

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DEMENTED KILLING FRENZY

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Dialogue by
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EXT. THE BOWER NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Parked across the road from the "The Bower" is a limo.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

The clock on the dashboard ticks over from 19 June 23.59 to 20 June 0.00.

A hand reaches out to a packet of *Revels* chocolates on top of the dashboard and takes the last one.

The partition to the rear is up, so we can't see into the back, but in the front are two goons in cheap suits:

PUCK, early 20s, diminutive but compact, reads a book.

NICK BOTTOM, built like a house, but depressed, eats the last chocolate. He yawns, then shifts in his seat in discomfort.

BOTTOM

I am stiff and weary.

Puck ignores him. Bottom continues to shift from one buttock to the other, unable to get comfortable.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)

Which of your hips has the most profound sciatica?

PUCK

I am sound.

Bottom gives up trying to get comfortable, sits back and sighs. Then sighs again.

Bottom flicks the visor down and looks in the mirror.

BOTTOM

What ugly sights of death within mine eyes!

Bottom sticks his tongue out at the mirror.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)

Do I look like a cudgel or a hovel-post, a staff or a prop?

PUCK

No.

Puck reaches for a chocolate, but finds the bag empty.

BOTTOM

Our revels now are ended.

PUCK

You are too indulgent.

Puck returns to his book. Bottom peers down to look at the cover: "Sapiens - Yuval Noah Harari".

BOTTOM

He thinks too much; such men are dangerous.

PUCK

I beseech you, be not so phlegmatic. Thy life's a miracle.

BOTTOM

Balls, my liege.

PUCK

Well have you argued, sir.

BOTTOM

Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale, vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man.

PUCK

Lay aside life-harming heaviness, and entertain a cheerful disposition.

BOTTOM

I have of late - but wherefore I know not - lost all my mirth.

PUCK

Is there no way to cure this?

Bottom shrugs. Puck puts his book away and checks the time.

PUCK (CONT'D)

Are we well prepared?

BOTTOM

What wouldst thou have me do?

PUCK

We must proceed as we do find the people. Swear, drink, dance, revel the night, rob, murder --

BOTTOM
I do not dance.

PUCK
Come, come, we are friends: let's
have a dance.

BOTTOM
We will not dance.

PUCK
Did not I dance with you in Brabant
once?

BOTTOM
Ay.

PUCK
When you do dance, I wish you a
wave o'the sea, that you might ever
do nothing but that.

Puck can't keep a straight face.

BOTTOM
O, I am stabb'd with laughter!

PUCK
Come, you are too severe a morale.

BOTTOM
I am sorry that such sorrow I
procure.

PUCK
I would not wish any companion in
the world but you.

Bottom can't help but crack a smile. Then the partition
lowers, revealing OBERON, a gangster, in the back seat.

OBERON
Gentlemen, let's look to our
business.

INT. THE BOWER NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Hardcore rave music. The dance-floor is rammed with loved-up,
frenetic dancers.

On the stage is the DJ, TITANIA, headphones on, creating a
mix on her Midi controller.

The music climbs into a soaring drum roll. From the crowd, hundreds of hands rise into the air, building to the climax.

Titania cues the next mix in, not seeing a figure behind her. The figure's hand, with an eternity bracelet round the wrist, touches her neck.

Titania spins round --

-- it's her lover, GULDENSTERN, the nightclub owner. They kiss and he delivers his gift, an energy drink.

INT. BACK ROOM, THE BOWER NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

The rave music is dulled but can still be heard. On a table are piles of different-coloured powders.

Also on the table are scales, pipettes, baggies and all the paraphernalia required to mix mind-altering drugs.

ROSENCRANTZ, wearing a lab coat and face-mask, mixes a concoction and sprinkles it into a roll-up cigarette.

Rosencrantz lowers his face-mask to lick the gum of the rizla paper then contemplates the finished doobie.

ROSENCRANTZ

Let hell make crook'd my mind.

He lights the doobie and takes a huge drag. He holds the smoke down and the drug hits home.

Closing his eyes, he doesn't notice the barrel of a gun aimed at the back of his head.

ROSENCRANTZ (CONT'D)

O true apothecary! Thy drugs are --

The gun fires.

Rosencrantz's head explodes. Blood, brains and fragments of skull spray across the table.

What remains of Rosencrantz's head falls onto the table, blood pumping out, soaking into the piles of powder.

Puck, the shooter, pockets the gun and scoops the remaining, blood-soaked powders into plastic baggies.

He holds up a baggy filled with powder, blood and bits of brain. He shakes it and is amused by the squelching.

PUCK
 Oh, that this too, too sullied
 flesh would melt and --

He freezes as he hears movement behind him -
 - it's Guildenstern, a gun aimed at Puck.

PUCK (CONT'D)
 How now, spirit! Whither wander
 you?

GUILDENSTERN
 Either I mistake your shape and
 making quite, or else you are that
 shrewd and knavish sprite call'd
 Robin Goodfellow.

Puck slowly turns to face Guildenstern.

PUCK
 Thou speak'st aright; I am that
 merry wanderer of the night.

GUILDENSTERN
 Farewell, thou lob of spirits.

Guildenstern smiles, his finger over the trigger.

PUCK
 How oft when men are at the point
 of death have they been merry!

Guildenstern freezes, puzzled. Then he feels the gun pressed
 into the back of his head - by Bottom.

GUILDENSTERN
 O, I am slain.

Bottom fires.

More blood and brains spray over the powders on the table.

PUCK
 Sir, my life is yours.

Puck returns to sweeping the blood-soaked powders into bags.
 Bottom is troubled.

INT. THE BOWER NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Puck, carrying a briefcase, and Bottom emerge from a "Staff Only" door and cross the dance-floor. Puck stops to dance at Bottom, but Bottom is not amused.

On the stage, Titania sees them then sees a BARMAID emerge from the "Staff Only" door and run towards the stage.

The barmaid gets on stage and runs to Titania.

BARMAID
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern --

TITANIA
-- are dead.

The barmaid nods. Titania watches Puck and Bottom push through the exit door and out of sight.

Titania throws her headphones off.

EXT. THE BOWER NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Titania runs out, but the limo is gone. Anger, sorrow and revenge consume her.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Athens School is a co-educational, boarding school made up of a series of imposing Gothic buildings and incongruously modern, flat-roofed science blocks and sports halls.

The school motto is on a plaque above the main gates:

Some are born great

The well-heeled pupils aged from 11 to 18 swarm the town with their grey and tartan uniforms.

INT. MATHS CLASSROOM - DAY

The MATHS TEACHER points to the last number in an equation on the whiteboard:

$$3b - 2 = 12 + 2b$$

MATHS TEACHER
2b or not 2b. That is the question.

INT. LANGUAGES CLASSROOM - DAY

The young class pronounces words in unison as the FRENCH TEACHER points to them on the whiteboard.

YOUNG CLASS
Monsieur. Madame. Mercy --

The french teacher stops them.

FRENCH TEACHER
The quality of merci is not strained.

EXT. SCHOOL CHAPEL - DAY

A rousing hymn (*Jerusalem, say, or I vow to thee, my country*) can be heard being belted out from within the church.

Round the back of the church two 6th formers, HERMIA and LYSANDER, both 18, are making out.

LYSANDER
Graze on my lips; and if those hills be dry, stray lower, where the pleasant fountains lie.

HERMIA
O, contain yourself. Your passion draws ears hither.

LYSANDER
Nor wit nor reason can my passion hide.

The school bell rings.

HERMIA
No, no, the bell: 'tis time that I were gone.

LYSANDER
O, wilt thou leave me so unsatisfied?

HERMIA
What satisfaction canst thou --

LYSANDER
Yielding up thy body to my will. I am yet unknown to woman. Virginity is peevish, proud, idle -

Lysander cannot contain his lust and reaches for his zip.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
I must draw my sword upon you.

Hermia is aghast.

HERMIA
Not here, sir!

LYSANDER
In private, then.

HERMIA
Sure my master is horn-mad --

Lysander leads her away, mid-protest.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

QUINCE, the head chef, at the counter, oversees students putting away their dirty plates etc.

A huge bear of a student brings his two plates up. Both plates have been licked clean.

QUINCE
Ate two, Brute?

The bear of a boy is barged out of the way by EGEUS, a teacher. He shoves his plate at Quince.

EGEUS
What's this? Mutton?

QUINCE
Ay.

EGEUS
Who brought it?

QUINCE
I.

EGEUS
Tis burnt; and so is all the meat.

QUINCE
(Mumbles)
I'll ha' thee burnt.

EGEUS
What say'st thou?

QUINCE

Why, I say nothing.

EGEUS

If I be served such another trick,
I'll have my brains ta'en out and
battered, and give them to a dog
for a New-Year's gift.

He shoves his whole tray at Quince and storms out.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Egeus storms out of the dining hall, passing the sports
centre towards the sports field.

Boys, girls and other teachers part in fear.

Egeus joins a group of pupils watching the first team play
cricket. The pupils tactfully disperse.

EXT. CRICKET PITCH, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

The school sports-star, DEMETRIUS, 18, is batting.

The bowler is at the end of a long run-up. He runs and sends
down a fierce delivery.

Demetrius takes a step down the track and swings his bat,
sending the ball flying back over the bowler's head.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Egeus gasps at the beauty of this shot.

EGEUS

A hit, a very palpable hit.

The ball flies over Egeus's head, one bounce and into the
fives court.

Egeus trots to the court to retrieve the ball.

EXT. CRICKET PITCH, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Demetrius gets in the bowler's face.

DEMETRIUS

Go fetch it, sister.

The bowler simmers with indignation as Demetrius raises his bat to acknowledge the applause.

EXT. FIVES COURT, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Egeus chases the ball into the courts, reaches down to pick it up, but hears noises from deeper within the court.

He squints to see two pupils making out.

EGEUS
Mischief, thou art afoot, take --

The words stop in his mouth as the pupils look round at him; they are Lysander and Hermia.

HERMIA
Father!

EGEUS
Daughter!

LYSANDER
Cock!

INT. THE HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE - DAY

The head teacher, THESEUS, has Egeus, Hermia, Demetrius and Lysander with him.

EGEUS
Full of vexation come I, with
complaint against my child, my
daughter Hermia. Stand forth,
Demetrius.

Demetrius, still in his whites, steps forward.

EGEUS (CONT'D)
My noble lord, this man hath my
consent to marry her. Stand forth,
Lysander:

With a roll of the eyes, Lysander steps forward.

EGEUS (CONT'D)
And my gracious duke, this man hath
bewitch'd the bosom of my child.

THESEUS
What say you, Hermia? Demetrius is
a worthy gentleman.

HERMIA

So is Lysander.

THESEUS

In himself he is; but in this kind,
wanting your father's voice, the
other must be held the worthier.

HERMIA

I would my father look'd but with
my eyes.

EGEUS

How sharper than a serpent's tooth
it is to have a thankless child.

HERMIA

I beseech your grace that I may
know the worst that may befall me
in this case, if I refuse to "wed"
Demetrius.

Egeus slams a brochure for "The Athens Convent for Girls"
onto the table.

THESEUS

To abjure for ever the society of
men.

DEMETRIUS

Relent, sweet Hermia; and,
Lysander, yield thy crazed title to
my certain right.

LYSANDER

You have her father's love,
Demetrius; let me have Hermia's: do
you marry him.

DEMETRIUS

Scornful Lysander!

LYSANDER

Demetrius, I'll avouch it to his
head, made love to Nedar's
daughter, Helena, and won her soul;
and she, sweet lady, dotes,
devoutly dotes, dotes in idolatry,
upon this spotted and inconstant
man.

DEMETRIUS

I will beat thee into handsomeness.

LYSANDER
Villain, I have done thy mother!

Demetrius goes for Lysander, who flinches back. Egeus keeps Demetrius at bay.

DEMETRIUS
You are such a woman!

THESEUS
Gentlemen, enough of this: it came too suddenly; let it die as it was born, and, I pray you, be better acquainted.

Reluctantly Lysander and Demetrius shake hands.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
For you, fair Hermia, look you arm yourself to fit your fancies to your father's will; or else.

Hermia is close to tears.

INT. HISTORY CLASSROOM - DAY

The lights are off and the class is watching footage of Hitler and Eva Braun.

LYSANDER (O.S.)
(Whispers)
For aught that I could ever read,
could ever hear by tale of history,
the course of true love never did
run smooth.

Lysander and Hermia exchange whispers at the back of the class.

HERMIA
O hell! To choose love by another's
eyes.

From across the room Demetrius glares at them. Lysander gives him the finger. Demetrius sneers then turns back to the film.

LYSANDER
Hear me, Hermia. I have a widow
aunt, a dowager of great revenue,
and she hath no child: from Athens
is her house remote seven leagues;
and she respects me as her only
son.

(MORE)

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

If thou lovedst me then, steal
 forth thy father's house tomorrow
 night; and in the wood, a league
 without the town, where I did meet
 thee once with Helena, to do
 observance to a morn of May, there
 will I stay for thee.

