**‘Marriage in Shakespeare’s Comedies’ by Lisa Hopkins**

“…outstanding feature… is its pervading obsession with marriage”

In thinking about how this “obsession” might be transmitted partly through the “obsessions” of the characters in *Twelfth Night*. Find examples for how thoughts of marriage (meaning all romantic thoughts essentially) inform the thoughts of the following characters:

Orsino

Olivia

Malvolio

Sebastian

Sir Andrew

Viola

Any other references to marriage?

“Written expressly for performance as part of the celebrations surrounding the solemnisations of actual marriages”

Find examples of language and imagery from line 205 onwards of Act 5, Scene 1 that reflect a spirit of “celebration”. What do you think of the “cleft apple” imagery?

“…the problematic ways in which marriage is treated…”

Find **four** examples of the ways in *Twelfth Night* possible or actual problems around marriage are presented.

“Marriage is appropriate as the provider of closure for comedy because it focusses primarily of the experience of the group”.

What examples are there at the end of the play that show a **failure** to integrate and a more ‘tragic’ “individualist, isolationist” emphasis?

If comedy presents “a rebellion against the patriarchal order”, how might *TN* depict this but also show that the patriarchal order eventually re-asserts itself?