

The Winter's Tale abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 4

Love

Situation: Now sixteen years later, Florizell, the Bohemian prince, Polixenes' son, is seeing Perdita, the Shepherd's beautiful sixteen year old "adopted" daughter. Leontes has asked Camillo to return to Sicily. Polixenes is upset that his son has an interest in a shepherd's daughter. Florizell is upset with his father for not accepting his girlfriend for whom she is. He and Camillo plan to leave for Sicilia, Florizell planning to take his girlfriend Perdita with him.

CAMILLO: Gracious my lord, you know your father's temper. Then, till the fury of his Highness settle, come not before him.

FLORIZELL: I not intend to offer. I think Camillo?

Camillo removes his disguise.

PERDITA TO FLORIZELL: How often have I told you 'twould be thus?

FLORIZELL: Look up. From my succession wipe me, father. I am heir to my affection.

CAMILLO: Be advised.

FLORIZELL: I have reason. If not, my senses, better pleased with madness, do bid it welcome.

CAMILLO: This is desperate, sir.

Florizell to Camillo

**So call it; but it does fulfill my vow.
My honesty does not other allow,
Camillo. Not for Bohemia nor
The pomp that may be got from its ruling;
For all the sun sees, the closed earth holds or
The profound seas hide will I dare breaking
My oath to my beloved. I pray you, though
He shall miss me, as his friend let him know
I mean not to see him anymore. I
Must put to sea and with her plan to start
Sailing, my vessel at anchor nearby,
But we remain unprepared to depart.
There will be no clue what course I plan to
Hold, nor is it my concern to tell you.**