Play: The Alchemist_____Author: Ben Jonson

Text used: Revels, Manchester U.P, ed. F. H Mares, 1967 Library ref:_____

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

act/sc	door IN	Entering characters	door OUT	Space-time indication	Commentary and notes
I.o	7	Prologue	7	PRO. Fortune, that favours fools, these two short hours We wish away Our scene is London. (1, 5)	Prologue provides spatio-temporal indicators for the ensuing action
т.		Prologue		EACE D 1' - 2(I - '11 (1)	E 4 = '1
I.i	7	Face Subtle Doll		FACE. Believe't, I will. (1)	Entry mid-conversation from inwards.
	_	Doll		FACE. Get you Your robes on. I will meet him, as going outNot be seen, away. (194-5, 197)	Sends Doll inwards prior to Dapper's arrival.
I.ii		Dapper	∠	FACE. Who's that? He's come, I think, Doctor. (2)	Enters from outwards.
	_	Dapper		One knocks without.	At the sound of knocking, Subtle
		Face		SUB. Who's there? Anon. (Conduct him forth, by the back way.) And put on a clean shirt. (163-4, 174)	orders Face to take Dapper inwards through the house and out the back way so that he may attend to Drugger at the front door.
I.iii		Drugger	∠	SUB. Come inWhat is your name, say you, Abel Drugger? (1-2)	Entry from outwards.
		Face	L	FACE. What! My honest Abel? Thou art well met, here! (18)	Face, having shown Dapper out the back way, now re-enters as if from outwards, accidentally meeting Drugger at Subtle's house.
		Drugger	7	DRU. Thank, sir, both your worships. FACE. Away. (98-9)	Drugger exits outwards whence he came.
I.iv		Doll	∠	DOLL. Yonder fish-wife Will not away. And there's your giantess, The bawd of LambethBut I have spy'd Sir Epicure MammonComing along, at far end of the lane. (2-3, 6, 8)	Doll enters from outwards, arriving from Lambeth and prefacing the arrival of Mammon
	_	Face		SUB. Face, go you, and shift (9)	Subtle sends Face inside
	_	Doll		SUB. Doll, you must presently make	and then exits there himself with
	`	Subtle		ready, too. (10)	Doll. It is unclear whether this exit
					is staggered or whether Doll does exit with Subtle at the completion of his long speech. (or direct address in the first instance). Scene
					ends in a rhyming couplet,
II.i		Mammon		MAM. Come on, sirHere's the rich	clearance of the stage. Arriving at Subtle's house from
11.1		Surly	L	Peru: And there within, sir, are the golden mines, Great Solomon's Ophir! (1, 2, 3-4)	outwards, as previously announced.
II.ii	7	Face		MAM. Where is my Subtle, there? Within, ho! (24) FACE. Within Sir, He'll come to you by and by. (25-6)	Face finally comes out of the house after the mens' calling for Subtle in lines 24-6 of scene one.
	↑	Face		FACE. Sir, I'll go look A little, how it heightens. (87-8)	Face exits into the alchemical laboratory, most probably signified by the upstage central discovery space.
II.iii	/	Subtle		MAM. Here he comes, Not a profane	Whilst Face is within the upstage

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				word afore him: 'tis poison. (105-6)	central discovery space, Subtle comes out from inwards.
	\downarrow	Face		SUB. Did you look O' the bolt's head yet? (35)	RETURNS AFTER 50 LINE ABSENCE
	\uparrow	Face		SUB. Infuse vinegarAnd let the water in Glass E be filter'dLute him well; And leave him clos'd in <i>balneo</i> . (37,	Face returns to the discovery space to perform Subtle's orders, accessory to Subtle's comic,
	,			39-41)	convoluted display of alchemical prowess
	\downarrow	Face		FACE. Sir, please you, Shall I not change the filter? (52)	and comes back out RETURNS AFTER 15 LINE ABSENCE
	\uparrow	Face		SUB. Marry, yes. And bring me the complexion of Glass B. (53-4)	and is sent back again
	\downarrow	Face		SUB. How now? What colour says it? (67)	and returns again RETURNS AFTER 15 LINE ABSENCE
	_	Face		SUB. Go your ways. (98)	and is finally sent off inwards, inside the house.
