

Unit 1 – Act 1 – Scene1 (long)

Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, PHILOSTRATE, and Attendants

THESEUS

Now, fair Hippolyta, our nuptial hour
Draws on apace. Four happy days bring in
Another moon: but, O, methinks, how slow
This old moon wanes; she lingers my desires.

HIPPOLYTA

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

THESEUS

Go, Philostrate,
Stir up the Athenian youth to merriments.
Exit PHILOSTRATE
Hippolyta, I wooed thee with my sword,
And won thy love doing thee injuries.
But I will wed thee in another key,
With pomp, with triumph and with revelling.

Unit 2 (long)

Enter EGEUS, HERMIA, LYSANDER, and DEMETRIUS

EGEUS

Happy be Theseus, our renowned duke!

THESEUS

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

EGEUS

Full of vexation come I, with complaint
Against my child, my daughter Hermia.
Stand forth, Demetrius. My noble lord,
This man hath my consent to marry her.
Stand forth, Lysander. And my gracious duke,
This man hath bewitch'd the bosom of my child. –
With cunning hast thou filched my daughter's heart,
Turned her obedience, which is due to me,
To stubborn harshness.

THESEUS

What say you, Hermia? be advised fair maid:
Demetrius is a worthy gentleman.

HERMIA

So is Lysander.

THESEUS

In himself he is.
But in this kind, wanting your father's voice,
The other must be held the worthier.

HERMIA

I would my father look'd but with my eyes.

THESEUS

Rather your eyes must with his judgment look.

HERMIA

I do entreat your grace to pardon me.
I know not by what power I am made bold,
But I beseech your grace that I may know
The worst that may befall me in this case,
If I refuse to wed Demetrius.

THESEUS

Either to die the death or to abjure
Forever the society of men.

DEMETRIUS

Relent, sweet Hermia. – And, Lysander, yield
Thy crazed title to my certain right.

LYSANDER

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

EGEUS

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

LYSANDER

I am, my lord, as well derived as he,
As well possessed: my love is more than his.
Demetrius, I'll avouch it to his head,
Made love to Nedar's daughter, Helena,
And won her soul: and she, sweet lady, dotes,
Devoutly dotes, dotes in idolatry,
Upon this spotted and inconstant man.

THESEUS

I must confess that I have heard so much.
Demetrius, come; And come, Egeus; you shall go with
me,
I have some private schooling for you both.
Come, my Hippolyta. What cheer, my love?

EGEUS

With duty and desire we follow you.

Exeunt all but LYSANDER and HERMIA

Unit 3 (long)

LYSANDER

How now, my love! Why is your cheek so pale?

How chance the roses there do fade so fast?

HERMIA

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

LYSANDER

The course of true love never did run smooth;
But either it was different in blood –

HERMIA

O cross! Too high to be enthralled too low.

LYSANDER

Or else misgraffèd in respect of years –

HERMIA

O spite! Too old to be engaged to young

LYSANDER

Or else it stood upon the choice of merit

HERMIA

O Hell! – to chooses love by another's eyes.

LYSANDER

Hear me, Hermia. If thou lov'st me then,
Steal forth thy father's house tomorrow night;
And in the wood, a league without the town,
Where I did meet thee once with Helena,
There will I stay for thee.

HERMIA

My good Lysander!

I swear to thee, by Cupid's strongest bow,
By his best arrow with the golden head,
By the simplicity of Venus' doves,
By that which knitteth souls and prospers loves,
By all the vows that ever men have broke,
In number more than ever women spoke,
In that same place thou hast appointed me,
To-morrow truly will I meet with thee.

LYSANDER

Keep promise, love. Look, here comes Helena.

Unit 4 (short)

Enter HELENA

HERMIA

God speed fair Helena, whither away?

HELENA

Call you me fair? That fair again unsay.
Demetrius loves your fair: O happy fair!

HERMIA

The more I hate, the more he follows me.

