

A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

In Empowerment Script
A New Reading Pleasure

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It can increase brain hemisphere connection, help with PTSD, help with some dyslexia,

Lowen Clarke discovered and created empowerment script in 2003. After years of research, the first book in empowerment script was published in 2015, a children's picturebook 'Sam the Tram's Dance Club' (available at Apple iTunes) The work was found to be capable of amazing results with trauma, and PTSD.

Some people have found reading in this new format a pleasure, others have found that connection and creativity is sparked, others met with and dealt with emotions, some find it is more efficient reading, some find it helps dyslexia, and others have found it has helped with deep PTSD, trauma and dissociation, when working with a therapist.
What will you find ?

We invite feedback for the research project : suggestions in end pages.

If you are using this as a strengthening exercise for PTSD, let your therapist know, so they can use skilled observation over a few months.

> READ > THIS > WAY
WAY < THIS < NOW < AND <

>THE > FIRST > LINE > reads > from > left > to > right.
.left < to < right < from < reads < line < second < The <

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Feedback invited

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Persons Represented.

THESEUS, Duke of Athens.

EGEUS, Father to Hermia.

LYSANDER, in love with Hermia.

DEMETRIUS, in love with Hermia.

PHILOSTRATE, Master of the Revels to Theseus.

QUINCE, the Carpenter.

SNUG, the Joiner.

BOTTOM, the Weaver.

FLUTE, the Bellows-mender.

SNOUT, the Tinker.

STARVELING, the Tailor.

HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus.

HERMIA, daughter to Egeus, in love with Lysander.

HELENA, in love with Demetrius.

OBERON, King of the Fairies.

TITANIA, Queen of the Fairies.

PUCK, or ROBIN GOODFELLOW, a Fairy.

PEASBLOSSOM, Fairy.

COBWEB, Fairy.

MOTH, Fairy.

MUSTARDSEED, Fairy.

PYRAMUS, THISBE, WALL, MOONSHINE, LION } Characters in the
Interlude performed by the Clowns.

Other Fairies attending their King and Queen.

Attendants on Theseus and Hippolyta.

SCENE: Athens, and a wood not far from it.

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ACT I.

SCENE I. Athens. A room in the Palace of THESEUS.

[Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, PHILOSTRATE, and Attendants.]

THESEUS

hour nuptial our ,Hippolyta fair ,Now
Draws on apace; four happy days bring in
slow how ,methinks ,oh ,but ;moon Another
This old moon wanes! she lingers my desires,
,dowager a or -step a to Like
Long withering out a young man's revenue.

HIPPOLYTA

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

THESEUS

,Philostrate ,Go
Stir up the Athenian youth to merriments;
;mirth of spirit nimble and pert the Awake
Turn melancholy forth to funerals--
.pomp our for not is companion pale The

[Exit PHILOSTRATE.]

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

[Enter EGEUS, HERMIA, LYSANDER, and DEMETRIUS.]

EGEUS

!duke renowned our ,Theseus be Happy

THESEUS

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

EGEUS

complaint with ,I come vexation of Full
Against my child, my daughter Hermia.--
,lord noble --.Demetrius ,forth Stand
This man hath my consent to marry her:--
,duke gracious my --;Lysander ,forth Stand
This man hath bewitch'd the bosom of my child.
,rhymes her given hast thou ,Lysander ,thou ,Thou
And interchang'd love-tokens with my child:
,sung window her at moonlight by hast Thou
With feigning voice, verses of feigning love;
fantasy her of impression the 'stol And
With bracelets of thy hair, rings, gawds, conceits,
--,sweetmeats ,nosegays ,trifles ,Knacks
Of strong prevailment in unhardened youth;--
;heart 'daughter my 'filch thou hast cunning With
Turned her obedience, which is due to me,
,duke gracious my --.harshness stubborn To
Be it so she will not here before your grace
,Demetrius with marry to Consent
I beg the ancient privilege of Athens,--
:her of dispose may I mine is she As
Which shall be either to this gentleman
law our to according ;death her to Or
Immediately provided in that case.

THESEUS

:maid fair 'advis be ?Hermia ,you say What
To you your father should be as a god;
one and ,yea :beauties your 'compos that One
To whom you are but as a form in wax,
power his within and ,imprinted him By
To leave the figure, or disfigure it.
.gentleman worthy a is Demetrius

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HERMIA

.Lysander is So

THESEUS

:is he himself In

But, in this kind, wanting your father's voice,

.worthier the held be must other The

HERMIA

.eyes my with but 'look father my would I

THESEUS

.look judgment his with must eyes your Rather

HERMIA

.me pardon to grace your entreat do I

I know not by what power I am made bold,

modesty my concern may it how Nor

In such a presence here to plead my thoughts:

know may I that grace your beseech I But

The worst that may befall me in this case

.Demetrius wed to refuse I If

THESEUS

abjure to or ,death the die to Either

For ever the society of men.

,desires your question ,Hermia fair ,Therefore

Know of your youth, examine well your blood,

,choice 'father your to not yield you if ,Whether

You can endure the livery of a nun;

'mew cloister shady be to aye For

To live a barren sister all your life,

.moon fruitless ,cold the to hymns faint Chanting

Thrice-blessed they that master so their blood

:pilgrimage maiden such undergo To

But earthlier happy is the rose distill'd

,thorn virgin the on withering ,which that Than

Grows, lives, and dies, in single blessedness.

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HERMIA

,lord my ,die so ,live so ,grow I will So
Ere I will yield my virgin patent up
yoke unwished whose ,lordship his Unto
My soul consents not to give sovereignty.

THESEUS

-- ,moon new next the by and ;pause to time Take
The sealing-day betwixt my love and me
-- ,fellowship of bond everlasting For
Upon that day either prepare to die
;will 'father your to disobedience For
Or else to wed Demetrius, as he would;
protest to altar 'Diana on Or
For aye austerity and single life.

DEMETRIUS

yield ,Lysander --;Hermia sweet ,Relent
Thy crazed title to my certain right.

LYSANDER

;Demetrius ,love 'father her have You
Let me have Hermia's: do you marry him.

EGEUS

;love my hath he ,true !Lysander Scornful
And what is mine my love shall render him;
her of right my all and ;mine is she And
I do estate unto Demetrius.

LYSANDER

,he as 'deriv well as ,lord my ,am I
As well possess'd; my love is more than his;
'rank fairly as way every fortunes My
If not with vantage, as Demetrius's;
,be can boasts these all than more is which ,And
I am belov'd of beauteous Hermia:
?right my prosecute then I not should Why
Demetrius, I'll avouch it to his head,

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,Helena ,daughter 'Nedar to love Made
And won her soul; and she, sweet lady, dotes,
,idolatry in dotes ,dotes Devoutly
Upon this spotted and inconstant man.

THESEUS

,much so heard have I that confess must I
And with Demetrius thought to have spoke thereof;
-self of -over being ,But
My mind did lose it.--But, Demetrius, come;
;me with go shall you ;Egeus ,come And
I have some private schooling for you both.--
yourself arm you look ,Hermia fair ,you For
To fit your fancies to your father's will,
-- ,up you yields Athens of law the else Or
Which by no means we may extenuate,--
-- .life single of vow a to or ,death To
Come, my Hippolyta: what cheer, my love?
;along go ,Egeus and ,Demetrius
I must employ you in some business
you with confer and ,nuptial our Against
Of something nearly that concerns yourselves.

EGEUS

.you follow we desire and duty With

[Exeunt THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, DEMETRIUS, and Train.]

LYSANDER

?pale so cheek your is why !love my ,now How
How chance the roses there do fade so fast?

HERMIA

well could I which ,rain of want for Belike
Beteem them from the tempest of my eyes.

LYSANDER

,read ever could I that aught for !me Ah
Could ever hear by tale or history,

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:smooth run did never love true of course The
But either it was different in blood,--

HERMIA

!low to 'enthrall be to high Too !cross O

LYSANDER

--;years of respect in misgraffed else Or

HERMIA

!young to 'engag be to old Too !spite O

LYSANDER

:friends of choice the upon stood it else Or

HERMIA

!eye 'another by love choose to !hell O

LYSANDER

,choice in sympathy a were there if ,Or
War, death, or sickness, did lay siege to it,
,sound a as momentary it Making
Swift as a shadow, short as any dream;
night collid the in lightning the as Brief
That, in a spleen, unfolds both heaven and earth,
!Behold ,say to power hath man a ere And
The jaws of darkness do devour it up:
.confusion to come things bright quick So

HERMIA

'cross ever have lovers true then If
It stands as an edict in destiny:
,patience trial our teach us let Then
Because it is a customary cross;
,sighs and ,dreams and ,thoughts as love to due As
Wishes and tears, poor fancy's followers.

LYSANDER

.Hermia ,me hear ,therefore ;persuasion good A

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I have a widow aunt, a dowager
:child no hath she and ,revenue great Of
From Athens is her house remote seven leagues;
.son only her as me respects she And
There, gentle Hermia, may I marry thee;
law Athenian sharp the place that to And
Cannot pursue us. If thou lovest me then,
;night tomorrow house 'father thy forth Steal
And in the wood, a league without the town,
,Helena with once thee meet did I Where
To do observance to a morn of May,
.thee for stay I will There

HERMIA

!Lysander good My
I swear to thee by Cupid's strongest bow,
,head golden the with ,arrow best his By
By the simplicity of Venus' doves,
,loves prospers and souls knitteth which that By
And by that fire which burn'd the Carthage queen,
--,seen was sail under Trojan false the When
By all the vows that ever men have broke,
--,spoke women ever than more number In
In that same place thou hast appointed me,
.thee with meet I will truly Tomorrow

LYSANDER

.Helena comes here ,Look .love ,promise Keep

[Enter HELENA.]

HERMIA

?away Whither !Helena fair speed God

HELENA

.unsay again fair that ?fair me you Call
Demetrius loves your fair. O happy fair!
air sweet 'tongue your and -lode are eyes Your
More tuneable than lark to shepherd's ear,

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.appear buds hawthorn when ,green is wheat When
Sickness is catching: O, were favour so,
;go I ere ,Hermia fair ,catch I would Yours
My ear should catch your voice, my eye your eye,
.melody sweet 'tongue your catch should tongue My
Were the world mine, Demetrius being bated,
.translated you to be to give 'I rest The
O, teach me how you look; and with what art
!heart 'Demetrius of motion the sway You

HERMIA

.still me loves he yet ,him upon frown I

HELENA

!skill such smiles my teach would frowns your that O

HERMIA

.love me gives he yet ,curses him give I

HELENA

!move affection such could prayers my that O

HERMIA

.me follows he more the ,hate I more The

HELENA

.me hateth he more the ,love I more The

HERMIA

.mine of fault no is ,Helena ,folly His

HELENA

!mine were fault that would :beauty your but ,None

HERMIA

;face my see shall more no he ;comfort Take
Lysander and myself will fly this place.--
,see Lysander did I time the Before
Seem'd Athens as a paradise to me:

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,dwell do love my in graces what ,then ,O
That he hath turn'd a heaven unto hell!

LYSANDER

:unfold will we minds our you to ,Helen
To-morrow night, when Phoebe doth behold
,glass watery the in visage silver Her
Decking with liquid pearl the bladed grass,--
--,conceal still doth flights 'lovers that time A
Through Athens' gates have we devis'd to steal.

HERMIA

I and you often where wood the in And
Upon faint primrose beds were wont to lie,
,sweet counsel their of bosoms our Emptying
There my Lysander and myself shall meet:
,eyes our away turn Athens from thence And
To seek new friends and stranger companies.
,us for thou pray :playfellow sweet ,Farewell
And good luck grant thee thy Demetrius!--
sight our starve must we :Lysander ,word Keep
From lovers' food, till morrow deep midnight.

LYSANDER

.Hermia my ,will I

[Exit HERMIA.]

LYSANDER

:adieu ,Helena
As you on him, Demetrius dote on you!

[Exit LYSANDER.]

HELENA

!be can some other 'o some happy How
Through Athens I am thought as fair as she.
;so not thinks Demetrius ?that of what But
He will not know what all but he do know.

