

## **CHARACTERS IN TWELFTH NIGHT AND AUDITION PIECES**

The age given refers to the actor's age.

### **VIOLA** Age 25-35

Twin sister to Sebastian. She is young, well balanced, practical, loving and sensitive.

### **OLIVIA** Age 25-40

Countess who has recently lost her brother. Beautiful, young and vain. She is self-willed and immature at times.

### **MARIA** Age 25-45

Olivia's gentlewoman. Part of the comic sub plot of the play. She is intelligent, well educated and full of fun. Slight accent would mark her out from the higher class characters.

### **OLIVIA'S SERVANT** Age 18-40

Very small part. One speech only. Could be on stage quite a lot.

### **ORSINO** Age 25-45

Duke of Illyria. He is noble, cultured, moody, spoilt and immature.

### **MALVOLIO** Age 35-60

Countess Olivia's steward. Full of self-importance but also vulnerable. He is vain and hypocritical with ideas above his station. Part of the comic sub plot.

### **FESTE** Age 25-55 (Will also take all Fabian's lines.)

Countess Olivia's fool or jester. Played in many different ways but is generally humorous but also melancholy. Good singing voice needed.

### **SIR TOBY BELCH** Age 35-60

Olivia's "uncle" or near relative. He is over indulgent and usually drunk. He is a parasite and a cheat. Part of the comic sub plot of the play.

### **SIR ANDREW AGUECHEEK** Age 25-45

A wealthy friend of Sir Toby. Lean, tall, cowardly and quarrelsome. He is easily duped by Sir Toby. A major comic character.

### **SEBASTIAN** Age 20-40

Viola's twin brother. Young, active, affectionate and brave.

### **ANTONIO** Age 25-55

Sea Captain who rescues Sebastian. Generous and brave. Has been an enemy of Orsino in the past. An accent would be appropriate.

### **VALENTINE AND CURIO** Age 20-50

Gentlemen attending Duke Orsino. Small parts. Could double with Officers.

### **SEA CAPTAIN** 25-60

Rescues Viola from the sea. Appears early in the play. Could double with the Priest.

**PRIEST** Age 30-60

Small role. Could double with Sea Captain.

**FIRST AND SECOND OFFICERS.** Age 25-50

V. small parts. Appear at the end of the play. Could double with Valentine and Curio.

**AUDITION SPEECHES** (I am using the new Arden Shakespeare. Some of the lines will be different, but it should be obvious what I mean. If not, ring or email me.

**VIOLA**

ACT ONE SCENE ONE (with Sea Captain)

ACT ONE SCENE FIVE (with Olivia.)

From Line 212 "Give us the place alone...." To Line 304..... "and be this so."

(Please learn speech beginning "If I did love you...." to "But you should pity me." in that scene.

**OLIVIA**

ACT ONE SCENE FIVE. (With Viola. See above) (Please learn from Viola's exit to Olivia's exit.)

ACT ONE SCENE FIVE. (With Feste.)

From Feste Line 30 "Wit and't be thy will" .....to Line 69 "Take away the fool, gentlemen."

ACT FOUR SCENE ONE From line 44 "Hold, Toby!....." to end of scene.

**MARIA**

ACT THREE SCENE TWO From Maria's entrance to the end of the scene. (please learn this.)

ACT TWO SCENE FIVE From Maria's second entrance Line 180 end of scene.

**ORSINO**

ACT ONE SCENE ONE. Whole scene (with Valentine and Curio)

(please learn opening speech.)

**MALVOLIO**

ACT TWO SCENE FIVE.

From Line 90 "*To the unknown beloved*" to his exit.

(please learn speech beginning "Daylight and champaign discovers not more" to end.)

**FESTE**

ACT ONE SCENE FIVE (With Olivia, see above.)

FINAL SONG (To any tune ) or any appropriate song.

**SIR ANDREW AGUECHEEK**

ACT ONE SCENE THREE (Whole scene.)

**SIR TOBY BELCH**

ACT ONE SCENE THREE (Whole scene.)(please learn from line 120 "Wherefore are these things hid" to end.

**SEBASTIAN**

ACT FOUR SCENE ONE (From Olivia's entrance to end of scene.)

ACT FOUR SCENE THREE. Please learn the first speech.

**ANTONIO**

ACT FIVE SCENE ONE From Line 70 "Orsino, noble Sir."

**SEA CAPTAIN**

ACT ONE SCENE TWO (With Viola)

The smaller roles will be cast after the main audition. You may be asked to read the **Priest 's** speeches (Act five Scene one) and **Valentine and Curio's** lines in Act one Scene one if you have indicated that you are willing to play these roles if you are not cast in your first choice.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL AT THE AUDITION.

Rosalind Rokison. 01306611244