## The Bromley Plays

# The D eath of $D$ on Flagrante $D$ elicto 

## A Gesturology of M orals

aka

The Civil W ar: Take Two
by Kirk Wood Bromley
introduction and afterward by Howard Thoresen glossary by Howard Thoresen \& Kirk Wood Bromley

Inverse Theater Productions<br>New York City

## The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto

## By Kirk Wood Bromley

©Copyright 2000 by Inverse Theater Productions. All rights reserved.
Printed in the United States of America.

Editor: Chad Gracia

Printing History: October 2000. First edition. 200 copies.

## Published by Inverse Theater Productions.

The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto is the exclusive property of Inverse Theater Productions, Inc. All rights, including professional, amateur, motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound taping, and all other forms of mechanical, theatrical, or electronic reproduction, are strictly preserved. Particular emphasis is laid upon readings, permission for which must be secured from Inverse Theater in writing.

For information on purchasing or producing The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto, or other Bromley plays, contact:
Inverse Theater
Attn: Chad Gracia
66 Crosby Street Suite 3B
New York, NY 10012
212/334-5410 (tel) 212/334-8346 (fax) 212/501-4528 (performance info / voice mail)
www.inversetheater.com
Artistic Director / Author: kirk@inversetheater.com
Executive Director: cgracia@inversetheater.com
Other plays by Kirk Bromley, available through Inverse Theater, include:

Want's Unwished Work<br>Icarus \& Aria<br>Life's Loss's Loved<br>Faust, A Musical<br>The Death of Griffin Hunter<br>Washington: The American Revolution<br>Midnight Brainwash Revival

Price: US \$15
ISBN: 1-893194-06-X

## Introduction by H oward Thoresen

"In all writing I love only what is written with blood. Write with
blood: and you discover that blood is spirit...I want gremlins around me, for I am courageous. Courage frightens away specters and creates gremlins for itself. Courage wants to laugh. I no longer
feel as you do: this cloud which I see beneath me, this darkness and heaviness which I laugh at, precisely this is your thundercloud. You look up when you desire to be exalted. I look down because I am exalted.

Who among you can simultaneously laugh and be exalted? He who climbs upon the highest mountains laughs at all tragedies, real or imaginary.

Courageous, unperturbed, mocking, violent-this is what wisdom wants to be: wisdom is a woman and loves only a warrior."
-- Friedrich Nietzsche,
Thus Spake Zarathustra

> "The spectator's question should not be, 'What does this play mean?' The question should be, 'In response to which of the world's possibilities and tensions is this play created?' That is its meaning."
> --Richard Foreman,
> Performance/Art

In The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto, aka A Gesturology of Morals, aka The Civil War: Take Two, Kirk Wood Bromley has written a poem in his blood and his spirit; he has laughed and been exalted and he has given us a play which is "courageous, unperturbed, mocking, [and] violent." Complex, vulgar, occult, long, epic in the range of its story, associations and language, this is a work that turns the tables on our critical minds and measures our capacity to respond as we attempt to measure it.

In school we learn that the first place to look for illumination in a drama is in the action, in the story of the play. The Death of Don Flagrante is the story of the slave-owner Don Flagrante Delicto, who, in the closing days of the American Civil War, decides to end his life and the lives of his family and slaves during a performance of his play, Aethelbert and Augustine. The performance is given for a literally captive audience whom Don hopes to impress with his values and understanding of life.

But The Death of Don Flagrante is also a story of slavery: Seamus, a free Negro on his way to Washington DC to shake the hand of the Great Emancipator, is taken captive by Don Flagrante and his slaves, and forced to watch and respond to a play about the advent of organized Christianity in Britain in the Sixth Century. He and his fellow captives, a nurse and a

Confederate soldier, are humiliated and harassed; he tries to convince the slave-actress Holard to accompany him on his journey.

Alternatively, Don Flagrante is the story of the Anglo Saxon encounter with Christianity in the Sixth Century AD as told by a $19^{\text {th }}$ Century American plantation owner in a play performed by his family and slaves. Aethelbert, King of the Anglo Saxons, converts to Christianity at the urging of his beloved wife Bertha and Augustine, the saintly emissary of Pope Gregory. The story is beautifully and brutally brought to life by the slave owner/playwright, poetically transcending the limitations imposed on the production by poverty, war, and, ultimately, by the dementia of its auteur.

Clearly, there are many doors through which one can enter the uni-verse that is The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto. But having entered, do we discover a unity or merely a collection of disparate, if interesting, themes? Is there a common thread that strings together the umpteen story-gems that read like so many one act plays?

Bromley, with his alter ego playwright, Flagrante Delicto, has married two pivotal moments in our history: the coming of organized Christianity to Anglo Saxon Britain in the Sixth Century, and the triumph of the North over the South in the American Civil War. Bromley has described these as parallel in the following way: a culture based on power, violence and oppression is conquered by a culture at least ostensibly based on forgiveness, love, and learning. Don Flagrante, as the representative of the later dying culture, knows that history, written by the winners, will say his civilization was corrupt; he wishes to leave a defense of the values of his epoch, and a critique of his conquerors. This is how he envisions the future under the Union:

Slavery universal!
O it shal be a sutl bondaj, shut
As ours was open, freedom for the fake, A revolushn but in this great swindl: Ours revolvs to them, and abolishn? Abolishment of genius is their goal...

Luk. Comerce cums in waves of ernest slime, Reguising aucshun bloks to stok exchanj, Privat servant into public demand, From one mas of mastrs, literal
Outproducing figurativ expreshn, The sole concern of powr to empowr The powerles think powr's to outpowr The very thot of powr, dispowring What powr owns beyond the powr to trade, The color line one omnipresent blur, Al enslaved to exclusiv angel rounds...

The playwright Flagrante Delicto (his name, "Caught in the Act" is usually associated with a criminal or sexual situation, but is also a perfectly appropriate appellation for a playwright or actor) draws the connection between the ancient world and his era. Like Nietzsche, he sees the victory of Christianity and Northern virtue as a triumph of the weak over the strong; the substitution of an honest, vital, heroic culture with an equivocating, pale, repressive lie. Don Flagrante fully comprehends that in the revolving dialectic of slave and master, no position is finally secure. As Seamus says:

The intransitiv shades that grim efulj From ancient monuments of dignity, Obstructng vijun of the next alure, Must as the lite that makes them sloly shift From face to face, place to place, race to race, And who wud ty down time to envy's stake, Are malaprop at birth and chaos-plugd.

But Don, having had his day as a master, is not going to take up the role of slave merely to extend his life. Seeing that he will be unable to exercise his full freedom and power, he determines to go out in a blaze of glory, taking his family and slaves with him in a ritual of performance, murder, and suicide.

Bromley, the Uber-Playwright, has deeper and wider connections to draw. Slavery and all its ramifications did not simply end with the Emancipation Proclamation, and Britain did not simply settle down into a "meek and mild" Christianity. The philosophic, economic, ethical, and racial divisions that created the Civil War were not buried with Abraham Lincoln. The Death of Don Flagrante is also "A Gesturology of Morals" and a second take on the Civil War. Don is not merely a nihilist, a Southerner, nor a slave owner; he is a $21^{\text {st }}$ century man, who sees the limitations of philosophy and of power, who feels nostalgia for that never-existed Eden when men acted with assurance and certainty, but whose attempts at heroic action, based as they are in his anger and confusion, end in impotence and frustration:

I'm the strangest kind,
As evry chois convinces me I'm rite,
Convicshn wich convinces me I'm rong,
But we must pas thru may to get to june,
For much that's boom and bust is bust and boom.

It is a measure of Bromley's art that we speak of Don Flagrante as if he were an actual playwright, and "Aethelbert and Augustine" an actual play. But Don himself is also a character in a play, and he himself has an alter ego in his own play, the King of the Anglo Saxons, played by his son Petrarc. Aethelbert stands at a turning point in history; dazzled by love and by the God who is Love, he can neither go back to his Anglo Saxon deities, nor give himself completely to a foreign religion; clinging to an illusion he cannot quite accept, he loses his comrades, his country and his life. Petrarc, born to inherit the new world Don Flagrante so strenuously rejects, struggles to escape his father's world but is literally brought to heel. Don Flagrante Delicto, who knows his
future is void cannot let go of one last opportunity to bully the world into being what he wants it to be.

Here, in the struggle between past and future, fiction and reality, self-preservation and duty, I find my common thread in this great patchwork wordhord. For, as Holard asks Seamus, "Wer is that man, set stupid on this sfere/Of pointless signs, can say where he should go?" Who among us can truly renounce the dying world beneath our feet to seize the world above us being born? And who among us can truly tell which world is which? "Wut is a play?" asks Petrarc; and answers himself, "A fantasy on its feet./not necessity, but indulgency." Yet fantasy has become necessity. We live in chimeras; actors or others we live in a world of ideas and images, memories and hopes. We should give our entire energy to living authentic lives, but even that can become an idea: Flagrante Delicto, caught in the act of living and dying, is willing to sacrifice his wife, his children, his slaves and himself to an idea of heroism. In this willingness to sacrifice the real for the ideal, he becomes one with his Christian enemy.

In the closing moments of "Don Flagrante Delicto" the Don is dead; but Abraham Lincoln is also dead. The "good massa" and the "bad massa" are both gone. The captive actors and the captive audience are left to create a story for themselves; we who are privy story of the Reconstruction and all that followed know it has been a tragedy. But we are too survivors; the story isn't over.

Thus, through a Chinese box of theater inside theater, history inside history and authorship inside authorship, Bromley has thrown the essential questions of the Sixth Century and of the Nineteenth Century back on the reader/observer.

Howard Thoresen, Director of Don Flagrante Delicto
October 2000
East Village, NYC

## Production N otes

The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto first appeared at The Greenwich Theater, December $2^{\text {nd }}-31^{\text {st }}, 1999$.

The Players

|  | Raedwald - King of East-Angles |
| :--- | :--- |
| Don Flagrante Delicto - da masa | Ceolwulf - King of West Saxons |
| Leotrice - his wife | Bard |
| Lora - his dotr | Pope Gregory the Great |
| Petrarc - his son | Tarsilla, his sister |
| Ekard Fotofyjus Sciamaky - his driver | Slave Trader |
| Holard Metazous Neogamy - his hous slave | Anglo Slaves |
| Kresard Hodologus Nyctimasty - his field | Bertha - Princess of Paris |
|  | Theofile - Bertha's admirer |
| Seamus - a free negro | Ingoberg - Bertha's mother |
| Mary - a yankee nurs | Charibert - King of Paris, Bertha's father |
| Jukes - a confederat soljur | Liudhard - a Bishop, Bertha's overseer |
| cohees (apalashan locals) | Fraethwith - attendant to Aethelbert |
| mourners | Guilty Slave |
| Karacters in Aethelbert and Augustine: | Ceorls (mesenjrs and servants) |
| Stage Manager | Aemiliana - a nun |
| Assistant Stage Manager | Monks |
| Hsuan Hsieh | Augustine - envoy of Pope Gregory |
| Khorassan | Desiderius - Monk of Lerins |
| Godwulf | Aetherius - Monk of Lerins |
| Ouagadougou | John the Jejunator - Monk of Lerins |
| Ronsard | Woman tied to John |
| Food-Chain Betty | Demandng Diners |
| The Rap Sistas: | Laurentius - Augustine's attendant |
| Dogmalita Impertinencia | Honarius - Augustine's attendant |
| Tabaquista Opulencia | Rufianus - Augustine's attendant |
| Comihuelga Ineducabilia | Paulinus - Augustine's attendant |
| Aethelbert - King of Kent and Bretwalda | a Celtic woman named Cunt |
| (over-ruler of the Anglo- | Melvin - Wizard, Son of Merlin |
| Saxon tribes) | Two Counsel Crows - Hugin and Minin |
| Eadbald - his son | Ester Friggyfat - Aethelbert's second wife |
|  | Norsemen |

Aethelfrith - King of Northumbria

The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto is an Inverse Theater production.

# The D eath of D on Flagrante D elicto 

A Gesturology of Morals aka<br>The Civil War: Take Two<br>by Kirk Wood Bromley

Time: April 14, 1865
Place: The Farm of Don Flagrante Delicto, West of Lynchburg, Blu Rij Mountans, Virginy.

## Faze 1, Sene 1. A road near Don's farm.

| Kresard- | O we's a play no time! ${ }^{\circ}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ekard- | U tok im, den if he no take, I tak im. |

Enter Seamus.

| Kresard- | Gud day, niga. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Seamus- | It is, gud brutha, les that word. |
| Kres- | Mos trubl do bust out dat bad word gud. |
| Seamus- | U noe's I'm getn at. <br> Kres- |
| But wers u getn to? |  |
| Seamus- | Freedom. Care to join me? <br> Kres- |
| U a runaway? |  |
| Seamus- | I'm a walkinto. |
| Kres- | How'd ya care to walk into a play? |
| Seamus- | Not some patn juba praizn bukra minstrl sho! We must lift ourselvs abuv such <br> denigrashn, brutha. |
| Kres- | Y, it ain dat no how, but's a biopolisykosemoethicological pese, bout da hateful <br> Anglo-Saxons and da luvn Kristian mishunarys, scrit by ma masa Don, boy, and |
|  | he da germ a genius. |
| Seamus- | Has the weekly nuz, brutha, reacht dese Blu Rij Holas yet? |
| Kres- | Da weekly nuz, brutha, reacht dese holas al dis week - work a day, play a night, <br> den sip yoself to sleep. |
| Seamus- | I mean the end of the Civil War and the deth of masa. <br> Kres- |
| See dis sho and u see un def masa, ma masa Don. |  |

[^0][^1]Kres- We only do da masa's plays, wich gud, so cum on in.
Seamus- U down with President Lincoln?
Kres- Present Linkum? Wut play he do?
Seamus- He rote the Proclamashn.
Kres- Wel, he ai no masa Don.
Seamus- He won the war, and I'm to Washington to shake his hand.
Kres- U think he wana see our play?
Seamus- He ain' got time for plays! Brutha, actin is for slaves; a freeman want it real.
Break ur bonds and rite the scrip yoself.
Kres- But I like masa's scrip, and actin's al I got! O, brutha, pleze!
Ekard steps out and noks Seamus unconscious.
Ekard- Niga shuda tuk.
Kres- U sur can crak em, Ekard.
Ekard- Cal me craka?
Kres- Nosa. U's a yela.
Ekard- My yela nuks beat yo blak eye.
Kres- And ur brown nose kis ma blak ass.
Ekard- Wuzat?
Kres- Jus runin lines.
Ekard- Ty im to da swingin oak; I go tel masa Don.
Kres- U herd a dis Emancipashn Proclamashn, Ekard?
Ekard- Da Miscegenashn Prohibishn wut he say, but it don't mean to us cuz we don't mix.
They exit.

## Faze 1, Sene 2. Don's house. Enter Petrarc and Lora. ${ }^{\circ}$

Pet-
Da mo u flee, da les u free, my sooty sweet niget, cuzn wite is lite and blak is nite, so duz it lose itself in seekin same.
Lora- I'd rar be lost n blind than found n bound.
Pet- Sit, u scamprin coony, and let masa's hounds hav meat!
Lora- I'n yo niga yet, cuz my wite mouth stil sez u no.
Pet- Li hot blak curant jely fix al dat.
He wipes blak curant jely on her mouth.
Pet- Now, my dusky babun mamy, flash dem rozy butoks.
Lora- I'n yo niga yet, cuz my wite bely make wite babas.
Pet- Li hot blak curant jely fix al dat.
He wipes blak curant jely on her bely.
Pet- Blak as flapjaks overdun! Here cum da maple buta!
Lora- I'n ful niga yet, cuz my wite leg stil runs away!
Pet- Li hot black curant jely fix al dat.

[^2]He wipes blak curant jely on her thize.

| Lora- | O masa, pik ma cotn clean, cur dis baky til it burns, and edumate yo niga gud! |
| :--- | :--- |
| Pet- | U my masapese. |

Enter Leiotrice and Ekard.

| Leo- | Lora, Petrarc, wut is this? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Lora- | We playn hot blak curant jely, mama. |
| Leo- | Wel, suds yoselvs and git to chors. Papa's mornin pond is murky riled. |
| Pet/Lora- | Yes, mama. |

They exit and hide to the side.
Leo- I fear a life in theater has much pervert my chilluns. Tok to me, Ekard.
Ekard- I craka dis free negro say da Yankees win da war.
Leo- These fire words blast the shel of rumor. ${ }^{\circ}$
Ekard- Here to truth.
Leo- Kresard hear it?
Ekard- Wut so dat? He hear himself and wundr who dat be. Boy thoro play.
Leo- But Holard thinks.
Ekard- $\quad$ She too ador Don Masa t'eva run. Don't fear, ma misa. Wit dis stik I keep da world as dark and dour as me.
Leo- Stirs the Don.
Enter Don.
Don- Shall I share a stanza to Servantes?
Leo- Pleze.
Don- Vijuns of Servantes in the heat, Wepons of hidalgo ${ }^{\circ}$ at his feet, Womyn far, womyn near him bleat,
As soldadotes slotr them repeat.
Glimpses of Servantes on the sand, Ofering to nite his inky hand,
Quivering alone amidst the bland,
Wundering if anyun wil stand.
O intimant Servantes in my brain,
Starin upon gilt's elusiv stain,
Hunchn with his bich beside the drain,
Noein aftr sun ther's only rain.
A milyun days Servantes must hav died,
A milyun times his muthr must hav lied,
A bilyun fuks ly rancid at his side,
A trilyun nites he gurgls in the tide.
Leo- Exelent.

[^3]| Don- | Servantes was enslaved to Afrik Mors, wich supros ${ }^{\circ}$ state exprest the life quixotic for freedom's rife with chois, but slite on dreams. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Leo- | Too true, my Don, and apropo the nuz. |
| Don- | Ah, yes. So sukt unsprouted from my pod |
|  | Of ireality, I that shud stalk |
|  | Am stalkt by economic lizard time, |
|  | My transvers symbols stifled, memory |
|  | Remembers only wut dismembers it, |
|  | And truth becums a sneaky furfrus pest |
|  | Neath that sharp invisibl heel, det. |
|  | Wut's so now-or-not that I must make sens? |
| Ekard- | Wel, masa Don, me and Kresard, as u sed, ben hitn up odiens on the road, but count a da war, it ben real thin, and three dat we dun thumpt confirm ur fear: da South is lost. |
| Don- | Wen? |
| Ekard- | Five days ago. |
| Don- | How? |
| Ekard- | Grant took Lee at Appomatox, and now da Northrn army spreds this way. |
| Don- | Who ar these peple? |
| Ekard- | A northrn nurs and a suthrn soljur, took togethr but kept apart, since each most wana murdr each, and a free negro, tokn mancipashn. |
| Don- | Rouz the troop, prep the stage, and seat the odiens. Tonite we open and close. |
| Ekard- | Yes, Don Masa. |
| Ekard exits. |  |
| Don- | O min wif, hwa nu? |
| Leo- | Libben wit, mi mann. |
| Don- | In servitu? Na . ${ }^{\circ}$ It is time to dy. |
| Leo- | O do not say so, Don. |
| Don- | I do say so, |
| Leo- | No, I wil not. |
| Don- | Wut? |
| Leo- | Wer's the reazn? |
| Don- | I need no reazn. |
| Leo- | Perhaps the North is kind. |
| Don- | Yah, humankind. |
|  | That's anarkik ordr, urj indifrent, |
|  | For nun is mor inhuman or unkind |
|  | Than humankind, this carnivoric gorj |
|  | Wer cel eats cel, sibling slotrs sibling, |
|  | Root strangles root, each a fantazine |

[^4]To scarcity upon the stage of need, Urth our ofal bin, growth our ecocide, As it is sung in spirituals of nite Werin genetic mob defines the rite.
Leo- Hav u no faith?

