Thirteenth Night

or

What You Won’t

* 

A Play

By

Brian Wyvill†

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* Face illustration courtesy David Thomson
Acknowledgements

This play was written during the summer of 1994, when I played the part of Malvolio in Twelfth Night for the Rocky Mountain Shakespeare Company in Lake Louise, Alberta. I would like to thank Suzanne Gillies-Smith for her helpful comments and encouragement and the members of the Rocky Mountain Shakespeare Company who held a private reading of an earlier draft of Thirteenth Night in August 1994. I would also like to thank Colleen Jones and Joanne Wyvill for their comments and the members of Pine Tree Players and Between Mouthfuls Theatre of Canmore, who held a second private reading of a later draft in October 1994.

Dedicated to Charlotte and Simon Wyvill, I hope they enjoy the stage as much as I do.

Brian Wyvill,
Canmore October 1994.
The events take place immediately after the events of Shakespeare’s famous comedy, Twelfth Night. Some doubling of characters should be possible, Orsino can double as Sir Andrew, Malvolio and Sir Toby as pirates. The style of the play is in homage to Shakespeare and perhaps the play were best done in conjunction with 12th night.

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Act One

Prologue

Olivia’s House

(Enter Feste, the clown).

Feste Peace my friends. I shall unravel such a story of love and piracy that will pull at your heartstrings and grab at your gaskins. Four hundred years ago the bard himself, Mr William Shakespeare told the tale of sweet Viola, her twin brother, Sebastian, Sir Toby Belch, the Duke Orsino, the Countess Olivia, and many more colourful characters. That these people live on today is a miracle of modern science. I am living proof, Feste the clown, fool to my Lady Olivia, and anybody else willing to fill my purse with coin. To re-acquaint you with the people who have lived so long in the minds of humans, I give you first the story of Twelfth Night, since funds are low and we have little time to tell our own tale, the five minute version will have to do, followed immediately with what happened next, or whimsically, Thirteenth Night.

(Enter Duke Orsino. Feste the clown moves the actors as if they were puppets. Once on stage they remain, stepping aside when they are not involved in the action. As Feste tells the story the actors act the events he describes).

Feste Here is Duke Orsino, Duke of Illyria. In love with the Countess Olivia.

Duke If music be the food of love, play on, give me excess of it. Oh when mine eyes did see Olivia first, Me thought she purg’d the ayre of pestilence.

Feste Meanwhile a terrible tempest has wrecked a ship off the coast of Illyria. The lady Viola was rescued by her captain.

(Enter Viola)

Viola And what shall I do in Illyria? My brother is in Elizium. Perchance he is not drowned?

(Viola puts on boys clothes)

Feste Grief stricken over her lost brother, Sebastian, she disguises herself as a boy, Cesario and becomes manservant to the Duke, who sends her to woo Olivia.

Duke Cesario, good youth, address thy gate unto Olivia.

Viola I’ll do my best to woo your lady. Yet a barrelful strife, who ere I woo, my self would be his wife.
(Enter Sir Toby and Maria)

Feste
We move to Olivia’s house. Since the death of her father and brother, Olivia has not been in the mood for joviality on the house. Here we find Sir Toby, Olivia’s drunken uncle.

Toby
What a plague means my niece to take the death of her brother thus?

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 to be her wooer.

Toby
Sir Andrew Aguecheek, is as tall a man as any’s in Illyria. Why he has three thousand ducats a year.

(Enter Sir Andrew)

Andrew
Faith I’ll home tomorrow Sir Toby, your niece will none of me.

Toby
She’ll none of the Duke, I have heard her swear.

Andrew
I’ll stay a month longer.

(Enter Olivia accompanied by her steward, Malvolio)

Feste
Enter Olivia with her puritanical steward, Malvolio.

Malvolio
Madam, Yond young fellow swears he will speak with you. One would think his mothers milk were scarce out of him.

Viola
Most radiant, exquisite and unmatchable beauty.

Olivia
Were you sent hither to praise me?

Viola
My Lord and Master, the Duke Orsino loves you.

Olivia
Your Lord does know my mind, I cannot love him. What is your parentage?

Viola
Above my fortunes, yet my state is well, I am a gentlemen.

Olivia
Thy tongue, thy face, thy limbs, actions and spirit, do give thee five-fold blazon. Not too fast, soft, soft. Even so quickly may one catch the plague.

Viola
Fortune forbid my out-side have not charmed her.

Feste
So my Lady Olivia, has fallen for the youth she thinks is Cesario. Meanwhile Master Malvolio tries to stop any fun that may be had by drunken uncle, foolish knight and my good self.
Malvolio My Masters, are you mad? Do ye make an alehouse of my Ladies house?
Maria Go Shake your ears.
Maria I will make Malvolio a common recreation, I can write very like my Lady, your niece.
Toby He shall think by the letter that thou wilt drop that my niece is in love with him.
Maria I will persuade him to dress in yellow stockings
Toby A colour she abhors.
Maria and cross gartered ...
Feste A fashion she detests.

(Malvolio finds the letter)
Malvolio I will be strange, stout in yellow stockings and cross gartered. for every reason excites to this, my lady loves me.

(exit Malvolio to put on yellow stockings, enter Sebastian, Antonio)
Sebastian Before you took me from the breach of the sea, was my sister drowned.
Antonio Let me be your servant.
Feste So lives Sebastian, twin brother to Viola and identical in every way save that he is a man. Are you following this? I shall recap. Viola is in love with the Duke, Olivia is in love with Cesario, Viola in disguise, and Malvolio is in love with Olivia. Antonio is fond of the youth whom he plucked from the sea. He lends Sebastian his purse, since Antonio cannot be seen on the streets as he is wanted for piracy. Maria’s plan for Malvolio works well.

(Malvolio, in yellow stockings and cross gartered)
Malvolio Sweet Lady ho ho
Feste Malvolio is incarcerated. But what of Sir Andrew here, in love with Olivia he sees her pursuing Cesario and decides to leave. Sir Toby and I are not pleased, he is our financial support. We persuade Sir Andrew to fight a duel with Cesario.

(Viola and Sir Andrew face each other reluctantly swords in hand).
Viola You mistake Sir I am sure, no man hath any quarrel to me. I do assure you ‘tis against my will. I would rather go with Sir Priest than Sir Knight.

(Antonio interrupts).
Antonio

Put up your sword, if this young gentleman have done offense, I take the fault on me.

Rug


Feste

Antonio asks for his purse, but of course he is asking the wrong twin. Antonio is incarcerated in prison where he lies still. From here the day gets more complicated as mistake on mistake leads to Andrew meeting not the mild mannered Viola but her brother Sebastian. With Toby’s aid they nearly kill each other before Olivia interrupts. She once again declares her love for Cesario, who is in fact this time a man, Sebastian.

Olivia

Will you be ruled by me?

Sebastian

Madame, I will.

Olivia

Oh!

Duke

I shall have share in this most happy wrack, boy, thou hast said to me a thousand times thou never should’st love woman like to me.

Feste

Sir Toby and Maria also get married so everyone is happy. Well nearly everyone.

Malvolio

I’ll be revenged on the whole pack of you.

(Exeunt Omnes, except Feste and Malvolio)

Feste

And there we have the story as told by the bard.

Malvolio

You fool are as much to blame as Maria in this cruel trick. My lady has married a young pup whom she knows not. We shall see which of us survives this new regime. You and I will not stay together in this house. Likewise Sir Toby and his newly wed Lady Belch. You think you are so cunning that you can fool Malvolio out of his rightful place. My lady has promised me my revenge and revenge I shall have on you.

(exit Malvolio)

Feste

Make us feel badly with hate and with spite.

We’ll plan your downfall and serve you quite right.
Scene I

Olivia’s House

(Feste remains on stage, enter Sir Toby)

Toby Fool, I am ready for your fooling, my niece has sworn she will give Malvolio power over our merry habits. What foolery can you give an old dog like me?

Feste A dog, Sir? Like your niece’s Basset hounds, Sir.

Toby My niece keeps no Basset, Fool, her hounds are Beagles.

