Shakespeare Power Hour: Macbeth

Narration: After a battle Macbeth and his best friend Banquo are heading for home when they meet the witches.

1. The Witches Meet Macbeth and Banquo (5) Macbeth, Banquo, Witch 1, Witch 2, Witch 3

Macbeth: So foul and fair a day I have not seen.
Banquo: What are these?
Macbeth: Speak, if you can: what are you?
1st Witch: All hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, thane of Glamis!
2nd Witch: All hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, thane of Cawdor!
3rd Witch: All hail, Macbeth! Thou shalt be king hereafter!
Banquo: Good sir, why do you start; and seem to fear Things that do sound so fair?
(to witches) I' the name of truth speak then to me.
1st Witch: Hail!
2nd Witch: Hail!
3rd Witch: Hail!
1st Witch: Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.
2nd Witch: Not so happy, yet much happier.
3rd Witch: Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none: So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!
1st Witch: Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

Narration: The witches tell Macbeth he will one day be king and that Banquo’s children will be kings, though he will not be. Macbeth, excited by the news tells his wife of the prophecy.

2. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth Plot (2) Macbeth, Lady Macbeth

Macbeth: My dearest love, Duncan comes here to-night.
Lady Macbeth: And when goes hence?
Macbeth: To-morrow, as he purposes.
Lady Macbeth: O, never shall sun that morrow see!
Macbeth: We will proceed no further in this business:
Lady Macbeth: Was the hope drunk
Wherein you dress’d yourself? Hath it slept since?

Macbeth: Prithee, peace!
If we should fail?

Lady Macbeth: We fail!
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we’ll not fail.

Narration: King Duncan goes to stay with Macbeth for a night, and Lady Macbeth convinces her husband that the best way to fulfill the prophecy is to kill the king as he sleeps.

3. The Murder
   (2) Macbeth, Lady Macbeth

Macbeth: I have done the deed. Didst thou hear a noise?

Lady Macbeth: I heard the owl scream and the crickets cry.
Did you not speak?

Macbeth: When?

Lady Macbeth: Now.

Macbeth: As I descended?

Lady Macbeth: Aye.

Macbeth: Methought I heard a voice cry ‘Sleep no more!’
Macbeth does murder sleep.

Lady Macbeth: Who was it that thus cried? Why?
Why did you bring these daggers from the place?
They must lie there: go carry them; and smear
The sleepy grooms with blood.

Macbeth: I’ll go no more:
I am afraid to think what I have done;
Look on’t again I dare not.

Narration: The next morning after discovering Duncan’s body, his son (Malcom) flees to England because he’s afraid both for his life and that he will be blamed. Macbeth frames Duncan’s guards for the murder and advances to the throne. Fearing what the witches said to Banquo about his children being kings, Macbeth hires three men to murder his friend. They attack and kill Banquo, but his son Fleance gets away. Meanwhile Macbeth is hosting a banquet to celebrate his coronation.

4. Banquo’s Ghost Appears
   (4) Ross, Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Banquo (silent)

Ross: Please’t your Highness to grace us with your royal Company.
Macbeth: The table's full.

Ross: Here's a place reserv'd, sir.

Macbeth: Where?

Ross: Here, my good lord.

(Macbeth sees the ghost of Banquo)

Macbeth: Which of you have done this?
Thou canst not say I did it!
Never shake thy gory locks at me.

Lady Macbeth: My worthy lord, your noble friends do lack you.

Macbeth: Avaunt! and quit my sight! let the earth hide thee!
Thy bones are marrowless, thy blood is cold;

(Exit ghost of Banquo)

Lady Macbeth: I pray you, speak not; he grows worse. Question
Enrages him. At once good night. Go at once!

Macbeth: It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood.

Narration: Lady Macbeth makes an excuse to everyone at the banquet that her husband is ill and not to worry about the things he is saying. As soon as everyone leaves Macbeth goes to see the witches, demanding to know more about his future.

5. The Witches Prophecy

(6) Macbeth, Witch 1, Witch 2, Witch 3, 2nd Apparition, 3rd Apparition

All Witches: Double, double toil and trouble,
Fire, burn; and, cauldron, bubble.

2nd Witch: By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.

(Enter Macbeth)

2nd Apparition: Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!
Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn
The power of man, for none of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth.—

Macbeth: Then live, Macduff: what need I fear of thee?
But yet I'll make assurance double sure,
And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live!

3rd Apparition: Macbeth shall never vanquished be until
Great Birnham wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.

Macbeth: That will never be
Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing: tell me.—

All Witches: Seek to know no more.
Macbeth: I will be satisfied: deny me this,  
And an eternal curse fall on you! Let me know:--

All Witches: Show his eyes, and grieve his heart;  
Come like shadows, so depart!

Narration: Satisfied with these new prophecies Macbeth goes back to his castle.  
Meanwhile Malcom has been in England with another lord named Macduff. Knowing  
that Macduff wasn’t loyal to him, Macbeth sends the murderers to kill his family.

6. Macduff and Malcolm Plan a Rebellion  
(3) Macduff, Malcolm, Ross

Macduff: I am not treacherous.

