

The Shakespeare Theatre Company
AUDITION SIDES – THE DOG IN THE MANGER

CELIO

Side 1 of 2

CELIO. She came on foot. With her household.

RICARDO. Her sweet footfall honours the street.

CELIO. Like the sun rising in the morning,
and picking out in its golden beams
the twin horns of heavenly Taurus,
so the day is adorned with two stars,
the two eyes of Countess Diana.

RICARDO. My love has lent you eloquence.

You do well to see her as the sun,
for each suitor of Diana,
the heavenly Diana,
is a simple constellation,
that together form her zodiac.

CELIO. So who will be her Taurus?

RICARDO. We'll let him be her Taurus.

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Side 2 of 2

CELIO. You'll never believe what's happened.

FEDERICO. Where are you going? What *has* happened?

CELIO. It's the most astonishing news,
though whether it's good news for you...
Did you not see that crowd of people
rushing to Count Ludovico's palace?

RICARDO. The old bugger's kicked the bucket, eh?

CELIO. My lord, I beg you: hear me out.
They've gone to congratulate him.
His son's come back, the one who was lost.

RICARDO. Heart warming. So what?

CELIO. Well, perhaps
it may have some impact on your plans,
on the personal plans both of you
are pursuing with Countess Diana.
His long lost son's Teodoro.

FEDERICO. He's Count Ludovico's son? Shit! Shit!

RICARDO. And how has all this come to light?

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CELIO. It's quite a story, believe me.

And each time it changes in the telling,
and grows, so it's a real epic.

You're hard pushed to keep up with it.

FEDERICO. This is a disaster. That's it.

RICARDO. My hopes gone... turned to dust...

CELIO.

It's true.

You couldn't make up a thing like that.