

A Midsummer Night Dream

by William Shakespeare

CHARACTERS:

Aristocracy

Egeus: Hermia's father

Theseus: Duke of Athens

Hippolyta: Theseus fiancée

Hermia: Egeus daughter and in love with Lysander

Lysander: in love with Hermia

Demetrius: plays with Helena but wants to get married with Hermia

Helena: crazy in love with Demetrius

Mechanicals

Quince: Leader of the mechanicals

Bottom: Lead actor of the mechanicals

Flute: The actor that plays the role of a girl

Snouts: the slow actor that plays the lion

Magic world

Oberon: king of the fairies

Titania: Queen of the fairies

Puck: Oberon servant. A troublemaker.

Fairy 1: servant of Titania

Fairy 2: servant of Titania

ACT 1 SCENE 1

In the garden

HIPPOLYTA: Theseus, Are we getting married yet?

THESEUS: Ahhhhhh...Not yet

HIPPOLYTA: Come on..and now?

THESEUS: NO

HIPPOLYTA *(with a puppy face)* How many days left?

THESEUS: three more days my love

HIPPOLYTA: I am so excited!! I can't wait!

THESEUS: Neither can I...but just wait three more days and I will be your dear husband *(comes closer to kiss her in the cheek)*

(Egeus enters interrupting the kiss)

EGEUS: *(bowling)* Duke, Duchess, sorry to bother you but I have a serious problem with my daughter Hermia. I need your help my lord.

HIPPOLYTA: What happened?

EGEUS: It's a life or death situation.

THESEUS: I will go with you Egeus. Bye my dear. *(leaves kissing Hippolyta hand)*

HIPPOLYTA: *(whispering Theseus' ear)* be nice with Hermia.

In the palace

Hermia, Lysander, Demetrius are sat down facing Theseus and in between Egeus is walking around nervously

EGEUS: My duke, *(Pointing at Hermia)* you know my daughter is of my possession and she doesn't want to obey me. I want her to marry Demetrius *(Touching Demetrius shoulder)*. He is a real gentleman and he comes from a good family. But she wants to marry Lysander *(looking at him with disdain)*. He is not a serious person.

LYSANDER: *(standing up furious)* That's not true. I really love you daughter. And Demetrius doesn't love her because he is also playing with Helena.

EGEUS: QUIET!!

THESEUS: to be honest Demetrius I have heard about you and Helena...

DEMETRIUS: That's not true. Poor Helena is in love with me, but my heart belongs to Hermia.

EGEUS: So my Duke, I come to you as you are the law. I want to use my right as Hermia's father.

THESEUS: I'm afraid you have 3 choices Hermia: listen to your father and marry Demetrius, execution or become a nun. I want an answer before my wedding so you have 3 days.

Hermia starts crying looking at Lysander.

HERMIA: (*Looking at Theseus*) but my lord!! Please!!

THESEUS: That's the law, I am sorry.

Everybody exits.

In the garden

Hermia is crying while Lysander is hugging her

Helena appears, she is looking for Demetrius but he is hiding from her and then exits.

HELENA: (*monologue*) Oh! It's amazing how much happier some people are than others. People in Athens thinks that I am more beautiful than Hermia, but Demetrius doesn't think so. And me...I am silly to follow him everywhere.

Helena sees Lysander and Hermia and spies on them

LYSANDER: Take it easy Hermia. We will run away to my Aunt's house. She lives in a place that is far, far away. We will go tonight, through the enchanted forest.

Helena stops hiding

HELENA: Really?

HERMIA: Oh my God you scared me! Yes Helena, we are leaving. There is not another option.

HELENA: and what happen with Demetrius?

HERMIA: He is all yours my dear friend.

LYSANDER: We will leave tonight. In the middle of the forest my Aunt has a small house. But you can't tell anyone. Promise?

HELENA: Promise!

Hermia and Lysander exit

HELENA: (*monologue*) I have an idea. I will tell Demetrius and then we will escape together too to find them!

ACT 1 SCENE 2

In the village

QUINCE: Is all our company here?

MECHANICALS: Yes!

QUINCE: Fabulous! We are going to perform a play for the wedding of the Duke Theseus and the Duchess.

MECHANICALS: WOW!!

QUINCE: Our play is "the tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe".

MECHANICALS: Great!

QUINCE: Bottom, you will play Pyramus

BOTTOM: No, no, no...I have to be the main character! I am the best actor in this company.

