**1998 - Shakespeare in Love** Romantic comedy set in London in the late 16th century: Young playwright William Shakespeare struggles with his latest work "Romeo and Ethel the Pirate's Daughter". A great fan of Shakespeare's plays is young, wealthy Viola who is about to be married to the cold-hearted Lord Wessex, but constantly dreams of becoming an actress. Women were not allowed to act on stage at that time (female roles were played by men, too), but dressed up as a boy, Viola successfully auditions for the part of Romeo. Soon she and William are caught in a forbidden romance that provides rich inspiration for his play.



## MOVIE VOÇABULARY

Why do you howl...

• howl: to cry very loudly in pain, anger, or sadness

And a share!

• share: a part of a total amount of something that is divided between several people

It's a crowd-tickler.

crowd-tickler: comedy

A bit with a dog, and love triumphant.

- **bit**: small (part of the play)
- triumphant: win

A play takes time. Find the actors, rehearsals.

• rehearsal: an occasion when you practice for the performance of a play, concert, opera etc

That's, what, 500 groundlings at tuppence a head.

- **groundling**: people who stand on the ground to watch the play (they don't have seats)
- **tuppence**: cost of 2 pence (pence: penny is a British coin)
- a head: per person

No, no, we haven't the time. Talk prose.

• prose: written language in its ordinary form, not poetry

As soon as I find my muse.

• **muse**: someone that provides the enthusiasm and determination for an artist, poet, musician to create something artistic

*I-It's as if my quill is broken,* 

• quill: an old-fashioned pen made from a bird's feather

Here is a-- a bangle...

bangle: bracelet

Will it restore my gift?

• to restore: to cause a particular situation to exist again, especially a positive one

Prithee, Mr.Kempe. Break a leg.

• break a leg: {slang} used for wishing someone good luck

Cease to persuade, my loving Proteus.

cease: to stop

• **persuade**: to convince, to make someone believe that something is true

Straight up, Will?

• straight up: without water or ice

while the law of the land has our heroines being played by pipsqueak boys in petticoats.

- **heroine**: female hero
- pipsqueak: an insulting word for someone who is younger or smaller than you
- **petticoats**: old-fashioned women's underwear like a thin loose skirt or dress with no sleeves

The natural condition is one of insurmountable obstacles on the road to imminent disaster.

- **insurmountable**: impossible to deal with successfully
- **obstacles**: a difficulty or problem that prevents you from achieving something
- **imminent**: likely or certain to happen very soon

I have, and the chinks to show for it.

• **chinks**: {old slang} money

I insist. A beaker for Mr.Marlowe.

• beaker: a glass, cup for drinking beer

A comedy of quarreling families...reconciled in the discovery of Romeo...

• quarreling: fighting, arguing

• reconciled: to stop fighting

He looks well enough for a charlatan.

• **charlatan**: someone who doesn't tell the truth

Anon, good nurse, anon.

• anon: an old word meaning 'soon'

and the daughter mutilated with knives.

• **mutilated**: to damage something seriously, especially by removing part of it

I have a sonnet to write.

• **sonnet**: a type of poem with 14 lines and regular rhymes

Her Majesty's consent is requisite when a Wessex takes a wife,

consent: permission

requisite: required

You have this duel.

• **duel**: fight with swords, or with a gun between two people

A skirmish of words and swords such as I never wrote, nor anyone.

• **skirmish**: an argument or a disagreement, especially a political one

Did I mention her bosom?

• **bosom**: breasts, chest of a woman

Alas, there lies more peril in thine eye than 20 of their swords.

• alas: used to express sadness or disappointment

peril: danger

• **thine**: old English word for 'your'

And thus he goes to the apothecary...

• **thus**: old English word for 'then'

• apothecary: chemist. pharmacist