Malcolm: But Macbeth is.  
I think our country sinks beneath the yoke;  
It weeps, it bleeds; and each new day a gash  
Is added to her wounds

Macduff: O Scotland! Scotland!  
O nation miserable,

Malcolm: I put myself to thy direction, and  
What I am truly,  
Is thine, and my poor country’s, to command.

(Enter Ross)

Malcolm: Welcome hither!  
What’s the newest grief?

Ross: Your castle is surpris’d; your wife and babes  
Savagely slaughter’d.

Malcolm: Merciful heaven!

Macduff: He has no children.  
What, all my pretty chickens and their dam  
At one fell swoop?

Malcolm: Dispute it like a man.

Macduff: I shall do so;  
But I must also feel it as a man:  
--But, bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself;  
Within my sword’s length if he ‘scape,  
Heaven forgive him too!

Narration: With battle on the horizon we find that Lady Macbeth has gone mad with  
guilt. She seems to think that her hands are still stained with Duncan’s blood as she  
sleepwalks through the castle.

7. Out Damned Spot  
(3) Gentlewoman, Doctor, Lady Macbeth

Gentlewoman: Lo you, here she comes!
Doctor: You see, her eyes are open.

Gentlewoman: Aye, but their
Sense is shut.

Lady Macbeth: Yet here's a spot.
Out, damned spot!
--Yet who would have thought the old man
To have so much blood in him.

Doctor: Do you mark that?

Lady Macbeth: What, will these hands ne'er be clean?
Here's the smell of the
blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia
Will not sweeten this little hand.

Doctor: This disease is beyond my practice.

Lady Macbeth: To bed, to bed!

Narration: Lady Macbeth dies. Meanwhile Macbeth is comforting himself with the impossibility of the other prophecies coming true.

8. The Castle is Attacked
   (3) Seyton, Macbeth, Messenger

Seyton: The queen, my lord, is dead.

Macbeth: Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more:

(Enter Messenger) Thy story quickly.

Messenger: I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,
The wood began to move.

Macbeth: 'Fear not, till Birnam wood
Do come to Dunsinane:' and now a wood
Comes toward Dunsinane. Arm, arm, and out!
I 'gin to be a-weary of the sun,
Blow, wind! come, wrack!
At least we'll die with harness on our back.

Narration: Malcom's soldiers cut down branches from the trees of Birnam wood to conceal themselves as they march for the castle. Macbeth begins to panic and prepares for battle. He fights for a long time, and beats every opponent. Then he meets Macduff.

9. Macbeth vs Macduff
   (2) Macduff, Macbeth

Macduff: Turn, hell-hound, turn!
Macbeth: Of all men else I have avoided thee:

Macduff: I have no words.--
          My voice is in my sword.

(They fight.)

Macbeth: I bear a charmed life, which must not yield
          To one of woman born.

Macduff: Despair thy charm;
          Macduff was from his mother's womb
          Untimely ripp'd.

Macbeth: Accursed be that tongue that tells me
          I'll not fight with thee.

Macduff: Then yield thee, coward,

Macbeth: I will not yield, lay on, Macduff;

Narration: Macduff kills Macbeth and frees Scotland from his tyranny and
           Malcom takes his rightful place on the throne.
Shakespeare Power Hour: Romeo and Juliet

Narration: Benvolio interrupts a fight between the Capulets and Montagues. He tries to make peace between the two.

1. Benvolio Tries to Keep the Peace
(2) Benvolio, Tybalt

| Benvolio       | Part, fools!
|                | Put up your swords; you know not what you do.
| Tybalt:        | Turn thee, Benvolio, look upon thy death.
| Benvolio:      | I do but keep the peace: put up thy sword,
|                | Or manage it to part these men with me.
| Tybalt:        | What, drawn, and talk of peace! I hate the word,
|                | As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee!

Narration: Benvolio and Tybalt begin to fight. As the conflict grows the Prince arrives to order the two families to cease their dispute.

2. The Prince Speaks
(1) Prince

| Prince:        | Rebellious subjects, enemies to peace,
|                | Profaners of this neighbour-stained steel,-
|                | Throw your mistemper’d weapons to the ground,
|                | And hear the sentence of your moved prince.

Narration: The Prince threatens punishment to both families if there is another brawl and orders everyone away. After the streets have cleared Romeo arrives and sees the tell-tale signs of a fight.

3. Romeo Worries
(1) Romeo

| Romeo          | O me! What fray was here?
|                | Here’s much to do with hate, but more with love.
|                | Why, then, O brawling love! O loving hate!
|                | O any thing, of nothing first create!
|                | O heavy lightness! serious vanity!
|                | Feather of lead, bright smoke, cold fire, sick health!
|                | Still-waking sleep, that is not what it is!
|                | This love feel I, that feel no love in this.

Narration: Meanwhile in the Capulet house, the County Paris has asked for
Juliet’s hand. Lady Capulet takes her daughter aside to discuss the idea.

4. **Lady Capulet Counsels Juliet**  
   **(2) Lady Capulet, Juliet**

   **Lady Capulet:** How stands your disposition to be married?

   **Juliet:** It is an honour that I dream not of.

   **Lady Capulet:** Well, think of marriage now; Thus then in brief:  
   The valiant Paris seeks you for his love.  
   Speak briefly, can you like of Paris' love?