HELENA

The more I love, the more he hateth me.

HERMIA

Take comfort: he no more shall see my face;
Lysander and myself will fly this place.

LYSANDER

Helen, to you our minds we will unfold:
Through Athens' gates have we devised to steal.

Exit Hermia and LYSANDER

HELENA

How happy some o'er other some can be!
Through Athens I am thought as fair as she.
But what of that? Demetrius thinks not so:
He will not know what all but he doth know.
I will go tell him of fair Hermia's flight:
Then to the wood will he to-morrow night
Pursue her; and for this intelligence
If I have thanks, it is a dear expense.

Exit

Unit 5 (long)

SCENE 2. Athens. QUINCE'S house.

Enter QUINCE, SNUG, BOTTOM, FLUTE, SNOUT, and
STARVELING

QUINCE

Is all our company here?

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

Here is the scroll of every man's name, which is thought fit, through all Athens, to play in our interlude before the duke and the duchess, on his wedding day at night.

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

Marry, our play is 'The most lamentable comedy, and most cruel death of Pyramus and Thisbe.'

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

Answer as I call you. Nick Bottom, the weaver.

BOTTOM

Ready. Name what part I am for, and proceed.

QUINCE

You, Nick Bottom, are set down for Pyramus.

BOTTOM

What is Pyramus? A lover, or a tyrant?

QUINCE

A lover that kills himself most gallant for love.

BOTTOM

That will ask some tears in the true performing of it. If I do it, let the audience look to their eyes: I will move storms, I will condole in some measure. Yet my chief humour is for a tyrant. The raging rocks
And shivering shocks
Shall break the locks
Of prison gates
This was lofty! Now name the rest of the players.

QUINCE

Francis Flute, the bellows-mender.

FLUTE

Here, Peter Quince.

QUINCE

You must take Thisbe on you.

FLUTE

What is Thisbe? A wand'ring knight?

QUINCE

It is the lady that Pyramus must love.

FLUTE

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

QUINCE

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

BOTTOM

An I may hide my face, let me play Thisbe too, I'll speak in a monstrous little voice. 'Thisne, Thisne!' 'Ah, Pyramus, lover dear! Thy Thisbe dear, and lady dear!'

QUINCE

No, no; you must play Pyramus – And, Flute, you Thisbe.

BOTTOM

Well, proceed.

QUINCE

Robin Starveling, the tailor.

STARVELING

Here, Peter Quince.

QUINCE

Robin Starveling, you must play Thisbe's mother. Tom Snout, the tinker.

SNOUT

Here, Peter Quince.

QUINCE

You, Pyramus' father: myself, Thisbe's father: Snug, the joiner; you, the lion's part: and I hope there is a play fitted.

SNUG

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

QUINCE

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

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

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

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

Why, what you will. But, masters, here are your parts: and I am to entreat you, request you and desire you, to con them by to-morrow night; and meet me in the palace wood, a mile without the town, by moonlight. There will we rehearse. I pray you, fail me not.

BOTTOM

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

QUINCE

At the duke's oak we meet.

BOTTOM

Enough. Hold or cut bow-strings.

Exeunt

Unit 6 (long/ Puck short)

ACT 2 SCENE 1. A wood near Athens.

Enter, from opposite sides, a Fairy, and PUCK

PUCK

How now, spirit, whither wander you?

FAIRY

Over hill, over dale,
Thorough bush, thorough brier,
Over park, over pale,
Thorough flood, thorough fire,
I do wander everywhere.
Swifter than the moon's sphere;

And I serve the fairy queen,
To dew her orbs upon the green.
Farewell, thou lob of spirits; I'll be gone:
Our queen and all our elves come here anon.

PUCK

The king doth keep his revels here to-night:
Take heed the queen come not within his sight.
A lovely boy, stolen from an Indian king.
She never had so sweet a changeling;
And jealous Oberon would have the child
Knight of his train, to trace the forests wild.

