

TRYST AND SNOUT

BY

JAMES GORDON

A musical in two acts adapted from
A Midsummer Night's Dream
by
William Shakespeare

©2007

contact: James Gordon james@jamesgordon.ca

SETTING: THE BACKWOODS NEAR ATHENS MOUNTAIN,
TENNESSEE, DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION OF
THE 1930'S

STAGE RIGHT IS THE PRACTICE SPACE OF THE
HEMPEN HOMESPUN BOYS, WITH IMPROVISED
'HILLBILLY' FURNITURE, CHAIRS, BENCHES,
LAUNDRY HANGING BEHIND THEM.

UPSTAGE CENTER WE GLIMPSE THE WOODS,
WITH A HALF-MOON HANGING OVERHEAD.

STAGE LEFT IS OBERON'S BAR, A ROUGH-
LOOKING PLACE WITH A BAR, A LIQUOR CABINET,
A SIGN, AND STAIRS UP TO A BED SIGNIFYING THE
"UPSTAIRS BROTHEL" PART OF THE OPERATION.

CAST:

THE HEMPEN HOMESPUN BOYS-

PETER QUINCE.....THE BANDLEADER AND DRAMATURGE
WHO ALSO PLAYS THE PART OF ROBIN GOODFELLA,
(OBERON'S BARTENDER AND MOONSHINER)

FLUTE.....A YOUNG WOMAN WHO ALSO PORTRAYS
TITANIA, (THE MADAM OF THE BROTHEL), AND
HIPPOLYTA, (BRIDE-TO-BE OF THESEUS).

NICK BOTTOM.....A YOUNG MAN WHO ALSO PORTRAYS DEMETRIUS, (A
YOUNG LOVER FROM TOWN)

SNOUT.....A YOUNG BASS PLAYER WHO ALSO PORTRAYS
LYSANDER, (A YOUNG LOVER FROM TOWN AND RIVAL OF
DEMETRIUS), AND MUSTARDSEED, (ONE OF TITANIA'S
'LADIES OF THE NIGHT')

STARVELING.....AN OLDER WOMAN WHO ALSO PORTRAYS HELENA, (A
YOUNG LOVER FROM TOWN) AND PEASEBLOSSOM, (A
"LADY OF THE NIGHT")

SNUG.....AN OLDER MAN WHO ALSO PORTRAYS THESEUS, (BOSS
OF THE ATHENS MINING COMPANY). AND OBERON, (THE
BAR OWNER)

ELLIE MAY.....FIDDLE PLAYER IN THE BAND WHO ALSO PORTRAYS
HERMIA, (A YOUNG LOVER FROM TOWN), AND
COBWEB, (A "LADY OF THE NIGHT")

SUZIE BELLE..... A MUTE YOUNG GIRL, (ONSTAGE DRESSER AND
STAGING ASSISTANT)

MUSICAL NUMBERS: (all cast members must play a bluegrass instrument so that there is a fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, double bass and washboard in the ensemble.)

1. Instrumental TRYST AND SNOUT THEME, performed by the cast.
2. HOW SLOW THIS OLD MOON WANES, sung by Thesues and Hippolyta
3. SHOTGUN WEDDIN', sung by Quince and the cast
4. HOW NOW MY LOVE, sung by Lysander with Hermia
5. HELENA'S INTRODUCTION, sung by Quince
6. CUPID MUST SHOOT HIS ARROWS BLIND, sung by Helena
7. HEMPEN HOMESPUN THEME, sung by Flute and cast
8. THEY CALL ME ROBIN GOODFELLA, sung by Robin
9. YOU AIN'T GETTIN' ANY, duet with Titania and Oberon
10. LOVE POTION 9.1, sung by Robin and Oberon
11. I OUGHTA BE WOED, sung by Helena and Demetrius
12. TITANIA'S LULLABY, sung by Titania, Cobweb, and Peaseblossom
13. HELENA, IT'S YOU THAT I LOVE, sung by Lysander
14. IT'S AN UNFAIR WORLD, sung by the whole cast
15. LOVE IS BLIND, sung by Bottom
16. TITANIA'S LOVE SONG TO BOTTOM, sung by Titania
17. TAKE HIM UPSTAIRS, LADIES, sung by Titania and the 3 "Ladies of the Night"
18. STAY WITH ME HERMIA, sung by Demetrius and Hermia, Lysander and Helena
19. YOU BLEW IT! sung by Oberon and Robin
20. 3-WAY LOVE, sung by Demetrius, Helena and Lysander
21. LYSANDER, LYSANDER!, sung by Hermia and Lysander
22. ALL I CAN SAY IS MY GOODBYES, sung by Helena, Lysander and Demetrius
23. OH HOW THE FUR DID FLY, sung by Peter Quince and the cast
24. SLEEP SOUND, sung by Robin Goodfella
25. PASS THE BISCUITS PLEASE, sung by Bottom, Titania and the Ladies
26. LOOK AT TITANIA, AIN'T SHE SWEET, sung by Oberon
27. OH OBERON WHAT HAVE I SEEN, sung by Titania and Oberon
28. HERMIA'S HIS AND HELENA IS MINE, sung by Theseus and the cast
29. BOTTOM'S DREAM, sung by Bottom
30. SWEEPING THE DUST BEHIND THE DOOR, sung by Robin
31. STAR-CROSSED LOVER'S HOEDOWN, sung by Quince, Starveling and the cast
32. IF WE SHADOWS HAVE OFFENDED, sung by the cast to Shakespeare's lyrics

ACT 1:

LIGHTS UP ON BAND AS THEY ARE PRACTICING SONG 1, DOWN CENTER. THEY FINISH WITH A FLOURISH AND BASKS IN APPLAUSE

QUINCE: Nice playin' guys and gals.... say, I've been meanin' to run an idea past y'all. What would you think about having the band try it's hand at a little musical theatre?

FLUTE: I don't know Quince, this strikes me as an area of artistic endeavor in which we, as an ensemble, would lack the expertise to pull off with the usual aplomb that folks have come to expect from us.

SNUG: And from a marketing standpoint, boss, I'm wonderin' if there'd be much demand for this type of high-toned entertainment in these parts.

QUINCE: Now hear me out, boys. I'm thinking that with the depression and all hittin' the Ozarks pretty hard, gigs have been tough to come by, am I wrong?

CAST: (MUTTERING) Well, you have a point there. Times are mighty lean, etc.

STARVELING: I'm Starveling.

CAST: We Know!

QUINCE: Well I'm thinkin' we need ourselves an angle, something a little different to offer the folks around Athens.. I have adapted a script with me here by Mr. Billy-Bob Shakespeare with our own special talents in mind, that I reckon we could master with a bit of practice.

SNOUT: Does that mean we have to know how to read, Quince?

QUINCE: I'll teach it to you Snout. Wadda ya say?

CAST: Sure, let's give 'er a go! Can't hurt! We haven't got anything better to do!

QUINCE: It's called "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and it's a sprawling tale filled with romance, comedy, mystery and magic, and the Hempen Homespun Boys a prominent part of the proceedings! Let's have a read-through shall we? Suzie Belle, help me with the scripts. First we need someone to play Mr. Theseus Duke, the owner of the Athens Coal Company.

BOTTOM: Ooh ooh Pick Me Pick Me!

(SUZIE BELLE GESTURES THAT SHE'D LIKE TO BE PICKED TOO)

QUINCE: Well, Suzie Belle, I think that since you are a mute, and besides that, you can't talk, we'd better give the speaking roles to someone else, and Bottom, I was thinking of someone with more sophistication, and a slightly better grasp of personal hygiene, like you Snug! (SNUG IS SEEN PICKING HIS NOSE AND SCRATCHING HIMSELF)

STARVELING: Go for it Snuggles! (*They all giggle!*)

SNUG: Ah Shucks, Peter, I'll give 'er a try!

QUINCE: Mighty Fine! Now I need his bride-to-be, the amazonian beauty Hippolyta!

BOTTOM: Ooh ooh Pick Me. Pick Me!

QUINCE: Well, Bottom, I was more thinking that a WOMAN would suit this role, and who better than our own miss Flute here!

FLUTE: Why, thanks awfully Mr. Quince!. It'd be my pleasure. But I must inform you that I am kin to Snug here. He's my Uncle!

