*As You Like It,* Act 5 Scene 2, lines 14 – 77

The Forest of Arden

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| ORLANDO  ROSALIND,  OLIVER  ROSALIND,  ORLANDO  ROSALIND,    ORLANDO  ROSALIND,  ORLANDO  ROSALIND,  ORLANDO  ROSALIND,  ORLANDO  ROSALIND,  ORLANDO  ROSALIND, | Let your wedding be tomorrow; thither will I invite the Duke.  Go you, and prepare Aliena, for, look you, here comes my Rosalind.  (…)  *as Ganymede* God save you, brother.  And you, fair sister.  *(Exit)*  *as Ganymede* O, my dear Orlando, how it  grieves me to see thee wear thy heart in a scarf.  It is my arm.  *as Ganymede* I thought thy heart had been  wounded with the claws of a lion.  Wounded it is, but with the eyes of a lady.  *as Ganymede* Did your brother tell you  how I counterfeited to swoon when he showed me  your handkercher?  Ay, and greater wonders than that.  *as Ganymede* O, I know where you are.  (…)  For your brother and my sister no sooner met but they  looked; no sooner looked, but they loved;  (…) and in no time sought marriage.  (…)  They are in the very wrath of love - clubs cannot part them.  They shall be married tomorrow and I will  bid the Duke to the nuptial. But O, how bitter a  thing it is to look into happiness through another  man's eyes. (…) Tomorrow, I shall be at the height of heart-heaviness.  (…)  *as Ganymede* Why then, tomorrow, I cannot  serve your turn for Rosalind?  I can live no longer by thinking.  *as Ganymede* I will weary you then no  longer with idle talking.  (…)  I have, since I was three year old, conversed with a magician.  If you do love Rosalind  so near the heart as your gesture cries it out,  when your brother marries Aliena shall you marry  her. I know into what straits of fortune she is  driven, and it is not impossible to me, if it appear  not inconvenient to you, to set her before your eyes  tomorrow, human as she is, and without any  danger.  Speak'st thou in sober meanings?  *as Ganymede* By my life, I do, which I  tender dearly, though I say I am a magician. Therefore  put you in your best array, bid your friends; for  if you will be married tomorrow, you shall, and to Rosalind, if you will. | 15  20  25  30  35  45  55  65  70  75 |

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**Annotations:**

*best array* - (*clothing*) Your finest, most elegant set of clothes—worn to look impressive at a special event; *claws* - (*pl*) a sharp curved nail on an animal’s paw; *handkercher* (*nonstandard* for handkerchief) - a piece of cloth to wipe your nose or eyes; *nuptial* – synonym for marriage ceremony; *sober meanings* – words spoken in a calm, serious way; *straits of fortune* - metaphorical or literal narrow and difficult situations to pass or live through; *tender (sth.)* - to treat sb or sth with care, affection and kindness; *thee* - you; *thither* - in that direction; *thy* – your; to *converse* - to talk to sb; *to counterfeit* - to illegally copy; *to grieve* - to feel extremely sad; *to swoon* - to be overwhelmed by emotions that the person might even faint; *wrath (of love)* - extreme anger/rage/fury

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).

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The Forest of Arden: Modern English Version

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| To be accessed under the following link:  <https://www.litcharts.com/shakescleare/shakespeare-translations/as-you-like-it/act-5-scene-2> |

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