

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Adapted for UKTT 2006 by Phil Willmott

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*“Blue Moon, you saw me standing alone
Without a dream in my heart
Without a love of my own
Blue Moon, you know just what I was there for
You heard me saying a prayer for
Someone I really could care for
And then there suddenly appeared before me
The only one my arms will hold
I heard somebody whisper please adore me
And when I looked to the Moon it turned to gold
Blue Moon, Now I'm no longer alone
Without a dream in my heart
Without a love of my own”*
Lorenz Hart

Theseus – Nick Smithers
Hippolyta – Sam Sanns
Egeus - James Horne
Lysander – Nick Osmonde
Demetrius – Chris Thatcher
Hermia – Bea Holland
Helena – Helen Weaver
Quince – James Horne
Flute – Dan Woods
Bottom – Matthew Craig
Puck – Amy Ip
Oberon – Nick Smithers
Titania – Sam Sanns
Fairies – Quince and Flute

Appearing In
The Most Lamentable Comedy
And Most Cruel Death Of
PYRAMUS AND THISBY
- As Performed Before The Duke And Duchess
On His Wedding-Day. (At Night)

Prologue – Mr. Peter Quince
Pyramus – Mr. Nicholas Bottom
Thisbe – Mr. Francis Flute
Wall – Mr. Peter Quince
Lion – Lord Demetrius
Moonshine – Lord Lysander

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Scene 1:

Egeus disturbs Theseus and Hippolyta's wedding preparations for judgment on the lovers.

Scene 2:

Hermia and Lysander tell Helena of their elopement.

Scene 3:

Quince casts Bottom and Flute in his play.

Scene 4:

- a. Puck introduces us to the warring fairy king and Queen.
- b. Oberon sends Puck for the love potion.

Scene 5:

- a. Demetrius rejects Helena
- b. Oberon tells Puck to anoint Titania and Demetrius

Scene 6:

- a. Lysander and Hermia settle down for the night
- b. Puck anoints Lysander mistaking him for Demetrius.
- c. Helena mistrusts that both boys now pursue her,
- d. Hermia wakes alone and goes to find Lysander.

Scene 7:

Bottom's rehearsal with Quince and Flute is disrupted when Puck gives him a Donkey's head attracting Titania and her fairies.

Scene 8:

Oberon is delighted with Puck for tricking Titania but annoyed to see there's been a mix up with anointing the lovers.
Puck makes the 4 all lie down together.

Scene 9:

- a. Titania and her fairies serve bottom.
- b. Oberon takes pity on Titania and releases her from the spell.

Scene 10:

Bottom returns to tell Flute and Quince they're "on"

Scene 11:

- a. The Court watch the play
- b. The Fairy's bless the house
- c. Song, dance and resolution

SCENE 1

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ENTER THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, AND ATTENDANTS.

THESEUS

Now, fair Hippolyta, our nuptial hour
Draws on apace; four happy days bring in
Another moon; but, oh, methinks, how slow
This old moon wanes!

HIPPOLYTA

Four days will quickly steep themselves in nights;
Four nights will quickly dream away the time;
And then the moon, like to a silver bow
New bent in heaven, shall behold the night
Of our solemnities.

THESEUS

Hippolyta, I woo'd thee with my sword,
And won thy love doing thee injuries;
But I will wed thee in another key,
With pomp, with triumph, and with revelling.

ENTER EGEUS, HERMIA, LYSANDER, AND DEMETRIUS.

EGEUS

Happy be Theseus, our renownèd duke!

THESEUS

Thanks, good Egeus: what's the news with thee?

EGEUS

Full of vexation come I, with complaint
Against my child, my daughter Hermia.—
Stand forth, Demetrius.—My noble lord,
This man hath my consent to marry her:—
Stand forth, Lysander;—and, my gracious duke,
This man hath bewitch'd the bosom of my child.
Thou, thou, Lysander, thou hast given her rhymes,
And interchang'd love-tokens with my child:
Thou hast by moonlight at her window sung,
With feigning voice, verses of feigning love;
And stol'n the impression of her fantasy
With bracelets of thy hair, rings, gawds, conceits,
Knacks, trifles, nosegays, sweetmeats,—messengers
Of strong prevailment in unhardened youth;—
With cunning hast thou filch'd my daughter's heart;
Turned her obedience, which is due to me,
To stubborn harshness.—And, my gracious duke,
Be it so she will not here before your grace

1 Consent to marry with Demetrius,
2 I beg the ancient privilege of Athens,—
3 As she is mine I may dispose of her:
4 Which shall be either to this gentleman
5 Or to her death; according to our law
6 Immediately provided in that case.
7
8 THESEUS
9 What say you, Hermia? be advis'd, fair maid:
10 To you your father should be as a god;
11 Demetrius is a worthy gentleman.
12
13 HERMIA
14 So is Lysander.
15
16 THESEUS
17 In himself he is:
18 But, in this kind, wanting your father's voice,
19 The other must be held the worthier.
20
21 HERMIA
22 I would my father look'd but with my eyes.
23
24 THESEUS
25 Rather your eyes must with his judgment look.
26
27 HERMIA
28 I do entreat your grace to pardon me.
29 I know not by what power I am made bold,
30 Nor how it may concern my modesty
31 In such a presence here to plead my thoughts:
32 But I beseech your grace that I may know
33 The worst that may befall me in this case
34 If I refuse to wed Demetrius.
35
36 THESEUS
37 Either to die the death, or to abjure
38 For ever the society of men.
39 To live a barren sister all your life,
40 Chanting faint hymns to the cold, fruitless moon.
41
42 HERMIA
43 So will I grow, so live, so die, my lord.
44
45 THESEUS
46 Take time to pause; and by the next new moon,—
47 The sealing-day betwixt my love and me,
48 Upon that day either prepare to die
49 For disobedience to your father's will;
50 Or else to wed Demetrius, as he would;

1 Or choose austerity and single life.
2
3 DEMETRIUS
4 Relent, sweet Hermia;—and, Lysander, yield
5 Thy crazèd title to my certain right.
6
7 LYSANDER
8 You have her father's love, Demetrius;
9 Let me have Hermia's: do you marry him.
10
11 EGEUS
12 Scornful Lysander! true, he hath my love;
13 And what is mine my love shall render him;
14 And she is mine; and all my right of her
15 I do estate unto Demetrius.
16
17 LYSANDER
18 I am, my lord, as well deriv'd as he,
19 As well possess'd; my love is more than his;
20 My fortunes every way as fairly rank'd,
21 If not with vantage, as Demetrius's;
22 And, which is more than all these boasts can be,
23 I am belov'd of beauteous Hermia:
24 Why should not I then prosecute my right?
25 Demetrius, I'll avouch it to his head,
26 Made love to Nedar's daughter, Helena,
27 And won her soul; and she, sweet lady, dotes,
28 Devoutly dotes, dotes in idolatry,
29 Upon this spotted and inconstant man.
30
31 THESEUS
32 For you, fair Hermia, look you arm yourself
33 To fit your fancies to your father's will,
34 Or else the law of Athens yields you up,—
35 Which by no means we may extenuate,—
36 To death, or to a vow of single life.—
37 Come, my Hippolyta: what cheer, my love?
38 Demetrius, and Egeus, go along;
39 I must employ you in some business
40 Against our nuptial, and confer with you
41 Of something nearly that concerns yourselves.
42
43 EGEUS
44 With duty and desire we follow you.
45
46 EXEUNT THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, & DEMETRIUS.
47
48 LYSANDER
49 How now, my love! why is your cheek so pale?
50 How chance the roses there do fade so fast?

1
2 HERMIA
3 Belike for want of rain, which I could well
4 Beteem them from the tempest of my eyes.
5
6 LYSANDER
7 Ah me! for aught that I could ever read,
8 Could ever hear by tale or history,
9 The course of true love never did run smooth:
10 A good persuasion; therefore, hear me, Hermia.
11 I have a widow aunt, a dowager
12 Of great revenue, and she hath no child:
13 From Athens is her house remote seven leagues;
14 And she respects me as her only son.
15 There, gentle Hermia, may I marry thee;
16 And to that place the sharp Athenian law
17 Cannot pursue us. If thou lovest me then,
18 Steal forth thy father's house tomorrow night;
19 And in the wood, a league without the town,
20 Where I did meet thee once with Helena,
21 To do observance to a morn of May,
22 There will I stay for thee.
23
24 HERMIA
25 My good Lysander!
26 I swear to thee by Cupid's strongest bow,
27 By his best arrow, with the golden head,
28 By the simplicity of Venus' doves,
29 By that which knitteth souls and prospers loves,
30 By all the vows that ever men have broke,
31 In number more than ever women spoke,—
32 In that same place thou hast appointed me,
33 Tomorrow truly will I meet with thee.
34
35 LYSANDER
36 Keep promise, love. Look, here comes Helena.
37
38 ENTER HELENA.
39
40 HERMIA
41 God speed fair Helena! Whither away?
42
43 HELENA
44 Call you me fair? That fair again unsay.
45 Demetrius loves your fair. O happy fair!
46 O, teach me how you look; and with what art
47 You sway the motion of Demetrius' heart!
48
49 HERMIA
50 I frown upon him, yet he loves me still.

