

## **MEASURE FOR MEASURE**

### **HSF - AUDITION SIDE 1 (DUKE)**

*Here, the Duke counsels Claudio.*

#### **CLAUDIO**

I've hope to live, and am prepared to die.

#### **DUKE VINCENTIO**

Be absolute for death. Either death or life  
Shall thereby be the sweeter. Reason thus  
with life:

If I do lose thee, I do lose a thing  
That none but fools would keep.

Merely, thou art death's fool;  
For him thou labour by thy flight to shun  
And yet run toward him still.

Thy best of rest is sleep,  
That thou oft provoke, yet grossly fear  
Thy death, which is no more. Thou art not  
thyself;

For thou exist on many a thousand grains  
That issue out of dust. Thou hast neither heat,  
affection, limb, nor beauty,  
To make thy riches pleasant. What's yet in  
this

That bears the name of life? Yet in this life  
Lie hid more thousand deaths: yet death we  
fear,

That makes these odds all even.

### **HSF - AUDITION SIDE 2A (ISABELLA):**

*Here, Isabella debates her options.*

#### **ISABELLA: (Alone)**

To whom should I complain? Did I tell this,  
Who would believe me? O perilous mouths,  
That bear in them one and the self-same  
tongue,

Either of condemnation or approval;  
Bidding the law make court'sy to their will:  
Hooking both right and wrong to the appetite,  
To follow as it draws! I'll to my brother:  
Had he twenty heads to tender down  
On twenty bloody blocks, he'd yield them up,  
Before his sister should her body stoop  
To such abhor'd pollution.

Then, Isabel, live chaste, and, brother, die:  
More than our brother is our chastity.  
I'll tell him yet of Angelo's request,  
And fit his mind to death, for his soul's rest.

### **HSF - AUDITION SIDE 2B (ISABELLA):**

*Later, Isabella confronts the Duke & Angelo.*

#### **FRIAR PETER**

Now is your time: speak loud and kneel  
before him.

#### **ISABELLA**

Justice, O royal duke! Vail your regard  
Upon a wrong'd, I would fain have said, a  
maid!

O worthy prince, dishonor not your eye  
By throwing it on any other object  
'Til you have heard me in my true complaint  
And given me justice, justice, justice, justice!

#### **DUKE VINCENTIO**

Lord Angelo shall give you justice:

#### **ISABELLA**

O worthy duke,  
You bid me seek redemption of the devil:  
Hear me yourself; for that which I must speak  
Must either punish me, not being believed,  
Or wring redress from you. Hear me, O hear  
me, here!

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### HSF - AUDITION SIDE 3 (ANGELO)

*Here, Angelo, confronts his new feelings.*

**ISABELLA**

'Save your honor! (*Exits*)

**ANGELO:** (*Alone*)

From thee, even from thy virtue!

What's this, what's this? Is this her fault or mine?

The tempter or the tempted, who sins most?

Not she, nor doth she tempt; but it is I

That corrupt with virtuous season. Can it be

That modesty may more betray our sense

Than woman's lightness? O, fie, fie, fie!

What dost thou, or what art thou, Angelo?

Dost thou desire her foully for those things

That make her good? O, let her brother live!

Thieves for their robbery have authority

When judges steal themselves. What, do I

love her, That I desire to hear her speak again,

And feast upon her eyes?

O cunning enemy, that, to catch a saint,

With saints dost bait thy hook! Even till now,

When men were fond, I smiled and wonder'd

how.

### HSF - AUDITION SIDE 4

**(POMPEY AND OVERDONE)**

*Here, Pompey and Overdone spin a yarn to avoid being thrown in jail.*

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

...She came in great with child, and longing-

**POMPEY**

Saving your honor's reverence-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

-For stewed prunes!

**POMPEY**

Sir, we had but two in the house, which at that very distant time stood, as it were-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

In a fruit-dish.

**POMPEY**

A dish of some three-pence. Your honors have seen such dishes-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

They're not China dishes-

*(Side 4 Continued)*

**POMPEY**

But very good dishes-

**ESCALUS**

Go to, go to: no matter for the dishes!

**POMPEY**

No, indeed, sir, you are therein in the right:

but to the point. As I say, this Mistress Elbow,

being, as I say-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

-with child-

**POMPEY**

-and being great-bellied-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

-and longing, as I said, for prunes.

**POMPEY**

-and having but two in the dish, as I said,

Mistress Overdone having eaten the rest.

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

Yes, indeed.

**POMPEY**

Very well: you being then, if you be

remembered, cracking the stones of the

foresaid prunes-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

-Ay, so I did indeed.

**POMPEY**

Why, very well; I telling you then, if you be

remembered, that such a one and such a one

were past cure of the thing you wot of, unless

they kept very good diet, as I told you-

**MISTRESS OVERDONE**

All this is true.

**POMPEY**

Why, very well, then-

**ESCALUS**

Come, you are tedious fools: to the purpose!