

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Pl.+Epid.+1>

THESPRIO

What matters it to me in what way you come to your end?

EPIDICUS

Because I don't wish to perish alone; I'd like you to perish with me, well-wisher with well-wisher.

THESPRIO

tearing himself away from EPIDICUS. Away with you from me to utter and extreme perdition with those terms of yours!

EPIDICUS

Be off, then, if you are in great haste about anything.

THESPRIO

aside . I never met with any person from whom I parted with greater pleasure. *Goes into the house of CHÆRIBULUS.*

EPIDICUS

to himself .

He's gone away from here; you are now alone. In what plight this matter is, you now see, Epidicus. Unless you have some resources in your own self, you are done for. Ruination so great is impending over you--unless you support yourself stoutly, you cannot hold up; to such a degree are mountains of misfortune threatening to tumble on you. Neither does any plan just now please me by means of which to find myself disengaged from my entanglement. To my misfortune, by my trickeries I have forced the old man to imagine that he was making purchase of his own daughter; whereas he has bought for his own son a music-girl whom he was fond of, and whom on his departure he commissioned me about. He now, to please his fancy, has brought another one from the army. I've lost my hide, for when the old man finds out that he has been played tricks with, he'll be flaying my back with twigs. But still, do you take all precautions. *He stands still and thinks.* That's of no use! clearly this head of mine is addled! You are a worthless fellow, Epidicus. *In another tone.* What pleasure have you in being abusive? Because you are forsaking yourself. What am I to do? Do you ask me the question? Why you yourself, in former days, were wont to lend advice to others. Well, well; something must be found out. But why delay to go meet the young man, that I may know how the matter stands? And here he is himself. He is in a grave mood. He's coming with Chæribulus, his year's-mate. I'll step aside here, whence at my leisure I'll follow their discourse.

He steps aside.