



Asses are made to bear, and so are you

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Katherina:

"Asses are made to bear, and so are you"

[Taming of the Shrew \(II, i, 200\)](#)

In this scene, Petruchio and Katharina meet for the first time. He has come to Padua to find rich wife, but Katharina, while wealthy and beautiful, has a sharp tongue and a quick wit, scaring off most suitors. Petruchio finds her shrewish ways seductive, and he wants to marry her more than ever once he learns that she's cracked a lute over the head of a friend of his. Here they exchange lively banter, meeting each other word for word, witty comment for witty comment. Petruchio has just asked Kate (which he insists on calling her) to come sit on his lap. She responds with the remark about asses being made to bear, and he banters back, "Women are made to bear, and so are you." Thus, the battle of the sexes begins.

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