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,eyes 'Hermia on doting ,errs he as And
So I, admiring of his qualities.
,quantity no holding ,vile and base Things
Love can transpose to form and dignity.
;mind the with but ,eyes the with not looks Love
And therefore is wing'd Cupid painted blind.
;taste judgment any of mind 'love hath Nor
Wings and no eyes figure unheedy haste:
,child a be to said love is therefore And
Because in choice he is so oft beguil'd.
,forswear themselves game in boys waggish As
So the boy Love is perjur'd everywhere:
,eyne 'Hermia on 'look Demetrius ere For
He hail'd down oaths that he was only mine;
,felt Hermia from heat some hail this when And
So he dissolv'd, and showers of oaths did melt.
;flight 'Hermia fair of him tell go will I
Then to the wood will he to-morrow night
intelligence this for and ;her Pursue
If I have thanks, it is a dear expense:
,pain my enrich to I mean herein But
To have his sight thither and back again.

[Exit HELENA.]

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SCENE II. The Same. A Room in a Cottage.

[Enter SNUG, BOTTOM, FLUTE, SNOOT, QUINCE, and STARVELING.]

QUINCE

Where company our all is

BOTTOM

Man by man, generally them call to best were you
according to the scrip.

QUINCE

Thought is which, name 'man every of scroll the is here
fit, through all Athens, to play in our interlude before the
night at -wedding his on duchess and duke

BOTTOM

How treats play the what say, Quince Peter good, First
then read the names of the actors; and so grow to a point.

QUINCE

Most and comedy lamentable most --is play our, Marry
cruel death of Pyramus and Thisby.

BOTTOM

--merry a and, you assure I, work of piece good very A
Now, good Peter Quince, call forth your actors by the scroll.--
yourselves spread, Masters

QUINCE

weaver the, Bottom --you call I as, Answer

BOTTOM

proceed and, for am I part what Name. Ready

QUINCE

Pyramus for down set are, Bottom Nick, You

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BOTTOM

?tyrant a or ,lover a ?Pyramus is What

QUINCE

.love for gallantly most himself kills that ,lover A

BOTTOM

.it of performing true the in tears some ask will That
If I do it, let the audience look to their eyes; I will move
my --:rest the To .measure some in condole will I ;storms
chief humour is for a tyrant: I could play Ercles rarely, or a
.split all make to ,in cat a tear to part

The raging rocks
shocks shivering And
Shall break the locks
:gates prison Of

And Phibbus' car
,far from shine Shall
And make and mar
.Fates foolish The

This was lofty.--Now name the rest of the players.--This is
.condoling more is lover --;vein 'tyrant a ,vein 'Ercles

QUINCE

-bellows the ,Flute Francis

FLUTE

.Quince Peter ,Here

QUINCE

.you on Thisby take must you ,Flute

FLUTE

?knight wandering a ?Thisby is What

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QUINCE

.love must Pyramus that lady the is It

FLUTE

.coming beard a have I ;woman a play me not let ,faith ,Nay

QUINCE

as speak may you and ,mask a in it play shall you ;one all 'That
small as you will.

BOTTOM

:too Thisby play me let ,face my hide may I An
I'll speak in a monstrous little voice;--'Thisne, Thisne!--
'!dear lady and !dear Thisby thy ;dear lover my ,Pyramus ,Ah'

QUINCE

.Thisby you ,Flute ,and ;Pyramus play must you ,no ,No

BOTTOM

.proceed ,Well

QUINCE

.tailor the ,Starveling Robin

STARVELING

.Quince Peter ,Here

QUINCE

--.mother 'Thisby play must you ,Starveling Robin
Tom Snout, the tinker.

SNOUT

.Quince Peter ,Here

QUINCE

--;father 'Thisby ,myself ;father 'Pyramus ,You
the joiner, you, the lion's part:--and, I hope, here is a play
.fitted

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SNUG

it give ,be it if ,you pray ?written part 'lion the you Have
me, for I am slow of study.

QUINCE

.roaring but nothing is it for ,extempore it do may You

BOTTOM

do will I that roar will I :too lion the play me Let
any man's heart good to hear me; I will roar that I will make the
'again roar him let ,again roar him Let' say duke

QUINCE

the fright would you ,terribly too it do should you An
duchess and the ladies, that they would shriek; and that were
.all us hang to enough

ALL

.son 'mother every us hang would That

BOTTOM

ladies the fright should you if ,friends ,you grant I
out of their wits, they would have no more discretion but to hang
as you roar will I that ,so voice my aggravate will I but :us
gently as any sucking dove; I will roar you an 'twere any
.nightingale

QUINCE

a is Pyramus for ;Pyramus but part no play can You
sweet-faced man; a proper man, as one shall see in a summer's
must you therefore ;man -gentleman lovely most a ;day
needs play Pyramus.

BOTTOM

?in it play to best I were beard What .it undertake will I ,Well

QUINCE

.will you what ,Why

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BOTTOM

,beard -straw your either in it discharge will I
your orange-tawny beard, your purple-in-grain beard, or your
.yellow perfect your ,beard -French

QUINCE

and ,all at hair no have crowns French your of Some
then you will play bare-faced.-- But, masters, here are your
to ,you desire and ,you request ,you entreat to am I and ;parts
con them by to-morrow night; and meet me in the palace wood, a
for :rehearse we will there ;moonlight by ,town the without mile
if we meet in the city, we shall be dogg'd with company, and our
,properties of bill a draw will I meantime the In .known devices
such as our play wants. I pray you, fail me not.

BOTTOM

obscenely most rehearse may we there and ;meet will We
and courageously. Take pains; be perfect; adieu.

QUINCE

.meet we oak 'duke the At

BOTTOM

-bow cut or ,hold ;Enough

[Exeunt.]

ACT II.

SCENE I. A wood near Athens.

[Enter a FAIRY at One door, and PUCK at another.]

PUCK

?you wander whither !spirit ,now How

FAIRY

,dale over ,hill Over

Thorough bush, thorough brier,
,pale over ,park Over

Thorough flood, thorough fire,
,everywhere wander do I

Swifter than the moon's sphere;
,queen fairy the serve I And

To dew her orbs upon the green.
:be pensioners her tall cowslips The

In their gold coats spots you see;
,favours fairy ,rubies be Those

In those freckles live their savours;
,here -dew some seek go must I
And hang a pearl in every cowslip's ear.
:gone be 'I ;spirits of lob thou ,Farewell
Our queen and all her elves come here anon.

PUCK

-to here revels his keep doth king The
Take heed the Queen come not within his sight.

,wrath and fell passing is Oberon For
Because that she, as her attendant, hath
;king Indian an from 'stol ,boy lovely A

She never had so sweet a changeling:
child the have would Oberon jealous And
Knight of his train, to trace the forests wild:
,boy loved the withholds perforce she But
Crowns him with flowers, and makes him all her joy:

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,green or grove in meet never they now And
By fountain clear, or spangled starlight sheen,
fear for elves their all that ;square do they But
Creep into acorn cups, and hide them there.

FAIRY

,quite making and shape your mistake I Either
Or else you are that shrewd and knavish sprite
he you not are :Goodfellow Robin 'Call
That frights the maidens of the villagery;
,quern the in labour sometimes and ,milk Skim
And bootless make the breathless housewife churn;
;barm no bear to drink the make sometime And
Mislead night-wanderers, laughing at their harm?
,Puck sweet and ,you call Hobgoblin that Those
You do their work, and they shall have good luck:
?he you not Are

PUCK

;aright 'speak Thou
I am that merry wanderer of the night.
,smile him make and ,Oberon to jest I
When I a fat and bean-fed horse beguile,
;foal filly a of likeness in Neighing
And sometime lurk I in a gossip's bowl,
;crab roasted a of likeness very In
And, when she drinks, against her lips I bob,
.ale the pour dewlap withered her on And
The wisest aunt, telling the saddest tale,
;me mistaketh stool -three for Sometime
Then slip I from her bum, down topples she,
;cough a into falls and ,cries 'tailor' And
And then the whole quire hold their hips and loffe,
swear and ,neeze and ,mirth their in waxen And
A merrier hour was never wasted there.--
.Oberon comes here ,fairy ,room But

FAIRY

!gone were he that --.mistress my here And

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[Enter OBERON at one door, with his Train, and TITANIA,
]hers with ,another at

OBERON

.Titania proud ,moonlight by met Ill

TITANIA

;hence skip ,Fairies !Oberon jealous ,What
I have forsworn his bed and company.

OBERON

?lord thy I not am :wanton rash ,Tarry

TITANIA

know I but ;lady thy be must I Then
When thou hast stol'n away from fairy-land,
,day all sat Corin of shape the in And
Playing on pipes of corn, and versing love
,here thou art Why .Phillida amorous To
Come from the farthest steep of India,
,Amazon bouncing the ,forsooth ,that But
Your buskin'd mistress and your warrior love,
come you and ;wedded be must Theseus To
To give their bed joy and prosperity.

OBERON

,Titania ,shame for ,thus thou canst How
Glance at my credit with Hippolyta,
?Theseus to love thy know I Knowing
Didst not thou lead him through the glimmering night
'ravishe he whom ,Perigenia From
And make him with fair Aegle break his faith,
?Antiopa and Ariadne With

TITANIA

:jealousy of forgeries the are These
And never, since the middle summer's spring,
,mead or ,forest ,dale in ,hill on we Met

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By paved fountain, or by rushy brook,
sea the of margent beached the on Or
To dance our ringlets to the whistling wind,
.sport our 'disturb hast thou brawls thy with But
Therefore the winds, piping to us in vain,
sea the from up 'suck have ,revenge in As
Contagious fogs; which, falling in the land,
proud so made river pelting every Hath
That they have overborne their continents:
,vain in yoke his 'stretch therefore hath ox The
The ploughman lost his sweat; and the green corn
:beard a 'attain youth his ere rotted Hath
The fold stands empty in the drowned field,
;flock murrion the with fatted are crows And
The nine men's morris is fill'd up with mud;
,green wanton the in mazes quaint the And
For lack of tread, are undistinguishable:
;here winter their want mortals human The
No night is now with hymn or carol blest:--
,floods of governess the ,moon the Therefore
Pale in her anger, washes all the air,
:abound do diseases rheumatic That
And thorough this distemperature we see
frosts -hoary :alter seasons The
Fall in the fresh lap of the crimson rose;
crown icy and thin 'Hyem old on And
An odorous chaplet of sweet summer buds
,summer the ,spring the :set ,mockery in as ,Is
The childing autumn, angry winter, change
,world 'maz the and ;liveries wonted Their
By their increase, now knows not which is which:
comes evils of progeny same this And
From our debate, from our dissension:
.original and parents their are We

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OBERON

:you in lies it :then ,it amend you Do
Why should Titania cross her Oberon?
boy changeling little a beg but do I
To be my henchman.

TITANIA

;rest at heart your Set
The fairy-land buys not the child of me.
:order my of 'vot a was mother His
And, in the spiced Indian air, by night,
;side my by 'gossip she hath often Full
And sat with me on Neptune's yellow sands,
;flood the on traders embarked the Marking
When we have laugh'd to see the sails conceive,
;wind wanton the with -big grow And
Which she, with pretty and with swimming gait
--,squire young my with rich then womb --,Following
Would imitate; and sail upon the land,
,again return and ,trifles me fetch To
As from a voyage, rich with merchandise.
;die did boy that of ,mortal being ,she But
And for her sake do I rear up her boy:
.him with part not will I sake her for And

OBERON

?stay you intend wood this within long How

TITANIA

-wedding 'Theseus after till Perchance
If you will patiently dance in our round,
;us with go ,revels moonlight our see And
If not, shun me, and I will spare your haunts.

OBERON

.thee with go will I and boy that me Give

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TITANIA

:away ,Fairies .kingdom fairy thy for Not
We shall chide downright if I longer stay.

[Exit TITANIA with her Train.]

