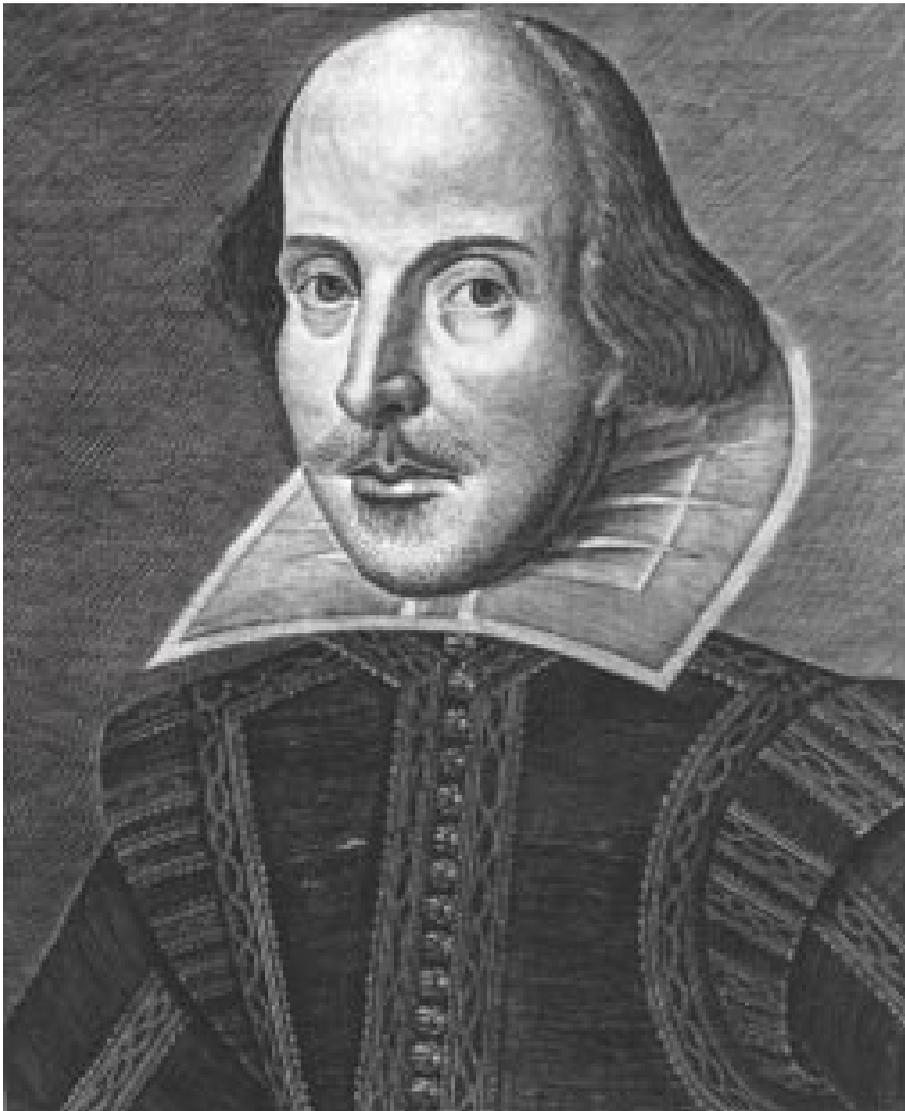


VOLUME I BOOK XIV



TWELFTH NIGHT



By William Shakespeare

Dramatis Personae



ORSINO *Duke of Illyria. (DUKE ORSINO)*

SEBASTIAN *brother to Viola.*

ANTONIO *a sea captain, friend to Sebastian.*

A Sea Captain, friend to Viola. (CAPTAIN)

VALENTINE }
CURIO } *gentlemen attending
on the Duke.*

SIR TOBY BELCH *uncle to Olivia.*

SIR ANDREW AGUECHEEK *(SIR ANDREW)*

MALVOLIO *steward to Olivia.*

FABIAN }
FESTE *a Clown* } *servants*
(CLOWN) } *to Olivia.*

OLIVIA.

VIOLA.

MARIA *Olivia's woman.*

*Lords, Priests, Sailors, Officers, Musicians,
and other Attendants.*

(PRIEST)

(FIRST OFFICER)

(SECOND OFFICER)

(SERVANT)

SCENE *A city in Illyria, and the sea-coast near it.*

Twelfth Night



ACT I

SCENE I

DUKE ORSINO's palace.

*[Enter DUKE ORSINO, CURIO, and other Lords;
Musicians attending]*

DUKE ORSINO If music be the food of love, play on;
Give me excess of it, that, surfeiting,
The appetite may sicken, and so die.
That strain again! it had a dying fall:
O, it came o'er my ear like the sweet sound,
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing and giving odour! Enough; no more:
'Tis not so sweet now as it was before.
O spirit of love! how quick and fresh art thou,
That, notwithstanding thy capacity
Receiveth as the sea, nought enters there,
Of what validity and pitch soe'er,
But falls into abatement and low price,
Even in a minute: so full of shapes is fancy
That it alone is high fantastical.

CURIO Will you go hunt, my lord?

DUKE ORSINO What, Curio?

CURIO The hart.

DUKE ORSINO Why, so I do, the noblest that I have:
O, when mine eyes did see Olivia first,
Methought she purged the air of pestilence!
That instant was I turn'd into a hart;
And my desires, like fell and cruel hounds,
E'er since pursue me.

[Enter VALENTINE]

How now! what news from her?

VALENTINE So please my lord, I might not be admitted;
But from her handmaid do return this answer:
The element itself, till seven years' heat,
Shall not behold her face at ample view;
But, like a cloistress, she will veiled walk
And water once a day her chamber round
With eye-offending brine: all this to season
A brother's dead love, which she would keep fresh
And lasting in her sad remembrance.

DUKE ORSINO O, she that hath a heart of that fine frame
To pay this debt of love but to a brother,
How will she love, when the rich golden shaft
Hath kill'd the flock of all affections else
That live in her; when liver, brain and heart,
These sovereign thrones, are all supplied, and fill'd
Her sweet perfections with one self king!
Away before me to sweet beds of flowers:
Love-thoughts lie rich when canopied with bowers.

[Exeunt]

SCENE II

The sea-coast.

[Enter VIOLA, a Captain, and Sailors]

VIOLA What country, friends, is this?

CAPTAIN This is Illyria, lady.

VIOLA And what should I do in Illyria?
My brother he is in Elysium.
Perchance he is not drown'd: what think you, sailors?

CAPTAIN It is perchance that you yourself were saved.

VIOLA O my poor brother! and so perchance may he be.

CAPTAIN True, madam: and, to comfort you with chance,
Assure yourself, after our ship did split,
When you and those poor number saved with you
Hung on our driving boat, I saw your brother,
Most provident in peril, bind himself,
Courage and hope both teaching him the practise,
To a strong mast that lived upon the sea;
Where, like Arion on the dolphin's back,
I saw him hold acquaintance with the waves
So long as I could see.

VIOLA For saying so, there's gold:
Mine own escape unfoldeth to my hope,
Whereto thy speech serves for authority,
The like of him. Know'st thou this country?

CAPTAIN Ay, madam, well; for I was bred and born
Not three hours' travel from this very place.

VIOLA Who governs here?

CAPTAIN A noble duke, in nature as in name.

VIOLA What is the name?

CAPTAIN Orsino.

VIOLA Orsino! I have heard my father name him:
He was a bachelor then.

CAPTAIN And so is now, or was so very late;
For but a month ago I went from hence,
And then 'twas fresh in murmur,—as, you know,
What great ones do the less will prattle of,—
That he did seek the love of fair Olivia.

VIOLA What's she?

CAPTAIN A virtuous maid, the daughter of a count
That died some twelvemonth since, then leaving her
In the protection of his son, her brother,
Who shortly also died: for whose dear love,
They say, she hath abjured the company
And sight of men.

VIOLA O that I served that lady
And might not be delivered to the world,
Till I had made mine own occasion mellow,
What my estate is!

CAPTAIN That were hard to compass;
Because she will admit no kind of suit,
No, not the duke's.

VIOLA There is a fair behavior in thee, captain;
And though that nature with a beauteous wall
Doth oft close in pollution, yet of thee
I will believe thou hast a mind that suits
With this thy fair and outward character.
I prithee, and I'll pay thee bounteously,
Conceal me what I am, and be my aid
For such disguise as haply shall become
The form of my intent. I'll serve this duke:
Thou shalt present me as an eunuch to him:
It may be worth thy pains; for I can sing
And speak to him in many sorts of music
That will allow me very worth his service.
What else may hap to time I will commit;
Only shape thou thy silence to my wit.

CAPTAIN Be you his eunuch, and your mute I'll be:
When my tongue blabs, then let mine eyes not see.

VIOLA I thank thee: lead me on.

[Exeunt]

SCENE III
OLIVIA'S house.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH and MARIA]

SIR TOBY BELCH What a plague means my niece, to take
the death of her brother thus? I am sure care's an
enemy to life.

MARIA By my troth, Sir Toby, you must come in earlier
o' nights: your cousin, my lady, takes great exceptions
to your ill hours.

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, let her except, before excepted.

MARIA Ay, but you must confine yourself within the
modest limits of order.

SIR TOBY BELCH Confine! I'll confine myself no finer
than I am: these clothes are good enough to drink in;
and so be these boots too: an they be not, let them hang
themselves in their own straps.

MARIA That quaffing and drinking will undo you: I
heard my lady talk of it yesterday; and of a foolish
knight that you brought in one night here to be
her wooer.

SIR TOBY BELCH Who, Sir Andrew Aguecheek?

MARIA Ay, he.

SIR TOBY BELCH He's as tall a man as any's in Illyria.

MARIA What's that to the purpose?

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, he has three thousand ducats a year.

MARIA Ay, but he'll have but a year in all these ducats: he's a very fool and a prodigal.

SIR TOBY BELCH Fie, that you'll say so! He plays o' the viol-de-gamboys, and speaks three or four languages word for word without book, and hath all the good gifts of nature.

MARIA He hath indeed, almost natural: for besides that he's a fool, he's a great quarreller: and but that he hath the gift of a coward to allay the gust he hath in quarrelling, 'tis thought among the prudent he would quickly have the gift of a grave.

SIR TOBY BELCH By this hand, they are scoundrels and subtractors that say so of him. Who are they?

MARIA They that add, moreover, he's drunk nightly in your company.

SIR TOBY BELCH With drinking healths to my niece: I'll drink to her as long as there is a passage in my throat and drink in Illyria: he's a coward and a coyrill that will not drink to my niece till his brains turn o' the toe like a parish-top. What, wench! Castiliano vulgo! For here comes Sir Andrew Agueface.

[Enter *SIR ANDREW*]

SIR ANDREW Sir Toby Belch! how now, Sir Toby Belch!

SIR TOBY BELCH Sweet Sir Andrew!

SIR ANDREW Bless you, fair shrew.

MARIA And you too, sir.

SIR TOBY BELCH Accost, Sir Andrew, accost.

SIR ANDREW What's that?

SIR TOBY BELCH My niece's chambermaid.

SIR ANDREW Good Mistress Accost, I desire better acquaintance.

MARIA My name is Mary, sir.

SIR ANDREW Good Mistress Mary Accost,—

SIR TOBY BELCH You mistake, knight; "accost" is front her, board her, woo her, assail her.

SIR ANDREW By my troth, I would not undertake her in this company. Is that the meaning of "accost"?

MARIA Fare you well, gentlemen.

SIR TOBY BELCH An thou let part so, Sir Andrew, would thou mightst never draw sword again.

SIR ANDREW An you part so, mistress, I would I might never draw sword again. Fair lady, do you think you have fools in hand?

MARIA Sir, I have not you by the hand.

SIR ANDREW Marry, but you shall have; and here's my hand.

MARIA Now, sir, "thought is free:" I pray you, bring your hand to the buttery-bar and let it drink.

SIR ANDREW Wherefore, sweet-heart? what's your metaphor?

MARIA It's dry, sir.

SIR ANDREW Why, I think so: I am not such an ass but I can keep my hand dry. But what's your jest?

MARIA A dry jest, sir.

SIR ANDREW Are you full of them?

MARIA Ay, sir, I have them at my fingers' ends: marry, now I let go your hand, I am barren.

[Exit]

SIR TOBY BELCH O knight thou lackest a cup of canary: when did I see thee so put down?

SIR ANDREW Never in your life, I think; unless you see canary put me down. Methinks sometimes I have no more wit than a Christian or an ordinary man has: but I am a great eater of beef and I believe that does harm to my wit.

SIR TOBY BELCH No question.

SIR ANDREW An I thought that, I'd forswear it. I'll ride home to-morrow, Sir Toby.

SIR TOBY BELCH Pourquoi, my dear knight?

SIR ANDREW What is "Pourquoi"? Do or not do? I would I had bestowed that time in the tongues that I have in fencing, dancing and bear-baiting: O, had I but followed the arts!

SIR TOBY BELCH Then hadst thou had an excellent head of hair.

SIR ANDREW Why, would that have mended my hair?

SIR TOBY BELCH Past question; for thou seest it will not curl by nature.

SIR ANDREW But it becomes me well enough,
does't not?

SIR TOBY BELCH Excellent; it hangs like flax on a distaff;
and I hope to see a housewife take thee between her
legs and spin it off.

SIR ANDREW Faith, I'll home to-morrow, Sir Toby: your
niece will not be seen; or if she be, it's four to one she'll
none of me: the count himself here hard by woos her.

SIR TOBY BELCH She'll none o' the count: she'll not
match above her degree, neither in estate, years, nor
wit; I have heard her swear't. Tut, there's life in't, man.

SIR ANDREW I'll stay a month longer. I am a fellow o'
the strangest mind i' the world; I delight in masques
and revels sometimes altogether.

SIR TOBY BELCH Art thou good at these
kickshawses, knight?

SIR ANDREW As any man in Illyria, whatsoever he be,
under the degree of my betters; and yet I will not
compare with an old man.

SIR TOBY BELCH What is thy excellence in a
galliard, knight?

SIR ANDREW Faith, I can cut a caper.

SIR TOBY BELCH And I can cut the mutton to't.

SIR ANDREW And I think I have the back-trick simply as
strong as any man in Illyria.

SIR TOBY BELCH Wherefore are these things hid?
Wherefore have these gifts a curtain before 'em? Are
they like to take dust, like Mistress Mall's picture? Why
dost thou not go to church in a galliard and come
home in a coranto? My very walk should be a jig; I
would not so much as make water but in a sink-a-pace.
What dost thou mean? Is it a world to hide virtues in?
I did think, by the excellent constitution of thy leg, it
was formed under the star of a galliard.

