

## The Taming of the Shrew abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 3

### Husband to Wife

**Situation:** While at his home in the country, Petruchio does his best to tame Katherine, hardly letting her sleep or eat, Hortensio calling it “the taming school.” Katherine says to herself “did he marry me to famish me, I am starved for meat, giddy for lack of sleep.” Petruchio and Katherine prepare for a trip to the Minola home.

**Petruchio to Katherine**

Come, my Kate. In our most modest clothes we  
Will to your father's. Our purses shall be  
Proud, our garments poor, for it is the mind  
That makes the body rich. And as the sun  
Breaks through the darkest clouds, honor doth find  
Its way to peereth through the most common  
Ware. Is the jay more precious than the lark  
Because the songbird's feathers are more stark?  
Is the snake better than the eel because  
His painted skin contents the eye? Oh no.  
Wearing ordinary apparel does  
Not make you worse, but if thou art shamed, owe  
It to me. I'll plan to frolic and to  
Enjoy life at thy father's house with you.

PETRUCHIO TO GRUMIO: Go, call my men, and let us straight to him. Well we may come there by dinner time.

KATHERINE: I dare assure you, sir, 'tis almost two, and 'twill be supper time ere you come there.

PETRUCHIO: I will not go today, and, ere I do, it shall be what o'clock I say it is.

HORTENSIO ASIDE: Why, so, this gallant will command the sun!