FAIRY

Either I mistake your shape and making quite,
Or else you are that shrewd and knavish sprite
Called Robin Goodfellow. Are not you he
That frights the maidens of the villagery,
Are not you he?

PUCK

Thou speak'st aright;
I am that merry wanderer of the night.
But, room, fairy! Here comes Oberon.

FAIRY

And here my mistress. Would that he were gone!

Unit 7 (short)

Enter OBERON, with his train; and TITANIA with hers

OBERON

Ill met by moonlight, proud Titania.

TITANIA

What, jealous Oberon? Fairies, skip hence.

OBERON

Why should Titania cross her Oberon?
I do but beg a little changeling boy
To be my henchman.

TITANIA

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

Exit TITANIA with her train

Unit 8 (short)

OBERON

Well, go thy way: thou shalt not from this grove

Till I torment thee for this injury.
Fetch me that flower; the herb I shew'd thee once:
The juice of it on sleeping eye-lids laid
Will make or man or woman madly dote
Upon the next live creature that it sees.

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

Exit

OBERON
But who comes here? I am invisible,
And I will overhear their conference.

Unit 9 (short)

Enter DEMETRIUS, HELENA, following him

DEMETRIUS
I love thee not, therefore pursue me not.
Hence, get thee gone, and follow me no more.

HELENA
You draw me, you hard-hearted adamant.

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

HELENA
And even for that do I love thee the more..

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

HELENA
And I am sick when I look not on you.

Exit DEMETRIUS

I'll follow thee and make a heaven of hell,
To die upon the hand I love so well.

Exit

Unit 10 (short)

OBERON
Fare thee well, nymph: ere he do leave this grove,

Thou shalt fly him and he shall seek thy love.

RE-ENTER PUCK

Hast thou the flower there? Welcome, wanderer.

PUCK

Ay, there it is.

OBERON

I pray thee, give it me.
I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows,
Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,
With sweet musk-roses and with eglantine:
There sleeps Titania sometime of the night,
Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight:
And with the juice of this I'll streak her eyes,
And make her full of hateful fantasies.
Take thou some of it, and seek through this grove:
A sweet Athenian lady is in love
With a disdainful youth: anoint his eyes,
But do it when the next thing he espies
May be the lady. Thou shalt know the man
By the Athenian garments he hath on.
Effect it with some care, that he may prove
More fond on her than she upon her love:
And look thou meet me ere the first cock crow.

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

Exeunt

Unit 11 (short)

SCENE 2. Another part of the wood.

Enter TITANIA, with her train

TITANIA
Come, now a roundel and a fairy song:
Sing me now asleep.
The Fairies sing

SONG

FAIRY
Hence, away! Now all is well;
One aloof stand sentinel.

Exeunt Fairies. TITANIA sleeps

Unit 12 (long)

Enter OBERON and squeezes the flower on TITANIA's eyelids

OBERON (fairy chorus)

What thou see'st when thou dost wake,
Do it for thy true-love take,
Love and languish for his sake:
Be it ounce or cat or bear,
Pard, or boar with bristled hair,
In thy eye that shall appear
When thou wak'st, it is thy dear:
Wake when some vile thing is near.

Exit

Unit 13 (long)

Enter LYSANDER and HERMIA

LYSANDER

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

HERMIA

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

LYSANDER

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

HERMIA

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

LYSANDER

O, take the sense, sweet, of my innocence!
Love takes the meaning in love's conference.
I mean, that my heart unto yours is knit
So that but one heart we can make of it.
Then by your side no bed-room me deny;
For lying so, Hermia, I do not lie.

HERMIA

Lysander riddles very prettily:
But, gentle friend, for love and courtesy
Lie further off; in human modesty:
So far be distant; and good night, sweet friend:
Thy love ne'er alter till thy sweet life end!

LYSANDER

Amen, amen, to that fair prayer, say I,

And then end life when I end loyalty!
Here is my bed: sleep give thee all his rest!

