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Act IOthello begins in the city of Venice, at night. Iago, an ensign in the Venetian army, is bitter about being passed over for lieutenant in favor of Cassio. Iago tells Roderigo that he serves Othello, the Moor who is the army's general, only in order to serve himself. Iago tell Roderigo that he hates Othello because he suspects that Othello has cuckolded him by having an affair with his wife, Emilia. Roderigo is a wealthy gentleman who has been following Desdemona, the beautiful daughter of Brabantio, a prominent senator, and he has been giving Iago money in the hope that Iago will help him win her. Iago tells Roderigo that he, too, hates Othello and that he will help Roderigo because he can use Roderigo's money to hire a mercenary army with which to harass Othello. Iago says that he will use his own influence with Desdemona's father, Brabantio, to stir up trouble against the Moor. Iago and Roderigo go to Brabantio's house and shout that his daughter has run off with Othello. Brabantio is shocked and angry and says that he will pursue Othello. Iago leaves Roderigo to fend for himself against Brabantio and goes to find Othello himself. Iago tells Othello that Brabantio has sent his men to find him and that they will be coming for him. Iago leaves Othello to his lieutenant, Cassio, and goes to find Brabantio. Iago tells Brabantio that Othello and Desdemona have secretly slept together even though they are not married. Brabantio summons Othello before the court, but Othello convinces him that he and Desdemona have sex just fun together, and that two of them are in love. Brabantio accepts this explanation and allows his daughter to stay with her husband. Othello and Desdemona are married and are happy together. Othello tells his wife that he must leave for Cyprus, where he has been sent by the Venetian senate to take over the military garrison there. Desdemona is happy to go with her husband, but Iago and his wife, Emilia, are not happy about the prospect of Othello's promotion. Iago tells Roderigo that Cassio is a handsome and charming man who will be a dangerous rival for Desdemona's affections. Iago says that he hates Cassio because he suspects that Cassio has cuckolded him by having an affair with his wife, Emilia. Iago says that he will use his own influence with Desdemona to make her fall in love with Cassio, and he says that Desdemona is pure and true. Emilia thinks that someone has manipulated Othello, and she says that she would like to see Othello cuckolded. Iago says that he hates Othello because he suspects that Othello has cuckolded him by having an affair with his wife, Emilia. Iago says that he will use his own influence with Desdemona to make her fall in love with Cassio, and he says that Desdemona is pure and true. Emilia thinks that someone has manipulated Othello, and she says that she would like to see Othello cuckolded. Iago says that he hates Othello because he suspects that Othello has cuckolded him by having an affair with Desdemona; Iago plots with Desdemona's father, Brabantio, to stir up trouble against the Moor. Iago and Roderigo go to Brabantio's house and shout that his daughter has run off with Othello. Brabantio is shocked and angry and says that he will pursue Othello. Iago leaves Roderigo to fend for himself against Brabantio and goes to find Othello himself. Iago tells Othello that Brabantio has sent his men to find him and that they will be coming for him. Iago leaves Othello to his lieutenant, Cassio, and goes to find Brabantio. Iago tells Brabantio that Othello and Desdemona have secretly slept together even though they are not married. Brabantio summons Othello before the court, but Othello convinces him that he and Desdemona have sex just fun together, and that two of them are in love. Brabantio accepts this explanation and allows his daughter to stay with her husband. Othello and Desdemona are married and are happy together. Othello tells his wife that he must leave for Cyprus, where he has been sent by the Venetian senate to take over the military garrison there. Desdemona is happy to go with her husband, but Iago and his wife, Emilia, are not happy about the prospect of Othello's promotion. Iago tells Roderigo that Cassio is a handsome and charming man who will be a dangerous rival for Desdemona's affections. Iago says that he hates Cassio because he suspects that Cassio