

As You Like It abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 5

Infatuation

Situation: The young shepherd Silvius has fallen for Phoebe, a young shepherdess. But Phoebe treats him poorly, and has now fallen for Rosalind, thinking she Ganymede. All the while the realistic Rosalind tries to convince her to pay more attention to Silvius, telling her “you are not for all markets.”

ROSALIND AS GANYMEDE: I pray you, do not fall in love with me, for I am falser than vows made in wine. Besides, I like you not. Shepherdess, look on him better, and be not proud. Though all the world could see, none could be so abused in sight as he.

She, Celia and Corin exit.

PHOEBE: Know'st thou the youth that spoke to me erewhile?

SILVIUS: Not very well. He hath bought the cottage and the bounds that the old peasant once was master of.

Phoebe to Silvius

**Now I find that saw of might: “Who ever
Loved that loved not at first sight?” Now I ne'er
One to care for words, yet words do well when
He that speaks them pleases them that hears. He's
Not a pretty youth, but sure proud: and then
His pride becomes him. The best thing one sees
Is his complexion; but, oh, faster than
His quick tongue can make offense, his eye can
Heal it up. His lip a riper red you
See than his cheek. Some women, Silvius,
Had they seen him as I, would be gone to
Fall in love with him, but for some of us
Hating or loving's but a passing whim.
I've more cause to hate him than to love him.**

PHOEBE: I'll write him a very taunting letter, and thou shalt bear it. Wilt thou, Silvius?

SILVIUS: Phoebe, with all my heart.

PHOEBE: I will be bitter with him and very abrupt. Go with me, Silvius.