



Arizona Repertory Theatre
2023-2024 Season
Calling Book

Kathryn Kulaga
Stage Manager

Color Key:

Much Ado About Nothing

ASM Reminders*

Standby

SD/Sound

LX/Lights

Rail

Cue LX

□□ = watch for

5 MIN TIL HOUSE OPEN (6:55p/12:55p):

Check in with ASM's that we are set, B/O Check

Preshow LX & SD

LX 2

Check in with FOH that we are good to open

SD 5

* CALL HALF HOUR (7:00p/1:00p)

- 1/2 Call
- General Announcements
- Any changes?

- * 15 Call
- 10 Call
- 5 Call

CALL PLACES

COM CHECK
FOH CHECK

COM CHECK:

- Paige
- Bree
- AJ
- Liz
- Emma

STANDBY TOP OF SHOW:

Actor Cue LX:
DSL, DSR, USR
LX 4 - 8
SD 10 - 15

Once FOH is clear:

DSL & DSR

House to 1/2

Preshow Announce

LX 4

SD 10

BLACKOUT

Transition SD

USR

LX 6

SD 15

Lights UP, top of 1.1

LX 8

ACT I, SCENE I

Before LEONATA'S house.

LEONATA

I learn in this letter that Don Pedro of Aragon comes this night to Messina.

BALTHASAR

He is very near by this: he was not three leagues off when I left him.

LEONATA

How many soldiers have you lost in this action?

BALTHASAR

But few of any sort, and none of name.

LEONATA

A victory is twice itself when the achiever brings home full numbers. I find here that Don Pedro hath bestowed much honour on a young Florentine called Claudio.

BALTHASAR

Much deserved on his part and equally remembered by Don Pedro: he hath borne himself beyond the promise of his age, doing, in the figure of a lamb, the feats of a lion: he hath indeed better bettered expectation than you must expect of me to tell you how.

BEATRICE

I pray you, is Signior Mountanto returned from the wars or no?

BALTHASAR

I know none of that name, lady: there was none such in the army of any sort.

LEONATA

What is he that you ask for, niece?

HERO

My cousin means Signior Benedick of Padua.

BALTHASAR

O, he's returned; and as pleasant as ever he was.

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BEATRICE

I pray you, how many hath he killed and eaten in these wars? But how many hath he killed? for indeed I promised to eat all of his killing.

LEONATA

Faith, niece, you tax Signior Benedick too much; but he'll be meet with you, I doubt it not.

BALTHASAR

He hath done good service, lady, in these wars.

BEATRICE

You had musty victual, and he hath holp to eat it: he is a very valiant trencherman; he hath an excellent stomach.

BALTHASAR

And a good soldier too, lady.

BEATRICE

And a good soldier to a lady: but what is he to a lord?

BALTHASAR

A lord to a lord, a man to a man; stuffed with all honourable virtues.

BEATRICE

It is so, indeed; he is no less than a stuffed man: but for the stuffing,--well, we are all mortal.

LEONATA

You must not, ma'am, mistake my niece. There is a kind of merry war betwixt Signior Benedick and her: they never meet but there's a skirmish of wit between them.

BEATRICE

Alas! he gets nothing by that. In our last conflict four of his five wits went halting off, and now is the whole man governed with one. Who is his companion now? He hath every month a new sworn brother.

BALTHASAR

Is't possible?

BEATRICE

Very easily possible: he wears his faith but as the fashion of his hat; it ever changes with the next block.

BALTHASAR

I see, lady, the gentleman is not in your books.

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BEATRICE

No; an he were, I would burn my study. But, I pray you, who is his companion? Is there no young squarer now that will make a voyage with him to the devil?

STANDBY:

LX 10 – 11

SD 20

BALTHASAR

He is most in the company of the right noble Claudio.

BEATRICE

O Lord, he will hang upon him like a disease: he is sooner caught than the pestilence, and the taker runs presently mad. God help the noble Claudio! if he have caught the Benedick, it will cost him a thousand pound ere a' be cured.

BALTHASAR

I will hold friends with you, lady.

BEATRICE

Do, good friend.

LEONATA

You will never run mad, niece.

BEATRICE

No, not till a hot January.

