

A Midsummer Night's Dream

A Comedy by William Shakespeare



Who Are the Characters We Meet?



Theseus



Hermia



Helena



Lysander



Demetrius



Oberon



Titania



Puck



Bottom



The story takes place in Athens, Greece.

We are in the court room of Duke Theseus.

Hermia is brought to court by her father (Egeus) because he wants her to marry Demetrius, but she doesn't want to marry him. Instead, she wants to marry a poet called Lysander. Duke Theseus tells her that she has to do what her father says.

miserablehermia



Hermia cannot bear to marry Demetrius so she and Lysander run away to the woods to make a plan.

While they are in the woods, they meet Helena who is sad because she actually loved Demetrius. Hermia wishes that Demetrius loved Helena so that they could get married and leave her and Lysander to be free together.

[runningaway](#)

Meanwhile, the fairies who also live in the woods are having their own problems...



Queen Titania has made Oberon (King of the Fairies) jealous and angry as she is taking care of a little boy and Oberon wants the boy to be his servant.

Titania won't let Oberon have the boy as a slave, so Oberon decides to trick Titania. He gets his helper, Puck, to find the magic flower that has special powers to make people fall in love with the first thing they see. He wants to use it on Titania.

trickster

That night in the woods...

Come back!



Hermia and Lysander are still trying to run away;
Demetrius chases them;
Helena chases Demetrius trying to get him to love her;

Oberon sees Demetrius being horrid to Helena and plans to use the special flower on Demetrius to make him love Helena.

[tangledweb](http://tangledweb.com)

On the same night in another part of the woods...



a group of workers are rehearsing a play for Duke Theseus' wedding day. It all gets very silly! Bottom is the funniest of them all and wants to play all the parts. Pucks sees him and thinks it would be funny to use the flower to make Queen Titania fall in love with Bottom!

badacting



The next thing we know is that Puck has found Titania sleeping and drops the flower juice on her. Just before he did this, he also thought it would be really funny to turn Bottom's head into a donkey's head!

Just as planned, when Titania awoke, the first things she sees is Bottom and falls in love with him straight away.

[ohdearpuck](#)



Puck also finds sleeping Hermia and Lysander on the way back to King Oberon. Puck gives the flower juice to Lysander thinking that he needs it – but it's the wrong person! When Lysander awakes, he sees Helena and falls in love with her.

wrongperson



Now everything is a mess!
 Queen Titania loves Bottom and he has a donkey's head;
 Lysander loves Helena and not Hermia;
 Helena is confused.
 Hermia is outraged and thinks Helena has stolen her man.
 Puck tries to make it better by using the flower juice on Demetrius
 and he also falls in love with Helena.

awkward



Hermia is angry.
Hermia has a fight with Helena.
King Oberon makes Puck stay up all night to sort out the mess
[mess](#)



Finally, the next morning,
things seem to be back as everyone wanted:
Lysander loves Hermia;
Demetrius loves Helena;
Oberon reverses the spell on Titania and Bottom;
Oberon and Titania aren't arguing any more;
Puck apologises.

happyending