Turk. False of heart, light of ear, bloody of hand; hog in sloth, fox in stealth, wolf in greediness, dog in madness, lion in prey. Let not the creaking of shoes nor the rustling of silks betray thy poor heart to woman. Keep thy foot out of brothels, thy hand out of plackets, thy pen from lenders' books, and defy the foul fiend. Still through the hawthorn blows the cold wind; says suum, mun, nonny. Dolphin my boy, boy, sensual let him trot by.

*Storm still.*

LEAR Thou wert better in a grave than to answer with thy uncovered body this extremity of the skies. Is man no more than this? Consider him well. Thou ow'st the worm no silk, the beast no hide, the sheep no wool, the cat no perfume. Ha! here's three on's are sophisticated. Thou art the thing itself; unaccommodated man is no more but such a poor, bare, forked animal as thou art. Off, off, you lendings! Come, unbutton here.

[Begins to disrobe.]

FOOL Prithree, uncle, be contented; 'tis a naughty night to swim in. Now a little fire in a wild field were like an old lecher's heart - a small spark, all the rest on's body cold. Look, here comes a walking fire.

*Enter Gloucester with a torch.*

EDGAR This is the foul Flibbertigibbet. He begins at curfew, and walks till the first cock. He gives the web and the pin, squints the eye, and makes the harelip; mildews the white wheat, and hurts the poor creature of earth.

Swithold footed thirce the 'old;
He met the nightmare, and her ninefold;
Bid her alight
And her troth plight,
And aroint thee, witch, aroint thee!

KENT How fares your grace?
LEAR What's he?
KENT Who's there? What is't you seek?
GLOUCESTER What are you there? Your names?
EDGAR Poor Tom, that eats the swimming frog, the toad, the tadpole, the wall newt and the water; that in the fury of his heart, when the foul fiend rages, eats cow dung for salted; swallows the old rat and the ditch dog, drinks the green mantle of the standing pool; who is whirled from tithing to tithing, and stock-punished and imprisoned; who hath had three suits to his back, six shirts to his body,

Horse to ride, and weapon to wear,
But mice and rats, and such small deer,
Have been Tom's food for seven long year.

Beware my follower! Peace, Smulkin, peace, thou fiend!

---

93 light of ear attentive to gossip and slander 95–96 creaking . . . silks both fashionable in women 97 plackets slits in women's skirts; hence vaginas 98 pen . . . books i.e., stay out of debt 100 Dolphin . . . sense unexplained; possibly a bit of a ballad, possibly a hunting call; Dolphin is usually taken to refer to the French crown prince, the dauphin, but it sounds more like a hunting dog's name; sensual (sense) = stop 102 answer experience 106 cat crier cat, from whose secretions perfume was made; one of us; sophisticated artificial 107 unaccommodated unadorned, unfurnished 109 lendings borrowed articles (because not part of his body) 110 naughty evil 114 Flibbertigibbet in Elizabethan folklore, a dancing devil 115 curfew 9 P.M.; first cock midnight 115–16 ibi . . . pin eye cataracts 116 squints makes squint 117 white almost ripe 119 Swithold Saint Withold, invoked as a general protector against harm; footed . . . 'old walked the plain (wold) three times 120 nightmare incubus, female demon; ninefold nine offspring 121 Bid . . . alight ordered her to get off (the sleeper's chest) 122 her troth plight her promise (not to do it again) 123 aroint thee be gone 129 wall newt lizard; water i.e., water newt 131 salters delicacies; ditch dog dead dog thrown in a ditch 132 green mantle scum; standing stagnant 133 tithing parish; stock-punished put in the stocks 137 deer game; the jingle is adapted from the popular romance *Bevis of Hampton* 139 Smulkin like Medo and Mab below, devils identified in Samuel Harsnett's *Declaration of Egregious Popish Impostures* (1603)