HERMIA

With half that wish the wisher's eyes be pressed!

They sleep

Unit 14 (short)

Enter PUCK

PUCK

Through the forest have I gone,
But Athenian found I none.
Night and silence – who is here?
Weeds of Athens he doth wear:
This is he, my master said,
Despisèd the Athenian maid;
And here the maiden, sleeping sound,
On the dank and dirty ground.
When thou wak'st, let love forbid
Sleep his seat on thy eyelid.

Exit

Unit 15 (short)

Enter DEMETRIUS and HELENA, running

DEMETRIUS

Stay, on thy peril: I alone will go.

Exit

HELENA

O, I am out of breath in this fond chase!
But who is here? Lysander, on the ground:
Dead, or asleep? I see no blood, no wound.
Lysander if you live, good sir, awake. Wakes him.

LYSANDER

Waking And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake.
Not Hermia but Helena now I love:
Who will not change a raven for a dove?

HELENA

Wherefore was I to this keen mockery born?

Exit

LYSANDER

She sees not Hermia. Hermia, sleep thou there,
And never mayst thou come Lysander near.

Exit

HERMIA

Waking

Lysander! What, removed? Lysander! Lord!

Exit

Unit 16 (short)

ACT 3

SCENE 1. The wood. TITANIA lying asleep.

Enter QUINCE, SNUG, BOTTOM, FLUTE, SNOOT, and STARVELING

BOTTOM

Are we all met?

QUINCE

Here's a marvellous convenient place
for our rehearsal.

Enter PUCK behind

PUCK

What hempen home-spuns have we swaggering here,
So near the cradle of the fairy queen?
What, a play toward?

QUINCE

Speak, Pyramus. – Thisbe, stand forth.

BOTTOM

Thisbe, the flowers of odours savours sweet:
So hath thy breath, my dearest Thisbe dear.
But hark, a voice! Stay thou but here awhile,
And by and by I will to thee appear.

Exit

PUCK A stranger Pyramus than e'er played here.

Exit

FLUTE Most radiant Pyramus...

Unit 17 (short)

Re-Enter PUCK, and BOTTOM with an ass's head

QUINCE

O monstrous! O strange! We are haunted. Fly,
masters! Help!

Exeunt QUINCE, SNUG, FLUTE, SNOOT, and
STARVELING

Exit PUCK

BOTTOM

I see their knavery: this is to make an ass of me;
to fright me. I will walk up and down here,
and I will sing,
that they shall hear I am not afraid.

Unit 18 (short)

TITANIA

(Waking) What angel wakes me from my flow'ry bed?

BOTTOM

(Sings)

TITANIA

I pray thee, gentle mortal, sing again:
Mine ear is much enamoured of thy note.

BOTTOM

If I had wit enough to get out of this wood..

TITANIA

Out of this wood do not desire to go:
Thou shalt remain here, whether thou wilt or no.
And I do love thee: therefore, go with me.
I'll give thee fairies to attend on thee.
Peaseblossom! Cobweb! Moth! Mustardseed!

Unit 19 (short)

Enter PEASEBLOSSOM, COBWEB, MOTH, and
MUSTARDSEED

ALL

Where shall we go?

TITANIA

Be kind and courteous to this gentleman.

PEASEBLOSSOM

Hail, mortal!

COBWEB

Hail!

MOTH
Hail!

MUSTARDSEED
Hail!

TITANIA
Come, wait upon him; lead him to my bower.

Exeunt

Unit 20 (short)

SCENE 2. Another part of the wood.

Enter OBERON

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

Enter PUCK

PUCK
My mistress with a monster is in love.
Titania waked and straightway loved an ass.

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

PUCK
I took him sleeping – that is finished too –.

Unit 21 (short)

Enter HERMIA and DEMETRIUS

OBERON
Stand close. This is the same Athenian.

PUCK
This is the woman, but not this the man.

