

AS U LIKE IT

A full-length comedy by
Neeley Gossett

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Female:

ROSALIND, pretty and charming, but not intimidatingly so.

CELIA, Rosalind's cousin; attractive with a biting sense of humor.

AUDREY, a country girl.

PHOEBE, heartless hunter.

GIRL, constantly on social media.

Male:

ORLANDO, a wrestler; the new guy at The Arden School.

TOUCHSTONE, school mascot.

SILVIUS, love-sick hunter.

Male or Female:

CORIN, pragmatic hunter.

CHARLIE, champion wrestler.

ADDY, wrestling team manager.

BEAU, office aide.

JAQUES, health nut; yoga fan; lives in the woods.

LORD, reluctant health nut and yoga fan; lives in the woods with Jaques.

REFEREE

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER ONE

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER TWO

STUDENT

Possible Doublings

CORIN/CHARLIE

ADDY/REFEREE/STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER
ONE/STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER TWO

AUDREY/BEAU

PHOEBE/GIRL/STUDENT

SETTING

Present.

The first scene takes place in The Arden School gym.

All other scenes take place in a forest near the school.

NOTES

All characters are teenagers.

Text messages indicated in bold should be projected on the screen as the actor types.

SCENE 1

(The play opens on the bustle and excitement of a high school wrestling match. One side of the stage is occupied by the students from The Arden School and the other side a comprised by teens from The Orchard Grove School. A wrestling mat is in the middle, and the focus shifts among different groups of students.)

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER ONE: We want to welcome you all to The Arden School as we face off against Orchard Grove.

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER TWO: It's going to be an exciting afternoon as we face our biggest rivals. This is the match that we look forward to every year.

(ROSALIND, an Arden School student, and her cousin/ best friend CELIA, enter and find their way to their seats.)

ROSALIND: Okay. We've seen the wrestlers. Now we can go.

CELIA: Will you stop? I promise. This will be fun.

ROSALIND: Not without my dad here.

CELIA: Just because he's not coaching doesn't mean you have to hate wrestling.

ROSALIND: He had been the wrestling coach at Arden my whole life. Coming to a match without him just feels wrong.

CELIA: Hey, I see something that might help take your mind off your dad losing his job.

ROSALIND: Yeah?

CELIA: The new guy.

(Celia points to ORLANDO, the latest addition to Arden's wrestling team.)

ROSALIND: The new guy.

CELIA: Orlando. Transferred. Fresh from Orchard Grove.

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ROSALIND: (*Watching Orlando warm up:*) He is cute, but cute is not enough to cheer me up.

CELIA: Wait till he turns around.

(Orlando turns around.)

There. Is that enough to cheer you up?

ROSALIND: I don't know.

CELIA: I'm going to message him.

ROSALIND: How do you even have his number, Celia?

CELIA: I have my ways. (*Texting to Orlando:*) Hey, new guy. Look behind you.

(He looks at Celia. She waves, then grabs Rosalind's hand, forcing her to wave. Texting to Orlando:)

Hey, Orlando.

ORLANDO: (*Texting to Celia:*) How'd you know my name?

CELIA: (*Texting to Orlando:*) Everybody always knows the new guy's name. This is my cousin Rosalind.

(Orlando waves at Rosalind, who waves back shyly. Texting to Orlando:)

She's a little shy. I'm Celia.

ORLANDO: (*Texting to Celia:*) I'm Orlando.

CELIA: (*Texting to Orlando:*) I know.

ORLANDO: (*Texting to Celia:*) Right. Sorry.

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER ONE: We need the next weight class to the mat.

ORLANDO: (*Texting to Celia:*) That's me.

CELIA: (*Texting to Orlando:*) Good luck.

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(Orlando returns to his team but glances at Rosalind throughout the scene.)

ROSALIND: What were you doing?

CELIA: I know you. You would spend six weeks getting up the nerve to say "hello" and then another six weeks getting ready to have a longer conversation. You don't have that kind of time if you plan on going to college in the fall.

ROSALIND: I would've done it. That was just so awkward.

(TOUCHSTONE is The Arden School mascot. He wears his costume. He approaches Rosalind and Celia, but trips and falls before he reaches them.)