Conversation ceases as the teacher walks past.

HERMIA

In that same place thou hast
 appointed me, tomorrow truly will I
 meet with thee.

A shared smile. Demetrius looks over and sees them holding
 hands under the desks. His blood boils.

EXT. NETBALL COURT, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

A game of 6th form netball. One player, HELENA, tall and
 studious, stands, stubbornly not joining in.

A team-mate passes the ball to her. Helena lets the ball
 bounce off her and roll to an opponent. Whatever!

INT. ART ROOM, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

The art teacher tours the students painting a partially nude
 model. They are all fine pieces of work until --

-- Helena's painting which has the model dismembered,
 stabbed, castrated and disembowelled.

INT. HERMIA AND HELENA'S DORM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Helena, at her laptop, scrolls through photos of couples on a
 non-specific social media site.

She types a comment under a photo:

Thine face is not worth sunburning

Another photo, another comment:

Thou art as fat as butter

She scrolls down to a photo of Demetrius beside the cricket
 scoreboard in the pavilion.

She sighs dreamily.

HELENA

Lady Bona!

Helena snaps out of her reverie when the door opens and Hermia enters, beaming with love.

Helena closes the website, leaving a history essay on screen.

HERMIA

God speed fair Helena!

Hermia leaps onto her bed, basking in her bliss. Helena snorts with derision.

HELENA

Call you me fair? That fair again
unsay. Demetrius loves your fair: O
happy fair!

HERMIA

I frown upon him, yet he loves me
still.

HELENA

O that your frowns would teach my
smiles such skill!

HERMIA

His folly, Helena, is no fault of
mine.

HELENA

None, but your beauty: would that
fault were mine!

Helena puts on headphones.

Hermia's guilt and excitement get the better of her. She jumps off the bed and whips the headphones off Helena.

HERMIA

Take comfort: he no more shall see
my face: Lysander and myself will
fly this place.

As Hermia reveals her plan, Helena's mind wanders.

HELENA (V.O.)

How happy some o'er other some can
be! Through Athens I am thought as
fair as she. But what of that?
Demetrius thinks not so.

INT. CRICKET PAVILION - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Demetrius and Helena in the throes of a violent passion, lips locked, hands all over each other, crashing into various items of cricket equipment.

HELENA (V.O., CONT'D)
 For ere Demetrius look'd on
 Hermia's eyne, he hail'd down oaths
 that he was only mine.

EXT. SPORTS FIELD - DAY - FLASHBACK

Demetrius wins his hurdle race, then looks round and sees Helena in the crowd watching adoringly.

But Demetrius is looking at Helena's friend, Hermia, deep in conversation with Lysander.

HELENA (V.O., CONT'D)
 And when this hail some heat from
 Hermia felt, so he dissolved, and
 showers of oaths did melt.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY - FLASHBACK

Demetrius, next to a dumb-founded Hermia, dresses down Helena who holds a gift for him, a love heart paperweight.

DEMETRIUS
 -- round-hoof'd, short-jointed,
 fetlocks shag and long, broad
 breast, full eye, small head and
 nostril wide, high crest, short
 ears, straight legs and passing
 strong, thin mane, thick tail,
 broad buttock --

INT. HERMIA AND HELENA'S DORM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Helena in her bed, the bottom bunk, staring up at the wooden board that serves as the base of the bed above, clinging to the love heart paperweight.

HELENA (V.O.)
 I will go tell him of fair Hermia's
 flight: then to the wood will he to-
 morrow night pursue her; and for
 this intelligence if I have thanks,
 it is a dear expense.

Stuck to the wooden board/base of the top bed is a collage of photos of Demetrius.

A clock ticks over from 20 June 23.59 to 21 June 0.00.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Titania sits on the edge of a stage, staring off into space. In her hand she holds Guildenstern's eternity bracelet.

The stage has a full scaffolded lighting rig, state-of-the-art DJ equipment and a dozen huge amplifiers. It's an old school, outdoor rave.

Titania watches the first stragglers drift in. Behind her, the STAGE MANAGER brings her an energy drink, then speaks into a walkie-talkie.

STAGE MANAGER
Light, lights, lights!

A series of floodlights spring on, scorching the area with its brightness. Lasers fly across the sky --

-- then all the lights fail, plunging them into darkness.

STAGE MANAGER (CONT'D)
O wonderful, wonderful, most
wonderful wonderful, and yet again
wonderful, and after that, out of
all whooping.

Titania blinks, adjusting to the virtual darkness, and sees a limo pull into the car park in the next field.

She cannot suppress her anger.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

Oberon, Puck and Bottom exit the limo as Titania approaches.

TITANIA
Get thee away and take the beagles
with thee.

OBERON
Sweet saint, for charity, be not so
curst.

TITANIA
Thou art a murderer.

She throws Guildenstern's eternity bracelet at him.

TITANIA (CONT'D)

I vow to God above, I'll never
pause again, never stand still,
till either death hath closed these
eyes of mine or fortune given me
measure of revenge.

OBERON

Fairer than tongue can name thee,
let me have some patient leisure to
excuse myself.

TITANIA

Fouler than heart can think thee,
thou canst make no excuse but to
hang thyself. He was a prince.

OBERON

The better for the king of Heaven
that hath him.

TITANIA

He is in Heaven, where thou shalt
never come.

OBERON

For he was fitter for that place
than earth.

TITANIA

And thou unfit for any place but
hell.

OBERON

Yes, one place else, if you will
hear me name it.

TITANIA

Some dungeon.

OBERON

Your bed-chamber.

Titania is dumbstruck.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Doubt thou the stars are fire,
doubt that the sun doth move, doubt
truth to be a liar, but never doubt
I love.

TITANIA
 Away, you three-inch fool!

OBERON
 My noble queen, let former grudges
 pass.

TITANIA
 I will never take you for my love
 again.
 (To Puck)
 Go speed elsewhere.

Titania marches away. Oberon ogles her as she goes.

OBERON
 Troth, and your bum is the greatest
 thing about you.

PUCK
 Was ever woman in this humour
 woo'd?

OBERON
 Was ever woman in this humour won?

Oberon strides after Titania, catches her up and the argument continues.

Puck shuffles up beside Bottom.

PUCK
 How farest thou, soldier?

BOTTOM
 I am as melancholy as a gib cat or
 a lugged bear.

PUCK
 A long night is this! Will't please
 you taste of what is here?

Puck holds up a bag containing hundreds of little, red pills.
 Bottom is tempted.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

Bottom, behind the wheel, settles in for a long night. He
 takes out a red pill and stares at it.

Drugs are not really his thing, but he has a long night
 ahead. He snaps it in half, then puts half in his mouth as --

-- the door to the back opens and Oberon storms in.

OBERON
Who is't can read a woman?

Bottom, his mouth full, just looks at Oberon.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Come then, away; let's ha' no more
ado.

Bottom swallows, turns the engine on and drives away.

INT. HERMIA AND HELENA'S DORM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Hermia and Helena asleep in bed. Egeus leans over Hermia.

EGEUS
Sleep - perchance to dream.

He sees a bottle of Vicks VapoRub on the bedside table.

EGEUS (CONT'D)
Ay, there's the rub.

He pockets the rub and exits. Immediately Hermia leaps out of bed, already dressed.

HERMIA
Farewell; and if my fortune be not
crost, I have a father, you a
daughter, lost.

Hermia peers out into the corridor, sees that the coast is clear, then sneaks out.

Helena's eyes spring open.

EXT. SCIENCE BLOCK, ATHENS SCHOOL - NIGHT

Helena hides behind the back of the science block, watching the rear of York House, the boys house.

HELENA
But, soft! What light through
yonder window breaks?

A window opens and Lysander climbs out and runs off. Helena scampers to the open window and climbs in.

INT. LIMO (MOVING) - NIGHT

In the back, Oberon is on his mobile.

OBERON
Her father loved me, oft invited
me;

Bottom drives, the pill hitting home. He scrunches his eyes up, shakes his head, but he's in trouble.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Still question'd me the story of my
life from year to year - the
battles, sieges, fortunes that I
have passed. I ran it through, even
from my boyish days, to the very
moment that he bade me tell it.

Bottom loses focus. The car drifts into the middle of the road. Oberon notices.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Pray, look to't.

Bottom's eyes redden, then roll into the back of his head.

The car heads for a tree. Oberon braces himself for impact.

The car crashes into the tree.

Oberon is jolted forward, but he's braced for it. He recovers quickly and looks up.

Bottom is dazed, sweat dripping off him. The colour drains from his skin.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Why look'st thou pale?

Bottom raises his head to look in the rear-view mirror. His body twitches like an electric current passing through it.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Why tremblest thou?

Bottom stares at Oberon with over-whelming fury.

Writer's Note:

Puck's drug turns a person into a "fury". A fury shows all the signs of having taken Ecstasy only in reverse. Instead of overwhelming love, a fury feels an overwhelming urge to kill.

A fury has elevated energy and alertness; a thirst for blood not water. A fury can hallucinate; can suffer from nausea and muscle cramping and/or spasms; and a fury likes to dance.

Bottom is a fury.

BOTTOM

I will tear thee joint by joint.

Bottom lunges at Oberon through the partition, grabbing and clawing at him in a frenzy of violence and rage.

The force of the attack pops his seat-belt out.

Bottom grabs Oberon by the head and tries to break his neck, but Oberon manages to wrench his head free.

Oberon backs away into his seat, but Bottom is already scrambling through the partition.

Bottom is so muscly and broad-shouldered, he can only get his head and one arm through. But that doesn't stop him and he pushes through, leaving bits of skin and clothing behind.

Oberon reaches for his mobile on the floor.

But this puts him in range of Bottom, who grabs his arm, jerks it to his face and takes a bite.

Oberon punches Bottom in the face, which hurts Oberon more than it does Bottom, but he wrenches his arm free.

Bottom's other arm squeezes through the partition. Once through, the rest of Bottom will follow.

Below Bottom's flailing body is the partition window button.

Oberon reaches for the button, but it's too close to Bottom, who grabs his arm again.

OBERON

By Isis, I will give thee bloody teeth.

Oberon kicks Bottom in the face again and again -

- until his arm is free and Bottom is stunned.

Oberon lunges for the button and presses it -

- the wrong way. The partition window lowers, releasing its grip on Bottom.

Bottom's second arm flops through the partition. Bottom regains his bearings.

Oberon presses the button the right way.

Bottom scrambles through the partition as the window rises. The partition window traps Bottom around the mid-riff.

Oberon watches Bottom flail and rage, but unable to get into the back or reverse back into the front.

Careful not to get in range, Oberon opens a back door, kicks his phone out then gets out himself.

OBERON (CONT'D)
Is the man grown mad? I do
discharge you of your office.

He slams the door shut.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

The crash has taken place on a deserted road with not a soul in sight. The limo rocks to Bottom's struggle within.

Oberon picks up his phone. The screen is cracked. He tries the power button, but no response. It's a goner.

In the distance a set of headlights come into view.

A CRACK from inside the car.

Oberon peers inside: the partition has smashed and Bottom is scrambling over the remaining jagged glass into the back.

Bottom makes it into the back, then slams into the back door before throwing it open and scrambling out.

But Oberon is gone, --

-- hiding under the limo.

Bottom, covered in his own blood, sniffs the air.

BOTTOM
Fie, foh, and fum! I smell the
blood of a British man.

There's nowhere for Oberon to be but under the car. Bottom is about to crouch down when --

-- the headlights of the approaching car illuminate him.

Bottom turns to the oncoming car then moves to the middle of the road. The car's horn sounds, but instead of getting out the way, Bottom runs at the car.

The car veers left, but Bottom follows it.

The car brakes, but too late. Bottom is hit, knocked off his feet and lands in a heap on the road.

The car is full of YOUNG ADULTS on their way to the rave. The driver gets out, his face ashen.

YOUNG ADULT

Speak, brother, hast thou hurt thee
with the fall?

PASSENGER SEAT YOUNG ADULT

Hurt him! His body's a passable
carcass.

Bottom has broken some bones, but gets to his feet.

YOUNG ADULT

Why the devil came you --

Bottom lunges at the young adult, lifting him off his feet and they both land on the ground with a crunch.

Bottom assails the young adult like a shark feeding frenzy. He bites the young adult's Adam's apple off his throat.

Bottom spits the Adam's apple out, gulps down the blood gushing out of the young adult's neck then gnaws through the rest of the neck.

Inside the car, the other young adults stare at this scene in open-mouthed horror.

Bottom wrenches the head off the young adult on the ground then turns his blood-drenched face to them.

PASSENGER SEAT YOUNG ADULT

By God's liggens!

Bottom lurches towards the car.

The passenger seat young adult sees Bottom coming, lunges to the driver's seat and pulls the door closed --

-- as Bottom slams his body into the door.

