



**BLEND OF COMEDY AND ROMANCE IN
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S *TWELFTH NIGHT***



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ABSTRACT : William Shakespeare is considered as the supreme dramatist in the history of English language and literature. His plays were written to be performed on the stage rather than to be read and his plays were meant to entertain a special kind of audience, alert and imaginative landowners. In *Twelfth Night*, there is a constant and continuous intermingling of high romance and hilarious comedy. Every part of the play is thus exemplary of the comic and romantic traditions at their highest. Even the sub-plot of the play is woven with the threads of fun and laughter. *Twelfth Night* has rightly been called the comedy of comedies, for it combines so many excellences, and combines them so skillfully. The comedy of *Twelfth Night* is both relieved and heightened by an exquisite romance, interwoven with the comic undertones.

KEYWORDS : Comedy, Romance, Fun, Laughter, Intermingling, Hilarious Comedy