   **Juliet:** I'll look to like, if looking liking move:  
   But no more deep will I endart mine eye  
   Than your consent gives strength to make it fly.

Narration: Romeo has been sulking ever since the fight. His friend Mercutio tries to pull him out of it by suggesting they go crash the Capulet’s masked ball.

5. **If Love Be Rough With You**  
   **(2) Mercutio, Romeo**

   **Mercutio:** Nay, gentle Romeo, we must have you dance.

   **Romeo:** Not I, believe me: you have dancing shoes  
   With nimble soles: I have a soul of lead  
   So stakes me to the ground I cannot move.

   **Mercutio:** You are a lover; borrow Cupid's wings,  
   And soar with them above a common bound.

   **Romeo:** Under love's heavy burden do I sink.

   **Mercutio:** And, to sink in it, should you burden love;  
   Too great oppression for a tender thing.

   **Romeo:** Is love a tender thing? it is too rough,  
   Too rude, too boisterous, and it pricks like thorn.

   **Mercutio:** If love be rough with you, be rough with love.

Narration: Mercutio convinces Romeo to go with him to the party. There he sees Juliet and instantly falls in love.

6. **Romeo and Juliet Meet**  
   **(2) Romeo, Juliet**

   **Romeo:** O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!  
   Did my heart love till now? forswear it, sight!  
   For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.

   (To Juliet)

   If I profane with my unworthiest hand  
   This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this:  
   My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.

Juliet:  
  Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,  
  Which mannerly devotion shows in this;  
  For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,  
  And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.  

Romeo:  
  Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?  

Juliet:  
  Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer.  

Romeo:  
  O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do;  
  They pray, grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.  

Juliet:  
  Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake.  

Romeo:  
  Then move not, while my prayer's effect I take.

Narration: Juliet asks the Nurse to find out who Romeo is.

7. My Only Love Sprung From My Only Hate
(2) Nurse, Juliet

Nurse:  
  His name is Romeo, and a Montague;  
  The only son of your great enemy.  

Juliet:  
  My only love sprung from my only hate!  
  Too early seen unknown, and known too late!

Narration: After the party is over Romeo sneaks in the garden and sees Juliet sitting on her balcony.

8. What Light Through Yonder Window Breaks?
(1) Romeo

Romeo:  
  But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks?  
  It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.  
  It is my lady, O, it is my love!  
  O, that she knew she were!  
  O, that I were a glove upon that hand,  
  That I might touch that cheek!

Narration: Juliet is unaware of Romeo’s presence and begins to speak about her feelings for him.

8. A Rose By Any Other Name
(1) Juliet

Juliet:  
  O Romeo, Romeo! wherefore art thou Romeo?  
  Deny thy father and refuse thy name;  
  Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love,  
  And I'll no longer be a Capulet.  
  What's Montague? it is nor hand, nor foot,  
  Nor arm, nor face, nor any other part  
  Belonging to a man.
O, be some other name!
What's in a name? that which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet.

Narration: Romeo reveals his presence and the two are finally able to talk alone.

9. The Balcony Scene
(2) Juliet, Romeo

Romeo: O, wilt thou leave me so unsatisfied?
Juliet: What satisfaction canst thou have to-night?
Romeo: The exchange of thy love's faithful vow for mine.
Juliet: I gave thee mine before thou didst request it:
And yet I would it were to give again.
Romeo: Wouldst thou withdraw it? for what purpose, love?
Juliet: But to be frank, and give it thee again.
Romeo: Love goes toward love, as schoolboys from their books,
But love from love, toward school with heavy looks.
Juliet: Good night, good night! parting is such sweet sorrow,
That I shall say good night till it be morrow.

Narration: As Romeo leaves the garden he promises to send a message to Juliet the next day. In the morning she sends the Nurse out to find him and anxiously waits for her return.

10. There Stays a Husband to Make You a Wife
(2) Nurse, Juliet

Juliet: O honey nurse, what news?
Nurse: I am a-weary, give me leave awhile:
Fie, how my bones ache! what a jaunt have I had!
Juliet: I would thou hadst my bones, and I thy news:
Nay, come, I pray thee, speak;
Nurse: Do you not see that I am out of breath?
Juliet: How art thou out of breath, when thou hast breath
To say to me that thou art out of breath?
Nurse: Have you got leave to go to shrift to-day?
Juliet: I have.
Nurse: Then hie you hence to Friar Laurence' cell;
There stays a husband to make you a wife:
Narration: Friar Laurence marries Romeo and Juliet in secret, hoping that it will lead to an end of the feud between their families.

11. These Violent Delights Have Violent Ends
(1) Friar Laurence

Friar Laurence: These violent delights have violent ends
Therefore love moderately; long love doth so;
Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.

Narration: Romeo and Juliet each return home, but on his way Romeo is confronted by an angry Tybalt. Tybalt wants a duel with Romeo for crashing the ball. Romeo refuses to fight him and Mercutio steps in.