Feste Know you then Sir, the difference between a Basset and a Beagle?

Toby I know not, Fool.

Feste You cannot spread cream cheese and lox on a Basset, Sir.

Toby In all of Illyria nobody can fill your place as Fool.

Feste I would you could fill my purse, Sir.

Toby I can Sir, but only while Sir Andrew supports our good times.

Feste This I understand, Sir Toby, and what you tell me is even worse, namely my lady, your niece, wishes to give Malvolio reign over us.

Toby We shall make our plans to defeat such a device, with the help of the good Maria. My Lady Belch has proven mastery over plots and plans.

Feste She comes, Sir, I leave you to your devices.

(Exit Feste)

Toby A stoup of wine, Maria.

Maria Husband, as gentlewoman to my Lady Olivia, I should say to you, the wine lies in the cellar, sir, your legs will take you. As the Lady Belch I say, t’is time to say good night and quit your drinking, sir.

Toby A mouthful indeed, mistress Mary. But let us not fall out over a bottle of wine. For your love to me is worth all the bottles in a drunkards heaven. A bottle I shall not taste, but I will taste your lips.

(Noises off an argument between Sebastian and Olivia.)

Maria A kiss I will bestow and a bottle too, for drinking is not as bad as the fate that overtakes my lady and her strange husband.
Toby
Strange is right, methinks Sebastian yearns to be off the leash. How finds Maria? Happy with her husband?

Maria
She is Sir, as happy as any wife can be whose husband has no income save what he begs from his friends.

Toby
Impecunious I might be.

Maria
Huh?

Toby
Skint, broke, without liquidity, scant of coin, poor of pence, tight of testril, devoid of ducats, indeed giltless, but a beggar I am not. Sir Andrew is a generous friend.

Maria
Sir Andrew will be leaving within the week, mark my words.

(Sounds of the argument off, Sebastian runs on, a shoe flies past his head, he runs off, Olivia runs on)

Olivia
Sebastian.....

(Olivia sees Toby and Maria, she walks off after Sebastian)

Maria
Think you Sir Andrew stands a chance with my lady?

Toby
Sir Andrew! As much chance as the bottle in my hand.

Maria
If Sir Andrew thought his day with my lady was to come yet, perhaps he would stay a while?

Toby
You are indeed a wonderful wench, but softly, he comes.

(Enter Sir Andrew).

Andrew
What ho, friends.

Toby
Sir Andrew!

Andrew
I have saved the last of the summer wine for thee my sweet friends, for tomorrow I return to my own country.

Toby
A pity you have to go, Sir Andrew.

Maria
On the very day my lady declared, in a private moment, her interest.

Andrew
Her interest, Maria? What mean you, her interest?

Maria
Why even yesterday she told me the young puppy she married is naught but a mongrel dog.

Toby
She endures his bark, but it is your bite she sighs for.
Andrew
My bite?

Maria
Sir Andrew, it is your bravery that attracts her.

Andrew
My bravery, how can I be brave, there are no knaves and robbers in Illyria.

Maria
We are plagued with pirates, Sir Andrew. They say the pirate Antonio will try and escape from custody. He has already faced you near to death, Sir Andrew.

Andrew
I remember him well. But how can I be brave to my lady and defeat the pirate Antonio?

Toby
Maria is a truly excellent wench and will devise a plot for thee, did she not put down Malvolio? Let us drink to your future success with my niece.

Andrew
Drink we will and stay I shall a month longer!

Toby
We shall cut a caper on't.

(They drink and dance, enter Malvolio)

Malvolio
Still drinking Sir Toby? My lady will be interested in this news, Sir. Mistress Mary, you still have not learned your place, but help these knights to their undoing with wine in plenty.

Maria
My place, Sir. You address the Lady Belch. Learn your place, Master Malvolio.

(Enter Olivia)

Olivia
Maria! You too Sir Toby. What foolishness do I hear abroad on this night. In your cups Sir Toby?

Toby
Madam, we are enjoying the night air. We spend our time in intellectual converse.

Olivia
What thinkest you Malvolio. Would you still seek revenge?

Malvolio
I am not one to hold a grudge Madam, I merely informed your kinsman that such nightly revels would not please my lady.

Olivia
Very good Malvolio, I promised that you would be judge and jury on such as these pranksters. I have asked Malvolio here to add lock and key to the wine cellar. Here is the key and here I give said key to Malvolio’s charge. Neither bottle nor cup will pass the locked doors without Malvolio saying so. Keep it well for me Malvolio, when the lesson has been learned we will speak of this matter again. Until then question not the wisdom of the Lady Olivia.

(Exit Olivia)
Malvolio
We shall start this happy rule without the last of the summer wine, thank you Sir Toby, your niece will mark your cooperation. Good night my masters.

(Exit Malvolio)

Toby
He took the wine that Sir Andrew gave us!

Andrew
To stay here without wine, perhaps not.

Maria
Sir Andrew, she plays her cards into our hands!

Andrew
Mistress Mary, your diverse plots are a very miracle of invention, but surely you cannot go against the hand of Olivia?

Maria
No Sir Andrew, we will play another game that makes our earlier charade like a children’s fairy story. If I can not gull Malvolio into appearing a greater fool to my lady, may I fall out of my shoes. We will meet again tomorrow and you shall hear the ins and outs of the plot.

Toby
Wife you are a wonder indeed.
Come Sir Andrew, for once an early night.

Andrew
Not drunk at all, nor even tipsy tight.

(Exeunt omnes)
Scene II

Street Outside The Prison

Later that night. Enter Rug, Brush, Bristle (voice of Antonio)

Rug I told ee, here lies the way. Master Antonio is imprisoned not a stones throw from this place.

Brush Curse the dark. Come on Bristle.

(Bristle falls over something in the dark and farts loudly.)

Bristle The ghouls of darkness will take us to hell.

Rug Master Brush, will you cop Bristle a small but hurtful strike on his head, we shall knock some sense into this idiot yet.

Brush Gladly, Master Rug. I wish I had my cudgel.

Bristle No, no, no! Sir Brush, I am a simple and most humble pirate, hurt me sideways if you must the darkness holds more fear for me than ever the weight of your fists did. (He farts)

Rug Leave him be, Brush, he’s a hopeless lunatic, with a gut full of sour fish.

Bristle Lunatic I am not. On this day one year ago, in such a dark place the Black Ghoul of Illyria visited here.

Brush I could hurt him a lot more if I had my cudgel. Can I hit him again Master Rug?

Rug Something must be done to quiet the rogue, but stay your hand.

Bristle Ow! You’ve bloodied my coxcombe. Did you enjoy that?

Brush I would indeed, but I haven’t yet struck thee, Mr. Rug, I did but raise my hand.

Bristle Ow! Do what you will but be quiet, the black ghoul comes with a silent step and heavy breath.

(They listen, heavy breathing is heard.)

Brush Don’t jest with me Bristle, is that your voice?

Bristle He comes, I told ee, he comes! We are lost.

Antonio Over here my fine hearties.
Bristle
Start to pray my friends, it is our only way. Jove hear my prayer, forgive me my sins, forgive the time I took away Brush’s cudgel and willfully tossed it in the river...

Brush
You done what? Master Bristle, the Black Ghoul will get of you only what I leave!

Rug
Hush you idiot dolts, listen.

Antonio
My good friend Rug, I would know your voice from the bottom of a barrel full of filleted fish and that of your fighting ship mate, Brush and the good and ample mate Bristle.

Bristle (farts)
We are doomed.

Rug
Master Antonio?

Antonio
Behind bars, Mr. Rug, but with your help for but a day longer.

Rug
It is you Sir. News of your misfortune reached us and we came with haste.

Brush
Aye sir, with all haste.

Bristle
He will eat out our insides.

Rug
Something needs be done to your insides.

Antonio
Bristle has an active imagination.

(Bristle farts)
Rug
An active gut more like.

Antonio
Quit your stupid squabbles. Tomorrow night is the sabbath. The gaoler will be deep in his cups, washed in wine and articled in ale. That is the time, gentlemen to set me free.

