# \* SCENE 4. (ACT III, SCENE II)

Outside of Antipholus of Ephesus's house.

Enter NARRATOR from stage rear, coming downstage center.

6 AB T NARRATOR

Meanwhile, Antipholus of Syracuse falls for Luciana, who is the sister of Antipholus of Ephesus's wife, Adriana, who thinks this Antipholus is her husband, but he isn't. Are you following this? Don't worry about it. Neither are they.

Exit NARRATOR stage left.

Enter LUCIANA and ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE from stage left. They stand in front of bench.

## **LUCIANA**

And may it be that you have quite forgot
A husband's office? Shall, Antipholus,
Even in the spring of love, thy love-springs rot?
Muffle your false love with some show of blindness:
Let not my sister read it in your eye;
Comfort my sister, cheer her, call her wife:
'Tis holy sport to be a little vain,
When the sweet breath of flattery conquers strife.

(sits on downstage side of bench)

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

Your weeping sister is no wife of mine, Nor to her bed no homage do I owe Far more, far more to you do I decline. (sits next to LUCIANA on bench)

LUCIANA hesitates, enjoying the closeness, then turns to look at ANTIPHOLUS. She stands and backs away a step.

### **LUCIANA**

What, are you mad, that you do reason so?

## ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE

Not mad, but mated; how, I do not know. (stands; steps toward LUCIANA)

## **LUCIANA**

Why call you me love? Call my sister so. (steps back)

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

Call thyself sister, sweet, for I am thee. Thee will I love and with thee lead my life: Thou hast no husband yet nor I no wife. Give me thy hand.

ANTIPHOLUS takes a final step toward LUCIANA and takes her hand. He pauses.

## **LUCIANA**

O, soft, sir! Hold you still: (lets go of his hand; turns away)
I'll fetch my sister, to get her good will.

Exit LUCIANA stage left.

Enter DROMIO OF SYRACUSE from stage left, running and out of breath.

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

Why, how now, Dromio! Where runn'st thou so fast?

#### **DROMIO OF SYRACUSE**

I am an ass, I am a woman's man and besides myself. (steps to the side; looks behind him)

# **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE** (interested and amused)

What woman's man? What is she?

## **DROMIO OF SYRACUSE**

She's the kitchen wench and all grease; (looks stage left) She is spherical, like a globe; I could find out countries in her. This drudge, or diviner, laid claim to me, call'd me Dromio; swore I was assured to her; told me what privy marks I had about me, as the mole in my neck, the great wart on my left arm, that I amazed ran from her as a witch.

# ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE (to DROMIO, in a stage whisper)

Go hie thee presently, post to the road: I will not harbor in this town to-night: If every one knows us and we know none, 'Tis time, I think, to trudge, pack and be gone.

### **DROMIO OF SYRACUSE**

As from a bear a man would run for life, So fly I from her that would be my wife.

Exit DROMIO OF SYRACUSE stage right.

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

There's none but witches do inhabit here; But, lest myself be guilty to self-wrong, I'll stop mine ears against the mermaid's song.

Enter ANGELO from stage right, holding a chain.

#### **ANGELO**

Master Antipholus,—

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE** (startled)

Ay, that's my name.

## ANGELO (pause)

I know it well, sir, lo, here is the chain.

# **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE** (pause)

What is your will that I shall do with this?

# ANGELO (pause)

What please yourself, sir: I have made it for you.

### **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

Made it for me, sir! I bespoke it not.

#### **ANGELO**

Not once, nor twice, but twenty times you have. Go home with it and please your wife withal; And soon at supper-time I'll visit you And then receive my money for the chain.

## **ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE**

I pray you, sir, receive the money now, For fear you ne'er see chain nor money more.

# ANGELO (pause)

You are a merry man, sir: fare you well.

Exit ANGELO stage right.

#### ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE

What I should think of this, I cannot tell:

## 18 \* THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

I'll to the mart, and there for Dromio stay If any ship put out, then straight away.

Exit Antipholus of syracuse stage right.

STAGEHANDS remove bench.

# \* SCENE 5. (ACT V, SCENE I)

A street before a Priory.

Enter NARRATOR from stage rear, coming downstage center.

#### **NARRATOR**

Meanwhile, Angelo the goldsmith has met Antipholus of Syracuse's twin, Antipholus of Ephesus, who has denied ever receiving a chain. Antipholus of Ephesus finally shows up, furious that he has been locked out of his house and abused. There is more confusion! We are praying for a happy ending!

Exit NARRATOR stage left.

Enter SECOND MERCHANT and ANGELO from stage right.

#### **ANGELO**

I am sorry, sir, that I have hinder'd you; But, I protest, he had the chain of me, Though most dishonestly he doth deny it.

# SECOND MERCHANT

Speak softly; yonder, as I think, he walks.

ANGELO and SECOND MERCHANT hide behind stage right pillar.

 $Enter\ {\it Antipholus}\ {\it of\ syracuse}\ and\ {\it dromio\ of\ syracuse}\ from\ stage\ right.$