

King Leir

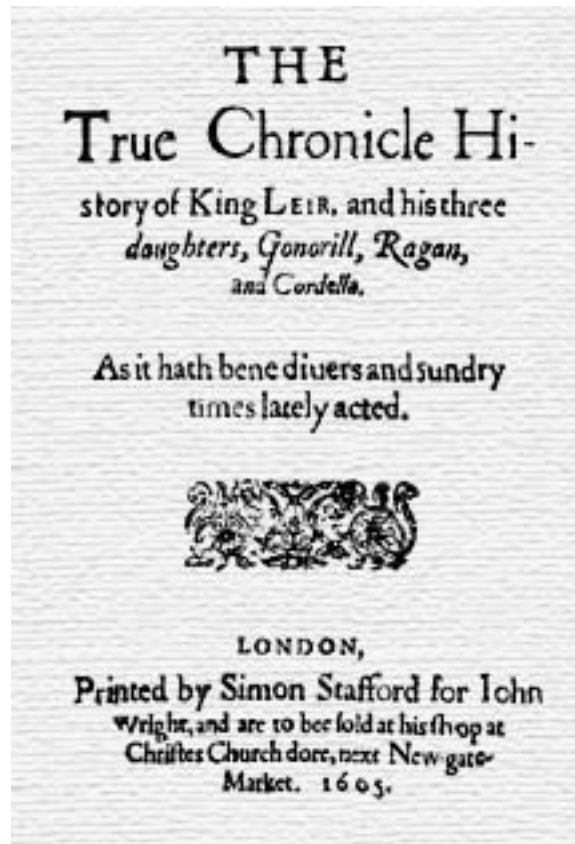
The anonymous *King Leir* in modern spelling.

Transcribed by Barboura Flues.

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The True Chronicle history of King Leir,
and his three daughters, Gonorill, Ragan, and Cordella:

As it hath bene diuers and sundry times lately acted.

London, Printed by Simon Stafford for Iohn Wright,
and are to bee sold at his shop at Christes Church dore,
next Newgate-market, 1605.

The only surviving quarto of this play, printed in 1605, runs 72 pages in the original. The play is anonymous.

The date of composition of *KING LEIR* is unknown; the style indicates a much earlier date than 1605. A play of King Lear, very possibly a revival or an earlier play, was performed in 1594 by the Queen's and Lord Sussex' Men

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Leir, King of Britain.

Skalliger, a nobleman, follower of King Leir.

Perillus, a nobleman, follower of King Leir.

Gonorill, daughter of King Leir, later wife of the King of Cornwall.

Cordella, daughter of King Leir, later wife of the King of Gallia.

Ragan, daughter of King Leir, later wife of the King of Cambria.

King of Gaul

Mumford, follower of the King of Gallia.

Ambassador, from Gaul.

King of Cornwall.

Servant, of the King of Cornwall.

King of Cambria.

Servant, of the King of Cambria.

Two Mariners.

Captain of the Watch.

Two Watchmen.

Two Captains.

Noblemen, Messengers, Messenger [Murderer], Citizens

[GLOSSARY For King Leir below text](#)

Scene 1

Enter King Leir and Nobles.

LEIR: Thus to our grief the obsequies performed
Of our (too late) deceased and dearest Queen,
Whose soul I hope, possessed of heavenly joys,
Doth ride in triumph 'mongst the Cherubins;
Let us request your grave advice, my Lords,
For the disposing of our princely daughters,
For whom our care is specially employed,
As nature bindeth to advance their states,
In royal marriage with some princely mates:
For wanting now their mother's good advice, ... [1.10]
Under whose government they have received

A perfect pattern of a virtuous life:
Lest as it were a ship without a stern,
Or silly sheep without a Pastor's care;
Although ourselves do dearly tender them,
Yet are we ignorant of their affairs:
For fathers best do know to govern sons;
But daughters' steps the mothers counsel turns.
A son we want for to succeed our Crown,
And course of time hath canceled the date ... [1.20]
Of further issue from our withered loins:
One foot already hangeth in the grave,
And age hath made deep furrows in my face:
The world of me, I of the world am weary,
And I would fain resign these earthly cares,
And think upon the welfare of my soul:
Which by no better means may be effected,
Than by resigning up the Crown from me,
In equal dowry to my daughters three.

SKALLIGER: A worthy care, my Liege, which well declares, ... [1.30]
The zeal you bare unto our *quondam* Queen:
And since your Grace hath licensed me to speak,
I censure thus; Your Majesty knowing well,
What several Suitors your princely daughters have,
To make them each a Jointure more or less,
As is their worth, to them that love profess.

LEIR: No more, nor less, but even all alike,
My zeal is fixed, all fashioned in one mold:
Wherefore impartial shall my censure be,
Both old and young shall have alike for me. ... [1.40]

NOBLE: My gracious Lord, I heartily do wish,
That God had lent you an heir indubitate,
Which might have set upon your royal throne,
When fates should loose the prison of your life,
By whose succession all this doubt might cease;
And as by you, by him we might have peace.
But after-wishes ever come too late,
And nothing can revoke the course of fate:
Wherefore, my Liege, my censure deems it best,
To match them with some of your neighbor Kings, ... [1.50]
Bord'ring within the bounds of Albion,
By whose united friendship, this our state
May be protected 'gainst all foreign hate.

LEIR: Herein, my Lords, your wishes sort with mine,
And mine (I hope) do sort with heavenly powers:
For at this instant two near neighboring Kings
Of Cornwall and of Cambria, motion love
To my two daughters, Gonorill and Ragan.
My youngest daughter, fair Cordella, vows
No liking to a Monarch, unless love allows. ... [1.60]
She is solicited by divers Peers;
But none of them her partial fancy hears.
Yet, if my policy may her beguile,
I'll match her to some King within this Isle,
And so establish such a perfect peace,
As fortune's force shall ne're prevail to cease.

PERILLUS: Of us & ours, your gracious care, my Lord,
Deserves an everlasting memory,
To be enrolled in Chronicles of fame,
By never-dying perpetuity: ... [1.70]
Yet to become so provident a Prince,
Lose not the title of a loving father:
Do not force love, where fancy cannot dwell,
Lest streams, being stopped, above the banks do swell.

LEIR: I am resolved, and even now my mind
Doth meditate a sudden stratagem,
To try which of my daughters loves me best:
Which till I know, I cannot be in rest.
This granted, when they jointly shall contend,
Each to exceed the other in their love: ... [1.80]
Then at the vantage will I take Cordella,
Even as she doth protest she loves me best,
I'll say, Then, daughter, grant me one request,
To show thou lovest me as thy sisters do,
Accept a husband, whom myself will woo.
This said, she cannot well deny my suit,
Although (poor soul) her senses will be mute:
Then will I triumph in my policy,
And match her with a King of Brittany.

SKALLIGER: I'll to them before, and bewray your secrecy. ... [1.90]

LEIR: Thus fathers think their children to beguile,
And oftentimes themselves do first repent,
When heavenly powers do frustrate their intent. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 2

[*Enter Gonorill and Ragan.*]

GONORILL: I marvel, Ragan, how you can endure
To see that proud pert Peat, our youngest sister,
So slightly to account of us, her elders,
As if we were no better than herself!
We cannot have a quaint device so soon,
Or new-made fashion, of our choice invention;
But if she like it, she will have the same,
Or study newer to exceed us both.
Besides, she is so nice and so demure;
So sober, courteous, modest, and precise, ... [2.10]
That all the Court hath work enough to do,
To talk how she exceedeth me and you.

RAGAN: What should I do? would it were in my power,
To find a cure for this contagious ill:
Some desperate medicine must be soon applied,
To dim the glory of her mounting fame;
Else ere't be long, she'll have both prick and praise,
And we must be set by for working days.
Do you not see what several choice of Suitors
She daily hath, and of the best degree? ... [2.20]
Say, amongst all, she hap to fancy one,
And have a husband when as we have none:
Why then, by right, to her we must give place,
Though it be ne're so much to our disgrace.

GONORILL: By my virginity, rather than she shall have
A husband before me,
I'll marry one or other in his shirt:
And yet I have made half a grant already
Of my good will unto the King of Cornwall.

RAGAN: Swear not so deeply (sister) here cometh my L. Skalliger: ... [2.30]
Something his hasty coming doth import.
[*Enter Skalliger.*]

SKALLIGER: Sweet Princesses, I am glad I met you here so luckily,
Having good news which doth concern you both,
And craveth speedy expedition.

RAGAN: For Gods sake tell us what it is, my Lord,
I am with child until you utter it.

SKALLIGER: Madam, to save your longing, this it is:
Your father in great secrecy today,
Told me, he means to marry you out of hand,
Unto the noble Prince of Cambria; ... [2.40]
You, Madam, to the King of Cornwall's Grace:
Your younger sister he would fain bestow
Upon the rich King of Hibernia:
But that he doubts, she hardly will consent;
For hitherto she ne're could fancy him.
If she do yield, why then, between you three,
He will divide his kingdom for your dowries.
But yet there is a further mystery,
Which, so you will conceal, I will disclose.

GONORILL: What e're thou speakst to us, kind Skalliger, ... [2.50]
Think that thou speakst it only to thyself.

SKALLIGER: He earnestly desireth for to know,
Which of you three do bear most love to him,
And on your loves he so extremely dotes,
As never any did, I think, before.
He presently doth mean to send for you,
To be resolved of this tormenting doubt:
And look, whose answer pleaseth him the best,
They shall have most unto their marriages.

RAGAN: O that I had some pleasing Mermaid's voice, ... [2.60]
For to enchant his senseless senses with!

SKALLIGER: For he supposeth that Cordella will
(Striving to go beyond you in her love)
Promise to do what ever he desires:
Then will he straight enjoin her for his sake,
The Hibernian King in marriage for to take.
This is the sum of all I have to say;
Which being done, I humbly take my leave,
Not doubting but your wisdoms will forsee,
What course will best unto your good agree. ... [2.70]

GONORILL: Thanks gentle Skalliger, thy kindness undeserved,
Shall not be unrequited, if we live. [*Exit Skalliger.*]

RAGAN: Now have we fit occasion offered us,
To be revenged upon her unperceived.

GONORILL: Nay, our revenge we will inflict on her,
Shall be accounted piety in us:
I will so flatter with my doting father,
As he was ne're so flattered in his life.
Nay, I will say, that if it be his pleasure,
To match me with a beggar, I will yield: ... [2.80]
For why, I know whatever I will say,
He means to match me with the Cornwall King.

RAGAN: I'll say the like: for I am well assured,
What e're I say to please the old man's mind,
Who dotes, as if he were a child again,
I shall enjoy the noble Cambrian Prince:
Only, to feed his humor, will suffice,
To say, I am content with anyone
Whom he'll appoint me; this will please him more,
Than e're Apollo's music pleased Jove. ... [1.90]

GONORILL: I smile to think, in what a woeful plight
Cordella will be, when we answer thus:
For she will rather die, than give consent
To join in marriage with the Irish King:
So will our father think, she loveth him not,
Because she will not grant to his desire,
Which we will aggravate in such bitter terms,
That he will soon convert his love to hate:
For he, you know, is always in extremes.

RAGAN: Not all the world could lay a better plot, ... [2.100]
I long till it be put in practice.

Scene 3

[*Enter Leir and Perillus.*]

LEIR: Perillus, go seek my daughters,
Will them immediately come and speak with me.

PERILLUS: I will, my gracious Lord. [*Exit.*]

LEIR: Oh, what a combat feels my panting heart,
'Twi't children's love, and care of Common weal!
How dear my daughters are unto my soul,
None knows, but he, that knows my thoughts & secret deeds.
Ah, little do they know the dear regard,
Wherein I hold their future state to come:
When they securely sleep on beds of down, ... [3.10]

These aged eyes do watch for their behalf:
While they like wantons sport in youthful toys,
This throbbing heart is pierced with dire annoys.
As doth the Sun exceed the smallest Star,
So much the father's love exceeds the child's.
Yet my complaints are causeless: for the world
Affords not children more conformable:
And yet, me thinks, my mind presageth still
I know not what: and yet I fear some ill.
[Enter Perillus, with the three daughters.]
Well, here my daughters come: I have found out ... [3.20]
A present means to rid me of this doubt.

GONORILL: Our royal Lord and father, in all duty,
We come to know the tenor of your will,
Why you so hastily have sent for us?

LEIR: Dear Gonorill, kind Ragan, sweet Cordella,
Ye flourishing branches of a Kingly stock,
Sprung from a tree that once did flourish green,
Whose blossoms now are nipped with Winters frost,
And pale grim death doth wait upon my steps,
And summons me unto his next Assizes. ... [3.30]
Therefore, dear daughters, as ye tender the safety
Of him that was the cause of your first being,
Resolve a doubt which much molests my mind,
Which of you three to me would prove most kind,
Which loves me most, and which at my request
Will soonest yield unto their father's hest.

GONORILL: I hope, my gracious father makes no doubt
Of any of his daughters' love to him:
Yet for my part, to show my zeal to you,
Which cannot be in windy words rehearsed, ... [3.40]
I prize my love to you at such a rate,
I think my life inferior to my love.
Should you enjoin me for to tie a millstone
About my neck, and leap into the Sea,
At your command I willingly would do it:
Yea, for to do you good, I would ascend
The highest Turret in all Brittany,
And from the top leap headlong to the ground:
Nay, more, should you appoint me for to marry
The meanest vassal in the spacious world, ... [3.50]
Without reply I would accomplish it:

In brief, command what ever you desire,
And if I fail, no favor I require.

LEIR: O, how thy words revive my dying soul!

CORDELLA: O, how I do abhor this flattery!

LEIR: But what saith Ragan to her father's will?

RAGAN: O, that my simple utterance could suffice,
To tell the true intention of my heart,
Which burns in zeal of duty to your grace,
And never can be quenched but by desire ... [3.60]
To show the same in outward forwardness.
Oh, that there were some other maid that durst
But make a challenge of her love with me;
I'd make her soon confess she never loved
Her father half so well as I do you.
Aye then, my deeds should prove in plainer case,
How much my zeal aboundeth to your grace:
But for them all, let this one mean suffice,
To ratify my love before your eyes:
I have right noble Suitors to my love, ... [3.70]
No worse than Kings, and happily I love one:
Yet, would you have me make my choice anew,
I'd bridle fancy, and be ruled by you.

LEIR: Did never Philomel sing so sweet a note.

CORDELLA: Did never flatterer tell so false a tale.

LEIR: Speak now, Cordella, make my joys at full,
And drop down Nectar from thy honey lips.

CORDELLA: I cannot paint my duty forth in words,
I hope my deeds shall make report for me:
But look what love the child doth owe the father, ... [3.80]
The same to you I bear, my gracious Lord.

GONORILL: Here is an answer answerless indeed:
Were you my daughter, I should scarcely brook it.

RAGAN: Dost thou not blush, proud Peacock as thou art,
To make our father such a slight reply?

LEIR: Why how now, Minion, are you grown so proud?
Doth our dear love make you thus peremptory?
What, is your love become so small to us,
As that you scorn to tell us what it is?
Do you love us, as every child doth love ... [3.90]
Their father? True indeed, as some
Who by disobedience short their fathers' days,
And so would you; some are so father-sick,
That they make means to rid them from the world;
And so would you: some are indifferent,
Whether their aged parents live or die;
And so are you. But, didst thou know, proud girl,
What care I had to foster thee to this,
Ah, then thou wouldst say as thy sisters do:
Our life is less, than love we owe to you. ... [3.100]

CORDELLA: Dear father, do not so mistake my words,
Nor my plain meaning be misconstrued;
My tongue was never used to flattery.

GONORILL: You were not best say I flatter: if you do,
My deeds shall show, I flatter not with you.
I love my father better than thou canst.

CORDELLA: The praise were great, spoke from another's mouth:
But it should seem your neighbors dwell far off.

RAGAN: Nay, here is one, that will confirm as much
As she hath said, both for myself and her. ... [3.110]
I say, thou dost not wish my father's good.

CORDELLA: Dear father --

LEIR: Peace, bastard Imp, no issue of King Leir,
I will not hear thee speak one tittle more.
Call not me father, if thou love thy life,
Nor these thy sisters once presume to name:
Look for no help henceforth from me nor mine;
Shift as thou wilt, and trust unto thyself:
My Kingdom will I equally divide
'Twixt thy two sisters to their royal dower, ... [3.120]
And will bestow them worthy their deserts:
This done, because thou shalt not have the hope,
To have a child's part in the time to come,
I presently will dispossesse myself,
And set up these upon my princely throne.

GONORILL: I ever thought that pride would have a fall.

RAGAN: Plain dealing, sister: your beauty is so sheen,
You need no dowry, to make you be a Queen.
[*Exeunt Leir, Gonorill, Ragan.*]

CORDELLA: Now whither, poor forsaken, shall I go,
When mine own sisters triumph in my woe? ... [3.130]
But unto him which doth protect the just,
In him will poor Cordella put her trust.
These hands shall labor, for to get my spending;
And so I'll live until my days have ending.

PERILLUS: Oh, how I grieve, to see my Lord thus fond,
To dote so much upon vain flattering words.
Ah, if he but with good advice had weighed,
The hidden tenure of her humble speech,
Reason to rage should not have given place,
Nor poor Cordella suffer such disgrace. [*Exit.*] ... [3.140]

Scene 4

[*Enter the Gallian King with Mumford, and three Nobles more.*]

KING: Dissuade me not, my Lords, I am resolved
This next fair wind to sail for Brittany,
In some disguise, to see if flying fame
Be not too prodigal in the wondrous praise
Of these three Nymphs, the daughters of King Leir.
If present view do answer present praise,
And eyes allow of what our ears have heard,
And Venus stand auspicious to my vows,
And Fortune favor what I take in hand;
I will return seized of as rich a prize ... [4.10]
As Jason, when he won the golden fleece.

MUMFORD: Heavens grant you may; the match were full of honor,
And well beseeming the young Gallian King.
I would your Grace would favor me so much,
As make me partner of your Pilgrimage.
I long to see the gallant British Dames,
And feed mine eyes upon their rare perfections:
For till I know the contrary, I'll say,
Our Dames in France are more fair than they.

KING: Lord Mumford, you have saved me a labor, ... [4.20]
In offering that which I did mean to ask:

And I must willingly accept your company.
Yet first I will enjoin you to observe
Some few conditions which I shall propose.

MUMFORD: So that you do not tie mine eyes for looking
After the amorous glances of fair Dames:
So that you do not tie my tongue from speaking,
My lips from kissing when occasion serves,
My hands from conges, and my knees to bow
To gallant Girls; which were a task more hard, ... [4.30]
Than flesh and blood is able to endure:
Command what else you please, I rest content.

KING: To bind thee from a thing thou canst not leave,
Were but a mean to make thee seek it more:
And therefore speak, look, kiss, salute for me;
In these myself am like to second thee.
Now here thy task. I charge thee from the time
That first we set sail for the British shore,
To use no words of dignity to me,
But in the friendliest manner that thou cast, ... [4.40]
Make use of me as thy companion:
For we will go disguised in Palmers' weeds,
That no man shall mistrust us what we are.

MUMFORD: If that be all, I'll fit your turn, I warrant you. I am
some kin to the Blunts, and I think, the bluntest of all my
kindred; therefore if I be too blunt with you, thank yourself
for praying me to be so.

KING: Thy pleasant company will make the way seem short.
It resteth now, that in my absence hence,
I do commit the government to you ... [4.50]
My trusty Lords and faithful Counselors.
Time cutteth off the rest I have to say:
The wind blows fair, and I must needs away.

NOBLES: Heavens send your voyage to as good effect,
As we your land do purpose to protect. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 5

[*Enter the King of Cornwall and his men booted and spurred,
a riding wand, and a letter in his hand.*]

CORNWALL: But how far distant are we from the Court?

SERVANT: Some twenty miles, my Lord, or thereabouts.

CORNWALL: It seemeth to me twenty thousand miles:
Yet hope I to be there within this hour.

SERVANT: Then are you like to ride alone for me.
[*To himself.*] I think, my Lord is weary of his life.

CORNWALL: Sweet Gonorill, I long to see thy face,
Which has so kindly gratified my love.
[*Enter the King of Cambria booted and spurred,
and his man with a wand and a letter.*]

CAMBRIA: Get a fresh horse: for by my soul I swear,
[*He looks on the letter.*]
I am past patience, longer to forbear ... [5.10]
The wished sight of my beloved mistress,
Dear Ragan, stay and comfort of my life.

SERVANT: Now what in Gods name doth my Lord intend?
[*To himself.*] He thinks he ne're shall come at journey's end.
I would he had old Daedalus' waxen wings,
That he might fly, so I might stay behind:
For e're we get to Troynovant, I see
He quite will tire himself, his horse and me.
[*Cornwall & Cambria look one upon another,
and start to see each other there.*]

CORNWALL: Brother of Cambria, we greet you well,
As one whom here we little did expect. ... [5.20]

CAMBRIA: Brother of Cornwall, met in happy time:
I thought as much to have met with the Soldan of Persia,
As to have met you in this place, my Lord,
No doubt, it is about some great affairs,
That makes you here so slenderly accompanied.

CORNWALL: To say the truth, my Lord, it is no less,
And for your part some hasty wind of chance
Hath blown you hither thus upon the sudden.

CAMBRIA: My Lord, to break off further circumstances,
For at this time I cannot brook delays: ... [5.30]
Tell you your reason, I will tell you mine.

CORNWALL: In faith, content, and therefore to be brief,
For I am sure my haste's as great as yours:
I am sent for, to come unto King Leir,
Who by these present letters promiseth
His eldest daughter, lovely Gonorill,
To me in marriage, and for present dowry,
The moiety of half his Regiment.
The Lady's love I long ago possessed:
But until now I never had the father's. ... [5.40]

CAMBRIA: You tell me wonders, yet I will relate
Strange news, and henceforth we must brothers call;
Witness these lines: his honorable age,
Being weary of the troubles of his Crown,
His princely daughter Ragan will bestow
On me in marriage, with half his Seignories,
Whom I would gladly have accepted of,
With the third part, her complements are such.

CORNWALL: If I have one half, and you have the other,
Then between us we must needs have the whole. ... [5.50]

CAMBRIA: The hole! how mean you that? Zblood, I hope,
We shall have two holes between us.

CORNWALL: Why, the whole Kingdom.

CAMBRIA: Aye, that's very true.

CORNWALL: What then is left for his third daughter's dowry,
Lovely Cordella, whom the world admires?

CAMBRIA: Tis very strange, I know not what to think,
Unless they mean to make a Nun of her.

CORNWALL: 'Twere pity such rare beauty should be hid
Within the compass of a Cloister's wall: ... [5.60]
But howsoe're, if Leir's words prove true,
It will be good, my Lord, for me and you.

CAMBRIA: Then let us haste, all danger to prevent,
For fear delays do alter his intent. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 6

[*Enter Gonorill and Ragan.*]

GONORILL: Sister, when did you see Cordella last,
That pretty piece, that thinks none good enough
To speak to her, because (sir-reverence)
She hath a little beauty extraordinary?

RAGAN: Since time my father warned her from his presence,
I never saw her, that I can remember.
God give her joy of her surpassing beauty;
I think her dowry will be small enough.

GONORILL: I have incensed my father so against her,
As he will never be reclaimed again. ... [6.10]

RAGAN: I was not much behind to do the like.

GONORILL: Faith, sister, what moves you to bear her such good will?

RAGAN: In truth, I think, the same that moveth you;
Because she doth surpass us both in beauty.

GONORILL: Beshrew your fingers, how right you can guess:
I told you true, it cuts me to the heart.

RAGAN: But we will keep her low enough, I warrant,
And clip her wings for mounting up too high.

GONORILL: Whoever hath her, shall have a rich marriage of her.

RAGAN: She were right fit to make a Parson's wife: ... [6.20]
For they, men say, do love fair women well,
And many times do marry them with nothing.

GONORILL: With nothing! marry God forbid: why, are there any such?

RAGAN: I mean, no money.

GONORILL: I cry you mercy, I mistook you much:
And she is far too stately for the Church;
She'll lay her husbands Benefice on her back,
Even in one gown, if she may have her will.

RAGAN: In faith, poor soul, I pity her a little.
Would she were less fair, or more fortunate. ... [6.30]
Well, I think long until I see my Morgan,
The gallant Prince of Cambria, here arrive.

GONORILL: And so do I, until the Cornwall King
Present himself, to consummate my joys.
Peace, here cometh my father.
[*Enter Lear, Perillus and others.*]

LEIR: Cease, good my Lords, and sue not to reverse
Our censure, which is now irrevocable.
We have dispatched letters of contract
Unto the Kings of Cambria and of Cornwall;
Our hand and seal will justify no less: ... [6.40]
Then do not so dishonor me, my Lords,
As to make shipwreck of our kingly word.
I am as kind as is the Pelican,
That kills itself, to save her young ones' lives:
And yet as jealous as the princely Eagle,
That kills her young ones, if they do but dazzle
Upon the radiant splendor of the Sun.
Within this two days I expect their coming.
[*Enter Kings of Cornwall and Cambria.*]
But in good time, they are arrived already.
This haste of yours, my Lords, doth testify ... [6.50]
The fervent love your bear unto my daughters:
And think yourselves as welcome to King Leir,
As ever Priam's children were to him.

CORNWALL: My gracious Lord, and father too, I hope,
Pardon, for that I made no greater haste:
But were my horse as swift as was my will,
I long ere this had seen your Majesty.

CAMBRIA: No other scuse of absence can I frame,
Than what my brother hath informed your Grace:
For our undeserved welcome, we do vow, ... [6.60]
Perpetually to rest at your command.

CORNWALL: But you, sweet Love, illustrious Gonorill,
The Regent, and the Sovereign of my soul,
Is Cornwall welcome to your Excellency?

GONORILL: As welcome as Leander was to Hero,
Or brave Aeneas to the Carthage Queen:
So and more welcome is your Grace to me.

CAMBRIA: O, may my fortune prove no worse than his,
Since heavens do know, my fancy is as much,

Dear Ragan, say, if welcome unto thee, ... [6.70]
All welcomes else will little comfort me.

RAGAN: As gold is welcome to the covetous eye,
As sleep is welcome to the Traveler,
As is fresh water to sea-beaten men,
Or moistened showers unto the parched ground,
Or anything more welcomer than this,
So and more welcome lovely Morgan is.

LEIR: What resteth then, but that we consumate
The celebration of these nuptial Rites?
My Kingdom I do equally divide. ... [6.80]
Princes, draw lots, and take your chance as falls.
[*Then they draw lots.*]
These I resign as freely unto you,
As erst by true succession they were mine.
And here I do freely dispossess myself,
And make you two my true-adopted heirs:
Myself will sojourn with my son of Cornwall,
And take me to my prayers and my beads.
I know, my daughter Ragan will be sorry,
Because I do not spend my days with her:
Would I were able to be with both at once; ... [6.90]
They are the kindest Girls in Christendom,

PERILLUS: I have been silent all this while, my Lord,
To see if any worthier than myself,
Would once have spoke in poor Cordella's cause:
But love or fear ties silence to their tongues.
Oh, hear me speak for her, my gracious Lord,
Whose deeds have not deserved this ruthless doom,
As thus to disinherit her of all.

LEIR: Urge this no more, and if thou love thy life:
I say, she is no daughter, that doth scorn ... [6.100]
To tell her father how she loveth him.
Who ever speaketh hereof to me again,
I will esteem him for my mortal foe.
Come, let us in, to celebrate with joy,
The happy Nuptials of these lovely pairs.
[*Exit omnes. Manet Perillus.*]

PERILLUS: Ah, who so blind, as they that will not see
The near approach of their own misery?
Poor Lady, I extremely pity her:

And whilst I live, each drop of my heart-blood
Will I strain forth, to do her any good. [*Exit.*] ... [6.110]

Scene 7

[*Enter the Gallian King, and Mumford, disguised like Pilgrims.*]

MUMFORD: My Lord, how do you brook this British air?

KING: My Lord? I told you of this foolish humor,
And bound you to the contrary, you know.

MUMFORD: Pardon me for once, my Lord; I did forget.

KING: My Lord again? then let's have nothing else,
And so be tane for spies, and then tis well.

MUMFORD: Swounds, I could bite my tongue in two for anger:
For God's sake name yourself some proper name.

KING: Call me Tresillus: I'll call thee Denapoll.

MUMFORD: Might I be made the Monarch of the world, ... [7.10]
I could not hit upon these names, I swear.

KING: Then call me Will, I'll call thee Jack.

MUMFORD: Well, be it so, for I have well deserved to be called Jack.

KING: Stand close, for here a British Lady cometh:
[*Enter Cordella.*]
A fairer creature ne're mine eyes beheld.

CORDELLA: This is a day of joy unto my sisters,
Wherein they both are married unto Kings,
And I, by birth, as worthy as themselves,
Am turned into the world, to seek my fortune.
How may I blame the fickle Queen of Chance, ... [7.20]
That maketh me a pattern of her power?
Ah, poor weak maid, whose imbecility
Is far unable to endure these brunts.
Oh, father Leir, how dost thou wrong thy child,
Who always was obedient to thy will!
But why accuse I fortune and my father?
No, no, it is the pleasure of my God:
And I do willingly embrace the rod.

KING: It is no Goddess; for she doth complain
On fortune, and th' unkindness of her father. ... [7.30]

CORDELLA: These costly robes ill fitting my estate,
I will exchange for other meaner habit.

MUMFORD: Now if I had a Kingdom in my hands,
I would exchange it for a milkmaid's smock and petticoats,
That she and I might shift our clothes together.

CORDELLA: I will betake me to my thread and Needle,
And earn my living with my fingers' ends.

MUMFORD: O brave! God willing, thou shalt have my custom,
By sweet S. Denis, here I sadly swear,
For all the shirts and night-gear that I wear. ... [7.40]

CORDELLA: I will profess and vow a maiden's life.

MUMFORD: Then I protest thou shalt not have my custom.

KING: I can forbear no longer for to speak:
For if I do, I think my heart will break.

MUMFORD: Sblood, Will, I hope you are not in love with my Sempster.

KING: I am in such a labyrinth of love,
As that I know not which way to get out.

MUMFORD: You'll ne're get out, unless you first get in.

KING: I prithee, Jack, cross not my passions.

MUMFORD: Prithy Will, to her, and try her patience. ... [7.50]

KING Thou fairest creature, whatsoere thou art,
That ever any mortal eyes beheld,
Vouchsafe to me, who have o'erheard thy woes,
To show the cause of these thy sad laments.

CORDELLA: Ah Pilgrims, what avails to show the cause.
When there's no means to find a remedy?

KING: To utter grief, doth ease a heart o'ercharged.

CORDELLA: To touch a sore, doth aggravate the pain.

KING: The silly mouse, by virtue of her teeth,
Released the princely Lion from the net. ... [7.60]

CORDELLA: Kind Palmer, which so much desir'st to hear
The tragic tale of my unhappy youth:
Know this in brief, I am the hapless daughter
Of Leir, sometimes King of Britainy.

KING: Why, who debars his honorable age,
From being still the King of Britainy?

CORDELLA: None, but himself hath dispossessed himself,
And given all his Kingdom to the Kings
Of Cornwall and of Cambria, with my sisters.

KING: Hath he given nothing to your lovely self? ... [7.70]

CORDELLA: He loved me not, & therefore gave me nothing,
Only because I could not flatter him:
And in this day of triumph to my sisters,
Doth Fortune triumph in my overthrow.

KING: Sweet Lady, say there should come a King,
As good as either of your sisters' husbands,
To crave your love, would you accept of him?

CORDELLA: Oh, do not mock with those in misery,
Nor do not think, though fortune have the power,
To spoil mine honor, and debase my state, ... [7.80]
That she hath any interest in my mind:
For if the greatest Monarch on the earth,
Should sue to me in this extremity,
Except my heart could love, and heart could like,
Better than any that I ever saw,
His great estate no more should move my mind,
Than mountains move by blast of every wind.