QUINCE: Darlin', as long as he ain't yer pappy we're legal in Athens County. OK here we go, the excitement of their upcoming weddin' is about to make them bust into song! Center Stage Please! Suzie Belle, you can issue them with their costumes!
(PETER LEADS HIPPOLYTA AND THESEUS TO DOWN-CENTER, HELPING THEM WITH COSTUME ACCESSORIES AND PROVIDING A BIT OF DIRECTION)

2. HOW SLOW THIS OLD MOON WANES

SNUG SINGS AS THESEUS:

How slow this old moon wanes,
She lingers my desires
This waiting gives me pain
And stirs my inner fires

FLUTE AS HIPPOLYTA:

Four days will quickly steep themselves in night-
 Four nights will quickly dream away the time
 Darling everything will be all right
 Cuz that's when I'm going to make you mine.

TOGETHER: That's when I'm going to make you mine
 That's when I'm going to make you mine
 Midsummer Night will be our delight
 Cuz that's when I'm going to make you mine

THESEUS: Go hire that hempen homespun band ,
 That lives up in the hills
 And if you can, get from the moonshine man
 Corn liquor from his stills.

HIPPOLYTA: Tell your miners that they'll get a holiday,
 Invite them to share in our wedding bliss,
 We'll dance the Athens Mountain night away,
 They'll all be there for our first married kiss!

TOGETHER: That's when I'm going to make you mine
 That's when I'm going to make you mine
 Midsummer Night Will be our delight
 Cuz that's when I'm going to make you mine

How slow this old moon wanes, She lingers my desires
 This waiting gives me pain And stirs my inner fires

(SNUG AND FLUTE RETURN THEIR NEW COSTUMES TO SUZIE BELLE AND
 RETURN TO THE BAND)

QUINCE: That was real good. Real Good! Now, in this next scene we get to play
 ourselves, startin' out with me, as your talented and charming band
 leader! First I come a'runnin up to you boys and say; (HE CLEARS HIS
 THROAT AND BEGINS): Fellers, I have some amazing news! You
 won't believe your tin ears!

CAST: What is it Quince? (THEY READ BADLY FROM THE SCRIPT)

QUINCE: We have got ourselves a GIG!

BOTTOM: A gig! Yee Haw! (HIS YEE HAW IS A BIT LIKE A DONKEY'S BRAY!)

QUINCE: Bottom, you always sound like such an ass when you do that!

SNUG: Where are we playin' boss?

QUINCE: The Hempen Homespun Boys have been chosen to play for the big man himself, Mr. Theseus Duke, when he gets hitched to the his intended bride, the statuesque high society-type Hippolyta!

CAST: YEE HAW! (BOTTOM'S YEE HAW LASTS A LITTLE LONGER!)

QUINCE: I figure this could get us to the Grand Old Opry fer sure!

FLUTE: Maybe we could try out the new play there!

SNOUT: Hey Quince, did you hear about the OTHER weddin' we might get too?

QUINCE: What's that Snout?

SNUG: TWO WEDDINGs, We'll be rich!

SNOUT: Well Boys.... this one's your favourite kind.

CAST: "Shotgun Weddin'?. YEE HAW!

QUINCE: Here's the story: (HE PUTS DOWN HIS BANJO AND GOES DOWN STAGE CENTER. FLUTE COMES WITH HIM TO HELP ACT IT OUT)

3 SHOTGUN WEDDIN'

QUINCE: Hermia loved Lysander, loved him with all her heart,
 And he loved her too but there was just one tricky part,
 To another guy she had already been betrothed
 In plays like these that's how the story usually goth.

You've all heard about Egeus, he's Hermia's pappy,
 He went to his boss Theseus and said "I ain't too happy"-
 I had my daughter fixed to get hitched to Demetrius.
 But when Lysander showed up, well, she kicked up quite a fuss!"

You know what that means that we're gettin?
 You know what that means? Yee haw! Shotgun Weddin'!

It seems that Hermia was not too pleased with the arrangement,
 Between her and her father there was quite a big estrangement.
 But Theseus said "folks, you know round here it is the law,
 We don't care who it is you love you must obey yer pa!

You've got a choice and you must make it by Midsummer's Night,
 Lysander or Demetrius, you'd better get it right!
 If the one yer daddy chose is not the one you pick to marry-
 You'll still end up at the church but you'll be in the cemetery!

You know what that means that we're gettin?
 You know what that means? Yee haw! Shotgun Weddin'!

Each side argued for their case with eloquence and passion,
 With emotions running high in true Shakespearean fashion,
 Things got tense, considering this is a comedy,
 And it ended with Lysander singing this soliloquy.

QUINCE: (WHISPERING)-- Snout! Forgot to tell you! That's You!
 (SUZIE BELLE GIVES HIM HIS LYSANDER COSTUME.)

SNOUT: Me? Oh, OK! (HE CARRIES HIS DOUBLE BASS TO CENTER STAGE)

STARVELING: Sugar, you're going to have to abandon that big bull fiddle for a spell if
 you're going to successfully infuse your performance as Lysander with
 any sense of realism!

SNOUT: (AFTER THE CAST WRESTLES THE BASS FROM HIM) Don't you
 mess with my Beulah when I'm gone! HE STANDS WITH HIS ARMS
 STILL IN THE 'BASS HOLDING' POSITION.

QUINCE: Oh, and Ellie May, I knows your shy, but can you be the fair Hermia?
 (SHE BLUSHES, AND TAKES CENTER STAGE WITH SNOUT. SB HELPS HER ON
 WITH HER COSTUME)

4. HOW NOW MY LOVE?

SNOUT AS LYSANDER:

How now my love, why is your cheek so pale?
 How chance the roses there do fade so fast
 You need not fear, we cannot fail
 For we have a love that will last.

The course of true love never did run smooth
 Troubled waters get stirred by desire
 This promise I will make to you
 We have a love that will last

There is a place where I know we could
 Be safe from all that sorrow
 I'll wait for you out in the woods
 If you'll meet me there tomorrow

(SUNG WITH HERMIA):

The course of true love never did run smooth
 Troubled waters get stirred by desire
 This promise I will make to you
 We have a love that will last

(HERMIA AND SNOUT RETURN TO THE BAND, AFTER A BOW AND CURTSY TO THE AUDIENCE)

QUINCE: Very sweet. Very sweet.
 Now we need the other leading lady, Helena. I reckon that falls to you
 Miss Starveling.

STARVELING: Yes boss, I'll do my best! But who gets to be my feller?

BOTTOM: Ooh ooh Pick Me!

STARVELING: But he's half my age and twice as ugly!

QUINCE: But he's the only one left, miss Starveling. The magic of the
 theatre will make the audience suspend their disbelief! (THEY ALL
 LOOK AT THE AUDIENCE HOPEFULLY). Here's the deal with Helena:
 (HE SINGS FROM THE BAND POSITION)

5. HELENA'S INTRO

QUINCE:

There's another complication here, Helena is her name.
Hermia tells her of their imminent elopin' .
But the guy they are running from, why he's the very same
feller Helena's been pinin' for and hopin!

(SPOKEN:) Demetrius. Young Rich Guy. Lives in town. Soft hands. Never worked a day down in the mine. .

(SUNG): As luck would have it Helena and Demetrius were an item,
Before he got the fair Hermia in his sights.
So she hatches a plan to find her former flame and invite 'im,
To that secret rendezvous tomorrow night.

(SPOKEN): In the woods. Out back of Theseus Duke's place. And as you'll find out,
that secret hide-out's gonna get busier than Oberon's Bar on Payday.
Oh. Here she is now, and it looks like she gets the stage all to herself, so
you know it's serious!
(HE PUSHES STARVELING OUT ON TO THE STAGE AS SB HELPS HER INTO HER
COSTUME)

6. CUPID MUST SHOOT HIS ARROW'S BLIND

STARVELING AS HELENA:

How happy those lovers seem to be,
But on Athens Mountain I am thought as fair as she
But the one that I love, oh he does not see
he pays me no mind
Cupid must shoot his arrows blind

Now two men offer Hermia,
A love that it seems I'm not worthy of,
But before Demetrius said it was her he loved
He swore that he was mine
Cupid must shoot his arrows blind

Maybe if I tell him of Hermia's flight
If I bring him to the woods tomorrow night,
He would thank me and he would see my plight
He would see me as the one he left behind,
He'd see that Cupid's arrow was shot blind

(STARVELING RETURNS TO THE BAND, GETS OUT OF HELENA COSTUME)

QUINCE: Mighty Fine! Boys, I reckon we could commence practicing for the big gig now with our tried and true Hempen Homespun Theme Song! Snout, put down that jug and pick up that Bass!