1
2 HELENA
3 O that your frowns would teach my smiles such skill!
4
5 HERMIA
6 I give him curses, yet he gives me love.
7
8 HELENA
9 O that my prayers could such affection move!
10
11 HERMIA
12 The more I hate, the more he follows me.
13
14 HELENA
15 The more I love, the more he hateth me.
16
17 HERMIA
18 His folly, Helena, is no fault of mine.
19
20 HELENA
21 None, but your beauty: would that fault were mine!
22
23 HERMIA
24 Take comfort; he no more shall see my face;
25 Lysander and myself will fly this place.—
26 Before the time I did Lysander see,
27 Seem'd Athens as a paradise to me:
28 O, then, what graces in my love do dwell,
29 That he hath turn'd a heaven unto hell!
30
31 LYSANDER
32 Helen, to you our minds we will unfold:
33 To-morrow night, when Phoebe doth behold
34 Her silver visage in the watery glass,
35 Decking with liquid pearl the bladed grass,—
36 A time that lovers' flights doth still conceal,—
37 Through Athens' gates have we devis'd to steal.
38
39 HERMIA
40 And in the wood where often you and I
41 Upon faint primrose beds were wont to lie,
42 Emptying our bosoms of their counsel sweet,
43 There my Lysander and myself shall meet:
44 And thence from Athens turn away our eyes,
45 To seek new friends and stranger companies.
46 Farewell, sweet playfellow: pray thou for us,
47 And good luck grant thee thy Demetrius!—
48 Keep word, Lysander: we must starve our sight
49 From lovers' food, till morrow deep midnight.
50

1 LYSANDER
2 I will, my Hermia.
3
4 EXIT HERMIA.
5 Helena, adieu:
6 As you on him, Demetrius dote on you!
7
8 EXIT LYSANDER.
9
10 HELENA
11 How happy some o'er other some can be!
12 Through Athens I am thought as fair as she.
13 But what of that? Demetrius thinks not so;
14 He will not know what all but he do know.
15 For ere Demetrius look'd on Hermia's eyne,
16 He hail'd down oaths that he was only mine;
17 And when this hail some heat from Hermia felt,
18 So he dissolv'd, and showers of oaths did melt.
19 I will go tell him of fair Hermia's flight;
20 Then to the wood will he to-morrow night
21 Pursue her; and for this intelligence
22 If I have thanks, it is a dear expense:
23 But herein mean I to enrich my pain,
24 To have his sight thither and back again.
25
26 EXIT HELENA.
27
28 SCENE 3
29
30 QUINCE, FLUTE AND BOTTOM.
31
32 QUINCE LOOKS AT THE AUDIENCE.
33
34 QUINCE
35 Is all our company here?
36
37 BOTTOM
38 You were best to call them generally, man by man, according to the script.
39
40 QUINCE
41 (TO THE AUDIENCE)
42 Here is the scroll of every man's name, which is thought fit, through all Athens, to
43 play in our interlude before the duke and duchess on his wedding-day at night.
44
45 BOTTOM
46 First, say what the play treats on; then read the names of the actors; and so grow to a
47 point.
48
49 QUINCE
50 Marry, our play is—The most lamentable comedy and most cruel death of Pyramus

1 and Thisby.
2
3 **BOTTOM**
4 A very good piece of work, I assure you, and a merry.
5 Name what part I am for, and proceed.
6
7 **QUINCE**
8 You, Nick Bottom, will play Pyramus.
9
10 **BOTTOM**
11 What is Pyramus? a lover, or a tyrant?
12
13 **QUINCE**
14 A lover, that kills himself most gallantly for love.
15
16 **BOTTOM**
17 That will ask some tears in the true performing of it. If I do it, let the audience look to
18 their eyes; I will move storms; I will condole in some measure. To the rest:—yet my
19 chief humour is for a tyrant: I could play Ercles rarely, or a part to tear a cat in, to
20 make all split.
21
22 The raging rocks
23 And shivering shocks
24 Shall break the locks
25 Of prison gates:
26
27 And Phibbus' car
28 Shall shine from far,
29 And make and mar
30 The foolish Fates.
31 This was lofty.
32
33 Now name the rest of the players.
34
35 This is Ercles' vein, a tyrant's vein;
36 —a lover is more condoling.
37
38 **QUINCE**
39 Francis Flute.
40
41 **FLUTE**
42 Here,
43
44 **QUINCE**
45 Flute, you must take Thisby on you.
46
47 **FLUTE**
48 What is Thisby? a wandering knight?
49
50 **QUINCE**

1 It is the lady that Pyramus must love.
2
3 FLUTE
4 Nay, faith, let not me play a woman; I have a beard coming.
5
6 QUINCE
7 That's all one; you shall play it in a mask, and you may speak as small as you will.
8
9 BOTTOM
10 An I may hide my face, let me play Thisby too: I'll speak in a monstrous little
11 voice;—'Thisne, Thisne!'— 'Ah, Pyramus, my lover dear; thy Thisby dear! and lady
12 dear!'
13
14 QUINCE
15 No, no, you must play Pyramus; and, Flute, you Thisby.
16
17 BOTTOM
18 Well, proceed.
19
20 QUINCE
21 Robin Starveling, will play Thisby's mother. Tom Snout, the tinker, Pyramus' father;
22 myself, Thisby's father;— Snug, the joiner, the lion's part:—and, I hope, here is a play
23 fitted.
24
25 BOTTOM
26 Let me play the lion too: I will roar that I will do any man's heart good to hear me; I
27 will roar that I will make the duke say 'Let him roar again, let him roar again.'
28
29 QUINCE
30 An you should do it too terribly, you would fright the duchess and the ladies, that they
31 would shriek; and that were enough to hang us all.
32
33 FLUTE.
34 That would hang us every mother's son.
35
36 BOTTOM
37 I grant you, if we should fright the ladies out of their wits, they would have no more
38 discretion but to hang us: but I will aggravate my voice so, that I will roar you as
39 gently as any sucking dove; I will roar you an 'twere any nightingale.
40
41 QUINCE
42 You can play no part but Pyramus; for Pyramus is a sweet-faced man; a proper man,
43 as one shall see in a summer's day; a most lovely gentleman-like man; therefore you
44 must needs play Pyramus. Meet me in the palace wood, a mile without the town, by
45 moonlight; there will we rehearse: for if we meet in the city, we shall be dogg'd with
46 company, and our devices known. In the meantime I will draw a bill of properties,
47 such as our play wants. I pray you, fail me not.
48
49 BOTTOM
50 We will meet; and there we may rehearse most obscenely and courageously. Take

1 pains; be perfect; adieu.
2
3 QUINCE
4 At the duke's oak we meet.
5
6 BOTTOM
7 Enough; hold, or cut bow-strings.
8
9
10 SCENE 4.
11 ENTER PUCK
12
13 PUCK
14 Now the hungry lion roars,
15 And the wolf behowls the moon;
16 Now it is the time of night
17 That the graves, all gaping wide,
18 Every one lets forth its sprite,
19 In the church-way paths to glide:
20 And we fairies, that do run
21 By the triple Hecate's team
22 From the presence of the sun,
23 Following darkness like a dream.
24
25 ENTER TITANIA
26
27 But swiftly now will Puck be gone,
28 Our fairy queen comes here anon.
29
30 ENTER OBERON
31
32 The Fairy king also comes here to-night;
33 I hope the Queen come not within his sight.
34 For Oberon is passing fell and wrath,
35 Because that she, as her attendant, hath
36 A lovely boy, stol'n from an Indian king;
37 And now they never meet in grove or green,
38 By fountain clear, or spangled starlight sheen,
39 But they do square; that all their elves for fear
40 Creep into acorn cups, and hide them there.
41
42 OBERON
43 Ill met by moonlight, proud Titania.
44
45 TITANIA
46 What, jealous Oberon! Fairy, skip hence;
47 I have forsworn his bed and company.
48
49 OBERON
50 Tarry, rash wanton: am not I thy lord?

1
 2 TITANIA
 3 Then I must be thy lady; For I know
 4 When thou hast stol'n away from fairy-land.
 5 Your buskin'd mistress and your warrior love,
 6 To Theseus must be wedded; and you come
 7 To give their bed joy and prosperity.
 8
 9 OBERON
 10 How canst thou thus, for shame, Titania,
 11 Glance at my credit with Hippolyta,
 12 Knowing I know thy love to Theseus?
 13
 14 TITANIA
 15 These are the forgeries of jealousy:
 16 And never, since the middle summer's spring,
 17 Met we on hill, in dale, forest, or mead,
 18 By pavèd fountain, or by rushy brook,
 19 Or on the beachèd margent of the sea,
 20 To dance our ringlets to the whistling wind,
 21 But with thy brawls thou hast disturb'd our sport.
 22 Therefore the moon, the governess of floods,
 23 Pale in her anger, washes all the air.
 24 The seasons alter: hoary-headed frosts
 25 Fall in the fresh lap of the crimson rose;
 26 And on old Hyem's thin and icy crown
 27 An odorous chaplet of sweet summer buds
 28 Is, as in mockery, set: the spring, the summer,
 29 The childing autumn, angry winter, change
 30 Their wonted liveries; and the maz'd world,
 31 By their increase, now knows not which is which:
 32 And this same progeny of evils comes
 33 From our debate, from our dissension:
 34 We are their parents and original.
 35
 36 OBERON
 37 Do you amend it, then: it lies in you:
 38 Why should Titania cross her Oberon?
 39 I do but beg your little changeling boy
 40 To be my henchman.
 41
 42 TITANIA
 43 Set your heart at rest;
 44 The fairy-land buys not the child of me.
 45 His mother was a vot'ress of my order:
 46 But she, being mortal, of that boy did die;
 47 And for her sake do I rear up her boy:
 48 And for her sake I will not part with him.
 49
 50 OBERON

1 How long within this wood intend you stay?
 2
 3 TITANIA
 4 Perchance till after Theseus' wedding-day.
 5 If you will patiently dance in our round,
 6 And see our moonlight revels, go with us;
 7 If not, shun me, and I will spare your haunts.
 8
 9 OBERON
 10 Give me that boy and I will go with thee.
 11
 12 TITANIA
 13 Not for thy fairy kingdom. Fairies, away:
 14 We shall chide downright if I longer stay.
 15
 16 EXIT TITANIA
 17
 18 OBERON
 19 Well, go thy way: thou shalt not from this grove
 20 Till I torment thee for this injury.—
 21 My gentle Puck, come hither: thou remember'st
 22 Since once I sat upon a promontory,
 23 And heard a mermaid, on a dolphin's back,
 24 Uttering such dulcet and harmonious breath,
 25 That the rude sea grew civil at her song,
 26 And certain stars shot madly from their spheres
 27 To hear the sea-maid's music.
 28
 29 PUCK
 30 I remember.
 31
 32 OBERON
 33 That very time I saw,—but thou couldst not,—
 34 Flying between the cold moon and the earth,
 35 Cupid, all arm'd: a certain aim he took
 36 And mark'd I where the bolt of Cupid fell:
 37 It fell upon a little western flower,—
 38 Before milk-white, now purple with love's wound,—
 39 Fetch me that flower, the herb I showed thee once:
 40 The juice of it on sleeping eyelids laid
 41 Will make or man or woman madly dote
 42 Upon the next live creature that it sees.
 43 Fetch me this herb: and be thou here again
 44 Ere the leviathan can swim a league.
 45
 46 PUCK
 47 I'll put a girdle round about the earth
 48 In forty minutes.
 49
 50 EXIT PUCK.

