Snappy Script: 'Twelfth Night'





CAST LIST

DUKE ORSINO

MUSICIAN



VIOLA

CAPTAIN



SIR ANDREW AGUECHEEK



SIR TOBY BELCH



FESTE

OLIVIA



MALVOLIO



SEBASTIAN

MARIA

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[Enter everyone. Act out a shipwreck. Everyone rushing back and forth to sounds of storms and the sea. Viola and Sebastian (twins) become separated and call out for one another. Clear stage.]

[Enter DUKE ORSINO and a musician playing an instrument]

DUKE ORSINO If music be the food of love, play on!
Give me excess of it, that with too much
The appetite may sicken, and so die.
That strain again! Enough; no more.
'Tis not so sweet now as it was before.

[Musician stops playing]

What news from my love?

MUSICIAN So please my lord, I might not be admitted.
Still she weeps for her brother's death.

DUKE ORSINO O, she pays this debt of love but to a brother!
Away!

[Exit ORSINO and MUSICIAN]

[Enter VIOLA and CAPTAIN]

VIOLA What country, friend, is this?

CAPTAIN This is Illyria, lady.

VIOLA And what should I do in Illyria?
My brother, he is now in heaven.
Perchance he is not drowned. What think you, sailor?

CAPTAIN It is perchance that you yourself were saved.

VIOLA O my poor brother!
Who governs here?

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CAPTAIN A noble duke, Orsino.

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

CAPTAIN It was fresh in rumour, you know,
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.

VIOLA O that I served that lady!

CAPTAIN That were hard to compass,
Because she will admit no company.

VIOLA I prithee, conceal me what I am, and be my aid.
I'll serve this duke and in such a disguise
Thou shall present me as a man to him.

[Captain agrees and helps Viola to disguise herself]

VIOLA I thank thee!

[Enter ORSINO]

CAPTAIN Here comes the count.

[VIOLA now disguised as a boy bows to Orsino and he seems pleased. He leads her off stage. Exit CAPTAIN in a different direction]

[Enter SIR TOBY BELCH and SIR ANDREW AGUECHEEK]

SIR ANDREW Sir Toby, your niece will not be seen. Or if she be, she'll none of me! The count himself woos her.

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SIR TOBY She'll none of the count!
Tut, there's life in it, man.

SIR ANDREW I'll stay a month longer.

[Sir Toby is very happy and they both start to dance and sing]

SIR ANDREW Here comes the fool!

[Enter FESTE]

FESTE How now, my hearts!

SIR TOBY Welcome, ass!
Come on, there is sixpence for you [gives him a coin] let's have a song!

[They all start singing and banging on the furniture]

[Enter MARIA]

MARIA What a caterwauling do you keep here!

[They ignore her and keep singing and making noise]

MARIA For the love of God, peace! My lady has called up her steward Malvolio to turn you out of doors!

[Enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO My masters, are you mad? Is there no respect of place, persons, nor time in you?

SIR TOBY Sneck up!

MALVOLIO Sir Toby, my lady bade me tell you that she is very willing to bid you farewell.

SIR TOBY Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?

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MARIA Nay, good Sir Toby –

MALVOLIO Mistress Mary!

[He frowns at her disapprovingly and storms off]

MARIA Go shake your ears! Monsieur Malvolio!

SIR TOBY What wilt thou do?

MARIA I will drop in his way some obscure letters of love. I can write very like my lady, your niece.

SIR TOBY Excellent! I smell a device.

SIR ANDREW I have it in my nose too!

SIR TOBY 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 indeed!

[They all get excited and start jumping around. Then Maria starts to shush them all]

SIR TOBY [whispering]Good night!

[They all creep off trying not to giggle]

DUKE ORSINO Cesario.

VIOLA On your attendance, my lord, here.

DUKE ORSINO Be not denied access. Stand at Olivia's doors,
And then unfold the passion of my love.

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

[ORSINO hugs Viola and exits]

(To the audience) Whoever I woo, myself would be his wife!

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[Enter OLIVIA dressed in black with her face covered, followed by MALVOLIO. Malvolio sees Viola and goes over to her. They talk and Malvolio goes back to Olivia]

MALVOLIO Madam, yond young fellow swears he will speak with you.

OLIVIA Let him approach.

VIOLA Most radiant, exquisite and unmatchable beauty –

OLIVIA Are you a comedian?

VIOLA No, my profound heart!

OLIVIA What are you? What would you?

VIOLA Good madam, let me see your face.

OLIVIA We will draw the curtain and show you the picture.

[Olivia removes her veil]

VIOLA I see you what you are, you are too proud.
My lord and master loves you.

OLIVIA Your lord does know my mind. I cannot love him.
He might have took his answer long ago.

VIOLA If I did love you, I would find no sense in your answer.
I would not understand it.

OLIVIA Why, what would you?

VIOLA Make me a willow cabin at your gate,
And 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?

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

OLIVIA Get you to your lord. Let him send no more,
Unless, perhaps, you come to me again?

VIOLA Farewell, fair cruelty.

[Exit VIOLA]

OLIVIA Thy tongue, thy face, thy limbs, actions and spirit,
Do give thee five-fold blazon!
Well, let it be.
What ho, Malvolio!

