

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Midsummer Night's Dream

Act I, Scene 1: *Helena, Hermia, Lysander*

HERMIA

The course of true love never did run smooth...

LYSANDER

Hear me, Hermia! I have a widow aunt, and she hath no child: And she respects me as her only son. There, gentle Hermia, may I marry thee;

HERMIA

I shall steal forth from my father's house to-morrow night!

LYSANDER

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, to-morrow truly will I meet with thee.

LYSANDER

Keep promise, love. Look, here comes Helena.

[enter Helena]

HERMIA

God speed fair Helena!

HELENA

Call you me fair? Demetrius loves your fair: O happy fair!

HERMIA

I frown upon him, yet he loves me still.

HELENA

O that your frowns would teach my smiles such skill!

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:
To-morrow night, Through Athens' gates have we devised to steal.

HERMIA

Farewell, sweet playfellow: pray thou for us;
And good luck grant thee thy Demetrius!
Keep word, Lysander...

LYSANDER

I will, my Hermia.

[Exit HERMIA]

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

[Exit]

HELENA

Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind;
And therefore is wing'd Cupid painted blind:
I will go tell Demetrius of fair Hermia's flight!