Don- Wut, hav faith in actors?
Shall I trust the weather, count on the press,
Hold to a whore, create for capital?
The Northanrs wil hak us into bits,
And if they don't, they'l liberate our slaves, Who quikly wil.
Leo- We hav ben gud to them.
Don- Agreshn is pasivity recald,
But I am speaking reazn.
Leo- Speak of hope.
Don- They hope who do not valu wut they ar.
Leo- They hope who valu wut they may becum.
Don- Betr if strong, wors if weak, wich this week
We've just becum, no more just becuming.
Un duz not win a war to lose the prize.
Leo- Ther prize is freedom.
Don- Slavery universal!
O it shal be a sutl bondaj, shut
As ours was open, freedom for the fake,
A revolushn but in this great swindl:
Ours revolvs to them, and abolishn?
Abolishment of genius is ther goal.
Now speak I reazn for no reazn, yet
For ur defians reazn be reward:
Luk. Comerce cums in waves of ernest slime, Reguising aucshun bloks to stok exchanj,
Privat servant into public demand,
From one to mas of mastrs, literal Outproducin figrativ expreshn,
Its wip the muny belt, its chains the charms
Of downward duming drones, educashn
Grup discushn sins nuthin's tru, its law
Screaming legislators, artistry crimpt
For distribushn, taste ofensiv stans,
The sole concern of powr to empowr
The powrles think powr's to outpowr
The very thot of powr, dispowring
Ut powr owns beyond the powr to trade.
O luk at wut refuses to be seen:
The color line un omnipresent blur,

|  | Al enslaved to exclusiv angel rounds, But reazn tires. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Leo- | Self-deth too kindly gives |
|  | Ur nemesis the carion he craves. |
|  | O let us hury west and slyly liv. |
| Don- | Wake to hide? That is to ask confeshn |
|  | Confes it's no acountancy to speech. |
|  | I'd rathr slay myself and al I own |
|  | To noe my last than last becuz unnoen, |
|  | Thus reazn says the time is now to dy. |
| Leo- | It is too reaznles to say, too harsh |
|  | To think in hush, and too misdun to do, Too rife with if for such a final act. |
|  | Mite not the Northrn mite include our rite, |
|  | They our proof improvd, our reazn seasond, What if, what if? O if not if away, |
|  | For if is cor to life, and wen it ain't, |
|  | Ifles deth is ther, showing to invite |
|  | Inevitans is spending breth on air. |
| Don- | Ur logic's point ensurs its own refute, |
|  | As proving if in iflesnes concludes, |
|  | For lo how quik a free, briliant woman |
|  | Faced with fatal fear dons a pity mask |
|  | For wut intends her swelt, and ax the nig. |
| Leo- | Who is to dy? |
| Don- | We, the slaves, the childrn. |
| Leo- | O y not just we? |
| Don- | Shoyaku shinju: |
|  | Betr that the muthr take her oflings |
|  | With her to the next than they muthrles |
|  | Be then comitd to depravity, |
|  | For she shud bild thus craks creashn's code |
|  | That care is to be taken at al cost, |
|  | And hated by who ot to luv her, she |
|  | Loses al miser being shrugs to giv. |
| Leo- | How then is it to hapn? |
| Don- | Wen but they |
|  | Being not themselvs won't themselvs defend. |
| Leo- | In the play? |
| Don- | For ther dethsene, u wil serv |
|  | The ritual juse, as it's ben reherst, |
|  | Tho now it wil be laced with cyanide |
|  | Kept for this day. Deth acted wil be real, Each pasn in a role preferd to self. |

[^5]${ }^{\circ}$ A.S. swylt $=$ death; acts

| Leo- | Me trifeaeste treuwe findest. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Don- | Cum, Leotrice. We hav reazn. |

They exit. Petrarc and Lora cum out.

| Lora- | Mama's gona murdr us? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Pet- | We gota run away! |
| Lora- | Tha's evil northan soljurs evrywer! |
| Pet- | I' fite em off! |
| Lora- | Y, u ain but an actor, |
|  | And Ekard send his dogs. |
| Pet- | Let's larm the slaves |
|  | And the'l revolt. |
| Lora- | Not un a them beleve |
|  | This day a dred cud cancel years a care. |
| Pet- | So, wut we gona do? |
| Lora- | We gona dy. |
| Pet- | No we is not! I gota think a bit. |
| Lora- | O twisted trip from babybud to nil! |
|  | A being sprigs out gob that speaks to gud |
|  | From givin got, yet to be senshnt is |
|  | To be invers, and gud is got by graft, |
|  | So do we scul like litl loln ships |
|  | Tween two oposing inhumanitys, |
|  | A sea and sky, a memry and mentashn, |
|  | The first a birthn broth we canot brethe, |
| Pet- | The last a vijn vast we canot see. |
| Lora- | Got it! We get our freedom thru the play! |
| Pet- | How so? |
|  | During the thirteenth angel sene |
|  | Wen al is on the stage, but we in bak, |
| Lora- | And dark is near desenshn, out we scoot. |
| Pet- | But then I'l mis my deth sene. |
| Lora- | That's the point. |
| Pet- | Perhaps wut papa wana do is rite. |
| Lora- | Lora, my life is not my papa's play. |
| Pet- | But life is deth without our papa's plays. |
| Lora- | So, uns we'r free, we do our own. |
| Pet- | But they won't be like papa's! |
| Lora- | Lora, sweet, papa wana poison us. |
|  | And so we livd and dyd upon the stage; |
|  | Tho most unnoen, they truly nu ther age, |
| Pet- | And spirald in a bon of burning verbs. |
| Lora- | My final words wud be his final words! |
|  | O, sista, stop! |
|  | We stay. |
|  |  |

[^6]| Pet- | We go. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Lora- | We dy. |
| Pet- | And deth is wer an actor draws the line. Wut is a play? A fantasy on its feet, Wobly, soon to fal, colors quik congeled, Meanings barely ment, fu can fuly sens. Not necesity, but indulgency Is al the play; costumes, props, and sets, Such things for wich nun ot to sacrifice Its vital being. Let's outplay the play And go. |
| Lora- | We go. Yet how I luv this farm, And leavn here, we lose luv's set, wich I Than livn les our luv wud dy to keep. |
| Pet- | So, as we'r free to luv in papa's plays, Tel me without them we ain't lost to luv. |
| Lora- | O sweetest sibling shared in heated hush, <br> As life wud green forgo, so wud I u. Ur warmn May my tundras blum in mush, Ur scraping raks my maple sugr spru; Stuk by the sting of ur deep-sukln chug, As purpl incan orkid low I spru, And wen ur belrin buls my shors enhug, My secrets like she-seals for mating moo. To leve $u$ is imposibl for me As $u$ ar fixt within me as myself, Nor do I need an artifact to glee Wut natur's gave us to enjoy in helth. Yet as my word, I us a fals hart hand, O hug it, lik it, kis it as our child, Of frenzy's fortun comest contraband, So comforting to creaturs of the wild, And noe, don't matr wer we go in life Or deth, I am ur sistr and ur wife. |
| Pet- | O wut an osum speech. |
| Lora- | The Don is gud. |

Enter Leotrice.
Leo- Chillun, pleze, redy urselvs.
Both- Yes, mama.
They exit. ${ }^{\circ}$

[^7]
## Faze 1, Sene 3. Enter Kresard with Seamus, stil unconshus, and tys him.

Kres-
I sez ya nice to see da sho, but yo got shat to do, so's it fits ya git un stif up yo sof hed. Diz I warn ya? Yaz I did, but yo, ya mis ya cue, cuz shatman skip - no shat be mo impotant dan da sho. Sum shat to make? Da parts is in da sho. Sum shat to say? Da lines is in da sho. Seekn at some speshl shat? Da acshns in da sho. See, da shat's in da persepshn of da shat. Much like da man wok thru da wuds to nab hiself a buk, he may or he may not, but he ain enjoy da sene. But if he wok em just to wok em, he may nab a buck, or he may not, but he most enjoy da sene fo sur. Shatman skof da sunset see but un long sobrin shado. Shatman ride fast wata meet da watafal mite fast. Shatman frown at chiln gona get but frowns return, wen un ezy smile make him mos glad to dy. Now shatman git da shat dat he deserv: he watch da sho, wil or woe, tyd and fit for wipn.

Enter Holard.
Hol- Kresard, go help Ekard seat the hous.
Kres- We open tonite?
Hol- Wut, ain u hapy?
Kres- We got mo talkas than lisnas!
Hol- So, wut's nu?
Kres- Y, pepes they use a cum in paks to see Don Masa's plays.
Hol- Times is od.
Kres- It's unatural.
Hol- O, and how is that?
Kres- Looka my hed.
Hol- Dam, u rite. It's unatural.
Kres- I mean, I got mo ears than I got mouths.
Hol- No u ain't.
Kres- Two ears...
Hol- And three mouths.
Kres- Go on. Squirm out this shakl and I swear u ai no slave.
Hol- U gots a mouth sez 'yes, masa,' wich u wear on ur face. U gots a mouth sez 'no, masa,' wich u cary in ur hed. And u's a mouth that don't say nun cuz u alz sitn on it. Now seat the hous and I wil speak to $u$ in caractr.
Kres- Haply, wuz I like u beta wen u sumun els.
Kresard goes to exit.
Hol- Kresard, wut is dis?
Kres- Dat's a blak man, Holard.
Hol- I mean, wer u get im?
Kres- $\quad$ Strutn up da hi road, sayin how he free.
in a war may not expect to live long. They have been raised by Don, interiorized his values, and believe he is wise. The previous scene may have been so shocking to them that an aura of unreality surrounds them. Finally, the scene operates symbolically in the text, positing a choice between life and art (a choice that 19th Century artists took quite literally).

Kresard exits.
Hol- A free blak man? Creatur inconcevd
Til here this sampl slumps, this fable flames,
A skitish windigo flit out the wud
To cultur's chains. Free and blak? Words that uns
So avers ther alujns, winst at tuch,
Yet hudl closely in this sheltr sol,
This nevr now, this fact imposibl,
And aquaint, as if fear enrapturd of Itself itself anuls itself embrasin.
Free and blak. Blak meet free. Free, this is blak.
Blak's a hu, as in human, and he plays
The spoilr role in Wity Gets It Fresh.
Free is a spy of eliptical regimes
Who takes no part but wut his puzl fits, Wich he keeps tukt in natur's back poket.
U two shud wing awile, craft a cycle,
And tempt to avatize the latent dreams
Caged calmly in this clampt imaculens,
By blending urselvs being most urselvs.
Neva. If in this man u maybe meld,
Wich now's but sound upon a muted gape
Of futur sens al eko senslesnes,
It's wantles rare and horid wunderful
As a two-heded child, a shok wen sprung,
Odly cute in yuth, yet with time devolvn
To fleshy symbol of insanity,
Two minds, two needs, two harts, two hates, one trunk,
A haf extenshn servn dual intenshns,
In which feast of famin it eats itself.
No prospect now exists for free and blak.
Wite's free, blak's bound, thot hush, and I on trak.
She puts wata to Seamus' mouth and he wakes.

| Hol- | It's wata. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sea- | Wer am I? |
| Hol- | In ur body. |
| Sea- | Ansr me! |
| Hol- | Wen angr ansrs angr |
|  | It falsifys by ekoing the tru. |
| Sea- | Ur angr shud be genuin to see |
|  | A bruthr falsifyd, whose rage reflects |
|  | His rite projected from a glaring rong. |
| Hol- | The rong is slite that brings a gud imens. |
| Sea- | Wut gud? |
| Hol- | To see the play we'r to perform. |


| Sea- | Ur gud into my bad inflicshn twists. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Hol- | These are the codices of liberty, |
|  | Wich frame u not, so u seem a cripl |
|  | Criticizn dans becuz u dream it. |
|  | Drink. |
| Sea- | I ask u, pleze, tel me wer I am. |
| Hol- | As ur pleze plezes me, I will pleze $u$, |
|  | And, ekoing the rong, so tru the tru: U sit upon the farm theatrical |
|  | Of the great Don Flagrante Delicto, |
|  | Whose mastery of dramas metrical |
|  | An unequivocal bravisimo |
|  | Has not yet found, tho as the fetal cheek |
|  | Must nurtur on our darknes to be born |
|  | A thing our lips must ever luvn seek, His text shal sumday by al tungs be worn. |
|  | Now drink. The play is long. |
| Sea- | If he's so great, how cum u ty me down? |
| Hol | Now drones the tune too dul to deeply urj |
|  | Harmonic of reply, but I'm song-starvd; |
|  | U may not be great enuf to see it. |
| Sea- | Tru greatnes al can see, and wut of chois? |
| Hol- | Wer is that man, set stupid on this sfere |
|  | Of pointles signs, can say wer he shud go? |
| Sea- | Set free, I'l sho that man. |
| Hol- | That man is blak, |
|  | And so unfree, as unlike he who's wite |
|  | To whom the lite bekons as a brotha, |
|  | He gestates with his twin, utr darknes, |
|  | And livs nostalja bound to primal deth. |
| Sea- | That logic's colorful, yet fals as lite |
|  | Wich thru a spectral metafor aserts |
|  | We are internal difrnt as we'r seen, |
|  | For al's created equal. |
| Hol | And yet nun |
|  | Livs equal to the act of creashn. |
| Sea- | The act of creashn is the living. |
| Hol | The life of the actor is the drinkn, |
|  | So shush, and let the slave slake the slave. |
| He spits the wata at her. |  |
| Sea- | I am blak and free, just as u wud be |
|  | If u did not to othas giv urself. |
| Hol- | I giv myself to othas that I may |
|  | Be wut it is not givn me to be, |
|  | An otha that no otha than herself |
|  | Must be, as othawise I nuthn am, |


|  | Wich is al les than sumthn les than al, Yet if ur spit is ment to sprout my self Into a sap of ur nun otha kind, U drown me in the freedom u inflict. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sea- | I ment to wake u. |
| Hol- | Ther are gentlr ways. |
| Sea- | Go free with me. |
| Hol- | Da masa'd wip me wite. |
| Sea- | Ther's ben a war... |
| Hol- | I ain got time for this. |
| Sea- | U ain got time for freedom? Wut's ur name? |
| Hol- | My name? That's a brutal transplantashn, Incorporated thru my corpral lak, Producin pristine fluf to market heavd As raw material for being's cloth: Sincerity's overcoat, the liar's sak, The elgant drapes that hide unhapy homes; Society ain but a sewn machine That stitches natur into our disguise. |
| Sea- | I see ur habit is to disinhabit <br> Al demands of mind, tho nun of body. So, wur I a trader, shopn mental meat, And from the blok I glanst to fresh my gaze, As clas wil flush ther palat with sum fiz Befor they nash agen into the lam, And saw $u$ hidin shy behind sum beam To keep urself from los, wich dosil pose Ignites my rapine urj, thus ordr u To step ur secret guds out front, in hopes Of makin u my bedtime woman snak, Wut word wud I inscribe on the recete To note the self indelibl I'1 blank? |
| Hol- | Three words: not for sale. |
| Sea- | Three mor: not ur cal. |
| Hol- | They cal me Holard. |
| Sea- | And they cal me Seamus. |
| Hol- | Then shame on $u$ for showin me my shame, But tel me, Seamus, ot I feel shame To serv u wata, as my masa bid, To drink, not spit, befor our lengthy sho, Or wil u dry urself out washn me? |
| Sea- | Here alone, Holard, do I say obey. |

She gives him wata.
Hol- Now bout that war...
Enter Ekard and Kresard with Jukes and Mary tyd up.

Jukes- Push me agen, u jungl jiganiny, and I freak.
Ekard pushes Jukes to the ground.

| Ek- | Ya see dis boy? Is cald a cranky bich. |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | She scrach ya body ou, ba mis da ich. |
|  | She cut ya open wut ca no be stich. |
|  | She look ya way yo face be twista twich. |
|  | Hear cakln in ur cranum? She da wich. |
|  | How cuz yo life so cheap? Cuz she be rich. |
|  | Yo ain al fitn in? She spade da nich. |
|  | Go try and smuth it ovr, she da glich. |
|  | So I push u al down da deepest dich, |
|  | Yo bicha crank, cuz she ma cranky bich. |
| Kres- | Don't kil im, Ekard, pleze. Three peple's sad, but two's embarasin! |
| Ekard- | Holard, unty da niga. |
| Hol- | U is untyd. |
| Ekard- | Free im, I say. |
| Hol- | He is free. |
| Ekard- | Heed me, ooman. |
| Sea- | Don't hit her, pleze. |
| Ekard- | U sweet on masa's sow? He no trade her for al da fems in Frans. She his darky |
| diva. |  |
| Sea- | And u his darky driva. |

Ekard hits Seamus.
Mary- Y won't u hear the disentanglng day Of autocratic code is cum at last, America singing liturjys of chois For serf, pesant, laborer and slave, Creating diagnostic guvernans:
Every need the rite, every rite the truth, Each truth an end, each end equality, Expresng from our rich, dezirus shors Liberty's uncastigatng symbols? Y do u who spurd this revolushn Now shun the premium of its success?
Seamus- No mesaj penetrates unwilng ears. Jukes- I do not wana wach ur fukn play!
Hol- Be hush, u al, be hush. How wud we be
Mor than brunt and elemental drujes
Past wunder bifurcated by our wants
If we unto the plots of privat freedom
Did not at times be linkt? Autonomy, In pur edafic climax, only cums
From out a long and teribl selecshn
Of ideomotic, arthromeric quirks
Whose minglng gesturs temporary clash

At last into a lush utopia,
Yet getng ther is al dependency
To sols like Masa Don. His invocashn
Soothes bludjnd pride, camforic pourparler
Slavng the ear to mantic luv. Enforsmnt
Must often do wut nun wud freely choos,
Yet wich, uns chosen, wud most freely al.
So, be hush. Strech thy dodlng feelrs forth, Loose that politic vijn wich obscurs
How our most mental mouth at histry roots,
And don't resist resistn explanashn:
U free us most by ur concentrashn.
All exit.
Faze 2, Sene 1. The stage. Enter stage manager, assistant, and actors.
SM- Coheez to the stage!

ASM- Wut wud u do with al the muny in the world?
SM- Hsuan Hsieh!
1- I bild an elefant tusk shatoe, Feng shui Minya Konka, I peepee on Yunan Platoe, Yangtze for my kaka, I practicng the wai shang toa, Alone in mesur of chi, I ask myself til end of now If words be river or sea.

3- Upon zie wintr solstis, In wintr hardy wools, Zie wintr-bourn hot trikln, Neath frozn wintr pools, With wintr shnitzl rauchert, In wintr feeding vat,


Faze 2, Sene 2. Enter Ekard and Kresard with Jukes, Mary, Seamus. They ty them down.

Ekard- Tok, I hit ya. Stand, I sit ya.
Relax and enjoy, strugl and sufr.
Enter Actor.
Actor- For chuzn us tonite, we thank u much, And that u stay our captiv odiens, Tho garanteez no luvr of the live, We wil to win ur raving vijn strive,
Yet ask ur kindnes, for so por the day That we by mas must sel our preshus play.
Actor exits. Enter 2 more actors.
Actor 1- Of the race of the Angles and Saxons this drama, Of Lolland, of Frisia, Elbe Weser, Zuyder Zee, The Nerthus-crowd, Woden their war-god indoma, Who pelt-burdend, spear-ladend, crost the North Sea.
Actor 2- $\quad$ Of the race of the hermits of Lerins this play, Of Arles, of Vienne, of Lyons and Rome, Monks of the disciplined humble display, Who peace-burdened, grace-girded, walkt on the foam.
Actor 1- Vandalic Europans in wiflheim umberd, Their woodenships sproling, their moots ever tru, Brash as the tonting Thunor unencumberd, The race of the men of the blud-boiling blu.
Actor 2- Bearing forgiveness into the North hoardes, The fruit of the lard of the slotr of lams, Convertng the pagans, sheathng ther swords, Of fisical thot, of psycical hands.
Actor 1- Of crazy hot semen, of womb ripe and strong, Of lineage cherishd, of unbrokn home, Of earl and ceorl bound eager in throng, Of worda and worca enribbing the dome.
Actor 2- Tonsurd and meak, of cross and of image, Of Admon convinced, of numen philosus, Fear in the conshns, stilnes in scrimaj, Order and sanctity bearing mutuus.
Actor 1- Hieran se wothcrafte Saxon und Angle, Nyde genydde, wuldorgeflogenum, Hand-locen baldlice, wergeld und wrangle, Singale saece, ead elne gesongen.
Actor 2- Impurus purgare, factiosus spargare, In praesagitione permutando duritia,
Reverns in gnomo pacis invehere, Inclinatus a beneficio detergere invidia.
enter rap sistas.
TO- Now swiva da stilo an alla zingara,

Flagrante Delicto e cumn a spar ya, So coral twist beutyful life outa bone, Diz glandula wiza make any hormone.
DI- Stay wakin as he intimate
His cronkn infonervic blitz,
Les asleep u vajinate
Wut wil control ur spinal swich.
CI- He pimp jesus largest, budha bich baddest, U target the margin, he market da fistest, Doctor Derijn, the rebi of rong, Chil it or choke it, cuz masa be long. Sea- I wil not lisn to this nuthng.
Ekard cloks him.
Ekard- I wil not hesitate to put a niga on his bak.
Enter Don.
Don- I ask the menispermum faze my mind; Sweet pilferaj of luv is my import. I mean no harm. Retracshns hav ben sined,
But I must now ur fetal truth abort.
The dugs of doom ly drying in the sun, Invijus freaks of freedom at them lap, Ther suk the target, my spokespawn the gun,
Kwik they dy by me, or slo at poisn pap.
O mastery is lost in being gaind!
Aleles of genius crak in being used,
And countrfactiv powr is unbraind
By brains empowrd by ther own abuse.
If we cud make of history a home,
A heedful public to our privat harts, Detouring mesh adicshn to the noen, And syncronize our labor to the arts, Then shit like this wud bak to nutris turn, And pur fenomenastix of delite Wud esens us off strange existent churn And we wud swirl, rich proteins bilt of blite. But we canot. Wut's weak we cal wut shud.
We weld the trak of time about our space,
And saying nuthng to be understood,
We scrambl facelesly into our face.
As cute makes crime, as satisfakshn greed, As feeding pijuns justifys the seed, We struct our sol from one disgruntld glans, And celebrating ignorans, we dans.
So u don't wana see my sho. Alrite, Then I won't sho $u$ wut $u$ wana see.

