V.3 Enter, in conquest, with Drum and Colors, 
Edmund; Lear and Cordelia as prisoners; Soldiers, 
Captain.

EDMUND
Some officers take them away. Good guard
Until their greater pleasures first be known
That are to censure them.

CORDELIA
We are not the first
Who with best meaning have incurred the worst.
For thee, oppressed king, I am cast down;
Myself could else outfrown false Fortune’s frown.
Shall we not see these daughters and these sisters?

LEAR
No, no, no, no! Come, let’s away to prison.
We two alone will sing like birds i’ th’ cage.
When thou dost ask me blessing, I’ll kneel down
And ask of thee forgiveness. So we’ll live,
And pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh
At gilded butterflies, and hear poor rogues
Talk of court news; and we’ll talk with them too –
Who loses and who wins; who’s in, who’s out –
And take upon’s the mystery of things
As if we were God’s spies; and we’ll wear out,
In a walled prison, packs and sects of great ones
That cbb and flow by th’ moon.

EDMUND
Take them away.

LEAR
Upon such sacrifices, my Cordelia,
The gods themselves throw incense. Have I caught thee?
He that parts us shall bring a brand from heaven
And fire us hence like foxes. Wipe thine eyes.
The goodyears shall devour them, flesh and fell,
Ere they shall make us weep! We’ll see ’em starved first.
Come. Exeunt [Lear and Cordelia, guarded].

V.3 The British camp 2 their . . . pleasures the wishes of those in command 3 censure pass judgment on 4 meaning intentions 6 else otherwise 17 wear out outlast 18 packs and sects parties and factions 19 That . . . moon whose power changes monthly 21 throw incense are celebrants; Have . . . thee? i.e., do I really have you again? 22 brand torch; i.e., it will take divine powers to separate us now 24 goodyears passage of time, old age; flesh . . . fell meat and skin, entirely