12. The Duel
(3) Romeo, Tybalt, Mercutio

Tybalt: Romeo, the hate I bear thee can afford
No better term than this,—thou art a villain.
Romeo: Villain am I none.
Tybalt: Boy, this shall not excuse the injuries
That thou hast done me; therefore turn and draw.
Romeo: I do protest, I never injured thee,
But love thee better than thou canst devise.
Mercutio: Tybalt, you rat-catcher, will you walk?
Tybalt: What wouldst thou have with me?
Mercutio: Good king of cats, nothing but one of your nine lives.
Tybalt: I am for you.

Narration: Tybalt and Mercutio fight. Romeo tries to come between them and Mercutio is stabbed.

13. A Plague on Both Your Houses
(1) Mercutio

Mercutio: Ay, ay, a scratch, a scratch; marry, 'tis enough.
'Tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church-door; but 'tis enough,'twill serve:
ask for me to-morrow, and you shall find me a grave man.
A plague o' both your houses!
'Zounds, a dog, a rat, a mouse, a cat, to scratch a man to death!
Why the devil came you between us?
I was hurt under your arm.

Narration: Mercutio dies and in a fit of rage Romeo kills Tybalt. He flees Verona and the Prince pronounces him banished. The Nurse brings the news to Juliet. She returns home to find that her parents have arranged for her to marry Paris.
within the week. She begs them to reconsider which angers her father.

**14. Get Thee to Church**  
(2) Capulet, Juliet

| Juliet: | Good father, I beseech you on my knees,  
| | Hear me with patience but to speak a word.  

| Capulet: | Hang thee, young baggage! disobedient wretch!  
| | I tell thee what: get thee to church o’ Thursday,  
| | Or never after look me in the face.  

Narration: Juliet resolves to find a way out of marrying Paris so she can be true to Romeo.

**15. Juliet Speaks**  
(1) Juliet

| Juliet: | O, bid me leap, rather than marry Paris,  
| | From off the battlements of yonder tower;  
| | Or walk in thievish ways; or bid me lurk  
| | Where serpents are; chain me with roaring bears;  
| | Or shut me nightly in a charnel-house,  
| | O’er-cover’d quite with dead men’s rattling bones,  
| | With reeky shanks and yellow chapless skulls;  
| | Or bid me go into a new-made grave  
| | And hide me with a dead man in his shroud;  
| | Things that, to hear them told, have made me tremble;  
| | And I will do it without fear or doubt,  
| | To live an unstain’d wife to my sweet love.  

Narration: To escape her arranged marriage Juliet drinks a potion that will make her appear dead. Her plan is that once her family has buried in the family crypt she can escape and be with Romeo. Meanwhile Romeo hears that Juliet has died and rushes to see if it’s true.

**15. Romeo**  
(1) Juliet

| Romeo: | O my love! my wife!  
| | Death, that hath suck’d the honey of thy breath,  
| | Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty:  
| | Eyes, look your last!  
| | Arms, take your last embrace! and, lips, O you  
| | The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss.  
| | Here’s to my love!  
| | Drinks  
| | 0 true apothecary!  
| | Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.  

Narration: Romeo drinks a vile of poison because he believes Juliet is dead. After he has died Juliet wakes up to find him there.

**16. O Happy Dagger**  
(1) Juliet
Juliet: What's here? a cup, closed in my true love's hand?
Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end:
O churl! drunk all, and left no friendly drop
To help me after? I will kiss thy lips;
Haply some poison yet doth hang on them.

Kisses him

Thy lips are warm. O happy dagger!
This is thy sheath;

Stabs herself

There rust, and let me die.

Narration: Juliet stabs herself with Romeo's dagger. Their families find their bodies together and are so overwhelmed by the tragedy of their love that they swear to end the feud.

Optional Prologue and Epilogue

Prologue: Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life.

Epilogue: A glooming peace this morning with it brings;
The sun, for sorrow, will not show his head:
Go hence, to have more talk of these sad things;
Some shall be pardon'd, and some punished:
For never was a story of more woe
Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.
Shakespeare Power Hour: A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Narration: Theseus tells Hippolyta about how he is excited to marry her.

1. I Woo’d Thee With My Sword
   (2) Theseus, Hippolyta (silent)

   Theseus: Hippolyta, I woo’d thee with my sword,
   And won thy love, doing thee injuries;
   But I will wed thee in another key,
   With pomp, with triumph and with revelling.

Narration: Hermia’s Father is angry that she refuses to marry Demetrius (the man he has picked for her.) Instead she wants to marry Lysander. The Duke tells her she can either choose to obey her father, live as a nun, or die for her disobedience.

2. Either Die The Death Or Live A Barren Sister
   (6) Theseus, Hippolyta, Egeus, Hermia, Lysander, Demetrius

   Theseus: Good Egeus: what’s the news with thee?
   Egeus: Full of vexation come I, with complaint
   Against my child, my daughter Hermia.
   Stand forth, Demetrius. My noble lord,
   This man hath my consent to marry her.
   Stand forth, Lysander
   This man hath bewitch’d the bosom of my child.

   Theseus: What say you, Hermia
   Hermia: I beseech your Grace that I may know
   The worst that may befall me in this case,
   If I refuse to wed Demetrius.

