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Metal-Free, Acid/Phosphine-Induced Regioselective Thiolation of *p*-Quinone Methides with Sodium Aryl/Alkyl Sulfinates

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thiolation of p-quinone methides with sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates has been established using an acid/phosphine-induced radical route under transition-metal-free conditions. A broad range of sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates and p-quinone methides (p-QMs) are compatible for the reaction, giving the expected products with good to excellent yields. Control experiments were also performed

 Aryl/alkyl thiyl radical generated *in-situ* High functional group tolerance
 Chag CN/H₂O, N₂, 80 °C, 3 h R = Me, *i*-Pr, *t*-Bu; Transition-metal free
 Cheap, odorless

to gain insights into the generation mechanism of thiyl radicals and hydrogen-atom transfer process. This protocol provides a safe and feasible way for the formation of carbon-sulfur bonds.

INTRODUCTION

Owing to the unique antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, and antimycobacterial activities, construction of the C–S bonds for the synthesis and applications of diarylmethyl thioethers is of great interest in organic synthesis, materials science, as well as in the pharmaceutical industry (Scheme 1).^{1,2} The welldocumented C–S bond-forming methods for the synthesis of thioethers generally employed nucleophilic substitution of aryl/alkyl halides with RS groups.³ In addition, introduction of S–H bonds into an unsaturated carbon–carbon bond is also an effective route to construct C–S bonds.⁴ However, most of these protocols suffer from defects including the adoption of smell/air-sensitive thiols, transition-metal catalysts, oxidants (for the generation of thiyl radicals), and toxic organic solvents.

Due to the unique bisvinylogous enone structure, p-quinone methides (p-QMs) are considered as electron-deficient alkenes, which have been widely employed in organic synthesis, especially in the 1,6-conjugated addition and intermolecular cyclization transformation.5-8 Fan et al. established a novel and efficient catalytic asymmetric 1,6conjugate addition/aromatization of p-QMs with malonates, oxindoles, and glycine derivatives via the catalysis of small organic chiral amines.9 In 2014, Jørgensen et al. disclosed a chiral secondary amine catalyzed asymmetric α -alkylation of aldehydes through the 1,6-conjugated addition of enamines with *p*-QMs, where a series of α -diarylmethyl-substituted aldehydes with two contiguous stereocenters was synthesized with good yields and excellent enantioselectivity.¹⁰ In addition, enantioselective 1,6-boration of p-QMs was achieved by Liao et al. through the catalysis of copper chloride and a chiral (2-(tert-butylsulfinyl)aryl) diisopropylphosphine ligand.¹¹ In the presence of a chiral phosphoric acid, Li et al. discovered an efficient protocol for the asymmetric 1,6-conjugate addition of thioacetic acid to p-QMs.¹² Very recently, the Lewis-acid- and

Bronsted-acid-catalyzed selective 1,6-conjugated addition of S–H bonds to *p*-QMs were realized by Anand et al. and Lu et al. under ambient temperature.¹³

Thiyl radicals, which are at the center of some extremely efficient radical reactions for the synthesis of thioethers, have also attracted the interest of organic chemists.¹⁴ Compared with the toxic and smelly thiophenol, sodium arylsulfinates are a kind of odorless, stable, and easy-to-handle thiolation agent, which are undoubtedly considered as safer and more environmentally friendly reagents in organic synthesis. In 2017, Xu and Su et al. established an efficient protocol for the formation of C-S bonds via a byproduct-promoted threecomponent coupling of alcohols with organic halides and thiourea.¹⁵ In addition, a novel and convenient method was found by Lu and Yi et al. for the synthesis of alkyl/alkenyl sulfides and phosphonothioates from sodium arylsulfinates and alkynes, alkenes, and H-phosphine oxides in aqueous systems.¹⁶ It should be noted that the aryl thiyl radicals were generated in situ for the reaction. Although some elegant studies on the selective thiolation of carbon-carbon double bonds were achieved by these scientists, the use of *p*-QMs and sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates as starting materials has not been reported. Herein, we demonstrate a simple and efficient method for the regioselective thiolation of *p*-QMs with sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates by employing an acid/phosphine-induced radical route under transition-metal-free conditions (Scheme 2).

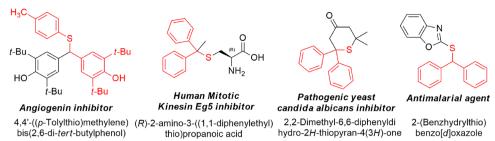
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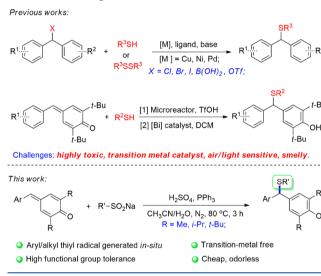


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Scheme 1. Important Diarylmethyl Thioethers



Scheme 2. Methods for the Synthesis of Diaryl Methyl Thioethers from *p*-QMs



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the first stage of our study, we attempted to use PPh₃ and acid as the activation reagent for reduction of the S=O bond for generation of the aryl thiyl radical followed by attack on the C=C bond of p-OMs to realize the regioselective thiolation reaction. To test our initial hypothesis, the reaction of 4benzylidene-2,6-di-tert-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a) and sodium benzenesulfinate (2a) was investigated to delineate the reaction parameters. The reaction of 1a with 2a was performed at 80 °C in H₂O under a N₂ atmosphere with the addition of triphenylphosphine and sulfuric acid, and the corresponding thiolation product of 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (3a) was generated in 65% yield (Table 1, entry 1). To our delight, the mixed solvent system of 1,4-dioxane and H_2O (1.0 mL, v:v = 1:1) could afford the desired product 3a in 82% yield (Table 1, entry 2). Besides 1,4-dioxane, other water-mixed-solvent systems, such as EA/H₂O, CH₂Cl₂/H₂O, DMF/H₂O, THF/ H₂O, toluene/H₂O, DMSO/H₂O, and CH₃CN/H₂O, were further investigated (Table 1, entries 3–9), and CH₃CN/H₂O gave the product in a preferable yield of 88%. The amounts of H₂SO₄ and PPh₃ used have significant influences on the reaction. When we increased the amount of PPh₃ to 2.2 equiv, 3a could be generated in 99% yield. With the decrease of the use of PPh3 or sulfuric acid, the yield of 3a was decreased sharply (Table 1, entries 10-13). In addition, it is worth noting that the reaction would not produce any products only in the presence of PPh₃ or sulfuric acid (Table 1, entries 14 and 15). In addition, we further screened other acids such as CF₃COOH, HCl, TsOH, CH₃COOH, H₃PO₄, and salicylic