STARVELING: I'm Starveling!

QUINCE: We'll eat after the practice! Count us in Flute!
(FLUTE COMES DOWN STAGE RIGHT TO SING)--

7. HEMPEN HOMESPUN THEME

FLUTE:
You'll often find us plopped in plays to lighten up the plot
Especially in the Tragedies when things get over-wrought
We're not essential to the story but we're proud to be
Quite useful as a filler when they're changing scenery.

ALL: We're the rude mechanicals, the Hempen Homespun Boys.
We're mostly here for you folks in the cheap seats to enjoy!
We don't talk all fancy like the lead characters do
We're just simple hillbillies just like you!
We're just simple hillbillies just like you!

ALL: I'm Quince, I'm Snug, I'm Flute, I'm Starveling, I'm Bottom, and I'm Snout,

ELLIE MAY : And I'm Ellie May, the one that they don't often talk about!

FLUTE: We play in bars and honky-tonks and barn dances too.-
We're available for parties in rich peoples homes as well...
(*SONG GRINDS TO A HALT, FLUTE GOES BACK TO HER BAND SPOT*)

SNUG: Hey, that doesn't even rhyme.. We've got to do better than this for the big weddin'. They probably don't want this old-timey mountain music any way.

FLUTE: Yeah, they probably like those high-toned fox-trots and two-steps and such.

STARVELING: That new jazz music from New Orleans has become a popular idiom amongst the neaveau riche I'm told.

QUINCE: We better get practicing. We could rehearse out in the woods tomorrow night where no one would hear us.

BOTTOM: Yee Haw!

QUINCE: You've got to work on that. One more time everybody!

ALL: We're the rude mechanicals, the Hempen Homespun Boys.
We're mostly here for you folks in the cheap seats to enjoy!
We don't talk all fancy like the lead characters do.
We're just simple hillbillies just like you!

QUINCE: And now, watch closely as I seamlessly adopt another character, without any one recognizing that it's me! (HE GOES TO BAR, STAGE LEFT, AND PUTS ON ROBIN COSTUME- FLUTE AND STARVELING JOIN HIM AT THE BAR AS PEASEBLOSSOM AND COBWEB)

8. ROBIN GOODFELLA

QUINCE AS ROBIN GOODFELLA:

They call me Robin Goodfella... I was born in a Bayou
Through flood and through fire...I ramble everywhere,
If you want to cast a spell, or just get high you
just gotta call me.. I can get you there...

Work for Oberon... I'm his voodoo man
Down in the swamps you'll find me in the night.
Fast as White Lightning try to catch me if you can,
I'll get in to your dreams... but I am out a sight!

You can't hide, cuz I know where to find you
If you're out in the woods you best take care
Got my mojo workin' overtime you
Know the full moon's rising there's magic in the air.

They call me Robin Goodfella... I was born in a Bayou (REPEAT AND FADE)

(FLUTE AND STARVELING RETURN TO BAND POSITION..QUINCE TAKES OFF COSTUME BUT REMAINS)

QUINCE: (WHISPERS)-- Psst! Snug, Flute!

SNUG AND FLUTE: Yes, Mr. Goodfella?

QUINCE: No, it's me, Peter! I need you to play another couple now- Oberon, who runs the honky-tonk at the edge of town, and Titania, his woman, and the one who runs the "Upstairs Operations" at the bar. if you catch my meaning"

SNUG AND FLUTE: Huh?

QUINCE: They ain't from around these parts. Just follow the script. (HE HELPS THEM INTO TITANIA AND OBERON COSTUMES AND TAKES THEM OVER TO THE BAR, THEN RETURNS TO BAND)

9. YOU AIN'T GETTIN' ANY

SNUG AS OBERON: (SPOKEN): Ill Met by Moonlight Titania

FLUTE AS TITANIA:

I saw you steal away
In the early light of day.
To play with Phillida... that tramp!
You think that I don't know,
Those nights you used to go.
And party with Hippolyta, that vamp!

But now she's getting married and you've come back here to beg,
Crawlin' back to mamma with your tail between your legs.
(LIKE MAE WEST, SPOKEN:)-- ooh, and what a tail that is to tell! Well let me tell you something Oberon-

Honey, what I got.
And darlin' that's a lot.
Bet your ass you're not Gettin' any.
You think you're pretty hot,
Some kind of big shot,
You ain't shootin' here, you're not Gettin' Any!

OBERON:

Oh baby you should talk, Cuz I hear you used to rock
 With Theseus Duke behind my Back
 The way you strut your stuff, You know I've had enough
 Of you callin' the kettle black!
 You know I want you back Titania.
 What more can I do, what can I say ta ya?

(TITANIA SINGS CHORUS, WITH OBERON SINGING "TAKE ME BACK" AND "CUT ME SOME SLACK" INTERTWINED.)

OBERON:

Business just is not the same in Oberon's saloon
 We don't sell as much corn Liquor-
 The dance band plays more out of tune (THEY PLAY A BAD CHORD)
 When we quarrel, when we bicker...
 The moonshine's not as fine flowing from our stills.
 The girls upstairs don't look quite as invitin'
 Nothing seems right in these here hills,
 When we're fussing and we're fightin'

TITANIA: (SPOKEN): forget it Oberon- until you change YOUR ways.. you ain't gettin' any!

(SHE GOES OFF STAGE LEFT, AND RETURNS STAGE RIGHT FOR SONG ELEVEN)

OBERON: Robin, come on over to the bar, would ya? What am I gonna do? Not only do I need Titania back.. I need to teach her a lesson. I need to play a trick on her. *(ROBIN COMES TO THE BAR)*

10. LOVE POTION #9.1

ROBIN:

I know a still
 At the top of the hill
 Where the path gets wild and narrow
 One magic night
 By the full moon's light
 Old Cupid shot his arrow...

And when his arrow shot
 That still it got
 As red and hot as Hades
 And now the booze that oozes
 From that still- if you use it

It has quite an effect on the Ladies!

OBERON: How so, Robin?

ROBIN: Well, if you give this stuff to a dame when she's asleep, it's a powerful Love Potion, especially useful for LOVE EMERGENCIES such as yours,, and it has an INSTANT affect, rendering the recipient helpless to the charms of the first creature she gazes upon after imbibing in this special brew of mine!

OBERON: Not Love Potion # 9!

ROBIN: It's been recently upgraded to 9.1!

OBERON: All right! (HE SINGS)-

Give Titania some sips
When it touches her lips
She'll fall in love with the first thing she sees.
Make it some total ass,
Someone from the lower class...
And She'll soon come crawlin' back to me!

ROBIN: I'm not quite sure about the logic of your scheme.

OBERON: Logic! C'mon.. this is a Midsummer Night's Dream
Go fetch me a jug of that powerful elixir,
Give it to Titania... that oughta fixer!
(THEY RETURN TO BAND POSITION)

11. I OUGHTA BE WOODED

QUINCE: Ok, Starveling and Bottom, this is a big scene.. Helena is chasing Demetrius through the woods! (HE GESTURES TO THEM TO RUN AROUND BEFORE TAKING CENTER STAGE)

HELENA: I oughta be wooed
I oughta be courted
Wanna be pursued
Not made a sport of

I'm wishing that you
 Could be a kinder sort and
 I oughta be wooed
 I oughta be courted.

I wanna be romanced,
 I wanna be slow danced
 But if there's no chance for me

Though it ain't a lot
 I reckon I ought
 To take what you got,
 If that's how it's gonna be.

Don't want home brewed
 want fancy imported
 And I want a dude
 Who can afford it!
 Who doesn't treat me rude,
 And makes me feel important,
 I wanna be wooed'
 I wanna be courted.

I figured you'd
 A felt rewarded
 By the way I'm glued
 To your aorta.
 But I misconstrued
 The love you aborted
 I wanna be wooed
 I wanna be courted.

(DEMETRIUS SINGS THIS NEXT VERSE AS AN ANSWERING PART TO HELENA'S
 PREVIOUS VERSE)

DEMETRIUS: I don't wanna be chased,
 Oughta be the chaser
 Shouldn't be a race.
 I just can't face her...
 She won't make first base,
 I can outpace her,
 Don't wanna be chased
 Oughta be the chaser... (HE RUNS OFF STAGE, AND BACK INTO BAND)

HELENA:

My heart's all chewed It's been distorted
 All that's ensued Has been so sordid
 You've changed my mood From bright to morbid,
 I'll never be wooed I'll never be courted.

