

# Cymbeline

## 1.3

*Enter Innogen and Pisanio*

**INNOGEN**

I would thou grew'st unto the shores o'th' haven  
And questionedst every sail. If he should write  
And I not have it, 'twere a paper lost  
As offered mercy is. What was the last  
That he spake to thee?

**PISANIO** It was his queen, his queen. 5

**INNOGEN**

Then waved his handkerchief?

**PISANIO** And kissed it, madam.

**INNOGEN**

Senseless linen, happier therein than I!  
And that was all?

**PISANIO** No, madam. For so long  
As he could make me with this eye or ear  
Distinguish him from others he did keep 10  
The deck, with glove or hat or handkerchief  
Still waving, as the fits and stirs of 's mind  
Could best express how slow his soul sailed on,  
How swift his ship.

**INNOGEN** Thou shouldst have made him  
As little as a crow, or less, ere left 15  
To after-eye him.

**PISANIO** Madam, so I did.

**INNOGEN**

I would have broke mine eye-strings, cracked them,  
but

To look upon him till the diminution  
Of space had pointed him sharp as my needle;  
Nay, followed him till he had melted from 20  
The smallness of a gnat to air, and then  
Have turned mine eye and wept. But, good Pisanio,  
When shall we hear from him?

**PISANIO** Be assured, madam,  
With his next vantage. 25

**INNOGEN**

I did not take my leave of him, but had  
Most pretty things to say. Ere I could tell him  
How I would think on him at certain hours,  
Such thoughts and such, or I could make him swear  
The shes of Italy should not betray 30  
Mine interest and his honour, or have charged him  
At the sixth hour of morn, at noon, at midnight  
T'encounter me with orisons±±for then  
I am in heaven for him±±or ere I could  
Give him that parting kiss which I had set 35  
Betwixt two charming words, comes in my father,  
And, like the tyrannous breathing of the north,  
Shakes all our buds from growing.

*Enter a Lady*

**LADY**

The Queen, madam,

Desires your highness' company.

**INNOGEN** *(to Pisanio)*

Those things I bid you do, get them dispatched. 40  
I will attend the Queen.

**PISANIO**

Madam, I shall.

*Exeunt Innogen and Lady at one door, Pisanio  
at another*