Rug
Indeed we will, Sir.

Brush
The ship is ready, Sir.

Bristle
The sails full of wind.

Antonio
Like you Mr. Bristle, like you.  (Noises off sounds of keys rattling)

Antonio
Quickly, make haste, the gaoler will return.

Rug
Until tomorrow, our light we will burn.

(exit pirates)
Scene III

Olivia’s House

Enter Olivia, Sebastian,

Olivia  Sweet Cesario.

Sebastian  Madame, Cesario I am not. You have married Sebastian, my sister’s favours are for the Duke Orsino.

Olivia  Let me call you Cesario, sweet knight?

Sebastian  I am not my sister, sweet lady. Nor yet a knight. I wish to win my spurs and be worthy of your affection. Let me go to sea to seek my fortune.

Olivia  To sea, sweet knight? No, chance has already plucked you from Neptune’s graveyard. We have been over this old ground, discussed it more oft than my cousin Toby has touched wine. If you wish to know my soul, Sebastian you must stay.

Sebastian  Stay I will, Madame, if you free my saviour, Antonio, from the Duke’s pleasure.

Olivia  Mean you the pirate, Antonio?

Sebastian  Pirate he is not. But he is a dear friend to whom I owe my very life.

Olivia  Your brain has been addled by the sea, Cesario.

Sebastian  Sebastian!

Olivia  Sebastian, Cesario, it is all one. Maria.

Sebastian  No Madame, you do me wrong. In mistake for my self, Antonio asked my sister for his purse. Her ignorance made her deny him that which might have saved him from the Duke. He could not prove his worth and thus was condemned to rot in Orsino’s hellish prison.

(Enter Maria and Feste unseen to Sebastian)

Olivia  Such Babble, Sir, is for children. Choose your way with care. Maria!

Maria  Yes Madame.

Olivia  Prepare my private bed chamber.

Maria  Yes Madame. It will be done, Madame.
Olivia

Come to me when you have sense in your head and mention not Antonio to me again. He is a pirate and a scoundrel, I hope he rots for ever in the Duke’s prison. Good night to you, Cesario.

Sebastian

(Exit Olivia)

Sebastian

I am married to a heartless statue. Nor is she as young as first I thought. I am lost in these cloistered halls, I yearn for the open sea, for adventure, for my friend, Antonio. Oh Antonio, what wrong I have done to thee. How can I extract thee from that dreadful prison where you lie in anguish.

Feste

Perhaps I can be so bold, Sir.

Sebastian

Who goes there?

Feste

It is but I, Sir, a humble fool, at your disposal for whatever dirty deeds have to be done, Sir.

Sebastian

Dirty deeds? What mean you by that, fool?

Feste

I mean but to help you, Sir. By whatever means you would have me, would I had the means myself to help you, Sir, but mean you are not.

Sebastian

You plague me with words, fool. Speak you straight and tell me what help you can give?

Feste

Prisons have doors, Sir. Doors can be opened with keys.

Sebastian

Do you mean Antonio’s prison, what of that?

Feste

Like any other, Sir. It hath a door.

Sebastian

Fool, the door is locked and we have not the key.

Feste

It has been said of doors, Sir, that they have but two states. The open state and the closed state. It is like my purse, Sir, it has the empty state and the full state. Whereas the states are related, such that the door currently has the closed state, which in turn relates to the empty state of my purse. But, here is the rub, were my purse’s empty state exchanged for the full state, then any fool can see that the closed state of the door would be exchanged for the open state.

Sebastian

I think I take your meaning, Fool. Would fifty ducats change the state of your purse and likewise the state of the door?

Feste

Not quite, Sir. An optimist would say that my purse would be half full and likewise a pessimist would find it half empty. A half closed door, Sir, is a locked door.

Sebastian

A steep price to help a friend, but here, Fool, one hundred ducats.
Feste
Thank you, Sir. The door changes state on the sabbath, Sir.

Sebastian
Deliver Antonio to his ship, Fool, which I hear still lies in the harbour.

Feste
I will, Sir.

(exit Sebastian)

Feste
Now have I but half filled my purse with these one hundred ducats. The other half will come from my benefactor, Sir Andrew. You see it is like this with him. Sir Andrew wishes to appear brave to please the Lady Olivia. With Sir Andrew’s help, we will free Antonio, then Sir Andrew shall deliver Antonio to the Lady Olivia. He will appear brave to her, Illyria will be freed of a dangerous pirate and I will have a full purse!

(Enter Toby and Maria)

Toby
Fool, Maria has such a plot to gull Malvolio, t’would make a donkey out of even the most cunning fox.

Feste
Mistress Mary, I expected nothing less of thee, since now, by marriage, you are related to greatness. Tell me of this plot.

(enter Sir Andrew)

Andrew
God save ye, my gentle souls, Maria, have you devised the plot?

Toby
Hush, we are about to hear genius, Sir Andrew.

Maria
We shall persuade Malvolio, by means of a little play, that we four shall put on, that the curate, Sir Topaz, has recently arrived back from the East.

Feste
But Malvolio knows it was I who played Sir Topaz for him.

Maria
But he does not know that there is a real Sir Topaz.

Andrew
There is?

Maria
Of course not, and again the Fool will play his part.

Andrew
I am lost already.

Toby
But how will that help our case?

Maria
Shall I tell the story or shall you?

Toby
Forgive me, I will not again interrupt
Maria: Sir Topaz has a potion of love so potent! Once drunk, will make man or woman madly dote upon the next creature that it sees!

Andrew: I could use that on Olivia.

Toby: Malvolio will want the potion for Olivia.

Maria: We shall further tell him, to make the potion work at its best, the giver must show his love for the recipient, our Lady. Thus will Malvolio reveal himself as quite mad once again.

Feste: But he will not believe the worth of such a draught.

Maria: To convince him, Sir Topaz will persuade Malvolio to first practice his art on myself, by giving me some few drops of the green liquid.

Toby: You will be immune to the stewards charms.

Maria: On the contrary, she, that is I, will appear to fall madly and passionately for this fellow. It will embarrass him that my seeming passion be so great.

Toby: While all the time you do but act the play, now I follow your drift.

Maria: Malvolio will run next to his Mistress, he will try the potion on her expecting the same passion, only this time he will show his passion to an unwilling lover.

Feste: He’ll receive no applause from that audience. This time, she will know he is mad.

Andrew: I must confess I am a little adrift. Won’t my Lady Countess fall in love with Malvolio when she drinks of the potion?

Toby: Adrift? You are all at sea and your boat far from shore.

Maria: There is no potion, Sir Andrew.

Andrew: But you said that Sir Topaz had such a draught.

Toby: There is no Sir Topaz!

Andrew: Oh yes.

Toby: After such advances my niece will think him mad indeed. He will then be forced to give up his worldly wealth and return the wine cellar key to its rightful owner.

Maria: Her gentlewoman, Maria.

Toby: A song, Sir Fool.

Andrew: A coin for your trouble.
Feste (sings)      My silly appearance is deceiving,
                   My dreams are of being clever.
                   Of cunning and cool,
                   not a jesting Fool,
                   Such a fate, I wanted never.

Andrew           I dreamed of being clever once.

Feste (sings)     But here have I stayed, the fool in the house
                   As corrupter of words, I’m true.
                   With my friends come what,
                   We’ll defeat by plot,
                   Malvolio’s attempted coup.

Maria (sings)     My Lady’s steward I have gull’d before,
                   Again I have such a notion,
                   We act our mission,
                   He’ll lose his position,
                   Giving the lady love potion.

Toby              A fine song, Fool, I hope you act Sir Topaz as well.

Feste             It is a brilliant and most perfect scheme.
                   To play the curate, in Malvolio’s dream.

(exeunt omnes)
Scene IV

Orsino’s House

Enter Duke, Viola

Orsino  Sweet Cesario.

Viola  Sir, Cesario I am not. You have married Viola, my brother, Sebastian, gives his favours to the countess Olivia.

Orsino  Let me call you Cesario, sweet lady.