	7	Doll		Doll is seen. MAM. Who is this? SUB. God's precious what do you	Presumably, Doll comes out of the house, passes over the stage
	^	Doll		mean? SUB. Go in, good lady, Let me entreat you. (210-12)	and exits whence she came.
	7	Face		SUB. Where's this varlet? FACE. Sir? (213)	Face comes out from inwards.
	_	Face		SUB. Go in, and see, you traitor. Go. (214)	Is sent back inwards.
	7	Face		Face returns. FACE. 'Twas not my fault, sir, she would speak with you(219)	Returns from inwards.
		Subtle Face		SUB. Would she, sir? (219) He goes out	Subtle exits inwards as asked. Exits inwards.
	1	Face		MAM. How now, Lungs! FACE. I am sent in haste, To fetch a vial. (233, 245-6)	Returns from inwards.
		Face	7	FACE. I'll come to you again, sir. (260)	Exits outwards, being sent out into the town to fetch the vial, leaving Mammon and Surly onstage to converse.
		Face	∠	FACE. Here's one from Captain Face, sir, Desires you meet him i' the Temple church, Some half hour hence. (289-90)	He returns disguised whence he came, reporting the arrival of a messenger from himself (Captain Face).
		Surly	7	SUR. Sir Epicure, I shall leave you? MAM. I follow you, straight. (313-4)	Surly exits outwards.
II.iv	\ .	Mammon Subtle	7	FACE. Good sir, go. (331) SUB. Has he bit? Has he bit?	Mammon follows. Subtle and Doll come out of the
11.17	Z	Doll		FACE. And swallow'd too, my Subtle. (1-2)	house as Mammon leaves. Simultaneous enter and exit.
		Face	7	One knocks. SUB. Doll, scout, scout; stay, Face, you must go to the door. (19-20)	Face is sent to answer the outwards door
	_	Doll		SUB. Away Madam, to your withdrawing chamber. (25-6)	and Doll sent further inside the house.
II.v		Ananias	∠	SUB. Where is my drudge?	Ananias evidently enters before Face; however Subtle appears to ignore him until line six, initially concerned only with the whereabouts of Face.
		Face	<u>/_</u>	FACE. Sir. (1-2) SUB. Enough. (44)	Enters from outwards.
		Face	/	SUB. Enough. (44)	Must go outwards because returns

1 11	İ		II	
	Ananias	7	SUB. Hence, away, Flee, Mischief. (73-4)	with Drugger at start of next scene. Sent outwards.
II.vi	Face Drugger	∠	FACE. He's busy with his spirits, but we'll upon him. (1)	Mid-conversation. Arriving at Subtle's house from outwards.
	Drugger	7	FACE. Abel, about it. (Thou shalt know more anon. Away, be gone.) (79-80)	Sent outwards.
	Face	7	SUB. Away, you, to your Surly yonder, catch him. (94)	Sent off outwards to find Surly.
	Subtle Subtle		eaten min (> 1)	Exits back inside the house.
III.i	Tribulatio Ananias	on 🖊	TRI. Let us call on him, then ANA. I will knock first: peace be within. (49-50)	MINIMAL congestion at outwards door, further minimised by staggered exit in previous scene. Ananias returns with Tribulation,
III.ii	Subtle		SUB. O, are you come? 'Twas time. (1)	now arriving outside Subtle's. Subtle comes out of his house, subsequent references seem to indicate that he brings the inside of the house with him: next entrance
	Tribulatio Ananias	on	Knock without. SUB. There's some to speak with me. Go in, I pray you, And view the parcels. That's the inventory. I'll come to you straight. Who is it? Face! Appear. (160-63)	involves <i>Knock without</i> . Sent further inwards within the house now
III.iii	Face	∠	SUB. How now? Good prize? (1)	at the same time Face enters through the outwards door. Simultaneous mid-scene entrance/ exit.
	Subtle		SUB. I'll send her to thee: And but dispatch my brace of little John Leydens, And come again myself. (24)	Exits inwards to fetch Doll and get rid of Trib and An.
	∑ Doll		DOLL. What? (32)	Doll enters from inwards, overhearing Face's rambling soliloquy.