1 DEMETRIUS
2 Tempt not too much the hatred of my spirit;
3 For I am sick when I do look on thee.
4
5 HELENA
6 And I am sick when I look not on you.
7
8 DEMETRIUS
9 You do impeach your modesty too much,
10 To leave the city, and commit yourself
11 Into the hands of one that loves you not;
12 To trust the opportunity of night,
13 And the ill counsel of a desert place,
14 With the rich worth of your virginity.
15
16 HELENA
17 Your virtue is my privilege for that.
18 It is not night when I do see your face,
19 Therefore I think I am not in the night;
20 Nor doth this wood lack worlds of company;
21 For you, in my respect, are all the world:
22 Then how can it be said I am alone
23 When all the world is here to look on me?
24
25 DEMETRIUS
26 I'll run from thee, and hide me in the brakes,
27 And leave thee to the mercy of wild beasts.
28
29 HELENA
30 The wildest hath not such a heart as you.
31
32 DEMETRIUS
33 I will not stay thy questions; let me go:
34 Or, if thou follow me, do not believe
35 But I shall do thee mischief in the wood.
36
37 HELENA
38 Ay, in the temple, in the town, the field,
39 You do me mischief. Fie, Demetrius!
40 I'll follow thee, and make a heaven of hell,
41 To die upon the hand I love so well.
42
43 EXIT DEMETRIUS and HELENA.
44
45 OBERON
46 Fare thee well, nymph: ere he do leave this grove,
47 Thou shalt fly him, and he shall seek thy love.—
48
49 RE-ENTER PUCK.
50

1 Hast thou the flower there? Welcome, wanderer.
2
3 PUCK
4 Ay, there it is.
5
6 OBERON
7 I pray thee give it me.
8 I know a bank whereon the wild thyme blows,
9 Where ox-lips and the nodding violet grows;
10 Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,
11 With sweet musk-roses, and with eglantine:
12 There sleeps Titania sometime of the night,
13 Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight;
14 And with the juice of this I'll streak her eyes,
15 And make her full of hateful fantasies.
16 Take thou some of it, and seek through this grove:
17 A sweet Athenian lady is in love
18 With a disdainful youth: anoint his eyes;
19 But do it when the next thing he espies
20 May be the lady: thou shalt know the man
21 By the Athenian garments he hath on.
22 Effect it with some care, that he may prove
23 More fond on her than she upon her love:
24 And look thou meet me ere the first cock crow.
25
26 PUCK
27 Fear not, my lord; your servant shall do so.
28
29 SCENE 6
30
31 LYSANDER AND HERMIA.
32
33 LYSANDER
34 Fair love, you faint with wandering in the wood;
35 And, to speak troth, I have forgot our way;
36 We'll rest us, Hermia, if you think it good,
37 And tarry for the comfort of the day.
38
39 HERMIA
40 Be it so, Lysander: find you out a bed,
41 For I upon this bank will rest my head.
42
43 LYSANDER
44 One turf shall serve as pillow for us both;
45 One heart, one bed, two bosoms, and one troth.
46
47 HERMIA
48 Nay, good Lysander; for my sake, my dear,
49 Lie farther off yet, do not lie so near.
50

1 LYSANDER
2 O, take the sense, sweet, of my innocence;
3 Love takes the meaning in love's conference.
4 I mean that my heart unto yours is knit;
5 So that but one heart we can make of it:
6 Two bosoms interchainèd with an oath;
7 So then two bosoms and a single troth.
8 Then by your side no bed-room me deny;
9 For lying so, Hermia, I do not lie.
10
11 HERMIA
12 Lysander riddles very prettily:—
13 Now much beshrew my manners and my pride
14 If Hermia meant to say Lysander lied!
15 But, gentle friend, for love and courtesy
16 Lie further off; in human modesty,
17 Such separation as may well be said
18 Becomes a virtuous bachelor and a maid:
19 So far be distant; and good night, sweet friend:
20 Thy love ne'er alter till thy sweet life end!
21
22 LYSANDER
23 Amen, amen, to that fair prayer say I;
24 And then end life when I end loyalty!
25 Here is my bed: Sleep give thee all his rest!
26
27 HERMIA
28 With half that wish the wisher's eyes be pressed!
29 They sleep.
30
31 ENTER PUCK.
32
33 PUCK
34 Through the forest have I gone,
35 But Athenian found I none,
36 On whose eyes I might approve
37 This flower's force in stirring love.
38 Night and silence! Who is here?
39 Weeds of Athens he doth wear:
40 This is he, my master said,
41 Despisèd the Athenian maid;
42 And here the maiden, sleeping sound,
43 On the dank and dirty ground.
44 Pretty soul! she durst not lie
45 Near this lack-love, this kill-courtesy.
46 Churl, upon thy eyes I throw
47 All the power this charm doth owe;
48 When thou wak'st let love forbid
49 Sleep his seat on thy eyelid:

1 So awake when I am gone;
2 For I must now to Oberon.
3
4 EXIT.
5
6 ENTER DEMETRIUS and HELENA, running.
7
8 HELENA
9 Stay, though thou kill me, sweet Demetrius.
10
11 DEMETRIUS
12 I charge thee, hence, and do not haunt me thus.
13
14 HELENA
15 O, wilt thou darkling leave me? do not so.
16
17 DEMETRIUS.
18 Stay on thy peril; I alone will go.
19
20 EXIT DEMETRIUS.
21
22 HELENA
23 O, I am out of breath in this fond chase!
24 The more my prayer, the lesser is my grace.
25 Happy is Hermia, wheresoe'er she lies,
26 For she hath blessèd and attractive eyes.
27 How came her eyes so bright? Not with salt tears:
28 If so, my eyes are oftener wash'd than hers.
29 No, no, I am as ugly as a bear;
30 For beasts that meet me run away for fear:
31 Therefore no marvel though Demetrius
32 Do, as a monster, fly my presence thus.
33 What wicked and dissembling glass of mine
34 Made me compare with Hermia's sphery eyne?—
35 But who is here?—Lysander! on the ground!
36 Dead? or asleep? I see no blood, no wound.
37 Lysander, if you live, good sir, awake.
38
39 LYSANDER
40 Waking.
41 And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake.
42 Transparent Helena! Nature shows art,
43 That through thy bosom makes me see thy heart.
44 Where is Demetrius? O, how fit a word
45 Is that vile name to perish on my sword!
46
47 HELENA
48 Do not say so, Lysander; say not so:
49 What though he love your Hermia? Lord, what though?
50 Yet Hermia still loves you: then be content.

1
2 LYSANDER.
3 Content with Hermia? No: I do repent
4 The tedious minutes I with her have spent.
5 Not Hermia but Helena I love:
6 Who will not change a raven for a dove?
7 The will of man is by his reason sway'd;
8 And reason says you are the worthier maid.
9
10 HELENA
11 Wherefore was I to this keen mockery born?
12 When at your hands did I deserve this scorn?
13 Is't not enough, is't not enough, young man,
14 That I did never, no, nor never can
15 Deserve a sweet look from Demetrius' eye,
16 But you must flout my insufficiency?
17 Good troth, you do me wrong,—good sooth, you do—
18 In such disdainful manner me to woo.
19 But fare you well: perforce I must confess,
20 I thought you lord of more true gentleness.
21 O, that a lady of one man refus'd
22 Should of another therefore be abus'd!
23
24 EXIT.
25
26 LYSANDER
27 She sees not Hermia:—Hermia, sleep thou there;
28 And never mayst thou come Lysander near!
29 For, as a surfeit of the sweetest things
30 The deepest loathing to the stomach brings;
31 And, all my powers, address your love and might
32 To honour Helen, and to be her knight!
33
34 EXIT.
35
36 HERMIA Starting.
37 Help me, Lysander, help me! do thy best
38 To pluck this crawling serpent from my breast!
39 Ay me, for pity!—What a dream was here!
40 Lysander, look how I do quake with fear!
41 Methought a serpent eat my heart away,
42 And you sat smiling at his cruel prey.—
43 Lysander! what, removed? Lysander! lord!
44 What, out of hearing? gone? no sound, no word?
45 Alack, where are you? speak, an if you hear;
46 Speak, of all loves! I swoon almost with fear.
47 No?—then I well perceive you are not nigh:
48 Either death or you I'll find immediately.
49
50 EXIT.

SCENE 7

ENTER QUINCE, BOTTOM & FLUTE

QUINCE

Here's a marvellous convenient place for our rehearsal. This green plot shall be our stage, this hawthorn brake our tiring-house; and we will do it in action, as we will do it before the duke.

BOTTOM

Peter Quince,—

QUINCE

What sayest thou, bully Bottom?

BOTTOM

There are things in this comedy of 'Pyramus and Thisby' that will never please. First, Pyramus must draw a sword to kill himself; which the ladies cannot abide. I have a device to make all well. Write me a prologue; and let the prologue seem to say we will do no harm with our swords, and that Pyramus is not killed indeed; and for the more better assurance, tell them that I Pyramus am not Pyramus but Bottom the weaver: this will put them out of fear.

QUINCE

Well, we will have such a prologue; and it shall be written in eight and six.

BOTTOM

No, make it two more; let it be written in eight and eight. And you ought to consider with yourselves: to bring in, God shield us! a lion among ladies is a most dreadful thing:

FLUTE.

Therefore another prologue must tell he is not a lion.

BOTTOM

Nay, you must name his name, and half his face must be seen through the lion's neck; and he himself must speak through, saying thus, or to the same defect,—'Ladies,' or, 'Fair ladies, I would wish you, or, I would request you, or, I would entreat you, not to fear, not to tremble: my life for yours. If you think I come hither as a lion, it were pity of my life. No, I am no such thing; I am a man as other men are:

QUINCE

Well, it shall be so. But there is two hard things; that is, to bring the moonlight into a chamber: for, you know, Pyramus and Thisbe meet by moonlight.