CELIA: Touchstone, you okay?

(Touchstone responds, and cannot be understood through the mascot head.)

You okay, Touchstone?

(Once again, he tries to respond, but is not heard.)

Just take that thing off your head.

(He removes the mascot head.)

TOUCHSTONE: I'm fine. I just can't see the ground.

ROSALIND: Aren't you hot in that?

TOUCHSTONE: It's worth it. Being part of the team and all.

CELIA: You're not part of the team. You jump around beside the team.

TOUCHSTONE: Hey, they couldn't do it without me.

(Orlando stares at Rosalind. ADDY, the team manager, approaches him.)

ADDY: Orlando, she's just a girl. Get yourself together and get to the mat.

STUDENT SPORTS ANNOUNCER TWO: We need Orlando de Bois from The Arden School to the mat please.

(Orlando reports to the mat. Touchstone jumps around beside the mat. Tumbles and tries to pump-up the crowd.)

ROSALIND: Oh no.

CELIA: What's wrong?

ROSALIND: Look who Orlando's wrestling. Charlie's undefeated.

CELIA: Your guy's going to get stomped, Rosalind.

ROSALIND: He's not my guy.

CELIA: He will be.

ROSALIND: I don't think I can watch this.

CELIA: *(Yelling to Orlando:)* There's still time to forfeit.

ROSALIND: I can't believe you said that.

CELIA: He needs to know.

ROSALIND: Maybe he can hold his own.

CELIA: Here they go. Don't look.

(The wrestlers struggle, but Orlando overcomes CHARLIE and wins. Celia, Touchstone, and Rosalind cheer.)

REFEREE: The winner is Orlando de Bois.

CELIA: Go over and say congratulations.

ROSALIND: I don't know.

(Celia grabs her hand and pulls Rosalind toward Orlando. There is already a GIRL hugging him and taking a photo. Celia knocks her out of the way.)

GIRL: Hey, you messed me up. Now I don't have anything to post online.

CELIA: I heard that guy won last week. Go take a selfie with him.

(The girl pouts and walks away. Celia organizes a photo with Orlando and Rosalind.)

Smile.

(Celia takes the photo.)

STUDENT: *(Announcing:)* Hey guys. Party tonight at the bonfire pit.

ORLANDO: *(To Addy:)* Where's that?

ADDY: The edge of the woods.

ORLANDO: We going?

ADDY: Don't have anything else planned. You should ask Rosalind to go with you.

ORLANDO: I don't know.

ADDY: Look at you. You're nervous.

ORLANDO: I'm never good at that sort of thing. I'd rather just text her later.

ADDY: You're less man than I thought you were.

(BEAU, the principal's office aide, enters.)

BEAU: *(To Orlando:)* I heard about your win today. Nice job.

ORLANDO: Thanks.

BEAU: You've guaranteed yourself a spot at the school for at least another week.

ADDY: He'll be around for a lot longer than that, Beau. If he can take Charlie, he can take state.

BEAU: You're so positive. How cute.

(Addy and Orlando exit.)

BEAU: Rosalind Roland?

ROSALIND: You know my name, Beau. What do you need?

CELIA: What do you want?

BEAU: I'm here on official business.

CELIA: Student office aides don't work on Saturdays. They don't work at all. It's just a way to slack off and still get a class credit.

BEAU: We're working hard to change that stereotype.

CELIA: That's why you're here helping my mom on a Saturday?

BEAU: Some of us take our responsibilities seriously, Celia. And I'm loyal to the principal. You should work on that. After all, she's your mom.

CELIA: What does she want?

BEAU: She wants me to deliver this letter to Rosalind.

ROSALIND: Me?

BEAU: *(Handing Rosalind papers:)* You've been served.

CELIA: What does that even mean, Beau?

(Beau walks away. Charlie spots Beau and pulls him aside.)

CHARLIE: Dude, I've got a problem. I think you can help.

BEAU: Don't call me "dude."

CHARLIE: You were third string for Arden's team last year.

BEAU: You remember that?

CHARLIE: Sure. You were the first kid we'd ever seen who never came off the bench, not even once. You get cut completely this year?

BEAU: I didn't try out.

