Play: The Distresses Author: Davenant

Text used: The Dramatic Works of Sir William D'Avenant Vol IV, Edinburgh, William Paterson, 1873Library ref: 822.408 12

Key:	enter from within	7	/	enter from without
\downarrow \uparrow	exit inwards	_	7	Exit outwards

act/sc	door IN	Entering characters	door OUT	Space-time indication	Commentary and notes
I.i		Argilo Gonsalvo Dorando Balthazar Surgeon	Z	AR. Bring lights! more lights! and set a guard upon The gates. Be sure none enter here, but those Who are allied to us. DOR. I saw you were Distressed with numbers, sir.	Arriving from the fray (outwards) and ordering for the house to be secured. Brief commentary upon the action which has just occurred outside.
	7	Claramante		GON. Look there! your sister Claramante, sir, Is hurried hither by her loving fears.	Claramante comes out of the house to see her brother.
		Leonte	∠	LEO. Brother! What, are you for the grave to night?	Arrives from outwards, having come from the conflict and heard of Balthazar's injuries.
	//	Leonte Balthazar Claramante Surgeon		BAL. Claramante, let's hasten after him! He is unlucky in his fury!You Argilo, and Gonsalvo, both Attend on Don Dorando here.	Storms into the house in a fury. Exit inwards, following Leonte, leaving the others on stage.
	7	Claramante Argilo Gonsalvo	7	CLA. Gentle Gonsalvo, And you my cousin Argilo! I shall Entreat to hasten straight below, and wait Until this gentleman descend, to make His passage forth secure.	Sends them off outwards.
	_	Claramante Dorando	7	CLA. The most convenient trial of Your truth is that you follow straight, And haste you hence, and not return till you Have means to know your visit may, unto My brother and yourself, be safe.	She sends him outwards after Argilo and Gonsalvo, to escape Leonte's rage.
I.ii		Androlio Orgemon Orco	<u>/</u>	Enter Androlio, with a dark lanthorn, Orgemon, Orco. AN. Don Orgemon, you cannot guess where I Have led you now?This is my mistress' mansion, gentlemen.	MINIMAL congestion: split exit in previous scene with only one exiter through outwards door. Closure in previous scene is achieved ('marked') by inclusion of rhyming couplet ('fly/enemy'). Stage direction indicates change of location and time-lapse into evening. New plot strand. Arriving in Amiana/ Basilonte's house (An has the key, top p. 29). (Presumably Orgemon and Orco lag behind so that they may eavesdrop).
	7	Amiana		AMI. Who's there? Don Androlio?	Comes out of the house, having heard a noise outside and seen the light.
	_	Amiana Androlio Orgemon Orco	7	AMI. Away! begone! ORG. My hour draws on, and my affairs require That I should walk alone. I prithee lead me out.	Exasperatedly returns inwards. All exit outwards.
II.i	7	Balthazar Dorando		BAL. Those scatter'd streaks of paleness in the east Declare the day so	Having been inside the house protecting Dorando, Balthazar

