

Play: A Chaste Maid in Cheapside Author: Thomas Middleton

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Library ref:

Key: ↓ ↑	enter from within	↘	↙	enter from without
	exit inwards	↖	↗	Exit outwards

act/sc	door IN	Entering characters	door OUT	Space-time indication	Commentary and notes
I.i	↘	Maudline Moll		<i>Enter Maudline and Moll, a shop being discovered.</i>	Inwards curtains/doors opened to reveal Maudline and Moll and the shop, preset there before the beginning of the play. Domestic scene.
		Yellowham	↙	YELL. Now what's the din betwixt Mother and Daughter, ha?...Sir Walter's come. He was met at Holbourne Bridge. (22-3, 37-8)	Arrives from outwards with news, hearing the noise.
		Porter	↙	YELL. How now? PORT. A Letter from a Gentleman in Cambridge. (58-9)	From outwards with letter from Tim.
		Porter Gentleman	↗ ↙	PORT. Farewell to your Lordship. (85) <i>Enter a Gentleman with a Chayne.</i> YELL. What ist you lacke Gentleman? (96)	Returns whence he came. Enters from outwards.
		Sir Walter Welch GW Davy	↙	YELL. Sir Walters come... WALT. Now Wench thou art well-come to the Heart of the Citie of London. (37,98-9)	Arrive as predicted from outwards. Split staging/ conversing amongst themselves.
		Gentleman Moll	↗ ↖		Nothing pertinent in dialogue here. She leaves the stage at the sight of Sir Walter.
		Moll	↘	MAUD. A brave Court Spirit makes our Virgines quiver, And kisse with trembling Thighes. Yet see she comes Sir. (128-9)	Maudline is referring to Moll, who now returns.
		Tuch Jnr Maudline Sir Walter Welch GW Davy	↙ ↖	YELL. Come good Sir Walter, and your vertuous Neece here...Lead'em in Wife. WALT. Your company Sir. YELL. I'll give't you instantly. (169-70, 172-4)	He arrives with a letter for Moll. All exit inwards as invited by Yellowhammer.
		Tuch Jnr	↗	YELL. To morrow noone shall shew your Ring well done. TUCH JNR. Being so 'tis soone, thanks, and your leave sweet Gentlewoman. (228-9)	Speaks aside? Split staging techniques. Exits whence he came.
		Yellowham	↖	YELL. Come now we'le see how the rules go within. (231-2)	Staggered exit reduces congestion with next entrance. Rhyming couplet marking off end of scene.
		Moll	↖	MOLL. That robs my Joy, there I loose all I win. (233)	
	I. ii	↘	Allwit		<i>Enter Davy and Allwit severally.</i> ALL. What Davy Dahumma, well-come from North Wales I faith, and is Sir Walter come?
		Davy	↙	DAV. New come to Towne Sir. (1-4) ALL. Into the Mayds sweet Davy, and give order his Chamber be made	

