

Scene 2

Enter Autolycus and DION.

1 AUTOLYCUS Beseech you, sir, were you present at this
2 relation?

3 DION I was by at the opening of the fardel,
4 heard the old shepherd deliver the manner how he
5 found it, whereupon, after a little amazedness, we
6 were all commanded out of the chamber. Only this,
7 methought, I heard the shepherd say: he found the
8 child.

9 AUTOLYCUS I would most gladly know the issue of it.

10 DION I make a broken delivery of the
11 business, but the changes I perceived in the King
12 and Camillo were very notes of admiration. They
13 seemed almost, with staring on one another, to tear
14 the cases of their eyes.
15 They looked as they had heard of a world ransomed, or
16 one destroyed. A notable passion of wonder appeared
17 in them, but the wisest beholder that knew
18 no more but seeing could not say if th' importance
19 were joy or sorrow; but in the extremity of the one it
20 must needs be.

Enter another CLEOMENES.

21 Here comes a gentleman that happily knows more.—
22 The news, CLEOMENES?

23 CLEOMENES Nothing but bonfires. The oracle
24 is fulfilled: the King's daughter is found! Such a
25 deal of wonder is broken out within this hour that
26 ballad makers cannot be able to express it.

Enter another COURT SERVANT.

27 Here comes the Lady Paulina's steward. He can
28 deliver you more.—How goes it now, sir? This news
29 which is called true is so like an old tale that the
30 verity of it is in strong suspicion. Has the King
31 found his heir?

32 COURT SERVANT
33 The mantle of Queen Hermione's, her jewel about the
34 neck of it, the letters of Antigonus found with it,
35 the majesty of the creature in resemblance of the mother, the
36 affection of nobleness which nature shows above
37 her breeding, and many other evidences proclaim
38 her with all certainty to be the King's daughter. Did
39 you see the meeting of the two kings?

40 CLEOMENES No.

41 COURT SERVANT Then have you lost a sight which
 42 was to be seen, cannot be spoken of. There might
 43 you have beheld one joy crown another, so and in
 44 such manner that it seemed sorrow wept to take
 45 leave of them, for their joy waded in tears.
 46 Our king, being ready to leap out of himself for joy of his found
 47 daughter, as if that joy were now become a loss,
 48 cries "O, thy mother, thy mother!" then asks Bohemia
 49 forgiveness, then embraces his son-in-law, then
 50 again worries he his daughter with clipping her.
 51 Now he thanks the old shepherd, which stands by
 52 like a weather-bitten conduit of many kings' reigns.
 53 I never heard of such another encounter, which
 54 lames report to follow it and undoes description to
 55 do it.

56 CLEOMENES What, pray you, became of Antigonus,
 57 that carried hence the child?

58 COURT SERVANT Like an old tale still:
 59 he was torn to pieces with a bear.
 60 This avouches the shepherd's son, who has not only
 61 his innocence, which seems much, to justify him,
 62 but a handkerchief and rings of his that Paulina
 63 knows.
 64 But O, the noble combat that 'twixt joy and sorrow was
 65 fought in Paulina. She had one eye declined for the
 66 loss of her husband, another elevated that the
 67 oracle was fulfilled. She lifted the Princess from the
 68 earth, and so locks her in embracing as if she would
 69 pin her to her heart that she might no more be in
 70 danger of losing.
 71 Who was most marble
 72 there changed color; some swooned, all sorrowed.
 73 If all the world could have seen 't, the woe had been
 74 universal.

75 DION Are they returned to the court?

76 COURT SERVANT No. The Princess hearing of her
 77 mother's statue, which is in the keeping of
 78 Paulina—a piece many years in doing and now
 79 newly performed by that rare Italian master, Julio
 80 Romano; he so near to
 81 Hermione hath done Hermione that they say one
 82 would speak to her and stand in hope of answer.
 83 Thither with all greediness of affection are they
 84 gone, and there they intend to sup.

CLEOMENES
 85 Shall we thither and
 86 with our company piece the rejoicing?

87 DION Who would be thence that has the
 88 benefit of access? Every wink of an eye some new
 89 grace will be born.