KING: Think not, sweet Nymph, tis holy Palmers' guise,
To grieved souls fresh torments to devise:
Therefore in witness of my true intent, ... [7.90]
Let heaven and earth bear record of my words:
There is a young and lusty Gallian King,
So like to me, as I am to myself,
That earnestly doth crave to have thy love,
And join with thee in Hymen's sacred bonds.

CORDELLA: The like to thee did ne're these eyes behold;
Oh live to add new torments to my grief:
Why didst thou thus entrap me unawares?
Ah Palmer, my estate doth not befit
A kingly marriage, as the case now stands. ... [7.100]
Whilom when as I lived in honor's height,
A Prince perhaps might postulate my love:
Now misery, dishonor and disgrace,
Hath lit on me, and quite reversed the case.
Thy King will hold thee wise, if thou surcease
The suit, whereas no dowry will ensue.
Then be advised, Palmer, what to do:
Cease for thy King, seek for thyself to woo.

KING: Your birth's too high for any, but a King.

CORDELLA: My mind is low enough to love a Palmer, ... [7.110]
Rather than any King upon the earth.

KING: O, but you can never endure their life,
Which is so straight and full of penury.

CORDELLA: O yes, I can, and happy if I might:
I'll hold thy Palmer's staff within my hand,
And think it is the Scepter of a Queen,
Sometime I'll set thy Bonnet on my head,
And think I wear a rich imperial Crown,
Sometime I'll help thee in thy holy prayers,
And think I am with thee in Paradise. ... [7.120]
Thus I'll mock fortune, as she mocketh me,
And never will my lovely choice repent:
For having thee, I shall have all content.

KING: 'Twere sin to hold her longer in suspense,
Since that my soul hath vowed she shall be mine.
Ah, dear Cordella, cordial to my heart,
I am no Palmer, as I seem to be,
But hither come in this unknown disguise,
To view th' admired beauty of those eyes.
I am the King of Gallia, gentle maid, ... [7.130]
(Although thus slenderly accompanied)
And yet thy vassall by imperious Love,
And sworn to serve thee everlastingly.

CORDELLA: Whate're you be, of high or low descent,
All's one to me, I do request but this:

That as I am, you will accept of me,
And I will have you whatsoever you be:
Yet well I know, you come of royal race,
I see such sparks of honor in your face.

MUMFORD: Have Palmers' weeds such power to win fair Ladies? ... [7.140]
Faith, then I hope the next that falls is mine:
Upon condition I no worse might speed,
I would forever wear a Palmer's weed.
I like an honest and plain-dealing wench,
That swears (without exception) I will have you.
These foppets, that know not whether to love a man or no,
except they first go ask their mothers' leave, by this hand, I
hate them ten times worse than poison.

KING: What resteth then our happiness to procure?

MUMFORD: Faith, go to Church, to make the matter sure. ... [7.150]

KING: It shall be so, because the world shall say,
King Leir's three daughters were wedded in one day:
The celebration of this happy chance,
We will defer, until we come to France.

MUMFORD: I like the wooing, that's not long a doing.
Well, for her sake, I know what I know:
I'll never marry whilst I live,
Except I have one of these British Ladies.
My humor is alienated from the maids of France. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 8

[*Enter Perillus solus.*]

PERILLUS: The King hath dispossessed himself of all,
Those to advance which scarce will give him thanks:
His youngest daughter he hath turned away,
And no man knows what is become of her.
He sojourns now in Cornwall with the eldest,
Who flattered him, until she did obtain
That at his hands, which now she doth possess:
And now she sees he hath no more to give,
It grieves her heart to see her father live.
Oh, whom should man trust in this wicked age, ... [8.10]
When children thus against their parents rage?
But he, the mirror of mild patience,
Puts up all wrongs, and never gives reply:

Yet shames she not in most opprobrious sort,
To call him fool and dotard to his face,
And sets her Parasites of purpose oft,
In scoffing-wise to offer him disgrace.
Oh iron age! O times! O monstrous, vild,
When parents are condemned of the child!
His pension she hath half-restrained from him, ... [8.20]
And will, e're long, the other half, I fear:
For she thinks nothing is bestowed in vain,
But that which doth her father's life maintain.
Trust not alliance; but trust strangers rather,
Since daughters prove disloyal to the father.
Well, I will counsel him the best I can:
Would I were able to redress his wrong.
Yet what I can, unto my utmost power,
He shall be sure of to the latest hour. [*Exit.*]

Scene 9

[*Enter Gonorill and Skalliger.*]

GONORILL: I prithy, Skalliger, tell me that thou thinkst:
Could any woman of our dignity
Endure such quips and peremptory taunts,
As I do daily from my doting father?
Doth't not suffice that I him keep of alms,
Who is not able for to keep himself?
But as it he were our better, he should think
To check and snap me up at every word.
I cannot make me a new-fashioned gown,
And set it forth with more than common cost; ... [9.10]
But his old doting doltish withered wit,
Is sure to give a senseless check for it.
I cannot make a banquet extraordinary,
To grace myself, and spread my name abroad,
But he, old fool, is captious by and by,
And saith, the cost would well suffice for twice.
Judge then, I pray, what reason is't, that I
Should stand alone charged with his vain expense,
And that my sister Ragan should go free,
To whom he gave as much, as unto me? ... [9.20]
I prithee, Skalliger, tell me, if thou know,
By any means to rid me of this woe.

SKALLIGER: Your many favors still bestowed on me,
Bind me in duty to advise your Grace,
How you may soonest remedy this ill.

The large allowance which he hath from you,
Is that which makes him so forget himself:
Therefore abridge it half, and you shall see,
That having less, he will more thankful be:
For why, abundance maketh us forget ... [9.30]
The fountains whence the benefits do spring.

GONORILL: Well, Skalliger, for thy kind advice herein,
I will not be ungrateful, if I live:
I have restrained half his portion already,
And I will presently restrain the other,
That having no means to relieve himself,
He may go seek elsewhere for better help. [*Exit.*]

SKALLIGER: Go, viperous woman, shame to all thy sex:
The heavens, no doubt, will punish thee for this:
And me a villain, that to curry favor, ... [9.40]
Have given the daughter counsel 'gainst the father.
But us the world doth this experience give,
That he that cannot flatter, cannot live. [*Exit.*]

Scene 10

[*Enter King of Cornwall, Leir, Perillus & Nobles.*]

CORNWALL: Father, what aileth you to be so sad?
Me thinks, you frolic not as you were wont.

LEIR: The nearer we do grow unto our graves,
The less we do delight in worldly joys.

CORNWALL: But if a man can frame himself to mirth,
It is a mean for to prolong his life.

LEIR: Then welcome sorrow, Leir's only friend,
Who doth desire his troubled days had end.

CORNWALL: Comfort yourself, father, here comes your daughter,
Who much will grieve, I know, to see you sad. [*Enter Gonorill.*] ... [10.10]

LEIR: But more doth grieve, I fear, to see me live.

CORNWALL: My Gonorill, you come in wished time,
To put your father from these pensive dumps.
In faith, I fear that all things go not well.

GONORILL: What do you fear, that I have angered him?
Hath he complained of me to my Lord?
I'll provide him a piece of bread and cheese;
For in a time he'll practice nothing else,
Than carry tales from one unto another.
Tis all his practice for to kindle strife, ... [10.20]
'Twixt you, my Lord, and me your loving wife:
But I will take an order, if I can,
To cease th' effect, where first the cause began.

CORNWALL: Sweet, be not angry in a partial cause,
He ne're complained of thee in all his life.
Father, you must not weigh a woman's words.

LEIR: Alas, not I: poor soul, she breeds young bones,
And that is it makes her to touchy, sure.

GONORILL: What, breeds young bones already! you will make
An honest woman of me then, belike. ... [10.30]
O vild old wretch! who ever heard the like,
That seeketh thus his own child to defame?

CORNWALL: I cannot stay to hear this discord sound. [*Exit.*]

GONORILL: For anyone that loves your company,
You may go pack, and seek some other place,
To sow the seed of discord and disgrace. [*Exit.*]

LEIR: Thus, say or do the best that ere I can,
Tis wrested straight into another sense.
This punishment my heavy sins deserve,
And more than this ten thousand thousand times: ... [10.40]
Else aged Leir them could never find
Cruel to him, to whom he hath been kind.
Why do I over-live myself, to see
The course of nature quite reversed in me?
Ah, gentle Death, if ever any wight
Did wish thy presence with a perfect zeal:
Then come, I pray thee, even with all my heart,
And end my sorrows with thy fatal dart. [*He weeps.*]

PERILLUS: Ah, do not so disconsolate yourself,
Nor dew your aged cheeks with wasting tears. ... [10.50]

LEIR: What man art thou that takest any pity
Upon the worthless state of old Leir?

PERILLUS: One, who doth bear as great a share of grief,
As it were my dearest father's case.

LEIR: Ah, good my friend, how ill art thou advised,
For to consort with miserable men:
Go learn to flatter, where thou mayst in time
Get favor 'mongst the mighty, and so climb:
For now I am so poor and full of want,
As that I ne're can recompense thy love. ... [10.60]

PERILLUS: What's got by flattery, doth not long endure;
And men in favor live not most secure.
My conscience tells me, if I should forsake you,
I were the hatefulst excrement on the earth:
Which well do know, in course of former time,
How good my Lord hath been to me and mine.

LEIR: Did I e'er raise thee higher than the rest
Of all thy ancestors which were before?

PERILLUS: I ne're did seek it; but by your good Grace,
I still enjoyed my own with quietness. ... [10.70]

LEIR: Did I e'er give thee living, to increase
The due revenues which thy father left?

PERILLUS: I had enough, my Lord, and having that,
What should you need to give me any more?

LEIR: Oh, did I ever dispossess myself,
And give thee half my Kingdom in good will?

PERILLUS: Alas, my Lord, there were no reason, why
You should have such a thought, to give it me.

LEIR: Nay, if thou talk of reason, then be mute:
For with good reason I can thee confute. ... [10.80]
If they, which first by nature's sacred law,
Do owe to me the tribute of their lives;
If they to whom I always have been kind,
And bountiful beyond comparison;
If they, for whom I have undone myself,
And brought my age unto this extreme want,
Do now reject, condemn, despise, abhor me,
What reason moveth thee to sorrow for me?

PERILLUS: Where reason fails, let tears confirm my love,
And speak how much your passions do me move. ... [10.90]
Ah, good my Lord, condemn not all for one:
You have two daughters left to whom I know
You shall be welcome, if you please to go.

LEIR: Oh, how thy words add sorrow to my soul,
To think of my unkindness to Cordella!
Whom causeless I did dispossess of all,
Upon th' unkind suggestions of her sisters:
And for her sake, I think this heavy doom
Is fall'n on me, and not without desert:
Yet unto Ragan was I always kind, ... [10.100]
And gave to her the half of all I had:
It may be, if I should to her repair,
She would be kinder, and entreat me fair.

PERILLUS: No doubt she would, & practice ere't be long,
By force of Arms for to redress your wrong.

LEIR: Well, since thou dost advise me for to go,
I am resolved to try the worst of woe. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 11

[*Enter Ragan solus.*]

RAGAN: How may I bless the hour of my nativity,
Which bodeeth unto me such happy Stars!
How may I think kind fortune, that vouchsafes
To all my actions, such desired event!
I rule the King of Cambria as I please:
The States are all obedient to my will;
And look whatere I say, it shall be so;
Not any one, that dareth answer no.
My eldest sister lives in royal state,
And wanteth nothing fitting her degree: ... [11.10]
Yet hath she such a cooling card withal,
As that her honey savoreth much of gall.
My father with her is quarter-master still,
And many times restrains her of her will:
But if he were with me, and served me so,
I'd send him packing somewhere else to go.
I'd entertain him with such slender cost,
That he should quickly wish to change his host. [*Exit.*]

Scene 12

[Enter Cornwall, Gonorill, and attendants.]

CORNWALL: Ah, Gonorill, what dire unhappy chance
Hath sequestered thy father from our presence,
That no report can yet be heard of him?
Some great unkindness hath been offered him,
Exceeding far the bounds of patience:
Else all the world shall never me persuade,
He would forsake us without notice made.

GONORILL: Alas, my Lord, whom doth it touch so near,
Or who hath interest in this grief, but I,
Whom sorrow hath brought to her longest home, ... [12.10]
But that I know his qualities so well?
I know, he is but stolen upon my sister
At unawares, to see her how she fares,
And spend a little time with her, to note
How all things go, and how she likes her choice:
And when occasion serves, he'll steal from her,
And unawares return to us again.
Therefore, my Lord, be frolic, and resolve
To see my father here again e're long.

CORNWALL: I hope so too; but yet to be more sure, ... [12.20]
I'll send a Post immediately to know
Whether he be arrived there or no. [Exit.]

GONORILL: But I will intercept the Messenger,
And temper him before he doth depart,
With sweet persuasions, and with sound rewards,
That his report shall ratify my speech,
And make my Lord cease further to inquire.
If he be not gone to my sister's Court,
As sure my mind presageth that he is,
He happily may, by traveling unknown ways, ... [12.30]
Fall sick, and as a common passenger,
Be dead and buried: would God it were so well;
For then there were no more to do, but this,
He went away, and none knows where he is.
But say he be in Cambria with the King,
And there exclaim against me, as he will:
I know he is as welcome to my sister,
As water is unto a broken ship.
Well, after him I'll send such thunderclaps
Of slander, scandal, and invented tales, ... [12.40]

That all the blame shall be removed from me,
And unperceived rebound upon himself.
Thus with one nail another I'll expel,
And make the world judge, that I used him well.
[Enter the Messenger that should go to Cambria, with a letter in his hand.]
My honest, friend, whither away so fast?

MESS: To Cambria, Madam, with letters from the king.

GONORILL: To whom?

MESS: Unto your father, if he be there.

GONORILL: Let me see them. [*She opens them.*]

MESS: Madam, I hope your Grace will stand ... [12.50]
Between me and my neck-verse, if I be
Called in question, for opening the Kings letters.

GONORILL: 'Twas I that opened them, it was not thou.

MESS: Aye, but you need not care: and so must I,
A hansom man, be quickly trust up,
And when a man's hanged, all the world cannot save him.

GONORILL: He that hang thee, were better hang his father,
Or that but hurts thee in the least degree.
I tell thee, we make great account of thee.

MESS: I am o'erjoyed, I surfeit of sweet words: ... [12.60]
Kind Queen, had I a hundred lives, I would
Spend ninety-nine of them for you, for that word.

GONORILL: Aye, but thou wouldst keep one life still,
And that's as many as thou art like to have.

MESS: That one life is not too dear for my good Queene;
this sword, this buckler, this head, this heart, these
hands, arms, legs, tripes, bowels, and all the members else
whatsoever, are at your dispose; use me, trust me, command
me: if I fail in anything, tie me to a dung-cart, and make a
Scavenger's horse of me, and whip me, so long as I have any ... [12.70]
skin on my back.

GONORILL: In token of further employment, take that.
[*Flings him a purse.*]

MESS: A strong Bond, a firm Obligation, good in law,
good in law: if I keep not the condition, let my neck be the
forfeiture of my negligence.

GONORILL: I like thee well, thou hast a good tongue.

MESS: And as bad a tongue if it be set on it, as any Oyster-
wife at Billingsgate hath: why, I have made many of my
neighbors forsake their homes with railing upon them, and
go dwell elsewhere: and so by my means houses have been good ... [12.80]
cheap in our parish: My tongue being well whetted with choler,
is more sharp than a Razor of Salerno.

GONORILL: O, thou art a fit man for my purpose.

MESS: Commend me not, sweet Queen, before you try me.
As my deserts are, so do think of me.

GONORILL: Well said, then this is thy trial: Instead of carrying
the King's letters to my father, carry thou these letters to my
sister, which contain matter quite contrary to the other:
there shall she be given to understand, that my father hath
detracted her, given out slanderous speeches against her; and ... [12.90]
that he hath most intolerably abused me, set my Lord and
me at variance, and made mutinies amongst the commons.
These things (although it be not so)
Yet thou must affirm them to be true,
With oaths and protestations as will serve,
To drive my sister out of love with him,
And cause my will accomplished to be.
This do, thou winst my favor forever,
And makest a highway of preferment to thee
And all my friends. ... [12.100]

MESS: It sufficeth, conceit, it is already done:
I will so tongue-whip him, that I will
Leave him as bare of credit, as a Poulter
Leaves a Cony, when she pulls off his skin.

GONORILL: Yet there is a further matter.

MESS: I thirst to hear it.

GONORILL: If my sister thinketh convenient, as my letters
importeth, to make him away, hast thou the heart to effect it?

MESS: Few words are best in so small a matter:
These are but trifles. By this book I will. [*Kisses the paper.*] ... [12.110]

GONORILL: About it presently, I long till it be done.

MESS: I fly, I fly. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 13

[*Enter Cordella solus.*]

CORDELLA: I have been over-negligent today,
In going to the Temple of my God,
To render thanks for all his benefits,
Which he miraculously hath bestowed on me,
In raising me out of my mean estate,
When as I was devoid of worldly friends,
And placing me in such a sweet content,
As far exceeds the reach of my deserts,
My kingly husband, mirror of his time,
For zeal, for justice, kindness, and for care ... [13.10]
To God, his subjects, me, and Common weal,
By his appointment was ordained for me.
I cannot wish the thing that I do want;
I cannot want the thing but I may have,
Save only this which I shall ne're obtain,
My father's love, oh this I ne're shall gain.
I would abstain from any nutriment,
And pine my body to the very bones:
Barefoot I would on pilgrimage set forth
Unto the furthest quarters of the earth, ... [13.20]
And all my lifetime would I sackcloth wear,
And mourning-wise pour dust upon my head:
So he but to forgive me once would please,
That his gray hairs might go to heaven in peace.
And yet I know not how I him offended,
Or wherein justly I have deserved blame.
Oh sisters! you are much to blame in this,
It was not he, but you that did me wrong.
Yet God forgive both him, and you and me,
Even as I do in perfect charity. ... [13.30]
I will to Church, and pray unto my Savior,
That ere I die, I may obtain his favor.

Scene 14

[*Enter Leir and Perillus faintly.*]

PERILLUS: Rest on me, my Lord, and stay yourself,
The way seems tedious to your aged limbs.

LEIR: Nay, rest on me, kind friend, and stay thyself,
Thou art as old as I, but more kind.

PERILLUS: Ah, good my Lord, it ill befits, that I
Should lean upon the person of a King.

LEIR: But it fits worse, that I should bring thee forth,
That had no cause to come along with me,
Through these uncouth paths, and tireful ways,
And never ease thy fainting limbs a whit. ... [14.10]
Thou hast left all, aye, all to come with me,
And I, for all, have nought to guerdon thee.

PERILLUS: Cease, good my Lord, to aggravate my woes,
With these kind words, which cuts my heart in two,
To think your will should want the power to do.

LEIR: Cease, good Perillus, for to call me Lord,
And think me but the shadow of myself.

PERILLUS: That honorable title will I give,
Unto my Lord, so long as I do live.
Oh, be of comfort; for I see the place ... [14.20]
Whereas your daughter keeps her residence.
And lo, in happy time the Cambrian Prince
Is here arrived, to gratify our coming.
*[Enter the Prince of Cambria, Ragan and Nobles:
look upon them, and whisper together.]*

LEIR: Were I best speak, or sit me down and die?
I am ashamed to tell this heavy tale.

PERILLUS: Then let me tell it, if you please, my Lord:
Tis shame for them that were the cause thereof.

CAMBRIA: What two old men are those that seem so sad?
Me thinks, I should remember well their looks.

RAGAN: No, I mistake not, sure it is my father: ... [14.30]
I must dissemble kindness now of force.
[She runeth to him, and kneels down, saying:]
Father, I bid you welcome, full of grief,
To see your Grace used thus unworthily,

And ill-befitting for your reverend age,
To come on foot a journey so endurable.
Oh, what disaster chance hath been the cause,
To make your cheeks so hollow, spare and lean?
He cannot speak for weeping: for God's love, come.
Let us refresh him with some needful things,
And at more leisure we may better know, ... [14.40]
Whence springs the ground of this unlooked-for woe.

CAMBRIA: Come, father, e're we any further talk,
You shall refresh you after this weary walk. [*Exit, manet Ragan.*]

RAGAN: Come he to me with finger in the eye,
To tell a tale against my sister here?
Whom I do know, he greatly hath abused:
And now like a contentious crafty wretch,
He first begins for to complain himself,
When as himself is in the greatest fault.
I'll not be partial in my sister's cause, ... [14.50]
Nor yet believe his doting vain reports:
Who for a trifle (safely) I dare say,
Upon a spleen is stolen thence away:
And here (forsooth) he hopeth to have harbor,
And to be moaned and made on like a child:
But ere't be long, his coming he shall curse,
And truly say, he came from bad to worse:
Yet will I make fair weather, to procure
Convenient means, and then I'll strike it sure. [*Exit.*]

Scene 15

[*Enter Messenger solus.*]

MESS: Now happily I am arrived here,
Before the stately Palace of the Cambrian King:
If Leir be here, safe-seated, and in rest,
To rouse him from it I will do my best. [*Enter Ragan.*]
Now bags of gold, your virtue is (no doubt)
To make me in my message bold and stout.
The King of heaven preserve your Majesty,
And send your Highness everlasting reign.

RAGAN: Thanks, good my friend; but what imports thy message?

MESS: Kind greetings from the Cornwall Queen: ... [15.10]
The residue these letters will declare.
[*She opens the letters.*]

RAGAN: How fares our royal sister?

MESS: I did leave her at my parting, in good health.

[She reads the letter, frowns and stamps.]

See how her color comes and goes again,
Now red as scarlet, now as pale as ash:
See how she knits her brow, and bites her lips,
And stamps, and makes a dumb show of disdain,
Mixed with revenge, and violent extremes.
Here will be more work and more crowns for me.

RAGAN: Alas, poor soul, and hath he used her thus? ... [15.20]

And is he now come hither, with intent
To set divorce betwixt my Lord and me?
Doth he give out, that he doth hear report,
That I do rule my husband as I list,
And therefore means to alter so the case,
That I shall know my Lord to be my head?
Well, it were best for him to take good heed,
Or I will make him hop without a head,
For this presumption, dotard that he is.
In Cornwall he hath made such mutinies, ... [15.30]
First, setting of the King against the Queen;
Then stirring up the Commons 'gainst the King;
That had he there continued any longer,
He had been called in question for his fact.
So upon that occasion thence he fled,
And comes thus slyly stealing unto us:
And now already since his coming-hither,
My Lord and he are grown in such a league,
That I can have no conference with his Grace:
I fear, he doth already intimate ... [15.40]
Some forged cavilations 'gainst my state:
Tis therefore best to cut him off in time,
Lest slanderous rumors once abroad dispersed,
It is too late for them to be reversed.
Friend, as the tenor of these letters shows,
My sister puts great confidence in thee.

MESS: She never yet committed trust to me.
But that (I hope) she found me always faithful:
So will I be to any friend of hers,
That hath occasion to employ my help. ... [15.50]

RAGAN: Hast thou the heart to act a stratagem,
And give a stab or two, if need require?

MESS: I have a heart compact of Adamant,
Which never knew what melting pity meant.
I weigh no more the murd'ring of a man,
Than I respect the cracking of a Flea,
When I do catch her biting on my skin.
If you will have your husband or your father,
Or both of them sent to another world,
Do but command me do't, it shall be done. ... [15.60]

RAGAN: It is enough, we make no doubt of thee:
Meet us to morrow here, at nine a clock:
Mean while, farewell, and drink that for my sake. [*Exit.*]

MESS: Aye, this is it will make me do the deed:
Oh, had I every day such customers,
This were the gainfulest trade in Christendom!
A purse of gold giv'n for a paltry stab!
Why, here's a wench that longs to have a stab.
Well, I could give it her, and ne're hurt her neither.

Scene 16

[*Enter the Gallian King, and Cordella.*]

KING: When will these clouds of sorrow once disperse,
And smiling joy triumph upon thy brow?
When will this Scene of sadness have an end,
And pleasant acts ensue, to move delight?
When will my lovely Queen cease to lament,
And take some comfort to her grieved thoughts?
If of thyself thou deignest to have no care
Yet pity me, whom thy grief makes despair.

CORDELLA: O, grieve not you, my Lord, you have no cause:
Let not my passions move your mind a whit: ... [16.10]
For I am bound by nature, to lament
For his ill will, that life to me first lent.
If so the stock be dried with disdain,
Withered and sere the branch must needs remain.

KING: But thou art now graft in another stock;
I am the stock, and thou the lovely branch:
And from my root continual sap shall flow,
To make thee flourish with perpetual spring.
Forget thy father and thy kindred now,
Since they forsake thee like inhuman beasts, ... [16.20]
Think they are dead, since all their kindness dies,

And bury them, where black oblivion lies.
Think not thou art the daughter of old Leir,
Who did unkindly disinherit thee:
But think thou art the noble Gallian Queen,
And wife to him that dearly loveth thee:
Embrace the joys that present with thee dwell,
Let sorrow pack and hide herself in hell.

CORDELLA: Not that I miss my country or my kin,
My old acquaintance or my ancient friends, ... [16.30]
Doth any whit distemperate my mind,
Knowing you, which are more dear to me,
Than Country, kind, and all the things else can be.
Yet pardon me, my gracious Lord, in this:
For what can stop the course of nature's power?
As easy is it for four-footed beasts,
To stay themselves upon the liquid air,
And mount aloft into the element,
And overstrip the feathered Fowls in flight:
As easy is it for the slimy Fish, ... [16.40]
To live and thrive without the help of water:
As easy is it for the Blackamoor,
To wash the tawny color from his skin,
Which all oppose against the course of nature,
As I am able to forget my father.

KING: Mirror of virtue, Phoenix of our age!
Too kind a daughter for an unkind father,
Be of good comfort; for I will dispatch
Ambassadors immediately for Britain,
Unto the King of Cornwall's Court, whereas ... [16.50]
Your father keepeth now his residence,
And in the kindest manner him entreat,
That setting former grievances apart,
He will be pleased to come and visit us.
If no entreaty will suffice the turn,
I'll offer him the the half of all my Crown:
If that moves not, we'll furnish out a Fleet,
And sail to Cornwall for to visit him;
And there you shall be firmly reconciled
In perfect love, as erst you were before. ... [16.60]

CORDELLA: Where tongue cannot sufficient thanks afford,
The King of heaven remunerate my Lord.

KING: Only be blithe, and frolic (sweet) with me:
This and much more I'll do to comfort thee.

Scene 17

[*Enter Messenger solus.*]

MESS: It is a world to see now I am flush,
How many friends I purchase everywhere!
How many seeks to creep into my favor,
And kiss their hands, and bend their knees to me!
No more, here comes the Queen, now shall I know her mind,
And hope for to derive more crowns from her. [*Enter Ragan.*]

RAGAN: My friend, I see thou mind'st thy promise well,
And art before me here, me thinks, today.

MESS: I am a poor man, and it like your Grace;
But yet I always love to keep my word. ... [17.10]

RAGAN: Well, keep thy word with me, & thou shalt see,
That of a poor man I will make thee rich.

MESS: I long to hear it, it might have been dispatched,
If you had told me of it yesternight.

RAGAN: It is a thing of right strange consequence,
And well I cannot utter it in words.

MESS: It is more strange, that I am not by this
Beside myself, with longing for to hear it.
Were it to meet the Devil in his den,
And try a bout with him for a scratched face, ... [17.20]
I'd undertake it, if you would but bid me.

RAGAN: Ah, good my friend, that I should have thee do,
Is such a thing, as I do shame to speak;
Yet it must needs be done.

MESS: I'll speak it for thee, Queen: shall I kill thy father?
I know tis that, and if it be so, say.

RAGAN: Aye.

MESS: Why, that's enough.

RAGAN: And yet that is not all.

MESS: What else? ... [17.30]

RAGAN: Thou must kill that old man that came with him.

MESS: Here are two hands, for each of them is one.

RAGAN: And for each hand here is a recompense.
[*Gives him two purses.*]

MESS: Oh, that I had ten hands by miracle,
I could tear ten in pieces with my teeth,
So in my mouth you'd put a purse of gold,
But in what manner must it be effected?

RAGAN: Tomorrow morning ere the break of day,
I by a while will send them to the thicket,
That is about some two miles from the Court, ... [17.40]
And promise them to meet them there myself,
Because I must have private conference,
About some news I have received from Cornwall.
This is enough, I know, they will not fail,
And then be ready for to play thy part:
Which done, thou mayst right easily escape,
And no man once mistrust thee for the fact:
But yet, before thou prosecute the act,
Show him the letter, which my sister sent,
There let him read his own indictment first, ... [17.50]
And then proceed to execution:
But see thou faint not; for they will speak fair.

MESS: Could he speak words as pleasing as the pipe
Of Mercury, which charmed the hundred eyes
Of watchful Argos, and enforced him sleep:
Yet here are words so pleasing to my thoughts, [*To the purse.*]
As quite shall take away the sound of his. [*Exit.*]

RAGAN: About it then, and when thou hast dispatched,
I'll find a means to send thee after him. [*Exit.*]

Scene 18

[*Enter Cornwall and Gonorill.*]

CORNWALL: I wonder that the Messenger doth stay,
Whom we dispatched for Cambria so long since:
If that his answer do not please us well,
And he do show good reason for delay,
I'll teach him how to dally with his King,
And to detain us in such long suspense.

GONORILL: My Lord, I think the reason may be this:
My father means to come along with him;
And thereafter tis his pleasure he shall stay,
For to attend upon him on the way. ... [18.10]

CORNWALL: It may be so, and therefore till I know
The truth thereof, I will suspend my judgment. [*Enter Servant.*]

SERVANT: And't like your Grace, there is an Ambassador
Arrived from Gallia, and craves admittance to your Majesty.

CORNWALL: From Gallia? what should his message
Hither import? is not your father happily
Gone thither? well, whatsoere it be,
Bid him come in, he shall have audience. [*Enter Ambassador.*]
What news from Gallia? speak Ambassador.

AMB: The noble King and Queen of Gallia first salutes, ... [18.20]
By me, their honorable father, my Lord Leir:
Next, they commend them kindly to your Graces.
As those whose welfare they entirely wish.
Letters I have to deliver to my Lord Leir,
And presents too, if I might speak with him.

GONORILL: If you might speak with him? why, do you think,
We are afraid that you should speak with him?

AMB: Pardon me, Madam; for I think not so,
But say so only, 'cause he is not here.

CORNWALL: Indeed, my friend, upon some urgent cause, ... [18.30]
He is at this time absent from the Court:
But if a day or two you here repose,
Tis very likely you shall have him here,
Or else have certain notice where he is.

GONORILL: Are not we worthy to receive your message?

AMB: I had in charge to do it to himself.

GONORILL: [*To herself.*] It may be then 'twill not be done in haste.
How doth my sister brook the air of France?

AMB: Exceeding well, and never sick one hour,
Since first she set her foot upon the shore. ... [18.40]

GONORILL: I am the more sorry.

AMB: I hope, not so, Madam.

GONORILL: Didst thou not say, that she was ever sick,
Since the first hour that she arrived there?

AMB: No, Madam, I said quite contrary.

GONORILL: Then I mistook thee.

CORNWALL: Then she is merry, if she have her health.

AMB: Oh no, her grief exceeds, until the time,
That she be reconciled unto her father.

GONORILL: God continue it. ... [18.50]

AMB: What, madam?

GONORILL: Why, her health.

AMB: Amen to that: but God release her grief,
And send her father in a better mind,
Than to continue always so unkind.

CORNWALL: I'll be a mediator in her cause,
And seek all means to expiate his wrath.

AMB: Madam, I hope your Grace will do the like.