	<p>↘ 2 Servants</p> <p>↘ Sir Walter Davy</p> <p>↘ 2 Children</p> <p>↘ Allwit's Wife</p> <p>↗ Allwit Wife Sir Walter Davy 2 Children 2 Servants</p>	<p>ready instantly... Go in, in, in Davy. (5-6, 11)</p> <p><i>Enter two Servants.</i> 1 SERV. Is our Master come? (61)</p> <p>↙ ALL. Now Sirs, Sir Walters come. (60)</p> <p>WAT. God-den Father. ALL. Ha Villaine, peace. NICKE. God-den Father. (121-3) WIFE. Sweet Knight Welcome, I have all my longings now in Towne, Now well-come the good houre. (139-141)</p> <p>ALLWIT. Thus doe I rid my self of feare, Lye soft, sleepe hard, drinke Wine, and eat good cheere. (154-5)</p>	<p>Servants from inwards (having been told by Davy of Sir Walter's arrival)</p> <p>Sir Walter arrives from outwards, presumably met by Davy who now returns from inwards.</p> <p>Children enter from further within the house.</p> <p>Allwit's wife enters from further within the house to greet Sir Walter.</p> <p>All exit inwards.</p>
II. i	<p>↙ Tuch Snr Tuch Wife</p> <p>↖ Tuch Wife</p> <p>↙ Wench Child</p> <p>↗ Wench Child</p> <p>↙ Sir Oliver His Lady</p> <p>↙ Tuch Jnr</p> <p>↗ Tuch Jnr</p> <p>↗ Tuch Snr</p> <p>↙ Mayd</p> <p>↗ Sir Oliver</p>	<p>WIFE. 'Twill be so tedious Sir to live from you, But that necessitie must be obeyed... Sir for a time, I'll take the curtesie of my Unkles House If you be pleas'd to like on't, till prosperitie Looke with a friendly Eye upon our states. (1-2, 18-21)</p> <p>TUCH SNR. Thou art a matchless Wife, Farewell my Joy. (38)</p> <p>↙ WENCH. O Snaphance, have I found you. TUCH SNR. How Snaphance? WENCH. Doe you see your workemanship, Nay turne not from it, nor offer to escape, for if you doe, I'll cry it through the Streets, and follow you. (67-71)</p> <p>↗ WENCH. This is the fifth, if e're I venture more Where I now goe for a Mayd, may I ride for a Whore. (111-12)</p> <p>↙ LADY. O that e're I was begot, or bred, or borne. OLIVER. Be content sweet Wife. (125-6)</p> <p>↙ TUCH JNR. Brother I have sought you strangely. (134)</p> <p>↗ TUCH JNR. Thankes by hundreds. (141)</p> <p>↗ *****</p> <p>↙ <i>Enter a Mayd.</i> LADY KIX. What say'st Jugg? MAYD. The sweetest newes. LADY KIX. What ist Wench? MAYD. Throw downe your Doctors Drugges... I bring certaine remedy. (189-93)</p> <p>↗ SIR OLIVER. There's Land to come,</p>	<p>Husband and wife are directly outside her uncle's house, preparing to part.</p> <p>She exits in the direction of her uncle's house. (or directly into the house?)</p> <p>Tuchwood Senior is followed by the wench, who claims the child she carries is his.</p> <p>She exits whence she came.</p> <p>They enter mid-conversation from outwards.</p> <p>Enters from outwards, having been searching for Tuchwood Senior. Returns whence he came.</p> <p>This exit at line 154 is a modern addition - no specific dialogue for Tuchwood Senior here - he could possibly exit 15 lines earlier with Tuchwood Junior.</p> <p>Maid enters from outwards with exciting news of fertility remedy.</p> <p>All exit outwards to obtain the</p>

	His Lady Mayd		Put case his Water stands me In some five hundred pound a pint, 'Twill fetch a thousand, and a Kersten Soule... I'le about it. (213-16, 218)	remedy from Tuchwood.
II. ii	↘ Allwit		ALL. I'le goe bid Gossips presently my selfe, That's all the worke I'le doe, nor need I stirre, But that it is my pleasure to walke forth And ayre my selfe a little. (1-4)	Domestic scene - Allwit's house, from inwards. Time lapse? The next morning?
	↘ Sir Walter		WALT. How now Jacke? ALL. I am going to bid Gossips for your Worships child Sir. (11-13)	Sir Walter comes out from further within Allwit's house, having awoken.
	↘ Dry Nurse		D NURSE. Doe you call Sir? (18)	Nurse too enters from further within the house.
	↗ Dry Nurse		ALL. I call not you, I call the Wet Nurse hither. (19)	Returns inwards. Exit marked here seems one line early (before line 19), possibly to avoid a mid-scene crossover at inwards door with entering wet nurse.
	↘ Wet Nurse Child		ALL. Give me the Wet Nurse, I 'tis thou, Come hither, come hither, Lets see her once againe. (20-22)	Wet Nurse enters with the child as requested.
	↗ Wet Nurse Child		ALL. Here take her in Nurse, wipe her, and give her Spooone-meat. (33-4)	Sent back inwards to feed the child.
	↘ Davy		WALT. My love the Goldsmithes Daughter, if I send, Her Father will command her, Davy Dahumma. (48- 9)	No lines marked for Davy - uncertain exactly where he enters. Davy is called forth by Sir Walter...
	Sir Walter Davy	↗	WALT. Now we know him, we'le make shift with him, Dispatch the time drawes neere, Come hither Davy. (55- 6)	...and they go out together to arrange for Moll and Tuchstone to be godparents.
	2 Promoters Allwit	↙↗	2 PROM. You goe to seeke him? ALL. Where you shall not find him, I'le buy, walke by your Noses with my Flesh. (106-8)	From outwards. He exits outwards to find the butcher.
	Man	↙	<i>Enter a Man with meat in a basket.</i>	The following comic sequence has nothing to do with the plot and involves various comings and goings to do with prohibition of meat during Lent.
	Man 2 Man 2 Man Wench Child Wench Child 2 Promoters	↗ ↙ ↗ ↙ ↗	<i>Enter a Wench with a Basket, and a Child in it under a Loyne of Mutton.</i>	
		↗	2 PROM. Let's e'ne goe to the Checker at Queenehive and rost the Loyne of Mutton. (222-3)	They exit outwards.
II. iii	↘ Allwit Davy		ALL. 'Tis a busie day at our House Davy. (1)	Coming out of the house.
	↗ Servant	↙	<i>Enter a Servant with a Box.</i>	Servant arrives with supplies... ...and takes them into the house.
	↗ Servant 2 Puritans	↙	ALL. Here comes our Gossips now. (16)	Simultaneous mid-scene entrance/exit as Puritans arrive for the christening.
	↗ 1st Puritan		2 PUR. Are any of the Brethrens Wives yet come? ALL. There are some Wives within. (22-3)	The Puritans go into the house.