BOTTOM

Why, then may you leave a casement of the great chamber-window, where we play, open; and the moon may shine in at the casement.

1 QUINCE
2 Ay; or else one must come in with a bush of thorns and a lantern, and say he comes to
3 disfigure or to present the person of moonshine. Then there is another thing: we must
4 have a wall in the great chamber; for Pyramus and Thisby, says the story, did talk
5 through the chink of a wall.
6
7 FLUTE
8 You can never bring in a wall.—What say you, Bottom?
9
10 BOTTOM
11 Some man or other must present wall: and let him have some plaster, or some loam,
12 or some rough-cast about him, to signify wall; and let him hold his fingers thus, and
13 through that cranny shall Pyramus and Thisby whisper.
14
15 QUINCE
16 If that may be, then all is well. Come, rehearse your parts. Pyramus, you begin: when
17 you have spoken your speech, enter into that brake; and so every one according to his
18 cue.
19
20 ENTER PUCK behind.
21
22 PUCK
23 What hempen homespuns have we swaggering here,
24 So near the cradle of the fairy queen?
25 What, a play toward! I'll be an auditor;
26 An actor too perhaps, if I see cause.
27
28 QUINCE
29 Speak, Pyramus.—Thisby, stand forth.
30
31 PYRAMUS
32 'Thisby, the flowers of odious savours sweet,'
33
34 QUINCE
35 Odours, odours.
36
37 PYRAMUS
38 '—odours savours sweet:
39 So hath thy breath, my dearest Thisby dear.—
40 But hark, a voice! stay thou but here awhile,
41 And by and by I will to thee appear.'
42 EXIT.
43
44 PUCK
45 A stranger Pyramus than e'er played here!
46 EXIT.
47
48 THISBE
49 Must I speak now?
50

1 QUINCE
2 Ay, marry, must you: for you must understand he goes but to see a noise that he
3 heard, and is to come again.
4
5 THISBE
6 'Most radiant Pyramus, most lily white of hue,
7 Of colour like the red rose on triumphant brier,
8 Most brisky juvenal, and eke most lovely Jew,
9 As true as truest horse, that would never tire,
10 I'll meet thee, Pyramus, at Ninny's tomb.'
11
12 QUINCE
13 Ninus' tomb, man: why, you must not speak that yet: that you answer to Pyramus.
14 You speak all your part at once, cues, and all.—Pyramus enter: your cue is past; it is
15 'never tire.'
16
17 THISBE
18 O,—'As true as truest horse, that yet would never tire.'
19
20 RE-ENTER PUCK, AND BOTTOM WITH AN ASS'S HEAD.
21
22 PYRAMUS
23 'If I were fair, Thisby, I were only thine:—'
24
25 QUINCE
26 O monstrous! O strange! we are haunted. Pray, masters! fly, masters! Help!
27
28 EXIT QUINCE AND FLUTE.
29
30 PUCK
31 I'll follow you; I'll lead you about a round,
32 Through bog, through bush, through brake, through brier;
33 Sometime a horse I'll be, sometime a hound,
34 A hog, a headless bear, sometime a fire;
35 And neigh, and bark, and grunt, and roar, and burn,
36 Like horse, hound, hog, bear, fire, at every turn.
37 EXIT.
38
39 BOTTOM
40 Why do they run away? This is a knavery of them to make me afeard.
41
42 RE-ENTER FLUTE.
43
44 FLUTE
45 O Bottom, thou art changed! What do I see on thee?
46
47 BOTTOM
48 What do you see? you see an ass-head of your own, do you?
49
50 RE-ENTER QUINCE.

1
2 QUINCE
3 Bless thee, Bottom! bless thee! thou art translated.
4 EXIT.
5
6 BOTTOM
7 I see their knavery: this is to make an ass of me; to fright me, if they could. But I will
8 not stir from this place, do what they can: I will walk up and down here, and I will
9 sing, that they shall hear I am not afraid.
10
11 SINGS.
12
13 *Blue Moon!*
14 *HE HAW! me standing alone*
15 *Without a dream in my heart*
16 *HE HAW! a love of my own*
17
18 TITANIA
19 Waking.
20 What angel wakes me from my flowery bed?
21
22 BOTTOM
23 *Blue Moon*
24 *HE HAW! just what I was there for*
25 *You heard me saying a prayer for*
26 *HE HAW! I really could care for*
27
28 TITANIA
29 I pray thee, gentle mortal, sing again;
30 Mine ear is much enamour'd of thy note.
31 So is mine eye enthralled to thy shape;
32 And thy fair virtue's force perforce doth move me,
33 On the first view, to say, to swear, I love thee.
34
35 BOTTOM
36 Methinks, mistress, you should have little reason for that: and yet, to say the truth,
37 reason and love keep little company together now-a-days: the more the pity that some
38 honest neighbours will not make them friends. Nay, I can gleek upon occasion.
39
40 TITANIA
41 Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful.
42
43 BOTTOM
44 Not so, neither: but if I had wit enough to get out of this wood, I have enough to serve
45 mine own turn.
46
47 TITANIA
48 Out of this wood do not desire to go;
49 Thou shalt remain here whether thou wilt or no.
50 I am a spirit of no common rate,—

1 The summer still doth tend upon my state;
2 And I do love thee: therefore, go with me,
3 I'll give thee fairies to attend on thee;
4
5 ENTER QUINCE AND FLUTE TRANSFORMED INTO FAIRIES.
6
7 And they shall fetch thee jewels from the deep,
8 And sing, while thou on pressèd flowers dost sleep:
9
10 FIRST FAIRY
11 Ready.
12
13 SECOND FAIRY
14 And I.
15
16 FIRST FAIRY
17 Where shall we go?
18
19 TITANIA
20 Be kind and courteous to this gentleman;
21 Hop in his walks and gambol in his eyes;
22 Feed him with apricocks and dewberries,
23 With purple grapes, green figs, and mulberries;
24 The honey bags steal from the humble-bees,
25 And, for night-tapers, crop their waxen thighs,
26 And light them at the fiery glow-worm's eyes,
27 To have my love to bed and to arise;
28 And pluck the wings from painted butterflies,
29 To fan the moonbeams from his sleeping eyes:
30 Nod to him, elves, and do him courtesies.
31
32 FIRST FAIRY
33 Hail, mortal!
34
35 SECOND FAIRY
36 Hail!
37
38 BOTTOM
39 I cry your worships mercy, heartily.—I beseech your worship's name.
40
41 COBWEB
42 Cobweb.
43
44 BOTTOM
45 I shall desire you of more acquaintance, good Master Cobweb. If I cut my finger, I
46 shall make bold with you.—Your name, honest gentleman?
47
48 MUSTARDSEED
49 Mustardseed.
50

1 BOTTOM
2 Good Master Mustardseed, I know your patience well: That same cowardly giant-like
3 ox-beef hath devoured many a gentleman of your house: I promise you your kindred
4 hath made my eyes water ere now. I desire you of more acquaintance, good Master
5 Mustardseed.
6
7 TITANIA
8 Come, wait upon him; lead him to my bower.
9 The moon, methinks, looks with a watery eye;
10 And when she weeps, weeps every little flower;
11 Lamenting some enforced chastity.
12 Tie up my love's tongue, bring him silently.
13
14 EXEUNT.
15
16 SCENE 8
17
18 ENTER OBERON.
19
20 OBERON
21 I wonder if Titania be awak'd;
22 Then, what it was that next came in her eye,
23 Which she must dote on in extremity.
24
25 ENTER PUCK.
26
27 Here comes my messenger.—How now, mad spirit?
28 What night-rule now about this haunted grove?
29
30 PUCK
31 My mistress with a monster is in love.
32 Near to her close and consecrated bower,
33 While she was in her dull and sleeping hour,
34 A crew of patches, rude mechanicals,
35 That work for bread upon Athenian stalls,
36 Were met together to rehearse a play
37 Intended for great Theseus' nuptial day.
38 The shallowest thickskin of that barren sort
39 An ass's head I give him for some sport.
40 When in that moment,—so it came to pass,—
41 Titania wak'd, and straightway lov'd an ass.
42
43 OBERON
44 This falls out better than I could devise.
45 But hast thou yet latch'd the Athenian's eyes
46 With the love-juice, as I did bid thee do?
47
48 PUCK
49 I took him sleeping,—that is finish'd too,—

1 And the Athenian woman by his side;
2 That, when he wak'd, of force she must be ey'd.
3
4 ENTER DEMETRIUS and HERMIA.
5
6 OBERON
7 Stand close; this is the same Athenian.
8
9 PUCK
10 This is the woman, but not this the man.
11
12 DEMETRIUS
13 O, why rebuke you him that loves you so?
14 Lay breath so bitter on your bitter foe.
15
16 HERMIA
17 Now I but chide, but I should use thee worse;
18 For thou, I fear, hast given me cause to curse.
19 If thou hast slain Lysander in his sleep,
20 Being o'er shoes in blood, plunge in the deep,
21 And kill me too.
22 It cannot be but thou hast murder'd him;
23 So should a murderer look; so dead, so grim.
24
25 DEMETRIUS
26 So should the murder'd look; and so should I,
27 Pierc'd through the heart with your stern cruelty:
28
29 HERMIA
30 What's this to my Lysander? where is he?
31 Ah, good Demetrius, wilt thou give him me?
32
33 DEMETRIUS
34 I had rather give his carcass to my hounds.
35
36 HERMIA
37 Out, dog! out, cur! thou driv'st me past the bounds
38 Of maiden's patience. Hast thou slain him, then?
39 Henceforth be never number'd among men!
40
41 DEMETRIUS
42 You spend your passion on a mispris'd mood:
43 I am not guilty of Lysander's blood;
44 Nor is he dead, for aught that I can tell.
45
46 HERMIA
47 I pray thee, tell me, then, that he is well.
48
49 DEMETRIUS
50 An if I could, what should I get therefore?