GONORILL: Should I be a mean to exasperate his wrath
Against my sister, whom I love so dear? no, no. ... [18.60]

AMB: To expiate or mitigate his wrath:
For he hath misconveyed without a cause.

GONORILL: O, Aye, what else?

AMB: Tis pity it should be so, would it were otherwise.

GONORILL: It were great pity it should be otherwise.

AMB: Then how, Madam?

GONORILL: Then that they should be reconciled again.

AMB: It shows you bear an honorable mind.

GONORILL: It shows thy understanding to be blind,
[*Speaks to herself.*]
And that thou hadst need of an Interpreter: ... [18.70]
Well, I will know thy message er't be long,
And find a mean to cross it, if I can.

CORNWALL: Come in, my friend, and frolic in our Court,
Till certain notice of my father come. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 19

[*Enter Leir and Perillus.*]

PERILLUS: My Lord, you are up today before your hour,
Tis news to you to be abroad so rathe.

LEIR: Tis news indeed, I am so extreme heavy,
That I can scarcely keep my eyelids open.

PERILLUS: And so am I, but I impute the cause
To rising sooner than we use to do.

LEIR: Hither my daughter means to come disguised:
I'll sit me down, and read until she come.
[*Pull out a book and sit down.*]

PERILLUS: She'll not be long, I warrant you, my Lord:
But say, a couple of these they call good fellows, ... [19.10]
Should step out of a hedge, and set upon us,
We were in good case for to answer them.

LEIR: 'Twere not for us to stand upon our hands.

PERILLUS: I fear, we scant should stand upon our legs.
But how should we do to defend ourselves?

LEIR: Even pray to God, to bless us from their hands:
For fervent prayer much ill hap withstands.

PERILLUS: I'll sit and pray with you for company;
Yet was I ne're so heavy in my life.
[*They fall both asleep. Enter the Messenger or murderer
with two daggers in his hands.*]

MESS: Were it not a mad jest, if two or three of my ... [19.20]
profession should meet me, and lay me down in a ditch, and
play rob thief with me, & perforce take my gold away
from me, whilst I act this stratagem, and by this means
the gray-beards should escape? Faith, when I were at liberty
again, I would make no more to do, but go to the next tree,
and there hang myself. [*See them and start.*]
But stay, me thinks, my youths are here already,
And with pure zeal have prayed themselves asleep.
I think, they know to what intent they came,
And are provided for another world. [*He takes their books away.*] ... [19.30]
Now could I stab them bravely, while they sleep,
And in a manner put them to no pain;
And doing so, I showed them mighty friendship:
For fear of death is worse than death itself.
But that my sweet Queen willed me for to show
This letter to them, ere I did the deed.
Mass, they begin to stir: I'll stand aside;
So shall I come upon them unawares. [*They wake and rise.*]

LEIR: I marvel, that my daughter stays so long.

PERILLUS: I fear, we did mistake the place, my Lord. ... [19.40]

LEIR: God grant we do not miscarry in the place:
I had a short nap, but so full of dread,
As much amazeth me to think thereof.

PERILLUS: Fear not, my Lord, dreams are but fantasies,
And slight imaginations of the brain.

MESS: Persuade him so; but I'll make him and you.
Confess, that dreams do often prove too true.

PERILLUS: I pray, my Lord, what was the effect of it?
I may go near to guess what it pretends.

MESS: Leave that to me, I will expound the dream. ... [19.50]

LEIR: Me thought, my daughters Gonorill & Ragan,
Stood both before me with such grim aspects,
Each brandishing a Falchion in their hand,
Ready to lop a limb off where it fell,
And in their other hands a naked poniard,
Wherewith they stabbed me in a hundred places,
And to their thinking left me there for dead:

But then my youngest daughter, fair Cordella,
Came with a box of Balsam in her hand,
And poured it into my bleeding wounds, ... [19.60]
By whose good means I was recovered well,
In perfect health, as erst I was before:
And with the fear of this I did awake,
And yet for fear my feeble joints do quake.

MESS: I'll make you quake for something presently.
Stand, Stand. [*They reel.*]

LEIR: We do, my friend, although with much ado.

MESS: Deliver, deliver.

PERILLUS: Deliver us, good Lord, from such as he.

MESS: You should have prayed before, while it was time, ... [19.70]
And then perhaps, you might have scaped my hands:
But you, like faithful watchmen, fell asleep,
The whilst I came and took your Halberds from you.
[*Show their Books.*]
And now you want your weapons of defense,
How have you any hope to be delivered?
This comes, because you have no better stay,
But fall asleep, when you should watch and pray.

LEIR: My friend, thou seemst to be a proper man.

MESS: Sblood, how the old slave claws me by the elbow!
He thinks, belike, to scape by scaping thus. ... [19.80]

PERILLUS: And it may be, are in some need of money.

MESS: That to be false, behold my evidence. [*Shows his purses.*]

LEIR: If that I have will do thee any good,
I give it thee, even with a right good will. [*Take it.*]

PERILLUS: Here, take mine too, & wish with all my heart,
To do thee pleasure, it were twice as much.
[*Take his, and weigh them both in his hands.*]

MESS: I'll none of them, they are too light for me.
[*Puts them in his pocket.*]

LEIR: Why then farewell: and if thou have occasion,
In anything, to use me to the Queen,
'Tis like enough that I can pleasure thee. ... [19.90]
[*They proffer to go.*]

MESS: Do you hear, do you hear, sir?
If I had occasion to use you to the Queen,
Would you do one thing for me that I should ask?

LEIR: Aye, anything that lies within my power.
Here is my hand upon it, so farewell. [*Proffer to go.*]

MESS: Hear you sir, hear you? pray, a word with you.
Me thinks, a comely honest ancient man
Should not dissemble with one for a vantage.
I know, when I shall come to try this gear,
You will recant from all that you have said. ... [19.100]

PERILLUS: Mistrust not him, but try him when thou wilt:
He is her father, therefore may do much.

MESS: I know he is, and therefore mean to try him:
You are his friend too, I must try you both.

AMB: Prithy do, prithy do. [*Proffer to go out.*]

MESS: Stay gray-beards then, and prove men of your words:
The Queen hath tied me by a solemn oath,
Here in this place to see you both dispatched:
Now for the safeguard of my conscience,
Do me the pleasure for to kill yourselves: ... [19.110]
So shall you save me labor for to do it,
And prove yourselves true old men of your words.
And here I vow in sight of all the world,
I ne're will trouble you whilst I live again.

LEIR: Affright us not with terror, good my friend,
Nor strike such fear into our aged hearts.
Play not the Cat, which dallieth with the mouse;
And on a sudden maketh her a prey:
But if thou art marked for the man of death
To me and to my Damien, tell me plain, ... [19.120]
That we may be prepared for the stroke,
And make ourselves fit for the world to come.

MESS: I am the last of any mortal race,
That ere your eyes are likely to behold,
And hither sent of purpose to this place,
To give a final period to your days,
Which are so wicked, and have lived so long,
That your own children seek to short your life.

LEIR: Camst thou from France, of purpose to do this?

MESS: From France? zoons, do I look like a Frenchman? ... [19.130]
Sure I have not mine own face on; somebody hath changed
faces with me, and I know not of it: But I am sure, my apparel
is all English. Sirra, what meanest thou to ask that question?
I could spoil the fashion of this face for anger. A French face!

LEIR: Because my daughter, whom I have offended,
And at whose hands I have deserved as ill,
As ever any father did of child,
Is Queen of France, no thanks at all to me,
But unto God, who my injustice see.
If it be so, that she doth seek revenge, ... [19.140]
As with good reason she may justly do,
I will most willingly resign my life,
A sacrifice to mitigate her ire:
I never will entreat thee to forgive,
Because I am unworthy for to live.
Therefore speak soon, & I will soon make speed:
Whether Cordella willed thee do this deed?

MESS: As I am a perfect gentleman, thou speakst French to me:
I never heard Cordella's name before,
Nor never was in France in all my life: ... [19.150]
I never knew thou hadst a daughter there,
To whom thou didst prove so unkind a churl:
But thy own tongue declares that thou hast been
A vile old wretch, and full of heinous sin.

LEIR: Ah no, my friend, thou art deceived much:
For her except, whom I confess I wronged,
Through dotting frenzy, and o'er-jealous love.
There lives not any under heaven's bright eye,
That can convict me of impiety.
And therefore sure thou dost mistake the mark: ... [19.160]
For I am in true peace with all the world.

MESS: You are the fitter for the King of heaven:
And therefore, for to rid thee of suspense,
Know thou, the Queens of Cambria and Cornwall,
Thy own two daughters, Gonorill and Ragan,
Appointed me to massacre thee here.
Why wouldst thou then persuade me, that thou art
In charity with all the world? but now
When thy own issue hold thee in such hate,
That they have hired me t'abridge thy fate, ... [19.170]
Oh, fie upon such vile dissembling breath,
That would deceive, even at the point of death.

PERILLUS: Am I awake, or it is but a dream?

MESS: Fear nothing, man, thou art but in a dream,
And thou shalt never wake until doomsday,
By then, I hope, thou wilt have slept enough.

LEIR: Yet, gentle friend, grant one thing ere I die.

MESS: I'll grant you anything, except your lives.

LEIR: Oh, but assure me by some certain token,
That my two daughters hired thee to this deed: ... [19.180]
If I were once resolved of that, then I
Would wish no longer life, but crave to die.

MESS: That to be true, in sight of heaven I swear.

LEIR: Swear not by heaven, for fear of punishment:
The heavens are guiltless of such heinous acts.

MESS: I swear by earth, the mother of us all.

LEIR: Swear not by earth; for she abhors to bear
Such bastards, as are murderers of her sons.

MESS: Why then, by hell, and all the devils I swear.

LEIR: Swear not by hell; for that stands gaping wide, ... [19.190]
To swallow thee, and if thou do this deed.
[*Thunder and lightning.*]

MESS: I would that word were in his belly again,
It hath frightened me even to the very heart:
This old man is some strong Magician:

His words have turned my mind from this exploit.
Then neither heaven, earth, nor hell be witness;
But let this paper witness for them all. [*Shows Gonorill's letter.*]
Shall I relent, or shall I prosecute?
Shall I resolve, or were I best recant?
I will not crack my credit with two Queens, ... [19.200]
To whom I have already passed my word.
Oh, but my conscience for this act doth tell,
I get heaven's hate, earth's scorn, and pains of hell.
[*They bless themselves.*]

PERILLUS: Oh just Jehova, whose almighty power
Doth govern all things in this spacious world,
How canst thou suffer such outrageous acts
To be committed without just revenge?
O viperous generation and accurst,
To seek his blood, whose blood did make them first!

LEIR: Ah, my true friend in all extremity, ... [19.210]
Let us submit us to the will of God:
Things past all sense, let us not seek to know;
It is God's will, and therefore must be so.
My friend, I am prepared for the stroke:
Strike when thou wilt, and I forgive thee here,
Even from the very bottom of my heart.

MESS: But I am not prepared for to strike.

LEIR: Farewell, Perillus, even the truest friend,
That ever lived in adversity:
The latest kindness I'll request of thee, ... [19.220]
Is that thou go unto my daughter Cordella,
And carry her her father's latest blessing:
Withal desire her, that she will forgive me;
For I have wronged her without any cause.
Now, Lord, receive me, for I come to thee,
And die, I hope, in perfect charity.
Dispatch, I pray thee, I have lived too long.

MESS: Aye, but you are unwise, to send an errand
By him that never meaneth to deliver it:
Why, he must go along with you to heaven: ... [19.230]
It were not good you should go all alone.

LEIR: No doubt, he shall, when by the course of nature,
He must surrender up his due to death:
But that time shall not come, till God permit.

MESS: Nay, presently, to bear you company.
I have a Passport for him in my pocket,
Already sealed, and he must needs ride Post.
[*Show a bag of money.*]

LEIR: The letter which I read, imports not so,
It only toucheth me, no word of him.

MESS: Aye, but the Queen commands it must be so, ... [19.240]
And I am paid for him, as well as you.

PERILLUS: I, who have born you company in life,
Most willingly will bear a share in death.
It skilleth not for me, my friend, a whit,
Nor for a hundred such as thou and I.

MESS: Mary, but it doth, sir, by your leave; your good days
are past: though it be no matter for you, tis a matter for me,
proper men are not so rife.

PERILLUS: Oh, but beware, how thou dost lay thy hand
Upon the high anointed of the Lord: ... [19.250]
O, be advised ere thou dost begin:
Dispatch me straight, but meddle not with him.

LEIR: Friend, thy commission is to deal with me,
And I am he that hath deserved all:
The plot was laid to take away my life:
And here it is, I do entreat thee take it:
Yet for my sake, and as thou art a man,
Spare this my friend, that hither with me came:
I brought him forth, whereas he had not been,
But for good will to bear me company. ... [19.260]
He left his friends, his country and his goods,
And came with me in most extremity.
Oh, if he should miscarry here and die,
Who is the cause of it, but only I?

MESS: Why that am I, let that ne're trouble thee.

LEIR: O no, tis I. O, had I now to give thee
The monarchy of all the spacious world

To save his life, I would bestow it on thee:
But I have nothing but these tears and prayers,
And the submission of a bended knee. [*Kneel.*] ... [19.270]
O, if all this to mercy move thy mind,
Spare him, in heaven thou shalt like mercy find.

MESS: I am as hard to be moved as another, and yet me
thinks the strength of their persuasions stirs me a little.

PERILLUS: My friend, if fear of the almighty power
Have power to move thee, we have said enough:
But if thy mind be movable with gold,
We have not presently to give it thee:
Yet to thyself thou mayst do greater good,
To keep thy hands still undefiled from blood: ... [19.280]
For do but well consider with thyself,
When thou hast finished this outrageous act,
What horror still will haunt thee for the deed:
Think this again, that they which would incense
Thee for to be the Butcher of their father,
When it is done, for fear it should be known,
Would make a means to rid thee from the world:
Oh, then art thou for ever tied in chains
Of everlasting torments to endure,
Even in the hottest hole of grisly hell, ... [19.290]
Such pains, as never mortal tongue can tell.
[*It thunders. He quakes, and lets fall the Dagger next to Perillus.*]

LEIR: O, heavens be thanked, he will spare my friend.
Now when thou wilt come make an end of me.
[*He lets fall the other dagger.*]

PERILLUS: Oh, happy sight! he means to save my Lord.
The King of heaven continue this good mind.

LEIR: Why stayst thou to do execution?

MESS: I am as willful as you for your life:
I will not do it, now you do entreat me.

PERILLUS: Ah, now I see thou hast some spark of grace.

MESS: Beshrew you for it, you have put it in me: ... [19.300]
The parlorest old men, that ere I heard.
Well, to be flat, I'll not meddle with you:
Here I found you, and here I'll leave you:

If any ask you why the case so stands?
Say that your tongues were better than your hands.
[*Exit Messenger.*]

PERILLUS: Farewell. If ever we together meet,
It shall go hard, but I will thee regret.
Courage, my Lord, the worst is overpast;
Let us give thanks to God, and high us hence.

LEIR: Thou are deceived; for I am past the best, ... [19.310]
And know not whither for to go from hence:
Death had been better welcome unto me,
Than longer life to add more misery.

PERILLUS: It were not good to return from whence we came,
Unto your daughter Ragan back again.
Now let us go to France, unto Cordella,
Your youngest daughter, doubtless she will succor you.

LEIR: Oh, how can I persuade myself of that,
Since the other two are quite devoid of love;
To whom I was so kind, as that my gifts, ... [19.320]
Might make them love me, if 'twere nothing else?

PERILLUS: No worldly gifts, but grace from God on high,
Doth nourish virtue and true charity.
Remember well what words Cordella spake,
What time you asked her, how she loved your Grace.
She said, her love unto you was as much,
As ought a child to bear unto her father.

LEIR: But she did find, my love was not to her,
As should a father bear unto a child.

PERILLUS: That makes not her love to be any less, ... [19.330]
If she do love you as a child should do:
You have tried two, try one more for my sake.
I'll ne're entreat you further trial make.
Remember well the dream you had of late,
And think what comfort it foretells to us.

LEIR: Come, truest friend, that ever man possessed,
O know thou counsel'st all things for the best:
If this third daughter play a kinder part,
It comes of God, and not of my desert. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 20

[Enter Enter the Gallian Ambassador solus.]

AMB: There is of late news come unto the Court,
That old Lord Leir remains in Cambria:
I'll hie me thither presently, to impart
My letters and my message unto him.
I never was less welcome to a place
In all my life time, than I have been hither,
Especially unto the stately Queen,
Who would not cast one gracious look on me,
But still with low'ring and suspicious eyes,
Would take exceptions at each word I spake, ... [20.10]
And fain she would have undermined me,
To know what my Ambassage did import:
But she is like to hop without her hope,
And in this matter for to want her will,
Though (by report) she'll hav't in all things else.
Well, I will post away for Cambria:
Within these few days I hope to be there. [Exit.]

Scene 21

[Enter the King and Queen of Gallia, & Mumford.]

KING: By this, our father understands our mind,
And our kind greetings sent to him of late:
Therefore my mind presageth ere't be long,
We shall receive from Britain happy news.

CORDELLA: I fear, my sister will dissuade his mind;
For she to me hath always been unkind.

KING: Fear not, my love, since that we know the worst,
The last means helps, if that we miss the first:
If he'll not come to Gallia unto us,
Then we will sail to Britain unto him. ... [21.10]

MUMFORD: Well, if I once see Britain again,
I have sworn, I'll ne're come home without my wench,
And I'll not be forsworn,
I'll rather never come home while I live.

CORDELLA: Are you sure, Mumford, she is a maid still?

MUMFORD: Nay, I'll not swear she is a maid, but she goes for one:
I'll take her at all adventures, if I can get her.

CORDELLA: Aye, that's well put in.

MUMFORD: Well put in? nay, it was ill put in; for had it
Been as well put in, as ere I put in my days, ... [21.20]
I would have made her follow me to France.

CORDELLA: Nay, you'd have been so kind, as take her with you,
Or else, were I as she,
I would have been so loving, as I'd stay behind you:
Yet I must confess, you are a very proper man,
And able to make a wench do more than she would do.

MUMFORD: Well, I have a pair of slops for the nonce,
Will hold all your mocks.

KING: Nay, we see you have a handsome hose.

CORDELLA: Aye, and of the newest fashion. ... [21.30]

MUMFORD: More bobs, more: put them in still,
They'll serve instead of bombast; yet put not in too many,
lest the seams crack, and they fly out amongst you again:
you must not think to outface me so easily in my mistress' quarrel,
who if I see once again, ten team of horses shall
not draw me away, till I have full and whole possession.

KING: Aye, but one team and a cart will serve the turn.

CORDELLA: Not only for him, but also for his wench.

MUMFORD: Well, you are two to one, I'll give you over:
And since I see you so pleasantly disposed, ... [21.40]
Which indeed is but seldom seen, I'll claim
A promise of you, which you shall not deny me:
For promise is debt, & by this hand you promised it me.
Therefore you owe it me, and you shall pay it me,
Or I'll sue you upon an action of unkindness.

KING: Prithy, Lord Mumford, what promise did I make thee?

MUMFORD: Faith, nothing but this,
That the next fair weather, which is very now,
You would go in progress down to the seaside,
Which is very near. ... [21.50]

KING: Faith, in this motion I will join with thee,
And be a mediator to my Queen.
Prithy, my Love, let this match go forward,
My mind foretells, 'twill be a lucky voyage.

CORDELLA: Entreaty needs not, where you may command,
So you be pleased, I am right well content:
Yet, as the Sea I much desire to see,
So am I most unwilling to be seen.

KING: We'll go disguised, all unknown to any.

CORDELLA: Howsoever you make one, I'll make another. ... [21.60]

MUMFORD: And I the third: oh, I am overjoyed!
See what love is, which getteth with a word,
What all the world besides could ne're obtain!
But what disguises shall we have, my Lord?

KING: Faith thus: my Queen and I will be disguised,
Like a plain country couple, and you shall be Roger
Our man, and wait upon us: or if you will,
You shall go first, and we will wait on you.

MUMFORD: 'Twere more than time; this device is excellent.
Come let us about it. [*Exeunt.*] ... [21.70]

Scene 22

[*Enter Cambria and Ragan with Nobles.*]

CAMBRIA: What strange mischance or unexpected hap
Hath thus deprived us of our father's presence?
Can no man tell us what's become of him,
With whom we did converse not two days since?
My Lords, let everywhere light-horse be sent,
To scour about through all our Regiment.
Dispatch a Post immediately to Cornwall,
To see if any news be of him there;
Myself will make a strict inquiry here,
And all about our Cities near at hand, ... [22.10]
Till certain news of his abode be brought.

RAGAN: All sorrow is but counterfeit to mine,
Whose lips are almost sealed up with grief:
Mine is the substance, whilst they do but seem
To weep the loss, which tears cannot redeem.

O, ne're was heard so strange a misadventure,
A thing so far beyond the reach of sense,
Since no man's reason in the cause can enter.
What hath removed my father thus from hence?
O, I do fear some charm or invocation ... [22.20]
Of wicked spirits, or infernal fiends,
Stirred by Cordella, moves this innovation,
And brings my father timeless to his end.
But might I know, that the detested Witch
Were certain cause of this uncertain ill,
Myself to France would go in some disguise,
And with these nails scratch out her hateful eyes:
For since I am deprived of my father,
I loath my life, and with my death the rather.

CAMBRIA: The heavens are just, and hate impiety, ... [22.30]
And will (no doubt) reveal such heinous crimes:
Censure not any, till you know the right:
Let him be Judge, that bringeth truth to light.

RAGAN: O, but my grief, like to a swelling tide,
Exceeds the bounds of common patience:
Nor can I moderate my tongue so much,
To conceal them, whom I hold in suspect.

CAMBRIA: This matter shall be sifted: if it be she,
A thousand Frances shall not harbor her.
[Enter the Gallian Ambassador.]

AMB: All happiness unto the Cambrian King. ... [22.40]

CAMBRIA: Welcome, my friend, from whence is thy Ambassage?

AMB: I came from Gallia, unto Cornwall sent,
With letters to your honorable father,
Whom there not finding, as I did expect,
I was directed hither to repair.

RAGAN: Frenchman, what is thy message to my father?

AMB: My letters, Madam, will import the same,
Which my Commission is for to deliver.

RAGAN: In his absence you may trust us with your letters.

AMB: I must perform my charge in such a manner, ... [22.50]
As I have strict commandment from the King.

RAGAN: There is good packing twixt your King and you:
You need not hither come to ask for him,
You know where he is better than ourselves.

AMB: Madam, I hope, not far off.

RAGAN: Hath the young murd'ress, your outrageous Queen,
No means to color her detested deeds,
In finishing my guiltless father's days,
(Because he gave her nothing of a dower)
But by the color of a feigned Ambassage, ... [22.60]
To send him letters hither to our Court?
Go carry them to them that sent them hither,
And bid them keep their scrolls unto themselves:
They cannot blind us with such slight excuse,
To smother up so monstrous vild abuse.
And were it not, it is 'gainst law of Arms,
To offer violence to a Messenger,
We would inflict such torments on thyself,
As should enforce thee to reveal the truth.

AMB: Madam, your threats no whit appall my mind, ... [22.70]
I know my conscience guiltless of this act;
My King and Queen, I dare be sworn, are free
From any thought of such impiety:
And therefore, Madam, you have done them wrong,
And ill beseeming with a sisters love,
Who in mere duty tender him as much,
As ever you respected him for dower.
The King your husband will not say as much.

CAMBRIA: I suspend my judgment for a time,
Till more apparence give us further light: ... [22.80]
Yet to be plain, your coming doth enforce
A great suspicion to our doubtful mind,
And that you do resemble, to be brief,
Him that first robs, and then cries, Stop the thief.

AMB: Pray God some near you have not done the like.

RAGAN: Hence, saucy mate, reply no more to us.
[*She strikes him.*]
For law of Arms shall not protect thy tongue.

AMB: Ne're was I offered such discourtesy;
God and my King, I trust, ere it be long,
Will find a mean to remedy this wrong. [*Exit Amb.*] ... [22.90]

RAGAN: How shall I live, to suffer this disgrace,
At every base and vulgar peasants hands?
It ill befitteth my imperial state,
To be thus used, and no man to take my part. [*She weeps.*]

CAMBRIA: What should I do? infringe the law of Arms,
Were to my everlasting obloquy:
But I will take revenge upon his master,
Which sent him hither, to delude us thus.

RAGAN: Nay, if you put up with this, be sure, ere long,
Now that my father is thus made away, ... [22.100]
She'll come & claim a third part of your Crown,
As due unto her by inheritance.

CAMBRIA: But I will prove her title to be nought
But shame, and the reward of Parricide,
And make her an example to the world,
For after-ages to admire her penance.
This will I do, as I am Cambria's King,
Or lose my life, to prosecute revenge.
Come, first let's learn what news is of our father,
And then proceed, as best occasion fits. [*Exeunt.*] ... [22.110]

Scene 23

[*Enter Leir, Perillus, and two Mariners, in sea-gowns and sea-caps.*]

PERILLUS: My honest friends, we are ashamed to show
The great extremity of our present state,
In that at this time we are brought so low,
That we want money for to pay our passage.
The truth is so, we met with some good fellows,
A little before we came aboard your ship,
Which stripped us quite of all the coin we had,
And left us not a penny in our purses:
Yet wanting money, we will use the mean,
To see you satisfied to the uttermost. [*Look on Lear.*] ... [23.10]

1 MAR: Here's a good gown, 'twould become me passing well,
I should be fine in it. [*Look on Perillus.*]

2 MAR: Here's a good cloak, I marvel how I should look in it.

LEIR: Faith, had we others to supply their room,
Though ne'er so mean, you willingly should have them.

1 MAR: Do you hear, sir? you look like an honest man;
I'll not stand to do you a pleasure: here's a good strong motley
gabardine, cost me xiiii. good shillings at Billingsgate; give
me your gown for it, & your cap for mine, & I'll forgive
your passage. ... [23.20]

LEIR: With all my heart, and xx. thanks. [*Leir & he changeth.*]

2 MAR: Do you hear, sir? you shall have a better match
than he, because you are my friend: here is a good sheeps
russet sea-gown, will bide more stress, I warrant you,
than two of his, yet for you seem to be an honest gentleman,
I am content to change it for your cloak, and ask you
nothing for your passage more. [*Pull off Perillus cloak.*]

PERILLUS: My own I willingly would change with thee,
And think myself indebted to thy kindness:
But would my friend might keep his garment still. ... [23.30]
My friend, I'll give thee this new doublet, if thou wilt
Restore his gown unto him him back again.

1 MAR: Nay, if I do, would I might ne're eat powdered
beef and mustard more, nor drink Can of good liquor whilst
I live. My friend, you have small reason to seek to hinder me
of my bargain: but the best is, a bargain's a bargain.

LEIR: Kind friend, it is much better as it is; [*Leir to Perillus.*]
For by this means we may escape unknown,
Til time and opportunity do fit.

2 MAR: Hark, hark, they are laying their heads together, ... [23.40]
They'll repent them of their bargain anon,
'Twere best for us to go while we are well.

1 MAR: God be with you, sir, for your passage back again,
I'll use you as unreasonable as another.

LEIR: I know thou wilt; but we hope to bring ready money
With us, when we come back again. [*Exeunt Mariners.*]
Were ever men in this extremity,
In a strange country, and devoid of friends,
And not a penny for to help ourselves?
Kind friend, what thinkst thou will become of us? ... [23.50]

PERILLUS: Be of good cheer, my Lord, I have a doublet,
Will yield us money enough to serve our turns,
Until we come unto your daughter's Court:
And then, I hope, we shall find friends enough.

LEIR: Ah, kind Perillus, that is it I fear,
And makes me faint, or ever I come there.
Can kindness spring out of ingratitude?
Or love be reaped, where hatred hath been sown?
Can Henbane join in league with Mithridate?
Or Sugar grow in Wormwood's bitter stalk? ... [23.60]
It cannot be, they are too opposite:
And so am I to any kindness here.
I have thrown Wormwood on the sugared youth,
And like to Henbane poisoned the Fount,
Whence flowed the Mithridate of a child's good will:
I, like an envious thorn, have pricked the heart,
And turned sweet Grapes, to sour unrelished Sloes:
The causeless ire of my respectless breast,
Hath soured the sweet milk of dame Nature's paps:
My bitter words have galled her honey thoughts, ... [23.70]
And weeds of rancor choked the flower of grace.
Then what remainder is of any hope,
But all our fortunes will go quite aslope?

PERILLUS: Fear not, my Lord, the perfect good indeed,
Can never be corrupted by the bad:
A new fresh vessel still retains the taste
Of that which first is poured into the same:
And therefore, though you name yourself the thorn,
The weed, the gall, the henbane & the wormwood;
Yet she'll continue in her former state, ... [23.80]
The honey milk, Grape, Sugar, Mithridate.

LEIR: Thou pleasing Orator unto me in woe,
Cease to beguile me with thy hopeful speeches:
O join with me, and think of nought but crosses,
And then we'll one lament another's losses.

PERILLUS: Why, say the worst, the worst can be but death,
And death is better than for to despair:
Then hazard death, which may convert to life;
Banish despair, which brings a thousand deaths.

LEIR: O overcome with thy strong arguments, I yield, ... [23.90]
To be directed by thee, as thou wilt:

As thou yieldst comfort to my crazed thoughts,
Would I could yield the like unto thy body,
Which is full weak, I know, and ill-apaid
For want of fresh meat and due sustenance.

PERILLUS: Alack, my Lord, my heart doth bleed, to think
That you should be in such extremity.

LEIR: Come, let us go, and see what God will send;
When all means fail, he is the surest friend. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 24

[*Enter the Gallian King and Queen, and Mumford,
with a basket, disguised like Country folk.*]

KING: This tedious journey all on foot, sweet Love,
Cannot be pleasing to your tender joints,
Which ne're were used to these toilsome walks.

CORDELLA: I never in my life took more delight
In any journey, than I do in this:
It did me good, when as we happed to light
Amongst the merry crew of country folk,
To see what industry and pains they took,
To win them commendations 'mongst their friends.
Lord, how they labor to bestir themselves, ... [24.10]
And in their quirks to go beyond the Moon,
And so take on them with such antic fits,
That one would think they were beside their wits!
Come away, Roger, with your basket.

MUMFORD: Soft, Dame, here comes a couple of old youths,
I must needs make myself fat with jesting at them.
[*Enter Leir & Perillus very faintly.*]

CORDELLA: Nay, prithy do not, they do seem to be
Men much o'ergone with grief and misery.
Let's stand aside, and hearken what they say.

LEIR: Ah, my Perillus, now I see we both ... [24.20]
Shall end our days in this unfruitful soil.
Oh, I do faint for want of sustenance:
And thou, I know, in little better case.
No gentle tree affords one taste of fruit,
To comfort us, until we meet with men:
No lucky path conducts our luckless steps

Unto a place where any comfort dwells.
Sweet rest betide unto our happy souls;
For here I see our bodies must have end.

PERILLUS: Ah, my dear Lord, how doth my heart lament, ... [24.30]
To see you brought to this extremity!
O, if you love me, as you do profess,
Or ever thought well of me in my life, [*He strips up his arms.*]
Feed on this flesh, whose veins are not so dry,
But there is virtue left to comfort you.
O, feed on this, if this will do you good,
I'll smile for joy, to see you suck my blood.

LEIR: I am no Cannibal, that I should delight
To slake my hungry jaws with human flesh:
I am no devil, or ten times worse than so, ... [24.40]
To suck the blood of such a peerless friend.
O, do not think that I respect my life
So dearly, as I do thy loyal love.
Ah, Britain, I shall never see thee more,
That hast unkindly banished thy King:
And yet thou dost not make me to complain,
But they which were more near to me than thou.

