

Worksheet 4 – Love

Review: Lecture 3 – Grief

In this lecture, Dr. Duncan explained that grief was often interchangeable with sadness and sorrow. Think about the play as a whole, and list three characters that experience grief in the play.

Recall: Lecture 4 – Love

Answer these questions after watching the video lecture to check how much you remember.

1. Which two characters have a betrothal ceremony at the end of Act 4 Scene 3?
a) Olivia and Sebastian c) Maria and Sir Toby
b) Viola and Orsino d) Oliva and Orsino
2. Which of the following **is not** an example of the type of nuptials Shakespearean heroines usually experience?
a) Secret nuptials b) forbidden nuptials
b) Curtailed nuptials d) arranged nuptials
3. Who does Orsino shift his affection and attention to at the end of the play?
a) Olivia c) Maria
b) Viola d) Cesario

Analysis

Orsino's first line in the play: 'If music be the food of love, play on' announces that love is a central theme in the play. During the lecture, Dr. Duncan discusses how Orsino language about love often lacks consistency. [3.33]

Read Orsino's open thoughts on love from the opening scene of the play.

If music be the food of love, play on.
Give me excess of it; that surfeiting
That appetite may sicken and 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.

Glossary

Surfeiting – over-filled

That strain again – play again

Falls into abatement – is lessened

High fantastical – very imaginative

For each of the quotations in Column A, consider what it reveals about Orsino in Column B.

The first example has been completed for you.

Column A	Column B
'O spirit of love! How quick and fresh art thou'	He is fanciful rather than realistic
'Enough, no more'	
'Such as I am all true lovers are'	
'give me excess of it'	
'sicken and die'	

Evaluation

Starting with Orsino's opening speech, explain in your own words how Orsino suffers for love

Write about:

- How Shakespeare presents Orsino's suffering in this scene
- How Shakespeare presents Orsino's suffering in the play as a whole

Glossary

- **Betrothal** (noun)– a formal commitment to marry someone, an engagement to be married
- **Nuptial** (noun) – a wedding