					2
	K	Balthazar Dorando	<i>7</i>	nearThe port will open straight, and there you'll find My page attend you with a horse. BAL. Let me attend you but a little further! Perchance I have a mistress, whose dwelling near The port, I would, I my obedience to The custom here, salute with music when She wakes. BAL. My better wishes wait upon you	now gives him instructions for safe passage out of the town. Would expect split exit, but both may exit outwards. 10 lines from end of scene Bal signals intention to walk further with Dor; but final lines may be a farewell.
				ever!	
II.ii		Leonte		LEO. Just here, her window doth O'erlook our garden wall. I'll wait for his approach.	MINIMAL congestion at worst: possible split exit in previous scene. Leonte comes out of the house into the garden to wait for Dorando. (Back to first plot strand).
		Musicians	L	1.MU. This is the place!	Musicians arrive at the house to serenade Claramante.
		Orgemon			Arrives at the house from outwards.
		Musicians	/	ORG. There's your reward, avoid the place!	Send musicians off outwards.
	G	Claramante		Enter Claramante above, with a light. CLA. Who are you that, with rudely manag'd swords, Foretell so much of danger and of death? Ay me, the voice of Orgemon! My	
				brother too, disarm'd, prostrate, and	
	_G /	Claramante		grown The yielded subject of his rage. CLA. Gonsalvo, help! my cousin,	Goes inside to call for help.
		Leonte	7	Argilo! LEO. I'll haste Unto the next monastichouse to keep Me from the rigour of the laws.	Exits outwards, leaving the wounded Orgemon.
	7 G	Claramante		Enter Claramante above. CLA. Art thou in danger, noble Orgemon?	Appears again in the gallery to check on Orgemon below.
	G_Z	Claramante		CLA. My honour and my pity call me hence; I dare no longer see, nor be seen.	Leaves the gallery, returning back into the house.
	7	Argilo Gonsalvo		Enter Argilo, Gonsalvo, with a torch.	Come out of the house to help Orgemon, as instructed by Claramante.
		Orgemon Argilo Gonsalvo	<i>7</i>	ORG. If you Are worthy, as your promise renders you, Conduct me to the lodging near the bridge. GON. I know it well; it is the marblehouse!	Clearly all exit outwards in the proposed direction.
II.iii		Orco		AN. We'll both attend you thither. Enter Orco like a fiddler. Androlio aloof	MINIMAL congestion.
11.111		Androlio	V /	of. ORC. Now he hath found my footing 'twill be hard To shake him off AN. You have your early walks, OrcoWhither, I'faith? tell me! You mean to firk it with your fiddlestick?	SD makes it clear Androlio is following Orco, it is therefore possible that this entrance is slightly staggered, minimising congestion at outwards door. Both characters may be passing over the stage in a comic catand-mouse tableau, in which case either Androlio would enter first and wait to see which direction Orco will take or viceversa.
		Androlio		ORCO. She's newly blown, and I am	Androlio's movements here and

		Androlio	\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\	going now To make her ripe. AN. Honest rogue, farewell! D'ye hear, Orco? I needs must have this wench; Remember how our covenants are drawn. ANNay, thou art right. To-morrow I'll procure for thee.	below are a series of comic to- ing and fro-ings back and forth from the outwards door as he pretends to leave (as ordered by Orco), only to return immediately, spouting more reminders to Orco of their pact.
	Γ,	Androlio Orco	Z Z	Orco, thou dost not know what extraordinary use I have for an advocate's daughter. ORC. I prithee go! my friends' Necessities I tender as mine own. ORC. I'll give him a false turn i'th' corner of The next blind lane, that I	This time, Androlio does actually exit outwards as ordered. SD has Orco exit and re-enter immediately at the other door:
			L	may safer move In my design. Goes off, and enters again at the other door. I've lost him now! This is the house!	Orco exits out the inwards door and immediately re-enters through the outwards door, signifying new location and ensuring his separation from the inquisitive Androlio. Presumably again, Orco is moving quickly over the stage to convey that he is completing a journey. Carousel move, BX.
	G	Amiana		Enter Amiana above, with a paper with gold in't. AMI. You are too loud! I know thee not.	Comes out of her bedroom (inwards) presumably onto a balcony of the house (the gallery).
	G_	Amiana		AMI. Know you Don Androlio, the nephew to The governor? I know him vainyet if thou'lt safely bring Me to his house, I'll make thee rich with my Rewards. ORCO. She's coming down, I hope.	Exits the gallery in order to descend onto the stage.
	7	Amiana Amiana Orco	7	Enter Amiana veil'd. AMI. Make haste, before The business	Comes out of the house (inwards). They exit outwards to fulfil her wishes.
II.v	7	Orgemon Servant		of the people fill the streets! ORG. That key opens my cabinet! Reward The surgeon wellBe still within my call!	Domestic scene; coming out from inwards. Change of location and switch to other plot strand.
		Servant Servant	/	SERV. I shall, sir! 1.SERV. A gentleman, importunate With haste and business, desires to speak with you.	Servant exits outwards as asked. Servant returns with news of visitor from outwards.
		Servant Claramante	/	ORG. Admit him in! Enter Claramante in man's habit.	Returns outwards as ordered.
		Androlio	∠	AND. This is a mad town! the very race Of mankind in't are all turn'd cats: Such climbing into windowsAnd scratching for females, was ne'er heard of Since first the hot Moors did overcome Spain.	Enters from outwards, bringing news of amorous pursuits in the town the previous evening.
		Androlio Claramante	7	AN. Lead the way!	Both exit outwards, together
		Orgemon		ORG. He that Foretells his own calamity, and makes Events before they comeBut we must trust to virtue, not to fate! That may protect, whom cruel stars will hate.	leaving Orgemon on stage to round off the scene with a double rhyming couplet.
III.i	7	2.Servant Androlio	1	AN. Is the fine young gentleman stirring yet?	Order of entry not clear; Servant may enter first to establish door

