Twelfth Night abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 3

Acceptance

Situation: Mistaking Sebastian for his masquerading twin sister Viola, Olivia believes she has found her moment to capture her love interest. Olivia goes for it. Now Sebastian, alone on the stage, reflects on the moment and wrestles with the fateful decision he is about to make, figuring it's the best of available options.

Sebastian is on stage.

Sebastian to himself

This is the air; that the glorious sun,
And this the pearl she gave me. What is done
Is not madness, yet wonder doth enwrap
Me thus. Where's Antonio now that I
Might need his golden counsel in this flap
That surrounds me. Though my soul disputes my
Better sense that this some error, yet this
Accident and flood of fortune doth miss
All reasonable discourse, yet I'm ready
To distrust mine eyes and wrangle with good
And persuasive reason that the lady
Is or I am mad. Yet if she, how could
She command deftly? 'Tis conceivable
There's something here that is deceivable.

Olivia and a Priest enter.

OLIVIA TO SEBASTIAN: If you mean well, now go with me and with this holy man into the chantry by. There, plight me the full assurance of your faith.

SEBASTIAN: I'll follow this good man and go with you and, having sworn truth, ever will be true. OLIVIA: Then lead the way, good father, and heavens so shine that they may fairly note this act of mine.