

As You Like It - Act 4 Scene 1

<p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>CELIA</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>CELIA</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p> <p>ORLANDO</p> <p>ROSALIND</p>	<p>Are you not good?</p> <p>I hope so.</p> <p>Why then, can one desire too much of a good thing?—Come, sister, you shall be the priest and marry us.—Give me your hand, Orlando.—What do you say, sister?</p> <p>Pray thee marry us.</p> <p>I cannot say the words.</p> <p>You must begin “Will you, Orlando—”</p> <p>Go to.—Will you, Orlando, have to wife this Rosalind?</p> <p>I will.</p> <p>Ay, but when?</p> <p>Why now, as fast as she can marry us.</p> <p>Then you must say “I take thee, Rosalind, for wife.”</p> <p>I take thee, Rosalind, for wife.</p> <p>I might ask you for your commission, but I do take thee, Orlando, for my husband. There’s a girl goes before the priest, and certainly a woman’s thought runs before her actions.</p> <p>So do all thoughts. They are winged.</p> <p>Now tell me how long you would have her after you have possessed her?</p> <p>Forever and a day.</p> <p>Say “a day” without the “ever.” No, no, Orlando, men are April when they woo, December when they wed. Maids are May when they are maids, but the sky changes when they are wives. I will be more jealous of thee than a Barbary cock-pigeon over his hen, more clamorous than a parrot against rain, more newfangled than an ape, more giddy in my desires than a monkey. I will weep for nothing, like Diana in the fountain, and I will do that when you are disposed to be merry. I will laugh like a hyena, and that when thou art inclined to sleep.</p> <p>But will my Rosalind do so?</p> <p>By my life, she will do as I do.</p> <p>O, but she is wise.</p> <p>Or else she could not have the wit to do this. The wiser, the waywarder. Make the doors upon a woman’s wit, and it will out at the casement. Shut that, and ’twill out at the keyhole. Stop that, ’twill fly with the smoke out at the chimney.</p> <p>A man that had a wife with such a wit, he might say “Wit, whither wilt?”</p> <p>Nay, you might keep that check for it till you met your wife’s wit going to your neighbor’s bed.</p> <p>And what wit could wit have to excuse that?</p> <p>Marry, to say she came to seek you there. You shall never take her without her answer unless you take her without her tongue. O, that woman that cannot make her fault her husband’s occasion, let her never nurse her child herself, for she will breed it like a fool.</p>
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Go to that's enough

commission authority
(Rosalind is addressing the 'priest')
A girl goes before the priest a girl who thinks or acts like she is already married when the ceremony is actually yet to be performed
possessed married

April (a month of rain - symbolic of tears and sorrow)
May (a month of celebration- symbolic of joy and festivities)
Barbary cock-pigeon A fierce, territorial male pigeon (aggressive and protective)
new-fangled amused
Diana...fountain (possible reference to a fountain with a statue of Diana in the late sixteenth-century)
waywarder less predictable
Make block casement window

Wit, whither wilt an Elizabethan utterance meaning 'stop talking'
check rebuke
And...that? What witty woman could have the wit to excuse that?

Text taken from: Shakespeare, William. As You Like It. Folger Shakespeare Library. Retrieved from <https://www.folger.edu/explore/shakespeares-works/as-you-like-it/read/> (last accessed 30/04/2025).
Annotations adapted for target group from definitions generated with AI.



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