				T	T.
				2. SERV. He wak'd long since, sir, and is now at's prayers.	to Claramante's chamber, but Androlio directs speech at audience until finally addressing Servant. Androlio's speech content serves to underline time lapse since his immediately previous exit. Servant reports to Androlio that Claramante has been asleep.
	7	2. Servant Claramante	7	AN. Go wait without! Enter Claramante in a man's habit. CLA. Good morrow, sir!	Sends servant off outwards.
		2. Servant	∠	2. SERV. Don Orco, sir, desires to speak with you.	Enters with news of visitor from outwards.
		Androlio	7	AN. I dare leave her; she hath not courage to Go forth alone i'th' open day.	Goes off outwards to meet Orco, leaving Claramante in the hands of his servant.
	_	2.Servant	7	2. SERV. Straight sir! I will not stay to weigh your gold.	Exits outwards, following Claramante's request.
		Claramante		CLA. Unless my written sorrows hasten thee, Orgemon, My eyes will melt away so fast.	Exits back inside.
III.ii		Balthazar Leonte Gonsalvo Argilo	7	GON. Sure, Orco dwells within this broad arch'd building! It will be requisite we here begin our search BAL. Knock at the gate, Gonsalvo!	Location change. Arriving at Orco's house (from outwards).
	7	3. Servant		GON. We come in business to your master, friend. Request him hither!	Servant comes out of the house in response to the knocking.
		Balthazar Argilo		AR. Gonsalvo, lay you hold upon that fellow! And keep him safe, whilst Balthazar and I Enter and search the house. You, Don Leonte, May guard the gate, t'examine those That make their passage forth.	Clear spatial indications provided by Argilo's delegation of roles for the siege of the house.
	7	Balthazar Argilo Amiana		BAL. I have inquir'd as high to the heads Of chimneys, and as low as to the feet Of wells, yet found no virgin, sir, but this.	Come back out of the house, bringing Amiana with them.
		Leonte Gonsalvo Argilo 3. Servant	7	BAL. Brother, y'are too cruel! Proceed upon Your search, and I'll attend you straight. Gonsalvo! force that humble officer Along with you, till we are parted from his reach.	Exit outwards, leaving Balthazar and Amiana on stage.
		Amiana Balthazar	7	BAL. I will conduct You straight unto a lodging you may trust For honest worth and privacy.	Leads her outwards to safety.
III.iii		Orco Androlio	N	AN. Persuade Me notthat thou couldst get my mistress to thy lodging by this trick ORC. But here she is! ANKnock at your door! I would fain see her.	PROBLEMATIC congestion due to break (clearance of the stage) mid-scene; they are still outside, on the way to Orco's house.
		3. Servant	L	ORCO. How sirrah? My door's lock'd, and you abroad? 3. SERV. O sir, I am undone!	Servant re-enters from outwards, having been carried off in previous 'scene'.
III.iv		2. Servant Orco Androlio Servants Orgemon Claramante	<u>/</u>	AN. How now! Are you undone too? AN. Orco, lend me a horse Hire me some slaves! get me my midnight vizards, And my false robes. Enter Orgemon, Claramante, in a woman's riding-habit, and one	Exit inwards to prepare for the chase.
		Servant Servant	7	servant. ORGLead on the horses towards	Exits outwards as instructed.

