

DREAM ON

by

Malcolm Sircom

A Musical

Based on

William Shakespeare's

A Midsummer Night's Dream

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DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Male

Theseus, Duke of Athens

Philostrate, a Courtier. (*Could be female*)

Egeus, a cantankerous old man, father of Hermia.

Lysander, an athlete, in love with Hermia.

Demetrius, Also an athlete and in love with Hermia

Bottom, a weaver)

Quince, a carpenter)

Snug, a joiner)

Flute, a bellows-maker)

Snout, a tinker.)

Starveling, a tailor) (The "Rude Mechanicals")

Robin Goodfella, of the Mafia, who is also the fairy **Puck**

Luigi Corleone, of the Mafia. (Pronounced "Looweegee")

Gino Corleone, of the Mafia. (Pronounced "Jeen")

Oberon, King of the Fairies.

NB The "Rude Mechanicals" could be female, except **Bottom and Flute**

Female

Hippolyta, a Venezuelan, betrothed to Theseus.

Hermia, daughter of Egeus, in love with Lysander.

Helena, in love with Demetrius.

Titania, Queen of the Fairies.

Peaseblossom)

Cobweb)

Moth)

Mustardseed) Fairies

Plus

A Chorus of Boy Fairies (Oberon's) and a **Chorus of Girl Fairies** (Titania's), who can also be part of

A permanent Choir/Chorus.

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Scene Two

Song Four *Rude Mechanicals*

*Quince, Snug, Bottom, Starveling
Flute, Snout & Chorus*

Song Five *Reprise: Rude Mechanicals*

The above.

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Palace Wood

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Brothers*

Music Six A *Goodfella Rap Exit*

The Corleone Brothers

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Boy & Girl Fairies

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The Chorus

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ACT TWO

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(Still Palace Wood)

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Puck, Oberon & Chorus

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& Chorus*

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ACT ONE – PROLOGUE

Song One – Life Is A Lottery

- Group 1: Doo, doo, doo, doo-be-doo,
Doo, doo, doo, doo-be-doo
Doo, doo, doo, doo-be-doo, doo.
(Spoken) Wealth!
- Group 2: **(While Group 1 repeat their phrases)**
Bop, bop, bop, bop-shoo-wa,
Bop, bop, bop, bop-shoo-wa,
Bop, bop, bop, bop-shoo-wa, bop.
(Spoken – Not Group 1) Fame!
- Group 3: **(While Groups 1 & 2 repeat their phrases)**
La, la, la, oo-sha-la,
La, la, la, oo-sha-la,
La, la, la, oo-sha-la, la.
(Spoken – Not Groups 1 & 2) Zilch!
- All: **(Refrain)** Life is a lottery, that is played by everyone.
Life is a lottery, who will be the lucky one?
The more you put in, the better your odds,
But in the end, it's all in the lap of the gods!
Life is a lottery, all you need's a lucky draw.
It's the same for rich or for poor.
But there has gotta be a winner or two.
Who knows one day life's lottery may pick you!
- Group 1: **(Verse)** Why should you be a loser?
You can win the big prize.
- Group 2: Don't give in to the blues, go
Get those stars in your eyes.
- Group 3: When your chance comes, you grab it,
Or you may be too late.
- All: Good luck's just a good habit.
Do you wanna be great?

(All repeat the Refrain, finishing:-)

(Shout) You! (End of Song)

END OF PROLOGUE

SCENE ONE – THE COURT OF THESEUS

(Enter THESEUS, Duke of Athens, and HIPPOLYTA, a fiery Venezuelan)

Theseus: Now, fair Hippolyta our nuptial hour draws on apace.

Hippolyta: Que? Ah, si. You are meaning our whedding day. She is near now – five li'l days, thass'all.

Theseus: That's all? Four long days, and four long nights! It seems an eternity.

Hippolyta: Ah, my dear Theseus, so impatient! Shust you see, the time will fly, as in a dream.

Theseus: But so many things to prepare. And as Duke of Athens, I have my duties to fulfil, too. Where's my Minister of State? I sent for him ages ago. *(Enter PHILOSTRATE, hurring)* Ah, there you are, Mandelson. *(Or current misbehaving politican)*

Philostrate: Philostrate, my Lord. You sacked Mandelson, remember?

