

BERTRAM
 They told me that your name was Fontibell.

DIANA
 No, my good lord, Diana.

BERTRAM Titled goddess,
 And now you should be as your mother was 10
 When your sweet self was got.

DIANA
 She then was honest.

BERTRAM So should you be.

DIANA No.
 My mother did but duty—such, my lord, 15
 As you owe to your wife.

BERTRAM No more o' that.
 I was compelled to her, but I love thee
 By love's own sweet constraint, and will forever 20
 Do thee all rights of service.

DIANA Ay, so you serve us
 Till we serve you. But when you have our roses,
 You barely leave our thorns to prick ourselves
 And mock us with our bareness. 25

BERTRAM How have I sworn!

DIANA 'Tis not the many oaths that makes the truth,
 But the plain single vow that is vowed true.
 Therefore your oaths Are words,
 and poor conditions but unsealed,
 At least in my opinion.

BERTRAM Change it, change it.
 Be not so holy-cruel. Love is holy, 40
 And my integrity ne'er knew the crafts
 That you do charge men with. Stand no more off,

DIANA
 I see that men may rope 's in such a snare
 That we'll forsake ourselves. Give me that ring.

BERTRAM
 I'll lend it thee, my dear, but have no power
 To give it from me.

DIANA Will you not, my lord? 50

BERTRAM It is an honor 'longing to our house,
 Bequeathèd down from many ancestors,

DIANA Mine honor's such a ring. 55
 My chastity's the jewel of our house,
 Bequeathèd down from many ancestors,
 Thus your own proper wisdom
 Brings in the champion Honor on my part 60
 Against your vain assault.

BERTRAM Here, take my ring.
 My house, mine honor, yea, my life be thine,
 And I'll be bid by thee.

DIANA
 When midnight comes, knock at my chamber window.
 When you have conquered my yet maiden bed,
 Remain there but an hour, nor speak to me. 70
 My reasons are most strong, and you shall know them
 When back again this ring shall be delivered.
 Adieu till then; then, fail not. You have won
 A wife of me, though there my hope be done.

BERTRAM
 A heaven on Earth I have won by wooing thee.

DIANA
 For which live long to thank both heaven and me!
 You may so in the end. *He exits.* 80