

427 POLIXENES How caught of me?  
428 Camillo,  
429 As you are certainly a gentleman, thereto  
430 Clerklike experienced, which no less adorns  
431 Our gentry than our parents' noble names,  
432 If you know aught which does behoove my  
433 knowledge  
434 Thereof to be informed, imprison 't not  
435 In ignorant concealment.

436 CAMILLO I may not answer.

POLIXENES  
437 I conjure thee by all the parts of man  
438 Which honor does acknowledge, whereof the least  
439 Is not this suit of mine, that thou declare  
440 What incidency thou dost guess of harm  
441 Is creeping toward me; how far off, how near;  
442 Which way to be prevented, if to be;  
443 If not, how best to bear it.

444 CAMILLO Sir, I will tell you,  
445 Since I am charged in honor and by him  
446 That I think honorable. Therefore mark my counsel,  
447 Which must be e'en as swiftly followed as  
448 I mean to utter it, or both yourself and me  
449 Cry lost, and so goodnight.

450 POLIXENES On, good Camillo.

CAMILLO  
451 I am appointed him to murder you.

POLIXENES  
452 By whom, Camillo?

453 CAMILLO By the King.

454 POLIXENES For what?

CAMILLO  
455 He thinks, nay with all confidence he swears,  
456 As he had seen 't or been an instrument  
457 To vice you to 't, that you have touched his queen  
458 Forbiddenly.

459 POLIXENES O, then my best blood turn  
460 To an infected jelly, and my name  
461 Be yoked with his that did betray the Best!

462 CAMILLO Swear his thought over  
463 By each particular star in heaven and  
464 By all their influences, you may as well  
465 Forbid the sea for to obey the moon  
466 As or by oath remove or counsel shake

467 The fabric of his folly-

468 POLIXENES How should this grow?

CAMILLO

469 I know not. But I am sure 'tis safer to  
470 Avoid what's grown than question how 'tis born.  
471 If therefore you dare trust my honesty,  
472 That lies enclosed in this trunk which you  
473 Shall bear along impawned, away tonight!  
474 Your followers I will whisper to the business,  
475 And will by twos and threes at several posterns  
476 Clear them o' th' city. For myself, I'll put  
477 My fortunes to your service, which are here  
478 By this discovery lost. Be not uncertain,  
479 For, by the honor of my parents, I  
480 Have uttered truth—which if you seek to prove,  
481 I dare not stand by; nor shall you be safer  
482 Than one condemned by the King's own mouth,  
483 thereon  
484 His execution sworn.

485 POLIXENES I do believe thee.  
486 I saw his heart in 's face. Give me thy hand.  
487 Be pilot to me and thy places shall  
488 Still neighbor mine. My ships are ready and  
489 My people did expect my hence departure  
490 Two days ago. This jealousy  
491 Is for a precious creature. As she's rare,  
492 Must it be great; and as his person's mighty,  
493 Must it be violent; and as he does conceive  
494 He is dishonored by a man which ever  
495 Professed to him, why, his revenges must  
496 In that be made more bitter.

CAMILLO

497 Please your Highness  
498 To take the urgent hour. Come, sir, away.

*They exit.*