OBERON

grove this from not shalt thou :way thy go ,Well
Till I torment thee for this injury.--
'remember thou :hither come ,Puck gentle My
Since once I sat upon a promontory,
,back 'dolphin a on ,mermaid a heard And
Uttering such dulcet and harmonious breath,
,song her at civil grew sea rude the That
And certain stars shot madly from their spheres
.music -sea the hear To

PUCK

.remember I

OBERON

--,not couldst thou --,saw I time very That
Flying between the cold moon and the earth,
took he aim certain a 'arm all ,Cupid
At a fair vestal, throned by the west;
,bow his from smartly -love his 'loos And
As it should pierce a hundred thousand hearts;
shaft fiery 'Cupid young see might I But
Quench'd in the chaste beams of the watery moon;
,on passed votaress imperial the And
In maiden meditation, fancy-free.
:fell Cupid of bolt the where I 'mark Yet
It fell upon a little western flower,--
--,wound 'love with purple now -milk Before
And maidens call it love-in-idleness.
:once thee showed I herb the ,flower that me Fetch
The juice of it on sleeping eyelids laid
dote madly woman or man or make Will
Upon the next live creature that it sees.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

again here thou be and :herb this me Fetch
Ere the leviathan can swim a league.

PUCK

earth the about round girdle a put 'I
In forty minutes.

[Exit PUCK.]

OBERON

,juice this once Having
I'll watch Titania when she is asleep,
:eyes her in it of liquor the drop And
The next thing then she waking looks upon,--
,bull or ,wolf or ,bear ,lion on it Be
On meddling monkey, or on busy ape,--
.love of soul the with it pursue shall She
And ere I take this charm from off her sight,--
,herb another with it take can I As
I'll make her render up her page to me.
;invisible am I ?here comes who But
And I will overhear their conference.

[Enter DEMETRIUS, HELENA following him.]

DEMETRIUS

.not me pursue therefore ,not thee love I
Where is Lysander and fair Hermia?
.me slayeth other the ,slay 'I one The
Thou told'st me they were stol'n into this wood,
,wood this within wode and ,I am here And
Because I cannot meet with Hermia.
.more no me follow and ,gone thee get ,Hence

HELENA

;adamant -hard you ,me draw You
But yet you draw not iron, for my heart
,draw to power your you Leave .steel as true Is
And I shall have no power to follow you.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

DEMETRIUS

?fair you speak I Do ?you entice I Do
Or, rather, do I not in plainest truth
?you love cannot I nor ,not do I you Tell

HELENA

.more the you love I do that for even And
I am your spaniel; and, Demetrius,
:you on fawn will I ,me beat you more The
Use me but as your spaniel, spurn me, strike me,
,leave me give only ;me lose ,me Neglect
Unworthy as I am, to follow you.
,love your in beg I can place worsen What
And yet a place of high respect with me,--
?dog your use you as used be to Than

DEMETRIUS

;spirit my of hatred the much too not Tempt
For I am sick when I do look on thee.

HELENA

.you on not look I when sick am I And

DEMETRIUS

,much too modesty your impeach do You
To leave the city, and commit yourself
;not you loves that one of hands the Into
To trust the opportunity of night,
,place desert a of counsel ill the And
With the rich worth of your virginity.

HELENA

.that for privilege my is virtue Your
It is not night when I do see your face,
;night the in not am I think I Therefore
Nor doth this wood lack worlds of company;
:world the all are ,respect my in ,you For
Then how can it be said I am alone

A Midsummer Night's Dream

When all the world's on fire, look to here

DEMETRIUS

I'll hide thee from the sun and moon,
And leave thee to the mercy of wild beasts.

HELENA

The wildest hath not such a heart as you;
Run when you will, the story shall be changed;
Daphne runs, and yet Apollo follows;
The dove pursues the griffin; the mild hind
Makes speed to see the tiger catch the hind;
When cowardice pursues and valour flies.

DEMETRIUS

I will not stay your questions; I will go.
Or, if thou follow me, do not believe
I shall do thee mischief in the wood.

HELENA

Ay, that I do, in temple, town, or field;
You do me mischief. Fie, Demetrius!
Your wrongs shall not go unrevenged,
We cannot fight for love as men may do;
We'll woo him with love's poison, and he shall
Follow us to the walls of heaven or hell,
Or e'er we'll give him rest.

[Exeunt DEMETRIUS and HELENA.]

OBERON

Farewell, nymph, that these warm nights hast loved;
Thou shalt fly him, and he shall seek thy love.

[Re-enter PUCK.]

Hast thou the flower there? Welcome, wanderer.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

PUCK

.is it there ,Ay

OBERON

.me it give thee pray I

I know a bank whereon the wild thyme blows,

;grows violet nodding the and -ox Where

Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,

:eglantine with and -musk sweet With

There sleeps Titania sometime of the night,

;delight and dances with flowers these in Lulled

And there the snake throws her enamell'd skin,

:in fairy a wrap to enough wide Weed

And with the juice of this I'll streak her eyes,

.fantasies hateful of full her make And

Take thou some of it, and seek through this grove:

love in is lady Athenian sweet A

With a disdainful youth: anoint his eyes;

espies he thing next the when it do But

May be the lady: thou shalt know the man

.on hath he garments Athenian the By

Effect it with some care, that he may prove

:love her upon she than her on fond More

And look thou meet me ere the first cock crow.

PUCK

.so do shall servant your ;lord my ,not Fear

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II. Another part of the wood.

[Enter TITANIA, with her Train.]

TITANIA

;song fairy a and roundel a now ,Come
Then, for the third part of a minute, hence;
;buds -musk the in cankers kill to Some
Some war with rere-mice for their leathern wings,
back keep some and ;coats elves small my make To
The clamorous owl, that nightly hoots and wonders
;asleep now me Sing .spirits quaint our At
Then to your offices, and let me rest.

SONG.

I

FIRST FAIRY

,tongue double with ,snakes spotted You
Thorny hedgehogs, be not seen;
;wrong no do -blind and Newts
Come not near our fairy queen:

CHORUS.

,melody with ,Philomel
Sing in our sweet lullaby:
:lullaby ,lulla ,lulla ;lullaby ,lulla ,Lulla
Never harm, nor spell, nor charm,
;nigh lady lovely our Come
So good-night, with lullaby.

II.

FAIRY SECOND

Weaving spiders, come not here;
;hence ,spinners -long you ,Hence
Beetles black, approach not near;
.offence no do snail nor Worm

CHORUS

.c& ,melody with Philomel

A Midsummer Night's Dream

FIRST FAIRY

.well is all now ;away Hence
One, aloof, stand sentinel.

[Exeunt Fairies. TITANIA sleeps.]

[Enter OBERON.]

OBERON

,wake dost thou when seest thou What
[Squeezes the flower on TITANIA'S eyelids.]
;take -true thy for it Do
Love and languish for his sake;
,bear or ,cat or ,ounce it Be
Pard, or boar with bristled hair,
appear shall that eye thy In
When thou wak'st, it is thy dear;
.near is thing vile some when Wake

[Exit.]

[Enter LYSANDER and HERMIA.]

LYSANDER

;wood the in wandering with faint you ,love Fair
And, to speak troth, I have forgot our way;
,good it think you if ,Hermia ,us rest 'We
And tarry for the comfort of the day.

HERMIA

,bed a out you find :Lysander ,so it Be
For I upon this bank will rest my head.

LYSANDER

;both us for pillow as serve shall turf One
One heart, one bed, two bosoms, and one troth.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HERMIA

,dear my ,sake my for ;Lysander good ,Nay
Lie farther off yet, do not lie so near.

LYSANDER

;innocence my of ,sweet ,sense the take ,O
Love takes the meaning in love's conference.
;knit is yours unto heart my that mean I
So that but one heart we can make of it:
;oath an with interchained bosoms Two
So then two bosoms and a single troth.
;deny me -bed no side your by Then
For lying so, Hermia, I do not lie.

HERMIA

--:prettily very riddles Lysander
Now much beshrew my manners and my pride
!lied Lysander say to meant Hermia If
But, gentle friend, for love and courtesy
,modesty human in ;off further Lie
Such separation as may well be said
:maid a and bachelor virtuous a Becomes
So far be distant; and good night, sweet friend:
!end life sweet thy till alter 'ne love Thy

LYSANDER

;I say prayer fair that to ,amen ,Amen
And then end life when I end loyalty!
!rest his all thee give Sleep :bed my is Here

HERMIA

!pressed be eyes 'wisher the wish that half With

[They sleep.]

[Enter PUCK.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

PUCK

,gone I have forest the Through
But Athenian found I none,
approve might I eyes whose On
This flower's force in stirring love.
?here is Who !silence and Night
Weeds of Athens he doth wear:
,said master my ,he is This
Despised the Athenian maid;
,sound sleeping ,maiden the here And
On the dank and dirty ground.
lie not durst she !soul Pretty
Near this lack-love, this kill-courtesy.
throw I eyes thy upon ,Churl
All the power this charm doth owe;
forbid love let 'wak thou When
Sleep his seat on thy eyelid:
;gone am I when awake So
For I must now to Oberon.

[Exit.]

[Enter DEMETRIUS and HELENA, running.]

HELENA

.Demetrius sweet ,me kill thou though ,Stay

DEMETRIUS

.thus me haunt not do and ,hence ,thee charge I

HELENA

.so not do ?me leave darkling thou wilt ,O

DEMETRIUS.

.go will alone I ;peril thy on Stay

[Exit DEMETRIUS.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HELENA

!chase fond this in breath of out am I ,O
The more my prayer, the lesser is my grace.
,lies she 'wheresoe ,Hermia is Happy
For she hath blessed and attractive eyes.
:tears salt with Not ?bright so eyes her came How
If so, my eyes are oftener wash'd than hers.
;bear a as ugly as am I ,no ,No
For beasts that meet me run away for fear:
Demetrius though marvel no Therefore
Do, as a monster, fly my presence thus.
mine of glass dissembling and wicked What
Made me compare with Hermia's sphery eyne?--
!ground the on --?here is who But
Dead? or asleep? I see no blood, no wound.
.awake ,sir good ,live you if ,Lysander

LYSANDER

].Waking[
And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake.
,art shows Nature !Helena Transparent
That through thy bosom makes me see thy heart.
word a fit how ,O ?Demetrius is Where
Is that vile name to perish on my sword!

HELENA

:so not say ;Lysander ,so say not Do
What though he love your Hermia? Lord, what though?
.content be then :you loves still Hermia Yet

LYSANDER.

repent do I :No ?Hermia with Content
The tedious minutes I with her have spent.
:love I Helena but Hermia Not
Who will not change a raven for a dove?
'sway reason his by is man of will The
And reason says you are the worthier maid.
;season their until ripe not are growing Things
So I, being young, till now ripe not to reason;

A Midsummer Night's Dream

,skill human of point the now touching And
Reason becomes the marshal to my will,
'o I where ,eyes your to me leads And
Love's stories, written in love's richest book.

HELENA

?born mockery keen this to I was Wherefore
When at your hands did I deserve this scorn?
,man young ,enough not 'is ,enough not 'Is
That I did never, no, nor never can
,eye 'Demetrius from look sweet a Deserve
But you must flout my insufficiency?
--do you ,sooth --,wrong me do you ,troth Good
In such disdainful manner me to woo.
,confess must I perforce :well you fare But
I thought you lord of more true gentleness.
'refus man one of lady a that ,O
Should of another therefore be abus'd!

[Exit.]

LYSANDER

;there thou sleep --:Hermia not sees She
And never mayst thou come Lysander near!
things sweetest the of surfeit a as ,For
The deepest loathing to the stomach brings;
leave do men that heresies the as ,Or
Are hated most of those they did deceive;
,heresy my and surfeit my ,thou So
Of all be hated, but the most of me!
might and love your address ,powers my all ,And
To honour Helen, and to be her knight!

[Exit.]

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HERMIA

[Starting]

Help me, Lysander, help me! do thy best
!breast my from serpent crawling this pluck To
Ay me, for pity!--What a dream was here!
!fear with quake do I how look ,Lysander
Methought a serpent eat my heart away,
--.prey cruel his at smiling sat you And
Lysander! what, removed? Lysander! lord!
?word no ,sound no ?gone ?hearing of out ,What
Alack, where are you? speak, an if you hear;
.fear with almost swoon I !loves all of ,Speak
No?--then I well perceive you are not nigh:
.immediately find 'I you or death Either

[Exit.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

ACT III.

SCENE I. The Wood. The Queen of Fairies lying asleep.

[Enter QUINCE, SNUG, BOTTOM, FLUTE, SNOUT, and STARVELING.]

