

be said to be a flattering honest man) it must not be deny'd but I am a plain-dealing villain: I am trusted with a muzzle, and enfranchis'd with a clog; therefore I have decreed not to sing in my cage: if I had my mouth, I would bite; if I had my liberty, I would do my liking: in the mean time, let me be that I am, and seek not to alter me.

*Conr.* Can you make no use of your discontent?

*John.* I will make all use of it, for I use it only. Who comes here? what news, *Borachio*?

*Enter Borachio.*

*Bora.* I came yonder from a great supper; the prince, your brother, is royally entertain'd by *Leonato*; and I can give you intelligence of an intended marriage.

*John.* Will it serve for any model to build mischief on? what is he for a fool that betroths himself to unquietness?

*Bora.* Marry, it is your brother's right hand.

*John.* Who, the most exquisite *Claudio*?

*Bora.* Even he.

*John.* A proper squire! and who, and who? which way looks he?

*Bora.* Marry, on *Hero*, the daughter and heir of *Leonato*.

*John.* A very forward *march* chick! How come you to this?

*Bora.* Being entertain'd for a perfumer, as I was smoking a musty room, comes me the prince and *Claudio*, hand in hand, in sad conference: I whipt behind the arras, and there heard it agreed upon that the prince should woo *Hero* for himself, and, having obtain'd her, give her to count *Claudio*.

*John.* Come, come, let us thither; this may prove food to my displeasure: that young start-up hath all the glory of my overthrow; if I can cross him any way, I bless myself every way: you are both sure, and will assist me?

*Conr.* To the death, my lord.

*John.* Let us to the great supper; their cheer is the greater that I am subdu'd: would, the cook were of my mind! shall we go prove what's to be done?

*Bora.* We'll wait upon your lordship.

[*Exeunt.*