

# As You Like It

## 1.3

*Enter Celia and Rosalind*

**CELIA** Why cousin, why Rosalind±±Cupid have mercy,  
not a word?

**ROSALIND** Not one to throw at a dog.

**CELIA** No, thy words are too precious to be cast away  
upon curs. Throw some of them at me. Come, lame me 5  
with reasons.

**ROSALIND** Then there were two cousins laid up, when the  
one should be lamed with reasons and the other mad  
without any.

**CELIA** But is all this for your father? 10

**ROSALIND** No, some of it is for my child's father. O how  
full of briers is this working-day world!

**CELIA** They are but burs, cousin, thrown upon thee in  
holiday foolery. If we walk not in the trodden paths  
our very petticoats will catch them. 15

**ROSALIND** I could shake them off my coat. These burs are  
in my heart.

**CELIA** Hem them away.

**ROSALIND** I would try, if I could cry `hem' and have him.

**CELIA** Come, come, wrestle with thy affections. 20

**ROSALIND** O, they take the part of a better wrestler than  
myself.

**CELIA** O, a good wish upon you! You will try in time, in  
despite of a fall. But turning these jests out of service,  
let us talk in good earnest. Is it possible on such a 25  
sudden you should fall into so strong a liking with old  
Sir Rowland's youngest son?

**ROSALIND** The Duke my father loved his father dearly.

**CELIA** Doth it therefore ensue that you should love his  
son dearly? By this kind of chase I should hate him, 30  
for my father hated his father dearly; yet I hate not  
Orlando.

**ROSALIND** No, faith, hate him not, for my sake.

**CELIA** Why should I not? Doth he not deserve well?

*Enter Duke Frederick, with Lords*

**ROSALIND** Let me love him for that, and do you love him 35  
because I do. Look, here comes the Duke.

**CELIA** With his eyes full of anger.

**DUKE FREDERICK** (*to Rosalind*)  
Mistress, dispatch you with your safest haste,  
And get you from our court.

**ROSALIND** Me, uncle? 40

**DUKE FREDERICK** You, cousin.  
Within these ten days if that thou beest found  
So near our public court as twenty miles,  
Thou diest for it.

**ROSALIND** I do beseech your grace  
Let me the knowledge of my fault bear with me. 45  
If with myself I hold intelligence,  
Or have acquaintance with mine own desires,  
If that I do not dream, or be not frantic±±  
As I do trust I am not±±then, dear uncle,  
Never so much as in a thought unborn 50  
Did I offend your highness.

**DUKE FREDERICK** Thus do all traitors.  
If their purgation did consist in words  
They are as innocent as grace itself.  
Let it suffice thee that I trust thee not.

**ROSALIND**  
Yet your mistrust cannot make me a traitor. 55  
Tell me whereon the likelihood depends?

**DUKE FREDERICK**  
Thou art thy father's daughter±±there's enough.

**ROSALIND**  
So was I when your highness took his dukedom;  
So was I when your highness banished him.  
Treason is not inherited, my lord, 60  
Or if we did derive it from our friends,  
What's that to me? My father was no traitor.  
Then, good my liege, mistake me not so much  
To think my poverty is treacherous.

**CELIA** Dear sovereign, hear me speak. 65

**DUKE FREDERICK**  
Ay, Celia, we stayed her for your sake,  
Else had she with her father ranged along.

**CELIA**

I did not then entreat to have her stay.  
It was your pleasure, and your own remorse.  
I was too young that time to value her, 70  
But now I know her. If she be a traitor,  
Why, so am I. We still have slept together,  
Rose at an instant, learned, played, eat together,  
And wheresoe'er we went, like Juno's swans  
Still we went coupled and inseparable. 75

## DUKE FREDERICK

She is too subtle for thee, and her smoothness,  
Her very silence, and her patience  
Speak to the people, and they pity her.  
Thou art a fool. She robs thee of thy name,  
And thou wilt show more bright and seem more  
virtuous80

When she is gone. Then open not thy lips.  
Firm and irrevocable is my doom  
Which I have passed upon her. She is banished.

# CELIA

Pronounce that sentence then on me, my liege.  
I cannot live out of her company. 85

## DUKE FREDERICK

You are a fool.±±You, niece, provide yourself.  
If you outstay the time, upon mine honour  
And in the greatness of my word, you die.  
*Exit Duke Frederick. with Lords*

## CELIA

O my poor Rosalind, whither wilt thou go?  
Wilt thou change fathers? I will give thee mine. 90  
I charge thee, be not thou more grieved than I am.

**ROSALIND**

I have more cause.

**CELIA**                      Thou hast not, cousin.

Prithee, be cheerful. Know'st thou not the Duke  
Hath banished me, his daughter?

ROSALIND That he hath not.

## CELIA

No, hath not? Rosalind, lack'st thou then the love  
Which teacheth thee that thou and I am one?  
Shall we be sundered? Shall we part, sweet girl?

No. Let my father seek another heir.  
Therefore devise with me how we may fly,  
Whither to go, and what to bear with us, 100  
And do not seek to take your change upon you,  
To bear your griefs yourself, and leave me out.  
For by this heaven, now at our sorrows pale,  
Say what thou canst, I'll go along with thee.

**ROSALIND** Why, whither shall we go? 105

**CELIA**

To seek my uncle in the forest of Ardenne.

**ROSALIND**

Alas, what danger will it be to us,  
Maids as we are, to travel forth so far!  
Beauty provoketh thieves sooner than gold.

**CELIA**

I'll put myself in poor and mean attire, 110  
And with a kind of umber smirch my face.  
The like do you, so shall we pass along  
And never stir assailants.

**ROSALIND**

Were it not better,  
Because that I am more than common tall,  
That I did suit me all points like a man, 115  
A gallant curtal-axe upon my thigh,  
A boar-spear in my hand, and in my heart,  
Lie there what hidden woman's fear there will.  
We'll have a swashing and a martial outside,  
As many other mannish cowards have, 120  
That do outface it with their semblances.

**CELIA**

What shall I call thee when thou art a man?

**ROSALIND**

I'll have no worse a name than Jove's own page,  
And therefore look you call me Ganymede.  
But what will you be called? 125

**CELIA**

Something that hath a reference to my state.  
No longer Celia, but Aliena.

**ROSALIND**

But cousin, what if we essayed to steal  
The clownish fool out of your father's court.  
Would he not be a comfort to our travel? 130

**CELIA**

He'll go along o'er the wide world with me.  
Leave me alone to woo him. Let's away,  
And get our jewels and our wealth together,  
Devise the fittest time and safest way  
To hide us from pursuit that will be made  
After my flight. Now go we in content,  
To liberty, and not to banishment.

135

*Exeunt*