LX 10

SD 20

BALTHASAR

Don Pedro is approached.

Enter DON PEDRO, DON JOHN, CLAUDIO and BENEDICK

DON PEDRO

Good Signiora Leonata, you are come to meet your trouble: the fashion of the world is to avoid cost, and you encounter it.

LX 11



DP first step onstage

LEONATA

Never came trouble to my house in the likeness of your grace: for trouble being gone, comfort should remain; but when you depart from me, sorrow abides and happiness takes his leave.

DON PEDRO

You embrace your charge too willingly. I think this is your daughter. Be happy, lady; for you are like an honourable mother.

BENEDICK

Though Signiora Leonata be her mother, she would not have her cares and responsibilities for all Messina, as like her as she is.

BEATRICE

I wonder that you will still be talking, Signior Benedick: nobody marks you.

BENEDICK

What, my dear Lady Disdain! are you yet living?

BEATRICE

Is it possible disdain should die while she hath such meet food to feed it as Signior Benedick? Courtesy itself must convert to disdain, if you come in her presence.

BENEDICK

Then is courtesy a turncoat. But it is certain I am loved of all ladies, only you excepted: and I would I could find in my heart that I had not a hard heart; for, truly, I love none.

BEATRICE

A dear happiness to women: they would else have been troubled with a pernicious suitor. I thank God and my cold blood, I am of your humour for that: I had rather hear my dog bark at a crow than a man swear he loves me.

BENEDICK

God keep your ladyship still in that mind! so some gentleman or other shall 'scape a predestinate scratched face.

BEATRICE

Scratching could not make it worse, an 'twere such a face as yours were.

BENEDICK

Well, you are a rare parrot-teacher.

BEATRICE

A bird of my tongue is better than a beast of yours.

BENEDICK

I would my horse had the speed of your tongue. But keep your way, i' God's name; I have done.

BEATRICE

You always end with a jade's trick: I know you of old.

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DON PEDRO

That is the sum of all, Leonata. Signior Claudio and Signior Benedick, my dear friend Leonata hath invited you all. I tell her we shall stay here at the least a month; and she heartily prays some occasion may detain us longer. I dare swear she is no hypocrite, but prays from her heart.

STANDBY:

LX 14

LEONATA

If you swear, my lord, you shall not be forsworn.

To DON JOHN

Let me bid you welcome, my lord: being reconciled to the prince your brother, I owe you all duty.

DON JOHN

I thank you: I am not of many words, but I thank you.

LEONATA

Please it your grace lead on?

DON PEDRO

Your hand, Leonata; we will go together.

LX 14

Exeunt all except BENEDICK and CLAUDIO

CLAUDIO

Benedick, didst thou note the daughter of Signiora Leonata?

BENEDICK

I noted her not; but I looked on her.

CLAUDIO

Is she not a modest young lady?

BENEDICK

Do you question me, as an honest man should do, for my simple true judgment; or would you have me speak after my custom, as being a professed tyrant to their sex?

CLAUDIO

No; I pray thee speak in sober judgment.

BENEDICK

Why, i' faith, methinks she's too low for a high praise, too high for a common praise and too slim for a great praise: only this commendation I can afford her, that were she

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other than she is, she were unhandsome; and being no other but as she is, I do not like her.

CLAUDIO

Thou thinkest I am in sport: I pray thee tell me truly how thou likest her.

BENEDICK

Would you buy her, that you inquire after her?

CLAUDIO

Can the world buy such a jewel?

BENEDICK

Yea, and a case to put it into.

CLAUDIO

In mine eye she is the sweetest lady that ever I looked on.

BENEDICK

I can see yet without spectacles and I see no such matter: there's her cousin, an she were not possessed with a fury, exceeds her as much in beauty as the first of May doth the last of December. But I hope you have no intent to turn husband, have you?

CLAUDIO

I would scarce trust myself, though I had sworn the contrary, if Hero would be my wife.

BENEDICK

Is't come to this? Shall I never see a bachelor of three-score again? Go to, i' faith; an thou wilt needs thrust thy neck into a yoke, wear the print of it and sigh away Sundays. Look Don Pedro is returned to seek you.