SNOUTS: More like over-overactor

MECHANICALS: Hheehheheheh

QUINCE: That's the best part. Flute, you will play Thisbe.

FLUTE: Ok, what is Thisbe? A wandering knight?

QUINCE: not exactly, she is the woman in love with Pyramus. You have to speak with a low voice.

FLUTE: No please, I always play the woman. Not this time. My beard is growing very fast, look! (*Pointing at his face*)

BOTTOM: I can be the woman, listen (*with a funny voice*) "Oh my Pyramus, I love you".

QUINCE: No no no, Bottom you already have a part. And Flute you are the one that looks more like a woman. Snouts, you will be the lion.

SNOUTS: Bu bu but do I have to memorize a lot? its difficult for me to read.

BOTTOM: I can be the lion! Hear me roar: ARGGGG!!!

QUINCE: No, no, no..you will be too scary, you are the man.

FLUTE: let me be the man.

QUINCE: No, no, no...nobody can change parts. Clear?

MECHANICALS: All right.

Mechanicals exit

ACT 2 SCENE 1

In the forest

The fairies and Puck are playing and dancing in the forest at night. Puck hides from the fairies and scares them.

PUCK: boo!

FAIRIES: Aghhh!!!

PUCK: Hehehe you are so funny. Is this your first time in this forest?

FAIRY 1: No, a long time ago we used to live here but not now. We were travelling with our queen and now she decided to come back.

PUCK: Is it Titania your queen?

FAIRY 1: Yes, she is. Wait a moment. Aren't you Puck? The Kings pet?

PUCK: A brilliant observation.

FAIRY 2: Aren't you the one that is making troubles and playing tricks on everyone.

PUCK: Yeah! That's me.

FAIRY 2: (*To the other fairy*) lets run away

PUCK: it's ok, I will be nice with you....(he stands up and lift their skirts)

FAIRIES: Aghhhh!! We hate you.

PUCK: Look, here comes my king.

FAIRY 2: And here comes my queen.

Titania and Oberon enter in opposite sides of the room.

OBERON: (*Rude and sarcastic*). Hello my dear, I have missed you.

TITANIA: Hello you (*looking with disdain*) I am sure you haven't missed me.

OBERON: Please wait, there is something I need to tell you.

TITANIA: What???

OBERON: I love you.

TITANIA: and I hate you

OBERON: I know you don't. you are just jealous.

TITANIA: of what?

OBERON: Because Theseus is getting married with another woman and not you.

TITANIA: That's ridiculous! And I remember you were in love with Hippolita so you must be jealous too.

OBERON: Not true. I only love you my dear.

TITANIA: I think you only love yourself!

OBERON: Why did you return to this forest if you don't want to see me?

TITANIA: Because I wanted too. It's my forest too.

OBERON: I thought you wanted to see me and make peace.

TITANIA: maybe...

OBERON: Just be honest and recognise you have missed me...

TITANIA: (*shout*) Never!.

OBERON: (*Mocking*): Never blab bla.

TITANIA: Fairies, lets go!

Titania exits

OBERON: Argggg!! She is so proud! I have to make fun of her before she disappears again. What to do? what to do?

PUCK: (*smiling*) Maybe I can help you, boss.

OBERON: OK, There is a countryside far away where a long time ago Cupid shot one of his arrows. If you bring me one purple flower from that field, I will have the power of love and Titania will fall in love with the first thing she sees.

PUCK: you will have the purple flower in 40 minutes

Puck exits

Demetrius and Helena enters shouting!

OBERON: (*Spying*) What is happening here?

DEMETRIUS: Helena, you are a liar, Hermia is not here.

HELENA: She told me she would be...

DEMETRIUS: I can't believe I trusted you. I will continue alone.

HELENA: No please, don't leave me alone.

DEMETRIUS: You don't understand. I don't love you so you don't follow me.

HELENA: not after telling you about Hermia escaping?

DEMETRIUS: You still bug me. Now leave me alone

HELENA: The more you hate me, the more I will love you

Helena and Demetrius keep on arguing but stop talking

PUCK: I am back sir.

OBERON: Good, show me the purple flower. Amazing. I will put some of the juice of this flower to Titania's eyes when she is sleeping. Then, when she wakes up, she will fall in love with the first person she sees, hehehe. And hopefully is someone very disgusting.