Thesues: Of course. And now you're here, go.

Philo: Go where?

Theseus: Our wedding approaches. Stir up the Athenian youth to merriments, and find suitable entertainment for my beloved and myself.

Philo: I go. *(Hurries out and immediately re-enters)* I come back. I've just remembered, there's an amateur theatrical troupe that has been highly recommended. Shall I...?

Theseus: Of course, of course. Now go.

Philo: I go. *(Pauses at exit)* I don't come back. *(Exits)*

Hippolyta: You treat him mucho bad. In Venethuela, would cause government to fall. You treat me mucho bad, too, chwhen you outbid my country for the Olympic Games.

Theseus: Nothing personal, my darling. You represented your country, I represented Greece. My bid had huge lottery funding.

Hippolyta: Venethuela very poor. Could not compete.

Theseus: Besides, it was time for the Games to return home. But think of the good that came out of it. We met, and fell in love.

Hippolyta: Si. Plenty amore. Any woman can forgive man she loves.

Theseus: Remember how we danced the night away?

Hippolyta: That passionate tango! Chwill I ever forget?

SONG TWO – VENEZUELAN TANGO

Theseus & Hippolyta: When we first met it was love at first sight.

Chorus: Love at first sight!

Both: When we first met we tangoed all night.

Chorus: Tangoed all night.

Both: We danced and danced till night turned to day.

Chorus: Night turned to day.

Both: Doing the tango the Venezuelan way.
Ole!

Chorus: **(As Hippolyta does a sensational tango with Theseus)**

Hippolyta! Hippolyta!

That wild South American virago.

She didn't meet her love in Venezuela,

But at an Internet Café in Chicago!

Both: And we danced

Chorus: They danced a fiery tango.

Both: At that all-night Internet Café.

Chorus: **(Spoken)** Café ole!

Theseus: Downloading

Chorus: Ah...

Theseus: The music we wanted to play.

Chorus: O.K.

Hippolyta: Lots of sensual rhythms

Chorus: Meant for dancing.

Hippolyta: From salsa to mambo.

Chorus: And romancing

Both: But best of all

Chorus: Best of all.

Both: Was the Venezuelan tango!

Both: When we first met it was love at first sight.

Chorus: Love at first sight!

Both: When we first met tangoed all night.

Chorus: Tangoed all night.

Both: We danced and danced till night turned to day.

Chorus: Night turned to day.

Both: Doing the tango the Venezuelan way.

All: **(Shout)** Ole! **(End of song)**

(Enter LYSANDER and DEMETRIUS, two athletes, dressed in either running gear or track suits)

Theseus: Ah, my dear. May I present two of my best athletes. Thanks to the Lottery funding I was able to secure for them, they are both finely tuned instruments, and ready to bring Greece great glory. This is Demetrius.

Demetrius: I intend to win the javelin at the games. **(He strikes an "athletic" pose)**

Hippolyta: Caramba! Chwhat a physique! Mucho macho!

Lysander: I am Lysander. The discus gold medal is mine. **(He strikes a “discus-thrower’s” pose. Hippolyta faints. Lysander and Demetrius revive her)**

Theseus: **(With a laugh)** My dear, if you faint at one handsome athlete, what would you do at our team parade?

(Enter EGEUS and HERMIA. [Note: Hermia is traditionally small, and Helena])

Egeus: **(Bowing)** Happy be Theseus, our renowned Duke.

Theseus: Thanks, good Egeus: what’s your news?

Egeus: It’s my daughter Hermia. I have a formal complaint against her. I have consented her marriage to Demetrius, who is rich and well connected. But she’ll have none of it, and is smitten by this fellow Lysander, an impoverished ruffian.

Hermia: Who happens to be the leading discus-thrower in all Greece.

Theseus: Surely it is for your daughter to choose, Egeus?

Egeus: Nay, nay. I have the sole right to determine her future. It is written here in the ancient Law of Athens. **(He hands over a scroll to Theseus)**

Theseus: **(Glances at the scroll)** I can’t read this. It’s all Greek to me.

Hippolyta: But, my love, you are Greek.

Theseus: It’s in the Classical language. Can’t understand it.

Egeus: I beg the ancient privilege of Athens:
As she is mine, I may dispose of her;
Which shall either be to this gentleman
Or to a nunnery, according to our Law.