	<p>2 Gossips ↙</p> <p>↖ 2 Gossips Tuch Jnr Moll ↙</p> <p>↘ Sir Walter</p> <p>Allwit ↗ Davy Tuch Jnr Moll Sir Walter</p>	<p>ALL. Here comes a friendly and familiar payer. (27)</p> <p>ALL. Will you walke in Wenches? (40)</p> <p>TUCH.J .The hapiest meeting that our soules could wish for. (41)</p> <p>SIR WALT. Mistris and Partner, I will put you both into one Cup. (46)</p> <p>SIR WALT. It's neere high time, come Master All-wit. (54)</p>	<p>The gossips too now arrive from outwards... ...and go into the house. Simultaneous mid-scene entrance/exit. Their choice as godparents brings them together for the christening. They are met by Sir Walter coming out of the house setting off for the church... ...and they exit together in that direction.</p>
II. iv	<p>↘ Midwife Child Gossips Maudline 2 Puritans Midwife ↗ Child 1 Gossip Maudline 2, 3 Gossips ↗ Puritans ↗ 4, 5 Gossips ↗</p>	<p><i>Enter Midwife with the Child, and the Gossips to the Kursning.</i></p>	<p>Ceremonial procession across the stage from house and in direction of church.</p>
III. i	<p>↘ Tuch Jnr Parson</p> <p>Moll ↙ Tuch Snr ↙ Yellowham ↙ Sir Walter ↗ Yellowham ↗ Moll ↗</p> <p>↖ Tuch Jnr Parson ↗ Tuch Sen ↗ Sir Walter ↗</p>	<p>TUCH. J. The Ring and all things perfect, she'le steale hither. (9)</p> <p>TUCH J. O here she's come Sir. (12)</p> <p>YELL. In the meane time I will locke up this baggage. MOLL. Though violence keepe me, thou can't lose me never. YELL. I we shall part you Minkes. (51, 58, 60)</p>	<p>Meanwhile Tuchwood Jnr has arrived at the church to be married, announcing Moll's imminent arrival.</p> <p>Yellowhammer and Sir Walter arrive in time to thwart the plan. Yellowhammer forces his daughter away.</p> <p>Tuchstone Junior returns outwards; no exit marked for parson.</p> <p>Exits via outwards door allow time for bed to be prepared behind inwards door for next scene, and staggered exits minimise potential congestion at outwards door.</p>
III. ii	<p>↘ All's Wife Nurse ↙ Child ↙ Gossips Lady Kix Maudline 2 Puritans Sir Walter ↙ Allwit ↙ Nurse ↗</p>	<p><i>A Bed thrust out upon the Stage, Allwit's Wife in it. Enter all the Gossips.</i></p> <p>1. GOSS. How is't Woman, we have brought you home A Kursen Soule. (1)</p> <p><i>Enter Sir Walter with two Spoones and a Plate and Allwit.</i></p>	<p>Bed thrust out from the inwards door, other characters enter to it from outwards, arriving at the house from the christening.</p> <p>Mid-scene crossover at outwards door. Exit not marked for Nurse, but her subsequent re-entrance from outwards with news of Tim's arrival suggests that this exit and all others in this scene use outwards door since bed is occupying stage</p>