CHARLIE: Sure you didn't. Look, I need to get rid of this Orlando kid.

BEAU: I'm listening.

CHARLIE: If Orlando's gone, I'm guaranteed my fourth state championship.

BEAU: And a slot on the team opens up.

CHARLIE: Exactly.

(Charlie and Beau exit.)

CELIA: What does it say?

ROSALIND: It says that I'm no longer enrolled at The Arden School.

CELIA: That can't be right.

ROSALIND: It says that since my dad's not coaching here, I don't have free tuition anymore.

CELIA: She can't do this.

ROSALIND: I've gone here —

CELIA: Since pre-school.

ROSALIND: What am I going to do?

CELIA: I'll talk to her. You're her niece. She will —

ROSALIND: She fired my dad. He's her own brother. Your mom's had it out for my dad since they were kids. Why would she help me?

CELIA: Nana always liked him better. So did Grandpa. Well, and everyone else did for that matter. Nobody's ever liked my mom. I think she wanted to be principal just so that she could fire him. Every student loves Coach Roland. She couldn't stand it.

ROSALIND: That's so messed up.

CELIA: That's my mom.

ROSALIND: Do I just not go to school on Monday?

CELIA: Go home and talk to your dad. He'll know what to do.

ROSALIND: He's not at home.

CELIA: When he comes home tonight.

ROSALIND: He's gone.

CELIA: What do you mean?

ROSALIND: He's living in a yurt in the woods somewhere.

CELIA: What's a yurt?

ROSALIND: I guess it's kind of a Mongolian teepee.

CELIA: That's awesome.

ROSALIND: No. It's not. It doesn't even have a bathroom.

CELIA: He left you by yourself?

ROSALIND: He said that's what he's always wanted to do. Now that I'm older, I need to learn to survive on my own. He doesn't want me to have a "learned helplessness."

CELIA: Why didn't you tell me?

ROSALIND: I didn't tell anyone. It's embarrassing.

CELIA: It sounds kind of cool.

ROSALIND: It sounds kind of smelly. There aren't any showers.

CELIA: Call him and ask what you should do.

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ROSALIND: He doesn't have his phone. He said he's going off the grid or something like that.

CELIA: Oh, wow. He's not just camping.

ROSALIND: It was a breakdown. I haven't been able to find him anywhere. I'm nervous.

CELIA: Don't be. Uncle Roland's the kind of guy who always lands on his feet.

ROSALIND: I don't know if he will this time. Besides, where will I go to school? I can't just not go. Not if I want to go to college next year.

CELIA: So, go to the public school.

ROSALIND: I'm just supposed to show up and register myself?

CELIA: You can't do that?

ROSALIND: I think they would call child services.

CELIA: Then we have to find him.

ROSALIND: I've tried already.

CELIA: By yourself, not with me.

ROSALIND: You think you can find him?

CELIA: If we just go walking to the woods. We will find people who know where he is. He talks to everyone. People remember him.

ROSALIND: That's a ridiculous plan.

CELIA: You have something better?

ROSALIND: It's not safe for us to go by ourselves.

CELIA: We will be fine.

ROSALIND: Do you watch the news?

CELIA: We'll take Touchstone with us.

ROSALIND: In his mascot getup?

CELIA: It's pretty scary. Wait, better idea. You can dress like a guy. You're tall enough to pull it off. And I won't bathe for a while. I'll put raisins over my teeth and make it look like I have a few missing.

(Celia takes raisins from her purse and puts them in her teeth.)

ROSALIND: Will you stop?

(Celia puts a hat on Rosalind. Celia snaps a photo.)

CELIA: What do you want me to call you when you're a guy? How about Ganymede?

ROSALIND: I'm serious, Celia.

CELIA: So am I. It's my favorite name. It's what I want to name a baby. There. I made Ganymede a profile.

ROSALIND: Stop joking around. I can't find my dad, and I'm getting kicked out of school. It's not funny.

CELIA: I'm sorry. I just always try to make people laugh when they're sad.

ROSALIND: I'm too sad to laugh.

SCENE 2

(Orlando and Addy fish by a pond in the forest.)

ADDY: Stop worrying. They're not going to kick you out. You beat three-time Charlie.