   Theseus: Either to die the death or to live
   A barren sister all your life.
Lysander: Demetrius, I'll avouch it to his head, 
Made love to Nedar's daughter, Helena, 
And won her soul:

Theseus: I must confess that I have heard so much, 
But, Demetrius, come, 
And come, Egeus; you shall go with me: 
I have some private schooling for you both.

Narration: Lysander and Hermia decide to run away together. They run into Helena, Hermia's best friend who is in love with Demetrius. They tell her of their plans to run away together and wish her luck with Demetrius.

3. We'll Fly This Place (3) Lysander, Helena, Hermia

Lysander: Hear me, Hermia. 
Steal forth thy father's house tomorrow night; 
And in the wood, 
There will I stay for thee.

Hermia: My good Lysander! 
Tomorrow truly will I meet with thee.

Enter HELENA

Hermia: God speed fair Helena!

Helena: Call you me fair? That fair again unsay. 
Demetrius loves your fair:

Hermia: Take comfort: he no more shall see my face; 
Lysander and myself will fly this place. 
And in the wood, Lysander and myself shall meet;

Narration: Helena decides to tell Demetrius about Hermia's plan, hoping that he'll chase Hermia into the woods and she can follow him.

4. I Will Go Tell Him Of Hermia's Flight (1) Helena

Helena: Through Athens I am thought as fair as she. 
But what of that? Demetrius thinks not so; 
I will go tell him of fair Hermia's flight: 
Then to the wood will he, tomorrow night 
Pursue her

Narration: The mechanicals, a group of laborers, meet to begin to rehearse a play for Theseus' wedding day. Peter Quince tries to direct the group, but Bottom wants to play every part.

5. Is All Our Company Here?
Quince: Is all our company here? 
Marry, our play is 'The most lamentable comedy, and most cruel death of Pyramus and Thisbe'. 
Answer as I call you. Nick Bottom, the weaver.

Bottom: Ready.

Quince: You, Nick Bottom, are set down for Pyramus.

Bottom: What is Pyramus?

Quince: A lover, that kills himself most gallant for love. 
Francis Flute, you must take Thisbe on you.

Flute: What is Thisbe?

Quince: It is the lady that Pyramus must love.

Bottom: Let me play Thisbe too.

Quince: No, no, you must play Pyramus; and, Flute, you Thisbe. 
and, I hope, here is a play fitted. 
Masters, here are your parts; 
and I request you to con them by tomorrow night; 
and meet me in the palace wood, a mile without the town, 
moonlight; there will we rehearse.

Narration: Oberon and Titania (the fairy King and Queen) are fighting over a little boy they each want to raise. Titania refuses to give him up and Oberon gets angry.

6. Give Me That Boy 
(2) Puck, Oberon, Titania

Puck: The king doth keep his revels here to-night: 
Take heed the queen come not within his sight; 
For Oberon is passing fell and wrath, 
Because that she as her attendant hath 
A lovely boy, stol’n from an Indian king-- 
She never had so sweet a changeling; 
And jealous Oberon would have the child.

Oberon: Ill met by moonlight, proud Titania.

Titania: What, jealous Oberon! 
I have forsworn his bed and company.

Oberon: How canst thou thus, for shame, Titania, 
Glance at my credit with Hippolyta, 
Knowing I know thy love to Theseus?

Titania: These are the forgeries of jealousy: 
And never, since the middle summer's spring, 
Met we on hill, in dale, forest or mead, 
To dance our ringlets to the whistling wind, 
But with thy brawls thou hast disturb'd our sport. 
We are their parents and original.
Oberon: Why should Titania cross her Oberon? 
I do but beg a little changeling boy 
To be my henchman.

Titania: His mother was a votress of my order; 
But she, being mortal, of that boy did die; 
And for her sake I will not part with him.

Oberon: Give me that boy

Titania: Not for thy fairy kingdom.

Narration: Oberon decides to trick Titania into giving him the boy. He instructs Puck to find an enchanted flower that will make anyone fall in love with the next living thing they see.

7. Bring Me That Herb 
(2) Oberon, Puck

Oberon: My gentle Puck, come hither. 
The very time I saw (but thou couldst not) 
Flying between the cold moon and the earth, 
Cupid all arm'd: a certain aim he took 
And loos'd his love-shaft smartly from his bow, 
As it should pierce a hundred thousand hearts. 
It fell upon a little western flower. 
The juice of it on sleeping eye-lids laid, 
Will make or man or woman madly dote 
Upon the next live creature that it sees. 
Fetch me this herb

Puck: I'll put a girdle round about the earth 
In forty minutes. 
Exit

Oberon: Having once this juice, 
I'll watch Titania when she is asleep, 
And drop the liquor of it in her eyes: 
The next thing then she waking looks upon 
(Be it on lion, bear, or wolf, or bull, 
On meddling monkey, or on busy ape) 
She shall pursue it with the soul of love.

Narration: Helena has followed Demetrius into the forest, hoping to make him love her. Demetrius is just trying to bring Hermia back. He tells Helena he doesn't love her and to go away. Helena decides to chase him even more.

8. I Love Thee Not, Therefore Pursue Me Not 
(2) Demetrius, Helena

Demetrius: I love thee not, therefore pursue me not.
Helena: You draw me, you hard-hearted adamant--

Demetrius: Do I entice you?
Or rather do I not in plainest truth
Tell you I do not, nor I cannot love you?

