

Scene: Drama At the Bucket

Chloe is practising in front of the Bucket; Leo is standing off to the side watching her.

Chloe: I love him for his sake;
And yet I know him a notorious liar,
Think him a great way fool, solely a coward;
Yet these fix'd evils sit so fit in him
That they take place when virtue's steely bones
Looks bleak i' th' cold wind; withal, full oft we see
Cold wisdom waiting on superfluous folly.

Leo: Hey, Chloe, your performance was amazing; was that Shakespeare?

Chloe: Yeah, were you there long?

Leo: Not long; don't worry.

Chloe: Ok.

Leo: I just came by to let you know that I can't stop my father anymore. The construction workers will be here in a few hours.

Chloe: Thanks for the warning.

Leo: Do you have a plan to stop them?

Chloe: I'll think of something; don't worry.

Leo: There is another thing...

Chloe: Well, spit it out; as Shakespeare said, make use of time, let not advantage slip.

Leo: Right, right, well... Chloe... the thing is... I... I'm in love with you.

Chloe: Come again; I believe my ears momentarily stopped working!

Leo: I know you don't want to fall in love because of what happened with your parents but I... I'm hoping that I might have a chance, even just a small one, to be with you.

Chloe: Wow, Leo, your acting skills have improved, well done, I almost believed you; wouldn't that have been weird.

Leo: Come on Chloe, that's not fair to say to someone who just confessed to you.

Chloe: Well, what am I supposed to say, I love you too?

Leo: Yes.

Chloe: Why are you confessing to me anyway; don't you already have a girlfriend?

Leo: I'm only dating her because my father told me to; our relationship is just one of convenience, I've never loved her, she doesn't deserve my love.

Chloe: Ah, I see what you want.

Leo: You do?

Chloe: You just want to use me as an escape route.

Leo: Yes, I despise Tracy; just because her family is rich my father is forcing me to date her; well sorry dad but I am a firm believer in true love and Tracy is not my true love.

Chloe: You never know...

Leo: I am positive, now that you know will you reconsider?

Chloe: Nope, I won't.

Leo: Why?

Chloe: Despite what you think Tracy is a sweet, lovely girl and a rare treasure.

Leo: Pah, you're joking.

Chloe: She may be oblivious but that is no reason to treat her like this; listen to me, go back to her.

Leo: No.

Chloe: It is a beautiful day, go take her on a romantic picnic, she loves apples so get her a candy apple or something; just leave me out of your family dispute.

Leo: Chloe, what I feel for you is real, please believe me; I don't just want to escape my father's control, I really do love you.

Chloe: Never hung poison on a fouler toad. Out of my sight! Thou dost infect mine eyes.

Leo: Fine you poisonous bunch-back'd toad!

Leo laughs and storms away

Chloe: Love is familiar. Love is a devil. There is no evil angel but Love. For where there is love there is also pain. For this reason I can never fall in love.

Tracy enters cautiously

Tracy: Chloe, are you there?

Chloe: Oh bother and tarnation, yes, what do you want?

Tracy: What were you and Leo talking about just now?

Chloe: Nothing important, I only gave him some advice.

Tracy: It must have been important because you made him mad.

Chloe: I did not make him mad; he chose to be mad, I'm not in control of his emotions.

Tracy: He looked pretty upset and as his girlfriend I can not accept that one of his friends upset him.

Chloe: Well, that's up to you; look I am a little busy right now could you leave, please.

Tracy: Chloe, because you are Leo's friend I demand that you apologise to him; so this rift between you two will mend.

Chloe: Tracy, you are sweet but this is something that Leo needs to come to terms with; I will not apologise for telling him the truth.

Tracy: Then be prepared to face the consequences, because until you do I will make you suffer.

Chloe: Why do I have to be the one to apologise anyway, if anything he should apologise to me.

Tracy: He is the most caring, kind person, he would never do a thing wrong.

Chloe: Sweet stuff, he is not perfect.

Tracy: Yes, he is, and because you are his friend I shall give you a second chance.

Chloe: I don't need it.

Tracy: Meet me and Leo here at sunset...

Chloe: I will be in the next town over.

Tracy: ...apologise...

Chloe: I'd rather wear wet socks for a month.

Tracy: ...and I will forget about this.

Chloe: Tracy I know you mean well; but really this isn't a big deal.

Tracy: It is now.

Chloe: When did I become the villain?

Tracy: When you made Leo mad.

Chloe: Look, Tracy, go and talk to Leo.

Tracy: I will, don't worry.

Chloe: It is a beautiful day, why not go for a walk along the beach or something; forget about me and go make some happy memories because I will not apologise.

Tracy: You will, or my name isn't Tracy.

Tracy storms off

Chloe: Goodbye, Tracy. Friendship is constant in all other things, save in the office and affairs of love. Love, friendship, charity, are subjects all to envious and calumniating time. Most friendship is feigning, most loving is folly. My friends have confessed, accused and deserted me for love, because of love my parents... no, I will never fall in love or love, this I swear.

Chloe leaves slowly