

## Othello abbreviated

Act 1, Scene 3

### Daughter to Father

**Situation:** Brabantio angrily seeks out the Moor who has eloped with his daughter. The Duke of Venice anxiously seeks the missing Moor, wanting him to lead a military force to defend Cyprus where “a Turkish fleet makes for Rhodes.” Othello is located and eloquently defends his and Desdemona’s relationship. Desdemona strongly supports her husband.

DUKE: I think this tale would win my daughter, too.

BRABANTIO: I pray you hear her speak. If she confess that she was half the wooer, destruction on my head if my bad blame light on the man.

### Desdemona to Brabantio

My noble father, I am bound to you  
For life and education, and they do  
Teach me how to respect you. But I here  
Perceive a divided duty. I’m your  
Daughter, but here’s my husband. Without fear,  
My mother showed you so much duty, bore  
Me for you, preferring you before her  
Father. So I profess, dear father, sir,  
The love due the Moor, my lord. Father, I  
My soul and fortunes dedicate themselves  
To his honor and valiant being. Why  
Must I idle and he to war, ourselves  
Alone, I deprived of him, growing dim  
By his dear absence? Let me go with him.

BRABANTIO: God be with you! I have done. Come hither, Moor. I here give thee that with all my heart I would keep from thee. I have done, my lord.