	Subtle		SUB. Done. They are gone. The sum Is here in bank, my Face. (55-6)	Subtle has left Ananias and Tribulation at the back door.
	∇ Doll		FACE. Who's that? DOLL. Dapper, Your clerk. FACE. God's will then, Queen of Fairy, On with your tire; and, Doctor, with your robes. (74, 76-7)	Doll is sent inwards to change into her disguise.
	Subtle Subtle		FACE. Away. (85)	Subtle exits inwards, leaving Face onstage.
III.iv	Dapper	∠	FACE. The Doctor is within, a-moving for you. (1)	Entry from outwards.
	Drugger Kastril	∠	DRU. Yes, here's the gentleman, Captain, master Kastril, I have brought to see the Doctor. FACE. Where's the widow? DRU. Sir, as he likes, his sister (he	Ditto, arriving at Subtle's house.
	Kastril	7	says) shall come. (9-13) FACE. Sir, he is busy now: But, if you have a sister to fetch hither, Perhaps, your own pains may command her sooner; And he, by that time, will be free. (130-2)	Face sends Kastril outwards to find his sister.
	Drugger	7	FACE. Drugger, she's thine: the damask. (133)	Also sent outwards.
III.v	Subtle		FACE. Hark, the Doctor. (149) Subtle disguised like a Priest of Fairy.	Subtle enters from within the house, disguised.

				SUB. Is yet her Grace's cousin come? (1)	
	7	Doll		Doll enters with a cittern: they pinch him.	Enters from inwards.
		Doll	7	FACE. Where is he? DOLL. Here, hard by. He's at the door. (52)	Doll goes outwards (passing over the stage?).
		Doll	✓	(32)	Returns with news of arrival from outwards, though exit not strictly necessary (could just go to
	ζ,	Doll		SUBDoll, get his suit. (53)	outwards door and return). Inwards to get Face's suit (as Lungs)
	7	Doll Subtle Doll Dapper		SUB. Where shall we now Bestow him? DOLL. I' the privy. (77-8)	She returns with Face's suit. They take Dapper inwards, leaving Face onstage.
IV.i	_	Mammon	/	FACE. O, sir, y' are come i' the only finest time. (1)	Mammon now comes in from outwards.
	\	Face		MAM. Here she serves (21)	Face exits inwards to bring Doll to Mammonand returns with her.
	7	Face Doll		MAM. Here she comes. (31)	
	\uparrow	Face		FACE. I'll in, and laugh. (64)	Subsequent reference to laboratory would indicate that this exit is into the central concealment space.
	\downarrow	Face		FACE. Sir, you are too loud. I hear you, every word, Into the laboratory. (170-1)	RETURNS AFTER 100 LINE ABSENCE.
	_	Doll Mammon		FACE. Some fitter place. The garden, or great chamber above. (171-2)	At Face's suggestion Doll and Mammon go inwards. Simultaneous entrance and exit.
IV.ii		Subtle	✓	SUB. Are they gone? FACE. All's clear. SUB. The widow is come. (1-2)	Backstage cross: Subtle's previous exit is obviously inwards, and this entrance must be from outwards since he reports the arrival of Dame Pliant.
		Kastril Dame Pliant	/	KAS. Where's the Captain? (10)	Titalit.
		Face	/	FACE. But master Doctor, his lieutenant, is here. (12)	Face exits outwards in order to reappear as the lieutenant.
		Face	/	KAS. Here comes the t'other rare man. (51)	Face returns, reporting the arrival of the count.
				FACE. The Count is come. SUB. Where is he? FACE. At the door.	
			-	SUB. Why, you must entertain him. (56-7)	
		Face	7	FACE. What'll you do With these the while? SUB. Why, have'em up. (57-8)	Face returns outwards to entertain the 'count'.
	Γ,	Kastril Dame Pliant Subtle		SUB. I'll ha' you to my chamber of demonstrations, Where I'll shew you both the grammar, and logic, And rhetoric of quarrelling. (63-5)	He takes them inwards, but not into the alchemical laboratory.
