## The Taming of the Shrew abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 1.1

# Proposal

**Situation:  As Gremio introduces Lucentio, now disguised as Cambio, to Baptista as a "young scholar as cunning in Greek and Latin as in music and mathematics," Baptista turns to Tranio, now disguised as Lucentio, and asks him "may I be so bold to know the cause of your coming."   The disguised Tranio tells him that he is interested in wooing his daughter Bianca and that he is "of Pisa, sir, son of Vincentio." At that point Baptista responds "A mighty man of Pisa.  By report I know him well."**

     A Servant enters.
BAPTISTA:  Sirrah, lead these gentlemen to my daughters, and tell them both these are their tutors.
     The Servant exits with Hortensio and Lucentio.
BAPTISTA:  We will go walk a little in the orchard, and then to dinner.

**Petruchio to Baptista, No. 2**

**You knew my father well, and through him me,
Sole heir to all his lands and goods, which we
Have bettered rather than decreased.  If I
Win your daughter's love, and with her as wife
Have a generous dowry, then my
Promise to her is widow's rights for life,
Should she survive me, in whatsoever
Is mine.  That we have records on either
Hand, let special contracts be drawn between
Us.  Where two furious fires meet by fate,
They do consume all matter that doth seem
To feed their fury; though small fires grow great,
Extreme gusts will blow out what fire there be.
So I will yield to her and she to me.**

BAPTISTA:  Well mayst thou woo, and happy be thy speed.  But be thou armed for some unhappy words.
     Hortensio as Litio enters with his head broken.
BAPTISTA:  Will my daughter prove a good musician?
HORTENSIO AS LITIO:  I think she'll sooner prove a soldier!  Iron may hold with her, but never lutes.
BAPTISTA:  Why, then thou canst not train her to play the lute?
HORTENSIO AS LITIO:  I did but tell her she misplaced her fingers, and with that she struck me on the head.  She did call me "rascal fiddler," and "twangling Jack."
PETRUCHIO:  Now, by the world, it is a lusty wench.  I love her ten times more than e'er I did.