ORLANDO: Three-time Charlie?

ADDY: He's the three-time state wrestling champion. Undefeated. You know it's on his mom's license plate?

ORLANDO: What is?

ADDY: Three time. Three T-I-M-E. But it could be you this year. If you beat Charlie, you could beat anyone. Keep focused and you could win state.

ORLANDO: But Beau said—

ADDY: Beau makes things up. He's jealous.

(Beau and Charlie's heads pop up. They are spying on Orlando and Addy. Orlando and Addy both cast their fishing rods. As they thrust the rods backwards, Addy's rod hits Beau in the face. Orlando's rod simultaneously hits Charlie's face. Beau and Charlie fall over. Addy and Orlando are unaware of what happened.)

ORLANDO: And then there's Rosalind.

ADDY: Just message her, already.

ORLANDO: What? I'm I going to send a message that says "Hey, I'm interested in you. Too bad my family's broke and can't afford to go to your fancy school unless I win a wrestling match every week, so don't get too attached."

ADDY: You're right. Don't message her. Nobody wants to hear that kind of crap from you.

(In another part of the forest, Touchstone, Celia, and Rosalind enter, exhausted from hiking.)

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TOUCHSTONE: I can't walk anymore.

CELIA: I'm hungry.

ROSALIND: And I can't listen to you both whine anymore.

CELIA: I'm hypoglycemic.

ROSALIND: You are not.

TOUCHSTONE: I'm wearing animal feet here.

ROSALIND: We told you to change.

TOUCHSTONE: I didn't have any other shoes with me.

CELIA: We could've stopped somewhere.

TOUCHSTONE: I thought I would be fine. I was wrong.

ROSALIND: The woods go on forever. What if we don't find him?

CELIA: I promise you we will.

TOUCHSTONE: Your dad's fine. He's just eccentric.

ROSALIND: No. No. I mean, yes, he was eccentric before. But now it's something real. He was coach and teacher for so long. Now he doesn't know what to do with himself. He's lost his identity.

CELIA: But he's still your dad. That seems like enough of an identity. Maybe he just needed a break.

ROSALIND: It's not a vacation. It's not even a midlife crisis. I wish it were. I wish he could just buy a Corvette and call it a day.

TOUCHSTONE: We'll find him. Don't worry. Stuff like this has a way of working out.

(Celia receives a text.)

CELIA: According to my mom, I'm no longer welcome at Arden either.

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ROSALIND: Why not?

CELIA: I've got no idea. Maybe it's because I'm out here with you. Maybe it's because she hates that I cut my hair myself, or that I wear dirty sneakers, or that I that I wasn't MVP on the field hockey team last year. She threatens me all of the time. My mother would die before actually preventing her only daughter from graduating from the most prestigious school in the area. I'm ready to just call her bluff and get myself expelled. *(To Rosalind:)* We could finish high school together online.

ROSALIND: Go to a fantasy high school football game.

CELIA: Dance at our virtual prom.

ROSALIND: Wear graduation caps in our bedrooms while we accept our diplomas by email.

CELIA: None of this seems so bad.

ROSALIND: I'm good with it if you are.

(CORIN and SILVIUS enter the area. They are hunters gnawing on jerky.)

CELIA: Hey, Touchstone, maybe those guys have some shoes you could borrow.

TOUCHSTONE: They're hunters.

CELIA: So?

TOUCHSTONE: So, I'm in an animal costume.

CELIA: Just the feet. They're not going to see your feet and mistake you for an animal. They can't even see your feet from the tree stand.

ROSALIND: She's got a point.

SILVIUS: Phoebe. Phoebe. Phoebe. I can't stop thinking about her.

CORIN: She's not that into you, bro.

SILVIUS: If I can just show her how much I love her, she'll come around. It's meant to be.

CORIN: Stop saying stuff like that.

(Silvius begins to message Phoebe on his phone.)

What are you doing?

SILVIUS: Maybe she didn't get my last message.

CORIN: Oh, yeah. Maybe not. Hand me that.

(Silvius hands Corin his phone. Corin throws it.)

SILVIUS: No. No. No. No.

(Silvius runs after the phone.)