[Re-enter MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO Here, madam, at your service.

OLIVIA Run after that same peevish messenger,
He left this ring behind him.

[She takes a ring from her finger and gives it to Malvolio]

MALVOLIO Madam, I will.

[Exit]

OLIVIA I do I know not what!
What is decreed must be, and be this so!

[Exit OLIVIA and Enter VIOLA and MALVOLIO]

MALVOLIO Were not you even now with the Countess Olivia?

VIOLA Even now, sir.

MALVOLIO She returns this ring to you, sir. Receive it so.

[He throws it on the floor and walks off haughtily]

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VIOLA I left no ring with her! What means this lady?
Fortune forbid my outside have not charmed her!

[Enter OLIVIA]

OLIVIA What is your name?

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

OLIVIA Cesario, by the roses of the spring,
By maidhood, honour, truth and every thing,
I love thee so!

VIOLA 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!

[VIOLA runs off and OLIVIA chases her]

[Enter SEBASTIAN]

SEBASTIAN My stars shine darkly over me. My father left behind him myself and a sister, both born in an hour. She is drowned! O Viola!

[Enter OLIVIA tired after chasing Cesario. She sees Sebastian and is confused about how he got there so quickly. Despite this, she runs towards him and hugs him.]

OLIVIA Oh my Cesario! I prithee, gentle friend,
Now go with me and with a holy man
Into the chapel by. What do you say?

SEBASTIAN [To the audience]
I am mad, or else the lady's mad!
[To Olivia]
I'll go with you,
And, having sworn truth, ever will be true!

[They run off together to get married]

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[Enter MARIA, FESTE, SIR TOBY and SIR ANDREW. Maria drops a letter on the floor then they all go to hide behind something. MALVOLIO enters and picks up the letter. He opens it, reads it and starts getting very excited.]

MALVOLIO Why this is my lady's hand.
[Reads some more]
My lady loves me!

[He kisses the letter and starts humming and skipping off the stage. The others all come out of hiding and are crippled with laughter]

MARIA He will come to my lady in yellow stockings, and 'tis a colour she abhors! And he will be cross-gartered, a fashion she detests; and he will smile upon her!

[Feste, Sir Toby and Sir Andrew are in fits of laughter]

[Enter OLIVIA, happy and wearing a wedding ring]

OLIVIA Where is Malvolio?

MARIA [trying not to laugh]
He's coming, madam.

[Enter MALVOLIO wearing yellow stockings, cross-gartered and smiling].

MALVOLIO Sweet lady, ho, ho.

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

MALVOLIO 'Remember who commended thy yellow stockings'?

OLIVIA Why, this is very midsummer madness!

[Malvolio starts to chase Olivia around whilst the others fall over laughing]

[Enter ORSINO and VIOLA still disguised as Cesario]

DUKE ORSINO [Shocked at what he is seeing] Gracious Olivia!

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[To Feste, Sir Toby and Sir Andrew]
Let this fellow be looked to.

[They restrain Malvolio]

OLIVIA [She runs to Viola and takes her hand]
What do you say, Cesario? Good my lord –

DUKE ORSINO [To Viola]
O thou dissembling cub!

VIOLA My lord, I do protest –

[Enter SEBASTIAN]

SEBASTIAN I am sorry, madam –

OLIVIA [Screams with delight as she realises there are two Cesarios]
Most wonderful!

SEBASTIAN [Seeing Viola]
Do I stand there? I never had a brother.
I had a sister whom the waves devoured.

VIOLA My father had a mole upon his brow.

SEBASTIAN And so had mine.

[They hug each other]

VIOLA I am Viola!

SEBASTIAN [To Olivia] So comes it, lady, you have been mistook.
You are betrothed both to a maid and man.

DUKE ORSINO Be not amazed!
If this be so,
I shall have share in this most happy wreck.
[To Viola] Give me thy hand,
And let me see thee in thy woman's weeds.

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MALVOLIO [breaking free and stepping forward]
Madam, you have done me wrong,
Notorious wrong!

OLIVIA Have I, Malvolio? No.

MALVOLIO Lady, you have. Pray you, peruse that letter.
[He gives her the letter that Maria dropped]
You must not now deny it is your hand.

OLIVIA Alas, Malvolio, this is not my writing,
Though, I confess, much like the character;
But out of question 'tis Maria's hand.

MALVOLIO [shocked and angry. He turns to Maria, Feste, Sir Toby and Sir Andrew and shouts]
I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you!

[Exit MALVOLIO]

DUKE ORSINO [To Maria] Pursue him and entreat him to a peace.

[Exit MARIA with SIR TOBY and SIR ANDREW]

[To Olivia] Meantime, sweet sister,
We will not part from hence.
[To Viola] Come, Cesario,
Orsino's mistress and his fancy's queen!

[Strike up a dance with the four lovers, who are then joined by the others. Have fun!]

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FESTE [To the audience]
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.
A great while ago the world begun,
With hey, ho, the wind and the rain,
But that's all one, our play is done,
And we'll strive to please you every day.

[End]



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