

# A Midsummer Night's Dream

## 3.3

*[Enter Lysander]*

**LYSANDER**

He goes before me, and still dares me on;  
When I come where he calls, then he is gone.  
The villain is much lighter heeled than I;  
I followed fast, but faster he did fly,  
That fallen am I in dark uneven way,  
And here will rest me.

5

*He lies down*

Come, thou gentle day;

For if but once thou show me thy grey light,  
I'll find Demetrius, and revenge this spite.

*He sleeps*

*Enter Robin Goodfellow and Demetrius*

**ROBIN** *[shifting place]*

Ho, ho, ho, coward, why com'st thou not?

**DEMETRIUS**

Abide me if thou dar'st, for well I wot  
Thou runn'st before me, shifting every place,  
And dar'st not stand nor look me in the face.  
Where art thou now?

10

**ROBIN** *[shifting place]* Come hither, I am here.

**DEMETRIUS**

Nay, then thou mock'st me. Thou shalt buy this dear  
If ever I thy face by daylight see.  
Now go thy way. Faintness constraineth me  
To measure out my length on this cold bed.

15

*He lies down*

By day's approach look to be visited.

*He sleeps*

*Enter Helena*

**HELENA**

O weary night, O long and tedious night,  
Abate thy hours; shine comforts from the east  
That I may back to Athens by daylight  
From these that my poor company detest;

20

And sleep, that sometimes shuts up sorrow's eye,  
Steal me a while from mine own company.

*She lies down and sleeps*

**ROBIN**

Yet but three? Come one more,  
Two of both kinds makes up four.

25

*[Enter Hermia]*

Here she comes, curst and sad.  
Cupid is a knavish lad  
Thus to make poor females mad.

**HERMIA**

Never so weary, never so in woe,  
Bedabbled with the dew, and torn with briers,  
I can no further crawl, no further go.  
My legs can keep no pace with my desires.  
Here will I rest me till the break of day.

30

*She lies down*

Heavens shield Lysander, if they mean a fray.

35

*She sleeps*

**ROBIN**

On the ground sleep sound.

I'll apply to your eye,

Gentle lover, remedy.

*He drops the juice on Lysander's eyelids*

When thou wak'st thou tak'st

True delight in the sight

40

Of thy former lady's eye,

And the country proverb known,

That `every man should take his own',

In your waking shall be shown.

Jack shall have Jill,

45

Naught shall go ill,

the man shall have his mare again, and all shall be  
well.

*Exit*