CELIA: *(To Rosalind:)* You know how that hunter feels.

ROSALIND: I'm nowhere near that bad.

CELIA: No, you're more annoying. You think about Orlando non-stop, but you won't message him.

TOUCHSTONE: At least that guy is trying.

ROSALIND: I don't want to be a stalker.

CELIA: One message is not stalking. What that guy's doing is stalking. *(To Corin:)* Hey. Hey, you.

CORIN: Hey.

CELIA: Sorry to bug you. Do you think I can get one of those jerkies?

ROSALIND: Celia, we have food.

CELIA: Not jerky.

CORIN: No problem. You guys want one too?

ROSALIND: No thanks.

CELIA: I love beef jerky.

CORIN: They're not beef. They're antelope.

(Celia makes a horrible face.)

I shot it myself.

(She spits it out without Corin seeing.)

I got elk. I got moose. I got deer. Most of the time deer jerky's just made for dog treats, but mine's right for human consumption. Want to try?

CELIA: I think I'll be full after this one.

(Silvius enters with his phone.)

SILVIUS: Hey, Corin. I think she messaged me, but when you threw it, it erased the message.

CORIN: Let's go, Silvius.

(Corin and Silvius exit. Rosalind's phone beeps. She checks it.)

*(A projection of the following social media message, along with a photo of Orlando, appears on a screen behind the characters:
Orlando: hey)*

ROSALIND: It's him. He messaged me.

TOUCHSTONE: Write him back.

ROSALIND: I can't. I don't know what to say.

TOUCHSTONE: What did he say to you?

ROSALIND: "Hey."

CELIA: I see how that makes it so hard to message back. What could possibly be appropriate to write? Oh, wait. I know. You could say, "Hey."

ROSALIND: But I don't know what he means by "Hey"! I mean, is it a friendly "Hey" or a flirty "Hey" or an I-need-help-with-my-homework "Hey"?

TOUCHSTONE: Is this really how girls react to texts?

CELIA: Nope. Just Rosalind.

ROSALIND: I wish I could pretend to be someone else.

CELIA: Then write him from your Ganymede account.

TOUCHSTONE: That's a bad idea.

ROSALIND: I'm going to do it. I can find out how he feels without having to talk to him.

TOUCHSTONE: What if it's bad news?

ROSALIND: It'll prevent me from making a fool of myself in the long run.

*(A projection of the following social media message, along with a photo of Rosalind posing as Ganymede, appears on a screen behind the characters: **Ganymede: R is camping- n/phone. bb mon.**)*

ROSALIND: *(Typing as Ganymede:)* Rosalind is camping. Doesn't have her phone. She will be back Monday.

*(A projection of the following social media message, along with a photo of Orlando, appears on a screen behind the characters: **Orlando: cool. try her monday.**)*

ORLANDO: *(Typing to Ganymede:)* Cool. I'll try her back on Monday.

*(Projection: **Ganymede: msg 4 her?**)*

ROSALIND: *(Typing as Ganymede:)* You want me to give her a message?

*(Projection: **Orlando: just hey**)*

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) Just tell her hey.

(*Orlando paces while he types on his phone. Beau and Charlie appear. They lay a large log in front of Orlando so that he will trip over it while he types. He does not trip. Instead, he senses that it is there. He gracefully steps over it. Projection: **Ganymede: th@ all?***)

ROSALIND: (*Typing as Ganymede:*) Anything else?

(*Projection: **Orlando: msg 4 her... ;)***)

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) I guess you could tell her that I think she's cute.

ROSALIND: (*To Celia:*) He winked. He did a winky face?

CELIA: Let me see the phone.

ROSALIND: No. No.

(*Celia grabs the phone. Projection: **Ganymede: pretend im her. what u would say?***)

CELIA: (*Typing as Ganymede:*) Pretend I'm her. What would you say?

(*Projection: **Orlando: idk***)

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) I don't know.

(*Projection: **Ganymede: it'll help 2 practice.***)

CELIA: (*Typing as Ganymede:*) I promise it'll help your chances with her.

(*Projection: **Orlando: ?***)

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) How?

(*Projection: **Ganymede: im her bff. i can hlp***)

CELIA: (*Typing as Ganymede:*) I'm her closest friend. I can give you tips.