Viola  I am not my brother, sweet Duke. A lady I am, your lady.

Orsino  Cesario.

Viola  Viola.

Orsino  Viola, Cesario, it is all one. I yearn for thee in my mind, my body feels the sadness of longing. I love thee, Viola, but I cannot feel complete.

Viola  What is wrong, Lord? What have I done to vex thee?

Orsino  Oh, it’s nothing you have done. It is my own melancholia. When first we met, you were in woman’s weeds?

Viola  I freely admit to you I dressed as a boy to earn a place in your court.

Orsino  Perhaps, if again as a boy you dressed, my manly vigour will be returned.

Viola  I will do it, Lord, as quickly, as quickly can be.

Orsino  Until tomorrow, good night sweet Cesario.  (exit Duke)

Viola  If I once again pose as a masculine youth, will this restore his manly vigour? What possesses the Duke to think thus? Suppose it does not work, he will still spurn me. But I have something that he will not resist. My grandmother, on her deathbed, gave me, her favourite grandchild, a vial of green liquid. A potion of love so potent! Once drunk, will make man or woman madly dote upon the next creature that it sees! To make the potion work at its best, the giver must show her love for the recipient, my Lord, the Duke. Once the Duke consumes the draught his love will be to the first person his eyes do light on.

No rude creature, nor fairy will he see,
But his one true love, the nymph will be me!

(exit Viola)
Scene V

Olivia’s House

Enter Sir Andrew, Feste

Andrew What thinkest thou Fool, of Olivia and her groom?
Feste Oh Sir, she has indeed erred. She married him in mistake for you, Sir.
Andrew In mistake for me? What do you mean by that?
Feste Well Sir, are you not the bravest swordsman in all of Illyria?
Andrew Some have indeed called me that, true.
Feste Olivia thought that title had been conferred on her mate, Sebastian.
Andrew She did?
Feste A grave mistake on her part, Sir, which fortunately you can still rectify.
Andrew Tell me more, Fool.
Feste There lies in the city jail a notorious pirate by the name of Antonio. You must set him free.
Andrew Once when I was being very brave, in a duel to the death with the counts man, Antonio the pirate nearly took my life, I know him well and I am no friend of his, Fool.
Feste I know that, Sir, but wait and hear the intricacies of my plot.
Andrew Proceed.
Feste Once he is free news will reach Olivia, she will be beholden to the man who can recapture him, she will admire the bravery of a man who, single handed can bring this enemy of the people to book.
Andrew But you just said that I should free him?
Feste Oh Sir, you do indeed, but in chains you take him to a safe house, where you keep him in chains until time to produce him and reveal how you, single handed, recaptured the pirate.
Andrew Olivia will be so impressed by my bravery ...
Feste Sir, she will have eyes for nobody but you, it is well known that she and Sebastian are not lovers.
Andrew: That has been brought to my attention. But how do I effect the release and recapture of this pirate?

Feste: With my help, Sir, for I have a plan. It does require some expenses.

Andrew: Expenses? I'll pay thee fifty ducats for your plan.

Feste: And fifty more for my services.

Andrew: All right, a hundred, fifty now and fifty more when I see that the plan has worked. When do we start?

Feste: Bring your sword on the evening of the sabbath to the jail, the gaoler will be influenced by wine and a certain sleeping draught that I shall administer to him. But softly, somebody comes.

(Enter Toby and Maria)

Toby: What ho, Sir Andrew?

Feste: Oh Sir, we must now put into motion the most excellent plan that Maria did devise.

Andrew: (aside) So many plots, I hope I remember what to do.

Maria: Quickly he comes, take your cue from me gentlemen. (Enter Malvolio)

A glass of water for my husband?

Toby: What would I give for a glass of wine.

Andrew: I could drink a whole bottle.

(Malvolio thinks he is unseen, he has the key to the wine cellar, his remarks are unheard by the others.)

Malvolio: They are indeed suffering in their abstinence, I will listen the while and revel in my revenge.

Toby: We should not have played such a trick on poor old Master Malvolio.

Malvolio: I am not as old as you, Sir Toby.

Maria: Sir Andrew, I know how you can win the heart of my Lady Olivia.

Andrew: You do?

Malvolio: She does?

Maria: Remember the curate, Sir Topaz.
Andrew

But didn’t you say that there was no curate?

Toby *(sotto voice)*

Sir Andrew, we do but act the play.

Andrew

Oh, oh *that* Sir Topaz.

Maria

Sir Topaz has a potion of love so potent! Once drunk, will make man or woman madly dote upon the next creature that it sees!

Andrew

But didn’t you say that there wasn’t a potion?

Toby

I am so sorry Sir Andrew, did I stub your toe?

Andrew

Oh that potion, I understand you, Sir.

Maria

Sir Topaz will be at the Elephant on the sabbath, close by the prison. Go to him Sir Andrew.

Malvolio

If there is a Sir Topaz and if he has a love potion, I am sure I can reach it before that foolish knight can get out of his bed.

Maria

For a hundred ducats the draught will be yours and your future assured.

Malvolio

A hundred ducats! A veritable fortune.

Andrew

A hundred ducats to win the heart of my lady, it is a trifle.

Toby

Now you have the plot by its sinews, Sir Andrew.

Malvolio

No matter, I must have the potion. Tomorrow is the sabbath, I will hie me to the Elephant and there wait for Sir Topaz, it will cost me my entire savings but Sir Andrew is right, it is worth it to win my Lady.

*(exit Malvolio. The plotters break into howls of laughter)*

Toby

Maria, you are indeed a most wonderful wife.

Feste

The plot gets thicker by the minute!

Andrew

I wish I had that love potion.

Feste

Don’t worry, Sir Andrew, we will help you to win the Lady.

Maria

Fool, tomorrow is the Sabbath, go you to Orsino’s house and find a bottle with some innocent green colour for cooking, I hear his kitchens are full of such coniments. I have the black cap and gown in which you first impersonated Sir Topaz.
Feste  Give me the curate cap and gown, I will meet Malvolio in darkness.

*In Orsino’s kitchen I shall be seen,*

*For to find Sir Topaz a bottle green.*

(Exeunt omnes)
Scene VI

Orsino’s House

(Enter Viola)

Viola  Now will I excite the passions of my lord. First I have done his bidding and put on the clothes that once made me into Cesario, the youth. Second, I have the little green bottle given to me of late by my deceased grandmother. I pray that its potency is still intact. Here is my lord’s nightly draught of wine, on the sabbath day he always takes it before bed. Oh Duke, upon thy eyes I throw all the power this charm doth owe.

(She leaves the potion bottle on one side.)

(Enter the Duke)

Duke  Oh my wife, you are here for me in all my sorrow.

Viola  Still sad, my Lord, I pray you, drink your wine so we may retire and you may sleep well, for the sabbath day draws to a close.

Duke  My soul is too sad for wine, I love thee, yet my melancholy stops me, my passions are not excited by thee. But wait, your clothes, you have put on the boy’s gaskins. Now I see thee in a different light. Give me the wine.

Viola  Here, my Lord.

Duke  Drink I will. (He drinks)

Viola  (Aside) Now to obey my grandmother’s most earnest advice, to make the potion work at its best, the giver must show her love for the recipient. Duke, I love thee with a passion more devoted than ever a lover loved.

Duke  Viola, thy fair virtues force perforce doth move me, on the first view, since I did drink this wine, to say, to swear, I love thee. As if by magic my melancholy has evaporated into the air.

Viola  My Lord, your eyes do show a love light I have not seen before.

Duke  My passions are aroused in me. Viola, you are so lovely, you shine with hidden spirit that excites me more than ever before.

Viola  Softly, Lord, I am yet a maid.

Duke  Not for long tonight, my love. You are changed, your clothes, your sweet, sweet beauty. I am enraged in my soul for thee. Wife, we must to bed!

(The Duke throws Viola over his shoulder)
Viola  My Lord we go!  (aside) Never in my wild imagination did I dream of such passion. Whether it is my boys clothes or my grandmother’s potion I care not!