1
2 HERMIA
3 A privilege never to see me more.—
4 And from thy hated presence part I so:
5 See me no more whether he be dead or no.
6 EXIT.
7
8 DEMETRIUS
9 There is no following her in this fierce vein:
10 Here, therefore, for a while I will remain.
11 So sorrow's heaviness doth heavier grow
12 For debt that bankrupt sleep doth sorrow owe;
13 Which now in some slight measure it will pay,
14 If for his tender here I make some stay.
15
16 LIES DOWN.
17
18 OBERON
19 What hast thou done? thou hast mistaken quite,
20 And laid the love-juice on some true-love's sight:
21 Of thy misprision must perforce ensue
22 Some true love turn'd, and not a false turn'd true.
23
24 PUCK
25 Then fate o'er-rules, that, one man holding troth,
26 A million fail, confounding oath on oath.
27
28 OBERON
29 About the wood go, swifter than the wind,
30 And Helena of Athens look thou find:
31 All fancy-sick she is, and pale of cheer,
32 With sighs of love, that costs the fresh blood dear.
33 By some illusion see thou bring her here;
34 I'll charm his eyes against she do appear.
35
36 PUCK
37 I go, I go; look how I go,—
38 Swifter than arrow from the Tartar's bow.
39 EXIT.
40
41 OBERON
42 Flower of this purple dye,
43 Hit with Cupid's archery,
44 Sink in apple of his eye!
45 When his love he doth espy,
46 Let her shine as gloriously
47 As the Venus of the sky.—
48 When thou wak'st, if she be by,
49 Beg of her for remedy.
50

1 Re-enter PUCK.
2
3 PUCK
4 Captain of our fairy band,
5 Helena is here at hand,
6 And the youth mistook by me
7 Pleading for a lover's fee;
8 Shall we their fond pageant see?
9 Lord, what fools these mortals be!
10
11 OBERON
12 Stand aside: the noise they make
13 Will cause Demetrius to awake.
14
15 PUCK
16 Then will two at once woo one,—
17 That must needs be sport alone;
18 And those things do best please me
19 That befall preposterously.
20
21 ENTER LYSANDER and HELENA.
22
23 LYSANDER
24 Why should you think that I should woo in scorn?
25
26 HELENA
27 You do advance your cunning more and more.
28 When truth kills truth, O devilish-holy fray!
29 Your vows are Hermia's: will you give her o'er?
30
31 LYSANDER
32 I had no judgment when to her I swore.
33
34 HELENA
35 Nor none, in my mind, now you give her o'er.
36
37 LYSANDER
38 Demetrius loves her, and he loves not you.
39
40 DEMETRIUS
41 AWAKING.
42 O Helen, goddess, nymph, perfect, divine!
43 To what, my love, shall I compare thine eyne?
44 Crystal is muddy. O, how ripe in show
45 Thy lips, those kissing cherries, tempting grow!
46 That pure congealèd white, high Taurus' snow,
47 Fann'd with the eastern wind, turns to a crow
48 When thou hold'st up thy hand: O, let me kiss
49 This princess of pure white, this seal of bliss!
50

1 HELENA
2 O spite! O hell! I see you all are bent
3 To set against me for your merriment.
4 If you were civil, and knew courtesy,
5 You would not do me thus much injury.
6 Can you not hate me, as I know you do,
7 But you must join in souls to mock me too?
8 If you were men, as men you are in show,
9 You would not use a gentle lady so;
10 To vow, and swear, and superpraise my parts,
11 When I am sure you hate me with your hearts.
12 You both are rivals, and love Hermia;
13 And now both rivals, to mock Helena:
14 A trim exploit, a manly enterprise,
15 To conjure tears up in a poor maid's eyes
16 With your derision! None of noble sort
17 Would so offend a virgin, and extort
18 A poor soul's patience, all to make you sport.
19
20 LYSANDER
21 You are unkind, Demetrius; be not so;
22 For you love Hermia: this you know I know:
23 And here, with all good will, with all my heart,
24 In Hermia's love I yield you up my part;
25 And yours of Helena to me bequeath,
26 Whom I do love and will do till my death.
27
28 HELENA
29 Never did mockers waste more idle breath.
30
31 DEMETRIUS
32 Lysander, keep thy Hermia; I will none:
33 If e'er I lov'd her, all that love is gone.
34 My heart to her but as guest-wise sojourn'd;
35 And now to Helen is it home return'd,
36 There to remain.
37
38 LYSANDER
39 Helen, it is not so.
40
41 DEMETRIUS
42 Disparage not the faith thou dost not know,
43 Lest, to thy peril, thou aby it dear.—
44 Look where thy love comes; yonder is thy dear.
45
46 ENTER HERMIA.
47
48 HERMIA
49 What love could press Lysander from my side?
50

1 LYSANDER
 2 Lysander's love, that would not let him bide,—
 3 Fair Helena,—who more engilds the night
 4 Than all yon fiery oes and eyes of light.
 5 Why seek'st thou me? could not this make thee know
 6 The hate I bare thee made me leave thee so?
 7
 8 HERMIA
 9 You speak not as you think; it cannot be.
 10
 11 HELENA
 12 Lo, she is one of this confederacy!
 13 Now I perceive they have conjoin'd all three
 14 To fashion this false sport in spite of me.
 15 Injurious Hermia! most ungrateful maid!
 16 Have you conspir'd, have you with these contriv'd,
 17 To bait me with this foul derision?
 18 Is all the counsel that we two have shar'd,
 19 The sisters' vows, the hours that we have spent,
 20 When we have chid the hasty-footed time
 21 For parting us,—O, is all forgot?
 22 All school-days' friendship, childhood innocence?
 23 And will you rent our ancient love asunder,
 24 To join with men in scorning your poor friend?
 25 It is not friendly, 'tis not maidenly:
 26 Our sex, as well as I, may chide you for it,
 27 Though I alone do feel the injury.
 28
 29 HERMIA
 30 I am amazèd at your passionate words:
 31 I scorn you not; it seems that you scorn me.
 32
 33 HELENA
 34 Have you not set Lysander, as in scorn,
 35 To follow me, and praise my eyes and face?
 36 And made your other love, Demetrius,—
 37 Who even but now did spurn me with his foot,—
 38 To call me goddess, nymph, divine, and rare.
 39
 40 HERMIA
 41 I understand not what you mean by this.
 42
 43 HELENA
 44 Ay, do persever, counterfeit sad looks,
 45 Make mows upon me when I turn my back;
 46 Wink each at other; hold the sweet jest up:
 47 This sport, well carried, shall be chronicled.
 48 If you have any pity, grace, or manners,
 49 You would not make me such an argument.
 50 But fare ye well: 'tis partly my own fault;

1 Which death, or absence, soon shall remedy.
2
3 LYSANDER
4 Stay, gentle Helena; hear my excuse;
5 My love, my life, my soul, fair Helena!
6
7 HELENA
8 O excellent!
9
10 HERMIA
11 Sweet, do not scorn her so.
12
13 DEMETRIUS
14 If she cannot entreat, I can compel.
15
16 LYSANDER
17 Thou canst compel no more than she entreat;
18 Thy threats have no more strength than her weak prayers.—
19 Helen, I love thee; by my life I do;
20 I swear by that which I will lose for thee
21 To prove him false that says I love thee not.
22
23 DEMETRIUS
24 I say I love thee more than he can do.
25
26 LYSANDER
27 If thou say so, withdraw, and prove it too.
28
29 DEMETRIUS
30 Quick, come,—
31
32 HERMIA
33 Lysander, where to tends all this?
34
35 LYSANDER
36 Away, you Ethiopie!
37
38 DEMETRIUS
39 No, no, sir:—he will
40 Seem to break loose; take on as you would follow:
41 But yet come not. You are a tame man; go!
42
43 LYSANDER
44 Hang off, thou cat, thou burr: vile thing, let loose,
45 Or I will shake thee from me like a serpent.
46
47 HERMIA
48 Why are you grown so rude? what change is this,
49 Sweet love?
50

1 LYSANDER
 2 Thy love! out, tawny Tartar, out!
 3 Out, loathèd medicine! hated potion, hence!
 4
 5 HERMIA
 6 Do you not jest?
 7
 8 HELENA
 9 Yes, sooth; and so do you.
 10
 11 LYSANDER
 12 Demetrius, I will keep my word with thee.
 13
 14 DEMETRIUS
 15 I would I had your bond; for I perceive
 16 A weak bond holds you; I'll not trust your word.
 17
 18 LYSANDER
 19 What! should I hurt her, strike her, kill her dead?
 20 Although I hate her, I'll not harm her so.
 21
 22 HERMIA
 23 What! can you do me greater harm than hate?
 24 Hate me! wherefore? O me! what news, my love?
 25 Am not I Hermia? Are not you Lysander?
 26 I am as fair now as I was erewhile.
 27 Since night you lov'd me; yet since night you left me:
 28 Why then, you left me,—O, the gods forbid!—
 29 In earnest, shall I say?
 30
 31 LYSANDER
 32 Ay, by my life;
 33 And never did desire to see thee more.
 34 Therefore be out of hope, of question, doubt,
 35 Be certain, nothing truer; 'tis no jest
 36 That I do hate thee and love Helena.
 37
 38 HERMIA
 39 O me! you juggler! you cankerblossom!
 40 You thief of love! What! have you come by night,
 41 And stol'n my love's heart from him?
 42
 43 HELENA
 44 Fine, i' faith!
 45 Have you no modesty, no maiden shame,
 46 No touch of bashfulness? What! will you tear
 47 Impatient answers from my gentle tongue?
 48 Fie, fie! you counterfeit, you puppet, you!
 49
 50 HERMIA

1 Puppet! why so? Ay, that way goes the game.
2 Now I perceive that she hath made compare
3 Between our statures; she hath urg'd her height;
4 And with her personage, her tall personage,
5 Her height, forsooth, she hath prevail'd with him.—
6 And are you grown so high in his esteem
7 Because I am so dwarfish and so low?
8 How low am I, thou painted maypole? speak;
9 How low am I? I am not yet so low
10 But that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.

11
12 HELENA
13 I pray you, though you mock me, gentlemen,
14 Let her not hurt me. I was never curst;
15 I have no gift at all in shrewishness;
16 I am a right maid for my cowardice;
17 Let her not strike me. You perhaps may think,
18 Because she is something lower than myself,
19 That I can match her.

