

### Act 1 Scene 1

Antonio:	Oh woest me!
Solanio:	What's wrong, my friend Antonio? <b>[Antonio ignores him]</b> What makes you sigh? Is your mind tossing on the ocean along with all your merchandise as it makes its way to Venice?
Antonio:	No, thank heaven! I have no worries about my ships or my merchandise. <b>[He sighs]</b>
Solanio:	Yet you sigh again. You are troubled by something. Is it love?
Antonio:	No, no.
Solanio:	Well you must have a reason.
Antonio:	Must I?
Solanio:	Well... Then you are sad because you are not happy?
Antonio:	<b>[Shrugs]</b>
Solanio:	Well it seems then there is nothing I can do. Look, here your best friend Bassanio comes, maybe he can cheer you up.
<b>[Enter Bassanio and Gratiano, Exit Solanio]</b>	
Bassanio:	Antonio! There you are.
Gratiano:	Why so blue, Antonio?
Antonio:	Don't worry yourself about it.
Gratiano:	I know what will make you happy. You should come out with me tonight, go grab some drinks and meet a few ladies. It'll be fun. No? You Bassanio? Alright, well, I'm off.
<b>[Exit Gratiano]</b>	
Bassanio:	Ignore Gratiano. He's always inappropriate like that. But I'm glad I found you, I wanted to tell you about-
Antonio:	Your secret lady?
Bassanio:	Yes, because I promised you I finally would. Her name is Portia. Oh Portia! But you see Antonio, she's a beautiful lady, with a big house and lots of money, and I'm a poor merchant with nothing to offer her. All I want is to court her, but I am in debt and I have no money to woo her with. She would never choose me – there are rich princes from all over coming to court her. What am I to them?
Antonio:	Are you asking me for money?
Bassanio:	If you could spare some, please.
Antonio:	Well, all my fortune is at sea right now. But you are my best friend, and I will do my best to help.
Bassanio:	Thank you, great Antonio!
Antonio:	Let's see what my credit in Venice will do; we might find you a sum of money to win your Portia with.

### Act 1 Scene 2

Portia:	Nerissa, my little body is weary of searching.
Nerissa:	You are the perfect example that even those with great fortune can experience great misery. I say, those who live in the mean live long and happy lives.
Portia:	Well said. I, for example, have a great amount of money but am constricted to the will of my dead father. I may neither choose who I want nor refuse who I dislike, and so my will is hindered by that of my father. Do you think that is fair?
Nerissa:	Your father was virtuous, so even if you are not fond of the lottery that he created—the choice between the three chests of gold, silver, and lead—I am sure that no man

	will choose the right one unless he is the one you should rightly love. Have you felt warmth toward any of the suitors you've met yet? What about the Neapolitan Prince?
Portia:	All he does is talk about his horse and how he can shoe it himself. I think his mother had an affair with a blacksmith.
Nerissa:	How say you by the French lord, Monsieur Le Bon?
Portia:	God made him, so there must be something good about him. I haven't found it yet.
Nerissa:	How like you the young German?
Portia:	I cannot say anything except that he is a drunk since we do not speak the same language. We should put a glass of wine on the wrong chest just because I know he will pick it. Even if I live to be as old as Sibylla, who lives for as many years as grains of sand in her hand, I will remain as chaste as Diana, the goddess of chastity because I do not want any of these men.
Nerissa:	However, by your father's will, one might win you if he chooses the chest which contains your portrait. What about the Venetian, Bassanio?
Portia:	I remember him well, and I remember him worthy of praise.
	<b>[knocking sound]</b>
	Did you hear that? I think my first group of suitors is here.