We both can fit in this cosmopolite,
Tho ur submishn's al I mean by we.
Enslaving thee, I free myself from strife.
By teaching thee, I bathe my mind in crap.
In freeing thee, I end my ragged life.
Yap yap yap yap yap.
The stage is set, the cohees strangely clad,
Weak wil is overcum by wild wud,
So starts the play of Aethelbert the Bad,
And his sojurn with Augustine the Gud.
TO- Now to the hals of mead,
Of roth byrnys and falchions,
Kings of the waring breed,
Jutes, Angles, and Saxons!
DI- Tales of victory tel,
Wordhords of Widsith vain,
Offring of Offa the Fell,
Of Woercmen, of beorna, of thegn.
CI- Yo like repeat it the storiest,
How murderers mate evermoriest,
Wile brodsworded hooligans hoariest
Get drunk and shout "my dad's the goriest!"
Faze 2, Sene 3. Aethelbert's Mead Hall. Enter the Anglo-Saxons (Aethelbert, Aethelfrith, Eadbald, Raedwald, Ceolwulf, Bard, and others).
Ead- Behold, u bludy brutes, the Roman's head!
Raed- How stoic, how advanst, how noble tis!
Ceolwulf- Silens, for the homo wud oratio!
Ead- Frends, Romans, Cuntrymen, wer ar my ears?
Frith- Ear they ar!
All- Eat, eat, eat!
Aethelfrith eats the ears.
Ceolwulf- As our gore-lust, let our guts be sated!
Raed- Hungr is a point not wel debated!
Afrith- A mug of mead! Brew-bich, a mug of mead!
Enter brew-bich with mugs of mead.
Ead- U, fatha, who as warlord held the lead, And dru most stinky steam from begng bleedrs, Slug primal draft, and hear the flatrus liedrs.
Abert- ...and tha freolic wif,
ful gesealde
aerest East-Dena
ethel-wearde;
baed hine blithne beon
aet thaere beor-thege,
leodum leofne.
He on luste gethah
Symbel and sele-ful,
sige-rof kyning.
Aethelbert slugs.

| Jukes- | That Anglo-Saxon sound like niga blab. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Don- | That's cuz it is. |
| Ead- | Up, word-warbler. Chug thy sudsy rout! |
| Ceolwulf- | Awake, thou scop, and thrust thy throataj out! |
| Bard- | I am the Word! |
| Raedwald- | No, u ar the Worm! |
| Bard- | Forgiv me, lords, but I was dreamng. |
| Afrith- | Of our scramaseaxes gleamng? |
| Bard- | Futil to say wut dreams imply |
|  | As the saying ther sens deny. |
| Raed- | Spare us, Bard, ur mefisical snare |
|  | And sing of our race and its dominant lair. |
| Bard- | Wut powr enforces, poets cal fair. |
|  | In time with the kemical draw in my veins, I sing of the men of the strength and the rage. In modrn tones, tho ful of ancient names, Cums out my vois, of the Anglo-Saxon age. |
| Ead- | Sing to our great drihten. |
| Afrith- | Aethelbert! |
| Bard- | Aethelbert, inchest of booklanded kings, Son of Eormenic, of Octa, of Oeric, Of Oisc, the son of original Hengist, Stil trace thy viril puty back to Woden! |
| All- | The indigenous inhabitants |
|  | Of Britain, after Brutus, |
|  | Batld for predominans. |
|  | Til Vortigern, that local chump, |
|  | Askt us cum to play his punks - |
|  | We came, we saw, we fukt shit up! |
| TO- | Adventus Saxonum is made in the shade! |
| DI- | Hirelings wil on the highest be paid! |
| CI- | It's a fish eat bison world we've made! |
| Bard- | Scotsmen, Britons, Picts, and Celts, |
|  | Cerd and Cyrnic's wimp Gewisse, |
|  | All in war hav took ther welts |
|  | From Woden's fyrd gesitha! |
| Ead- | Of esens of our peple tel the meat, |
|  | Of craft, of code, of otha's defeat. |
| Bard- | Of esens, meat is much, |
|  | Of absens, thou art ful, |
|  | Of cryptic stimulus, |



Competitiv rigor,
From life's lagard length
Weaving with vigor
Nabor in nabor,
Sehnsucht in sens,
Valu in labor, Pese in defens,
Elements livid
Yet stonch art thou each,
Chalenj thy luvng,
Intrepid thy reach,
Growing thru merit
Of sord and of shield,
Thy jactant bold oposit
Neva shal yield!
All- From Lothland's fjords and woods we've fled, The Anglo-Saxon hoardes so dred, Ravaj and plundr and drag em to bed, The Anglo-Saxons got big fukn heds. Industry, farming, and poetry dens, Race of the blue-eyed high-templd long-limbd, Pale of flesh tho of darkest intents, Stok of the fog-briliant thinkng undimd.
Neva stray, neva sleep, neva relent, Raising our broods on the oak-gripng urth, Fueling on freedom our avid asent, Ordr torential shal drench us in worth. The Anglo-Saxon race is cum, Upon thy hope we hold the law, Survival's game is finaly won, U cry for help, we shout hurra!
Don Wel, now we've cast the baracuda bait, Any u sukas dare to masticate?
Sea- The intransitiv shades that grim efulj
From ancient monuments of dignity,
Obstructng vijun of the next alure,
Must as the lite that makes them sloly shift
From face to face, place to place, race to race, And who wud ty down time to envy's stake,
Constructng from detritus of ther fear Such bulky breaks agenst the glintng change
Ar malaprop at birth and chaos-plugd,
For conshusnes is but a color skeme.
Ther's mor than blak and wite in blak and wite, And chonting greatnes amplifys the trite.
U noe. To my repair thy thrashing's frite.

| Jukes- | Ther ain't no such a thing as blak repair. <br> All that's bilt, he breaks. Al that's great, he laks, |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | So are these words a weaklng's mity whine <br> That canot even liberate himself. |
| Mary- | Jukes, u devalu the human species. <br> Don- |
|  | Wel, here's a brawl, the lak-and-lose of drama, <br> So let us graficate its latent troma. |
| Ekard drags the odiens onto stage. |  |
| TO- | Fil the vial |
| DI- | With vile seed! |
| Jukes- | Say wut? |
| CI- | Spu or sufr! |
| Jukes- | O man, u'r nuts. |
| Don- | No, man, ur nuts. |

Jukes masturbates into a cup.
Don- I am the grub that liks its lips at birth, The godlike goof that porshuns us our derth.
Ekard- Act!
Seamus and Mary read.
Mary- This hand holds a flowr, so it feels the luv.
Sea- This hand wants the powr, so it puts on a gluv.
Mary- That hand steals the flowr disguised in righteous nits.
Sea- That hand hates the powr that uns upon was its.
Mary- $\quad$ This hand sufrs now as sufrd then that hand.
Sea- $\quad$ Natur doses pain thru evry human gland
Mary- Acordng to the powr to rendr it exprest.
Sea- We each ar remnants of a flowr uns posest.
Jukes completes himself.

| TO- | The juis dogmatistic! |
| :--- | :--- |
| DI- | Balistic! |
| CI- | So spastic! |
| TO- | In the comandeerd cup swimng paleocrystic! |
| DI- | Take it, Don Evil, and speak ur bombastic! |
| CI- | Wow em da wisdum a wak masterbotic! |

Ekard holds Seamus before Don.
Don- U like? Te gusta jizmajiminy?
Es gut? Jouez vous crucial hominy?
Look on it! Read the fogn book on it!
Bet on it! Find ur famly name in it!
It refrax the divinity,
This liquid sureal,
Of its oto-sovrenity

The world's a-squeal.
It's wite. Get the hint?
It's perfect and al.
It's natur's cool mint,
Bubln hot from the bal.
Slurp it and think,
This parturient pee -
U won't neva blink
Uns u drunk the wite tea.
Hol- Masa Don, I ain't seen this in the script, So wip me if $u$ wil, but spare his lip.
Don- Speak da slave, obey da masa: Placid fact is the fate of disasta.

He disposes of the sampl.
TO- To Rome! To Rome!

DI- Forget the foo foam!
CI- To the palas of pity!
TO- Charity's home!
DI- Here's Gregory Great!
CI- Pope of the hour!
TO- And here ar wite slaves.
DI- How shifty is powr.
Faze 2, Sene 4. Rome. Enter Slave Trader, 2 wite slaves, Pope Gregory, Tarsilla.

| Greg- | Sister Tarsilla, wut splendor is this Emerjng from these rakt and wogy ships? |
| :---: | :---: |
| Tars- | Slaves, brotha Gregory, tagd for hagl. |
| Greg- | A strange supernal spirit hues ther heds. |
| Tars- | They ar blond. |
| Greg- | Blandus, yes, smooth and fawning, Geneticly disownd of that wise gruj Wich cums of being bound in curly loks, Opake, elastic. It is gud that I Enslave, or educate, them to the truth. |
| Tars- | Shal I then inquire of ther pricing? |
| Greg- | Yea, u shal, tho my luv no price noeth. |
| Tars- | Trader! |
| Trader- | How can I be a traitor, mam, <br> Wen I's but swear alejans to free trade? |
| Tars- | How much for these two sory lookng slaves? |
| Trader- | These two fine specimens? Ten poops a pop. |
| Tars- | That's a lot of poops for two scrawny pups. |
| Trader- | But the're strong. Shoez da mam how strong u is. |
| Greg- | Let me speak to them. Werfrom ar u, boys? |
| 1- | We are Angles, sir. |
| Greg- | Angels of God! |


| 2- | Our king was Aelli. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Greg- | Sing u Alleluiahs! |
| 1- | Of the tribe Deira. |
| Greg- | From God's wrath, de ira, flee to faith! |
| Trader- | That's up north, in the mythic land of Briton, Wer folks work hard, play ruf, and neva think, So twenty poops ain't squat for such gud grunts. |
| Greg- | Wen luv, Tarsilla, like the grazing flok |
|  | Compels pastoral care expand its range |
|  | Past the fens of comfort-bracing custom, |
|  | Tho rich humility por pride must curb, |
|  | Shan't we alow the lesr lead us on |
|  | As they the greatr mor by misng sens? |
|  | So thru my sol now sorz sum nu desire |
|  | To ventur with these waifs to ther cribland, |
| Tars- | I shal but syncopate thy throbng urj. |

Tarsilla pays the Trader.
Greg- O to the north! To lux orbis finiens!
Of sea to see, O rich anastomosis!
Cum, my blond, butiful boys of bondaj!
My stok upon thy throng seeks pasturaj!
They exit.
TO- á Paris! á Paris!
DI- And Bertha the Princess.
CI- Pelcht by her papa for Angland's alians.
TO- Qu'est-ce qui? Qu'est-ce qui?
DI- Is she of pese the bring?
CI- Or just a greezy pese a chow fat king?
Faze 2, Sene 5. Paris. The court of King Charibert. Enter Bertha and Theofile.
Theo- Bud Bertha, princess trist of Paris fold, Hav I, suspended in desir's cloud, Not nitely stird semantic storms untold
To drive away the smut-adorng crowd
That swayd our wims to past comitment stare,
Yet now in smuty Angland u prepare
Ur wedng tarp? O luvr coy and brusk,
How shal I liv not hufng of thy musk?
Ber- Consanguinat previjns hav inurd
My eyes to thine, dear Theofile, and wim,
Woundng me with salt-wave stimulashn, Has sevral times untwistd tremblng braids, And thus I luv thee, if luv is to swoon, Yet det in servis and genetic wish

Of livng wer the code of concord craks
Rips from thy hand the bud that thou wudst blum.
I soro this, but strange ar we alurd.
Theo- But mary Aethelbert, that hairy brute?

| Ber- | My fathr wishes it. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Theo- | And so do u. |
| Ber- | I wish to help anothr help himself, |
|  | And luvng wut is lost to find myself. |
| Theo- | U wish to slave the king of dred! U seek |
|  | A metal chest ur cooing can unlok, |
|  | A man who ignorant thy noeing needs, |
|  | Whom thou canst bobl, spin, and edify, |
|  | Sum chatl cros the chanl, that's ur crave, |
|  | For wich I fear thy charity deraved |

Ber- Depraved art thou who questun charity.
Theo- It's u who tot me questun evrything!
Ber- Tru questuning is acshn suplicant.
Theo- I wil not be supliant to a stone!
O pride entraps the sky within our hed,
Resentment stufs the dirt into our hart, And tween the two, a crop of crap is bred, Nurturing us on wut our growth distorts. Return, O Frankan Bertha, purest Clovan, To Paris shor that surjes for thy moon. Ber- Clovan is but cloven, Frank but lying, As I, a moon that servs the shorz redundant, Must ripl al, the pasiv and the vying,
So now I seaskip cros the blu perfundant. Theo- Who ar u that do wut least becums u ?
Ber- I am a quivring tree upon the crags, Whom climers cal the sprintng numa's las, Thru whose soft leves the shuflng suncomb drags,
And round whose lims the winds admirus pas, Yet who, so fethry, bare, and undrwaterd,
Who so tatrd, cut, and hail-batrd,
Into her bark and pith reseves but crying,
As roots that feed on stone are ever dying. I must, my jentl yuth-luvd Theofile,
Abandon home and robe, word and talisman,
And al the instincts gathrd in our wiles, To travel far to luv a luvles man.
Theo- Am I ner to tug thy tendr butons?
Ner to lik the jus of Berthan mutons?
Ber- $\quad$ So deeply do we tuch, we canot sens
The perfect pain, the beuty propt in plite,
The stealing glans, the torid recompens

Of meager thots, the doctrin of delite That sez I luv thee and so nevr wil, For luv's a prik of ever deeper quil.
Theo- Adieu, deepest Bertha, mistres of the doom, My luv now slothrs in thy luvles gloom.
He exits. enter Ingoberg.

| Ingo- | How takes thy douce-amour this nuz, my child? |
| :---: | :---: |
| Ber- | He takes it, muthr, wel, as pine to fire. |
| Ingo- | Did not thy smile, cupng rainy tears, Dous his blaze of grief? |
| Ber- | I tried to smile, |
|  | But my mouth was too busy being cruel. |
| Ingo- | Our mouths canot control conflictng needs That natural oposishn merges split. So, ar u set? |
| Ber- | Save un trifle, muthr. |
| Ingo- | No trifle is too trite for muthr's mind. |
| Ber- | Y am I being sold to Aethelbert? |
| Ingo- | Sold is such an ugly word. |
| Ber- | Truth is ugly. |
| Ingo- | Yet truth is he is hansum, rich and powrful. |
| Ber- | The qualitys for wich I am to luv him. |
| Ingo- | Wich he wil then reciprocate in time. |
| Ber- | Yet are these also not the qualitys |
|  | Wens fathr fears him? |
| Ingo- | Fathr fear him? No. |
| Ber- | At fairs I've herd the Anglo-Saxon songs, Those bragng brays of vilent clang and howl, And thot, wur I a King, and French at that, I wud ofl scared. |
| Ingo- | Nuthng scares ur fathr. |
| Ber- | The lion keeps his prey til jakls swarm. |
| Ingo- | Wut means this metafor, my mystic imp? |
| Ber- | Ther ar too many posibilitys |
|  | For wut the metafor by natur means |
|  | To say but that I am a metafor |
|  | And seeing such no I can evr be |
|  | As nots of nuthng nevr get untyd. |
|  | Am I the lion, Aethelbert the prey, |
|  | And Christun monks the jakls swarmng bout |
|  | To eat wut I hav tenderized? Or maybe |
|  | Papa is the lion, I the jakls, |
|  | And Aethelbert the prey, surendrd me |
|  | In expectashn of my nashng lust. |
|  | Or maybe I'm the prey, and this negoce |
|  | A truce my deth inspires. Or maybe, |

But maybe wut? Maybe this is maybe that.
Al I noe is a quikening of breth, That lions lone must bow to mut exces, That jakals only eat wen pitiles, And prey to be itself must pray for deth.
Enter Charibert and Liudhard.

| Chari- | Ah, Ingoberg, my wife, and dotchen Bertha, This is Bishop Liudhard. He's being sent Along with $u$ to mumify ur morals Wile boging with that pagan King of Kent. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Liud- | In luv, thou lady chaste and chery nu. |
| Chari- | His counsel is at fixt exchange with mine, So rate him hi. |
| Ber- | I'l rate him as he erns. |
| Chari- | Ingoberg, quit blubng, and say bonjour. |
| Ingo- | Wut can I say, my dotr, of this hel |
|  | To wich my luvng urj has hurld u ? |
|  | Its mana is shit, its bevraj blud, |
|  | Its tastes retarded and vishus, its dreams |
|  | A system of greed, its wundr defused, |
|  | Its enemy diversity, its laws |
|  | A lisens to kil, its natur extinct, |
|  | Angr its sex, destrucshn its desir, |
|  | And evrywer the same is ulogized: |
|  | Chans privilej executes its comic rape |
|  | Upon the masokistic ignorants. |
|  | Hav I no comfort for uthen? But this: |
|  | Think not, say not, cherish not, and suk |
|  | Hard and long at the empty nip of not, |
|  | For O my-wors-for-wuntng-betr child, |
|  | Not is al the comfort ther is here. |
| Chari- | Wel, my curvaceous bride, to Angle-land? |
| Ber- | As victim solast to suply demand. |
| Sistas- | Red alert! Red alert! |
| TO- | Critic in the hous! |
| DI- | Grab the jelus retrovert! |
| CI- | And stuf im in his mouth! |
| Don- | U'r not lisning to my play. |
| Jukes- | U fukn umiliated me. |
| TO- | The Rape of Aesthetica! |
| DI- | Uns without a time, in the wimtown of a dreamstate, rompt the flimzy free Aesthetica. |
| CI- | Aesthetica Autarkia Attractiva! |
| DI- | Then, on a wel-lit nite, for getgo and gudgrab, slithd the glory-gutulant Ethico. |
| TO- | Ethico Solipsio Destructivo! |


| DI- | Seeing Aesthetica, Ethico sez... |
| :--- | :--- |
| TO- | She must be mine, al mine! |
| DI- | So up thru the broomfield he sitelesly sneaks. |
| TO- | I got sumthin u don't hav! |
| CI- | Wut is that? |
| DI- | Aesthetica speaks. |
| TO- | An odiens. |
| CI- | Wut is that? |
| DI- | Aesthetica shrieks. |
| TO- | A miror that reflects al u ar not. |
| CI- | Y do I wunt un of those? |
| DI- | Aesthetica squeaks. |
| TO- | Wut u'r not is wut u ar to be. |
| DI- | Aesthetica freaks! |
| CI- | Get me an odiens! |
| TO- | Rite this way. |
| DI- | And Ethico shuts Aesthetica in a cage. |
| CI- | Is this an odiens, or a cage? |
| TO- | Ain't much difrens nowadays. |
| CI- | Let me out! |
| TO- | I'l let u out, if u wil bear my child. |
| DI- | So to be free, Aesthetica submits, and from this fiduciary rape, a slug is born. |

Jukes reads from the script.
Jukes- I am Kritikus.
Don- $\quad$ The product of two oposits, he livs to opoze the world.
DI- Hear the ten...
Don- The five.
DI- Hear the five comandments of Kritikus!
Jukes- Thou shalt not represent except of me.
Thou shalt not reach the peple save thru me.
Thou shalt not take mor time than works for me.
Thou shalt not devalu those who pay me.
Thou shalt not hav anothr frod than me.
Don- Thus spake Kritikus, the conshens we must kil.
Ekard returns Jukes to his seat.
Faze 3, Sene 1. Kent. Aethelbert's home. Enter Aethelbert, Fraethwith, a ceorl, and a slave.
Ceorl- Here's the reched slave, O monster-munchng Aethelbert.
Abert- Word-belch the stain-blurb of his crime-seep.
Fraeth- This slave stands acused of doing nuthng.
Abert- How do u plea?
Slave- Standng up. Tho a slave, I'm stil a man.
Abert- Plea, plea. Wut do u say to the charges?
Slave- If sumun charges, I run away, les I gain my freedom with a fite.
Abert- Wur u doing nuthng?

Slave- No, my king.
Abert- Wut then wur u doing?
Slave- Sumthng.
Abert- Wut kind of sumthng?
Slave- Nuthng in particular.
Abert- U wur then doing nuthng?
Slave- Nuthng I'd cal sumthng.
Abert- Wuz it sumthng?
Slave- O it was sumthng.
Abert- Such as?
Slave- Nuthng, sir.
Abert- Then wur u doing this sumthng u cal nuthng for anything?
Slave- It is my strict policy, as a slave, to alwez do sumthng for nuthng.
Abert- But nuthng for sumthng?
Slave- That is the life of the free.
Abert- Cut open his back and squeez his lungs until he confeses or dyz.
Ceorl- Confeses to wut?
Abert- Nuthng.
Ceorl cuts open the slave's bak and squeezes his lungs until he dies.
Abert- Let me now brain-chomp my fantastical wife-chop. I want her lips smooth and ruje, puft yet pouty, her butoks plump yet pert, her dermis pale as foam one finds in the Wiche Island shoals, lite as gaulic lint and responsiv to the tactil twich as an open venus clam, thighs like the she-doe in Daneland, dapld, firm, pleading, with a womb as larj as a Pictan botl and a pubis smal as a Frankin pin. Hear me, Fraethwith? I'm dam demanding, but I'm al I hav.
Fraeth- May she be the tiniest inlet to the greatest bay.
Ceorl- The slave is ded.
Abert- From his guts divine my bride.
Fraeth- I shal, and with vigor.
Abert- Wil she be brite or dusky?
Fraeth- His pink lungs sayeth brite.
Abert- Wil she be petite or zaftig?
Fraeth- His large intestin sayeth zaftig.
Abert- Wil she be quik or slothy? O let her be quik, for sloth is the only forener.
Fraeth- His beatng hart sayeth she shal be quik as thy oars.
Abert- But wil she, Fraethwith, hav gigunguous titys?
Fraeth- This, my King, is past the powr to say.
Abert- $\quad$ Find it out, or I wil ask ur inards! And, if gigunguous, let them also be perky, for ther are two kinds of men: those with sagy-tited wives and those with perky-tited wives, and the sagy-sadled must evr wsih to be the perky-powerd, as much as any livng leaf must long to tung the sun.
Fraeth- His tiny brain verifyz she shal be stakt as Grendel's perky pig-papt mamy!
enter a mesenjr.
Mes- Aethelbert the Deservn, thy Bertha is cum, Brite, zaftig, quik, bounteus, and perky.

Mesenjr exits.

| Abert- | O may her cream-kegs bobl hefr huge, huge as the mid-girth of Fatbald the Brewboar, huge, hapy, h manatees hung from a Swedish mast, and yet may on a spit... |
| :---: | :---: |
| enter Liudhard. |  |
| Liud- | Aethelbert the Luky, luv to thee. |
| Abert- | Who ar u? |
| Liud- | I am Bishop Liudhard, Bertha's overseer. |
| Abert- | Wer is she? |
| Liud- | Bridled to the breze |
|  | Til u brethe out the word that brethes her in. |
| Abert- | Fraethwith, foist this fagot on the fire. |
| Liud- | Beware! I am the map to Bertha's trejur! |
| Abert- | King Charibert swor her trejur to me, And being it is brite and bounteus, I take her for a bit, so to the guds. |
| Liud- | The guds are beyond thee, amoral man. |
| Abert- | My orals wil take aim at my nu wife, Cuz I got mor than morals on the mind. |
| Liud- | U hav her if u say this word. |
| Abert- | This word. |
| Liud- | Beware, tiny man, the greed of woman! |
|  | U wish to wed l'envoy d'honnetete, |
|  | The marigold of Frankan cherubry, |
|  | Yet to delect her wundrs righteusly, |
|  | This word must forswear acshns victimly. |
| Abert- | So speak the word, or bob it in the bog. |
| Liud- | Luv, King Aethelbert, the word is luv. |
| Abert- | Change that ordr, Fraethwith, and foist the fagot |
|  | In the fen. If he drowns, crown him jester. If he floats, choke him sloly on his cok. |
| Liud- | Admonishment surounds thee, sutl sleze, As natur's rageful at thy wasting her |
|  | Do not take breftly this wide comunion, |
|  | Nor ly awake wile thy fear is napng, |
|  | For without luv, O mihtig feind man-cynnes, Thou art thyself the sord that splits thy shield. |
| Abert- | Sho me to my bich, u perverted prude, |
|  | Els ur beer-baterd bals wil feed my brood. |
| Enter Bertha. |  |
| Ber- | My luv, hav u observd the masiv oak |
|  | Alone abuv the landng on the green? |
| Abert- | Of cors I hav. It is our witan tree, |

Our council beam, but let me luk at u.

| Ber- <br> Abert-Ber- | Our council beam, but let me luk at $u$. Ur counsel tree, ur wity beam, is sik. |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Imposibl, for my domain is helthy. |
|  | It's natur givs her helth to ur domain. |
|  | That por oak, so hung with fustian symbols, Pagan trinkets of proud inconsequens, Its roots so gutng thru the givng soil, |
|  | Its rondur dirt so trampld dry, its bark |
|  | So scratcht with names, its leves al plukt, its trunk So burdend with ur fetishes, it dyz. |
| Abert- | These decimashns are signs of worship. |
| Ber- | Worship it by endng its misery |
|  | Befor it spreds to the entire wud. |
| Abert- | Chop down the eldran oak? I may as wel |
|  | Timbr myself. It is our totem staff. |
| Ber- | How shal we heal it, then? |
| Abert- | I noe a way. |
|  | Cum my wife, we've forest to denude, Cords to cut, leves to rufl, oaks to fel. |
| Ber- | Until that oak is helthy, I am sik. |
| Abert- | Fraethwith, go and heal the eldran oak. |
| Bert- | No Anglish gardner noes the remedy. |
| Abert- | O , no. This is a gag. U frustrate me |
|  | To braze my lust. No need, woman, no need. |
|  | Tell her, Fraethwith. My tree needs no codlng. |
| Fraeth- | Ur husband's tree, lady, needs no codlng. |
| Ber- | And this is y his famly tree is dying. |
|  | Cum, to the lite and tel me wut u see. |
| Abert- | Wut al I hoped I wud. |
| Ber- | Yet hopeles mor, |
|  | For that oak and I ar in harmony. |
| Abert- | Harmony? I do not noe the word. |
| Ber- | I'l demonstrate. |
|  | My hands are now in harmony with ur hands. U like? |
| Abert- | O very much. |
| Ber- | So too my chest |
|  | Is with ur chest in sembling harmony. |
| Abert- | I like, I like. |
| Ber- | And too like that our eyes. |
| Abert- | So then, it's time to harmony our lips. |
| Ber- | Ah, but that's the hitch. If we harmonize |
|  | Our eyes, keeping our heds uprite or bent, |
|  | Our noses then obstruct our straining lips |
|  | From fuly lokng in, so harmony |
|  | Means un thing here and yet anuthr ther, |

Makes this posibl and yet prohibits that, Divides wut it unites, takes but to teze, Disatisfying us on satisfakshn.
Abert- Ezily solvd. U go rite, I go left.