BOTTOM

?met all we Are

QUINCE

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

BOTTOM

-- ,Quince Peter

QUINCE

?Bottom bully ,thou sayest What

BOTTOM

that 'Thisby and Pyramus' of comedy this in things are There
will never please. First, Pyramus must draw a sword to kill
?that you answer How .abide cannot ladies the which ;himself

SNOUT

.fear parlous a ,lakin 'By

STARVELING

.done is all when ,out killing the leave must we believe I

BOTTOM

a me Write .well all make to device a have I :whit a Not
prologue; and let the prologue seem to say we will do no harm
for and ;indeed killed not is Pyramus that and ,swords our with
the more better assurance, tell them that I Pyramus am not
.fear of out them put will this :weaver the Bottom but Pyramus

A Midsummer Night's Dream

QUINCE

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

BOTTOM

.eight and eight in written be it let ;more two it make ,No

SNOUT

?lion the of afear'd be ladies the not Will

STARVELING

.you promise I ,it fear I

BOTTOM

,in bring to :yourselves with consider to ought you ,Masters
God shield us! a lion among ladies is a most dreadful thing:
;living lion your than -wild fearful more a not is there for
and we ought to look to it.

SNOUT

.lion a not is he tell must prologue another Therefore

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

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

SNOUT

?play our play we night that shine moon the Doth

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BOTTOM

out find ;almanack the in look !calendar a ,calendar A
moonshine, find out moonshine.

QUINCE

.night that shine doth it ,Yes

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

a and thorns of bush a with in come must one else or ;Ay
lantern, and say he comes to disfigure or to present the person
a have must we :thing another is there Then .moonshine of
wall in the great chamber; for Pyramus and Thisby, says the
.wall a of chink the through talk did ,story

SNOUT

?Bottom ,you say --.wall a in bring never can You

BOTTOM

have him let and :wall present must other or man Some
some plaster, or some loam, or some rough-cast about him, to
that through and ,thus fingers his hold him let and ;wall signify
cranny shall Pyramus and Thisby whisper.

QUINCE

every ,down sit ,Come .well is all then ,be may that If
mother's son, and rehearse your parts. Pyramus, you begin:
so and ;brake that into enter ,speech your spoken have you when
every one according to his cue.

[Enter PUCK behind.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

PUCK

.here swaggering we have homespuns hempen What
So near the cradle of the fairy queen?
;auditor an be 'I !toward play a ,What
An actor too perhaps, if I see cause.

QUINCE

.forth stand --.Pyramus ,Speak

PYRAMUS

' ,sweet savours odious of flowers the ,Thisby'

QUINCE

.odours ,Odours

PYRAMUS

:sweet savours odours'--

So hath thy breath, my dearest Thisby dear.--
,awhile here but thou stay !voice a ,hark But
And by and by I will to thee appear.'

[Exit.]

PUCK

!here played 'e than Pyramus stranger A

[Aside.--Exit.]

THISBE

?now speak I Must

QUINCE

goes he understand must you for :you must ,marry ,Ay
but to see a noise that he heard, and is to come again.

THISBE

,hue of white lily most ,Pyramus radiant Most'
Of colour like the red rose on triumphant brier,
,Jew lovely most eke and ,juvenal brisky Most

A Midsummer Night's Dream

As true as truest horse, that would never tire,
'tomb 'Ninny at ,Pyramus ,thee meet 'I

QUINCE

:yet that speak not must you ,why :man ,tomb 'Ninus
that you answer to Pyramus. You speak all your part at once,
never' is it ;past is cue your :enter --.all and ,cues
tire.'

[Re-enter PUCK, and BOTTOM with an ass's head.]

THISBE

'tire never would yet that ,horse truest as true --',O

PYRAMUS

'--:thine only were I ,Thisby ,fair were I If'

QUINCE

!masters ,Pray .haunted are we !strange O !monstrous O
fly, masters! Help!

[Exeunt Clowns.]

PUCK

,round a about you lead 'I ;you follow 'I
Through bog, through bush, through brake, through brier;
,hound a sometime ,be 'I horse a Sometime
A hog, a headless bear, sometime a fire;
,burn and ,roar and ,grunt and ,bark and ,neigh And
Like horse, hound, hog, bear, fire, at every turn.

[Exit.]

BOTTOM

make to them of knavery a is This ?away run they do Why
me afeard.

[Re-enter SNOUT.]

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SNOUT

?thee on see I do What !changed art thou ,Bottom O

BOTTOM

?you do ,own your of -ass an see you ?see you do What

[Re-enter QUINCE.]

QUINCE

.translated art thou !thee bless !Bottom ,thee Bless

[Exit.]

BOTTOM

to ;me of ass an make to is this :knavery their see I
fright me, if they could. But I will not stir from this
,here down and up walk will I :can they what do ,place
and I will sing, that they shall hear I am not afraid.

[Sings.]

The ousel cock, so black of hue,
,bill -orange With
The throstle with his note so true,
,quill little with wren The

TITANIA

].Waking[

What angel wakes me from my flowery bed?

BOTTOM

].Sings[

The finch, the sparrow, and the lark,
,gray cuckoo -plain The
Whose note full many a man doth mark,
--;nay answer not dares And
for, indeed, who would set his wit to so foolish a bird?
?so never 'cuckoo' cry he though ,lie the bird a give would Who

A Midsummer Night's Dream

TITANIA

;again sing ,mortal gentle ,thee pray I
Mine ear is much enamour'd of thy note.
;shape thy to enthralled eye mine is So
And thy fair virtue's force perforce doth move me,
.thee love I ,swear to ,say to ,view first the On

BOTTOM

for reason little have should you ,mistress ,Methinks
that: and yet, to say the truth, reason and love keep little
honest some that pity the more the -now together company
neighbours will not make them friends. Nay, I can gleek upon
.occasion

TITANIA

.beautiful art thou as wise as art Thou

BOTTOM

of out get to enough wit had I if but :neither ,so Not
this wood, I have enough to serve mine own turn.

TITANIA

;go to desire not do wood this of Out
Thou shalt remain here whether thou wilt or no.
-- ,rate common no of spirit a am I
The summer still doth tend upon my state;
,me with go ,therefore :thee love do I And
I'll give thee fairies to attend on thee;
,deep the from jewels thee fetch shall they And
And sing, while thou on pressed flowers dost sleep:
so grossness mortal thy purge will I And
That thou shalt like an airy spirit go.--
!Mustardseed and !Moth !Cobweb !Peasblossom

[Enter Four Fairies.]

FIRST FAIRY

.Ready

A Midsummer Night's Dream

SECOND FAIRY

.I And

THIRD FAIRY

.I And

FOURTH FAIRY

?go we shall Where

TITANIA

;gentleman this to courteous and kind Be
Hop in his walks and gambol in his eyes;
,dewberries and apricocks with him Feed
With purple grapes, green figs, and mulberries;
-humble the from steal bags honey The
And, for night-tapers, crop their waxen thighs,
,eyes -glow fiery the at them light And
To have my love to bed and to arise;
,butterflies painted from wings the pluck And
To fan the moonbeams from his sleeping eyes:
.courtesies him do and ,elves ,him to Nod

FIRST FAIRY

!mortal ,Hail

SECOND FAIRY

!Hail

THIRD FAIRY

!Hail

FOURTH FAIRY

!Hail

BOTTOM

your beseech --.heartily ,mercy worships your cry I
worship's name.

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COBWEB

.Cobweb

BOTTOM

I If .Cobweb Master good ,acquaintance more of you desire shall I
cut my finger, I shall make bold with you.-- Your name, honest
?gentleman

PEASBLOSSOM

.Peasblossom

BOTTOM

and ,mother your ,Squash Mistress to me commend ,you pray I
to Master Peascod, your father. Good Master Peasblossom, I
beseech I ,name --.too acquaintance more of you desire shall
you, sir?

MUSTARDSEED

.Mustardseed

BOTTOM

:well patience your know I ,Mustardseed Master Good
That same cowardly giant-like ox-beef hath devoured many a
my made hath kindred your you promise I :house your of gentleman
eyes water ere now. I desire you of more acquaintance, good
.Mustardseed Master

TITANIA

.bower my to him lead ;him upon wait ,Come
The moon, methinks, looks with a watery eye;
;flower little every weeps ,weeps she when And
Lamenting some enforcèd chastity.
.silently him bring ,tongue 'love my up Tie

[Exeunt.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

SCENE II. Another part of the wood.

[Enter OBERON.]

OBERON

'awak be Titania if wonder I
Then, what it was that next came in her eye,
.extremity in on dote must she Which

[Enter PUCK.]

Here comes my messenger.--How now, mad spirit?
?grove haunted this about now -night What

PUCK

.love in is monster a with mistress My
Near to her close and consecrated bower,
,hour sleeping and dull her in was she While
A crew of patches, rude mechanicals,
,stalls Athenian upon bread for work That
Were met together to rehearse a play
.day nuptial 'Theseus great for Intended
The shallowest thickskin of that barren sort
,sport their in presented Pyramus Who
Forsook his scene and enter'd in a brake;
,take advantage this at him did I When
An ass's nowl I fixèd on his head;
,answered be must Thisbe his ,Anon
And forth my mimic comes. When they him spy,
,eye fowler creeping the that geese wild As
Or russet-pated choughs, many in sort,
,report 'gun the at cawing and Rising
Sever themselves and madly sweep the sky,
:fly fellows his away sight his at So
And at our stamp here, o'er and o'er one falls;
.calls Athens from help and ,cries murder He
Their sense thus weak, lost with their fears, thus strong,
;wrong them do to begin things senseless Made
For briars and thorns at their apparel snatch;

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.catch things all yielders from :hats some ,sleeves Some
I led them on in this distracted fear,
:there translated Pyramus sweet left And
When in that moment,--so it came to pass,--
.ass an 'lov straightway and 'wak Titania

OBERON

.devise could I than better out falls This
But hast thou yet latch'd the Athenian's eyes
?do thee bid did I as -love the With

PUCK

--,too 'finish is --,sleeping him took I
And the Athenian woman by his side;
'ey be must she force of 'wak he when ,That

[Enter DEMETRIUS and HERMIA.]

OBERON

.Athenian same the is this ;close Stand

PUCK

.man the this not but ,woman the is This

DEMETRIUS

?so you loves that him you rebuke why ,O
Lay breath so bitter on your bitter foe.

HERMIA

;worse thee use should I but ,chide but I Now
For thou, I fear, hast given me cause to curse.
,sleep his in Lysander slain hast thou If
Being o'er shoes in blood, plunge in the deep,
.too me kill And
The sun was not so true unto the day
away 'stol have he would :me to he As
From sleeping Hermia? I'll believe as soon
moon the that and 'bor be may earth whole This
May through the centre creep and so displease

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.antipodes the with noontide 'brother Her
It cannot be but thou hast murder'd him;
.grim so ,dead so ;look murderer a should So

DEMETRIUS

,I should so and ;look 'murder the should So
Pierc'd through the heart with your stern cruelty:
,clear as ,bright as look ,murderer the ,you Yet
As yonder Venus in her glimmering sphere.

HERMIA

?he is where ?Lysander my to this 'What
Ah, good Demetrius, wilt thou give him me?

DEMETRIUS

.hounds my to carcass his give rather had I

HERMIA

bounds the past me 'driv thou !cur ,out !dog ,Out
Of maiden's patience. Hast thou slain him, then?
!men among 'number never be Henceforth
Oh! once tell true; tell true, even for my sake;
,awake being ,him upon 'look have thou Durst
And hast thou kill'd him sleeping? O brave touch!
?much so do ,adder an ,worm a not Could
An adder did it; for with doubler tongue
.stung adder never ,serpent thou ,thine Than

DEMETRIUS

:mood 'mispris a on passion your spend You
I am not guilty of Lysander's blood;
.tell can I that aught for ,dead he is Nor

HERMIA

.well is he that ,then ,me tell ,thee pray I

DEMETRIUS

?therefore get I should what ,could I if An

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HERMIA

--.more me see to never privilege A
And from thy hated presence part I so:
.no or dead be he whether more no me See

[Exit.]