CORDELLA: What do I hear? this lamentable voice,
Me thinks, ere now I often times have heard.

LEIR: Ah, Gonorill, was half my Kingdom's gift ... [24.50]
The cause that thou didst seek to have my life?
Ah, cruel Ragan, did I give thee all,
And all could not suffice without my blood?
Ah, poor Cordella, did I give thee nought,
Nor never shall be able for to give?
O, let me warn all ages that ensueth,
How they trust flattery, and reject the trueth.
Well, unkind Girls, I here forgive you both,
Yet the just heavens will hardly do the like;
And only crave forgiveness at the end ... [24.60]
Of good Cordella, and of thee, my friend;
Of God, whose Majesty I have offended,
By my transgression many thousand ways:
Of her, dear heart, whom I for no occasion
Turned out of all, through flatterers persuasion:
Of thee, kind friend, who but for me, I know,
Hadst never come unto this place of woe.

CORDELLA: Alack, that ever I should live to see
My noble father in this misery.

KING: Sweet Love, reveal not what thou art as yet, ... [24.70]
Until we know the ground of all this ill.

CORDELLA: O, but some meat, some meat: do you not see,
How near they are to death for want of food?

PERILLUS: Lord, which didst help thy servants at their need,
Or now or never send us help with speed.
Oh comfort, comfort! yonder is a banquet,
And men and women, my Lord: be of good cheer:
For I see comfort coming very near.
O my Lord, a banquet, and men and women!

LEIR: O, let kind pity mollify their hearts, ... [24.80]
That they may help us in our great extremes.

PERILLUS: God save your, friends; & if this blessed banquet
Affordeth any food or sustenance,
Even for his sake that saved us all from death,
Vouchsafe to save us from the gripe of famine.
[*She bringeth him to the table.*]

CORDELLA: Here father, sit and eat, here, sit & drink:
And would it were far better for your sakes.
[*Perillus takes Leir by the hand to the table.*]

PERILLUS: I'll give you thanks anon: my friend doth faint,
And needeth present comfort. [*Leir drinks.*]

MUMFORD: I warrant, he ne're stays to say grace: ... [24.90]
O, there's no sauce to a good stomach.

PERILLUS: The blessed God of heaven hath thought upon us.

LEIR: The thanks be his, and these kind courteous folk,
By whose humanity we are preserved.
[*They eat hungerly, Leir drinks.*]

CORDELLA: And may that draught be unto him, as was
That which old Aeson drank, which did renew
His withered age, and made him young again.
And may that meat be unto him, as was
That which Elias ate, in strength whereof

He walked forty days, and never fainted. ... [24.100]
Shall I conceal me longer from my father?
Or shall I manifest myself to him?

KING: Forbear a while, until his strength return,
Lest being overjoyed with seeing thee,
His poor weak senses should forsake their office,
And so our cause of joy be turned to sorrow.

PERILLUS: What cheer, my Lord? how do you feel yourself?

LEIR: Methinks, I never saw such savory meat:
It is as pleasant as the blessed Manna,
That rained from heaven amongst the Israelites: ... [24.110]
It hath recalled my spirits home again,
And made me fresh, as erst I was before.
But how shall we congratulate their kindness?

PERILLUS: In faith, I know not how sufficiently;
But the best mean that I can think on, is this:
I'll offer them my doublet in requital;
For we have nothing else to spare.

LEIR: Nay, stay, Perillus, for they shall have mine.

PERILLUS: Pardon, my Lord, I swear they shall have mine.
[Perillus proffers his doublet: they will not take it.]

LEIR: Ah, who would think such kindness should remain ... [24.120]
Among such strange and unacquainted men:
And that such hate should harbor in the breast
Of those, which have occasion to be best?

CORDELLA: Ah, good old father, tell to me thy grief,
I'll sorrow with thee, if not add relief.

LEIR: Ah, good young daughter, I may call thee so,
For thou art like a daughter I did owe.

CORDELLA: Do you not owe her still? what, is she dead?

LEIR: No, God forbid: but all my interest's gone,
By showing myself too much unnatural: ... [24.130]
So have I lost the title of a father,
And may be called a stranger to her rather.

CORDELLA: Your title's good still: for tis always known,
A man may do as him list with his own.
But have you but one daughter then in all?

LEIR: Yes, I have more by two, than would I had.

CORDELLA: O, say not so, but rather see the end:
They that are bad, may have the grace to mend:
But how have they offended you so much?

LEIR: If from the first, I should relate the cause, ... [24.140]
'Twould make a heart of Adamant to weep;
And thou, poor soul, kind-hearted as thou art,
Dost weep already, ere I do begin.

CORDELLA: For God's love tell it, and when you have done,
I'll tell the reason why I weep so soon.

LEIR: Then know this first, I am a Britain born,
And had three daughters by one loving wife:
And though I say it, of beauty they were sped;
Especially the youngest of the three,
For her perfections hardly matched could be: ... [24.150]
On these I doted with a jealous love,
And thought to try which of them loved me best,
By asking them, which would do most for me?
The first and second flattered me with words,
And vowed they loved me better than their lives:
The youngest said, she loved me as a child
Might do: her answer I esteemed most vild,
And presently in an outrageous mood,
I turned her from me to go sink or swim:
And all I had, even to the very clothes, ... [24.160]
I gave in dowry with the other two:
And she that best deserved the greatest share,
I gave her nothing, but disgrace and care.
Now mark the sequel: When I had done thus,
I sojourned in my eldest daughter's house,
Where for a time I was entreated well,
And lived in state sufficing my content:
But every day her kindness did grow cold,
Which I with patience put up well enough,
And seemed not to see the things I saw: ... [24.170]
But at the last she grew so far incensed
With moody fury, and with causeless hate,
That in most vild and contumelious terms,

She bade me pack, and harbor somewhere else.
Then was I fain for refuge to repair
Unto my other daughter for relief,
Who gave me pleasing and most courteous words;
But in her actions showed herself so sore,
As never any daughter did before:
She prayed me in a morning out betime, ... [24.180]
To go to a thicket two miles from the Court,
Pointing that there she would come talk with me:
There she had set a shag-haired murd'ring wretch,
To massacre my honest friend and me.
Then judge yourself, although my tale be brief,
If ever may had greater cause of grief.

KING: Nor never like impiety was done,
Since the creation of the world begun.

LEIR: And now I am constrained to seek relief
Of her, to whom I have been so unkind; ... [24.190]
Whose censure, if it do award me death,
I must confess she pays me but my due:
But if she show a loving daughter's part,
It comes of God and her, not my desert.

CORDELLA: No doubt she will, I dare be sworn she will.

LEIR: How know you that, not knowing what she is?

CORDELLA: Myself a father have a great way hence,
Used me as ill as ever you did her;
Yet, that his reverend age I once might see,
I'd creep along, to meet him on my knee. ... [24.200]

LEIR: O, no men's children are unkind but mine.

CORDELLA: Condemn not all, because of other's crime:
But look, dear father, look behold and see
Thy loving daughter speaketh unto thee. [*She kneels.*]

LEIR: O, stand thou up, it is my part to kneel,
And ask forgiveness for my former faults. [*He kneels.*]

CORDELLA: O, if you wish, I should enjoy my breath,
Dear father rise, or I receive my death. [*He riseth.*]

LEIR: Then I will rise to satisfy your mind,
But kneel again, til pardon be resigned. [*He kneels.*] ... [24.210]

CORDELLA: I pardon you: the word beseems not me:
But I do say so, for to ease your knee.
You gave me life, you were the cause that I
Am what I am, who else had never been.

LEIR: But you gave life to me and to my friend,
Whose days had else had an untimely end.

CORDELLA: You brought me up, when as I was but young,
And far unable for to help myself.

LEIR: I cast thee forth, when as thou wast but young,
And far unable for to help thyself. ... [24.220]

CORDELLA: God, world and nature say I do you wrong,
That can endure to see you kneel so long.

PERILLUS: Let me break off this loving controversy,
Which doth rejoyce my very soul to see.
Good father, rise, she is your loving daughter, [*He riseth.*]
And honors you with as respective duty,
As if you were the Monarch of the world.

CORDELLA: But I will never rise from off my knee, [*She kneels.*]
Until I have your blessing, and your pardon
Of all my faults committed any way ... [24.230]
From my first birth unto this present day.

LEIR: The blessing, which the God of Abraham gave
Unto the tribe of Juda, light on thee,
And multiply thy days, that thou mayst see
Thy children's children prosper after thee.
Thy faults, which are just none that I do know,
God pardon on high, and I forgive below. [*She riseth.*]

CORDELLA: Now is my heart at quiet, and doth leap
Within my breast, for joy of this good hap:
And now (dear father) welcome to our Court, ... [24.240]
And welcome (kind Perillus) unto me,
Mirror of virtue and true honesty.

LEIR: O, he hath been the kindest friend to me,
That ever man had in adversity.

PERILLUS: My tongue doth fail, to say what heart doth think,
I am so ravished with exceeding joy.

KING: All you have spoke: now let me speak my mind,
And in few words much matter here conclude: [*He kneels.*]
If ere my heart do harbor any joy,
Or true content repose within my breast, ... [24.250]
Till I have rooted out this viperous sect,
And repossessed my father of his crown,
Let me be counted for the perjurdst man,
That ever spake word since the world began. [*Rise.*]

MUMFORD: Let me pray too, that never prayed before; [*Mumford kneels.*]
If ere I resalute the British earth,
(As ere't be long) I do presume I shall)
And do return from thence without my wench,
Let me be gelded for my recompense. [*Rise.*]

KING: Come, let's to arms for to redress this wrong: ... [24.260]
Till I am there, me thinks, the time seems long. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 25

[*Enter Ragan sola.*]

RAGAN: I feel a hell of conscience in my breast,
Tormenting me with horror for my fact,
And makes me in an agony of doubt,
For fear the world should find my dealing out.
The slave whom I appointed for the act,
I ne're set eye upon the peasant since:
O, could I get him for to make him sure,
My doubts would cease, and I should rest secure.
But if the old men, with persuasive words,
Have saved their lives, and made him to relent; ... [25.10]
Then are they fled unto the Court of France,
And like a Trumpet manifest my shame.
A shame on these white-livered slaves, say I,
That with fair words so soon are overcome.
O God, that I had been but made a man;
Or that my strength were equal with my will!
These foolish men are nothing but mere pity,
And melt as butter doth against the Sun.
Why should they have preeminence over us,
Since we are creatures of more brave resolve? ... [25.20]
I swear, I am quite out of charity
With all the heartless men in Christendom.

A pox upon them, when they are afraid
To give a stab, or slit a paltry Windpipe,
Which are so easy matters to be done.
Well, had I thought the slave would serve me so,
Myself would have been executioner:
Tis now undone, and if that it be known,
I'll make as good shift as I can for one.
He that repines at me, how ere it stands, ... [25.30]
'Twere best for him to keep him from my hands. [*Exit.*]

Scene 26

[*Sound Drums & Trumpets: Enter the Gallian King, Leir, Mumford and the army.*]

KING: Thus have we brought our army to the sea,
Whereas our ships are ready to receive us:
The wind stands fair, and we in four hours sail
May easily arrive on British shore,
Where unexpected we may them surprise,
And gain a glorious victory with ease.
Wherefore, my loving Countrymen, resolve,
Since truth and justice fighteth on our sides,
That we shall march with conquest where we go.
Myself will be as forward as the first, ... [26.10]
And step-by-step march with the hardiest wight:
And not the meanest soldier in our Camp
Shall be in danger, but I'll second him.
To you, my Lord, we give the whole command
Of all the army, next unto ourself,
Not doubting of you, but you will extend
Your wonted valor in this needful case,
Encouraging the rest to do the like,
By your approved magnanimity.

MUMFORD: My Liege, tis needless to spur a willing horse, ... [26.20]
That's apt enough to run himself to death:
For here I swear by that sweet Saint's bright eye,
Which are the stars, which guide me to good hap,
Either to see my old Lord crowned anew,
Or in his cause to bid the world adieu.

LEIR: Thanks, good Lord Mumford, tis more of your good will,
Than any merit or desert in me.

MUMFORD: And now to you, my worthy Countrymen,
Ye valiant race of Genovestan Gauls,
Surnamed Red-shanks, for your chivalry, ... [26.30]

Because you fight up to the shanks in blood;
Show yourselves now to be right Gauls indeed,
And be so bitter on your enemies,
That they may say, you are as bitter as Gall.
Gall them, brave Shot, with your Artillery:
Gall them, brave Halberds, with your sharp-point Bills,
Each in their pointed place, not one, but all,
Fight for the credit of yourselves and Gaul.

KING: Then what should more persuasion need to those,
That rather wish to deal, than hear of blows? ... [26.40]
Let's to our ships, and if that God permit,
In four hours' sail, I hope we shall be there.

MUMFORD: And in five hours more, I make no doubt,
But we shall bring our wished desires about. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 27

[*Enter a Captain of the watch, and two watchmen.*]

CAPTAIN: My honest friends, it is your turn tonight,
To watch in this place, near about the Beacon,
And vigilantly have regard,
If any fleet of ships pass hitherward:
Which if you do, your office is to fire
The Beacon presently, and raise the town. [*Exit.*]

1 WATCH: Aye, aye, aye, fear nothing; we know our charge, I
warrant: I have been a watchman about this Beacon this xxx.
year, and yet I ne're see it stir, but stood as quietly as might be.

2 WATCH: Faith neighbor, and you'll follow my vice, ... [27.10]
instead of watching the Beacon, we'll go to goodman
Gennings, & watch a pot of Ale and a rasher of Bacon: and
if we do not drink ourselves drunk, then so; I warrant, the
Beacon will see us when we come out again.

1 WATCH: Aye, but how if somebody excuse us to the Captain?

2 WATCH: Tis no matter, I'll prove by good reason that we
watch the Beacon: ass for example.

1 WATCH: I hope you do not call me ass by craft, neighbor.

2 WATCH: No, no, but for example: Say here stands the pot
of ale, that's the Beacon.

1 WATCH: ~~~ Aye, Aye, tis a very good Beacon. ... [27.20]

2 WATCH: Well, say here stands your nose, that's the fire.

1 WATCH: Indeed I must confess, tis somewhat red.

2 WATCH: I see come marching in a dish, half a score pieces of salt Bacon.

1 WATCH: ~~~ I understand your meaning, that's as much to say, half a score ships.

2 WATCH: ~~~ True, you conster right; presently, like a faithful watchman, I fire the Beacon, and call up the town.

1 WATCH: Aye, that's as much as to say, you set your nose to the pot, and drink up the drink.

2 WATCH: ~~~ You are in the right; come, let's go fire the Beacon. [*Exeunt.*] ... [27.30]

Scene 28

[*Enter the King of Gallia with a still march, Mumford & soldiers.*]

KING: Now march our ensigns on the British earth,
And we are near approaching to the town:
Then look about you, valiant Countrymen,
And we shall finish this exploit with ease.
Th'inhabitants of this mistrustful place,
Are dead asleep, as men that are secure:
Here shall we skirmish but with naked men,
Devoid of sense, new-waked from a dream,
That know not what our coming doth pretend,
Till they do feel our meaning on their skins: ... [28.10]
Therefore assail: God and our right for us. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene 29

[*Alarum, with men and women half naked:
Enter two Captains without doublets, with swords.*]

1 CAP: Where are these villains that were set to watch,
And fire the Beacon, if occasion served,
That thus have suffered us to be surprised,
And never given notice to the town?

We are betrayed, and quite devoid of hope,
By any means to fortify ourselves.

2 CAP: Tis ten to one the peasants are o'ercome with
drink and sleep, and so neglect their charge.

1 CAP: A whirlwind carry them quick to a whirlpool,
That there the slaves may drink their bellies full. ... [29.10]

2 CAP: This tis, to have the Beacon so near the Ale-house.
[*Enter the watchmen drunk, with each a pot.*]

1 CAP: Out on ye, villains, whither run you now?

1 WATCH: To fire the town, and call up the Beacon.

2 WATCH: No, no, sir, to fire the Beacon. [*He drinks.*]

2 CAP: What, with a pot of ale, you drunken Rogues?

1 CAP: You'll fire the Beacon, when the town is lost:
I'll teach you how to tend your office better. [*Draw to stab them.*]
[*Enter Mumford, Captains run away.*]

MUMFORD: Yield, yield, yield. [*He kicks down their pots.*]

1 WATCH: Reel? no, we do not reel:
You may lack a pot of Ale ere you dye. ... [29.20]

MUMFORD: But in mean space, I answer, you want none.
Well, there's no dealing with you, y'are tall men, & well-weaponed,
I would there were no worse than you in the town. [*Exit.*]

2 WATCH: A speaks like an honest man; my cholers past already.
Come, neighbor, let's go.

1 WATCH: Nay, first let's see and we can stand. [*Exeunt.*]
[*Alarum, excursions, Mumford after them, and some half naked.*]

Scene 30

[*Enter the Gallian King, Leir, Mumford, Cordella, Perillus, and soldiers, with the chief of the town bound.*]

KING: Fear not, my friends, you shall receive no hurt,
If you'll subscribe unto your lawful King,
And quite revoke your fealty from Cambria,

And from aspiring Cornwall too, whose wives
Have practiced treason 'gainst their father's life.
We come in justice of your wronged King,
And do intend no harm at all to you,
So you submit unto your lawful King.

LEIR: Kind Countrymen, it grieves me, that perforce,
I am constrained to use extremities. ... [30.10]

NOBLE: Long have you here been looked-for, good my Lord,
And wished-for by a general consent:
And had we known your Highness had arrived,
We had not made resistance to your Grace:
And now, my gracious Lord, you need not doubt,
But all the Country will yield presently,
Which since your absence have him greatly taxed,
For to maintain their over-swelling pride.
We'll presently send word to all our friends;
When they have notice, they will come apace. ... [30.20]

LEIR: Thanks, loving subjects; and thanks, worthy son,
Thanks, my kind daughter, thanks to you, my Lord,
Who willingly adventured have your blood,
(Without desert) to do me so much good.

MUMFORD: O, say no so:
I have been much beholding to your Grace:
I must confess, I have been in some skirmishes,
But I was never in the like to this:
For where I was wont to meet with armed men,
I was now encountered with naked women. ... [30.30]

CORDELLA: We that are feeble, and want use of Arms,
Will pray to God, to shield you from all harms.

LEIR: The while your hands do manage ceaseless toil,
Our hearts shall pray, the foes may have the foil.

PERILLUS: We'll fast and pray, whilst you for us do fight,
That victory may prosecute the right.

KING: Me thinks, your words do amplify (my friends)
And add fresh vigor to my willing limbs: [*Drum.*]
But hark, I hear the adverse Drum approach.
God and our right, Saint Denis, and Saint George. ... [30.40]
[*Enter Cornwall, Cambria, Gonorill, Ragan, and the army.*]

CORNWALL: Presumptuous King of Gauls, how darest thou
Presume to enter on our British shore?
And more than that, to take our towns perforce,
And draw our subjects' hearts from their true King?
Be sure to buy it at as dear a price,
As ere you bought presumption in your lives.

KING: O'er-daring Cornwall, know, we came in right,
And just revengement of the wronged King,
Whose daughters there, fell vipers as they are,
Have sought to murder and deprive of life: ... [30.50]
But God protected him from all their spite,
And we are come in justice of his right.

CAMBRIA: Nor he nor thou have any interest here,
But what you win and purchase with the sword.
Thy slanders to our noble virtuous Queenes,
We'll in the battle thrust them down thy throat,
Except for fear of our revenging hands,
Thou fly to sea, as not secure on lands.

MUMFORD: Welshman, I'll so ferret you ere night for that word,
That you shall have no mind to crake so well this twelve-month. ... [30.60]

GONORILL: They lie, that say, we sought our father's death.

RAGAN: Tis merely forged for a color's sake,
To set a gloss on your invasion.
Me thinks, an old man ready for to die,
Should be ashamed to broach so foul a lie.

CORDELLA: Fie, shameless sister, so devoid of grace,
To call our father liar to his face.

GONORILL: Peace (Puritan) dissembling hypocrite,
Which art so good, that thou wilt prove stark naught:
Anon, when as I have you in my fingers, ... [30.70]
I'll make you wish yourself in Purgatory.

PERILLUS: Nay, peace thou monster, shame unto thy sex:
Thou fiend in likeness of a human creature.

RAGAN: I never heard a fouler-spoken man.

LEIR: Out on thee, viper, scum, filthy parricide,
More odious to my sight than is a Toad.
Knowest thou these letters? [*She snatches them & tears them.*]

RAGAN: Think you to outface me with your paltry scrolls?
You come to drive my husband from his right,
Under the color of a forged letter. ... [30.80]

LEIR: Who ever heard the like impiety?

PERILLUS: You are our debtor of more patience:
We were more patient when we stayed for you,
Within the thicket two long hours and more.

RAGAN: What hours? what thicket?

PERILLUS: There, where you sent your servant with your letters,
Sealed with your hand, to send us both to heaven,
Where, as I think, you never mean to come.

RAGAN: Alas, you are grown a child again with age,
Or else your senses dote for want of sleep. ... [30.90]

PERILLUS: Indeed you made us rise betimes, you know,
Yet had a care we should sleep where you bade us stay,
But never wake more till the latter day.

GONORILL: Peace, peace, old fellow, thou art sleepy still.

MUMFORD: Faith, and if you reason till to morrow,
You get no other answer at their hands.
Tis pity two such good faces
Should have so little grace between them.
Well let us see if their husbands with their hands,
Can do as much, as they do with their tongues. ... [30.100]

CAMBRIA: Aye, with their swords they'll make your tongue unsay
What they have said, or else they'll cut them out.

KING: To't, gallants, to't, let's not stand brawling thus.
[*Exeunt both armies.*]

Scene 31

[*Sound alarum: excursions.*]

[*Mumford must chase Cambria away: then cease. Enter Cornwall.*]

CORNWALL: The day is lost, our friends do all revolt,
And join against us with the adverse part:
There is no means of safety but by flight,
And therefore I'll to Cornwall with my Queen. [*Exit.*]
[*Enter Cambria.*]

CAMBRIA: I think, there is a devil in the Camp hath
haunted me today: he hath so tired me, that in a manner
I can fight no more. [*Enter Mumford.*]
Zounds, here he comes, I'll take me to my home.
[*Mumford follows him to the door, and returns.*]

MUMFORD: Farewell (Welshman) give thee but thy due,
Thou hast a light and nimble pair of legs: ... [31.10]
Thou art more in debt to them than to thy hands:
But if I meet thee once again today,
I'll cut them off, and set them to a better heart. [*Exit.*]

Scene 32

[*Alarums and excursions, then sound victory.*
Enter Leir, Perillus, King, Cordella, and Mumford.]

KING: Thanks be to God, your foes are overcome,
And you again possessed of your right.

LEIR: First to the heavens, next, thanks to you, my son,
By whose good means I repossess the same:
Which if it please you to accept yourself,
With all my heart I will resign to you:
For it is yours by right, and none of mine.
First, have you raised, at your own charge, a power
Of valiant Soldiers; (this comes all from you)
Next have you ventured your own person's scathe. ... [32.10]
And lastly, (worthy Gallia never stained)
My kingly title I by thee have gained.

KING: Thank heavens, not me, my zeal to you is such.
Command my utmost, I will never grutch.

CORDELLA: He that with all kind love entreats his Queen,
Will not be to her father unkind seen.

LEIR: Ah, my Cordella, now I call to mind,
The modest answer, which I took unkind:
But now I see, I am no whit beguiled,
Thou lovedst me dearly, and as ought a child. ... [32.20]

And thou (Perillus) partner once in woe,
Thee to requite, the best I can, I'll do:
Yet all I can, aye, were it ne're so much,
Were not sufficient, thy true love is such.
Thanks (worthy, Mumford) to thee last of all,
Not greeted last, 'cause thy desert was small;
No, thou hast Lion-like laid on today,
Chasing the Cornwall King and Cambria;
Who with my daughters, daughters did I say?
To save their lives, the fugitives did play. ... [32.30]
Come, son and daughter, who did me advance,
Repose with me awhile, and then for France.
[*Sound drums and Trumpets. Exeunt.*]

Finis

Glossary for King Leir

by B. Flues 2005

(FS means found in Shakespeare.)

(NFS means not found in Shakespeare)

adamant (n): alleged mineral, ascribed with the hard, unbreakable properties of a diamond; others ascribed to it properties of the lodestone or magnet. Golding uses both meanings, according to need. FS (3-1H6, MND, T&C); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir; many others.

adventure (v): risk, dare. FS (R&J, MV); (anon.) Leir.

affright (v): terrify. FS (17); Watson Hekatompathia; Lyly Love's Met; Kyd Cornelia; Marlowe Edw2; Nashe Menaphon (1st OED citation); (anon.) Woodstock, Leir, Penelope, Leicester's Gh; Munday Huntington; Chapman D'Olive.

appall (v): (1) weaken. FS (2-1H6, Edw3); Golding Ovid; Edwards Dam&Pith; (anon.) Locrine. "Unappalled" in Brooke Romeus. (2) appall (n or v): shock, dismay. FS (6-T&C, Ham, Mac, V&A, TNK (v); Mac (n)); Golding Abraham; Gascoigne Jocasta; Watson Tears; Chapman (v) Iliad, Batrachom. (3) frighten. FS (T&C); (anon.) Leir.

apparance (n): preparation; in Leir it seems to mean "investigation/evidence". NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir. Very rare.

aslope (a, adv): slanting, sloping, athwart. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir, Warning Fair Women

aventure [at all] (adv): in any case; at random. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; Bedingfield Cardanus; (anon.) Leir. Per OED a legal term: 1672 Manley Interpr., Aventure..is a Mischance, causing the death of a Man, without Felony; as when he is suddenly drowned or burnt, falling into the Water or Fire.

balsamum (n): aromatic resin yielding a balm. FS (1-Errors); Lodge Wounds; (anon.) Leir.

beshrew [part of an imprecation]: curse. FS (31, Q2); Gascoigne Supposes; Lodge Wounds; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Bombie; Greene James IV, Selimus; (anon.) Woodstock, Leir; Nashe Summers; Drayton et al Oldcastle; (disp.) Maiden's Tragedy; Munday More; Chapman d'Olive. Common.

bewray (v): reveal. FS (7); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Watson Hek; Edwards Dam&Pith;

Gascoigne Jocasta; Greene Orl Fur, Fr Bacon, James IV, Pandosto, Maiden's Dream; Kyd Sp Tr, Sol&Per; Marlowe Massacre, Jew/Malta; Lyly Campaspe, Gallathea, Endymion, Midas, Bombie, Whip; Pasquil Return; Drayton et al Oldcastle; (anon.) Leir, Marprelate; Locrine, Ironside, Arden, Willobie, Penelope, Leic Gh.

bill (n): weapon, long pole with axe and pike on one end. FS (many); Golding Ovid; many others. bill [broad brown] (n): halberd (a kind of combination of spear and battle-axe, consisting of a sharp-edged blade ending in a point and a spear-head, mounted on a handle five-to seven-foot long). FS (Ado); Golding Ovid; Lyly Sapho, Endymion; (anon.) Leir.

Billingsgate ward, Pudding lane end: between Eastcheap and the river. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Fam Vic, Leir, Arden; Pasquil Countercuff.

bob (n): malicious jest, jibe. FS (AsYou, 3d OED citation); Lyly Campaspe, Pap (OED missed citations); (anon.) Leir.

breed young bones: are pregnant. See See Connections, note on "bone/breed/belly".

brook (v): put up with, bear with, tolerate. Usually in negative or preclusive constructions. FS (many); Golding Ovid; Lodge Wounds; (anon.) Mucedorus, Woodstock, Leir, Ironside, Penelope; Lyly Love's Met; Greene G a G, Alphonsus, Orl Fur, Fr Bac, James IV, Maiden's Dream; Marlowe Massacre, Edw2; Sidney Astrophel; Nashe Valentines; Harvey Pierce's Super; Marprelate Prot; Munday Huntington.

buckler (n): shield. (4-1H4, Ado); Lyly Midas; Greene Fr Bac; (anon.) Fam Vic, Woodstock, Leir, Ironside . Common.

Cambria: Wales.

censure (n): (1) opinion, judgment. FS (1H6, 2H6, Ham, Oth, Corio, WT); (anon.) Leir. (2) punishment. FS (AsYou, Oth, Cymb, Lear, Corio, H8); (anon.) Leir. (v) judge.

colors (n): that which serves to conceal or cloak the truth, pretext. FSk (2H4, MWW, JC, Cymb); (anon.) Leir.

complements (n): accomplishments, refinements. FS (LLL); Spenser M. Hubberd; (anon.) Leir.

conge (n): bow, curtesy. FS (H8); (anon.) Leir; Munday Huntington; Marston Malcontent.

cony (n): [rabbit] after Greene .. Cony Catching (1591), came to mean dupe, victim of a "conycatcher". FS (4-3H6, AsYou, Corio, V&A); Gascoigne Supposes; (anon.) Leir, Dodypoll.

cooling card (n): drawback, anything that "cools" a person's passion or enthusiasm; possibly ruins one's chances of winning a game.FS (1-1H6); Lyly Euphues; (anon.) Leir; Giles Gooscap.

contumelious (a) (1) humiliating. (2) insolent, spiteful. FS (3-2H6,1H6, Timon); (anon.) Leir, Ironside; Harvey Pierce's Super. **contumeliously** (adv). 1H6.

crack/crake (v): brag. (LLL); Golding Ovid; Peele Edw I; Greene Alphonsus; (anon.) Ironside, Leir, Willobie (n); (disp.) Greene's Groat (out-cracked); Munday More; Marston Fawn.

craft (n): guile, cunning, plot. FS (Ham, 12th); (anon.) Leir.

Daedalus: who built the Cretan Labyrinth. Father of Icarus. Cf. Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir.

dart (n): spear, javelin. FS (many); Golding Ovid; Marlowe T2; Kyd Cornelia, Sol&Per; (anon.) Fam Vic, Leir, Willobie, Mucedorus, Locrine, Leic Gh; Sidney Antony; Munday More, Huntington.

disconsolate (v): deprive of consolation. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir. Only OED citations: 1530 Palsgr; 1601 R. Yarrington Two Lament. Traj; 1642 Sir T. Stafford in Lismore Papers.

divorce (n): (1) disunion, discord. FS (V&A, Timon); (anon.) Leir. (2) disavowal, breakdown. FS (H5, WT).

dump (v, n): muse. mood. NFS. Watson Hek; Greene Orl Fur, Never Too Late, Fr Bacon, Pandosto; (anon.) Leir.

ensign (n): (1) standard. FS (Edw3, V&A); Cardano Cardanus; Gascoigne Jocasta; Lyly Campaspe; Lodge Wounds; Marlowe T1, T2, Edw2; Kyd Cornelia; Sidney Antony; Chettle Kind Hart; (anon.) Pasqual Apology, Leir; Munday Huntington. Common.

Eson/Jason: half-brother of King Pelias of Thessaly, father of Jason. His youth was restored by Medea. FS (MV); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir.

falchion (n): broad sword. FS (8); Golding Ovid; Gascoigne Supposes; Kyd Sp Tr; Greene Maiden's Dream; (anon.) Leir, Arden, Ironside.

fell (a): savage, cruel. FS (many); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Gascoigne Jocasta; Watson Hek, Tears; Kyd Sp Tr, Sol&Per; Greene Selimus; Marlowe Edw2; (anon.) Leir, Locrine, Mucedorus, Woodstock, Penelope.

ferret (v): stalk, harass, worry. FS (H5); (anon.) Leir.

flat (1) (a): direct, outright, straightforward. FS (Ado, MM); Greene Ups Court; (anon.) Leir.

flush (a): plentifully supplied with money. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir. OED first citation: 1603 Dekker Batch. Banq. viii. G ij a, Some dames..are more flush in crownes then her good man.

flying fame (n): rumor. See Connections.

foppet (n): A petty fop; in quot. applied to a woman. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir (only OED citation).

frame (v): prepare, create, arrange. FS (many); Golding Ovid; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Gallathea, Sapho; (anon.) Leir. Common.

frolic (a): merry. FS (MND?); Lodge Wounds, Kyd Sp Tr; Lyly Midas; Marlowe Faustus; (disp.) Cromwell; (anon.) Leir, Mucedorus; Nashe Saffron; Chapman D'Olive.

hardly (adv): reluctantly. FS (A&C); (anon.) Leir.

heartless (a): without courage. FS (R&J); (anon.) Leir.

heavy (n): sleepy. FS (2H6); Tindale Bible (Matt.); Turberv. Trag. T; (anon.) Leir.

