

Cymbeline abbreviated

Act 1, Scene 6

Persuasion

Situation: Quick-thinking Iachimo recovers from his first attempt to win Imogen. He without pause tells her his proposition was just a test of her character and that of Posthumus'. He wins her approval to safely keep his trunk of valuables overnight in her bedroom.

IACHIMO: O happy Leonatus! I may say the credit that thy lady hath of thee deserves thy trust. Blessed live you long, a lady to the worthiest sir that ever country called his.

Iachimo to Imogen

**Give me your pardon. I have spoke this to
Affirm your lord is that which he is. You
Have confirmed your promises are deeply
Rooted; that he is one with the highest
Morals who wins the hearts of those who see
Him, the enchanter. Like a descend'st
God, he has a kind of honor that sets
Him off it seems from mortal beings. Let's
Honor this false report as confirming
Your judgment in the election of a
Sir so rare. My respect for his being
Made me test you thus; to separate the
Grain from the tusks. The one who is this sir's
Was made by the gods, unlike all others.**

IACHIMO: Pray your pardon.

IMOGEN: You make amends. All's well, sir. Take my power i' th' court for yours.

IACHIMO: My humble thanks. I had almost forgot t' entreat your Grace but in a small request.

IMOGEN: Pray, what is 't?

IACHIMO: Some dozen Romans have mingled sums to buy a present for the Emperor, which I have done in France. The gift is silver and gold of rare device and jewels of rich and exquisite form, their values great. May it please you to take them in protection?

IMOGEN: Willingly. Since my lord hath interest in them, I will keep them in my bedchamber.