DEMETRIUS

:vein fierce this in her following no is There
Here, therefore, for a while I will remain.
grow heavier doth heaviness 'sorrow So
For debt that bankrupt sleep doth sorrow owe;
,pay will it measure slight some in now Which
If for his tender here I make some stay.

[Lies down.]

OBERON

,quite mistaken hast thou ?done thou hast What
And laid the love-juice on some true-love's sight:
ensue perforce must misprision thy Of
Some true love turn'd, and not a false turn'd true.

PUCK

,troth holding man one ,that 'o fate Then
A million fail, confounding oath on oath.

OBERON

,wind the than swifter ,go wood the About
And Helena of Athens look thou find:
,cheer of pale and ,is she -fancy All
With sighs of love, that costs the fresh blood dear.
;here her bring thou see illusion some By
I'll charm his eyes against she do appear.

PUCK

--.go I how look ;go I ,go I
Swifter than arrow from the Tartar's bow.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

[Exit.]

OBERON

,dye purple this of Flower
Hit with Cupid's archery,
!eye his of apple in Sink
When his love he doth espy,
gloriously as shine her Let
As the Venus of the sky.--
,by be she if 'wak thou When
Beg of her for remedy.

[Re-enter PUCK.]

PUCK

,band fairy our of Captain
Helena is here at hand,
me by mistook youth the And
Pleading for a lover's fee;
?see pageant fond their we Shall
Lord, what fools these mortals be!

OBERON

make they noise the :aside Stand
Will cause Demetrius to awake.

PUCK

--,one woo once at two will Then
That must needs be sport alone;
me please best do things those And
That befall preposterously.

[Enter LYSANDER and HELENA.]

LYSANDER

?scorn in woo should I that think you should Why
Scorn and derision never come in tears.
,born so vows and ;weep I ,vow I when Look
In their nativity all truth appears.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

,you to scorn seem me in things these can How
Bearing the badge of faith, to prove them true?

HELENA

.more and more cunning your advance do You
When truth kills truth, O devilish-holy fray!
'o her give you will 'Hermia are vows These
Weigh oath with oath, and you will nothing weigh:
,scales two in put ,me and her to vows Your
Will even weigh; and both as light as tales.

LYSANDER

.swore I her to when judgment no had I

HELENA

'o her give you now ,mind my in ,none Nor

LYSANDER

.you not loves he and ,her loves Demetrius

DEMETRIUS

].Awaking[
O Helen, goddess, nymph, perfect, divine!
?eyne thine compare I shall ,love my ,what To
Crystal is muddy. O, how ripe in show
!grow tempting ,cherries kissing those ,lips Thy
That pure congealed white, high Taurus' snow,
crow a to turns ,wind eastern the with 'Fann
When thou hold'st up thy hand: O, let me kiss
!bliss of seal this ,white pure of princess This

HELENA

bent are all you see I !hell O !spite O
To set against me for your merriment.
,courtesy knew and ,civil were you If
You would not do me thus much injury.
,do you know I as ,me hate not you Can
But you must join in souls to mock me too?
,show in are you men as ,men were you If

A Midsummer Night's Dream

You would not use a gentle lady so;
,parts my superpraise and ,swear and ,vow To
When I am sure you hate me with your hearts.
;Hermia love and ,rivals are both You
And now both rivals, to mock Helena:
,enterprise manly a ,exploit trim A
To conjure tears up in a poor maid's eyes
sort noble of None !derision your With
Would so offend a virgin, and extort
.sport you make to all ,patience 'soul poor A

LYSANDER

;so not be ;Demetrius ,unkind are You
For you love Hermia: this you know I know:
,heart my all with ,will good all with ,here And
In Hermia's love I yield you up my part;
,bequeath me to Helena of yours And
Whom I do love and will do till my death.

HELENA

.breath idle more waste mockers did Never

DEMETRIUS

:none will I ;Hermia thy keep ,Lysander
If e'er I lov'd her, all that love is gone.
'sojourn -guest as but her to heart My
And now to Helen is it home return'd,
.remain to There

LYSANDER

.so not is it ,Helen

DEMETRIUS

,know not dost thou faith the not Disparage
Lest, to thy peril, thou aby it dear.--
.dear thy is yonder ;comes love thy where Look

[Enter HERMIA.]

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HERMIA

,takes function his eye the from that ,night Dark
The ear more quick of apprehension makes;
,sense seeing the impair doth it Wherein
It pays the hearing double recompense:--
;found ,Lysander ,eye mine by not art Thou
Mine ear, I thank it, brought me to thy sound.
?so me leave thou didst unkindly why But

LYSANDER

?go to press doth love whom stay he should Why

HERMIA

?side my from Lysander press could love What

LYSANDER

-- ,bide him let not would that ,love 'Lysander
Fair Helena,--who more engilds the night
.light of eyes and oes fiery yon all Than
Why seek'st thou me? could not this make thee know
?so thee leave me made thee bare I hate The

HERMIA

.be cannot it ;think you as not speak You

HELENA

!confederacy this of one is she ,Lo
Now I perceive they have conjoin'd all three
.me of spite in sport false this fashion To
Injurious Hermia! most ungrateful maid!
'contriv these with you have 'conspir you Have
To bait me with this foul derision?
'shar have two we that counsel the all Is
The sisters' vows, the hours that we have spent,
time -hasty the chid have we When
For parting us,--O, is all forgot?
?innocence childhood ,friendship -school All
We, Hermia, like two artificial gods,
,flower one both created needles our with Have

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Both on one sampler, sitting on one cushion,
;key one in both ,song one of warbling Both
As if our hands, our sides, voices, and minds,
,together grew we So .incorporate been Had
Like to a double cherry, seeming parted;
,partition in union a yet But
Two lovely berries moulded on one stem:
;heart one but ,bodies seeming two with ,So
Two of the first, like coats in heraldry,
.crest one with crowned and ,one to but Due
And will you rent our ancient love asunder,
?friend poor your scorning in men with join To
It is not friendly, 'tis not maidenly:
,it for you chide may ,I as well as ,sex Our
Though I alone do feel the injury.

HERMIA

:words passionate your at amazed am I
I scorn you not; it seems that you scorn me.

HELENA

,scorn in as ,Lysander set not you Have
To follow me, and praise my eyes and face?
-- ,Demetrius ,love other your made And
Who even but now did spurn me with his foot,--
,rare and ,divine ,nymph ,goddess me call To
Precious, celestial? Wherefore speaks he this
Lysander doth wherefore and ?hates he her To
Deny your love, so rich within his soul,
,affection ,forsooth ,me tender And
But by your setting on, by your consent?
,you as grace in so not be I though What
So hung upon with love, so fortunate;
'unlov love to ,most miserable But
This you should pity rather than despise.

HERMIA

.this by mean you what not understand I

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HELENA

.looks sad counterfeit ,persever do ,Ay
Make mows upon me when I turn my back;
:up jest sweet the hold ;other at each Wink
This sport, well carried, shall be chronicled.
,manners or ,grace ,pity any have you If
You would not make me such an argument.
;fault own my partly tis' :well ye fare But
Which death, or absence, soon shall remedy.

LYSANDER

;excuse my hear ;Helena gentle ,Stay
My love, my life, my soul, fair Helena!

HELENA

!excellent O

HERMIA

.so her scorn not do ,Sweet

DEMETRIUS

.compel can I ,entreat cannot she If

LYSANDER

;entreat she than more no compel canst Thou
Thy threats have no more strength than her weak prayers.--
;do I life my by ;thee love I ,Helen
I swear by that which I will lose for thee
.not thee love I says that false him prove To

DEMETRIUS

.do can he than more thee love I say I

LYSANDER

.too it prove and ,withdraw ,so say thou If

DEMETRIUS

-- ,come ,Quick

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HERMIA

?this all tends whereto ,Lysander

LYSANDER

!Ethiope you ,Away

DEMETRIUS

will --:sir ,no ,No

Seem to break loose; take on as you would follow:

!go ;man tame a are You .not come yet But

LYSANDER

,loose let ,thing vile :burr thou ,cat thou ,off Hang

Or I will shake thee from me like a serpent.

HERMIA

,this is change what ?rude so grown you are Why

Sweet love?

LYSANDER

!out ,Tartar tawny ,out !love Thy

Out, loathed medicine! hated potion, hence!

HERMIA

?jest not you Do

HELENA

.you do so and ;sooth ,Yes

LYSANDER

.thee with word my keep will I ,Demetrius

DEMETRIUS

perceive I for ;bond your had I would I

A weak bond holds you; I'll not trust your word.

LYSANDER

?dead her kill ,her strike ,her hurt I should !What

Although I hate her, I'll not harm her so.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HERMIA

What hate than harm greater me do you can! What
Hate me! wherefore? O me! what news, my love?
Lysander you not Are? Hermia I not Am
I am as fair now as I was erewhile.
You left me night since yet; me 'lov you night Since
Why then, you left me,--O, the gods forbid!--
I say I shall, earnest In

LYSANDER

Ay, life my by
And never did desire to see thee more.
Therefore, doubt, question of, hope of out be
Be certain, nothing truer; 'tis no jest
That Helena love and thee hate do I

HERMIA

O me! you juggler! you cankerblossom!
You thief of love! What! have you come by night,
And stol'n my heart from me?

HELENA

Fine, 'faith!
Have you no modesty, no maiden shame,
No touch of bashfulness? What answer will you give
To my gentle tongue, in frowning brow?
You counterfeit, you puppet!

HERMIA

Puppet, why so? Ay, game the goes way that
Now I perceive that she hath made compare
Between our statures; and with her personage,
Her tall personage, and with her height,
Her height, she prevails; and with her lowliness,
Her lowliness, she compares. O, how low
I am, how low am I! How low am I, how low am I!
How low am I, how low am I, how low am I!
How low am I, how low am I, how low am I!

A Midsummer Night's Dream

But that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.

HELENA

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

HERMIA

.again ,hark !Lower

HELENA

.me with bitter so be not do ,Hermia Good
I evermore did love you, Hermia;
;you 'wrong never ;counsels your keep ever Did
Save that, in love unto Demetrius,
:wood this unto stealth your of him told I
He follow'd you; for love I follow'd him;
me 'threaten and ,hence me chid hath he But
To strike me, spurn me, nay, to kill me too:
,go quiet me let will you so ,now And
To Athens will I bear my folly back,
:go me Let .farther no you follow And
You see how simple and how fond I am.

HERMIA

?you hinders that 'is who :gone you get ,Why

HELENA

.behind here leave I that heart foolish A

HERMIA

?Lysander with !What

HELENA

.Demetrius With

A Midsummer Night's Dream

LYSANDER

.Helena ,thee harm not shall she ;afraid not Be

DEMETRIUS

.part her take you though ,not shall she ,sir ,No

HELENA

:shrewd and keen is she ,angry 'she when ,O
She was a vixen when she went to school;
.fierce is she ,little but be she though ,And

HERMIA

--!little and low but nothing !again Little
Why will you suffer her to flout me thus?
.her to come me Let

LYSANDER

;dwarf you ,gone you Get
You minimus, of hind'ring knot-grass made;
.acorn you ,bead You

DEMETRIUS

officious too are You
In her behalf that scorns your services.
;Helena of not speak :alone her Let
Take not her part; for if thou dost intend
,her to love of show little so Never
Thou shalt aby it.

LYSANDER

;not me holds she Now
Now follow, if thou dar'st, to try whose right,
.Helena in most is ,mine or thine Of

DEMETRIUS

.jole by cheek ,thee with go 'I ,nay !Follow

[Exeunt LYSANDER and DEMETRIUS.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

HERMIA

:you of long' is coil this all ,mistress ,You
Nay, go not back.

HELENA

;I ,you trust not will I
Nor longer stay in your curst company.
;fray a for quicker are mine than hands Your
My legs are longer though, to run away.

[Exit.]

HERMIA

.say to what not know and 'amaz am I

[Exit, pursuing HELENA.]

OBERON

'mistak thou still :negligence thy is This
Or else commit'st thy knaveries willfully.

