

Marriage

- Critics: WD
 - Ψ Jardine: Vittoria is a cautionary tale against female independence
 - Ψ Luckyj: “rhetorical crossdressing”
 - Ψ Hurt: inverted rituals and mock engagement scene
- Critics: WoB
 - Ψ Carruthers: “capitalist entrepreneur”
 - Ψ Carruthers: “the important spoils [of marriage] for Alisoun are neither children nor sensual gratification but independence”
 - Ψ Oberembt: “merchandises sexual favours”
 - Ψ Oberembt: “holds her queynte for raunson”

Business transaction

- “That I may bear my beard out of the level/Of my lord’s stirrup” → Flamineo as pander
- “[Camillo] received in dowry with you not one julio” → Monticelso attacking Vittoria
- “goode men [...] riche and olde” → Alisoun on her first three husbands
- “I wolde no lenger in the bed abide [...] Till he had maad his raunson unto me” → supports C.

Subjugation of women

- “Henceforth I’ll never lie with thee, by this,/ This wedding ring” → Brachiano divorcing Isabella, repeated by her exactly
- “This divorce shall be as truly kept/As if in thronged court a thousand ears/Had heard it” → Isabella, supporting Luckyj
- “And to him yaf I al the lond and fee/That evere was me seven therbifoore” → A to Janekin
- “womman was the los of al mankind” → what Janekin’s book taught
- “the bridel in myn hond” → suggestion otherwise? A winning move off Janekin

Legitimises sex

- “Yaf I shall to me at once/Be durtedom, health, wife, children, friends, and all” → Brachiano to Vittoria, vowing his loyalty
- “trewely [...] hadde swich dalliance” → A on her flirting with Janekin
- “If I were widwe [...] wedde me” → A securing her future with Janekin
- “soutiltee” → trickery by which A wins J
- “mette of him al night” → i.e. ‘dreamt of him all night’, evidence of ‘soutiltee’
- “He hadde a paire/Of legges and of feet so lene and faire/That al myn herte I yaf unto his hoold”

AO4

- The patriarchal culture of the Middle Ages allowed a husband the right to force his wife into a chastity belt, should she offend his honour, or a scold’s bridle, should she talk too much for his liking.
- A husband also had the right to all assets formerly owned by his wife.