

# Play: A Midsummer Night's Dream      Author: Shakespeare

Text used: Arden

Library ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Key:	enter from within ↘	↙ enter from without
	exit inwards ↖	↗ Exit outwards

act/sc	door IN	Entering characters	door OUT	Space-time indication	Commentary and notes
1.1	↘	Theseus Hippolyta Philostrate Attendants Philostrate Egeus Hermia Lysander Demetrius	↗ ↗		Court scene  Out to town. From town, for audience.  Inwards for further conference.
	↖	Theseus Hippolyta Attendants Egeus Demetrius Helena Hermia Lysander	↙ ↙ ↙ ↙ ↙ ↙ ↙ ↙		From town, looking for Demetrius. Returns home. Ditto, spaced exits stand for physical separation before wedding. Following Demetrius.
1.2	↖	Helena	↙		Arriving from outwards to Quince's house.
	↘	Snug Bottom Flute Snout Starveling			Quince from inwards.
	↗	Quince Quince Snug Bottom Flute Snout Starveling	↙ ↙		Quince returns inwards, others go off whence they came.
2.1	↘	Fairy		<i>Enter a Fairy at one door, and Puck at another.</i>	Marked congestion, minimised by stagger. Titania in centre of grove, Oberon outwards.
	↘	Puck Titania Train Oberon Train	↙ ↙ ↙ ↙ ↙		Ditto  Ditto
	↖	Titania Train	↗ ↗	TIT. If you will patiently dance in our round, And see our moonlight revels, go with us; If not, shun me, and I will spare your haunts...Fairies, away!	Return to home base would seem logical; but if she were to go outwards it would solve a problem at end of scene. Outward to find the 'western' flower. Explicitly coming into the wood.
		Puck	↗		
		Demetrius Helena	↙ ↙		
	↖	Demetrius			Runs off further inwards to 'hide within the brakes'. She follows.
	↖	Helena			

	<p>↑ Puck Oberon Puck ↙↘</p>		<p>Returns Split exit: Puck set to follow lovers, Oberon in direction last taken by Titania.</p>
2.2	<p>↘ Titania ↑ Train All but 1 fairy</p> <p>Oberon ↙↘ Oberon ↙↘ Lysander ↙ Hermia ↙ Puck ↙</p> <p>↙ Puck ↗ Helena ↙ Demetrius ↗ Demetrius ↗ Helena ↗ Lysander ↗ Hermia ↗</p>		<p>Minimal congestion, no matter what. BX establishes new location . Inwards, one left onstage as sentinel. Not in her bower yet: at end of 3.1 they exit inwards to bower. She falls asleep 'near to her close and consecrated bower', in Puck's words (3.2.7). Now arriving from outwards. Exits whence he came. Have already lost their way in the wood. He too has been in the middle of the forest. Returns outwards to Oberon. Simultaneous mid-scene. Lost in middle of wood. Onwards, outwards. Follows him. Follows Helena Follows Lysander</p>
3.1	<p>↙ Bottom Quince Snout Starveling Flute Snug Puck ↙</p> <p>↗ Bottom ↗ Puck ↙ Bottom Puck ↗ Snug ↗ Flute ↗ Starveling Quince Snout</p> <p>↗ Puck ↗ Snout ↙↘ Snout ↙↘ Quince ↙↘</p> <p>↙ Quince ↗ Fairies ↗</p> <p>↑ Titania Bottom Fairies</p>	<p>TIT. Lead him to my bower.</p>	<p>Should be a min congestion, but Titania remains asleep onstage, so not even really a scene break.</p> <p>Returns inwards. 'Offstage' is inwards, in 'brake'. Follows Returns from inwards.</p> <p>Flee in fear.</p> <p>Explicitly follows. Returns, and Exits again. Ditto. Simultaneous mid-scene crossover, but Bottom onstage doing gags to cover. Exits again. Re-entrance from inwards separated from previous use of inwards door as 'offstage' by 40 lines between Bottom and Titania who has woken. Inwards to bower.</p>
3.2	<p>↙ Oberon Puck ↙↘ Demetrius ↙↘</p> <p>↑ Hermia Hermia ↗ Puck ↗</p>		<p>Returns from outwards. Ditto Ditto</p> <p>Continues inwards. Sent out around wood to find</p>