PUCK

.mistook I ,shadows of king ,me Believe
Did not you tell me I should know the man
?on had he garments Athenian the By
And so far blameless proves my enterprise
:eyes 'Athenian an nointed' have I That
And so far am I glad it so did sort,
.sport a esteem I jangling their this As

OBERON

;fight to place a seek lovers these seest Thou
Hie therefore, Robin, overcast the night;
anon thou cover welkin starry The
With drooping fog, as black as Acheron,
astray so rivals testy these lead And
As one come not within another's way.
,tongue thy frame sometime Lysander to Like

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Then stir Demetrius up with bitter wrong;
;Demetrius like thou rail sometime And
And from each other look thou lead them thus,
sleep -death brows their 'o Till
With leaden legs and batty wings doth creep:
;eye 'Lysander into herb this crush Then
Whose liquor hath this virtuous property,
might his with error all thence from take To
And make his eyeballs roll with wonted sight.
derision this all ,wake next they When
Shall seem a dream and fruitless vision;
wend lovers the shall Athens to back And
With league whose date till death shall never end.
,employ thee do affair this in I Whiles
I'll to my queen, and beg her Indian boy;
release eye charmed her will I then And
From monster's view, and all things shall be peace.

PUCK

,haste with done be must this ,lord fairy My
For night's swift dragons cut the clouds full fast;
,harbinger 'Aurora shines yonder And
At whose approach ghosts, wandering here and there,
,all spirits damned :churchyards to home Troop
That in cross-ways and floods have burial,
;gone are beds wormy their to Already
For fear lest day should look their shames upon
,light from themselves exile wilfully They
And must for aye consort with black-brow'd night.

OBERON

:sort another of spirits are we But
I with the morning's love have oft made sport;
tread may groves the ,forester a like ,And
Even till the eastern gate, all fiery-red,
,beams blessed fair with Neptune on Opening
Turns into yellow gold his salt-green streams.
:delay no make ;haste ,notwithstanding ,But
We may effect this business yet ere day.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

[Exit OBERON.]

PUCK

;down and up ,down and Up

I will lead them up and down:

.town and field in 'fear am I

Goblin, lead them up and down.

.one comes Here

[Enter LYSANDER.]

LYSANDER

.now thou speak ?Demetrius proud ,thou art Where

PUCK

?thou art Where .ready and drawn ;villain ,Here

LYSANDER

.straight thee with be will I

PUCK

,then ,me Follow

To plainer ground.

[Exit LYSANDER as following the voice.]

[Enter DEMETRIUS.]

DEMETRIUS

.again speak !Lysander

Thou runaway, thou coward, art thou fled?

?head thy hide thou dost where ?bush some In .Speak

PUCK

,stars the to bragging thou art ,coward Thou

Telling the bushes that thou look'st for wars,

;child thou ,come ;recreant ,Come ?come not wilt And

I'll whip thee with a rod: he is defiled

A Midsummer Night's Dream

.thee on sword a draws That

DEMETRIUS

?there thou art ,Yea

PUCK

.here manhood no try 'we ;voice my Follow

[Exeunt.]

[Re-enter LYSANDER.]

LYSANDER

;on me dares still and ,me before goes He
When I come where he calls, then he is gone.
:I than heeled lighter much is villain The
I follow'd fast, but faster he did fly;
,way uneven dark in I am fallen That
And here will rest me. Come, thou gentle day!
].down Lies[
For if but once thou show me thy grey light,
.spite this revenge and ,Demetrius find 'I

[Sleeps.]

[Re-enter PUCK and DEMETRIUS.]

PUCK

?not thou 'com why ,Coward !ho ,ho ,ho ,Ho

DEMETRIUS

wot I well for 'dar thou if ,me Abide
Thou runn'st before me, shifting every place;
.face the in me look nor ,stand not 'dar And
Where art thou?

PUCK

.here am I ;hither Come

A Midsummer Night's Dream

DEMETRIUS

.me 'mock thou ,then ,Nay
Thou shalt buy this dear,
:see daylight by face thy I ever If
Now, go thy way. Faintness constraineth me
-- .bed cold this on length my out measure To
By day's approach look to be visited.

[Lies down and sleeps.]

[Enter HELENA.]

HELENA

,night tedious and long O ,night weary O
Abate thy hours! Shine comforts from the east,
,daylight by Athens to back may I That
From these that my poor company detest:--
,eye 'sorrow up shuts sometimes that ,sleep And
Steal me awhile from mine own company.

[Sleeps.]

PUCK

;more one Come ?three but Yet
Two of both kinds makes up four.
--:sad and curst ,comes she Here
Cupid is a knavish lad,
.mad females poor make to Thus

[Enter HERMIA.]

HERMIA

,woe in so never ,weary so Never
Bedabbled with the dew, and torn with briars;
;go further no ,crawl further no can I
My legs can keep no pace with my desires.
.day of break the till me rest I will Here
Heavens shield Lysander, if they mean a fray!

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[Lies down.]

PUCK

ground the On

Sleep sound:

apply 'I

To your eye,

.remedy ,lover Gentle

[Squeezing the juice on LYSANDER'S eye.]

When thou wak'st,

'tak Thou

True delight

sight the In

Of thy former lady's eye:

,known proverb country the And

That every man should take his own,

:shown be shall waking your In

Jack shall have Jill;

;ill go shall Nought

The man shall have his mare again, and all shall be well.

[Exit PUCK.--DEMETRIUS, HELENA &c, sleep.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

ACT IV

SCENE I. The Wood.

[Enter TITANIA and BOTTOM; PEASBLOSSOM, COBWEB, MOTH,
].unseen ,behind OBERON ;attending FAIRIES other and ,MUSTARDSEED

TITANIA

,bed flowery this upon down thee sit ,Come
While I thy amiable cheeks do coy,
,head smooth sleek thy in -musk stick And
And kiss thy fair large ears, my gentle joy.

BOTTOM

?Peasblossom 'Where

PEASBLOSSOM

.Ready

BOTTOM

--.Peasblossom ,head my Scratch
Where's Monsieur Cobweb?

COBWEB

.Ready

BOTTOM

in weapons your you get ,monsieur good ;Cobweb Monsieur
your hand and kill me a red-hipped humble-bee on the top of a
not Do -honey the me bring ,monsieur good ,and ;thistle
fret yourself too much in the action, monsieur; and, good
be would I ;not break -honey the care a have ,monsieur
loath to have you overflown with a honey-bag, signior.--
?Mustardseed Monsieur 'Where

MUSTARDSEED

.Ready

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BOTTOM

.Mustardseed Monsieur ,neif your me Give
Pray you, leave your curtsy, good monsieur.

MUSTARDSEED

?will your 'What

BOTTOM

to Cobweb Cavalero help to but ,monsieur good ,Nothing
scratch. I must to the barber's, monsieur; for methinks I am
,ass tender a such am I and ;face the about hairy marvellous
if my hair do but tickle me I must scratch.

TITANIA

?love sweet my ,music some hear thou wilt ,What

BOTTOM

the have us let ;music in ear good reasonable a have I
tongs and the bones.

TITANIA

.eat to desirest thou what ,love sweet ,say Or

BOTTOM

dry good your munch could I ;provender of peck a ,Truly
oats. Methinks I have a great desire to a bottle of hay: good
.fellow no hath ,hay sweet ,hay

TITANIA

seek shall that fairy venturous a have I
The squirrel's hoard, and fetch thee new nuts.

BOTTOM

,But .peas dried of two or handful a have rather had I
I pray you, let none of your people stir me; I have an
.me upon come sleep of exposition

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TITANIA

.arms my in thee wind will I and ,thou Sleep
Fairies, be gone, and be all ways away.
honeysuckle sweet the woodbine the doth So
Gently entwist,--the female ivy so
.elm the of fingers barky the Enrings
O, how I love thee! how I dote on thee!

[They sleep.]

[OBERON advances. Enter PUCK.]

OBERON

?sight sweet this thou Seest .Robin good ,Welcome
Her dotage now I do begin to pity.
,wood the behind late of her meeting ,For
Seeking sweet favours for this hateful fool,
:her with out fall and her upbraid did I
For she his hairy temples then had rounded
;flowers fragrant and fresh of coronet With
And that same dew, which sometime on the buds
,pearls orient and round like swell to wont Was
Stood now within the pretty flow'rets' eyes,
.bewail disgrace own their did that tears Like
When I had, at my pleasure, taunted her,
,patience my 'begg ,terms mild in ,she And
I then did ask of her her changeling child;
sent fairy her and ,me gave she straight Which
To bear him to my bower in fairy-land.
undo will I ,boy the have I now And
This hateful imperfection of her eyes.
scalp transformed this take ,Puck gentle ,And
From off the head of this Athenian swain,
,do other the when awaking he That
May all to Athens back again repair,
accidents 'night this of more no think And
But as the fierce vexation of a dream.
.queen fairy the release will I first But
Be as thou wast wont to be;

A Midsummer Night's Dream

]herb an with eyes her Touching[
See as thou was wont to see.
flower 'Cupid 'o bud 'Dian
Hath such force and blessed power.
.queen sweet my ,you wake ;Titania my ,Now

TITANIA

!seen I have visions what !Oberon My
Methought I was enamour'd of an ass.

OBERON

.love your lies There

TITANIA

?pass to things these came How
O, how mine eyes do loathe his visage now!

OBERON

.head this off take --.awhile Silence
Titania, music call; and strike more dead
.sense the ,five these all of ,sleep common Than

TITANIA

.sleep charmeth as such ;music !ho ,Music

PUCK

.peep eyes 'fool own thine with 'wak thou when Now

OBERON

,me with hands take ,queen my ,Come].music Still[.music ,Sound
And rock the ground whereon these sleepers be.
,amity in new are I and thou Now
And will to-morrow midnight solemnly
,triumphantly house 'Theseus Duke in Dance
And bless it to all fair prosperity:
be lovers faithful of pairs the shall There
Wedded, with Theseus, all in jollity.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

PUCK

mark and attend ,king Fairy
I do hear the morning lark.

OBERON

,sad silence in ,queen my ,Then
Trip we after night's shade.
,soon compass can globe the We
Swifter than the wand'ring moon.

TITANIA

,flight our in and ;lord my ,Come
Tell me how it came this night
found was here sleeping I That
With these mortals on the ground.

[Exeunt. Horns sound within.]

[Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and Train.]

THESEUS

--;forester the out find ,you of one ,Go
For now our observation is perform'd;
,day the of vaward the have we since And
My love shall hear the music of my hounds,--
--:go ;valley western the in Uncouple
Despatch, I say, and find the forester.--

[Exit an ATTENDANT.]

We will, fair queen, up to the mountain's top,
confusion musical the mark And
Of hounds and echo in conjunction.

HIPPOLYTA

once Cadmus and Hercules with was I
When in a wood of Crete they bay'd the bear
hear I did never :Sparta of hounds With
Such gallant chiding; for, besides the groves,

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near region every ,fountains the ,skies The
Seem'd all one mutual cry: I never heard
.thunder sweet such ,discord a musical So

THESEUS

,kind Spartan the of out bred are hounds My
So flew'd, so sanded; and their heads are hung
;dew morning the away sweep that ears With
Crook-knee'd and dew-lap'd like Thessalian bulls;
,bells like mouth in 'match but ,pursuit in Slow
Each under each. A cry more tuneable
,horn with 'cheer nor ,to 'holla never Was
In Crete, in Sparta, nor in Thessaly.
?these are nymphs what ,soft --.hear you when Judge

EGEUS

;asleep here daughter my is this ,lord My
And this Lysander; this Demetrius is;
:Helena 'Nedar old ,Helena This
I wonder of their being here together.

THESEUS

observe to early up rose they doubt No
The rite of May; and, hearing our intent,
--.solemnity our of grace in here Came
But speak, Egeus; is not this the day
?choice her of answer give should Hermia That

EGEUS

.lord my ,is It

THESEUS

.horns their with them wake huntsmen the bid ,Go

[Horns, and shout within. DEMETRIUS, LYSANDER, HERMIA, and HELENA
].up start and awake

Good-morrow, friends. Saint Valentine is past;
?now couple to but -wood these Begin

A Midsummer Night's Dream

LYSANDER

.lord my ,Pardon

[He and the rest kneel to THESEUS.]

