

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

OTHELLO

Act III, scene 3: Iago, Emilia

IAGO

How now! what do you here alone?

EMILIA

Do not you chide; I have a thing for you.

IAGO

A thing for me? it is a common thing—

EMILIA

Ha!

IAGO

To have a foolish wife.

EMILIA

O, is that all? What will you give me now for the same handkerchief?

IAGO

What handkerchief?

EMILIA

What handkerchief? Why, that the Moor first gave to Desdemona;
That which so often you did bid me steal.

IAGO

Hast stol'n it from her?

EMILIA

No, 'faith; she let it drop by negligence. And, to the advantage, I, being here,
took't up. Look, here it is.

IAGO

A good wench; give it me.

EMILIA

What will you do with 't, that you have been so earnest to have me filch it?

IAGO

[Snatching it] Why, what's that to you?

EMILIA

If it be not for some purpose of import, give't me again: poor lady, she'll run mad when she shall lack it.

IAGO

Be not acknown on 't; I have use for it. Go, leave me.

Exit EMILIA

I will in Cassio's lodging lose this napkin,
And let him find it. Trifles light as air
Are to the jealous confirmations strong
As proofs of holy writ: this may do something.
The Moor already changes with my poison:
Dangerous conceits are, in their natures, poisons.
Which at the first are scarce found to distaste,
But with a little act upon the blood.
Burn like the mines of Sulphur.