

Viola/Cesario is very alone with her father dead and her brother lost at sea. She disguises herself as Cesario as a necessity for modesty, but she never forgets who she is. She teaches Orsino about true love while serving him honestly by tries to help woo Olivia for him. She later admits her love for him based on who he is as a person.

Love -
strong
affection

Lust -
strong sexual
desire

The Love Triangle

Orsino is very emotional and requires an intermediary in attempting to woo Olivia. He is not in love with Olivia, but obsessed with her looks and wealth. Since he does not understand the difference between love and obsession until Cesario teaches him about real love. Orsino sees his feelings for Olivia through blinders.

Obsession -
idea of being
preoccupied

Olivia is unrational while dealing with her brother's death and secludes herself until Cesario comes to explain Orsino's feelings. Cesario ends up explaining to Olivia how unrealistically she is acting in dealing with the loss of her brother and that she must move on with her life. Olivia becomes strongly attracted to Cesario's strong opinion and good looks. She believes she loves Cesario, but she is only lusting over the small portion of Cesario that she knows.