Play: The Jew of Malta Author: Marlowe

Text used: Manchester up ed N. Bawcutt 1978 Library ref: 822.32 J24

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

| *act/sc* | *door IN* | *Entering characters* | *door OUT* | *Space-time indication* | *Commentary and notes* |
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| I.o | | Machevil | ↙ | | Prologue enters... |
| | | Machevil | ↗ | | ...and exits outwards. |
| I.i | ↘ | Barabas | | *Enter Barabas in his counting house, with heaps of gold before him.* BAR. I hope my ships I sent for Egypt...now under sail are smoothly gliding down. (41-2, 45) | Enters from inwards door (heaps of gold discovered). Speech establishes Barabas at his commercial headquarters. |
| | | Merchant | ↙ | BAR. The ships are safe, thou say'st, and richly fraught? (53) | Merchant arrives from port... |
| | | Merchant | ↗ | BAR. Why then, go bid them come ashore. (55) | ...and is sent back to the ships. |
| | | 2 Merch | ↙ | BAR. How chance you came not with those other ships That sailed by Egypt? (88-9) | |
| | | 2 Merch | ↗ | BAR. Well, go, And bid the merchants and my men dispatch, And come ashore. (98-100) | As for first merchant. |
| | | 3 Jews | ↙ | BAR. But who comes here? (138) 2 JEW. Let us go to Barabas, For he can counsel best in these affairs; And here he comes. (140-2) | Jews arrive to meet Barabas; split staging evident. |
| | | 3 Jews | ↗ | 2 JEW. But there's a meeting in the senate-house, And all the Jews in Malta must be there. (166-7) | |
| | | Barabas | ↗ | | Barabas follows the 3 Jews outwards towards the senate-house. Minimal congestion at outwards door |
| I.ii | ↘ | Ferneze Knights Officers | | FERN. Now, bashaws, what demand you at our hands? (1) | Governor and assembly meet with the foreign powers. |
| | | Bashaws Calymath | ↙ | CALYM. The ten years' tribute that remains unpaid. (7) | |
| | | Bashaws Calymath | ↗ | CALYM. We grant a month, but see you keep your promise. Now launch our galleys back again to sea. (29-30) | They exit back outwards. |
| | | Barabas 3 Jews | ↙ | FERN. Go one and call those Jews of Malta hither: Were they not summoned to appear to-day? 1 OFF. The were, my lord, and here they come. (34-6) | Barabas and Jews now come in from outwards. |
| | | Officers | ↗ | BAR. Will you then steal my goods? (95) | Officers exit outwards to seize Barabas' goods... |
| | | Officers | ↙ | FERN. Now, officers, have you done? | ...and return, having done so. |
| | ↖ | Ferneze Knights Officers | | FERN. Come, let us in, and gather of these goods The money for this tribute of the Turk. (156-7) | End of assembly, return inwards. |
| | | 3 Jews | ↗ | BAR. Pray leave me in my patience. 1 JEW. Come, let us leave him in his ireful mood. (201, 210) | They return outwards |
| | | Abigail | ↙ | BAR. But whither wends by beauteous | Abigail enters from outwards, |

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| | | | Abigail? (226)<br>ABI. For there I left the governor placing nuns, Displacing me; and of thy house they mean To make a nunnery. (254-6) | wending her way from B's house to the senate to protest the expropriateion. |
| | ↘ | Fr Jacomo<br>Fr Bernardine<br>Abbess<br>Nun | FR JAC. Sisters, we now Are almost at the new-made nunnery. (304-5) | On their way outwards to the new nunnery. |
| | | Abigail ↗<br>Fr Jacomo<br>Fr Bernardine<br>Abbess<br>Nun | | The others leave the stage towards the nunnery. |
| | ↖ | Barabas | BAR. To-morrow early I'll be at the door. Farewell, remember to-morrow morning. (359, 363) | Barabbas probably exiting in other direction, away from his daughter. Crosses with entering Mathis |
| | ↘ | Mathias | MATH. Who's this? Fair Abigail, the rich Jew's daughter, Become a nun? (364-5) | Mathias enters the stage in time to see them exit. |
