dress.*

Come, tailor, let us see these ornaments.  
Lay forth the gown

*Enter a Haberdasher with a fine hat.*

What news with you sir?

**HABADASHER**

Here is the cap your worship did bespeak.

**PETRUCHIO**

Why, 'tis a cockle or a walnut-shell,  
A knack, a toy, a trick, a baby's cap.  
Away with it! Come, let me have a bigger.

**KATE**

I'll have no bigger. This doth fit the time,  
And gentlewomen wear such caps as these.

**PETRUCHIO**

When you are gentle, you shall have one too,  
And not till then.

**HORTENSIO**

*(Aside)* That will not be in haste.

**KATE**

Why, sir, I trust I may have leave to speak,  
And speak I will. I am no child, no babe.  
Your betters have endured me say my mind,  
And if you cannot, best you stop your ears.  
My tongue will tell the anger of my heart,  
Or else my heart concealing it will break,  
And rather than it shall, I will be free  
Even to the uttermost, as I please, in words.

**PETRUCHIO**

Why, thou say'st true. It is a paltry cap,  
A custard-coffin, a bauble, a silken pie.  
I love thee well in that thou lik'st it not.

**KATE**

Love me or love me not, I like the cap,  
And it I will have, or I will have none.

**PETRUCHIO**

O mercy, God! What masquing stuff is here?

*Looking at the dress.*

What's this? A sleeve? 'Tis like a demi-cannon.  
What, up and down, carved like an apple tart?  
Why, what a' devil's name, tailor, call'st thou this?

**TAILOR**

You bid me make it orderly and well,  
According to the fashion and the time.

**KATE**

I never saw a better-fashioned gown,  
More quaint, more pleasing, nor more commendable.

**PETRUCHIO**

I tell thee, I, that thou hast marred her gown.  
Well, come, my Kate. We will unto your father's  
Even in these honest mean habiliments:  
Our purses shall be proud, our garments poor,  
For 'tis the mind that makes the body rich,  
And as the sun breaks through the darkest clouds,  
So honour peereth in the meanest habit.  
What, is the jay more precious than the lark,  
Because his feathers are more beautiful?  
O no, good Kate, neither art thou the worse  
For this poor furniture and mean array.

If thou account'st it shame, lay it on me.  
And therefore frolic. We will hence forthwith,  
To feast and sport us at thy father's house.

*Exeunt.*

# 19

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## Act 4 Scene 5

*Enter Petruchio, Hortensio, Kate, Grumio and servants travelling to Padua.*

### **PETRUCHIO**

Come on, a God's name, once more toward our father's.  
Good Lord, how bright and goodly shines the moon!

### **KATE**

The moon? The sun! It is not moonlight now.

### **PETRUCHIO**

I say it is the moon that shines so bright.

### **KATE**

I know it is the sun that shines so bright.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Now, by my mother's son, and that's myself,  
It shall be moon, or star, or what I list,  
Or ere I journey to your father house.  
*(To the servants)* Go on, and fetch our horses back again.  
Evermore crossed and crossed, nothing but crossed!

### **HORTENSIO**

*(To Kate)* Say as he says, or we shall never go.

### **KATE**

Forward, I pray, since we have come so far,  
And be it moon, or sun, or what you please.

### **PETRUCHIO**

I say it is the moon.

### **KATE**

I know it is the moon.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Nay, then you lie. It is the blessed sun.

**KATE**

Then, God be blessed, it is the blessed sun.  
But sun it is not, when you say it is not,  
And the moon changes even as your mind.  
What you will have it named, even that it is,  
And so it shall be so for Katherine.

**HORTENSIO**

Petruchio, go thy ways. The field is won.

**PETRUCHIO**

Hast thou beheld a fresher gentlewoman?  
Such war of white and red within her cheeks!  
What stars do spangle heaven with such beauty,  
As those two eyes become that heav'nly face?—  
Then lovely maid, once more toward our father's.

*Exeunt.*

## 20

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**Act 5 Scene 1**

*Padua. Enter, Lucentio (as himself) and Bianca (with a wedding bouquet) Gremio, Baptista, Kate, Petruchio, Grumio.*

**LUCENTIO**

*(Kneels)* Pardon, sweet father.

**BAPTISTA**

How hast thou offended? Where is Lucentio?

**LUCENTIO**

*(Indicating himself)* Here's Lucentio,  
The son of the good Vincentio,  
That have by marriage made thy daughter mine,  
While counterfeit supposes bleared thine eyne.

**GREMIO**

Here's packing, with a witness to deceive us all!

**BAPTISTA**

Why, tell me, is not this my Cambio?

**BIANCA**

Cambio is changed into Lucentio.

**LUCENTIO**

Love wrought these miracles. Bianca's love  
Made me exchange my state with Tranio.  
Then pardon him, sweet father, for my sake.

**BAPTISTA**

But do you hear, sir? Have you married my daughter without  
asking my good will? Go to. But I will in to be revenged for  
this villainy.

*Exit Baptista.*

**LUCENTIO**

Look not pale, Bianca, thy father will not frown.

*Exeunt Lucentio and Bianca.*

## 21

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**KATE**

Husband, let's follow, to see the end of this ado.

**PETRUCHIO**

First kiss me, Kate, and we will.

**KATE**

What, in the midst of the street?

