

Play: The Second Maiden's Tragedy Author: Middleton?Text used: The Revels Plays, Manchester UP ed. Anne Lancashire 1978Library ref: 822.39 S445J1 1/1

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

| <i>act/sc</i> | <i>door</i><br><i>IN</i>   | <i>Entering</i><br><i>characters</i>                                                                                                                                                     | <i>door</i><br><i>OUT</i>        | <i>Space-time indication</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>Commentary</i><br><i>and notes</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| I.i           | ↘                          | Tyrant<br>Nobles<br>Memphonius<br>Sophonirus<br>Helvetius<br>Govianus<br>Memphonius<br>Sophonirus<br>Memphonius<br>Lady<br><br>Lady<br>Govianus<br>Memphonius<br><br>Helvetius<br>Tyrant | ↗<br>↗<br>↙<br><br>↗<br><br>↗    | TYR. Let her be sent for. (26)<br><br>TYR. Why mourns the kingdom's mistress? Does she come To meet advancement in a funeral garment? (115-6)<br><br>TYR. Confine thee to thy house nearest our court, And place a guard about thee. (206-7)<br>GOV. Confine me? Here's my liberty in mine arms. (209)<br>TYR. ...to vex his soul give command straight They be divided into several rooms, Where he may only have a sight of her, To his mind's torment, but his arms and lips Locked up like felons from her. (232-6)...Give order with all speed. (239)                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Court scene from inwards.<br><br>Goes outwards to get H's daughter. Ditto.<br>Memphonius comes back with the Lady.<br><br>After various proposals the Tyrant decides the best punishment is for Govianus and the Lady to be confined together, with no touching allowed.<br>Helvetius exits outwards to implement Tyrant's orders; Tyrant returns inwards.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| I.ii          | ↘<br>↗<br>↗<br>↘<br>↗<br>↗ | Anselmus<br>Votarius<br><br>Wife<br>Wife<br>Anselmus<br>Wife<br>Votarius<br>Leonella<br>Wife<br><br>Bellarius                                                                            | ↙<br><br><br><br><br>↗<br>↙<br>↙ | ANS. Prithee set to her, And bring my peace along with me. ... be worth thy word, then. (38-9, 68-9)<br><br>ANS. Yonder she comes. I'll have an ear to you both. (70)<br>WIFE. He's not so good as a lord ought to be; Pray tell him so from me, sir. (110-11)<br>ANS. I'll have an absence made purposely for thee And presently take horse... For a small time, farewell, then. (148-9, 153)<br>WIFE. 'Has took his horse, but left his leave untaken...Did ever lord Depart so rudely from his lady's presence? (168, 169-70)<br>VOT. Face, fare thee well. (257-8)<br>WIFE. Where's my woman? (262)<br>WIFE. I charge thee, while thou liv'st with me, henceforward Use not an hour's absence from my sight. (287-90)<br>BEL. Leonella?<br>LEON. Come forth, and show yourself a | They enter mid-conversation from outwards, about to set up the meeting with A's wife. Minimal congestion at outwards door: shift to other plot.<br>Wife from inwards, Anselmus retires to observe.<br>Wife tells Votarius of her marital woes; she then leaves.<br><br>He goes inwards to leave the household (see below).<br><br>Wife speaks of having seen her husband depart without proper leave-taking.<br><br>Votarius leaves the house. She calls Leonella from within. She goes back within.<br><br>Bellarius now arrives. |

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|        | ↗ | Leonella<br>Bellarius                                                                 |                                 | gentleman (294-5)<br>LEON. You shall walk boldly, sir, And<br>openly in view through every room<br>About the house; and let the proudest<br>meet thee, I charge thee give no way<br>to 'em. (303-6)                                                                                                          | They go inwards together as<br>Bellarius is 'set up' in the house.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| II.i   | ↘ | Lady<br>Servant                                                                       |                                 | LADY. My father? Pray make haste; he<br>waits too long. Entreat him hither. (3-<br>4)                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | From inwards, about to meet<br>visitor. This creates a 2 on 2<br>congestion at inwards door, but<br>shift to other plot justifies marked<br>congestion pattern.                                                                                                        |