	<p>↘ Moll</p> <p>Tuch Jnr ↗ Moll ↗</p>	<p>watermen that stay, Here's a French-crowne for you, There comes a Mayd with all speed to take water, Row her lustily to Barne-Elmes, good Sir: make ready the boat Sam, We'le wait below. (21-7)</p> <p>TUCH.J. What made you stay so long?...Away quicke, there's a Boat waites for you, And I'le take water at Pauls-wharfe, and over-take you. (30-32)</p>	<p>entrance/exit: Moll enters from inwards as the watermen exit outwards.</p> <p>They exit together towards the river. Tuchwood J's exit line sets up the following scene when, after they have separated, Moll is caught by her mother.</p>
IV. iv	<p>↘ Sir Walter Yellowham Tim Tutor Maudline ↙ Moll ↙ Watermen ↗ Watermen ↗</p> <p>↗ Maudline ↗ Moll ↗ Yellowham ↗ Tim ↙ Tutor ↙ Tuch Jnr ↙ Waterman</p> <p>↗ Waterman ↗</p> <p>↗ Sir Walter</p> <p>↗ Tuch Jnr</p>	<p>WALT. Life, call you this close keeping? (1)</p> <p><i>Enter Maudline drawing Moll by the Hayre, and Watermen.</i></p> <p>WATER. Halfe drown'd, she cruelly tug'd her by the Hayre, forc't her disgracefully, not like a Mother. (65-6)</p> <p>TUCH.J. Enough, leave me like my Joyes. (67)</p> <p>TUCH.J. Sir saw you not a wretched Mayd passe this way? (68) <i>Both draw and fight.</i></p> <p>WALT. And being of even hand, I'le play no longer. (79)</p> <p>TUCH.J. But one bout? I'le follow thee to death, but ha't out. (83-4)</p>	<p>They are arriving from landwards in pursuit of Moll, having come from Yellowhammer's house (carousel). Meanwhile Maudline who had left the house before them has been searching down by the water. Watermen return whence they came. She drags Moll off home.</p> <p>Yellowhammer follows. They too go landwards in search of weapons. Tuchwood having been apprised of the situation by the watermen, now returns.</p> <p>Waterman returns whence he came.</p> <p>Sir Walter, challenged by Tuchwood Junior; after an initial fight in which there is no indication that either is wounded, Sir Walter exits... ...followed by Tuchwood, intent on continuing the fight. Rhyming couplet signals end of riverside sequence, and staggered exit minimises congestion.</p>
V. i	<p>↘ Allwit All's Wife Davy ↙ Sir Walter ↙ 2 servants? ↙</p> <p>↗ Davy</p> <p>↘ Davy Children Nicke Wat Infant Nurse</p> <p>↗ Nicke ↗ Wat ↗ Children</p> <p>Servant ↙</p>	<p>WIFE. A miserie of a House. ALL. I must e'ne trusse up all, and after him Davy. (1, 7) <i>Enter Sir Walter led in hurt.</i></p> <p>ALL. Run sweet Davy quickly, And fetch the Children hither. (61-2) <i>Enter Davy with the children.</i></p> <p>SERV. Where's the Knight? O Sir, the Gentleman you wounded, is newly</p>	<p>MINIMAL congestion at inwards door. Domestic scene at Allwit's house. Carousel move indicates time lapse since previous scene (Sir Walter has been wounded in the fight which ensued after the previous exit). He goes inwards to get the kiddies... ...and returns with them.</p> <p>No exit marked but presumably the children return inwards.</p> <p>Servant now arrives from outwards with (spurious) news of Tuchwood</p>

