

## Coriolanus abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 5

### Acceptance

**Situation:** Aufidius greets Coriolanus warmly, the disguised Coriolanus, unannounced and uninvited, having entered Aufidius' home in Antium.

AUFIDIUS: O Martius, Martius! Each word thou hast spoke hath weeded from my heart a root of ancient envy.

**Aufidius to Coriolanus**

Let me twine mine arms about thy body,  
Where against my wooden lance too many  
Times hath broke, when its splinters scarred the moon.  
Here I embrace the metal of my sword,  
And plan to nobly contest with thee soon  
As e'er I did contend 'gainst thee, my lord.  
Why, I tell thee, we have a power on  
Foot, where once more my plan is to have drawn  
Rome's shield from its brawn, or have lost my arm  
For't. Ha, having dreamt of fights with you,  
Waking half dead! O come, without alarm,  
To meet with our friendly senators who  
Now are planning to take their leaves from home  
To fight against your lands, though not for Rome.

CORIOLANUS: You bless me, gods!

AUFIDIUS: Therefore, if thou wilt have the leading of thine own revenges, take th' one half of my commission; and set down thine own ways, whether to knock against the gates of Rome, or rudely visit them in parts remote. But come in. A thousand welcomes! Your hand. Most welcome!