

PLAY TWENTY-EIGHT - The Agony and Betrayal

(The Cordwainers)

JESUS Behold, my disciples that *deyne is and dear, My flesh *dyderis and **daris for doubt of my ***dede.	(*noble) (*trembles) (**fights?) (***death, deed) (*approaching)
Mine enemies will newly be *nighing full near 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 still in this same *stead.	(*moment, stand) (*place)
Be witty and wise in your *wandering So that ye be waking alway, And look now *prestely ye pray To my Father, that ye fall in no *fandyng.	(*anxiety, wondering) (*promptly, swiftly) (*trial, testing)
PETRUS Yes, Lord, at thy bidding full *baynly shall we abide, For thou art *bote of our *bale and bides for the best.	(*obediently) (*cure) (*suffering)
JOAHNNES Lord, all our help and our *hele, that is nought to hide, In thee, our faith and our food, all wholly is *feste.	(*health) (*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, And let us now readily here take our rest; My limbs are heavy as any lead.	(*each)
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,
your eyes ye unclose
So that ye fall in no *fandyng
for nought that may be,
But prays fast.

(*Obediently)

(*trial, test)

JOHANNES Lord, some prayer thou *ken us
That somewhat might mirth us or mend us.

(*teach, make known to)

JACOBUS From all *fandyng unfaithful thou (de)fend us,
Here in this world of life while we last.

(*testing, finding)

JESUS I shall *ken you and comfort you
and keep you from care;
Ye shall be brought, *wit ye well,
from *bale unto bliss.

(*teach)

(*know)

(*torment, suffering)

PETRUS Ya, but Lord, and your wills were
*wit would we more,
Of this prayer so precious let us not miss,
We beseech thee.

(*know)

JOHANNES For my fellows and me all in *feere,
Some prayer that is precious to *lere.

(*fellowship, company)

(*learn)

JACOBUS Unto thy Father that most is of power
Some solace of succour to send thee.

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[JESUS] The news that me *nighed
has, it needs not to *neven,
For all *wot ye full well
what ways I have went.

(*came near)

(*name, mention)

(*know)

*Instore me and strength
with a still *steven,

(*restore)

(*voice)

I pray thee entirely thou take *entent
Thou *menske my manhood with **mood.
My flesh is full dreading for dread,

(*attention)

(*honour) (**willpower)

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,
I meant never amiss;
In word nor in work
I never worthy was.

(*know)

As thou art *bote of all **bale and ***belder of bliss
And all help and *hele in thy hand has,
Thou *mensk thy manhood,
thou mender of *mis;
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.

(*cure) (**torment) (**shelter)
(*health)
(*honour)
(*misery, sin)

Unto my disciples will I go again
Kindly to comfort them
that catched are in care.

What, are ye fallen on sleep
now *everilkone,
And the *passion of me in mind has no more?
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?

(*everyone, every each one)
(*suffering)

I would that ye wakened, and your will were;
Do, Peter, sit up now, let see.
Thou art strongly stood in this *stoure,
Might thou not the space of an hour
Have waked now mildly with me?

(*battle, spiritual conflict)

PETRUS Yes, Lord, with your leave
now will we *lere,
Full warily to *were you
from all wending?

(*learn, understand)
(*guard, accompany)

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 nocht *defend. (*i.e. defer, avoid)
 Yet if thy will be
 spare me a space.
 [And sees . . . ight
 With raps . . . the *rood rent.] (*rod, cross)

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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 (*done, made)
 thy dead shall be *dight,
 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,
all same, that ye shall. (*pretender)

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, *iwise, we will wending. (*truly, I believe)