IV.i	7	Androlio Others Claramante Others Androlio Dorando Orgemon Dorando Androlio Claramante Marillia Androlio Claramante		Cordua, and leave us in this wood. Enter Androlio disguised, and others in vizards. CLA. Why should I fear the life I carry hence, When I must leave the pleasure of it here? They bind him to a tree. DOR. Who is it that complains of love? AN. You may be here as safe as in a cloisterThis right rev'rend matron governs the house CLA She seems so virtuous, sir, I'll trust her with my life. AN. Confine yourself Within your chamber, your brothers are abroadI	And exit Arrives from outwards. They leave the wood, outwards toward the town. Claramante is already acquainted with Marillia, so they are not just arriving there. Having met Marillia, they 'bring on' the inwards location. He exits outwards; both ladies exit inwards.
[IV.ii]	7	Marillia Leonte Balthazar Argilo Gonsalvo Amiana Leonte Argilo	7	will adventure forth. LEO. Let not your eyes betray you to a life Of lasting folly. LEO. Look there! she is prepar'd for parting, sir. LEO. Straight follow us To the western port.	MINIMAL congestion. Change of location. The brothers arrive mid-conversation at the lodging where Balthazar has placed Amiana. Amiana comes out, preparing to leave. They exit outwards to the port.
		Gonsalvo Balthazar Orco 3rd Servant	7/	BAL. I must leave you! 3 SERV. Those strangers, sir, that came in visit to her, Descended through the terrace to the street. please you to enter, for the chamber's free.	He follows Leonte etc. These overt spatial indications suggest that the playwright feels it necessary to justify noncollision between the previous exiting group and these enterers. This would only be pertinent if the same (outwards) door is being used by both groups, as is spatially logical in any case. Maltese option
		3rd Servant Orco Amiana	<i>7</i>	ORC. Be mindful of my first commands. ORC. If you Will scape your father's wrathfollow where I Shall bring you. AMI. Endanger'd by my father too! Lead on!	Servant exits outwards to carry out commands. They exit outwards.
[IV.iii]	7	Argilo Balthazar Gonsalvo Gonsalvo Argilo	∠ 	GON. Don Balthazar! BAL. You judge well in the dark! AR. Upon my life, your brother's cudgellers They watch about Androlio's house. BAL. Where have you left my brother? ARin pursuit Of some designIs gone alone. BAL. Let us retire home!	MARKED congestion, but minimised by staggering. Change of location: Balthazar now joins Gonsalvo and Argilo whom he has followed to the western port. They are already in place, staking out Androlio's house. They return outwards, giving up the watch.
[IV.iv]	7	Balthazar Dorando Orgemon 1st Servant		1 SER. Sir! Credit my instructions. 'Twas not Leonte, but Androlio that Surpriz'd you in the wood.	Change of location: they have now returned from the wood to Cordua, 'a little disguis'd' and have met a Servant who has news of earlier events. On way out of house.