PUCK: Oh sir, you are evil hehehe, me too.

OBERON: while I am gone you have another mission to do. I saw a boy and a girl fighting. Find them and put some of this juice in the eyes of the man so he falls in love with her.

PUCK: Ok, Have fun sir!

ACT 2 SCENE 2

In another part of the forest

TITANIA: Wow I am tired my fairies. I think I will fall asleep in the middle of this enchanted forest while my husband is very mad at me...Fairy.

FAIRY 1: Yes my lady!

TITANIA: I want you to sing me to sleep.

FAIRY 1: Sure. (*sings a pop song*)

TITANIA: NO stop! How am I supposed to sleep with the noise.

FAIRY 2: Let me sing a different type of song (*she sings a lullaby*)

TITANIA: Hmmm that's better (*falling asleep*)

FAIRY 2: There you go my queen. I will protect you while you sleep. Yes, I will not move until she wakes up. No, no, no I won't....

FAIRY 1: Oh look a butterfly!! (*both fairies chase the butterfly out of stage*)

Fairies exit

Oberon enters

OBERON: Well, well, well look who is here! (he puts some flower juice on Titania's eyes) wake up when someone horrible comes near.

Lysander and Hermia enter

LYSANDER: Hmmm, these trees look familiar.

HERMIA: what do you mean by that?

LYSANDER: I have forgotten our way

HERMIA: Are you kidding me? Where will we sleep? Because I am very tired.

LYSANDER: Don't worry, we will sleep here on the grass and tomorrow with the sunlight I will see more clear.

HERMIA: OK, sweet dreams my dear.

LYSANDER: Sweet dreams my lady. (*Lysander helps Hermia to sleep and then he falls asleep to*)

Puck enters

PUCK: A couple!!, just like the boss said! A little on each eye and poof, you will now fall in love with the first thing you see! (*place potion on Lysander's eyes*)

Helena and Demetrius enter, having an argument, and Puck hides behind a tree.

DEMETRIUS: I told you to go away a long time ago and yet you are here, you are like my dog.

HELENA: Then let me be your pet and I will follow you everywhere.

DEMETRIUS: Noooo, Hey look at that (points at something off stage and runs opposite direction)

Demetrius exits

HELENA: Aghhh not again!!! (*Sees Lysander lying on ground near her*) Lysander, Is that you? (*She kicks him*)

LYSANDER: What happen? (*Looks at Helena crazy in love with her*)

HELENA: Demetrius left me here alone.

LYSANDER: who cares? For you my dear I will run through fire.

HELENA: Huh?

LYSANDER: I love you!

HELENA: no, you love Hermia, look she is just there.

LYSANDER: Not Hermia but Helena I love, come here.

HELENA: Aghhhhhhh! (*runs away, Lysander following her*)

Helena and Lysander exit

PUCK: (*scratching his head*) I think I made a mistake, but this is so much fun!

ACT 3 SCENE 1

In the palace. Hippolita and Theseus are speaking calm when Egeus interrupts (again) very nervous.

EGEUS: My Duke! Its terrible! My daughter and Lysander have run away!

HIPPOLITA: I´m not surprised! You forced her to marry someone she doesn´t love. I would have done the same.

EGEUS: (*looking at Hippolita*) I´m not taking to you. (*Looking at Theseus*) Duke I need your help to arrest them.

THESEUS: Do you know where they are?

EGEUS: No, sir.

THESEUS: In that case we will have to be patient. I´m sure they will come back and we will solve the problem before our wedding.

EGEUS: And if not?

HIPPOLITA: If not our Duke will solve the problem after our honeymoon.

EGEUS: (*a little bit angry*) OK.

Everybody exit.

In the forest

Mechanicals enter in the forest, they need a place to rehearse the play for the wedding. Puck is excited to see new people in the forest)

TITANIA: (*Still sleepy*) I am the person that thinks you are the most beautiful person I have ever seen!. I love you!

BOTTOM: I don't understand why do you think that. I am not very good looking.

TITANIA: Of course you are my King, come! I will show you my part of the forest.

Titania grabs Bottom's hand and pulls him off stage.

ACT 3 SCENE 2

Puck is watching the argument between Hermia and Demetrius, when Oberon appears next to him.

OBERON: So, Have you seen my queen?

PUCK: Your queen with a monster is in love.

OBERON: Nice!! That way she will learn who is the boss in this forest.