acid for the reaction (Table 1, entries 16–21). It is apparent that H_2SO_4 emerges as the best choice. Various reducing agents such as $(EtO)_2P(O)H$, Zn powder, and Mn powder were also investigated (Table 1, entries 7 and 22–24). It is worth noting that only PPh₃ showed positive results for reduction of S=O bonds. When the reaction was operated at 60 °C, the desired product was only generated in 87% yield, but by further increasing the temperature from 80 to 100 °C, there are no obvious effects on the reaction (Table 1, entries 25 and 26). Thus, the optimal reaction conditions are as follows: CH₃CN/H₂O (1.0 mL, v:v = 1:1), PPh₃ (2.2 equiv), H₂SO₄ (2.0 equiv), N₂, 80 °C, 3 h.

As shown in Table 2, the acid/phosphine-induced regioselective thiolation of p-quinone methides with sodium benzenesulfinate leading to 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(aryl-(phenylthio)methyl)phenols can be applied to different kinds of p-QMs. It is clear that 4-benzylidene-2,6-di-tert-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a), 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(4methylbenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1b), 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-(4-ethylbenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1c), and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(4-(tert-butyl)benzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1d) can react efficiently with sodium benzenesulfinate (2a) under the optimized reaction conditions, affording the corresponding thiolation products of 3a-3d in 80-95% isolated yields. In addition, when 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(4isopropoxybenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1e), 4-(4-(benzyloxy)benzylidene)-2,6-di-tert-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1f), 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(3-methoxybenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1g), and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(2,5dimethoxybenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1h) were employed as the substrates for the reaction, the desired thiolation products were obtained in 78-89% yields. To our surprise, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-((4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (3i) and 4-((3,5-di-tert-butyl-4hydroxyphenyl) (phenylthio)methyl) benzaldehyde (3j) were synthesized with 75% and 92% yields through the 1,6conjugate addition reaction of 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1i) and 4-((3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-oxocyclohexa-2,5-dien-1ylidene)methyl)benzaldehyde (1j) with 2a, where the hydroxyl and aldehyde substituents remained after the reaction without protection. Furthermore, various kinds of p-QMs containing electronwithdrawing groups (e.g., bromo, fluoro, cynao, and nitro, 1k-1p) on the aryl ring also exhibit high reactivities toward the thiolation/1,6-conjugate addition process, affording the corresponding products in 85-96% yields. For most cases, electrondonating or electron-withdrawing groups which are located on the aryl ring of *p*-QMs do not change the yields of the products significantly. It is worth noting that 3q and 3r could be synthesized from 4-benzylidene-2,6-dimethylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1q) and 4-benzylidene-2,6-diisopropylcyclohexa-2,5-

Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions^a

	t-Bu t-Bu	+ SO ₂ Na acid, additive solvent, N ₂ , 3 h	HO t-Bu Sph	
entry	1a solvent	2a reductant	3a ^Þ h acid	yield ^b
1	H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H_2SO_4	65%
2	1,4-dioxane/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H ₂ SO ₄	82%
3	EA/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H ₂ SO ₄	78%
4	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H ₂ SO ₄	40%
5	DMF/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H ₂ SO ₄	64%
6	THF/H ₂ O	PPh_{3} (2.0)	H_2SO_4	86%
7	toluene/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H_2SO_4	61%
8	DMSO/H ₂ O	PPh_{3} (2.0)	H_2SO_4	76%
9	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.0)	H_2SO_4	88%
10	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	$PPh_{3}(2.2)$	H ₂ SO ₄	99 %
11	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (1.0)	H_2SO_4	47%
12	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	H_2SO_4	73% ^c
13	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	H_2SO_4	56% ^d
14	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)		0%
15	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O		H_2SO_4	0%
16	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	CF ₃ COOH	70%
17	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	HCl	80%
18	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	TsOH	25%
19	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	CH ₃ COOH	54%
20	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_{3} (2.2)	H ₃ PO ₄	91%
21	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_{3} (2.2)	salicylic acid	82%
22	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	$(EtO)_2 P(O)H$ (2.2)	H_2SO_4	22%
23	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	Zn (2.2)	H_2SO_4	trace
24	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	Mn (2.2)	H_2SO_4	trace
25	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh_3 (2.2)	H_2SO_4	87% ^e
26	CH ₃ CN/H ₂ O	PPh ₃ (2.2)	H ₂ SO ₄	99% ^f

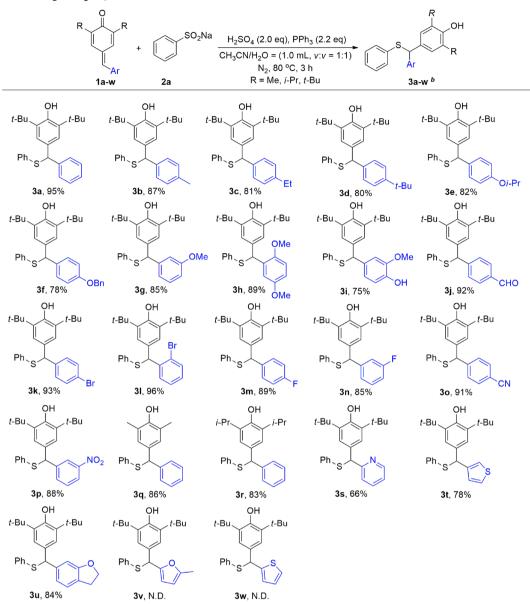
^{*a*}Reactions were carried out with 4-benzylidene-2,6-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a, 0.2 mmol), sodium benzenesulfinate (2a, 1.2 equiv), reductant (*x* eq), and acid (2.0 equiv) in solvent (1.0 mL; for the mixed solvent system, v:v = 1:1), under a N₂ atmosphere stirred for 3 h at 80 °C. ^{*b*}Yield was determined by GC analysis using dodecane as the internal standard. ^{*c*}H₂SO₄ (1.0 equiv). ^{*d*}H₂SO₄ (0.5 equiv). ^{*e*}60 °C. ^{*f*}100 °C.