DEMETRIUS
O, why rebuke you him that loves you so?

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

DEMETRIUS
I had rather give his carcass to my hounds.

HERMIA
Out, dog! Out, cur!

Exit

DEMETRIUS
There is no following her in this fierce vein:
Here therefore for a while I will remain.
Lies down and sleeps

OBERON
What hast thou done? Thou hast mistaken quite
And laid the love-juice on some true love's sight:
About the wood go swifter than the wind,
And Helena of Athens look thou find.

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

Exit

Unit 22 (short)

OBERON (squeezing juice on Demetrius' eyes)
Flower of this purple dye,
Hit with Cupid's archery,
Sink in apple of his eye.
When his love he doth espy,
When thou wak'st, if she be by,
Beg of her for remedy.

Re-enter PUCK

PUCK
Captain of our fairy band,
Helena is here at hand,
And the youth, mistook by me.
Lord, what fools these mortals be!

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

Unit 23 (short)

Enter LYSANDER and HELENA

LYSANDER
Why should you think that I should woo in scorn?

HELENA

These vows are Hermia's. Will you give her o'er?

DEMETRIUS

(Waking) O Helen, goddess, nymph, perfect, divine!
To what, my love, shall I compare thine eyne?

HELENA

O spite! O hell! I see you all are bent
To set against me for your merriment.

LYSANDER

You are unkind, Demetrius; be not so;
For you love Hermia; this you know I know.

DEMETRIUS

Lysander, keep thy Hermia; I will none:
If e'er I loved her, all that love is gone.

Re-Enter HERMIA

HERMIA

Thou art not by mine eye, Lysander, found,
Mine ear, I thank it, brought me to thy sound.
But why unkindly didst thou leave me so?

LYSANDER

Why should he stay, whom love doth press to go?

HERMIA

You speak not as you think: it cannot be.

HELENA

Lo, she is one of this confederacy!
Injurious Hermia, most ungrateful maid.

HERMIA

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

HELENA

Have you not set Lysander, as in scorn,
To follow me and praise my eyes and face?
And made your other love, Demetrius,
To call me goddess, nymph, divine and rare?

HERMIA

I understand not what you mean by this.

LYSANDER

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

HELENA

O excellent!

DEMETRIUS

I say I love thee more than he can do.

LYSANDER

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

HERMIA

Lysander, whereto tends all this?
Am not I Hermia? Are not you Lysander?

LYSANDER

Be certain, nothing truer; 'tis no jest
That I do hate thee and love Helena.

HERMIA

O me! You juggler, you canker-blossom!
You thief of love! What, have you come by night
And stolen my love's heart from him?

HELENA

Fie, fie! You counterfeit, you puppet, you!

LYSANDER

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

HELENA

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

LYSANDER

Get you gone, you dwarf;
You minimus, of hindering knot-grass made!
You bead, you acorn.

DEMETRIUS

You are too officious
In her behalf that scorns your services.

LYSANDER

Now follow, if thou darest, to try whose right,
Of thine or mine, is most in Helena.

Exeunt LYSANDER and DEMETRIUS

HELENA

Your hands than mine are quicker for a fray,
My legs are longer though, to run away.

Exit

HERMIA

I am amazed, and know not what to say.

Exit

Unit 24 (short)

OBERON

This is thy negligence: still thou mistakest,
Or else committ'st thy knaveries wilfully.

PUCK

Did not you tell me I should know the man
By the Athenian garments he hath on?

OBERON

Thou see'st these lovers seek a place to fight:

(Whispers his plan to Puck and gives him another herb)

Whiles I in this affair do thee employ,
I'll to my queen and beg her Indian boy;
And then I will her charmed eye release
From monster's view, and all things shall be peace.

Exit

Unit 25 (short)

PUCK

Up and down, up and down,
I will lead them up and down:
I am fear'd in field and town:
Goblin, lead them up and down.
Here comes one.