The passenger seat young adult jumps across into the driver's seat and crunches the car into gear.

Bottom beats his fists on the window, smashes it.

Ignoring the smashed glass, the passenger seat young adult puts his foot down as his head is grabbed by Bottom.

But Bottom loses his grip as the car drives away. Bottom gives chase.

Oberon emerges from under the limo and sees Bottom chase the car into the distance. They head in the direction of laser lights in the sky: the rave.

Oberon covers the headless man's body with his trench-coat, then weighs up his options: safety or the rave?

He chooses safety and walks away from the rave.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

A DJ on his Midi board rouses the crowd from the stage.

Puck moves through the crowd, looking for business. He sees Titania at the bottom of the stage, drinking an energy drink.

Puck approaches her.

PUCK

How do you, pretty lady?

TITANIA

Will you shog off!

PUCK

This strained passion doth you
wrong. Shalt thou ease thy angry
heart?

He holds out a red pill.

PUCK (CONT'D)

This will make black white, foul
fair, wrong right, base noble, old
young, coward valiant.

TITANIA

Hide not thy poison with such
sugar'd words.

PUCK

I will not poison thee. My master
himself is in love.

TITANIA

The devil it is that's thy master.

PUCK

I tell thee, my master is become a hot lover.

Titania can only laugh at this.

TITANIA

How came you to this? Speak not, reply not, do not answer me.

Puck waves at someone behind Titania. Instinctively Titania turns to see the DJ waving back.

With Titania looking away, Puck drops a pill into her energy drink before she turns back.

PUCK

I am too blunt and saucy. Forgive me this my virtue. Farewell, pretty lady.

He winks, then jumps on the stage and confers with the DJ.

Titania picks up her energy drink -- and replaces the lid.

INT. WOOD - NIGHT

Lysander leads Hermia through the wood, but she's wilting.

LYSANDER

Fair love, you faint with wandering in the wood; and to speak troth, I have forgot our way.

HERMIA

Be it so, Lysander: find you out a bed; for I upon this bank will rest my head.

She slumps on the ground. Lysander sidles up next to her.

LYSANDER

One turf shall serve as pillow for us both; one heart, one bed, two bosoms --

HERMIA

Nay, good Lysander; for my sake, my dear, lie further off yet, do not lie so near.

LYSANDER

I mean, that my heart unto yours is
knit so that but one heart we can
make of it; then by your side --

Hermia pushes him away.

HERMIA

Gentle friend, for love and
courtesy lie further off.

LYSANDER

Amen, amen, to that fair prayer,
say I.

Lysander lies further off, but he's still horny as hell.

INT. WOOD - NIGHT

Hermia is asleep. Lysander snuggles up to her.

LYSANDER

Two bosoms interchained with an
oath; so then two bosoms --

Hermia wakes and pushes him off.

HERMIA

Nay, by your leave, hold your
hands!

LYSANDER

But I love thee; none but thee; and
thou deservest it.

HERMIA

Lysander, yield!

Hermia uses all her strength to push him off.

Lysander storms away. He lights a cigarette and blows the
smoke up into the air. Laser lights flutter across the sky.

He peers through the trees. The rave in the distance.

LYSANDER

Here is my bed.

He looks back at the sleeping Hermia.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

Sleep give thee all his rest!

He stomps off towards the rave.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Demetrius forges through the wood, Helena at his heels.

DEMETRIUS

I love thee not, therefore pursue
me not.

HELENA

You draw me, you hard-hearted
adamant.

DEMETRIUS

Do I entice you? Do I speak you
fair? Or, rather, do I not in
plainest truth tell you, I do not,
nor I cannot love you?

HELENA

I am your spaniel; and, Demetrius,
the more you beat me, I will fawn
on you: use me but as your spaniel,
spurn me, strike me --

DEMETRIUS

Tempt not too much the hatred of my
spirit; for I am sick when I do
look on thee.

HELENA

And I am sick when I look not on
you.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius and Helena come out of the wood into the car park,
the rave in the next field over.

DEMETRIUS

The common people swarm like summer
flies.

HELENA

You shall seek all day ere you find
them, and when you have them, they
are not worth the search.

Demetrius sees Lysander among the hoards.

DEMETRIUS

Thou hast no more brain than I have
in mine elbows.

Demetrius runs towards the rave.

HELENA

O, my sweet beef.

Helena sighs, then runs after him.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

The DJ shouts into the microphone.

DJ

Stamp, rave and fret, that I may
sing and daaaaaance!

The crowd roar their approval. The rave is in full swing now.
It's a hell of a party.

Thumping dance music booms out of the amps. Most are dancing,
some are hugging, some just swaying. Everyone's loved up.

Amongst them Puck is doing a roaring trade with red pills.

Watching from the side of the stage is Titania.

TITANIA

O God, that men should put an enemy
in their mouths to steal away their
brains! That we should, with joy,
pleasance, revel and applause,
transform ourselves into beasts!

She is about to take a swig from her energy drink when she is
summoned by the frantic stage manager.

Titania puts the energy drink down and goes to help.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Lysander ambles through the rave; he loves it. Dancing with a
nutter, then flirting with a scantily-clad dancer.

A spaced-out hippy raver leans on him for support.

LYSANDER

That unmatch'd form and feature of
blown youth blasted by ecstasy.

Lysander whispers to the hippy raver, who points through the crowds at Puck doing another deal.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius has lost sight of Lysander, but storms through the crowd anyway.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Lysander forges through the ravers towards Puck.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius stops in the midst of the rave, scouring the crowd for Lysander. He sees him and goes after him.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Puck sees off another satisfied customer when another approaches: Lysander, trying to be street.

LYSANDER
How now, you dawg?

Puck is not impressed.

PUCK
Know'st him thou look'st on?

LYSANDER
Little Robin. Thou know'st that we
two went to school together.

PUCK
Hush!

Puck looks around to make sure no-one heard that.

PUCK (CONT'D)
What need you?

LYSANDER
What have you?

Puck sizes Lysander up, then takes out a red pill.

PUCK

A medicine that's able to breathe
life into a stone, quicken a rock,
and make you dance canary with
spritely fire and motion.

LYSANDER

I'll now taste of thy drug.

There's a violent kerfuffle in the crowd, but they ignore it.
Lysander reaches for the pill, but Puck withholds it.

PUCK

Money, youth?

Ravers flee the kerfuffle, but Lysander and Puck ignore it as
Lysander produces a fistful of cash.

PUCK (CONT'D)

Bliss be upon you.

Mid-exchange, they simultaneously freeze and look round at
the kerfuffle:

A fury repeatedly stabs a floored raver in the stomach with a
glo-stick, blood mixing with the luminous green. The fury
throws the stick away and drinks the red/green mixture.

LYSANDER

O most bloody sight!

Lysander and Puck simultaneously look round at another
kerfuffle:

Two ravers snog, but one is a fury. Blood spurts from their
joined lips as the raver struggles, but the fury refuses to
end this bloody kiss.

PUCK

She murders with a kiss.

Lysander and Puck simultaneously look round at another
kerfuffle:

A fury pushes his thumbs into the eyes of another raver.

THUMB FURY

Out, vile jelly! Where is thy
lustre now?

Lysander and Puck simultaneously look round at each other,
then run in opposite directions.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius gains on Lysander, who is now fleeing in his direction. Demetrius is going to get him --

-- but then a fury steps in front of Demetrius.

DEMETRIUS
Thou basest thing, avoid!

The fury pounces on Demetrius and pins him to the ground.

The fury lashes out at Demetrius with his arms, his face, with everything he has.

Demetrius keeps him at bay, but he's struggling.

Then another fury attacks the attacking fury. The pair of furies maul each other, giving Demetrius a chance to leg it.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Pockets of kerfuffles develop throughout the crowd.

On stage, the DJ has stopped dancing; he just stares at his Midi as if in a trance.

Offstage, Titania watches the kerfuffles with growing fear.

A crackled voice booms out from a discarded walkie-talkie:

STAGE MANAGER
(From walkie-talkie)
-- O horror, horror, horror!

Titania picks up the walkie-talkie and speaks into it.

TITANIA
Pray, speak what has happen'd?

STAGE MANAGER
(From walkie-talkie)
Tongue nor heart cannot conceive
nor name thee.
(To someone else)
Go get him surgeons! Go, villain,
fetch a surgeon.

Titania spots the stage manager amongst the crowd, tending to a wounded man, panicked ravers running around her.

A little further off a fury drinks the blood pumping out of a dead man's neck like a dog lapping at a hose-pipe.

TITANIA

Mistress. Fly, be gone! If you'd
save your life, fly to your house.

The stage manager sees the hose fury.

STAGE MANAGER

(From walkie-talkie)

Away, you mouldy rogue, away!

The walkie-talkie doesn't pick up the hose fury's reply.

TITANIA

(Screams into walkie-
talkie)

Fly, fly, fly!

The hose fury attacks the stage manager.

STAGE MANAGER

(Over walkie-talkie)

Abate thy rage, abate thy manly
rage, abate thy rage, great duke!
Good bawcock, bate thy rage --

The hose fury mauls the stage manager to death.

Titania watches, dumbstruck.

The latest mix fades out, but nothing plays in its place.

Titania looks round onto the stage:

The DJ is a fury. Sweat drips from his face. His eyes are
blood-red. His skin pale, the muscles in his body twitch.

He turns to Titania.

DJ

I could much your good dry oats.

The walkie-talkie drops to the floor.

INT. OFFSTAGE - NIGHT

Titania chased by the DJ, still with his headphones on.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

The DJ runs down the stairs, then stops.

Backstage is as apocalyptic as the field but on a smaller scale. There are pockets of incidents but no Titania.

The DJ doesn't look round under the stage, made up of a maze of scaffolding, hiding amongst which is Titania.

Titania manipulates her way through the maze of metal bars, towards the front of the stage; further away from the DJ.

The DJ, shaking with fury, stares out in the opposite direction at pockets of violent incidents.

Titania creeps through the bars, getting further under the stage. She doesn't realise that her clip-on backstage pass is close to falling off.

Titania freezes when the DJ rages at a hallucination:

DJ
You whoreson upright rabbit, away!

Titania watches the DJ assail this imaginary foe with kicks and punches.

DJ (CONT'D)
Thou art the son and heir of a
mongrel bitch!

The DJ overcomes his imaginary foe, stamps on him, bends over double and dry-retchs.

Titania is scared to breathe.

The DJ falls into a trance. Titania decides to move further under the stage, squeezes over another metal bar, dislodging her pass.

The pass falls onto a metal bar, making a teeny, tiny --
-- TING!

Titania freezes.

The DJ blinks out of his trance. Did he hear something?

Titania stays frozen.

The DJ turns to the back of the stage, crouches down and looks into the maze of scaffolding --

-- and sees Titania. Titania sees him.

The DJ runs at her.

Titania scrambles through the maze of metal bars.

The DJ is faster and doesn't care about injuring himself. He catches her by the ankle and pulls her back.

She grabs onto a metal bar and pulls herself away.

He grabs her again. She kicks out at him, getting free, and knocking a baggy containing two red pills out of his pocket onto the ground.

The DJ takes the blows, not caring, grabs Titania's legs and clambers up her body.

Titania releases her grip on the metal bar and hits out at the DJ as he climbs up her body.

They are now face to face. Titania keeps the drooling DJ's mouth, teeth gnashing, away from hers.

With both hands on his face, she can't stop his hands scratching, gouging at her face.

Inadvertently her hands find the headphones cord hanging round his neck. She squeezes them with all her might.

Unable to breathe, the DJ stops attacking her face and tries to get the cord off his neck.

She loops the cord around a metal bar and uses her whole body to keep it tight around his neck.

Arms and legs flailing, the DJ is strangled then goes limp.

But Titania keeps pulling on the cord till she's absolutely positively 100 per cent certain, then she slumps in a heap.

She catches her breath.

The DJ convulses.

Titania tenses, then jumps as the DJ convulses then vomits up red puke, containing one of Puck's pills, semi-digested.

Titania looks over and sees the dropped baggy of red pills.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Lysander lies dead on the ground.

Only he's pretending. He opens an eye and scans the vicinity. There are no furies nearby, just corpses.

He opens both eyes and lifts his head. With the coast clear, he gets up and runs.

He hides behind a row of portaloos and takes a longer look at the carnage.

LYSANDER
Hell is empty and all the devils
are here.

He sees Helena being chased by a pair of furies.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
Mort du vinaigre! Is this not
Helen? Women are soft, mild,
pitiful --

Helena performs a gymnastic back-flip and mid-air spin, confusing her pursuers.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
-- and flexible.

The chase heads towards Lysander.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
I'll hide me hereabout, his looks I
fear, and his intents I doubt.

Lysander opens a portaloos door --

-- to see a fury inside. Lysander pales.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
Kill me tomorrow: let me live
tonight!

The fury roars and Lysander slams the door shut.

With the lock on the fury's side, Lysander has to push against the door to keep it closed.

