

Act II, Scene 1

Padua. BAPTISTA'S house

Enter KATHERINA and BIANCA

Bianca. Good sister, wrong me not, nor wrong yourself,
To make a bondmaid and a slave of me-
That I disdain; but for these other gawds,
Unbind my hands, I'll pull them off myself,
Yea, all my raiment, to my petticoat;
Or what you will command me will I do,
So well I know my duty to my elders.

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

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

Katherina. Minion, thou liest. Is't not Hortensio?

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

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

Bianca. Is it for him you do envy me so?
Nay, then you jest; and now I well perceive
You have but jested with me all this while.
I prithee, sister Kate, untie my hands.

Katherina. [*Strikes her*] If that be jest, then an the rest was so.

Enter BAPTISTA

Baptista Minola. Why, how now, dame! Whence grows this
insolence? 860
Bianca, stand aside- poor girl! she weeps.
[*He unbinds her*]
Go ply thy needle; meddle not with her.
For shame, thou hilding of a devilish spirit,

Why dost thou wrong her that did ne'er wrong thee?
When did she cross thee with a bitter word?

Katherina. Her silence flouts me, and I'll be reveng'd.

[Flies after BIANCA]