(SHE RUNS OFF STAGE RIGHT, AND RETURNS AS PEASEBLOSSOM FOR NEXT SONG)
 (SNUG AND QUINCE QUICKLY COME CENTER STAGE AS ROBIN AND OBERON, THEN RETURN
 TO BAND FOR SONG)

OBERON: (WHO HAS BEEN WATCHING,-SAYS TO ROBIN AS HE ENTERS:)
 "Hey Goodfella, have you got the goodstuff?"

ROBIN: Sure do.

OBERON: Save a little extra love juice for those two sorry cases. Demetrius and
 Helena, would ya? A couple of star-crossed lovers from Athens who just
 came runnin' by this way .
 They could use it!

ROBIN: Okee Doke Boss (THEY RUN BACK INTO BAND POSITION)

TITANIA AND HER "LADIES OF THE NIGHT" ENTER DOWN LEFT-
 PEASEBLOSSOM FROM RIGHT, TITANIA AND COBWEB FROM BAND)

12. TITANIA'S LULLABY

TITANIA: Big ol' moon climbs up the sky,
 And shines it's light down through the pines
 In these woods so cool and shady
 Sing me now to sleep my ladies.

TITANIA AND LADIES: Philomel with melody
 Sings you now to gentle sleep
 Lulla lulla lullaby
 Oh Close your eyes
 and so..... good night

LADIES: Sleep now where no spell or charm
 Can ever do you any harm
 A summer breeze to fill your dreams
 Till the morn, our Creole Queen.

Philomel with melody
Sings you now to gentle sleep
Lulla lulla lullaby
Oh Close your eyes
and so..... good night

(COBWEB AND PEASEBLOSSOM RETURN TO BAND, TITANIA SLEEPS
OBERON GIVES THE GIRLS THE EYE, AND TITANIA THE POTION....HE EXITS...
BLACKOUT - TITANIA EXITS STAGE LEFT
LIGHTS UP ON BAND)

QUINCE: Hey, Lysander, Hermia!

SNOUT AND ELLIE MAY: Who?

QUINCE: You guys! Now it's your turn to run through the woods, you're eloping remember? You get tired and stop off at Oberon's Bar for the night, where I check them in.

SNOUT: You work at Oberon's Bar?

QUINCE: Not Me... Robin Goodfella, but HE thinks they are Helena and Demetrius.

ELLIE MAY: What?

QUINCE: Just follow along! (THE THREE OF THEM HEAD OVER TO THE BAR AND CHANGE COSTUMES- QUINCE POINTS OUT PLACE IN SCRIPT FOR SNOUT AS LYSANDER)

LYSANDER: (READING BADLY FROM THE SCRIPT) - Excuse me, kind sir, we're tired from all our elopin' and we'd like to stay the night.

ELLIE MAY: Separate rooms of Course!

ROBIN: Why, we don't generally rent our rooms out for more than an hour at a time, if you catch my meaning there. But It IS late, and I suppose I could make an exception for you.
(ASIDE TO AUDIENCE)- " Excuse me, this is what they call in the theatre "an aside" Do you think this is the Helena and Demetrius that the boss wanted me to hook up with my special blend-? (THE REST OF THE BAND SIGNALS THAT IT IS NOT!) Hell, all

these upper-crust Athenians look the same to me. Hey, what am I asking you guys for...you probably haven't got the story straight yet either.

I tell you what folks, have a drink here in the bar and I'll get you all sorted out. Wanna try the best moonshine ever made in these here hills- a little nightcap on the house?

LYSANDER AND HERMIA: I don't think so

ROBIN: It's Good

L & H: Sorry, but no

ROBIN: It's REAL Good

L AND H: No

ROBIN: Powerful good

L AND H: No

ROBIN: It's Migh-ty fine

L AND H: No

ROBIN: Takes the stains off your character

L AND H: Well I never!

ROBIN: It makes you irresistible to members of the opposite Sex!

L AND H: OK.. maybe just a sip. (THEY FALL ASLEEP)

ROBIN: Goodness, must be an extra strong batch... seems to be a LOVE and SLEEPING potion combo!

(HELENA ENTERS (STARVELING COMES FROM BAND, GRABS HER COSTUME, RUNS AROUND STAGE. TIRED FROM CHASING DEMETRIUS..AND _SAYS TO ROBIN THE BARTENDER:)

HELENA: Give me a double, and make it a whiskey!.

ROBIN: drowning your sorrows, m'aam?

HELENA: I'm tired of the chase.

ROBIN: Chasing man or beast?

HELENA: It's hard to tell sometimes.

ROBIN: what?

HELENA: It's complicated.

ROBIN: Hunting for either one.. you've come to the right place. (HE STAYS BEHIND BAR AND WATCHES THE NEXT SONG)

HELENA: (SEES LYSANDER) Lysander? is that you?
(LYSANDER WAKES UP... SEES HELENA AND SINGS)

13. HELENA IT'S YOU THAT I LOVE

LYSANDER:
I look at you, the ground beneath me shakes
I'd run through fire... for your sweet sake,
I see before me what I missed somehow
It all seems clearer to me now,

HELENA: Lysander say it isn't so,
For you love Hermia, that I know.
Are you not content with what you've got?
Don't fool me now, you love me not.

LYSANDER: Who would not change a raven for a dove.
Helena it's you I love
The will of man is by his reason swayed
And reason says you're the finer maid....

HELENA: I don't deserve this Mockery
Are you trying to make a fool of me?
It is too cruel a thing to do,
To woo me so, when your love's not true.
(SHE EXITS LEFT BUT RUNS AROUND TO BAND)

LYSANDER: I promise you, this love is real,
 Stay and let me prove the way I feel.
 Somehow before I overlooked,
 Love's stories written in love's richest book!

(HE CHASES AFTER HER LEFT - RE-ENTERS LEFT INTO BAND) LIGHTS DIM COME BACK UP AS HERMIA SINGS)

(HERMIA WAKES UP---SHE'S HAD A NIGHTMARE)

HERMIA: Lysander Lysander... Help me please
 To drive this nightmare away from me.
 I dreamt a snake ate my heart away
 And you just smiled at his cruel prey.
 Lysander Lysander... where did you go?
 How could you leave me here alone?

(SHE EXITS CHASING AFTER THEM)

BLACKOUT- (QUINCE AS ROBIN, AND FLUTE RETURN TO BAND POSITION)

QUINCE: OK fellers, this looks like a good spot to rehearse

SNOUT: You mean right beside that sleeping woman over there? (NOT VISIBLE TO AUDIENCE!)

SNUG: You mean the one that's dressed kind of like a cross between a Queen and a brothel madam?

QUINCE: That's Titania.... things were pretty rowdy at Oberon's Bar last night, she's probably just sleeping it off. Let's practice our feature song for the Second Act.. but not too loud so we don't wake her.

(THEY SING FROM BAND POSITION, SINCE THEY ARE REHEARSING!)

14. IT'S AN UNFAIR WORLD

QUINCE: It falls to the less fortunate classes
 To have to entertain the masses
 To act like total asses...
 We're just comic -relief
 Cause nothing's funnier than poverty!
 It's at the root of all comedy!
 But it's not that funny that we always have to be
 Just the Comic relief...

- STARVELING: You never see the rich guys getting the laughter
But you'll always see them getting the girl
You don't see the clowns live happily ever after
It's an unfair world.
- BOTTOM: If you haven't got a dollar,
Why that makes the rich folks holler,
But your part in the play will be smaller,
If you're comic relief
If you're hungry and you're broke,
They will thank you for the joke,
But they don't care if you live or if you croak,
If you're just comic relief.
- SNUG: You never see the rich guys getting the laughter,
But you'll always see them getting the girl
You don't see the clowns live happily ever after,
It's an unfair world.
- QUINCE: Just you watch.. at the end of this play..
Everybody ends up OK
But you're lucky if you even get paid,
If you're comic relief.
They don't let us mingle with the upper crust
And I ask you does that seem just?
- BOTTOM: Hold it there Quince, doesn't this song seem to be a bit overtly
political for a wedding gig?
- STARVELING: Yah, can't you ever just write something that doesn't have under
lying social commentary? It's kind of thumbing our noses at the
guys who have hired us.
- SNOUT: Well, the Machinery of wealth IS greased with the blood of the
workers.
- QUINCE: You're right on the Marx with that one brother!
- SNUG: (HOLDING SCRIPT AND NUDGING PETER QUINCE) Peter! It says here you
are supposed to be Robin now!
- QUINCE: Oh sorry! (THEN, AS ROBIN, AFTER HIS INSTANT COSTUME CHANGE, AND
RUNNING TO BAR)

ROBIN: Man, these guys are sure a bunch of hapless rubes. That mandolin player is such a mouth-breather that he'd be perfect as Oberon's match for Titania!