20
21 HERMIA
22 Lower! hark, again.

23
24 LYSANDER
25 Be not afraid; she shall not harm thee, Helena.

26
27 DEMETRIUS
28 No, sir, she shall not, though you take her part.

29
30 HELENA
31 O, when she's angry, she is keen and shrewd:
32 She was a vixen when she went to school;
33 And, though she be but little, she is fierce.

34
35 HERMIA
36 Little again! nothing but low and little!—
37 Why will you suffer her to flout me thus?
38 Let me come to her.

39
40 LYSANDER
41 Get you gone, you dwarf;
42 You minimus, of hind'ring knot-grass made;
43 You bead, you acorn.

44
45 DEMETRIUS
46 You are too officious
47 In her behalf that scorns your services.

48
49 LYSANDER
50 Now follow, if thou dar'st, to try whose right,

1 Of thine or mine, is most in Helena.
2
3 DEMETRIUS
4 Follow! nay, I'll go with thee, cheek by jole.
5
6 EXEUNT LYSANDER and DEMETRIUS.
7
8 HERMIA
9 You, mistress, all this coil is 'long of you:
10 Nay, go not back.
11
12 HELENA
13 I will not trust you, I;
14 Nor longer stay in your curst company.
15 Your hands than mine are quicker for a fray;
16 My legs are longer though, to run away.
17 EXIT.
18
19 HERMIA
20 I am amaz'd, and know not what to say.
21 EXIT, PURSUING HELENA.
22
23 OBERON
24 This is thy negligence: still thou mistak'st,
25 Or else commit'st thy knaveries willfully.
26
27 PUCK
28 Believe me, king of shadows, I mistook.
29 Did not you tell me I should know the man
30 By the Athenian garments he had on?
31 And so far blameless proves my enterprise
32 That I have 'nointed an Athenian's eyes:
33 And so far am I glad it so did sort,
34 As this their jangling I esteem a sport.
35
36 OBERON
37 Thou seest these lovers seek a place to fight;
38 Hie therefore, Robin, overcast the night;
39 The starry welkin cover thou anon
40 With drooping fog, as black as Acheron,
41 And lead these testy rivals so astray
42 As one come not within another's way.
43 Till o'er their brows death-counterfeiting sleep
44 With leaden legs and batty wings doth creep:
45 Then crush this herb into Lysander's eye;
46 Whose liquor hath this virtuous property,
47 To take from thence all error with his might
48 And make his eyeballs roll with wonted sight.
49
50 EXIT PUCK

1
2 When they next wake, all this derision
3 Shall seem a dream and fruitless vision;
4 And back to Athens shall the lovers wend
5 With league whose date till death shall never end.
6 Whiles I in this affair do thee employ,
7 I'll to my queen, and beg her Indian boy;
8 And then I will her charmèd eye release
9 From monster's view, and all things shall be peace.
10
11 EXIT OBERON.
12
13
14 PUCK
15 Up and down, up and down;
16 I will lead them up and down:
17 I am fear'd in field and town.
18 Goblin, lead them up and down.
19 Here comes one.
20 "Follow my voice; we'll try no manhood here."
21
22 EXIT PUCK, Enter LYSANDER.
23
24 LYSANDER
25 He goes before me, and still dares me on;
26 When I come where he calls, then he is gone.
27 The villain is much lighter heeled than I:
28 I follow'd fast, but faster he did fly;
29 That fallen am I in dark uneven way,
30 And here will rest me. Come, thou gentle day!
31 Lies down.
32 For if but once thou show me thy grey light,
33 I'll find Demetrius, and revenge this spite.
34 Sleeps.
35
36 Re-enter PUCK and DEMETRIUS.
37
38 PUCK
39 Ho, ho, ho, ho! Coward, why com'st thou not?
40
41 DEMETRIUS
42 Abide me, if thou dar'st; for well I wot
43 Thou runn'st before me, shifting every place;
44 And dar'st not stand, nor look me in the face.
45 Where art thou?
46
47 PUCK
48 Come hither; I am here.
49
50 DEMETRIUS

1 Nay, then, thou mock'st me.
2 Thou shalt buy this dear,
3 If ever I thy face by daylight see:
4 Now, go thy way. Faintness constraineth me
5 To measure out my length on this cold bed.—
6 By day's approach look to be visited.
7 Lies down and sleeps.
8
9 ENTER HELENA.
10
11 HELENA
12 O weary night, O long and tedious night,
13 Abate thy hours! Shine comforts from the east,
14 That I may back to Athens by daylight,
15 From these that my poor company detest:—
16 And sleep, that sometimes shuts up sorrow's eye,
17 Steal me awhile from mine own company.
18 Sleeps.
19
20 PUCK
21 Yet but three? Come one more;
22 Two of both kinds makes up four.
23 Here she comes, curst and sad:—
24 Cupid is a knavish lad,
25 Thus to make poor females mad.
26
27 ENTER HERMIA.
28
29 HERMIA
30 Never so weary, never so in woe,
31 Bedabbled with the dew, and torn with briers;
32 I can no further crawl, no further go;
33 My legs can keep no pace with my desires.
34 Here will I rest me till the break of day.
35 Heavens shield Lysander, if they mean a fray!
36 Lies down.
37
38 PUCK
39 On the ground
40 Sleep sound:
41 I'll apply
42 To your eye,
43 Gentle lover, remedy.
44 Squeezing the juice on LYSANDER'S eye.
45 When thou wak'st,
46 Thou tak'st
47 True delight
48 In the sight
49 Of thy former lady's eye:
50 And the country proverb known,

1 EXIT FAIRIES
 2
 3 So doth the woodbine the sweet honeysuckle
 4 Gently entwist,—the female ivy so
 5 Enrings the barky fingers of the elm.
 6 O, how I love thee! how I dote on thee!
 7
 8 THEY SLEEP.
 9
 10 OBERON ADVANCES. ENTER PUCK.
 11
 12 OBERON
 13 Welcome, good Robin. Seest thou this sweet sight?
 14 Her dotage now I do begin to pity.
 15 And now I have the boy, I will undo
 16 This hateful imperfection of her eyes.
 17 And, gentle Puck, take this transformèd scalp
 18 From off the head of this Athenian swain,
 19 That he awaking when the other do,
 20 May all to Athens back again repair,
 21 And think no more of this night's accidents
 22 But as the fierce vexation of a dream.
 23 But first I will release the fairy queen.
 24 Be as thou wast wont to be;
 25
 26 TOUCHING HER EYES WITH AN HERB.
 27
 28 See as thou was wont to see.
 29 Dian's bud o'er Cupid's flower
 30 Hath such force and blessed power.
 31 Now, my Titania; wake you, my sweet queen.
 32
 33 TITANIA
 34 My Oberon! what visions have I seen!
 35 Methought I was enamour'd of an ass.
 36
 37 OBERON
 38 There lies your love.
 39
 40 TITANIA
 41 How came these things to pass?
 42 O, how mine eyes do loathe his visage now!
 43
 44 OBERON
 45 Silence awhile.—Robin, take off this head.
 46
 47 PUCK LEADS BOTTOM OUT.
 48
 49 OBERON
 50 Sound, music.

1 Come, my queen, take hands with me,
 2 And rock the ground whereon these sleepers be.
 3 Now thou and I are new in amity,
 4 And will to-morrow midnight solemnly
 5 Dance in Duke Theseus' house triumphantly,
 6 And bless it to all fair prosperity:
 7 There shall the pairs of faithful lovers be
 8 Wedded, with Theseus, all in jollity.
 9
 10 PUCK
 11 Fairy king, attend and mark;
 12 I do hear the morning lark.
 13
 14 OBERON
 15 Then, my queen, in silence sad,
 16 Trip we after night's shade.
 17 We the globe can compass soon,
 18 Swifter than the wand'ring moon.
 19
 20 TITANIA
 21 Come, my lord; and in our flight,
 22 Tell me how it came this night
 23 That I sleeping here was found
 24 With these mortals on the ground.
 25
 26 AS THEY GO OUT, BOTTOM AWAKES.
 27
 28 BOTTOM
 29 When my cue comes, call me, and I will answer. My next is 'Most fair Pyramus.'
 30 God's my life, stol'n hence, and left me asleep! I have had a most rare vision. I have
 31 had a dream—past the wit of man to say what dream it was.—Man is but an ass if he
 32 go about to expound this dream. Methought I was—there is no man can tell what.
 33 Methought I was, and methought I had,—but man is but a patched fool, if he will
 34 offer to say what methought I had. The eye of man hath not heard, the ear of man hath
 35 not seen; man's hand is not able to taste, his tongue to conceive, nor his heart to
 36 report, what my dream was. I will get Peter Quince to write a ballad of this dream: it
 37 shall be called Bottom's Dream
 38
 39 ENTER THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and Train.
 40
 41 THESEUS
 42 Go, one of you, find out the forester;—
 43 For now our observation is perform'd;
 44 And since we have the vaward of the day,
 45 My love shall hear the music of my hounds,—
 46 Uncouple in the western valley; go:—
 47 Despatch, I say, and find the forester.—
 48 EXIT an ATTENDANT.
 49 We will, fair queen, up to the mountain's top,
 50 And mark the musical confusion

