

OTHELLO / MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING – FEMALES OVER 30

EMILIA (talking to Desdemona about being unfaithful)

Wouldst I do such a deed for all the world? The world's a huge thing; it is a great price for a small vice. Marry, I would not do such a thing for a joint-ring, nor for measures of lawn, nor for gowns, petticoats, nor caps, nor any petty exhibition; but for the whole world – why, who would not make her husband a cuckold to make him a monarch? Why the wrong is but a wrong i' the world, and having the world for your labour, 'tis a wrong in your own world, and you might quickly make it right.

But I do think it is their husbands' faults
If wives do fall. What is it that they do
When they change us for others? Is it sport?
I think it is. And doth affection breed it?
I think it doth. Is't frailty that thus errs?
It is so too. And have not we affections,
Desires for sport, and frailty, as men have?
Then let them use us well: else let them know,
The ills we do, their ills instruct us so.

EMILIA (confronting Othello after he has killed Desdemona)

My husband say that she was false?
If he say so, may his pernicious soul
Rot half a grain a day! He lies to the heart.
She was too fond of her most filthy bargain.

Othello threatens her

Do thy worst:
This deed of thine is no more worthy heaven
Than thou wast worthy her.

Enter IAGO, and others

O, are you come, Iago? You have done well,
That men must lay their murders on your neck.
Disprove this villain, if thou be'st a man:
He says thou told'st him that his wife was false.
I know thou didst not, thou'rt not such a villain:
Speak, for my heart is full.