(THE BAND STARTS PRACTICING. ROBIN CALLS OVER TO BOTTOM)
"Hey Bottom!"

BOTTOM: Nick!

ROBIN: No, it's Robin.

BOTTOM: I'm not Robin, I'm Nick, Nick Bottom

ROBIN: I'm Robin. Robin Goodfella. Wanna slip out and try a little something special?

BOTTOM: What is it?

ROBIN: Just a little something I cooked up that'll help your performance.

BOTTOM: I haven't had any complaints in that department.

ROBIN: I'm talking about your MUSICAL performance.

BOTTOM: Oh! Sure. Give me a snort !

ROBIN: Come on out back!

SNUG: (TO THE BAND)- OK -- maybe something you can dance to!
Hit it boys!

(THEY PLAY A BIT OF THE LAST TUNE MORE UPTEMPO, AS AN INSTRUMENTAL. WHILE BOTTOM CHANGES...BOTTOM ENTERS AS AN ELVIS IMPERSONATOR: HE IS CENTER STAGE WITH ELECTRIC GUITAR AND ELVIS MIC.)

15. LOVE IS BLIND

BOTTOM:
Love is blind baby can't you see.
It messes with your mind and makes a fool of me,
It sneaks up behind, and knocks you to your knees,
Love is blind oh baby can't you see.

Tryst and Snout Tryst and Snout
 That's what it's All About
 Tryst and Snout. Tryst And Snout
 C'mon now shake it all out! AHHHHHHHHH!

Love is deaf, didn't you hear?,
 Leaves me bereft, And full of tears,
 There's nothing left After it appears
 Love is deaf, Didn't you hear?

Tryst and Snout Tryst and Snout
 That's what it's All About
 Tryst and Snout. Tryst And Snout
 C'mon now shake it all out! AHHHHHHHHH!
 (BIG FINISH)

SNOUT: Oh Bottom, thou art changed! And thanks for putting my name in the
 song!

BOTTOM: (LIKE ELVIS)- Thankyou, Thankyouverymuch. What's your first Name,
 Snout?

SNOUT: It's Tristan!

THE BAND: TRISTAN SNOUT!

BLACKOUT

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

TITANIA IS SLEEPING DOWN LEFT AS LIGHTS COME UP.. BAND IS IN POSITION. BOTTOM IS CENTER STAGE AS BEFORE.. HE CALLS TO BAND ..

BOTTOM: One more chorus boys! Come On!
HE SINGS CHORUS AGAIN FROM PREVIOUS SONG

TITANIA WAKES UP DURING CHORUS-- HEARS BOTTOM SING AND IS SMITTEN!

16. Titania's Love Song to Bottom

TITANIA:
That song's so sweet to my ears
Oh Darlin' ease on over here
Honey you must be, a vision from above.
Please baby please.. I think I'm in love.
Please baby please.. I think I'm in love!

BOTTOM: uh, wa? h'uh? duh?

TITANIA: You're even smart, and handsome too,
You've won my heart, I wanna give it to you,
baby you coo, just like a dove,
Ooh baby ooh, I think I'm in love.
Ooh baby ooh, I think I'm in love.

Be my Bottom, I'll be on TOP
Show you what I got, I'm never gonna stop,
You be the hand, I'll be the glove,
C'mon be my man, I think I'm in love.
My hoochy coochy man, I think I'm in love.

(AS TITANIA SPEAKS, SNOOT AND STARVELING AND ELLIE MAY GET INTO "3 LADIES" COSTUMES AND COME DOWN TO MEET BOTTOM)

TITANIA: (SPOKEN) -Well well well, just what the witch doctor ordered!
Mr. Bottom, I'm going to treat you to the tryst of the century.
Let me introduce you to my 3 Ladies of the Midsummer Night-
Miss Peaseblossom

PEASEBLOSSOM : Howdy

TITANIA: Miss Cobweb

MISS COBWEB: Charmed, I'm sure

TITANIA : and Miss Mustardseed

MUSTARDSEED: Hello there, big boy! (THEY ALL GIGGLE)

TITANIA: They'll look after your every wish, while I prepare myself... and they are also excellent back-up singers!

17. TAKE HIM UPSTAIRS LADIES

TITANIA: Take him upstairs, Ladies, put him in my big brass bed

LADIES: Put him in your big brass bed

TITANIA: Take him upstairs, Ladies, put him in my big brass bed

LADIES: Put him in your big brass bed

TITANIA: Give him the good linen, and a feather pillow for his head

LADIES: Ooh ooh ooh oooh!

TITANIA: Give him the 2 dollar special, if you know what I mean

LADIES: Why yes we know just what you mean!

TITANIA: Give him the 2 dollar special, if you know what I mean

LADIES: Why yes we know just what you mean!

TITANIA: Give him the best old time that he has ever seen!

LADIES: Ooh ooh ooh oooh!

TITANIA: Give him the freshest oysters and my best jug of moonshine

LADIES: The best jug of moonshine!

TITANIA: Give him the freshest oysters and my best jug of moonshine

LADIES: The best jug of moonshine!

TITANIA: And when midnight comes I'm gonna make him mine!

LADIES: ooh ooh! oooh oooh!

BOTTOM: Well, my my Ladies, give old Bottom a kiss

LADIES: Yes, sir well here's your kiss

BOTTOM: Well, my my Ladies, give old Bottom a Kiss

LADIES: Yes, sir well here's your kiss

BOTTOM: Oooh mamma! I could get used to this!

LADIES: oooh oooh oooh oooh!
(REPEAT AS THEY EXIT) (THEY TAKE HIM UPSTAIRS)

PEASEBLOSSOM: (CALLS FROM OFFSTAGE)- "Hey boss, what room are we putting him in, 2B?"

TITANIA: No 2D!

PEASEBLOSSOM: That's what I said, - 2B

TITANIA: No, 2D!

PEASEBLOSSOM: 2B or not 2B!

TITANIA: That's a different play!

(TITANIA EXITS, AND THE CAST RETURNS TO THE BAND EXCEPT FOR ELLIE MAY AND BOTTOM, WHO RETURN FROM STAGE LEFT AS DEMETRIUS AND HERMIA SHORTLY. SNUG AND QUINCE LEAVE BAND AND GATHER AROUND BAR AS OBERON AND ROBIN)

OBERON: Hey, Puck!

ROBIN: Don't call me that!

OBERON: Relax, I said "PUCK!"

ROBIN: I prefer "Robin Goodfella".

OBERON: What's the matter with "Puck"

ROBIN: You try wearing that for a while, Boss, - no wonder I've had a bit of trouble with dipping into the Moonshine too much.

OBERON: Speaking of that, how did it work out with Titania?

ROBIN: I found her a real doozey. Wait till you see. He's a total ass.

OBERON: Excellent. What about that Lovesick guy from the town? Hey, isn't this him now?
(DEMETRIUS AND HERMIA RUN ONTO THE STAGE)

ROBIN: woaaaa!

OBERON: huh?

ROBIN: That's the girl, but that ain't the guy.

BOTH: oops! (THEY STAY AND WATCH THIS NEXT SONG)

18. STAY WITH ME HERMIA

DEMETRIUS: Why run from me, when I love you so,
I am your friend, I'm not your foe..
Stay with me Hermia, don't go

HERMIA: Demetrius, I fear the worse,
have you given me, just cause to curse?
Where is Lysander, I think you know!

Have you killed him in his sleep?
If so then plunge that knife as deep,
Into my heart, as you did to him.

I beg you tell me what you've done.
 With my true love, my only one
 Did you send him to his death so grim?

DEMETRIUS: Your words so strong, your look so fierce
 I feel like my heart, it has been pierced,
 But here you are, accusing me!

HERMIA: My patience now, is past its bounds
 Did you feed his carcass to your hounds
 What about Lysander, where is he?

DEMETRIUS: I did not kill him in his sleep,
 Your words have plunged a knife as deep
 Into my heart, as you fear I did to him
 I beg you listen, no wrong I've done
 You're my true love, my only one,
 I did not send him to his death so grim

(HERMIA SINGS A COUNTERPOINT TO THIS, THEN THEY EXIT INTO BAND)

19 YOU BLEW IT!

OBERON: You Blew It! I knew It!
 Now get down there and do it... right. All right?
 Some mis-use of your love juice.
 Now trouble's on the loose
 You better fix this up tonight!