| | ↘ | Lodowick | | He too arrives from inwards, seat of power (is governor's son). |
| | ↖ | Mathias ↗<br>Lodowick | LOD. 'Twere time well spent to go and visit her: How say you, shall we?<br>MATH. I must and will, sir, there's no remedy.<br>LOD. And so will I too, or it shall go hard. Farewell, Mathias.<br>MATH. Farewell, Lodowick. (387-92) | Despite their expressed intentions to visit Abigail, their exits are clearly split. Mathias leaves in the direction of Abigail's exit. Minimal congestion at outwards door. |
| II.i | | Barabas ↙ | BAR. No sleep can fasten on my watchful eyes, Nor quiet enter my distempered thoughts, Till I have answer of my Abigail. (17-19) | Barabas' impatience brings him prematurely to the nunnery. |
| | ↘ **G** | Abigail | ABIG. Now have I happily espied a time To search the plank my father did appoint... Yet when we parted last He said he would attend me in the morn...Father, it draweth towards midnight now. (20-1, 33-4, 55) | Fortunately Abigail has already done as directed, resulting in a coincidental meeting. |
| | ↖ **G** | Abigail | | She returns inwards... |
| | | Barabas ↗ | BAR. Farewell, my joy...(58) | ...and he outwards. |
| II.ii | ↘ | Ferneze<br>Martin del Bosco<br>Knights<br>Officers | FERN. Now captain, tell us whither thou art bound...And why thou camest ashore without our leave. (1, 3) | Ferneze enters mid-conversation with the Captain. |
| | | Officers ↗ | FERN. Go, officers, and set them straight in show. (43) | Officers sent outwards to arrange to display the slaves. |
| | ↖ | Ferneze<br>Martin del Bosco<br>Knights | FERN. So will we fight it out; come, let's away. (52) | They return whence they came to prepare for battle. |
| II.iii | | Officers ↙<br>Ithamore<br>Slaves | 1 OFF. This is the market-place, here let 'em stand. (1) | Continuity with previous scene: they enter from outwards. |
| | | Barabas ↙ | 1 OFF. Here comes the Jew. (5)<br>BAR. They hoped would ha' been a nun; But she's at home, and I have bought a house. (12-13) | Barabas enters, having bought a house to replace the converted nunnery, where he reports Abigail to be.. |
| | | Lodowick ↙ | BAR. Here comes Don Lodowick, the governor's son. (30)<br>LOD. I hear the wealthy Jew walked | Another entrance from abroad. All entrances in this scene are from outwards. |

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| | | | | this way; I'll seek him out. (32-3) | |
| | | Mathias<br>Katherine | ↙ | MATH. What makes the Jew and Lodowick so private? I fear me 'tis about fair Abigail. (141-2)<br>BAR. Yonder comes Don Mathias; let us stay. (143) | Split staging, as Barabas and Lodowick, about to depart, see the new enterers. |
| | | Lodowick | ↗ | BAR. I pray, sir, be no stranger at my house; All that I have shall be at your command. (139-40) | |
| | | Mathias<br>Katherine<br>Slave | ↗ | KATH. Come, let's away. (161-2 | They too return whence they came. |
| | | Officers<br>Slaves | ↗ | 1 OFF. Come, I have made a reasonable market; let's away. (164) | Ditto |
| | | Lodowick | ↙ | LOD. O, Barabas, well met; Where is the diamond you told me of?<br>BAR. I have it for you, sir; please you walk in with me. What ho, Abigail; open the door, I say. (220-3) | At this point the inwards door, unused so far in this scene, stands for the door to Barabas' new house. |
| | ↘ | Abigail | | ABIG. In good time, father; here are letters come From Ormus, and the post stays here within. (224-5) | |
| | ↖ | Abigail<br>Lodowick | | BAR. But go you in; I'll think upon the account. (243) | He sends them into the house. |
| | | Mathias | ↙ | BAR. Whither goes Don Mathias? Stay awhile. (253) | Mathias now returns. |
| | ↘ | Abigail<br>Lodowick | | MATH. What, hand in hand? I cannot suffer this. (278) | They come back out of the house. |
| | | Mathias | ↗ | MATH. Well, let it pass, another time shall serve. (280) | |
