

## Jester/Wench Excerpts

### EXCERPT ONE

**Jester:** It is now time to tell these people what they ought to do and how they ought to behave.

**Wench:** You are the one who needs to learn how to behave! These be guests of Import that have graced my lords hall this winter's eve. Such behavior will not put thee in good stead with thy master. *(To Guests)* A friendly bit of advice for those of you new to the festivities, and to those familiar faces that might need a memory refresher since our gathering last...Thou must banish any whining or gut-gripping thoughts so that a heart of pleasure may prevail.

**Jester:** Thou shalt not, likewise, sing when not invited, unless, of course, you know the tune and can improve the rendering. You are also requested not to clap unless his Majesty himself claps. This is VERY important to keep the concert rolling along. All previously stated activities are considered unlawful. Be ye warned and know that I am watching you!

**Wench:** (clears throat to get Jester's attention)

**Jester/Wench:** The Singers of the Madrigal and the King and Queen of this great hall will now provide such stunning music for their processional. Trumpeters to your duty!!

### EXCERPT TWO

**Jester:** Lords and ladies, it has been ages  
Since we introduced the pages!  
(motions for the pages to approach, then gestures at one of them)  
This is Page One.

(Page Two is slow to arrive. The Jesters look around.)

**Wench:** There seems to be a page missing.

**Jester** Aha! And this is Page Three.  
(Page One whispers in her ear.)  
Sorry! This is Page Two. Seems I skipped a Page! (rimshot)  
**Wench:** (Turns Page One around and motions to his/her lower back)  
This is the bottom of Page One.

**Jester:** (motions to Page Two's head)  
And this is the top of Page Two.  
(tries to get Page One to smile, but she is stonefaced)  
Come on, Page One, how about a smile?

**Wench:** (to audience) It seems that this one's a blank page! (rimshot)

**Jester:** (turns Page Two around)

**Wench:** What are thou doing?

**Jester:** I'm turning the page of course! (bends down the head and shoulders of Page Two, who straightens up quickly and strikes the jester) Oh my! Never turn down the corner of a page!

**Wench:** Wait! There seems to be a footnote at the bottom of Page Two. (reaches down and takes a foot-shaped note from the Page's shoe) It says: 'If you do not quit this fol-de-rol, you will be pressed between Pages!'

### **EXCERPT THREE**

**Wench:** We haven't had any songs sung in my favorite language yet this evening.

**Jester:** And what would that be, wench, Pig Latin?

**Wench:** No, Jester! Spanish! The language of romance!

**Jester:** Spanish?!

**Wench:** Si!

**Jester:** See what? I don't see anything!

**Wench:** No! Si!

**Jester:** Yes, See. (mimes looking around) I got that, but I don't know what you see, or what this has to do with Spanish!

**Wench:** (*Rolls eyes*) Ay Caramba! Singers, can you help a senorita out?!

## King/Queen Excerpts

### EXCERPT ONE

**King:** Those melodious strains we have waited so long to hear, have returned once again my friends! The Holiday Season has returned and I welcome thee to this our banquet hall, where we herald this time of year, as is our custom, with your good company, merriment, these joyous musicians, and some hearty food and drink!

**Queen:** My darling, I do hope we are blessed with good health and happiness is the coming year. Perhaps we should celebrate with a dance?

**King:** I suppose now is as good a time as any, especially given how full I will be after such a feast. Singers, won't you please join us? Musicians, please play a tune suitable for dancing.

### EXCERPT TWO

**King:** Bring forth the taper!  
Kingdoms all over the world use light as a symbol for this time of year  
And we join in all of those families gathered around the menorah, the kinara, and the Advent Wreath, as we light our yule log. We remember all those of yesteryear and today that have done so much to prepare for this feast.

### EXCERPT THREE

**King:** (giddy) Dear Lords and Ladies, as the feaste grows even closer, it becomes time for my favorite tradition of the entire evening! We shall relate the triumphant tale of the Boar's Head!

**Queen:** May I ask this year to recite the tale for our guests?

**King:** (trying to turn her off to this idea, patronizingly patting her hand) My dear, this is a gory story that details war, bloodshed and topics not suitable for the Queen to recite.