**PETRUCHIO**

What, art thou ashamed of me?

**KATE**

No, sir, God forbid, but ashamed to kiss.

**PETRUCHIO**

Why, then let's home again.— Come, Grumio, let's away.

**KATE**

Nay, I will give thee a kiss. Now pray thee, love, stay.

*They kiss.*

**PETRUCHIO**

Is not this well? Come, my sweet Kate.  
Better once than never, for never too late.

*Exeunt.*

# 22

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## Act 5 Scene 2

*Enter Baptista, Gremio, Lucentio and Bianca, Petruchio, Kate, Hortensio, the Widow, Grumio, Tranio and servants.*

### **LUCENTIO**

At last, though long, our jarring notes agree,  
And time it is, when raging war is done,  
To smile at scapes and perils overblown.  
I, fair Bianca, bid thy father welcome.  
Brother Petruchio, sister Katherina,  
Feast with the best, and welcome to my house.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Nothing but sit and sit, and eat and eat.

### **BAPTISTA**

Padua affords this kindness, son Petruchio.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Padua affords nothing but what is kind.

### **HORTENSIO**

For both our sakes, I would that word were true.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Now for my life Hortensio fears his widow.

### **WIDOW**

Then never trust me if I be afeared.

### **BIANCA**

You are welcome, all.

*Exit Kate, Bianca and Widow.*

### **BAPTISTA**

Now, in good sadness, son Petruchio,  
I think thou hast the veriest shrew of all.

### **PETRUCHIO**

Well, I say no: and therefore for assurance  
Let's each one send unto his wife;  
And he whose wife is most compliant  
To come at first when he doth send for her,  
Shall win the wager which we will propose.

### **LUCENTIO**

Content.

**GREMIO**

Who shall begin?

**LUCENTIO**

That will I.

Go, Tranio, bid your mistress come to me.

**TRANIO**

I go.

*Exit Tranio.*

**BAPTISTA**

Son, I'll be your half, Bianca comes.

**LUCENTIO**

I'll have no halves; I'll bear it all myself.

*Re-enter Tranio.*

How now! What news?

**TRANIO**

Sir, my mistress sends you word  
That she is busy and she cannot come.  
She bids you come to her.

**PETRUCHIO**

How! She is busy and she cannot come!  
Is that an answer?

**GRUMIO**

Ay, and a kind one too:  
Pray God, sir, your wife send you not a worse.

**PETRUCHIO**

I hope better.

**HORTENSIO**

Sirrah Biondello, go and entreat my wife  
To come forthwith.

*Exit Biondello.*

**PETRUCHIO**

O ho! 'Entreat' her!

*Re-enter Biondello.*

**HORTENSIO**

Now where's my wife?

**BIONDELLO**

She says you have some goodly jest in hand  
She will not come. She bids you come to her.

**PETRUCHIO**

Sirrah Grumio, go to your mistress;  
Say, I demand her to come to me.

*Exit Grumio.*

**HORTENSIO**

I know her answer.

**PETRUCHIO**

What?

**HORTENSIO**

She will not.

**BAPTISTA**

Now, by my holidame, here comes Katherina!

*Re-enter Kate.*

**KATE**

What is your will, sir, that you send for me?

**PETRUCHIO**

Where is your sister and Hortensio's wife?

**KATE**

They sit conferring by the parlor fire.

**PETRUCHIO**

Go fetch them hither: if they deny to come  
Swinge me them soundly forth unto their husbands.

*Exit Kate.*

**LUCENTIO**

Here is a wonder, if you talk of a wonder.

**HORTENSIO**

And so it is. I wonder what it bodes.

**PETRUCHIO**

Marry, peace it bodes, and love and quiet life.

*Re-enter Kate, Bianca and the Widow.*

**WIDOW**

Lord, let me never have a cause to sigh,  
Till I be brought to such a silly pass!

**BIANCA**

Fie! What a foolish duty call you this?

**PETRUCHIO**

Katherina, I charge thee, tell these headstrong women  
What duty they do owe their lords and husbands.

**BIANCA**

Come, come, you're mocking: we will have no telling.

**23**

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**KATHERINA**

Fie, fie! Unknit that threatening unkind brow,  
And dart not scornful glances from those eyes,  
To wound thy lord, thy king, thy governor.  
It blots thy beauty as frosts do bite the meads,  
Confounds thy fame as whirlwinds shake fair buds,  
And in no sense is meet or amiable.  
I am ashamed that people are so simple  
To offer war where they should kneel for peace;  
Or seek for rule, supremacy and sway,  
When they have sworn to love, honour and obey.  
My mind hath been as big as one of yours,  
My heart as great, my reason haply more,  
To bandy word for word and frown for frown;  
But now I see our lances are but straws.  
So vail your stomach, for it is no boot,  
And place your hands below your husband's foot.  
In token of which duty, if he please,  
My hand is ready; may it do him ease.

**PETRUCHIO**

Why, there's a wench! Come on and kiss me, Kate.

*Exeunt.*

Don't forget, there's also the **RSC Shakespeare Learning Zone**, our new online space which has been designed and created to give young people the skills and confidence to master Shakespeare's plays. Aimed at 11-18 year olds, the Shakespeare Learning Zone explores story, setting, language, characters and performance and can be found at: [rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone](https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone)