## PLAY TWENTY-EIGHT - The Agony and Betrayal

## (The Cordwainers)

**JESUS**   Behold, my disciples that \*deyne is and dear, (\*noble)  
My flesh \*dyderis and \*\*daris for doubt of my \*\*\*dede. (\*trembles) (\*\*fights?) (\*\*\*death, deed)  
Mine enemies will newly be \*nighing full near (\*approaching)  
With all the might if they may to mar my manhood.  
But since ye are forwaked  
   and wandered in \*were, (\*wariness)  
Look ye set you down readily  
    and rest you, I \*rede. (\*advise)  
Be not heavy in your hearts  
    but hold you even here  
And bides me a \*stounde (\*moment, stand)  
   still in this same \*stead. (\*place)  
Be witty and wise in your \*wanding (\*anxiety, wondering)  
So that ye be waking alway,  
And look now \*prestely ye pray (\*promptly, swiftly)  
To my Father, that ye fall in no \*fandyng. (\*trial, testing)  
  
**PETRUS**   Yes, Lord, at thy bidding  
    full \*baynly shall we abide, (\*obediently)  
For thou art \*bote of our \*bale (\*cure) (\*suffering)  
    and bides for the best.  
  
**JOAHNNES**   Lord, all our help and our \*hele, (\*health)  
    that is nought to hide,  
In thee, our faith and our food,  
    all wholly is \*feste. (\*firm, fastened)  
  
**JACOBUS**   What way is he willed  
   in this world wide?  
Whither is he walked,  
   eastward or west?  
  
**PETRUS**   Yea, sirs, I shall say you,  
   sits us down on every \*ilka side, (\*each)  
And let us now readily here take our rest;   
My limbs are heavy as any lead.  
  
**JOHANNES**   And I must sleep, down must I lie.  
  
**JACOBUS**   In faith, fellows, right so fare I.  
I may no longer hold up my head.  
  
**PETRUS**   Our life of his loyalty  
   his life shall he lose,  
Unkindly be crucified  
   and nailed to a tree.  
  
**JESUS**   \*Baynly of my blissing, (\*Obediently)  
   your eyes ye unclose  
So that ye fall in no \*fandyng (\*trial, test)  
   for nought that may be,  
But prays fast.  
  
**JOHANNES**   Lord, some prayer thou \*ken us (\*teach, make known to)  
That somewhat might mirth us or mend us.  
  
**JACOBUS**   From all \*fandyng unfaithful thou (de)fend us, (\*testing, finding)  
Here in this world of life while we last.  
  
**JESUS**   I shall \*ken you and comfort you (\*teach)  
   and keep you from care;  
Ye shall be brought, \*wit ye well, (\*know)  
   from \*bale unto bliss. (\*torment, suffering)  
  
**PETRUS**   Ya, but Lord, and your wills were  
   \*wit would we more, (\*know)  
Of this prayer so precious let us not miss,  
We beseech thee.  
  
**JOHANNES**   For my fellows and me all in \*feere, (\*fellowship, company)  
Some prayer that is precious to \*lere. (\*learn)  
  
**JACOBUS**   Unto thy Father that most is of power  
Some solace of succour to send thee.

[PAGES MISSING]

**[JESUS]**   The news that me \*nighed (\*came near)  
   has, it needs not to \*neven, (\*name, mention)  
For all \*wot ye full well (\*know)  
   what ways I have went.  
\*Instore me and strength (\*restore)  
   with a still \*steven, (\*voice)  
I pray thee entirely thou take \*entent (\*attention)  
Thou \*menske my manhood with \*\*mood. (\*honour) (\*\*willpower)  
My flesh is full dreading for dread,  
For my journeys of my manhood.  
I sweat now both water and blood.  
  
These Jews has meant in their mind full of malice  
And pretend me to take  
   withouten any trespass,  
But, Father, as thou \*wot well, (\*know)  
   I meant never amiss;  
In word nor in work  
   I never worthy was.  
As thou art \*bote of all \*\*bale and \*\*\*belder of bliss (\*cure) (\*\*torment) (\*\*shelter)  
And all help and \*hele in thy hand has, (\*health)  
Thou \*mensk thy manhood, (\*honour)  
   thou mender of \*mis; (\*misery, sin)  
And if it possible be  
   this pain might I overpass.  
And, Father, if thou say it may not,  
Be it worthily wrought  
Even at thine own will  
Evermore both mildly and still  
With worship always be it wrought.  
  
Unto my disciples will I go again  
Kindly to comfort them  
   that catched are in care.  
What, are ye fallen on sleep  
   now \*everilkone, (\*everyone, every each one)  
And the \*passion of me in mind has no more? (\*suffering)  
What, will ye leave me thus lightly  
   and let me alone  
In sorrow and in sighing  
   that settles full sore?  
To whom may I move me  
   and make now my moan?  
I would that ye wakened, and your will were;  
Do, Peter, sit up now, let see.  
Thou art strongly stood in this \*stoure, (\*battle, spiritual conflict)  
Might thou not the space of an hour  
Have waked now mildly with me?  
  
**PETRUS**   Yes, Lord, with your leave  
   now will we \*lere, (\*learn, understand)  
Full warily to \*were you (\*guard, accompany)  
   from all wending?  
  
**JESUS**   Be waking and pray \*fast all in \*\*fere (\*firmly)(\*\*fellowship, together)  
To my Father, that ye fall in no \*finding, (\*judgement, testing)  
For evil spirits is nighing full near  
That will you tarry at this time with his tempting.  
And I will wend there I was withouten any \*were, (\*company, guard)  
But bide me here \*baynly in my blissing. (\*humbly, obediently)  
Again to the mount I will \*gang (\*go)  
Yet after-soon where I was \*ere, (\*before, i.e. heaven)  
But look that ye catch you no care,  
For \*lely I shall not dwell long. (\*truly)  
  
Thou, Father, that all formed has with food for to fill,  
I feel by my feared-ness my flesh would full \*fayne (\*prefer, be happier)  
Be turned from this \*turnement and taken thee \*\*until, (\*torment) (\*\*unto)  
For (a)mazed is manhood in mood and in main.  
But if thou see \*sothly that thy Son shall (truly)  
Withouten surfeit of sin thus \*sakeless be slain, (\*blameless)  
Be it worthily wrought even at thine own will,  
For Father, at thy bidding am I \*buxom and \*\*bayne. (\*obedient) (\*\*humble, bound)  
Now \*wightly again will I wend (\*swiftly)  
Unto my disciples so dear.  
What, sleep ye so fast all in \*fere? (\*fellowship, together)  
I am feared ye \*mon fail of your friend. (\*must)  
  
But yet will I leave you and let you alone,  
And after-soon where I was again will I wend.  
Unto my Father of might now make I my moan:  
As thou art salver of all sore some succour me send.  
The \*passion they purpose to put me upon, (\*suffering, agony)  
My flesh is full feared and \*fayne would defend, (\*rather, prefer)  
At thy will be it wrought worthily in \*wone. (\*place, dwelling)  
Have mind of my manhood my mood for to mend,  
Some comfort me \*kythe in this case, (\*give, make known)  
And Father, I shall dead taste  
   I will it noght \*defend. (\*i.e. defer, avoid)  
Yet if thy will be  
   spare me a space.  
[And sees . . . ight  
With raps . . . the \*rood rent.] (\*rod, cross)

*[Above lines damaged]*

**ANGELUS**   Unto the maker unmade  
   that most is of might,  
Be loving \*ay-lasting in light that is lent. (\*ever-lasting)  
Thy Father that in heaven is most,  
   he upon height,  
Thy sorrows for to \*sober (\*calm, alleviate)  
   to thee he has me sent.  
For deeds that man done has  
   thy dead shall be \*dight, (\*done, made)  
And thou with torments be toiled.   
But take now attent:  
Thy \*bale shall be for the best (\*suffering)  
Through that man’s \*mis shall be mend; (\*misdeeds, sin)  
Then shall thou withouten any end  
Reign in thy royalty full of rest.  
  
**JESUS**   Now if my flesh feared be,  
   Father, I am \*fayne (\*happy)  
That mine anguish and my \*noyes (\*trouble, annoyances)  
   are near at an end.  
Unto my disciples go will I again,  
Kindly to comfort them  
   that (a)mazed is in their mind.  
Do sleep ye now safely,  
   and I shall you \*sign. (\*make sign of cross, i.e. bless)  
Waken up \*wightely (\*swiftly, lively)  
   and let us hence wend,  
For as \*tyte \*\*mon I be taken (\*swift) (\*\*must)  
   with treason and with \*trayne, (\*tricks)  
My flesh is full feared  
   and \*fayne would defend. (\*happily) (\*\*avoid)  
Full dearfully my dead shall be \*dight, (\*done)  
And as soon as I am ta’en  
Then shall ye forsake me \*ilkone (\*each, every-one)  
And say never ye saw me with sight.  
  
**PETRUS**   Nay, \*soothly, I shall never my sovereign forsake, (\*truly)  
If I should for the deed dearfully here die.  
  
**JOHANNES**   Nay, such \*mobards shall never man us make, (\*mobs, robbers)  
(F)irst should we die all at once.  
  
**JACOBUS**         Now in faith, fellows, so should I.  
  
**JESUS**   Ya, but when time is betide,  
   then men shall me take.  
For all your heartily \*hetyng (\*declaring, boasting)  
   ye shall hide you in hie:  
Like sheep that were sheered  
   away shall ye shake.  
There shall none of you be bold  
   to bide me then by.  
  
**PETRUS**   Nay, \*soothly, whilst I may (a)vail thee, (\*truly)  
I shall \*were thee and wake thee, (\*guard, accompany)  
And if all other forsake thee,  
I shall never faintly \*defail thee. (\*fail, desert)  
  
**JESUS**   Ah, Peter, of such boasting  
   I \*rede thou let be, (\*advise)  
For all the keen carping  
   full keenly I know.  
For feared of mine enemies  
   thou shalt soon deny me  
Thrice yet full \*thrally (\*wholly)  
   ere the cock’s crow.  
For feared of my foe-men  
   full \*fayne be for to flee, (\*eagerly)  
And for great doubt of thy deed  
   thee to withdraw.  
  
**ANNA**   Sir Caiaphas, of your counsel,  
   do soon, let us now see,  
For \*lely it (be)longs us to look (\*truly)  
   unto our laws.  
And therefore, sir, \*prestely I pray you, (\*urgently, pressingly)  
Since that we are of counsel \*ilkone (\*every, each one)  
That Jesus that traitor were ta’en,  
Do soon let see, sir, I pray you.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   In certain, sir, and soon shall I say you,  
  
I would \*ween by my wit (\*know)   
   this work would be well.  
Let us justly us join   
   ‘til Judas the gentle,  
For he \*kens his \*\*dignities (\*knows) (\*\*duties)  
   full duly \*ilke a \*\*dele, (\*each, every) (\*\*thing)  
Ya, and best \*wot, I warrant (\*knows)  
   what ways that he is went.  
  
**ANNA**   Now this was wisely said  
   as ever have I \*seele. (\*health, welfare)  
And sir, to your saying,  
   I \*sadly will assent; (\*solemnly)  
Therefore take us of our knights  
   that is steadfast as steel,  
And let Judas go lead them \*belyffe (\*lively, swiftly)  
   where that he last \*lente. (\*lived, dwelt)  
  
**CAYPHAS**                     Full well, sir.  
Now, Judas, dear neighbour,  
   draw near us.  
Lo(ok), Judas, thus in mind have we meant,  
To take Jesus is our intent,  
For thou must lead us and \*lere us. (\*show, teach)  
  
**JUDAS**   Sirs, I shall wise you the way  
   even at your own will,  
But look that ye have  
   many mighty men  
That is both strong and staring  
   and stood him stone still.  
  
**ANNA**   Yes, Judas, but be what knowledge  
   shall we that corpse \*ken? (\*know)  
  
**JUDAS**   Sirs, a tokening in this time  
   I shall tell you until,  
But look by your \*lewty (\*loyalty, promise)  
   no life ye him \*lenne. (\*permit, lend)  
What man same I kiss,  
   that corpse shall ye kill,  
And also be (a)ware  
   that he will not away.  
I \*shrew you all then. (\*curse)  
  
**CAYPHAS**                     Why, nay, Judas,  
We purpose the \*page shall not pass. (\*boy)  
Sir knights, in hie!  
  
**I MILES**               Lord, we are here.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Call forth your fellows in \*fere (\*company, together)  
And go justly with gentle Judas.  
  
**I MILES**   Come, fellows, by your faith,  
   come forth all fast  
And carps with Sir Caiaphas:  
   he commands me to call.  
  
**II MILES**   I \*shrew him all his life, (\*curse)  
   that loves to be last.  
  
**III MILES**   Go we hence then in hie  
   and haste us to the hall.  
  
**IV MILES**   Lord, of your will worthily  
   would I wit what \*wast? (\*wants)  
  
**CAYPHAS**   To take Jesus, that \*saunterel, (\*pretender)  
   all same, that ye shall.  
  
**I MILES**   Lord, to that purpose,  
   I would that we passed.  
  
**ANNA**   Ya, but look that ye be armed well all,  
The most gentle of the Jury shall guide you.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Ya, and every \*ilke a knight in degree (\*each)  
Both armed and harnessed ye be  
To \*belde you and \*\*baynely go bide you. (\*shelter, comfort) (\*\*obediently)  
  
**ANNA**   Ya, and therefore, Sir Caiaphas, ye hie you,  
Your worship ye win in this case.  
As ye are a lord most lovesome of \*lyre (\*body, appearance)  
Under Sir Pilate that lives in this empire,  
Yon \*segger that calls himself a sire (\*boaster)  
With treasure and \*tene shall we \*\*taste him. (\*harm) (\*\*test)  
Of yon \*losell his \*\*bale shall he brew. (\*traitor) (\*\*torment)  
Do trot on for that traitor apace  
In haste.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Now, sirs, since ye say my power is most best  
And has all this work  
   thus to work at my will,  
Now certain I think not to rest  
But solemnly your will to fulfil  
Right soon.  
  
Full \*tyte the traitour shall be ta’en. (\*swiftly)  
Sir knights, ye hie you \*ilkone, (\*each, every one)  
For in certain the \*losell shall be slain. (\*traitor)  
Sir Anna, I pray you have done.  
  
**ANNA**   Full ready \*tyte I shall be boun(d) (\*swiftly)  
This journey for to go \*till. (\*to)  
As ye are a lord of great renown,  
Ye spare him not to spill,  
The devil him speed.  
Go we with our knights in \*fere, (\*company, together)  
Lo(ok), they are arrayed and armed clear.  
Sir knights, look ye be of full good cheer:  
Where ye him see, on him take heed.  
  
**I JUDEUS**   Good (at)tent to him, lord, shall we take:  
He shall \*banne the time that he was born. (\*curse, hate)  
All his kin shall come too late;  
He shall not (e)scape withouten scorn  
From us in \*fere. (\*company, together)  
  
**II JUDEUS**   We shall him seek both even and morn,  
Early and late, with full good cheer,  
Is our intent.  
  
**III JUDEUS**   Sty nor street we shall spare none,  
Field nor town, thus have we meant,  
And bound in cord.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Malcus!  
  
**MALCUS**                  Ah, ay, and I should be reward,  
And right as well worthy were,  
Loo(k), for I bear light for my lord.  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Ah, sir, of your speech let, and let us speed  
A space, and of our speech spare;  
And Judas, go found thou before  
And wisely thou \*wise them the way, (\*show, teach)  
For \*soothly soon shall we say (\*truly)  
To make him to mar us no more.  
  
**JESUS**   Now will this our be \*nighing full near (\*approaching)  
That shall certify all the \*sooth that I have said. (\*truth)  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Go, fetch forth the freak for his forfeit.  
  
**JUDAS**   All hail, master, in faith,  
   and fellows all in \*fere, (\*fellowship, together)  
With great gracious greeting  
   on ground be ye \*graied. (\*prepared, e.g. for skinning)  
I would ask you a kiss,  
   master, \*and your will were, (\*if)  
For all my love and my liking  
   is wholly upon you laid.  
  