	<p>Puck ↙  Lysander ↙  Helena ↙  ↗ Hermia  ↗ Demetrius  Lysander ↗  Helena ↗</p> <p>↗ Hermia  ↗ Oberon  ↙ Lysander</p> <p>↙ Demetrius  Puck ↗  Demetrius ↙  Puck ↙  Demetrius ↙  Helena ↙</p> <p>↙ Hermia  Puck ↗</p>	<p>HEL. My legs are longer though, to run away. (343)  HER, I am amaz'd, and know not what to say.(344)  Inwards, towards Titania.</p> <p><i>They dodge about the stage.</i></p>	<p>Helena.  Returns,  Followed by Lysander and Helena.</p> <p>Now returns, oppositional pattern.  Exit inwards.</p> <p>Escapes Hermia's wrath, outwards.</p> <p>Inwards, just for opposition:  rhetorical exit.</p> <p>Puck has 4 line spacer before re-entrance of L. Doesn't then exit as modern editor suggests: he remains on stage.  Enters following L.  Puck leads D off...</p> <p>And returns with him once L is asleep. Lovely SD  Ladies now return from whence they exited.</p> <p>Returns outwards having sorted all.</p>
4.1	<p>↙ Titania  Bottom  Fairies  Oberon  ↗ Fairies  Puck ↙  Oberon ↗  Titania ↗  Puck ↙  Theseus ↙  Hippolyta  Egeus  Attendants  Attendant ↗</p> <p>↗ Theseus  Hippolyta  Egeus  Attendants  Demetrius ↗  Helena  Lysander  Hermia  Bottom ↗</p>	<p>OBE. We the globe can compass soon.  TIT. In our flight.(98, 100)</p> <p>THES. Uncouple in the western valley;  let them go. (106)  THES. Away, with us, to Athens. (183)</p> <p>DEM. Let's follow him. (196)</p> <p>BOT. I will get Peter Quince to write a ballad. (213)</p>	<p>Not even a proper scene break, since 4 characters remain asleep on stage.</p> <p>Returns from outwards  Exit outwards</p> <p>No congestion, 4 still asleep.</p> <p>Sent out to loose the hounds.</p> <p>Returning to Athens.</p> <p>Follow.</p> <p>Ditto, back to Quince.</p>
4.2	<p>↙ Quince  Flute  Snout  Starveling  Snug  Bottom ↙  Bottom and ↙  fellows ↗</p>		<p>At Quince's house, no sign of Bottom.</p> <p>With news of Theseus's marriage.  Ditto  Off towards palace.</p>
5.1	<p>↙ Theseus  Hippolyta  Philostrate  Attendants</p>		

<p>↘ Demetrius Helena Lysander Hermia Philostrate ↗ Philostrate ↘ Quince ↘</p>	<p>LYS. Your royal walks, your board, your bed! (30)</p>	<p>Seems they have been put up at the palace.</p>
<p>Bottom ↘ Flute Snout Starveling Snug Quince ↗</p>		<p>Sent out... ...and returns ...with Quince. All play-within- play entrances and exits can be from one door: possible congestions covered by spacer dialogue from onstage audience, marked below as *. * 8 line spacer.</p>
<p>Bottom Flute Snug Starveling Bottom ↘ Flute ↘ Bottom ↗ Flute ↗</p>		<p>* 2 line spacer.</p>
<p>Snout ↗ Snug ↘ Starveling Flute ↘ Flute ↘ Snug ↗ Bottom ↘ Starveling ↗ Flute ↘ Flute ↘ Snug ↗ Bottom ↘ Starveling ↗ Flute ↘ Quince ↘</p>		<p>* 10 line spacer.</p> <p>* 3 line spacer. Moonshine exits, Pyramus dies. * 6 line spacer. Return to dance Bergamask, then</p>
<p>Snug Snout Starveling Bottom and his ↗ fellows</p>		<p>Exit outwards.</p>
<p>↖ Theseus Hippolyta Philostrate Attendants Demetrius Helena Lysander Hermia Puck ↘</p>	<p>THES. To bed.</p>	<p>Inwards.</p>
<p>Oberon ↘ Titania ↘ Fairies</p>		<p>Simultaneous mid-scene entrance and exit. Following, having entered the house.</p>
<p>↖ Puck Oberon Titania Fairies</p>	<p>OBE. Now, until the break of day, Through this house each fairy stray.</p>	<p>Inwards.</p>
<p>↖ Puck</p>		<p>Ditto.</p>