

→ Portia's feelings towards Bassanio are clearly shown in Act 3 Scene 2. She pleads with him to prolong his choosing, as she fears losing him. Her love for Bassanio even forces her to consider betraying the oath she made to her father. Portia's love and understanding towards Bassanio is also shown when she allows Bassanio to leave on their wedding day to rescue Antonio, as she respects their love.

Lorenzo + Jessica

→ Lorenzo declares his love for Jessica in Act 2 Scene 6, "*I love her heartily. For she is wise...and fair she is... and true she is...shall she be placed in my constant soul.*" He even states that she looks "*sweet, even in the lovely garnish of a boy.*" (Act 2 Scene 6 Line 45)

→ Jessica also asserts her love for Lorenzo, a love that she admits has a hold on her, making her do things she may not normally do, "*Love is blind, and lovers cannot see the pretty follies that themselves commit.*" (Act 2 Scene 6 Line 37)

Love at first sight

Gratiano + Nerissa

→ "*My eyes, my lord, can look as swift as yours. You saw the mistress, I beheld the maid. You loved, I loved.*" (Act 3 Scene 2 Line 197)

Material Love

Bassanio + Portia

→ Although the relationship between Portia and Bassanio seems based on romantic love only, it is apparent that money and wealth are also a prominent factor. When Bassanio describes the woman he loves the issue of her wealth precedes that of her beauty and his love for her, "*In Belmont is a lady richly left, and she is fair...of wondrous virtues.*" (Act 1 Scene 1 Line 160)

Shylock + Wealth

→ In Act 3 Scene 1, it is unclear whether Shylock is lamenting the loss of his daughter or his wealth. Speaking to Tubal, his preoccupation seems to be with his jewels rather than Jessica, "*A diamond...two thousand ducats...two thousand ducats...precious jewels...four score ducats...I shall never see my gold again...thou torturest me.*" (Act 3 Scene 1) He even wishes that Jessica was dead at his feet with the jewels and ducats with her safe, clearly demonstrating where his love lies.