

75 PAULINA Not so.
 76 I am as ignorant in that as you
 77 In so entitling me, and no less honest
 78 Than you are mad—which is enough, I'll warrant,
 79 As this world goes, to pass for honest.

80 LEONTES Traitors,
 81 Will you not push her out? *To Antigonus*. Give her
 82 the bastard,
 83 Take 't up, I say. Give 't to thy crone.

84 PAULINA, *to Antigonus* Forever
 85 Unvenerable be thy hands if thou
 86 Tak'st up the Princess by that forced baseness
 87 Which he has put upon 't.

88 LEONTES He dreads his wife.

PAULINA
 89 So I would you did. Then 'twere past all doubt
 90 You'd call your children yours.

91 LEONTES A nest of traitors!

ANTIGONUS
 92 I am none, by this good light.

93 PAULINA Nor I, nor any
 94 But one that's here, and that's himself. For he
 95 The sacred honor of himself, his queen's,
 96 His hopeful son's, his babe's, betrays to slander,
 97 Whose sting is sharper than the sword's-

98 LEONTES A callet
 99 Of boundless tongue, who late hath beat her
 100 husband
 101 And now baits me! This brat is none of mine.
 102 It is the issue of Polixenes.
 103 Hence with it, and together with the dam
 104 Commit them to the fire.

105 PAULINA It is yours,
 106 So like you 'tis the worse.—Behold, my lords,
 107 Although the print be little, the whole matter
 108 And copy of the father—eye, nose, lip,
 109 The trick of 's frown, his forehead, nay, the valley,
 110 The pretty dimples of his chin and cheek, his
 111 smiles,
 112 The very mold and frame of hand, nail, finger.
 113 And thou, good goddess Nature, which hast made it
 114 So like to him that got it, if thou hast
 115 The ordering of the mind too, 'mongst all colors
 116 No yellow in 't, lest she suspect, as he does,
 117 Her children not her husband's.

118 LEONTES A gross hag!—
 119 And, losel, thou art worthy to be hanged
 120 That wilt not stay her tongue.

121 ANTIGONUS Hang all the husbands
 122 That cannot do that feat, you'll leave yourself
 123 Hardly one subject.

124 LEONTES Once more, take her hence.

PAULINA
 125 A most unworthy and unnatural lord
 126 Can do no more.

127 LEONTES I'll ha' thee burnt.

128 PAULINA I care not.
 129 It is an heretic that makes the fire,
 130 Not she which burns in 't. I'll not call you tyrant;
 131 But this most cruel usage of your queen,
 132 Not able to produce more accusation
 133 Than your own weak-hinged fancy, something
 134 savors
 135 Of tyranny, and will ignoble make you,
 136 Yea, scandalous to the world.

137 LEONTES, *to Antigonus* On your allegiance,
 138 Out of the chamber with her! Were I a tyrant,
 139 Where were her life? She durst not call me so
 140 If she did know me one. Away with her!

PAULINA, *to Lords*
 141 I pray you do not push me; I'll be gone.—
 142 Look to your babe, my lord; 'tis yours. Jove send her
 143 A better guiding spirit.—What needs these hands?
 144 You that are thus so tender o'er his follies
 145 Will never do him good, not one of you.
 146 So, so. Farewell, we are gone.

She exits.

LEONTES, *to Antigonus*
 147 Thou, traitor, hast set on thy wife to this.
 148 My child? Away with 't! Even thou, that hast
 149 A heart so tender o'er it, take it hence,
 150 And see it instantly consumed with fire.
 151 Even thou, and none but thou.
 152 If thou refuse
 153 The bastard brains with these my proper hands
 154 Shall I dash out. Go, take it to the fire,
 155 For thou sett'st on thy wife.

156 ANTIGONUS I did not, sir.
 157 These lords, my noble fellows, if they please,
 158 Can clear me in 't.

159 LORDS We can, my royal liege.
 160 He is not guilty of her coming hither.