

As You Like It abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 3

Pleading

Situation: Adam, Oliver's almost eighty year old servant, looking for some late-life adventure, offers Orlando his all. He strongly suggests to Orlando that Orlando leave the area, begging him to let him accompany him wherever he may decide to go.

ADAM: Come not within these doors. Within this roof the enemy of all your graces lives. Your brother hath heard your praises, and this night he means to burn the lodging where you use to lie, and you within it. Do not enter it.

ORLANDO: Whither, Adam, wouldst thou have me go?

ADAM: No matter whither, so you come not here.

ORLANDO: What, wouldst thou have me go and beg my food, or with a base and boist'rous sword enforce a thievish living on the common road? This I will not do. I rather will subject me to the malice of a diverted blood and bloody brother.

ADAM: But do not so.

Adam to Orlando

**I have five hundred crowns saved under your
Father, which, to be my nurse, I did store
For service called should my old limbs lie lame,
And disregarded age in corners thrown.
Knowing He providently serves the same
To ravens and sparrows comforts His own,
Here is the gold. All this I give you. Let
Me be your servant. Though I look old, yet
I am strong and healthy, for in my youth
I ne'er did apply rebellious liquor
In my blood, behave with shame; and in sooth
Wooed not the lusty maids seen the weaker.
Master, go on, and I will follow thee
To the last gasp with truth and loyalty.**

ADAM: Therefore my age is as a lusty winter, frosty but kindly. Let me go with you.