dienone (1r) with 2a in 86% and 83% yields under the present reaction conditions, respectively. Interestingly, when 2,6-ditert-butyl-4-(pyridin-2-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1s), 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(thiophen-3-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1t), and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-((2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-yl)methylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1u) were used as the substrates for the reaction, the corresponding thiolation products of 3s-3u could be generated in 66-84% yields. However, the ortho-heteroatom-substituted heterocyclic p-QMs such as 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-((5-methylfuran-2-yl)methylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1v) and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1w) showed negative results toward the reaction, and this phenomenon may be ascribed to the fact that the O and S atoms in the ortho-heterocyclic ring could interrupt the reduction path of sodium benzenesulfinate in the reaction.

As depicted in Table 3, a range of substituted sodium aryl/ alkyl sulfinates (2b-2m) were screened under the optimized reaction conditions with 1a. It is clear that sodium aryl sulfinates bearing electron-donating groups such as sodium 4methylbenzenesulfinate (2b) and sodium 4-methoxybenzenesulfinate (2c) exhibit high reactivity toward 4-benzylidene-2,6di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a), affording the expected thiolation products of 4a and 4b in 85% and 80% yields, respectively. In addition, the electron-withdrawing groups substituted in the aryl ring of sodium arylsulfinates, such as sodium 4-chlorobenzenesulfinate (2d), sodium 4-bromobenzenesulfinate (2e), and sodium 2-fluorobenzenesulfinate (2f), also showed satisfactory results, giving the desired thiolation products of 4c-4e with 86-91% yields. When sodium thiophene-2-sulfinate (2g) and sodium naphthalene-2-sulfinate (2h) were employed, the corresponding products of 2,6-di-*tert*butyl-4-(phenyl(thiophen-2-ylthio)methyl)phenol (4f) and 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-((naphthalen-2-ylthio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4g) could be synthesized in 83% and 86% yields. Notably, different kinds of sodium alkyl sulfinates such as sodium phenylmethanesulfinate (2i), sodium furan-2-ylmethanesulfinate (2j), sodium methanesulfinate (2k), sodium propane-1-sulfinate (2l), and sodium 2-methylpropane-2sulfinate (2m) are also appropriate for this transformation to afford the thiolation products of 4h-4l in moderate to good yields.

To our surprise, when sodium benzo[d]oxazole-2-sulfinate (2n) was used as the thiolation reagent for this transformation, 3-((3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl)benzo-[d]oxazole-2(3H)-thione (4m) was generated in 89% yield as the rearrangement/1,6-conjugated addition product for the reaction. It is deduced that the <math>benzo[d]oxazole-2-thione radical is much more stable than the benzo[d]oxazole-2-thiol radical, which was formed in situ through intramolecular rearrangement of the benzo[d]oxazole-2-thiol radical during

Table 2. Substrate Scope of p-QMs^a



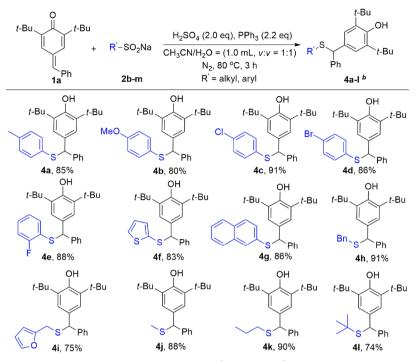
^aReaction conditions: sodium benzenesulfinate (0.24 mmol), *p*-QMs compound (0.2 mmol), PPh₃ (0.44 mmol), H₂SO₄ (0.4 mmol), CH₃CN/H₂O (1.0 mL, v:v = 1:1), N₂, 80 °C, 3 h. ^bIsolated yields.

the reaction, thus leading to the synthesis of an amination product (Scheme 3, Figure 1).

In order to demonstrate the practical application of this protocol, we conducted a large-scale reaction of 4-benzylidene-2,6-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a, 10 mmol) with sodium benzenesulfinate (2a, 12 mmol) and generated 3a in 83% yield (3.35 g, Scheme 4). In addition, a series of control experiments was performed under the optimized reaction conditions (Scheme 5). When the reaction was conducted with the addition of a radical scavenger 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine *N*-oxyl (TEMPO), there were only trace amounts of 3a detected after the reaction (Scheme 5, eqs 1 and 2). This result proves that a phenyl thiyl radical may be produced during the reaction. When acetonitrile- d_3 and D₂O were employed as a mixed solvent for the reaction, 3a was generated in 94% yield and there was no deuterization signal found for 3a. It is deduced that the hydrogen atom for the thiolation/1,6-

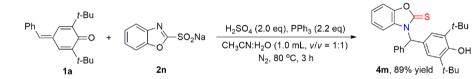
conjugate product was derived from H₂SO₄. On the basis of this result, we further performed a kinetic isotope effect (KIE) experiment between H₂SO₄ and D₂SO₄ for this reaction. A KIE ($k_{\rm H}/k_{\rm D}$) constant was determined as 3.0 (Scheme 5, eqs 3 and 4). When benzenesulfinic acid (5) was adopted as the substrate to react with *p*-QMs, the corresponding 1,6-conjugate adduct of 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-(phenyl-(phenylsulfonyl)methyl)phenol (6) was generated in 96% yield. In the presence of sulfuric acid and PPh₃, the S==O bonds in 6 could be reduced efficiently to afford **3a** in 38% (80 °C, 3 h) and 71% (100 °C, 3 h) yields, respectively (Scheme 5, eqs 5 and 6).