### Act 1 Scene 3

Shylock:	Three thousand ducats?
Bassanio:	Ay, sir, for three months and Antonio's bond.
Shylock:	Three thousand ducats for three months, and Antonio's bond...
Bassanio:	Your answer to that?
Shylock:	Antonio is a good man but you have to understand his means are uncertain. He has four ships abroad, but ships are but boards, sailors but men and then there are the perils of water, winds and rocks. Though the man is sufficient. I think I may take his bond.
Bassanio:	Be assured you may.
Shylock:	I will be assured I may. May I speak with Antonio?
Bassanio:	If it please you to dine with us.
	<b>[Enter Antonio]</b>
Bassanio:	This is Signoir Antonio.
Shylock:	I am debating my present funds. How many months do you desire?
Antonio:	Shylock, albeit I neither lend nor borrow by taking nor by giving of excess. Yet, to supply the ripe wants of my friend I'll break custom. Three thousand ducats and for three months.
Shylock:	Three thousand ducats. 'Tis a good round sum. Three months from twelve, then let me see the rate –
Antonio:	Well, Shylock. Shall we be in your debt?
Shylock:	Signoir Antonio, many a time in the merchant exchange you have scolded me about my moneys and interests. Still I have upheld it with a patient shrug. You call me misbeliever, cutthroat dog, and spat upon my robes, and all for using what is mine. Now it appears you need my help. You come to me and say "Shylock, we would have money" – You! Who did spit upon my beard and kicked me as you spurn a stranger.
Antonio:	I am likely to call thee so again, to spit on thee again, to spurn thee, too. If thou will

	lend this money, lend it not as to thy friends, but lend it rather to thine enemy. For if he breaks the bond, who better than you to exact the penalty.
Shylock:	Why look how you storm! I would be friends with you and have your love, forget the shames that you have stained me with, supply your present wants and take no jot of interest for my moneys. This is kind I offer.
Bassanio:	This were kindness!
Shylock:	Go with me to a notary, seal me there your bond; and in a merry sport, if you repay me not on such a day, in such a place, such sum or sums as are expressed in the condition, let the forfeit be nominated for an equal pound of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken in what part of your body pleaseth me.
Antonio:	I'll seal to such a bond. And say there's much kindness in you.
Bassanio:	You shall not seal to such a bond for me.
Antonio:	Why, fear not, man. I will not forfeit it! Within these two months I do expect return of thrice three times the value of this bond. <b>[To Shylock]</b> Yes Shylock, I will seal to this bond.
Shylock:	Then meet me at the notary's. Give him direction for this merry bond. And I will go and purse the ducats straight and presently I'll be with you.
Antonio:	Hurry, gentle Jew. <b>[Shylock exits]</b> The Hebrew will turn Christian; he grows kind.
Bassanio:	I like not fair terms and a villain's mind.
Antonio:	Come on, in this there can be no dismay; My ships come home a month before the day.
<b>[They exit]</b>	

### Act 2 Scene 1

Morocco:	Please don't judge me on my dark skin. My blood is just as red as those vanilla faces from the north.
Portia:	Your skin color has nothing to do with this. I'm not sure if you heard but my daddy set up a little game and if you win, I'm yours. Your chances are as good as any.
Morocco:	Look lady, I'm kind of a big deal and I would do anything to have you. Leaving it up to chance just means a more unworthy man may get you.
Portia:	Buddy, you gotta give it a college try but if you fail you have to bounce and by the way you can never get married... ever.
Morocco:	Alrighty, let's give it a shot.
Portia:	Chill out, let's go eat first. Then we'll all go.
Morocco:	Good times, in front of a bunch of people. This will be fun.

### Act 2 Scene 2

Lancelet:	Hey buddy, do you think I could burn your ear for one minute?
Bassanio:	Sure! What's on your mind?
Lancelet:	This Jew has been getting on my nerves. Do you think I could start to serve you instead of him from now on?
Bassanio:	So you would rather leave the rich Jew and serve for a poor gentleman?
Lancelet:	Poor, as if, you have the grace of God. Shylock is but a bag of gold in a greedy hand.
Bassanio:	Sounds good! Go get your belongings and meet me at the house.
Lancelet:	Well, that worked out. I will leave the Jew tonight.
<b>[Lancelet exit]</b>	

Gratiano:	Hey Bassanio, I would really like to go with you to Belmont.
Bassanio:	No way, you are way too rude. Around us it's fine but among these people it will not work.
Gratiano:	I will be on my best behavior, but do not judge me for my actions tonight, because tonight I am getting drunk.
Bassanio:	Sounds great, have fun. I have business to attend to.

### Act 2 Scene 3

Jessica:	Hey Lancelet, when you see Lorenzo at dinner would you give this letter to him? I cannot be seen with those scumbags.
Lancelet:	No problem, I got you.
Jessica:	Farewell, I can't wait to get away from my father and get married to Lorenzo and become a Christian.

