

## ***MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING 2.1 (with cuts)***

**DON PEDRO**

Lady, will you walk about with your friend?

**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;

**DON PEDRO**

My visor is Philemon's roof; within the house is Jove.

**HERO**

Why, then, your visor should be thatched.

**DON PEDRO**

Speak low, if you speak love.

**BENEDICK**

Well, I would you did like me.

**MARGARET**

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

**BENEDICK**

Which is one?

**MARGARET**

I say my prayers aloud.

**BENEDICK**

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

**MARGARET**

God match me with a good dancer!

**BALTHASAR**

Amen.

**MARGARET**

And God keep him out of my sight when the dance is  
done! Answer, clerk.

**BALTHASAR**

No more words: the clerk is answered.

**URSULA**

I know you well enough; you are Signior Antonio.

**ANTONIO**

At a word, I am not.

**URSULA**

I know you by the wagging of your head.

**ANTONIO**

To tell you true, I counterfeit him.

**URSULA**

You could never do him so ill-well, unless you were  
the very man. Here's his dry hand up and down: you  
are he, you are he.

**ANTONIO**

At a word, I am not.

**URSULA**

Come, come, do you think I do not know you by your  
excellent wit? Go to, mum, you are he: and there's an  
end.

**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?

## **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING 2.1 (with cuts)**

**BENEDICK**

Not now.

**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.

**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: 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.

**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; 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.

*Dance. Then exeunt*