

The white devil – BRIEF SUMMARY

- Lodovico gets told by his friends Gasparo and Antonelli that he is banished from Rome.
- He complains that Duke of Brachiano has not suffered similar punishment.
- Despite being married to Isabella, Brachiano wants to seduce Camillo's wife, Vittoria. He uses the help of Vittoria's social-climber brother, Flamineo and her servant Zanche.
- When he meets her Vittoria tells Brachiano of a dream she had where her husband, Camillo, and Brachiano's wife Isabella tried to kill her. *Brachiano promises to protect her.*
- Vittoria's mother, Cornelia, comes out of the shadows and accuses them of adultery.
- Francisco, Isabella's brother, and Monticelso, Camillo's (Vittoria's husband) uncle are not happy with Brachiano and Vittoria's relationship. Despite her husband's infidelities, Isabella pleads with Francisco to be kind to Brachiano. She leaves and Francisco recruits Monticelso to chastise Brachiano for his infidelities.
- Isabella then approaches Brachiano, they quarrel and Brachiano cruelly divorces her. She returns to Padua.
- Meanwhile Flamineo (Vittoria's brother) and Brachiano plot with Doctor Julio on how best to murder Isabella and Camillo. They send Julio to poison Isabella and Flamineo plans to take care of Camillo's death personally.
- Meanwhile, Francisco and Monticelso sent off Camillo to capture Lodovico, who has become a pirate, with the help of Marcello, Vittoria and Flamineo's brother. They sent him off so they may secretly observe Brachiano's and Vittoria's behaviour while he is away.
- Lodovico goes to Pauda to ask Isabella, whom he loves, to secure his pardon
- Later, Brachiano meets a conjurer and asks him to reveal the particulars of the two planned murders. The conjurer draws up silent shows of the events; Julio poison the lips of a painting of Brachiano which Isabella kisses and dies and Flamineo breaks Camillo's neck and makes it look like a gymnastics accident. Brachiano is pleased with the shows and leaves.
- Monticelso and Francisco have Vittoria arrested for her Husband's murder.
- She is publically disgraced and sent, with her maid Zanche, to "a house of penitent whores".
- Brachiano returns to make friends with Francisco.
- Giovanni (Brachiano and Isabella's son) returns and tells everyone of Isabella's death.
- Lodovico finds out that his banishment has been lifted.
- Flamineo hits Lodovico for calling Vittoria a whore and they both argue.
- Francisco (Isabella's brother) and Monticelso discuss avenging Isabella's death.
- Francisco borrows Monticelso's 'black book' of criminals to look for a hitman.
- Isabella's ghost appears to him, but he dismisses it.

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- Francisco continues to write a fake love letter to Vittoria in order to make Brachiano angry. He orders his servant to send it.
- Flamineo and Brachiano visit Vittoria. Brachiano receives Francisco's poem and accuses Vittoria of infidelity. He wants to break off his relationship with her. However, when he sees her sobbing he has a change of heart, believes her, and inspired by the letter, he decides he is going to rescue her and take her away with him to Padua and marry her.
- Later on Francisco learns that Vittoria has fled with Brachiano, Flamineo and Giovanni.
- Monticelso is elected Pope.
- Francisco reminds Lodovico that he promised to murder Brachiano.
- After Francisco leaves Monticelso is curious and asks Lodovico why Francisco pushed for his pardon.
- Lodovico reveals that plan and says that he loved Isabella and has sworn to avenge her murder.
- Monticelso tells Lodovico he will be damned eternally and Lodovico decides not to continue. However, Francisco then sends a servant to him with 1000 ducats pretending they are from the pope and so he changes his mind again and continues.
- Vittoria and Brachiano are married.
- However, Francisco, Lodovico and Gasparo have disguised themselves as Moors and joined Brachiano's court. They plan to poison him. Cornelia (Vittoria's mother) and Marcello (Camillo uncle) are also at court and object to Zanche's relationship with Flamineo. They attack her.
- Angered by this, Flamineo challenges his brother, Marcello, to a duel. Flamineo kills him.
- Meanwhile Lodovico poisons the mouthpiece of Brachiano's helmet. He starts to die and is then strangled by the disguised monks after they reveal their true identity and confront him with his sins.
- Zanche then is in love with the supposed Moor (really Francisco) and admits to him how Isabella and Camillo died, as well as that she and Vittoria are running away that night.
- Giovanni overhears Flamineo insulting him and so banishes him.
- Brachiano's ghost appears to him and Flamineo decides to kill his sister.
- Lodovico tells Francisco he should leave the city now otherwise he won't carry out Vittoria's murder.
- One of Brachiano's officers hears them and alerts Giovanni and the armies.
- Flamineo finds Vittoria and demands to know how he'll repay him.
- Flamineo reveals that Brachiano made him promise to kill Vittoria if he ever died.
- They agree to a three-way suicide pact, with Flamineo dying first.
- Vittoria and Zanche try to trick Flamineo by shooting him first, but once they pull the trigger they realise there are no bullets.

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- He then tries to kill both of them but Lodovico and Gasparo barge in and stab Flamineo, Vittoria and Zanche.
- Giovanni and his guards come and shoot at Lodovico and Gasparo. Lodovico says they were hired by Francisco.
- Giovanni orders the removal of the bodies.