IV.iii	7	Face Subtle	/	FACE. Where are you, Doctor? (1) FACE. Ha' you dispos'd of them?	Simultaneous entrance and exit. Subtle returns from showing Kastril
		Face	7	SUB. I ha' sent 'em up. (4) FACE. Will you go help, to fetch in Don, in state? (17)	and Dame Pliant inside. Face exits to bring in Surly
		Surly Face	_	SUB. Brain of a tailor! Who comes here? Don John! (20)	and returns with him.
	_	Face		SUB. Dispatch, and call the brother too.	Goes inwards to get Kastril and

1			Ī	(92)	Dame Pliant.
	\uparrow	Subtle		SUB. Please you <i>Enthratha</i> the	This brief sojourn offstage may
	'	Surly		<i>chambratha</i> , worthy Don. (94-5)	indicate use of upstage concealment
		·		, , ,	space.
IV.iv	/	Face		FACE. Come lady: I knew the Doctor	They return from inwards.
	/	Kastril		would not leave, Till he had found the	
	1	Dame Pliant		very nick of her fortune. (1, 2)	
	\downarrow	Subtle			RETURNS AFTER 15 LINE
		Surly		FACE. It is the Count come! (54)	ABSENCE. RETURNS AFTER 50 LINE
	\forall	Surry		FACE. It is the Count come: (54)	ABSENCE.
	K	Surly		SUR. Entremos. (80)	They go inwards to get to know
	`	Dame Pliant		2011 (11)	each other.
	_	Face		KAS. Where does he carry her?	He goes inwards to interpret the
				FACE. Into the garden, sir; Take you no	Count's Spanish for the Widow,
				thought: I must interpret for her.	and to give Subtle's message to
		0.1.1	71	SUB. Give Doll the word. (81-3)	Doll.
		Subtle Kastril	7	SUB. Come let's go practise.	Main motivation for this outwards
		Kastrii		KAS. Yes, but do you think, Doctor, I ere shall quarrel well? (93-4)	exit is subsequent re-entries of these two characters.
IV.v	ν.	Doll		ore shan quarrer went: (95-4)	They enter from inwards.
- ' '	Z	Mammon			y
		Face			Face, too, returns from inwards.
	_	Subtle	/	Upon Subtle's entry, they disperse.	He returns from outwards
	_	Doll	_		Doll flees inwards
	↑ ·	Face			and Face goes into the laboratory,
					leaving Mammon onstage. Note
					that Doll and Face 'disperse',
					suggesting use of UC resource. Simultaneous mid-scene entrance
					and exits.
		Face		A great crack and noise within	After operating sound effect, Face
	\vee	1 4.00		11 8, can en act and notice within	RETURNS AFTER 20 LINE
					ABSENCE. Sound effect would be
					more immediate if from
					concealment space rather than
	ĸ	Mamman		EACE My land has brother is some his	within tiring house.
	./	Mammon		FACE. My lord her brother is comehis coach is at the door. (66, 67)	Kastril has returned from outwards and Mammon is told to exit
				FACE. Good sir, This way: for fear the	inwards.
				lord should meet you. (93-4)	iii varasi
		Face	7	SUB. Off with your case, And greet her	Face exits outwards to change
				kindly, as a bridegroom should. (103-	costume and re-appear
				4)	subsequently as the captain.
				FACE. Will you go fetch Don Diego	There seems no reason for Subtle to
				off, the while? SUB. Would Doll were in her place, to	leave the stage.
				pick his pockets now.	
				FACE. Why you can do it as well. (106-	
				9)	
IV.vi	/	Surly		SUB. How doth my noble Diego? (17)	They return from inwards and after
		Dame Pliant			fifteen lines, Subtle joins the
		E	,	CLID O 1	conversation.
		Face	L	SUR. O, make your approach, good	Face now returns, disguised as
		Face	7	Captain. (34)	Captain. Face must exit again for next
		1 acc	/		entrance.
IV.		Face	/	FACE. Why, now's the time	Kastril returns whence he last
vii		Kastril	-	KAS. Where is he? (1, 4)	exited.
	_	Dame Pliant		KAS. Away, you talk like a foolish	At line 100, it transpires that the
				mauther. (23)	widow is within, being entertained
		Denigran	/	EACE Nov hors's on host f-11	by Doll.
