

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

STUDY QUESTIONS

Why does Mirabell engage in so many plots to win Millimant?

What is the significance of the proviso scene (Act IV, begins at the top of p. 2264)?

How do Lady Wishfort and Sir Wilfull Witoud fit Aristotle's description of a character in a comedy?

Character identification to assist you in the understanding of the play:

Mirabell (male protagonist): loves Millimant and is loved by her
 is loved by Lady Wishfort, Mrs. Marwood, Mrs. Fainall

Millimant (female protagonist): loves Mirabell and is loved by him
 if she marries without her aunt's permission, will lose half of her
 inheritance

Lady Wishfort: Millimant's aunt, Mrs. Fainall's mother
 loves Mirabell
 is being courted by Sir Rowland (supposed to be Mirabell's uncle, but in reality
 is Mirabell's servant)

Marwood: friend of all
 secretly loves Mirabell
 Fainall's mistress

Mrs. Fainall: Lady Wishfort's daughter
 Fainall's wife
 before marrying Fainall, entrusted all her money to Mirabell