	Dorando Orgemon 1st Servant	7	ORG. That house which fronts Upon Jago's Church, isth'only place to which he doth Design his visits If you will watch near to the corner there, You may encounter him I'll stand in the adjoining street, And closely there attend your coming, sir Andrea! make you haste unto My house, and there prepare for our return. [Exeunt several ways.	They plan for Dorando to watch for Androlio as he visits Amiana, and for Orgemon to also be in attendance. The servant, addressed as Andrea, is sent off 'unto' Orgemon's house; the final stage direction suggests a parting of the ways: Orgemon's house inwards, their target outwards.
[IV.v]	Androlio Marillia Amiana Orco	V	AN. I prithee, dear antiquity, this is No time to waste in lectures. Where is the lady? AN. Amiana! None but that archmagician Orco Could make this sudden metamorphosis. That devil Orco haunts me every where!	PROBLEMATIC congestion. Apparently Androlio has arrived from outwards and met Marillia. He is seeking Claramante whom he lodged with her. Instead Amiana arrives from inwards with Orco. At the end of their previous scene, Orco had persuaded her to leave the house Balthazar had placed her in, and has clearly brought her too here, where Claramante has been
	Androlio Marillia Amiana	7	AN. But for all these curses, Orco, I will Not leave you here. There is a certain lady in The house, which I will sacrifice ere you Shall stay to enjoy. ORCO. I will go with you, sir, for Amiana's sake. AMI. Sir! If you'll perfect what you have begun, Add to your honour by assisting us I'th'passage home. ORCO. Let not The thought of danger trouble you, for I'll Convey you backward through a gate that safely Leads unto a dwelling of mine own. Take care, Marillia, of your charge within! Lock all your doors!	lodged. They prepare to get Amiana out of the house. They plan to leave via a back gate, and instruct Marillia to lock up after them and take care of Claramante ('a certain lady in the house', 'Take care, Marillia, of your charge within!') They exit outwards, entailing that both front and back doors to the house are through the outwards door, rather than being polarised and represented by the two stage doors. The reasons for this are outlined below.
[IV.vi]	Leonte 2nd Servant	V	LEO. Make here a stop? Will thy false keys procure Us entrance everywhere?Ha'ye brought the bravo hither, which you hir'd I'th'street, t'assist us, if our use require him? 2d SERV. He waits your purposes in the next room. Those, that you heard descending from the postern by The garden wall, was sure my master and His friends, newly departed homeward from Their visit here. LEO. Then we have no impediment, But that decrepid grave Iniquity That keeps the house. Steal down to intercept Her as she now returns from the back gate, And force her to keep silence in some vault! And let the bravo wait without!	PROBLEMATIC congestion. Leonte has been admitted to the house by Androlio's treacherous Servant, who has also secreted a bravo in the house. Textual references to the effect that they have heard the other party exiting justify previous outwards exit, since they indicate a 'close shave' outside the outwards door as the two parties crossed: the fact that the playwright makes it explicit in the text indicates his awareness of the need to satisfy the audience that there is a multiplicity of spaces beyond the outwards door (a room for bravo, way out by postern, way in for Leonte). Maltese option. Had the other party gone inwards to the back gate, such references would not be necessary
	2nd Servant	7	See previous	and as well the servant would now be being sent in two different directions at once:

	/	Claramante		He steps to the arras softly, draws it. Claramante is discovered sleeping on her book, her glass by.	inwards to intercept Marillia on her return from the back gate, and outwards to give directions to the bravo. Outwards exit for previous group now simply entails the servant going outwards to accomplish these two tasks: to catch Marillia and to direct the bravo. Meanwhile Leonte 'discovers' Claramante, Marillia's 'charge within', at the inwards door. She
		Dorando	/	LEO. You, bravo? slave! Wert thou not newly hir'd I'th' streetFor my	comes out onto the stage. The previously mentioned bravo waiting 'without' is Dorando in
		Leonte	7	revenge? LEO. Let me depart! If I should stay, you are Undone. A knot of cruel slaves, whom my Mistaken fury hir'd to murder youwill, if My presence and command prevent not their	disguise. He now enters. Leonte returns back outwards to call off the guards he has positioned around the house.
		Orgemon	L	Design, ruin your passage hence. CLA. Don Orgemon!What happy miracle hath brought you hither? ORG. Waiting i'th' street, in this disguise, I heard And knew your brother's voice, who loud to mennow dismissing them from their Affair.	Orgemon now arrives, having heard Leonte dismiss the cordon of guards from around the house.
		Claramante Orgemon Dorando	7	ORG. We both are calm, and will conduct You safely to your brother, Balthazar.	They accompany Claramante home.
V.i	7	Androlio		Knocking at the door. Enter Androlio, dressing himself.	The next morning, Androlio at home, comes from inwards in response to knocking.
		Balthazar	V	BAL. Save you, sir!D'you hear This morn aught that concerns Don Orgemon, And his strange friend? Or know you where they are? AN. I keep no lodgings, sir! The rent of this Poor house, I make shift to pay without inmates.	Knocking at the outer door, which Androlio opens to admit Balthazar, who has been abroad searching for Orgemon.
		Balthazar	7	BAL. If you please, good morrow! AN. This town, I think, is peopled with knights errant, 'Tis every hour so full of strange adventures.	Balthazar resumes his search, and Androlio's 2-line comment provides some minimal space between exit and next entry.
		Leonte	∠	Knock again. AN. Is there another come with new authority To ask impertinent questions?Your brother is not here; we parted Newly at the other door. LEO. My business seeks not him. Are you so lucky t'understand where I May find Dorando, or Don Orgemon? AN. I've neither, sir, the luck nor the desire, Unless I knew to put the knowledge of it To some good use.	He is disturbed by more knocking, his comment reinforcing the gag of a plethora of searchers. I originally thought Leonte must enter via the inwards door, since Androlio says he has just seen Balthazar off 'at the <i>other</i> door'. However this smacks again of the playwright 'papering over' the external geography, justifying for audience the noncollision of 2 characters. Maltese option.
		Leonte	7	LEO. It will become you to Enquire abroad, until you can know more.	He too re-exits via outwards door, and once more Androlio has 4 line spacer before next entrance at same door.