1 Of hounds and echo in conjunction.
2
3 HIPPOLYTA
4 I was with Hercules and Cadmus once
5 When in a wood of Crete they bay'd the bear
6 With hounds of Sparta: never did I hear
7 Such gallant chiding; for, besides the groves,
8 The skies, the fountains, every region near
9 Seem'd all one mutual cry: I never heard
10 So musical a discord, such sweet thunder.
11
12 THESEUS
13 My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kind,
14 So flew'd, so sanded; and their heads are hung
15 With ears that sweep away the morning dew;
16 Crook-knee'd and dew-lap'd like Thessalian bulls;
17 Slow in pursuit, but match'd in mouth like bells,
18 Each under each. A cry more tuneable
19 Was never holla'd to, nor cheer'd with horn,
20 In Crete, in Sparta, nor in Thessaly.
21 Judge when you hear.—But, soft, what nymphs are these?
22
23 EGEUS
24 My lord, this is my daughter here asleep;
25 And this Lysander; this Demetrius is;
26 This Helena, old Nedar's Helena:
27 I wonder of their being here together.
28
29 THESEUS
30 No doubt they rose up early to observe
31 The rite of May; and, hearing our intent,
32 Came here in grace of our solemnity.—
33 But speak, Egeus; is not this the day
34 That Hermia should give answer of her choice?
35
36 EGEUS
37 It is, my lord.
38
39 THESEUS
40 Go, bid the huntsmen wake them with their horns.
41
42 Good-morrow, friends. Saint Valentine is past;
43 *Begin these wood-birds but to couple now?*
44
45 DEMETRIUS, LYSANDER, HERMIA, and HELENA awake and start up.
46
47 LYSANDER
48 Pardon, my lord.
49 He and the rest kneel to THESEUS.
50

1 THESEUS
 2 I pray you all, stand up.
 3 I know you two are rival enemies;
 4 How comes this gentle concord in the world,
 5 That hatred is so far from jealousy
 6 To sleep by hate, and fear no enmity?
 7
 8 LYSANDER
 9 My lord, I shall reply amazedly,
 10 Half 'sleep, half waking; but as yet, I swear,
 11 I cannot truly say how I came here:
 12 But, as I think,—for truly would I speak—
 13 And now I do bethink me, so it is,—
 14 I came with Hermia hither: our intent
 15 Was to be gone from Athens, where we might be,
 16 Without the peril of the Athenian law.
 17
 18 EGEUS
 19 Enough, enough, my lord; you have enough;
 20 I beg the law, the law upon his head.—
 21 They would have stol'n away, they would, Demetrius,
 22 Thereby to have defeated you and me:
 23 You of your wife, and me of my consent,—
 24 Of my consent that she should be your wife.
 25
 26 DEMETRIUS
 27 My lord, fair Helen told me of their stealth,
 28 Of this their purpose hither to this wood;
 29 And I in fury hither follow'd them,
 30 Fair Helena in fancy following me.
 31 But, my good lord, I wot not by what power,—
 32 But by some power it is,—my love to Hermia,
 33 Melted as the snow—seems to me now
 34 As the remembrance of an idle gawd
 35 Which in my childhood I did dote upon:
 36 And all the faith, the virtue of my heart,
 37 The object and the pleasure of mine eye,
 38 Is only Helena. To her, my lord,
 39 Was I betroth'd ere I saw Hermia:
 40 But, like a sickness, did I loathe this food;
 41 But, as in health, come to my natural taste,
 42 Now I do wish it, love it, long for it,
 43 And will for evermore be true to it.
 44
 45 THESEUS
 46 Fair lovers, you are fortunately met:
 47 Of this discourse we more will hear anon.—
 48 Egeus, I will overbear your will;
 49 For in the temple, by and by with us,
 50 These couples shall eternally be knit.

1 And, for the morning now is something worn,
2 Our purpos'd hunting shall be set aside.—
3 Away with us to Athens, three and three,
4 We'll hold a feast in great solemnity.—
5 Come, Hippolyta.
6
7 EXEUNT THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and Train.
8
9 DEMETRIUS
10 These things seem small and undistinguishable,
11 Like far-off mountains turnèd into clouds.
12
13 HERMIA
14 Methinks I see these things with parted eye,
15 When every thing seems double.
16
17 HELENA
18 So methinks:
19 And I have found Demetrius like a jewel.
20 Mine own, and not mine own.
21
22 DEMETRIUS
23 It seems to me
24 That yet we sleep, we dream.—Do not you think
25 The duke was here, and bid us follow him?
26
27 HERMIA
28 Yea, and my father.
29
30 HELENA
31 And Hippolyta.
32
33 LYSANDER
34 And he did bid us follow to the temple.
35
36 DEMETRIUS
37 Why, then, we are awake: let's follow him;
38 And by the way let us recount our dreams.
39 EXEUNT
40
41 SCENE 10
42
43 ENTER QUINCE & FLUTE
44
45 QUINCE
46 Have you sent to Bottom's house? is he come home yet?
47
48 FLUTE
49 He cannot be heard of. If he come not, then the play is marred; it goes not forward,
50 doth it?

1
2 QUINCE
3 It is not possible: you have not a man in all Athens able to discharge Pyramus but he.
4
5 FLUTE
6 No; he hath simply the best wit of any handicraft man in Athens. O sweet bully
7 Bottom! The duke had not given him sixpence a-day for playing Pyramus, I'll be
8 hanged; he would have deserved it: sixpence a-day in Pyramus, or nothing.
9
10 ENTER BOTTOM.
11
12 BOTTOM
13 Where are these lads? where are these hearts?
14
15 QUINCE
16 Bottom!—O most courageous day! O most happy hour!
17
18 BOTTOM
19 I am to discourse wonders: but ask me not what; for if I tell you, I am not true
20 Athenian. I will tell you everything, right as it fell out.
21
22 QUINCE
23 Let us hear, sweet Bottom.
24
25 BOTTOM
26 Not a word of me. All that I will tell you is, that the duke hath dined. Get your apparel
27 together; good strings to your beards, new ribbons to your pumps; meet presently at
28 the palace; every man look over his part; for the short and the long is, our play is
29 preferred. In any case, let Thisby have clean linen; and eat no onions nor garlick, for
30 we are to utter sweet breath; and I do not doubt but to hear them say it is a sweet
31 comedy. No more words: away! go; away!
32
33 EXEUNT
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

SCENE 11

ENTER THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, Then LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS, HERMIA,
and HELENA

THESEUS

Here come the lovers, full of joy and mirth.—
Joy, gentle friends! joy and fresh days of love
Accompany your hearts!
Come now; what masques, what dances shall we have,
To wear away this long age of three hours
Between our after-supper and bed-time?
What revels are in hand? Is there no play
To ease the anguish of a torturing hour?

HIPPOLYTA (GIVING A PAPER)

1 There is a brief how many sports are ripe;
2 Make choice of which your highness will see first.
3
4 THESEUS (READS)
5 'The battle with the Centaurs, to be sung
6 By an Athenian eunuch to the harp.'
7 We'll none of that: that have I told my love,
8 In glory of my kinsman Hercules.
9 'The riot of the tipsy Bacchanals,
10 Tearing the Thracian singer in their rage.'
11 That is an old device, and it was play'd
12 When I from Thebes came last a conqueror.
13 'The thrice three Muses mourning for the death
14 Of learning, late deceas'd in beggary.'
15 That is some satire, keen and critical,
16 Not sorting with a nuptial ceremony.
17
18 HELENA
19 'A tedious brief scene of young Pyramus
20 And his love Thisbe; very tragical mirth.'
21
22 THESEUS
23 Merry *and* tragical! tedious *and* brief!
24 And we will hear it.
25
26 DEMETRIUS
27 No, my noble lord,
28 It is not for you: I have heard it over,
29
30 LYSANDER
31 And it is nothing, nothing in the world;
32
33 HELENA (OF DEMETRIUS AND LYSANDER)
34 Unless you can find sport in their intents,
35
36 HERMIA
37 I will hear that play;
38 For never anything can be amiss
39 When simpleness and duty tender it.
40
41 THESEUS
42 Go, bring them in:
43
44 DEMETRIUS AND LYSANDER EXIT
45
46 and take your places, ladies.
47
48 QUINCE HOVERS NERVOUSLY AT THE ENTRANCE.
49
50 HIPPOLITA

1 So please your grace, the prologue is address'd.
2
3 THESEUS
4 Let the actors approach.
5
6 ENTER QUINCE AS WALL, BOTTOM AS PYRAMUS, FLUTE AS THISBE,
7 LYSANDER AS MOONSHINE, AND DEMETRIUS AS LION.
8
9 QUINCE:
10 Gentles, perchance you wonder at this show;
11 But wonder on, till truth make all things plain.
12 This man is Pyramus, if you would know;
13 This beauteous lady Thisby is certain.
14 This man, with lanthorn, dog, and bush of thorn,
15 Presenteth Moonshine: for, if you will know,
16 By moonshine did these lovers think no scorn
17 To meet at Ninus' tomb, there, there to woo.
18 This grisly beast, which by name Lion hight,
19 The trusty Thisby, coming first by night,
20 Did scare away, or rather did affright;
21 And as she fled, her mantle she did fall;
22 Which Lion vile with bloody mouth did stain:
23 Anon comes Pyramus, sweet youth, and tall,
24 And finds his trusty Thisby's mantle slain;
25 Whereat with blade, with bloody blameful blade,
26 He bravely broach'd his boiling bloody breast;
27 And Thisby, tarrying in mulberry shade,
28 His dagger drew, and died. For all the rest,
29 Let Lion, Moonshine, Wall, and lovers twain,
30 At large discourse while here they do remain.
31
32 EXIT PYRAMUS, THISBE, LION AND MOONSHINE
33
34 THESEUS
35 I wonder if the lion be to speak.
36
37 HELENA
38 No wonder, my lord: one lion may, when many asses do.
39
40 QUINCE
41 In this same interlude it doth befall
42 That I, if you'll attend, my lord, present a wall:
43 And such a wall as I would have you think
44 That had in it a crannied hole or chink,
45 Through which the lovers, Pyramus and Thisby,
46 Did whisper often very secretly.
47 This loam, this rough-cast, and this stone, doth show
48 That I am that same wall; the truth is so:
49 And this the cranny is, right and sinister,
50 Through which the fearful lovers are to whisper.