|        |   | Servant<br>Helvetius                                                                  | ↗<br>↘                          | LADY. Some mild news, I hope, Comes<br>with my father. (10-11)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Visitor arrives.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|        | ↘ | Govianus                                                                              |                                 | GOV. Up, ancient sinner; thou 'rt but<br>mocked with death. (113)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | From within the house.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|        | ↗ | Helvetius<br>Govianus<br>Lady                                                         |                                 | GOV. I ha' lost an enemy and have<br>found a father. (176)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | They go inwards, the king's plans<br>duped by the new-found alliance.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| II.ii  |   | Votarius<br>Wife<br>Leonella<br>Anselmus<br>Wife<br>Anselmus<br>Leonella<br>Bellarius | ↘<br>↘<br>↘<br>↗<br>↗<br>↘<br>↘ | WIFE. Most welcome, sir. (46)<br>WIFE. I'm glad you're changed so well,<br>sir. (76)<br>VOT. Ha, what's he? Life, 'tis<br>Bellarius, my rank enemy! ...stealing<br>through the house With a<br>whoremaster's pace—I like it not.<br>(97-8, 101-2)                                                            | Votarius now returns to his wooing.<br>Wife comes outwards.<br>From inwards.<br>They go inwards, husband and<br>wife.<br>She follows her mistress.<br>Bellarius enters, 'passing over the<br>stage'.                                                                   |
|        | ↗ | Bellarius                                                                             |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | He most probably loops around the<br>stage and exits back inwards.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        | ↘ | Anselmus<br>Anselmus                                                                  | ↗<br>↗                          | ANS. We miss you, sir, within. (119)<br>ANS. I'll fetch you from aloft! (139)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | They hear a noise in the gallery,<br>and Anselmus dashes up to catch<br>Bellarius.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        | ↘ | Anselmus                                                                              |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|        | ↗ | Anselmus<br>Anselmus<br>Leonella                                                      | ↗<br>↘<br>↘                     | ANS. Run, Votarius, To the back-gate;<br>the guilty slave leaped out And<br>scaped me so. (151-3)                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Having exited the gallery, he now<br>reappears with Leonella from<br>inwards, and directs Votarius to the<br>other side of the house.                                                                                                                                  |
|        | ↗ | Votarius<br>Anselmus<br>Leonella                                                      | ↗<br>↗<br>↗                     | ANS. ...get thee to thy chamber! (173)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | She goes inwards.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| II.iii | ↘ | Tyrant<br>Sophonirus<br>Memphonius<br>Nobles<br>Helvetius                             | ↘<br>↘<br>↘<br>↗<br>↗           | TYR. I must not miss her; I want her<br>sight too long. (3-4)...Helvetius!<br>Where is he? (7)<br>TYR. Here comes the kingdom's father.<br>(9)<br>TYR. No? Our guard within, there! (94)<br>TYR. Bear that old fellow to our castle<br>prisoner. (95)<br>TYR. Beset the house Of Govianus<br>round. (116-17) | Minimal congestion at inwards door<br>marked by double rhyming couplet<br>and flourish. A shift to other plot.<br>Helvetius from outwards with<br>news.<br>Guard called in.<br>Helvetius taken out to prison.<br>Nobles go out to do as instructed,<br>Tyrant retires. |
|        | ↗ | Memphonius<br>Sophonirus                                                              | ↗<br>↗                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | He too goes out towards Govianus'<br>place of confinement..                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| III.i  | ↘ | Govianus                                                                              |                                 | SERV. An old lord come from the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|       | <p>Lady</p> <p>Servant</p> <p>Servant ↗</p> <p>Servant ↘</p> <p>Servant ↗</p> <p>Sophonirus ↘</p><br><p>Servant ↘</p> <p>Servant ↗</p> <p>Servant ↘</p><br><p>Servant ↗</p> <p>Fellows ↘</p> <p>Fellows ↗</p> <p>Sophonirus ↘</p> <p>Govianus ↗</p> <p>Lady ↗</p>                 | <p>court. (2)</p> <p>GOV. Go, know it truly, sir. (6)</p> <p>GOV. What says he now? (12)</p> <p>GOV. Let him be tried. (18)</p> <p>GOV. I see he dares. (23)</p> <p>SOPH. The house is round beset with armed men That know their time, when to break in and seize on her. (42-3)</p> <p>GOV. Within, there! (45)</p> <p>GOV. Look out, and tell me what thou seest. (46)</p> <p>SERV. Out of all parts a' th' house, I may see fellows Gathered in companies...