

#3 - DON JOHN, BORACHIO - DRAMATIC

BORACHIO

What the good-year, sir! why are you thus out of measure sad?

DON JOHN

Borachio,
There is no measure in the occasion that breeds;
therefore the sadness is without limit.

BORACHIO

You should hear reason.

DON JOHN

And when I have heard it, what blessing brings it?
I cannot hide what I am: I must be sad when I have
cause and smile at no man's jests, eat when I have
stomach and wait for no man's leisure, sleep when
I am drowsy and tend on no man's business, laugh
when I am merry and claw no man in his humour.

BORACHIO

Yea, but you must not make the full show of this
till you may do it without controlment. You have of
late stood out against your brother, and he hath
ta'en you newly into his grace; where it is
impossible you should take true root but by the
fair weather that you make yourself: it is needful
That you frame the season for your own harvest.

DON JOHN

I had rather be a canker in a hedge than a rose in
his grace, and it better fits my blood to be
disdained of all than to fashion a carriage to rob
love from any: in this, though I cannot be said to
be a flattering honest man, it must not be denied
but I am a plain-dealing villain. If I had my
mouth, I would bite; if I had my liberty, I would do
my liking: in the meantime, let me be that I am and
seek not to alter me.

So, come, Borachio, tell me, what news?

BORACHIO

I can give you intelligence of an intended marriage.

DON JOHN

Will it serve for any model to build mischief on?

BORACHIO

Marry, it is your brother's right hand.

DON JOHN

Who? the most exquisite Claudio?

BORACHIO

Even he.

DON JOHN

How came you to this?

BORACHIO

I heard it agreed upon that the Captain should woo Hero for himself, and having obtained her, give her to Count Claudio.

DON JOHN

Come, come, let us thither: this may prove food to my displeasure. That young start-up hath all the glory of my overthrow: if I can cross him any way, I bless myself every way. You are sure, and will assist me?

BORACHIO

To the death, sir.

DON JOHN

Shall we go prove what's to be done?

BORACHIO

I will wait upon your lordship.