According to the above results, a plausible mechanism for the regioselective thiolation of *p*-QMs compound with sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates is proposed in Scheme 6. The present reaction might involve two possible paths. In the presence of sulfuric acid and PPh₃, the corresponding thiyl radical (**D**) Table 3. Substrate Scope of Sodium Aryl/Alkyl Sulfinates⁴



^{*a*}Reaction conditions: 4-benzylidene-2,6-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1a, 0.2 mmol), sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinate (2, 0.24 mmol), PPh₃ (0.44 mmol), H₂SO₄ (0.4 mmol), CH₃CN/H₂O (1.0 mL, v:v = 1:1), N₂, 80 °C, 3 h. ^{*b*}Isolated yields.

Scheme 3. Rearrangement/1,6-Conjugated Addition of Sodium Benzo[d]oxazole-2-sulfinate to 2a



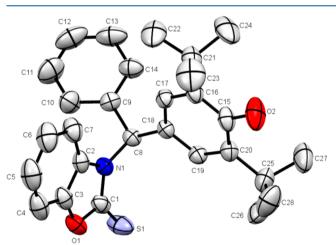


Figure 1. ORTEP drawing of compound **4m**.¹⁸ Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity; ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Selected bond lengths [Angstroms] and angles [degrees]: N1–C1 1.360(3), N1–C2 1.416(3), N1–C8 1.478(3), C1–S1 1.646(2), C1–O1 1.371(3), C15–O2 1.382(3); C9–C8–C18 116.4(2), N1–C8–C18 109.5(2), C8–N1–C1 123.1(2), C8–N1–C2 127.5(2), N1–C1–S1 108.3(2), O1–C1–S1 122.2(2), N1–C1–O1 108.3(2).

could be formed through the acidification and reduction of sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinate (A). Then the thiyl radical (D) proceeds through radical addition at the olefinic moiety of p-

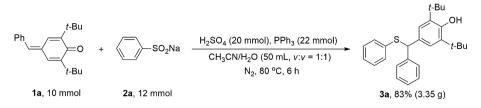
QMs with generation of the intermediate radical E. Through the assistance of an acid, E could undergo the hydrogen-atom transfer process to yield the final 1,6-conjugated adduct (Path 1). On the other hand, the 1,6-conjugate addition products of F and G could be synthesized first through the reaction of benzenesulfinic acid (B) and phenylsulfanol (C) with *p*-QMs. In the presence of sulfuric acid and PPh₃, the final product can be formed correspondingly through selective reduction of the S==O bonds. Triphenylphosphine oxide was generated as the byproduct for the reaction (Path 2). According to the control experiment results in Scheme 4 (eqs 5 and 6), it is deduced that Path 1 might be the fast step for the reaction.

CONCLUSIONS

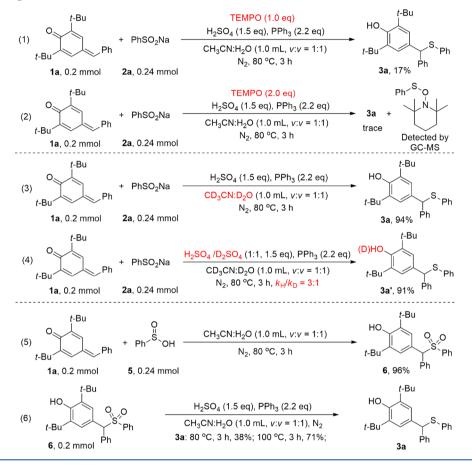
In summary, we developed a convenient and highly efficient method for the synthesis of diaryl methyl thioethers through the 1,6-conjugate addition of sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates with p-QMs. The approach avoids the use of highly toxic thiophenols and transition metals, and the reaction can be performed under mild conditions. Through the control experiments, this transformation might be achieved with two different paths. To the best of our knowledge, the regioselective thiolation of p-QMs with sodium aryl/alkyl sulfinates has not been exploited previously, and the salient features of this transformation include its broad substrate scope, absence of transition metals, and good regioselectivity.

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Scheme 4. Large-Scale Synthesis of 3a







This protocol also exhibits high potential for the construction of biologically active diarylmethyl thioethers.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Considerations. All solvents used in the reactions were freshly distilled. The other reagents were recrystallized or distilled as necessary. All reactions were performed under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen unless specified otherwise. ¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C{¹H} (100 MHz) spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz spectrometer in CDCl₃. ¹H NMR chemical shifts were reported using TMS as the internal standard, while ¹³C{¹H} NMR chemical shifts were reported relative to CDCl₃. The electron ionization method was used for HRMS measurements, and the mass analyzer type was double focusing.

General Procedure for the Preparation of *p*-Quinone Methides (*p*-QMs). According to the reported procedure,^{8f} 1.0



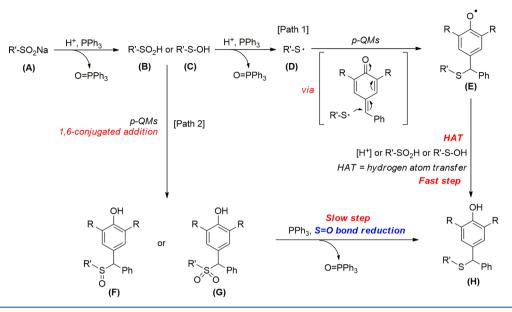
equiv of 2,6-di-*tert*-butylphenol and 1.0 equiv of aldehyde were dissolved in toluene (0.25 M) and the mixture was heated to 140 $^\circ$ C

in a Dean–Stark apparatus (oil bath). Piperidine (2.0 equiv) was added dropwise over 1 h, and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 6–12 h. After cooling just below the boiling point of the mixture, acetic anhydride (2.0 equiv) was added and stirring was continued for 15 min. Then the reaction mixture was poured into ice–water, extracted with DCM, and dried over Na₂SO₄, the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was dried in vacuo. Pure *p*-QMs product was obtained by passing the crude product through a short silica gel column using *n*-hexane as eluent. Some other substituents (e.g., -Cl, -OMe, -Ph) in substituted *p*-QMs failed to get the isolated products in the reactions of 2,6-dimethoxyphenol, 2,6-dichlorophenol, and 2,6-diphenylphenol with benzaldehyde.

