

A Midsummer Night's Dream abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 2.3

Anger

Situation: Hermia enters the scene. She asks Lysander why he has left her. He says it's because of Helena. But Helena, distressed by what she considers the false attention from the two men, then presses Hermia to explain why she has teamed up with these two guys to treat her so rudely.

HERMIA TO LYSANDER: Why unkindly didst thou leave me so?

LYSANDER: Why should he stay whom love doth press to go?

HERMIA: What love could press Lysander from my side?

LYSANDER: Fair Helena, who more engilds the night than all yon fiery oes and eyes of light.

HERMIA: You speak not as you think. It cannot be.

HELENA: O, she is one of this confederacy!

Helena to Hermia, No. 1

Lo, I perceive you have conjoined as three
To fashion this false sport to spite poor me.
Have you, Hermia, conspired with them to
Bait me with this derision, after all
The counsel, fun and sister's vows we two
Shared, crying when quick-footed time would call
Us from each other? Hast thou forgot? We,
Both warbling of one song, both in one key,
As if our hearts, hands, sides, minds and souls were
One, as if our loyalty had no end.
Will you tear our ancient love asunder
To join with men in scorning your poor friend?
Women will chide thee for mistreating me,
Though I alone do feel the injury.