### Act 2 Scene 4

Lorenzo:	We will sneak away at supper, get disguised at my house and return in an hour.
Gratiano:	We are so unprepared.
Lancelet:	Lorenzo, here is a letter from Jessica. I am pretty sure she is in.
Lorenzo:	Yes, I figured as much. She is a true blue.
Lancelet:	I have to go now! I must prepare to leave the Jew tonight and have dinner with my new master the Christian.
Lorenzo:	Here is some money. Tell Jessica I will not fail her. <b>[Lancelet exits]</b>
Gratiano:	So what did the letter from Jessica say?
Lorenzo:	She has instructed me on how to get her from her father's house. She also has told me what belongings he has that we can take. She is a stand up girl even though her father is a scumbag. Jessica should be my torch bearer.

### Act 2 Scene 5

Lancelet:	My master wishes you to join him.
Shylock:	Jessica!
Lancelet:	Jessica!
Shylock:	What are you doing? I did not ask you to call for my daughter.
Jessica:	Yes?
Shylock:	I am going to dinner with the Christians. Lock up after me and watch over the house. I dreamt of money bags last night, and that's a bad omen! I can't be losing any money while I'm gone.
Jessica:	Of course father.

### Act 2 Scene 6

Gratiano:	Is this Shylock's house? I thought Lorenzo was meeting us here an hour ago! I can't believe he is late when he and Jessica only have so much time to escape before their love is discovered and ruined.
Solanio:	Their supposed deep love won't last long anyway. Birds fly faster to seal love's newly

	made bonds than to keep faithful after the passion wears off.
Gratiano:	That ever holds. Who leaves a feast with as big an appetite or desire for food as when he first showed up? All things that are, are with more spirit chased than enjoyed.
Solanio:	Here comes Lorenzo! More of this later.
Lorenzo:	Dear friends, thank you for your patience. There's Jessica, my true love, in her father's room. Come down here so I can be with you.
Jessica:	My love indeed! Here in this casket is a mountain of heavy but priceless treasure. I will put on some more jewelry and be right down.
	<b>[Exit Lorenzo and Jessica, Enter Antonio]</b>
Antonio:	What's going on? Where is everyone? No matter, the winds are changing and you must set sail with Bassanio right away.
Gratiano:	Wonderful. I desire no more delight than to be under sail and gone tonight.

#### Act 3 Scene 4

Lorenzo: Portia, you're a gracious and noble woman for helping your husband in his dilemma. But if you knew the true gentleman your husband is trying to save, I know you would be proud.

Portia: I never did repent for doing good, and I won't now. Friends that share beliefs and spend time together must have common characteristics, which makes me think Antonio, being a friend of my husband, resembles my husband. If so, it's a small price I have paid for our freedom. Of other matters, Nerissa and I have taken vows to live in prayer and contemplation in a monastery not too far away until our husbands return. Can I ask you to look after my estate until he returns?

Lorenzo: Of course I will.

**[Lorenzo exits]**

Portia: Balthazar, you have always been loyal to me. Therefore take this letter in haste to Padua. Make sure my cousin Doctor Bellario gets it. Whatever notes and clothes he gives you take them to Venice where I'll be waiting for you.

Balthazar: Right away, Miss.

Portia: Come on, Nerissa. We'll see our husbands before they know it.

Nerissa: Will they see us?

Portia: They will but in a matter they would not suspect. We will be disguised as men, and I'll bet you anything when we are both in disguise I'll be the prettier fellow of the two, wear my dagger with finer grace and walk like a man, talk like a man and tell clever lies of how honorable women fell sick and died after I denied them my love. I'll keep telling these feeble lies and swear I've finished school barely a year ago. I have a thousand tricks we will practice.

Nerissa: Why are we dressing as men?

Portia: What kind of question is that? Never mind, come on, we need to hurry. I'll tell you everything on the way.

**[They exit]**

### Act 3 Scene 5

Lancelet:	You know, if all Jews suddenly decided to become Christian, we'd have to raise the price of pork.
Jessica:	What?
Lorenzo:	What are you saying to my wife?
Lancelet:	It's simple really. If all Jews, who do not eat pork, became Christian and decided to eat pork, we would quickly run out of pigs to slaughter. Therefore, we must raise the price of pork.
Lorenzo:	Lancelet, go tell the servants to prepare dinner.
Lancelet:	What? You're not my master. I will do no such thing.