

Polichinela – crass and ruthless crook, whose wealth gains him social standing - he could be friends with Al Capone and Batman's The Penguin

Actors should prepare to do the scene.

Scene VI

Polichinela and his wife arrive late to Dona Sirena's party with their daughter Sylvia.

DOÑA SIRENA: Oh, Mr. Polichinela! I was beginning to fear that you wouldn't come. For me, the party has only begun right now.

POLICHINELA: I'm not to blame for the delay. The one at fault is my wife, who, with forty dresses, can never choose which one to wear.

POLICHINELA'S WIFE: If it were up to him, I'd show myself in public in any which way...Look how out of breath I am from rushing.

DOÑA SIRENA: You look more beautiful than ever.

POLICHINELA: And she's not even wearing half of her jewelry. She couldn't wear it all, it weighs so much.

DOÑA SIRENA: And who, better than you, may take pride in your wife's displaying the fruits of a wealth acquired through your labors?

POLICHINELA'S WIFE: But isn't it high time to enjoy that wealth, as I keep telling him, and to have more noble aspirations? Just imagine: he now wants our daughter to marry a businessman.

DOÑA SIRENA: Oh, Mr. Polichinela! Your daughter deserves much more than a businessman. You shouldn't even think about it. You mustn't sacrifice her heart to any self-interest. What do you say, Sylvia?

POLICHINELA: She'd prefer some young whippersnapper, because, to my great regret, she's very fond of novels and poetry.

SYLVIA: I'll always do what my father orders, if my mother isn't opposed to it and it doesn't displease me.

DOÑA SIRENA: That's a sensible attitude.

POLICHINELA' WIFE: Your father thinks that only money counts and is esteemed in society.

POLICHINELA: I think that, without money, nothing counts or is esteemed in society, because money is the price of everything.

DOÑA SIRENA: Don't talk that way! What about the virtues, knowledge, and nobility?

POLICHINELA: They all have their price, who can doubt it? No one knows that better than I do, because I've bought a lot of all that, and not too dearly.

DOÑA SIRENA: Oh, Mr. Polichinela! That's a caprice of yours. You're well aware that money isn't everything, and that if your daughter falls in love with some noble gentleman, it wouldn't be right to oppose her. I know you have a tender father's heart.

POLICHINELA: That I do. For my daughter I'd be capable of anything.

DOÑA SIRENA: Even of ruining yourself financially?