

## The Comedy of Errors abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 1

### Counsel

**Situation:** Adriana's husband Antipholus of Ephesus is late for dinner and his wife is upset. Adriana's sister, Luciana, uses the opportunity to offer her sister some of her thoughts about the freedoms men enjoy.

ADRIANA: Neither my husband nor the slave returned? Sure, Luciana, it is two o'clock. Why should their liberty than ours be more?

LUCIANA: Because their business still lies out o' door.

#### Luciana to Adriana

Good sister, let us dine, and never fret.  
He'll come home; a merchant he may have met.  
A man is master of his liberty,  
So only time for men is their master.  
When time suits them they'll go or come, so be  
Patient, sister. There's nothing that doth stir  
'Neath heaven's eye, be it fish or birds that  
Fly that are not their males' subjects and at  
Their controls. Headstrong liberty is fraught  
With woe and risk leading to women's fall,  
For men divine, possessed with that sought  
By women less endued, surpassing all,  
Are masters to their females, and their lords.  
So let your will attend on their accords.

ADRIANA: This servitude makes you to keep unwed.

LUCIANA: Well, I will marry one day, but to try. Here comes your man. Now is your husband nigh.