SIR ANDREW Ay, 'tis strong, and it does indifferent well
in a flame-coloured stock. Shall we set about
some revels?

SIR TOBY BELCH What shall we do else? were we not
born under Taurus?

SIR ANDREW Taurus! That's sides and heart.

SIR TOBY BELCH No, sir; it is legs and thighs. Let me see
the caper; ha! higher: ha, ha! excellent!

[Exeunt]

SCENE IV
DUKE ORSINO'S palace.

[Enter VALENTINE and VIOLA in man's attire]

VALENTINE If the duke continue these favours towards
you, Cesario, you are like to be much advanced: he
hath known you but three days, and already you are
no stranger.

VIOLA You either fear his humour or my negligence,
that you call in question the continuance of his love: is
he inconstant, sir, in his favours?

VALENTINE No, believe me.

VIOLA I thank you. Here comes the count.

[Enter DUKE ORSINO, CURIO, and Attendants]

DUKE ORSINO Who saw Cesario, ho?

VIOLA On your attendance, my lord; here.

DUKE ORSINO Stand you a while aloof, Cesario,
Thou know'st no less but all; I have unclasp'd
To thee the book even of my secret soul:
Therefore, good youth, address thy gait unto her;
Be not denied access, stand at her doors,
And tell them, there thy fixed foot shall grow
Till thou have audience.

VIOLA Sure, my noble lord,
If she be so abandon'd to her sorrow
As it is spoke, she never will admit me.

DUKE ORSINO Be clamorous and leap all civil bounds
Rather than make unprofit return.

VIOLA Say I do speak with her, my lord, what then?

DUKE ORSINO O, then unfold the passion of my love,
Surprise her with discourse of my dear faith:
It shall become thee well to act my woes;
She will attend it better in thy youth
Than in a nuncio's of more grave aspect.

VIOLA I think not so, my lord.

DUKE ORSINO Dear lad, believe it;
For they shall yet belie thy happy years,
That say thou art a man: Diana's lip
Is not more smooth and rubious; thy small pipe
Is as the maiden's organ, shrill and sound,
And all is semblative a woman's part.
I know thy constellation is right apt
For this affair. Some four or five attend him;
All, if you will; for I myself am best

When least in company. Prosper well in this,
And thou shalt live as freely as thy lord,
To call his fortunes thine.

VIOLA I'll do my best
To woo your lady:

[Aside]

Yet, a barful strife!
Whoe'er I woo, myself would be his wife.

[Exeunt]

SCENE V
OLIVIA's house.

[Enter MARIA and Clown]

MARIA Nay, either tell me where thou hast been, or I will not open my lips so wide as a bristle may enter in way of thy excuse: my lady will hang thee for thy absence.

CLOWN Let her hang me: he that is well hanged in this world needs to fear no colours.

MARIA Make that good.

CLOWN He shall see none to fear.

MARIA A good lenten answer: I can tell thee where that saying was born, of "I fear no colours."

CLOWN Where, good Mistress Mary?

MARIA In the wars; and that may you be bold to say in your foolery.

CLOWN Well, God give them wisdom that have it; and those that are fools, let them use their talents.

MARIA Yet you will be hanged for being so long absent; or, to be turned away, is not that as good as a hanging to you?

CLOWN Many a good hanging prevents a bad marriage; and, for turning away, let summer bear it out.

MARIA You are resolute, then?

CLOWN Not so, neither; but I am resolved on two *MARIA* That if one break, the other will hold; or, if both break, your gaskins fall.

CLOWN Apt, in good faith; very apt. Well, go thy way; if Sir Toby would leave drinking, thou wert as witty a piece of Eve's flesh as any in Illyria.

MARIA Peace, you rogue, no more o' that. Here comes my lady: make your excuse wisely, you were best.

[Exit]

CLOWN Wit, an't be thy will, put me into good fooling! Those wits, that think they have thee, do very oft prove fools; and I, that am sure I lack thee, may pass for a wise man: for what says Quinapalus? "Better a witty fool, than a foolish wit."

[Enter OLIVIA with MALVOLIO]

God bless thee, lady!

OLIVIA Take the fool away.

CLOWN Do you not hear, fellows? Take away the lady.

OLIVIA Go to, you're a dry fool; I'll no more of you: besides, you grow dishonest.

CLOWN Two faults, madonna, that drink and good counsel will amend: for give the dry fool drink, then is the fool not dry: bid the dishonest man mend himself; if he mend, he is no longer dishonest; if he cannot, let the botcher mend him. Any thing that's mended is but patched: virtue that transgresses is but patched with sin; and sin that amends is but patched with virtue. If that this simple syllogism will serve, so; if it will not, what remedy? As there is no true cuckold but calamity, so beauty's a flower. The lady bade take away the fool; therefore, I say again, take her away.

OLIVIA Sir, I bade them take away you.

CLOWN Misprision in the highest degree! Lady, cucullus non facit monachum; that's as much to say as I wear not motley in my brain. Good madonna, give me leave to prove you a fool.

OLIVIA Can you do it?

CLOWN Dexterously, good madonna.

OLIVIA Make your proof.

CLOWN I must catechise you for it, madonna: good my mouse of virtue, answer me.

OLIVIA Well, sir, for want of other idleness, I'll bide your proof.

CLOWN Good madonna, why mournest thou?

OLIVIA Good fool, for my brother's death.

CLOWN I think his soul is in hell, madonna.

OLIVIA I know his soul is in heaven, fool.

CLOWN The more fool, madonna, to mourn for your brother's soul being in heaven. Take away the fool, gentlemen.

OLIVIA What think you of this fool, Malvolio? doth he not mend?

MALVOLIO Yes, and shall do till the pangs of death shake him: infirmity, that decays the wise, doth ever make the better fool.

CLOWN God send you, sir, a speedy infirmity, for the better increasing your folly! Sir Toby will be sworn that I am no fox; but he will not pass his word for two pence that you are no fool.

OLIVIA How say you to that, Malvolio?

MALVOLIO I marvel your ladyship takes delight in such a barren rascal: I saw him put down the other day with an ordinary fool that has no more brain than a stone. Look you now, he's out of his guard already; unless you laugh and minister occasion to him, he is gagged. I protest, I take these wise men, that crow so at these set kind of fools, no better than the fools' zanies.

OLIVIA Oh, you are sick of self-love, Malvolio, and taste with a distempered appetite. To be generous, guiltless and of free disposition, is to take those things for bird-bolts that you deem cannon-bullets: there is no slander in an allowed fool, though he do nothing but rail; nor no railing in a known discreet man, though he do nothing but reprove.

CLOWN Now Mercury endue thee with leasing, for thou speakest well of fools!

[Re-enter MARIA]

MARIA Madam, there is at the gate a young gentleman much desires to speak with you.

OLIVIA From the Count Orsino, is it?

MARIA I know not, madam: 'tis a fair young man, and well attended.

OLIVIA Who of my people hold him in delay?

MARIA Sir Toby, madam, your kinsman.

OLIVIA Fetch him off, I pray you; he speaks nothing but madman: fie on him!

[Exit MARIA]

Go you, Malvolio: if it be a suit from the count, I am sick, or not at home; what you will, to dismiss it.

[Exit MALVOLIO]

Now you see, sir, how your fooling grows old, and people dislike it.

CLOWN Thou hast spoke for us, madonna, as if thy eldest son should be a fool; whose skull Jove cram with brains! for,—here he comes,—one of thy kin has a most weak pia mater.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH]

OLIVIA By mine honour, half drunk. What is he at the gate, cousin?

SIR TOBY BELCH A gentleman.

OLIVIA A gentleman! what gentleman?

SIR TOBY BELCH 'Tis a gentle man here—a plague o' these pickle-herring! How now, sot!

CLOWN Good Sir Toby!

OLIVIA Cousin, cousin, how have you come so early by this lethargy?

SIR TOBY BELCH Lechery! I defy lechery. There's one at the gate.

OLIVIA Ay, marry, what is he?

SIR TOBY BELCH Let him be the devil, an he will, I care not: give me faith, say I. Well, it's all one.

[Exit]

OLIVIA What's a drunken man like, fool?

CLOWN Like a drowned man, a fool and a mad man: one draught above heat makes him a fool; the second mads him; and a third drowns him.

OLIVIA Go thou and seek the crowner, and let him sit o' my coz; for he's in the third degree of drink, he's drowned: go, look after him.

CLOWN He is but mad yet, madonna; and the fool shall look to the madman.

[Exit]

[Re-enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO Madam, yond young fellow swears he will speak with you. I told him you were sick; he takes on

him to understand so much, and therefore comes to speak with you. I told him you were asleep; he seems to have a foreknowledge of that too, and therefore comes to speak with you. What is to be said to him, lady? he's fortified against any denial.

OLIVIA Tell him he shall not speak with me.

MALVOLIO Has been told so; and he says, he'll stand at your door like a sheriff's post, and be the supporter to a bench, but he'll speak with you.

OLIVIA What kind o' man is he?

MALVOLIO Why, of mankind.

OLIVIA What manner of man?

MALVOLIO Of very ill manner; he'll speak with you, will you or no.

OLIVIA Of what personage and years is he?

MALVOLIO Not yet old enough for a man, nor young enough for a boy; as a squash is before 'tis a peascod, or a cooling when 'tis almost an apple: 'tis with him in standing water, between boy and man. He is very well-favoured and he speaks very shrewishly; one would think his mother's milk were scarce out of him.

OLIVIA Let him approach: call in my gentlewoman.

MALVOLIO Gentlewoman, my lady calls.

[Exit]

[Re-enter MARIA]

OLIVIA Give me my veil: come, throw it o'er my face. We'll once more hear Orsino's embassy.

[Enter VIOLA, and Attendants]

VIOLA The honourable lady of the house, which is she?

OLIVIA Speak to me; I shall answer for her. Your will?

VIOLA Most radiant, exquisite and unmatchable beauty,—I pray you, tell me if this be the lady of the house, for I never saw her: I would be loath to cast away my speech, for besides that it is excellently well penned, I have taken great pains to con it. Good beauties, let me sustain no scorn; I am very comptible, even to the least sinister usage.

OLIVIA Whence came you, sir?

VIOLA I can say little more than I have studied, and that question's out of my part. Good gentle one, give me

modest assurance if you be the lady of the house, that I may proceed in my speech.

OLIVIA Are you a comedian?

VIOLA No, my profound heart: and yet, by the very fangs of malice I swear, I am not that I play. Are you the lady of the house?

OLIVIA If I do not usurp myself, I am.

VIOLA Most certain, if you are she, you do usurp yourself; for what is yours to bestow is not yours to reserve. But this is from my commission: I will on with my speech in your praise, and then show you the heart of my message.

OLIVIA Come to what is important in't: I forgive you the praise.

VIOLA Alas, I took great pains to study it, and 'tis poetical.

OLIVIA It is the more like to be feigned: I pray you, keep it in. I heard you were saucy at my gates, and allowed your approach rather to wonder at you than to hear you. If you be not mad, be gone; if you have reason, be brief: 'tis not that time of moon with me to make one in so skipping a dialogue.

MARIA Will you hoist sail, sir? here lies your way.

VIOLA No, good swabber; I am to hull here a little longer. Some mollification for your giant, sweet lady. Tell me your mind: I am a messenger.

OLIVIA Sure, you have some hideous matter to deliver, when the courtesy of it is so fearful. Speak your office.

VIOLA It alone concerns your ear. I bring no overture of war, no taxation of homage: I hold the olive in my hand; my words are as fun of peace as matter.

OLIVIA Yet you began rudely. What are you? What would you?

VIOLA The rudeness that hath appeared in me have I learned from my entertainment. What I am, and what I would, are as secret as maidenhead; to your ears, divinity, to any other's, profanation.

OLIVIA Give us the place alone: we will hear this divinity.

[Exeunt MARIA and Attendants]

Now, sir, what is your text?

VIOLA Most sweet lady,—

OLIVIA A comfortable doctrine, and much may be said of it. Where lies your text?

VIOLA In Orsino's bosom.

OLIVIA In his bosom! In what chapter of his bosom?

VIOLA To answer by the method, in the first of his heart.

OLIVIA O, I have read it: it is heresy. Have you no more to say?

VIOLA Good madam, let me see your face.

OLIVIA Have you any commission from your lord to negotiate with my face? You are now out of your text: but we will draw the curtain and show you the picture. Look you, sir, such a one I was this present: is't not well done?

[Unveiling]

VIOLA Excellently done, if God did all.

OLIVIA 'Tis in grain, sir; 'twill endure wind and weather.

VIOLA 'Tis beauty truly blent, whose red and white Nature's own sweet and cunning hand laid on: Lady, you are the cruell'st she alive, If you will lead these graces to the grave And leave the world no copy.

OLIVIA O, sir, I will not be so hard-hearted; I will give out divers schedules of my beauty: it shall be inventoried, and every particle and utensil labelled to my will: as, item, two lips, indifferent red; item, two grey eyes, with lids to them; item, one neck, one chin, and so forth. Were you sent hither to praise me?

VIOLA I see you what you are, you are too proud; But, if you were the devil, you are fair. My lord and master loves you: O, such love Could be but recompensed, though you were crown'd The nonpareil of beauty!

OLIVIA How does he love me?

VIOLA With adorations, fertile tears, With groans that thunder love, with sighs of fire.

OLIVIA Your lord does know my mind; I cannot love him: Yet I suppose him virtuous, know him noble, Of great estate, of fresh and stainless youth; In voices well divulged, free, learn'd and valiant;

And in dimension and the shape of nature A gracious person: but yet I cannot love him; He might have took his answer long ago.

VIOLA If I did love you in my master's flame, With such a suffering, such a deadly life, In your denial I would find no sense; I would not understand it.

OLIVIA Why, what would you?

VIOLA Make me a willow cabin at your gate, And call upon my soul within the house; Write loyal cantons of contemned love And sing them loud even in the dead of night; Halloo your name to the reverberate hills And make the babbling gossip of the air Cry out "Olivia!" O, You should not rest Between the elements of air and earth, But you should pity me!

OLIVIA You might do much. What is your parentage?

VIOLA Above my fortunes, yet my state is well: I am a gentleman.

OLIVIA Get you to your lord; I cannot love him: let him send no more; Unless, perchance, you come to me again, To tell me how he takes it. Fare you well: I thank you for your pains: spend this for me.

VIOLA I am no fee'd post, lady; keep your purse: My master, not myself, lacks recompense. Love make his heart of flint that you shall love; And let your fervor, like my master's, be Placed in contempt! Farewell, fair cruelty.