General Procedure. A mixture of *p*-quinone methides (*p*-QMs) (0.2 mmol), RSO₂Na (0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), H_2SO_4 (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and PPh₃ (0.44 mmol, 2.2 equiv) were dissolved in CH₃CN/ H_2O (1.0 mL, v:v = 1:1) under a N₂ atmosphere stirred for 3.0 h at 80 °C in an oil bath. Upon completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated under vacuum. Removal of the solvent under a reduced pressure gave the crude product; pure product was obtained by passing the crude product through a short silica gel column using *n*-hexane/EtOAc (80:1–5:1) as eluent.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(pyridin-2-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1s). According to the general procedure, workup and flash

Scheme 6. Plausible Mechanism



column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product **2s** (2.2 g, 7.5 mmol, 75%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 8.72–8.74 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.39–7.41 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.23 (m, 1H), 6.95–6.98 (m, 2H), 1.34 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 186.7 (s), 155.2 (s), 150.1 (s), 149.8 (s), 148.5 (s), 138.3 (s), 136.5 (s), 135.5 (s), 134.5 (s), 129.2 (s), 127.2 (s), 35.6 (s), 35.1 (s), 29.7 (s), 29.6 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₀H₂₆NO [M + H]⁺, 296.2014; found, 296.2011.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(thiophen-3-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1t). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product 2t (2.4 g, 7.9 mmol, 79%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.65−7.66 (m, 1H), 7.52−7.53 (m, 1H), 7.42−7.44 (m, 1H), 7.31−7.32 (m, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 6.98−6.99 (m, 1H), 1.33 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 186.4 (s), 149.2 (s), 147.6 (s), 137.8 (s), 135.8 (s), 135.3 (s), 130.9 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.6 (s), 127.5 (s), 126.9 (s), 35.5 (s), 35.0 (s), 29.6 (s), 29.5 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₁₉H₂₅OS [M + H]⁺, 301.1626; found, 301.1625.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-yl)methylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1u). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product 2u (2.6 g, 7.6 mmol, 76%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.46–7.47 (m, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.18–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.90–6.91 (m, 1H), 6.76– 6.78 (m, 1H), 4.56 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.17 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 186.5 (s), 161.5 (s), 148.8 (s), 147.0 (s), 143.4 (s), 135.5 (s), 131.7 (s), 130.1 (s), 128.8 (s), 128.2 (s), 127.9 (s), 127.4 (s), 109.9 (s), 71.9 (s), 35.4 (s), 35.0 (s), 29.6 (s), 29.5 (s), 29.4 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₃H₂₉O₂ [M + H]⁺, 337.2168; found, 337.2166.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((5-methylfuran-2-yl)methylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1v). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product 2v (2.5 g, 8.4 mmol, 84%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 8.17–8.18 (m, 1H), 6.91–6.92 (m, 1H), 6.60–6.65 (m, 2H), 6.17–6.17 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.35 (d, *J* = 19.1 Hz, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 185.8 (s), 157.2 (s), 151.7 (s), 148.5 (s), 147.1 (s), 135.0 (s), 128.8 (s), 127.2 (s), 126.4 (s), 120.4 (s), 109.6 (s), 35.5 (s), 35.0 (s), 29.6 (s), 29.5 (s) 14.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₀H₂₇O₂ [M + H]⁺, 299.2011; found, 299.2007.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)cyclohexa-2,5-dienone (1w). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product 2w (2.3 g, 7.8 mmol, 78%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.86–7.87 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.10–7.12 (m, 1H), 6.95–6.96 (m, 1H), 1.35 (d, *J* = 19.1 Hz, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 186.2 (s), 149.3 (s), 147.4 (s), 139.3 (s), 135.3 (s), 134.2 (s), 134.0 (s), 131.2 (s), 129.0 (s), 127.9 (s), 127.0 (s), 35.7 (s), 35.0 (s), 29.6 (s), 29.5 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₁₉H₂₅OS [M + H]⁺, 301.1626; found, 301.1623.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(phenyl(thio)methyl)phenol (**3a**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product **3a** (76.8 mg, 0.19 mmol, 95%) as a yellow oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.45–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.11–7.17 (m, 5H), 5.45 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 1.37 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9 (s), 141.6 (s), 136.4 (s), 135.7 (s), 131.4 (s), 131.1 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.0 (s), 126.6 (s), 125.1 (s), 57.9 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((phenylthio)(p-tolyl)methyl)phenol (**3b**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product **3b** (72.8 mg, 0.174 mmol, 87%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.26-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.00-7.08 (m, 7H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9 (s), 138.6 (s), 136.6 (s), 135.6 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.0 (s), 129.2 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.2 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.1 (s), 57.7 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 21.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₅OS [M + H]⁺, 419.2409; found, 419.2405.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((phenylthio)(p-tolyl)ethyl)phenol (**3c**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product **3c** (70.0 mg, 0.162 mmol, 81%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.28–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.02–7.08 (m, 7H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 2.49–2.55 (m, 2H), 1.29 (s, 18H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.8 (s), 143.0 (s), 138.8 (s), 136.6 (s), 135.6 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.0 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.2 (s), 128.0 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.1 (s), 57.7 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 28.5 (s), 21.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₉H₃₇OS [M + H]⁺, 433.2565; found, 433.2560.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (3d). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 60:1) gave product 3d (73.6 mg, 0.16 mmol, 80%) as a colorless oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.37–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.17 (m, 5H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 1.37 (s, 18), 1.29 (s, 9H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.8 (s), 149.9 (s), 138.6 (s), 136.6 (s), 136.0 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.2 (s), 128.7 (s), 127.9 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.4 (s), 125.2 (s), 57.7 (s), 34.4 (s), 31.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 30.2 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((4-isopropoxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3e**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 40:1) gave product **3e** (75.8 mg, 0.164 mmol, 82%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.26–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.04–7.10 (m, 5H), 6.72–6.74 (m, 2H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 5.04 (s, 1H), 4.41–4.46 (m, 1H), 1.30 (s, 18H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 156.8 (s), 152.8 (s), 136.5 (s), 135.6 (s), 133.5 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.1 (s), 129.4 (s), 128.6 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.1 (s), 115.7 (s), 69.9 (s), 57.3 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 22.1 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₃₀H₃₉O₂S [M + H]⁺, 463.2671; found, 463.2668.