		Drugger		FACE. Nay, here's an honest fellow.	Arriving from outwards.

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		Ananias Surly	/	(27) ANA. Peace to the household. (42) KAS. Begone, sir. (56)	Arriving from outwards.
		Kastril Drugger		KAS. I'll re-turn him then. (62) FACE. Thou must borrow A Spanish suitHieronimo's old cloak, rough, and hat, will serve, I'll tell thee more when thou bring'st 'em. (67-8, 71-2)	Drugger exits outwards.
		Ananias	7	ANA. I will tell This to the elders. (83-4)	
	/	Doll		FACE. How now, Doll? Has't told her, The Spanish Count will come? DOLL. Another is come, You little look'd for!the master of the houseForty o' the neighbours are	Doll returns from inwards. Once again, it seems possible to view the street outside from further within.
	<u> </u>	Face Subtle Doll		about him, talking. (106-8, 109, 112) FACE. Subtle must shave me. All my Captain's beard Must off, to make me appear smooth Jeremy. You'll do't? (130-2)	The three conspirators exit inwards.
V. i		Lovewit Neighbours			Arriving at the house from outwards (note that there's already been one such brief location change at II.i.
		3. Neighb.	7	LOV. Then, lend me thy help, to get this door open. NEI. 3. That I will presently, sir, but fetch my tools. (44-5)	Neighbour exits outwards to fetch his tools.
V. ii		Face	L	NEI. 1,2,4. O, here's Jeremy! FACE. Good sir, come from the door. (2-3)	Face enters from outwards, warning the others not to enter the house. Once again, the necessary backstage cross reinforces that there is a 'back way' out of the house.
		3. Neighb.	L	3. NEI. Is Jeremy come? (41)	Enters from outwards with his tools, enquiring after Jeremy/ Face.
V. iii		Mammon Surly	_	FACE. Surly come! And Mammon made acquainted? They'll tell all. (44-5)	Face sees Mammon and Surly approaching from outwards.
		Mammon Surly	7	SUR. You rascal! This is one O' the confederacy. Come, let's get officers, And force the door. (22-3)	They exit outwards to get the officers.
		Kastril	L	FACE. O me, The angry boy come too? Kastril knocks. KAS. What, rogues, bawds, slaves, you'll open the door, anon! (30-1, 33)	Enters from outwards.
		Ananias Tribulation	/	FACE. Ananias too? And his pastor? They beat too, at the door. TRI. The doors are shut against us. (43-4)	
		Neighbours Kastril Ananias Tribulation	7	LOV. Good neighbours, I thank you all. You may depart. (75-6)	Neighbours sent off outwards.
	<u> </u>	Face Lovewit		FACE. I'll help you to a widow, In recompense, that you shall gi' me thanks for, Will make you seven years younger, and a rich one. 'Tis but your putting on a Spanish cloak, I have her within. You need not fear the house, It was not visited'Pray you forgive me. LOV. Well: let's see your widow. (84-88, 90-91)	Exit inwards, Face reassuring Lovewit that it is safe to enter the house despite what he has previously said.

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V. iv	7	Subtle		SUB. How! Ha' you eaten your gag? (1)	PROBLEMATIC congestion.
		Dapper			Possible time-lapse. Subtle and
		Face		FACE. I have been feign to say the	Dapper come out of the house.
	7	race		house is haunted With spirits to keep	Face has brought Lovewit ino the house and reports that he managed
				churl back.	to confine Lovewit ('churl') with
				SUB. And hast thou done it?	talk of spirits.
				FACE. Sure, for this night. (10-12)	tark or spirits.
	K	Face		FACE. Show him his aunt, and let him	He goes into the house to send Doll
	•	1 400		be dispatch'd: I'll send her to you.	out.
				(15-16)	
		Doll		Doll like the Queen of Fairy.	She enters, right on cue.
	_	Dapper	7	DAP. I'll go and fetch the writings.	Returns outwards.
		11		SUB. 'Tis well, away. (60-61)	
		Face		FACE. Where's Subtle?	Simultaneous mid-scene exit/ entry
	_				at alternate doors. Returning from
			_		inwards.
