

THE DREAM

Nick jumps up with his script, ready to impress Titania and the Fairies with his acting prowess.

NICK Now, how does this scene start for our Nick Bottom? Act... (*mumble*)
Scene... (*indistinguishable*) Ahh yes. Titania summons the fairies to be
at Bottom's beck and call... Umm ahh.

In character, he dramatically recites.

Where's Peaseblossom? Scratch my head, Peaseblossom. Where's
Mounsieur Cobweb? Ahh, Mounsieur Cobweb, good mounsieur, get
you your weapons in your hand, and kill me a red-hipped humble-bee
on the top of a thistle" (*breaks character*) Wow, specific! (*back in*
character) "and, good mounsieur, bring me the honey-bag.
Where's Mounsieur Mustardseed?"

A beat. He examines his script.

What's a neaf? He says, "Give me your neaf?" (*sigh*) Anyway
(*in character*) "Mounsieur Mustardseed. Pray you, leave your
courtesy, good mounsieur... My will is nothing, good mounsieur, but
help Cavalery Cobweb to scratch.

He breaks out of character. Exasperated.

Ok. Look I know this is Shakespeare and you guys are obviously really
into it. But don't you find it slightly pretentious? I mean you're telling
me that Bottom, who is named "Bottom" for some unknown reason, has
all these magical creatures at his disposal and all he wants them to do is
scratch him!? Like what the heck?! I mean he could ask for anything.
Jewels, riches, fame, a huge mansion, a PS5 Pro, awesome cars, a jet!
I mean... (*he reads from the script*) "I have a reasonable good ear in
music. Let's have the tongs and the bones." Again?! What the heck are
"the tongs and the bones!?" (*reads*) "Truly, a peck of provender: I could
munch your good dry oats. Methinks I have a great desire to a bottle of
hay: good hay, sweet hay, hath no fellow". (*informs the others*) That's
cause he's a donkey that he wants all that hay and oats and stuff.
(*contemplates*) That's what I really don't get. How can Bottom be sitting
there with a donkey's head on this whole time and not even notice it? I
mean like can't he feel his face?

Nick feels his face and remains oblivious to the fact that he also has a donkey's head.

(*continues*) I mean is he that stupid? And then titania says, "I have a
venturous fairy that shall seek the squirrel's hoard and fetch thee new
nuts... Innuendo! Obviously, a reference to his testicles...

Shakespeare's plays are full of double entendre's ... apparently

He turns his attention back to the script and reads again, mocking.

“I had rather have a handful or two of dried peas”. (*rolls his eyes*)
Peas!?” “But, I pray you, let none of your people stir me: I have an
exposition of sleep come upon me”.

(*exasperated*) And this! This random falling asleep in the middle of
the forest. I mean everybody does it! What is that?