

Men in Submissive Positions in two of the Comedies

Twelfth Night:

Sebastian- Olivia asks him to marry her and he can't resist her charm. He marries her and fulfills his role as a mate in the play.

Antonio- He is arrested by Orsino's officers and begs Cesario (Viola) for help.

Malvolio- He plays the fool as he obeys every command of a letter written by Maria.

The Merchant of Venice:

Shylock- Portia presents her mercy speech in court and he succumbs to her pressure.

Antonio- He is saved by Portia's technicality speech in court.

Bassanio- Portia deprives him of sex, and he becomes submissive to her the second he chooses the correct chest.

Gratiano- He is submissive to Nerissa when she deprives him of sex and also when she goes to court and tricks him out of the ring she previously gave to him.

Prince of Morocco- If he chooses incorrectly, she will have nothing to do with him no matter how much wealth he has accumulated.

Prince of Arragon- An arrogant man, he still has to leave when he chooses incorrectly, putting Portia in control.