

## **The Winter's Tale abbreviated**

Act 5, Scene 3

### **Pride**

**Situation:** Paulina and the princess have slipped away “to see her mother’s statue, which is in the keeping of Paulina.” Leontes, Polixenes, Camillo and Florizell enter, at which point Paulina “draws a curtain to reveal Hermione as a statue.” Paulina quietly says “Music, awake her! Strike up!” at which point “Hermione stirs, embraces Leontes.” She then learns from Paulina that “our Perdita is found.”

PAULINA TO HERMIONE: Turn, good lady, our Perdita is found.

HERMIONE: You gods, look down, and from your sacred vials pour your graces upon my daughter’s head! Tell me, mine own, where hast thou been preserved? Where lived? How found thy father’s court? For thou shalt hear that I, knowing by Paulina that the oracle gave hope thou wast in being, have preserved myself to see the issue.

PAULINA: Go together, you precious winners all. I, an old turtledove, will fly to some withered bough and there my Antigonus, who’s never to be found again, lament till I am dead.

### **Leontes to Others**

Paulina, thou shouldst a husband take  
By my consent, as I, from this fair wake  
A wife with thy consent, as made by vows  
Between us. I’ll not seek far to find thee  
A most worthy husband, as fate allows  
Me to call Camillo, whose worth to me  
And my brother is richly noted and  
By us found to be true. Please, take my hand  
Hermione; accept my pardons you  
Both that e’er I put between your sinless  
Looks my ill suspicion. This son unto  
The King, Florizell, as the heavens bless,  
And your daughter are betrothed. Each a word  
To his part since first we were dissevered.