		Orco Amiana	✓	ORCO. Don Androlio! So early up! Studying, I hope, to put your money out To charitable uses. AN. You thrive like other traitors in this age, And signify your greatness, by ent'ring everywhere Without the mean civility of knocking. AN. Nay, y'are a wit! I find it by the great variety Of posies which you sent this morn for wedding rings.	The third term of the gag is now actualised, with Orco and Amiana entering from outwards without even knocking. A third door would facilitate the running of this scene without need for 'papering over' textual explanations to explain lack of collisions. The fact that they are there indicates the 3rd door wasn't.
		3rd Servant	∠	3. SERV. Don Basilonte, sir, enrag'd, without, Demands to speak with you.	Inwards-outwards triangulation clear ('without').
	_	Amiana 3rd Servant	7	AMI. Let me retire! AN. Go, give him entrance!	Amiana takes refuge inwardsas servant sent out to show in
	K	Basilonte Argilo Gonsalvo Basilonte Androlio	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	BAS. Are you Don Androlio? AR. Pray, gentlemen! can any here instruct Us where to find Don Orgemon, or Don Dorando? BAS. My horse, my horse! OR. Prithee! let's hasten to prevent this	Basilonte. Yet another group appears looking for Orgemon and Dorando. Androlio returns inwards to lock up
		Orco Argilo Gonsalvo	7	duel! AN. I fear it is too late; but I'll commit My mistress to th' protection of this key, And then to horse. OR. Come, seniors! his stable will provide us all.	his mistress, others disperse outwards to the stables.
[V.ii]	\	Claramante Orgemon	L	CLA. O, my prophetic tears! why are thy looks So wild, so busily dispersed, as if, In vain, thou sought'st for safety after guilt?	MARKED congestion: split exit followed by split entrance. Clear that it is Claramonte's house, Orgemon has returned from the duel.
		Balthazar	✓	BAL. Where is Don Orgemon? Sister, I see, In fears and grief, you both have equal share, But I shall timely ease your sufferings.	Arriving from the scene of the duel with news that Dorando is not dead.
	/	Claramante		CLA. My resolution is become my vow. Thou never shalt behold me more to make a rightful challenge of my love, till he, Who thus hath suffer'd for thy jealousy, Is pleas'd t'entreat and woo in thy behalf.	Returns inwards.
		Leonte Dorando Argilo Gonsalvo	/	LEO. Sir, be assur'd y'are hither brought for readiness, And more assistance to your cure; this house Hath nothing rich or useful in't, but what Shall wait on your command.	Dorando brought to safety from the duel.
	_	Basilonte Orco			The next group of pursuers now arrives.
		Leonte		ORG. That yields some little hope. Who is so courteous to go in and fill My mistress' ear with this new history? LEO. That pleasant business shall be mine.	Goes in to Claramante.
		Androlio Amiana	L	AN. W'have heard enough to make us venture in.	Androlio was <i>not</i> locking up his mistress; he was going to get her and bring her to this denouement.
		Marillia 2nd Servant	∠		Everyone else arrives from outwards too.
		Officers Orco	7	BA. Go, take them both, Don Orco, to	Orco takes Marillia and servant off

Marillia 2nd Servant Claramante Leonte Orgemon Dorando Basilonte Androlio Balthazar Argilo Gonsalvo Amiana Claramante Leonte Officers	your care! I'll myself sit upon the cause, and call A commission of bedrid judges, who will Be glad to revive their long lost mettle By refreshing their old ears with bawdry.	to trial. Leonte now returns with Claramante. Everyone exits outwards.
		i e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e