

FLORIZEL

These your unusual weeds to each part of you
 Do give a life: no shepherdess, but Flora
 Peering in April's front. This your sheep-shearing
 Is as a meeting of the petty gods,
 And you the queen on't.

I bless the time

When my good falcon made her flight across
 Thy father's ground.

PERDITA

Now Jove afford you cause!

To me the difference forges dread; your greatness
 Hath not been used to fear. Even now I tremble
 To think your father, by some accident,
 Should pass this way as you did: O, the Fates!
 How would he look, to see his work so noble
 Vilely bound up? What would he say? Or how
 Should I, in these my borrow'd flaunts, behold
 The sternness of his presence?

FLORIZEL

Apprehend

Nothing but jollity. The gods themselves,
 Humbling their deities to love, have taken
 The shapes of beasts upon them: Jupiter
 Became a bull, and bellow'd; the green Neptune
 A ram, and bleated; and the fire-robed god,
 Golden Apollo, a poor humble swain,
 As I seem now. Their transformations
 Were never for a piece of beauty rarer,
 Nor in a way so chaste, since my desires
 Run not before mine honour, nor my lusts
 Burn hotter than my faith.

PERDITA

O, but, sir,

Your resolution cannot hold, when 'tis
 Opposed, as it must be, by the power of the king:
 One of these two must be necessities,
 Which then will speak, that you must
 change this purpose,
 Or I my life.

FLORIZEL

Thou dearest Perdita,
 With these forced thoughts, I prithee, darken not
 The mirth o' the feast. Or I'll be thine, my fair,
 Or not my father's. For I cannot be

Mine own, nor any thing to any, if
 I be not thine. To this I am most constant,
 Though destiny say no. Be merry, gentle;
 Strangle such thoughts as these with any thing
 That you behold the while. Your guests are coming:
 Lift up your countenance, as it were the day
 Of celebration of that nuptial which
 We two have sworn shall come.

PERDITA

O lady Fortune,
 Stand you auspicious!

FLORIZEL

See, your guests approach:
 Address yourself to entertain them sprightly,
 And let's be red with mirth.