The fury batters the door from the other side. Lysander isn't strong enough. The door is flung open, propelling Lysander to the ground.

Lysander closes his eyes in fear and scrunches himself up into a ball. The fury bounds out to attack him --

-- but Helena leaps out of nowhere, taking the fury out.

Lysander opens his eyes and sees Helena on top of the fury. She punches him in the throat, in the temple and then the other temple, knocking the fury unconscious.

HELENA

This is excellent sport, i'faith.

She goes to the astonished Lysander and offers her hand.

HELENA (CONT'D)

Give me your arm. Up-so. How is't?
Feel you your legs?

LYSANDER

I am not sick.

Helena raises her eyebrows at him.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

Thou knowest I am as valiant as
Hercules. I grant you I was down
and out of breath. Trust me, I was
coming to you. And now let's go.

Before she can protest, he takes her hand and pulls her into the portaloo.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius lies on the roof of an abandoned ambulance. He sees Helena and Lysander lock themselves in the portaloo.

DEMETRIUS

O, they are at it.

His feelings puzzle him. Is he jealous? He shakes this feeling off and scours the field.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Where is my love?

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Hermia asleep. A figure runs past chased by another. Neither see her. She tosses and turns.

HERMIA

Help me, Lysander, help me!

(Wakes)

Ay me, for pity! What a dream was
here! Lysander, look how I quake
with fear.

But Lysander has gone. She is alone.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

Lysander! Lord! Speak, of all loves! I swoon almost with fear. No? Then I well perceive you all not nigh either death or you I'll find immediately.

She sets off into the wood.

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

It's a one-person cubicle. Lysander enjoys being in Helena's personal space, but the feeling isn't mutual.

LYSANDER

Thou art an Amazon and fightest with the sword of Deborah.

HELENA

And thou art a natural coward, without instinct. Why stay we prating here?

LYSANDER

I like this place, and willingly could waste my time in it.

HELENA

You are a tame man, go!

Helena unlocks the door; Lysander re-locks it.

LYSANDER

Good madam, stay awhile.

HELENA

Nay, what hope have we in hiding us?

LYSANDER

I hope to be saved. I hope to know your honour better.

Lysander winks. Helena frowns.

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

From the roof Demetrius peers in through the driver's side window and sees the keys aren't in the ignition.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius shuffles back onto the roof, then sees a person on another abandoned ambulance roof. He recognises him.

DEMETRIUS
Hey, Robin, jolly Robin.

It's Puck, trying to ignore Demetrius.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)
Thou know'st that we two went to school together. How now, my lord! What hap?

PUCK
Your town is troubled with unruly boys.

DEMETRIUS
Poor ignorant baubles. What is the remedy?

PUCK
Now remains that we find out the cause of this effect - or rather say, the cause of this defect.

DEMETRIUS
Drugs fit.

A light-bulb moment for Puck.

PUCK
Speak on; but be not over-tedious.

DEMETRIUS
Look how they gaze! See how the giddy multitude do point, and nod their heads, and throw their eyes.

Puck looks out at the furies. One is dancing to no music, some are in a trance, a few fight amongst themselves.

He counts them off:

PUCK
He hath a drug of mine. He hath a drug of mine. He hath a drug of mine. He hath a...
(Sudden realisation)
Bottom!

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

Lysander on a charm offensive; Helena not buying it.

LYSANDER
I have 'scaped by miracle.

HELENA
What, fought you with them all?

LYSANDER
All! I know not what you call all;
but if I fought not with fifty of
them, I am a bunch of radish.

HELENA
Pray God you have not murdered some
of them.

LYSANDER
Dost thou mock me? Naughty lady!

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Demetrius is joined on the ambulance roof by Puck.

PUCK
I must from hence.

DEMETRIUS
'Tis impossible.

PUCK
If we both stay, we both are sure
to die.

DEMETRIUS
He that flies shall die. I will not
die today for any man's persuasion.

Up close Puck can see Demetrius's house tie.

PUCK
York, is it not?

DEMETRIUS
That is my home.

PUCK
And I the house of York. Are we not
brothers?

DEMETRIUS

My sword and yours are kin.

PUCK

Meet I an infant of the house of York?

DEMETRIUS

Nay, I assure you.

PUCK

Then, noble York, take thou this task in hand.

Demetrius is torn; his loyalty tested.

PUCK (CONT'D)

We are all bastards. I am a bastard too. I love bastards. I am a bastard begot, bastard instructed, bastard in mind, bastard in valour, in every thing illegitimate. Now, gods, stand up for bastards!

DEMETRIUS

Enough, my lord. I put myself to thy direction.

PUCK

Good lad. Look you to the guard.

Puck points out to the field where a security guard lies dead on the ground, spilling out of his pocket are a set of Alfa-Romeo car keys.

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

Lysander looms over Helena.

HELENA

Go thou further off; yet Hermia still loves you: then be content.

LYSANDER

I grant, sweet love, that I did love a lady; but she is dead.

HELENA

Say that she be.

LYSANDER

Two, together weeping, make one woe.

(MORE)

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

Let us seek out some desolate
shade, and there weep our sad
bosoms empty.

Lysander's hands wander.

HELENA

Fiddler, forbear; you grow too
forward, sir.

LYSANDER

I grow to you.

HELENA

What means you, sir? For God's
sake, hold your hands.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Helena and Lysander can be heard by the furies, who gather
round the portaloo.

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

Helena holds Lysander off.

LYSANDER

Doomsday is near. Let us die in
honour: making the beast with two
backs.

HELENA

I am not a slut.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Lysander and Helena's portaloo draws the furies, leaving the
coast clear for Puck and Demetrius to climb down.

But one dancing fury is right beside the car keys.

Puck advances on the dancing fury.

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

Helena fends Lysander off.

LYSANDER

Nay, if the gentle spirit of moving words can no way change to a milder form, I'll woo you like a soldier, at arm's end, and love you 'gainst the nature of love, - force ye.

Unable to keep him at bay, Helena knees Lysander in the crotch and he doubles over.

HELENA

Are you not hurt i'th' groin?

Lysander can't speak.

HELENA (CONT'D)

A good man is a silent one.

Then the portaloo rocks.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

The furies rock the portaloo, trying to get in.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Puck advances unseen on the dancing fury. He draws his gun from the back of his trousers.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Unable to force the door, the furies tip the portaloo over.

INT. PORTALOO - NIGHT

As the portaloo tips, the contents of the toilet spill out.

LYSANDER

Odours, odours!

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Puck creeps up behind the dancing fury and whacks him over the back of the head with the butt of the gun.

The fury cries out in pain, but doesn't go down. Puck hits him again and the fury drops, out cold.

But the furies by the upended portaloo have all heard and turn on Puck.

Puck raises his gun, but it's an empty threat; there are too many furies. He snatches up the car keys and runs.

The furies give chase.

Puck runs past the ambulances, the furies in pursuit.

Hiding in the ambulance is Demetrius. He waits for the swarm of furies to pass, then looks out.

The coast is clear, so he runs to the portaloo and flings open the door.

DEMETRIUS
Out, hyperbolical fiend!

The portaloo is empty.

Helena and Lysander have already legged it. He sees them running into the wood. Demetrius runs after them.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

Puck runs into the sea of cars. He presses the button on the car keys, but no car reacts.

The furies are close behind.

He presses the button again and again.

PUCK
Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art --

The beeping of a car. Puck sees a car in the distance, lights flashing and doors unlocking.

Puck runs to the car.

INT. ALFA ROMEO - NIGHT

Puck leaps into the car, locks it and starts the engine. Furies surround the vehicle, trying to get in.

PUCK
Parting is such sweet sorrow.

Puck drives away.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

The Alfa Romeo drives through the furies and away to safety.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Titania is under the stage, listening to sounds from the field: silence.

She crawls out.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Backstage is deserted so she climbs the stairs to the stage.

EXT. RAVE STAGE - NIGHT

Titania steps out onto the stage to see the field deserted.

She sees her energy drink, reaches down to pick it up, then freezes. There's movement in the field.

The furies chasing Puck return to the field, see Titania and run towards the stage.

Titania runs offstage, but sees a fury coming up the stairs. She's trapped.

There's only one escape route - up.

She drops her energy drink and climbs the scaffolding at the side of the stage that holds up the lighting rig.

EXT. LIGHTING RIG - NIGHT

Titania scampers up the scaffolding, furies in pursuit.

When she reaches the top, she reaches out to a floodlight, but burns her hand.

The furies gain on her.

Using her sleeve as protection, she manoeuvres the floodlight to point downward at the furies.

Blinded by the light, the furies in pursuit lose their grip and fall.

Now safe, Titania takes out and examines the DJ's baggy of red pills.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Hermia wanders through the wood, alone and scared. She stops by a tree where a psychedelic flyer is pinned:

MIDSUMMER RAVE

She digs in her bag, takes out her diary and rips out a page. She takes down the flyer and replaces it with her diary page.

HERMIA

Hang there, my verse, in witness of
my love. If you do love me, you
will find me out.

Hermia wanders on.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

The Alfa Romeo approaches the abandoned limo and slows. The Alfa Romeo brakes and Puck opens the window.

PUCK

My lord!

No response. Puck steps out of the car, gun already drawn.

He creeps to the limo and peers in. Smashed partition window, and blood everywhere, the door on the other side ajar --

-- a body on the other side of the car.

Puck creeps round and sees Oberon's coat covering the young adult's corpse, blood pooled around him.

Puck squats down and lifts the coat to find the body beneath without a head.

PUCK (CONT'D)

Alas, where is thy head?

BOTTOM (O.S.)

Thrown in the Thames.

Puck looks up and there stands Bottom, drenched in blood.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)

Yet who would have thought the old
man to have had so much blood in
him.

PUCK

Bless thee, Bottom! Bless thee!
Thou art translated.

Out of Bottom's sight, Puck reaches round to the gun tucked into the back of his trousers.

BOTTOM

My heart for anger burns; I cannot
brook it.

PUCK

Sir, I am a poor friend of yours,
that loves you.

BOTTOM

When I have slain thee with my
proper hand, I'll follow those that
even now fled hence, and on the
gates of Lud's-town, set your
heads.

PUCK

Why will you kill me?

Bottom falters; he doesn't know.

BOTTOM

Base compulsion.

The rage fills Bottom's eyes. He runs at Puck.

Puck draws his gun and fires --

-- Bottom crunches into Puck. The gun falls under the limo.

Puck lands on his back with a crunch. He looks up, expecting the killer blow but none comes. He lifts his head.

Bottom is sprawled on the ground, seemingly unconscious.

Puck gets to his feet.

Bottom's feet twitch - but he remains unconscious.

Puck creeps to Bottom. He has to reach over Bottom's body to get the gun under the car - and even then his fingers don't quite reach it.

PUCK

Come here, pistol.

Puck is almost on top of Bottom, face to face.

Rapid eye movement behind Bottom's eyelids --

-- as Puck gets hold of the gun.

Puck steps away, gun drawn. Bottom remains unconscious.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

Puck opens the Alfa Romeo boot; amongst the things inside is a set of jump leads.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Helena forges through the wood, Lysander at her heels.

LYSANDER

Content with Hermia! No; I do
repent the tedious minutes I with
her have spent.

Helena finds a page pinned to a tree and reads it.

HELENA

"O grim-look'd night! O night with
hue so black! O night, which ever
art when day is not! O night, O
night! Alack, alack, alack --"

LYSANDER

This is the silliest stuff that
ever I heard.

HELENA

Peace, you dull fool! I found them
on a tree.

LYSANDER

Truly, the tree yields bad fruit.

HELENA

These vows are Hermia's. Your
ladyship is near.

Helena forges on.

LYSANDER

O, I am out of breath in this fond
chase.

EXT. DISUSED CHURCH - NIGHT

The door is opened by a VICAR who sees Puck getting Bottom, bound by jump leads, out of the boot of the Alfa Romeo.

PUCK
Some help here, ho.

The vicar tucks the gun hiding behind his back into his trousers and helps Puck.

INT. DISUSED CHURCH - NIGHT

The disused church is a front for Oberon's drug operation.

Bottom, tied to a chair, swings from one extreme emotion to another: rage to bliss.

Puck, the vicar, other goons and chemists observe.

VICAR
How long hath this possession held
this man?

PUCK
Above an hour, my lord. This week
he hath been heavy, sour, sad, and
much different from the man he was;
but till this afternoon his passion
ne'er brake into extremity of rage.

Without warning, Bottom's rage turns to bliss.

GOON
Mark how he trembles in his
ecstasy!

Puck shifts uncomfortably at this reference.

PUCK
Is there no way to cure this?

The vicar approaches Bottom and frees one of Bottom's arms.

VICAR
Give me your hand and let me feel
your pulse.

Bottom's rage takes over.

BOTTOM
There is my hand, and let it feel
your ear.

Bottom swings wildly at the vicar, but doesn't connect and topples over, chair and all.