Helena: And even for that do I love you the more.

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.

Demetrius: I will not stay thy questions

Exit DEMETRIUS

Helena: I'll follow thee and make a heaven of hell,
To die upon the hand I love so well.

Narration: Oberon decides to use the flower to make Titania fall in love with someone else so she wont care about the boy anymore. He also saw how cruel Demetrius was to Helena, and instructs Puck to go and find an Athenian man and use the flowers magic on him as well.

9. I'll Streak Her Eyes
(2) Theseus, Hippolyta

Oberon: Hast thou the flower there? Welcome, wanderer.

Puck: Ay, there it is.

Oberon: I pray thee, give it me.
I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows,
There sleeps Titania sometime of the night,
Lull’d in these flowers with dances and delight;
And with the juice of this I'll streak her eyes,
And make her full of hateful fantasies.
Take thou some of it, and seek through this grove:
A sweet Athenian lady is in love
With a disdainful youth; anoint his eyes;
But do it when the next thing he espies
May be the lady. Thou shalt know the man
By the Athenian garments he hath on.

Puck: Fear not, my lord, your servant shall do so.

Oberon: *(Puts the juice on Titania’s eyes)* Wake when some vile thing is near.

Narration: Lysander and Hermia stop to rest. As they are sleeping, Puck happens by and mistakes Lysander for Demetrius. He puts the flower's juice on his eyes by mistake.
10. Lysander Find A Bed
(3) Lysander, Hermia, Puck

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.

They sleep

Enter PUCK

Puck: Through the forest have I gone.
But Athenian found I none,

This is he my master said
Despised the Athenian maid;
And here the maiden, sleeping sound,

When thou wak'st, let love forbid
Sleep his seat on thy eyelid.
So awake when I am gone;

Narration: Helena finds Lysander in the ground and wakes him to be sure he isn’t hurt. Lysander wakes up and because of the flower’s magic immediately falls in love with Helena. Helena thinks he’s just playing a joke on her and runs away. Lysander follows, leaving Hermia asleep alone.

11. O I Am Out Of Breath In This Fond Chase
(2) Helena, Lysander

Helena: O, I am out of breath in this fond chase!
But who is here? Lysander, on the ground?
Dead, or asleep? I see no blood, no wound.
Lysander, if you live, good sir, awake!

Lysander: [Waking] And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake!
Where is Demetrius? O, how fit a word
Is that vile name to perish on my sword!

Helena: Do not say so, Lysander, say not so.
What though he love your Hermia?
Yet Hermia still loves you; then be content.

Lysander: Content with Hermia? No.
Not Hermia but Helena I love:

Helena: Wherefore was I to this keen mockery born?
O, that a lady, of one man refused.
Should of another therefore be abused!
Narration: Puck happens upon the group of mechanicals rehearsing and decides to have some fun with them. Bottom exits and while he is off-stage Puck turns his head into a donkeys. Bottom is unaware and enters again, scaring the others and they run away. He thinks the others are just trying to scare him.

12. Bottom, Thou Art Translated
   (6) Quince, Bottom, Flute, Snug, Snout

Quince: Here's a marvellous convenient place for our rehearsal.
       Come sit down, every mother's son, and rehearse your parts.
       Enter PUCK behind

Puck: What hempen homespuns have we swaggering here,
       So near the cradle of the Fairy Queen?
       What, a play toward? I'll be an auditor;
       An actor too perhaps, if I see cause.

Quince: Speak, Pyramus; Thisbe, stand forth.

Bottom: So hath thy breath, my dearest Thisbe dear.
        But hark, a voice! Stay thou but here awhile,
        And by and by I will to thee appear.
        Exit

Puck: A stranger Pyramus than e'er played here.
        Exit

Flute: Most radiant Pyramus, most lily-white of hue,
       Of colour like the red rose on triumphant brier,
       As true as truest horse that yet would never tire,

Bottom: If I were fair, Thisbe, I were only thine.

Quince: O monstrous! O strange! We are haunted! Pray,
       masters! Fly, masters! Help!
       Exeunt QUINCE, SNUG, FLUTE, and SNOT
       Exit

Bottom: Why do they run away? this is a knavery of them to make me afeard.
       What do you see? You see an ass-head of your own, do you?
       Re-enter QUINCE

Quince: Bless thee, Bottom, bless thee! Thou art translated.
Narration: Bottom decides that to pass the time, and to prove that he is not afraid, he will sing a song. Titania sleeping nearby is awakened and the flower's magic makes her fall in love with Bottom.

13. Gentle Mortal Sing Again
(2) Theseus, Hippolyta

Bottom: I will walk up
And down here, and I will sing, that they shall hear
I am not afraid.

Sings
The finch, the sparrow and the lark
The plain-song cuckoo gray.

Titania: I pray thee, gentle mortal, sing again:
Mine ear is much enamour'd of thy note;

Bottom: Methinks, mistress, you should have little reason
for that.

Titania: Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful.

Bottom: Not so, neither; but if I had wit enough to get out
of this wood, I have enough to serve mine own turn.

Titania: Out of this wood do not desire to go:
Thou shalt remain here, whether thou wilt or no.