| | | Mathias | ↙ | LOD. There comes the villain; now I'll be revenged. (335) | Mathias returns. |
| | ↖ | Lodowick | | LOD. Well, let him go.<br>MATH. Suffer me, Barabas, but to follow him...<br>BAR. No, so shall I, if any hurt be done, Be made an accessary of your deeds. Revenge it on him when you meet him next. (338) | He returns inwards to resume wooing. Mathias would follow him in, but is prevented by Barabas. |
| | | Mathias | ↗ | MATH. I cannot stay; for if my mother come She'll die with grief. (355-6) | He therefore goes home. |
| | ↖ | Abigail | | BAR. Go, put her in. (364) | Abigail is bundled back into the house. |
| | | Ithamore | ↗ | BAR. Take this, and bear it to Mathias straight...Away then. (372, 382) | Ithamore exits towards Mathias' house... |
| | ↖ | Barabas | | BAR. So; now will I go in to Lodowick. (383) | and Barabas inwards to Lodowick. Minimal congestion at inwards door. Marked: new plot strand. |
| III.i | ↘ | Bellamira | | | She enters from inwards in a domestic setting. |
| | | Pilia-Borza | ↙ | BELL. And now, save Pilia-Borza, comes there none, And he is very seldom from my house; And here he comes. (9-11) | From outwards to her house. |
| | | Ithamore | ↙ | PIL. But here's the Jew's man. (22) | |
| | ↖ | Bellamira<br>Pilia-Borza | | PIL. Look not towards him; let's away. (24) | They retire inwards. |
| | | Ithamore | ↗ | ITH. Well, I have delivered the challenge. (29) | He now returns outwards to Barabas'. Minimal congestion at outwards door (rhyming couplet marks congestion). |
| III.ii | | Mathias | ↙ | MATH. This is the place; now Abigail | Arriving from outwards at the site |

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| | | | shall see Whether Mathias holds her dear or no. (31-2) | of the duel. |
| | ↘ | Lodowick | *Enter Lodowick reading*. | Lodowick's entrance reading indicates from inwards. |
| | ↘ G | Barabas | *Enter Barabas above*. | |
| | ↖ G | Barabas | BAR. Farewell, farewell. (9) | He leaves the gallery. |
| | | Ferneze<br>Katherine<br>Citizens | ↙ FERN. What sight is this? My Lodowick slain! (10) | Concerned parents arrive at the scene of the crime. |
| | | Ferneze<br>Katherine<br>Citizens<br>Lodowick<br>Mathias | ↗ FERN. Till they reveal the causers of our smarts, Which forced their hands divide united hearts. Come, Katherine, our losses equal are, Then of true grief let us take equal share. (36-7) | They exit outwards to investigate the causes of the tragedy. Minimal congestion at outwards door. Double rhyming couplet mark end of plot-section. |
| III.iii | | Ithamore | ↙ ITH. O, my master has the bravest policy. (13) | Ithamore arrives from outwards with news of Barabas' stratagem. |
| | ↘ | Abigail | ITH. Know you not of Mathias' and Don Lodowick's disaster? (17) | Abigail learns of what has occurred. |
| | | Ithamore | ↗ ABIG. Go to, sirrah sauce, is this your question? Get ye gone. (37) | She dismisses Ithamore... |
| | | Ithamore<br>Fr Jacomo | ↙ ABIG. But here comes cursed Ithamore with the friar. (52) | ...who returns soon after with the friar. |
| | | Ithamore | ↗ ABIG. Ithamore, be gone. (55) | Dismissed again. |
| | | Abigail<br>Fr Jacomo | ↗ JAC. Come, shall we go?<br>ABIG. My duty waits on you. (79) | They exit outwards to induct Abigail into the nunnery. |
| III.iv | ↘ | Barabas | *Enter Barabas reading a letter*.<br>BAR. What, Abigail become a nun again? (1) | From inwards, domestic setting. |
| | | Ithamore | ↙ BAR. But who comes here? O Ithamore, come near. (13) | |
| | ↖ | Ithamore | BAR. But first go fetch me in the pot of rice That for our supper stands upon the fire. (50) | Inwards exit indicated by the fact that Barabas has knowledge of the pot. |
| | ↘ | Ithamore | *Enter Ithamore with the pot*. | |
