

The Taming of the Shrew abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 1

Persuasion

Situation: Petruchio, Hortensio's good friend and the young man most eager to meet Katherine, agrees to introduce Hortensio (so Hortensio, like Lucentio, can get closer to Bianca) to Baptista as Litio, a teacher "skilled in music and mathematics." Hortensio then instructs his buddy Gremio to introduce Petruchio to Baptista, positioning Petruchio to introduce Hortensio as Litio to Baptista.

GREMIO: Good morrow, neighbor Baptista.

PETRUCHIO: And you, good sir. Pray, have you not a daughter called Katherina, fair and virtuous?

BAPTISTA: I have a daughter, sir, called Katherina.

GREMIO TO PETRUCHIO: You are too blunt. Go to it orderly.

PETRUCHIO: You wrong me, Signior Gremio. Give me leave.

Petruchio to Baptista, No. 1

**I'm a gentleman of Verona, sir,
That on hearing of her beauty and her
Wit, her affability and bashful
Modesty, her wondrous nature and mild
Behavior, do ask that I may, to lull
My heart, be a guest in your house, beguiled
As I am, to let mine eye be witness
To the reports that have left me restless.
Let me present you with a man of mine,
As my gift to be received as a guest,
A man most skilled in music and the fine
Sciences of mathematics, the best
Of teachers, my knowing much she doth know.
This man of Mantua is Litio.**

BAPTISTA: You're welcome, sir, and he for your good sake. But for my daughter Katherine, this I know, she is not right for you, the more my grief.

PETRUCHIO: I see you do not mean to part with her, or else you like not of my company.

BAPTISTA: Mistake me not. I speak but as I find. What may I call your name?

PETRUCHIO: Petruchio is my name, Antonio's son.

BAPTISTA: I know him well. You are welcome for his sake.