VICAR

Will you not be cured of your infirmity?

BOTTOM

No. I will tear thee joint from joint and strew this hungry churchyard with thy limbs.

Bottom flails on the floor. A couple of goons hold his free arm down as the vicar places his hands on his forehead.

VICAR

I charge thee, Satan, housed within this man to yield possession to my holy prayers and to thy state of darkness hie thee straight: I conjure thee by all the saints in Heaven!

No-one has seen Oberon enter, carrying a large hold-all.

OBERON

They cannot help him.

Puck's joy at seeing Oberon is genuine.

PUCK

Lives he?

OBERON

I am no counterfeit.

PUCK

I saw him dead, breathless and bleeding on the ground. That headless man I thought had been my lord. O master, what a strange infection is fall'n.

OBERON

So I hear.

They all turn their attention onto Bottom.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Ay me, poor man, how pale and wan he looks!

Oberon reaches in Bottom's pocket and commandeers his mobile.

VICAR

I will not let him stir till I have used the approved means I have, with wholesome syrups, drugs and holy prayers, to make of him a formal man again.

OBERON

I will reward you for this venturous deed.

Oberon leads Puck away for a private conversation.

OBERON (CONT'D)

There's other business for thee.

PUCK

At thy service.

OBERON

Put him to execution.

PUCK

Bottom? He is our cousin, cousin.

OBERON

He foams at mouth and by and by breaks out to savage madness.

PUCK

With the help of surgeons he might yet recover.

OBERON

There is no remedy, sir, but you must die. We shall see and know our friends in Heaven. Are you now going to dispatch this deed?

Puck doesn't like it, but:

PUCK

He shall be executed presently.

OBERON

Thanks, sir; all the rest is mute.

PUCK

And what wilt thou do?

Oberon picks up his hold-all, the sound of metal clanking together.

OBERON

I'll have more lives than drops of
blood were in my father's veins.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Hermia pins another poem to a tree. Noise from the darkness.

HERMIA

Who's there? Nay, answer me. Stand
and unfold yourself.

No answer. A presence closes in on her.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

By the pricking of my thumbs,
something wicked this way comes.

Hermia hurries back the way she's come. She runs even though
she can barely see.

A noise from ahead and she stops.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

See, ho! Who is that there? Good
faith, I tremble stiff with fear.

She takes a different direction.

A noise behind her. She looks back - then trips.

On the ground, she looks back to see what she has tripped
over: a corpse mutilated beyond recognition.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

Such a piece of slaughter the sun
and moon ne'er look'd upon!

She looks up to find herself in a glade filled with mutilated
corpses.

At the end of the clearing is a fury, covered in blood,
eating a corpse's entrails and singing.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

Has this fellow no feeling of his
business, that he sings at grave-
making?

The singing fury looks up and sees her.

SINGING FURY

Now thou art come unto a feast of
death.

He belches, almost following through.

HERMIA

What art thou there? Speak!

SINGING FURY

A beast, as thou art.

HERMIA

Nature teaches beasts to know their
friends.

The singing fury has over-eaten and isn't breathing so good.
He just manages to make it to his feet.

SINGING FURY

Pray you, who does the wolf love?

HERMIA

The lamb.

SINGING FURY

Ay, to devour him.

The singing fury staggers towards her, but stops as Demetrius
steps between them.

DEMETRIUS

Abandon the society of this female;
or, clown, thou perishest; or, to
thy better understanding, diest;
or, to wit, I kill thee, make thee
away, translate thy life into
death, thy liberty into bondage. I
will kill thee a hundred and fifty
ways; therefore tremble and depart.

The singing fury throws up a little blood, staggers towards
Demetrius then collapses on the ground.

Demetrius seizes his chance, grabs the already unconscious
singing fury and bashes his head against the ground.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

If any spark of life be yet
remaining, down, down to hell; and
say I sent thee thither.

DJ struts, triumphant, to Hermia.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Show me a murderer; I'll deal with him.

HERMIA

Fie, Demetrius! If thou hast slain Lysander in his sleep, being o'er shoes in blood, plunge in the deep, and kill me too.

DEMETRIUS

Madam, this service I have done for you, though you respect not aught your servant doth, to hazard life and rescue you from him.

HERMIA

What's this to my Lysander? Where is he? Ah, good Demetrius, wilt thou give him me?

DEMETRIUS

I had rather give his carcass to my hounds.

Demetrius sees a fury watching them, but Hermia doesn't.

HERMIA

Out, dog! Out, cur! Thou drivest me past the bounds of maiden's patience.

Demetrius sees more furies surround them, but can't get a word in edgeways.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

Hast thou slain him, then? Henceforth be never number'd among men! O, once tell true, tell true, even for my sake! Durst thou have look'd upon him being awake, and hast thou kill'd him sleeping?

DEMETRIUS

Look about you: know you any here?

Hermia sees the furies surrounding them. She and Demetrius go back to back as the furies close in.

HERMIA

Where be your gibes now?

A noise from the darkness. A blood-covered, dishevelled Helena runs into the glade and joins them.

HELENA

Friends, be gone; I have myself
resolved upon a course which has no
need of you; be gone.

(To the furies)

To me, blood-thirsty lord.

Helena proceeds to fight all four furies, overcoming them all
with an astonishing display of judo, kung fu and gymnastics.

Demetrius looks on in awe.

DEMETRIUS

O Helena, goddess, nymph, perfect,
divine! To what, my love, shall I
compare thine eyne?

With the furies down, Helena ushers the others away.

HELENA

Fly, my lord, there is no tarrying
here.

DEMETRIUS

I your servant.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

A motorbike, headlights off, freewheels towards the field.

The driver, Oberon, has the hold-all over his shoulder. He
parks and listens -- silence.

He reaches in the hold-all, takes out two handguns, then gets
off the bike and heads towards the field.

OBERON

O mistress mine, where are you
roaming? O, stay and hear: your
true love's coming.

EXT. DISUSED CHURCH - NIGHT

The vicar lays his hands on Bottom. At the back of the church
Puck watches, his gun in his hand.

PUCK

Now might I do it pat, now he is
praying; and now I'll do it.

But he can't. He lulls his head.

PUCK (CONT'D)

But I cannot choose but weep to
think they would lay him i' th'
cold ground.

A hand on his shoulder. Puck looks up: it's the vicar.

VICAR

There is a change.

INT. DISUSED CHURCH - NIGHT

Bottom is still bound to the chair, but the fury in him has gone. He drifts in and out of consciousness.

Puck and the vicar observe from a distance.

VICAR

Look, he recovers. A beast no more.

PUCK

All may be well.

VICAR

Fetch thy master home. Save your
subjects from such massacre and
ruthless slaughters.

Puck gets out his phone and dials.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Oberon stalks towards the stage, a gun in each hand, and the hold-all over his shoulder.

Bottom's mobile in his pocket rings and vibrates.

The noise from the phone attracts a fury, who runs at him. Oberon shoots him dead.

OBERON

I curse the day - and yet, I think,
few come within the compass of my
curse,

The gunshot attracts more furies. Oberon moves towards the stage, shooting the furies that attack from all sides.

OBERON (CONT'D)

- wherein I did not some notorious
ill, as kill a man, or else devise
his death, ravish a maid, or plot
the way to do it. Set deadly enmity
between two friends,

Out of ammo, he drops the handguns and gets a pump-action
shotgun from his hold-all and carries on killing.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Set fire on barns and haystacks in
the night, and bid the owners
quench them with their tears. Oft
have I digg'd up dead men from
their graves, and set them upright
at their dear friends' doors.

Again out of ammo, he uses the shotgun to hit the oncoming
furies away.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Even when their sorrows almost were
forgot and on their skins, as on
the bark of trees, have with my
knife carved in Roman letters, let
not your sorrow die, though I am
dead.'

Oberon is out of ammo and out of strength. He throws the
shotgun at the oncoming furies and climbs onto the stage.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Tut, I have done a thousand
dreadful things as willingly as one
would kill a fly.

With a sea of furies in the field, Oberon reaches in his hold-
all and takes out the last piece of kit: two grenades.

OBERON (CONT'D)

If one good deed in all my life I
did, I do repent it from my very
soul.

Oberon pulls the pins, lobs them into the furies and climbs
up the lighting rig.

A massive explosion.

EXT. LIGHTING RIG - NIGHT

Titania clings on as the grenades explode. Oberon joins her.

OBERON
 Ill met by moonlight, proud
 Titania. How doth the lady?

Titania looks down at the damage: lots of dead furies but many more still swarming beneath them.

TITANIA
 Dead, I think.

INT. HOUSEMASTER'S BEDROOM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Egeus asleep. The rumble of the explosion in the distance wakes him.

EGEUS
 Peace! What noise?

INT. HERMIA AND HELENA'S DORM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Egeus peers in. Both beds are empty.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

In the wood is a bird-watching cabin, the light on inside.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

The cabin is disused and serves as a lost property centre with all manner of lost goods in a pile in the corner.

In another corner Lysander sits alone.

LYSANDER
 Am I a coward? I may speak it to my
 shame, I have a truant been to
 chivalry. A coward, a most devout
 coward, religious in it.

He takes out his red pill.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
 What if it be poison? This is most
 brave.

He swallows the pill.

The door flies open and Helena, Demetrius and Hermia run in.

HERMIA

Thou art not by mine eye, Lysander,
found.

She hugs him; it's barely reciprocated. Lysander sneers at Demetrius.

LYSANDER

Where is this rash and most
unfortunate man?

DEMETRIUS

Go, prick thy face, and over-red
thy fear, thou lily-liver'd boy.

LYSANDER

Thou mis-shapen dick!

HERMIA

Prithee, peace. But why unkindly
didst thou leave me so?

LYSANDER

All thy tediousness.

HERMIA

What say you?

LYSANDER

You must not marvel. I like Helen.
Fair Helena, who --

DEMETRIUS

-- more engilds the night than all
you fiery oes and eyes of light.

LYSANDER

You are unkind, Demetrius; be not
so; for you love Hermia; this you
know I know: and here, with all my
heart, in Hermia's love I yield you
up my part.

DEMETRIUS

Lysander, keep thy Hermia; I will
none: if e'er I loved her, all that
love is gone. My heart to her but
as guest-wise sojourn'd, and now to
Helen is it home return'd.

LYSANDER

By your leave, this maid is mine.

DEMETRIUS

Alas, poor rogue! I think, i'faith,
she loves me.

They both turn to Helena.

LYSANDER

The lady shall say her mind freely.

Helena turns on Hermia.

HELENA

Have you conspired, have you with
these contrived to bait me with
this foul derision?

HERMIA

I scorn you not: it seems you scorn
me.

HELENA

Ay, do, persever, counterfeit sad
looks, make mouths upon me when I
turn my back; wink each at other;
but fare ye well: 'tis partly my
own fault; which death or absence
soon shall remedy.

Helena heads for the door. Lysander and Demetrius try to stop
her.

LYSANDER

Stay, gentle Helena --

DEMETRIUS

My love --

HELENA

Off, pluck off!

Helena throws them out the way and exits.

EXT. WOOD - NIGHT

Helena steps out of the cabin and freezes.

Furies are everywhere, in a trance-like state, dancing to
inaudible music.

HERMIA (O.S.)

Sweet, do not scorn her so.

With the door open, the furies can hear them. They snap out of their trance and turn on Helena.

HELENA
O excellent!

Helena runs back into the cabin.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Helena runs in and barricades the door with lost property.

DEMETRIUS
Helen, I love thee; by my life, I do.

LYSANDER
I say I love thee more than he can do.

A window smashes. Demetrius rushes to it and keeps out the furies as Lysander searches the lost property for weapons.

HERMIA
Lysander, where to tends all this?

LYSANDER
Away, you Ethiopie!

Lysander picks up a shovel, runs at Demetrius and whacks the fury attacking him with it.

HERMIA
Why are you grown so rude?

LYSANDER
Why think you so? Your virginity!

Lysander keeps the furies out of the broken window as Demetrius plugs the window with chairs.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)
Your old virginity, is like one of our French withered pears, it looks ill, it eats drily; marry, 'tis a withered pear.

HERMIA
O me!

LYSANDER
Virginity breeds mites, much like a cheese.

HERMIA

What means this jest? Am I not
Hermia? Are not you Lysander?

LYSANDER

Ay, by my life; and never did
desire to see thee more. Therefore
be out of hope, of question, of
doubt; be certain, nothing truer;
'tis no jest that I do hate thee
and love Helena.

With the smashed window plugged, another window smashes.

As Lysander and Demetrius keep the furies out of this second
window, Hermia turns on Helena keeping the door closed.

HERMIA

You juggler! You canker-blossom!
You thief of love! What, have you
come by night and stolen my love's
heart from him?

HELENA

Fie, fie! You counterfeit, you
puppet, you!

