

**JAQUES (a melancholy lord attending the duke in the forest)**

All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players;  
They have their exits and their entrances,  
And one man in his time plays many parts,  
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,  
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.  
And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,  
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,  
Full of strange oaths and bearded like the pard,  
Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,  
Seeking the bubble reputation  
Even in the cannon's mouth.

**ORLANDO (a young nobleman speaking to two women who have tried to talk him out of a dangerous wrestling match)**

I beseech you, punish me not with your hard thoughts, but let your fair eyes and gentle wishes go with me to my trial – wherein if I be foiled, there is but one shamed that was never gracious; if killed, but one dead that was willing to be so. I shall do my friends no wrong, for I have none to lament me; the world no injury, for in it I have nothing. Only in the world I fill up a place, which may be better supplied when I have made it empty.

**LUCENTIO (Disguised as a Latin teacher and wooing Bianca while pretending to teach her Latin)**

Here left we last, fair Bianca:

*'Hic ibat,'* as I told you before, *'Simois,'* I am Lucentio, *'hic est,'* son unto Vincentio of Pisa, *'Sigeia tellus,'* disguised thus to get your love; *'Hic steterat,'* and that Lucentio that comes a-wooing, *'Priami,'* is my man Tranio, *'regia,'* bearing my port, *'celsa senis,'* that we might beguile the old pantaloon.

**GREMIO (describing Katherine & Petruchio's wedding)**

Tut, she's a lamb, a dove, a fool to him!  
I'll tell you, Sir Lucentio: when the priest  
Should ask, if Katharina should be his wife,  
'Ay, by gogs-wouns,' quoth he; and swore so loud,  
That, all-amazed, the priest let fall the book;  
And, as he stoop'd again to take it up,  
The mad-brain'd bridegroom took him such a cuff  
That down fell priest and book and book and priest.  
But after many ceremonies done,  
He calls for wine: 'A health!' quoth he, as if  
He had been aboard, carousing to his mates  
After a storm;  
This done, he took the bride about the neck  
And kiss'd her lips with such a clamorous smack  
That at the parting all the church did echo.  
Such a mad marriage never was before.

**CHRISTOPHER SLY (a drunk beggar tricked into thinking he's a lord)**

Am not I Christophero Sly, old Sly's son of Burton Heath, by birth a pedlar, by education a cardmaker, by transmutation a bear-herd, and now by present profession a tinker? Ask Marian Hacket, the ale-wife of Wincot, if she know me not.

**OLIVER (the villain, saying untrue things about his brother)**

I'll tell thee, Charles, it is the stubbornest young fellow of France, a secret and villainous contriver against me his natural brother. Therefore use thy discretion. I had as lief thou didst break his neck as his finger. And thou wert best look to't; for if thou dost him any slight disgrace, he will practise against thee by poison and never leave thee till he hath ta'en thy life by some indirect means or other. For I assure thee, and almost with tears I speak it, there is not one so young and so villainous this day living.