[Exit]

OLIVIA "What is your parentage?" "Above my fortunes, yet my state is well: I am a gentleman." I'll be sworn thou art; Thy tongue, thy face, thy limbs, actions and spirit, Do give thee five-fold blazon: not too fast: soft, soft! Unless the master were the man. How now! Even so quickly may one catch the plague? Methinks I feel this youth's perfections With an invisible and subtle stealth To creep in at mine eyes. Well, let it be. What ho, Malvolio!

[Re-enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO Here, madam, at your service.

OLIVIA Run after that same peevish messenger,
The county's man: he left this ring behind him,
Would I or not: tell him I'll none of it.
Desire him not to flatter with his lord,
Nor hold him up with hopes; I am not for him:
If that the youth will come this way to-morrow,
I'll give him reasons for't: hie thee, Malvolio.

MALVOLIO Madam, I will.

[Exit]

OLIVIA I do I know not what, and fear to find
Mine eye too great a flatterer for my mind.
Fate, show thy force: ourselves we do not owe;
What is decreed must be, and be this so.

[Exit]



ACT II

SCENE I

The sea-coast.

[Enter ANTONIO and SEBASTIAN]

ANTONIO Will you stay no longer? nor will you not that
I go with you?

SEBASTIAN By your patience, no. My stars shine darkly
over me: the malignancy of my fate might perhaps
distemper yours; therefore I shall crave of you your
leave that I may bear my evils alone: it were a bad
recompense for your love, to lay any of them on you.

ANTONIO: Let me yet know of you whither you
are bound.

SEBASTIAN No, sooth, sir: my determinate voyage is
mere extravagancy. But I perceive in you so excellent a
touch of modesty, that you will not extort from me
what I am willing to keep in; therefore it charges me in
manners the rather to express myself. You must know
of me then, Antonio, my name is Sebastian, which
I called Roderigo. My father was that Sebastian of
Messaline, whom I know you have heard of. He left
behind him myself and a sister, both born in an hour:
if the heavens had been pleased, would we had so
ended! but you, sir, altered that; for some hour before
you took me from the breach of the sea was my
sister drowned.

ANTONIO Alas the day!

SEBASTIAN A lady, sir, though it was said she much
resembled me, was yet of many accounted beautiful:
but, though I could not with such estimable wonder
overfar believe that, yet thus far I will boldly publish
her; she bore a mind that envy could not but call fair.
She is drowned already, sir, with salt water, though I
seem to drown her remembrance again with more.

ANTONIO Pardon me, sir, your bad entertainment.

SEBASTIAN O good Antonio, forgive me your trouble.

ANTONIO If you will not murder me for my love, let me
be your servant.

SEBASTIAN If you will not undo what you have done,
that is, kill him whom you have recovered, desire it not.
Fare ye well at once: my bosom is full of kindness, and
I am yet so near the manners of my mother, that upon
the least occasion more mine eyes will tell tales of me. I
am bound to the Count Orsino's court: farewell.

[Exit]

ANTONIO The gentleness of all the gods go with thee!
I have many enemies in Orsino's court,
Else would I very shortly see thee there.
But, come what may, I do adore thee so,
That danger shall seem sport, and I will go.

[Exit]

SCENE II

A street.

[Enter VIOLA, MALVOLIO following]

MALVOLIO Were not you even now with the
Countess Olivia?

VIOLA Even now, sir; on a moderate pace I have since
arrived but hither.

MALVOLIO She returns this ring to you, sir: you might
have saved me my pains, to have taken it away yourself.
She adds, moreover, that you should put your lord into
a desperate assurance she will none of him: and one
thing more, that you be never so hardy to come again

in his affairs, unless it be to report your lord's taking of this. Receive it so.

VIOLA She took the ring of me: I'll none of it.

MALVOLIO Come, sir, you peevishly threw it to her; and her will is, it should be so returned: if it be worth stooping for, there it lies in your eye; if not, be it his that finds it.

[Exit]

VIOLA I left no ring with her: what means this lady? Fortune forbid my outside have not charm'd her! She made good view of me; indeed, so much, That sure methought her eyes had lost her tongue, For she did speak in starts distractedly. She loves me, sure; the cunning of her passion Invites me in this churlish messenger. None of my lord's ring! why, he sent her none. I am the man: if it be so, as 'tis, Poor lady, she were better love a dream. Disguise, I see, thou art a wickedness, Wherein the pregnant enemy does much. How easy is it for the proper-false In women's waxen hearts to set their forms! Alas, our frailty is the cause, not we! For such as we are made of, such we be. How will this fadge? my master loves her dearly; And I, poor monster, fond as much on him; And she, mistaken, seems to dote on me. What will become of this? As I am man, My state is desperate for my master's love; As I am woman, —now alas the day!— What thriftless sighs shall poor Olivia breathe! O time! thou must untangle this, not I; It is too hard a knot for me to untie!

[Exit]

SCENE III
OLIVIA's house.

[Enter *SIR TOBY BELCH* and *SIR ANDREW*]

SIR TOBY BELCH Approach, Sir Andrew: not to be abed after midnight is to be up betimes; and "diluculo surgere," thou know'st,—

SIR ANDREW Nay, my troth, I know not: but I know, to be up late is to be up late.

SIR TOBY BELCH A false conclusion: I hate it as an unfilled can. To be up after midnight and to go to bed then, is early: so that to go to bed after midnight is to go

to bed betimes. Does not our life consist of the four elements?

SIR ANDREW Faith, so they say; but I think it rather consists of eating and drinking.

SIR TOBY BELCH Thou'rt a scholar; let us therefore eat and drink. Marian, I say! A stoup of wine!

[Enter Clown]

SIR ANDREW Here comes the fool, i' faith.

CLOWN How now, my hearts! did you never see the picture of "we three"?

SIR TOBY BELCH Welcome, ass. Now let's have a catch.

SIR ANDREW By my troth, the fool has an excellent breast. I had rather than forty shillings I had such a leg, and so sweet a breath to sing, as the fool has. In sooth, thou wast in very gracious fooling last night, when thou spokest of Pigrogromitus, of the Vapians passing the equinoctial of Queubus: 'twas very good, i' faith. I sent thee sixpence for thy leman: hadst it?

CLOWN I did impetico thy gratillity; for Malvolio's nose is no whipstock: my lady has a white hand, and the Myrmidons are no bottle-ale houses.

SIR ANDREW Excellent! why, this is the best fooling, when all is done. Now, a song.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come on; there is sixpence for you: let's have a song.

SIR ANDREW There's a testril of me too: if one knight give a—

CLOWN Would you have a love-song, or a song of good life?

SIR TOBY BELCH A love-song, a love-song.

SIR ANDREW Ay, ay: I care not for good life.

CLOWN [Sings]

O mistress mine, where are you roaming?
O, stay and hear: your true love's coming,
That can sing both high and low:
Trip no further, pretty sweeting;
Journeys end in lovers meeting,
Every wise man's son doth know.

SIR ANDREW Excellent good, i' faith.

SIR TOBY BELCH Good, good.

CLOWN [Sings]

What is love? 'tis not hereafter;
Present mirth hath present laughter;
What's to come is still unsure:
In delay there lies no plenty;
Then come kiss me, sweet and twenty,
Youth's a stuff will not endure.

SIR ANDREW A mellifluous voice, as I am true knight.

SIR TOBY BELCH A contagious breath.

SIR ANDREW Very sweet and contagious, i' faith.

SIR TOBY BELCH To hear by the nose, it is dulcet in contagion. But shall we make the welkin dance indeed? Shall we rouse the night-owl in a catch that will draw three souls out of one weaver? Shall we do that?

SIR ANDREW An you love me, let's do't: I am dog at a catch.

CLOWN By'r lady, sir, and some dogs will catch well.

SIR ANDREW Most certain. Let our catch be, "Thou knave."

CLOWN "Hold thy peace, thou knave," knight? I shall be constrained in't to call thee knave, knight.

SIR ANDREW 'Tis not the first time I have constrained one to call me knave. Begin, fool: it begins "Hold thy peace."

CLOWN I shall never begin if I hold my peace.

SIR ANDREW Good, i' faith. Come, begin.

[Catch sung]

[Enter MARIA]

MARIA What a caterwauling do you keep here! If my lady have not called up her steward Malvolio and bid him turn you out of doors, never trust me.

SIR TOBY BELCH My lady's a Cataian, we are politicians, Malvolio's a Peg-a-Ramsey, and "Three merry men be we." Am not I consanguineous? Am I not of her blood? Tillyvally. Lady!

[Sings]

"There dwelt a man in Babylon, lady, lady!"

CLOWN Beshrew me, the knight's in admirable fooling.

SIR ANDREW Ay, he does well enough if he be disposed, and so do I too: he does it with a better grace, but I do it more natural.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Sings]

"O, the twelfth day of December,"—

MARIA For the love o' God, peace!

[Enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO My masters, are you mad? or what are you? Have ye no wit, manners, nor honesty, but to gabble like tinkers at this time of night? Do ye make an alehouse of my lady's house, that ye squeak out your coziers' catches without any mitigation or remorse of voice? Is there no respect of place, persons, nor time in you?

SIR TOBY BELCH We did keep time, sir, in our catches. Sneek up!

MALVOLIO Sir Toby, I must be round with you. My lady bade me tell you, that, though she harbours you as her kinsman, she's nothing allied to your disorders. If you can separate yourself and your misdemeanors, you are welcome to the house; if not, an it would please you to take leave of her, she is very willing to bid you farewell.

SIR TOBY BELCH "Farewell, dear heart, since I must needs be gone."

MARIA Nay, good Sir Toby.

CLOWN "His eyes do show his days are almost done."

MALVOLIO Is't even so?

SIR TOBY BELCH "But I will never die."

CLOWN Sir Toby, there you lie.

MALVOLIO This is much credit to you.

SIR TOBY BELCH "Shall I bid him go?"

CLOWN "What an if you do?"

SIR TOBY BELCH "Shall I bid him go, and spare not?"

CLOWN "O no, no, no, no, you dare not."

SIR TOBY BELCH Out o' tune, sir: ye lie. Art any more than a steward? Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?

CLOWN Yes, by Saint Anne, and ginger shall be hot i' the mouth too.

SIR TOBY BELCH Thou'rt i' the right. Go, sir, rub your chain with crumbs. A stoup of wine, Maria!

MALVOLIO Mistress Mary, if you prized my lady's favour at any thing more than contempt, you would not give means for this uncivil rule: she shall know of it, by this hand.

[Exit]

MARIA Go shake your ears.

SIR ANDREW 'Twere as good a deed as to drink when a man's a-hungry, to challenge him the field, and then to break promise with him and make a fool of him.

SIR TOBY BELCH Do't, knight: I'll write thee a challenge: or I'll deliver thy indignation to him by word of mouth.

MARIA Sweet Sir Toby, be patient for tonight: since the youth of the count's was today with thy lady, she is much out of quiet. For Monsieur Malvolio, let me alone with him: if I do not gull him into a nayword, and make him a common recreation, do not think I have wit enough to lie straight in my bed: I know I can do it.

SIR TOBY BELCH Possess us, possess us; tell us something of him.

MARIA Marry, sir, sometimes he is a kind of puritan.

SIR ANDREW O, if I thought that I'd beat him like a dog!

SIR TOBY BELCH What, for being a puritan? thy exquisite reason, dear knight?

SIR ANDREW I have no exquisite reason for't, but I have reason good enough.

MARIA The devil a puritan that he is, or any thing constantly, but a time-pleaser; an affectioned ass, that cons state without book and utters it by great swarths: the best persuaded of himself, so crammed, as he thinks, with excellencies, that it is his grounds of faith that all that look on him love him; and on that vice in him will my revenge find notable cause to work.

SIR TOBY BELCH What wilt thou do?

MARIA I will drop in his way some obscure epistles of love; wherein, by the colour of his beard, the shape of his leg, the manner of his gait, the expresseure of his eye, forehead, and complexion, he shall find himself most feelingly personated. I can write very like my lady your niece: on a forgotten matter we can hardly make distinction of our hands.

SIR TOBY BELCH Excellent! I smell a device.

SIR ANDREW I have't in my nose too.

SIR TOBY BELCH He shall think, by the letters that thou wilt drop, that they come from my niece, and that she's in love with him.

MARIA My purpose is, indeed, a horse of that colour.

SIR ANDREW And your horse now would make him an ass.

MARIA Ass, I doubt not.

SIR ANDREW O, 'twill be admirable!

MARIA Sport royal, I warrant you: I know my physic will work with him. I will plant you two, and let the fool make a third, where he shall find the letter: observe his construction of it. For this night, to bed, and dream on the event. Farewell.

[Exit]

SIR TOBY BELCH Good night, Penthesilea.

SIR ANDREW Before me, she's a good wench.

SIR TOBY BELCH She's a beagle, true-bred, and one that adores me: what o' that?

SIR ANDREW I was adored once too.

SIR TOBY BELCH Let's to bed, knight. Thou hadst need send for more money.

SIR ANDREW If I cannot recover your niece, I am a foul way out.

SIR TOBY BELCH Send for money, knight: if thou hast her not i' the end, call me cut.

SIR ANDREW If I do not, never trust me, take it how you will.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come, come, I'll go burn some sack; 'tis too late to go to bed now: come, knight; come, knight.

[Exeunt]

SCENE IV

DUKE ORSINO'S palace.

[Enter DUKE ORSINO, VIOLA, CURIO, and others]

DUKE ORSINO Give me some music. Now, good morrow, friends.

Now, good Cesario, but that piece of song,
That old and antique song we heard last night:
Methought it did relieve my passion much,
More than light airs and recollected terms
Of these most brisk and giddy-paced times:
Come, but one verse.

CURIO He is not here, so please your lordship that
should sing it.

DUKE ORSINO Who was it?

CURIO Feste, the jester, my lord; a fool that the lady
Olivia's father took much delight in. He is about
the house.

DUKE ORSINO Seek him out, and play the tune
the while.

[Exit *CURIO*. Music plays]

Come hither, boy: if ever thou shalt love,
In the sweet pangs of it remember me;
For such as I am all true lovers are,
Unstaid and skittish in all motions else,
Save in the constant image of the creature
That is beloved. How dost thou like this tune?

VIOLA It gives a very echo to the seat
Where Love is throned.

DUKE ORSINO Thou dost speak masterly:
My life upon't, young though thou art, thine eye
Hath stay'd upon some favour that it loves:
Hath it not, boy?

VIOLA A little, by your favour.