HERMIA

Puppet? Why so? Ay, that way goes
the game. Now I perceive that she
hath made compare between our
statures; she hath urged her
height; and are you grown so high
in his esteem; because I am so
dwarfish and so low? How low am I,
thou painted maypole? Speak; how
low am I? I am not yet so low but
that my nails can reach unto thine
eyes.

Hermia attacks Helena, compromising the door.

HELENA

I pray you, though you mock me,
gentlemen, let her not hurt me.

Lysander leaves Demetrius to pull Hermia off Helena,
compromising the second window.

HELENA (CONT'D)

You perhaps may think, because she
is something lower than myself,
that I can match her.

Lysander returns to helping Demetrius --

HERMIA
Lower! Hark, again.

-- leaving Hermia to attack Helena again.

HELENA
O, when she's angry, she is keen
and shrewd! And though she be but
little, she is fierce.

Lysander restrains Hermia.

HERMIA
"Little" again! Nothing but "low"
and "little"! Why will you suffer
her to flout me thus?

LYSANDER
Get you gone, you dwarf; you
minimus, of hindering knot-grass
made; you bead, you acorn.

Lysander pushes her to the ground, then helps the others
secure the windows.

Hermia sits, a heap on the floor.

HERMIA
I am amazed and know not what to
say.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - NIGHT

Egeus is with a POLICE OFFICER outside Lancaster House.

EGEUS
Saw you my daughter? Hast thou
found my daughter?

POLICE OFFICER
We will, my lord.

EGEUS
I do confess my fault; let me go
with you.

POLICE OFFICER
It will be dangerous to go on.

EGEUS
My lord, this is my daughter.

POLICE OFFICER
 When I return with victory from the
 field I'll see your grace: till
 then I'll follow her.

The officer gets in his car.

EGEUS
 I was not born a yielder.

Egeus gets in his car and drives after them.

INT. DISUSED CHURCH - NIGHT

Puck and the vicar with Bottom, no longer a fury, but still
 tied to a chair.

BOTTOM
 I have had a most rare vision. I
 have had a dream, past the wit of
 man to say what dream it was.

VICAR
 How dost thou feel thyself now?

BOTTOM
 My rage is gone; and I am struck
 with sorrow.

PUCK
 Bottom! O most courageous day! O
 most happy --

BOTTOM
 Get thee from my sight; thou gavest
 me poison: dangerous fellow, hence!

Bottom tries to free himself, but cannot.

PUCK
 What, art thou mad?

BOTTOM
 The drug he gave me, which he said
 was precious and cordial to me,
 have I not found it murderous --

PUCK
 That was not to be blamed.

BOTTOM

It is the cause, it is the cause,
my soul. Unbind my hands, I'll pull
them off myself.

PUCK

Doth he still rage? Be you quiet,
monster.

BOTTOM

Monster, I will kill this man.

PUCK

He talks at random; sure, the man
is mad. Keep him dark and safely
lock'd.

Puck answers his phone.

PUCK (CONT'D)

My lord.

(Glances at Bottom)

Not dead, for all your -- ... But
he -- ... So I will, sir.

Puck hangs up and returns to Bottom. Puck's mood is black.

PUCK (CONT'D)

I have business to my lord.

BOTTOM

You will accompany me thither.
Untie my hands.

Puck isn't going to do that.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)

Though I am mad, I will not bite.

PUCK

I am commanded...

He takes out his gun.

PUCK (CONT'D)

... here.

BOTTOM

You lie, ye rogue!

PUCK

This was order'd by the good
discretion of --

BOTTOM
I swear I'll cuff you. Untie my hands.

Bottom stops struggling when he sees that Puck is serious.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)
Will you kill your brother?

PUCK
"Sir, my life is yours." Fond man, remember that?

BOTTOM
Faith, I do.

PUCK
All debts are cleared between you and I.

Puck unties Bottom's ropes. An awkward moment of fraternity that neither of them know how to deal with.

PUCK (CONT'D)
Come, let's away. There is a fray to be fought.

EXT. LIGHTING RIG - NIGHT

Titania and Oberon up the lighting rig.

OBERON
Do you remember since we lay all night in windmill in Saint George's field?

TITANIA
Ha, 'twas a merry night.

OBERON
You loved me.

TITANIA
You loved, I loved for intermission. I never loved you much.

OBERON
The lady doth protest too much, methinks.

Titania scoffs with disdain.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Beshrew my father's ambition! He was thinking of civil wars when he got me: therefore was I created with a stubborn outside, with an aspect of iron, that, when I come to woo ladies, I fright them.

TITANIA

O, bid me leap.

OBERON

If thy revengeful heart cannot forgive, lo, I lend thee this sharp-pointed sword;

(Takes out a flik-knife)

Which if thou please to hide in this true bosom. And let the soul forth that adoreth thee, I lay it naked to the deadly stroke, and humbly beg the death upon my knee.

Oberon opens his shirt and attempts a kneel. He slips, forcing Titania to shuffle over and pull him up.

TITANIA

Arise, dissembler: though I wish thy death, I will not be the executioner.

OBERON

Then bid me kill myself, and I will do it.

TITANIA

I have already.

OBERON

Tush, that was in thy rage: speak it again.

Titania falters.

OBERON (CONT'D)

Say, then, my peace is made.

TITANIA

That shall you know hereafter.

OBERON

But shall I live in hope?

She sizes him up.

TITANIA

'Tis more than you deserve.

Oberon smiles; he's winning.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Relative calm. The furies have given up trying to get in.

Lysander looks pale. Hermia quietly cries. Demetrius and Helena hold the door.

DEMETRIUS

Do you not love me? Do you not,
indeed? Well, do not then; for
since you love me not, I will not
love myself.

HELENA

As if!

DEMETRIUS

Nay, tell me if you speak in jest
or no.

HELENA

I would I knew thy heart.

DEMETRIUS

'Tis figured in my tongue.

HELENA

I fear me both are false.

DEMETRIUS

Then you do not love me?

Helena is distracted by Lysander with the shivers.

HELENA

Lysander, whereto tends all this?

Lysander turns to her; he is on the turn.

LYSANDER

I have a faint cold fear thrills
through my veins, that almost
freezes up the heat of life.

DEMETRIUS

As I am an honest man, he looks
pale. Art thou sick, or angry?

Helena tends Lysander.

LYSANDER
My tongue cleave to the roof within
my mouth. Have I aspic in my lips?

Helena waves Hermia to the sink.

HELENA
Give me some drink.

LYSANDER
A chilling sweat o'er-runs my
trembling joints. My belly's as
cold as if I had swallowed
snowballs.

DEMETRIUS
Go bind this man, for he is frantic
too.

Hermia scours through the lost property.

LYSANDER
And now my sight fails, and my
brain is giddy.

Hermia produces a golf club and a skipping rope.

DEMETRIUS
Give me the iron, I say, and bind
him here.

HERMIA
Is this certain?

DEMETRIUS
Most certain. Bind him, I say.

Hermia takes the skipping rope and binds Lysander.

LYSANDER
Whence comes this restraint?

Hermia looks into Lysander's eyes as they fill with blood.

HERMIA
Believe me, you are marvellously
changed.

Hermia pulls the rope tight, but she hasn't tied it and
Lysander easily throws it off.

He grabs Hermia by the throat.

LYSANDER

Now could I drink hot blood and do
such bitter business as the day
would quake to look on.

He is about to bite her face when Demetrius whistles, drawing his attention.

DEMETRIUS

You are a counterfeit cowardly
knave.

LYSANDER

That which hath made them drunk
hath made me bold.

He throws Hermia across the room then goes for Demetrius, who swings the golf club at him.

Lysander catches the club and uses it to throw Demetrius across the room.

But then Helena is waiting for him. She and Demetrius fight Lysander like a wrestling tag team, one holding the door closed, the other fighting Lysander. Then swapping.

Hermia acts as an arms supplier, handing Demetrius and Helena items from the lost property to use as weapons: such as a bicycle wheel and a prosthetic limb.

DEMETRIUS

The fiend is strong within him.

The fight ends when Demetrius pins Lysander to the floor and is about to stab him with the metal bar from a bicycle seat --

HERMIA

No!

Demetrius pauses.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

It is my love.

Demetrius relents. Hermia gives him the skipping rope and together they tie Lysander up.

EXT. LIGHTING RIG - NIGHT

Titania is turned away from Oberon. He looks round at her and sees her wipe her eyes.

OBERON
Have you wept all this while?

TITANIA
Yes and I will weep a while longer.

OBERON
I will not desire that.

TITANIA
You have no reason; I do it freely.

OBERON
Weep not, sweet queen; for
trickling tears are vain.

TITANIA
But have I not cause to weep?

OBERON
What cause withholds you then, to
mourn for him?

Titania shakes her head.

OBERON (CONT'D)
I charge thee, as Heaven shall work
in me for thine avail, tell me
truly. Upon what cause?

Titania finally meets his eye.

TITANIA
I do love nothing in the world so
well as you: is not that strange?

OBERON
As strange as the thing I know not.
By my sword, thou lovest me.

TITANIA
Peace, fool.

OBERON
I will swear by it that you love
me; and I will make him eat it that
says I love not you.

Out of the corner of her eye, Titania sees blue flashing
lights in the distance.

TITANIA
Peace, I say!

OBERON

With no sauce that can be devised
to it. I protest I love thee.

TITANIA

Peace! I will stop your mouth.

She pulls his face towards her and opens her mouth to kiss him. He doesn't see the red pill on the tip of her tongue.

The kiss starts passionately, then Oberon realises something is wrong. He tries to pull away but Titania keeps their mouths locked until --

-- he swallows. Then she lets go.

TITANIA (CONT'D)

O, a kiss long as my exile, sweet
as my revenge.

She swings along the rig, out of his reach.

OBERON

What hast thou done?

TITANIA

Thou sodden-witted lord! One of
them you shall be.

She points down at the furies, then escapes along the lighting rig then down the other leg.

OBERON

Villanous whore! 'Sblood, you
starveling, you elf-skin, you dried
neat's tongue, you bull's pizzle!

The police arrive en masse, distracting the furies, giving Titania the opportunity to flee.

OBERON (CONT'D)

You stock-fish! O for breath to
utter what is like thee!

INT. ALFA ROMEO (MOVING) - NIGHT

Bottom drives, Puck his passenger. Oberon's motorbike races past, going the other way. As it passes the driver gives Bottom and Puck the finger.

PUCK

That was my lady.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Furies versus police. Armed officers take no prisoners, shooting furies if necessary.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

Puck and Bottom on the roof of the Alfa Romeo, watching the carnage, horrified and distraught.

BOTTOM

I never saw an action of such
shame; experience, manhood, honour,
ne'er before did violate so itself.

Puck takes out his mobile and dials.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Bottom's mobile lies on the ground. The screen reads "Puck calling". A police officer's size 12 treads on it.

EXT. CAR PARK FIELD - NIGHT

Puck and Bottom as Bottom's voicemail kicks in:

BOTTOM (V.O.)

Come, come; thou'lt do thy message,
wilt thou not?

The phone beeps and Puck hangs up. Bottom is inconsolable.

BOTTOM

O my master!

In the distance, Egeus's car parks. Egeus exits the vehicle and runs towards the field.

EXT. A FIELD - NIGHT

Egeus wades through the corpses, looking for Hermia.

One of the corpses looks a lot like her. He bends down to have a closer look --

-- and the corpse opens her blood-red eyes. She's a fury.

She grabs his head, coughs a mouthful of blood onto his face and tries to eat him.

He screams. Then a gunshot.

The fury's head explodes as the bullet hits her, splattering Egeus. The shooter, a police officer, moves on.

Egeus is traumatised by the episode. He staggers to the stage and leans against it to get his breath back.

EGEUS

Stay, give me drink.

He sees Titania's discarded energy drink on the stage, grabs it and downs the lot.

He looks at the carnage around him.

EGEUS (CONT'D)

Gone she is to death or dishonour.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Hermia looks out of a broken window at the furies. Demetrius holds the door.

DEMETRIUS

It's almost morning, is't not?

HERMIA

Day, my lord.

Helena examines Lysander, bound and gagged.

HELENA

What shall be done with him?

HERMIA

He is my prisoner, and you shall not have him.

HELENA

He is, indeed; and living to kill thee.

HERMIA

What should I do with him? It is my love.

A bell rings in the distance.

DEMETRIUS

Didst thou not hear a noise?

HERMIA
I heard the owl scream and the
crickets cry.

HELENA
Did you not speak?

DEMETRIUS
When?

HELENA
Now.

Hermia peers out the window again.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

The bell rings again, clearer now. The furies drift away
towards the sound of the bell.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Hermia turns to Helena with dread.

HERMIA
The Windsor bell hath struck.

HELENA
Boy, bristle thy courage up. We
must away.

Demetrius leaps to his feet.

DEMETRIUS
I am commanded.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

The army of furies drifts out of the wood and heads towards
the school.

EXT. WOOD - DAY

Demetrius and Helena run through the wood. A fury jumps out
at them and they knock him over without breaking stride.