Physical action Puck leading boys astray
LYSANDER lies down and sleeps

Re-Enter PUCK and DEMETRIUS
DEMETRIUS lies down and sleeps

Re-Enter HELENA
HELENA lies down and sleeps

PUCK

Yet but three? Come one more;
Two of both kinds make up four.

Re-Enter HERMIA
HERMIA lies down and sleeps

PUCK

Squeezing the juice on LYSANDER's eyes
When thou wak'st,
Thou tak'st
True delight
In the sight
Of thy former lady's eye.

Exit

Unit 26 (short)

ACT 4

SCENE 1. The same. LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS, HELENA,
and HERMIA are lying asleep.

Enter TITANIA and BOTTOM; PEASEBLOSSOM,
COBWEB, MOTH, MUSTARDSEED, and
other Fairies attending; OBERON behind unseen

TITANIA

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

BOTTOM

Where's Peaseblossom?

PEASEBLOSSOM

Ready.

BOTTOM

Scratch my head, Peaseblossom. Where's Monsieur
Cobweb?

COBWEB

Ready.

BOTTOM

Where's Monsieur Mustardseed?

MUSTARDSEED

Ready. What's your Will?

TITANIA

Say, sweet love, what thou desirest to eat.

BOTTOM

I could munch your good dry oats. Methinks I have a
great desire to a bottle of hay.

TITANIA

O, how I love thee! How I dote on thee!

Exeunt fairies

Titania and Bottom sleep

Unit 27 (long)

Enter PUCK

OBERON (advancing)

Welcome, good Robin.

See'st thou this sweet sight?

Her dotage now I do begin to pity.

Be thou as thou wast wont to be;

See as thou wast wont to see.

Dian's bud o'er Cupid's flower

Hath such force and blessèd power.

Now, my Titania, wake you, my sweet queen.

TITANIA

My Oberon! What visions have I seen!

Methought I was enamour'd of an ass.

OBERON

There lies your love.

TITANIA

How came these things to pass?

O, how mine eyes do loathe his visage now!

OBERON

Silence awhile.--- Robin, take off this head.---

Music, still

PUCK

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

OBERON

Sound, music! Come, my queen, take hands with me,
And rock the ground whereon these sleepers be.

PUCK

Fairy king, attend, and mark:

I do hear the morning lark.

Unit 28 (long)

Horns winded within

Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and train

THESEUS

But, soft! What nymphs are these?

EGEUS

My lord, this is my daughter here asleep,

And this, Lysander; this Demetrius is,

This Helena, old Nedar's Helena.

I wonder of their being here together.

THESEUS

Go, bid the huntsmen wake them with their horns.

Horns and shout within. LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS,

HELENA, and HERMIA wake and start up

Good morrow, friends. Saint Valentine is past.

Begin these woodbirds but to couple now?

LYSANDER

Pardon, my lord.

THESEUS

I pray you all stand up.

I know you two are rival enemies.

How comes this gentle concord in the world,

That hatred is so far from jealousy,

To sleep by hate and fear no enmity?

LYSANDER

My lord, I shall reply amazedly,

Half sleep, half waking. But as yet, I swear,

I cannot truly say how I came here.

EGEUS

I beg the law, the law, upon his head.-----

They would have stolen away, they would, Demetrius,

Thereby to have defeated you and me:

You of your wife and me of my consent,

Of my consent that she should be your wife.

DEMETRIUS

My lord...my love to Hermia,

Melted as the snow, seems to me now

As the remembrance of an idle gaud

The object and the pleasure of mine eye,

Is only Helena. To her, my lord,

Was I betrothed ere I saw Hermia:

But like a sickness did I loathe this food.

But, as in health, come to my natural taste,

Now I do wish it, love it, long for it,

And will for evermore be true to it.

THESEUS

Fair lovers, you are fortunately met:

Of this discourse we shall hear more anon.
Egeus, I will overbear your will;
For in the temple by and by with us
These couples shall eternally be knit.
Away with us to Athens; three and three,
We'll hold a feast in great solemnity.---
Come, Hippolyta.