Hippolyta: A nunnery? Life chwithout men? Ees impossible!

Theseus: Hermia, fair child, will you not abide by your fathers wishes? Demetrius seems to me a worthy gentleman.

Hippolyta: Chworthy? He’s drop-dead gorgeous!

Hermia: So is Lysander.

Theseus: You are so determined that you are ready to risk the penalty?
Banishment to a convent?

Hermia: I am.

Theseus: Take time to pause. Let you decision be made on my wedding day.

Demetrius: Relent, sweet Hermia – and Lysander, give her up.

Lysander: You have her father's love, Demetrius. Let me have Hermia's. I'll marry her – you can marry him. Besides, my Lord Theseus, it's the talk of the athlete's village that Demetrius made love to Nedar's daughter Helena. And she's now besotted with him.

Theseus: Yes, I had heard tell – but affairs of state put it out of my mind. However, that resolves nothing, and I charge you to resolve it among yourselves, or I must apply this Law of Athens. And now, I must prepare for my wedding. Egeus, Demetrius, come with me. I have need of your services.

(Exit Theseus, Demetrius, and Egeus)

Hippolyta: ***(To Hermia)*** Ah, my child, always obey what your heart commands. That is the chway it is with whomen. It is the chross we 'ave to bear. Adios. ***(She exits)***

Lysander: She is right. Take heart, Hermia, the course of true love never did run smooth.

Hermia: How can you quote Shakespeare when my heart is breaking?

Lysander: I may have the solution, therefore hear me, Hermia.

Hermia: A secret plan, Lysander? Then am I truly joyful.

Lysander: I have widowed aunt who lives way up the other end of the M1 – and out of the reach of the sharp Athenian law. If we marry, she will take us in. So sneak away from your father's house tomorrow night and we'll meet in Palace Wood about a mile out of town.

Hermia: The Palace wood? Isn't that supposed to be haunted?

Lysander: Some say it is the home of immortals. But they would never harm us. Come, Hermia, elope with me.

Hermia: Elope! Oh, Lysander, how romantic! It's like a dream come true.

Lysander: I'm sure Shakespeare would never have used a cliché like that.

Hermia: He would if he'd been a woman.

SONG THREE- DREAM ON

Hermia: ***(Refrain)*** Dream on, when you dream on,
Then you hopes and wishes take wing.
Nothing can come between us and our love,
Or the sings that we sing.

Lysander: Dream on, when you dream on,
All the best things happen to you.
And when you wake,
You may find there's no mistake,
All your dreams have come true.

(The Chorus sing the Refrain, substituting "them and their love" while Lysander & Hermia sing:-)

Both: And our love will last for ever.
For ever and a day.
For our love will be so strong,
No-one would dare
To take it away.
We're in love, no need to hide it.
Love comes to everyone,
So dream on, dream on, dream on.

Dream on. Dream on.

Chorus: Dream on. **(End of song)**

Lysander: Ah, but look, here comes the unfortunate Helena.

(Enter HELENA)

Hermia: God speed, fair Helena, whither away?

Helena: You call me fair? You have a nerve. Demetrius loves you fair, he calls you fair, he talks of nothing but you. You call that fair, when you already have Lysander? What's your secret, Hermia? O teach me how you look, and with what art you sway the motions of Demetrius' heart.

Hermia: I frown upon him, yet he still loves, me.

Helena: I love him, yet he frowns upon me.

Hermia: I give him curses, yet he gives me love.

Helena: I give him love, yet he curses me.

Hermia: The more I hate him, the more he loves me.

Helena: The more I love him, the more he hates me.

Hermia: Take comfort: he no more shall see my face:
Lysander and myself shall fly this place.

Lysander: Tomorrow night, Helena, we're going to steal away to Palace Wood.

Hermia: That very enchanted wood where we used to go for a gossip and girl talk.

Lysander: And from there...

Both: We shall elope!

Helena: Elope!

Hermia: Farewell, sweet playfellow, and pray for us – oh, and good luck with Demetrius! Farewell, Lysander, till tomorrow night.

(Exit Hermia)

Lysander: Fare, Hermia. And Helena, adieu.
As you dote on him, may Demetrius dote on you.

(Exit Lysander)