

How NOT to try to find a wife: An Apollo Story  
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Sources

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Parts

Apollo

Lusapis / Cupid

Daphne

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Apollo (to Lusapis): What are you doing?

Lusapis: I am definitely not watching the young woman bathing in the river. I'm braiding my hair.

Apollo: But why are you dressed as a young woman?

Lusapis: Not normally my thing, but for Daphne, I would do ANYTHING.

I am in love with that river nymph, but the problem is that she has sworn off ever getting married. Or even being in the company of men. So, I came up with a GREAT PLAN. I've grown my hair out and dressed as a woman, then I joined the troop of nymphs.

Over time, I will become closer to Daphne. When she comes to her senses and decides that she wants to get married, I'll be right there! See! Perfect plan!

Apollo: I'm sorry, what? You think that's a plan? Which one is Daphne?

Lusapis: That is the glorious Daphne, right there! Are... are you drooling?

Apollo: What? I'm definitely not struck with love for that nymph.

Lusapis: Well, even if you were, stay away. I have dibs! I know Daphne has sworn off men and all that, but I've been working my ENTIRE adult life for this. TWO YEARS is a long time.

Apollo: Yes, but I have this BOW.

Lusapis: (Laughs) I know you are the greatest archer, but think about that for a second. What would Daphne do if her BEST FRIEND was murdered? I'm going to go join my place with the girls. You are going to have her only in your dreams.

Apollo: (to himself) in dreams... hmmm....

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Daphne: Good morning everyone! I had a dream last night from a *god*. They promised a revelation if we do one simple task for them. Just jump in the river and wash our clothes! So easy! Let's get going... Hey Lusapis, are you coming?

Lusapis: I'll be right there.

Daphne: No, the god was very specific. It had to be ALL of us together. No one can be left out. The only way to get the revelation is if ALL of us do it.

Lusapis: No... seriously... I'll be *right* behind you.

Daphne: Hey, you never come to bathe in the river. You are always absent and show up *\*just\** when we get out of the water.

Lusapis: That's not true, your memory is faulty. Hey, why are you guys circling me? Hey- don't snatch at my dress! Hey, let go of my dress!

Daphne: Lusapis, you have managed to preserve just a sliver of dignity, it is clear that you are a man, posing as a woman.

Lusapis: But, Daphne, don't you feel it? Don't you feel what we have? What are you even doing out here? I'm a prince.

Daphne: LEAVE!

Lusapis: Do you know who I am? I deserve to have you!

Daphne: Do you know about the mynads? The roving band of women who followed Dionysus? Do you know what THEY do to men?

Lusapis: (looking around at the circled women) Uhh.... (turns to run). I'll be back! And I'll bring my father's army and I will just take you with me!

Apollo (watching from the shadows): Wow. Look at that! Lusapis didn't make it far before that javelin stopped him. Daphne's spear arm is steady, and he was dead before he hit the ground. Beautiful, intelligent, and a great shot. I'm going to make my move at the right time. And she will love me immediately!

Cupid: Don't do that.

Apollo: I didn't see you there, Cupid. Don't do what?

Cupid: Smirk and sneer. I'm trying to work

Apollo: Is that what you call it?

Come talk to me when you want to talk to a real archer. I just saved a whole city. I killed python! Did you know that? Arrows by the acre. The body is still there because no one knows how to move a body that big.

Cupid: Let. me. Work.

Apollo: Now he's too good to talk to me. Cupid. Cupid. Cupid.

Cupid: WHAT!?!? Look what you made me do, that love arrow missed its mark and that dog is in love with that tree!

Apollo: It's weird that you talk. You're a baby and have the voice of a grown man. And you still wear diapers. Why? Go put that bow and arrow away. I'm the archer of the Olympians. It's my thing! Not yours.

Cupid: I'm leaving. You are such a jerk.

All right, now that I'm up on a mountain, let's see what Apollo thinks he's doing.

He's... sneaking down to a river to watch a nymph?

Oh... Oh my, Apollo is in love with that nymph. And she has sworn off men all together!

I know lust. Lust and the Olympians often go hand in hand.

But, I also know love, and somehow this is love. Apollo could really be happy with her forever.

But everything would need to go right...

(sarcastic tone) Well, it's a shame I'm "so bad" at this gig... Lets see... this lead arrow would make anyone struck by it instantly repulsed by whoever they see. And this lust arrow, well, that just says it all.

And there's no way I could hit both Daphne and Apollo with these from here.  
Oh look, right in the heart of both of them.

Apollo: Daphne! Behold, it is me!

Daphne: Stay away!

Cupid: (laughing) Apollo has been chasing Daphne for twenty minutes!

Apollo: Hey! Wait up! I'm not some lion waiting to eat you! You are totally safe with me! Do you know who I am? I'm not some uncouth shepherd or wild mountain dweller! I am Apollo! Son of Zeus and lord of the lyre! I am the master of deadly arrows. Hey, you are getting ahead of me-time to pick up speed again.

Daphne: There is no way to get out of this. He's an Olympian and he will keep coming for me and there will be no escape. What's that sound? The river, my father. Please, father, please change me and mar my beauty. Why are my feet sinking into the ground? Why can't I lift my feet?

Apollo: I caught you! What the heck is happening to you? Your skin is becoming craggy... and... are you growing leaves from your head?

Daphne: I'm becoming a tree to be protected from an assault from the gods.

And this is how laurel trees came to be. Blessed by my father, laurel has been used in purification rituals since ancient Greek times.