

Antony and Cleopatra abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 12

Capitulation

Situation: Feeling Antony is vulnerable, Octavius Caesar makes a play for Cleopatra, infuriating Antony. Antony then whips Caesar in a land battle, only to badly lose to him at sea, the Egyptian navy having conceded to Caesar. Again, Antony is discouraged and this time angrier; this time believing Cleopatra has turned on him.

ANTONY: Yet they are not joined. Where yond pine does stand, I shall discover all. I'll bring thee word straight how 'tis like to go.

He exits.

SCARUS: Swallows have built in Cleopatra's sails their nests. Antony is valiant and dejected, and by starts his fretted fortunes give him hope and fear of what he has and has not.

Antony enters.

Antony to Scarus

All's lost. My fleet hath yielded to the foe.
Yonder, they carouse like friends long lost. O,
This foul Egyptian hath betrayed me; she,
Having sold me to this novice Caesar,
Makes this soldier want wars only on thee.
So they all cast up their caps together!
Bid them begone. Once avenged, I've done all.
O fair sun, shall I no more see thee fall?
All come to this? These soldiers who followed
Like spaniels at my heels now discandy
Their sweets on blossoming Caesar. I owed
This? This queen, this graven charm who becked me
Is Egypt's false soul, a right gypsy sauce
Who hath loosely beguiled me to this loss.