

## **SHAKESPEARIENCE!**

### *Romeo & Juliet Project*

#### Mercutio Queen Mab Soliloquy, Act 1

**BOTH:** O, then, I see Queen Mab hath been with you.

She is the fairies' midwife, and she comes  
In shape no bigger than an agate-stone  
On the fore-finger of an alderman, drawn with a team of little atomies  
Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep;

Her wagon-spokes made of long spiders' legs, the cover of the wings of grasshoppers,  
The traces of the smallest spider's web, the collars of the moonshine's watery beams,  
Her whip of cricket's bone, the lash of film,

Her wagoner a small grey-coated gnat, not so big as a round little worm  
Prick'd from the lazy finger of a maid;

Her chariot is an empty hazel-nut made by the joiner squirrel or old grub,  
Time out o' mind the fairies' coachmakers.

**BOTH:** And in this state she gallops night by night

Through lovers' brains,

and then they dream of love;

O'er courtiers' knees, that dream on court'sies straight, o'er lawyers' fingers, who straight  
dream on fees,

O'er ladies' lips, who straight on kisses dream, which oft the angry Mab with blisters  
plagues, because their breaths with sweetmeats tainted are:

Sometime she gallops o'er a courtier's nose, and then dreams he of smelling out a suit;  
Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck, and then dreams he of cutting foreign throats,

Of breaches, ambuscadoes, Spanish blades, of healths five-fathom deep; and then anon  
Drums in his ear, at which he starts and wakes, and being thus frighted swears a prayer or  
two and sleeps again.

This is that very Mab!

**BOTH:** This is she!