Re-enter DON PEDRO

DON PEDRO

What secret hath held you here, that you followed not to Leonata's?

BENEDICK

I would your grace would constrain me to tell.

DON PEDRO

I charge thee on thy allegiance.

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BENEDICK

You hear, Count Claudio: I would have you think so; but, on my allegiance, mark you this, on my allegiance. He is in love. With who? now that is your grace's part. Mark how thin his answer is;--With Hero, Leonata's thin daughter.

CLAUDIO

If this were so, so were it uttered.

BENEDICK

Like the old tale, my lord: 'it is not so, nor 'twas not so, but, indeed, God forbid it should be so.'

CLAUDIO

If my passion change not shortly, God forbid it should be otherwise.

DON PEDRO

Amen, if you love her; for the lady is very well worthy.

CLAUDIO

You speak this to fetch me in, my lord.

DON PEDRO

By my troth, I speak my thought.

CLAUDIO

And, in faith, my lord, I spoke mine.

BENEDICK

And, by my two faiths and troths, my lord, I spoke mine.

CLAUDIO

That I love her, I feel.

DON PEDRO

That she is worthy, I know.

BENEDICK

That I neither feel how she should be loved nor know how she should be worthy, is the opinion that fire cannot melt out of me: I will die in it at the stake.

DON PEDRO

Thou wast ever an obstinate heretic in the despite of beauty.

CLAUDIO

And never could maintain his part but in the force of his will.

BENEDICK

That a woman conceived me, I thank her; that she brought me up, I likewise give her most humble thanks: but that I will hang my bugle in an invisible baldrick, all women shall pardon me. Because I will not do them the wrong to mistrust any, I will do myself the right to trust none; and the fine is, for the which I may go the finer, I will live a bachelor.

DON PEDRO

I shall see thee, ere I die, look sick with love.

BENEDICK

With anger, with sickness, or with hunger, my lord, not with love: prove that ever I lose more blood with love than I will get again with drinking, pick out mine eyes with a ballad-maker's pen and hang me up at the door of a brothel-house for the sign of blind Cupid.

DON PEDRO

Well, if ever thou dost fall from this faith, thou wilt prove a notable argument.

BENEDICK

If I do, hang me in a bottle and shoot at me.

DON PEDRO

Well, as time shall try: 'In time the savage bull doth bear the yoke.'

BENEDICK

The savage bull may; but if ever the sensible Benedick bear it, pluck off the bull's horns and set them in my forehead: and let me be vilely painted, and in such great letters as they write 'Here is good horse to hire,' let them signify under my sign 'Here you may see Benedick the married man.'

CLAUDIO

If this should ever happen, thou wouldst be horn-mad.

DON PEDRO

Nay, if Cupid have not spent all his quiver in Venice, thou wilt quake for this shortly.

BENEDICK

I look for an earthquake too, then.

STANDBY:

LX 20

DON PEDRO

Well, you will temporize with the hours. In the meantime, good Signior Benedick, repair to Leonata's: commend me to her and tell her I will not fail her at supper; for indeed she hath made great preparation.

BENEDICK

I have almost matter enough in me for such an embassage; and I leave you.

Exit

LX 20

CLAUDIO

My liege, your highness now may do me good.

DON PEDRO

My love is thine to teach: teach it but how,
And thou shalt see how apt it is to learn
Any hard lesson that may do thee good.

CLAUDIO

Hath Leonata any son, my lord?

DON PEDRO

No child but Hero; she's her only heir.
Dost thou affect her, Claudio?

CLAUDIO

O, my lord,
When you went onward on this ended action,
I look'd upon her with a soldier's eye,
That liked, but had a rougher task in hand
Than to drive liking to the name of love:
But now I am return'd and that war-thoughts
Have left their places vacant, in their rooms
Come thronging soft and delicate desires,
All prompting me how fair young Hero is,
Saying, I liked her ere I went to wars.

DON PEDRO

Thou wilt be like a lover presently
And tire the hearer with a book of words.
If thou dost love fair Hero, cherish it,
And I will break with her and with her mother,

Much Ado About Nothing

And thou shalt have her. Was't not to this end
That thou began'st to twist so fine a story?

