

As You Like It abbreviated

Act 1, Scene 2

Counsel

Situation: Le Beau is a courtier in Duke Frederick's entourage, Duke Frederick now being the political leader in this fantasy community. Le Beau lets Orlando know that Orlando's new friends Rosalind and Celia are royalty. He also lets him know that Rosalind has fallen for him and that it is in his best interest to get out of town, he having thrown Charles, Duke Frederick's wrestler.

Rosalind gives Orlando a chain from her neck.

ROSALIND: Gentleman, wear this for me.

ORLANDO ASIDE: Can I not say "I thank you?"

Rosalind and Celia exit.

ORLANDO: What passion hangs these weights upon my tongue? I cannot speak to her, yet she urged conference. O poor Orlando! Thou art overthrown.

Le Beau enters.

ORLANDO: I pray you tell me this: which of the two was daughter of the duke that here was at the wrestling?

Le Beau to Orlando

If we to judge by his manners, neither;
Yet indeed the smaller is his daughter.
The other woman is daughter to thee
Banished duke, detained by her usurping
Uncle to keep his daughter company.
The duke of late 'gainst this gentle being
Hath ta'en displeasure, grounded solely
On no other argument but that the
People pity her for her good father's
Sake and praise her for her virtues. I owe
You in friendship to counsel that it serves
Your interest to leave this place, for although
You deserve true applause for this match won,
The duke misconstrues all that you have done.

ORLANDO: I rest much beholden to you. Fare you well.

Le Beau exits.

ORLANDO: But heavenly Rosalind!