4-((4-(Benzyloxy)phenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)-2,6-di-tert-butylphenol (**3f**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 50:1) gave product **3f** (79.6 mg, 0.156 mmol, 78%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.22–7.31 (m, 7H), 7.04–7.13 (m, 7H), 6.80–6.82 (m, 2H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 1.29 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 157.8 (s), 152.9 (s), 137.0 (s), 136.5 (s), 135.7 (s), 134.0 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.1 (s), 129.5 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.0 (s), 127.6 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.1 (s), 114.7 (s), 70.0 (s), 57.3 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₃₄H₃₉O₂S [M + H]⁺, 511.2671; found, 511.2668.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((3-methoxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3g**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave product **3g** (73.8 mg, 0.17 mmol, 85%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.19−7.23 (m, 3H), 7.11−7.17 (m, 5H), 7.03−7.07 (m, 2H), 6.73−6.76 (m, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 159.6 (s), 152.9 (s), 143.2 (s), 136.4 (s), 135.7 (s), 131.3 (s), 131.1 (s), 129.4 (s), 128.7 (s), 126.6 (s), 125.1 (s), 120.8 (s), 113.9 (s), 112.7 (s), 57.9 (s), 55.2 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₅O₂S [M + H]⁺, 435.2358; found, 435.2354.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3h**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave product **3h** (82.6 mg, 0.178 mmol, 89%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.22–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.15 (m, 4H), 6.99–7.08 (m, 3H), 6.60–6.67 (m, 2H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 3.63 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 6H), 1.30 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.7 (s), 152.8 (s), 150.9 (s), 136.9 (s), 135.5 (s), 131.4 (s), 131.1 (s), 130.2 (s), 128.6 (s), 126.1 (s), 125.2 (s), 114.8 (s), 113.0 (s), 112.1 (s), 56.4 (s), 55.8 (s), 49.6 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₉H₃₇O₃S [M + H]⁺, 465.2463; found, 465.2460.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3i**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave product **3i** (67.5 mg, 0.15 mmol, 75%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.21–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.18 (m, 5H), 7.00–7.01 (m, 1H), 6.90–6.93 (m, 1H), 6.81–6.83 (m, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9 (s), 146.4 (s), 144.6 (s), 136.4 (s), 135.6 (s), 133.5 (s), 131.6 (s), 131.3 (s), 128.6 (s), 126.6 (s), 125.0 (s), 121.4 (s), 114.2 (s), 110.9 (s), 57.8 (s), 55.9 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₅O₃S [M + H]⁺, 451.2307; found, 451.2305.

4-((3,5-Di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)benzaldehyde (3j). According to the general procedure, workup and pubs.acs.org/joc

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flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 30:1) gave product 3j (79.7 mg, 0.184 mmol, 92%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 9.96 (s, 1H), 7.79–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.63 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.25 (m, 7H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 1.38 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 192.0 (s), 153.2 (s), 148.8 (s), 136.0 (s), 135.4 (s), 135.2 (s), 131.4 (s), 130.3 (s), 130.0 (s), 129.1 (s), 128.8 (s), 127.1 (s), 125.1 (s), 57.8 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₃O₂S [M + H]⁺, 433.2201; found, 433.2200.

4-((4-Bromophenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)-2,6-di-tert-butylphenol (**3k**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 40:1) gave product **3k** (89.7 mg, 0.186 mmol, 93%) as a colorless oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.31–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.06– 7.17 (m, 5H), 7.01 (s, 2H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 1.30 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.1 (s), 140.8 (s), 135.9 (s), 131.5 (s), 131.2 (s), 130.8 (s), 130.1 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.1 (s), 126.8 (s), 125.0 (s), 120.8 (s), 57.3 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

4-((2-Bromophenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)-2,6-di-tert-butylphenol (**3**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product **3**I (92.6 mg, 0.192 mmol, 96%) as a colorless oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.85–7.87 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.27– 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.04–7.24 (m, 8H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 1.38 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.0 (s), 140.7 (s), 136.2 (s), 135.7 (s), 133.9 (s), 132.9 (s), 130.1 (s), 129.8 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.5 (s), 127.7 (s), 126.4 (s), 125.3 (s), 124.5 (s), 55.5 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((4-fluorophenyl))(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3m**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product **3m** (75.2 mg, 0.178 mmol, 89%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.32–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.18 (m, 6H), 7.02 (s, 2H), 6.88–6.92 (m, 2H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 1.30 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 161.8 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 244.0 Hz), δ = 153.0 (s), 137.3 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 3.2 Hz), 136.0 (s), 135.8 (s), 131.2 (s), 131.1 (s), 129.9 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 8.0 Hz), 128.7 (s), 126.7 (s), 125.0 (s), 115.2 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 21.4 Hz), 57.2 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₇H₃₂FOS [M + H]⁺, 423.2158; found, 423.2153.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((3-fluorophenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3n**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product **3n** (71.8 mg, 0.17 mmol, 85%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.09–7.25 (m, 10H), 6.87–6.92 (m, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 1.38 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 162.8 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 244.4 Hz), 153.1 (s), 144.3 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 6.6 Hz), 135.8 (s), 131.2 (s), 130.8 (s), 129.8 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 8.3 Hz), 128.7 (s), 126.8 (s), 125.0 (s), 124.4 (s), 124.1 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 2.9 Hz), 115.3 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 22.2 Hz), 114.0 (d, ¹J(C,F) = 21.1 Hz), 57.5 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₇H₃₂FOS [M + H]⁺, 423.2158; found, 423.2155.