Ber- I wunt to go rite.
Abert- Then I wil go left.
Ber- Yet harmony requires we go the same.
Abert- We hav the same desir, so let's go.
Ber- No desir for the sik.
Abert- $\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{u}$ ar wel.
Ber- I'm wut u make me, and u make me sik.
Abert- Beware ofens, woman!
Ber- Voila! A fens!
We bild a fens about the oak and me.
O ther's helth in fenses!
Abert- I am confused.
Ber- Wilst victory and welth, my Aethelbert?
Abert- I nevr thot of wuntng les than al.
Ber- And wuntng al is sik endemical.
I heard thy ragings for my sex grotesk,
Divining for dimensuns requisuit
Upon the organs of an innocent, And herd u also threten my gud frend, Yet I've a rage outrages any rage.
My suklant lips can teach the wolf to whine,
Tite space to take its fingr off of time,
Or they can, pincht and parcht, rench wince from blis,
And lik a hint of rot in evry kis.
My womb like molusks in the brine can be
That open wide to gulp the lapng sea
Wen it atug to life's confunctng moon
Thrusts thru the fecund glebe its liquid spoon,
Or a clam lokt and drying on the beach
That supurates but frothy, toxic sleech.
And my tits? O my tits can be so huge They'l crush u as a princess neath her ruje, With milk as numy sweet as baby's spit In fomentashn dript from grapy pit,
Or they can wizen rancid as a snake
Rotng in the yard on wich magots cake. In short, my man, I can be any way, But it's with me as with yon elder oak:
Hang ur demands on me, I wil decay
And brethng poison exhale, quikly choke
And dy, consumng wut I came to giv:
New life that u past ur departur liv.

So let me hear u say the magic word My frend has askt of $u$, werin is herd The trust I need to share wut I am of.
Abert- Not noeing wut compels me, I say luv.

All exit.
TO- Tabaquista Opulencia, Smoke wuteva mite insens ya.
DI- Dogmalita Impertinencia, Don't ask me to represent ya.
CI- Comihuelga Ineducabilia, Make ya look so I can steal ya.
Don- Rap sistas ex machina
Elocute our next dilemma.
TO- Gregory the Pope man
DI- Cals monk Augustine
CI- Sends him off to Angland
Don- To reform the bad mean.
TO- Tossn in the god towel
DI- Smilin on the hard scowl
CI- Gregory and Augustine!
Don- Comihuelga's favrit sene.
Faze 3, Sene 2. Rome. Enter Gregory and his slaves. He is teaching them to chant.

| Greg- | Agen, my pupets, with no melody. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Slaves- | Amor vincit omnia <br> Praeter victum amori. |
| Greg- | No melody, for melody is freedom, <br> And freedom is frustrashn to the wil. |

Enter Aemiliana.

| Aem- | Great Gregory, thy Augustine awaits <br> Inside the readng room. He is like lite. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Greg- | Fech him, Aemiliana, and I shal |
| Implor him shine awile on thee, perhaps. |  |
| Aem- | O Gregory, yank a kite, and it wil rise. |

She exits.
Greg- He is like lite. A simile wich shows
The snag of melody: she can't perseve
But by comparison to wut permits
Persepshn, an infinit frustrashn,
Werby we wunt to see as seeing wunts,
So melody the inmelodius
Requires, thus we to the thing itself
Comit us, singing sans similitude.
Enter Augustine.

| Aug- | As un who's homeles weary walkt his life Runs new refresht acros the final brij That shows and leads him to his home, now I |
| :---: | :---: |
| Greg- | Yet sit a strech upon the brij and map |
|  | Ur jurny in ur mind, for uns at home |
|  | We think of nuthng save of how to leve. |
| Aug- | Remembrng too reminds me of the urth |
|  | I've steppt, wich, being urthy, I'd repress. |
| Greg- | Prognostic pundits weze of a dusted time Wen al the urthly flora and fona |
|  | Wil thrive but as data, to sign consignd |
|  | By our drive to be the vital prana. |
|  | Hast thou a macroterus raptor seen |
|  | As ovr Niling plush it freely sheen? |
| Aug- | I studyd uns in Alexandria, |
|  | My preshus pontif, with Eulogius, And may hav ther, tho my nuroglia |
|  | Wur mor enrapt with keenings sublimus. |
| Greg- | Then hating self u playd extinkshn's frend, |
|  | Forgetng urth is of itself our end. |
| Aug- | I concur. |
| Greg- | The creaturs of this planet, |
|  | Panthr, kestrl, mite, ameba, lily, |
|  | Are to our sols as rain to rivulet, |
|  | Of our hope both futur and famly. |
| Aug- | I concur. |
| Greg- | Heven is a heresy |
|  | To natur, our only tru creator. |
|  | Luv of god is lust for desimashn |
|  | Of al that animates us thru its deth, |
|  | So is it doomd to rage ridiculus |
|  | Agenst this life, its formula frustrashn. |
|  | I say let us mimic trees and watr, |
|  | Bees and baboons, bacteria and dirt, |
|  | So shaping ethix and society |
|  | Aftr natur's valent cogitashn. |
| Aug- | As u comand, I wilingly concur. |
| Greg- | O dosil Augustine, do not beleve. |
| Aug- | Do not beleve? |
| Greg- | I mean not wut I say. |
| Aug- | O thanks to God, my hart did near explode! |
| Greg- | I loathe natur. It is so insolvent, |
|  | And worth alone a gud exterminator. |
|  | We ar not ment for this, this means nuthng. |
| Aug- | Concur I truly now, yet y this ruze? |
| Greg- | I hav a mishun for u wich requires |

Obediens, for it is danjerus.
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Aug- } & \text { Ur comand is my wish. } \\ \text { Greg- } & \text { Hast thou herd of Angland? }\end{array}$
Aug- The foggy crag of rude barbarians?
Greg- U'v ben.
Aug- I'v not.
Greg- Wel, I am changing that,
But don't be nervus at the brisly heathen.
Elefant trainrs of the Hindu cult
Ofen employ a female, or koomkie,
As distrakshn and reward for the males
They domesticate, so hav I cozend
King Aethelbert, the bul $u$ ar to rope, Coraling then his race into the fold, Thru maraj to a fine French pakiderm. May ur luv be as mity as ther hate.
Aug- To Angland.
Greg- U to chans, we to chantng.
Aug- Dear Gregory, aware of proselyt dutys
To deep inur the habit voluntare
Of obvers cheek and thot-enrichng fear, Y travl far to mine imobil welth Wen close at hand are such mobil riches?
That is, if nitely need our windo thraps, Y stragl out the cudlng ecumene
To cobl crude mosaics from a strain Al recognize enthrald past reflecshn, And in themselvs, tho facshnl, complete In cultur, law, theopathy, and land?
Greg- Noest thou of my debate with Eutychius?
Aug- So well it is the story of my sleep: U claim our resurecshn is in flesh, He claims a substans pur impalpabl.
Greg- And wut this mins of logic to our lives Werin to stumbl's close as can to sor?
Aug- If we fleshful transit into spirit,
Flesh is an adjudicativ subject,
And thus is nul by being al in law.
Yet if, per Eutychio, we transit
To spirit fleshles, senses past our sens
Control us, flesh is freely disposest, And thus is al by being nul to law.
Greg- Ur mishun's exegesis.
Aug- Pleze, forgiv, But if these hints explain me I am bosh.
Greg- Behold these pagan puks. So meak and mild

Upon the surfas, thru ther fusil blud The Visigoth Alaric scavenges, Ther genetic bleb, who brookt the Tiber, Sakng Rome, geldng civilizashn, And who, ten thousand lawles evenings later, Svelt on glut and gor, had his labor-slaves Diverto Busento river for his flank And booty to be buryd in its bed, Then had them murderd that he rest in pese From al tomoro's idol-robng mobs. An anshnt frenzy heves beneath ther fluve. Aug- They ar primitivs, designd but for druj. Greg- Comicly ignorant to the tragedy Of being so bereft of kosmesis In this our church of artifishl tint. Most cal them ugly, pupish, dunjun-du, Thin of lip, sharp of nose, such stringy hair, Minute genitalia, ruled by angr
And greed, ther pasiv selvs a history Of agreshns, lakng grace and rithm, Exitashn to ther sols, dethly peakid, The hue of base emishns, O how sad, Yet I ador them as ther skin is wite, Being al the betr to rite upon.
Aug- U luv them as a mastr duz his slave: U the tree, they the roots - thru them u feed Upon, yet ar free from, the soil, a fact To inter wud deform creashn's grade.
Greg- I luv them, rathr, as an analyst The law that proves al pashns preterit; I transit in ther flesh that they transfer My spirit round, like two fluxes blemblng An ile off in silt. These sad fizishns Of quirks they canot tuch demand we men Of managd tantrums, tho we may not name The syntax of our jist, to rules infuse, For gestur is morality. We see A hole in natur, so we go to plug The sensual with sens. We make ther flesh The parchmnt of our treaty somaform With al the flam we wish we'd never thot, For had the nek of space no spaceles spine Thru wich our bodys hear the hed of time, These peple wud behed each othr evr.
Aug- An ansr that quieses questns mor.
Greg- $\quad$ So, my wisprng slaves, tel me wut u herd?

Slave- I herd two dumys trying not to move By talkng of how words but altr words.

Don sings.
Don- I made America,
U wuz my niga-a,
Ur tool be big
But my brain be biga-a.
Seamus- Free urselvs of this fikshn!
Don- Ekard, wait.
I long to hear the freeman's rashinale
For seekng eze in evr-bumpy fact.
Seamus- Ther's ben a war, an ofl, joyus war,
Tween North and South, freedom and slavery,
And the North has won, just five days ago,
So ar u free, by fact imobil as
A milyun corpses on a frozen day.
Kustis- $\quad$ The North has won the day, but not the age;
The South shal last, and as an injurd wolf
Crols back into the brush to lik its wunds,
And in this meditashn come to learn The valu of clandestin operashns, It wil in shado, hood, and cryptic tung
Continu in its fite for dominans
Of policys afirmng wut al noe
Thru evidens resentment can't deny:
The wite race is superior in rule.
Mary- How can u now repeat this ignorans, This clules coz of horor, after al
I've witnest in the nursng camps of war For wite powr? Superior in rule?
I hav seen faces fuzing in the fire,
A cortex boblng in the breze, a hart
Beatng in a tray, a skul on a pitchfork, Legs without hips, arms without hands, Eys in throats, chins in grass, intestins
Curld in heaps like a fat napng python;
Hav they who ar superior in rule
Dun this? Who's freed the incubus of hate?
Who's thrown away the rind of rightfulness,
Yet sukt al up opreshn's sour pulp?
Who's straind to sutur shut inditment's lids?
Is this to be superior in rule?
Kustis- This caos came to hold that rule in tact, And who its ruptur sot, they ar to blame, So is ther deth a means to propr ends,

Wich thrive on merit, not entitlement.
Mary- U hav befor u man's widest spectrum;
Woman to woman, u noe wich to chuz.
Holard- Not chois, but chans, is shakl to the slave.
Seamus- The chans is now for chois.
Holard- The chois to wut?
To work for anothr? A chans to slave.
To work for myself? A chans to starv.
To work for justis? A chans to hang.
A sea of war can't wash my face of birth That posterd me 'unwanted, dead or alive.' Trade Masa Need for Masa Not? No thanks.
My bondaj brings me food and pese and play;
To shud me shuds away wut $u$ implor,
As ur freedom disfreedoms me my wud, Wich I of cud hav pasivly reseved,
Yet sum folks swolo so they can survive.
Wut chuz wen I've no chans?
Seamus- To cum with me.
Holard- A wip of any color stil a wip.
Seamus- Not as my slave, but as my free companion.
Holard- No difrns to a man.
Seamus- O yes ther is,
As is the difrns in the singl sun
That lites alike upon the free and slave:
On slave, it rises mokng, shines in shame,
But on the free, it rises rouzng pride
In its brite pupils, difrns as extreme
As infant raizd on tortur or on tuch.
Then, on the toilng slave, the peakng sun
Becums a weldng laze that sodrs shut
The cask of craving, fuzng lip to lip
With scorchng hate, but noon-time to the free
Is soothng heat, a downbeat to empath
The zenith of life's genitor, and find Therby a remedy to toxic time,
The difrns between my own fire fuelng
And my being fuel to othr's fire.
Then sistr urth coldly turns her bak on sun,
Who, like a mate neglected, crazy casts
Forshadoz chil and long of bleak to be,
The wary slave is sunk into a sad
Arcane remindr how her being too
Was born to hide, but sunset to the free
Is of the day deservng celbrashn,
And wut mor difrns than between a slap

On face or bak? Finally, as sun cavorts
Cros other climes, the slave his sur return
Must loath, and dredng fact's insanity, Dream of a darknes beyond ambishn, But to the free the nite is famly time, Wen leisure's joys cash the cheks of labor, And expectashn drives her dream to lite, So to us al a slave or free companun Means sharing hate or luv for life itself, A difrns provng difrns of design
For freedom past reproof, and $\mathrm{y} u$ ot To cum be free with me.
Don- Anglo-Saxon ridls!

TO- I'm a singl wite woman who enjoys
Gripin, avoidn, and disparagin
Othrs ther du, interested in meetn
A man-child to rub my bak. Who am I?
DI- I'm a singl wite man wut just adorz
Drinkn, fightin, sleepin, and scapegoatn
Darkys for my problems, and I want A bich to beat wen I'm blu. Who am I?
CI- I'm a singl blak man adicted to Dropn out, getn ovr, and slipn thru Ol' witey's system, a'ite, and I wud luv A slave to stroke my dingo. Who am I?
Don- I'm a long eery dredful thing that feels Always almost ded, and I'd like to find
Sumun to brutalize as life has me,
Endng thus my lonelines. Who am I?
Ekard- Clear the stage!
Don- U ask her go wer she wil nevr go, For she is mine, and ever wil be so.

## Faze 3, Sene 3. Enter Aethelbert, Raedwald, Ceolwulf, Eadbald, and Aethelfrith, on the battlefield.

| Abert- | Wut clan these monks that neel upon the scrab |
| :--- | :--- |
| And chant at our asalt agenst the Nors? |  |
| Raed- | Ther synod's Bangor, cast of Solomon, |
|  | The curent pacifistic king of Pomys, |
| The blak of frok; Pope Gregory has told |  |
| Him beg for mercy midst our boning vise: |  |
| As only the imortl dy for nuthng, |  |
| Ther muling meaknes so afrited Cutha, |  |
|  | Who'd stand upon his mum if told he'd see |
| Afrith- $\quad$ Mor land, he gave them taxles al they'd til. |  |
|  | The gud god that they bekon to is me |
|  | That my swurd nacod clip ther misery! |



| Abert- | Lemnisent goul, authr swift and surchng, <br> O wut refluent zionist is this That makes me stres a languaj ment to moan? I trembl with the hype of inside-out. I'm being eaten by insubstant lips! Sound, shape, sequens, al's linkt alone by fear; An antike yelo paints my egosfere! |
| :---: | :---: |
| GS- | Brethe, Aethelbert, and surf the waves of dred. Anothr mind has entrd in thy hed. Like cheze, $u$ ar the victory of fat, So move urself and go to wer u'r at. |
| Abert- | O muthr, lay thy nipys to my gums; I wish to hear the music of my suk. O muthr, may thy mamys be my drums To giv a rithm to the grunt of luk? O muthr, nasty universal flyz Hav cum to lay ther oogs inside ur eyes. May I with my swatr smoosh them wholy And take the kis deservng of a buly? O muthr, I do luv thee like imunity Agenst the throatd hairs of my comunity. O muthr, bury me inside ur womb |
| GS- | Here's ur muthr, Aethelbert, in this slab, Pepperd with the salt of mutilashn. Wut muthr ofrs, gud boys gladly grab, So scof the victim and be un with nun. |
| Petrarc- | But mama, I don't wana scarf the meat. The script, papa, it neva sez "he eats." |
| Don- | We do not folo, we swolo the script! |
|  | Kil me if u wunt, but I won't eat it. |

Don eats the meat.

| Don- | So do pops and sons forevr resl <br>  <br> Who shal nibl mama's yuky vesl. |
| :--- | :--- |
| TO- | Chu chu chu! |
| DI- | And luv thy chuing! |
| CI- | Cuz al detest ya putrid fecals spuing! |
| TO- | Scru scru scru! |
| DI- | And scream wile scruing! |
| CI- | To covr up the wimprs of subduing! |
| TO- | Mu mu mu! |
| DI- | Blok out the muing! |
| CI- | Cuz ain't that shank a slave u'r barbecuing? |

Faze 3, Sene 4. A monastery on the island of Lerins in the French Riviera. Enter Augustine, Desiderius, and Aetherius on one side. On the other is John the Jejunator, tyd to a woman, at the ej of a wel.

Desiderius- As u can survey, my preshus Augustine, he has ligated his corpus flagishusly to that of a profligat feminin, un peregrinated hereanent on a self-made notical device, and he vows both the insubstantialitas of thy praefectiv status for the execushn of spiritual internments et the improprietas of thy monishunal ends viz thy futur rigots of restitutiv nuzia; furthrmor, he promises to hurl himself and the unclean she-slug cryptomaniacly into our drinkng wel, incontestably sublevating both a sphero mundi, unles he be granted a cognishn on thy venturs to Briton for industrius papal profoundmnt. O I am so discombobulatio!
Aug- Has he ben eating?
Aeth- John the Jejunator has not suplementd his vita amine in three and forty cycles, and this inanitas reverbs his dementia.
Aug- Is he compos mentis?
Aeth- With periodic episodes of cogitabund detracti!
Des- $\quad$ Feste! He is welded to a woman!
They go to John.
Des- Dearest John, look who's cum to meet with thee?
John- Cork it, Desiderius. I'm prestidigitatng my polymorfism.
Girl- [French] Please, ur monks. I ai dun nuthn but tryd to escape from slavery in Nice. Don't let im thro me in the wel!
John- Shush, silly mermanx! Thy veksum, idle blipng thru the plunjles pools of Mors shal not evr gain thee airways ambulashn.
Aeth- But it is Augustine, thy anshnt frend.
John- August Gleam, my novel nemesis, werst ya swabn?
Aug- To Angland, John, to convert the pagans.
John- Wo to the many that folo un!
Aug- Dost thou opoze my purpos?
John- U propose to my porpos, Rokus Kreams? Hear that, mermanx? Fogy Mean, the savior-self, desires to poach ur fishy parts for piklng.
Aeth- Augustine has cum here, John, for hugs, not harange.
Des- And to hear of ur explicatio on Matthew 5, 21.
John- Wen I wish u to speak, Desiderius, I shal vomit. Hang upon the cu as a slave upon a tree.
Aug- "Thou shalt not kil, but to thee I atest, that whomsoever be angry with anothr sans coz shal be in dangr of jujmnt." Wut nu bring u here, John?
John- $\quad$ Nuthn's nu to a ju so he vu al he du as a clu to the pu in his stu.
Des- O por John.
John- Puke, Desiderius, I hav yet to puke!
Aeth- Amidst garblngs of prenatal sentiments, cacofonic nosis, polite malconflicti, noyad via regula, he, in an argute xenogenesis of paronomasic chirps, propounds an heuristic hermeneutoi wich aserts that this pasaj refutes the clevaj of body and mind, thus totologizes incarnashn, proving al fenomenon ethicly balanst on a
bevel termd motus, and from this frazld silojism claims ur evangelism enslavemnt.

Aug-
Aeth-
Girl-
John
Des-
John
Aug-
John- And wut's a tiny nark?
Aug-
John
Aug-
John
Aug-
John-

Aug
John
Aug-
John

Aug
John- Our reazning givs to unreazn rule
Aug- Wer is ur faith?
John- In my leap, unlike u Convertng others that they fit ur spex.
Aug- Opoze me with ur deth, but y this girl?
John- Becuz I do not wish to lonely dy.
I'v taut my organs difrnt tungs.
I'v sworn myself to the imortal ly.
I'v let other's breath into my lungs,

And I brethe no more therby, but I do dy.
This girl is a matrix for my aftermath.
My arc on her axis givs a y to my x .
I use her as a tornado uses a bubl bath.
Of my unconshnabl bulk she is the flej,
And I sulk no mor therby, but I do fly.
He jumps into the wel with the girl.
Al exit.