	<p>2nd Servant ↙</p> <p>Sir Walter Servants ↗</p> <p>Davy ↗</p> <p>Allwit ↖ All's Wife</p>	<p>departed. (127-8)</p> <p>WALT. What's the newes now? 2 SERV. Troth worse and worse, you'r like to lose your land. (153-4)</p> <p>ALL. I pray depart Sirs, And take your Murtherer along with you...H'as kild some honest Gentleman, send for Officers. (163-4, 166)</p> <p>ALL. And therefore get you gone Sir. (177)</p> <p>ALL. There's no Gamster like a politike sinner, For who e're games, the Box is sure a winner. (200-201)</p>	<p>Junior's death.</p> <p>Allwit sends everyone out of his house, including the sleazy bully and 'murtherer', Sir Walter.</p> <p>Davy too is sent on his way.</p> <p>They retire inwards for some privacy, the sequence being closed by a rhyming couplet.</p>
V. ii	<p>Yellowham ↙ Maudline</p> <p>Tim ↙</p> <p>Moll ↙ Servants ↗ Tim</p> <p>Tuch Snr ↙</p> <p>Susan ↙</p> <p>Tuch Sen ↗ Susan ↗ Servants ↗ Moll ↗ Yellowham ↗ Maudline</p>	<p>MAUD. O Husband, husband, she will dye, she will dye There is no signe but death. (1-2)</p> <p>TIM. Faith busie Mother about an Epitaph, Upon my Sisters death. (11-12)</p> <p>YELLOW. O here she's brought, see how she looks like death. (23)</p> <p>TIM. Lookes she like Death, and ne're a word made yet, I must goe beat my Braines against the Bed-post And get before my Tutor. (24-26)</p> <p><i>Enter Tuchwood Senior with a Letter.</i></p> <p>YELL. Take her in, Remove her from our sight, our shame, and sorrow. (108-9)</p> <p>MAUD. Masse a match, We'le not lose all at once, some-what we'le catch. (119-120)</p>	<p>MARKED congestion at inwards door: two households juxtaposed. Moll is, like Tuchwood Junior, reputedly near death. Further reports from inwards of Moll's precarious health.</p> <p>Moll is carried in....</p> <p>...and Tim returns inwards to express his grief in the bedroom.</p> <p>Tuchwood Senior arrives with news of his brother's death. Moll after reading the letter dies and Susan arrives from inwards. They take the body off inwards.</p> <p>They too go inwards plotting their next move, to marry off Tim to the Welsh gentlewoman. This sequence closes with a rhyming couplet.</p>
V. iii	<p>Sir Oliver ↙ Servants</p> <p>Sir Oliver ↗ Servants</p>	<p>OLIV. Ho my Wives quickned, I am a Man forever... Run, get you Fellowes all together instantly, Then to the Parish-Church, and ring the Belles. (1, 3-4)</p> <p>SERV. But will not your Worship goe to the Funerall Of both these Lovers? (21-2)</p> <p>SIR OLI. Come, we'le see't. (38)</p>	<p>MARKED congestion at inwards door: the third household is now portrayed.</p>
V. iv	<p>Body (in coffin) ↙ Tuch Sen ↙ Mourners ↙ Virgin (body) ↙ Mayds ↙ Women ↙ Sir Oliver ↙ Lady Kix ↙ Allwit ↙ All's Wife ↙ Susan ↙ Parson ↙</p>	<p><i>Recorders dolefully playing: Enter at one Dore the Coffin of the Gentleman, solemnly deck't, his Sword upon it, attended by many in Blacke... At the other Doore, the Coffin of the Virgin., with a Garland of Flowres, with Epitaphes pin'd on't, attended by Mayds and Women.</i></p> <p>ALL. Alive Sir? o sweete deere Couple...</p> <p>PAR. Hands joyne now, but Hearts for</p>	<p>MARKED congestion at outwards door due to funeral procession entering - musical interlude minimises this congestion. Split entry - 2 funeral processions entering at inwards and outwards doors.</p> <p>Not certain which coffin comes through which door. Bodies in coffins.</p> <p>Moll and Tuchwood Junior evidently rise from the coffins, to the shock and pleasure of all</p>

		<p>ever, Which no Parents mood shall sever...</p> <p>ALL. Joy, joy to you both. (31, 37-8, 47)</p> <p>↙ ALL. See who comes here now...</p> <p>YELL.. You, and your expectations, I stand happy, Both in yur lives, and your Hearts combination. (63, 66-7)</p> <p>↙ YELL. The Knights prov'd villain...his Neece an arrant Baggage, My poore boy Tim...Married a Whore Next to his Heart...</p> <p>Looke Gentlemen, if ever you say the picture Of the unfortunate Marriage, yonder 'tis.. (69-70, 71-2, 94-5)</p> <p>↗ YELL.. So Fortune seldome deales two Marriages With one Hand, and both lucky: The best is, One Feat will serve them both. (131-3)</p>	<p>present, and are joined in marriage.</p> <p>Moll's parents arrive at the scene from outwards, potentially threatening the union once more, but giving it their blessing. Tim, his plight having been revealed by Yellowhammer previously, now enters from outwards with his new wife.</p> <p>They all exit outwards in the direction of Gold-Smithes-Hall to feast and celebrate the two weddings.</p>
	<p>Yellowham</p> <p>Maudline</p> <p>Tim</p> <p>Welch GW</p> <p>Tutor?</p> <p>Yellowham</p> <p>Maudline</p> <p>Tim</p> <p>Welch GW</p> <p>Tutor</p> <p>Moll</p> <p>Tuch Jnr</p> <p>Tuch Snr</p> <p>Mayds</p> <p>Women</p> <p>Sir Oliver</p> <p>Lady Kix</p> <p>Allwit</p> <p>All's Wife</p> <p>Susan</p> <p>Parson</p>		
	<p>backstage</p> <p>cross</p>		