(55-6)</p> <p>GOV. Prithee find other business. (60)</p> <p>FELL. Heart, farewell he, then! (187-8)</p> <p>GOV. Thou'rt cold enough To lie entombed now by my father's side. Without offence in kindred there I'll place thee With one I loved the dearest next to thee. (251-3)</p>                                                            | <p>Exits to bring Soph in.<br/>Sophonirus now appears.</p><br><p>Re-enters in response to Govianus' call.<br/>Servant returns outwards to investigate...<br/>And returns with the news.</p><br><p>Servant is dismissed.<br/>They break in.<br/>They return outwards.</p><br><p>He exits out with the body to bury it.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| IV.i  | <p>↘ Votarius</p> <p>Wife ↗</p> <p>↘ Votarius</p> <p>Leonella ↗</p> <p>↗ Wife</p> <p>Bellarius ↘</p> <p>↗ Leonella</p> <p>Bellarius ↘</p>                                                                                                                                         | <p>WIFE. Go thy ways. (64)</p> <p>LEO. Madam, my lord entreats your company. (65)</p> <p>WIFE. Thanks, my good wench. (137)</p> <p>BELL. What, art alone? (139)</p> <p>LEO. Bribe me but with a kiss, it shall be so. (166)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>They enter from inwards, involved in intimate conversation.<br/>Votarius leaves.<br/>With a message from within.</p><br><p>Goes in to husband.<br/>Arrives from outwards.<br/>They go in. Minimal congestion with next entrance at inwards door.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| IV.ii | <p>↘ Tyrant</p><br><p>Nobles ↘</p> <p>Memphoniuss ↗</p> <p>Memphoniuss ↗</p><br><p>Soldiers ↘</p> <p>4 Soldier ↗</p> <p>1 Soldier ↗</p> <p>2, 3 Soldiers ↗</p><br><p>1 Soldier ↘</p> <p>2, 3 Soldiers ↘</p> <p>↗ Tyrant</p><br><p>↗ Soldiers 1-3</p> <p>First soldier remains</p> | <p><i>Enter Tyrant wondrous discontentedly,</i></p> <p><i>Nobles afar off.</i></p> <p>TYR. Where is that fellow brought the first report to us?<br/>MEM. He waits without.<br/>TYR. I charge thee, give command That he be executed speedily. (10-13)</p> <p>TYR. Within, there! (37)</p> <p>TYR. Go, give order That Govianus be released. (38-9)</p> <p>TYR. Run, sir, you; Bring me the keys of the cathedral straight. (41)</p> <p>TYR. Provide you, sirs, close lanthorns and a pickaxe. Away, be speedy! (45-6)</p> <p>1 SOL. Here be the keys, my lord. (54)</p> <p>TYR. I thank thy speed. (55)</p> <p>TYR. Follow me, And wealth shall follow you. (56)</p> <p>1 SOL. Wealth! By this light, We go to rob a church. (57)</p> <p>MEM. What should he make in the cathedral now, The hour so deep in</p> | <p>Tyrant enters at inwards door, his mood as foreseen by 1 FEL at III.i.223-5.<br/>Nobles at a distance from him. cf. 'farther door' below at IV.iii.<br/>The Fellow who at III.i. 223-5 foresaw the Tyrant's wrath when news of the Lady's death was delivered is about to find his prognostication fulfilled.<br/>Soldiers come in.</p> <p>Goes outwards to do Tyrant's bidding.<br/>Ditto.</p><br><p>Ditto.</p><br><p>Returns with keys.<br/>Return with provisions.<br/>Exits inwards, for no apparent reason except to provide a BX soon.<br/>They follow.</p><br><p>choric interlude which serves to create fictional time-lapseand</p> |

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|        | <p>onstage as linking chorus<br/>NOT Memphonius as editor suggests.</p>                          | <p>night? (63-4)<br/>MEM. Noble Helvetius, all the lords agree By some close policy shortly to set free. (70-1)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>change of location.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| IV.iii | <p>↙ Lady Tyrant Soldiers 1-3 ↘</p> <p>Tyrant 2, 3 Soldiers Lady (body) ↗</p> <p>1 Soldier ↗</p> | <p><i>Enter the Tyrant again at a farther door, which opened, brings them to the tomb where the Lady lies buried. The tomb here discovered, richly set forth.</i></p> <p>TYR. Bear her before us gently to our palace. Place you the stone again where first we found it. (127-8)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>This stage direction is an important indicator of a lateral viewpoint on the stage: the playwright conceives the stage-space from the side rather than from the front (De Witt's position).<br/>They return outwards, a staggered exit specified (1 SOL must first replace the stone cover of the tomb).<br/>Staggered exit creates minimal congestion...</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| IV.iv  | <p>Govianus Page ↘</p> <p>↙ Page ↗</p> <p>↙ Lady ↗</p> <p>↖ Lady Govianus ↗</p>                  | <p>GOV. Already mine eye melts... Temple of honour, I salute thee early, The time that my griefs rise... Be ready, boy; give me the strain again. (4-5, 10)</p> <p>GOV. Prithee withdraw a little, and attend me. At cloister door. (35-6)<br/><i>On a sudden, in a kind of noise like a wind, the doors clattering, the tombstone flies open, and a great light appears in the midst of the tomb; his Lady, as went out, standing just before him all in white, stuck with jewels, and a great crucifix on her breast.