Narration: Demetrius has finally caught up with Hermia. She believes that he has somehow hurt Lysander because she can’t find him. Puck and Oberon observe the two and Puck realizes the he enchanted the wrong person.

14. This Is The Woman, But This Is Not The Man
(4) Demetrius, Hermia, Puck, Oberon

Puck: My mistress with a monster is in love.

Oberon: But hast thou yet latch’d the Athenian's eyes
With the love-juice, as I did bid thee do?

Enter HERMIA and DEMETRIUS

Oberon: Stand close: this is the same Athenian.

Puck: This is the woman, but not this the man.

Demetrius: O, why rebuke you him that loves you so?

Hermia: If thou hast slain Lysander in his sleep,
plunge in the deep, and kill me too.

Demetrius: I am not guilty of Lysander's blood;
Nor is he dead, for aught that I can tell.
Narration: Oberon sends Puck to return Lysander to normal, and to enchant Demetrius instead.

15. Lord What Fools These Mortals Be (2) Oberon, Puck

Oberon: What hast thou done? Thou hast mistaken quite, And laid the love-juice on some true-love's sight; About the wood go swifter than the wind, And Helena of Athens look thou find: By some illusion see thou bring her here: I'll charm his eyes against she do appear.

Puck: I go, I go, look how I go!

Re-enter PUCK

Puck: Helena is here at hand; And the youth, mistook by me, Pleading for a lover’s fee. Lord, what fools these mortals be!

Narration: Demetrius, thanks to the flower has now fallen in love with Helena, and Lysander is still under it's spell too. The four lovers meet in the forest. Hermia tries to fight with Helena for stealing Lysander away, and Helena becomes upset thinking that everyone is making fun of her. She runs away with Hermia chasing after her. The men decide to fight over Helena and run off as well.

16. (4) Hermia, Helena, Lysander, Demetrius

Lysander: Why should you think that I should woo in scorn?

Helena: These vows are Hermia's: will you give her o'er?

Lysander: Demetrius loves her, and he loves not you.

Demetrius: [Waking] O Helena, goddess, nymph, perfect, divine! To what, my love, shall I compare thine eyne?

Helena: O spite! O hell! I see you all are bent To set against me for your merriment. You both are rivals, and love Hermia; And now both rivals, to mock Helena.

Enter HERMIA

Hermia: Lysander, why didst thou leave me so?

Lysander: Why seek'st thou me? Could not this make thee know, The hate I bear thee made me leave thee so?

Hermia: You speak not as you think; it cannot be!

Helena: Lo, she is one of this confederacy!
Now I perceive they have conjoin'd all three
To fashion this false sport, in spite of me.

Hermia: I scorn you not; it seems that you scorn me.

Helena: Have you not set Lysander, as in scorn,
To follow me, and praise my eyes and face?
And made your other love, Demetrius,
Who even but now did spur me with his foot,
To call me goddess, nymph, divine and rare,
Precious, celestial?

Lysander: Stay, gentle Helena; hear my excuse;
Helen, I love thee; by my life, I do:

Hermia: O me! What news, my love?
Am not I Hermia? Are not you Lysander?

Lysander: Be certain, nothing truer; 'tis no jest
That I do hate thee and love Helena.

Hermia: O me! [to Helena]!
You thief of love!

Helena: No touch of bashfulness?
Fie, fie! you counterfeit, you puppet, you!

Hermia: 'Puppet'?
And are you grown so high in his esteem
Because I am so dwarfish and so low?
How low am I? I am not yet so low
But that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.

Helena: I pray you, though you mock me, gentlemen,
Let her not hurt me:

Lysander: Be not afraid; she shall not harm thee, Helena.

Demetrius: No sir, she shall not, though you take her part.

Lysander: Now she holds me not;
Now follow, if thou dar'st, to try whose right,
Of thine or mine, is most in Helena.

Demetrius: Follow! Nay, I'll go with thee, cheek by jowl.

Narration: Oberon instructs Puck to make sure Lysander is returned to normal. Each of the lovers gets separated and sleeps. While they are slumbering Puck takes off the enchantment on Lysander and leaves.

17. Here I'll Rest Til Break Of Day
(6) Oberon, Puck, Lysander, Demetrius, Helena, Hermia

Oberon: Thou seest these lovers seek a place to fight
Then crush this herb into Lysander's eye;
To take from thence all error with his might,
And make his eyeballs roll with wonted sight.
Exit

Puck: Here comes one.

Lysander: When I come where he calls, then he is gone. And here will rest me.

*Lies down*

Come, thou gentle day:
For if but once thou show me thy grey light,
I'll find Demetrius, and revenge this spite.

*Sleeps*

Demetrius: Thou runn'st before me, shifting every place, Where art thou now? Now, go thy way. I'll measure out my length on this cold bed.

*Lies down and sleeps*

Re-enter HELENA

Helena: Steal me awhile from mine own company.

*Lies down and sleeps*

Re-enter HERMIA

Hermia: Here will I rest me till the break of day. [*lies down]* Heavens shield Lysander, if they mean a fray!