Hermia and Demetrius enter looking for Lysander, Hermia is very angry.

On the other side of the forest are Lysander and Helena, Helena trying to stop Lysander of following her.

HERMIA: What have you done with Lysander? He was just here some minutes ago!.

DEMETRIUS: I have not idea my dear.

HERMIA: I'm not your dear.

DEMETRIUS: My love?

HERMIA: No!! Not your dear or love. You have killed Lysander.

DEMETRIUS: That's not true!

HERMIA: Arg!! She turns and show her back to Demetrius and he does the same)

Oberon and Puck spying

OBERON: (*hits Puck in the back of the head*) You silly servant! You put the love potion on the wrong guy!.

PUCK: I did?, Ok, but this is pretty fun too.

OBERON: You have to find Lysander before they do!.

PUCK: Fine!.

On the other side of the forest Lysander and Helena appear.

PUCK: (*Moving his hands so everybody stops moving*) Freeze!.

Everyone is a statue. Puck puts the love potion in Demetrius eyes.

PUCK: Unfreeze

Lysander and Helena walk until they are in the same place as Demetrius and Hermia

Demetrius feels dizzy and moves his head. The first person he sees is Helena.

LYSANDER: Don't run away from me I love you!

HELENA: Oh my Goodness I can't belief my bad luck!

DEMETRIUS: Don't bother her, I love her more than you.

HELENA: Are you serious?? Finally!!

Demetrius is about to hug Helena when Lysander interrupts

LYSANDER: Don't even think about it (*Pushing Demetrius*)

The boys start to fight

HERMIA: You thief of love! You took both of my guys!.

HELENA: I guess they finally realize who is prettiest one.

HERMIA: Maybe I am little, but I am fierce! (*Pushes Helena*)

The girls start to fight offstage and the boys follow them.

PUCK: Isn't this great?

OBERON: (*very serious*) Puck.....

PUCK: I know, I know.

ACT 4 SCENE 1

Forest

Titania is taking care of Bottom, giving him clothes, food and looking at him enchanted. Oberon is spying on them

TITANIA: Do you want my fairies to bring you some candy?

BOTTOM: (*While eating*) Sure!

TITANIA: Fairies!

FAIRIES: (*bowing*) Yes our lady.

TITANIA: someone feed my love and other bring me more sweets.

FAIRIES: In a minute. (*Moving away from Titania*)

FAIRY 1: Have you seen the monster she is in love with?

FAIRY 2: Hehehe yes, finally she had what she deserves.

FAIRY 1: Don't say that!

FAIRY 2: But it's true, she is always: "fairies do this, fairies go there" like we don't have a live.

FAIRY 1: that's true...Would you feed him?

FAIRY 2: No, no, I prefer bring the candy.

FAIRY 1: Me too, lets play rock, paper, scissors.

FAIRY 2: OK

They are about to play and they put their hand.

FAIRY 2: Freeze! (*She looks behind the back of the other fairy and sees she is going to show scissors*)

FAIRY 2: Unfreeze! (*She shows a rock*)

FAIRY 1: Oh no!! I 've lost

FAIRY 2: Sorry! See you later alligator!!

Fairy 2 goes offstage and comes back with candy while fairy 1 feeds Bottom

BOTTOM: I cannot believe how lucky I am now that I found you (*Kissing her hand*).

Titania and Bottom feel asleep.

Fairies disappear.

Oberon spying from a tree.

OBERON: A donkey! Hmmm. This is fun, but I still love her. (*Oberon moves Bottom away and throw magic powder to Titania*)

TITANIA: (*Move the eyes and head like she couldn't believe what she sees*). Oberon! I had a strange dream, you won't believe it.

OBERON: Let me guess, you fell in love with a donkey? (*Points at Bottom*)

TITANIA: Yeah! Something like that.

OBERON: Don't fear my queen, I am here now to protect you from your nightmares.

TITANIA: I am happy you are. (*Hugs him*)

Titania and Oberon exit.

Lysander, Hermia, Helena, Demetrius enter arguing, Puck's spying.

PUCK: Freeze! (*He puts magic dust on Lysander eyes to undo the spell, and face him towards Hermia*) Unfreeze.

LYSANDER: Oh my goodness! What a strange feeling, I don't know what I was thinking, I love you Hermia.

HERMIA: Thank God!

