

# Hamlet

Act IV, sc. 5 (line 27 – intercut Verse/Prose)

## OPHELIA

How should I your true love know

From another one?

By his cockle hat and staff,

And his sandal shoon.

*QUEEN GERTRUDE*

*Alas, sweet lady, what imports this song?*

## OPHELIA

Say you? nay, pray you, mark.

*Sings*

He is dead and gone, lady,

He is dead and gone;

At his head a grass-green turf,

At his heels a stone.

*QUEEN GERTRUDE*

*Nay, but, Ophelia,--*

## OPHELIA

Pray you, mark.

*Sings*

White his shroud as the mountain snow,--

*Enter KING CLAUDIUS*

*QUEEN GERTRUDE*

*Alas, look here, my lord.*

**OPHELIA**

*Sings*

Larded with sweet flowers

Which bewept to the grave did go

With true-love showers.

***KING CLAUDIUS***

*How do you, pretty lady?*

**OPHELIA**

Well, God 'ild you! They say the owl was a baker's  
daughter. Lord, we know what we are, but know not  
what we may be. God be at your table!

***KING CLAUDIUS***

*Conceit upon her father.*

**OPHELIA**

Pray you, let's have no words of this; but when they  
ask you what it means, say you this:

*Sings*

To-morrow is Saint Valentine's day,

All in the morning betime,

And I a maid at your window,

To be your Valentine.

Then up he rose, and donn'd his clothes,

And dupp'd the chamber-door;

Let in the maid, that out a maid

Never departed more.

***KING CLAUDIUS***

*Pretty Ophelia!*

**OPHELIA**

Indeed, la, without an oath, I'll make an end on't:

*Sings*

By Gis and by Saint Charity,

Alack, and fie for shame!

Young men will do't, if they come to't;

By cock, they are to blame.

Quoth she, before you tumbled me,

You promised me to wed.

So would I ha' done, by yonder sun,

An thou hadst not come to my bed.

***KING CLAUDIUS***

*How long hath she been thus?*

**OPHELIA**

I hope all will be well. We must be patient: but I cannot choose but weep, to think they should lay him i' the cold ground. My brother shall know of it: and so I thank you for your good counsel. Come, my coach! Good night, ladies; good night, sweet ladies; good night, good night.