

## 5: OBERON'S REVENGE

Adapted by Julia Cranney

### SCENE 7: ANOTHER PART OF THE WOODS

- PUCK  
Something very strange is happening tonight. We've got Athenians running around everywhere and look! That's the group of actors we met yesterday.
- QUINCE  
Here's a marvellous convenient place for our rehearsal. This green plot shall be our stage, this bush backstage and we can practice our play as we will do it before the Duke.
- PUCK  
A rehearsal! Perfect. These hempen home-spuns have no idea. Let's have some fun with them...
- QUINCE  
Speak, Pyramus. Thisbe, come forward.
- BOTTOM  
"Thisbe, the flowers of odour savour sweet. So does your breath, my dearest Thisbe dear. But hark! A voice! You stay here, o Thisbe, and I'll go and see who's there."
- PUCK  
I have never seen a stranger Pyramus than this.
- [PUCK CASTS A SPELL]*
- FLUTE  
Must I speak now?
- QUINCE  
Aye, you must.
- FLUTE  
"Most radiant Pyramus, most lily white of hue, as true as truest horse, that yet would never tire, I'll meet thee, Pyramus, at Ninny's tomb -"
- QUINCE  
Ninus' tomb man, Ninus! And what do you think you're doing? You speak all your part at once. And Pyramus, you should be onstage now! Your cue is "never tire." Flute, again.
- FLUTE  
"As true as truest horse that yet would never tire."
- BOTTOM  
"If I were fair, Thisbe, I were only yours." Hee-haw!
- [QUINCE, SNOUT, FLUTE, SNUG AND STARVELING GASAP AND CRY OUT. PUCK LAUGHS.]*



A Midsummer Night's Dream

SNOUT

Bottom! You've changed!

QUINCE

Bless you, Bottom. You've been transformed!

*[QUINCE, SNOUT, FLUTE, SNUG AND STARVELING RUN AWAY]*

BOTTOM

I see their knavery... This is to make an ass of me, to frighten me, if they could. But I will walk up and down here and I will sing, so they shall hear I am not afraid. Ahem... Early in the morning, on the window sill, came a little chirping, came a little trill. Hee-haw! Hee-haw!

*[THE SPELL TAKES EFFECT]*

TITANIA

What angel wakes me from my flowery bed? I pray you, gentle mortal, sing again.

BOTTOM

I beg your pardon?

TITANIA

My ear is much enamoured of your note, so is my eye enthralled to your shape. Indeed, so much enthralled that it moves me to say – to swear - I love you.

BOTTOM

I think, mistress, you should have little reason for that and yet, to tell the truth, reason and love keep little company together nowadays.

TITANIA

You are as wise as you are beautiful.

BOTTOM

Oh... well...

TITANIA

Do not go out of this wood, for I love you, therefore go with me and my fairies will wait on you.

*[PUCK LAUGHS]*

OBERON

How now mischievous spirit! Is Titania awake?

PUCK

Not just awake, but in love with a monster! I put a donkey's head on a weaver's shoulders and so it came to pass, he started to sing, Titania waked and straightaway loved an ass!

OBERON

This works out better than I could devise. Now, have you laid the flower on the Athenian's eyes?

HERMIA

Demetrius, please!

OBERON Stand close, this is the same Athenian.

PUCK This is the woman, but not this the man.

HERMIA Tell me where my Lysander is, please good Demetrius, will you give him to me?

DEMETRIUS I would rather give his carcass to the hounds.

HERMIA You dog! You cur! I'll no longer be patient with you. You mean to say you've killed him?

DEMETRIUS You're getting angry at me for no reason. Lysander's still alive, as far as I can tell.

HERMIA I pray you then, tell me he is well.

DEMETRIUS And if I could, what should I get therefore?

HERMIA The privilege never to see me more!

DEMETRIUS Argh, there is no following her when she's like this. Why won't she love me instead of him?

OBERON What have you done? You have mistaken quite and laid the flower on some true-love's sight!

PUCK I'm sorry! All humans look the same to me.

OBERON About the wood go swifter than the wind. Find me Helena of Athens and bring her here. I'll charm Demetrius's eyes to love her when she does appear.

PUCK I go! I go! Look how I go! Swifter than an arrow from the fastest bow.

*[PUCK FLIES OFF]*