

# Pericles, Prince of Tyre

## Sc.3

*Enter Thaliart*

**THALIART** So this is Tyre, and this the court. Here must  
I kill King Pericles, and if I do it and am caught I am  
like to be hanged abroad, but if I do it not, I am sure  
to be hanged at home. 'Tis dangerous. Well, I perceive  
he was a wise fellow and had good discretion that, 5  
being bid to ask what he would of the King, desired he  
might know none of his secrets. Now do I see he had  
some reason for't, for if a king bid a man be a villain,  
he's bound by the indenture of his oath to be one.  
Hush, here comes the lords of Tyre. 10

*Enter Helicanus and Aeschines, with other lords*

**HELICANUS**

You shall not need, my fellow peers of Tyre,  
Further to question of your King's departure.  
His sealed commission left in trust with me  
Does speak sufficiently he's gone to travel.

**THALIART** (*aside*) How? The King gone? 15

**HELICANUS**

If further yet you will be satisfied  
Why, as it were unlicensed of your loves,  
He would depart, I'll give some light unto you.  
Being at Antioch±±

**THALIART** (*aside*) What from Antioch?

**HELICANUS**

Royal Antiochus, on what cause I know not, 20  
Took some displeasure at him±±at least he judged so±±  
And doubting lest that he had erred or sinned,  
To show his sorrow he'd correct himself;  
So puts himself unto the ship-man's toil,  
With whom each minute threatens life or death. 25

**THALIART** (*aside*)

Well, I perceive I shall not be hanged now,  
Although I would.  
But since he's gone, the King's ears it must please  
He scaped the land to perish on the seas.

I'll present myself.±±Peace to the lords of Tyre. 30  
Lord Thaliart am I, of Antioch.

**[HELICANUS]**

Lord Thaliart of Antioch is welcome.

**THALIART**

From King Antiochus I come  
With message unto princely Pericles,  
But since my landing I have understood 35  
Your lord's betook himself to unknown travels.  
Now my message must return from whence it came.

**HELICANUS**

We have no reason to enquire it,  
Commended to our master, not to us.  
Yet ere you shall depart, this we desire: 40  
As friends to Antioch, we may feast in Tyre.

*Exeunt*