

“Creative Project”

In Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, one of the main plots of the story dealt with money and revenge and how it structured the lifestyle of the characters. The idea of economics and usury is essentially what paved the path for the rivalry between Antonio and Shylock. Since the importance of Antonio's ships played such a crucial role in structuring the theme of the play, I thought it would be necessary to bring that scene to life and illustrate it on paper.

Therefore, Act III was the primary scene where we visualize the pressure that Antonio and Bassanio undergo as they wait for the ships arrival. Rumors have fled that the ships have been lost, and to make it certain, Jessica and Lorenzo have arrived with a letter stating the status of Antonio's ships. Both Antonio and Bassanio are mortified by the news as they eagerly wait near the dock for further answers.

Shylock is portrayed in this scene as a money-hungry usurer waiting for any indication of his 3,000 ducats. As Shylock waits for the news of Antonio's ships, he anticipates the flesh of Antonio as bond. Because Shylock is such an important and ambiguous part of the play, I showed his character in this picture as one that is both mysterious and villainous towards Antonio and Bassanio as he awaits the news of his money. However, I also wanted the audience to picture Shylock as a man who demands justice and holds his actions lawful.