THESEUS

.up stand ,all you pray I
I know you two are rival enemies;
,world the in concord gentle this comes How
That hatred is so far from jealousy
?enmity no fear and ,hate by sleep To

LYSANDER

,amazedly reply shall I ,lord My
Half 'sleep, half waking; but as yet, I swear,
:here came I how say truly cannot I
But, as I think,--for truly would I speak--
--is it so ,me bethink do I now And
I came with Hermia hither: our intent
,be might we where ,Athens from gone be to Was
Without the peril of the Athenian law.

EGEUS

;enough have you ;lord my ,enough ,Enough
I beg the law, the law upon his head.--
,Demetrius ,would they ,away 'stol have would They
Thereby to have defeated you and me:
--consent my of me and ,wife your of You
Of my consent that she should be your wife.

DEMETRIUS

,stealth their of me told Helen fair ,lord My
Of this their purpose hither to this wood;
,them 'follow hither fury in I And
Fair Helena in fancy following me.
--power what by not wot I ,lord good my ,But
But by some power it is,--my love to Hermia,
now me to --snow the as Melted

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As the remembrance of an idle gawd
:upon dote did I childhood my in Which
And all the faith, the virtue of my heart,
,eye mine of pleasure the and object The
Is only Helena. To her, my lord,
:Hermia saw I ere 'betroth I Was
But, like a sickness, did I loathe this food;
,taste natural my to come ,health in as ,But
Now I do wish it, love it, long for it,
.it to true be evermore for will And

THESEUS

:met fortunately are you ,lovers Fair
Of this discourse we more will hear anon.--
;will your overbear will I ,Egeus
For in the temple, by and by with us,
.knit be eternally shall couples These
And, for the morning now is something worn,
--.aside set be shall hunting 'purpos Our
Away with us to Athens, three and three,
--.solemnity great in feast a hold 'We
Come, Hippolyta.

[Exeunt THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and Train.]

DEMETRIUS

,undistinguishable and small seem things These
Like far-off mountains turned into clouds.

HERMIA

,eye parted with things these see I Methinks
When every thing seems double.

HELENA

:methinks So
And I have found Demetrius like a jewel.
.own mine not and ,own Mine

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DEMETRIUS

me to seems It

That yet we sleep, we dream.--Do not you think
?him follow us bid and ,here was duke The

HERMIA

.father my and ,Yea

HELENA

.Hippolyta And

LYSANDER

.temple the to follow us bid did he And

DEMETRIUS

;him follow 'let :awake are we ,then ,Why
And by the way let us recount our dreams.

[Exeunt.]

[As they go out, BOTTOM awakes.]

BOTTOM

Most' is next My .answer will I and ,me call ,comes cue my When
fair Pyramus!--Heigh-ho!--Peter Quince! Flute, the
,life my 'God !Starveling !tinker the ,Snout -bellows
stol'n hence, and left me asleep! I have had a most rare
say to man of wit the --dream a had have I .vision
what dream it was.--Man is but an ass if he go about
tell can man no is --was I Methought .dream this expound to
what. Methought I was, and methought I had,--but man is but a
The .had I methought what say to offer will he if ,fool patched
eye of man hath not heard, the ear of man hath not seen; man's
heart his nor ,conceive to tongue his ,taste to able not is hand
to report, what my dream was. I will get Peter Quince to write a
because ,Dream 'Bottom called be shall it :dream this of ballad
it hath no bottom; and I will sing it in the latter end of a
more the it make to ,peradventure :duke the before ,play
gracious, I shall sing it at her death.

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[Exit.]

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SCENE II. Athens. A Room in QUINCE'S House.

[Enter QUINCE, FLUTE, SNOOT, and STARVELING.]

QUINCE

'yet home come he is 'house 'Bottom to sent you Have

STARVELING

.transported is he ,doubt of Out .of heard be cannot He

FLUTE

not goes it ;marred is play the then ,not come he If
forward, doth it?

QUINCE

Athens all in man a not have you :possible not is It
able to discharge Pyramus but he.

FLUTE

in man handicraft any of wit best the simply hath he ;No
Athens.

QUINCE

paramour very a is he and :too person best the and ,Yea
for a sweet voice.

FLUTE

of thing a ,us bless God ,is paramour a :paragon say must You
naught.

[Enter SNUG.]

SNUG

is there and ;temple the from coming is duke the ,Masters
two or three lords and ladies more married: if our sport had gone
.men made been all had we ,forward

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FLUTE

day a sixpence lost he hath Thus !Bottom bully sweet O
during his life; he could not have 'scaped sixpence a-day; an
,Pyramus playing for -a sixpence him given not had duke the
I'll be hanged; he would have deserved it: sixpence a-day in
.nothing or ,Pyramus

[Enter BOTTOM.]

BOTTOM

?hearts these are where ?lads these are Where

QUINCE

!hour happy most O !day courageous most --!Bottom

BOTTOM

not me ask but :wonders discourse to am I ,Masters
what; for if I tell you, I am not true Athenian. I will tell you
.out fell it as right ,everything

QUINCE

.Bottom sweet ,hear us Let

BOTTOM

the that ,is you tell will I that All .me of word a Not
duke hath dined. Get your apparel together; good strings to
the at presently meet ;pumps your to ribbons new ,beards your
palace; every man look over his part; for the short and the long
clean have Thisby let ,case any In .preferred is play our ,is
linen; and let not him that plays the lion pare his nails, for
,actors dear most ,And .claws 'lion the for out hang shall they
eat no onions nor garlick, for we are to utter sweet breath; and
more No .comedy sweet a is it say them hear to but doubt not do I
words: away! go; away!

[Exeunt.]

ACT V

SCENE I. Athens. An Apartment in the Palace of THESEUS.

[Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, PHILOSTRATE, Lords, and Attendants.]

HIPPOLYTA

.of speak lovers these that ,Theseus my ,strange Tis'

THESEUS

believe may never I .true than strange More
These antique fables, nor these fairy toys.
,brains seething such have madmen and Lovers
Such shaping fantasies, that apprehend
.comprehends ever reason cool than More
The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
:compact all imagination of Are
One sees more devils than vast hell can hold;
,frantic as all ,lover the :madman the is That
Sees Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt:
,rolling frenzy fine a in ,eye 'poet The
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven;
forth bodies imagination as And
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
nothing airy to gives and ,shapes to them Turns
A local habitation and a name.
,imagination strong hath tricks Such
That, if it would but apprehend some joy,
;joy that of bringer some comprehends It
Or in the night, imagining some fear,
?bear a supposed bush a is easy How

HIPPOLYTA

,over told night the of story the all But
And all their minds transfigur'd so together,
,images 'fancy than witnesseth More
And grows to something of great constancy;
.admirable and strange ,howsoever ,But

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[Enter LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS, HERMIA, and HELENA.]

THESEUS

--.mirth and joy of full ,lovers the come Here
Joy, gentle friends! joy and fresh days of love
!hearts your Accompany

LYSANDER

us to than More
Wait in your royal walks, your board, your bed!

THESEUS

,have we shall dances what ,masques what ;now Come
To wear away this long age of three hours
-bed and -after our Between
Where is our usual manager of mirth?
play no there Is ?hand in are revels What
To ease the anguish of a torturing hour?
.Philostrate Call

PHILOSTRATE

.Theseus mighty ,Here

THESEUS

?evening this for you have abridgment what ,Say
What masque? what music? How shall we beguile
?delight some with not if ,time lazy The

PHILOSTRATE

;ripe are sports many how brief a is There
Make choice of which your highness will see first.

[Giving a paper.]

THESEUS

].Reads[
'The battle with the Centaurs, to be sung
'harp the to eunuch Athenian an By
We'll none of that: that have I told my love,

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.Hercules kinsman my of glory In
'The riot of the tipsy Bacchanals,
'rage their in singer Thracian the Tearing
That is an old device, and it was play'd
.conqueror a last came Thebes from I When
'The thrice three Muses mourning for the death
'beggary in 'deceas late ,learning Of
That is some satire, keen and critical,
.ceremony nuptial a with sorting Not
'A tedious brief scene of young Pyramus
'mirth tragical very ;Thisbe love his And
Merry and tragical! tedious and brief!
.snow strange wondrous and ice hot is That
How shall we find the concord of this discord?

PHILOSTRATE

,long words ten some ,lord my ,is there play A
Which is as brief as I have known a play;
,long too is it ,lord my ,words ten by But
Which makes it tedious: for in all the play
:fitted player one ,apt word one not is There
And tragical, my noble lord, it is;
:himself kill doth therein Pyramus For
Which when I saw rehears'd, I must confess,
tears merry more but ;water eyes mine Made
The passion of loud laughter never shed.

THESEUS

?it play do that they are What

PHILOSTRATE

,here Athens in work that men -Hard
Which never labour'd in their minds till now;
memories 'unbreath their 'toil have now And
With this same play against your nuptial.

THESEUS

.it hear will we And

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PHILOSTRATE

,lord noble my ,No
It is not for you: I have heard it over,
;world the in nothing ,nothing is it And
Unless you can find sport in their intents,
,pain cruel with 'conn and 'stretch Extremely
To do you service.

THESEUS

;play that hear will I
For never anything can be amiss
.it tender duty and simpleness When
Go, bring them in: and take your places, ladies.

[Exit PHILOSTRATE.]

HIPPOLYTA

'o wretchedness see to not love I
And duty in his service perishing.

THESEUS

.thing such no see shall you ,sweet gentle ,Why

HIPPOLYTA

.kind this in nothing do can they says He

THESEUS

.nothing for thanks them give to ,we kinder The
Our sport shall be to take what they mistake:
,do cannot duty poor what And
Noble respect takes it in might, not merit.
purposed have clerks great ,come have I Where
To greet me with premeditated welcomes;
,pale look and shiver them seen have I Where
Make periods in the midst of sentences,
,fears their in accent 'practis their Throttle
And, in conclusion, dumbly have broke off,
,sweet ,me Trust .welcome a me paying Not
Out of this silence yet I pick'd a welcome;

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duty fearful of modesty the in And
I read as much as from the rattling tongue
.eloquence audacious and saucy Of
Love, therefore, and tongue-tied simplicity
.capacity my to most speak least In

[Enter PHILOSTRATE.]

PHILOSTRATE

'address is prologue the ,grace your please So

THESEUS

.approach him Let

[Flourish of trumpets. Enter PROLOGUE.]

PROLOGUE

.will good our with is it ,offend we If
That you should think, we come not to offend,
,skill simple our show To .will good with But
That is the true beginning of our end.
.despite in but come we ,then Consider
We do not come, as minding to content you,
delight your for All .is intent true Our
We are not here. That you should here repent you,
,show their by ,and :hand at are actors The
You shall know all that you are like to know,'

THESEUS

.points upon stand not doth fellow This

LYSANDER

knows he ;colt rough a like prologue his rid hath He
not the stop. A good moral, my lord: it is not enough to speak,
.true speak to but

HIPPOLYTA

child a like prologue this on played hath he Indeed
on a recorder; a sound, but not in government.

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THESEUS

all but ,impaired nothing ;chain tangled a like was speech His
disordered. Who is next?

[Enter PYRAMUS and THISBE, WALL, MOONSHINE, and LION, as in dumb
].show

PROLOGUE

;show this at wonder you perchance ,Gentles

But wonder on, till truth make all things plain.

;know would you if ,Pyramus is man This

This beauteous lady Thisby is certain.

present doth -rough and lime with ,man This

Wall, that vile Wall which did these lovers sunder;

content are they ,souls poor ,chink 'Wall through And

To whisper, at the which let no man wonder.

,thorn of bush and ,dog ,lanthorn with ,man This

Presenteth Moonshine: for, if you will know,

scorn no think lovers these did moonshine By

To meet at Ninus' tomb, there, there to woo.

,hight Lion name by which ,beast grisly This

The trusty Thisby, coming first by night,

;affright did rather or ,away scare Did

And as she fled, her mantle she did fall;

:stain did mouth bloody with vile Lion Which

Anon comes Pyramus, sweet youth, and tall,

;slain mantle 'Thisby trusty his finds And

Whereat with blade, with bloody blameful blade,

;breast bloody boiling his 'broach bravely He

And Thisby, tarrying in mulberry shade,

,rest the all For .died and ,drew dagger His

Let Lion, Moonshine, Wall, and lovers twain,

.remain do they here while discourse large At

[Exeunt PROLOGUE, THISBE, LION, and MOONSHINE.]

