

52 Shakespearean Phrases

If you cannot understand my argument and declare it's Greek to me,
you are quoting Shakespeare.

If you claim to be more sinned against than sinning,
you are quoting Shakespeare.

If you acted more in sorrow than in anger,
even though your property has vanished into thin air,
or if you suffer from green-eyed jealousy, you are quoting Shakespeare.

If you have been a tower of strength, and refused to budge an inch;
knitted your brows, and insisted on fair play;
made virtue of necessity, stood on ceremony,
danced attendance on your lord and master;
had short shrift, cold comfort or slept not one wink,
you are quoting Shakespeare.

Even if you've played fast and loose, been hoodwinked, or in a pickle,
had too much of a good thing, or laughed yourself into stitches,
you are quoting Shakespeare.

If you know that it is high time, and that that is the long and the short of it;
if you believe, to give the devil his due, the game is up, and truth will out,
even if it involves your own flesh and blood;

if you've seen better days, while living in a fool's paradise,
or had to lie low till the crack of doom, because you suspected foul play,
well then it's a foregone conclusion, that if the truth were known,
that not being tongue-tied, but rather having a tongue in your head,
you are quoting Shakespeare.

Even if without rhyme or reason you bid me good riddance and send me packing;
if you wish I were dead as a doornail,
if you think I am an eyesore, a laughing stock, the devil incarnate,
a stony-hearted villain, bloody-minded, or a blinking idiot,
well then, by Jove, O lord, tut tut, for goodness sake, but me no buts, it is all one to me,
you are quoting Shakespeare.