**JESUS**   Full heartily, Judas, have it even here,  
For with this kissing is man’s Son betrayed.  
  
**I MILES**   Wey, stand, traitor, I tell thee for \*ta’en. (\*i.e. you are captured)  
  
**CAYPHAS**   Wey, do knights, go fall on before.  
  
**II MILES**   Yes, master, move thou no more,  
But lightly let us alone.  
  
**III MILES**   Alas, we are lost for (g)leam of this light.  
  
**JESUS**   Say ye here, whom seek ye?  
   do say me, let see.  
  
**I JUDEUS**   One Jesus of Nazareth  
   I hope that he \*hight. (\*is named)  
  
**JESUS**   Behold all hitherward, loo(k),  
   here, I am he.  
  
**I MILES**   Stand, \*dastarde, so dearfully (\*wretch)  
   thy dead shall be \*dight; (\*done)  
I will no more be abashed  
   for \*blenke of thy \*\*blee. (\*blanching, dimming) (\*\*radiance)  
  
**I JUDEUS**   Wey, out, I am (a)mazed almost  
   in main and in might.  
  
**II JUDEUS**   And I am feared, by my faith,  
   and \*fayne would I flee, (\*happily)  
For such a sight have I not seen.  
  
**III JUDEUS**   This (\*g)leam it (g)leamed so light,  
I saw never such a sight:  
Me marvels what it may mean.  
  
**JESUS**   Do, whom seek ye all same, yet I say?  
  
**I JUDEUS**   One Jesus of Nazareth,  
   him would we nigh now.  
  
**JESUS**   And I am he \*soothly. (\*truly)  
  
**MALCUS**                            And that shall I \*assay, (\*test)  
For thou shalt die, \*dastard, (\*wretch, coward)  
   since that it is thou.  
  
**PETRUS**   And I shall found be my faith thee for to flee,  
Here with a lash, \*lurdan, I shall thee allow. (\*wretch, sinner)  
  
**MALCUS**   Wey, out, all my \*deveres are done. (\*deeds, devotions)  
  
**PETRUS**                                                           Nay,  
Traitor, but truly I shall trap thee, I \*trowe. (\*trust)  
  
**JESUS**   Peace, Peter, I bid thee;  
\*Melle thee nor move thee no more, (\*stir up, mingle, rouse)  
For \*wit thou well (\*know)  
   \*and my wills were, (\*if)  
I might have power great plenty.  
  
Of angels full many  
   to muster my might;  
\*Forthy put up thy sword (\*therefore)  
   full goodly again,  
For he that takes vengeance  
   all ruled shall be right,  
With purgings and vengeance  
   that voids in vain.  
Thou man that is thus \*derede (\*hurt)  
   and dolefully \*dight, (\*done)  
Come hither to me safely  
   and I shall thee sign.  
In the name of my Father  
   that in heaven is most upon height,  
Of thy hurts be thou whole  
   in \*hide and in \*\*hane, (\*field and enclosure, i.e. everywhere)  
Through virtue thy veins be at \*vale. (\*under, i.e. healed)  
  
**MALCUS**   What, ill-hail, I hope that I be whole.  
Now I \*shrew him this time that gives \*\*tale, (\*curse) (\*\*cut)  
To touch thee for thy \*travail. (\*labour, work)  
  
**I JUDEUS**   Do fellows, by your faith,  
   let us \*fange on in \*fere, (\*seize, grasp) (\*\*company, together)  
For I have on this \*hine. (\*man)  
  
**II MILES**   And I have a lock on him now;  
   how, fellows, draw near.  
  
**III MILES**   Yes, by the bones that this bare,  
   this \*bourde shall he \*\*banne. (\*trick, joke) (\*\*curse)  
  
**JESUS**   Even like a thief heinously  
   hurl ye me here.  
I taught you in your Temple,  
   why took ye me not then?  
Now have meekness on \*mold (\*earth)  
   all his power.  
  
**I JUDEUS**   Do, do, lay your hands  
\*belive on this lurdan. (\*lively, swiftly) (\*\*wretch, coward)  
  
**III JUDEUS**   Wey, have hold this hawk in thy hands.  
  
**MALCUS**   Wey, yes, fellows, by my faith he is \*fast. (\*held firm)  
  
**IV JUDEUS**   Unto Sir Caiaphas I would that he passing.  
Farewell, for, \*iwisse, we will wending. (\*truly, I believe)