

And firm for doctor *Caius*, hath appointed  
 That he shall likewise shuffle her away,  
 While other sports are tasking of their minds,  
 And at the deanery, where a priest attends,  
 Straight marry her; to this her mother's plot  
 She, seemingly obedient, likewise hath  
 Made promise to the doctor. — Now, thus it rests;  
 Her father means she shall be all in white;  
 And in that dress when *Slender* sees his time  
 To take her by the hand, and bid her go,  
 She shall go with him. — Her mother hath intended,  
 The better to devote her to the doctor,  
 (For they must all be mask'd and vizarded)  
 That, quaint in green, she shall be loose enrob'd,  
 With ribbands-pendent, flaring 'bout her head;  
 And when the doctor spies his vantage ripe  
 To pinch her by the hand, upon that token  
 The maid hath given consent to go with him.

*Host.* Which means she to deceive? father, or mother?

*Fent.* Both, my good host, to go along with me;  
 And here it rests, that you'll procure the vicar  
 To stay for me at church, 'twixt twelve and one,  
 And in the lawful name of marrying,  
 To give our hearts united ceremony.

*Host.* Well, husband your device; I'll to the vicar.  
 Bring you the maid, you shall not lack a priest.

*Fent.* So shall I evermore be bound to thee;  
 Beside, I'll make a present recompence.

[*Exeunt.*]

## SCENE XII.

*Re-enter Falstaff, and mistress Quickly.*

*Fal.* Pr'ythee, no more prating; go, I'll hold. This is the third time; I hope, good luck lyes in odd numbers; away, go; they say, there is divinity in odd numbers, either in nativity, chance, or death; away.

*Quic.*