CLAUDIO

How sweetly you do minister to love,
That know love's grief by his complexion!
But lest my liking might too sudden seem,
I would have salved it with a longer treatise.

DON PEDRO

What need the bridge much broader than the flood?

The fairest grant is the necessity.

Look, what will serve is fit: 'tis once, thou lovest,
And I will fit thee with the remedy.

I know we shall have revelling to-night:

I will assume thy part in some disguise

And tell fair Hero I am Claudio,

And in her bosom I'll unclasp my heart

And take her hearing prisoner with the force

And strong encounter of my amorous tale:

Then after to her mother will I break;

And the conclusion is, she shall be thine.

In practise let us put it presently.

STANDBY:

LX 22 - 24

SD 25

LX 22

SD 25

Exeunt

Much Ado About Nothing

ACT I, SCENE II.

A room in LEONATA's house.

LEONATA

How now, sister!

ANTONIA

Sister, I can tell you strange news that you yet dreamt not of.

LX 24

LEONATA

Are they good?

ANTONIA

As the event stamps them: but they have a good cover; they show well outward. The prince and Count Claudio, walking in mine orchard, were thus much overheard by a man of mine: the prince discovered to Claudio that he loved my niece your daughter and meant to acknowledge it this night in a dance: and if he found her accordant, he meant to take the present time by the top and instantly break with you of it.

STANDBY:

LX 26

SD 30

LEONATA

Hath the fellow any wit that told you this?

ANTONIA

A good sharp fellow: I will send for him; and question him yourself.

LEONATA

No, no; we will hold it as a dream till it appear itself: but I will acquaint my daughter withal, that she may be the better prepared for an answer, if peradventure this be true. Go you and tell her of it.

LX 26

SD 30

Exeunt

ACT I, SCENE III.

The same.

CONRADE

What the good-year, my lord! why are you thus out of measure sad?

DON JOHN

There is no measure in the occasion that breeds; therefore the sadness is without limit.

CONRADE

You should hear reason.

DON JOHN

And when I have heard it, what blessing brings it?

CONRADE

If not a present remedy, at least a patient sufferance.

DON JOHN

I wonder that thou, being, as thou sayest thou art, born under Saturn, goest about to apply a moral medicine to a mortifying mischief. I cannot hide what I am: I must be sad when I have cause and smile at no man's jests, eat when I have stomach and wait for no man's leisure, sleep when I am drowsy and tend on no man's business, laugh when I am merry and claw no man in his humour.

CONRADE

Yea, but you must not make the full show of this till you may do it without controlment. You have of late stood out against your brother, and he hath ta'en you newly into his grace; where it is impossible you should take true root but by the fair weather that you make yourself: it is needful that you frame the season for your own harvest.

DON JOHN

I had rather be a canker in a hedge than a rose in his grace, and it better fits my blood to be disdained of all than to fashion a carriage to rob love from any: in this, though I cannot be said to be a flattering honest man, it must not be denied but I am a plain-dealing villain. I am trusted with a muzzle and enfranchised with a clog; therefore I have decreed not to sing in my cage. If I had my mouth, I would

STANDBY:

LX 28

Much Ado About Nothing

bite; if I had my liberty, I would do my liking: in the meantime let me be that I am and seek not to alter me.

CONRADE

Can you make no use of your discontent?

LX 28

DON JOHN

I make all use of it, for I use it only. Who comes here?

Enter BORACHIO

What news, Borachio?

BORACHIO

I came yonder from a great supper: the prince your brother is royally entertained by Leonata: and I can give you intelligence of an intended marriage.

DON JOHN

Will it serve for any model to build mischief on? What is he for a fool that betroths himself to unquietness?

BORACHIO

Marry, it is your brother's right hand.

DON JOHN

Who? the most exquisite Claudio?

BORACHIO

Even he.

DON JOHN

A proper squire! And who, and who? which way looks he?

BORACHIO

Marry, on Hero, the daughter and heir of Leonata.

DON JOHN

A very forward March-chick! How came you to this?

BORACHIO

As I was smoking in a quiet room, comes me the prince and Claudio, hand in hand in sad conference: I whipt me behind the arras; and there heard it agreed upon that the prince should woo Hero for himself, and having obtained her, give her to Count Claudio.