(Exit Duke carrying Viola)

(Enter Feste)

Feste  Now here I am at the Duke Orsino’s house and in all the many kitchens and cupboards I have not found a suitable bottle of cooking colour to work the tricks of that most clever Lady Belch. Soon I must be at the Elephant to be Sir Topaz for Malvolio and later help Sir Andrew in my plot against the pirate. My purse will be full and with the sale of the potion I will be safe from starvation for the rest of the year. But what employment have we here.

(He sees the little green bottle left by Viola)

Now this little bottle looks innocent enough, no doubt it is some food colouring left by accident by one of the Dukes servants. It will not be missed and will in certainty fool Malvolio’s eyes.

Now doth the Fool, to the elephant go. To make a fool of Master Malvolio!

(Exit Feste)
Scene VII

The Elephant, Outside the Prison

Enter Malvolio

Malvolio It is the evening of the sabbath, here am I at the Elephant. Where is that old curate? I must conduct my business before Sir Andrew can steal my chance with Olivia. Sir Topaz, Sir Topaz?

Feste (Sir Topaz) What calls on this day? Be you devil or man?

Malvolio Sir Topaz, it is I, Malvolio, steward to the Lady Olivia. I come in peace on a mission of great importance for my Lady.

Feste (Sir Topaz) How do I know that you are indeed Malvolio. The streets are full of pirates. Get thee hence for evil is abroad.

Malvolio No, no, Sir Topaz, you do me wrong. I am who I say and my purse is full for thee.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Your purse? Perhaps you are indeed Malvolio. What gold do you keep for me, and the church?

Malvolio Sir Topaz, I have fifty ducats.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Out hyperbolical fiend. You are not Malvolio who serves the countess Olivia, but an evil daemon sent to tempt me.

Malvolio Perhaps it is a hundred ducats, Sir Topaz.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Perhaps then, you are who you say. Is the purse now mine?

Malvolio It will be, Sir Topaz, it will be. First I am told that you have a holy potion in your possession and that after I make my donation to your worthy cause, you will entrust me to said potion. I do assure you I will put it to a Godly use.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Do you mean a love potion?

Malvolio Yes, Sir Topaz, Good Sir Topaz, let me have it.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Do you mean this love potion.

Malvolio The green bottle! Here is my purse.

Feste (Sir Topaz) Here is the bottle.

Malvolio Wait. Do you assure me this will make Olivia, that is ... a certain lady, will it make the lady love the gentlemen whom first she sees?
Feste (Sir Topaz)    On whom is the potion to be used?
Malvolio    I am not at liberty to give you that information. But if it does not cause the recipient to madly dote on the one she sees, I, that ... is he, may be in a difficulty from which there would be little escape from embarrassment.
Feste (Sir Topaz)    Perhaps the gentleman who will use the potion can first try a little in the way of a practice.
Malvolio    A practice? Yes that would be good.
Feste (Sir Topaz)    Perhaps on a lady not so highly placed in the house.
Malvolio    Somebody not so highly placed, why of course, practice first on Maria. Thank you Sir Topaz, now will the tables be turned.

(Exit Malvolio)

Feste    Ha, ha, thus have I played master Malvolio for the fool he is, now for Sir Andrew.

(Enter Sir Andrew)

Andrew    Fool, the devil take this darkness, where are you Fool?
Feste    Over here, Sir Andrew. The gaoler sleeps, I have the key to the door!
Andrew    How shall we contain this monster, Antonio? What if he is enraged?
Feste    Sir Andrew, he will not be enraged, we are releasing him.
Andrew    Only to incarcerate him again.
Feste    He does not know that, Sir Andrew. Leave him to me. What ho there in this prison?
Antonio    Who goes there? Is that you Mister Rug?
Feste    It is I Sir, Feste the clown, here on a mission from one who would set you free.
Antonio    Set me free? Who would that be?
Feste    Don’t ask, Sir, but come with us.
Antonio    Free at last. You, you whom I last saw in life and death struggle with my former friend, Sebastian.
Andrew    Do not touch me, Sir, I come in peace.
Feste    Quickly, Sir Andrew, bind his hands while I hold him thus.
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Antonio       Fie on you, Sir, what injustice have you in store for me? Release me I say.
Andrew        Now is he safe?
Feste         I think so, Sir.

(Enter Rug, Brush and Bristle)

Rug           These varlets are playing with our Captain. Into them, my hearts.
Brush         I'll hurt them in eleven places.
Bristle       Like the Black Ghoul himself will I be.
Antonio       I knew you would come, Mr. Rug.
Andrew        We are undone, by the Lord, save us, save us.

(Exit Sir Andrew)

Feste         I am but an innocent Fool, leave me be, gentlemen.
Antonio       Take him with us, Mr. Brush. Bind him as he would have bound me, we shall return to our ship.
Feste (aside)  Now the time has come, a pause for to take,
               Just a few minutes, back after the break.

END OF ACT ONE
Act Two

Scene I

The Pirate Ship

Enter Rug, Brush and Bristle, they hold the Fool

Bristle You may think what you like, but I know. The Black Ghoul haunts sailors of Illyria and we are all in veritable danger.

Feste Best let me go before he gets here.

Rug Bristle, you should try sitting in a darkened room, it is very safe, but very boring.

Bristle You may mock, but mark you well, the ship that sank so recently ago.

Rug What ship?

Bristle The ship that left young Sebastian in the briny and who our captain Antonio did rescue.

Brush What makes you think that was something to do with the Black Ghoul?

Bristle Sebastian had a twin sister on that ship.

Rug Aye, you have a point there, Mr. Bristle, a woman has no place aboard ship.

Feste Nor hath a Fool, I pray you, set me free.

Bristle No place? Worse than that, if a woman were to walk these boards the Black Ghoul, would sing his song and commit us to the bottom of the sea.

Brush What song?

Bristle (sings) When I was but a sweet young lad
I yearned to go to sea

(His singing is unbelievably bad)

Feste Let me go My Masters, and I’ll teach you all to sing.

(sings) When I was but a sweet young lad
I yearned to go to sea
I left my weeping ma and pa

Antonio (from off) So sad were they for me
Rug
What was that?

Bristle
It was ghostly singing.

Antonio (from off)
We sailed around the Spanish Main
We fought with pirates bold
For treasure was our daily aim
We want that Spanish gold

Bristle
He’s coming, the black ghoul!

Brush
When, Mr. Bristle, will you learn to recognise the sweet sounds of our masters voice.

(Enter Antonio)

Antonio
On a desert isle, I met a maid,

All
She was fair, bright and strong

Antonio
My shipmates cursed for we set sail

All
And carried the maid along.

Antonio
A woman’s weight upon a ship

All
Bad luck will bring, Oh Lord.

Bristle
The black ghoul comes to such as those

All
That carry a maid on board.

Feste
You believe such superstitious nonsense?

Bristle
Mark my words, that is how the ship carrying Sebastian and Viola met its doom.

(sings)
When the Black Ghoul sees, A woman’s weeds,

All
A violent storm will rage.

Bristle
To the oceans floor, the ship will bore

All
Death takes those sailors brave.

Antonio
Now listen lads, for now we shall see some action. Sebastian, whom I plucked from the waves has betrayed his trust in me. Leaving me to rot in jail he has married the countess and cares not what happens to his old friend. Under the cover of night my friends we shall go to Olivia’s house and take back he that we so recently saved from the sea.

Rug
What shall we do to the scoundrel, Captain?

Antonio
Mr. Rug, have I taught you nothing of piracy? We shall send a ransom note with the Fool here and claim our reward for Sebastian.

Rug
And the Fool, Sir?

Antonio
He is worth nothing except as a messenger, keep him alive for now.
Fool
A wise choice, Master Antonio.

Antonio
But if he makes too much noise, throw him overboard!

Fool
I can’t swim.

Bristle
We are yet, still in the harbour.

Fool
Oh!

Rug
Will you go with us, captain, Sir?

Antonio
Mr. Rug, my face is too well known in the town, I wouldn’t get within a league of Olivia’s house. You three must go alone. Bring me back Sebastian.

Brush
We will Master.