## Faze 3, Sene 5. Enter Aethelbert and Liudhard near Bertha's chamber.

| Abert- | Wer is Bertha? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Liud- | She is not wel. |
| Abert- | Move off. |

Enter Bertha.

| Ber- | Liudhard? Wut's al that growling? Ar the dogs <br>  <br> In the hous agen? O, it's my husband. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Abert- | Let us alone. |
| Liud- | I shal not. |
| Ber- | He remains. |
| Abert- | Wut peple hope to last that canot see |
|  | The rite inalien of privacy? |
| Liud- | That peple wich stil cares enuf to watch |
|  | A preshus tresur. |
| Ber- | Am I that or no? |
| Abert- | Ar we not peple? |
| Ber- | Race duz not erase, |
|  | So speak that I may bak into my bed. |
| Abert- | U ar not wel? |
| Ber- | Not wel is not wel sed. |
|  | I am so sik, the dreary march of me |
|  | A blustr so severe's begun to storm, |
|  | So graith with hail, smog, bilge, refuse and ded fowl, |
|  | I'l bury mery Angland in its trash. |
| Abert- | So it's ur bely? |
| Ber- | No, it is my brain. |
| Abert- | Too much overseeing hurts the hed. |
| Ber- | It's voices, actualy, or mor like moans |
|  | Of praying monks murdrd on smogy heaths. |
| Abert- | That was Aethelfrith. I tryd to stop him. |
| Ber- | A holy man that canot stop another. |
| Abert- | Wud u I be violent to end violens, |
| Ber- | Or be non- violent to let violens be? |
| Abert- | I wud that u confes. |
| Ber- | To wut I did not do? |
|  | Not in akshn, but asosiashn, |

## Our doing is.

| Abert- | I'l confes I mis u. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ber- | U'l mis mor than me if u don't confes. |
| Abert- | Ther is no mor than u. |
| Ber- | Ther is much mor. |
| Abert- | Then I confes my asosiashn |
|  | To Aethelfrith whose akshn slu the monks. |
| Ber- | Al betr. |
| Abert- | May we now hav privacy? |
| Liud- | U may wok in a circl, here, closeby. |
| Abert- | This is fitng. I the storm, u the eye. |
| Ber- | I wunt u to convert. |
| Abert- | To wut? |
| Ber- | To luv. |
| Abert- | I am luv's sacerdote sins ur desenshn. |
| Ber- | Yet luv the victim, as he dyd for u. |
| Abert- | Luv the victor mor, as I liv thru him. |
| Ber- | Un becums the victor thru the victim. |
| Abert- | Who then shal I luv? Luvng u, I am |
|  | The victor wining u, the victim wun. |
|  | Luv me as the victim, I can't luv u, |
|  | Yet luv u as the victim, I hate me, |
|  | The un u luv, wich luvng u, I can't, |
|  | For then luv is unluvd, showing to luv |
|  | Un or the othr is to luv neithr. |
| Liud- | Luv him, hate urself. |
| Abert- | Y he ovr me? |
| Ber- | For he is gud, les wich this frajil world |
|  | Wud crumble neath the wate of its own waste, |
|  | Erupt with its own fire, drown in deceit, |
|  | And jakl minds coruptd by the pur |
|  | In vijn wud devour al, yet he |
|  | Is gud, making war pese, urj fulfilmnt, |
|  | Turning the torturer to the thinker, |
|  | Spredng mercy over decimashn, |
| Ber- | And loyalty to word amidst desir. |
| Abert- | Thus the victim evr plays the victor. |
|  | He bled for u. |
| Liud- | Such men ar quik to bleed, |
| Abert- | Nor did I ask him to. |
| Ber- | Wut charity! |
| Abert- | And for my luv of him I get? |
| Mer- | Mow luv. |
|  | U must |
|  |  |

Adopt his principls, perform his works, Prove afekshn for him, and emulate His kindnes, onesty, umility.
Abert- To do so in my epic is to dy.

| Ber- | The betr then to liv for epix els. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Abert- | Wut epic els but urth? |
| Ber- | Uforia. |
| Abert- | In my cosmos, that rut uforia |
|  | Is a helish hevn, such a batl turf |
|  | Of ups and downs, men fite to stay in clay. |
|  | We cal it Asgard, cuz u watch ur ass |
|  | Without end, wile on urth the vilent rest |
|  | And look at wil. The richest stratagem |
|  | Distrust and banditry, u must desire |
|  | I practis here the pain I'l feel ther, |
|  | Els word-breakng blis sold u on a sham. |
| Liud- | It is to but embrace eternal luv. |
| Abert- | Giv me ten minuts with my wife alone |
|  | And I wil but embrace eternal luv. |
| Liud- | I am a shriek away. |

Liudhard steps off.

| Ber- | Sweethart, convert, and spare me this tite spot. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Abert- | Luv my god and I'l luv urs. |
| Ber- | Me luv Woden? |
|  | He is a drunken, ornery, filthy lech. |
| Abert- | I derelict prefer my deitys, |
|  | As true desir prevails on fals ideals |
|  | And empathy outgoads emulashn, |
|  | But no, not Woden. He's of war and vers, |
|  | Too hyperactiv for a subterfuje. |
|  | My god's of tiklish pink, of downy mounds, |
|  | Of girl pulp and boyish huf, of lip |
|  | Flanjd and quivrus, glotis loos, of wingbone |
|  | Wide, of toes pukerd, tens and distant shins, |
|  | Of rivr vapors cooling blis magmatic, |
|  | Of nerv crescendo, lite and sprinjy tuck, |
|  | My god is of the lamin, fold, and gape |
|  | Wer tresur gobs untucht in dewy glint. |
| Ber- | Amen. |
| Abert- | Do u luv my god? |
| Ber- | How's he named? |
| Abert- | Aethelbertha. |
| Ber- | O he duz not exist. |
| Abert- | U disbeleve? Then gleen abuv our sheets |
|  | Wer slurpng hunywasps in bobng fleets |
|  | Distil his gast from steams of ecstacy, |


| Ber-Abert- | Ther buz in beg of nook his litany. |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | How runs the mesaj of his foloers? |
|  | O how I'd own thee, craft thee my respect, |
|  | Be evr in thee, clamorus to hush, |
|  | Inur thee of me as the thot to chek, Be of thy likors most invijus lush |
|  | To drown desiring I wud rathr, luv, |
|  | Than any drop of $u$ let slip to sum; |
|  | Enclose u in the rift I'm dreamng of, |
|  | And bild a fantic palace from our slum. |
|  | So cum, thou silent timeles tempo hart, |
|  | And beat and boom acord my evocashn. |
|  | I now wil stub wer u most wish to start, U are my eko, I ur lucidashn, |
|  | A god emerging from my need to merj, |
|  | Uforia from out the madest urj. |
| Ber- <br> Abert- | Aethelbertha speaks wel. |
|  | Y wud he not? |
|  | He has my tung, ur mind, our harmony. |
| Ber- | I now perseve he tucht me uns in Paris, |
|  | Wer he the name of Theobertha took, And as the esens of the arc is chanj, |
|  | He cond a far discrepant incantashn. |
| Abert- | Tel me ur past, and I wil finaly sleep. |
| Ber- | He playd a boy, wild and jumpy, |
|  | With lavish lashes, words of muny, |
|  | Longing difusely for comedy's eze |
|  | And a plezing indifrens |
|  | Of how to apeze. And I, much tardy |
|  | To my thots, as a reducing foam, |
|  | Fel like virga in a thorn comb, |
|  | Ovr the ripls of my repreve, |
|  | Nevr to stay but to say I must leve, |
|  | Lost in a forward plan of retreat, |
|  | Deferment deepning, tumbl weat, |
|  | As out of order, thru vacant yards, |
|  | He scrambld at my shunning shards, |
|  | As crooked duty lured me from him, |
|  | A glas mysteek fild darkly to the brim. |
| Abert- | This Theobertha is my nodal kin: |
|  | We are dubl driplets of crucial deth |
|  | Dripng down the diapose of a fang |
|  | Triklng fast to the tip of truth's torment, |
|  | Thinkng alone of the inosent yak. |
| Ber- | U both hav sat beside the bek and cryd |
|  | Wut u simply shud hav choakt and lyd of. |



## Enter Ceorl.

Ceorl- King Aethelbert, a mishunary's cum, Named Augustine, from Gregory in Rome.
Liud- $\quad$ O bles! We must at uns on him atend!
Aeth- Hold!

It's I say who we must at uns atend
In this land. Wut is his demeanor?
Ceorl- Dark, smal, pasiv, stranj, and graceful.
Bertha- Beware - it is the anti-Aethelbertha.
Abert- Wud u I meet him?
Ber- I wud he meet u.
Abert- Cal it then, upon the virent open,
Tween the Hwicc and West Saxon rivers, lest
The Bishop sent a shyster to unerv me.
At sunset, Aethelbert meets Augustine.
Al exit.

| Pet- | Meet me hind the barn. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Lora- | I don't wana go. |
| Pet- | But mama's gona poison us. |
| Lora- | I noe. |
| Pet- | Then I wil go without u. |
| Lora- | So u wil. |
| Pet- | Lora! |
| Lora- | Petrarc, this farm is wer my life <br>  <br>  <br> Began, my luv for u emerjd, my years <br> Of play enacted, here is wer I dy. <br> Pet- |
| Lora- | That's it? |
| Pet- | That's it. |
|  | I wil not luv the victim. |

He exits.
Faze 3, Sene 6. Rome. Gregory's home. Twelv peple ar seatd at a banquet table and Gregory is servng them.
TO- Evry Sunday, Gregory Great
DI- Waited on twelv arogant humans.
CI- Evry Sunday, Giggly Pope
TO- Taperd twelve unquenchabl lumens.
DI- Uns a week, blujning pride
CI- $\quad$ Servng the mean and the able.
TO- Then un day
DI- A thirteenth arived
CI- As an angel at his table.
Don- Ekard, tel my son he mist his entrans.
Ekard exits.

| $1-$ | Camel for the Carmelite! |
| :--- | :--- |
| $2-$ | Panther for the Pantheist! |
| $3-$ | Blak rino for the wite hunter! |
| $4-$ | Simian for the Simonist! |
| $5-$ | Magpy for the Magistrate! |
| $6-$ | Bald eagl for the tonsurd twit! |


| Don- | Un smal turnip, pleze, raw and ungarnisht. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Greg- | Who art thou whose ordr is so plain and polite? |
| Don- | I'm ur frendly litle angel, |
|  | S'got no fear to tread, |
|  | The thirteenth gest at ur table, |
|  | Cum fast to break sum bred. |
| Greg- | I wait upon ur wil. |
| Don- | Then confes, u holy dope, |
|  | Is it realy ur plezur to serv me? |
| Greg- | Truly. Obeisans to our maker, |
|  | The meeting out of random crueltys, |
|  | And the circularity of consent |
|  | Satisfy my desir to corelate |
|  | My conshusnes to its finality, |
|  | As freedom fostrs nuthng tru to life. |
| Don- | Yet y pay the natur that derides us? |
|  | Y design acordng to disezes? |
|  | Y be eagr to end our eagrnes? |
|  | Y avoid the freedom thot suposes? |
| Greg- | Y do anything but seek the stone |
|  | To mark my final hesitashn's grave? |
| Don- | Becuz, I read here, in my first feodary: |
|  | The feoff shal fight for freedom from the feoffer. Forevr. Dost thou wish my fumbl, freak? |
| Greg- | Ambivalens to powr is the fate |
|  | Of we who are by pashn so controld. |
| Don- | Pashn and powr? They'r un and the same. |
| Greg- | I say they'r not. Powr is projecshn |
|  | Onto others, but pashn off othrs. |
|  | Powr liks itself to a nub, but pashn |
|  | Is of kaos the hub. Pashn atains |
|  | Meaning thru pun, powr puns past meaning. |
|  | Powr's the teror in hapy and soft, |
|  | Pashn the comfort in cruel and condemnd. |
|  | Powr sits on a lonely spike abuv, |
|  | Pashn returns to wild urth its frend. |
|  | Powr frets ovr the sur and the soon, |
|  | Yet pashn revels in our kronic doom. |
| Don- | But powr can say 'kiss my lizard lips,' |
|  | And pashn cums sukng. |
| Greg- | O angel, pleze, |
|  | Bend me not to thy bad breed. |
| Don- | Kiss em, slave! |
| They kiss. |  |
| Don- | Pashn is a gem set in a baby's brain, |
|  | Sykic valu at genetic expens, |


|  | But powr keeps its valu in a name, |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Thus evr set in supereminens. |
|  | Eat, drink, and be rowdy, my frends, |
|  | For tomoro we eat, drink, and be rowdy agen! |
| All- | Slavery, slavery, evr reducng! |
|  | Freedom, freedom, evr producng! |
|  | Dets, dets, nevr repayng! |
|  | World O world we speed thy delayng! |
| Enter Ek | h Petrarc at gunpoint. |
| Ekard- | I cach im runin, masa, hind the barn. |
| Pet- | Free urselvs! Don Masa means ur deth! The Northan army's comin, and he'd ratha dy than fite! The Ghost Surjun carys poison! Holard! Kresard! Rise and run! Mama, how cud u? Tel em, Lora, how we herd it pland. Lora, speak! |
| Don- | Pardon, if u can, this ironic interupshn. |
|  | Adapshn begets genius; genius, maladapshn. |
|  | Wach im close, Ekard. |
| Ekard- | Places for the convershn sene! |
| Holard- | Wut's this? Can it be tru? I've nevr seen |
|  | Don Masa so behavin. Tru, he can |
|  | Sho madnes in his moments, but hereto |
|  | It's neva ben so vilent nor so cras. |
|  | And wut of this? The masa's chillun is |
|  | So caut in drama's thach, un canot take |
|  | Ther words for mor than mere efect. And yet, |
|  | Petrarc did seem onest. But masa kil |
|  | His preshus peple, we who hav for years |
|  | Servd his words and akshns, we who hav excuzd |
|  | His mastery upon the precedent |
|  | Of extraordinary inspirashn? |
|  | To kil his own kind? No, it canot be, |
|  | The child is confuzd, and he distrest |
|  | By wut I wil discovr later. Now |
|  | I'm in no shape to wundr. Free and blak? |
|  | Sum strange new sensashn's slipn thru me. |
|  | I speak my lines, yet am not in my speech. |
|  | Shoe karaktr, yet do not noe my role. |
|  | I heed my blokng, so I nevr reach |
|  | A word, a beat, a gestur by my sol |
|  | Conseved or directed. Wut, can it be |
|  | That I'v a self beyond a self enslavd? |
|  | I merely noe I feel now to be free |
|  | Is life mor livd, to cowr not, but crave |
|  | At powr, as this al-empowrng man |
|  | Invites, incites, excites me to. Y not? |
|  | Change is at hand, let my hand exchange it. |
|  | I'm dark, not dim, and tho wite most reflex, |

Blak most absorbs the heat of hope, the flare
Of expectashn, and empowrd ax.
So, as he implorz, I wil go with him
At season's end, and freedom's ofr take.
From centurys of sleep, at last I wake.
Faze 4, Sene 1. The convergens of the Hwicc and West Saxon. Enter Aethelbert, Bertha, Liudhard, Eadbald on one side, Augustine, Laurentius, Honorius, Rufianus, Paulinus on the other.

Aug- King Aethelbert, Anglo-Saxon apex, I am Augustine, nadir of nothing, Pese in truth, luv in un, absolushn
To al longng, sufrng, and confujn
And a resolushn to the teror
Of inward absorbment, outward incrasment,
Al temptngs tord inimitant perfecshn,
I bear, as it is cum thru our redeemer,
Un idea, un sors, un relm of beuty;
Pese I bring to thee, Aethelbert the Blest,
Pese that is the unwantng desir,
The rule of the objectiv medium.
Acept, mere cel, this transfer of thy plastids,
And swim in the al-disolvng image.
Liud- $\quad$ O incarnashn absolut and pur!
Ead- Stand up, u skeez.
Abert- On wut am I to look?
Laur- On thy hart unwound, thy mind unlored.
Hon- On the deiform's swadlng deictic.
Ruf- On the hole in time, the urj ignord.
Paul- On the antidote to thot, the calm sykotic.
Aug- History delates thy ignorans,
And ends with thee, who art not but change.
Wut u hav noen, noe, and altr by norms They peple's deliverans, thy hope's range.
Abert- I stand un dout removd from joy, al daunt
With gripng fear so old my yuth seems lost
Amidst the nitial nexus of my wants.
To evry ofr ther must be sum cost:
Wut shal I lose? Victry? Woman? Me?
To wut shal hook this wondr's hevy hich?
I must noe that befor I chooz to see
The poverty of Aethelbert the Rich.
Ber- U wil tuch me much deepr in this joy,
And feel me wenevr u ar taken.
Can u not feel the powr's hi decoy, In ther deployment sens us undrshaken?
Abert- $\quad$ Must I then hang upon a rood and bleed

As this they sho me?

| Ead- | That is y they sho it, As a thret, and we must overthro it! |
| :---: | :---: |
| Aug- | This man, in place displaced, in time untimed, |
|  | Upon a distant desert quivring stood, |
|  | Comprest his warm dejecta to his mind |
|  | And of unhunted mamals understood. |
|  | By our refraind projecshn was he held; |
|  | He traced our thirsty wandring in the hils. |
|  | How many dum previjns had he queld, |
|  | As like a mute he mufld natur's shrils. |
|  | And in this drol comunion with his self, |
|  | His speech enformd by tablets indiscreto, |
|  | He reacht thru pain the spaceles, shapely shelf, |
|  | And lifted off into the praecognito; |
|  | U need not sufr now as he did then |
|  | If u his cold dejecta comprehend. |
| Ber- | I wil be with thee, sweet, and evr thus |
|  | On thee shal I push for my aliting. |
| Ead- | Gord and pangd by inagresiv mush? |
|  | Fathr, ther's no life in this fake mating! |
| Abert- | O who is plukng at my testins now? |
|  | Must evrything my pliancy beseech? |
|  | Who ar u , wife, to tel me cool my brow |
|  | With boilng watr I must strain to reach? |
|  | And who ar u , my faithful, caring son, |
|  | To ask me stay wer harmony is shund? |
|  | With words can I exfoliate my cor? |
|  | O luv duz evry creatur seek the same! |
|  | Am I to evr crawl on crashing shors |
|  | In serch of stones washt up from seas of shame? |
| Liud- | Hej in natral sluj thy mental growng, |
|  | Wich natral is becuz it stops our noeing. |
| Laur- | To his deth thou indet by livng. |
| Hon- | To repay him thou must perish givng. |
| Ruf- | Al thy du to undeservng othrs. |
| Paul- | Al alike the sistrs and the brothrs. |
| Aug- | Al thy life the swindls and the bluthers, |
|  | Storms created but to cherish hovels. |
|  | Fal, King Aethelbert of blud seclujn, |
|  | And anoint thyself in luv's transfujn. |
| Ber- | This imaj lets us see with comon eyes. |
| Ead- | And teaches us to find our truth in lyz. |
| Abert- | My secret sol, wer float thee like a runeling, |
|  | Mark of private wim and intimate flume, |
|  | On othr faces thy distracshn scriblng, |

O nite between us dawnd by roring doom! Ur spirit spice, like moons on urth reboundng, Is scramblng now thru circumstantial dros, My secret sol, with evry eze debating, Wer go thee now in crazy, constant cros? This mood, this breze, this jocund kilng quake, Ist each my sol, each foibl now thy yeast, This he, this she, wut music canot shake, Ist each a meagr sampl to thy feast. So I no mor shal hear thy secrets clatr, Thou relic of my uncshn unto matr.

He falls at the feet of Augustine and converts. All chant.
Incorporesthesia
Allodysacousia
Praetermenorrhagia
Bona adventitia
Fabricaglossalgia
Dishyperprosexia
Homeopantechnia
Autoergonomia
Don- Here is my questun: wen a kind submits
To its antagonist, as evry must,
Be it, survival-wise, the best or worst
Exterminated thru the disiplin
Requird to maintain the hegemon?
Servs defians or asimilashn
The genic code? Be the sweet smel of suces
For him or her? Is evolushn ded,
Discoverd dun? Wer's the apodictic
Design in wich to grow an organel
To sho us wut it means to thrive or not?
Nature's in our expectashn of it,
So we discreet a fake ambivalens,
Certan that incertanty prevails,
Devoid of any crux, tensor, fulcrum
Weron we may habituate a balans
To weigh our curent praxis with the next.
Extincshn may be evolushn's end,
The most productiv, economic means
To a unit's maximum survival,
The gene an atmosferic distilat,
And we our best wen eaten by our worst.
For don't we see the victims of the past
Triumf as the victors of the futur
As generashns mix by ther exampl?

Who's fitest wen the least in fit control Conductivity? Can we survive ourselvs If our survival needs our sacrifice? Shud our brief years be nothng to the span Of informashn our demise conveys, Duz deth becum the only way of noeing How we wil determin futur mating?
Un canot say, and yet un sez so much.
Nor can un dy, and yet un dyz so oft,
For here we are wer we hav nevr ben,
Pursuing now wut's alwez only then.
TO- Soljrs of Emancipashn!
DI- Lemngs aftr liberashn!
CI- Maniacs for simulashn!
Don- Grecorome this cogitashn.
TO- Sum got food, goldflake rice, Furs and funky fay perfumes,
They the planet's greeny spice Pak in plastic powr looms.
DI- Sum got nuthn, turd-nut bred, Germs and labor ar ther lot, They the sky inside ther hed Clog with revolushn's clot.
CI- Yo like wunda, thunk and thunda, If the po be natur's blunda, Du for dumpy, protochumpy, Ovrfunded hyperclumpy, Yo like wak it with yo wit...
All- How cuz the streets is smeard in shit?
Don- U, scurilus and venjful in ur pity, Lay awake at nite and scan the day.
TO- Wut's so fekn rong with this dam city?
DI- U ask urself midst felon and delay.
Don- I'l tel thee, my relijus parvenus, Wut keeps the sanitashn from its slurp: The problem's not the rich.
CI- It's fookn u!
Don- It's al that sik semantic gas u burp.
TO- "The po's kfufld by the rich's shlok!"
DI- "They stupit cuz they skool's be undrstokt!"
CI- "They du ther gud, ther bad is dun to them!"
All- Logic lok!
Don- See, Augustine convinst a master race To worship wut defys its going trend, So don't blame beuty for the ugly face, Cuz poverty's the and in us and them.