Hibernia: Ireland.

indubitate (a): undoubted. FS (1-LLL); (anon.) Leir.

in his shirt (a): in one's night attire; without one's outer garments, coat and waistcoat. FS (2-2H6, LLL); Kyd Sol&Per, Sp Tr; (anon.) Leir.

gear/geere (n): device, matter. FS (11); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Sundrie Flowers; Gascoigne Supposes; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Sapho, Bombie; Marlowe T1, Edw2; Kyd Sp Tr; Drayton et al Oldcastle; (anon.) Fam Vic, Leir; Munday Huntington.

grutch (v): grouch, complain. NFS. Cf. Turberville Trag.; Sundry Flowers (poem, E/N); Spenser FQ; (anon.) Leir, Mucedorus; poem Fruit of Reconciliation.

guerdon (n, v): prize, recompense. FS (4-2H6, LLL, Ado, Edw3); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Lyly Woman/Moon; Lodge Wounds; Kyd Sp Tr; Marlowe Massacre; Nashe Summers; Munday Huntington; (anon.) Leir, Ironside, Leic Gh.

halberd (n): battle axe, mounted on a long pole. FS (2-3H6, Errors); Kyd Sp Tr; (anon.) Leir; Munday More.

henbane, hebona, hebenon, hebon (n): names given by Shakespeare and Marlowe to some substance having a poisonous juice, identified the word with ebon, henbane, and Ger. eibe, eibenbaum the yew. FS (Ham); Marlowe Jew/Malta; (anon.) Leir.

imp (n): child of. FS (2-2H4, H5); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir; Chapman D'Olive.

innovation (n): commotion. FS (Oth); (anon.) Leir.

jointure (n): The holding of property to the joint use of a husband and wife for life or in tail, as a provision for the latter, in the event of her widowhood. FS (5); (anon.) Leir, Nobody/Somebody

latter day (n): (1) end of life. (2) end of a sequence, the world. NFS. Cf. Surrey Aeneid. (anon.) Leir.

law of arms (n): fighting within the monarch's residence was punishable by death. FS (4-1H6, H5, Lear); (anon.) Leir.

list (v): choose. FS (many); Brooke Romeus; Gascoigne Jocasta; Lodge Wounds; Sidney Arcadia; (anon.) Leir, Willobie.

lowering (a): gloomy. FS (Edw3); Golding Abraham; Sundrie Flowers; Greene Pandosto; (anon.) Ironside, Leir

mate (n): (1) lackey, servant. FS (1H6, 2H4); Gascoigne Supposes; Greene G a G, Alphonsus, Orl Fur, James IV, Selimus; (anon.) Ironside, Leir; Nashe Almond; Harvey Pierce's Super; (anon.) Willobie.

minion (n & a): lackey, wanton. FS (many); Edwards Dam&Pith; Greene Selimus; (anon.) Leir, Nobody/Somebody. Common. Here the word "hussy" instead of wanton seems appropriate.

miscarry (v): (1) come to harm. FS (12th); (anon.) Leir. (2) die. FS (2H6)

misconvey (v): give a false impression of one's meaning. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir. 1st OED definition 1839. "Misconveying", meaning "mismanagement", found once in 1540 (Henry VIII).

mithridate (n): composition of many ingredients in the form of an electuary, regarded as a universal antidote or preservative against poison and infectious disease; any medicine to which similar powers were ascribed. NFS. Lyly Sapho; Cf. (anon.) Leir, Arden; Chettle Kind Harts; Dekker Gull's Hornbook.

moiety (n): half of two equal parts. FS (many); Kyd Sp Tr; (anon.) Leir, Nobody/Somebody.

neck-verse/neckeverse (n): Latin verse shown to defendant in a capital case; claiming benefit of clergy because of ability to read would save him from hanging. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir. OED cites 1st use with the verb "put to" (similar to "put the question").

out of hand (adv). suddenly, immediately. FS (4-1H6, 3H6, Titus, Edw3); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Holinshed; Lodge Wounds; Gascoigne Jocasta; Greene Alphonsus, James IV; Sidney Antony; (anon.) Leir, Yorkshire Tr.

owe (v): own. FS (MND); (anon.) Leir; Chapman Iliad.

pack/packing (n): intrigue, conspiracy. FS (5-Shrew, MWW, Cymb, Lear, Edw3); Golding Ovid; Gascoigne Supposes; Kyd Sol&Per; Lyly Bombie; (anon.) Leir.

pack/be packing (v): begone, depart. FS (5-Shrew, MV, MWW, Timon, PP); Edwards Dam&Pith; Robinson Delights; Watson Hek; Greene Alphonsus, James IV; (anon.) Leir, Willobie.

palmer (n): pilgrim who from the Holy Land, carrying a palm-branch or leaf; also itinerant monk under a vow of poverty; equivalent of pilgrim. FS (R&J, Rich2); Greene Orl Fur; (anon.) Leir.

parlous/parlose (a): (1) dangerous, alarming. FS (MND). (2) clever, tricky, cunning. FS (Rich3); (anon.) Leir.

peat (n): (1) pet, spoiled girl. FS (1-Shrew); Rich Farewell; (anon.) Leir; Drayton Man in Moon. (2) applied to an animal. NFS. Cf. Gascoigne Praise P.

perillus (n): Lyly spurious natural history: stone which causes mistrust and jealousy. Cf. Lyly Sapho. The anonymous author of Edmund Ironside used Perillus correctly, to refer to an Athenian who fell victim to his own device: a brazen bull in which condemned men were roasted to death. Cf. (anon.) Edmund Ironside. Name of character in the old King Lear.

phoenix (n): (1) mythical bird, of gorgeous plumage, fabled to be the only one of its kind, and to live five or six hundred years in the Arabian desert, after which it burnt itself to ashes on a funeral pile of aromatic twigs ignited by the sun and fanned by its own wings, but only to emerge from its ashes with renewed youth, to live through another cycle of years. FS (3H6, AsYou,

Temp, H8, Sonnet 19, Lov Comp, Ph & Turt); Lodge Wounds. (2) rare person or thing, likened to the bird. FS (1H6, AWEW, Timon); Greene Selimus; (anon.) Leir.

pine, pine away (v): starve, waste away. FS (10+); Golding Ovid; Oxford poems; Leir; many others.

poniard (n): short stabbing weapon, dagger. FS (5-3H5, Ado, AWEW, Titus, Ham); Lodge Wounds; Kyd Cornelia; Marlowe Massacre, Edw II; Greene Fr Bacon; (anon.) Leir; Nashe Unf Trav; Dekker Hornbook; Marston Malcontent; .

post (n): messenger. FS (Ado); (anon.) Leir.

post (v): travel speedily, gallop. FS (1H4, Ham); Greene Pandosto, Selimus; (anon.) Leir.

postulate (v): demand, claim. Cf. (anon.) Leir (1st OED citation).

poulter/polter (n): poulterer, chicken-seller. FS (1H4); Gascoigne Supposes. Not in OED. Here the meaning is obviously extended to a seller of rabbit meat.

power (n): (1) army; host, large number. FS (Rich2); Marlowe Massacre; (anon.) Leir, Lochrine.

precise (a): guided by Puritan precepts; code word for Puritan. FS (9-1H6, TGV, MWW, AWEW, Ham, MM); Lyly Campaspe, Gallathea, Sapho, Midas, Whip; Marlowe Jew of Malta; Greene James IV; (anon.) Fam Vic, Leir, Blast of Retreat, Willobie, Leic Gh.

pretend/protend (v): portend, signify. NFS. Cf. Greene Menaphon; (anon.) Leir; Willobie.

prick (n): highest point, acme. FS (Lucrece); Golding Ovid; Udall Eras; (anon.) Leir.

rathe (a): (1) early. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; (anon.) Leir; E. B. in Eng. Helicon. (2) prompt. NFS. Cf. Gascoigne Dan Bartholomew Wks. rather (adv): earlier. FS (Oth); Golding Ovid.

regiment (n): rule, government, regime. NFS. Cf. Marlowe T1; (anon.) Selimus, Leir. Very common 1550-1680.

repine (v): (1) murmur against, resist, grudge. FS (1H6, T&C); Hall Chron; Lodge Wounds; (anon.) Leir; Spenser FQ.

restrain (v): withhold, keep back from. FS (MM, Corio); (anon.) Lear.

sheen(a, n): (1) bright. FS (2-MND, Ham); Golding Ovid (anon.) Leir. (2) beautiful. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; Greene Menaphon; Spenser FQ. OED contemp citation: 1586 ? Montgomerie Banks of Helicon.

seely/sielie (a): silly, innocent, vulnerable. FS (many); Ovid Golding; many others.

sequestered (a): Legal: cut off from someone. FS (AsYou); (anon.) Leir

shag-haired/shaghayred (a): having shaggy hair. FS (2H6, 3d OED citation); (anon.) Leir. See also "shacky ... and "shag", ff. shacky/shack-hair/shakheard (a): shaggy. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid (only OED citation); but see "shag-haired", above. shag (a): shaggy; having shaggy hair. FS (V&A); Munday More.

shift (n): trick. FS (many); Golding Ovid; Lodge Wounds; (anon.) Leir; (disp.) Cromwell; Munday Huntington. Common. shift (v): manage. FS (4-2H4, MWW, Cymb, Temp); (anon.) Leir, Fam Vic.

sift (v): question, examine; also understand, comprehend. FS (3-Rich2, Ham Q2, AWEW); Golding Ovid; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Gallathea, Woman ... Moon; Greene Never too Late, Pandosto; (anon.) Ironside, Leir, Weakest; Pasquil Return.

Skalliger: from scalader, climber?

skill (v): (1) matter, care. FS (3-Shrew, 12th, 2H6); Golding Ovid; Lyly Campaspe, Endymion, Love's Met, Gallathea; Greene Fr Bac; Chettle Kind Hart; (anon.) Fam Vic, Ironside, Leir; Leic Gh; (disp.) Greene's Groat.

slenderly (adv): lightly, insufficiently. FS (1-Lear); Golding Ovid; Greene Cony; (anon.) Leir, Weakest; Munday John a Kent.

slops/side slops (n): loose, baggy breeches/trousers, esp. those worn by sailors. FS (Ado). Cf. Peele Wives; (anon.) Leir.

sort (v): (1) agree. FS (3H6); (anon.) Leir. (2) fit. FS (3H6).

speed (v): fare, succeed. FS (19+,); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Kyd Sol&Per; Greene James IV; Marlowe Edw2; (anon.) Leir, Ironside, Willobie, Leic Gh; Peele Wives. Common.

stand on hands (v): be concerned. NFS. Cf. Calvin on Ps; Anon. Leir.

surreverence (adv): with respect to (contemptuously). Cf. Warner, Alb. England (1586, 1st OED citation); Nashe Summers; (anon. Leir). Used in different sense in Nashe Strange News and Lenten Stuff.

tenor/tenure (n): substance, drift, underlying meaning, principles. FS (H5, Ado, AsYou, MM); (anon.) Leir.

timeless (adv, a): out of its proper time. FS (Rich2, Luc); Marlowe T2; (anon.) Leir. (a) OED 1st citation (1560) Tragedy of Rich2.

Troynovant: new Troy, Great Britain. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Leir, Lochrine, Nobody/Somebody, Leic Gh.

weeds (n): clothing. FS (many); Golding Ovid; many others.

wight (n): living being. FS (8-H5, LLL, MWW, Pericles, Oth); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Oxford poem; Brooke Romeus; Sundrie Flowers; Robinson Delights; Gascoigne Jocasta; Edwards Dam&Pith (song); Watson Hek; Kyd Sp Tr; Greene Alphonsus, Maiden's Dream; Marlowe Jew/Malta; (anon.) Leir, Marprelate, Lochrine, Mucedorus, Weakest, Ironside, Willobie, Penelope, Leic Gh; (disp.) Nashe Valentines; Harvey Pierce's Super, Poem 1598 (Slumb'ring); Greene's Groat; many others.

with child (a): eager, longing, yearning (to do a thing). NFS. Cf. Udall Eras (1st OED citation); Spenser FQ (2d OED citation); (anon.) Leir.

King Leir – Sources

Transcribed by Barboura Flues. Edited for the web by Robert Brazil.

From Geoffrey of Monmouth (Book II)

A major source of both *King Leir* and Shakespeare's *King Lear*

Transcript by Barboura Flues (modern spelling)

When Bladud was thus given over to the destinies, his son Lear was next raised to the kingdom, and ruled the country after manly fashion for three-score years. He it was that builded the city on the river Soar, that in the British is called Kaerleir, but in the Saxon, Leicester. Male issue was denied unto him, his only children being three daughters named Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia, whom all he did love with marvelous affection, her most of all the youngest born, to wit, Cordelia. And when that he began to be upon the verge of eld, He thought to divide his kingdom amongst them, and to marry them unto such husbands as were worthy to have them along with their share of the kingdom. But that he might know which of them was most worthy of the largest share, he went unto them to make inquiry of each as to which of them did most love himself. When, accordingly, he asked of Goneril how much she loved him, she first called all the

gods of heaven to witness that her father was dearer to her heart than the very soul that dwelt within her body. Unto whom saith her father: "For this, that thou hast set mine old age before thine own life, thee, my dearest daughter, will I marry unto whatsoever youth shall be thy choice, together with the third part of Britain." Next, Regan, that was second, fain to take ensample of her sister and to wheedle her father into doing her an equal kindness, made answer with a solemn oath that she could no otherwise express her thought than by saying that she loved him better than all the world beside. The credulous father thereupon promised to marry her with the same dignity as her elder sister, with another third part of the kingdom for her share. But the last, Cordelia, when she saw how her father had been cajoled by the flatteries of her sisters who had already spoken and desiring to make trial of him otherwise, went on to make answer unto him thus: "Father mine, is there a daughter anywhere that presumeth to love her father more than a father? None such, I trow, there is that durst confess as much, save she were trying to hide the truth in words of jest. For myself, I have ever loved thee as a father, nor never from that love will I be turned aside. Albeit that thou are bent on wringing more from me, yet hearken to the true measure of my love. Ask of me no more, but let this be mine answer: So much as thou hast, so much art thou worth, and so much do I love thee." Thereupon forthwith, her father, thinking that she had thus spoken out of the abundance of her heart, waxed mightily indignant, nor did he tarry to make known what his answer would be. "For that thou hast so despised thy father's old age that thou hast disdained to love me, even as well as these, thy sisters love me, I also will disdain thee, nor never in my realm shalt thou have share with thy sisters. Howbeit, sith that thou art my daughter, I say not but that I will marry thee upon terms of some kind, unto some stranger that is of other land than mine, if so be that fortune shall offer such an one; only be sure of this, that never will I trouble me to marry thee with such honour as thy sisters, inasmuch as, whereas up to this time I have loved thee better than the others, it now seemeth that thou lovest me less than they."

Straightway thereupon, by counsel of the nobles of the realm, he giveth the twain sisters unto two Dukes, of Cornwall, to wit, and Scotland, together with one moiety only of the island so long as he should live, but after his death he willed that they should have the whole of the kingdom of Britain. Now it fell out about this time that Aganippus, King of the Franks, hearing report of Cordelia's beauty, forthwith dispatched his envoys to the King, beseeching him that Cordelia might be entrusted to their charge as his bride whom he would marry with due rite of the wedding torch. But her father, still persisting in his wrath, made answer that right willingly would he give her, but that needs must it be without land or fee, seeing that he had shared his kingdom along with all his gold and silver betwixt Cordelia's sisters Goneril and Regan. When this word was brought unto Aganippus, for that he was on fire with love of the damsel, he sent again unto King Lear saying that enow had he of gold and silver and other possessions, for that one-third part of Gaul was his, and that he was fain to marry the damsel only that he might have sons by her to inherit his land. So at last the bargain was struck, and Cordelia was sent to Gaul to be married unto Aganippus.

Some long time after, when Lear began to wax more sluggish by reason of age, the foresaid Dukes, with whom and his two daughters he had divided Britain, rebelled against him and took away from him the realm and the kingly power which up to that time he had held right manfully and gloriously. Howbeit, concord was restored, and one of his sons-in-law, Maglaunus, Duke of Scotland, agreed to maintain him with forty knights, so that he should not be without some

semblance of state. But after that he had sojourned with his son-in-law two years, his daughter Goneril began to wax indignant at the number of his knights, who flung gibes at her servants for that their rations were not more plentiful. Whereupon, after speaking to her husband, she ordered her father to be content with a service of twenty knights and to dismiss the others that he had. The King, taking dudgeon, left Maglaunus, and betook him to Henvin, Duke of Cornwall, unto whom he had married his other daughter, Regan. Here, at first, he was received with honour, but a year had not passed before discord again arose betwixt those of the King's household and those of the Duke's, inasmuch as that Regan, waxing indignant, ordered her father to dismiss all his company save five knights only to do him service. Her father, beyond measure aggrieved thereat, returned once more to his eldest daughter, thinking to move her to pity and to persuade her to maintain himself and his retinue. Howbeit, she had never renounced her first indignation, but swore by all the gods of Heaven that never should he take up his abode with her save he contented himself with the service of a single knight and were quit of all the rest. Moreover, she upbraided the old man for that, having nothing of his own to give away, he should be minded to go about with such a retinue; so that finding she would not give way to his wishes one single tittle, he at last obeyed and remained content with one knight only, leaving the rest to go their way. But when the remembrance of his former dignity came back unto him, bearing witness to the misery of the state to which he was now reduced, he began to bethink him of going to his youngest daughter overseas. Howbeit, he sore misdoubted that she would do nought for him, seeing that he had held her, as I have said, in such scanty honour in the matter of her marriage. Nonetheless, disdaining any longer to endure so mean a life, he betook him across the Channel into Gaul. But when he found that two other princes were making the passage at the same time, and that he himself had been assigned but the third pace, he brake forth into tears and sobbing, and cried aloud: "Ye destinies that do pursue your wonted way marked out by irrevocable decree, wherefore was it your will ever to uplift me to happiness so fleeting? For a keener grief it is to call to mind that lost happiness than to suffer the presence of the unhappiness that cometh after. For the memory of the days when in the midst of hundreds of thousands of warriors I went to batter down the walls of cities and to lay waste the provinces of mine enemies is more grievous unto me than the calamity that hath overtaken me in the meanness of mine estate, which hath incited them that but now were groveling under my feet to desert my feebleness. O angry fortune! will the day ever come wherein I may requite the evil turn that hath thus driven forth the length of my days and my poverty? O Cordelia, my daughter, how true were the words wherein thou didst make answer unto me, when I did ask of thee how much thou didst love me! For thou saidst, 'So much as thou hast, so much art thou worth, and so much do I love thee.' So long, therefore, as I had that which was mine own to give, so long seemed I of worth unto them that were the lovers, not of myself but of my gifts. They loved me at times, but better loved they the presents I made unto them. Now that the presents are no longer forthcoming, they too have gone their ways. But with what face, O thou dearest of my children, shall I dare appear before thee, I who, wroth with thee for these thy words, was minded to marry thee less honorably than thy sisters, who, after all the kindnesses I have conferred upon them, have allowed me to become an outcast and a beggar?"

Landing at last, his mind filled with these reflections and others of a like kind, he came to Karitia, where his daughter lived, and waiting without the city, sent a messenger to tell her into what indignance he had fallen, and to beseech his daughter's compassion inasmuch as he had neither food nor clothing. On hearing the tidings, Cordelia was much moved and wept bitterly.

When she made inquiry how many armed men he had with him, the messengers told her that he had none save a single knight, who was waiting with him without the city. She commanded also that he should have a retinue of forty knights well appointed and armed, and that then he should duly announce his arrival to Aganippus and herself. The messenger accordingly forthwith attended King Lear into another city, and hid him there in secret until that he had fully accomplished all that Cordelia had borne him on hand to do.

As soon therefore, as he was meetly arrayed in kingly apparel and invested with the ensigns of royalty, and a train of retainers, he sent word unto Aganippus and his daughter that he had been driven out of the realm of Britain by his sons-in-law, and had come unto them in order that by their assistance he might be able to recover his kingdom. They accordingly, with the great counselors and nobles, came forth to receive him with all honour, and placed in his hands the power over the whole of Gaul until such time as they had restored him unto his former dignity.

In the meanwhile, Aganippus sent envoys throughout the whole of Gaul to summon every knight bearing arms therein to spare no pains in coming to help him to recover the kingdom of Britain for his father-in-law, King Lear. When they had all made them ready, Lear led the assembled host together with Aganippus and his daughter into Britain, fought a battle with his sons-in-law, and won the victory, again bringing them all under his own dominion. In the third year thereafter he died, and Aganippus died also, and Cordelia, now mistress of the helm of state in Britain, buried her father in a certain underground chamber which she had bidden be made under the river Soar at Leicester. This underground chamber was founded in honour of the two-faced Janus, and there, when the yearly celebration of the day came round, did all the workmen of the city set hand unto such work as they were about to be busied upon throughout the year.

Now, when Cordelia had governed the kingdom in peace for five years, two sons of her sisters began to harass her, Margan, to wit, and Cunedag, that had been born unto the Dukes Maglaunus and Henvin, both of them youths of notable likelihood and prowess, Margan being son of Maglaunus and Cunedag of Henvin. These, after the deaths of their fathers, had succeeded them in their dukedoms, and now took it in high dudgeon that Britain should be subject to the rule of a woman. They therefore assembled their hosts and rebelled against the Queen, nor were they minded to put an end to their outrages until after laying waste a number of provinces, they had defeated her in several battles, and had at last taken her and put her in prison, wherein, overwhelmed with grief for the loss of her kingdom, she slew herself. Forthwith the youths divided the island between them, whereof that part which stretcheth from the Humber towards Caithness fell to Margan's share, and the other, on the other side of the river, that vergeth toward the West, was allotted to Cunedag. After the space of two years, certain of them that rejoiced in making disturbance in the realm, joined them with Margan and began to tempt him to walk in crooked paths, saying that foul shame it was he, the eldest born, should not have dominion over the whole island; so that, what with this and other grievances, they at last egged him on to march with an army into Cunedag's territories, and thus began to heap fuel on the fire they had kindled. On the war breaking out, Cunedag with all his host marched out to meet him, and in the battle that was fought inflicted no small slaughter, driving Margan in flight before him, and afterwards following his flight from province to province, until at last he overtook and slew him in a village of Wales, which after that Margan was slain there hath been called by his name, Margan to wit, ever since by the country folk even unto this day. Cunedag, accordingly, having won the victory,

possessed himself of the monarchy of the whole island and governed the same gloriously for three and thirty years.

(At that time Isaiah and Hosea prophesied, and Rome was founded the eleventh of the *Kalends of May by the twin-brethren, Romulus and Remus.)

King Leir - APPENDICES - Part A

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Language in King Leir

Connections

[MARKED indicates marked passage in Oxford's Geneva Bible.
No Match indicates no marking in Oxford's Geneva Bible.]

Legal Terms

Legal term: **ABRIDGE**.

Golding Ovid (I.132-34): ... immediately the old / And ancient Spring did Jove abridge, and made therof anon, / Four seasons: Winter, Summer, Spring, and Autumn off and on:

(III.436): And strangeness of the kind of death that did abridge his age.

Five more uses.

Anon. Leir (9.28) SKALL: Therefore abbridge it half, and you shall see,

(19.170) MESS: That they have hired me t'abbridge thy fate,

Shakes TGV (III.1) PROTEUS: Besides, thy staying will abridge thy life.

MV (I.1) BASSANIO: Nor do I now make moan to be abridged / From such a noble rate; ...

JC (III.1) BRUTUS: So are we Caesar's friends, that have abridged / His time of fearing death.

Used also in Watson Hekatompathia, Lodge Wounds, Kyd Sol&Per, Marlowe Tamb 1, Edward II (twice), Anon. Woodstock (twice), Locrine, Leicester's Gh (twice), Nashe Pierce Penniless, Lyly Woman in the Moon, Chapman D'Olive.

Cf. law text: Brooke's Abridgement.

Legal term: **ALIENATION**.

Anon. Leir (7.159) MUMFORD: My humor is alienated from the maids of France.

Leic Gh. (865-66): By license, too, of alienation, / By raising rents, and by oppression,

Legal terms: **BOND** ... Obligation; **GOOD** in Law; Keep **CONDITION**; **FORFEITURE** ... Negligence.

Anon. Leir (12.73-75) MESS: A strong Bond, a firm Obligation, good in law, good in law: if I keep not the condition, let my neck be the forfeiture of my negligence.

Ironside (V.2.47-50) CANUTUS: The ground I stand on, Edmund, is mine own, fallen to me not successively indeed, but by forfeiture as copyhold,

Nobody (1136-37) CORNWELL: Here are, my liege, bonds, forfeit by poor men, / Which he released out of the usurers' hands,

Shakes MV (III.2) SALERIO: But none can drive him from the envious plea / Of forfeiture, of justice and his bond.

Legal term: **CASE stands**.

Brooke Romeus (1696): The tidings of your health and how your doubtful case shall stand

Edwards Dam&Pith (1256) GRIM: Good fellows, believe me, as the case now stands ...,

Golding Abraham (Pro.22): Were as you be not, now as stands the case.

(341) SHEPHERDS' SONG: Because, as stood the case,

Watson Hek (XXXVI): My letters tell in what a case I stand,

Kyd Sp Tr (II.1.45) LORENZO: Thus stands the case: It is not long, thou knowest,

Anon. Pasquil Apology (para. 5): The case so standing, I trust I am worthy to be held excused,

(para. 38): ... the case standing as it doth, ...

Marprelate (Tract 4): mark how the case stands between these wretches, and those whom they call puritans.

Leir (7.99-100) CORDELLA: Ah Palmer, my estate doth not befit / A kingly marriage, as the case now stands.

(19.304-05): MESS: If any ask you why the case so stands? / Say that your tongues were better

than your hands.

Willobie (LCCIII.4): Ah woe is me, the case so stands,/ That senseless papers plead my woe,

Weakest (XVIII.215) VILLIERS: My Lord of Bulloigne, thus then stands my case,

Shakes 3H6 (IV.5): Were as you be not, now as stands the case.

R&J (III.5) NURSE: Then, since the case so stands as now it doth,

WT (II.3) PAULINA: For, as the case now stands, it is a curse ...

Cymb (I.5) QUEEN: ... The case stands with her; do't as from thyself.

(III.4) IMOGEN: ... yet the traitor / Stands in worse case of woe.

Legal terms: Show **CAUSE** ... Find **REMEDY**.

Lyly Sapho (III.4.47-51) SAPHO: Why, how can you cure me, when you cannot remedy yourself?

PHAO: Yes Madam, the causes are contrary, for it is only a dryness in your brains that keepeth you from rest; but --

Kyd Sp Tr (II.1.30-31) LORENZO: And doubt not but we'll find some remedy. / Some cause there is that lets you not be loved:

Anon. Rich3 (1610) RIVERS: Then show just cause, why you exclaim so rashly in this sort,

Leir (7.45) CORDELLA: Ah Pilgrims, what avails to show the cause. / When there's no means to find a remedy?

Chettle Kind Hart: but the remedy riseth from the knowledge of the cause: If any can (in natural sense) give ease, they must be artists that are able to search the cause, resist the disease, by providing remedies.

Shakes Edw3 (II.1.204-205) COUNTESS: Acquaint me with your cause of discontent.

K. EDWARD: How near then shall I be to remedy?

Hamlet (IV.4) HAM: Will not debate the question of this straw: / This is the imposthume of much wealth and peace, / That inward breaks, and shows no cause without / Why the man dies.

(Not in Folio or Q1. Q2, lines 2987-90: substantially the same.)

T&C (II.3) AJAX: let him show us the cause.

Legal terms: **CLAIM** ... Promise ... Debt; **SUE** ... Action.

Anon. Mucedorus (V.2.66-67) KING: ... Segasto claims my promise made to fore,

Weakest (XVIII.237) VILLIERS: I by her promise claim her for my wife.

Leir (21.41-45): MUMFORD: ... i'll claim / A promise of you, which you shall not deny me: /

For promise is debt, & by this hand you promised it me. / Therefore you owe it me, and you shall pay it me, / Or ile sue you upon an action of unkindness.

Shakes TGV (IV.4) PROTEUS: I claim the promise for her heavenly picture.

Rich III (III.1) BUCKINGHAM: I'll claim that promise at your grace's hands,

Edw3 (V.1.14) 1 CITIZEN: We claim the promise that your Highness made,

Legal term: Upon **CONDITION**.

Golding Ovid Met (XIV.165): Yet did he grant me also that, upon condicion I

Lyly Campaspe (II.1.27) DIOGENES: Upon condition.

Gallatea (I.1.40) TYTERUS: upon condition consented to ease their miseries.

Greene Orl Fur (I.1.333) MARSILIUS: Upon conditions I will pardon thee, --

Lodge Rosalind: And upon that condition (quoth Gerismond) that Rosalind were here, I would this day make up a marriage betwixt her and thee.

Anon. Leir (7.142) MUMFORD: Upon condition I no worse might speed,
Lochrine (III.4.40) MARGERY: Upon that condition I let thee alone.
Marprelate Tract 1, Tract 5.
Weakest (xv.123-25) SIR NICHOLAS: I am content, give Bunch the Church-door key, / Upon
condition thou wilt say / Even-song to the Parish this afternoone,
Shakes: Four uses of the phrase (including Edw3).
Oxford Memorandum August 1595: ... that the Lord of Buckhurst shall have the suit upon easier
conditions than myself ...

Legal term: **CONFUTE**.

0. Gosson Abuse: ... and confute the allegations of our adversaries,
1. Marlowe T1 (IV.4.75) TAMB: I will confute those blind Geographers ...
Anon. Leir (10.80) LEIR: For with good reason I can thee confute.
Ironsides (V.2.83) CANUTUS: Then to confute thy forged argument,
Martin's Protestation: 3 uses, Tracts: 22 uses.
Harvey Pierce: Not because my confuters' swords or my enemies' daggers carry any credit with
the wise, or because my letters fear any discredit with the honest, or because I cannot abide to be
confuted, that daily confute myself and condemn every mine own default with rigor, ... Simple
men may write against other or plead for themselves, but they cannot confute cuttingly, ... he
["the author of renowned victory"] and Nashe will confute the world. ... Yet better a confuter of
Letters than a confounder of manners, ... I have touched the booted Shakerley a little, that is
always riding, and never rideth; always confuting, and never confuteth
2d letter: ... and desire to confute their impudency not with words, but with deeds. ... The very
time confuteth vanity,
Nashe Summers (503) SOL: If Envy unconfuted may accuse, / Then Innocence must ...
Penniless: The Danes ..., that are to be confuted with nothing but Tankards or quart-pots, ... /
Small learning would serve to confute so manifest a scandal, ...
Note: Harvey's extreme over-use of this word.

Legal terms: **COUNTERFEIT** ... Sorrow.

0. Anon. Leir (22.12) RAGAN: All sorrow is but counterfeit to mine,
Disp. Groat: The fox made a Friday face, counterfeiting sorrow,
Munday Huntington (III.55) ROBIN: I tell thee love, my grief is counterfeit.
0. Legal term: Have my CUSTOM.
1. Anon. Leir (7.38): O brave! God willing, thou shalt have my custom,
2. Nashe Peniless: thou shalt at thy return have more of my custom:

Legal term: **DEBAR**.