1
2 THESEUS
3 Would you desire lime and hair to speak better?
4
5 HIPPOLYTA
6 It is the wittiest partition that ever I heard discourse, my lord.
7
8 THESEUS
9 Pyramus draws near the wall; silence.
10
11 ENTER PYRAMUS.
12
13 PYRAMUS
14 O grim-look'd night! O night with hue so black!
15 O night, which ever art when day is not!
16 O night, O night, alack, alack, alack,
17 I fear my Thisby's promise is forgot!—
18 And thou, O wall, O sweet, O lovely wall,
19 That stand'st between her father's ground and mine;
20 Thou wall, O wall, O sweet and lovely wall,
21 Show me thy chink, to blink through with mine eyne.
22
23 WALL HOLDS UP HIS FINGERS.
24
25 Thanks, courteous wall: Jove shield thee well for this!
26 But what see what see I? No Thisby do I see.
27 O wicked wall, through whom I see no bliss,
28 Curs'd be thy stones for thus deceiving me!
29
30 THESEUS
31 The wall, methinks, being sensible, should curse again.
32
33 PYRAMUS
34 No, in truth, sir, he should not. 'Deceiving me' is Thisby's cue: she is to enter now, and
35 I am to spy her through the wall. You shall see it will fall pat as I told you.—Yonder
36 she comes.
37
38 ENTER THISBE.
39
40 THISBE
41 O wall, full often hast thou heard my moans,
42 For parting my fair Pyramus and me:
43 My cherry lips have often kiss'd thy stones:
44 Thy stones with lime and hair knit up in thee.
45
46 PYRAMUS
47 I see a voice; now will I to the chink,
48 To spy an I can hear my Thisby's face.
49 Thisby!
50

1 THISBE
2 My love! thou art my love, I think.
3
4 PYRAMUS
5 Think what thou wilt, I am thy lover's grace;
6 And like Limander am I trusty still.
7
8 THISBE
9 And I like Helen, till the fates me kill.
10
11 PYRAMUS
12 Not Shafalus to Procrus was so true.
13
14 THISBE
15 As Shafalus to Procrus, I to you.
16
17 PYRAMUS
18 O, kiss me through the hole of this vile wall
19 .
20 THISBE
21 I kiss the wall's hole, not your lips at all.
22
23 PYRAMUS
24 Wilt thou at Ninny's tomb meet me straightway?
25
26 THISBE
27 'Tide life, 'tide death, I come without delay.
28
29 WALL
30 Thus have I, wall, my part discharged so;
31 And, being done, thus Wall away doth go.
32
33 EXEUNT WALL, PYRAMUS and THISBE.
34
35 THESEUS
36 Now is the mural down between the two neighbours.
37
38 HIPPOLYTA
39 This is the silliest stuff that ever I heard.
40
41 THESEUS
42 Here come two noble beasts in, a moon and a lion.
43
44 ENTER LION and MOONSHINE.
45
46 LION
47 You, ladies, you, whose gentle hearts do fear
48 The smallest monstrous mouse that creeps on floor,
49 May now, perchance, both quake and tremble here,

1 When lion rough in wildest rage doth roar.
2
3 THESEUS
4 A very gentle beast, and of a good conscience.
5
6 HELENA
7 The very best at a beast, my lord, that e'er I saw.
8
9 HERMIA
10 Sssh! And let us listen to the moon.
11
12 MOONSHINE
13 This lanthorn doth the hornèd moon present:
14
15 HERMIA
16 Proceed, moon.
17
18 MOON
19 All that I have to say, is to tell you that the lantern is the moon; I, the man i' the moon;
20 this thorn-bush, my thorn-bush; and this dog, my dog. But silence; here comes Thisbe.
21
22 ENTER THISBE.
23
24 THISBE
25 This is old Ninny's tomb. Where is my love?
26
27 THE LION ROARS.—THISBE RUNS OFF.
28
29 HELENA
30 Well roared, lion.
31
32 THESEUS
33 Well run, Thisbe.
34
35 HIPPOLYTA
36 Well shone, moon.—Truly, the moon shines with a good grace.
37
38 The LION tears THISBE'S Mantle, and exit.
39
40 THESEUS
41 Well, moused, lion.
42
43 HIPPOLYTA
44 And so comes Pyramus.
45
46 LYSANDER
47 And then the lion vanishes.
48
49 ENTER PYRAMUS.
50

1 PYRAMUS
2 Sweet moon, I thank thee for thy sunny beams;
3 I thank thee, moon, for shining now so bright:
4 For, by thy gracious golden, glittering streams,
5 I trust to take of truest Thisby's sight.
6 But stay;—O spite!
7 But mark,—poor knight,
8 What dreadful dole is here!
9 Eyes, do you see?
10 How can it be?
11 O dainty duck! O dear!
12 Thy mantle good,
13 What! stained with blood?
14 Approach, ye furies fell!
15 O fates! come, come;
16 Cut thread and thrum;
17 Quail, rush, conclude, and quell!
18
19 THESEUS
20 This passion, and the death of a dear friend, would go near to make a man look sad.
21
22 HIPPOLYTA
23 Beshrew my heart, but I pity the man.
24
25 PYRAMUS
26 O wherefore, nature, didst thou lions frame?
27 Since lion vile hath here deflower'd my dear;
28 Which is—no, no—which was the fairest dame
29 That liv'd, that lov'd, that lik'd, that look'd with cheer.
30 Come, tears, confound;
31 Out, sword, and wound
32 The pap of Pyramus:
33 Ay, that left pap,
34 Where heart doth hop:—
35 Thus die I, thus, thus, thus.
36 Now am I dead,
37 Now am I fled;
38 My soul is in the sky:
39 Tongue, lose thy light!
40 Moon, take thy flight!
41 Now die, die, die, die, die.
42
43 DIES. EXIT MOONSHINE.
44
45 THESEUS
46 With the help of a surgeon he might yet recover and prove an ass.
47
48 HIPPOLYTA
49 How chance moonshine is gone before Thisbe comes back and finds her lover?
50

1 THESEUS
2 She will find him by starlight.—Here she comes; and her passion ends the play.
3
4 ENTER THISBE.
5
6 HIPPOLYTA
7 Methinks she should not use a long one for such a Pyramus: I hope she will be brief.
8
9 HELENA
10 She hath spied him already with those sweet eyes.
11
12 THISBE
13 Asleep, my love?
14 What, dead, my dove?
15 O Pyramus, arise,
16 Speak, speak. Quite dumb?
17 Dead, dead? A tomb
18 Must cover thy sweet eyes.
19 These lily lips,
20 This cherry nose,
21 These yellow cowslip cheeks,
22 Are gone, are gone:
23 Lovers, make moan!
24 His eyes were green as leeks.
25 O Sisters Three,
26 Come, come to me,
27 With hands as pale as milk;
28 Lay them in gore,
29 Since you have shore
30 With shears his thread of silk.
31 Tongue, not a word:—
32 Come, trusty sword;
33 Come, blade, my breast imbrue;
34 And farewell, friends:—
35 Thus Thisbe ends;
36 Adieu, adieu, adieu.
37
38 DIES.
39
40 THESEUS
41 Moonshine and lion are left to bury the dead.
42
43 HERMIA
44 Ay, and wall too.
45
46 BOTTOM
47 No, I assure you; the wall is down that parted their fathers. Will it please you to see
48 the epilogue?

1
2 THESEUS
3 No epilogue, I pray you; A fine tragedy:
4 and so it is, truly; and very notably discharged.
5
6 MUSIC BEGINS
7
8 But let your epilogue alone.
9 The iron tongue of midnight hath told twelve:—
10 Lovers, to bed; 'tis almost fairy time.
11
12
13 ENTER PUCK.
14
15 PUCK
16 Now the hungry lion roars,
17 And the wolf behowls the moon;
18 Now it is the time of night
19 That the graves, all gaping wide,
20 Every one lets forth its sprite,
21 In the church-way paths to glide:
22 And we fairies, that do run
23 By the triple Hecate's team
24 From the presence of the sun,
25 Following darkness like a dream.
26
27 THESEUS AND HIPPOLYTA BECOME OBERON AND TITANIA.
28
29 OBERON
30 Through the house give glimmering light,
31 By the dead and drowsy fire:
32 Every elf and fairy sprite
33 Hop as light as bird from brier:
34 And this ditty, after me,
35 Sing and dance it trippingly.
36
37 TITANIA
38 First, rehearse your song by rote,
39 To each word a warbling note;
40 Hand in hand, with fairy grace,
41 Fairys sing, and bless this place.
42
43 SONG AND DANCE.
44
45 OBERON
46 Now, until the break of day,
47 Through this house each fairy stray,
48 To the best bride-bed will we,
49 Which by us shall blessed be;
50 And the issue there create

1 Ever shall be fortunate.
2 So shall all the couples three
3 Ever true in loving be;
4 And the blots of Nature's hand
5 Shall not in their issue stand:
6 Never mole, hare-lip, nor scar,
7 Nor mark prodigious, such as are
8 Despised in nativity,
9 Shall upon their children be.—
10 With this field-dew consecrate,
11 Every fairy take his gate;
12 And each several chamber bless,
13 Through this palace, with sweet peace;
14 E'er shall it in safety rest,
15 And the owner of it blest.
16 Trip away:
17 Make no stay:
18 Meet me all by break of day.

19
20 EXEUNT ALL BUT PUCK.

21
22 PUCK

23 If we shadows have offended,
24 Think but this,—and all is mended,—
25 That you have but slumber'd here
26 While these visions did appear.
27 And this weak and idle theme,
28 No more yielding but a dream,
29 Gentles, do not reprehend;
30 If you pardon, we will mend.
31 And, as I am an honest Puck,
32 If we have unearnèd luck
33 Now to 'scape the serpent's tongue,
34 We will make amends ere long;
35 Else the Puck a liar call:
36 So, good night unto you all.
37 Give me your hands, if we be friends,
38 And Robin shall restore amends.

39
40

EVERYONE:

41 *Stars shining bright above you*
42 *Night breezes seem to whisper I love you*
43 *Birds singing in the sycamore tree*
44 *Dream a little dream of me*
45 *Say nighty-night and kiss me*
46 *Just hold me tight and tell me you'll miss me*
47 *While I'm alone and blue as can be*
48 *Dream a little dream of me*
49 *{Refrain}*
50 *Stars fading but I linger on dear*

1
2
3
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17

*Still craving your kiss
I'm longing to linger 'til dawn dear
Just saying this
Sweet dreams 'til sunbeams find you
Sweet dreams that leave all worries behind you
But in your dreams whatever they be
Dream a little dream of me
{Refrain}
Sweet dreams 'til sunbeams find you
Sweet dreams that leave all worries far behind you
But in your dreams whatever they be
Dream a little dream of me*

THE END

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