***A Midsummer Night’s Dream***

***Act 4, Scene 1***

**(1-44) Bottom remains unaware of the changes to his appearance as he enjoys all the attention from Titania and the fairies.**

**(45-80) Oberon feels guilty for having tricked Titania, and has Puck remove the spell. However, it is important to point out that he ultimately got what he wanted-the changeling boy.**

**(103-140)It is now early morning. Theseus, Hippolyta, Egeus and company come across the sleeping young lovers. Despite the protests of Egeus, Theseus rules that the lovers may make their own decisions.**

***Theseus and company represent society, reality and predictability. They re-emerge in the play at the dawn of a new day. This is symbolic. The fairies and the woods represent fantasy, magic and mystery. That is why the fairies are active at night in the forest. Darkness/night lends itself to dreams and romance, whereas in the daytime, people are awake. They must deal with consequences and reality.***

***Scene 2***

**The mechanicals are all back in Athens. They are still unsure as to what has transpired, but Bottom is nowhere to be found. They are extremely upset that they will not get a chance to perform.**

**Bottom reappears, and claims that he will tell them of his strange “dream” shortly. However, there isn’t a moment to lose if they want a chance to perform their play for the Duke and the married couples.**