DEMETRIUS: So Helena is only for me right?

HELENA: I have always been yours.

HERMIA: Finally we can relax and continue dreaming.

LOVERS: Yes!

Lovers go to sleep.

PUCK: (*sad*) Ough! The fun is over. (*while he exits, the grabs the donkey head from the sleeping Bottom*).

Puck exits

It's morning. Egeus, Theseus and Hippolyta enter looking for the rest.

HIPPOLYTA: My lord, we have been walking for hours and there is not sign of them, maybe they are dead!.

EGEUS: I wish they were...look (*points at the two couples who are sleeping*).

THESEUS: Hhehehe and I see she celebrated a sleepover party. Wake them!

EGEUS: Wake up! Wake up WAKE UP! (*He kicks everyone in the feet*).

Lovers wake up sleepy and confuse

LYSANDER: Oh! Our Duke, what a surprise! We don't know what happened! It was like a dream.

Lover nod agreeing with Lysander.

THESEUS: (*sarcastic*) Yeah! Sure! A dream!

HIPPOLYTA: Hermia, Do you have you answer? Is it execution, nunnery or listen to your father?

HERMIA: I still love Lysandre

DEMETRIUS: Our Duke, I love Helena now.

EGEUS: What are you saying?

DEMETRIUS: I don't want to marry Hermia anymore.

EGEUS: Aghhh (*runs off stage in a mad mood*)

THESEUS: What do we do now?

HIPPOLITA: (*really motivated*) It's clear. You cannot fight against love. Egeus can try to force his daughter to do what he wants but that won't change a thing. Love choose us, we don't choose who to love. Love is like the wind, we don't see it but we feel it,

Hermia and Helena touch their hearts as if they love listening to Hippolyta.

DEMETRIUS AND LYSANDER: Eing??

HIPPOLITA: That everybody should marry who they want.

THESEUS: I agree with you, these two couple will get marry tomorrow too!

LOVERS: Great!

ACT 4 SCENE 2

In another part of the forest

Mechanicals enter sad and Bottom is still sleeping near them.

QUINCE: Has anyone seen Bottom?

MECHANICALS: No

QUINCE: (*Asking the audience*): Have you seen Bottom?

Bottom slowly wakes up

MECHANICALS: Bottom!! (*they go hug him*)

BOTTOM: I had a really really really strange dream last night. I dream I had a beautiful girlfriend that offer me a lot of food and....

FLUTE: hehehe you a pretty girlfriend!! You were dreaming yeap!

BOTTOM: But it felt so real!

SNOUTS: Ar, are, are you ok now?

BOTTOM: I will be, because I will always remember that dream forever...

QUINCE: Come back to Earth Bottom! The wedding is tomorrow! Lets go mechanicals, and we cannot do a disaster.

ACT 5 SCENE 1

In the palace.

The three couples get marry at the same time! three couples get out of the church (music playing). People (the magic world now dresses normal) throw rice to them and the couples sit down in the party that follows.

THESEUS: Before going to sleep we are going to see a play. What's its name my dear.

HIPPOLYTA: The tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe.

LOVERS: great! Where is the popcorn?

THESEUS: Bring on the Mechanicals

QUINCE: (*as the narrator of the play*) Now presenting Pyramus and Thisbe! (*Sits down in the audience*)

Everybody applauds

Mechanicals start to act (quietly)

A song is played

EGEUS: I just love the costumes.

Bottom as Pyramus and Snouts as the lion, are fighting.

BOTTOM: (*Trying to defend himself from the lion*) (*Shouting*) Thisbe!! I will always love you.

Snouts, as the lion, jumps over Bottom and hurts him a lot and disappears.

The end

BOTTOM: ARGGG!! Now I die, die, die, die, die, die, die (He dies very dramatically and funny)

FLUTE: (as Thisbe) Sleeping my love? Oh no! he is dead! Then.....I must die too. (She takes Pyramus' sword and kill herself)

The audience screams and put their hand on the mouths as a surprise, then they stand up and applause hardly!

LOVERS: Bravo!! Bravo!! (And whistle)

HIPPOLYTA: (laughing) Oh my Godness! They could have died sooner!

THESEUS: Time to go to bed everyone! And let a new dream begin!

Everybody exits holding hands

Puck enters

PUCK: (To the audience with a mischievous face)

How crazy the mortals can be,
if only they knew,
it was all a midsummer night dream.