4-((3,5-Di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)benzonitrile (30). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 30 (78.1 mg, 0.182 mmol, 91%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.45-7.50 (m, 4H), 7.09-7.17 (m, 5H), 7.00 (s, 2H), 5.38 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 1.31 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.2 (s), 146.2 (s), 135.0 (s), 134.0 (s), 131.2 (s), 130.5 (s), 128.9 (s), 127.8 (s), 127.4 (s), 126.2 (s), 123.9 (s), 117.8 (s), 109.7 (s), 56.7 (s), 33.4 (s), 29.1 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₂NOS [M + H]⁺, 430.2205; found, 430.2201.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((4-nitrophenyl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3p**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product **3p** (79.0 mg, 0.176 mmol, 88%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 8.22–8.23 (m, 1H), 7.97–8.00 (m, 1H), 7.71–7.73 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 5.44 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 1.31 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H}

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.4 (s), 148.2 (s), 144.1 (s), 136.2 (s), 134.9 (s), 134.5 (s), 131.9 (s), 130.0 (s), 129.3 (s), 128.9 (s), 127.4 (s), 125.0 (s), 123.5 (s), 122.1 (s), 57.5 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₇H₃₂NO₃S [M + H]⁺, 450.2103; found, 450.2100.

2,6-Dimethyl-4-(phenyl(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3q**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave product **3q** (55.1 mg, 0.172 mmol, 86%) as a yellow oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.40–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.22 (m, 6H), 7.01 (s, 2H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 2.18 (s, 6H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 151.4 (s), 141.5 (s), 136.6 (s), 132.5 (s), 130.1 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.5 (s), 127.1 (s), 126.3 (s), 123.1 (s), 56.8 (s), 16.1 (s).

2,6-Diisopropyl-4-(phenyl(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3***r*). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave product **3***r* (62.4 mg, 0.166 mmol, 83%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.42–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.24 (m, 6H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 5.48 (s, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 3.03–3.13 (m, 2H), 1.19–1.21 (m, 12H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 149.1 (s), 141.5 (s), 136.4 (s), 133.5 (s), 132.7 (s), 130.9 (s), 128.6 (m), 128.4 (m), 128.3 (m), 127.0 (s), 126.5 (s), 123.7 (s), 57.6 (s), 27.3 (s), 22.7 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₅H₂₉OS [M + H]⁺, 377.1939; found, 377.1936.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((phenylthio)(pyridin-2-yl)methyl)phenol (**3s**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 5:1) gave product **3s** (53.5 mg, 0.132 mmol, 66%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 8.56-8.57 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.18 (m, 6H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 1.37 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 160.9 (s), 153.2 (s), 149.3 (s), 136.7 (s), 135.8 (s), 131.2 (s), 130.2 (s), 128.7 (s), 126.7 (s), 125.3 (s), 122.7 (s), 122.0 (s), 59.3 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₆H₃₂NOS [M + H]⁺, 406.2205; found, 406.2202.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((phenylthio)(thiophen-3-yl)methyl)phenol (**3t**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 5:1) gave product **3s** (64.0 mg, 0.156 mmol, 78%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.46–7.55 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.11 (s, 2H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 1.35 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 154.2 (s), 138.1 (s), 135.9 (s), 133.2 (s), 132.8 (s), 129.1 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.5 (s), 127.2 (s), 126.0 (s), 125.9 (s), 122.8 (s), 72.7 (s), 34.3 (s), 30.1 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₅H₃₁OS₂ [M + H]⁺, 411.1816; found, 411.1812.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-yl)(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (**3u**). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 30:1) gave product **3u** (75.0 mg, 0.168 mmol, 84%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.11–7.23 (m, 8H), 6.70– 6.71 (m, 1H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 4.55 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.17 (*t*, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 159.1 (s), 152.8 (s), 136.7 (s), 135.6 (s), 133.7 (s), 131.9 (s), 131.0 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.1 (s), 127.2 (s), 126.4 (s), 125.1 (s), 124.9 (s), 108.9 (s), 71.4 (s), 57.6 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 29.8 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₉H₃₅O₂S [M + H]⁺, 447.2358; found, 447.2356.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(p-tolylthio)methyl)phenol (4a). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4a (71.1 mg, 0.17 mmol, 85%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.44–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.10–7.12 (m, 4H), 6.94–6.96 (m, 2H), 5.38 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9 (s), 141.8 (s), 136.8 (s), 135.6 (s), 132.5 (s), 132.1 (s), 131.7 (s), 129.5 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4(s), 127.0 (s), 125.2 (s), 58.6 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 21.2 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4b). According to the general procedure, workup and flash Article

column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product **4b** (69.5 mg, 0.16 mmol, 80%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.40–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 6.67–6.69 (m, 2H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 159.3 (s), 152.9 (s), 141.9 (s), 135.6 (s), 135.2 (s), 131.7 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.0 (s), 126.2 (s), 125.2 (s), 114.2 (s), 59.7 (s), 55.2 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(((4-chlorophenyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4c). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4c (79.9 mg, 0.182 mmol, 91%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.35–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.14 (m, 1H), 7.00–7.05 (m, 6H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 5.06 (s, 1H), 1.29 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.0 (s), 141.1 (s), 135.8 (s), 134.8 (s), 132.7 (s), 132.6 (s), 132.0 (s), 128.8 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.2 (s), 125.2 (s), 58.2 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