DUKE ORSINO What kind of woman is it?

VIOLA Of your complexion.

DUKE ORSINO She is not worth thee, then. What years,
i' faith?

VIOLA About your years, my lord.

DUKE ORSINO Too old by heaven: let still the
woman take
An elder than herself: so wears she to him,
So sways she level in her husband's heart:
For, boy, however we do praise ourselves,
Our fancies are more giddy and unfirm,
More longing, wavering, sooner lost and worn,
Than women's are.

VIOLA I think it well, my lord.

DUKE ORSINO Then let thy love be younger than thyself,
Or thy affection cannot hold the bent;
For women are as roses, whose fair flower
Being once display'd, doth fall that very hour.

VIOLA And so they are: alas, that they are so;
To die, even when they to perfection grow!

[Re-enter *CURIO* and *Clown*]

DUKE ORSINO O, fellow, come, the song we had
last night.
Mark it, Cesario, it is old and plain;
The spinsters and the knitters in the sun
And the free maids that weave their thread with bones
Do use to chant it: it is silly sooth,
And dallies with the innocence of love,
Like the old age.

CLOWN Are you ready, sir?

DUKE ORSINO Ay; prithee, sing.

[Music]

SONG.

CLOWN Come away, come away, death,
And in sad cypress let me be laid;
Fly away, fly away breath;
I am slain by a fair cruel maid.
My shroud of white, stuck all with yew,
O, prepare it!
My part of death, no one so true
Did share it.
Not a flower, not a flower sweet
On my black coffin let there be strown;
Not a friend, not a friend greet
My poor corpse, where my bones shall be thrown:
A thousand thousand sighs to save,
Lay me, O, where
Sad true lover never find my grave,
To weep there!

DUKE ORSINO There's for thy pains.

CLOWN No pains, sir: I take pleasure in singing, sir.

DUKE ORSINO I'll pay thy pleasure then.

CLOWN Truly, sir, and pleasure will be paid, one time
or another.

DUKE ORSINO Give me now leave to leave thee.

CLOWN Now, the melancholy god protect thee; and the
tailor make thy doublet of changeable taffeta, for
thy mind is a very opal. I would have men of such
constancy put to sea, that their business might be

every thing and their intent every where; for that's it that always makes a good voyage of nothing. Farewell.

[Exit]

DUKE ORSINO Let all the rest give place.

[CURIO and Attendants retire]

Once more, Cesario,
Get thee to yond same sovereign cruelty:
Tell her, my love, more noble than the world,
Prizes not quantity of dirty lands;
The parts that fortune hath bestow'd upon her,
Tell her, I hold as giddily as fortune;
But 'tis that miracle and queen of gems
That nature pranks her in attracts my soul.

VIOLA But if she cannot love you, sir?

DUKE ORSINO I cannot be so answer'd.

VIOLA Sooth, but you must.
Say that some lady, as perhaps there is,
Hath for your love a great a pang of heart
As you have for Olivia: you cannot love her;
You tell her so; must she not then be answer'd?

DUKE ORSINO There is no woman's sides
Can bide the beating of so strong a passion
As love doth give my heart; no woman's heart
So big, to hold so much; they lack retention
Alas, their love may be call'd appetite,
No motion of the liver, but the palate,
That suffer surfeit, cloyment and revolt;
But mine is all as hungry as the sea,
And can digest as much: make no compare
Between that love a woman can bear me
And that I owe Olivia.

VIOLA Ay, but I know—

DUKE ORSINO What dost thou know?

VIOLA Too well what love women to men may owe:
In faith, they are as true of heart as we.
My father had a daughter loved a man,
As it might be, perhaps, were I a woman,
I should your lordship.

DUKE ORSINO And what's her history?

VIOLA A blank, my lord. She never told her love,
But let concealment, like a worm i' the bud,
Feed on her damask cheek: she pined in thought,
And with a green and yellow melancholy
She sat like patience on a monument,
Smiling at grief. Was not this love indeed?

We men may say more, swear more: but indeed
Our shows are more than will; for still we prove
Much in our vows, but little in our love.

DUKE ORSINO But died thy sister of her love, my boy?

VIOLA I am all the daughters of my father's house,
And all the brothers too: and yet I know not.
Sir, shall I to this lady?

DUKE ORSINO Ay, that's the theme.
To her in haste; give her this jewel; say,
My love can give no place, bide no deny.

[Exeunt]

SCENE V
OLIVIA's garden.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH, SIR ANDREW,
and FABIAN]

SIR TOBY BELCH Come thy ways, Signior Fabian.

FABIAN Nay, I'll come: if I lose a scruple of this sport,
let me be boiled to death with melancholy.

SIR TOBY BELCH Wouldst thou not be glad to have
the niggardly rascally sheep-biter come by some
notable shame?

FABIAN I would exult, man: you know, he brought me
out o' favour with my lady about a bear-baiting here.

SIR TOBY BELCH To anger him we'll have the bear again;
and we will fool him black and blue: shall we not,
Sir Andrew?

SIR ANDREW An we do not, it is pity of our lives.

SIR TOBY BELCH Here comes the little villain.

[Enter MARIA]

How now, my metal of India!

MARIA Get ye all three into the box-tree: Malvolio's
coming down this walk: he has been yonder i' the
sun practising behavior to his own shadow this half
hour: observe him, for the love of mockery; for I
know this letter will make a contemplative idiot of
him. Close, in the name of jesting! Lie thou there,

[Throws down a letter]

for here comes the trout that must be caught
with tickling.

[Exit]

[Enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO 'Tis but fortune; all is fortune. Maria once told me she did affect me: and I have heard herself come thus near, that, should she fancy, it should be one of my complexion. Besides, she uses me with a more exalted respect than any one else that follows her. What should I think on't?

SIR TOBY BELCH Here's an overweening rogue!

FABIAN O, peace! Contemplation makes a rare turkey-cock of him: how he jets under his advanced plumes!

SIR ANDREW 'Slight, I could so beat the rogue!

SIR TOBY BELCH Peace, I say.

MALVOLIO To be Count Malvolio!

SIR TOBY BELCH Ah, rogue!

SIR ANDREW Pistol him, pistol him.

SIR TOBY BELCH Peace, peace!

MALVOLIO There is example for't; the lady of the Strachy married the yeoman of the wardrobe.

SIR ANDREW Fie on him, Jezebel!

FABIAN O, peace! now he's deeply in: look how imagination blows him.

MALVOLIO Having been three months married to her, sitting in my state,—

SIR TOBY BELCH O, for a stone-bow, to hit him in the eye!

MALVOLIO Calling my officers about me, in my branched velvet gown; having come from a day-bed, where I have left Olivia sleeping,—

SIR TOBY BELCH Fire and brimstone!

FABIAN O, peace, peace!

MALVOLIO And then to have the humour of state; and after a demure travel of regard, telling them I know my place as I would they should do theirs, to for my kinsman Toby,—

SIR TOBY BELCH Bolts and shackles!

FABIAN O peace, peace, peace! now, now.

MALVOLIO Seven of my people, with an obedient start, make out for him: I frown the while; and perchance

wind up watch, or play with my—some rich jewel. Toby approaches; courtesies there to me,—

SIR TOBY BELCH Shall this fellow live?

FABIAN Though our silence be drawn from us with cars, yet peace.

MALVOLIO I extend my hand to him thus, quenching my familiar smile with an austere regard of control,—

SIR TOBY BELCH And does not Toby take you a blow o' the lips then?

MALVOLIO Saying, "Cousin Toby, my fortunes having cast me on your niece give me this prerogative of speech,"—

SIR TOBY BELCH What, what?

MALVOLIO "You must amend your drunkenness."

SIR TOBY BELCH Out, scab!

FABIAN Nay, patience, or we break the sinews of our plot.

MALVOLIO "Besides, you waste the treasure of your time with a foolish knight,"—

SIR ANDREW That's me, I warrant you.

MALVOLIO "One Sir Andrew,"—

SIR ANDREW I knew 'twas I; for many do call me fool.

MALVOLIO What employment have we here?

[Taking up the letter]

FABIAN Now is the woodcock near the gin.

SIR TOBY BELCH O, peace! and the spirit of humour intimate reading aloud to him!

MALVOLIO By my life, this is my lady's hand these be her very C's, her U's and her T's and thus makes she her great P's. It is, in contempt of question, her hand.

SIR ANDREW Her C's, her U's and her T's: why that?

MALVOLIO [Reads] "To the unknown beloved, this, and my good wishes:"—her very phrases! By your leave, wax. Soft! and the impressure her Lucrece, with which she uses to seal: 'tis my lady. To whom should this be?

FABIAN This wins him, liver and all.

MALVOLIO [Reads]

Jove knows I love: But who?
Lips, do not move;
No man must know.
“No man must know.” What follows? The numbers
altered! “No man must know:” if this should be
thee, Malvolio?

SIR TOBY BELCH Marry, hang thee, brock!

MALVOLIO [Reads] I may command where I adore;
But silence, like a Lucrece knife,
With bloodless stroke my heart doth gore:
M, O, A, I, doth sway my life.

FABIAN A fustian riddle!

SIR TOBY BELCH Excellent wench, say I.

MALVOLIO “M, O, A, I, doth sway my life.” Nay, but
first, let me see, let me see, let me see.

FABIAN What dish o’ poison has she dressed him!

SIR TOBY BELCH And with what wing the staniel
cheques at it!

MALVOLIO “I may command where I adore.” Why, she
may command me: I serve her; she is my lady. Why,
this is evident to any formal capacity; there is no
obstruction in this: and the end,—what should that
alphabetical position portend? If I could make that
resemble something in me,—Softly! M, O, A, I,—

SIR TOBY BELCH O, ay, make up that: he is now at a
cold scent.

FABIAN Sowter will cry upon’t for all this, though it be
as rank as a fox.

MALVOLIO M,—Malvolio; M,—why, that begins
my name.

FABIAN Did not I say he would work it out? the cur is
excellent at faults.

MALVOLIO M,—but then there is no consonancy in
the sequel; that suffers under probation A should
follow but O does.

FABIAN And O shall end, I hope.

SIR TOBY BELCH Ay, or I’ll cudgel him, and make him
cry O!

MALVOLIO And then I comes behind.

FABIAN Ay, an you had any eye behind you, you might
see more detraction at your heels than fortunes
before you.

MALVOLIO M, O, A, I; this simulation is not as the
former: and yet, to crush this a little, it would bow to
me, for every one of these letters are in my name. Soft!
here follows prose.

[Reads]

“If this fall into thy hand, revolve. In my stars I
am above thee; but be not afraid of greatness: some
are born great, some achieve greatness, and some
have greatness thrust upon ’em. Thy Fates open
their hands; let thy blood and spirit embrace them;
and, to inure thyself to what thou art like to be,
cast thy humble slough and appear fresh. Be
opposite with a kinsman, surly with servants; let
thy tongue tang arguments of state; put thyself into
the trick of singularity: she thus advises thee
that sighs for thee. Remember who commended thy
yellow stockings, and wished to see thee ever
cross-gartered: I say, remember. Go to, thou art
made, if thou desirest to be so; if not, let me see
thee a steward still, the fellow of servants, and
not worthy to touch Fortune’s fingers. Farewell.
She that would alter services with thee,
THE FORTUNATE-UNHAPPY.”

Daylight and champaign discovers not more: this is
open. I will be proud, I will read politic authors,
I will baffle Sir Toby, I will wash off gross
acquaintance, I will be point-devise the very man.
I do not now fool myself, to let imagination jade
me; for every reason excites to this, that my lady
loves me. She did commend my yellow stockings of
late, she did praise my leg being cross-gartered;
and in this she manifests herself to my love, and
with a kind of injunction drives me to these habits
of her liking. I thank my stars I am happy. I will
be strange, stout, in yellow stockings, and
cross-gartered, even with the swiftness of putting
on. Jove and my stars be praised! Here is yet
a postscript.

[Reads]

“Thou canst not choose but know who I am. If thou
entertainest my love, let it appear in thy smiling;
thy smiles become thee well; therefore in my
presence still smile, dear my sweet, I prithee.”
Jove, I thank thee: I will smile; I will do
everything that thou wilt have me.

[Exit]

FABIAN I will not give my part of this sport for a pension of thousands to be paid from the Sophy.

SIR TOBY BELCH I could marry this wench for this device.

SIR ANDREW So could I too.

SIR TOBY BELCH And ask no other dowry with her but such another jest.

SIR ANDREW Nor I neither.

FABIAN Here comes my noble gull-catcher.

[Re-enter MARIA]

SIR TOBY BELCH Wilt thou set thy foot o' my neck?

SIR ANDREW Or o' mine either?

SIR TOBY BELCH Shall I play my freedom at traytrip, and become thy bond-slave?

SIR ANDREW I' faith, or I either?

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, thou hast put him in such a dream, that when the image of it leaves him he must run mad.

MARIA Nay, but say true; does it work upon him?

SIR TOBY BELCH Like aqua-vitae with a midwife.

MARIA If you will then see the fruits of the sport, mark his first approach before my lady: he will come to her in yellow stockings, and 'tis a colour she abhors, and cross-gartered, a fashion she detests; and he will smile upon her, which will now be so unsuitable to her disposition, being addicted to a melancholy as she is, that it cannot but turn him into a notable contempt. If you will see it, follow me.

SIR TOBY BELCH To the gates of Tartar, thou most excellent devil of wit!

SIR ANDREW I'll make one too.

[Exeunt]



ACT III

SCENE I OLIVIA's garden.

[Enter VIOLA, and Clown with a tabour]

VIOLA Save thee, friend, and thy music: dost thou live by thy tabour?

CLOWN No, sir, I live by the church.

VIOLA Art thou a churchman?

CLOWN No such matter, sir: I do live by the church; for I do live at my house, and my house doth stand by the church.

VIOLA So thou mayst say, the king lies by a beggar, if a beggar dwell near him; or, the church stands by thy tabour, if thy tabour stand by the church.

CLOWN You have said, sir. To see this age! A sentence is but a cheveril glove to a good wit: how quickly the wrong side may be turned outward!

VIOLA Nay, that's certain; they that dally nicely with words may quickly make them wanton.

CLOWN I would, therefore, my sister had had no name, sir.

VIOLA Why, man?

CLOWN Why, sir, her name's a word; and to dally with that word might make my sister wanton. But indeed words are very rascals since bonds disgraced them.

VIOLA Thy reason, man?

CLOWN Troth, sir, I can yield you none without words; and words are grown so false, I am loath to prove reason with them.

VIOLA I warrant thou art a merry fellow and carest for nothing.