Antonio
Mr. Brush, I want no harm to befall him, understand ye?

Brush
I understand ye well, Captain, ye can trust me to be gentle with him.

Rug

Come my hearts, to the house of Olivia,
To find, Sebastian, who doth live with her.
Scene II

Orsino’s House

Enter Duke chasing Viola (Viola in boys clothes)

Duke Come my love, once more unto the bedroom dear friend.

Viola My Lord, I pray thee, give me some time. You have given me not a moments peace, I prithee, let me rest. (aside) Oh Grandmother, you didn’t tell me how much of the potion I should give, I think I gave too much.

Duke Wife, you may rest, but my passions are stronger than ere I can remember, I will return in an hour. (exit Duke)

Viola An hour! So little time to recover my self. My Lord let me rest for a day! Oh Sebastian.

(Enter Sebastian)

Sebastian I came to see how it was with thee.

Viola Not well, but tell me first how like you to be married to so great a lady?

Sebastian It has not turned out so well for me. Olivia loves Cesario, she loves not Sebastian. Malvolio stalks the halls keeping his puritanical eye on the servants and masters alike. I want to be back at sea, I want the adventure, I want to be with my old friend and saviour, Antonio. (aside) If the fools plan worked, I hope he might be even now at his ship. What ails you sweet sister?

Viola Oh brother, I have made a terrible error. I gave the Duke the love potion given to me by our grandmother, now I cannot extinguish his passions and I am exhausted.

Sebastian Sister, dearest, how can I help thee?

Viola Oh brother, give me but a day of rest. The Duke once mistook me for a boy and likewise Olivia mistook you for me. Take my place for a day, dear brother, give me the rest I must have.

Sebastian Sister, I want to help thee, but I cannot wear a woman’s weeds?

Viola Brother, you don’t need to put on my clothes, for the Duke likes me as I was, in the guise of Cesario.

Sebastian Olivia sings the same tune. Sister, I will do it. He shall think that you are still a loyal wife, but in your stead I’ll stay the day. Go and seek your rest in my rooms at Olivia’s house.
Viola

Thank you brother dearest. For I am gone.
Until tomorrow, I’ll be back anon.

(exit Viola and Sebastian)
Scene III

Olivia’s House

Enter Toby, Maria

Maria Quickly Sir Toby! Malvolio approaches!

Toby I will hide myself here.

Malvolio (with bottle of wine) Mistress Mary, stay a while, perhaps you would care to sup with me?

Maria Good evening, Sir. Thank you, Sir, we are not allowed wine, Sir.

Malvolio (aside) Not since I pocketed the wine cellar key. (pouring in the potion) Maria, upon thy eyes I throw all the power this charm doth owe. (to Maria) I pray you, drink your wine so you may retire and sleep well, for the day draws to a close.

(Malvolio places the potion on a table.)

Maria Thank you, Sir.

Malvolio (Aside) Now to obey Sir Topaz’ most earnest advice, to make the potion work at its best, the giver must show his love for the recipient. Maria, I love thee with a passion more devoted than ever a lover loved.

Maria Master Malvolio, thy dark virtues force perforce doth move me, on the first view, since I did drink this wine, to say, to swear, I love thee.

Malvolio My Lady, your eyes do show a love light I have not seen before.

Maria My passions are aroused in me. Malvolio, you are so, so lovely, you shine with hidden spirit that excites me more than ever before.

Malvolio Softly, Lady, Your husband comes.

Toby Mistress, time we retired to our bed.

Maria Sir Toby, Master Malvolio and I are engaged in a private discourse. Give me leave to continue, alone, my Lord.

(Malvolio is enjoying this)

Toby (To Maria) Have you not yet already beguiled him?

(Aloud) Let us go Mistress.

Maria (To Toby) Beguiled? I need more time.

(Aloud) Yes my Lord, in a while.
Malvolio Perhaps you should go now, Mistress Mary, we can continue our ... discourse tomorrow.

Maria Malvolio, forgive me, I must obey, my Lord, until later Master Malvolio.

(Exit Maria and Toby)

Malvolio Never in my wild imagination did I dream of such passion. She had of course to obey her husband, but it was a struggle for her. Now with safety will I try this potion on the object of my true passion, the Lady Olivia. But somebody approaches, I must go.

(exit Malvolio)
(Enter Viola)

Viola Now shall I find my brother’s room and at last find some sleep. Even here looks like a suitable place, I must rest.

(she lies down)
(Enter Rug, Brush and Bristle)

Rug There lies that dog, Sebastian sleeping as if he were an innocent babe. I recognise the youth from the time he spent with our master. Quickly, seize him, blindfold him and tie his hands together. We must be gone.

Brush Can I beat him a little, Mr. Rug?

Rug No, our master wants him in good condition, so he can have the pleasure of torturing the rogue.

Bristle I’ll tie on the blindfold.

(They set upon Viola, tie her up)

Viola Leave me be, no my Lord, not again! Not the blindfold my Lord.

Rug Got you my beauty.

Viola Who is there? Leave me be ... arrgghh

Rug The pig doth protest, listen to his squeals.

Brush By Jove he’s heavy,

Bristle I wish we had wheels!

(They carry her out screaming, enter Malvolio)

Malvolio The green bottle. I left it here somewhere. Oh there you are potion mine. Oh draught of love, now to put you to work again, but this time the stakes are much higher. To woo the countess Olivia.

(Enter Maria

Draft 2.2
Maria

Master Malvolio! How I dote on thee.

Malvolio

Later, tonight I need my rest, go to your husband.
Do as I say wench, I am your master.

(Exit Malvolio)

Maria

Malvolio please wait, go you no faster!

(Exit pursuing Malvolio)
Scene IV

Orsino’s House

(Enter Duke, Sebastian. The Duke mistakes Sebastian for his sister Viola.)

Duke Sweet Cesario, ho.

Sebastian My Lord, good evening to you, Sir.

Duke I have missed you all day Cesario. Come and sit beside me.

Sebastian I prefer to stand, My Lord. I have been sitting all day.

Duke Cesario, your voice, it seems so much lower than yesterday?

Sebastian My Lord, I have a slight cold in the head, ... a head cold.

Duke I will too stand, beside thee...Shall we pass the evening in the bed chamber?

Sebastian My Lord, I have an appointment.

Duke An appointment?

Sebastian With my gentlewoman, tonight I have to ... wash my hair.

(aside) Viola, what I do for thee.

Lord, it is that time of moon with me.

(aside) After all, this is a period piece.

Duke We won’t worry about such a trifle, come now, my sweet.

(Enter Feste the clown)

Feste My Lord, I bring terrible news.

Duke It better be terrible news, were it not, then what I shall do to you, Fool will indeed be terrible.

Feste My Lord, the pirate Antonio has escaped, he has kidnapped the countess’ husband and vows he will be revenged on you.

Duke A little terrible, I warrant you. Go at once and warn her ladyship, the countess Olivia. Cesario, wait there, I must go and attend to this wearisome pirate.

(Exit Duke)

Sebastian Antonio has escaped, Feste you have done well. But he has kidnapped the countess’ husband? What mean you by that? For I am he.
Feste

Indeed Sir, it is really you. I am a little confused. It is impossible for me to tell you and your sister apart, so I did not realise who you were. That means, the person that Antonio has as captive, is your sister, Viola.

(with Sebastian)

Sebastian (with Feste)
is my sister, Viola.

Feste

May I be so bold to ask, Sir, why did you pose as she?

Sebastian

It is because she gave a love potion to the Duke, it made him so passionate she needed a day of rest.

Feste

Love potion? What means you?

Sebastian

A little green bottle that our grandmother gave her. Once drunk, will make man or woman madly dote upon the next creature that it sees!

Feste

Green bottle? It wouldn’t have been in the Duke’s hall last night, would it Sir?

Sebastian

Why, yes it was last night Viola did give it to the Duke.

Feste

Jove in heaven! Malvolio is giving the potion to Olivia even as we speak.

Sebastian

What sayest thou?

Feste

I must confess Sir, I took the green bottle. I thought it be innocent food colouring. But Malvolio thinks it is a love potion.