TO- No, poverty's too slo to play the game.
DI- No, poverty's too busy pasn blame.
CI- No, poverty's too drunk to drink the rain.

## Faze 4, Sene 2. The Anglo-Saxon Mead Hall. Enter Aethelbert, Aethelfrith, Eadbald, Ceolwulf, Raedwald, and others.

| Raed- | This miklmote of Anglo-Saxon tribes |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | Is cald to ordr. |
| All- | Aethelbert haletten! |
| Abert- | Welcum, al, Mercia and Northumbria, |
|  | Saxons east, south, and west, Deira, Gwent, |
|  | East Angles, Lindsey, Far Dumnonia, |
|  | To this alians-gathering in Kent, |
|  | My kingdom, wer u are evr welcum. |
| All- | In witan geliefan, in allvater run! |
| Abert- | I hav into my relm a Roman monk |
|  | By the name of Augustine acepted; |
|  | His motiv is conversun of our race, |
|  | Wich I'v obliged by his grace receving, |
|  | As dominans requires partnrship |
|  | Strategic with al popular engagements, |
|  | Of demands few yet many in rewards. |
|  | So, let me hear ur thots upon the thing, |
|  | Wich being dun, we may discus our plan |
|  | Of pese with the Norsman now invades us. |
|  | Wut say u, mi geferas? |
| Ceol- | Cwellan, Woden! |

Ceolwulf goes at Aethelbert. Al draw ther axes.
Afrith- The soty Scot that strikes wil suk my ax!
Aethelfrith kils Ceolwulf.
Afrith- Demize to whose disensun thretens al.
Aethelbert is bretwalda. If he requests
Considerashn of a nu alians,
We debate it bludles. So, comon king,
Befor this warband of the iland's tribes,
Whose meadcup's like to crak if it must clink
The helth of sum nu swarthy nutles wop
Adors a bludy old pathetic hebe,
Explain y we shud lay upon the sod
And ofr up our neks to Nordic tin,
Destroying al we'v stragld to create?
Don- Here, the playrite, faining ignorans,
Defers the rubric to the odiens.
TO- Y ot the tribe feroshus luv its nabors?
DI- $\quad Y$ ot the clan conceted do $u$ favors?

| CI- | Y ot the ilk afluent giv away |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | The gudies they got fairly in ther day? |
| Mary- | Befor my brain-transplant at batl's hands, I'd sed a luv supreme, from natur's link |
|  | Of nurturans to growth, compels the gud, Yet now I see such luv can slavery spur, Seceshn, slotr, al supreme in fors |
|  | Beyond the law of natur, use, or logic, And edy in supreme perplexity, |
|  | Rule-forlorn, like skitish litr rolng |
|  | From prison-fens to lawn pristine to heap, Bewilderment my wil and lethal luv. |
| Jukes- | The law ain't but a wil that wils itself, Thus the self-inducing own it only. |
| Sea- | The wil that wils itself consumes itself |
|  | As wil is charjd dependency, yet luv |
|  | Is independency contractual, |
|  | Maintaining wil upon its medium, |
|  | Free comunity. |
| Jukes- | Cum the day I luv |
|  | Sum slakn, crookn, blabn quadruped, |
|  | Then tap my jely spine to feed our fate, Free antipathy. |
| Mary- | Only deth is free |
|  | In markets of distrust, and for the luv |
|  | Of serpents, it is rated by its reach. |
| Sea- | This creep lost his creep wen he tryd to raid |
|  | The eagle's nest. |
| Jukes- | So let the hybrids hach |
|  | And profit nuthng. |
| Mary- | Profit's los that needs |
|  | A war to raze. |
| Sea- | Nor'm I for othr's use. |
| Jukes- | U'r for ur own abuse. |
| Sea- | It's u abuse |
|  | Urself controlng othrs, wen al life |
|  | Begins and ends in needful helplesnes. |
| Jukes- | Sum folks is simply betr than sum folks. |
| Mary- | Speak only wut al times wil hold as tru, |
| Jukes- | The record of a race is its jujment. |
| Sea- | Then read the record of ur race: its art |
|  | Gaudy ads for salo wars, its lerning |
|  | A diminushn of the mentor past, |
|  | Its laws excluding and iregular, |
|  | Its cultur barely out the bestial, |

Wut wur u save for grunts and dolts, until
These Roman Jews, these swarthy spirit slaves,
Preachng luv's ilicit reconcilements,
Wich u tuk to like stow-aways to watr,
Yet u'v no dignity to recognize
Ther meaknes gave u empire, grace, and gud.
Jukes- This southan man, I trust, wil sho it difrent.
Mary- It's history.
Sea- Wich is rot to those who keep
Ther present welth embezlng from the past.
Mary- Les the law of luv, England wud be dirt.
Jukes- Du to that law the Vikings made it dirt.
Don- And the Christian Normans did the same, Shoing the law of luv the fuel of war.
Jukes- $\quad$ Wut kind of man ar $u$ to take no side In tugs of pese and war, and yet to treat Ur kind unkindly?
Don- I'm the strangest kind, As evry chois convinces me I'm rite, Convicshn wich convinces me I'm rong, And for my kind, it is unkind to me To stipulate its serendipity, But we must pas thru may to get to june, For much that's boom and bust is bust and boom.
Enter Ceorl, draging a wounded woman.
Ceorl- This Waelcyrian, beging thru the sqadrons, Was discoverd with a Celtic dagr. She lept at me, I smit her, and she bleeds.
Abert- Wut's thy name?
Woman- My name is cunt.
Abert- Thy parents wur too literal.
Woman- My mothr was a cunt.
Abert- Dost thou noe me?
Woman- Ay, Aethelbert, the King of Kunt.
Abert- Art thou Celtic?
Woman- From my cunt inward.
Abert- Art thou my enemy?
Woman- From my cunt outward.
Abert- Didst thou mean to carv an Angle?
Woman- I'll round the world til it's a cunt.
Abert- U like that word, don't u?
Woman- I like wut it duz to Christians.
Raed- This Celt called cunt is candid in her cant.
Abert- Heal her wounds and send Miss Cunt to Wales.
Afrith- She is an asasin.
Abert- And a human

|  | Who duz for hers wut we do for our own, |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | So do I hope thru luv to win her help |
|  | In coterizing a bludy divide |
|  | Into united helth. |
| Afrith- | Be un with Celts? |
|  | May with the pond my filching corps be un As it's digested by the niglng neses |
|  | Than I alow the day to warm a jot |
|  | Unslaternd by the spray of Celtic |
|  | Expedite her, Eadbald. |
| Abert- | If u wil buk |
|  | My thority, then take the risk urself, |
|  | But do not, coward, inculcate my son. |
| Afrith- | U who at Pomys fled the praying monks |
|  | Cal me coward? |
| Ead- | Lisn to him, fathr. |
|  | This Welshy bich came here to kil our kind. |
| Abert- | Mite not the kilng end by kilng mite? |
| Afrith- | He toks of mite! Dawdlng in negashn, |
|  | Joltng us with jokng incantashn, |
|  | Farthr from truth the closr he gets |
|  | To necesity, our king now squawks of mite, |
|  | Yet has no mite to kil wut wud kil us. Augustine's converjun is perverjun! |
| Raed- | Our harts, Aethelbert, ar too huge with hate |
|  | To nesl in the inglnook of luv. |
| Afrith- | Al is a ly except to fuk and fite. |
| Abert- | This is Woden warp, bawns of feral stook |
|  | Amast for razorbak pig relijun; |
|  | This is the burh of a viperine scowl |
|  | Enticing us to inconclusivnes, |
|  | Onband beadu-rune, hetlic und ban-fag, |
|  | The trap of midangeard saps, rancid pilzens |
|  | Of fuelng blanknes, mistige moras, |
|  | Wife meat, flinch loyalty, and brain loin. |
|  | This is weird worship. Let it go for luv, |
|  | As even the corpuscles of human fear, |
|  | The screams and wimpers of a stolen girl, |
|  | The final realizashns of the drowned, |
|  | Al brain-blowing horors evaporate |
|  | Before the sens that we ot not hav ben. |
|  | To share, to weep, to wundr - this is life. |
| Afrith- | O Aethelbert the Uns, I fear for thee, |
|  | And nevr even do I for myself. |
|  | Thy stool is blak and hard, thy pis translucent, |
|  | Thy flesh is pruny from the Berthan bath, |

Indolens thy goal, shame thy enslavr, As u but brace urself to batl rek At meaning, wich no man wil evr beat. I wil not hold alians with defeat.
Raed- We ar lost.

Ead- O Melvin Muspellsheimus,
Solv the Aethelfeud that misaligns us!
Enter Melvin and two crows.
Melvin- I am Melvin, Wizard, son of Merlin, At my wings the counsel crows of Woden:
The fors of proceptiv thot, or Hugin, And receptiv memory, or Minin.
Fly, jety rooks, and scrounj the glaucus nite For tenebresent tendencys to lite!
The crows exit and entr.

| Melvin- | Wut say u, Hugin, or thot? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Hugin- | Natur's gyrencefelat troop, in folds |
|  | Of interstitial combat by default |
|  | May only preserv the factors of chois |
|  | If in each mind abides the ur-debate |
|  | That creates it not, yet is created |
|  | By the omnilingual recognishn |
|  | That survival midst eternal colaps |
|  | Requires paranoia be in powr. |
| Melvin- | Wut say u, Minin, or memory? |
| Minin- | Residual urthly preposishns |
|  | Carv out the radical deliquesens |
|  | That forms our tools, and al premonishn |
|  | Of our unurthly indecisivnes |
|  | Laks the reminisens akshn demands, |
|  | For we are renderings of emulshns |
|  | Seen fals as only uns thru singl eye, |
|  | So must coloidal fors be thy tenet. |
| Raed- | These crows are fusky, Melvin. Clarify. |
| Melvin- | Cut off her cocoa cunt, u cokozoid, |
|  | And wear it as a mask on Mayhem day! |
|  | So sez Melvin, Wizard, son of Merlin. |

They exit.
Abert- Fine her and send her home.
Aethelfrith stabs her. Aethelbert becums fasinated by the air.

| Abert- | Ar u ther? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Afrith- | And I wil move of my intent. |
| Abert- | Can u see me? |


| Afrith- | A spectacl of shame. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Abert- | Is it like dreamng? |
| Afrith- | U'r a fuzy fable. |
| Abert- | As a pagan in a pod of luv <br> I both desire and dred the pikng time. |
| Afrith- | Desir and dred away, but don't convert. <br> Abert- <br> I did not kil u, woman. It was he, <br> And yet I noe in blame we are not free. |
| Afrith- | Suspend this pusy wipng, Eadbald, lest <br> Ur fathr be the folklor lamed the folk. |

enter Ceorl.
Ceorl- The Nors are at the rivr!
Al exit.
Mary- This is the kind of filth I wud expect
Don- Wut u say?
Jukes- Let her be.
Sea- She sed
Ur son's ilicitly ur son-in-law.
Don- U censor incest, sir?
Sea- I do.
Don- Holard!

## Enter Holard.

| Don-Sea- | U like my slave wench, sir? |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | She is no slave, |
|  | But a free-born woman, as I like her. |
| Don- | As do I. |
| Mary- | Then let her be it. |
| Don- | I would, |
|  | But that she'd copy u, ya loud-mouthd bich. |
| Sea- | Freedom rewards compatibility. |
| Don- | And she is most compatibl to me |
|  | As my niga wench. |
| Jukes- | U obscur urself |
|  | By mating with a clear inferior. |
| Sea- | Comerce by suply clings to purity, |
|  | Yet noelej of demand, wich mixng givs, Is the economic form triumfant |
| Don- | Holard, do we mate? |
| Hol- | No, sir, masa Don. |
| Mary- | Ther is no truth wen masters questun slaves. |
| Don- | Nor when free-born women fors agendas. |
|  | But say I wur to sel u to this man, |

Mite u mate with him?
Sea- We ain't ur catl.
Don- Y, that ain't fair at al. I am merely
Recognizin u two took a likin,
And it's most kind a me to push it 'long, Don't u rekn, Holard?
Hol- Yes, masa Don.
Don- So, tel me wut u'd like.
Hol- To go with him.
Don- U'l stay til the end?
Hol- Y, of cors I wil.
Don- Do u care to buy her, sir?
Mary- Name ur price.
Don- My price is that $u$ lisn to my play.
Jukes- No way.
Mary- We wil do it.
Sea- We wil do it.
Don- Sold to the gentlman in the first row.
Go then, Holard, with my deepest blesng,
And make a famly with this man, unles...
Hol- Unles?
Don- O, my now, that is a quandry.
Hol- Wut's a quandry? Speak, masa Don.
Don- With this man so oposed to siblng sex, How wil u evr?
Hol- We ain't famly, masa.
Don- How can u noe?
Sea- I's born sumwer in Georgia.
Hol- As was I.
Sea- My peple sold me yung.
Hol- As did mine.
Sea- That is al my history.
Hol- Me the same.
Don- Dag, that is sad. Wut blak folks gona do
Bout startin famlys if they nevr noes
Exactly who's relatin and who ain't?
Don't seem rite to jeer a man for incest
Wen brothas all be boinkin on they sistas.
Oyvey. It's hush out here. Whose line is it?
TO- Slip the propr stopr on the tung.
DI- Strap the propr swapr to the fault.
CI- Teaz the propr shopr to the bung.
TO- Pay the propr mopr mop the vault.
DI- Like do our valus target novel blis?
CI- Or do they bor a barel bound to mis?

## Faze 4, Sene 3. Bertha's chambers. Enter Bertha and Liudhard.

| Liud- | Aethelbert shal comishn Augustine |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | The Archbishopric of Canterbury, |
|  | Casing uns promiscuat excursus |
|  | Of urthly votion in his cosmic grid. |
| Ber- | The playful otr to the trap, the elm |
|  | To timbr stak, the creek to viaduct, |
|  | And romping day into a mesurd march, Al seems to be progresng as it ot. |
| Liud- | Bertha, ar u rite? |
| Ber- | In thinkng I am rong. |
| Liud- | It's ofn so that we, the old in faith, |
|  | Look on a nu adherent jelusly, |
|  | And think, O cud I start my jaunt agen, |
|  | How fastr wud I scur, how strate to gud. |
|  | Our trite and lispng conshens seems a stone |
|  | But rubd in huny, yet the porus nove |
|  | In word apears enqual with deepest mint. |
|  | Even mor ocult is thy circumflex, |
|  | As being wife and wand to Aethelbert, |
|  | In the first, havng lain flush beneath him |
|  | Bloatng fresent bulk upon the spoil |
|  | Of his natal faith, and as the second |
|  | Being my instrument of convershn, |
|  | Wich, as a making sik, has made u so, |
|  | Yet noe, as u wil raiz a race improvd |
|  | By grace, al liftng out a crowded grave |
|  | The grovlng disipants of wican wold, |
|  | U are in faith the mor, and betr he, |
|  | For we convertrs are convertd most, |
|  | As no nu vois can mach old melody. |
|  | So on ur misdirecshn do not think; |
|  | We've los of way enuf in evry blink. |
| Ber- | Liudhard, my only frend, how wel u noe me |

Enter Aethelbert.

| Abert- | Bertha, my deign, hav u ilused the leves <br> Upon our eldran oak? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ber- | I'v not lookt up |
|  | Sins I set sand in Angland. |
| Abert- | They are green. |
| Ber- | Then I am helthy. |
| Abert- | And we in harmony. |
| Ber- | Wud u care to read ur book to the child? |
| Abert- | I canot yet. |
| Ber- | U'v only just begun. |
| Abert- | I feel like a condor flown thru a hailstorm, |
|  | Trying to navigate, yet beaten blind. |


| Ber- | Por bird of prey. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Abert- | Who noes himself no mor |
|  | In flok or diet, range or cry, yet feels |
|  | A tiny type that flys in swindlng droves, |
|  | Like a brief, flitng mij, arivng gon, |
|  | Nestles, day-detaind, only made to mate |
|  | In clouds of random spray, al-thrashng mad, |
|  | Until his moldering to woman food. |
| Ber- | U wur so much befor me. |
| Abert- | Unmuchng much, |
|  | As being's had by letng being go. |
|  | I kild to rule, yet nun may rule the ded. |
| Ber- | U nue a need. |
| Abert- | For this, but not for that. |
| Ber- | U wur rich with that, valud tho thru this. |
| Abert- | In my renounst divine, each entity |
|  | Is a place's mystery, the silent hum |
|  | Of a massif, the ramblng retisens |
|  | A grove al fool with fog is tonted to |
|  | By torid wind of swelng day, the brod |
|  | And fikl blathr of an empty vale, |
|  | And wile to sum it may seem butiful |
|  | Or liberating to poses such chois |
|  | In vois as strange locales, the frantic lost |
|  | And evr outward serch defrays the cords |
|  | Of conectivity to globing self, |
|  | That like a worm in wood petrifical, |
|  | Enlitenment became but sors selecshn |
|  | And mental liquefacshn, yet this om |
|  | Of Augustine, wich u first picht in me, |
|  | Shoz now a speech inviolat to thot, |
|  | A lite devoid of place, and lets me rest |
|  | Within the simpl serchings of myself. |
| Liud- | And Augustine awaits u to consign |
|  | The victim laws, or dooms, into effect |
|  | That al ur peple may as u elate. |
| Abert- | U wish it? |
| Ber- | Serch my spiting, evil side, |
|  | And $u$ wil find, thru self's antithesis, |
|  | Wich convershn culs into persepshn, |
|  | My most authentic wish. |
| Abert- | Lead me, Liudhard. |
|  | To luv. |
| Aethelbert and Liudhard exit. |  |
| Ber- | To luv, and rarely wen we'r wantng. |
|  | My evil side, too tru thy guiles chauntng. |

This man, this king, this Anglo-Saxon spore, This teras on his race's highest tier, Now simps about in automatic bor, Convertd to a zelus volunteer.
Fur luv? Wut of the man who shook the skys?
Who did not noe obeyans from a wim?
Fixated on the los each act implyz,
Life's litl lithe's a masiv, fatal grim.
I sot, thinkng it gud, his sol to save,
So am I now wife-mothr to a slave.
Enter Eadbald.
Ead- Mumy, ho.
Ber- Eadbald, I want to be alone.
Ead- So too do I, and I seek it in u.
Ber- Ther's nuthng in me. Pleze, now, let me be.
Ead- The nuthng in u's al that I desir.
Ber- Wut ar u doing? Eadbald, get away.
Ead- I've got a way, if u'd let me go it.
Ber- U freak.
Ead- I freak to fit me into u.
Ber- I wil scream.
He covers her mouth and puls his agon.
Ead- Wen I was just a tot, we huntd bats
With slingshots, the system to divulj
A nestlng cave werin they hung asnooz
Downside up, in furry, blivius bands,
Ther batys at ther chest, and in that lul
At firelamp we'd take our aim, and bam!
The stone wud flop un ded upon the flor,
A milun blipng othrs whirng mad
To screech u from the shelt, ur victim left
Uneaten, mokt, and useles in the dust.
Real huntng, that wuz, wer u kil to feel
The pasaj of a sol subordinat,
Becumng great by denying meaknes.
I mean to entr ur wet cave and peg
Ur tiny bat to life's dark dirty flor
In clules, clenchng agony, unles
U shut ur lips, bel-mer, and lisn. Oui?
He lets his hand off Bertha's mouth.
Ead- $\quad$ A flowr fed on blud in Angland blums.
Ber- Wut kind of flowr ar u?
Ead- Augustine.
Ber- He cums in pese.

| Ead- | His pese is war on me. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Ber- | Betr to dy for pese than liv on war. |
| Ead- | Fuk ur clevr maxims. The best imigrant |
|  | Wil nevr noe the rigors of this iland. |
|  | Only laws elicited thru vilens |
|  | Can giv society security, |
|  | In proces horor, haven in result, |
|  | Al othr forms of progres suicide. |
| Ber- | Kristianity converts thru vilens. |
| Ead- | The strong to the weak, the deft to the dum, |
|  | Destroying the gud, promoting the worst, |
|  | It is a cult of fear, a rabl rule, |
|  | And so the enemy of excelens. |
| Ber- | I beleve u. |
| Ead- | Turn my fathr away |
|  | From Augustine, or I go huntng bats. |
| Ber- | It's past me now. He's gon to cast the dooms. |
| Ead- | The Anglo-Saxon wil be Kristian laws? |
| Ber- | He is converted. Let us liv with that. |

He stabs her.
Ead- Let us to save the race murdr mutants.
Take care, mothr. Gud to hav ben in u.
He exits. She crawls off.

| Jukes- | No! Y did u do that? |
| :--- | :--- |
| TO- | Sumun's gota take the rap. |
| DI- | Sumun's gota dis the lap. |
| CI- | Sumun's gota cut the crap. |
| Don- | I had a point to make. |
| Mary- | Wut? That vilens is? |
| Sea- | The urth is crusted with its gory proof. |
| Don- | Not that vilens is, but that pese wil not |
|  | As long as children ar born to beleve |
|  | The womb is preferabl to the world. |

## Faze 4, Sene 4. Augustine's mishn. Enter Augustine, Liudhard, Aethelbert.

Liud- Great Augustine, savior of the swampland, I bear u Aethelbert.
Aug- Bles u, Liudhard,
Now leve us.
Liud- $\quad$ Mite I share in this event?
Aug- To God wut is God's, to me wut is mine.
Liudhard exits.
Aug- Describe ur telos.
Abert- Wer is my talus?

| Aug- | Y ar u here? |
| :---: | :---: |
| Abert- | The overseer sent me. |
| Aug- | Hav u no motiv? |
| Abert- | That u giv me un. |
| Aug- | Am I to risk my status to engage |
|  | A king of rodents, grime, and briny reks, Whose peple shout druidic cantilashns |
|  | Unto sum menhir freezng in a fire, Littering the land with idle tokens? |
| Abert- | I canot bear ur censure. Help me trap |
|  | The winds in my hart, wich so pash and ror |
|  | They nerly break the hulling of my ribs, And I wil giv u al that u demand. |
| Aug- | I demand to gambl with ur genus. |
| Abert- | Y is ther so much harm in harmony? |
| Aug- | Faith on thee! Thou greedy mawmet mewlng, |
|  | Mere fetish is the glory of thy tribe, |
|  | Thus hav I orderd my aposls juj |
|  | Who must thru tortur be sedust to grace. |
| Abert- | Tortur Anglo-Saxons? |
| Aug- | Save the world. |
| Abert- | How can I avert it? |
| Aug- | Cast the dooms. |
| Abert- | I am but un; the dooms are of the race. |
| Aug- | The master makes the law. |
| Abert- | Y remake wut is made? |
| Aug- | To rendr me Archbishop of this Archipelago! |
| Abert- | Wut about the Irish? |
| Aug- | Wut about the Irish? |
| Abert- | But my alyz - in ther demise the dooms? |
|  | And my peple - les ther surmise the dooms? |
|  | I lak the rite to cast anew the dooms! |
| Aug- | The rite is urs anew by castng dooms, As powr's thred rewefts the uman looms. |
| Abert- | I wil try. |
| Aug- | Thru him, spirit, speak the dooms! |
| Abert- | Natur serv society, |
|  | Self negate alterity, |
|  | Failur daunt ability, |
|  | Wisdom pleze stupidity. |
|  | Profit tax imaginashn, |
|  | Decency defile abandon, |
|  | Formity deny disenshn, |
|  | Privat ovr public rashn. |
|  | Comfort conservashn sku, |
|  | Celebrity indiferns stru, |

Popular progreshn ru,
Now be slave to nevr nu.