DON JOHN

Come, come, let us thither: this may prove food to my displeasure. That young start-up hath all the glory of my

STANDBY:

LX 30

SD 35

RAIL Line Set 16 IN

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overthrow: if I can cross him any way, I bless myself every way. You are both sure, and will assist me?

CONRADE

To the death, my lord.

DON JOHN

Let us to the great supper: their cheer is the greater that I am subdued. Would the cook were of my mind! Shall we go prove what's to be done?

BORACHIO

We'll wait upon your lordship.

Exeunt

LX 30
SD 35
RAIL Line Set 16 IN



Wait 2 seconds after salute

Much Ado About Nothing

ACT II, SCENE I.

A hall in LEONATA'S house.

LEONATA

Was not Count John here at supper?

ANTONIA

I saw him not.

BEATRICE`

How tartly that gentleman looks! I never can see him but I am heart-burned an hour after.

HERO

He is of a very melancholy disposition.

BEATRICE

He were an excellent man that were made just in the midway between him and Benedick: the one is too like an image and says nothing, and the other too like my lady's eldest son, evermore tattling.

HERO

Then half Signior Benedick's tongue in Count John's mouth, and half Count John's melancholy in Signior Benedick's face,--

BEATRICE

With a good leg and a good foot, madam, and money enough in his purse, such a man would win any woman in the world, if a' could get her good-will.

LEONATA

By my troth, niece, thou wilt never get thee a husband, if thou be so shrewd of thy tongue.

ANTONIA

In faith, she's too curst.

BEATRICE

Too curst is more than curst: I shall lessen God's sending that way; for it is said, 'God sends a curst cow short horns;' but to a cow too curst he sends none.


ANTONIA

So, by being too curst, God will send you no horns.

STANDBY:

LX 32

LX 32

 **LEO & ANT x down**

BEATRICE

Just, if he send me no husband; for the which blessing I am at him upon my knees every morning and evening. Lord, I could not endure a husband with a beard on his face: I had rather lie in the woollen.

LEONATA

You may light on a husband that hath no beard.

BEATRICE

What should I do with him? dress him in my apparel and make him my waiting-gentlewoman? He that hath a beard is more than a youth, and he that hath no beard is less than a man: and he that is more than a youth is not for me, and he that is less than a man, I am not for him.

ANTONIA

[To HERO] Well, niece, I trust you will be ruled by your mother.

BEATRICE

Yes, faith; it is my cousin's duty to make curtsy and say 'Mother, as it please you.' But yet for all that, cousin, let him be a handsome fellow, or else make another curtsy and say 'Mother, as it please me.'

STANDBY:

LX 33

LEONATA

Well, niece, I hope to see you one day fitted with a husband.

BEATRICE

Not till God make men of some other metal than earth. Would it not grieve a woman to be overmastered with a piece of valiant dust? to make an account of her life to a clod of wayward dirt? No, aunt, I'll none: Adam's sons are my brethren; and, truly, I hold it a sin to match in my kindred.

LX 33

LEONATA

Daughter, remember what I told you: if the prince do solicit you in that kind, you know your answer.

BEATRICE

The fault will be in the music, cousin, if you be not wooed in good time: if the prince be too important, tell him there is measure in everything and so dance out the answer. For,



URS & MAR x down

Much Ado About Nothing

STANDBY:

LX 34 – 36

SD 35x – 40

hear me, Hero: wooing, wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch jig, a measure, and a [cinque pace]: the first suit is hot and hasty, like a Scotch jig, and full as fantastical; the wedding, mannerly-modest, as a measure, full of state and ancientry; and then comes repentance and, with his bad legs, falls into the [cinque pace] faster and faster, till he sink into his grave.

LEONATA

Cousin, you apprehend passing shrewdly.

BEATRICE

I have a good eye, madam; I can see a church by daylight.

SD 35x

LEONATA

The revellers are entering, sister: make good room.

LX 34

All put on their masks

*Enter DON PEDRO, CLAUDIO, BENEDICK,
BALTHASAR, DON JOHN, BORACHIO, MARGARET,
URSULA and others, masked*

SD 40

LX 36

DON PEDRO

Lady, will you walk about with your friend?



on the LEAN

HERO

So you walk softly and look sweetly and say nothing, I am yours for the walk; and especially when I walk away.