**Queen:** (very politely begging like a small child) Please My Lord, just this once? It would be a wonderful gift this holiday season.

**King:** (giving in) As you wish.

### EXCERPT FOUR

**King:** (lead applause and singers bow) The fire burns low. (*singers begin humming Silent Night and ladies process in from sides*) We have come to the end of a most festive evening.

**Queen:** May I speak my thanks to Thee for keeping the holiday with us this night. In this moment of calm we enjoy the opportunity to center ourselves as the voices remind us of the season.

**King:** Wilt thou not join us next time? Until then, I knight ye all Keepers of the Flame and say this to ye in parting: We wish ye health, love, and mirth as fits the solemn holiday. Be this good friends our carol still – Be peace on earth, be peace on earth to men of gentle

will. Our gratitude we extend to one and all for again making our holiday a more beautiful occasion.

**Queen:**

Your presence here is the only gift we could ask for this season. We offer our wishes for a safe journey home and we beg you join us next year for our holiday banquet.

## Steward Excerpts

### EXCERPT ONE

**Steward:** Hear ye! Hear ye! Good evening Lords and Ladies. I am your manor's steward and let me begin your experience tonight with a few guidelines.

1. I have heard that in some of the less civilized areas of the shire that some common folks possess a way of communicating called a (*looks at scroll*) cellular telephone. These can be most distracting if they go off during tonight's festivities, so please turn them off, or it will be **OFF** with your **HEAD**.
2. There should be no pictures taken during the performance. Instead, come to the marketplace and look at the beautiful selection of photographs and CDs that we have there.
3. Last but not least, by order of the King, you **MUST** have a good time. You are required to remove all unpleasant thoughts from your head so that you can enjoy tonight's revelries.

### EXCERPT TWO Shakespeare Sonnet 130

My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;  
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;  
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;  
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.  
I have seen roses damask'd, red and white, 5  
But no such roses see I in her cheeks;  
And in some perfumes is there more delight  
Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.  
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know  
That music hath a far more pleasing sound; 10  
I grant I never saw a goddess go;  
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground:  
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare  
As any she belied with false compare.

## Prince/Princess Excerpts

**Prince:** I have just been informed that our king and queen are quite near! Oh and Ladies and troubadours, we do thank thee for such fine entertainment to begin our evening.

**Princess:** Yes, we do thank, ye all. Wench, continue on with our rules for the evening.

**Princess:** My, how wonderful our dear hall looks this winter.

**Prince:** Indeed! Welcome guests to our yearly celebration.

**Princess:** We invite you all to abandon your thoughts and concerns of the present and enjoy with us tonight's merriment.

**Prince:** Indubitably! It is wonderful to share this event with all of you who have traveled from so far away.

**Prince:** Shall we begin the next part of our evening with songs of the glory of Christmastime?

**Princess:** Yes, dear Lords and Ladies, will you oblige and provide us with a concert in the spirit of Yuletide Splendor?

## Shakespearean Actors

### EXCERPT ONE

**Actor 1:**       Wes hale, good lords and ladies fair  
                  We bid thee welcome, we bid thee share  
                  Our feasting and our revelry  
                  Our music and our company

**Actor 2:**       For many have journeyed far this night  
                  In search of warmth, and in search of light  
                  In search of the message we hope will be heard  
                  That music is love, in search of a word

**A1:**             Our journey in time, in this castle hall

**A2:**             Begins when we hear the trumpets call

**A1:**             Is everyone ready? Is everyone in?

**A2:**             Then as I have begun, let the journey begin!

**Both Actors:** Trumpets blow thy clarion call!

### EXCERPT TWO

**Actor 2:**       All you that are good fellows  
                  Come hearken to my song  
                  I know you do not hate good cheer  
                  Nor wassail that is strong.

**Actor 1:**       I hope there is none here  
                  But soon will take my part  
                  Seeing my master and his court  
                  Say welcome with their heart.

**Actor 2:**       For This is no miser's feast,  
                  Although that things be dear

**Actor 1:**       God grant the founder of this feast  
                  Each season keep good cheer!