Sebastian

Well it is a love potion.

Feste

Exactly so, Sir, we must fly.

Sebastian

I am confused, you mean you gave the love potion to Malvolio, what did you tell him it was?

Feste

Why Sir, a love potion. But we didn’t want him to have a real love potion.

Sebastian

Then why, Sir, did you give it to him?

Feste

And what of Mistress Mary, the Lady Belch?

Sebastian

Lady Belch? What has she to do?

Feste

She too drank of the potion. How has the plan gone astray?

Sebastian

Plan?
Feste  
Pray the Countess has not drunk the potion
(Exit Feste)

Sebastian  
I think they are mad, that is my notion.
(Exit Sebastian)
Scene V

Olivia's House

(Malvolio runs across the stage pursued by Maria).

(Enter Feste)

Feste  I have run all the way to Olivia’s house and due to a miracle of modern science, here I am already! So the love potion has in it genuine magic. this is a twist to our plot, I must think carefully now or we shall all be undone.

(Enter Sir Andrew)

But first I must deal with Sir Andrew.

Sir Andrew  Fool, your wretched plotting has gone seriously wrong. Antonio is still at large and I am a bigger fool to the lovely countess.

Feste  (aside) We shall all be bigger fools to the countess if Malvolio succeeds with the love potion.

Sir Andrew  Fool, you will not get your fifty ducats, and further I would be obliged if you would return my other fifty.

Feste  Sir Andrew, the plan is working, the pirates are playing right into our hands. (aside) I must think quickly or I lose fifty ducats.

Go now to her ladyship, confess you have been entangled with the pirates, but one hundred of them did defeat you. I shall bear you out.

(aside) But do it quickly before Malvolio gives her the potion.

Sir Andrew  One hundred pirates did defeat me. Yes that sounds excellent. All right I’ll do it.

Feste  If she bites the bait, declare your love for her, Sir Andrew.

Sir Andrew  I will, and you will back me up?

Feste  Soft, somebody comes, let us hide ourselves the while to see what should fall out.

(Enter Olivia and Malvolio)

Olivia  Malvolio, you are up late this night?

Malvolio  Mistress, I have prepared a beverage for you. I hope it is to your liking, Madam.

Olivia  Thank you, Malvolio, put it down.

Malvolio  (aside) Olivia, upon thy eyes I throw all the power this charm doth owe.

I pray you, drink your wine so you may retire and sleep well, for the day draws to a close.
Olivia  

Thank you, Malvolio, you may go.

Malvolio  

A thirsty night, Madam. (aside) She must drink and first see me.

Olivia  

Thank you, Malvolio, that will be all.

Malvolio  

Perhaps you would care to put your feet up, Madam, whilst you drink your wine?

Olivia  

My feet? Yes, they are sore indeed. Fetch my favourite footstool, Malvolio.

Malvolio  

Madame, I will.

(Exit Malvolio )

Feste  

(from his hiding place to Sir Andrew) Now Sir Andrew, go to your lady.

Andrew  

Now?

Feste  

(from his hiding place to Sir Andrew) Tell her about the pirates, one hundred of them.

Sir Andrew  

All right I’ll do it. (He goes to her). Lady Olivia, there is terrible news. The pirate Antonio has escaped. I tried to recapture him for thee but I was overwhelmed by a hundred pirates.

Olivia  

Sir Andrew, that was brave of you to face the pirates. This wine is very good tonight. Sir Andrew, sit you here beside me, tell me truly what thinkest you of me?

Feste  

(from his hiding place to Sir Andrew) Passion has been arranged for thee, Sir Andrew, say “I love thee with a passion more devoted than ever a lover loved.”

Andrew  

I love thee with a passion more devoted than ever a lover loved.

Olivia  

Sir Andrew, thy dark virtues force perforce doth move me, on the first view, since I did drink this wine, to say, to swear, I love thee.

Feste  

(aside) Tis working., (from his hiding place to Sir Andrew) Your bravery hath charmed her, continue Sir Andrew in the same vein.

Andrew  

My Lady, your eyes do show a love light I have not seen before.

Olivia  

My passions are aroused in me. Sir Andrew, you are so, so lovely, you shine with hidden spirit that excites me more than ever before.

Andrew  

My Lady, I would go to the end of the world for thee.

Olivia  

Not the end of the world, Sir Andrew, but my bedchamber.
Feste (aside) This works better than I thought, now have I earned my other 50 ducats. I better move the knight before my Lady sees her error. Madame, there is terrible news. I come even now from captivity in the hands of pirates.

Olivia What news do you bring?

Feste Antonio, the pirate is at large, Sir Andrew here tried to defeat him singlehanded, but one hundred pirates drove him off.

Olivia (Enter Duke Orsino) Indeed Sir Andrew is a brave and courageous knight.

Duke Madame, there is terrible news.

Olivia More bad news? What more could happen?

Duke Antonio the pirate has in his keeping, your husband, Sebastian.

Olivia No matter.

Feste Antonio bad me deliver this letter to you.

Olivia Read it, Fool.

Feste Madame, should you wish to see your husband alive once more, send the Fool back with one thousand ducats. If not I will send Sebastian to a watery grave.

Olivia A thousand ducats? Is my husband worth so much?

Feste Madame, there is something more you should know ...

(Enter Sebastian)

Sebastian Madame, there is terrible news. Antonio the pirate has in his keeping, my sister, Viola.

Feste It was this I was trying to tell you, Madame.

Duke This is indeed bad news, I was with her but an hour ago. We must away immediately to rescue Viola and reach the bottom of this intrigue.

Sebastian I shall go too.

Andrew I won’t be lacking in this endeavour.

Olivia Brave Sir Andrew. Stay a while, you can rescue Viola a little later.

Duke Madame the matter is urgent, come gentlemen, bring your swords.
(Exit Duke, and Sebastian.)

(Feste and Andrew out of earshot of the others)

Feste Sir, you can even better show your bravery in Olivia’s eyes, I know where lies the ship, Sir. We can be there before the others and take Viola from that foul pirate.

Andrew How can we do that, there are a hundred of them?

Feste Sir, there are but four of them. The pirates are very superstitious, and they have on board a woman. Put on this black cap and gown, Sir, I have a plan.

Andrew More of your plans, Fool. All right, but never more after.

(Exit Andrew and Feste)

Olivia Sir Andrew Aguecheek? Why do I love him so?

(Enter Malvolio)

Malvolio Madame, I am back with your footstool. Have you yet drunk the wine, Madame?

Olivia Thank you, Malvolio, it is excellent wine.

Malvolio (Aside) Now to obey Sir Topaz’ most earnest advice, to make the potion work at its best, the giver must show his love for the recipient. Olivia, I love thee with a passion more devoted than ever a lover loved.

Olivia Master Malvolio! Thy dark virtues force perforce doth move me, on the first view, since I did drink this wine, to say, to swear, I think thee mad!

Malvolio My Lady, your eyes do show a love light I have not seen before.

Olivia My passions are aroused in me. (aside) But not for thee?

Malvolio Mistress, time we retired to our bed.

Olivia Maria, Sir Toby, help me, Malvolio has gone mad.

Malvolio Madam, but you drank the wine?

(Enter Sir Toby)

Toby Here Madam, how can I help you?

Olivia My steward, Malvolio has an attack of some malady, he did declare he loved me and asked me to go to bed!

Toby Don’t worry, Madam, I will take care of him.

Malvolio Madam, I am not mad.
Olivia  Lock him in his chamber, Sir Toby, and remove his keys of office.
Toby   Including the key to the wine cellar?
Olivia  Even so, take him away.
Malvolio  
  Madam! I protest! You have done me wrong.
Olivia  
  Thou Malvolio, hang by thine own song.

(Exit Olivia)

Malvolio  Madam!

(Enter Maria)

Maria  Malvolio! Sir Toby, leave him be, I implore you?
Toby   What are you doing wench?
Maria  Good Master, Malvolio! I am here for thine aid.
Malvolio  Sir Toby, leave me be. I am gone.