(*Projection: **Orlando: k***)

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) Okay. I'll play along.

(*Projection: Ganymede: msg me l8er?*)

CELIA: (*Typing as Ganymede:*) Are you up for chatting a little later on?

(*Projection: Orlando: k*)

ORLANDO: (*Typing to Ganymede:*) Okay.

CELIA: See, that was easy.

ORLANDO: (*To Addy:*) Did you bring food?

ADDY: That was your job.

(*The focus shifts to Charlie and Beau.*)

BEAU: This isn't working. We've got to face him head on.

CHARLIE: I'll fight him.

BEAU: But he beat you in the match.

CHARLIE: This is different. It's real fighting. No rules.

BEAU: You sure you got this?

CHARLIE: I wouldn't risk it if I wasn't.

BEAU: I'll let him know. Scare.

(*Charlie and Beau begin to exit, but trip over the rock that they had place on the ground in order to cause Orlando to fall.*)

SCENE 3

(Lord and Jaques sit in yoga positions outside their campsites. Orlando and Addy enter. They spot Lord and Jaques' bowl of kale chips. They sneak up on the campsite and eat them. Lord and Jaques are too enthralled with their yoga to notice. Addy begins to choke and cough. The yogis spot the thieves:)

JAQUES: What the —

LORD: Who the —

ORLANDO: *(To Addy:)* Run.

(They both begin to run.)

LORD: Get him, Jaques. Beat him down.

JAQUES: But you're a pacifist.

LORD: Not when someone steals my food.

(A chase ensues. Jaques catches Orlando. Addy hides. Lord grabs Orlando, but before he can hurt him, he realizes that he knows him.)

JAQUES: *(To Orlando:)* Wait. Did you wrestle?

LORD: Punch him in the face, Jaques. Make it hurt.

JAQUES: Hold on a second.

LORD: Kale chips are expensive.

ORLANDO: Sorry, I was hungry. I'll buy you more.

LORD: Kick him in the shins.

JAQUES: *(To Lord:)* Being a vegan makes you mean.

LORD: No it doesn't. I'm calm. I'm one with the Earth, but I need my kale chips. Karate chop him in the neck.

(Addy comes out of hiding.)

JAQUES: *(To Addy:)* I know you. You went to Arden.

ADDY: Hey, Jaques. Hey, Lord.

JAQUES AND LORD: What was your name again?

ADDY: Nobody ever knows a team manager's name.

ORLANDO: This is Addy. I'm Orlando. I just transferred to Arden.

JAQUES: I'm glad to be out of Arden. No more societal pressure.

ADDY: And you guys just live out here now?

LORD: This is our gap year.

ORLANDO: Gap year?

LORD: We didn't know where we wanted to go to college.

JAQUES: So we took a year off to live in the woods.

LORD: You know, like Thoreau and those guys.

JAQUES: Grab a coconut water. Have a seat.

ORLANDO: Hey, I really am sorry about the chips.

JAQUES: Just think of it as eating dinner with us. You were invited. You just didn't know it yet.

ORLANDO: I like your philosophy.

LORD: Jaques's deep.

JAQUES: It's so much better out here. It's raw. It's survival. We're our authentic selves.

LORD: Back in high school, before my gap year, sometimes I felt like I was playing a role or something. Like I was just performing all the time.

JAQUES: You know, man, all the world's a stage.

LORD: I know, right. It's the truth. It's like we're all actors. We all play a part in life. We all change and reinvent ourselves.

JAQUES: Yeah true, man. I'm not the same person I was when I was in high school.

ADDY: You just graduated in May.

JAQUES: Yeah, and so much stuff has happened since then.

*(Addy gets an upsetting text message. A projection of the following social media message, along with a photo of Beau, appears on a screen behind the characters: **Beau: warning. charlie to beat down orlando @ bonfire. out 4 blood.**)*

ORLANDO: Addy, what's wrong?

ADDY: There's a bonfire party in the woods tonight.

LORD: That's awesome.

JAQUES: There'll be people from high school there. I've just evolved so much since then. I don't want to see any of them. I don't want to move backwards.