</i></p> <p>LADY. Farewell, true lord. (80)<br/>GOV. Her body I will place in her first rest, Or in th' attempt lock death into my breast. (89-90)</p> | <p>...marked also by possible offstage singing of the page, who is instructed to sing again.</p> <p>He exits outwards to wait.</p> <p>Spectacular theatrical effect at inwards door; lighting effect in the tiring house (cf. <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> V.iii.125-7)?</p> <p>Returns within.<br/>Exits outwards to deal with Tyrant and the Lady's body. Minimal congestion with next entrance (marked: other plot).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| V.i    | <p>Votarius Anselmus ↘</p> <p>↗</p> <p>↙</p> <p>↙</p> <p>↙</p> <p>↙</p> <p>↖</p> <p>↙</p>        | <p>VOT. You shall stand here, my lord, unseen, and hear all... Lock yourself, sir, Into that closet, and be sure none see you. (1, 9-10)</p> <p>VOT. Though I shoot wide, I'll cozen him of the game. (17)<br/>LEO. Dost thou see thine enemy walk? (18)<br/>LEO. Yet I'll down now I think on't. (29)<br/>WIFE. Is all set ready, wench?... Pray watch the door, and suffer none to trouble us. (38, 68)<br/><i>Enter Votarius to the door within.</i><br/>LEO. Back! Y'are too forward, sir. There's no coming for you. (84)</p> <p>BELL. O deadly poison after a sweet</p>                                                                                                 | <p>We assume Anselmus enters the concealment space upstage centre (which signifies the 'closet'. Alternatively a more concrete signifier for a lockable closet might be the inwards door. In such a case some of the entrances below would need to switch to outwards door (not a logistical or logical problem).o<br/>He exits to prepare for the trick.</p> <p>They enter above to observe.</p> <p>She exits the gallery.</p> <p>Leonella returns from inwards with Wife, and is sent to watch the door.</p> <p>Leonella guarding the door against Votarius' intrusion.</p> <p>Bellarius must leave the gallery at some point.<br/>He comes onto the stage to</p> |

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|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Govianus ↙<br/>         Servants ↗<br/>         Servants ↗<br/>         Anselmus ↗<br/>         Bellarius ↗<br/>         Leonella ↗<br/>         Wife ↗<br/>         Votarius ↗<br/>         Govianus ↗</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>banquet! What make I here? I had forgot my heart. (114-5)<br/>         GOV. Where should he be? (144)<br/>         GOV. Go, bear those bodies to a place more comely. (188-9)<br/>         GOV. Tyrant, I'll run thee on a dangerous shelf, Though I be forced to fly this land myself. (201-2)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>intervene.<br/>         Govianus enters in search of his brother Votarius.<br/>         Exit outwards.<br/>         Rhyming couplet marks end of this plot strand.</p> |
| V.ii | <p>↘ Tyrant<br/>         ↗ Attendants<br/>         ↘ Attendant<br/>         ↘ Soldiers<br/>         ↘ Lady (prop)<br/>         ↘ 3 Soldier<br/>         ↘ Govianus<br/>         ↘ Soldiers<br/>         ↘ Attendants<br/>         ↘ Lady<br/>         ↗ Lady<br/>         ↘ Nobles<br/>         ↘ Memphonius<br/>         ↘ Helvetius<br/>         ↘ Lady<br/>         ↗ Lady<br/>         ↗ Lady (prop)<br/>         ↗ Govianus<br/>         ↗ Helvetius<br/>         ↗ Memphonius<br/>         ↗ Nobles<br/>         ↗ Tyrant</p> | <p>TYR. Go bring her forth, As we have caused her body to be decked In all the glorious riches of our palace. (7-9)<br/> <i>They bring the body in a chair...</i><br/>         2 SOL. He's come, my lord. (48)<br/>         TYR. Depart, then. (48)<br/> <i>Enter the ghost in the same form as the Lady is dressed in the chair. (151)</i><br/>         LADY. My truest love, Live ever honoured here, and blessed above. (164-5)<br/>         TYR. My lords, treason! (167)<br/>         MEM. Here comes another; we'll have his hand too. (173)<br/> <i>The Spirit enters again and stays to go out with the body, as it were attending it.</i><br/>         GOV. Let her be solemnly borne Unto the house of peace from whence she came As queen of silence. (202-4)<br/>         GOV. I would those ladies that fill honour's rooms Might all be borne so honest to their tombs. (211-12)</p> | <p>Tyrant in his palace.<br/>         They go inwards to bring out the Lady's body.<br/>         Statue of Lady carried on.<br/>         Govianus now arrives from outwards, having been summoned as make-up artist.<br/>         Others exit.<br/>         Lady's spirit enters from inwards, as body has done.<br/>         She returns inwards (overlay with tomb?)<br/>         Nobles now arrive from outwards.<br/>         Helvetius too arrives to join in the overthrow of the Tyrant.<br/>         Spirit returns from inwards...<br/>         ...and accompanies the body out to burial.<br/>         All exit outwards.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                           |