4-(((4-Bromophenyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)-2,6-di-tert-butylphenol (4d). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4d (82.9 mg, 0.172 mmol, 86%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.43–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.30 (m, 5H), 7.11 (s, 2H), 7.04–7.07 (m, 2H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 1.37 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.0 (s), 141.1 (s), 135.8 (s), 135.5 (s), 132.7 (s), 131.7 (s), 131.0 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.3 (s), 125.2 (s), 120.7 (s), 58.0 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(((2-fluorophenyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4e). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4e (74.3 mg, 0.176 mmol, 88%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.37–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.00–7.11 (m, 5H), 6.76–6.88 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 1.28 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 162.0 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 244.0 Hz), 153.0 (s), 141.1 (s), 135.6 (s), 134.3 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 3.8 Hz), 127.2 (s), 125.2 (s), 124.2 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 3.7 Hz), 122.9 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 17.8 Hz), 115.4 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 22.7 Hz), 56.9 (d, ¹*J*(C,F) = 2.3 Hz), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₇H₃₂FOS [M + H]⁺, 423.2158; found, 423.2154.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(((2-fluorophenyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4f). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4f (68.1 mg, 0.166 mmol, 83%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.34–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.05 (s, 2H), 6.74–6.77 (m, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 1.31 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.1 (s), 141.1 (s), 135.7 (s), 134.9 (s), 133.9 (s), 130.8 (s), 130.0 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.2 (s), 127.1 (s), 125.2 (s), 61.7 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₅H₃₁OS₂ [M + H]⁺, 411.1816; found, 411.1813.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((naphthalen-2-ylthio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4g). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4g (78.0 mg, 0.172 mmol, 86%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.69–7.71 (m, 1H), 7.57–7.83 (m, 3H), 7.49–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.38 (m, 5H), 7.16–7.21 (m, 3H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 1.34 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 153.0 (s), 141.5 (s), 135.8 (s), 133.8 (s), 133.6 (s), 132.0 (s), 131.4 (s), 129.7 (s), 128.9 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 128.1 (s), 127.6 (s), 127.3 (s), 127.2 (s), 126.3 (s), 125.9 (s), 125.3 (s), 57.9 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s).

4-((Benzylthio)(phenyl)methyl)-2,6-di-tert-butylphenol (4h). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4h (76.1 mg, 0.182 mmol, 91%) as a colorless oil.^{17a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.32–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.23 (m, 4H), 7.07–7.14 (m, 6H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 1.31 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9

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(s), 141.8 (s), 138.3 (s), 135.8 (s), 131.4 (s), 129.1 (s), 128.6 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.1 (s), 127.0 (s), 125.2 (s), 53.8 (s), 36.8 (s), 34.5 (s), 30.4 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(((furan-2-ylmethyl)thio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (4i). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4i (61.5 mg, 0.15 mmol, 75%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.43–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.36 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.20 (s, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 1.40 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.9 (s), 151.6 (s), 141.0 (s), 140.4 (s), 134.7 (s), 130.0 (s), 127.5 (s), 127.4(s), 126.0 (s), 124.0 (s), 109.3 (s), 106.4 (s), 52.9 (s), 33.3 (s), 29.2 (s), 27.7 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₆H₃₃O₂S [M + H]⁺, 409.2201; found, 409.2198.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(propylthio)methyl)phenol (4j). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4j (66.6 mg, 0.18 mmol, 88%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.44–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.24 (m, 3H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 4.98 (s, 1H), 1.96 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.8 (s), 141.48 (s), 135.7 (s), 131.7 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.0 (s), 124.9 (s), 56.4 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.3 (s), 16.0 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₂H₃₁OS [M + H]⁺, 343.2096; found, 343.2093. 2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(propylthio)methyl)phenol (4k). Ac-

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(propylthio)methyl)phenol (4k). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4k (66.6 mg, 0.18 mmol, 90%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.36–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.14 (m, 3H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 2.20–2.31 (m, 2H), 1.45–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.32 (s, 18H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.8 (s), 142.4 (s), 135.7 (s), 132.0 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 126.9 (s), 124.9 (s), 54.5 (s), 34.5 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.4 (s), 22.5 (s), 13.7 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₄H₃₅OS [M + H]⁺, 371.2409; found, 371.2405.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((tert-butylthio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (41). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 41 (56.8 mg, 0.148 mmol, 74%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.48–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.21 (m, 3H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 1.40 (s, 18H), 1.22 (s, 9H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 152.6 (s), 144.1 (s), 135.7 (s), 133.4 (s), 128.4 (s), 128.3 (s), 126.7 (s), 125.0 (s), 52.7 (s), 44.5 (s), 34.5 (s), 31.4 (s), 30.4 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₅H₃₇OS [M + H]⁺, 385.2565; found, 385.2564.

3-((3,5-Di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole-2(3H)-thione (4m). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 20:1) gave product 4m (82.1 mg, 0.178 mmol, 89%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.16–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.02–7.10 (m, 3H), 6.90–6.94 (m, 1H), 6.42–6.44 (m, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 1.26 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 181.0 (s), 153.8 (s), 147.1 (s), 136.9 (s), 136.1 (s), 131.0 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.3 (s), 128.2 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.8 (s), 124.2 (s), 123.9 (s), 112.4 (s), 110.4 (s), 65.3 (s), 34.4 (s), 30.2 (s). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C₂₈H₃₂NO₂S [M + H]⁺, 446.2154; found, 446.2151.

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-((tert-butylthio)(phenyl)methyl)phenol (6). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 5:1) gave product 6 (83.8 mg, 0.192 mmol, 96%) as a colorless oil.^{17b} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.60–7.63 (m, 2H), 7.55–7.57 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.30–7.36 (m, SH), 7.19 (s, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 1.35 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 154.2 (s), 138.5 (s), 135.9 (s), 133.4 (s), 133.2 (s), 130.0 (s), 129.1 (s), 128.7 (s), 128.5 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.1 (s), 123.2 (s), 76.8 (s), 34.3 (s), 30.2 (s).

2,6-Di-tert-butyl-4-(phenyl(phenylthio)methyl)phenol (3a'). According to the general procedure, workup and flash column

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chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 80:1) gave product 3a' (76.8 mg, 0.19 mmol, 91%) as a yellow oil.^{13a} ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 7.38–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.05–7.09 (m, 5H), 5.38 (s, 0.75 H), 5.04 (s, 1H), 1.30 (s, 18H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C, TMS): δ = 151.8 (s), 140.5 (s), 135.3 (s), 134.6 (s), 130.3 (s), 130.1 (s), 127.5 (s), 127.4 (s), 127.3 (s), 126.0 (s), 125.5 (s), 124.1 (s), 56.9 (s), 33.4 (s), 29.2 (s).

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.joc.0c02390.

Crystallographic data; 1H and $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra (PDF)

FAIR data which includes primary NMR FID files for compounds 2s-2w, 3a-3u, 3a', 4a-4m, and 6 (ZIP)

Accession Codes

CCDC 2010097 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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Notes

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(18) CCDC-2010097 (4m) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center via www.ccdc. cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.