| | | Ithamore | ↗ BAR. This even, they use in Malta here...To send their alms unto the nunneries...Among the rest bear this, and set it there.<br>ITH. I am gone. (75, 77-8, 114) | Ithamore takes the poisoned pot outwards to the nunnery. |
| | ↖ | Barabas | BAR. I'll pay thee with a vengeance, Ithamore. (116) | Split exit followed by split entry, but minimal congestions further minimised by staggering of both exits and entrances. |
| III.v | | Bashaw | ↙ FERN. Welcome, great bashaw; how | Ceremonial entrance. Time-lapse |
| | ↘ | Ferneze<br>Del Bosco<br>Knights | fares Calymath? What wind drives you thus into Malta road?(1-2)<br>BASH. The time you took for respite is at hand. (8) | clearly indicated: one month later. |
| | | Bashaw | ↗ BASH. And so farewell. (27) | Returns outwards. |
| | ↖ | Ferneze<br>Del Bosco<br>Knights | FERN. Farewell.<br>And now, you men of Malta, look about, And let's provide to welcome Calymath: Close your portcullis, charge your basilisks, And as you profitably take up arms, So now courageously encounter them. (28-33) | They depart inwards to prepare Malta for the imminent attack from Calymath. |
| III.vi | | Fr Jacomo<br>Fr Bernardine | ↙ BERN. The abbess sent for me to be confessed. (3) | They arrive from outwards to the nunnery. |
| | ↖ | Fr Jacomo | JAC. I'll to her lodging; hereabouts she lies. (6) | He enters the nunnery. |

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| | ↘ | Abigail | BERN. What, all dead save only Abigail? (7) | Abigail comes out of the nunnery, on the verge of death, to ask Bernadine to convert her father. |
| | ↘ | Fr Jacomo | JAC. O brother, all the nuns are dead; let's bury them. (44) | Returns from the nunnery. |
| | | Fr Jacomo ↗<br>Fr Bernardine<br>Abigail | BERN. Come, let's away. (52) | They exit with the body of Abigail. |
| IV.i | ↘ | Barabas<br>Ithamore | | Domestic scene. |
| | | Fr Jacomo ↙<br>Fr Bernardine | ITH. Look, look, master, here come two religious caterpillars. (21) | The friars arrive from outwards. |
| | ↖ | Ithamore<br>Fr Bernardine | BAR. Friar Bernardine, go you with Ithamore: You know my mind; let me alone with him. (99-100) | Bernardine escorted inside prior to his murder, leaving Barabas alone with Jacomo. |
| | | Fr Jacomo ↗ | BAR. But not a word to any of your convent. (112) | Jacomo returns to his convent. |
| | ↘ | Ithamore | BAR. Ithamore, tell me, is the friar asleep? (129) | Returning from within. |
| | ↖ | Barabas<br>Ithamore | BAR. What time o' night is't now, sweet Ithamore?<br>ITH. Towards one.<br>BAR. Then will not Jacomo be long from hence. (157-9) | Ithamore draws curtains to reveal Bernardine asleep behind the inwards door. They strangle him and leave him propped up in the doorway for Jacomo to discover. |
| | | Fr Jacomo ↙ | JAC. This is the hour wherein I shall proceed...But soft, is not this Bernardine? It is; And understanding I should come this way, Stands here o' purpose, meaning me some wrong And intercepts my going to the Jew... Nay then, I'll force my way; And see, a staff stands ready for the purpose. (160, 164-167, 171-2) | Jacomo's lines suggest that Bernardine is blocking access, i.e. is at the door rather than say leaning against a stage post. |
| | ↘ | Barabas<br>Ithamore | BAR. Why, how now, Jacomo, what hast thou done? (174) | They come back out and accuse Jacomo of the murder. |
| | | Barabas ↗<br>Ithamore<br>Fr Jacomo | BAR. The law shall touch you, we'll but lead you, we. (201) | They take Jacomo off to justice. |
| IV.ii | ↘ | Bellamira<br>Pilia-Borza | BELL. Pilia-Borza, didst thou meet with Ithamore? (1) | Awaiting the arrival of Ithamore, in mid-conversation. |
| | | Ithamore ↙ | ITH. I never knew a man take his death so patiently as this friar. (24) | Ithamore arrives from Jacomo's execution. |
| | | Pilia-Borza ↗ | | Pilia-Borza goes twice to the Jew and returns to report on the outcome. |