Edwards Dam&Pith (1744) EUBULUS: And painted speech, that glozeth for gain, from gifts is
quite debarred.
Anon. Leir (7.66) KING: Why, who debars his honorable age, / From being still the King of
Brittany?
Weakest (XIV.20-21) DYANA: Without impeachment of our honest fame, / Debarring wicked
lust to blot the same.
Willobie ((XLI.5): Then leave to sew, since that you see Your hap debars your hope from me.
Shakes Sonnet 28: How can I then return in happy plight, / That am debarr'd the benefit of rest?

Legal term: **DEEDS** ... make report.

Golding Ovid Met (II.705): Straight to the Goddess of this deed a just report I make.

Anon. Leir (3.79) CORDELIA: I hope my deeds shall make report for me:

Shakes Corio (I.9) COMINIUS: If I should tell thee o'er this thy day's work, / Thou'ldst not believe thy deeds: but I'll report it

Legal term: ENROLL.

Edwards Dam&Pith (1470) EUB: Yet for thy faith enroll'd shall be thy name

Kyd Sol&Per (I.3.3) PHILIPPO: Assembled here in thirsty honor's cause, / To be enrolled in the brass-leaved book

Greene Ciceronis: living as chaste as she was enrolled for a vestal,

Marlowe Edw2 (I.4.269-70) MORT: And in the Chronicle enroll his name / For purging of the realm of such a plague.

Shakes 3H6 (II.1) WARWICK: ... His oath enrolled in the parliament;

MM (I.2): CLAUDIO: ... but this new governor / Awakes me all the enrolled penalties

JC (III.2) BRUTUS: The question of / his death is enrolled in the Capitol; his glory not

Anon. Woodstock (IV.3): SHRIEVE: I plead our ancient liberties / recorded and enrolled in the King's crown office,

Leir (1.69) PERILLUS: To be enrolled in Chronicles of fame,

Willobie (XXXVI.3): These strange effects I find enrolled, / Within this place, since my return,

Penelope (III.3): A gift with fame worthy to be enroll'd.

Leic Gh. (2086-87): ... when the Muses did enrol Their names in honor's everlasting scroll,

Legal term: **LAW OF ARMS.**

Marlowe T1 (II.4.22) MYCETES: Thou breakst the law of Arms unless thou kneel,

Edw2 (III.2.121) SPENCER: A bloody part, flatly against law of arms.

(III.4.18) Edward: Poor Pierce, and headed him against law of arms?

Greene Card: If the law of arms (quoth he) did not both safely protect thee & ...

Orlando (I.1.181-82) MAND: And, French man, wer't not gainst the law of arms,

(I.1.221) MARSILIUS: My choler over-slip the Law of Arms,

Kyd Sp Tr (I.2.168) HIER: Enforced by nature and by law of arms

(I.3.47) ALEXANDRO: That were a breach to common law of arms.

Anon. Famous Vic (841) KING: To a king: the law of arms allows no less.

(1044) KING: The law of Arms allow no less.

Leir (22.66-7) RAGAN: And were it not, it is 'gainst law of Arms, / To offer violence to a Messenger,

(22.87) RAGAN: For law of Arms shall not protect thy tongue.

(22.95) CAMBRIA: What should I do? infringe the law of Arms,

Cromwell (III.2.23) BEDFORD: Treacherous France, that, gainst the law of arms,

Shakes: Appears in 1 Henry VI (twice), H5, Lear (Goneril), Edw3.

Legal terms: **MEDIATOR** ... Motion.

Anon. Gift to the Countess of Oxford, 1581 (trans.) Chrysostoms Homilies on the Epistle of St.

Paul to the Ephesians (The Argument) Ver. 3: That is to say, this blessing was not by the hand of

Moses, but by Christ Jesus: so that we surpass them not only in the quality of the blessings, but in the Mediator also.

Leir (21.51-52) KING: Faith, in this motion I will join with thee, / And be a mediator to my Queen.

Legal term: **MOTION/MOVE** love.

Marlowe Dido (III.2.69-70) JUNO: Hark to a motion of eternal league, / Which I will make in quittance of thy love:

Massacre (I.7-8) CHARLES: And that the native sparks of princely love, / That kindled first this motion in our hearts,

Anon. Leir (1.56-58) LEIR: For at this instant two near neighboring Kings / Of Cornwall and of Cambria, motion love / To my two daughters, Gonorill and Ragan.

Willobie (XII.3): T'was not thy beauty that did move / This fond effect, but blinded love.

(XXXIII.3): Let no man know what I did move, / Let no man know, that I did love.

Penelope (XII.3): Those love-sick motions to amend.

Lyly Love's Met (I.2) CELIA: ... although into her heart never entered any motion of love,

(II.1) NISA: Into my heart, madam, there did never enter any motion of love.

(II.1) CUPID: For what is love, divine love, but the quintessence of chastity, and affections binding by heavenly motions ...

(V.1) CUPID: Diana hath felt some motions of love;

Shakes AsYou (IV.3): Whiles you chid me, I did love; / How then might your prayers move! /

He that brings this love to thee ' Little knows this love in me:

A&C (III.4) ANTONY: for our faults / Can never be so equal, that your love / Can equally move with them.

Sonnet 149: Canst thou, O cruel! say I love thee not, ... / What merit do I in myself respect, /

That is so proud thy service to despise, / When all my best doth worship thy defect, /

Commanded by the motion of thine eyes? / But, love, hate on, for now I know thy mind; / Those that can see thou lovest, and I am blind.

Legal term: **OATH** ... Protestation.

Lodge Wounds (I.1.212-13) SCILLA: Whose oaths hath pierced and searched the deepest vast, / Aye, and whose protestations reign on earth,

Anon. Woodstock (I.3.11) LANCASTER: by oaths and loyal protestations ...

Leir (12.93-95) GONORILL: These things (although it be not so) / Yet thou must affirm them to be true, / With oaths and protestations as will serve,

Arden (V.5.15) ALICE: What cannot oaths and protestations do / When men have opportunity to woo?

Shakes LLL (I.1) BIRON: I can but say their protestation over; / So much, dear liege, I have already sworn, / That is, to live and study here three years.

H5 (V.2) KING: But, before God, / Kate, I cannot look greenly nor gasp out my / eloquence, nor I have no cunning in protestation; / only downright oaths, which I never use till urged, / nor never break for urging.

Note: "Protestation" a favored Shakespeare word.

Legal term: **PARDON** ... Resign.

Anon. Leir (24.210) LEIR: Then I will rise to satisfy your mind, / But kneel again, til pardon be resigned.

0. Shakes Tempest (V.1.) ALONSO: Thy dukedom I resign and do entreat / Thou pardon me my

wrongs.

Legal term: **PERJURED**.

Golding Ovid (III.810): Like perjured Caitiffs, by the Sea and all the Gods thereof,

(VI.686): But to th' intent, O perjured wretch, no mischief may remain

Lyly Once in Endymion, Woman in Moon; none in Campaspe, Gallathea, Sapho, Midas, Bombie
Greene Pandosto used twice, Selimus once, James IV once.

Marlowe Dido used twice, T2 used twice, Massacre used once.

Kyd Sp Tr used twice; Sol&Per used four times.

Anon. Leir (24.253-54) KING: Let me be counted for the perjurdst man, That ever spake word
since the world began.

Mucedorus used once, Arden used three times, Weakest used twice.

Note: A favored Shakespeare word (30 uses).

Legal term: **PROSECUTE** ... Act/other inanimate noun.

Golding Ovid Met (IX.330-31): ... Cruelly he prosecutes the hate / Upon the offspring, which he
bare against the father late.

Oxford letter (7-13-76, to Lord Birghley): and that you mean afterward to prosecute the cause
with further hope.

Greene James IV (I.Epi.32) BOHAN: Now mark my talk and prosecute my jig.

Kyd Sp Tr (III.4.39) LORENZO: I lay the plot: he prosecutes the point;

Anon. Woodstock (I.1.116-17) WOODSTOCK: Good Lord Mayor, I do beseech ye prosecute /
With your best care a means for all our safeties.

Leir (17.48): RAGAN: But yet, before thou prosecute the act,

Ironside (V.2.228-29) CANUTUS: that thus I crave thee stay, but that I want / the use of breath
to prosecute the fight.

Marprelate Tract 1: What, should I prosecute the condemnation of this man,

Willobie (LXIII.title) H. W. prosecuteth his suit.

Drayton ... Oldcastle (III.1.144-45) COBHAM: And what good may redound unto the land / By
prosecuting of this enterprise.

(V.9.21-22) BISHOP: Well, our affairs do call us back to London, / So that we cannot prosecute
the cause,

Legal terms: Call in **QUESTION; NECK-VERSE**.

Gosson Abuse: Though he be called in question of his life, he hath shifts enough ...

Vaux Devices (92.6): Until such time to pleaseth the judge, the truth in question call:

Lyly Campaspe (I.1.15) CLYTUS: You mistake me Parmenio, if whilst I commend Alexander
you imagine I call Philip into question;

Marlowe Jew of Malta (IV.1) PILIA-BORZA. Upon mine own free-hold, within forty foot of the
gallows, conning his neck-verse,

Edw 2 (I.4.152) QUEEN: But thou must call mine honor thus in question?

(II.4.55) QUEEN: Mine honor will be call'd in question;

Greene Card (para. 134): when the string is broken, it is hard to hit the white, and when a man's
credit is called in question, persuasions can little prevail.

Harvey 3d letter: I can easily defy the proudest that dareth call my credit in question, ... Or
seeing some matters of fame are called in question,

Anon. Leir (12.50-52) MESS: Madam, I hope your Grace will stand / Between me and my neck-verse, if I be / Called in question, for opening the King's letters.

(15.34) RAGAN: He had bin call'd in question for his fact.

Martin's Protestation: wherein either life, goods or good name is called in question,

Tracts: let not our places be called in question,

Shakes 12th (I.4) VIOLA: that / you call in question the continuance of his love:

T&C (III.2) PANDARUS: ... if she call your activity in question. ... / wherein either life, goods, or good name is called in question,

(IV.4) TROILUS: I do not call your faith in question / So mainly as my merit: ...

JC (IV.3) BRUTUS: And call in question our necessities.

Chapman D'Olive (II.2.151-52) : D'OLIVE: and yet newly / Called into question; ...

Bible: Allusion to neck verse opens the 51st Psalm (No Match).

Legal term: **RATIFY** love.

Anon. Leir (3.69) RAGAN: To ratify my love before your eyes:

Shakes MV (III.2) BASSANIO: Fair lady, by your leave; / I come by note, to give and to receive. / Like one of two contending in a prize, / That thinks he hath done well in people's eyes, / Hearing applause and universal shout, / Giddy in spirit, still gazing in a doubt / Whether these pearls of praise be his or no; / So, thrice fair lady, stand I, even so; / As doubtful whether what I see be true, / Until confirm'd, sign'd, ratified by you.

Legal term: **REDRESS** wrong.

Brooke Romeus (270): Ne can he claim of her his right, ne crave redress of wrong.

Gascoigne Supposes (iii.) DAMON: appointed to minister justice for the redress of wrongs:

(III.) PHILAGANO: no higher powers whom I may complain unto for redress of these wrongs?

D. S. Devices (22.8): The Rulers may redress each wrong:

Marlowe Dido (IV.2.22) IARBUS: Redress these wrongs, and warn him to his ships

Kyd Sp Tr (III.6.4) HEIR: For all our wrongs, can compass no redress.

Greene G a G (II.3.153-56) KENDAL: Why, George, I rise not against King Edward, / but for the poor that is oppressed by wrong; and if King / Edward will redress the same,

Anon. Leir (8.27) PERILLUS: Would I were able to redress his wrong.

(10.106) PERILLUS: By force of Arms for to redress your wrong.

(24.260) KING: Come, let's to arms for to redress this wrong:

Weakest (x.4) SHAMONT: But by pursuit, seek to redress your wrongs,

(xv) LODOWICK: That Lodwick shall receive redress of wrongs?

Arden (III.1.47) FRANKLIN: Looking for ways for redress of wrong;

Penelope (I.6): His wit doth Orphans wrong redress,

Lyly Bombie (V.3) HACKNEY: Nay soft, take us with you; and seek redress for our wrongs,

Legal terms: Seek **RELIEF**; **DUES** ... Pay; **SWORN** .. Dare.

Oxford poem (Revenge of Wrong.3): But some device shall pay Despite his due;

Edwards Dam&Pith (1730) CARI: I am driven to seek relief abroad, alas! I know not whither.

Gascoigne ... Jocasta (IV.1.374) CHORUS: And look how fast, to death man pays his due,

(V.I.20) CREON: May pay the due that to the dead pertains,

Greene Card: the debt being due he shall by constraint of law and his own confession ... be forced to make restitution. ... you are like either to pay your due unto death or still to linger in

distress.

Anon. Leir (24.189) LEIR: And now I am constrained to seek relief / Of her, to whom I have been so unkind; / Whose censure, if it do award me death, / I must confess she pays me but my due: / But if she show a loving daughter's part, / It comes of God and her, not my desert.

CORDELLA: No doubt she will, I dare be sworn she will.

(22.72) AMB: My King and Queen, I dare be sworn, are free

Lochrine (IV.2.9) LOCRINE: now cursed Humber hast thou paid thy due,

0. Willobie (XLIV.4): Yet sew and seek for no relief.

1. Shakes LLL (V.2) BIRON: Pay him the due of honey-tongued Boyet.

2H4 (IV.5) PRINCE: Thy due from me / Is tears and heavy sorrows of the blood, / Which nature, love, and filial tenderness, / Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously: / My due from thee is this imperial crown, ...

0. Drayton ... Oldcastle (I.2.98) KING: Did cause the same? I dare be sworn, good knight,

Legal term: **RESTRAIN** ... Pension/other benefit

Golding Ovid Met (XIII.461) ... Or if from me this armor you restrain,

Anon. Leir (8.20) PERILLUS: His pension he hath half restrained from him,

Shakes Three uses of "pension", including King Lear.

Legal term: **SEQUESTER**.

Kyd Sp Tr (III.9.2) BEL-IMP: Why am I thus sequestered from the Court?

Anon. Leir (12.2) CORNWALL: Hath sequestered thy father from our presence,

Shakes AsYou (II.1) 1 LORD: To the which place a poor sequester'd stag, ... Did come to languish,

Titus (II.3) BASSANIUS: Why are you sequester'd from all your train, ...

Oth (III.4) OTH: ... this hand of yours requires / A sequester from liberty, ...

Golding Calvin on Psalms, ded. to Oxford.

Legal term: **SUIT** ... Deny.

Greene GaG (V.1.110) EDWARD: He will not deny King Edward such a suit.

Shakes 1H6 (V.3) SUFFOLK: How canst thou tell she will deny thy suit, / Before thou make a trial of her love?

3H6 (III.2) KING EDW: Her suit is now to repossess those lands; / Which we in justice cannot well deny,

GLOUCESTER: Your highness shall do well to grant her suit; / It were dishonor to deny it her

H8 (V.3) KING: I have a suit which you must not deny me;

Anon. Leir (1.86) LEIR: This said, she cannot well deny my suit,

Willobie (XXVII.5): Let not my suit be flat denied, / And what you want, shall be supplied.

Legal term: **SURCEASE** ... **SUIT**.

Thos. Cromwell (1538): The king's pleasure is that..you do Surceese and cause the party to surcease from any further suit.

Anon. Leir (7.105-106) CORDELLA: Thy King will hold thee wise, if thou surcease / The suit,

Penelope (VI.2): Surcease your cases to complain, / Your losses leave so much to moan;

Leic Gh. (1802): The heavens compelled me to surcease my suit,

Legal term: **TRY** the worst of woe.

Lodge Wounds (II.1.125) GRANIUS: Why, Scilla, I am armed the worst to try.

Greene Selimus (15.57-58): Bajazet: The worst that can befall me is but death, / 'Tis that would end my woeful misery.

Anon. Leir (10.107) LEIR: I am resolv'd to try the worst of woe.

Legal term: Prove ... TITLE; Reward Parricide ... Example ... Penance; Prosecute ... Revenge.

Pickering Horestes (420-431): HORESTES: Who offendeth the love of God, and eke man's love with willing heart / Must by [that] love have punishment as duty due for his dessert. / For me therefor to punish here, as law of gods and man doth will, / Is not a crime, though that I do, as thou dost say, my mother kill.

NATURE: The cruel beasts that range in fields, whose jaws to blood are wet, / Do not consent their mothers' paunch in cruel wise to eat: / The tiger fierce doth not desire the ruin of his kind; / And shall Dame Nature now in thee such tyranny once find / As not the cruel beasts vouchsafe to do in aney case? / Leave now, I say, Horestes mine, and to my words give place, / Lest that of men this fact of thine may judged for to be / Ne law, in sooth, ne justice eke, but cruel tyranny.

Greene Orl Fur (IV.1.33) MANDRICARD: To prosecute revenge against Marsilius,

(attrib) Selimus (II.1.127-34) SELIMUS: And yet I think, think other what they will, / That parricide, when death hath given them rest, / Shall have as good a part as have the best; / And that's just nothing: for as I suppose / In Death's void kingdom reigns eternal Night, / Secure of evil and secure of foes, / Where nothing doth the wicked man affright, / No more than him that dies in doing right.

See also 26.3-13.

Anon. Leir (22.103-108) CAMBRIA: But I will prove her title to be nought / But shame, and the reward of Parricide, / And make her an example to the world, / For after-ages to admire her penance. / This will I do, as I am Cambrian King, / Or lose my life, to prosecute revenge.

Ironside (I.1.38-39) CANTERBURY: I would with lance approve his title naught and plead your coronation with my sword.

(V.2.198-99) EDMUND: and in single fight / approve my title lawful, good and right.

Disp. Greene's Groat: and as ye would deal with so many parricides, cast them into the fire; ...

Shakes Lear (II.1) EDMUND Persuade me to the murder of your lordship; / But that I told him, the revenging gods / 'Gainst parricides did all their thunders bend;

(V.3) REGAN: [to Edmund] Let the drum strike, and prove my title thine.

A&C (V.2) CLEOPATRA: Now to that name my courage prove my title!

Titus (IV.1) MARCUS: That we will prosecute by good advice / Mortal revenge upon these traitorous Goths,

Bible 1 Tim 1.9 refers to parricides, "murtherers of fathers and mothers" (No Match).

Legal terms: WITNESS ... intent; RECORD ... Bear.

Golding Abraham (Pro.44) Anon shall bear me record in your sight.

Brooke Romeus (2028-29): And eke my blood unto the earth bear record how that I / Have kept my faith unbroke,

Marlowe Jew of Malta (II.1) BARABAS: Thou know'st, and heaven can witness it is true, / That I intend my daughter shall be thine.

Greene Alphonsus (III.1.86) ALBINIUS: Bear record now with what unwilling mind ...

Anon.Woodstock (V.1) WOODSTOCK: If I must die, bear record, righteous heaven, how I have

nightly waked for England's good,

Leir (7.90-91) KING: Therefore in witness of my true intent, / Let heaven and earth bear record of my words:

Shakes A&C (IV.9) ENOBARBUS: Be witness to me, O thou blessed moon, / When men revolted shall upon record / Bear hateful memory, poor Enobarbus did / Before thy face repent!

Unmatched Legal Terms

Anon. Leir (1.41-42) NOBLE: My gracious Lord, I heartily do wish, / That God had lent you an heir indubitate (undoubted),

Anon. Leir (1.48) 1 NOBLE: And nothing can revoke the course of fate:

Anon. Leir (3.29-30) LEIR: And pale grim death doth wait upon my steps, / And summons me unto his next Assizes.

Anon. Leir (4.23-24) KING: Yet first I will enjoin you to observe / Some few conditions which I shall propose.

Anon. Leir (6.36-37) LEIR: Cease, good my Lords, and sue not to reverse / Our censure, which is now irrevocable.

0. Anon. Leir (6.38) LEIR: We have dispatched letters of contract

Anon. Leir (7.41): CORDELLA: I will profess and vow a maiden's life.

Anon. Leir (7.104) CORDELLA: Hath light on me, and quite reversed the case.

Anon. Leir (7.145) MUMFORD: That swears (without exception) I will have you.

Anon. Leir (10.22-23) GONORILL: But I will take an order, if I can, / To cease th' effect, where first the cause began.

Anon. Leir (12.26) GONORILL: That his report shall ratify my speech,

Anon. Leir (17.50-51): RAGAN: There let him read his own indictment first,

Anon. Leir (18.12) CORNWALL: The truth thereof, I will suspend my judgment.

(22.80-81) CAMBRIA: I suspend my judgment for a time, ...

Anon. Leir (18.61-62) AMB: AMB: To expiate or mitigate his wrath: / For he hath misconveyed without a cause.

Anon. Leir (19.5) PERILLUS: And so am I, but I impute the cause

Anon. Leir (19.198-99) MESS: Shall I relent, or shall I prosecute? / Shall I resolve, or were I best recant?

Anon. Leir (22.33-34) CAMBRIA: Censure not any, till you know the right: Let him be Judge, that bringeth truth to light.

Proverbs

Proverb: CAST beyond the moon (go to extravagant lengths).

Heywood Proverbs, #191: He casteth beyond the moon: great diversity, / Between far casting and wise casting, may be. ... He casteth beyond the moon, what need that be done? / We have casting enough, a this side the moon.

Lyly Euphues: Pardon me, Euphues, it in love I cast beyond the moon, which bringeth us women to endless moan. ...

But I will not cast beyond the moon, for that in all things I know there must be a moon.

Bombie (II.2.6-7) STELLIO: Without doubt Riscio hath gone beyond himself in casting beyond the moon.

Lodge Rosalind: you rove beyond the Moon; and cast your looks upon my Mistress,

Greene Card of Fancy (para. 79): Why dost thou cast beyond the moon and fear before thou art

in danger to fall,
Pandosto (para 5): began to cast beyond the Moon
Harvey 4th letter: Some are cunning, & can imaginatively cast beyond the moon,
Anon. Leir (24.10) CORDELLA: Lord, how they labor to bestir themselves, / And in their quirks
to go beyond the Moon, / And so take on them with such antic fits,
Munday John a Kent (I.1.36): SIR GRIFFIN: To see how Powys casts beyond the Moon,
Shakes Titus (IV.3.75): My lord, I aim a mile beyond the moon, ...
See Tilley, Elizabethan Proverb Lore, #75.

Proverb: DELAYS are dangerous.
Golding Ovid Met. (VI.597): Delay was deadly.
(XI.432): Delay breeds loss.
Watson Hek (LIX.comment): alleging what hurt may grow through her longer delay.
Greene Alphonsus (II.2.197) FAUSTA: Delay is dangerous and procureth harm.
(IV.1.49) BELINUS: For mickle danger hapneth through delay.
James IV (V.6.49) QUEEN: But danger hates delay:
Card (para 4): and hastened his son in this his new course lest delay might breed danger
(47): but at last perceiving delay bred danger,
(125): lest too long delay should breed too great danger,
(195): let not delay breed danger but strike on the stith while the iron is hot;
(197): you shall find that delay breeds danger, & that procrastination in perils is but the mother
of mishap.
(232): Thersandro, (quoth he) it is vain with long talk to pass away the time when delay breeds
danger,
Pandosto (para. 10): Egistus fearing that delay might breed danger,
(79): she therefore told him that delay bred danger;
(81): who tarried not long, for fear delay might breed danger,
(115): who willing to obey their King and relieve their young Prince, made no delays, for fear of
danger,
Anon. Muce (III.3.1) AMADINE: God grant my long delay procures no harm
Ironside (II.3.124) CANUTUS: the more you delay the time, the worse you speed.
Leir (5.63-64) CAMBRIA: Then let us haste, all danger to prevent, / For fear delays do alter his
intent.
Willobie (XXXI.5): That bids you, Do but dally not, / Do so sweet heart, and do not stay, / For
dangers grow from sound delay.
Lyly MB (IV.1) Bombie LIVIA: A good question, for that one delay in wedding brings an
hundred dangers in the church.
Shakes 1H6 (III.2) REIGNIER: Defer no time, delays have dangerous ends;
Chapman D'Ol (III.1.110) VANDOME: Consider love's delay breeds desperation,
See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #145.

Proverb: The **DEVIL** hath power to assume a pleasing shape.
Anon. Leir (30.73) PERILLUS: Thou fiend in likeness of a human creature.
Dr. Dodypoll also relies on this doctrine in their depictions of an Enchanter who assumes a
pleasing shape to win a lovely woman.
Greene Orl Fur (V.1.55) ORL: And so, farewell, thou devil in shape of man.

Nashe Penniless: Why quoth he, although in their proper essence they are creatures incorporal, yet they can take on the inducements of any living body whatsoever, & transform themselves into all kind of shapes, whereby they may more easily deceive our shallow wits and senses.

Shakes MND (III.1) SALANIO: Let me say 'amen' betimes, lest the devil cross my / prayer, for here he comes in the likeness of a Jew.

John (III.1) CONSTANCE: O Lewis, stand fast! the devil tempts thee here / In likeness of a new untrimmed bride.

MWW (V.1) FALSTAFF: ... he beat me grievously, in the shape of a woman; for in the shape of man, Master Brook, I fear not Goliath with a weaver's beam; because I know also life is a shuttle.

Ham (II.2) HAMLET: The spirit that I have seen / May be the devil: and the devil hath power / To assume a pleasing shape.

Peele Wives (856-59) GHOST: But he was a miserable, old, and crooked man, though to / each man's eye he seemed young and fresh; for, master, / this conjurer took the shape of the old man that kept the / cross, and that old man was in the likeness of the conjurer.

Bible 2 Cor 11.14: Satan himself is transformed into an Angel of light.

1 Sam 28.14: To his imagination, albeit it was Satan, who to blind his eyes took upon him the form of Samuel, as he can do of an Angel of light. (No Match)

Note: This belief, a fixture of both Protestant and Catholic doctrine, was a major factor in the witchcraft trials of Europe and the United States.

Proverb: All men must DIE.

Bedingfield Cardanus (II: p. 55a): With the same reason shalt thou be comforted, if thy son be an infant and thine only son (I omit to tell what he may hereafter be) but now he hath hit the mark for which he was born. For is there any other end whereto we were born than death? as the body for the soul, and as sleeping for watching, so was life given unto us for death,

(III. p. 102a) But we are most assured not only to sleep, but also die: and as long to live we cannot, so how far we are from death is to us unknown.

Marshall Devices (39.title) Though Fortune have set thee in high, / Remember yet that thou shalt die.

Anon. Devices (42.47): Like one I live, and so must die, whom Fortune hath forgot.

Loyd Devices (103.53): We live to die, he died to live, we want, and he possessed,

(103.55): Being born to live, he lived to die, and died to God so plain,

(103.90) What lives in time, in time shall die, and yield to Parcas' web.

Edwards Dam&Pith (886-87) DAMON: Weep no more, Stephano; this is but destiny. / Had this not happ'd, yet I know I am born to die;

Gasc Jocasta (III.2.24) MENECEUS: Yet being born (as all men are) to die,

Pettie Palace: carrying this in your remembrance that we ar born to die, and that even in our swathe-clouts death ay ask his due.

Lyly Gallathea (I.1) GALL: Suffer me therefore to die, for which I was born, or let me curse / that I was born, sith I may not die for it.

Anon. Leir (3.25-30) LEIR: Dear Gonorill, kind Ragan, sweet Cordella, / Ye flourishing branches of a Kingly stock, / Sprung from a tree that once did flourish green, / Whose blossoms now are nipped with Winter's frost, / And pale grim death doth wait upon my steps, / And summons me unto his next Assizes.

(19.232-34) LEIR: No doubt, he shall, when by the course of nature, / He must surrender up his due to death: / But that time shall not come, till God permit.

Willobie (LXXIII.3): When mortal men shall never die,
Shakes Edw3 (IV.4.159-60) PRINCE EDW: Since for to live is but to seek to die, / And dying
but beginning of new life.

2H4 (III.2): SHADOW: ... death, / as the Psalmist saith, is certain to all; all shall / die.

Ham (I.2.72) QUEEN: Thou know'st 'tis common, all that lives must die, / Passing through
Nature, to Eternity.

See also R&J, JC, Mac, MM, Cymb.

Bible Ps. 89.47 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death (No Match).

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #152; Erasmus Adagio.

Proverb: The EAGLE kills her young when they stare at the sun.

Watson Hek (XCIX): The haughty AEgle Bird, of Birds the best, / Before the feathers of her
younglings grow, / She lifts them one by one from out their nest, / To view the Sun, thereby her
own to know; / Those that behold it not with open eye, / She lets them fall, not able yet to fly.

Kyd Sol&Per (III.1.84-88) ERASTUS: As air-bred eagles, if they once perceive / That any of
their brood but close their sight / When they should gaze against the glorious sun, / They
straightway seize upon him with their talents, / That on the earth it may untimely die

Lodge Rosalind: a true-born bird, since as the one is known by beholding the Sun: so was he by
regarding excellent beauty. (Note: an inversion of the proverb.)

But I, unhappy I, have let mine eye soar with the Eagle against so bright a Sun,

Anon. Leir (6.45-47) LEIR: And yet as jealous as the princely Eagle, That kills her young ones,
if they do but dazzle Upon the radiant splendor of the Sun.

Fletcher/Shakes TNK (II.2.34-36) ARCITE: and, like young eagles, teach 'em / Boldly to gaze
against bright arms and say, / 'Remember what your fathers were, and conquer.'

Note: Invoking the common saying that the eagle stares at the sun, Watson's sonnet contradicts
the other examples of this proverb.

Cf. Aristotle Lib. 9 Hist. animal; Pliny Nat. Hist. Lib. 10. cap. 1.

Pliny: Aquila implumes etiamnum pullos suos percutiens, Subinde cogit adversos intueri Solis
radios: et si conniventum humectantemque animadvertit, praecipitat e nido, velut adulterinum
atque degenerem: illum, cuius acies firma contra steterit, educat.

Now as touching the Haliartos, or the Osprey, she only before that her little ones be feathered,
will beat and strike them with her wings, and thereby force them to look full against the Sun
beams. Now if she see any one of them to wink, or their eyes to water at the rays of the Sun, she
turns it with the head forward out of the nest, as a bastard, and not right; nor none of hers: but
bringeth up and cherisheth that whose eye will abide the light of the Sun as she looketh directly
upon him.

Proverb: To HOP against the hill.

Spraeta tamen Sundry Flowers. Absent Dame (6): Although I know my labor lost, to hop against
the Hill.

Pettie Palace: To hop against the hill, and strike against the stream, hath ever been counted
extreme folly.

Greene Card (para 64): To hop against the hill is extreme fondness, to strive against the stream
mere folly;

Anon. Leir (20.13) AMB: But she is like to hop without her hope,

See Tilley, Elizabethan Proverb Lore, #349.

Proverb: Spur a willing HORSE.

Greene Ciceronis: Cicero, willing to put a spur to a free horse ...

Lodge Rosalind: The words of Saladine were but spurs to a free horse;

Anon. Leir (26.20) MUMFORD: My liege, tis needless to spur a willing horse,

Shakes Rich2 (IV.1) FITZWATER: How fondly dost thou spur a forward horse!

Proverb: With one NAIL, expel another.

Heywood Proverbs, #112: One nail driveth out another, with strokes so stout: / That the hammer head which driveth them, weareth quite out.

Brooke Romeus (207): And as out of a plank a nail a nail doth drive,

Bedingfield Cardanus (102a): [margin: One misery removeth another.] It cometh to pass in these as it doth in griefs of the body, one Calamity driveth another away.

Lyly Euphues: One love expelleth another ... The fire that burneth taketh away the heat of the burn. ... Driving out the remembrance of his old love with the recording of the new.

