

Audition Sides:

Side 1: (Beatrice)

BEATRICE

What fire is in mine ears? Can this be true?  
Stand I condemned for pride and scorn so much?

Contempt, farewell, and maiden pride, adieu!  
No glory lives behind the back of such.  
And Benedick, love on; I will requite thee,  
Taming my wild heart to thy loving hand.  
If thou dost love, my kindness shall incite thee

To bind our loves up in a holy band.  
For others say thou dost deserve, and I  
Believe it better than reportingly.

Side 2: (Benedick)

BENEDICK

This can be no trick. The conference was sadly borne; they have the truth of this from Hero; they seem to pity the lady. Love me? Why, it must be requited! I hear how I am censured. They say I will bear myself proudly if I perceive the love come from her. They say, too, that she will rather die than give any sign of affection. I did never think to marry. I must not seem proud. Happy are they that hear their detractions and can put them to mending. They say the lady is fair; 'tis a truth, I can bear them witness. And virtuous; 'tis so, I cannot reprove it. And wise, but for loving me; by my troth, it is no addition to her wit, nor no great argument of her folly, for I will be horribly in love with her! I may chance have some odd quirks and remnants of wit broken on me because I have railed so long against marriage, but doth not the appetite alter? A man loves the meat in his youth that he cannot endure in his age. Shall quips and sentences and these paper bullets of the brain awe a man from the career of his humor? No! The world must be peopled. When I said I would die a bachelor, I did not think I should live till I were married.

Side 3: (Hero)

HERO

O god of love! I know he doth deserve  
As much as may be yielded to a man,  
But Nature never framed a woman's heart  
Of prouder stuff than that of Beatrice.  
Disdain and scorn ride sparkling in her eyes,  
Misprizing what they look on, and her wit  
Values itself so highly that to her  
All matter else seems weak. She cannot love,  
Nor take no shape nor project of affection,  
She is so self-endear'd.

No, not to be so odd and from all fashions  
As Beatrice is cannot be commendable.  
But who dare tell her so? If I should speak,  
She would mock me into air. O, she would laugh  
me  
Out of myself, press me to death with wit.  
Therefore let Benedick, like covered fire,  
Consume away in sighs, waste inwardly.  
It were a better death than die with mocks,  
Which is as bad as die with tickling.

Side 4 (Claudio):

CLAUDIO

Thus answer I in name of Benedick,  
But hear these ill news with the ears of Claudio.  
'Tis certain so. The Prince woos for himself.  
Friendship is constant in all other things  
Save in the office and affairs of love.  
Therefore all hearts in love use their own tongues.  
Let every eye negotiate for itself  
And trust no agent, for beauty is a witch  
Against whose charms faith melteth into blood.  
This is an accident of hourly proof,  
Which I mistrusted not. Farewell therefore, Hero.

Side 5 (Dogberry):

DOGBERRY<sup>7</sup>

Dost thou not suspect my place? Dost thou not suspect my years? O, that he were here to write me down an ass! But masters, remember that I am an ass, though it be not written down, yet forget not that I am an ass.—No, thou villain, thou art full of piety, as shall be proved upon thee by good witness. I am a wise fellow and, which is more, an officer and, which is more, a householder and, which is more, as pretty a piece of flesh as any is in Messina, and one that knows the law, go to, and a rich fellow enough, go to, and a fellow that hath had losses, and one that hath two gowns and everything handsome about him.—Bring him away.—O, that I had been writ down an ass!

Callback Sides:

Act 1, Scene 1 (Benedick and Beatrice, Comedic)

BEATRICE

I wonder that you will still be talking, Signior

Benedick, nobody marks you.

BENEDICK

What, my dear Lady Disdain! Are you yet

living?

BEATRICE

Is it possible disdain should die while she

hath such meet food to feed it as Signior Benedick?

Courtesy itself must convert to disdain if you come

in her presence.

BENEDICK

Then is courtesy a turncoat. But it is certain

I am loved of all ladies, only you excepted; and

I would I could find in my heart that I had not a

hard heart, for truly I love none.

BEATRICE

A dear happiness to women. They would  
else have been troubled with a pernicious suitor. I  
thank God and my cold blood I am of your humor  
for that. I had rather hear my dog bark at a crow  
than a man swear he loves me.

BENEDICK

God keep your Ladyship still in that mind,  
so some gentleman or other shall 'scape a predestinate  
scratched face.

BEATRICE

Scratching could not make it worse an  
'twere such a face as yours were.

BENEDICK

Well, you are a rare parrot-teacher.

BEATRICE

A bird of my tongue is better than a beast of  
yours.

BENEDICK

I would my horse had the speed of your

tongue and so good a continuer, but keep your  
way, i' God's name, I have done.

BEATRICE

You always end with a jade's trick. I know  
you of old.



