

Pericles abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 1

Persuasion

Situation: Leonine is Dionyza's servant. He has been instructed by his Mistress to kill Marina. Dionyza has a daughter and is jealous for her daughter since it is Marina who receives all the "praises."

He draws his sword.

MARINA: What mean you?

LEONINE: If you require a little space for prayer, I grant it. I am sworn to do my work in haste.

MARINA: Why will you kill me?

LEONINE: To satisfy my lady.

Marina to Leonine

**Why would your lady have me killed? Now, I
Do know I ne'er did hurt her in all my
Life. I never spoke a bad word of her,
Nor ever harmed a living creature. What
Is this? I ne'er killed a mouse, nor ever
Trode upon a worm against my will but
That I wept for it. Where did I offend
That she might profit if my life doth end?
How doth my life imply her danger? You
Cannot do it for all the world, having
A gentle heart. I saw you part those two
Who fought; you then injured; the act showing
Well in you. Do so now. Your fair lady
Seeks my life. Come 'tween us and save poor me.**

LEONINE: My commission is not to reason of the deed, but do 't. I am sworn and will dispatch.
Pirates enter. Leonine runs offstage.