THESEUS

.speak to be lion the if wonder I

DEMETRIUS

.do asses many when ,may lion one :lord my ,wonder No

WALL

befall doth it interlude same this In
That I, one Snout by name, present a wall:
think you have would I as wall a such And
That had in it a crannied hole or chink,
,Thisby and Pyramus ,lovers the which Through
Did whisper often very secretly.
show doth ,stone this and -rough this ,loam This
That I am that same wall; the truth is so:
,sinister and right ,is cranny the this And
Through which the fearful lovers are to whisper.

THESEUS

?better speak to hair and lime desire you Would

DEMETRIUS

heard I ever that partition wittiest the is It
discourse, my lord.

THESEUS

.silence ;wall the near draws Pyramus

[Enter PYRAMUS.]

PYRAMUS

!black so hue with night O !night -grim O
O night, which ever art when day is not!
,alack ,alack ,alack ,night O ,night O
I fear my Thisby's promise is forgot!--
,wall lovely O ,sweet O ,wall O ,thou And
That stand'st between her father's ground and mine;
,wall lovely and sweet O ,wall O ,wall Thou
Show me thy chink, to blink through with mine eyne.

[WALL holds up his fingers.]

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Thanks, courteous wall: Jove shield thee well for this!
.see I do Thisby No ?I see what see what But
O wicked wall, through whom I see no bliss,
!me deceiving thus for stones thy be 'Curs

THESEUS

.again curse should ,sensible being ,methinks ,wall The

PYRAMUS

is 'me Deceiving' .not should he ,sir ,truth in ,No
Thisby's cue: she is to enter now, and I am to spy her through
--.you told I as pat fall will it see shall You .wall the
she comes.

[Enter THISBE.]

THISBE

,moans my heard thou hast often full ,wall O
For parting my fair Pyramus and me:
:stones thy 'kiss often have lips cherry My
Thy stones with lime and hair knit up in thee.

PYRAMUS

,chink the to I will now ;voice a see I
To spy an I can hear my Thisby's face.
!Thisby

THISBE

.think I ,love my art thou !love My

PYRAMUS

;grace 'lover thy am I ,wilt thou what Think
And like Limander am I trusty still.

THISBE

.kill me fates the till ,Helen like I And

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PYRAMUS

.true so was Procrus to Shafalus Not

THISBE

.you to I ,Procrus to Shafalus As

PYRAMUS

.wall vile this of hole the through me kiss ,O

THISBE

.all at lips your not ,hole 'wall the kiss I

PYRAMUS

?straightway me meet tomb 'Ninny at thou Wilt

THISBE

.delay without come I ,death tide' ,life Tide'

WALL

;so discharged part my ,wall ,I have Thus
And, being done, thus Wall away doth go.

[Exeunt WALL, PYRAMUS and THISBE.]

THESEUS

.neighbours two the between down mural the is Now

DEMETRIUS

hear to wilful so are walls when ,lord my ,remedy No
without warning.

HIPPOLYTA

.heard I ever that stuff silliest the is This

THESEUS

worst the and ;shadows but are kind this in best The
are no worse, if imagination amend them.

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HIPPOLYTA

.theirs not and ,then imagination your be must It

THESEUS

of they than them of worse no imagine we If
themselves, they may pass for excellent men.
.lion a and moon a ,in beasts noble two come Here

[Enter LION and MOONSHINE.]

LION

fear do hearts gentle whose ,you ,ladies ,You
The smallest monstrous mouse that creeps on floor,
,here tremble and quake both ,perchance ,now May
When lion rough in wildest rage doth roar.
am ,joiner the Snug one ,I that know Then
A lion fell, nor else no lion's dam:
strife in come lion as should I if ,For
Into this place, 'twere pity on my life.

THESEUS

.conscience good a of and ,beast gentle very A

DEMETRIUS

.saw I 'e that ,lord my ,beast a at best very The

LYSANDER

.valour his for fox very a is lion This

THESEUS

.discretion his for goose a and ;True

DEMETRIUS

his carry cannot valour his for ;lord my ,so Not
discretion, and the fox carries the goose.

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THESEUS

;valour his carry cannot ,sure am I ,discretion His
for the goose carries not the fox. It is well; leave it to his
.moon the to listen us let and ,discretion

MOONSHINE

:present moon horned the doth lanthorn This

DEMETRIUS

.head his on horns the worn have should He

THESEUS

within invisible are horns his and ,crescent no is He
the circumference.

MOONSHINE

;present moon horned the doth lanthorn This
Myself the man i' the moon do seem to be.

THESEUS

be should man the :rest the all of error greatest the is This
put into the lantern. How is it else the man i' the moon?

DEMETRIUS

you ,for :candle the for there come not dares He
see, it is already in snuff.

HIPPOLYTA

!change would he would :moon this of aweary am I

THESEUS

he that ,discretion of light small his by ,appears It
is in the wane: but yet, in courtesy, in all reason, we must
.time the stay

LYSANDER

.moon ,Proceed

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MOON

lantern the that you tell to is ,say to have I that All
is the moon; I, the man i' the moon; this thorn-bush, my
.dog my ,dog this and -thorn

DEMETRIUS

all for ;lantern the in be should these all ,Why
these are in the moon. But silence; here comes Thisbe.

[Enter THISBE.]

THISBE

?love my is Where .tomb 'Ninny old is This

LION

!Oh

[The LION roars.--THISBE runs off.]

DEMETRIUS

.lion ,roared Well

THESEUS

.Thisbe ,run Well

HIPPOLYTA

.grace good a with shines moon the --.moon ,shone Well

[The LION tears THISBE'S Mantle, and exit.]

THESEUS

.lion ,moused Well

DEMETRIUS

.Pyramus comes so And

LYSANDER

.vanishes lion the then And

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[Enter PYRAMUS.]

PYRAMUS

;beams sunny thy for thee thank I ,moon Sweet

I thank thee, moon, for shining now so bright:

,streams glittering ,golden gracious thy by ,For

I trust to take of truest Thisby's sight.

!spite --;stay But

But mark,--poor knight,

!here is dole dreadful What

Eyes, do you see?

?be it can How

O dainty duck! O dear!

,good mantle Thy

What! stained with blood?

!fell furies ye ,Approach

O fates! come, come;

;thrum and thread Cut

Quail, rush, conclude, and quell!

THESEUS

go would ,friend dear a of death the and ,passion This

near to make a man look sad.

HIPPOLYTA

.man the pity I but ,heart my Beshrew

PYRAMUS

?frame lions thou didst ,nature ,wherefore O

Since lion vile hath here deflower'd my dear;

dame fairest the was --no --is Which

That liv'd, that lov'd, that lik'd, that look'd with cheer.

;confound ,tears ,Come

Out, sword, and wound

:Pyramus of pap The

Ay, that left pap,

--:hop doth heart Where

Thus die I, thus, thus, thus.

,dead I am Now

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Now am I fled;
:sky the in is soul My
Tongue, lose thy light!
!flight thy take ,Moon
Now die, die, die, die, die.

[Dies. Exit MOONSHINE.]

DEMETRIUS
.one but is he for ;him for ,ace an but ,die No

LYSANDER
.nothing is he ;dead is he for ;man ,ace an than Less

THESEUS
.ass an prove and recover yet might he surgeon a of help the With

HIPPOLYTA
comes Thisbe before gone is moonshine chance How
back and finds her lover?

THESEUS
and ;comes she --.starlight by him find will She
her passion ends the play.

[Enter THISBE.]

HIPPOLYTA
a such for one long a use not should she Methinks
Pyramus: I hope she will be brief.

DEMETRIUS
which ,Pyramus which ,balance the turn will mote A
Thisbe, is the better.

LYSANDER
.eyes sweet those with already him spied hath She

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DEMETRIUS

--.videlicet ,moans she thus And

THISBE

?love my ,Asleep

What, dead, my dove?

,arise ,Pyramus O

Speak, speak. Quite dumb?

tomb A ?dead ,Dead

Must cover thy sweet eyes.

,lips lily These

This cherry nose,

,cheeks cowslip yellow These

Are gone, are gone:

!moan make ,Lovers

His eyes were green as leeks.

,Three Sisters O

Come, come to me,

;milk as pale as hands With

Lay them in gore,

shore have you Since

With shears his thread of silk.

--:word a not ,Tongue

Come, trusty sword;

;imbrue breast my ,blade ,Come

And farewell, friends:--

;ends Thisbe Thus

Adieu, adieu, adieu.

[Dies.]

THESEUS

.dead the bury to left are lion and Moonshine

DEMETRIUS

.too wall and ,Ay

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BOTTOM

.fathers their parted that down is wall the ;you assure I ,No
Will it please you to see the epilogue, or to hear a Bergomask
?company our of two between dance

THESEUS

no needs play your for ;you pray I ,epilogue No
excuse. Never excuse; for when the players are all dead there
played had it writ that he if ,Marry .blamed be to none need
Pyramus, and hang'd himself in Thisbe's garter, it would have
notably very and ;truly ,is it so and :tragedy fine a been
discharged. But come, your Bergomask; let your epilogue alone.

[Here a dance of Clowns.]

The iron tongue of midnight hath told twelve:--

.time fairy almost tis' ;bed to ,Lovers
I fear we shall out-sleep the coming morn,
'overwatch have night this we as much As
This palpable-gross play hath well beguil'd
--.bed to ,friends --.night of gait heavy The
A fortnight hold we this solemnity,
.jollity new and revels nightly In

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II

[Enter PUCK.]

PUCK

,roars lion hungry the Now
And the wolf behowls the moon;
,snores ploughman heavy the Whilst
All with weary task fordone.
,glow do brands wasted the Now
Whilst the scritch-owl, scritch-ing loud,
woe in lies that wretch the Puts
In remembrance of a shroud.
night of time the is it Now
That the graves, all gaping wide,
,sprite its forth lets one Every
In the church-way paths to glide:
run do that ,fairies we And
By the triple Hecate's team
,sun the of presence the From
Following darkness like a dream,
mouse a not ;frolic are Now
Shall disturb this hallow'd house:
,before broom with sent am I
To sweep the dust behind the door.

[Enter OBERON and TITANIA, with their Train.]

OBERON

,light glimmering give house the Through
By the dead and drowsy fire:
sprite fairy and elf Every
Hop as light as bird from brier:
,me after ,ditty this And
Sing and dance it trippingly.

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TITANIA

,rote by song your rehearse ,First
 To each word a warbling note;
,grace fairy with ,hand in Hand
 Will we sing, and bless this place.

[Song and Dance.]

OBERON

,day of break the until ,Now
 Through this house each fairy stray,
,we will -bride best the To
 Which by us shall blessed be;
create there issue the And
 Ever shall be fortunate.
three couples the all shall So
 Ever true in loving be;
hand 'Nature of blots the And
 Shall not in their issue stand:
,scar nor -hare ,mole Never
 Nor mark prodigious, such as are
,nativity in Despised
 Shall upon their children be.--
,consecrate -field this With
 Every fairy take his gate;
,bless chamber several each And
 Through this palace, with sweet peace;
,rest safety in it shall 'E
 And the owner of it blest.
:away Trip
 Make no stay:
.day of break by all me Meet

[Exeunt OBERON, TITANIA, and Train.]

A Midsummer Night's Dream

PUCK

,offended have shadows we If
Think but this,--and all is mended,--
here 'slumber but have you That
While these visions did appear.
,theme idle and weak this And
No more yielding but a dream,
;reprehend not do ,Gentles
If you pardon, we will mend.
,Puck honest an am I as ,And
If we have unearned luck
,tongue 'serpent the scape' to Now
We will make amends ere long;
:call liar a Puck the Else
So, good night unto you all.
,friends be we if ,hands your me Give
And Robin shall restore amends.

[Exit.]

We make these texts available for fun and relaxation, but also run a research project about the script.

If you enjoyed reading Empowerment Script, or found it a challenge, let us know.

If you notice an increase in ideas or mental space, let us know.

We make no recommendations about therapy, but if you would like to contact a therapist, we suggest you also seek out an EMDR practitioner or a CBT therapist who will put their reading material into Empowerment Script. If you have a therapist, let them know you have been reading Empowerment Script, and ask if they will add an EMDR or CBT therapist to your therapy team.



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