DON PEDRO

With me in your company?

HERO

I may say so, when I please.

DON PEDRO

And when please you to say so?

HERO

When I like your favour; for God defend the lute should be like the case!

DON PEDRO

Speak low, if you speak love.

Drawing her aside

Much Ado About Nothing

BORACHIO

Well, I would you did like me.

MARGARET

So would not I, for your own sake; for I have many ill-qualities.

BORACHIO

Which is one?

MARGARET

I say my prayers aloud.

BORACHIO

I love you the better: the hearers may cry, Amen.

MARGARET

God match me with a good dancer!

BORACHIO

Amen.

MARGARET

And God keep him out of my sight when the dance is done!

CONRADE

White-handed mistress, one sweet word with thee.

URSULA

Honey, and milk, and sugar: there is three.

CONRADE

Nay then two treys, and if you grow so nice.

Oranges, dates, and sherry: well run, dice!

There's half a dozen sweets.

URSULA

Seventh sweet, adieu.

You talk too smooth, I'll play no more with you.

BEATRICE

Will you not tell me who told you so?

BENEDICK

No, you shall pardon me.

BEATRICE

Nor will you not tell me who you are?

BENEDICK

Not now.

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BEATRICE

That I was disdainful, and that I had my good wit out of the 'Hundred Merry Tales:'--well this was Signior Benedick that said so.

STANDBY:

LX 38 - 40

SD 40 - 45x

BENEDICK

What's he?

BEATRICE

I am sure you know him well enough.

BENEDICK

Not I, believe me.

BEATRICE

Did he never make you laugh?

BENEDICK

I pray you, what is he?

BEATRICE

Why, he is the prince's jester: a very dull fool; only his gift is in devising impossible slanders: none but libertines delight in him; and the commendation is not in his wit, but in his villany; for he both pleases men and angers them, and then they laugh at him and beat him. I am sure he is in the fleet: I would he had boarded me.

LX 38



Music ends

BENEDICK

When I know the gentleman, I'll tell him what you say.

BEATRICE

Do, do: he'll but break a comparison or two on me; which, peradventure not marked or not laughed at, strikes him into melancholy; and then there's a partridge wing saved, for the fool will eat no supper that night.

LX 39

SD 45



CONGAAAAA

Music

We must follow the leaders.

BENEDICK

In every good thing.

BEATRICE

Nay, if they lead to any ill, I will leave them at the next turning.

Much Ado About Nothing

Dance. Then exeunt all except DON JOHN, BORACHIO, and CLAUDIO

LX 40

DON JOHN

Sure my brother is amorous on Hero and hath withdrawn her mother to break with her about it. The ladies follow her and but one visor remains.



DJ x down stair

SD 45x

BORACHIO

And that is Claudio: I know him by his bearing.



DJ meet BOR

DON JOHN

Are not you Signior Benedick?

CLAUDIO

You know me well; I am he.

DON JOHN

STANDBY:

LX 42 – 48

Signior, you are very near my brother in his love: he is enamoured on Hero; I pray you, dissuade him from her: she is no equal for his birth: you may do the part of an honest man in it.

CLAUDIO

How know you he loves her?

DON JOHN

I heard him swear his affection.

BORACHIO

So did I too; and he swore he would marry her to-night.

DON JOHN

Come, let us to the banquet.

LX 42

Exeunt DON JOHN and BORACHIO



DJ under 2nd story

CLAUDIO

Thus answer I in the name of Benedick,
But hear these ill news with the ears of Claudio.
'Tis certain so; the prince woos for himself.
Friendship is constant in all other things
Save in the office and affairs of love:
Therefore, all hearts in love use their own tongues;
Let every eye negotiate for itself
And trust no agent; for beauty is a witch
Against whose charms faith melteth into blood.

Much Ado About Nothing

This is an accident of hourly proof,
Which I mistrusted not. Farewell, therefore, Hero!

LX 44

Re-enter BENEDICK

BENEDICK

Count Claudio?

CLAUDIO

Yea, the same.