(Malvolio is freed by Maria in a brief struggle, exit Malvolio).

Toby  What enchantment has overcome thy senses, wench? The plot is working better than we could have expected, I have here the key to the wine cellar.

Maria  Plot? Oh husband, we have wronged a great man.
        I 'll to the countess and explain our crimes.

(exit Maria)

Toby  Say naught to the lady ....er. er ... 
        (aside) and something that rhymes.

(Exit Toby pursuing Maria)
Scene VII

The Pirate Ship

Enter Rug, Brush, Bristle and Viola (a captive) dressed as a man.

Bristle We have done it lads, we have captured Sebastian.

Viola (aside) Sebastian? I will not appraise them of their mistake until I know what fate is in store for my brother.

Rug Our Captain is well pleased with us mates. Now what piratical torment can we turn on him.

Brush We could get Bristle to sing and maybe fart at him.

Bristle (sings) Nothing wrong with my singing, lads.
A woman’s weight upon a ship
Bad luck will bring, Oh Lord.
The black ghoul comes to such as those
That carry a maid on board.

Viola You have a fair voice, Sir, but what superstitious nonsense.

Bristle Oh no, Sir, that is true, Sir.

(Enter Antonio)

Antonio Sir, you betrayed me, but I will do this for thee. I give you one chance. Join me as pirate and adventure with me in the seven seas, or go you to meet your maker at the end of the plank.

Rug Captain Sir, begging your pardon Sir, but shouldn’t we await the thousand ducats?

Antonio I care not for the ducats, if Sebastian choose my friendship we go, if not we shall see him committed to Neptune’s keeping. Well, Sir, choose.

Viola A moment to myself, Sir, to think this through.
(aside) If I go with Antonio he will soon discover his mistake. A woman will not be tolerated on board and I will be sent to my doom. Yet if I gainsay his friendship Antonio will commit me now to the ocean floor.
Sir, I choose death before dishonour!

Antonio So be it, traitor and forgotten friend. Mr. Rug.

Rug Yes, Sir.

Antonio Break out the plank.
Rug  Aye, aye, Sir. Brush, Bristle, break out the plank.

Brush and Bristle  Aye, aye, Sir.

Antonio  Make sure that its clean.

Rug  Yes, Sir. Brush, Bristle, break out the broom.

(They sing as they break out the plank).

Rug, Bristle & Bristle (The sing)
A woman’s weight upon a ship
Bad luck will bring, Oh Lord.
The black ghoul comes to such as those
That carry a maid on board.

Rug  The plank is ready Captain.

Antonio  Escort this treacherous wretch to the end.

Rug  Mr. Brush.

Brush  With pleasure, Sir. Come along wretch.

(They pause at the end of the plank, Viola is at the point of Brush’s cutlass)

Antonio  Well Sebastian, anything more to say?

Viola  I see I have no choice, I cannot keep this ruse alive any longer, or my own life will succumb so soon to the briny. I have to tell you Sir. I am not Sebastian, but his sister Viola.

Bristle  A woman, on our ship!

(Sounds of a storm, lightning etc.)

Brush  We’ll sink, sure as I have no fishes tail.

Antonio  We’ll not be caught on a lee shore in this storm. Ready to cast off Mr. Rug.

Rug  Aye, aye, Sir.

Antonio  Mr. Brush, let go the mizzen tops and haul in the sail jiggers.

Brush  Aye, aye, Sir.

Antonio  Weigh the anchor.
Rug                  Aye, aye, Sir.
Antonio             Mr. Bristle, splice the top spillikens.
Bristle             Aye, aye, Sir. What are spillikens, Sir?

(Enter Andrew in Black pushed on by the Fool).

Feste               Now is the time Sir Andrew, go you, Sir.
Andrew              Don’t push (Feste pushes him into the open) Arrgghhhhh!!
Bristle             The Black Ghoul, did I not tell ye.
Brush               We are doomed.
Rug                  Let us away.

(Exit Rug, Brush and Bristle, the storm subsides).

Antonio             What foolishness is this?
Andrew              I arrest you in the name of the Duke.
Antonio             I see yourself and the Fool here, should you not have an army to effect this arrest?

(Enter Sir Toby, Sebastian)

Sebastian           Hold, Sir, the Duke awaits on shore with his army.
Antonio             I am undone.

(Enter Olivia)

Olivia              My brave, Sir Andrew, you have captured him.
Andrew              I am brave? Olivia, my love.
Olivia              Sir Andrew, my love, hie thee to my house and await me in my chamber.
Andrew              Lady, I go.

(Exit Sir Andrew)

Sebastian           Antonio, I sent the Fool to rescue thee.
Feste                It is true, Sir, Sebastian has always stood by you.
Antonio             I am happy indeed. Sebastian, come with me, we will get away in a boat and capture another ship ere the dawn breaks.
Sebastian  Antonio, I have wanted to escape from the countess from the day I married her. The sea calls me. Let us go.

(Exit Sebastian and Antonio)

Viola  Help! I am in danger.

(Enter Duke)

Duke  Viola, my love. Retrieve her from her peril.

Feste  Yes, Sir.

Duke  Viola, I was close to the worst grief that ever filled me, I am glad you are returned to me safe once again.

Viola  I love thee more than ever before.

Duke  My sweet, allow me but one small favour, that is, to call thee Cesario when thou doth come to me?

Viola  My Lord, I will.

Feste  So we are all once again, come to our senses. Maria’s plots succeeded and even Sir Andrew is happy.

Toby  I have the key to the wine cellar.

Olivia  I have Sir Andrew. But where is Sebastian?

Fool  Worry not Madam, he is gone with Antonio to seek their fortunes on the high seas.

Olivia  But what of Malvolio? When last I saw that gentlemen he was most strange?

Toby  Malvolio, yes Lady, most strange. Perhaps it be best that I keep the wine cellar key, your Ladyship.

Olivia  Methinks there are plots afoot. Cousin Toby, bring Malvolio hither. I did find me this little green bottle beside the wine this night.

Feste  Just simple food colouring, Madame. I will return it to the kitchen.

Olivia  Do so. Malvolio, you have come?

(Enter Malvolio pursued by Maria).

Malvolio  Madame, wrong has yet again be done to me. But the fault is mine and I shall bide until the whirligig of time brings on its revenges.
Maria Oh Master Malvolio.

Olivia Malvolio, you have changed your tune!

Maria Madam, I claim Malvolio, he is mine.

Malvolio Madam, she has gone mad!

Olivia What mean you by this, Maria?

Maria Madam, Malvolio is innocent, the blame should fall on my shoulders.

Toby Maria, leave this person. Madam, she knows not what she says, she has a fever. Wife, it is I, your husband, (sotto voice) hold your tongue, Maria.

Maria Sir Toby, you are right, I was mad. But now the veil of love that I did hold for Malvolio has dropped away, as suddenly as it did come to me.

Feste So the effects of the love potion are just temporary.

Olivia Fool, can you explain all this to us?

(Ok so this last is a bit fanciful, but it could be a song)

Feste To talk more of plots, love potions and schemes,
Will only make trouble nightmares and dreams.
My mouth it is shut, my place I shall keep,
My knowledge is mine, and silence is deep.

Duke I have my boy wife, Cesario by name,
She excites me so, in pants the good dame.

Olivia And I have Andrew, I don’t quite know why,
Sebastian is gone, for Ague I sigh.

Toby and Maria And we have the key, to the wine cellar,
Maria I have Sir Toby, he’s a nice feller.

(enter Sebastian and Antonio)

Sebastian and Antonio We sail the six seas, through waves calm and rough,
It frightens us not, together we are tough!

Malvolio My lesson is learned, a business I’ll start,
Selling love potion, you see I’m quite smart.

(enter Pirates, song refrain)
The tale is over, our plot has been told,
Bad luck will bring, Oh Lord.
A woman’s weight upon a ship
That carry a maid on board.

Feste
The tale is over, our plot has been told,
The theatre is full, the tickets all sold.
Sir Toby is drunk, the cast would be tight,
So goodbye my friends, a very good night.

The End