

My maid *Nerissa*, and myself, mean-time,
Will live as maids and widows: come, away;
For you shall hence upon your wedding-day.*
But let me hear the letter of your friend.

Bass. reads. *S*weet Bassanio, my ships have all miscarry'd, my
creditors grow cruel, my estate is very low, my
bond to the Jew is forfeit; and since, in paying it, it is impossible I
should live, all debts are cleared between you and me, if I might
but see you at my death: notwithstanding, use your pleasure; if your
love do not persuade you to come, let not my letter.

Por. O love! despatch all business, and be gone.

Bass. Since I have your good leave to go away,
I will make haste; but, till I come again,
No bed shall e'er be guilty of my stay,
Nor rest be interposer 'twixt us twain. [Exeunt.

SCENE IV.

Venice.

Enter Shylock, Solarino, Anthonio, and the Jailer.

Shy. JAILER, look to him: tell not me of mercy.
This is the fool that lent out money gratis.
Jailer, look to him.

Anth. Hear me yet, good *Shylock*.

Shy. I'll have my bond; speak not against my bond:
I've sworn an oath that I will have my bond.
Thou call'dst me dog, before thou hadst a cause;
But, since I am a dog, beware my fangs:
The duke shall grant me justice. I do wonder,

* ----- your wedding-day.
Bid your friends welcome, show a merry cheer;
Since you are dear bought, I will love you dear.
But let me hear, &c.

Thou