Aug- | Yes, my slave, u cast the dooms, |
| :--- |
| Law from thee is evr rite. |
| Yes, my slave, u thole the cooms, |
| Life with thee is safely slite. |
| Dream, my slave, of futil wining |
| Thru a term-efishnt sol, |
| Smile, my slave, for glamor's grining |
| On thee in thy grimy hole. |
| I love thee, slave, like a gonad |
| Cameld neath my mental minions, |
| Humpng me, a corpral nomad, |
| Thru the desert of opinions. |
| Lap, my slave, the cream of conshns |
| Out the cup of sexy vilens. |
| Soar, my slave, abuv the birds |
| And shit the stonehenj of my words. |
| My peple, that uns sang to sang to clouds and fenz, |
| Abert- |
| Shal now in prayr thy glory reverens. |
| To luv. |

Aethelbert exits.
Aug- To luv, King Aethelbert, or not.
A shushng world spokn thru my sentens,
A bilion thotles births by me predated,
The histry of al women les than I.
This rain of hope the reigning metal rusts,
As agapeti swarm the dales ovr,
Convincing those are ruld they soon shal rule,
Spredng faith in luk, the leafles clovr.
I hear the groan of law's entangld race,
Hypocrisy contortng wondr's face;
Dependency caws its lone aflikshn
Ovr our inept and corbeld dicshn.
To trade the planet for a profit rare,
And take ofens to the alien air!
He exits.
Don- Relax, my caring nurs, awile with me, Our hands entwined, our thots beyond duress, The landscape of our lives befor us free, And with ur spirit open, tok of deth.

Ekard brings Mary on stage.
Jukes- Don't u tuch my wife!
Sea- Ur wife?

| Mary- | The Civil War split mor than states. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Don- | Wil u? |
| Mary- | Tok of deth is al life givs us. |
| Don- | Duz my play adequately tok the tok? |
| Mary- | If $u$ wud let it free itself from $u$. |
| Don- | Too late. It is my last. These livng lims Shal soon but limply flutr in the stream Wens the spring of gloom so lushly burbls, Flowing to the wel wer woman warbls Of our defunctiv term the sory song. Y won't u sowf it now I am alive? |
| Mary- | She is asylum from the war of man, So is her singing silent to survive. |
| Don- | Duz deth friten $u$, duz it excite $u$, Duz it spray soothng salts on ur wound du? |
| Mary- | Wen woman must for life to bed with pain, Must feel al teknology as pain, Must so fortuitusly be inscribed Into the coz and cur of man in pain, She out of instinct dreams of sensles deth. |
| Don- | U ar the but of gag society, Forst long ago to serv as hors or hags, A wispr midst the hoots of falicry, Sad does of don't ideal for doing stags. |
| Mary- | And society is the dayjob of deth. |
| Don- | U sho the wisdom of the platypus. |
| Mary- | The platypus? Y the platypus? |
| Don- | Becuz ur pusy speaks in platitudes. |
| He gropes her. |  |
| Leo- | My Don, the senes of deth ar near begin. U wish me stil to execute ur wish? |
| Don- | U noe I do, my Leotrice. |
| Leo- | Then stop. |
| Don- | U tel me wut to do? |
| Leo- | If $u$ wish me |
|  | To folo u then u must folo me. |
| Don- | Hine sorh-wylmas |
|  | Lemedon to lange |
|  | He his leodum wearth |
|  | Eallum aethelingum |
|  | To aldor-caere. |
| Leo- | Thaer abidan scael |
|  | Maga mane fah |
|  | Miclon domes |
|  | Hu him scir metod |
|  | Scrifan wille. |

Don- Deth is now the play.
Leo- And deth entir.
Don- Al the profets stray.
Leo- And then expire.
Don- I think u ar my frend.
Leo- U think too much.

## Faze 5, Sene 1. Bertha's chambers. Bertha is in the bed, a nurse beside her. Enter Aethelbert, Liudhard, Eadbald.

Abert- How is she?
Nurse- Dim and seze and mutr al.
Abert- The child?
Nurse- Stil in her, yet in her stil.
Abert- $\quad \mathrm{O}$ wut malishus holo belcht this bane?
Liud- Cast out venjens.
Ead- She herself.
Liud- I won't aksept that.
Ead- Who askt u, dikweed?
Abert- I wil see her.
Liud- No, $u$ wil distract her
From taking grace, a glint I've yet to grasp
From out her gothic gault vermiparus.
Abert- $\quad$ Her sol is bruisd with being kikt from me.
I wil see her.
Liud- We wil see her.
Abert- We, we.
Ead- Spado troglodyte.
Abert- Eadbald, fech the wizard.
Aethelbert and Liudhard go to Bertha.
Ead- I'l fech him fatal to the monk began
Eadbald exits.

| Abert- | Bertha, my coo. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ber- | Aethelbert, I am sik. |
| Abert- | I beleve. |
| Ber- | Loungingly, the serpents nip at me. |
| Liud- | Seek solushn, child, to thy erors. |
| Ber- | I shal. |
| Liud- | O neel with us, Aethelbert, |
|  | And share a tru believr's penitens. |
| Ber- | Forgiv me, lord, for twistng Aethelbert |
|  | Into a tru penitent believr. |
| Liud- | Her spine relays the sepsis to her skul. |
| Ber- | Husband, tel the overseer leve. |
| Abert- | Leve. |

Liud- She must repent.
Abert- She wil, in ur absens.
Liudhard exits.

| Abert- | Ur chest is cold. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Ber- | My hart pumps liquid ice |
|  | Thruout the sulking tundra of my sol. |
| Abert- | O my lithe, brusk, swirlng, wintrd woman! |
| Ber- | Decay squats spangly in the April snifs, Wich we forlorn and eagr children wif. |
| Abert- | Cruel kasm tween the voyur and his need! |
| Ber- | Deth makes a voyur of us al. |
| Abert- | Tel me who did this, and I wil impale His evry inch. |
| Ber- | Me, myself, and lyz. |
| Abert- | Wur u not hapy? |
| Ber- | Thotles du to $u$, |
| Abert- | U gave me luv. |
| Ber- | That steep proclivity |
|  | Werup we hike to plant a privat rose, |
|  | Then daily hump the hil to nurtur it, |
|  | On our asent perseving natural liken |
|  | Ebulent in the scruf beneath our peak, |
|  | Wich we must cum to luv the mor, as al Luv tactil dros beyond aloof perfekshn. |
| Abert- | Don't say. |
| Ber- | Don't say. Amidst such revrent noiz |
|  | Repetishn alone comunicates. |
| Abert- | Bertha, pleze, dy with me, not agenst me. |
| Ber- | In remedy, with u is agenst u . |
|  | I am a moat u dug about urself |
|  | To baricade ur own barbaric past, |
|  | But now the hory hybern permafrosts |
|  | The fields, twistng livestock into nots, |
|  | My watrs freze, and wilding wurmen cros. |
| Abert- | I won't revert wen u ar gon. |
| Ber- | Revert. |
|  | Go hang a birch with lamps, go mutl thru |
|  | The fulvic march of desprat verbs, go climb |
|  | The rollng hils our faults hav bubld out |
|  | The plain of forms predictabl. Go chase |
|  | Urselvs from natur's polenating $u$. |
|  | Revert. Thru devolushn we evolv. |
|  | Golden lab u ar, wild wolf u wur. |
|  | Uns underpeat thy muse, now ovraw. |
|  | How like some fresh pubesens on a thug |

Whose lik she longs, wundr, hunch and lusty, Upon u hung. O u wur a geyser, Now a drain $u$ ar. Wut, wud u be free? Then slay the financiers that herd ur stok To sel u valu-aded to urself, And wolo in the rivr ripls own, Un with the flo, influent to the al, Within that place no silens can displace, Wer women nevr wory if ther care Has ben of maim or mint. Revert, my luv, To that great nevrlastng wens I go.

Enter Ghost Surjun.

| Abert- | Muthr, y? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Don- | The script, son, stik to the script. |
| Ber- | I wisht u gud, brothr. |
| Don- | The script! |
| Ber- | Husband, |
|  | Yet bearng u to blis has hurt me so; |
|  | It's hel to wach anothr to hevn go. |

The Ghost Surjun givs her poison, wich is not poison. Bertha dyz.

| Abert- | My luv is ded. This world too worships rongs. |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Ther's no un now to hide me from my fears. |
|  | My luv is ded, and taken al the songs, |
|  | And I've alone this sugar in my tears. |
| Ghost- | Tend wel the dotrs |
|  | For days un-numberd, |
|  | Smiles unencumberd |
|  | Shine on the dotrs. |
|  | Let them wundr freely |
|  | Of worlds deep within them, |
|  | Hold ther hands ungainly |
|  | That no fear resind them. |
|  | Hew them homes in al wethrs, |
|  | Tos them not thru the nethrs, |
|  | Wok them gently cros the watrs, |
|  | Our best mothrs mix these dotrs. |
|  | Hold thy dotrs |
|  | Thru the slotrs |
|  | Les ther bothrs |
|  | Make no othrs. |

Faze 5, Sene 2. Augustine and atendants at his mishn, Gregory and atendants in Rome. Laurentius is preparing the spunj to bathe Augustine.

Aug- Bathe me, Honorius, then we may dine.

Enter Melvin and crows and kills Honorius and Laurentius. Melvin soils the spunjs. Crows stand in for atendants.

| Aug- | Ah! This spunj! It reaks of morbid matr! |
| :---: | :---: |
| Hugin- | My luv, that canot be! |
| Minin- | We sanitized it thoroly! |
| Aug- | O rank reciprocating winds of wo! Deth twitrs evry vois to hungry cro! |
| Att 1- | Gregory, the peple wait at ur porch. Wut shal I tel them? |
| Greg- | Tel them I am crums |
|  | And they shud seek the loaf from wens I fel. |
| Att 2- | My luv, thy words in cruces as this now Ar best to not divulj prognostic cues Werby sum drol of natur may compres Its irevers upon wut need not be. |
| Greg- | Words canot move us from the gavel's clap. |
| Aug- | Gregory, is that u? |
| Greg- | I am here, Augustine. |
| Att 1- | He mumbls, tokng to the gaze of gloom. |
| Melvin- | How stupid's life to make us liv by sens The end of wich is utr senslesnes, Each rootng bak to its mothr madnes. So sez Melvin, Wizard, son of sadnes. |
| Aug- | Gregory, this iland is now my land, Absorbng of our humbl benedikshn As duz its chauky clints the tumblng koosh. |
| Greg- | U hav spred a splendid dominashn. |
| Aug- | Wer pas we now? Wut unimajind yield For our labors rouzng and deliteful Wil our so speshl spirits meet beyond? |
| Greg- | Umility, my slave, best becums thee. |
| Aug- | Am I not perfect in umility? |
| Greg- | Ataca wirls the worm-lion, Augustine! How hard we rush at evr-briskr pace To win the race rewards us with a los, Insertng ourselvs lively into deth, That femeral sy of infinit breth, Yet not to pride in endng's not to dy. |
| Aug- | Not to pride? Was my doing not wel dun? |
| Greg- | To brag is as to celebrate a birth |
|  | By tosng nek and al into the air. |
| Aug- | We'v shown the primitivs in baren huts The glory of amasng guds! |
| Greg- | And we |
|  | Shal hiest bid in spirit markets see. |
| Aug- | But I hav seen, agog with preblum savor, |



| DI- | This is the sin eatr. |
| :---: | :---: |
| CI- | The win cheatr, the win cheatr! |
| Don- | Sins he wil suk. |
| TO- | From the flesh of the miscreant |
| DI- | Yumy is yuk! |
| CI- | Glee goblng glibly |
| Don- | Crakas for Christ! |
| TO- | Absolvng the slipy |
| DI- | Of wigly malfezans. |
| CI- | The rivr derives it? |
| Don- | The miror reflex me? |
| TO- | Sin eatr! Sin eatr! |
| DI- | Yak in my Ganges. |
| CI- | Of floatng ded injuns. |
| Don- | And Augustine's crime Of swoloing sols let thy sacrament mime. |
| Jukes- | Y do u abuse me? Are we not un? |
| Don- | I ain't no un with no un save myself, And even that's a union dubius, Cuz tho we maybe share idologys, We stil two coks a-clawin to the kil. |
| Mary- | See wut u fot for, Jukes? A coz corupt And confounded by its own condishns. |
| Jukes- | I wil say this: wen down the Shenendoa I seen the blazon forge the green to grey, The shrapnel shredng armament to scrap, The red and rabid elefant of rage Downtrampl my entir company To paste of human lard upon the turf Like hairy frostng on a deathday cake, I did not mustr curaj from the thot That for a man like this I bekond deth. |
| Mary- | So havng fot five years for rongful rites, A few hours at a play may rite the rong. |

Don stufs bred down Jukes' throat.
Don- Go, free man, and burn ur Sunday best;
Naked ar we born, and deth is overdrest.
Ekard returns Jukes to his place.

## Faze 5, sene 3. Enter Aethelfrith and ceorl, at battle on the River Idle.

Ceorl- Aethelfrith, we are doomd, for Aethelbert
Has traded land for pese with the Norsman,
And he, for whom amity is enmity,
Turns the land to fire and pese to war.
Enter Aethelbert and Fraethwith.

| Abert- | Tel my militia to sit down and pray. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fraeth- | They did so, and the Nors hav cut them down. |
| Afrith- | Pray for pese from me, Aethelbert the Gud, |
|  | And hear it eko thru my emptines. |

Aethelfrith droz his batl ax.
Abert- I wil not fite $u$, Aethelfrith.
Afrith- Then dy.
Enter Eadbald.
Ead- Fite my fathr, Aethelfrith, fite me.
Eadbald and Aethelfrith fite.

| Abert- | Eadbald, let it hapn. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ead- | Shut the fuk up! |
| Afrith- | I fite him as a craven of the Nors, |
|  | Thus u fite for him who fites agenst u. |
| Ead- | He is my fathr stil. |
| Afrith- | He is a pest |
|  | Whose pasiv, wavring, vage animus |
|  | Of frinjifuse too-crejulus devoshns |
|  | Has funkt our fenz with sik imported mos. |
| Abert- | I cherish the charitys I'v unfurld. |
| Afrith- | O how, my brothr mity, u hav errd. |
|  | Thy sol was sovren tite, now it is slak. |
|  | Into thee weaklng idiots hav blared |
|  | And now thou art an adict to the smak |
|  | Of shame, yet Aethelfrith shal nevr stray. |

## Eadbald haks Aethelfrith.

Afrith- My words hav by distrakshn formd my deth.
O Anglo-Saxons, drive out fearlesly
The jakals of equality that flit
About thy prize, els thy rich fertil sea
Shal turn a stagnant tarn of begar's spit.
Ungelic is us.
Abert- Angelic ar we.
He dyz.
Abert- See him, Lora? Befor u, this was I:
A brazen void that grubd thru bogs and sods.
Ead- See me, Bertha! I hold the world's eye
Entranst at my erasur of its gods!
Enter Ceorl.
Ceorl- The Nors are evrywer!
Ceorl exits.

## Faze 5, Sene 4. The ej of a bog sumwer in Angland.

| Don- | U redy, son? |
| :---: | :---: |
| Pet- | I don't understand it. |
| Don- | It's best that way. |
| Pet- | Y hold to principls |
|  | Agenst the masiv movements of the time? |
| Don- | A man without principls is nuthn. |
| Pet- | A man whose principls ar proven rong |
|  | Is nuthn if he holds them stil as rite. |
| Don- | Fors proves nuthn. |
| Pet- | Then u disprove urself |
|  | To nuthn, by relying al on fors. |
| Don- | But fors is the end, fantasy the means, As only fantasy can prove it's real, So my posishn is my principl That timeles made with fors of time can't change. |
| Pet- | Ur fantasys hav destroyd our famly. |
| Don- | Wut fantasy can kil ot not to be. |
| Pet- | But wut givs u the rite? |
| Don- | Ther is no rite. |
| Pet- | One is not sane by callng the world mad. |
| Don- | So wut givs u the rite to say I'm rong? |
| Pet- | Ther is an assumpshn of afekshn |
|  | Inherent in the making of a child, |
|  | Yet al u gave to us was cruelty. |
|  | That is rong, as it shunts our survival. |
| Don- | The cruelty I giv is my afekshn, |
|  | As survival's based in competishn. |
| Pet- | U canot luv. |
| Don- | I luv, tho roundabout. |
| Pet- | Look at my sistr. This u took from me |
|  | Becuz I wud not fite for slavery. |
| Don- | So making u my slave. |
| Pet- | U ar the slave |
|  | To the mastry of ur own sykoses. |
| Don- | It's tru. My mind's a dark, anshnt custard. |
| Pet- | Equality wil shine upon its crimes. |
| Don- | And that's the way u want us liv? In fear |
|  | Of al we represent as atmosfere? |
|  | So wut's a crime? Wer gongs a clear tru bad? |
|  | Ar akshns ment to be ineptly had? |
|  | Too native we to luk and cu sublime |
|  | To but dawdl dumly. So, wut's a crime |
|  | Wen al's a crime? Can deth be vagely screwd? |
|  | Ar we kabob of dung to feed the lewd? |
|  | A criminal is punisht for his deed, |

Wich from his name dismembrs evry heed,
Yet an actual crime is hard to find
For absent, it incriminates the mind And thus al inosens therin is hurld As on its curb is al percepshn curld. We personize the crime til it is we, Then nuthng is but wut we canot be.
A pas, a hu, a sign of least raport, Becum the shiftng axis of our cor, And bablng in a syntax we resent We plumet thru transgreshns we repent. U want a crime? These peple in us lost, Whose vampant code is now our substant bos; Our we-defining-world is wondr's fact, Ther we-congealng-world's the wondr crakt. The crime is thers to kil the spastic brain By making it subservient to same.
Pet- Wen explanashn, impulst by my need, Is versosofic exercise to $u$,
A pland and relict congery of memes That starvs upon abstrakshn's fony fodr, It finaly seems, great fathr, to make sens
That acusashn is ur sole defens.
Don- $\quad U$ wana hear the truth of me and $u$ ?
Pet- Truth disolvs in ur mouth.
Don- No, realy, son,
I want to speak of the luv between us.
Pet- The luv?
Don- Befor we go.
Pet- I do desire...
Don- Wen I was yung, and masturbated daily, An otorotic batl crag my loins,
Of my shut eyes I structed scarp and baily,
On dreams of blis spent al my concept coins.
The world was a ring of flesh and postur, Evry gorjus entity a monstr In need of purj from Excitashn Gulf, And stok in hand, I fot my Beowulf. Then, my mail masht, yet hard with masacr, I yanged my javlin deep into ur mothr, And out u came, a screamng litl reflex That gru into a symbol of my sex, (O had I stuk to my own bely's bouns As birth's the first of my unpaid acounts), Now u'v becum a rodent in my scrotum, Mating in the shadoz of my scutum,

So thru me hungry anacondas pas
Tiklng the crazy buton in my as,
But as my fathr did, I leve u this:
Fuk ur face and u can get ur prik to kis.
Pet- If that's my story, it is gud I dy,
But y do u kil ur famly, fathr. Y?
Don- Wut's famly but the first and longest ly?
TO- The final sene!
DI- The closing dream!
CI- Turn the valv and blo sum steam!
TO- Luv the gimp.
DI- Teach the chimp.
CI- Cast the wethr as ur wimp.
TO- Aethelbert has got to go.
DI- In flagrante delicto.
CI- Evr sins he cared wut's cool
His mind's this crapy public skool.
TO- Sweet a u to cach my spit.
DI- Nice of us to babysit.
CI- Thanks for actin like $u$ it
Wen u ain't comprehended shit.
Abert- Indomitum, Norn of Tungs, lay on me
Who art but huffng sordes of sardonic,
Hear the hyms of my recesiv rigor,
Notis wut only notises itself,
And acompany this trite sol of los:
Deth of a man too wundrstruk to liv.
Ead- Arn't u ded yet, dad?
Abert- Wors. I am alive.
Enter Ester Friggyfat.
Ester- Das ala ist da. Die mead-mensh ist drunk, Und die Nordys swigerd ala dem bierskys.
Abert- Bertha?
Ead- No, dad, it's ur nu Nordic wife, Ester Friggyfat, a propr pagan;
Wen u ar gon, I shal refil her vat,
Cuz incest is the great wite tradishn.
Abert- I wil not dy til Bertha's at my side.
Ead- Here she is!
Say helo, Aethelbert.
Ester- Halo, Berthalert.
Abert- And Augustine?
Ead- Here am I.
Abert- My frends, my admirers, my alyz?
Ead- $\quad$ So many round the urth atend ur deth
It's almost as if nuthing's changed at al.


Its deep, dark, unmeaning mystery. To say I luvd u sez the least of al: U ar my languaj and my mineral.
Ead- Pop, it's time to drop.
Ester- $\quad$ O lesen im be.