EXT. CRICKET PITCH, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Demetrius and Helena run out of the wood. In the distance the furies are trying to enter both boarding houses.

HELENA

A plague o'both your houses.

Demetrius stops.

DEMETRIUS

Lively Helena!

Helena looks back. Demetrius nods to the building they're standing beside: the cricket pavilion.

Thinking he means hanky-panky, she shakes her head, smiling.

HELENA

'Tis now no time to --

DEMETRIUS

There is a willow.

INT. CRICKET PAVILION - DAY

Demetrius picks up his favourite cricket bat. Behind him Helena puts on a pair of batting gloves.

HELENA

Bring me to the party!

EXT. CRICKET PITCH, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Demetrius and Helena stride towards the boarding houses, Demetrius wielding the bat as if about to begin an innings, Helena punching her gloved fists together like a boxer.

INT. SHOWER ROOM, LANCASTER HOUSE - DAY

Sleepy 6th form girls in nightwear drift through their morning ablutions.

The sound of the showers hides the fingers scraping at the high windows until - the glass shatters.

Screams and panic.

A fury, careless to the cuts the broken glass cause him, tries to scramble through the window.

A girl opens the door to flee and is pounced on by a fury.
The fury sees the roomful of 6th form girls, trembling.

SHOWER ROOM FURY
How a dozen of virginitities?

INT. A DORM, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Two 6th form boys dress. One of them goes to the window and opens the curtains.

Outside are a mass of furies. They smash the window.

INT. HEADMASTER'S BATHROOM, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Theseus leans over a sink, whirring electric toothbrush in his mouth. Hearing a noise, he turns the toothbrush off.

But all he hears is silence.

He switches the toothbrush back on and continues brushing - until he hears another noise and turns the toothbrush off.

Now he hears a noise.

He spits toothpaste into the sink.

INT. HEADMASTER'S STAIRS, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Toothbrush still in hand, Theseus descends the stairs.

INT. HEADMASTER'S KITCHEN, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Theseus steps into the kitchen to find the fridge open. A fury kneels before it, eating raw steak.

THESEUS
What bloody man is that?

The fury, drooling blood, turns to Theseus.

TOOTHBRUSH FURY
Villain, thy hand yields thy
death's instrument.

Theseus looks down at the toothbrush, drops it, inadvertently turning it on, and runs.

The fury drops the steak, picks up the toothbrush and takes off the brush, revealing the pointy end.

INT. SHOWER ROOM, LANCASTER HOUSE - DAY

Furies try to get in through the window. A girl beats them with pink, fluffy slippers.

Other girls use towels to whip the shower room fury who devours the girl he leapt on.

A girl gets a jolt of courage and throws a can of hairspray at the shower room fury.

The shampoo hits the fury.

SHAMPOO 6TH FORMER
The devil take thy soul!

SHOWER ROOM FURY
'Tis done already.

The fury prepares to launch himself at the girls --

-- when the door is flung open and a beaten up fury is thrown in - followed by Helena.

HELENA
Ladies, you are not merry:
gentlemen, whose fault is this?

Both furies scramble to their feet and attack Helena, but she upends both with two cricket-gloved punches.

HELENA (CONT'D)
One i'the neck and two i'the thigh.

Another couple of blows and the furies stay down.

HELENA (CONT'D)
Good ladies, let's go. Wisely and
slow; they stumble that run fast.

INT. CORRIDOR, YORK HOUSE - DAY

6th form boys run out of their dorms and run to the exit, then stop, en masse.

The doorway fills with hungry furies.

The boys back away, then a voice from the back of the corridor:

DEMETRIUS (O.S.)
Silence, you airy toys!

The boys part, showing Demetrius, cricket bat in hand.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Cricket!

He skips down the corridor at the onrushing furies and plays a hook shot on the leading fury's head.

6TH FORM BOY

Shot, by Heaven!

Demetrius plays off drives, square cuts and lofted drives on the onrushing furies until the bat breaks.

DEMETRIUS

Follow my heels, rugby!

Demetrius rugby-tackles the next oncoming fury and the other boys back him up, making a ruck.

The ruck crushes the remaining furies then a few well-placed blows render the remaining furies unconscious.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Excellent play! Come, I'll conduct you to the sanctuary.

6TH FORM BOY

Where is the master, boatswain?

INT. HEADMASTER'S BATHROOM, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Locked in the bathroom, Theseus listens at the door.

He hears the sound of the electric toothbrush get nearer and nearer till it's right outside the door.

The door handle turns, but the lock holds firm.

Theseus stays frozen.

The handle turns frantically. The whole door rattles. The lock holds but the hinges are old and loose.

THESEUS

Hang thee, young baggage!
Disobedient wretch! Thou shalt be
heavily punish'd.

The top hinge break, creating an opening. The fury reaches in, but can't get in any further.

Theseus keeps his shoulder against the door, keeping it closed, but the bottom hinge weakens.

The fury puts all his weight on the door and the bottom hinge gives.

Theseus unlocks the door so it comes away completely. He falls onto his back and uses it as a shield with the fury on top, scratching and clawing at the door.

INT. HEADMASTER'S BEDROOM, YORK HOUSE - DAY

Demetrius picks the toothbrush off the floor. He is flanked by the 6th form boys.

DEMETRIUS
Good dawning to thee, friend.

The toothbrush fury spins his head round and sees them.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)
Go thou, and fill another room in hell.

Demetrius leaps on the fury and buries the whirring toothbrush in his skull. He leaves the toothbrush, still whirring, in the fury's skull.

The 6th form boys look on in horror.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)
Gaze where you should, and that will clear your sight.

Demetrius lifts the door off Theseus.

THESEUS
Ah, good Demetrius. Noble, courageous, high, unmatchable --

DEMETRIUS
Come, come, no more of that. Wilt take thy chance with me?

THESEUS
Captain, I will.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Lysander's head is lulled; Hermia raises it. His eyes are closed, his skin pale; he looks dead.

HERMIA

No, no, no life! Why should a dog,
a horse, a rat have life and thou
no breath at all?

Lysander opens his eyes. He is still a fury, but he's
fighting it and it's killing him.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

How dost thou, sweet lord?

LYSANDER

I am dying.

HERMIA

Talk not of dying.

LYSANDER

I will stand for't a little though
therefore I die a virgin.

HERMIA

Are you meditating on virginity?

LYSANDER

I am a poor fellow. Unpitied let me
die, and well deserved. I am sorry
that with reverence I did not
entertain thee as thou art. I spake
not true.

HERMIA

You were a little sick.

LYSANDER

I am still possess'd.

HERMIA

Fear not, my lord; we can contain
ourselves.

LYSANDER

I so much thirst --

HERMIA

Your great love to me restrains you
thus. You would not do me violence.
Do you not love me?

LYSANDER

I beyond all limit of what else
i'the world do love, prize, honour
you.

Hermia is torn.

HERMIA

How dangerous is it that this man
goes loose?

INT. CORRIDOR, LANCASTER HOUSE - DAY

Helena leads her 6th-formers over a carpet of slain furies.

SHAMPOO 6TH FORMER

Trow you who hath done this?

HELENA

'Twas I.

SHAMPOO 6TH FORMER

Thou art a Roman.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Helena leads her 6th-formers out, across a quad to the back
of the dining hall just as Demetrius arrives with his 6th-
formers and Theseus.

HELENA

Why, how now, my bawcock!

DEMETRIUS

How dost thou, chuck?

They kiss. Theseus watches, confused.

THESEUS

Old Nedar's Helena. How comes this
gentle concord in the world, that
hatred is so far from jealousy?

DEMETRIUS

'Tis very strange, that is the
brief and the tedious of it.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

They burst in through the glass double-doors and block the
entrance with anything they can find.

Quince and the rest of the school watch, mid-breakfast.

QUINCE

What work's, my countrymen, in hand? Where go you with bats and clubs? The matter? Speak, I pray you.

Demetrius and Helena exchange a look; how to explain.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Lysander's hands are untied. He unties his feet, stands and looks to the door --

-- where Hermia watches.

HERMIA

What news, my love!

Lysander's fight has gone and all that's left is fury.

LYSANDER

Embowell'd will I see thee by and by!

Teeth bared, Lysander advances on her.

HERMIA

Am not I Hermia? Are not you Lysander? And are not you my husband? Are not you he?

Lysander falters. There's a spark of fight in him yet - but the rage takes over again.

LYSANDER

I will do such things - what they are yet, I know not; but they shall be the terrors of the earth!

He advances on her again.

HERMIA

Prevent it, resist it, let it not be so.

Again he falters.

HERMIA (CONT'D)

Resist it now.

Lysander fights the rage.

LYSANDER
We are unable to resist.

Hermia runs to him and embraces him.

HERMIA
Then kill, kill, kill, kill, kill!

Lysander bares his teeth. He loses the fight, then wins. He returns the embrace.

LYSANDER
I will resist.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

Quince is gob-smacked.

QUINCE
This is the strangest tale that
ever I heard. How many is killed?

THESEUS
Between fourteen and five and
thirty.

QUINCE
Strict preciseness.

DEMETRIUS
I judge their number upon or near
the rate of thirty.

HELENA
Truly, I thought there had been one
number more.

QUINCE
Come, enough!

THESEUS
How thirty, at least!

A bang!

A fury is at the reinforced glass doors. He bangs on the doors, trying to get in.

Another bang! Another fury, this time at a window.

More and more bangs as more and more furies surround the building, trying to get in.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

The noise is round about us. Let us
from it.

DEMETRIUS

What pleasure, sir, find we in
life, to lock it from action and
adventure?

QUINCE

Young gentleman, your spirits are
too bold for your years.

HELENA

What! Think'st thou that we fear
them?

The beginning of a crack appears in one of the glass doors
that a host of furies bang against.

QUINCE

And what wilt thou do?

Helena isn't sure, but Demetrius has a plan.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Hermia and Lysander, still a fury but under control, emerge
from the cabin, hand in hand.

The severed head of a police officer drops at their feet.
They freeze.

A fury is waiting for them: Oberon, blood on his mouth, the
police officer's headless corpse at his feet.

OBERON

What is the body when the head is
off?

LYSANDER

Mistress, fly, be gone! So cowards
fight when they can fly no further.

Lysander guides Hermia away and prepares to fight Oberon, but
she rushes back to his side.

HERMIA

Do not fight to-day. Death is
certain.

LYSANDER

And live you yet. Go, you wild
bedfellow.

Hermia is even more in love with him than before as he hurries her away and prepares to fight.

Oberon roars in readiness. He doesn't see Puck behind him, a tow rope in his hands.

PUCK

Valiant youth, single out some
other chase; for I myself will hunt
this wolf.

Hermia tugs Lysander away.

HERMIA

O brave monster! Lead the way.

Oberon squares up to Puck.

OBERON

How now, mad spirit! What night-
rule now about this haunted grove?

PUCK

Yield thee as my prisoner.

They circle each other.

OBERON

Think'st thou to catch my life so
pleasantly?

PUCK

Do you yield, sir?

OBERON

To who? To thee? What art thou?
Have I not an arm as big as thine?
A heart as big? Say what thou art,
why I should yield to thee?

PUCK

I am thy true servitor. I'll not
kill thee.

OBERON

And I will kill thee. Your hearts
I'll stamp out with my horse's
heels and make a quagmire of your
mingled brains. Here by the cheeks
I'll drag thee up and down.

(MORE)

OBERON (CONT'D)

I'll lead you about a round,
thorough bog, thorough bush,
thorough brake, thorough briar --

PUCK

Peace!

Puck stops; he has Oberon where he wants him.

PUCK (CONT'D)

Brevity is the soul of wit.

Puck tosses the rope at Oberon, who easily dodges it. The throw is hugely overshoot.

OBERON

He throws without distinction.

Puck smiles.

PUCK

He throws a thunderbolt.

Oberon looks where the rope landed and sees it in Bottom's hands. Bottom dives on Oberon, smothering him, allowing Puck to bind him.

INT. KITCHENS, DINING HALL - DAY

There is a hatch on the ceiling. Demetrius pulls it open and a ladder drops down.

Demetrius climbs, but Helena stops him.

HELENA

If thou fail us, all our hope is done.

DEMETRIUS

If we should fail, we fail! But screw your courage to the sticking place, and we'll not fail.

They kiss.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

A man can die but once.

He strides up the ladder.

HELENA

Heaven keep him from these beasts!

Helena closes the hatch after him.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

Helena returns to the dining hall.

THESEUS

Is he gone?

HELENA

Ay, sir. We go to gain a little patch of ground.

QUINCE

Wherefore? Tell true.

Helena leads him to the double doors and points over the top of the furies outside at the sports hall, a large brick building where the only windows are unreachably high.

HELENA

It is the most impenetrable.

INT. KITCHENS, DINING HALL - DAY

Theseus, Quince and all arm themselves with anything they can lay their hands on: soup ladles, frying pans.