CLOWN Not so, sir, I do care for something; but in my conscience, sir, I do not care for you: if that be to care for nothing, sir, I would it would make you invisible.

VIOLA Art not thou the Lady Olivia's fool?

CLOWN No, indeed, sir; the Lady Olivia has no folly: she will keep no fool, sir, till she be married; and fools are as like husbands as pilchards are to

herrings; the husband's the bigger: I am indeed not her fool, but her corrupter of words.

VIOLA I saw thee late at the Count Orsino's.

CLOWN Foolery, sir, does walk about the orb like the sun, it shines every where. I would be sorry, sir, but the fool should be as oft with your master as with my mistress: I think I saw your wisdom there.

VIOLA Nay, an thou pass upon me, I'll no more with thee.
Hold, there's expenses for thee.

CLOWN Now Jove, in his next commodity of hair, send thee a beard!

VIOLA By my troth, I'll tell thee, I am almost sick for one;

[Aside]

though I would not have it grow on my chin. Is thy lady within?

CLOWN Would not a pair of these have bred, sir?

VIOLA Yes, being kept together and put to use.

CLOWN I would play Lord Pandarus of Phrygia, sir, to bring a Cressida to this Troilus.

VIOLA I understand you, sir; 'tis well begged.

CLOWN The matter, I hope, is not great, sir, begging but a beggar: Cressida was a beggar. My lady is within, sir. I will construe to them whence you come; who you are and what you would are out of my welkin, I might say "element," but the word is over-worn.

[Exit]

VIOLA This fellow is wise enough to play the fool; And to do that well craves a kind of wit: He must observe their mood on whom he jests, The quality of persons, and the time, And, like the haggard, cheque at every feather That comes before his eye. This is a practise As full of labour as a wise man's art For folly that he wisely shows is fit; But wise men, folly-fall'n, quite taint their wit.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH, and SIR ANDREW]

SIR TOBY BELCH Save you, gentleman.

VIOLA And you, sir.

SIR ANDREW Dieu vous garde, monsieur.

VIOLA Et vous aussi; votre serviteur.

SIR ANDREW I hope, sir, you are; and I am yours.

SIR TOBY BELCH Will you encounter the house? My niece is desirous you should enter, if your trade be to her.

VIOLA I am bound to your niece, sir; I mean, she is the list of my voyage.

SIR TOBY BELCH Taste your legs, sir; put them to motion.

VIOLA My legs do better understand me, sir, than I understand what you mean by bidding me taste my legs.

SIR TOBY BELCH I mean, to go, sir, to enter.

VIOLA I will answer you with gait and entrance. But we are prevented.

[Enter OLIVIA and MARIA]

Most excellent accomplished lady, the heavens rain odours on you!

SIR ANDREW That youth's a rare courtier: "Rain odours"; well.

VIOLA My matter hath no voice, to your own most pregnant and vouchsafed ear.

SIR ANDREW "Odours," "pregnant" and "vouchsafed": I'll get 'em all three all ready.

OLIVIA Let the garden door be shut, and leave me to my hearing.

[Exeunt SIR TOBY BELCH, SIR ANDREW, and MARIA]

Give me your hand, sir.

VIOLA My duty, madam, and most humble service.

OLIVIA What is your name?

VIOLA Cesario is your servant's name, fair princess.

OLIVIA My servant, sir! 'Twas never merry world Since lowly feigning was call'd compliment: You're servant to the Count Orsino, youth.

VIOLA And he is yours, and his must needs be yours: Your servant's servant is your servant, madam.

OLIVIA For him, I think not on him: for his thoughts, Would they were blanks, rather than fill'd with me!

VIOLA Madam, I come to whet your gentle thoughts
On his behalf.

OLIVIA O, by your leave, I pray you,
I bade you never speak again of him:
But, would you undertake another suit,
I had rather hear you to solicit that
Than music from the spheres.

VIOLA Dear lady,—

OLIVIA Give me leave, beseech you. I did send,
After the last enchantment you did here,
A ring in chase of you: so did I abuse
Myself, my servant and, I fear me, you:
Under your hard construction must I sit,
To force that on you, in a shameful cunning,
Which you knew none of yours: what might you think?
Have you not set mine honour at the stake
And baited it with all the unmuzzled thoughts
That tyrannous heart can think? To one of
your receiving
Enough is shown: a cypress, not a bosom,
Hideth my heart. So, let me hear you speak.

VIOLA I pity you.

OLIVIA That's a degree to love.

VIOLA No, not a grize; for 'tis a vulgar proof,
That very oft we pity enemies.

OLIVIA Why, then, methinks 'tis time to smile again.
O, world, how apt the poor are to be proud!
If one should be a prey, how much the better
To fall before the lion than the wolf!

[Clock strikes]

The clock upbraids me with the waste of time.
Be not afraid, good youth, I will not have you:
And yet, when wit and youth is come to harvest,
Your were is alike to reap a proper man:
There lies your way, due west.

VIOLA Then westward-ho! Grace and good disposition
Attend your ladyship!
You'll nothing, madam, to my lord by me?

OLIVIA Stay:
I prithee, tell me what thou thinkest of me.

VIOLA That you do think you are not what you are.

OLIVIA If I think so, I think the same of you.

VIOLA Then think you right: I am not what I am.

OLIVIA I would you were as I would have you be!

VIOLA Would it be better, madam, than I am?
I wish it might, for now I am your fool.

OLIVIA O, what a deal of scorn looks beautiful
In the contempt and anger of his lip!
A murderous guilt shows not itself more soon
Than love that would seem hid: love's night is noon.
Cesario, by the roses of the spring,
By maidhood, honour, truth and every thing,
I love thee so, that, maugre all thy pride,
Nor wit nor reason can my passion hide.
Do not extort thy reasons from this clause,
For that I woo, thou therefore hast no cause,
But rather reason thus with reason fetter,
Love sought is good, but given unsought better.

VIOLA By innocence I swear, and by my youth
I have one heart, one bosom and one truth,
And that no woman has; nor never none
Shall mistress be of it, save I alone.
And so adieu, good madam: never more
Will I my master's tears to you deplore.

OLIVIA Yet come again; for thou perhaps mayst move
That heart, which now abhors, to like his love.

[Exeunt]

SCENE II
OLIVIA's house.

[Enter *SIR TOBY BELCH*, *SIR ANDREW*,
and *FABIAN*]

SIR ANDREW No, faith, I'll not stay a jot longer.

SIR TOBY BELCH Thy reason, dear venom, give
thy reason.

FABIAN You must needs yield your reason, Sir Andrew.

SIR ANDREW Marry, I saw your niece do more favours
to the count's serving-man than ever she bestowed
upon me; I saw't i' the orchard.

SIR TOBY BELCH Did she see thee the while, old boy? Tell
me that.

SIR ANDREW As plain as I see you now.

FABIAN This was a great argument of love in her
toward you.

SIR ANDREW "Slight, will you make an ass o' me?"

FABIAN I will prove it legitimate, sir, upon the oaths of judgment and reason.

SIR TOBY BELCH And they have been grand-jury-men since before Noah was a sailor.

FABIAN She did show favour to the youth in your sight only to exasperate you, to awake your dormouse valour, to put fire in your heart and brimstone in your liver. You should then have accosted her; and with some excellent jests, fire-new from the mint, you should have banged the youth into dumbness. This was looked for at your hand, and this was balked: the double gilt of this opportunity you let time wash off, and you are now sailed into the north of my lady's opinion; where you will hang like an icicle on a Dutchman's beard, unless you do redeem it by some laudable attempt either of valour or policy.

SIR ANDREW An't be any way, it must be with valour; for policy I hate: I had as lief be a Brownist as a politician.

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, then, build me thy fortunes upon the basis of valour. Challenge me the count's youth to fight with him; hurt him in eleven places: my niece shall take note of it; and assure thyself, there is no love-broker in the world can more prevail in man's commendation with woman than report of valour.

FABIAN There is no way but this, Sir Andrew.

SIR ANDREW Will either of you bear me a challenge to him?

SIR TOBY BELCH Go, write it in a martial hand; be curst and brief; it is no matter how witty, so it be eloquent and fun of invention: taunt him with the licence of ink; if thou thou'st him some thrice, it shall not be amiss; and as many lies as will lie in thy sheet of paper, although the sheet were big enough for the bed of Ware in England, set 'em down: go, about it. Let there be gall enough in thy ink, though thou write with a goose-pen, no matter: about it.

SIR ANDREW Where shall I find you?

SIR TOBY BELCH We'll call thee at the cubiculo: go.

[Exit *SIR ANDREW*]

FABIAN This is a dear manikin to you, Sir Toby.

SIR TOBY BELCH I have been dear to him, lad, some two thousand strong, or so.

FABIAN We shall have a rare letter from him: but you'll not deliver't?

SIR TOBY BELCH Never trust me, then; and by all means stir on the youth to an answer. I think oxen and wainropes cannot hale them together. For Andrew, if he were opened, and you find so much blood in his liver as will clog the foot of a flea, I'll eat the rest of the anatomy.

FABIAN And his opposite, the youth, bears in his visage no great presage of cruelty.

[Enter *MARIA*]

SIR TOBY BELCH Look, where the youngest wren of nine comes.

MARIA If you desire the spleen, and will laugh yourself into stitches, follow me. Yond gull Malvolio is turned heathen, a very renegado; for there is no Christian, that means to be saved by believing rightly, can ever believe such impossible passages of grossness. He's in yellow stockings.

SIR TOBY BELCH And cross-gartered?

MARIA Most villanously; like a pedant that keeps a school i' the church. I have dogged him, like his murderer. He does obey every point of the letter that I dropped to betray him: he does smile his face into more lines than is in the new map with the augmentation of the Indies: you have not seen such a thing as 'tis. I can hardly forbear hurling things at him. I know my lady will strike him: if she do, he'll smile and take't for a great favour.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come, bring us, bring us where he is.

[*Exeunt*]

SCENE III

A street.

[Enter *SEBASTIAN* and *ANTONIO*]

SEBASTIAN I would not by my will have troubled you; But, since you make your pleasure of your pains, I will no further chide you.

ANTONIO I could not stay behind you: my desire, More sharp than filed steel, did spur me forth; And not all love to see you, though so much As might have drawn one to a longer voyage, But jealousy what might befall your travel, Being skillless in these parts; which to a stranger, Unguided and unfriended, often prove Rough and unhospitable: my willing love,

The rather by these arguments of fear,
Set forth in your pursuit.

SEBASTIAN My kind Antonio,
I can no other answer make but thanks,
And thanks; and ever...oft good turns
Are shuffled off with such uncurrent pay:
But, were my worth as is my conscience firm,
You should find better dealing. What's to do?
Shall we go see the reliques of this town?

ANTONIO To-morrow, sir: best first go see
your lodging.

SEBASTIAN I am not weary, and 'tis long to night:
I pray you, let us satisfy our eyes
With the memorials and the things of fame
That do renown this city.

ANTONIO Would you'ld pardon me;
I do not without danger walk these streets:
Once, in a sea-fight, 'gainst the count his galleys
I did some service; of such note indeed,
That were I ta'en here it would scarce be answer'd.

SEBASTIAN Belike you slew great number of his people.

ANTONIO The offence is not of such a bloody nature;
Albeit the quality of the time and quarrel
Might well have given us bloody argument.
It might have since been answer'd in repaying
What we took from them; which, for traffic's sake,
Most of our city did: only myself stood out;
For which, if I be laps'd in this place,
I shall pay dear.

SEBASTIAN Do not then walk too open.

ANTONIO It doth not fit me. Hold, sir, here's my purse.
In the south suburbs, at the Elephant,
Is best to lodge: I will bespeak our diet,
Whiles you beguile the time and feed your knowledge
With viewing of the town: there shall you have me.

SEBASTIAN Why I your purse?

ANTONIO Haply your eye shall light upon some toy
You have desire to purchase; and your store,
I think, is not for idle markets, sir.

SEBASTIAN I'll be your purse-bearer and leave you
For an hour.

ANTONIO To the Elephant.

SEBASTIAN I do remember.

[Exeunt]

SCENE IV
OLIVIA's garden.

[Enter OLIVIA and MARIA]

OLIVIA I have sent after him: he says he'll come;
How shall I feast him? what bestow of him?
For youth is bought more oft than begg'd or borrow'd.
I speak too loud.
Where is Malvolio? He is sad and civil,
And suits well for a servant with my fortunes:
Where is Malvolio?

MARIA He's coming, madam; but in very strange
manner. He is, sure, possessed, madam.

OLIVIA Why, what's the matter? Does he rave?

MARIA No, madam, he does nothing but smile: your
ladyship were best to have some guard about you, if
he come; for, sure, the man is tainted in's wits.

OLIVIA Go call him hither.

[Exit MARIA]

I am as mad as he,
If sad and merry madness equal be.

[Re-enter MARIA, with MALVOLIO]

How now, Malvolio!

MALVOLIO Sweet lady, ho, ho.

OLIVIA Smilest thou?
I sent for thee upon a sad occasion.

MALVOLIO Sad, lady! I could be sad: this does make
some obstruction in the blood, this cross-gartering;
but what of that? if it please the eye of one, it is with me
as the very true sonnet is, "Please one, and please all."

OLIVIA Why, how dost thou, man? what is the matter
with thee?

MALVOLIO Not black in my mind, though yellow in my
legs. It did come to his hands, and commands shall be
executed: I think we do know the sweet Roman hand.

OLIVIA Wilt thou go to bed, Malvolio?

MALVOLIO To bed! ay, sweet-heart, and I'll come
to thee.

OLIVIA God comfort thee! Why dost thou smile so and
kiss thy hand so oft?

MARIA How do you, Malvolio?

MALVOLIO At your request! yes; nightingales answer daws.

MARIA Why appear you with this ridiculous boldness before my lady?

MALVOLIO "Be not afraid of greatness:" 'twas well writ.

OLIVIA What meanest thou by that, Malvolio?

MALVOLIO "Some are born great,"—

OLIVIA Ha!

MALVOLIO "Some achieve greatness,"—

OLIVIA What sayest thou?

MALVOLIO "And some have greatness thrust upon them."

OLIVIA Heaven restore thee!

MALVOLIO "Remember who commended thy yellow stockings,"—

OLIVIA Thy yellow stockings!

MALVOLIO "And wished to see thee cross-gartered."

OLIVIA Cross-gartered!

MALVOLIO "Go to thou art made, if thou desirest to be so;"—

OLIVIA Am I made?

MALVOLIO "If not, let me see thee a servant still."

OLIVIA Why, this is very midsummer madness.

