

LUCIO
 Why, how now, Claudio? Whence comes this
 restraint? 120

CLAUDIO
 From too much liberty, my Lucio, liberty.
 Our natures do pursue, 125
 A thirsty evil, and when we drink, we die.

LUCIO If I could speak so wisely under an arrest, I
 would send for certain of my creditors. What's
 thy offense, Claudio?

CLAUDIO
 What but to speak of would offend again.

LUCIO What, is 't murder?

CLAUDIO No. 135

LUCIO Lechery?

CLAUDIO Call it so.
 Lucio, a word with you.

LUCIO A hundred, if they'll do you any good. Is lechery 140
 so looked after?

CLAUDIO
 Thus stands it with me: upon a true contract
 I got possession of Julietta's bed.
 But it chances 150
 The stealth of our most mutual entertainment
 With character too gross is writ on Juliet.

LUCIO
 With child, perhaps?

CLAUDIO Unhappily, even so.
 And the new deputy now for the Duke— 155
 Whether the tyranny be in his place
 Or in his eminence that fills it up,
 I stagger in—but this new governor
 Awakes me all the enrollèd penalties
 and for a name
 Now puts the drowsy and neglected act
 Freshly on me. 'Tis surely for a name.

LUCIO I warrant it is. And thy head stands so tickle on 170
 thy shoulders that a milkmaid, if she be in love, may
 sigh it off. Send after the Duke and appeal to him.

CLAUDIO
 I have done so, but he's not to be found.
 I prithee, Lucio, do me this kind service:
 This day my sister should the cloister enter 175
 And there receive her approbation.
 Acquaint her with the danger of my state;
 Implore her, in my voice, that she make friends
 To the strict deputy; bid herself assay him.
 I have great hope in that, she hath prosperous art
 When she will play with reason and discourse,
 And well she can persuade.

LUCIO I pray she may, as well for the encouragement of 185
 the like, which else would stand under grievous
 imposition, as for the enjoying of thy life, who I
 would be sorry should be thus foolishly lost at a
 game of tick-tack. I'll to her.

CLAUDIO I thank you, good friend Lucio. 190