

Much Ado About Nothing Initial Audition Pieces

Audition Piece #1

(in this speech, Benedick describes his perfect life partner)

Benedick: I do much wonder that one man, seeing how much another man is a fool when he dedicates his behaviors to love, will become the argument of his own scorn by falling in love. May I be converted and see with these eyes? I think not. One woman is fair, yet I am well; another is wise, yet I am well; but till all graces be in one woman, one woman shall not come in my grace. Rich she shall be, that's certain; wise, or I'll none; virtuous, or I'll never cheapen her; fair, or I'll never look on her; of good discourse, an excellent musician, and her hair shall be - of what color it please God.

Audition Piece #2

(In this scene, Margaret notices that Beatrice is acting lovesick over Benedick and teases her about it, saying she should cure it with medicine made from benedictus, a kind of herb.)

Margaret: Get you some of this distilled benedictus and lay it to your heart.

Beatrice: Benedictus! Why benedictus? You have some moral in this benedictus.

Margaret: Moral? No, by my troth, I have no moral meaning, I meant plain holy-thistle. You may think perchance I think you are in love. Nay, by'r lady, I am not such a fool to think that you are in love, or that you will be in love, or that you can be in love. I know not, but methinks you look with your eyes as other women do.