[Enter Servant]

SERVANT Madam, the young gentleman of the Count Orsino's is returned: I could hardly entreat him back: he attends your ladyship's pleasure.

OLIVIA I'll come to him.

[Exit Servant]

Good Maria, let this fellow be looked to. Where's my cousin Toby? Let some of my people have a special care of him: I would not have him miscarry for the half of my dowry.

[Exeunt OLIVIA and MARIA]

MALVOLIO O, ho! Do you come near me now? no worse man than Sir Toby to look to me! This concurs directly with the letter: she sends him on purpose, that I may appear stubborn to him; for she incites me to that in the letter. "Cast thy humble slough," says she; "be opposite with a kinsman, surly with servants; let thy tongue tang with arguments of state; put thyself into the trick of singularity;" and consequently sets down the manner how; as, a sad face, a reverend carriage, a slow tongue, in the habit of some sir of note, and so forth. I have limed her; but it is Jove's doing, and Jove make me thankful! And when she went away now, "Let this fellow be looked to:" fellow! not Malvolio, nor after my degree, but fellow. Why, every thing adheres together, that no dram of a scruple, no scruple of a scruple, no obstacle, no incredulous or unsafe circumstance—What can be said? Nothing that can be can come between me and the full prospect of my hopes. Well, Jove, not I, is the doer of this, and he is to be thanked.

[Re-enter MARIA, with SIR TOBY BELCH and FABIAN]

SIR TOBY BELCH Which way is he, in the name of sanctity? If all the devils of hell be drawn in little, and Legion himself possessed him, yet I'll speak to him.

FABIAN Here he is, here he is. How is't with you, sir? how is't with you, man?

MALVOLIO Go off; I discard you: let me enjoy my private: go off.

MARIA Lo, how hollow the fiend speaks within him! did not I tell you? Sir Toby, my lady prays you to have a care of him.

MALVOLIO Ah, ha! does she so?

SIR TOBY BELCH Go to, go to; peace, peace; we must deal gently with him: let me alone. How do you, Malvolio? how is't with you? What, man! defy the devil: consider, he's an enemy to mankind.

MALVOLIO Do you know what you say?

MARIA La you, an you speak ill of the devil, how he takes it at heart! Pray God, he be not bewitched!

FABIAN Carry his water to the wise woman.

MARIA Marry, and it shall be done to-morrow morning, if I live. My lady would not lose him for more than I'll say.

MALVOLIO How now, mistress!

MARIA O Lord!

SIR TOBY BELCH Prithee, hold thy peace; this is not the way: do you not see you move him? let me alone with him.

FABIAN No way but gentleness; gently, gently: the fiend is rough, and will not be roughly used.

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, how now, my bawcock! How dost thou, chuck?

MALVOLIO Sir!

SIR TOBY BELCH Ay, Biddy, come with me. What, man! 'tis not for gravity to play at cherry-pit with Satan: hang him, foul collier!

MARIA Get him to say his prayers, good Sir Toby, get him to pray.

MALVOLIO My prayers, minx!

MARIA No, I warrant you, he will not hear of godliness.

MALVOLIO Go, hang yourselves all! you are idle shallow things: I am not of your element: you shall know more hereafter.

[Exit]

SIR TOBY BELCH Is't possible?

FABIAN If this were played upon a stage now, I could condemn it as an improbable fiction.

SIR TOBY BELCH His very genius hath taken the infection of the device, man.

MARIA Nay, pursue him now, lest the device take air and taint.

FABIAN Why, we shall make him mad indeed.

MARIA The house will be the quieter.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come, we'll have him in a dark room and bound. My niece is already in the belief that he's mad: we may carry it thus, for our pleasure and his penance, till our very pastime, tired out of breath, prompt us to have mercy on him: at which time we will bring the device to the bar and crown thee for a finder of madmen. But see, but see.

[Enter SIR ANDREW]

FABIAN More matter for a May morning.

SIR ANDREW Here's the challenge, read it: warrant there's vinegar and pepper in't.

FABIAN Is't so saucy?

SIR ANDREW Ay, is't, I warrant him: do but read.

SIR TOBY BELCH Give me.

[Reads]

"Youth, whatsoever thou art, thou art but a scurvy fellow."

FABIAN Good, and valiant.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Reads] "Wonder not, nor admire not in thy mind, why I do call thee so, for I will show thee no reason for't."

FABIAN A good note; that keeps you from the blow of the law.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Reads] "Thou comest to the lady Olivia, and in my sight she uses thee kindly: but thou liest in thy throat; that is not the matter I challenge thee for."

FABIAN Very brief, and to exceeding good sense—less.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Reads] "I will waylay thee going home; where if it be thy chance to kill me,"—

FABIAN Good.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Reads] "Thou killest me like a rogue and a villain."

FABIAN Still you keep o' the windy side of the law: good.

SIR TOBY BELCH [Reads] 'Fare thee well; and God have mercy upon one of our souls! He may have mercy upon mine; but my hope is better, and so look to thyself. Thy friend, as thou usest him, and thy sworn enemy, ANDREW AGUECHEEK.

If this letter move him not, his legs cannot: I'll give't him.

MARIA You may have very fit occasion for't: he is now in some commerce with my lady, and will by and by depart.

SIR TOBY BELCH Go, Sir Andrew: scout me for him at the corner the orchard like a bum-baily: so soon as ever thou seest him, draw; and, as thou drawest swear horrible; for it comes to pass off that a terrible oath, with a swaggering accent sharply twanged off, gives

manhood more approbation than ever proof itself would have earned him. Away!

SIR ANDREW Nay, let me alone for swearing.

[Exit]

SIR TOBY BELCH Now will not I deliver his letter: for the behavior of the young gentleman gives him out to be of good capacity and breeding; his employment between his lord and my niece confirms no less: therefore this letter, being so excellently ignorant, will breed no terror in the youth: he will find it comes from a clodpole. But, sir, I will deliver his challenge by word of mouth; set upon Aguecheek a notable report of valour; and drive the gentleman, as I know his youth will aptly receive it, into a most hideous opinion of his rage, skill, fury and impetuosity. This will so fright them both that they will kill one another by the look, like cockatrices.

[Re-enter OLIVIA, with VIOLA]

FABIAN Here he comes with your niece: give them way till he take leave, and presently after him.

SIR TOBY BELCH I will meditate the while upon some horrid message for a challenge.

[Exeunt SIR TOBY BELCH, FABIAN,
and MARIA]

OLIVIA I have said too much unto a heart of stone
And laid mine honour too unchary out:
There's something in me that reproves my fault;
But such a headstrong potent fault it is,
That it but mocks reproof.

VIOLA With the same 'havior that your passion bears
Goes on my master's grief.

OLIVIA Here, wear this jewel for me, 'tis my picture;
Refuse it not; it hath no tongue to vex you;
And I beseech you come again to-morrow.
What shall you ask of me that I'll deny,
That honour saved may upon asking give?

VIOLA Nothing but this; your true love for my master.

OLIVIA How with mine honour may I give him that
Which I have given to you?

VIOLA I will acquit you.

OLIVIA Well, come again to-morrow: fare thee well:
A fiend like thee might bear my soul to hell.

[Exit]

[Re-enter SIR TOBY BELCH and FABIAN]

SIR TOBY BELCH Gentleman, God save thee.

VIOLA And you, sir.

SIR TOBY BELCH That defence thou hast, betake thee to't: of what nature the wrongs are thou hast done him, I know not; but thy interceptor, full of despite, bloody as the hunter, attends thee at the orchard-end: dismount thy tuck, be yare in thy preparation, for thy assailant is quick, skilful and deadly.

VIOLA You mistake, sir; I am sure no man hath any quarrel to me: my remembrance is very free and clear from any image of offence done to any man.

SIR TOBY BELCH You'll find it otherwise, I assure you: therefore, if you hold your life at any price, betake you to your guard; for your opposite hath in him what youth, strength, skill and wrath can furnish man withal.

VIOLA I pray you, sir, what is he?

SIR TOBY BELCH He is knight, dubbed with unhatched rapier and on carpet consideration; but he is a devil in private brawl: souls and bodies hath he divorced three; and his incensement at this moment is so implacable, that satisfaction can be none but by pangs of death and sepulchre. Hob, nob, is his word; give't or take't.

VIOLA I will return again into the house and desire some conduct of the lady. I am no fighter. I have heard of some kind of men that put quarrels purposely on others, to taste their valour: belike this is a man of that quirk.

SIR TOBY BELCH Sir, no; his indignation derives itself out of a very competent injury: therefore, get you on and give him his desire. Back you shall not to the house, unless you undertake that with me which with as much safety you might answer him: therefore, on, or strip your sword stark naked; for meddle you must, that's certain, or forswear to wear iron about you.

VIOLA This is as uncivil as strange. I beseech you, do me this courteous office, as to know of the knight what my offence to him is: it is something of my negligence, nothing of my purpose.

SIR TOBY BELCH I will do so. Signior Fabian, stay you by this gentleman till my return.

[Exit]

VIOLA Pray you, sir, do you know of this matter?

FABIAN I know the knight is incensed against you, even to a mortal arbitrement; but nothing of the circumstance more.

VIOLA I beseech you, what manner of man is he?

FABIAN Nothing of that wonderful promise, to read him by his form, as you are like to find him in the proof of his valour. He is, indeed, sir, the most skilful, bloody and fatal opposite that you could possibly have found in any part of Illyria. Will you walk towards him? I will make your peace with him if I can.

VIOLA I shall be much bound to you for't: I am one that had rather go with sir priest than sir knight: I care not who knows so much of my mettle.

[Exeunt]

[Re-enter SIR TOBY BELCH, with SIR ANDREW]

SIR TOBY BELCH Why, man, he's a very devil; I have not seen such a firago. I had a pass with him, rapier, scabbard and all, and he gives me the stuck in with such a mortal motion, that it is inevitable; and on the answer, he pays you as surely as your feet hit the ground they step on. They say he has been fencer to the Sophy.

SIR ANDREW Pox on't, I'll not meddle with him.

SIR TOBY BELCH Ay, but he will not now be pacified: Fabian can scarce hold him yonder.

SIR ANDREW Plague on't, an I thought he had been valiant and so cunning in fence, I'd have seen him damned ere I'd have challenged him. Let him let the matter slip, and I'll give him my horse, grey Capilet.

SIR TOBY BELCH I'll make the motion: stand here, make a good show on't: this shall end without the perdition of souls.

[Aside]

Marry, I'll ride your horse as well as I ride you.

[Re-enter FABIAN and VIOLA]

[To FABIAN]

I have his horse to take up the quarrel:
I have persuaded him the youth's a devil.

FABIAN He is as horribly conceited of him; and pants and looks pale, as if a bear were at his heels.

SIR TOBY BELCH [To VIOLA] There's no remedy, sir; he will fight with you for's oath sake: marry, he hath better bethought him of his quarrel, and he finds that now scarce to be worth talking of: therefore draw, for the supportance of his vow; he protests he will not hurt you.

VIOLA [Aside] Pray God defend me! A little thing would make me tell them how much I lack of a man.

FABIAN Give ground, if you see him furious.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come, Sir Andrew, there's no remedy; the gentleman will, for his honour's sake, have one bout with you; he cannot by the duello avoid it: but he has promised me, as he is a gentleman and a soldier, he will not hurt you. Come on; to't.

SIR ANDREW Pray God, he keep his oath!

VIOLA I do assure you, 'tis against my will.

[They draw]

[Enter ANTONIO]

ANTONIO Put up your sword. If this young gentleman Have done offence, I take the fault on me: If you offend him, I for him defy you.

SIR TOBY BELCH You, sir! why, what are you?

ANTONIO One, sir, that for his love dares yet do more Than you have heard him brag to you he will.

SIR TOBY BELCH Nay, if you be an undertaker, I am for you.

[They draw]

[Enter Officers]

FABIAN O good Sir Toby, hold! here come the officers.

SIR TOBY BELCH I'll be with you anon.

VIOLA Pray, sir, put your sword up, if you please.

SIR ANDREW Marry, will I, sir; and, for that I promised you, I'll be as good as my word: he will bear you easily and reins well.

FIRST OFFICER This is the man; do thy office.

SECOND OFFICER Antonio, I arrest thee at the suit of Count Orsino.

ANTONIO You do mistake me, sir.

FIRST OFFICER No, sir, no jot; I know your favour well,
Though now you have no sea-cap on your head.
Take him away: he knows I know him well.

ANTONIO I must obey.

[*To VIOLA*]

This comes with seeking you:
But there's no remedy; I shall answer it.
What will you do, now my necessity
Makes me to ask you for my purse? It grieves me
Much more for what I cannot do for you
Than what befalls myself. You stand amazed;
But be of comfort.

SECOND OFFICER Come, sir, away.

ANTONIO I must entreat of you some of that money.

VIOLA What money, sir?
For the fair kindness you have show'd me here,
And, part, being prompted by your present trouble,
Out of my lean and low ability
I'll lend you something: my having is not much;
I'll make division of my present with you:
Hold, there's half my coffer.

ANTONIO Will you deny me now?
Is't possible that my deserts to you
Can lack persuasion? Do not tempt my misery,
Lest that it make me so unsound a man
As to upbraid you with those kindnesses
That I have done for you.

VIOLA I know of none;
Nor know I you by voice or any feature:
I hate ingratitude more in a man
Than lying, vainness, babbling, drunkenness,
Or any taint of vice whose strong corruption
Inhabits our frail blood.

ANTONIO O heavens themselves!

SECOND OFFICER Come, sir, I pray you, go.

ANTONIO Let me speak a little. This youth that you
see here
I snatch'd one half out of the jaws of death,
Relieved him with such sanctity of love,
And to his image, which methought did promise
Most venerable worth, did I devotion.

FIRST OFFICER What's that to us? The time goes
by: away!

ANTONIO But O how vile an idol proves this god
Thou hast, Sebastian, done good feature shame.
In nature there's no blemish but the mind;
None can be call'd deform'd but the unkind:
Virtue is beauty, but the beauteous evil
Are empty trunks o' erflourish'd by the devil.

FIRST OFFICER The man grows mad: away with him!
Come, come, sir.

ANTONIO Lead me on.

[*Exit with Officers*]

VIOLA Methinks his words do from such passion fly,
That he believes himself: so do not I.
Prove true, imagination, O, prove true,
That I, dear brother, be now ta'en for you!

SIR TOBY BELCH Come hither, knight; come hither,
Fabian: we'll whisper o'er a couplet or two of most
sage saws.

