**A Midsummer Night’s Dream Act Four Notes**

*By William Shakespeare*

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|  | Act Four, Scene One |
| Lines | **Events** |
| 1-44  45-101  102-198  199-217 | Titania and Bottom   * Bottom takes advantage of fairies (4.1.5-26)   + Scratch his head, feed him, run errands, etc. * Titania continues to love/dote on Bottom (4.1.1-4, 27, 30, 34-35, 39-44) * Purpose of the scene: show Titania’s continued ignorance and idiocy, demonstrate Bottom’s continued arrogance and ignorance about his being an ass, and to give Titania and Bottom the opportunity to fall asleep allowing Oberon to release Titania from the spell and then change Bottom back to being a mortal   Oberon reunites with Titania   * Oberon celebrates his victory over Titania with Puck (4.1.47-62)   + Won the Indian boy while she was under the spell (4.1.56-60) * Oberon reverses the potion on Titania (4.1.61-62, 69-74) * Allows her to see “the ass” first (4.1.69, 75-79) * Puck changes Bottom to a man (4.1.79, 83-84)   + Bottom will think it was a dream (4.1.63-68) * Oberon and Titania will return for the wedding celebration (4.1.86-89)   + Foreshadows weddings of 3 pairs of lovers   Lovers awaken   * Theseus, Hippolyta, and Egeus – hunting with dogs (4.1.102-126)   + see background info for clarification * Wedding day of Theseus and Hippolyta (4.1.132-135) * Wake the lovers (4.1.137) * Lysander admits to disobedience (4.1.142-153)   + Theseus knows Lysander and Demetrius are enemies (138-141)   + Lysander says he and Hermia came to the woods to run away (4.1.142-153)   + Egeus gets angry, wants to uphold previous law (4.1.153-158) * Demetrius “gives up” Hermia (4.1.159-175)   + He used to be engaged to Helena (4.1.168-175) * Theseus’s response   + Egeus’ desires are overruled (4.1.178)   + All will be married (4.1.179-180, 183-184) * Lovers discuss whether it was a dream or reality? (4.1.185-198)   Bottom awakes   * Picks up where he left off in his line (4.1.199-201) * Thinks he’s had a vision/dream (4.1.202-211)   + Can’t share or people will think he’s crazy   + Refer back to Act Four background notes for clarification |
|  | **Act Four, Scene Two** |
| 1-42 | Actors discuss Bottom   * Bottom cannot be found (4.2.1-14) * Duke as well as lovers are married (4.2.15-17)   Bottom returns (4.2.25)   * Wants to tell what’s happened (4.2.28-30, 32)   Bottom encourages the play to continue (4.2.32-42) |