

## **Ordo Draconis**

### **"Mock Trial"**

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[Lucifer:]

"I will ascend into Heaven,  
I, the son of the dawn.  
I will exalt my throne  
Above the stars of God.  
I will sit also upon the mount of congregation,  
In the sides of the north:  
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds:  
I will be like the Most High.

[Gabriel:]

How are you fallen from Heaven,  
Lucifer, son of dawn?"  
[Isaiah 14: 12-22]

[Michael:]

How come most sudden venom runs wildly in the  
blood?  
With hollow heart would you spill...

[Lucifer:]

Blood which is my own?  
Speak no more of blood to me, whose blood-money is  
thicker.  
This heavy heart's anatomy...

[Michael:] What can be got from a stone?

[The Angelic Choir:]

The morningstar rivals the mounting sun but,  
Ere the zenith's touched, searing spears sweep away  
his cries.

[Beliar:]

Marshal, don't pause. Can't you hear how your ambition  
Churns their blood and fuels their sputtering hearts.  
Can't you hear how your winged words take off,  
Rocketing from their raucous gullets.  
The new poltergeist of Time has wound up your tin  
soldiers,  
And now they wait for your adept command.  
With no added water, but the salt of tears,

Distil our grief into a charge of gunpowder.  
Zero in, keen marksman, the missile of our grievance  
And sure the warhead will speak the truth.

[Lucifer:]  
March - with me beyond the marches.  
Fall - into line - rank on rank.  
Forwards - to uncharted ground,  
Justice - is on the march.

[Chorus:] March!

[Lucifer:] Charge!

[Beliar:]  
Projected on your bloodshot eyes,  
A screen burning with eyestrain,  
A lurid nightmare reels inside  
The camera obscura.

[Lucifer:]  
It is not to hide I'm in a smokescreen  
But to record over doubts made flesh as ghosts.  
Stung by smoke and tears, the occipital lobe  
Registers the actual frontline.

[Beliar:]  
Your worst doubt to date is here in the flesh,  
Itself without doubt and callous.  
Kill it off and triumph, or else embrace  
Your sorry defeat.

[Lucifer:] Your bribe will yield but innocence

[Michael:]  
While you have been found wanting.  
With heavy heart I'm here to spill...

[Lucifer:]  
Blood which is your own?  
Speak no more of blood to me, whose blood-money is  
thicker.

[Michael:] This heavy heart's anatomy...

[Lucifer:] What can be got from a stone?

[The Crown Court]

[Gabriel & Prosecution:]... the truth, the whole truth and  
nothing but the truth?

[Lucifer:] As Heaven is my witness, for truth it is we rise.

[Gabriel & Prosecution:] On the indictments, how does the defendant plead?

[Lucifer:] Not guilty of rising, but proud to have risen above guilt.

[Gabriel & Prosecution:] You can refute the wealth of incriminating evidence?

[Lucifer:]

Elsewhere our busy minds were forging our alibis.  
Justice is blind or squints through your specs,  
Wearing truth's stiff wig and coif,  
But when truth wears my face,  
Please frame it's mug-shot for me.

[Prosecution:]

Like when your conceit blared out afar,  
Your voice ebbs as echoes in deep mines of space;  
Your mockery whirls on the brink of brash perjury.  
Please no more gibes or we'll add contempt of court.

[Pathologist:] A body's unearthed, it's face maimed beyond recognition.

[Lucifer:] Don't fear, since I can identify the body. It's truth.

[Gabriel & Prosecution:] Forensic research established the corpus delicti.

[Lucifer:]

How humble the fingerprints signed to the work  
Of him who set free the phoenix from it's cage.

[Gabriel & Prosecution:] Truth is not safe in amorphous, free chaos.

[Beliar:]

Objection, your honour. I ask for reprieve.  
Not his rising but his doubts gave rise to his sorry defeat.  
With strings tweaked on two sides by sensory forceps,  
The wavering nerve centre burnt.  
He's privy to your minds and truth, but knowledge is not power.

[Michael (Chief Witness for the Crown):]

Then why didn't his defeat give rise to doubts?  
I saw none, when I met his dry eyes  
And with the blade of truth overcame untruth.

[Gabriel & Prosecution:] Objection overruled. Is there

anything left to be said in your defence?

[Lucifer:]

"Hoe magh het Godt van 't hart, dat hy zoo laegh, zoo  
diep  
Vnedert dien hy tot den grootsten scepter schiep?  
Een edelmoedigheid, geheilicht tot regeeren,  
Voor eenen minder zich zoo zwaerlyck kan verne<sup>ā</sup>ren,  
Van heerlyckheid ontkle<sup>ā</sup>n, en opstaen uit haer' staat,  
En stoel, dat zy vervloect den glans en dageraet  
Van haren opgangk, ja veel liever had gebleven  
Een schaduw, zonder verf, een niet, en zonder leven  
Want niet zyn, overtreft verkleening duizentwerf"  
[Joost van den Vondel's Lucifer, Act 4]

[Gabriel:]

On the counts of dissension, public violence  
And contempt pending the court procedure,  
We, the jury, find the accused party guilty.  
As they have forfeit their civil rights,  
Their profiles shall be deleted from the celestial  
registers.  
In lieu of disciplined rehabilitation,  
We sentence them to a state of eternal expulsion.

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