Exeunt THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, EGEUS, and train
DEMETRIUS

Are you sure
That we are awake? It seems to me
That yet we sleep, we dream. Do not you think
The duke was here, and bid us follow him?

HERMIA
Yea, and my father.

HELENA
And Hippolyta.

LYSANDER
And he did bid us follow to the temple.

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

Exeunt

BOTTOM
[Awaking] I have had a most rare vision. Methought I
was – there is no man
can tell what. Methought I was – and methought I had
– but man is but a
patched fool if he will offer to say what methought I
had. I will get Peter Quince to write a
ballad of this dream: it shall be called 'Bottom's
Dream'.

Exit

Unit 29 (long)

SCENE 2. Athens. QUINCE'S house.

Enter QUINCE, FLUTE, SNOUT, and STARVELING
QUINCE

Have you sent to Bottom's house? Is he come home
yet?

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

Enter SNUG

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

FLUTE
O sweet bully Bottom!

Enter BOTTOM

BOTTOM
Where are these lads? Where are these hearts?

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

BOTTOM
Masters, I am to discourse wonders: but ask me not
what; for if I tell you,
I am no true Athenian. I will tell you everything as it
fell out.

QUINCE
Let us hear, sweet Bottom.

BOTTOM
Not a word of me. All that I will tell you is that the
duke hath dined. And
our play is preferred. And, most dear actors, eat no
onions nor garlic, for
we are to utter sweet breath, No more words: away!
Go, away!

Exeunt

Unit 30 (long)

ACT 5
SCENE 1. Athens. The palace of THESEUS.

Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, PHILOSTRATE, Lords and
Attendants

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

THESEUS

More strange than true:

THESEUS

Enter LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS, HERMIA, and HELENA

Joy, gentle friends! Joy and fresh days of love

Accompany your hearts!

Come now; what masques, what dances shall we
have,

To wear away this long age of three hours

Between our after-supper and bed-time?

Call Philostrate

PHILOSTRATE

Here, mighty Theseus.

THESEUS

What masque? What music? How shall we beguile

The lazy time, if not with some delight?

PHILOSTRATE

There is a brief how many sports are ripe:

Make choice of which your highness will see first.

Giving a paper

Reads to himself then out loud

THESEUS

'A tedious brief SCENE of young Pyramus

And his love Thisbe; very tragical mirth.'

Merry and tragical? Tedious and brief?

We will hear it.

PHILOSTRATE

No, my noble lord;

It is not for you: I have heard it over,

And it is nothing, nothing in the world;

THESEUS

I will hear that play;

Go, bring them in.--- and take your places, ladies.

Exit PHILOSTRATE

Unit 31 (long)

Re-Enter PHILOSTRATE

PHILOSTRATE

So please your grace, the Prologue is addressed.

THESEUS

Let him approach.

Flourish of trumpets

Enter QUINCE for the Prologue

PROLOGUE

If we offend, it is with our good will.

That you should think, we come not to offend,

But with good will. To show our simple skill,

That is the true beginning of our end.

Consider then, we come but in despite.

We do not come as minding to content you,

Our true intent is. All for your delight

We are not here. That you should here repent you,

The actors are at hand and by their show,

You shall know all that you are like to know.

WALL

In this same interlude it doth befall

That I, one Snout by name, present a wall.

And such a wall, as I would have you think,

That had in it a crannied hole or chink,

Through which the lovers, Pyramus and Thisbe,

Did whisper often, very secretly.

This loam, this rough-cast and this stone doth show

That I am that same wall; the truth is so.

And this the cranny is, right and sinister,

Through which the fearful lovers are to whisper.

Enter Pyramus

PYRAMUS

O grim-looking night! O night with hue so black!

O night, O night! Alack, alack, alack,

I fear my Thisbe's promise is forgot.