BENEDICK

Come, will you go with me?

CLAUDIO

Whither?

BENEDICK

Even, about your own business, county, for the prince hath
got your Hero.

CLAUDIO

I wish him joy of her.

BENEDICK

But did you think the prince would have served you thus?

CLAUDIO

I pray you, leave me.

BENEDICK

Ho! now you strike like the blind man: 'twas the boy that
stole your meat, and you'll beat the post.

CLAUDIO

If it will not be, I'll leave you.

LX 46

Exit

BENEDICK

Poor hurt fowl! But that my Lady Beatrice should know
me, and not know me! The prince's fool! Ha? It may be I go
under that title because I am merry. Yea, but so I am apt to
do myself wrong; I am not so reputed: it is the base, though
bitter, disposition of Beatrice that puts the world into her
person and so gives me out. Well, I'll be revenged as I may.

LX 48

Re-enter DON PEDRO

DON PEDRO

Now, signior, where's the count? did you see him?

BENEDICK

Troth, my lord, I have played the part of Lady Fame. I told him, and I think I told him true, that your grace had got the good will of this young lady; and I offered him my company to a willow-tree to bind him up a rod, as being worthy to be whipped.

DON PEDRO

To be whipped! What's his fault?

BENEDICK

The flat transgression of a schoolboy, who, being overjoyed with finding a birds' nest, shows it his companion, and he steals it.

DON PEDRO

Wilt thou make a trust a transgression? The transgression is in the stealer.

BENEDICK

Yet it had not been amiss the rod had been made, for the rod he might have bestowed on you, who, as I take it, have stolen his birds' nest.

DON PEDRO

I will but teach them to sing, and restore them to the owner.

BENEDICK

If their singing answer your saying, by my faith, you say honestly.

DON PEDRO

The Lady Beatrice hath a quarrel to you: the gentleman that danced with her told her she is much wronged by you.

BENEDICK

O, she misused me past the endurance of a block! an oak but with one green leaf on it would have answered her; my very visor began to assume life and scold with her. She told me, not thinking I had been myself, that I was the prince's jester, that I was duller than a great thaw; huddling jest upon jest with such impossible conveyance upon me that I stood like a man at a mark, with a whole army shooting at

me. She speaks daggers, and every word stabs: if her breath were as terrible as her terminations, there were no living near her; she would infect to the north star. I would not marry her, though she were endowed with all that Adam had left him before he transgressed: she would have made Hercules have turned spit, yea, and have cleft his club to make the fire too. Come, talk not of her: you shall find her an infernal Gorgon in good apparel. I would to God some scholar would conjure her; for certainly, while she is here, a man may live as quiet in hell as in a sanctuary; and people sin upon purpose, because they would go thither; so, indeed, all disquiet, horror and perturbation follows her.

STANDBY:

LX 50 – 52

LX 50

DON PEDRO

Look, here she comes.



BEA/CLA ent UC

Enter CLAUDIO, BEATRICE, HERO, and LEONATA

BENEDICK

Will your grace command me any service to the world's end? I will go on the slightest errand now to the Antipodes that you can devise to send me on; I will fetch you a tooth-picker now from the furthest inch of Asia, fetch you a hair off the great Cham's beard, do you any embassy to the Pigmies, rather than hold three words' conference with this harpy. You have no employment for me?

DON PEDRO

None, but to desire your good company.

BENEDICK

O God, sir, here's a dish I love not: I cannot endure my Lady Tongue.

Exit

LX 52

DON PEDRO

Come, lady, come; you have lost the heart of Signior Benedick.

BEATRICE

Indeed, my lord, he lent it me awhile; and I gave him use for it, a double heart for his single one: marry, once before

Much Ado About Nothing

he won it of me with false dice, therefore your grace may well say I have lost it.

DON PEDRO

You have put him down, lady, you have put him down.

BEATRICE

So I would not he should do me, my lord, lest I should prove the mother of fools. I have brought Count Claudio, whom you sent me to seek.

STANDBY:

LX 54

DON PEDRO

Why, how now, count! wherefore are you sad?

CLAUDIO

Not sad, my lord.

DON PEDRO

How then? sick?

CLAUDIO

Neither, my lord.