*Lies down and sleeps*

Puck: *Squeezing the juice on LYSANDER's eyes*

When thou wakest,
Thou takest
True delight
In the sight
Of thy former lady's eye;

Narration: Meanwhile Oberon has obtained the child and lifts the charm off Titania. She awakens and tells Oberon about a strange dream she had where she was in love with a donkey. Puck also returns Bottom to normal.

18. Methought I Was Enamour'd Of An Ass
(4) Oberon, Titania, Bottom, Puck

Titania: My Oberon! What visions have I seen! Methought I was enamour'd of an ass.

Oberon: There lies your love.

Titania: How came these things to pass? O, how mine eyes do loathe his visage now!

Oberon: Robin, take off his head. [he does] Come my queen, take hands with me.
Narration: In the morning the Duke, Hippolyta, and Egeus find the four lovers in the forest. They wake up and tell about their misadventures. Demetrius says he doesn’t want to marry Hermia anymore. Everyone decides that they shall all be wed that evening: the Duke to Hippolyta, Lysander to Hermia, and Demetrius to Helena.

19. My Love Melted As The Snow
(7) Theseus, Hippolyta, Egeus, Hermia, Helena, Lysander, Demetrius

Egeus: My lord, this is my daughter here asleep,
And this, Lysander; this Demetrius is,
This Helena, I wonder of their being here together.

Theseus: I pray you all, stand up.
I know you two are rival enemies:
How comes this gentle concord in the world,
To sleep by hate, and fear no enmity?

Lysander: I cannot truly say how I came here;
I came with Hermia hither: our intent
Was to be gone from Athens, where we might,
Without the peril of the Athenian law--

Egeus: Enough, enough, my lord; you have enough:
I beg the law, the law, upon his head!

Demetrius: My lord, fair Helen told me of their stealth,
Of this their purpose hither to this wood;
And I in fury hither follow’d them,
But by some power it is--my love to Hermia,
Melted as the snow.
The object and the pleasure of mine eye,
Is only Helena.

Theseus: Egeus, I will overbear your will;
Away, with us, to Athens: three and three,
We'll hold a feast in great solemnity.

Come, Hippolyta

Narration: The mechanicals perform their play for the lovers.

20. Pyramus and Thisbe
(6) Wall, Moonshine, Lion, Pyramus, Thisbe, Theseus

Wall: I, one Snout by name, present a wall;
And such a wall, as I would have you think,
That had in it a crannied hole or chink;
Through which the lovers, Pyramus and Thisbe,
Did whisper often very secretly.

Enter Pyramus

Pyramus: I fear my Thisbe’s promise is forgot!
And thou, O wall, O sweet, O lovely wall,
That stand’st between her father’s ground and mine!
Show me thy chink, to blink through with mine eyne!

Wall holds up his fingers

Thanks, courteous wall: Jove shield thee well for this! But what see I? No Thisbe do I see.

Enter Thisbe

Thisbe: O wall, full often hast thou heard my moans, For parting my fair Pyramus and me!

Pyramus: I see a voice: now will I to the chink, To spy an I can hear my Thisby's face. Thisby! O kiss me through the hole of this vile wall!

Thisbe: I kiss the wall's hole, not your lips at all.

Pyramus: Wilt thou at Ninny's tomb meet me straightway?


Exeunt Pyramus and Thisbe

Wall: Thus have I, Wall, my part discharged so; And, being done, thus Wall away doth go.

Exit

Enter Lion and Moonshine

Lion: When lion rough in wildest rage doth roar. Then know that I, one Snug the joiner, am A lion-fell, nor else no lion's dam; For, if I should as lion come in strife Into this place, 'twere pity on my life.

Moonshine: All that I have to say, is, to tell you that the lantern is the moon; I, the man in the moon; this thorn-bush, my thorn-bush; and this dog, my dog.

Enter Thisbe

Thisbe This is old Ninny's tomb. Where is my love?

Lion: [Roaring] Oh--

Thisbe runs off

The Lion shakes Thisbe's mantle, and exit

Enter Pyramus

Pyramus: What dreadful dole is here! Thy mantle good, What, stain'd with blood! Since lion vile hath here deflower'd my dear: Out, sword, and wound The pap of Pyramus;
Where heart doth hop:

Stabs himself

Thus die I, thus, thus, thus.
Now am I dead,
Dies

Thisbe: Asleep, my love?
What, dead, my dove?
O Pyramus, arise!
O Sisters Three,
Come, come to me,
Tongue, not a word:
Come, trusty sword;
Come, blade, my breast imbrue:

Stabs herself

And, farewell, friends;
Thus Thisby ends:
Adieu, adieu, adieu.

Dies

Pyramus/Bottom: Will it please you to see the epilogue.

Theseus: No epilogue, I pray you; for your play needs no excuse.
Sweet friends, to bed.
A fortnight hold we this solemnity,
In nightly revels and new jollity.

Narration: Puck closes the show with the speculation that the audience may have dreamed the whole thing.

21. If We Shadows Have Offended
(1) Puck

Puck: I am sent with broom before,
To sweep the dust behind the door.
If we shadows have offended,
Think but this, and all is mended,
That you have but slumbered here,
While these visions did appear.
Give me your hands, if we be friends,
And Robin shall restore amends.