ADDY: Charlie's coming. He wants a fight.

ORLANDO: I beat him once. I can do it again.

ADDY: I don't think you understand.

LORD: We've got your back.

JAQUES: We're pacifists, remember.

LORD: You'd rather stay here, man? Minding your own business? Doing evening yoga?

JAQUES: Okay, fine. I guess there's only so much yoga someone can do in one gap year.

LORD: Maybe they'll have hot dogs.

JAQUES: You mean vegan veggie dogs?

LORD: Of course. I don't crave real food at all. Not one bit.

(PHOEBE runs on to the stage. She is chased by Silvius.)

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SILVIUS: Phoebeeeee!

(The couple runs across the stage and then exits.)

ADDY: What was that?

JAQUES: I have no idea.

SCENE 4

(In another part of the forest, Celia, Rosalind, and Touchstone walk, exhausted.)

CELIA: Your dad's yurt has to be around here somewhere.

ROSALIND: Why here?

CELIA: Because we've seen the rest of the forest.

ROSALIND: That's what you said a few hours ago, and we had just walked in one big circle.

CELIA: Do you see a road sign? Do you see landmarks? Don't blame this on me. The only thing I have to work with here is a compass app.

ROSALIND: I'm sorry. I'm just tired. And Orlando hasn't messaged me.

TOUCHSTONE: Stop complaining. You're not the one in animal shoes.

(Celia reads a message on her phone.)

CELIA: It's my mom. She says she's coming out here to take me to juvie for running away.

ROSALIND: Don't worry. She couldn't know where you are.

CELIA: She does.

ROSALIND: That's impossible.

TOUCHSTONE: Well...

ROSALIND: What did you do?

TOUCHSTONE: I checked in online.

CELIA: Where did you check in?

TOUCHSTONE: The woods.

CELIA: Let me see that.

(Celia grabs Touchstone's phone and shows it to Rosalind.)

ROSALIND: *(Reading from his phone:)* With Rosalind and Celia at "The Woods." I can't believe you wrote "The Woods" like it's a frozen yogurt shop.

CELIA: It's fine. It's not like my mom follows your page.

TOUCHSTONE: Not exactly.

CELIA: It's Beau, isn't it? Beau follows you?

TOUCHSTONE: We were diaper friends. I couldn't just hit delete when the office aide thing started.

ROSALIND: It'll be fine. Your mother would never allow her daughter to wear an orange jump suit.

CELIA: Or horizontal stripes. And she would never risk someone seeing her daughter get arrested.

ROSALIND: Never. It might make the newspaper. Besides, when we find my dad, he'll take care of everything.

CELIA: How?

ROSALIND: I don't know. He just will.

(AUDREY, a country girl who is content to live in the woods and off the land, enters.)

CELIA: Do you smell something?

ROSALIND: I do. It's kind of like sweat and rancid popcorn.

CELIA: And old banana peels.

ROSALIND: I'm going to gag.

AUDREY: Hey, y'all.

ROSALIND: Hi.

CELIA: *(To Rosalind:)* The smell. It's her.

ROSALIND: Be nice.

(Touchstone rushes to Audrey.)

TOUCHSTONE: Hello.

AUDREY: Well, hey. Are y'all lost?

TOUCHSTONE: Yes.

ROSALIND: No.

CELIA: We're fine.

AUDREY: I know these parts real good if you're looking for somebody.

TOUCHSTONE: Actually, we are—

CELIA: Not looking for anyone. Come on, Touchstone.

AUDREY: Touchstone?

TOUCHSTONE: That's my name.

AUDREY: It's real pretty.

TOUCHSTONE: It is?

AUDREY: I've never heard nobody named that before.

TOUCHSTONE: What's your name?

AUDREY: Audrey.

TOUCHSTONE: That's beautiful.

CELIA: Yes, it is, but we are in a hurry.

TOUCHSTONE: *(To Celia:)* No, we're not.

AUDREY: I should go. I see I'm making your friends uncomfortable.

ROSALIND: No. It's not that.

AUDREY: I get it. I'm a love me or hate me kind of person. I just turn some people off.

TOUCHSTONE: Not me.

AUDREY: Well, ain't you sweet?