ROBIN: Right you are boss,
 We got some stars crossed,
 All those uppity townfolk look the same.
 Without a doubt, I can straighten things out
 Between what's- her- face and what's-his-name!

(LYSANDER AND HELENA ENTER: SAME MELODY AS DEMETRIUS/HERMIA DUET)

18 LYSANDER: Why do you think I woo you in scorn
 I would not chase you through fields of corn
 If my intentions were not true.

HELENA: Lysander Please, don't mock me more
 You know it cuts me to the core

SNUG:: Well for Puck's sake, this whole story is getting mighty grim.

QUINCE: Snug, you are interrupting a sensitive scene! (LYSANDER AND HELENA STAND AROUND AWKWARDLY, LOOKING ANNOYED AT QUINCE AND SNUG)

SNUG: Well, I'm sorry, but I'm finding it a trifle melancholy, a tad repetitive, and mighty confusing. I thought this was a comedy? It's more like a Midsummer's Nightmare!

QUINCE: OK... where were we? Lysander was just pledging HIS love to Helena, on account of he got zapped with love juice. But now Robin Goodfella gave the special blend to Demetrius, who is about to wake up.

SNUG: Demetrius gets the potion too? When did that happen?

QUINCE: You're the one who interrupted the proceedings. Pay attention! This next part should be good!

SNUG: How are we supposed to sustain our interest if the main characters keep falling asleep!

QUINCE: Shut up and play! Demetrius is waking up all smitten-like!

BOTTOM AS DEMETRIUS HAS LAID DOWN CENTER DURING THE PREVIOUS DIALOGUE... HE WAKES, LOOKS AT HELENA (SHE AND LYSANDER ARE STILL WAITING WHERE THEIR SONG WAS INTERRUPTED) AND SINGS:

20. 3-WAY LOVE

DEMETRIUS:
 Helena! Goddess! So perfect, divine!
 I must have you darlin! Oh will you be mine!
 Crystal is muddy, compared to you dear,
 I was clouded with doubt, but now everything's clear!

CAST: He was clouded with doubt but now everything's clear!

FLUTE: (SPOKEN)- Woah.. a 3-Way situation. NOW it's getting interesting!

HELENA: What the hell? Not another one! Must you mock me too?
 Can you not just hate me, as I know you do?
 If you two were men of a nobler sort,
 You wouldn't make such a fool out of me for your sport.

CAST: You wouldn't make such a fool out of her for your sport.

LYSANDER: How could you, Demetrius, say it ain't so!
 For you're in love with Hermia, that we all know!
 And now with good will, with all of my heart,
 In Hermia's Love - I yield you up my part.

CAST: In Hermia's Love he yields him up his part.

LYSANDER: And Helena now I'll love you till my death!

HELENA: Never did mockers waste more idle breath!

(LYSANDER AND DEMETRIUS SING TO EACH OTHER:)

LYSANDER AND DEMETRIUS:
 You can keep Hermia- Make her your bride-
 'cause my love for her has all withered and died

CAST: Their love for her has all withered and died!

HELENA, DEMETRIUS AND LYSANDER -(TO SINGERS)- oh shut up!

(ELLIE MAY LEAVES BAND HERE AND ENTERS AS HERMIA)

SNUG: uh oh! Yonder comes Hermia..look out fellers, there's a woman
 scorned on the premises!

21: Lysander, Lysander,

HERMIA: Lysander, Lysander, I've been looking for you all night long.
 Lysander, Lysander, I've been looking for you all night long
 Why did you leave me so, why did you do me wrong?

LYSANDER: Hermia, Hermia, stay away from my door,
 Hermia, Hermia, stay away from my door,
 It's Helena I love, I don't want you anymore.

HERMIA: Lysander, Lysander, you speak not as you think,
 Lysander, Lysander, you speak not as you think,
 This cannot be, what kind of moonshine did you drink?

22 ALL I CAN SAY IS MY GOODBYES

HELENA: Hermia don't tell me, are you in on this too?
 Do you join in their sport just to spite me
 I once was like a sister to you.
 Your friendship did delight me.

All those childhood secrets we once shared,
 We sang together sweetly,
 Once you loved me, once you cared,
 How could you mistreat me?

HERMIA: (SPOKEN)- I swear I don't know what you're talkin' about!

HELENA: You with your two lovers here,
 Did you set them up to taunt me...
 With false praise when it is so clear
 That neither of them want me!

I've had enough of this cruel game,
 Your treachery, your lies
 You should all be so ashamed
 All I can say is my goodbyes!

LYSANDER: (SPOKEN, SOMEWHAT OVERACTING):
 Stay, gentle Helena; hear my excuse,
 My love, my life, my soul, fair Helena!

HELENA: (SPOKEN, WITH MOCK APPLAUSE)-- Oh excellent!

HERMIA: (SPOKEN) - Sweetheart, do not scorn her so!

LYSANDER: (SUNG WITH SAME MELODY AS HELENA'S SONG)
 I do not scorn, my love is real,
 It's Helena I'm true to.

DEMETRIUS: Stand back Lysander, here's the deal,
 I Love her more than you do!

LYSANDER: No you don't!

DEMETRIUS: Yes I do!

LYSANDER: No you don't

DEMETRIUS: Yes I do!!!!!!!!!!

LYSANDER: No you don't!

DEMETRIUS: Yes I do!

LYSANDER: No you don't

DEMETRIUS: Yes I do!!!!!!!!!!

(THEY EXIT FIGHTING STAGE LEFT WITH THE WOMEN FIGHTING AND FOLLOWING TOO-
THEY NOISILY RUN AROUND BACKSTAGE AND EMERGE STAGE RIGHT IN THE BAND)

23 OH HOW THE FUR DID FLY (SUNG FROM BAND POSITION)

QUINCE: Yee Haw!

Only one thing 'round these parts more fun than a shotgun weddin'
It's a good ol' fight, a donnybrook, a backwoods Armageddon
All four of them went at it, girl to girl and guy to guy
Like cats and dogs they scratched and clawed oh how the fur did fly!

ALL: Oh how the fur did fly! (QUINCE COMES FORWARD)

QUINCE: For high-toned dainty Ladies those two gals they sure could cuss!
With insults using language unknown to the likes of us!
The boys were rough with fisticuffs and terrible tongue lashin'
They chewed the scenery in true Shakespearean fashion

ALL: Oh how the fur did fly!

QUINCE: This song here's meant to condense what was a lengthy fight,
They chased each other round and round and exited stage right.
Oberon and Robin they were watchin' from the wing,
They got us all into this mess, so now let's hear them sing!

ALL: So now let's hear them sing! (QUINCE AND SNUG RACE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STAGE TO BECOME OBERON AND ROBIN)

19 (REPRISE): YOU BLEW IT

OBERON: You blew it! I knew It! This time you really screwed it
Up.... WAY up!
Some mis-use of your love juice.
Now trouble's on the loose...
And I've just about had enough

ROBIN: Ok Boss Man, I've got a new plan,
'cuz those fighting folks won't get too far.
Sooner or later Alligator,
They'll all end up in Oberon's Bar...

OBERON: They always do!

ROBIN: They'll all end up in Oberon's Bar...
(SPOKEN):- watch this! I'll get everything fixed!

(ROBIN TAKES HIS PLACE AS BARTENDER: LYSANDER ENTERS (NOTE: WHEN EACH LOVER FALLS ASLEEP, THEY RUN AROUND TO THE BAND POSITION IMMEDIATELY))

LYSANDER: Say, Bartender, you haven't seen a feller named Demetrius
around here have you?

ROBIN: Big Ugly Rich-looking Guy? Fancy clothes? Looks like he's
been in a fight?

LYSANDER: That's him!

ROBIN: He's in the back room shootin' pool.

LYSANDER: I'm gonna get that bastard!

ROBIN: Here, have a drink first.

LYSANDER: No thanks.

ROBIN: On the house!

LYSANDER: No

ROBIN: Special Blend. It'll help you whip his sorry ass!

LYSANDER: Make it a double. (HE TAKES A DRINK, THEN COLLAPSES IN SLEEP)

ROBIN: Fast-acting relief! Hey boys, drag this sleeping beauty in to the back room!

DEMETRIUS ENTERS

DEMETRIUS: Say, Bartender, you haven't seen a feller named Lysander around here have you?