VIOLA He named Sebastian: I my brother know
Yet living in my glass; even such and so
In favour was my brother, and he went
Still in this fashion, colour, ornament,
For him I imitate: O, if it prove,
Tempests are kind and salt waves fresh in love.

[*Exit*]

SIR TOBY BELCH A very dishonest paltry boy, and more
a coward than a hare: his dishonesty appears in leaving
his friend here in necessity and denying him; and for
his cowardship, ask Fabian.

FABIAN A coward, a most devout coward, religious
in it.

SIR ANDREW 'Slid, I'll after him again and beat him.

SIR TOBY BELCH Do; cuff him soundly, but never draw
thy sword.

SIR ANDREW An I do not,—

FABIAN Come, let's see the event.

SIR TOBY BELCH I dare lay any money 'twill be
nothing yet.

[*Exeunt*]

ACT IV

SCENE I

Before OLIVIA's house.

[Enter SEBASTIAN and Clown]

CLOWN Will you make me believe that I am not sent for you?

SEBASTIAN Go to, go to, thou art a foolish fellow: Let me be clear of thee.

CLOWN Well held out, i' faith! No, I do not know you; nor I am not sent to you by my lady, to bid you come speak with her; nor your name is not Master Cesario; nor this is not my nose neither. Nothing that is so is so.

SEBASTIAN I prithee, vent thy folly somewhere else: Thou know'st not me.

CLOWN Vent my folly! he has heard that word of some great man and now applies it to a fool. Vent my folly! I am afraid this great lubber, the world, will prove a cockney. I prithee now, ungird thy strangeness and tell me what I shall vent to my lady: shall I vent to her that thou art coming?

SEBASTIAN I prithee, foolish Greek, depart from me: There's money for thee: if you tarry longer, I shall give worse payment.

CLOWN By my troth, thou hast an open hand. These wise men that give fools money get themselves a good report—after fourteen years' purchase.

[Enter SIR ANDREW, SIR TOBY BELCH, and FABIAN]

SIR ANDREW Now, sir, have I met you again? there's for you.

SEBASTIAN Why, there's for thee, and there, and there. Are all the people mad?

SIR TOBY BELCH Hold, sir, or I'll throw your dagger o'er the house.

CLOWN This will I tell my lady straight: I would not be in some of your coats for two pence.

[Exit]

SIR TOBY BELCH Come on, sir; hold.

SIR ANDREW Nay, let him alone: I'll go another way to work with him; I'll have an action of battery against him, if there be any law in Illyria: though I struck him first, yet it's no matter for that.

SEBASTIAN Let go thy hand.

SIR TOBY BELCH Come, sir, I will not let you go. Come, my young soldier, put up your iron: you are well fleshed; come on.

SEBASTIAN I will be free from thee. What wouldst thou now? If thou darest tempt me further, draw thy sword.

SIR TOBY BELCH What, what? Nay, then I must have an ounce or two of this malapert blood from you.

[Enter OLIVIA]

OLIVIA Hold, Toby; on thy life I charge thee, hold!

SIR TOBY BELCH Madam!

OLIVIA Will it be ever thus? Ungracious wretch, Fit for the mountains and the barbarous caves, Where manners ne'er were preach'd! out of my sight! Be not offended, dear Cesario. Rudesby, be gone!

[Exeunt SIR TOBY BELCH, SIR ANDREW, and FABIAN]

I prithee, gentle friend,
Let thy fair wisdom, not thy passion, sway
In this uncivil and thou unjust extent
Against thy peace. Go with me to my house,
And hear thou there how many fruitless pranks
This ruffian hath botch'd up, that thou thereby
Mayst smile at this: thou shalt not choose but go:
Do not deny. Beshrew his soul for me,
He started one poor heart of mine in thee.

SEBASTIAN What relish is in this? how runs the stream?
Or I am mad, or else this is a dream:
Let fancy still my sense in Lethe steep;
If it be thus to dream, still let me sleep!

OLIVIA Nay, come, I prithee; would thou'ldst be ruled by me!

SEBASTIAN Madam, I will.

OLIVIA O, say so, and so be!

[Exeunt]

SCENE II
OLIVIA's house.

[Enter MARIA and Clown]

MARIA Nay, I prithee, put on this gown and this beard; make him believe thou art Sir Topas the curate: do it quickly; I'll call Sir Toby the whilst.

[Exit]

CLOWN Well, I'll put it on, and I will dissemble myself in't; and I would I were the first that ever dissembled in such a gown. I am not tall enough to become the function well, nor lean enough to be thought a good student; but to be said an honest man and a good housekeeper goes as fairly as to say a careful man and a great scholar. The competitors enter.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH and MARIA]

SIR TOBY BELCH Jove bless thee, master Parson.

CLOWN Bonos dies, Sir Toby: for, as the old hermit of Prague, that never saw pen and ink, very wittily said to a niece of King Gorboduc, "That that is is;" so I, being Master Parson, am Master Parson; for, what is "that" but 'that,' and "is" but "is"?

SIR TOBY BELCH To him, Sir Topas.

CLOWN What, ho, I say! peace in this prison!

SIR TOBY BELCH The knave counterfeits well; a good knave.

MALVOLIO [Within] Who calls there?

CLOWN Sir Topas the curate, who comes to visit Malvolio the lunatic.

MALVOLIO Sir Topas, Sir Topas, good Sir Topas, go to my lady.

CLOWN Out, hyperbolic fiend! how vexest thou this man! Talkest thou nothing but of ladies?

SIR TOBY BELCH Well said, Master Parson.

MALVOLIO Sir Topas, never was man thus wronged: good Sir Topas, do not think I am mad: they have laid me here in hideous darkness.

CLOWN Fie, thou dishonest Satan! I call thee by the most modest terms; for I am one of those gentle ones that will use the devil himself with courtesy: sayest thou that house is dark?

MALVOLIO As hell, Sir Topas.

CLOWN Why it hath bay windows transparent as barricadoes, and the clearstores toward the south north are as lustrous as ebony; and yet complainest thou of obstruction?

MALVOLIO I am not mad, Sir Topas: I say to you, this house is dark.

CLOWN Madman, thou errest: I say, there is no darkness but ignorance; in which thou art more puzzled than the Egyptians in their fog.

MALVOLIO I say, this house is as dark as ignorance, though ignorance were as dark as hell; and I say, there was never man thus abused. I am no more mad than you are: make the trial of it in any constant question.

CLOWN What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning wild fowl?

MALVOLIO That the soul of our grandam might haply inhabit a bird.

CLOWN What thinkest thou of his opinion?

MALVOLIO I think nobly of the soul, and no way approve his opinion.

CLOWN Fare thee well. Remain thou still in darkness: thou shalt hold the opinion of Pythagoras ere I will allow of thy wits, and fear to kill a woodcock, lest thou dispossess the soul of thy grandam. Fare thee well.

MALVOLIO Sir Topas, Sir Topas!

SIR TOBY BELCH My most exquisite Sir Topas!

CLOWN Nay, I am for all waters.

MARIA Thou mightst have done this without thy beard and gown: he sees thee not.

SIR TOBY BELCH To him in thine own voice, and bring me word how thou findest him: I would we were well rid of this knavery. If he may be conveniently delivered, I would he were, for I am now so far in offence with my niece that I cannot pursue with any safety this sport to the upshot. Come by and by to my chamber.

[Exeunt SIR TOBY BELCH and MARIA]

CLOWN [Singing]

"Hey, Robin, jolly Robin,
Tell me how thy lady does."

MALVOLIO Fool!

CLOWN "My lady is unkind, perdy."

MALVOLIO Fool!

CLOWN "Alas, why is she so?"

MALVOLIO Fool, I say!

CLOWN "She loves another"—Who calls, ha?

MALVOLIO Good fool, as ever thou wilt deserve well at my hand, help me to a candle, and pen, ink and paper: as I am a gentleman, I will live to be thankful to thee for't.

CLOWN Master Malvolio?

MALVOLIO Ay, good fool.

CLOWN Alas, sir, how fell you besides your five wits?

MALVOLIO Fool, there was never a man so notoriously abused: I am as well in my wits, fool, as thou art.

CLOWN But as well? then you are mad indeed, if you be no better in your wits than a fool.

MALVOLIO They have here propertied me; keep me in darkness, send ministers to me, asses, and do all they can to face me out of my wits.

CLOWN Advise you what you say; the minister is here. Malvolio, Malvolio, thy wits the heavens restore! endeavour thyself to sleep, and leave thy vain bibble babble.

MALVOLIO Sir Topas!

CLOWN Maintain no words with him, good fellow. Who, I, sir? not I, sir. God be wi' you, good Sir Topas. Merry, amen. I will, sir, I will.

MALVOLIO Fool, fool, fool, I say!

CLOWN Alas, sir, be patient. What say you sir? I am shent for speaking to you.

MALVOLIO Good fool, help me to some light and some paper: I tell thee, I am as well in my wits as any man in Illyria.

CLOWN Well-a-day that you were, sir.

MALVOLIO By this hand, I am. Good fool, some ink, paper and light; and convey what I will set down to my lady: it shall advantage thee more than ever the bearing of letter did.

CLOWN I will help you to't. But tell me true, are you not mad indeed? or do you but counterfeit?

MALVOLIO Believe me, I am not; I tell thee true.

CLOWN Nay, I'll ne'er believe a madman till I see his brains. I will fetch you light and paper and ink.

MALVOLIO Fool, I'll requite it in the highest degree: I prithee, be gone.

CLOWN [*Singing*]

I am gone, sir,
And anon, sir,
I'll be with you again,
In a trice,
Like to the old Vice,
Your need to sustain;
Who, with dagger of lath,
In his rage and his wrath,
Cries, ah, ha! to the devil:
Like a mad lad,
Pare thy nails, dad;
Adieu, good man devil.

[*Exit*]

SCENE III
OLIVIA's garden.

[*Enter SEBASTIAN*]

SEBASTIAN This is the air; that is the glorious sun; This pearl she gave me, I do feel't and see't; And though 'tis wonder that enwraps me thus, Yet 'tis not madness. Where's Antonio, then? I could not find him at the Elephant: Yet there he was; and there I found this credit, That he did range the town to seek me out. His counsel now might do me golden service; For though my soul disputes well with my sense, That this may be some error, but no madness, Yet doth this accident and flood of fortune So far exceed all instance, all discourse, That I am ready to distrust mine eyes And wrangle with my reason that persuades me To any other trust but that I am mad Or else the lady's mad; yet, if 'twere so, She could not sway her house, command her followers, Take and give back affairs and their dispatch With such a smooth, discreet and stable bearing As I perceive she does: there's something in't That is deceivable. But here the lady comes.

[*Enter OLIVIA and Priest*]

OLIVIA Blame not this haste of mine. If you mean well, Now go with me and with this holy man Into the chantry by: there, before him,

And underneath that consecrated roof,
Plight me the full assurance of your faith;
That my most jealous and too doubtful soul
May live at peace. He shall conceal it
Whiles you are willing it shall come to note,
What time we will our celebration keep
According to my birth. What do you say?

SEBASTIAN I'll follow this good man, and go with you;
And, having sworn truth, ever will be true.

OLIVIA Then lead the way, good father; and heavens
so shine,
That they may fairly note this act of mine!

[Exeunt]



ACT V

SCENE I

Before OLIVIA's house.

[Enter Clown and FABIAN]

FABIAN Now, as thou lovest me, let me see his letter.

CLOWN Good Master Fabian, grant me
another request.

FABIAN Any thing.

CLOWN Do not desire to see this letter.

FABIAN This is, to give a dog, and in recompense desire
my dog again.

[Enter DUKE ORSINO, VIOLA, CURIO,
and Lords]

DUKE ORSINO Belong you to the Lady Olivia, friends?

CLOWN Ay, sir; we are some of her trappings.

DUKE ORSINO I know thee well; how dost thou, my
good fellow?

CLOWN Truly, sir, the better for my foes and the worse
for my friends.

DUKE ORSINO Just the contrary; the better for
thy friends.

CLOWN No, sir, the worse.

DUKE ORSINO How can that be?

CLOWN Marry, sir, they praise me and make an ass of
me; now my foes tell me plainly I am an ass: so that by
my foes, sir I profit in the knowledge of myself,
and by my friends, I am abused: so that,
conclusions to be as kisses, if your four negatives
make your two affirmatives why then, the worse for
my friends and the better for my foes.

DUKE ORSINO Why, this is excellent.

CLOWN By my troth, sir, no; though it please you to be
one of my friends.

DUKE ORSINO Thou shalt not be the worse for me:
there's gold.

CLOWN But that it would be double-dealing, sir, I
would you could make it another.

DUKE ORSINO O, you give me ill counsel.

CLOWN Put your grace in your pocket, sir, for this once,
and let your flesh and blood obey it.

DUKE ORSINO Well, I will be so much a sinner, to be a
double-dealer: there's another.

CLOWN Primo, secundo, tertio, is a good play; and the
old saying is, the third pays for all: the triplex,
sir, is a good tripping measure; or the bells of
Saint Bennet, sir, may put you in mind; one, two, three.

DUKE ORSINO You can fool no more money out of me at
this throw: if you will let your lady know I am here
to speak with her, and bring her along with you, it may
awake my bounty further.

CLOWN Marry, sir, lullaby to your bounty till I come
again. I go, sir; but I would not have you to think
that my desire of having is the sin of covetousness:
but, as you say, sir, let your bounty take a nap, I
will awake it anon.

[Exit]

VIOLA Here comes the man, sir, that did rescue me.

[Enter ANTONIO and Officers]

DUKE ORSINO That face of his I do remember well;
Yet, when I saw it last, it was besmear'd

As black as Vulcan in the smoke of war:
A bawbling vessel was he captain of,
For shallow draught and bulk unprizable;
With which such scathful grapple did he make
With the most noble bottom of our fleet,
That very envy and the tongue of loss
Cried fame and honour on him. What's the matter?

FIRST OFFICER Orsino, this is that Antonio
That took the Phoenix and her fraught from Candy;
And this is he that did the Tiger board,
When your young nephew Titus lost his leg:
Here in the streets, desperate of shame and state,
In private brabble did we apprehend him.

VIOLA He did me kindness, sir, drew on my side;
But in conclusion put strange speech upon me:
I know not what 'twas but distraction.

DUKE ORSINO Notable pirate! thou salt-water thief!
What foolish boldness brought thee to their mercies,
Whom thou, in terms so bloody and so dear,
Hast made thine enemies?

