

Spark Notes publishes Shakespeare texts, in print and on the web, in a series called *No Fear Shakespeare*. Each volume presents Shakespeare's text and, on facing pages, a line-by-line translation into modern English prose. The modernizations—like translations into more obviously foreign languages—can reveal a lot about the original.

This is the closing couplet of the first scene of *Twelfth Night or What You Will*:

Away before me to sweet beds of flowers,  
Love-thoughts lie rich when canopied with bowers.

And this is that couplet without fear:

Take me to the garden.  
I need a beautiful place to sit and think about love.

This next pair of lines is from the speech that concludes *Macbeth* 3.2:

Good things of day begin to droop and drowse,  
Whiles night's black agents to their preys do rouse.

The fear-free version:

The gentle creatures of the day are falling asleep,  
while night's predators are waking up to look for their prey.