

Act 2, Scene 3 Leonato's garden

(BENEDICK.)

BENEDICK

I do much wonder that one man,
seeing how much another man is a fool when he dedicates his behaviors to love,
will, after he hath laughed at such shallow follies in others,
become the argument of his own scorn by falling in love;
and such a man is Claudio.

I have known when he would have walked ten mile afoot to see a good armor;
and now will he lie ten nights awake carving the fashion of a new doublet.
He was wont to speak plain and to the purpose, like an honest man and a soldier;
and now is he turned orthography;* his words a very fantastical banquet—just so many strange dishes.
May I be so converted and see with these eyes? I cannot tell; I think not.
One woman is fair, yet I am well; another is wise, yet I am well; another virtuous, yet I am well;
but till all graces be in one woman, one woman shall not come in my grace.
Rich she shall be, that's certain; wise, or I'll none; virtuous, or I'll never cheapen her;
fair, or I'll never look on her; mild, or come not near me;
of good discourse, an excellent musician and her hair—shall be of what color it please God.
Ha! The Prince and Monsieur Love. I will hide me in the arbor.

(BENEDICK hides.)

(Enter DON PEDRO, CLAUDIO, LEONATO and BALTHASAR.)

DON PEDRO

Come, shall we hear this music?
See you where Benedick hath hid himself?

CLAUDIO

Very well, my lord.

DON PEDRO

Come Balthasar, we'll hear that song again.

BALTHASAR

(Sings.) Sigh no more, ladies, sigh no more,
Men were deceivers ever,
One foot in sea and one on shore,
To one thing constant never:
Then sigh not so, but let them go,
And be you blithe and bonny,
Coverting all your sounds of woe
Into Hey nonny, nonny.

orthography - overly precise in his choice and pronunciation of words