ROBIN: Big Ugly Rich-looking Guy? Fancy clothes? Looks like he's been in a fight?

DEMETRIUS: That's him!

ROBIN: He's in the back room shootin' pool.
(TO THE AUDIENCE)- I reckon I could save us some valuable time here. Same routine. He ends up sleeping it off in the back room too. (to Demetrius)-- Here, drink this, and collapse a bit stage left!

HELENA ENTERS

HELENA: Say Bartender, I'm awfully tired and upset. Do you by any chance have a potent brew that will help speed the plot along a bit?

ROBIN: You've come to the right place m'aam. Have a slug of this and then stagger over there if you don't mind!

HELENA: Much obliged. (SHE TAKES A SWALLOW THEN WOBBLER INTO HER SLEEPING POSITION)

ROBIN: OK , one more and I've got the whole set!

HERMIA ENTERS

HERMIA: (SHE COMES DOWNSTAGE AND STARTS AN OVERLY DRAMATIC SOLILOQUY):
"Never so weary, never so in woe,
Bedabbled with the dew and torn with briars,

I can no further crawl, no further go...(ROBIN INTERRUPTS)

ROBIN: Excuse me miss, there'll be none of that in Oberon's Bar. House rule.
 Didn't you see the "No Soliloquy" sign. Just drink this, we're in a
 hurry.
 (SHE DRINKS.. WOBBLER OFF STAGE)(HE LOOKS AT THE SLEEPING LOVERS)

24 SLEEP SOUND

ROBIN: Sleep sound, sleep sound, all you lovers, sleep sound,
 Until the morning light.
 Sweet dreams, sweet dreams, Midsummer Night Dreams,
 Everything is going to be all right.

Jacks will have their Jills
 You'll be cured of all your ills
 With my magic remedy
 And when you all awake,
 Each one of you will take
 Delight in all you see.

Sleep sound, sleep sound, all you lovers, sleep sound,
 Until the morning light.
 Sweet dreams, sweet dreams, Midsummer Night Dreams,
 Everything is going to be all right.

BLACKOUT (HE REJOINS THE BAND AS QUINCE)

SNUG: This play is about drugs, isn't it?

QUINCE: No, it's about the enduring power of love!

SNUG: Yah, right!

QUINCE: It's about time we checked in on Titania and Bottom again!

TITANIA AND BOTTOM ENTER FROM STAGE LEFT

TITANIA: Oh, my sweet Bottom!

BOTTOM: Your bottom IS looking mighty sweet! mmmm mmmm!

TITANIA: Darlin' will you sing us another one of those excitin' songs of yours!

BOTTOM: Only if you fine ladies will accompany me!

TITANIA: Of course. Can I get you anything to eat!

BOTTOM: Why Yes...

25 PASS THE BISCUITS PLEASE

BOTTOM: Fried chicken, cornbread, my oh my,
Red-eye gravy and jambalaya!
Boiled Peanuts, Sweet Potatoes.
Give me those fried green Tomatoes
(LADIES SING ALONG ON CHORUS)

Virginia Ham with Collard Greens,
Cornbread with my buttered beans
Hog Barbecue and Black-eyed peas.
Peaseblossom pass the biscuits please!

Pecan Pie and Sweet Tea!
Creole Gumbo that's for me!
Hominy grits and deep-fried steak'n
Ya better be makin' me Canadian Bacon!

Virginia Ham with Collard Greens,
Cornbread with my buttered beans
Hog Barbecue and Black-eyed peas.
Peaseblossom pass the biscuits please!

Texas Chili, dirty rice,
Catfish fried in fatback's nice,
Chitlin's, Pig's Feat, Fill my plate,
Feed me feed me I can't wait!

(SLOWER)

All this food is making me sleepy,
Come on over here now sweet pea!

TITANIA: Mmm. I love a man with an appetite
Come to me sugar, I'll treat you right!

(THEY FALL ASLEEP TOGETHER ROBIN AND OBERON ENTER)

ROBIN: OK.. the whole cast is asleep except for us

OBERON: What about the audience?

ROBIN: At this point I wouldn't blame them.

26 LOOK AT TITANIA, AIN'T SHE SWEET

OBERON: Look at Titania ain't she sweet?
She can *still* quicken my heart beat!
Seeing her just lying there,
I wonder if maybe I wasn't that fair-
I wonder if maybe I wasn't that fair.

That curse must be reversed,
That spell that we have put her under,
Fix her with elixir,
Your Plan, Robin, was a blunder!

ROBIN: MY PLAN! It was YOUR idea! (HE LEAVES AND JOINS BAND)

OBERON: Pour that potion from your cup,
So she wants ME when she wakes up!
Make her believe this was but a dream
And I'll win back my Creole Queen
And I'll win back my Creole Queen

All those other star-crossed lovers,
Make sure you undo,
All the mischief you had with them,
Let their love be true!

One last thing of you I ask,
Fix that poor hillbilly ass,
When he wakes up at sunrise,
Let him see through his own half-wit's eyes,
Let him see through his own half-wit's eyes.

(TITANIA WAKES)

27 OH OBERON WHAT HAVE I SEEN?

TITANIA: Oh Oberon, what have I seen?
 Last night I had the strangest dream
 I dreamt I fell in love with a rube from a country band!
 (SHE LOOKS SURPRISED TO SEE BOTTOM SO CLOSE TO HER... BOTTOM
 WAKES UP.. LOOKS EQUALLY SURPRISED, BEFORE HE RETREATS TO THE
 BAND)

OBERON: Don't worry dear, put it out of your mind,
 You're here with me now, And you're all mine!
 Titania come and take me by the hand.

OBERON AND TITANIA:

Come on let's dance , Come on let's sing,
 Forget about those foolish things.
 We can party dill daybreak,
 Till those sleeping lovers awake!

(THEY DANCE OFF STAGE LEFT TO MUSIC, RETURNING AS HIPPOLYTA AND
 THESEUS)

QUINCE: Well, there's one conflict resolved- I think I can smell another just
 around the corner.

STARVELING: Yes sirree, here comes the boss-man himself, Theseus Duke
 and his soon-to-be bride Hippolyta,-- looks like they've got
 Hermia's pappy with them too.

SNOUT: Where have they been for the whole play?

ELLIE MAY: The upper classes don't really like to mix with us commoners
 when it comes to these baser forms of artistic expression.

(HIPPOLYTA AND THESEUS ENTER THROUGH THE WOODS AND ARRIVE DOWN CENTER)

HIPPOLYTA: Theseus darling, this fox hunt is tiring me out, couldn't we
 stop into that charming local hostelry for a little refreshment?
 With our wedding coming up, it might be good for you to be
 seen with some of your employees in public. If you
 won't raise their wages, you could at least raise their spirits!

THESEUS: Oberon's Bar, eh? Well, why not? (THEY MOVE TO THE BAR)
Drinks on me!

HIPPOLYTA: Hmm. Not too many drinks to offer, looks like everyone is
sleeping! There's Hermia now, and Lysander, And Demetrius, and
that annoying Helena

THESEUS: Perhaps they were all up late celebrating our impending nuptials.
Say, isn't this the day that Hermia is supposed to give answer of
her choice? We better find out, 'cuz her decision has a bearing on
whether this ends as a comedy or a tragedy!

HIPPOLYTA: Well, then, let's wake them up!.

THESEUS: Play something lively, band! (THE BAND IS ONLY QUINCE AT
THIS POINT!)
(THE 4 LOVERS EMERGE FROM THE BAND POSITION, YAWNING AND
STRETCHING- THEY JOIN HIPPOLYTA AND THESUES DOWN CENTER,
MAKING A BIG SHOW OF FINDING THE RIGHT PARTNER.. THEY
EMBRACE AND HOLD HANDS FOR THE FOLLOWING SCENE)

DEMETRIUS: Oh Helena!

HELENA: Oh Demetrius

LYSANDER: Oh Hermia!

HERMIA: Oh Lysander!

THESEUS: OH PLEASE! This is MY scene!

28 HERMIA'S HIS AND HELENA IS MINE!

THESEUS: I'm your friendly owner of the mining company
Because I love you all so much your next drink is on me!
You can plainly see I'm just 'regular folks' like you,
Except of course I'm richer and a little smarter too!

ALL: Except of course he's richer and a little smarter too!

THESEUS: Lysander and Demetrius, ain't this a sight to see!
 Sleeping it off together, when you're bitter enemies.
 Rise and shine now fellers, you know it's getting late,
 How did you somehow turn to friendship from your hate?