| | | Pilia-Borza ↙<br>Pilia-Borza ↗ | | |
| | ↖ | Bellamira<br>Ithamore | BELL. Come, amorous wag, first banquet and then sleep. (140) | Exit inwards for amorous interlude. Minimal congestion at inwards door |
| IV.iii | ↘ | Barabas | *Enter Barabas reading a letter.* | Domestic, from inwards. |
| | | Pilia-Borza ↙ | PIL. Jew, I must ha' more gold. (18) | We now see the other end of Pilia's shuttle diplomacy. |
| | | Pilia-Borza ↗ | PIL. Fare you well. (58) | |
| | | Barabas ↗ | BAR. I will in some disguise go see the slave, And how the villain revels with my gold (57-8) | Exits outwards to put his plan into action. |
| IV.iv | ↘ | Bellamira<br>Ithamore<br>Pilia-Borza | | Continuation of IV.ii. Debauchery continues. |
| | | Barabas ↙ | *Enter Barabas with a lute, disguised.* | |
| | | Barabas ↗ | PIL. Farewell, fiddler. (72) | |
| | ↖ | Bellamira<br>Ithamore | ITH. Come, let's in: To undo a Jew is charity, and not sin. (79-80) | They retire inwards to write another letter demanding more money. |

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| | | Pilia-Borza | | | Marked Congestion at inwards door, marked by rhyming couplet and possible flourish for court scene. |
| V.i | ↘ | Ferneze<br>Knights<br>Del Bosco<br>Officers | | FERN. Now, gentlemen, betake you to your arms, and see that Malta be well fortified. (1-2) | Ceremonial scene. |
| | | Bellamira<br>Pilia-Borza | ↙ | BEL. O bring us to the governor. (7) | |
| | | Officers | ↗ | FERN. Go fetch him straight. (18) | They exit to bring Barabas. |
| | | Officers<br>Barabas<br>Ithamore | ↙ | FERN. Let the rack be fetched. (24) | They arrive back with Barabas. |
| | ↖ | Officers<br>Barabas<br>Ithamore<br>Bellamira<br>Pilia-Borza | | FERN. away with him! His sight is death to me. (35) | The condemned man is led inwards to prison/ for torture.<br>The rationale behind taking Barabas off inwards to prison (as opposed to outwards, which is often the case) maintains that the first part of this scene takes place in the 'court' within the city walls. Once Barabas is brought outwards again and thrown over the city walls, his sustained presence on stage serves to establish a mid-scene location change, inverting the stage space from inside to town to outside the town. This inversion further signifies Barabas' defection, outside the walls, to the side of the Turks when they arrive to besiege the town. |
| | | Katherine | ↙ | KATH. Where is the Jew? Where is that murderer? (48-9) | Katherine, having last exited outwards with Ferneze to find the 'causers' of their sons' deaths, returns from outwards having heard news regarding Barabas.<br>Alternatively, she may enter from inwards as part of the 'court scene' (having done a backstage cross with Ferneze), which would necessitate the exit to prison (and subsequent returns from there) being in the more common outwards direction. |
| | ↘ | 1 Officer | | 1 OFF. My lord, the courtesan and her man are dead; So is the Turk, and Barabas the Jew. (50-1) | |
| | ↘ | Officers<br>Barabas | | 1 OFF. And here they bring his body. (53) | Having been brought back , Barabas is presumably thrown over the walls here. |
| | ↖ | Ferneze<br>Knights<br>Del Bosco<br>Officers<br>Katherine | | FERN. So; now away, and fortify the town. (60) | Return inward to prepare for the expected attack. |
| | | Calymath<br>Bashaws<br>Turks | ↙ | | From outwards, about to besiege the town. |
| | | Calymath<br>Bashaws<br>Turks<br>Barabas | ↗ | BAR. Now whilst you give assault unto the walls, I'll lead five hundred soldiers through the vault, and rise with them i' the middle of the town, | We do not see the assault on the walls; instead Barabas leads them off outwards to prepare the underground attack which will |