		Subtle	7	FACE. Drugger is at the door, go take	Once again, characters from
				his suit, And bid him fetch a parson,	inwards seem to have a view
				presently. (62-3)	beyond the outwards door. Drugger
					has returned with the Spanish habit
		Cubtle		CIID Hara's your Hismania'11	referred to at IV. vii, 68.
		Subtle	_	SUB. Here's your Hieronimo's cloak, and hat.	Returning from outwards.
				FACE. Give me 'em.	
				SUB. And the rough too? (68-9)	
	_	Face		FACE. Yes, I'll come to you presently.	Going in to give the cloak to
	`	1 400		(69)	Lovewit.
		Face		FACE. Drugger has brought his parson,	Face now returns and sends Subtle
	_			take him in, Subtle, And send Nab	out to bring the parson in and send
				back again, to wash his face. (94-5)	Drugger back home. Once more, he
					has access to information about
			_		characters arriving from outwards.
		Subtle		SUB. I will: and shave himself? (96)	Subtle exits
		Subtle		FACE. Is he gone?	and returns, successful.
				SUB. The chaplain waits you in the hall,	
		Ease	7	sir. (98)	He evite to take the chemicin incide
		Face	/	FACE. I'll go bestow him. (99)	He exits to take the chaplain inside the house (backstage cross for
					unseen chaplain).
		Face	_	FACE. Come, my venturers, You ha'	He returns and they prepare to
			K	pack'd up all? (105-6)	depart in secret.
	_	Subtle		FACE. All I can do Is to help you over	Once more the suggestion of an exit
	•	Face		the wall, o' the back-sideHere will	from the back of the house as the
		Doll		be officers, presently. (132-3, 135)	officers knock at the front door.
V. v	7	Lovewit		LOV. What do you mean, my masters?	PROBLEMATIC congestion
	_	Parson		MAM. Open your door, Cheaters,	minimised by offstage knocking.
				bawds, conjurers. (1-2)	Parson and Lovewit, the latter
					dressed in Hieronimo's gown, now
					come from inwards. Mammon and
					Surly are knocking on the outwards
					door, demanding entry into the
	\	Face		FACE. Sir, ha' you done? Is it a	house. Face comes out of the house.
	Z	1'400		marriage? Perfect? (7)	race comes out of the nouse.
		Mammon	/	MAM. Where is this collier?	Enter from outwards.
		Surly	K	SUR. And my Captain Face? (11-12)	Ziiii idii datii alabi
		Kastril			From outwards.
		Ananias	<u>/</u>		Ditto.
		Tribulation			
		Officers	_	LOV. Good gentlemen, hear me. Are	Officers enter from outwards.
			_	you officers, And cannot stay this	
				violence? (16)	

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	Tribulation Ananias Mammon	LOV. You may go in, and search, sir. (38)	All go inwards to search the house.
\ \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	Kastril	KAS. Aye, that's my suster. I'll go thump her. Where is she? (45)	Goes into the house looking for the Dame Pliant.
7	Mammon	MAM. The whole nest are fled! (57)	Mammon comes out of the house to report his findings.
	Mammon Zurly	SUR. Come, let us go, and harken out the rogues. That Face I'll mark for mine, if e'er I meet him. FACE. If I can hear of him, sir, I'll bring you word, Unto your lodging. (85-88)	Exit outwards, in search of Face, who, unbeknownst to Mammon and Surly, is speaking with them.
7	Tribulation Ananias	TRI. Go, And get some carts ANA. To bear away the portion of the righteous, Out of this den of thieves. (92)	Simultaneous mid-scene entrance/ exit at alternate doors. Tribulation and Ananias now come out of the house as Mammon and Surly depart.
	Drugger Drugger Parson	Drugger entersand he beats him away. FACE. Good sir, go, And satisfy him;	Sends Parson off in pursuit of
7	Kastril Dame Pliant	tell him, all is done. (118-9) KAS. Come on, you ewe, you have match'd most sweetly, ha' you not? (125)	Drugger. Comes out of the house with his sister.
	Kastril Dame Pliant Ananias Tribulation	KAS. Come, let's in, I pray thee, and take our whiffs. (145)	Exit inwards.
\ \	Lovewit Face		They too, exit inwards.
	backstage cross		