And thou, O wall, thou sweet and lovely wall

That stands between her father's ground and mine!

Thou wall, O wall, O sweet and lovely wall,

Show me thy chink, to blink through with mine eyne!

Wall holds up his fingers

Thanks, courteous wall. Jove shield thee well for this.

But what see I? No Thisbe do I see.

O wicked wall, through whom I see no bliss!

Cursed be thy stones for thus deceiving me!

Enter Thisbe

THISBE

O wall, full often hast thou heard my moans,

For parting my fair Pyramus and me.

My cherry lips have often kissed thy stones,

Thy stones with lime and hair knit up in thee.

PYRAMUS

I see a voice; now will I to the chink,

To spy an I can hear my Thisbe's face. Thisbe?

THISBE

My love thou art, my love I think.

PYRAMUS

O kiss me through the hole of this vile wall!

THISBE

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

PYRAMUS

Wilt thou at Ninny's tomb meet me straightway?

THISBE

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

Exeunt Pyramus and Thisbe

WALL

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

Exit

Enter Lion and Moonshine

LION

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

MOONSHINE

This lantern doth the hornèd moon present:
Myself the man i' th'moon doth seem to be.
All that I have to say, is, to tell you that the lantern is
the moon; I, the man in the moon; this
thorn-bush, my thorn-bush; and this dog, my dog.

Enter Thisbe

THISBE

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

LION

[Roaring] O!

Thisbe runs off

Enter Pyramus

PYRAMUS

Sweet Moon, I thank thee for thy sunny beams,
I thank thee, Moon, for shining now so bright,
What dreadful dole is here?

Eyes, do you see?

How can it be?

O dainty duck! O dear!

Thy mantle good,

What, stain'd with blood!

Come, tears, confound:

Out, sword, and wound

The pap of Pyramus,

Ay, that left pap,

Where heart doth hop:

Stabs himself

Thus die I, thus, thus, thus.

Now am I dead,

Now am I fled,

My soul is in the sky.

Tongue, lose thy light,

Moon take thy flight,

Exit Moonshine

Now die, die, die, die, die.

Dies

Re-Enter Thisbe

THISBE

Asleep, my love?

What, dead, my dove?

O Pyramus, arise!

Speak, speak. Quite dumb?

Dead, dead? A tomb

Must cover thy sweet eyes.

These lily lips,

This cherry nose,

These yellow cowslip cheeks,

Are gone, are gone!

Tongue, not a word.

Come, trusty sword,

Come, blade, my breast imbrue.

Stabs herself

And farewell friends,

Thus Thisbe ends:

Adieu, adieu, adieu.

Dies

THESEUS

Moonshine and Lion are left to bury the dead.

DEMETRIUS

Ay, and Wall too.

BOTTOM

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

THESEUS

No epilogue, I pray you; for your play needs no excuse. Never excuse: for when the players are all dead, there need none to be blamed.
Sweet friends, to bed.

Exeunt

Unit 32 (long)

Enter PUCK and(fairy chorus)

PUCK

Now the hungry lion roars,
And the wolf beholds the moon.
Whilst the heavy ploughman snores,
All with weary task fordone.
Now are frolic; not a mouse
Shall disturb this hallowed house:
I am sent with broom before,
To sweep the dust behind the door.

Enter OBERON and TITANIA with their train

TITANIA

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

Song and dance

OBERON

Now, until the break of day
Through this house each fairy stray.
To the best bride-bed will we,
Which by us shall blessèd be.
And the issue there create
Ever shall be fortunate.
Trip away, make no stay;

Meet me all by break of day.

Exeunt OBERON, TITANIA, and train

PUCK

If we shadows have offended,
Think but this, and all is mended,
That you have but slumbered here
While these visions did appear.
And this weak and idle theme,
No more yielding but a dream,
So, good night unto you all.
Give me your hands, if we be friends,
And Robin shall restore amends