

# All's Well That Ends Well

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## SCENE V. Paris. The KING's palace.

*Enter LAFEU and BERTRAM*

**LAFEU**

But I hope your lordship thinks not him a soldier.

**BERTRAM**

Yes, my lord, and of very valiant approval.

**LAFEU**

You have it from his own deliverance.

**BERTRAM**

And by other warranted testimony.

**LAFEU**

Then my dial goes not true: I took this lark for a bunting.

**BERTRAM**

I do assure you, my lord, he is very great in knowledge and accordingly valiant.

**LAFEU**

I have then sinned against his experience and transgressed against his valour; and my state that way is dangerous, since I cannot yet find in my heart to repent. Here he comes: I pray you, make us friends; I will pursue the amity.

*Enter PAROLLES*

**PAROLLES**

[To BERTRAM] These things shall be done, sir.

**LAFEU**

Pray you, sir, who's his tailor?

**PAROLLES**

Sir?

**LAFEU**

O, I know him well, I, sir; he, sir, 's a good workman, a very good tailor.

**BERTRAM**

[Aside to PAROLLES] Is she gone to the king?

**PAROLLES**

She is.

**BERTRAM**

Will she away to-night?

**PAROLLES**

As you'll have her.

**BERTRAM**

I have writ my letters, casketed my treasure,  
Given order for our horses; and to-night,  
When I should take possession of the bride,  
End ere I do begin.

**LAFEU**

A good traveller is something at the latter end of a dinner; but one that lies three thirds and uses a known truth to pass a thousand nothings with, should be once heard and thrice beaten. God save you, captain.

**BERTRAM**

Is there any unkindness between my lord and you, monsieur?

**PAROLLES**

I know not how I have deserved to run into my lord's displeasure.

**LAFEU**

You have made shift to run into 't, boots and spurs and all, like him that leaped into the custard; and out of it you'll run again, rather than suffer

question for your residence.

**BERTRAM**

It may be you have mistaken him, my lord.

**LAFEU**

And shall do so ever, though I took him at 's  
prayers. Fare you well, my lord; and believe this  
of me, there can be no kernel in this light nut; the  
soul of this man is his clothes. Trust him not in  
matter of heavy consequence; I have kept of them  
tame, and know their natures. Farewell, monsieur:  
I have spoken better of you than you have or will to  
deserve at my hand; but we must do good against evil.

*Exit*

**PAROLLES**

An idle lord. I swear.

**BERTRAM**

I think so.

**PAROLLES**

Why, do you not know him?

**BERTRAM**

Yes, I do know him well, and common speech  
Gives him a worthy pass. Here comes my clog.

*Enter HELENA*

**HELENA**

I have, sir, as I was commanded from you,  
Spoke with the king and have procured his leave  
For present parting; only he desires  
Some private speech with you.

**BERTRAM**

I shall obey his will.  
You must not marvel, Helen, at my course,  
Which holds not colour with the time, nor does  
The ministration and required office  
On my particular. Prepared I was not  
For such a business; therefore am I found

So much unsettled: this drives me to entreat you  
That presently you take our way for home;  
And rather muse than ask why I entreat you,  
For my respects are better than they seem  
And my appointments have in them a need  
Greater than shows itself at the first view  
To you that know them not. This to my mother:

*Giving a letter*

'Twill be two days ere I shall see you, so  
I leave you to your wisdom.

**HELENA**

Sir, I can nothing say,  
But that I am your most obedient servant.

**BERTRAM**

Come, come, no more of that.

**HELENA**

And ever shall  
With true observance seek to eke out that  
Wherein toward me my homely stars have fail'd  
To equal my great fortune.

**BERTRAM**

Let that go:  
My haste is very great: farewell; hie home.

**HELENA**

Pray, sir, your pardon.

**BERTRAM**

Well, what would you say?

**HELENA**

I am not worthy of the wealth I owe,  
Nor dare I say 'tis mine, and yet it is;  
But, like a timorous thief, most fain would steal  
What law does vouch mine own.

**BERTRAM**

What would you have?

**HELENA**

Something; and scarce so much: nothing, indeed.  
I would not tell you what I would, my lord:  
Faith yes;  
Strangers and foes do sunder, and not kiss.

**BERTRAM**

I pray you, stay not, but in haste to horse.

**HELENA**

I shall not break your bidding, good my lord.

**BERTRAM**

Where are my other men, monsieur? Farewell.

*Exit HELENA*

Go thou toward home; where I will never come  
Whilst I can shake my sword or hear the drum.  
Away, and for our flight.

**PAROLLES**

Bravely, coragio!

*Exeunt*

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