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| | | | | Open the gates for you to enter in, And by this means the city is your own. (90-4) | result in easy access to the city. |
| V.ii | ↘ | Calymath<br>Bashaws<br>Turks<br>Barabas<br>Ferneze<br>Knights | | CAL. And kneel for mercy to your conquering foe. (2) | This is the aftermath of Barabas' stratagem: the gates have been opened and Calymath is victorious. The time-lapse is covered by offstage sound effects of Alarms. |
| | | Calymath<br>Bashaws | ↗ | CAL. And now, brave bashaws, come, we'll walk about The ruined town, and see the wrack we made. (18-19). | They exit outwards to survey the ruins. |
| | ↖ | Turks<br>Ferneze<br>Knights | | BAR. And now, as entrance to our safety, To prison with the governor and these Captains, his consorts and confederates. (22-4) | Barabas has Ferneze etc. confined. |
| | ↘ | Ferneze<br>Guard | | BAR. Within here! (47)<br>*Enter Ferneze with a Guard.* | Barabas now has Ferneze brought forth.. |
| | ↖ | Guard | | BAR. Wait within! (50) | ...and sends the guard back in. |
| | | Ferneze | ↗ | BAR. Nay, do thou this, Ferneze, and be free. Governor, I enlarge thee. (90-1) | Barabas frees Ferneze. |
| | ↖ | Barabas | | BAR. Well, now about effecting this device: First to surprise great Selim's soldiers, And then to make provision for the feast, That at one instant all things may be done. (117-20) | He returns inwards to set up his final dastardly scheme. |
| V.iii | | Calymath<br>Bashaws | ↙ | CAL. Thus have we viewed the city. (1) | Returning from his guided tour of the ruins. |
| | ↘ | Messenger | | MESS. From Barabas, Malta's governor, I bring A message unto mighty Calymath... He humbly would entreat your majesty To come and see his homely citadel, And banquet with him ere thou leavest the isle. (13-14, 17-20) | Messenger reinforces inwards (Barabas' house) location of banquet. |
| | ↖ | Messenger | | CAL. We'll in this summer evening feast with him. (41) | Messenger exits inwards with reply. |
| | | Calymath<br>Bashaws | ↗ | CAL. And now, bold bashaws, let us to our tents, And meditate how we may grace us best To solemnize our governor's great feast. (43-5) | They exit outwards to their tents. |
| V.iv | ↘ | Ferneze<br>Knights<br>Del Bosco | | FERN. In this, my countrymen, be ruled by me. (1) | Ferneze mid-conversation, issuing instructions. |
| | ↖ | Ferneze | | FERN. On then, be gone. | They part. |
| | | Knights<br>Del Bosco | ↗ | KNIGHTS. Farewell, grave governor. (9-10) | |
| V.v | ↘ | Barabas | | BAR. How stand the cords? How hang these hinges, fast? (1) | In the gallery, supervising the construction of a trapdoor over the inwards door. |
| | G | Carpenters | | | |
| | ↖G | Carpenters | | BAR. Go swill in bowls of sack and muscadine; down to the cellar, taste of all my wines. (6-7) | Carpenters are dismissed 'downwards' from the gallery. |
| | | Messenger | ↙ | BAR. Now, sirrah, what, will he come? (13) | The messenger now returns from outwards with Calymath's acceptance of the invitation... |
| | | Messenger | ↗ | | ...and exits. |
| | | Ferneze | ↙ | BAR. There wanteth nothing but the governor's pelf—And see, he brings it. (18-19) | Arrives at Barabas' house. |
| | | Calymath<br>Bashaws | ↙ | CAL. Come, my companion bashaws. (51) | |
| | ↖G | Barabas | | *A cauldron discovered.* | At inwards door; Barabas has 4 |

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| | ↘ | | lines at least in which to descend from the gallery and position himself in the cauldron.. |
| | Knights ↙<br>Del Bosco<br>Ferneze ↗<br>Calymath<br>Bashaws<br>Knights<br>Del Bosco<br>↖ Barabas | FERN. So, march away, and let due praise be given. Neither to fate nor fortune, but to heaven. (122-3) | They return outwards from Barabas' house.<br><br>Cauldron hidden. |
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