

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Plot Summary	Who loves Whom	Characters
<p>Act 1: Hermia and Lysander love each other but are not allowed to marry so decide to run away to the forest to get married in secret. Demetrius wants to marry Hermia. Helena loves Demetrius. They follow Hermia and Lysander into the forest.</p>	<p>Hermia ↔ Lysander Demetrius ↔ Helena</p>	<p>Theseus The duke of Athens. He is a strong and strict ruler of the city.</p> <p>Hippolyta Theseus's bride. She was a fearless warrior.</p> <p>Egeus Hermia's stubborn father who wants her to marry Demetrius or be put to death.</p>
<p>Act 2: In the forest, Oberon and Titania are arguing. Oberon sees Demetrius and Helena arguing and commands Puck to use the potion on the Athenian man to make him fall in love with Helena. However, the first Athenian man Puck sees is Lysander, so he puts the love potion on him. Lysander falls madly in love with Helena.</p>	<p>Hermia ↔ Lysander Demetrius ↔ Helena</p>	<p>Hermia Egeus's daughter who is in love with Lysander.</p> <p>Lysander He is in love with Hermia and runs away to the forest with her.</p>
<p>Act 3: Puck sees Bottom in the forest and transformed his head into a donkey's head. He puts the love potion on Titania, who falls in love with Bottom. Puck puts the love potion on Demetrius so that he falls in love with Helena. As a result, both men love Helena so there is chaos. Puck eventually drops a herb in Lysander's eyes to put him back to normal.</p>	<p>Hermia ↔ Lysander Demetrius ↔ Helena</p>	<p>Demetrius He wants to marry Hermia and is disgusted by Helena's love for him.</p> <p>Helena Hermia's friend who is desperately in love with Demetrius.</p>
<p>Acts 4 and 5: Oberon finds Titania and Bottom and decides that he has had enough fun. Puck drops a herb in her eyes, she wakes and leaves with Oberon. The lovers return to Athens where Bottom and the other actors perform their play at the wedding of the three happy couples: Theseus and Hippolyta, Lysander and Hermia and Demetrius and Helena.</p>	<p>Hermia ↔ Lysander Demetrius ↔ Helena</p>	<p>Oberon The king of the fairies who controls the love potion.</p> <p>Titania The fierce queen of the fairies who falls in love with Bottom when the love potion is put on her.</p> <p>Bottom A weaver and actor who has his head turned into a donkey. Titania falls in love with him when she is under the love potion's influence.</p> <p>Puck Oberon's mischievous servant who puts the potion on people's eyes.</p> <p>The Love Potion The love potion is made from a flower in the forest. The flower is magical because Cupid hit it with his arrow when he was aiming at a young girl. When the potion is put on characters' eyes, they fall in love with the first person they see. It is very powerful.</p>
Background Information	Key words	
Shakespeare went to a grammar school where he was taught Ancient Greek.	soliloquy - a speech in a play that the character speaks to himself or herself or to the audience, rather than to the other characters	
The play is set in Ancient Greece and follows the rules of a comedy from Ancient Greece.	severe - very strict or harsh	
When the play was written, Elizabeth 1 st was Queen. She decided not to get married which many people disagreed with.	conflict - a serious disagreement, battle or struggle between two sides or ideas.	
Many Elizabethans believed in and feared magic.	unrequited love - If a person loves someone who doesn't love them back, the person's love is unrequited	
Cupid is the ancient god of love. He is usually presented as a baby whose arrows make people fall in love.	to mock - To mock someone is to make fun of them	
	chaos - a situation where there is no order and everyone is confused	
	to resolve - to solve a problem or difficulty	