Shakes TGV (II.4) PROTEUS: Even as one heat another heat expels, / Or as one nail by strength drives out another,

JC (III.1.171): As fire drives out fire, so pity pity.

Corio (IV.7.54): One fire drives out one fire; one nail, another nail.

Anon. Leir (12.32) GONORILL: Thus with one nail another I'll expel,

Harvey Pierces Super: that must drive out one nail with another

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #410. Probable origin Erasmus Adagio: One nail is driven out by another nail.

Proverb: Fit to make a PARSON'S wife.

Heywood Proverbs, #238 (Of the parsons leman. / She is as tender as a parson's leman, / Parsons' lemans are tough enough now and then.

Anon. Leir (6.20) RAGAN: She were right fit to make a Parson's wife:

Proverb: The PELICAN kills itself to save its young.

Anon. Leir (6.43-44) LEIR: I am as kind as is the Pelican, / That kills itself, to save her young ones' lives:

Shakes Edw3 (III.5) PRINCE: A pelican, my Lord, / Wounding her bosom with her crooked beak, / That so her nest of young ones might be fed / With drops of blood that issue from her heart: / The motto Sic et vos, "And so should you."

Ham (IV.5) LAERTES: To his good friends thus wide I'll ope my arms; / And like the kind life-rendering pelican, / Repast them with my blood.

Lear (III.4) LEAR: Death, traitor! nothing could have subdued nature / To such a lowness but his unkind daughters. / Is it the fashion, that discarded fathers / Should have thus little mercy on their flesh? / Judicious punishment! 'twas this flesh begot / Those pelican daughters.

Proverbs: PHOENIX ... legend and Eliz. literary derivatives.

Pliny abstract: ... But the Phoenix of Arabia passeth all others. Howbeit, I cannot tell what to make of him: and first of all, whether it be a tale or no, that there is never but one of them in the whole world, and the same not commonly seen. By report he is as big as an Eagle: for color, as yellow & bright as fold; (namely, all about the neck;) the rest of the body a deep red-purple: the tail azure blue, intermingled with feathers among, of rose cornation color: and the head bravely adorned with a crest and pennache [tuft or plume] finely wrought; having a tuft and plume

thereupon, right fair and goodly to be seen. Manilius, the noble Roman Senator, ... was the first man of the long Robe [fellowship], who wrote of this bird at large, & most exquisitely. He reporteth, that never man was known to see him feeding: that in Arabia he is held a sacred bird, dedicated unto the Sun: that he liveth 660 years: and when he groweth old, and begins to decay, he builds himself a nest with the twigs and branches of the Canel or Cinamon, and Frankincense trees: and when he hath filled it with all sort of sweet Aromatical spices, yeeldeth up his life thereupon. He saith moreover, that of his bones & marrow there breedeth at first as it were a little worm: which afterwards proveth to be a pretty bird. And the first thing that this young new Phoenix doth, is to perform the obsequies of the former Phoenix late deceased: to translate and carry away his whole next into the city of the Sun [Baalbek] near Panchaea, and to bestow it full devoutly there upon the altar. The same Manilius affirmeth, that the revolution of the great year so much spoken of, agreeth just with the life of this bird: in which year the stars return again to their first points, and give signification of times and seasons, as at the beginning: and withal, that this year should begin at high noon, that very day when the Sun entreth the sige Aries. ... (Cf. Eliz. Zoo, p. 138.)

OED Abstract: A mythical bird, of gorgeous plumage, fabled to be the only one of its kind, and to live five or six hundred years in the Arabian desert, after which it burnt itself to ashes on a funeral pile of aromatic twigs ignited by the sun and fanned by its own wings, but only to emerge from its ashes with renewed youth, to live through another cycle of years. (Abstract from the OED.)

Gosson Abuse: as the Phoenix in Arabia, without a fellow.

Golding Ovid Met (XV.432-448): One bird there is that doth renew itself and as it were / Beget itself continually. The Syrians name it there / A Phoenix. Neither corn nor herbs this Phoenix liveth by, / But by the juice of frankincense and gum of Amomy. / And when that of his life well full five hundred years are past, / Upon a Holmtree or upon a Date tree at the last / He makes him with his talons and his hardened bill a nest. / Which when that he with Casia sweet and Nardus soft hath dressed, / And strewed it with cynamon and Myrrha of the best, / He rucketh down upon the same, and in the spices dies. / Soon after, of the father's corce men say there doth arise / Another little Phoenix which as many years must live / As did his father. He (as soon as age doth strength him give / To bear the burden) from the tree the weighty nest doth lift, / And godly his cradle thence and father's hearse doth shift. / And flying through the subtle air he gets to Phebus' town, / And there before the temple door doth lay his burden down.

Bedingfield Cardanus: Because he maketh no mention either of the Phoenix the Crow, the Raven or the Stag: nor affirmeth them to be of longest life.

Watson Hek (XI): O Golden bird and Phoenix of our age,

(XVII.comment): The Author not yet having forgotten the song of his mistress, maketh her in this passion a second Phoenix, though not of Arabia, and yet no less acceptable to Apollo, than is that bird of Arabia.

(XVII): She Phoenix is, though not of Araby; / And yet the plumes about her neck are bright, / And Sol himself in her hath chief delight.

XXXIII: No Bird but one is sacred to the sun.

(XLIII): The Phoenix so revives amidst the air / By virtue of that Sun which all men view:

Golding Ded. of Psalms to Lord Oxford: I assure your Lordship I write not these things as though I suspected you to be digressed from that soundness and sincerity wherein you were continually trained and traded under that vigilant Ulysses of our commonwealth, sometime your Lordship's careful Chiron or Phoenix, and now your faithful Patroclus,

Vaux Devices (91.29-30): In time at Phenix ends her care and carks, / I make the fire, and burn myself with sparks.

Oxford Tournament speech: The world can hold but one phoenix, one Alexander, one sun-tree;

Munday Zelauto: Oh Sir, never can my tongue give half a quarter of the praise, that is due to that rare Arabian Phoenix. Were Mars himself alive: he would stand aghast at her Heavenly behavior.

Lyly Euphues: For as there is but one Phoenix in the world, so is there but one tree in Arabia wherein she guildeth; and as there is but one Camilla to be heard of, so is there but one Caesar that she will like of.

Campaspe (Blackfriar's Pro): Feathers appear not on the Phoenix under seven months

Gallathea (V.2.) HAEBE: And who so cutteth the incense tree in Arabia before it fall, comitteth sacrilege.

Sapho (V.1.13-14) VENUS: This arrow is feathered with the Phoenix' wing and headed with the Eagle's bill:

Endymion (III.4.145): But friends to be found, are like the phoenix in Arabia, but one.

Woman/Moon (III.2.159) IPHICLES: [will me] To fetch the feathers of the Arabian bird,

Lodge Wounds (285-290) SCILLA: Oh Flaccus, if th'Arabian Phoenix strive / By nature's warning to renew her kind, / When soaring nigh the glorious eye of heaven / She from her cinders doth revive her sex, / Why should not Scilla learn by her to die, / That erst have been the Phoenix of this land?

Rosalind: that with the Phoenix knew the term of his life was now expired, ... Love's burning brand is couched in my breast, / Making a Phoenix of my faintful heart: ... Of all chaste birds the Phoenix doth excel, ... the most fairest of all fairs, the Phoenix of all that sex, ... mids these pains, all Phoenix-like I thrive, / Since love that yields me death, may life revive.

Greene Card (para 25): as the bird halcyones delighteth to view the feathers of the phoenix,

Selimus (20.10-14) SELIMUS: Thus after he has five long ages lived, / The sacred phoenix of Arabia / Loadeth his wings with precious perfumes / And on the altar of the golden sun / Offers himself a grateful sacrifice.

Ciceronis: yet Lentulus, to content her, plays like the phoenix, burns in his own perfumes, ...

Nashe Penniless: and if one ask them what it is? they make answer, a plume of the Phoenix, whereof there is but one in all the whole world.

Astrophel: Dear Astrophel, that in the ashes of thy Love / livest again like the Phoenix;

Absurdity: coveting with the phoenix to approach so nigh to the sun that they are scorched with his beams and confounded with his brightness.

Unf Trav: Her high exalted sunbeams have set the Phoenix nest of my breast on fire,

Summers (1688-90) CHRISTMAS: I must rig ships to Samos / for Peacocks, to Paphos for Pigeons, to Austria for Oysters, to Phasis for Pheasants, / to Arabia for Phoenixes,

Anon. Leir (16.46): KING: Mirror of virtue, Phoenix of our age!

Willobie (I.31): This rare-seen bird, this Phoenix sage

Prison Pent: Rest then (my heart) and keep thine old delight, / Which like the Phoenix waxeth young each day:

Leic Gh. (1198-1202: The bear was ready evermore to watch, ... / That the sole bird that hath the flaming crest / Should in Arabia build no stately nest,

Shakes 1H6 (IV.7) LUCY: I'll bear them hence; but from their ashes shall be rear'd / A phoenix that shall make all France afeard.

3H6 (I.4) YORK: ... as the phoenix, may bring forth / A bird that will revenge upon you all:

Sonnet 19: And burn the long-lived phoenix in her blood;

AsYou (IV.3) ROS: She calls me proud, and that she could not love me, / Were man as rare as phoenix.

Cymb (I.6) IACHIMO: If she be furnish'd with a mind so rare, / She is alone the Arabian bird,

Tempest (III.3) SEBASTIAN: ... Now I will believe / That there are unicorns, that in Arabia / There is one tree, the phoenix' throne, one phoenix / At this hour reigning there.

Timon (II.1): SENATOR: Lord Timon will be left a naked gull, / Which flashes now a phoenix.

A&C (III.2) AGRIPPA: O Antony! O thou Arabian bird!

H8 (V.5) CRANMER Nor shall this peace sleep with her: but as when / The bird of wonder dies, the maiden phoenix, / Her ashes new create another heir, / As great in admiration as herself;

See also The Phoenix and the Turtle, creating an autonomous phoenix.

Fletcher & Shakes TNK (I.3.69-71) EMILIA: commit it / To the like innocent cradle, where phoenix-like, / They died in perfume.

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #271.

Proverb: **PROMISE** is a debt.

Hill Devices (14.1-2): In my accompt, the promise that is vowed, / Among the good, is holden such a debt:

Munday Zelauto: Indeed sir, promise is due debt we say, ... / A promise may always be claimed for a due debt,

Lyly Euphues: Yet knowing promise to be debt, I will pay it ...

Anon. Leir (21.43) MUMFORD: For promise is debt, & by this hand you promised it me.

Harvey 2d letter: Promise is debt, and I had rather perform, than promise anything but a mind desirous to pleasure friends, to reconcile foes, to displease few, to displeasure none.

Pierce's Super: Some promises are desperate debts, and many threatenings empty clouds, or rather armies fighting in the air, terrible visions.

Oxford letter (7-1600, to Sir Rbt Cecil): ..., or when her Majesty may have an easier opportunity to discharge the debt of so many hopes, as her promises have given me cause to embrace,

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #507.

Proverb: **SINK** or swim.

Greene Card (para 25): alate swimming in rest and now sinking in care,

(165): Shall he swim in wealth and I sink in want?

Anon. Leir (24.159) LEIR: I turned her from me to go sink or swim:

Shakes 1H4 (I.3) HOTSPUR: If he fall in, good night! or sink or swim:

Proverb: **TRY** your friend before you trust him.

Brooke Romeus (1265): In doubtful hap ay best, a trusty friend is tried,

(2289): Even from the trusty nurse, whose secretness was tried,

Heywood Devices: (12.10-12): Be friend to all, familiar but to few: / Too light of credit, see thou never be, / For trial oft in trust, doth treason show.

Kindlemarch Devices (18.40): So trusty friends, by tried friends are found.

D. S. Devices (26.Title): Try before you trust.

Hill Devices (68, 90.Title): Try and then trust

Vaux Devices (90.title): Try before you trust

Whetstone Devices (110.17): Like well thy friend, but try him are thou love,

(110.57): Try are thou trust, thy faith lest falsehood 'quite,

Lyly Euphues: Trial maketh trust ... Trial shall prove trust ... Thou has tried me, therefore trust me. ... Friends are tried before they are to be trusted. ... Trust them that thou hast tried ... Upon trial you confess you would trust.

Lodge Rosalind: so try and then trust, let time be touchstone of friendship,

Fain would I trust, but yet I dare not try.

Greene Card of Fancy (para 5): Be a friend to all & a foe to none, and yet trust not without trial, (8): and from henceforth try ere thou trust.

(18): , the trust you repose in my truth without sufficient trial,

(204) or to make trial of thy troth when thy words can have no trust?

(232): If it please thee to trust me without trial,

Anon. Tr Trag Rich3 (316) SHORE'S WIFE: For I think I shall be driven to try my friends one day.

Leir (19.101): PERILLUS: Mistrust not him, but try him when thou wilt:

Willobie (I.3): This have I tried; This dare I trust,

(XX.3): To force me try, or make me trust

(LII.2): Which though untried, yet we must trust,

(Res.5): To force my mind, to try a trustless trade.

Aesop Fable of the Dog and the Hare: No one can be a friend if you know not whether to trust or distrust him.

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #651.

Proverb: **Better to have than WISH.**

Heywood Proverbs, #272: Better to have than wish, nay ye may so crave, / That better to wish ten times than once to have. ... Otherwise: Better to have than wish, not alway cousin, / What if ye rashly wished stripes now a dozen. ... Otherwise: Better to have than wish. better have as we have, / Than to have at wish all that wishers would crave.

My Luck is Loss Devices (45.36): What boots to wish and never to obtain.

Greene Pandosto: Happy are such, Bellaria, that curse Fortune for contempt, not fear, and may wish they were, not sorrow they have been.

Anon. Leir (13.13-16-) CORDELLA: I cannot wish the thing that I do want; / I cannot want the thing but I may have, / Save only this which I shall ne're obtain, / My father's love, oh this I ne're shall gain.

Aesop Fable: If men had all they wished, they would be often ruined.

Proverb: **Happy the WOOING that's not long doing.**

Anon. Devices (78.21-22): Thrice happy is that wooing, / That is not long a doing,

Munday Zelauto: for he that speedeth at the first: woeth well, ...

Anon. Fam Vic (1375-78) HENRY 5: I cannot do as these Countries do, / That spend half their time in wooing. / Tush wench, I am none such, / But wilt thou go over to England?

Leir (7.155) MUMFORD: I like the wooing, that's not long a doing.

Lodge Rosalind: if all maidens were of her mind, the world would grow to a mad pass; for there would be great store of wooing and little wedding, ... I see well where Love leads delay is loathsome, and that small wooing serves, where both the parties are willing.

Shakes T&C (I.2) CRESSIDA: Women are angels, wooing: / Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing.

Proverb: **A WORD spoken is past recalling.** When the WORD is out, it belongs to another.

Edwards Dam&Pith (842-43) DION: I would dispatch this Damon fain; / But this foolish fellow so chargeth me that I may not call back my word again.

Lyly Euphues: ... whatever is babbled out, cannot again be recalled.

Greene Alphonsus (V.3.94-95) ALPHONSUS: Woman, away! My word is gone and past; / Now, if I would, I cannot call it back;

Anon. Woodstock (I.3.155-56) KING: Our word, good Uncle, is already passed, / Which cannot with our honor be recalled:

Arden (I.1.192-93) ALICE: What were thy words and mine? Did we not both / Decree to murder Arden in the night?

Leir (19.192-93) MESS: I would that word were in his belly again, / It hath frightened me even to the very heart:

(19.200-203) MESS: I will not crack my credit with two Queens, / To whom I have already passed my word. / Oh, but my conscience for this act doth tell, / I get heaven's hate, earth's scorn, and pains of hell.

Shakes Ham (III.2.97-99) KING: I have nothing with this answer Hamlet, these / words are not mine. -- HAM: No, nor mine.

Edw3 (II.1.433) WARWICK: Why now, thou speak'st as I would have thee speak, / And mark how I unsay my words again.

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, 711, 712; Horace Epistolae

Erasmus Familiar Colloquies: But words when they are once out, cannot be called in again.

Proverb: **He is wise who speaks few WORDS.**

Heywood Devices (96.3): Spend no more words than shall seem fit,

Whetstone Devices (110.21): Shun many words, a sentence short and sweet, / For lavish speech, is cause of much unrest:

Lyly Euphues: A long discourse argueth folly.

Love's Met (III.1) CELIA: To be amorous and not lovely is like a pleasant fool: full of words and no deserts.

Marlowe T1 (II.4.25) TAMB: I would entreat you to speak but three wise words.

Nashe Penniless: Yet wondered he left out thy memory. / But therefore guessed I he suppressed thy name, / Because few words might not co[m]prise thy fame.

Summers (498-99) WINTER: Let him not talk; for he hath words at will, / And wit to make the baddest matter good.

(1000) SUMMER: It is wine's custom to be full of words. / I pray thee, Bacchus, give us vicissitudinem loquendi.

Anon. Leir (12.109-110) LEIR: Few words are best in so small a matter: / These are but trifles.

Chapman D'Olive (IV.2.212-214): MUG: I talk like a fool, but, alas, thou art wise and silent!

ROD: Excellent! And the more wise, the more silent.

Marston Fawn (I.2.183): Wise heads use but few words.

See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #716A.

Proverb: **WORDS are but wind.**

Pickering Horestes (146) VICE: Tut, tut, Rusticus, these words be but wind.

Hill Devices (68.5): But now I see, that words are nought but wind,

Gascoigne Supposes (II.8) SIENNESE: since I have received no greater injury than by words, let

them pass like wind, I take them well in worth:
 Jocasta (V.5.110) CREON: Thou doest but waste thy words amid the wind.
 Lyly Euphues: ... that the painted words were but wind, that feigned sighs were but sleights.
 Woman/Moon (II.1.234) STESIAS: Her hardest words are but a gentle wind;
 Pettie Palace: ... he shall find their words to be but wind, their faith forgery, ...
 Greene Card (para 59): She that is won with a word will be lost with a wind;
 Anon. Leir (3.40) GONORILL: Which cannot be in windy words rehearsed,
 Ironside (III.1.29-30) CANTERBURY: Stay, York, and hear me speak. Thy puffy words, / thy windy threats, thy railing curses,
 Arden (I.1.436-37) ALICE: ... oaths are words, and words is wind, / And wind is mutable.
 Shakes Errors (III.1) DROMO/EPHESUS: A man may break a word with you, sir, and words are but wind, / Ay, and break it in your face, so he break it not behind.
 Ado (V.2) BEATRICE: A man may break a word with you, sir, and words are but wind, / Ay, and break it in your face, so he break it not behind.
 Lucrece (190): And sorrow ebbs, being blown with wind of words.
 Pass Pilg (XXI): Words are easy, like the wind;
 Nashe Summers (1489) SUMMER: Words have their course, the wind blows where it lists;
 Munday Zelauto (p. 178): ... this is but a trifle, and your words are now to be esteemed as wind,
 John a Kent (I.1.4) SIR GRIFFIN: Wind-breathed words are vainer than the wind;
 Huntington (III.17) ROBIN: For the rough storm thy windy words hath raised
 Chapman D'Olive (II.2.244-46) D'Olive: whether by answering a fool I should myself seem / no less; or by giving way to his wind (for words are but / wind) might betray the cause;
 See Tilley, Eliz. Proverb Lore, #713.

Biblical/Religious References

BLESSING ... Abraham ... Juda.

Anon. Leir (24.232 ff.) LEIR: The blessing, which the God of Abraham gave / Unto the tribe of Juda, light on thee, / And multiply thy days, that thou mayst see / Thy childrens' children prosper after thee. / Thy faults, which are just none that I do know, / God pardon on high, and I forgive below.

Shake H8 (V.4.51-52): His honor and the greatness of his name / Shall be, and make new nations.

Bible Genesis 12.2-3; 14.19; 17.4-6; 17.16; 18.18; 22.17-18 (No Match).

BURY ... Oblivion.

Oxford Bedingfield letter (1573): through which infirmity you are desirous to bury and insevil your works in the grave of oblivion:

Nashe Penniless: First, for the subject of them (for the most part) it is borrowed out of our English Chronicles, wherein our forefathers' valiant acts (that have line long buried in rusty brass, and worm-eaten books) are revived, and they themselves raised from the Grave of oblivion, and brought to plead their aged Honors in open presence:

Anon. Ironside (II.3.38-39) CANUTUS: ... whereas the memory of present death / is quickly buried in oblivion,

(V.1.110-111) EDMUND: Bury unkindness in oblivion / and ne'er remember our suspicion.

Leir (16.22) KING: And bury them, where black oblivion lies.

Shakes AWEW (V.3) KING: The nature of his great offence is dead, / And deeper than oblivion we do bury / The incensing relics of it:

Bible: Matt. 6.19 Lay not up treasures for yourselves upon the earth, where the moth & canker corrupt, & where thieves dig through, and steal. (MARKED)

CHERUBINS ... Heaven.

Marlowe Tamb 2 (II.4.26-30) Tamb: The Cherubins and holy Seraphins / That sing and play before the king of kings, / Use all their voices and their instruments / To entertain divine Zenocrate.

Kyd Sp Tr (III.8.17-20) HIER: To heaven: aye, there sits my Horatio, / Backed with a troop of fiery Cherubins / Dancing about his newly-healed wounds, / Singing sweet hymns and chanting heavenly notes:

Anon. Leir (1.2-4): LEIR: Of our (too late) deceased and dearest Queen, Whose soul I hope, possessed of heavenly joys, Doth ride in triumph 'mongst the Cherubins;

Bible 1 Sam 4.4 The people sent to Shiloh, & brought from thence the Ark of the covenant of the Lord of hosts, who dwelleth between the Cherubims: ...; 2 Sam. 6.2, 22.11 (No Match).

CONDEMN ... Crime (spare the innocent).

Gascoigne ... Jocasta (III.1.224-27) CREON: Can heavens condemn but him alone to die?

TYRESIAS: We ought believe the cause is good and just.

CREON: Unjust is he condemns the innocent. / Great folly to accuse the gods.

D.S. Devices (29I.2): Instead of wrong, condemn not right, no hidden wrath to wreak:

Harvey Pierce: It is vanity to control that true honor hath practised, and folly to condemn that right wisdom hath allowed.

Anon. Leir (24.202) CORDELLA: Condemn not all, because of other's crime:

Pasquil Apology (Para. 18): Are Christ and the Apostle to be condemned for heretics, because the one stood up in the Synagogue on the Sabbath day to read, the other chargeth Timothy to give attendance to reading till he come?

Bible Genesis 18.26 And the Lord answered, If I shall find in Sodom fifty fighteous within the city, then will I spre all the place for their sakes. Note: God declareth that his judgments were done in great mercy, forasmuch as all were so corrupt, that not only fifty, but ten righteous men could not be found there and also that the wicked are spared for the righteous sake (MARKED).

DEATH ... Long life ... Misery.

Vaux Devices (16.30-36) The days be long, that hang upon desert, / The life is irk of joys that be delayed: / The time is short, for to requite the smart, / That doth proceed of promise long unpaid, / That to the last of this my fainting breath, / I wish exchange of life, for happy death.

Marshall (39.37-38): If thou have led thy life aright, / Death is the end of misery:

Watson Hek (LXIX.Comment): In the residue he entreateth a better aspect of the Planets, to the end that either his life may be inclined to a more happy course, or his death be hastened, to end all his misery at once.

Greene Selimus (15.31-32) BAJAZET: How shall he live, that full of misery / Calleth for death, which will not let him die?

(15.57-58): Bajazet: The worst that can befall me is but death, / 'Tis that would end my woeful misery.

Kyd Sp Tr (IV.5.47) REVENGE: For here though death hath end their misery,
Anon. Woodstock (III.2) WOODSTOCK: I would my death might end the misery my fear
presageth to my wretched country.

Leir (19.312-13) LEIR: Death had been better welcome unto me, / Than longer life to add more
misery.

Marlowe Edw2 (V.3.2-3) MATREVIS: Men are ordain'd to live in misery; / Therefore come,
dalliance dangereth our lives.

Bible Job 3.20-26 Wherefore it the light given to him that is in misery and life unto them that hav
heavy hearts? Which long for death, & if it come not, they would even search it more than
treasures: Which joy for gladness and rejoice, when they can find the grave. Why is the light
given to the man whose way is hid, & whom God hath hedged in? For the thing I feared is come
upon me, and the thing I was afraid of, is come unto me. I had no peace, neither had I quietness,
neither had I rest, yet trouble is come (No Match).

DEATH ... Lord receive me; Die ... in charity.

Golding Ovid Met (XIII.1031-34): I scared therewith dopped underneath the water, and the
knight / Simethus turning straight his back, did give himself to flight, / And cried: Help me
Galate, help parents I you pray, / And in your kingdom me receive who perish must straightway.
(XIV.974-76): Whom if the fatal sisters three / Will of their gracious goodness grant me leave
but once to see, / I shall account me into heaven received for to be.

Edwards Dam&Pith (1497) EUB: The gods receive thy simple ghost into the heavens above!

Greene Selimus (22.83-84) CORCUT: Selim, farewell. Thou God of Christians, / Receive my
dying soul into thy hands.

Marlowe Edw2 (V.5.108) EDWARD: Assist me, sweet God, and receive my soul.

Faustus GOOD ANGEL: The jaws of hell are open to receive thee.

Kyd Sol&Per (IV.1.127) PERSEDA; O Christ, receive my soul.

Anon. Woodstock (III.3.93) GRASIER: Jesu, receive my soul, I am departed!

Leir (19.225-26) LEIR: Now, Lord, receive me, for I come to thee, / And die, I hope, in perfect
charity.

Bible Hosea 14.2 Take unto you words, and turn to the Lord, and say unto him, Take away all
iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips. (Marginal note C:
Declaring that this is the true sacrifice, that the faithful can offer, even thanks & praise.)
(MARKED). See also Mark 16.19 (death of Jesus); Acts 7.59 (death of Steven); Romans 16.2; 2
Cor. 6.17. The origin may be more pastoral than Biblical.

DOOMSDAY ... Day of Judgment.

Anon. Leir (19.174-75) MESS: Fear nothing, man, thou art but in a dream, / And thou shalt
never wake until doomsday,

Willobie (LXX.III.3): When Fish as haggard Hawks shall fly, /When Seas shall flame, and Sun
shall freeze,

(LXXIII.4): When Thames shall leave his channel dry, / When Sheep shall feed amidst the Sea.
/ When stones aloft, as Birds shall fly. / And night be changed into Day,

Nashe Penniless: Westminster, Westminster, much maidenhead hast thou to answer for / at the
day of judgment, thou hadst a Sanctuary in thee once, / but few Saints left in thee now. ...

Shakes A number of references, notably in Hamlet I.117 and 120, 1H6, Rich2, Corio, Mac.

Bible Doomsday references: Joel 2.31; Matthew 24.29; Acts 2.20 (No Match).

Day of Judgment (Shaheen) Rev. 20.12-13 And I saw the dead, both great & small stand before God: and their books were opened, & another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged of those things, which were written in the books, according to their works. (20.13) And the sea gave up her dead, which were in her, and death and hel delivered up the dead, which were in them: & they were judged every man according to their works. (20.12-13 MARKED)

END, See also The end.

Greene Or1 Fur (V.2.136): MARSILIUS: To hear and see this unexpected end:

Shakes H5 (IV.1)) Williams: ... we shall never see the end of it. Who goes there?

Shrew (V.1) PETRUCHIO: Prithee, Kate, let's stand aside and see the end of / this controversy.

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

As You (I.1) LE BEAU: ... and, if it please / your ladyships, you may see the end ...

Anon. True Trag (1184-85) SHORE'S WIFE: And all such usurping kings, as thy Lord is, may come / to a shameful end, which no doubt I may live yet to see.

Leir (24.137-38) CORDELLA: O, say not so, but rather see the end: / They that are bad, may have the grace to mend:

Willobie (XXXIII.6): To see the end, my mind will crave,

(XXXVIII.4): And stay until you see the end / Of these effects, that fancy move?

(XL.9): They daily came to see the end,

(LXVIII.3): Now must I find the way to wail while life doth last, / Yet hope I soon to see, the end of doleful days;

Cromwell (V.5.107) CROMWELL: Come on, my child, and see the end of all, ...

Drayton et al Oldcastle (V.2) SIR JOHN: Stand close, Doll, we'll see the end.

Bible Wisd. of Solomon 4.17 For they shall see the end of the wise, but they understand not what God hath devised for him, and wherefore the Lord hath preserved him in safety. (No Match, NEAR 4.20). Matt.26.58 And Peter followed him afar off unto the high Priest's hall, and went in, and sat with the servants to see the end (No Match).

EVERLASTING ... Fire, Pain.

Kyd Sp Tr: Note below the fusion of classical (pagan) and Biblical images.

(IV.4.67) REVENGE: This hand shall hale them down to deepest hell, / Where none but furies, bugs and tortures dwell. ...

(227-29) GHOST: Let him be dragg'd through boiling Acheron, / And there live, dying still in endless flames, / Blaspheming Gods and all their holy names.

Marlowe Tamb2 (II.3.25-27) ORCANES: The Devil's there in chains of quenchless flame, / Shall lead his soul through Orcus burning gulf: / From pain to pain, whose change shall never end:

Edw2 (V.1.44) EDWARD: Heavens turn it to a blaze of quenchless fire!

Shakes Titus (III.1.242): Be my heart an ever-burning hell!; (also III.1.273.74)

(V.1.148): ... To live and burn in everlasting fire, ...

Macbeth (II.3.18-19): That go the primrose way to th' everlasting bonfire.

AWEW (IV.5.47-51): and they'll be fore the flowery way that leads to / the broad gate and the great fire.

Anon. Leir (19.288-91) PERILLUS: Oh, then art thou forever tied in chains / Of everlasting torments to endure, / Even in the hottest hole of grizzly hell, / Such pains, as never mortal tongue

can tell.

Willobie (IX.6): ... Is this the love, you bear to me, / To damn my soul in lasting pain?

Lyly Love's Met. (III.2) ERISICTHON: I have turned all my goods into my guts, / where I feel a continual fire which nothing can quench.

(IV.1) RAMIS: These ever-burning lamps are signs of my never-to-be-quenched flames.

Drayton ... Oldcastle (I.2.45) SUFFOLK: A fire that must be quenched. Well, say no more,

Bible Matt. 25.41 Depart from me ye cursed, into everlasting fire ... (MARKED); Matt. 25.46

And these shall go into everlasting pain, and the righteous into life eternal (No Match, NEAR/Adjacent 25.45). Rev. 19.20 ... These both were alive cast into a lake of fire, burning with brimstone (No Match); Rev. 21.8 ... shall have their part in the lake, which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. (MARKED)

Better EYE/tooth out than always Ache (Proverbial).

Heywood Proverb, #17: Better eye out, than alway ache: / In rage of ache, true as I spake: / But in mean ache, meanly to moan, / Better an aching eye than none.

Lyly Euphues: the best charm for a tooth is to pull it out and the best remedy for love to wear it out.

Midas (III.2) LICIO: If your tooth be hollow, it must be stopped or pulled out; and stop it the barber will not, without the beard.

Anon. Leir (22.27) RAGAN: And with these nails scratch out her hateful eyes:

Shakes Errors (IV.4.104) ANTIPHOLUS: With these nails I'll pluck out these false eyes.

Macbeth (II.2.56) MAC: What hands are here? ha! they pluck out mine eyes.

MM (IV.3) ISABELLA: O, I will to him and pluck out his eyes!

Lear (III.7) GONERIL Pluck out his eyes.

GLOUC: Because I would not see thy cruel nails / Pluck out his poor old eyes; nor thy fierce sister / In his anointed flesh stick boarish fangs.