EXT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

The furies have the dining hall surrounded. They don't see Demetrius on the flat roof.

DEMETRIUS

You herds of boils and plagues!

A few furies see him.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Come, come, you froward and unable worms. Thou art as loathsome as a toad. You Banbury cheese! You bull's pizzle!

They all see him now. A few climb up the drainpipes.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Come on, my fellows: there's some among you have beheld me fighting: come, try upon yourselves what you have seen me.

He runs along the roof and hurdles across a narrow gap onto the flat roof of the science block.

On the ground, the furies follow him.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

Helena watches Demetrius lead the furies away, the others poised for battle behind her.

HELENA

The fatal followers do pursue. Make
you ready your stiff bats and
clubs.

EXT. SCIENCE BLOCK ROOF - DAY

Demetrius runs across the roof, leading the furies further and further away from the dining hall.

INT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

Helena opens the door and leads the group out.

EXT. DINING HALL, ATHENS SCHOOL - DAY

Helena leads the group across a lawn to the sports centre.

EXT. SCIENCE BLOCK ROOF - DAY

Demetrius hurdles across another gap onto another flat roof. A fury has made it onto this roof and is in pursuit.

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Helena leads the group to the sports centre, but a rogue fury leaps out at them out of nowhere.

The fury is instantly brained by a series of blows from a ladle, a saucepan and a toaster.

EXT. SPORTS CENTRE - DAY

Helena hurries the group in. She sees Demetrius running across the maths block roof, heading for a much bigger hurdle to the next roof.

HELENA

Our fortune lies upon this jump.

EXT. MATHS BLOCK ROOF - DAY

Demetrius leaps --

Egeus's car is parked in the gap between buildings.

EXT. LANGUAGES BLOCK ROOF - DAY

-- Demetrius just makes it onto the languages block roof, stumbling as he lands.

He looks back at the fury attempting the same jump --

-- and falling short.

DEMETRIUS

By Heaven, methinks it were an easy
leap.

He stands and sees that a fury is waiting for him on this
roof: Egeus.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)

Was there ever man had such luck!

EGEUS

Why do you keep alone? How chance
my daughter is not with you?

DEMETRIUS

My mistress with a monster is in
love. They are in the very wrath of
love, and they will together. Clubs
cannot part them.

EGEUS

I took thee for thy better. I chose
an eagle, and did avoid a puttock.

DEMETRIUS

The object and the pleasure of mine
eye, is only Helena. To her, my
lord, was I betroth'd ere I saw
Hermia: but, like in sickness, did
I loathe this food; but, as in
health, come to my natural taste,
now I do wish it, love it, long for
it, and will for evermore be true
to it.

EGEUS
Lovers and madmen have such
seething brains.

DEMETRIUS
O, there has been much throwing
about of brains.

EGEUS
Your oath, my lord, is vain and
frivolous. You sin against
obedience. Thou shalt be heavily
punished.

Egeus bares his teeth and advances on Demetrius.

Demetrius scrambles to his feet and hurdles across to the
roof he's just comes from.

But this time he has no momentum and falls short.

EXT. SPORTS CENTRE - DAY

Helena gasps, watching from the doorway.

EXT. MATHS BLOCK ROOF - DAY

Demetrius grabs the edge of the roof and clings on. He looks
down.

DEMETRIUS
The wall is high, and yet will I
leap down.

Egeus has taken a run-up. He lands on the roof then stumbles.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)
Good ground, be pitiful and hurt me
not! If I get down, and do not
break my limbs, I'll find a
thousand shifts to get away.

Demetrius looks up to see Egeus reaching down to grab him.

DEMETRIUS (CONT'D)
As good to die and go, as die and
stay.

Demetrius lets go.

EXT. SPORTS CENTRE - DAY

Helena sees this and screams.

EXT. PASSAGEWAY - DAY

Demetrius lands on top of Egeus's car with a crunch.

From the other side of the maths block, the herd of furies hear this and head towards the car.

Demetrius rolls off the car onto the ground. He gets to his feet and hobbles towards Helena and the sports centre.

The furies are after him and much faster.

Demetrius keeps going but he's never going to make it. He looks back to see Egeus jump down from the roof and land well. He joins the pursuit.

Demetrius looks ahead to Helena at the sports centre door.

HELENA

Sweet, now, make haste!

DEMETRIUS

Shut the doors upon me!

Helena refuses; she's distraught. Theseus is at her shoulder.

THESEUS

Let the doors be shut upon him!

HELENA

Ay, like a dastard and a
treacherous coward!

She pushes him away and screams.

HELENA (CONT'D)

Demetrius!

Demetrius can't go on. He turns to the furies and raises his hand in surrender.

Egeus leads the herd towards him.

EGEUS

If you have tears, prepare to shed
them now.

The dismembered head of a police officer flies through the air, hits Egeus on the head, knocking him down.

The other furies stop.

The head-thrower is Lysander. He stands between Demetrius and the furies, blocking their path.

Hermia helps Demetrius to his feet and helps him to the safety of the sports centre. Demetrius looks back.

Lysander single-handedly faces off the entire herd of furies.

DEMETRIUS

Now, by the Gods, I do applaud his
courage.

Lysander addresses the furies.

LYSANDER

On, on, you noblest English. Whose
blood is fet from fathers of war-
proof! Fathers that, like so many
Alexanders, have in these parts
from morn till even fought and
sheathed their swords for lack of
argument: dishonour not your
mothers; now attest that those whom
you call'd fathers did beget you.
Be copy now to men of grosser
blood, and teach them how to war.

Egeus stands, disorientated.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

And you, good yeoman, whose limbs
were made in England, show us here
the mettle of your pasture; let us
swear that you are worth your
breeding; which I doubt not; for
there is none of you so mean and
base, that hath not noble lustre in
your eyes. I see you stand like
greyhounds in the slips, straining
upon the start.

He has the furies in the palm of his hand.

LYSANDER (CONT'D)

The game's afoot: follow your
spirit, and upon this charge cry
'God for Harry, England, and Saint
George!'

With a roar Lysander runs towards the wood. The furies roar in support and follow him.

Leaving the school deserted and fury-free.

INT. DISUSED CHURCH - DAY

Oberon, out cold, tied to a chair. He comes round and the fury in him has gone.

Sitting in the pews, watching him, are Puck and Bottom.

PUCK
Welcome, brave captain and
victorious lord!

Oberon takes a moment to collect his thoughts then total recall hits him - Titania's revenge.

OBERON
What a brazen-fac'd varlet!

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

A police officer questions Theseus, Helena, Hermia and a patched-up Demetrius.

POLICE OFFICER
Who began this bloody fray?

THESEUS
Butchers and villains! Bloody
cannibals! All incontinent varlets!
A thousand fiends, a thousand
hissing snakes, ten thousand
swelling toads, as many urchins,
would make such fearful and
confused cries as any mortal body
hearing it should straight fall
mad, or else die suddenly.

The police officer looks to the students for confirmation.

HELENA
'Twas a rough night.

EXT. WOOD - DAY

Lysander asleep in a pile of leaves. His eyes creek open. The fury has left him.

He lifts his head and sees sleeping ravers strewn throughout the wood.

He gets to his feet and looks around to orientate himself. He sees a sleeper he recognises: Egeus. He wakes him.

LYSANDER

How now, Sir Hugh? No school to-day?

EGEUS

I shall reply amazedly, half sleep, half waking: but as yet, I swear, I cannot truly say how I came here.

LYSANDER

Let us every one go home, and by the way let us recount our dreams.

EGEUS

Never talk of it.

LYSANDER

I mean, my lord --

EGEUS

No mention of me more must be heard of. Whatsoever else shall hap to-night, give it an understanding but no tongue. Swear by my sword.

LYSANDER

By Jupiter, I swear.

EGEUS

No more words: away!

Egeus marches back towards school. Lysander follows.

EXT. ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

Hermia, Helena and Demetrius in recovery.

HELENA

Were such things here as we do speak about?

DEMETRIUS

We that are true lovers run into strange capers.

HELENA

So methinks; and I have found Demetrius like a jewel, mine own, and not mine own.

DEMETRIUS

By Heaven, I love thee better than myself.

Hermia is miles away. Helena puts a reassuring hand on her arm.

HELENA

I am sorry for't: the man is a proper man, of mine honour.

HERMIA

He was excellent indeed.

DEMETRIUS

Still thus!

Demetrius looks towards the wood.

Hermia and Helena follow his gaze and see Lysander and Egeus striding towards them from the wood.

Hermia runs to them. Lysander runs to her. They embrace as everyone greets them like returning heroes.

HERMIA

O hero, what a hero hadst thou been!

DEMETRIUS

Your hero, every man's hero.

HELENA

Our most valiant brother.

HERMIA

O, how I love thee! How I dote on thee!

LYSANDER

I love thee; by my life, I do: I swear by that which I will lose for thee, to prove him false that says I love thee not. We two must go together.

They look at Theseus.

THESEUS

You must hold the credit of your father.

They all look at Egeus.

HERMIA
 Father, your blessing.

DEMETRIUS
 Believe me, sir, they butt together
 well.

All eyes on Egeus. He appears to melt and takes Hermia's hand, then his face hardens.

EGEUS
 Get thee to a nunnery!

INT. HERMIA AND HELENA'S DORM, LANCASTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Helena, at her laptop, scrolls through photos of couples on a non-specific social media site.

She types a comment under a photo:

Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful.

Another photo, another comment:

More fairer than fair, beautiful than beauteous, truer
 than truth itself

Pleased with her efforts, she shuts down her computer.

EXT. CRICKET PITCH, ATHENS PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY

A bowler starts his run-up. He bowls a wicked, fast ball.

Which the batsman, Demetrius, hits back over the bowler's head with consummate ease.

Demetrius strides to the bowler and shakes his hand.

DEMETRIUS
 I do say thou art quick. Very
 notably discharged.

In the crowd Helena applauds vigorously.

INT. CHAPEL, NUNNERY - DAY

Hermia, at prayers, the soul of piety.

INT. CORRIDOR, NUNNERY - DAY

Hermia escorted to her chamber by a nun.

HERMIA
Farewell, dear sister.

Hermia exits into her chamber.

INT. CHAMBER, NUNNERY - DAY

Hermia closes the door, waits a moment to be sure the coast is clear, then opens her window to reveal --

-- Lysander's beaming face.

LYSANDER
How now, my headstrong!

Hermia gives him a huge kiss and, without breaking lips, pulls him into the room.

EXT. NUNNERY - DAY

Lysander has used a ladder to get to her chamber window. As his feet disappear into the room, the ladder falls away.

FADE TO BLACK.

Superimpose: SOME TWO MONTHS HENCE

EXT. THE BUZZARD NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Parked across the road from the "The Buzzard" is a limo.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

The clock on the dashboard ticks over from 23.59 19 August to 0.00 20 August.

The partition is up. In the front Puck reads "Homo Deus - Yuval Noah Harari". Bottom is deep in thought.

PUCK
What a piece of work is man.
There's nothing level in our cursed
natures but direct villainy.

Bottom mulls this over, then:

BOTTOM

The web of our life is of a mingled
yarn, good and ill together.

PUCK

There's a stewed phrase indeed.

BOTTOM

Be of good cheer, youth. How much
better is it to weep at joy than to
joy at weeping!

Bottom smiles, disconcerting Puck.

PUCK

Hast thou drunk?

BOTTOM

The time of life is short! To spend
that shortness basely were too
long.

Puck, totally unnerved, returns to his book.

BOTTOM (CONT'D)

I mean to take my leave. For good.

PUCK

What means this? When?

BOTTOM

To-morrow; to-day; presently.

PUCK

Where?

BOTTOM

Iceland.

PUCK

Pish for thee, Iceland! And what
wilt thou do?

Bottom thinks long and hard about this, before:

BOTTOM

I will go lose myself. We know what
we are, but know not what we may
be.

Puck looks at his book, which holds no interest anymore. He
throws it on the dashboard.

PUCK
I shall miss thee.

Bottom sees that he has saddened Puck so leans over to him:

BOTTOM
Shall we dance?

Puck smiles. The partition lowers; Oberon is in the back.

OBERON
Once more unto the breach, dear
friends, once more.

INT. THE BUZZARD NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Titania, with a new look, DJs to a slim crowd.

Amongst the crowd is a raver with a red pill. He takes it.

Titania looks round at the other ravers. They all have red pills and they all take them.

At the back Puck is dealing. Bottom guards the door.

Titania is trapped.

She looks offstage and sees Oberon. He offers his hand: a chance to save herself.

She stares at him in horror --

-- but it's an act. Her expression changes to a smug smile.

Behind Oberon are two police officers.

All the ravers in the crowd spit out the red pills. They're all police officers.

A couple of officers arrest Puck. Three are required to arrest Bottom.

Titania keeps DJ-ing. She shouts into the mic:

TITANIA
If music be the food of love, play
ooooooooon --

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END