

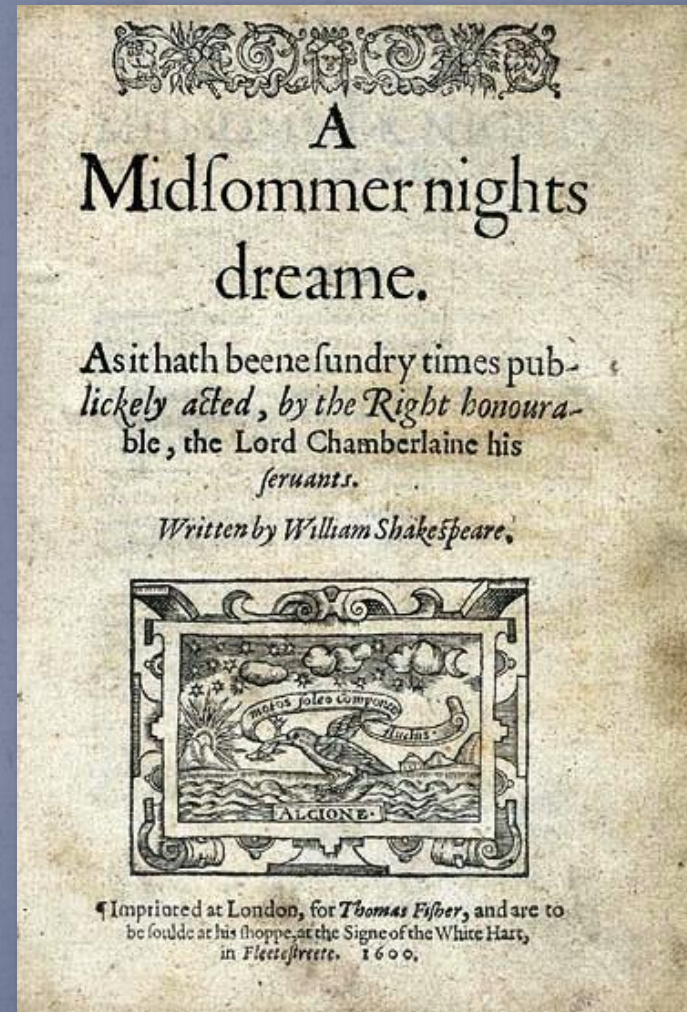
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM



William Shakespear

Introduction

- Written in 1595/96
- One of Shakespeare's most popular works



Summary – Part ①

- Theseus is preparing for his marriage to Hippolyta,
- Theseus tells Hermia to obey her father and marry Demetrius . If she doesn't, the options will be to die or to be ordained.
- But Hermia loves Lysander so the lovers run away from Athens and get lost in the woods.



Ensemble, début de XIX^e siècle, Artiste et Titre(s) Photo © Maître Pédago - GMI

Summary – Part ②



- Oberon quarrelled with Titania;
- Oberon sends Puck to get a love-potion flower to take revenge on Titania;
- But Puck puts the flower juice on the eyes of Lysander, too, so he falls in love with Helena, who is actually in love with Demetrius.

Summary – Part ③

- Some artisans are rehearsing a play about the tragic love-story of Pyramus and Thisbe to be performed at Theseus wedding.
- Puck plays a trick on them by giving Bottom an asinine head.
- Oberon pours on Titania's eyes the flower juice but she falls in love with Bottom, the donkey-headed.



Summary – Part ④

- Then Puck removes the asinine head from Bottom
- Oberon pours the magic juice on Demetrius's eyes and Puck does the same on Lysander's.
- Order is restored and the three couples marry happily ever after.
- Puck and the fairies bless the palace and its people.



Characters

- Theseus → The duke of Athens.
- Hippolyta → The queen of the Amazons.
- Egeus → Hermia's father
- Puck or Robin Goodfellow → A mischievous sprite.
- Hermia → Egeus's daughter.
- Lysander → A young nobleman of Athens in love with Hermia.
- Demetrius → A young nobleman of Athens.
- Helena → A young woman of Athens in love with Demetrius.
- Oberon → The king of fairies.
- Titania → The beautiful queen of fairies.
- Nick Bottom → The weaver chosen to play Pyramus.
- Peter Quince → A carpenter and the director of the craftsmen's play.
- Francis Flute → The bellows-mender who plays Thisbe.
- Robin Starveling → The tailor who plays Thisbe's mother. He ends up playing the part of Moonshine
- Tom Snout → The tinker chosen to play Pyramus's father. He ends up playing the part of Wall
- Snug → A joiner who plays the Lion