ALL: How did you somehow turn to friendship from your hate?

LYSANDER: Mr. Duke It seems now like it all was just a dream,
 Involving leather riding boots, a blindfold and whipped cream..

ALL: (SPOKEN): What?

LYSANDER: (SPOKEN): Oh sorry, that was a different dream.

DEMETRIUS: Allow me to step in here so that we can save some time.
 Let's cut to the chase: Hermia's his and Helena's Mine!

ALL: Hurray!

THESEUS: In that case old Egeus, I would have to say,
 We don't need to kill your daughter, it seems like such a lovely day!
 Instead you're all invited now to share our wedding bliss.

QUINCE: A THREE-WAY weddin' ...Yee Haw! it don't get any better than
 this!

THESEUS: (SPOKEN): Party at my place! Everyone's Invited.

HIPPOLYTA: Even him? (POINTS TO QUINCE, THE ONLY ONE IN THE BAND)-

THESEUS: Well, Everyone in the privileged classes that is!

THEY ALL CONVERSE HAPPILY AS IF THE PARTY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN,
 AS THEY GET BACK INTO THE BAND POSITION FOR THE NEXT SONG

QUINCE: Hey, Bottom, where in tarnation have you been, - there's a big gig
 coming up!

BOTTOM ENTERS AND COMES DOWN CENTER

29 BOTTOM'S DREAM

BOTTOM: Oh what a night where have I been?
 Oh what a sight that I have seen
 If Peter Quince could write a little song for me.
 Maybe he just might call it "Bottom's Dream"

Hoochee Coochie Dancing underneath the moon
 Wine and Romancing Fine Perfume
 Dreamt I was a King I had a Creole Queen
 Many foolish things that was Bottom's Dream

I dreamt that the world was turned ass over head
 Lotsa pretty girls, big feather bed
 And nothing was the way it seemed
 That was because it was Bottom's Dream

Oh what a night where have I been?
 Oh what a sight that I have seen
 If Peter Quince could write a little song for me.
 Maybe he just might call it "Bottom's Dream"

I saw much more than you'd ever believe
 Saw things a poor man ain't never seed

THE BAND WELCOMES BOTTOM BACK INTO THE BAND POSITION

FLUTE: Hey Bottom, we figured you was gone for good! It's mighty good to see you.

BOTTOM: Thankyou fellers, it's a long story... see, one minute I was....

STARVELING: (INTERRUPTS)- Is the gig still on? I'm Starveling!

SNUG: You bet it's on! And even bigger. Three weddin's at once!

QUINCE: Yes, but we still have to prove that we can do the best job... there are some other acts vying for the gig.

SNUG: You mean like a talent contest?

QUINCE: Yes, but the audience gets to decide which act is the best.

BOTTOM: I believe that is a concept that will never catch on with the American public.

SNUG AND QUINCE HEAD TO THE BAR TO BECOME OBERON AND ROBIN

SNOUT: Come on, boys. now that we have our star back, let's practice up once more so that we're ready for the high life at Theseus Duke's mansion!

OBERON: Robin,, looks like all's right with the world now, thanks to you.
It's all over except the partying and the inevitable wedding!
Thanks to your magic, everyone will just think it was all a dream.

ROBIN: We're people of the night, Oberon. Only we know what lies just beneath the surface in that place that some call dreams. And it's our job to make sure they never know, cuz mere mortals couldn't handle it.

(MANIACAL LAUGH! OBERON LEAVES STAGE LEFT)

(FLUTE LEAVES BAND STAGE RIGHT TO RETURN STAGE LEFT WITH THESUES AS HIP-POLYTA)

30 SWEEPING THE DUST BEHIND THE DOOR

ROBIN: We are people of the night, when the wolf begins to howl.
By the moon's magic light, under the watch of the owl.
When the graves all open wide, up on boot hill,
When the others run and hide That's when I will

Be running where the wild things run
Running till the daylight comes
Making sure know one really knows the score
Sweeping the dust behind the door.
Sweeping the dust behind the door.

ROBIN TURNS BACK TO QUINCE AND GETS BACK IN THE BAND
THESEUS AND HIPPOLYTA ENTER.

HIPPOLYTA: Ahhh,, wasn't that the best wedding ceremony ever!

BOTTOM: (ASIDE FROM BAND)- What? It's over..?. why didn't we get to see it?

QUINCE: Low production budget...look, they don't even have a retinue.. we're going straight on to the reception!

- HIPPOLYTA: Attention, everyone... for your entertainment we have a few surprises for you. By your applause we'll pick which of the following splendid acts will perform for us.
First: The Battle of the Centaurs, to be sung by an Athenian eunuch to the harp. (SCATTERED APPLAUSE)
- THESEUS: We'll have none of that... the baptists would skin me alive!
- HIPPOLYTA: "The riot of the tipsy Bacchanals, Tearing the Thracian Singer in Their Rage" (SCATTERED APPLAUSE)
- THESEUS: I saw that before at the annual convention. Not suitable for the ladies present.
- HIPPOLYTA: Jethro Hicks and his dancing Squirrels!
- THESEUS: We can't have that, dear, don't you remember they ended up on the menu!
- HIPPOLYTA: The Hempen Homespun Boys, with their own musical adaptation of "A midsummer Night's Dream". (WILD APPLAUSE)
- THESEUS: Sounds kinda lame, but what the hell! Let's see it!
- THE BAND STANDS UP TO PLAY FROM THEIR POSITION,, HIPPOLYTA AND THESEUS DANCE ALONG AND SING IN CHORUSES
- QUINCE: Ladies and gents, we're the Hempen Homespun Boys and we're delighted to be with you this evening. Any newlyweds in the audience? This number's for you!

31 - STAR-CROSSED LOVER'S HOEDOWN

- QUINCE: Hermia was a purty thing, she was Egeus' Daughter-
Her old man pledged her to Demetrius, but he ain't the one who got her.
Cuz she was crazy for this other feller named Lysander.
And HE had it figured that elopement was HIS only way to land 'er!
- ALL: Honour your partners, do see doh
Promenade her round
Swing her high and swing her low
It's the star-crossed lover's hoedown

STARVELING: Now Helena's the next one up, for Demetrius she's Pinin'
Oberon thinks he'll patch things up at night while they're reclinin'
Only trouble is that things get slightly misconstrued,
They give that magic moonshine to the wrong Athenian dude!

ALL: Honour your partners, do see doh
Promenade her round
Swing her high and swing her low

QUINCE: Lysander ends up chasing after poor Helena too,
The plot gets too confusing to explain it all to you,
Trust us, hearts get broke, feelings get hurt, mayhem ensues
Whenever Robin Goodfella gets out his special booze!

ALL: Honour your partners, do see doh
Promenade her round
Swing her high and swing her low

STARVELING: What about the comic scenes, you betcha folks, we got em!
There's a big production number with Titania and Bottom,
She falls in love with him when he becomes a rock and roller-
Till Oberon takes the spell off in an effort to console 'er.

ALL: Honour your partners, do see doh
Promenade her round
Swing her high and swing her low

QUINCE: Finally things work out amongst the star-crossed lads and lasses,
Everyone gets married except for those in the lower classes.
There's a great big party that most everyone enjoys.
Featuring the Music of the Hempten Homespun Boys!

QUINCE: (SPOKEN)- Thankyou folks, we've got our latest '78 rpm record
ing available at the back of the hall where the church ladies are sell
ing peach pie and iced tea!

THESEUS: Thankyou boys, that was mighty fine. It's pretty near midnight now,
and some of us have some serious honeymooning to commence, so
how about ending with a closing-time waltz and we'll all hit the
hay!

THEY ALL COME OUT CENTER STAGE FOR A CURTAIN-CALL SONG...

32 IF WE SHADOWS HAVE OFFENDED

STARVELING: If we shadows have offended,
 Think but this and all is mended,

SNUG: That you have but slumbered here,
 While these visions did appear

FLUTE: And this weak and idle theme,
 No more yielding but a dream,

BOTTOM: Gentles do not reprehend,
 If you pardon, we will mend

ROBIN: And, as I am an honest Puck,
 If we unearned luck,

SNOUT: Now to scape the serpent's tongue,
 We will make amends ere long

ELLIE MAY: Else the Puck a liar call,
 So, good night onto you all,

ALL: Give me your hands if we be friends,
 And Robin shall restore amends.

THEY BOW. BLACKOUT. CURTAIN CALL

THE END