Bible Matt. 5.29 Wherefore if thy right eye cause thee to offend, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: ..., 18.9; Mark 9.47. Galatians 4.15 ... I bear you record, that if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me. (All No Match.)

Commandments: Honor thy FATHER.

Golding Ovid Met (X.347): To hate one's father is a crime as heinous as may be,

Anon. True Trag (362-3) RICHARD: and since it becometh / A son to maintain the honor of his deceased father, / Why should not I hazard his dignity by my brother's sons?

Leir (19.326-27) PERILUS: She said, her love unto you was as much, / As ought a child to bear unto her father.

(30.4-6) KING: And from aspiring Cornwall too, whose wives / Have practised treason 'gainst their father's life. / We come in justice of your wronged King,

(30.47-52) KING: O'er-daring Cornwall, know, we came in right, / And just revengement of the wronged King, / Whose daughters there, fell vipers as they are, / Have sought to murder and deprive of life: / But God protected him from all their spite, / And we are come in justice of his right.

(32.15) CORDELLA: He that with all kind love entreats his Queen, / Will not be to her father unkind seen.

0. (32.209) LEIR: Thou lovedst me dearly, and as ought a child.

1. Bible Ex. 20.12; Deut. 5.16; Micah 7.16 (near 7.18); Malachi 1.6; Matthew 15.4, 19.19 (No Match, NEAR 19.21); Mark 7.10, 10.19 (No Match, NEAR 10.21); Luke 18.20; Eph. 6.2

2. Note: See also "Parricide".

GOD ... Angry Rod.

Golding Ovid Met (Ep.481-82): For why men's stomachs waxing hard as steel against their God,
/ Provoked him from day to day to strike them with his rod.

Abraham (128-32) SONG: And thou O Lord whom we do know to be the true and living God, /
Come from thy place, that we may one day see / the vengeance of thy rod / Upon thy foes,

(333-34) SONG: The king through God's sharp rod, / Did yield to him his wife straight-way,
Shakes Rich3 (V.3.112): irons of wrath

Rich2 (5.1.32-32): kiss the rod (of correction)

1H4 (3.2.10-11): For the hot vengeance, and the rod of heaven, / To punish my misreadings.

MND (III.2.410): I'll whip thee with a rod. Corio (II.43.91-92).

Anon. Leir (7.27-28) CORDELLA: No, no, it is the pleasure of my God: / And I do willingly
embrace the rod.

Willobie (V.6): God's heavy judgments tried since, / And felt the weight of angry rod;

Bible 1 Kings 12.11 you have been a rod to her friends (No Match, NEAR/adjacent)

Rev.12.5, 19.15 (12.15); Ps. 2.9 rod/iron; Ps. 89.32/rod/punish; Job 21.9/rod/God;

Lam/rod/indignation; Also Prov. 22.15/rod/correction, 29.15/rod/reproof.

GOD ... Sees/directs everything ... Sparrow.

Pickering Horestes (183-84) HORESTES: Oh gods, therefore, sith you be just, unto whose
power and will / All thing in heaven and earth also obey and serve until,

Brooke Romeus (2187-88): Then go (quoth he) my child, I pray that God on high / Direct thy
foot, and by thy hand upon the way thee gye [guide]:

(2872-73): That no respect of hours, ought justly to be had, / But at all times men have the choice
of doing good or bad;

Gascoigne ... Jocasta (III.2.84) MENECEUS: But God it seeth that every secret seeth

(III.2.164): Who thinks that Jove the maker of us all, / And he that tempers all in heaven on high,
The sun, the moon, the stars celestial, / So that no leaf without his leaue can fall, / Hath not in
him omnipotence also / To guide and govern all things here below?

Supposes (II.8) PHILOGANO: you should have feared the vengeance of God the supreme judge
(which knoweth the secrets of all hearts)

Greene James IV (II.I.28-29) IDA: God with a beck can change each worldly thing, / The poor to
rich, the beggar to the king.

(III.3.68) SIR BARTRAM: God will conduct your steps and shield the right.

Anon. Ironside (V.1.12): ULF: Surely, my lord, you are highly favored / of God, who sees each
human action, ...

Leir (3.7) LEIR: None knows, but he, that knows my thoughts & secret deeds.

(19.138-43) LEIR: Is Queen of France, no thanks at all to me, / But unto God, who my injustice
see. / If it be so, that she doth seek revenge, As with good reason she may justly do, / I will most
willingly resign my life, / A sacrifice to mitigate her ire:

Cromwell (I.3) FRISKIBALL: For God doth know what to myself may fall.

Leic Gh. (204-06) For though he may delude the people's sight, / It is in vain before God to
dissemble, / Whose power the devils know, and knowing, tremble.

Shakes AsYou (2.3.43-44) ADAM: He that doth the ravens feed, / Yea, providently caters for the
sparrow, ...

Hamlet (V.2.168-69) HAM: Not a whit, we defy Augury; there's a special / Providence in the fall of a sparrow. (Q2, lines 3518-19, substantially the same; Q1, lines 2058-59: there's a predestinate providence / in the fall of a sparrow:)

Bible Matt. 10.29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing, and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father? Luke 12.6: Are not five sparrows bought for two fardings, (No Match).

GOD ... Shield.

Golding Ovid Met (VII.51): God shield I so should do.

Abraham (302-04) SONG: O happy is the wight / That grounds himself aright / On God, and maketh him his shield:

Gascoigne ... Jocasta (II.1.628) CHORUS: God shield.

Lyly Campaspe (III.2.47-48) PSYLLUS: The gods shield me from such a fine fellow, / whose words melt wits like wax.

(III.4.91) APELLES: God shield you should have cause to be as cunning as Apelles.

Gallathea (II.3) PETER: god shield me from blowing gold to nothing,

Midas (III.3) SOPHRONIA: The gods shield him from all harms.

Marlowe Massacre (XXII.39) NAVARRE: God shield your grace from such a sudden death:

Shakes R&J (IV.1) PARIS: God shield I should disturb devotion!

MND (III.1) BOTTOM: God shield us! -- a lion among ladies, is a most dreadful thing...

AWEW (I.3) COUNTESS: ... God shield you mean it not! daughter and mother

Greene James IV (I.3.15) EUSTACE: A wife! God shield, Sir Bartram, that were ill,

(III.3.68) SIR BARTRAM: God will conduct your steps and shield the right.

Anon. Woodstock (III.2) WOODSTOCK: we are beset (heaven shield) with many storms.

Leir (30.31-32) CORDELLA: We that are feeble, and want use of Arms, / Will pray to God, to shield you from all harms.

Willobie (III.3 I): have by grace a native shield,

(IX.1): God shield me from your cursed crew

Penelope (XVIII.1-2): Ulysses dear, the Gods thee shield, / And send thee home well to return, (XXXIV.4): (Whom for to shield the Gods I pray)

Chapman D'Olive (III.2.30) D'OL: above all sins, heaven shield me from the sin of blushing!

(III.2.42-43) D'OL: heaven shield me from any / more followers!

Bible Ps. 84.9, 11; Prov. 30.5 Every word of God is pure; he is a shield to those that trust in him (No Match).

GOD'S WILL ... Submit.

Kindlemarch Devices (98.5-6): My fainting soul suppressed sore, with careful clog of sin, / In humble sort submits itself, thy mercy for to win:

Anon. Leir (19.211-13) LEIR: Let us submit us to the will of God: / Things past all sense, let us not seek to know; / It is God's will, and therefore must be so.

Bible Romans 10.3 For they, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, & going about to stablish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God.

Ephesians 5.21 Submitting yourselves one another in the fear of God. James IV.7 Submit yourselves to God: resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (No Match).

HEAVENS ... Just ... Impiety ... Heinous crimes.

Brooke Romeus (392): And eke for such an heinous crime, have men not Theseus blamed?
(959): At holiest times, men say most heinous crimes are done;
0. Golding Ovid Met (Pref.160): Judge if that even in heinous crimes thy fancy do not flatter.
1. (X.208): Of youth (quoth Phoebus) and I see thy wound my heinous crime.
(X.335)A heinous crime as this is, I am glad for Thracia, I
(X.347): To hate one's father is a crime as heinous as may be,
(X.355): Of parents, from this heinous crime my vicious mind withdraw,
(X.543): Did fetch a light: by which he saw his own most heinous crime,
Gascoigne ... Jocasta (I.1.348-49) BAILO: Yet must we hope for help of heavenly powers, / Sith they be just, their mercy is at hand,
(X.210): Of youth (quoth Phoebus) and I see thy wound my heynous cryme.
(V.5.32-34) OED: And last of all defiled my mother's bed, / By whom I have this wicked offspring got: / And to this heinous crime and filthy fact / The heavens have from high enforced me,
Kyd Sp Tr (II.5.57) ISABELLA: The heavens are just; murder cannot be hid:
Sol&Per (II.1.122-29) PER: If heavens were just, thy teeth would tear thy tongue / For this thy perjured false disloyalty; / If heavens were just, men should have open breasts, / That we therein might read their guileful thoughts. / If heavens were just, that power that forceth love / Would never couple wolves and lambs together. Yes, heavens are just, but thou art so corrupt / That in thee all their influence doth change,
Marlowe Jew of Malta FERNEZE: Wonder not at it, sir; the heavens are just;
Massacre (I.43-45) NAVARRE: But he that sits and rules above the clouds, / Doth hear and see the prayers of the just: / And will revenge the blood of innocents,
Greene James IV (II.1.140) ATEUKIN: Tis impious for to kill our native King.
(V.2.17-18) ATEUKIN: I know the heavens / Are just and will revenge; ...
Anon. Woodstock (V.3) LORD'S MEN: just heaven protect us and defend the right.
(V.3) LANCASTER: to quit themselves of all such heinous crimes alleged against them,
Leir (22.30-31) CAMBRIA: The heavens are just, and hate impiety, / And will (no doubt) reveal such heinous crimes:
Weakest (XVI.126-27) EPERNOUNE: The traitrous Duke of Anjou, by just heavens, / Now at your mercy stands,
Cromwell (II.3.64) BANISTER: How just is God to right the innocent.
(IV.2) FRISKIBALL: A just reward for one so impious.
Marprelate: Then vengeance must (for God is just) fall to Mar-Martin's hire.
Leic Gh. (827-28): My crimes, I grant, were great and manifold, / Yet not so heinous as some make report;
(2082): The heavens in canceling our days were just;
Yorkshire (II.4) WIFE: And 'tis set down by heaven's just decree
Shakes 3H6 (III.3) Q MARG: Yet heavens are just, and time suppresseth wrongs.
(V.1) CLARENCE: Why, trow'st thou, Warwick, / That Clarence is so harsh, so blunt, unnatural, / To bend the fatal instruments of war / Against his brother and his lawful king? / Perhaps thou wilt object my holy oath: / To keep that oath were more impiety / Than Jephthah's,
Rich2 (III.1) GREEN: My comfort is that heaven will take our souls / And plague injustice with the pains of hell.
(III.4) LEAR: That thou mayst shake the superflux to them, / And show the heavens more just.
Sonnet 19: But I forbid thee one most heinous crime:

Edw3 (III.5.5-6) K. EDWARD: Just-dooming heaven, whose secret providence / To our gross judgment is inscrutable,
Drayton ... Oldcastle (V.8) LEE: Just judgment of that power, whose gracious eye, / Loathing the sight of such a heinous fact,
Bible Deut. 32.4 Perfect is the work of the mighty God: for all his ways are judgment. God is true, and without wickedness: just, & righteous is he (MARKED). Isaiah 45.21 Tell ye, and bring them, & let them take counsel together, who hath declared this from the beginning & hath told it of old? Have not I the Lord? & there is none other God beside me, a just God, & a Savior: there is none beside me (MARKED). Rev. 15.3 And they sung the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great & marvelous are thy works, Lord God almighty: just and true are thy ways, King of Saints (No Match).

I AM that I am.

Brooke Romeus (2886): To make me other then I am, how so I seem to be.
Oxford Letter (10-30-84, to Lord Burghley): I am that I am ...
Poem: I am not as I seem to be, Nor when I smile I am not glad;
Lyly MB (II.3) SILENA: Though you be as old as you are, I am as young as I am;
(IV.2) SILENA: Because I did, and I am here because I am.
Shakes Edw3 (II.1) WARWICK: I am not Warwick as thou think'st I am,
Sonnet (122): I am that I am
12th-(III.1.141) Viola: I am not what I am.
Oth (I.1.65) Iago: I am not what I am.
Lear (I.2) Edmund: I should have been that I am, had the maidenliest / star in the firmament twinkled on my bastardizing.
Anon. Leir (24.213-14) CORD: You gave me life, you were the cause that I / Am what I am, who else had never been.
Dodypoll (III.5.40) LUCILIA: I know not what I am nor where I am,
Nashe Summers (124): SUMMER: Summer I was, I am not as I was;
Bible: Ex. 3.14. 1 Cor. 15.10 But by the grace of God, I am that I am. (Ch. MARKED)
Note: Although this has the characteristics of a proverb, its Biblical origin seems very likely.

MANNA from Heaven.

Anon. Leir (24.108-110) LEIR: Me thinks, I never saw such savory meat: / It is as pleasant as the blessed Manna, / That rained from heaven amongst the Israelites:
Shakes MV (V.1) LORENZO: Fair ladies, you drop manna in the way / Of starved people.
Bible Exodus 16.4 Then said the Lord unto Mosesw, Behold, I will cause bread to raine from heaven to you, ... (No Match) Ps. 78.24 And had rained down [MANNA] upon them for to eat, and had given them of the wheat of heaven. (No Match)
John 6.31 Our fathers did eat Manna in the desert; as it is written:, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. John 6.58 This is the bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers have eaten Manna, and are dead. He that eateth of this bread, shall live forever. (Ch. MARKED)

MERCY ... spare.

Anon. Leir (19.271-72) LEIR: O, if all this to mercy move thy mind, / Spare him, in heaven thou shalt like mercy find.
Bible Neh 13.22; Jer 13.14, 21.7; others. Certainly base on Biblical precepts: no identification

with any particular verse or verses.

Body/Soul is in PRISON; Death a release.

Brooke Romeus (2548-50): That lo, his sprite annoyed sore with torment and with smart, / Was like to break out of his prison-house perforce, / And that he might fly after hers, would leave the massy corpse.

Bedingfield Cardanus (II. p. 27b): But if thou compare death to long travail and that the soul being let loose from prison of the body seeth all things and walketh everywhere. Then what can be considered more happy. For the soul being burdened with the body, is neither free, nor rightly knoweth anything, but being overladen with cares, doth behold, only the figuree of things, and as it were through a web or cloth, guesseth a sight, and certainly knoweth nothing, but being free, doth not only cast of all hindrance, but also beholdeth all things without interruption, whiche being true, who is he that willingly would eschew death?

(III: pp. 94b-95a): Alas good friend, what is that life other than an imprisonment of mind, much worse than that of the body & would God this quiet might chance to me, which so many worthy men have desired.

Lyly Campaspe (I.2.29-30) MANES: ... that my body was immortal because it was in prison.

(I.2.35) MANES: And the body is the prison of the soul?

(I.2.37-38) MANES: Why then, thus to make my body immortal, I put it to prison.

Kyd Sp Tr (Ind.1.1-2) GHOST: When this eternal substance of my soul / Did live imprisoned in my wanton flesh,

Anon. Leir (I.44-46) NOBLE: When fates should loose the prison of your life, / By whose succession all this doubt might cease; / And as by you, by him we might have peace.

Shakes 1H6 (II.5) PLANT: And peace, no war, befall thy parting soul! / In prison hast thou spent a pilgrimage / And like a hermit overpass'd thy days.

3H6 (II.1) EDW: Now my soul's palace is become a prison: / Ah, would she break from hence, that this my body / Might in the ground be closed up in rest! / For never henceforth shall I joy again, / Never, O never shall I see more joy!

Rich2 (V.5) RICH: I have been studying how I may compare / This prison where I live unto the world: / And for because the world is populous / And here is not a creature but myself, / I cannot do it; yet I'll hammer it out. / My brain I'll prove the female to my soul, / My soul the father; and these two beget / A generation of still-breeding thoughts, / And these same thoughts people this little world, / In humors like the people of this world, / For no thought is contented. The better sort, / As thoughts of things divine, are intermix'd / With scruples and do set the word itself / Against the word: / As thus, 'Come, little ones,' and then again, / 'It is as hard to come as for a camel / To thread the postern of a small needle's eye.' . Thoughts tending to ambition, they do plot / Unlikely wonders; how these vain weak nails / May tear a passage through the flinty ribs / Of this hard world, my ragged prison walls, / And, for they cannot, die in their own pride.

John (III.4) K PHILLIP: Look, who comes here! a grave unto a soul; / Holding the eternal spirit against her will, / In the vile prison of afflicted breath.

Titus (III.2) TITUS: Who, when my heart, all mad with misery, / Beats in this hollow prison of my flesh, / Then thus I thump it down.

Lucrece (247): Even here she sheathed in her harmless breast / A harmful knife, that thence her soul unsheathed: / That blow did that it from the deep unrest / Of that polluted prison where it breathed:

Hamlet (II.2.269071) HAM: Why then 'tis none to you; for there is nothing / either good or bad, but thinking makes it so: to me it is / a prison. (Not in Q1, Q2.)

Plato Fable of the Cave: "And now, I said, let me show in a figure how far our nature is enlightened or unenlightened: Behold! human beings living in a underground den, which has a mouth open towards the light and reaching all along the den; here they have been from their childhood, and have their legs and necks chained so that they cannot move, and can only see before them, being prevented by the chains from turning round their heads. Above and behind them a fire is blazing at a distance, and between the fire and the prisoners there is a raised way; and you will see, if you look, a low wall built along the way, like the screen which marionette players have in front of them, over which they show the puppets." Note: This is but a small excerpt. See the entire passage in Plato. "The Fable of the Cave" was highly influential throughout Renaissance literature, and its thought permeates Cardanus. But see also the Biblical passage below.

Bible Isaiah 42.7 That thou mayst open the eyes of the blind, & bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness, out of the prison-house (No Match).

Anointed King: **REGICIDE/FRATRICIDE.**

Shakes 3H6, Rich2, Rich3 Theme of play

Rich2 (1.2.38-41): His deputy anointed in his sight, ... / ... for I may never lift / An angry arm against his minister.

2H4 4 (Ind. 32): Stoop'd his anointed head as low as death.

Lear (III.8.56-58) I would not see thy cruel nails / Pluck out his poor old eyes; nor thy fierce sister / In his anointed flesh stick boarish fangs.

Macbeth (II.3.72): Most sacriligious murder hath broke ope; / The Lord's anointed temple.

WT (I.2.358): If I could find examples / Of thousands that had struck anointed kings / And flourished after, I'd do it.

Hamlet (III.3.40-42, 47-50) KING: Oh my offense is rank, it smells to heaven, / It hath the primal eldest curse upon't, / A Brother's murder. ... what if this cursed hand / Were thicker than itself with Brother's blood, ... (Q2, lines 2125-27, 32-33). (Q1, lines 1414-18) KING: O that this wet that falls upon my face / Would wash the crime clear from my conscience! / When I look up to heaven, I see my trespass, / The earth doth still cry out upon my fact, / Pray me the murder of a brother and a king,

Anon. Woodstock (I.2.38-41): His deputy ... / Hath caus'd his death, that which if wrongfully / Let heaven revenge me for I may never lift / An angry arm against His minister.

Leir (19.249-52) PERILLUS: Oh, but beware, how thou dost lay thy hand / Upon the high anointed of the Lord: / O, be advised ere thou dost begin: Dispatch me straight, but meddle not with him.

Bible Gen 4.10-11 Again he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brothers blood cryeth unto me from the ground. When thou shalt til the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength: a vagabond and a runagate shalt thou be in the earth (No Match).

Q1 invokes the Biblical prohibition against the killing of an anointed king. Cf. Rich2, 3H6, Rich3, Lear, Macbeth, Winter's Tale, Woodstock, (anon. Leir). See 1 Sam 24.11 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen, that the Lord had delivered thee this day into mine hand in the cave, and some bade me kill thee, but I had compassion on thee, and said, I will not lay mine hand on my master: for he is the Lord's anointed (MARKED). See also 1 Sam 25.9-11 (MARKED), 26.9; 2 Sam 1.14 (MARKED).

1 Sam. 24.11 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen, that the Lord had delivered thee this day into mine hand in the cave, and some made me kill thee, but I had compassion on thee, and said, I

will not lay mine hand on my master: for he is the Lord's anointed. (MARKED, part/all underlined, red ink)

1 Sam. 26.11 The Lord keep me from laying mine hand upon the Lord's anointed: but, I pray thee, take now the spear that is at his head, and the pot of water, and let us go hence.

(MARKED.)

Note: Hunter and Milward write about the paradox of God's chosen instrument against the sacred king, faced with the sin of regicide, which is itself prohibited. So that rebellion against and murder of an incompetent king (such as Richard II, Henry VI), may be at once both the will of God and an act that goes against God's commandment: the instrument of God is at the same condemned by his disobedience against God. At such times the kingdom itself will fall into disrepair until the time of redemption by a transcendent figure such as the Biblical David, King Henry V of England, and possibly Henry VII. In life Richard is petty and sometimes vicious, and Henry VI saintly but incompetent: in death each reaches a somewhat Christlike martyrdom. Note also that in Marlowe's Edward II, dealing also with the deposition and murder of God's deputy, the religious element that infuses the overthrow and murder of the sacred king is missing: Edward is moving and to be pitied, but his death does not stir the cosmos.

Religious Aphorisms: RICHES ... Virtue.

Lyly Campaspe (I.1.46-47) TIMOCLEA: Fortune, thou didst never / yet deceive virtue, because virtue never yet did trust fortune.

Midas (I.1) MELLACRITES: Querenda pecuna primum est, virtus post nummos: / first seek money; virtue comes later (Horace) ... The first stair of virtue is money. ... Such virtue is there in gold, that being bred in the barrenest ground / and trodden under foot, it mounteth on princes' heads.

(I.2) LICIO: How happy shall we be if he would but stroke our heads, / that we might have golden hairs. But let us all in, lest he lose the / virtue of the gift before we taste the benefit.

Anon. Leir (15.5-6) MESS: Now bags of gold, your virtue is (no doubt) / To make me in my message bold and stout.

Shakes John (II.1): ... And say there is no sin but to be rich; / And being rich, my virtue then shall be / To say there is no vice but beggary.

Rich2 (V.5) turns the camel ... needle's eye phrase into an ironic discussion of scruples.

Disp. Greene's Groat (85-86): been brought up in the university, and therefore / accounts that in riches is no virtue.

Bible Matt. 19.24 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God; Mark 10.25 (No Match, NEAR: Matthew 19.21, Mark near 10.21); Luke 18.25 (No Match).

SAP ... Root.

Note: As Shakespeare so often compares the wise king to an attentive shepherd, here he is often compared to the prudent gardener. It is notable that in Edmund Ironside, as in the following examples from Richard III, Richard II and King Lear, treason and/or betrayal result from inappropriate husbandry.

Anon. Ironside (II.3.41-47) CAN: A traitor may be likened to a tree, / which being shred and topped when it is green, / doth for one twig which from the same was cut / yield twenty arms, yea twenty arms for one, / but being hacked and mangled with an axe, / the root dies and piecemeal rots away. / Even so with traitors. Cut me off their heads,

0. Leir (16.17) KING: And from my root continual sap shall flow,

Shakes Rich3 (II.2) Q ELIZ: To make an act of tragic violence: / Edward, my lord, your son, our king, is dead. / Why grow the branches now the root is wither'd? / Why wither not the leaves the sap being gone?

Rich2 (III.4) GARD: They are; and Bolingbroke / Hath seized the wasteful king. / O, what pity is it / That he had not so trimm'd and dress'd his land / As we this garden! We at time of year / Do wound the bark, the skin of our fruit-trees, / Lest, being over-proud in sap and blood, / With too much riches it confound itself: / Had he done so to great and growing men, / They might have lived to bear and he to taste / Their fruits of duty: superfluous branches / We lop away, that bearing boughs may live: / Had he done so, himself had borne the crown, / Which waste of idle hours hath qui te thrown down.

Lear (IV.2) ALB: ... She that herself will sliver and disbranch / From her material sap, perforce must wither / And come to deadly use.

Lucrece (167): ... Ay me! the bark peel'd from the lofty pine, / His leaves will wither and his sap decay; / So must my soul, her bark being peel'd away.

Bible John 15.4-6 The branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine ... He is cast forth as a branch, and withereth (No Match).

SHEEP ... Lost/Strayed ... Taint/Sin.

Anon. Leir (I.13-14) LEIR: Lest as it were a ship without a stern, / Or silly sheep without a Pastor's care;

Mucedorus (IV.2.21) MOUSE: ... to look out a shepherd & a stray king's daughter: ...

Ironside (I.3.28-29) EDMUND: One sheep that was lost I more rejoice to find than twenty other which I never missed. (This passage seems to derive from the Apostles' parable.

(IV.1.24-25) EDM/letter from Edricus: I come again like to a strayed sheep / tainted, God wot, with naught but ignorance. (This passage conforms well to Jeremiah.)

Shakes TGV (I.1) PRO: Indeed, a sheep doth very often stray, / An if the shepherd be a while away.

MV (IV.1) ANTONIO: I am a tainted wether of the flock, ...

Bible Jer.50.6 My people hath been as lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, and have turned them away to the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, and forgotten their resting place. 50.7 All that found them, have devoured them, and their enemies said, We offend not because they have sinned against the Lord, the habitation of justice, ... (50.7 MARKED). References to lost sheep, but lacking the consciousness of sin and taint are found in other passages, some Messianic: Pss.119.176, Matt.10.6, Matt.15.24, Matt.18.11, Luke.15.6 (All No Match).

SOUL ... Welfare.

Anon. Leir (1.26) LEIR: And think upon the welfare of my soul:

Bible Job 30.15-16 Fear is turned upon me: and they pursue my sul as the wind, and mine health passeth away as a cloud. Therefore my soul is now poured out upon me, and the days of affliction have taken hold on me (No Match).

STRANGERS ... Kind/kindness.

Anon. Leir (24.120) LEIR: Ah, who would think such kindness should remain / Among such strange and unacquainted men: / And that such hate should harbor in the breast / Of those, which have occasion to be best?

Shakes Timon (III.5.100-10: Is this the balsom that the usuring Senate / Pours into captains' wounds?

Bible Luke 10.33-37 Then a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came near unto him, and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, ... And went to him, & bound up his wounds, and poured in oil and wine, and put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and made provision for him. ... Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise. (No Match.)

TONGUE ... Whet ... Filed/Smooth.

Brook Romeus (1017): Whether thy sugared talk, and tongue so smoothly filed,

Gascoigne ... Jocasta (II.1.256) CHORUS: Yet thou O queen, so file thy / sugared tongue,

Edwards Dam&Pith (1726): ... the plague of this court! / Thy filed tongue that forged lies

Lyly Campaspe (IV.2.31) CAMP: Whet their tongues on their hearts.

Sapho (II.4.105) SYB: whose filed tongue made those enamored that sought to have him enchanted.

Greene James IV (I.1.236) ATEU: But princes rather trust a smoothing tongue

Selimus (3.4) SELIMUS: And feigned plaints his subtle tongue doth file / T'entrap the silly wand'ring traveler

Shakes LLL (V.1) HOLO: ... discourse peremptory, his tongue filed, ...

Lear (I.4.288): How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is.

Pass Pilgrim 19 (2): Smooth not thy tongue with filed talk, ...

Anon. Leir (12.81-82) MESS: My tongue being well whetted with choler, / is more sharp than a Razor of Palermo.

Willobie (I.10): A filed tongue which none mislikes.

Ironside (II.3.149-50) CAN: Sirs, temper well your tongues and be advised / if not, I'll cut them shorter by an inch.

(V.2.162) CAN: Edmund, Report shall never whet her tongue / upon Canutus to eternize thee.

Nashe Will Summers (1366): Smooth-tongue Orators, the fourth in place

Bible Ps. 140.3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent: adder's poison is under their lips (MARKED).

TONGUE ... Sword.

Anon. Leir (30.101) CAMBRIA: I, with their swords they'l make your tongue unsay ...

Dodypoll (IV.4.45-46): O thou ordained to bear swords in thy tongue, / Dead thou hast struck me and I live no more.

Shakes H5 (III.2): ... For Pistol, he hath a killing tongue / and a quiet sword; by the means whereof a' breaks / words, and keeps whole weapons....

Cymbeline (III.4) PISANIO: ... 'tis slander, / Whose edge is sharper than the sword, whose tongue / Outvenoms all the worms of Nile...

Bible Ps. 57.4 ... I lie among the children of men, that are set on fire: whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword; Pss. 64.3 Which have whet their tongue like a sword, and short for their arrows bitter words (No Match). Prov. 12.18 ... that speaketh words like the prickings of a sword: but the tongue of wise men is health (No Match). Hosea 7.16 ... their prices shall fall by the sword, for the rage of their tongues (No Match, NEAR Marked 7.13).

VIRTUE/VIRTUOUS ... life ... Pattern.

Gosson Abuse: The right use of ancient Poetry was to have the ... virtuous lives of predecessors

set down in numbers, and song to the Instrument at solemn feasts, that the sound of the one might draw the hearers from kissing the cup too often; the sense of the other put them in mind of things past, and chalk out the way to do the like.

Kindlemarch Devices (13.5-6): Fly Fortune's sly deceits, let Virtue be thy guide, / If that you do intend in happy state to bide.

Kyd Sp Tr (III.12.127-28A): PAINTER: I'll warrant you, sir; I have the pattern of the most notorious villains that ever lived in all Spain.

Lodge Rosalind: be careful that thy life be virtuous, that thy death may be full of admirable honors;

Anon. Leir (1.12) LEIR: A perfect pattern of a virtuous life:

Pasquil Apology (Para. 39): The Disciple is not above his Master, &c. Which lesson our Savior giveth his disciples, to encourage them to bear the persecution, hatred, nips, taunting, and evil speeches of the wicked, according to the pattern he had given them,

Bible 1 Tim. 1.16 Notwithstanding, for this cause was I received to mercy, that Jesus Christ should first show on me all long suffering unto the example of them, which shall in time to come believe in him unto eternal life. (No Match).

WALK forty days.

Anon. Leir (24.100) CORDELLA: He walked forty days, and never fainted.

Bible 1 Kings 19.8 Then he arose, and did eat and drinke, and walked in the strength of that meat fourtie daies & fourtie nights, unto Horeb, the mount of God. (No Match.)

WORMWOOD .

Lyly Sapho (Court Pro.): who fearing to surfeit on spices, stoopeth to bite on wormwood
Shakes LLL (V.2) ROSALINE: Oft have I heard of you, my Lord Biron, ... / To weed this wormwood from your fruitful brain,

Edw3 (III.3) K. EDWARD: If gall or wormwood have a pleasant taste,

Lucrece (128): Thy sugar'd tongue to bitter wormwood taste: / Thy violent vanities can never last.

R&J has two nonapplicable uses.

Hamlet (III.2.180) HAM: [Aside] Wormwood, wormwood. (Q2. line 1895): That's wormwood. (Not in Q1.)

Anon. Leir (23.59-60) LEIR: Can Henbane join in league with Methridate?

(23.63-35) LEIR: I have thrown Wormwood on the sugared youth, / And like to Henbane poisoned the Fount, / Whence flowed the Methridate of a child's good will: . Or Sugar grow in Wormwood's bitter stalk?

(23.79) PERILLUS: The weed, the gall, the henbane & the wormwood;

Willobie (XXXVII.3-6, Note): Strange pleasure seems sweet at the beginning, but their end is as bitter wormwood. Prover. 5.3,4. Prov. 6.27.

Bible Prov. 5. 3-4 (3) For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is more soft than oil. (4) But the end of her is bitter as wormwood, & sharp as a two-edged sword. (No Match)