## Callback Sides

Act 4, Scene 1 (Benedick and Beatrice, Dramatic)

BENEDICK

Lady Beatrice, have you wept all this while?

BEATRICE

Yea, and I will weep a while longer.

BENEDICK

I will not desire that.

BEATRICE

You have no reason. I do it freely.

BENEDICK

Surely I do believe your fair cousin is  
wronged.

BEATRICE

Ah, how much might the man deserve of me  
that would right her!

BENEDICK

Is there any way to show such friendship?

BEATRICE

A very even way, but no such friend.

BENEDICK

May a man do it?

BEATRICE

It is a man's office, but not yours.

BENEDICK

I do love nothing in the world so well as  
you. Is not that strange?

BEATRICE

As strange as the thing I know not. It were as  
possible for me to say I loved nothing so well as you,  
but believe me not, and yet I lie not; I confess  
nothing, nor I deny nothing. I am sorry for my  
cousin.

BENEDICK

By my sword, Beatrice, thou lovest me!

BEATRICE

Do not swear and eat it.

BENEDICK

I will swear by it that you love me, and I will

make him eat it that says I love not you.

BEATRICE

Will you not eat your word?

BENEDICK

With no sauce that can be devised to it. I

protest I love thee.

BEATRICE

Why then, God forgive me.

BENEDICK

What offense, sweet Beatrice?

BEATRICE

You have stayed me in a happy hour. I was

about to protest I loved you.

BENEDICK

And do it with all thy heart.

BEATRICE

I love you with so much of my heart that

none is left to protest.

BENEDICK

Come, bid me do anything for thee.

BEATRICE

Kill Claudio.

BENEDICK

Ha! Not for the wide world.

BEATRICE

You kill me to deny it. Farewell.

*「She begins to exit.」*

BENEDICK

Tarry, sweet Beatrice.

BEATRICE

I am gone, though I am here. There is no  
love in you. Nay, I pray you let me go.

BENEDICK

Beatrice—

BEATRICE

In faith, I will go.

BENEDICK

We'll be friends first.

BEATRICE

You dare easier be friends with me than

fight with mine enemy.

BENEDICK

Is Claudio thine enemy?

BEATRICE

Is he not approved in the height a villain

that hath slandered, scorned, dishonored my kinswoman?

O, that I were a man! What, bear her in

hand until they come to take hands, and then, with

public accusation, uncovered slander, unmitigated

rancor—O God, that I were a man! I would eat his

heart in the marketplace.

Side 3

DOGBERRY

You are thought here to be the most  
senseless and fit man for the constable of the watch;  
therefore bear you the lantern. This is your charge:  
you shall comprehend all vagrom men; you are to  
bid any man stand, in the Prince's name.

「SEACOAL」

How if he will not stand?

DOGBERRY

Why, then, take no note of him, but let him  
go, and presently call the rest of the watch together  
and thank God you are rid of a knave.

VERGES

If he will not stand when he is bidden, he is  
none of the Prince's subjects.

DOGBERRY

True, and they are to meddle with none but  
the Prince's subjects.—You shall also make no

noise in the streets; for, for the watch to babble and  
to talk is most tolerable and not to be endured.

「SECOND」 WATCHMAN

We will rather sleep than talk.

We know what belongs to a watch.

DOGBERRY

Why, you speak like an ancient and most  
quiet watchman, for I cannot see how sleeping  
should offend; only have a care that your bills be not  
stolen. Well, you are to call at all the alehouses and  
bid those that are drunk get them to bed.

「SEACOAL」

How if they will not?

DOGBERRY

Why then, let them alone till they are sober.

If they make you not then the better answer, you  
may say they are not the men you took them for.

「SEACOAL」

Well, sir.

DOGBERRY

If you meet a thief, you may suspect him, by  
virtue of your office, to be no true man, and for such  
kind of men, the less you meddle or make with  
them, why, the more is for your honesty.

「SEACOAL」

If we know him to be a thief, shall we not  
lay hands on him?

DOGBERRY

Truly, by your office you may, but I think  
they that touch pitch will be defiled. The most  
peaceable way for you, if you do take a thief, is to  
let him show himself what he is and steal out of  
your company.

VERGES

You have been always called a merciful man,  
partner.

DOGBERRY

Truly, I would not hang a dog by my will,  
much more a man who hath any honesty in him.



VERGES

, *to the Watch*

If you hear a child cry in the  
night, you must call to the nurse and bid her still it.

「SECOND」 WATCHMAN

How if the nurse be asleep and  
will not hear us?

DOGBERRY

Why, then depart in peace, and let the  
child wake her with crying, for the ewe that will  
not hear her lamb when it baas will never answer a  
calf when he bleats.

VERGES

'Tis very true.

DOGBERRY

This is the end of the charge. You, constable,  
are to present the Prince's own person. If you  
meet the Prince in the night, you may stay him.