BEATRICE

The count is neither sad, nor sick, nor merry, nor well; but civil count, civil as a lime, and something of that jealous complexion.

DON PEDRO

I' faith, lady, I think your blazon to be true; though, I'll be sworn, if he be so, his conceit is false. Here, Claudio, I have wooed in thy name, and fair Hero is won: I have broke with her mother, and her good will obtained: name the day of marriage, and God give thee joy!

LX 54

LEONATA

Count, take of me my daughter, and with her my fortunes: his grace hath made the match, and all grace say Amen to it.

BEATRICE

Speak, count, 'tis your cue.

CLAUDIO

Silence is the perfectest herald of joy: I were but little happy, if I could say how much. Lady, as you are mine, I am yours: I give away myself for you and dote upon the exchange.

BEATRICE

Speak, cousin; or, if you cannot, stop his mouth with a kiss, and let not him speak neither.

DON PEDRO

In faith, lady, you have a merry heart.

BEATRICE

Yea, my lord; I thank it, poor fool, it keeps on the windy side of care. My cousin tells him in his ear that he is in her heart.

HERO

And so I do, cousin.

BEATRICE

Good Lord, for alliance! Thus goes every one to the world but I; I may sit in a corner and cry heigh-ho for a husband!

DON PEDRO

Lady Beatrice, I will get you one.

BEATRICE

I would rather have one of your father's getting. Hath your grace ne'er a brother like you? Your father got excellent husbands, if a maid could come by them.

DON PEDRO

Will you have me, lady?

BEATRICE

No, my lord, unless I might have another for working-days: your grace is too costly to wear every day. But, I beseech your grace, pardon me: I was born to speak all mirth and no matter.

DON PEDRO

Your silence most offends me, and to be merry best becomes you; for, out of question, you were born in a merry hour.

BEATRICE

No, sure, my lord, my mother cried; but then there was a star danced, and under that was I born. Cousins, God give you joy!

LEONATA

Niece, will you look to those things I told you of?

BEATRICE

I cry you mercy, aunt. By your grace's pardon.

Exit

DON PEDRO

By my troth, a pleasant-spirited lady.

HERO

There's little of the melancholy element in her, my lord: she is never sad but when she sleeps.

LEONATA;

And not ever sad then; for I have heard my daughter say, she hath often dreamed of unhappiness and waked herself with laughing.

DON PEDRO

She cannot endure to hear tell of a husband.

HERO

O, by no means: she mocks all her wooers out of suit.

DON PEDRO

She were an excellent wife for Benedick.

LEONATA

O Lord, my lord, if they were but a week married, they would talk themselves mad.

DON PEDRO

County Claudio, when mean you to go to church?

CLAUDIO

To-morrow, my lord: time goes on crutches till love have all his rites.

LEONATA

Not till Monday, my dear son, which is hence a just seven-night; and a time too brief, too, to have all things answer my mind.

DON PEDRO

Come, you shake the head at so long a breathing: but, I warrant thee, Claudio, the time shall not go dully by us. I will in the interim undertake one of Hercules' labours; which is, to bring Signior Benedick and the Lady Beatrice into a mountain of affection the one with the other. I would fain have it a match, and I doubt not but to fashion it, if

Much Ado About Nothing

you three will but minister such assistance as I shall give you direction.

LEONATA

My lord, I am for you, though it cost me ten nights' watchings.

CLAUDIO

And I, my lord.

DON PEDRO

And you too, gentle Hero?

HERO

I will do any modest office, my lord, to help my cousin to a good husband.

DON PEDRO

And Benedick is not the unhopefullest husband that I know. Thus far can I praise him; he is of a noble strain, of approved valour and confirmed honesty. I will teach you how to humour your cousin, that she shall fall in love with Benedick; and I, with your two helps, will so practise on Benedick that, in despite of his quick wit and his queasy stomach, he shall fall in love with Beatrice. If we can do this, Cupid is no longer an archer: his glory shall be ours, for we are the only love-gods. Go in with me, and I will tell you my drift.

STANDBY:

LX 58

SD 50

RAIL Line Set 16 OUT

LX 58

SD 50

RAIL Line Set 16 OUT

Exeunt