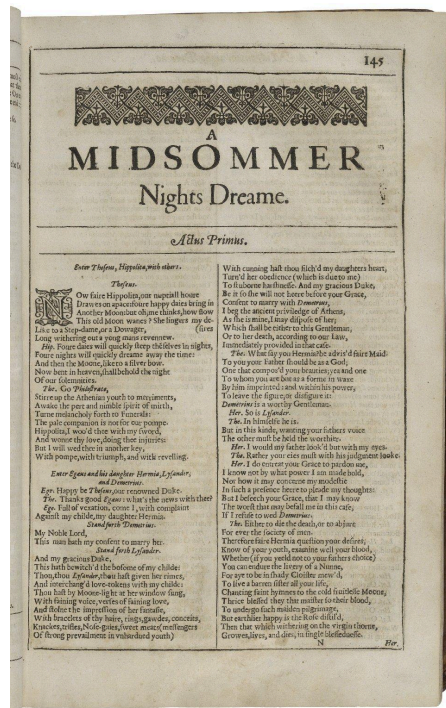# A Midsummer Night's Dream

By William Shakespeare, first performed between 1594 and 1596

Title page of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Second Folio, 1632), from the Folger Shakespeare Library Digital Collection, CC BY-SA 4.0.

Full text: https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1514

Flora and Fauna References

COMMON APRICOT (*Prunus armeniaca*)

EUROPEAN HONEYBEE (*Apis mellifera*)

DARKLING BEETLE (*Crypticus quisquilius*)

RED MULBERRY (*Morus rubra*)

RAISIN (PINOR NOIR) PRÉCOCE (*Vitis vinifera*)

COMMON NIGHTINGALE (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)

GLOW-WORM (*Lucidota heteroclita, a bioluminescent beetle*)

ROYAL VINEYARD FIG (*Ficus carica*)

PEACOCK BUTTERFLY (*Aglais io*)

GREAT WARTY NEWT (*Triturus cristatus*)

EUROPEAN DEWBERRY (*Rubus caesius*)

GARDEN SNAIL (*Cornu aspersum*)

EARTHWORM (*Lumbricus terrestris*)

CUCUMBER GREEN ORB-WEAVER (*Araniella cucurbitina*)

BLINDWORM (*Anguis fragilis*)

GRASS SNAKE (*Natrix natrix*)

EUROPEAN HEDGEHOG (*Erinaceus europaeus*)

TITANIA

Be kind and courteous to this gentleman.
Hop in his walks and gambol in his eyes;
Feed him with **apricocks** and **dewberries**,
With purple **grapes**, green **figs**, and **mulberries**;
The honey-bags steal from the **humble-bees**,
And for night-tapers crop their waxen thighs
And light them at the fiery **glowworm**s' eyes
To have my love to bed and to arise;
And pluck the wings from painted **butterflies**
To fan the moonbeams from his sleeping eyes.
Nod to him, elves, and do him courtesies.

–Act III, Scene 1

Fairies sing.

FIRST FAIRY

You spotted **snakes** with double tongue,
 Thorny **hedgehogs**, be not seen.
Newts and **blindworms**, do no wrong,
 Come not near our Fairy Queen.

CHORUS

 Philomel, with melody
 Sing in our sweet lullaby.
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby, lulla, lulla, lullaby.
 Never harm
 Nor spell nor charm
 Come our lovely lady nigh.
 So good night, with lullaby.

FIRST FAIRY

 Weaving **spiders**, come not here.
  Hence, you long-legged spinners, hence.
 Beetles black, approach not near.
  Worm nor **snail**, do no offence.

CHORUS

 Philomel[1], with melody
 Sing in our sweet lullaby.
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby, lulla, lulla, lullaby.
 Never harm
 Nor spell nor charm
 Come our lovely lady nigh.
 So good night, with lullaby.

Titania sleeps.

–Act II, Scene 2

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[1] Nightingale reference, from the myth of Philomela