

**The Ghoul Next Door – Scene 13– Th/Si**

**Unaccompanied**

**Tr:** I didn't travel to Egypt and back, but to desert lands on far-off shores, 995  
Till now I don't know where in the world I am.  
(sees Simo off L) Aha, now I'll get some answers, here comes the man who sold  
my son the house. (enter Simo, Th goes up to him) Since I just got back from abroad...

**Si:** (sassily) I'm going out, just in case you think you're having dinner at my place. 1005

**Th:** (blocking Si's entrance to his own house)  
No, God, that's not what I want. **Si:** Well, tomorrow, if no one else  
Invites me first, sure I'll have dinner at yours.

**Th:** No, no that's not it either, but, IF you're not TOO BUSY, I need your help. **Si:** Sure.

**Th:** It's my understanding you received 4000 drachmas from my son 1010  
Philolaches. **Si:** It's *my* understanding, I got not a drachma.

**Th:** Anything from his slave Tranio? **Si:** Ha! You can't get much less than that!

**Th:** Didn't he give you a down payment? **Si:** In your dreams.

**Th:** Oh, Oh, I see, you think you can unmake this deal by playing dumb. 1015

**Si:** What? **Th:** The bargain my son made with you when I was away.

**Si:** What deal, what date? **Th:** I owe you 8000 drachmas. **Si:** Damned if you do to me....  
(thinking) But..., if you owe me, then by all means pay. A deal is a deal, so don't go renegeing on me.

**Th:** I'd never default on this debt. But don't you go saying you didn't get the 4000. 1025

**Si:** What exactly, may I ask, did they say they bought with all this cash? **Th:** Your house!

**Si:** My house? **Th:** That's why I was inspecting the interior and portico.

**Si:** (angrily) Tranio told me you wanted your son to get married,  
and you were going to build a women's wing like mine in your house.

**Th:** Oh no, I'm utterly devastated, ruined, neighbor. I don't know what to say. 1030

Tranio has made an ass of me today in the most humiliating ways, for good. 1035

Now please lend me your assistance. **Si:** What would you like? **Th:** Go with me, please. Let me use  
some of your slaves and your whips **Si:** You've got 'em. **Th:** I'll tell you more about how he played  
me for a fool today in his own inimitable ways. 1040

(both enter Simo's house)