CELIA: It's not that we don't like you –

AUDREY: Yes. It is. And that's okay. If I got to know you, I probably wouldn't like you neither.

ROSALIND: It's just that we're trying to find someone –

TOUCHSTONE: You two go on. I'll catch up.

CELIA: Touchstone, we need to stick together.

ROSALIND: Let him go. We can call him later.

CELIA: But she –

ROSALIND: If he likes her, he likes her. Besides, he can't go far in animal shoes.

CELIA: That's true.

TOUCHSTONE: Just go without me.

CELIA: Be careful.

ROSALIND: Call us if you need us.

(Touchstone escorts Audrey offstage. Rosalind receives a message from Orlando.)

Celia, it's him. He wants to video chat.

CELIA: So video chat with him.

ROSALIND: He doesn't want to chat with me. He wants to chat with Ganymede.

CELIA: Tell him your camera's broken. Say you'll talk to him, but he won't be able to see you.

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ROSALIND: Good thinking.

(After Rosalind types a message to Orlando, he appears on the screen. He never appears on stage in this scene. Instead, Rosalind talks with his image on her phone. She deepens her voice and pretends to be Ganymede throughout the scene.)

ORLANDO: Hey, man.

ROSALIND: My camera's not working.

ORLANDO: No problem.

ROSALIND: But you can hear me?

ORLANDO: Sure can.

ROSALIND: You're late.

ORLANDO: Sorry. I messaged as soon as I got a chance.

ROSALIND: Not soon enough. Not soon enough for Rosalind.

ORLANDO: So she doesn't like it when people are late?

ROSALIND: Can't stand it.

ORLANDO: Look, Ganymede. I don't know about this.

ROSALIND: No. No. No. Pretend I'm Rosalind. If I were her, what would you say?

ORLANDO: I would probably be too afraid to talk to her.

ROSALIND: That's why we're practicing.

ORLANDO: Okay. Well, I would probably tell her that it was nice to meet her the other day.

ROSALIND: You can do better than that.

ORLANDO: Okay. I would say that she has pretty eyes, and I could smell her shampoo and liked it.

ROSALIND: So sweet.

ORLANDO: That sounds ridiculous.

ROSALIND: It sounds honest. She doesn't care about you being smooth.

ORLANDO: And I would say that when I saw her, I could barely breathe, and I haven't been able to think of anything since then. I check my phone over and over to see if maybe she came home from the camping trip early.

ROSALIND: I feel the same way.

ORLANDO: Ganymede, I didn't know that you —

ROSALIND: No, I'm pretending to be Rosalind.

ORLANDO: Oh, I forgot. This is confusing.

ROSALIND: Since I saw you, I haven't been able to think of anything else. When I try to sit still, I feel like my body won't let me. I want to get up and run and try to find you. And when I do, I want to kiss you on the lips, like I've never kissed anyone before. I want you to kiss me back.

ORLANDO: I want to kiss you back.

ROSALIND: And then you'll put your arms around my waist.

ORLANDO: And you'll put your arms around my neck.

ROSALIND: And we'll stay like that for as long as we want.

ORLANDO: (*Beat.*) Umm... Ganymede. This is a little awkward.

ROSALIND: Sorry.

ORLANDO: Will you see her today?

ROSALIND: I see her every day.

ORLANDO: Do you think she'd meet up tonight?

ROSALIND: That's not a good idea.

ORLANDO: She doesn't want to hang out?

ROSALIND: She does, just not now. She has to find her dad first.

ORLANDO: Her dad?

ROSALIND: He's living in the forest somewhere. She's worried about him. Worried that he may have had a breakdown. He's in the woods somewhere. She has to find him.

ORLANDO: Maybe I could help.

ROSALIND: She'll take any help she can get.

ORLANDO: When you see her, tell her to message me on your phone, and I'll help her find her dad.

(Orlando exits.)

ROSALIND: He asked me to meet him later.

CELIA: That's great.

ROSALIND: No, it's not.

CELIA: Why?

ROSALIND: I said no. I want to find Dad first. I don't want to get off track. We're so lost already. Besides, I choke when I talk to guys.

CELIA: You've been talking to him.

ROSALIND: As Ganymede.

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