

Two Gentlemen of Verona

Act II, sc. 4 (line 164)

Valentine (intercut)

Valentine. Pardon me, Proteus: all I can is nothing

To her whose worth makes other worthies nothing;

She is alone.

~~**Proteus.** Then let her alone.~~

Valentine. Not for the world: why, man, she is mine own,

And I as rich in having such a jewel

As twenty seas, if all their sand were pearl,

The water nectar and the rocks pure gold.

Forgive me that I do not dream on thee,

Because thou see'st me dote upon my love.

My foolish rival, that her father likes

Only for his possessions are so huge,

Is gone with her along, and I must after,

For love, thou know'st, is full of jealousy.

~~**Proteus.** But she loves you?~~

Valentine. Ay, and we are betroth'd: nay, more, our,

marriage-hour,

With all the cunning manner of our flight,

Determined of; how I must climb her window,

The ladder made of cords, and all the means

Plotted and 'greed on for my happiness.

Good Proteus, go with me to my chamber,

In these affairs to aid me with thy counsel.