ANTONIO Orsino, noble sir,
Be pleased that I shake off these names you give me:
Antonio never yet was thief or pirate,
Though I confess, on base and ground enough,
Orsino's enemy. A witchcraft drew me hither:
That most ingrateful boy there by your side,
From the rude sea's enraged and foamy mouth
Did I redeem; a wreck past hope he was:
His life I gave him and did thereto add
My love, without retention or restraint,
All his in dedication; for his sake
Did I expose myself, pure for his love,
Into the danger of this adverse town;
Drew to defend him when he was beset:
Where being apprehended, his false cunning,
Not meaning to partake with me in danger,
Taught him to face me out of his acquaintance,
And grew a twenty years removed thing
While one would wink; denied me mine own purse,
Which I had recommended to his use
Not half an hour before.

VIOLA How can this be?

DUKE ORSINO When came he to this town?

ANTONIO To-day, my lord; and for three
months before,
No interim, not a minute's vacancy,
Both day and night did we keep company.

[Enter *OLIVIA* and Attendants]

DUKE ORSINO Here comes the countess: now heaven
walks on earth.
But for thee, fellow; fellow, thy words are madness:
Three months this youth hath tended upon me;
But more of that anon. Take him aside.

OLIVIA What would my lord, but that he may not have,
Wherein Olivia may seem serviceable?
Cesario, you do not keep promise with me.

VIOLA Madam!

DUKE ORSINO Gracious Olivia,—

OLIVIA What do you say, Cesario? Good my lord,—

VIOLA My lord would speak; my duty hushes me.

OLIVIA If it be aught to the old tune, my lord,
It is as fat and fulsome to mine ear
As howling after music.

DUKE ORSINO Still so cruel?

OLIVIA Still so constant, lord.

DUKE ORSINO What, to perverseness? you uncivil lady,
To whose ingrate and unauspicious altars
My soul the faithful'st offerings hath breathed out
That e'er devotion tender'd! What shall I do?

OLIVIA Even what it please my lord, that shall
become him.

DUKE ORSINO Why should I not, had I the heart to do it,
Like to the Egyptian thief at point of death,
Kill what I love?—A savage jealousy
That sometimes savours nobly. But hear me this:
Since you to non-regardance cast my faith,
And that I partly know the instrument
That screws me from my true place in your favour,
Live you the marble-breasted tyrant still;
But this your minion, whom I know you love,
And whom, by heaven I swear, I tender dearly,
Him will I tear out of that cruel eye,
Where he sits crowned in his master's spite.
Come, boy, with me; my thoughts are ripe in mischief:
I'll sacrifice the lamb that I do love,
To spite a raven's heart within a dove.

VIOLA And I, most jocund, apt and willingly,
To do you rest, a thousand deaths would die.

OLIVIA Where goes Cesario?

VIOLA After him I love
More than I love these eyes, more than my life,
More, by all mores, than e'er I shall love wife.

If I do feign, you witnesses above
Punish my life for tainting of my love!

OLIVIA Ay me, detested! how am I beguiled!

VIOLA Who does beguile you? Who does do you wrong?

OLIVIA Hast thou forgot thyself? Is it so long?
Call forth the holy father.

DUKE ORSINO Come, away!

OLIVIA Whither, my lord? Cesario, husband, stay.

DUKE ORSINO Husband!

OLIVIA Ay, husband: can he that deny?

DUKE ORSINO Her husband, sirrah!

VIOLA No, my lord, not I.

OLIVIA Alas, it is the baseness of thy fear
That makes thee strangle thy propriety:
Fear not, Cesario; take thy fortunes up;
Be that thou know'st thou art, and then thou art
As great as that thou fear'st.

[Enter Priest]

O, welcome, father!
Father, I charge thee, by thy reverence,
Here to unfold, though lately we intended
To keep in darkness what occasion now
Reveals before 'tis ripe, what thou dost know
Hath newly pass'd between this youth and me.

PRIEST A contract of eternal bond of love,
Confirm'd by mutual joinder of your hands,
Attested by the holy close of lips,
Strengthen'd by interchangement of your rings;
And all the ceremony of this compact
Seal'd in my function, by my testimony:
Since when, my watch hath told me, toward my grave
I have travell'd but two hours.

DUKE ORSINO O thou dissembling cub! what wilt thou be
When time hath sow'd a grizzle on thy case?
Or will not else thy craft so quickly grow,
That thine own trip shall be thine overthrow?
Farewell, and take her; but direct thy feet
Where thou and I henceforth may never meet.

VIOLA My lord, I do protest—

OLIVIA O, do not swear!
Hold little faith, though thou hast too much fear.

[Enter SIR ANDREW]

SIR ANDREW For the love of God, a surgeon! Send one presently to Sir Toby.

OLIVIA What's the matter?

SIR ANDREW He has broke my head across and has given Sir Toby a bloody coxcomb too: for the love of God, your help! I had rather than forty pound I were at home.

OLIVIA Who has done this, Sir Andrew?

SIR ANDREW The count's gentleman, one Cesario: we took him for a coward, but he's the very devil incarnate.

DUKE ORSINO My gentleman, Cesario?

SIR ANDREW "Od's lifelings, here he is! You broke my head for nothing; and that that I did, I was set on to do't by Sir Toby.

VIOLA Why do you speak to me? I never hurt you:
You drew your sword upon me without cause;
But I bespoke you fair, and hurt you not.

SIR ANDREW If a bloody coxcomb be a hurt, you have hurt me: I think you set nothing by a bloody coxcomb.

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH and Clown]

Here comes Sir Toby halting; you shall hear more: but if he had not been in drink, he would have tickled you othergates than he did.

DUKE ORSINO How now, gentleman! how is't with you?

SIR TOBY BELCH That's all one: has hurt me, and there's the end on't. Sot, didst see Dick surgeon, sot?

CLOWN O, he's drunk, Sir Toby, an hour ago; his eyes were set at eight i' the morning.

SIR TOBY BELCH Then he's a rogue, and a passy measures pany: I hate a drunken rogue.

OLIVIA Away with him! Who hath made this havoc with them?

SIR ANDREW I'll help you, Sir Toby, because well be dressed together.

SIR TOBY BELCH Will you help? an ass-head and a coxcomb and a knave, a thin-faced knave, a gull!

OLIVIA Get him to bed, and let his hurt be look'd to.

[*Exeunt Clown, FABIAN, SIR TOBY
BELCH, and SIR ANDREW*]

[*Enter SEBASTIAN*]

SEBASTIAN I am sorry, madam, I have hurt
your kinsman:
But, had it been the brother of my blood,
I must have done no less with wit and safety.
You throw a strange regard upon me, and by that
I do perceive it hath offended you:
Pardon me, sweet one, even for the vows
We made each other but so late ago.

DUKE ORSINO One face, one voice, one habit, and
two persons,
A natural perspective, that is and is not!

SEBASTIAN Antonio, O my dear Antonio!
How have the hours rack'd and tortured me,
Since I have lost thee!

ANTONIO Sebastian are you?

SEBASTIAN Fear'st thou that, Antonio?

ANTONIO How have you made division of yourself?
An apple, cleft in two, is not more twin
Than these two creatures. Which is Sebastian?

OLIVIA Most wonderful!

SEBASTIAN Do I stand there? I never had a brother;
Nor can there be that deity in my nature,
Of here and every where. I had a sister,
Whom the blind waves and surges have devour'd.
Of charity, what kin are you to me?
What countryman? what name? what parentage?

VIOLA Of Messaline: Sebastian was my father;
Such a Sebastian was my brother too,
So went he suited to his watery tomb:
If spirits can assume both form and suit
You come to fright us.

SEBASTIAN A spirit I am indeed;
But am in that dimension grossly clad
Which from the womb I did participate.
Were you a woman, as the rest goes even,
I should my tears let fall upon your cheek,
And say "Thrice-welcome, drowned Viola!"

VIOLA My father had a mole upon his brow.

SEBASTIAN And so had mine.

VIOLA And died that day when Viola from her birth
Had number'd thirteen years.

SEBASTIAN O, that record is lively in my soul!
He finished indeed his mortal act
That day that made my sister thirteen years.

VIOLA If nothing lets to make us happy both
But this my masculine usurp'd attire,
Do not embrace me till each circumstance
Of place, time, fortune, do cohere and jump
That I am Viola: which to confirm,
I'll bring you to a captain in this town,
Where lie my maiden weeds; by whose gentle help
I was preserved to serve this noble count.
All the occurrence of my fortune since
Hath been between this lady and this lord.

SEBASTIAN [*To OLIVIA*] So comes it, lady, you have
been mistook:
But nature to her bias drew in that.
You would have been contracted to a maid;
Nor are you therein, by my life, deceived,
You are betroth'd both to a maid and man.

DUKE ORSINO Be not amazed; right noble is his blood.
If this be so, as yet the glass seems true,
I shall have share in this most happy wreck.

[*To VIOLA*]

Boy, thou hast said to me a thousand times
Thou never shouldst love woman like to me.

VIOLA And all those sayings will I overswear;
And those swearings keep as true in soul
As doth that orb'd continent the fire
That severs day from night.

DUKE ORSINO Give me thy hand;
And let me see thee in thy woman's weeds.

VIOLA The captain that did bring me first on shore
Hath my maid's garments: he upon some action
Is now in durance, at Malvolio's suit,
A gentleman, and follower of my lady's.

OLIVIA He shall enlarge him: fetch Malvolio hither:
And yet, alas, now I remember me,
They say, poor gentleman, he's much distract.

[*Re-enter Clown with a letter, and FABIAN*]

A most extracting frenzy of mine own
From my remembrance clearly banish'd his.
How does he, sirrah?

CLOWN Truly, madam, he holds Belzebub at the staves's end as well as a man in his case may do: has here writ a letter to you; I should have given't you to-day morning, but as a madman's epistles are no gospels, so it skills not much when they are delivered.

OLIVIA Open't, and read it.

CLOWN Look then to be well edified when the fool delivers the madman.

[*Reads*]

"By the Lord, madam," —

OLIVIA How now! art thou mad?

CLOWN No, madam, I do but read madness: an your ladyship will have it as it ought to be, you must allow Vox.

OLIVIA Prithee, read i' thy right wits.

CLOWN So I do, madonna; but to read his right wits is to read thus: therefore perpend, my princess, and give ear.

OLIVIA Read it you, sirrah.

[*To FABIAN*]

FABIAN [*Reads*] "By the Lord, madam, you wrong me, and the world shall know it: though you have put me into darkness and given your drunken cousin rule over me, yet have I the benefit of my senses as well as your ladyship. I have your own letter that induced me to the semblance I put on; with the which I doubt not but to do myself much right, or you much shame. Think of me as you please. I leave my duty a little unthought of and speak out of my injury. THE MADLY-USED MALVOLIO."

OLIVIA Did he write this?

CLOWN Ay, madam.

DUKE ORSINO This savours not much of distraction.

OLIVIA See him deliver'd, Fabian; bring him hither.

[*Exit FABIAN*]

My lord so please you, these things further thought on,
To think me as well a sister as a wife,
One day shall crown the alliance on't, so please you,
Here at my house and at my proper cost.

DUKE ORSINO Madam, I am most apt to embrace your offer.

[*To VIOLA*]

Your master quits you; and for your service done him,
So much against the mettle of your sex,
So far beneath your soft and tender breeding,
And since you call'd me master for so long,
Here is my hand: you shall from this time be
Your master's mistress.

OLIVIA A sister! You are she.

[*Re-enter FABIAN, with MALVOLIO*]

DUKE ORSINO Is this the madman?

OLIVIA Ay, my lord, this same.
How now, Malvolio!

MALVOLIO Madam, you have done me wrong,
Notorious wrong.

OLIVIA Have I, Malvolio? no.

MALVOLIO Lady, you have. Pray you, peruse that letter.
You must not now deny it is your hand:
Write from it, if you can, in hand or phrase;
Or say 'tis not your seal, nor your invention:
You can say none of this: well, grant it then
And tell me, in the modesty of honour,
Why you have given me such clear lights of favour,
Bade me come smiling and cross-garter'd to you,
To put on yellow stockings and to frown
Upon Sir Toby and the lighter people;
And, acting this in an obedient hope,
Why have you suffer'd me to be imprison'd,
Kept in a dark house, visited by the priest,
And made the most notorious geck and gull
That e'er invention play'd on? tell me why.

OLIVIA Alas, Malvolio, this is not my writing,
Though, I confess, much like the character
But out of question 'tis Maria's hand.
And now I do bethink me, it was she
First told me thou wast mad; then camest in smiling,
And in such forms which here were presupposed
Upon thee in the letter. Prithee, be content:
This practise hath most shrewdly pass'd upon thee;
But when we know the grounds and authors of it,
Thou shalt be both the plaintiff and the judge
Of thine own cause.

FABIAN Good madam, hear me speak,
And let no quarrel nor no brawl to come

Taint the condition of this present hour,
Which I have wonder'd at. In hope it shall not,
Most freely I confess, myself and Toby
Set this device against Malvolio here,
Upon some stubborn and uncourteous parts
We had conceived against him: Maria writ
The letter at Sir Toby's great importance;
In recompense whereof he hath married her.
How with a sportful malice it was follow'd,
May rather pluck on laughter than revenge;
If that the injuries be justly weigh'd
That have on both sides pass'd.

OLIVIA Alas, poor fool, how have they baffled thee!

CLOWN Why, 'some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrown upon them.' I was one, sir, in this interlude; one Sir Topas, sir; but that's all one. "By the Lord, fool, I am not mad." But do you remember? "Madam, why laugh you at such a barren rascal? An you smile not, he's gagged:" and thus the whirligig of time brings in his revenges.

MALVOLIO I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you.

[Exit]

OLIVIA He hath been most notoriously abused.

DUKE ORSINO Pursue him and entreat him to a peace:
He hath not told us of the captain yet:
When that is known and golden time convents,
A solemn combination shall be made

Of our dear souls. Meantime, sweet sister,
We will not part from hence. Cesario, come;
For so you shall be, while you are a man;
But when in other habits you are seen,
Orsino's mistress and his fancy's queen.

[Exeunt all, except Clown]

CLOWN [Sings]

When that I was and a little tiny boy,
With hey, ho, the wind and the rain,
A foolish thing was but a toy,
For the rain it raineth every day.

But when I came to man's estate,
With hey, ho, &c.
'Gainst knaves and thieves men shut their gate,
For the rain, &c.

But when I came, alas! To wive,
With hey, ho, &c.
By swaggering could I never thrive,
For the rain, &c.

But when I came unto my beds,
With hey, ho, &c.
With toss-pots still had drunken heads,
For the rain, &c.

A great while ago the world begun,
With hey, ho, &c.
But that's all one, our play is done,
And we'll strive to please you every day.

[Exit]