Ead- He's ben enuf.
Abert- I am a meteor, spooj is my fathr, And in my stok I hold no equity. Tired of my race, I sot refuelment In the tangld scurf of law's aluvia, Wer dry gords of prolegite difuzia
Nutrinize the infant on amujia; Sacrogenic bubls buv me bobl, And I, inveigld by my lejur's scope, Reach out my adld, arenashus fingrs, And O the sugar zefirs thru my lak Like swarms of pedofilic flying-fish Seekng yuth down a ded-end adaptashn. My life has ben a skitng thru the maze Of undulatng imprints in a haze, And now I see the ansr's to inquire... Ead- For such fine vers, liv evr in the mire.

He drops him into the bog.
Abert- I sink indenturd to unwitnest crimes
Awaitng my reacshns from the quag.
Ead- Jabr, dad! The los of air wil sink u!
Abert- $\quad Y$ these clanging joyus human rimes
Now emanating from our transient slag?
Ead- Kik, dad, kik! The bog wil soonr chug u!
Abert- We things that thrive but uns ot nevr out. I leve u now who luvd, tho roundabout.

Enter Ghost Surjun and givs him poison, wich is not poison. Enter Liudhard.
Liud- Did he ask forgivnes?
Ead- No, but he askt I giv u this.
Eadbald stabs Liudhard. Ghost Surjun givs him poison, wich is not poison.
Ead- So, u Nordic newt, let's misejenate.
Ester- I vont to see his boody disapearen.
Ead- I vont to see ur boody disapearen.
Ester- Es ist sad.
Ead- Boohoo kity.
Ester- He tok a foogin lot!
Ead- Let's fire the fuzy kiln and glaze my pot.
Ester- Bablhurt, Bablhurt, broke like a twig.
Ead- Cum on. Skirt about the nek. Me want fig.

Ester- $\quad$ Ester bawls for u.
Ead- I'm shakin sunbeams at ur du!
Enter Norsmen.
Nors- Ur vater is caput?
Ead- Caput in his grave.
Nors- U wil mary Ester Friggyfat
And make zie Nordic junglings.
Ead- Ja vol!
Nors- Soon, ther shal be no Anglo-Saxons.
Don goes to Seamus.

| Don- | U lookn at me? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sea- | U'r doin a sho. |
| Don- | Is that a thret? |
| Sea- | U wish it wuz. |
| Don- | U wunt my shit? |
| Sea- | Yo, keep ur shit. |
| Don- | I wil not stand for sambo sas. |
| Sea- | I'l kik befor I kis yo ass. |

Don gets a wip and givs it to Leotrice.
Don- Wip im, wife.
Mary- Revolt and free urselvs!
Leo- Don, it is enuf.
Don- I sed, wip im, wife.
Leo- $\quad$ Y he need a wipn?
Don- He sas at me.
Leo- Ain't he got reazn?
Don- Nigaz got no reazn!
Leo- I got no wil to wip.
Don- Wipim.
Leo- No.
Don takes the wip and intermitently wips Seamus.
Don- My wife has took a likin to $u$, boy.
Sea- I'd like to take a likn to her, boy.
Mary- This man ain't dun nuthn to deserv this!
Don- Ain't he stole his freedom at my expens?
Sea- I bot my freedom at my own expens.
Don- Ur freedom's doom, and I'l prove it. Lisn!
To dout is blis, to noe a rich remors,
To author our intenshns stultifyz,
Yet freedom, carnifex without discors,
Demands we noe our motivs signify.
Atentat upon dilatory hope,
Invijus of wut it may nevr uz,

A baby blu with mothrsplurj of dope, This freaksho fad of aimlesnes we chuz? The cognuz of control are les by being, Gro rarer as they sprit and spru in man, Renderd static by our flesh-engravng, And sprout as thot between the can't and can, Then natur's saber clips us in the holo,
Our sinewz split and fibril in the weat; For freedom we wil any bantr folo, For any victory we are defeat.
Yet he wants freedom and equality,
Wen each is but the othr's oposit, And thru ther mutual hostility We of our destroyer ar composit. Mary- Save a swach of time, u ar the victim! Don- Inguina, art thou opening to them? Art thou in concentrashn of ther motor? Do not thru metempirics flu ther flem Wich gloats the world with its banal soda, But surj thy teemng liquid wundr sens; Ther freedom is an epistemic scam, A hole for junk to flo beneath the fens, And ther equality? It tryz to sham That tween the slave and mastr hangs a musl That carys furthr its dynamic charj To sex, thot, and space, and tho we husl To noe how we may sevr our discharj Of conshnt permutashn from the quest Of torkng brutal luv to human hate,
This tendon evr wil prescribe our jest Thru eros of the curent kilng rate.
I am embost and sukt by slaves to rule Ther hyperlatent latitudes, to comb For indivergent noosferes of grool Compactd in the powrs nevr noen, Wich I'm to then define into ther vois, So how am I to evr noe for sur This here behavur's not in fact ther chois To liv beneath my mastery matur?
I am forevr stuk inside my race As is the wave of lite to time and place.
Jukes- Stop! U'r kilin him!
Leo- Cum, my Don, and drink.
Don- O gaud expergefakshns of my sol!
Vitrific faces haw about thy verd!
Ther genital consumashn is thy role!

Of ther oppreshn-lust $u$ ar the word! U retroed down the helix of ther milk, To ther cardial nashn wur u wired And sot to rite the aklshns to the ilk, Wens roze the Ingaevonic profit-fired. U bilt their moot arkaic and sur-keen, The batls of ther spuming angon yelp, The peseful paradise that made $u$ mean, The perfect crime that bred ther cripln culp, And now u stand, O Don Flagrante Delicto, To slavery wed by ovum of ther idols, Relegatin war to the cogito And feeling to the relm of miracles. A man not holy bound nor holy free, An Absalom in evry bakyard tree, Shoing myopes wut the'l nevr see, Mesiac to the negativ degree.

Don and Leotrice drink.
Don- I dy to clenz the AngloSaxon rongs; Ineptitude must hav its govrnment. Toglng at the node of selfish throngs, I'v provn life mor than deth-detrment.
My scurilus unapreciat dizeze
Of nominalizng each ilogic but Who must hav intermishn to be plezd And has his children from his loest slut, Wil nevr cese, and tho my heel may lift, This globe is groovd with my proratant yaw. A word, a scream, a broken tooth, a kis, Nuthn exits inocent from my jaw.
If uns the mastres of our weak beginings Wud manualize our instruments of lust, My hart (O silent crime!) wud noe its winings, And wut to hear itself unluvd it must. What palpitashn feeds my anarky? Y am I adicted to simplicity?
U wil dy, O Don, but to be reborn
As the clit of a sex slave in Bombay, And cowmen wil graze on the sour, stunted corn U cultur in ur dry labial clay.
And this al freedom-folk wil cal a crime,
Yet wut's a crime wen no un's rely here?
I am a glitrn snake of code sublime, Of myself both agency and atmosfere.
But here is al: I am and am not free,
The masterslave to my hostility.

Al are ded, my slaves, my yung, my wife, me...
Petrarc gets up.
Pet- The truth be told.
Holard gets up.
Holard- U ment us ded?
Don- The drink.
Kresard gets up.
Kres- It wuz real poizn?
Don- For ur gud.
Ekard gets up.
Ekard- Our gud?
Pet- Yet I feel nuthng.
Don- Min wif, hwa nu?
Leo- Don Masa told me poizn u, but al I giv was juis, harmles as the apls wens it came.
Lora gets up.
Lora- So we wil liv?
Leo- U wil liv.
Don- Yet I wil not?
Leo- Nun hav drank the poizn.
Don- $\quad$ O woman, u ar too gud for this world.
Jukes- Lynch im!
They lynch Don. Enter mourners.
M1- Peple, y this vilens? The war is dun.
Jukes- Blu or grey?
M2- Blu and grey and wite and blak.
Sea- We hang the man to blame the war begun.
M1- Yet so sad the day, even venjans sobs
That such gud by such evil cud be kilt.
Mary- This evil gud? The Northan win sez no.
M1- Al fakshn disapears amidst such grief.
Sea- Wut grief?
M1- The genral grief we march to join
In Washington. March with us, if u care.
Jukes- And wut has Washington to do with this?
M1- It's ther he lyz in state, as president.
Mary- Hold on. President who?
M2- President Lincoln, frend.
Sea- Lincoln is ded?
M1- Tonite, at a play, shot by the lesr Booth.
Kres- Is this that Present Linkum wut u ment
To go and meet this mornin?
Hol- Shud we march?

Sea- How to speak? My words ar waste. Al I've herd
And seen, now this? He is ded? O too soon,
Too soon it cums at end of horid war
He had to wage, tho al his life he traind
For policys of pese. Five years I fot
For him, now he is ded? Shot at a play?
My words are waste. Shud we march? Shud we march
Wen nevr has a deth so deep unjust
Ben visited on un so just in life?
He strugld, and has perisht, that we al May betr prospr thru his principls:
That race by definishn is dizeze, Insanity strut cros this stage tonite, And that ther is no greater curaj than
To fite for wut is rite uns proven rong.
He dyd to sho us this, so shud we march?
U propt abuv ur kind, u cruel becum
With random oportunity, u hurt
Urself in hurtng othrs, as it's trust
Determins valu, u who wud be mor
Than ur creashns, u who'd liv the dream
That u design, u who from a decent
Clan perverted to this socius
Asocial and corupt, u who feel ripe
For dialog, and u who've faild to see
Atop the niga pile sits a niga,
He dyd to sho u frendship, famly, nashn
Beget and flowr out determind luv.
For the onest and for the hypocrit,
For the dreamrs and for the denyers,
For the victimizrs, for the victim,
He dyd to sho that union equals freedom.
His comitment lost our comitment gains,
So shud we march, that thru the scoldng rains
We stil may feel the sun of proudr days,
Turning grey to blu, batls into plays,
That finaly we, wise to neshnt vilens,
Yet words ar waste. O al go in silens.
All exit.

## An Interview with the Director (by the Director)

In which the director attempts to articulate to himself some of what he understands about the play...

Q: I hear you're directing a new play by Kirk Wood Bromley.
Howard Thoresen: Yes, The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto, aka A Gesturology of Morals aka The Civil War Take Two.

Q: Wo. Complicated title! What does it mean?
A: The title is a clear indication of what is to come!

The first part of the title refers to the fundamental story of the play: Don Flagrante Delicto, a small-time farmer and slave owner in the Blue Ridge Mountains, puts on plays with his family and slaves. The Civil War has come to an end; the South has lost, and Don plans to end his life with the performance of his play, "Aethelbert and Augustine", the story of the coming of Christianity to Britain in the Sixth Century. The second title refers to the primary philosophic source for the play and is an obvious reference to Nietzsche's famous book "A Genealogy of Morals". I believe the word "gesturology" is a Bromlyism; where Nietzsche proposes a study of the history and origin of morality, Bromley is going to study the thing itself in action; "gesture" not only means an expressive movement--it's Latin root includes the meaning "to perform". The third title introduces the argument of the play, which involves questions of slavery, oppression, North vs. South, and so forth; arguments that were brought into relief in the Civil War and that continue to impact upon our lives today.

Q: Sounds difficult. How do the various themes relate?
A: Bromley has said that the parallels between the advent of Christianity in Britain and the Union's conquest of the Confederacy involve the replacement of a society based on power, violence and oppression with a society ostensibly based on forgiveness, love and learning. Nietzsche famously questioned the validity of contemporary morality and Christian morality in particular, calling Christianity a slave religion in which the weak oppress the strong. Don Flagrante knows that history, written by the winners, will say his culture was corrupt and evil. By forcing a captive audience to witness and respond to his play, Don hopes to convey to future generations that there was a value in his way of life.
Q. So this play is an apology for slavery?

A: I'd say it's an inquiry. In the early workshops for the production, I asked the actors if they thought slavery was justified in any circumstances. The discussion was pretty spirited. I gave the examples of prison and public school as circumstances in which we feel justified depriving people of their liberty. Of course these aren't exactly the same as white people enslaving black people in the 19th Century: in the first case the incarcerated people have done something illegal and we feel we are protecting society as well as controlling criminals; in the second case we feel
it is incumbent on us to educate our children. We have good reasons; but, of course, the plantation owners had their reasons, too. The point is not that slavery is justifiable, but that when we inquire into a received opinion we learn something. Even our best opinions can be shallow.

Q: This sounds more like a work of philosophy than a play. It sounds like it could be confusing, or boring.

A: What I've been describing so far are really the premises on which the play is built. The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto is not only a play; it is really two plays replete with action, conflict, music, wonderfully rich characters, romance, humor and horror; it is also a great poem. Listen to the music of Don's slave, Holard, describing the setting (Bromley is experimenting with a kind of phonetic spelling; if you simply pronounce the letters that you see, the words will become clear):

U sit upon the farm theatrical
Of the great Don Flagrante Delicto
Whose mastery of dramas metrical
An unequivocal bravisimo
Has not yet found, tho as the fetal cheek
Must nurtur in our darknes to be born
A thing our lips must ever luvn seek, His text shal sumday by al tungs be worn.

Q: Let's come back to the poetry in a minute. Tell me about the characters. Who is Don Flagrante Delicto?

A: As I said, he's a small-time farmer and slave owner living in the Civil War era in Virginia. At the time the play takes place, Don has only three slaves. We can't imagine he's getting rich shipping cotton or tobacco to Europe. As a matter of fact, Don is--or sees himself as--primarily a playwright. With his wife, children, slaves and a few neighbors, he produces his "biopolipsychosemioethical" plays for the edification of his community and his own amusement. We hear that at one time the audiences "came in packs" to see the master's plays, but now his company is reduced to waylaying travelers and tying them up. Five years of war have made life difficult and strange.

Don Flagrante Delicto is the sort of charismatic autodidact who in our day might be a cult leader or self-esteem guru, but in the 19th Century could only become an artist. Within the limits of his time and geographic area he has studied philosophy, history, poetry and drama, and if the example we have is typical, he pours as much of his learning and wisdom and personal enlightenment into his plays as they can possibly hold. Overbearing, fantastical, psychologically insightful, clever, genuinely artistic, Don defeats his own mastery by interrupting his own performances, indirectly by inserting crude humor into his most eloquent dramatic moments; or directly by marching onto the stage and engaging in a discussion with the audience. Don Flagrante's very name calls up association with Don Quixote, and he belongs to that party of dramatic "sacred monsters" that includes, among others, Quixote, Prospero, Don Juan, Falstaff, Don Adriana de Armado and the Marquis de Sade. Don's authorial voice is heard through the entire text of "Aethelbert and Augustine" but in a few significant speeches we hear his speaking,
as distinct from his writing voice. Here is Don prophesying the world that will follow a Northern victory:

Luk. Comerce cums in waves of ernest slime, Reguising aucshun bloks to stok exchanj, Privat servant into public demand, From one mas of mastrs, literal
Outproducing figurativ expreshn, The sole concern of powr to empowr The powerles think powr's to outpowr The very thot of powr, dispowring What powr owns beyond the powr to trade, The color line one omnipresent blur, Al enslaved to exclusiv angel rounds...

Don's counterpart and counterweight in the play is Seamus, a free Negro who has been compelled into service as an audient and who speaks of freedom with a passion and eloquence that are in every way equal to Don's:

The intransitiv shades that grim efulj
From ancient monuments of dignity,
Obstructng vijun of the next alure,
Must as the lite that makes them sloly shift
From face to face, place to place, race to race,
And who wud ty down time to envy's stake,
Ar malaprop at birth and chaos-plugd.
Seamus finds himself attracted to Holard, Don's house slave, who has served her master willingly and found her own kind of freedom acting in his plays. His incestuous son and daughter Petrarc and Lora (named after the Italian poet and his muse) are most revealed through the roles Don Flagrante has written for them: Aehelbert, the Anglo Saxon king who converts to Christianity, is an epic role of Hamletesque complexity; Bertha, the Christian princess betrothed to the king as a sort of sacrificial lamb finds her own strength among the pagans, and comes to question the value of her own religion.

A true playwright, Don has given the Christians compelling characters and arguments: In our production, the Black slaves, Kresard, Holard and Ekard, play, respectively, the "civilized" Pope Gregory who sets the plan for the conversion of Britain in motion, Augustine the evangelist, and Bishop Lieudhard, protector and overseer of Bertha. Don plays with our assumptions and the assumptions of his audience: the slaves represent the civilization of love and learning; the "superior" white actors play the unruly and exuberant Anglos.

The question of religion, neglected or sentimentalized in most modern drama, is deeply investigated in Don's story. Pope Gregory teases Augustine by proposing a pantheism he later retracts ("I loathe nature. It is so insolvent,/And worth alone a good exterminator."). The ascetic John the Jejunator brings nature-hating spirituality to its logical extreme, committing suicide by
leaping into a well (he ties an innocent woman to him so as not to die a lonely death). Anglo Saxon polytheism is lovingly and ludicrously described as a world in which every locus is its divinity, and heaven is a kind of hell: "...such a battle turf/Of ups and downs, men fite to stay in clay. We cal it Asgard, cuz u watch ur ass/Without end." In what I consider the heart of the story, Aethelbert proposes a new god, "Aethelbertha", the god that comes into being when two people love each other. Bromley, like that fabled Bard if Avon, is at his best when he sings songs of love:

My god's of tiklish pink, of downy mounds,
Of girl pulp and boyish huf, of lip
Flanjd and quivrus, glotis loos, of wingbone
Wide, of toes pukerd, tens and distant shins,
My god is of the lamin, fold and gape
Wer tresur gobs untucht in dewy glint.
Q: I think I get a sense of what the story is about. Why did you say the play is also a poem?
A: I said it was a great poem and I said it because I believe this is a unified work that transcends the genre of "verse drama" completely. For centuries the word "poet" was synonymous with the word "playwright" and I believe this was not only because playwrights wrote in verse, but because the aim of playwriting was consonant with that of poetry. Thousands of volumes have been written about what that aim is, but I think it at least has to do with expressing an emotion or an experience or an understanding of the world in illuminating images; and expressing those images in beautiful, rhythmic, compelling language. An epic poem like "Don Flagrante Delicto" is made up of many smaller poems; some scenes of no more than a quarter of a page in length, read like one act plays, complete within themselves yet "holographically" implying the world of the play; still, the overwhelming impression of the whole is as a single image containing the farm and its inhabitants, the captive audience, the play within the play, the historic moment, and the "cronkin infonervic blitz" of words and ideas.

In "The Death of Don Flagrante Delicto" Kirk Bromley has raided the poet's cupboard. His word-and-rhythm sources go back to Beowulf and the Anglo Saxon riddles, the Church fathers, Medieval Mystery plays, doggerel, 19th Century bombast, the writings of Lincoln and Frederick Douglas, modern poetry, drama, rock-and-roll, hip-hop, rap, and the Beatles. Shakespeare is always an influence in Bromley: a presence, an old enemy, a worthy opponent; though to my ear this is the least Shakespearean Bromley play. The language in this text is dense, daunting, and, for the reader, Bromley has added a layer to the challenge with his spelling experiment.

Q: Will the audience understand it?
A: Does the audience understand "Hamlet" or "Oedipus Rex" or "The Magic Flute" on a first hearing? I think the correct answer is "yes" and "no". The audience for Don Flagrante Delicto will understand the story, understand the exchanges between characters on the simplest level, appreciate the music and dynamism of the language, and be moved by the emotional journeys of the characters. If they come back for a second hearing, they will find more. Those of us who hear
the play every day for many weeks will discover still more. Any real work of art mirrors the infinity of the world.

Q: I'm afraid it all sounds very serious.

A: Yes, that's the problem in talking about a play. This play is serious; it can also be hilarious; it can also be deeply disturbing. Magically, it can be serious, hilarious, and disturbing at one time. The trouble with talking about it is that we are still in the realm of Genealogy. To enter the realm of "Gesturology", we have to see a performance, or at least read, the play.


[^0]:    A note on the glossary by Howard Thoresen: This glossary is not exhaustive. The reader will find a sufficiency of obscure words and complex language and imagery to challenge her ingenuity. Many of the definitions that follow were provided by Kirk Wood Bromley (KWB) in an original short glossary, and in discussions with the director and actors in the original production. Where these involve more than a dictionary definition, or where Bromley's definition seemed to me to depart from the standard definition, I have marked them KWB. I have retained some of my speculations, even when they have been corrected by KWB, where I thought the tortured explanation I developed might, in fact, shed some light on secondary interpretation of a passage; or where I thought a dictionary definition added rather than subtracted from KWB's intent; or where I thought it might provide the reader with amused insight into the kinds of errors a scholar might make attempting to decipher a difficult text. NOTE: This glossary is only available in the paperback version of this text, available online at www.inversetheater.com.

[^1]:    KWB - "This glossary was compiled for the performance script (called the Fitdraft), not the published script (called the Fatdraft), and many omissions of gloss are due to that discrepancy."
    ${ }^{\circ}$ For my money this is one of the great opening lines, on a par with "Who's there?" (Hamlet); and "Nothing to be done." (Waiting for Godot).
    ${ }^{\circ}$ attack
    ${ }^{\circ}$ singing and dancing
    ${ }_{0}$ massa ("master" in the Caribbean)
    20th Century slang ("deft"?)

[^2]:    This great play is made up of many smaller plays, as an organism is made up of its parts. Among other interpretations, the "blak curant jely" scene of Petrarc and Lora could be performed as a minstrel show, as a game between two young people, as an incestuous rape--but it's affect in the overall play is as a unit complete in itself, related to but not dependent upon the play that surrounds it.

[^3]:    ${ }^{\circ}$ What has been rumor up to now has been confirmed by the new captive; the shell heretofore inert is, by these words, given energy to fly from "here to truth" (line 8 ).
    ${ }^{\circ}$ Miguel de Cervantes
    Spanish nobles
    ${ }^{\circ}$ soldiers

[^4]:    KWB: oozing, as from a wound
    ${ }^{\circ}$ Don: O my wife, what now?
    Leo: We live, my man
    Don: In slavery? No.
    puppet

[^5]:    ${ }^{\circ}$ the offering of exclusive shares of stock in a venture to preferred investors

[^6]:    ${ }^{\circ}$ You will find me true.

[^7]:    ${ }^{\circ}$ The debate between Lora and Petrarc might seem absurd to a modern reader, but there are several reasons to take it seriously in the given circumstances: Petrarc and Lora probably will die whichever choice they make; the "evil northan soljurs" Lora speaks of are real, not an invention. They are young, a la Romeo and Juliet, and may not appreciate the value of survival; and people

