

A Midsummer Night's Dream



Actor Presentation
Haley Willits

Shakespeare's Early Life

- Baptised 26 April 1564
 - Birthday 23 April
- Education
 - Letters and Latin texts



Marriage and Children

- Anne Hathaway



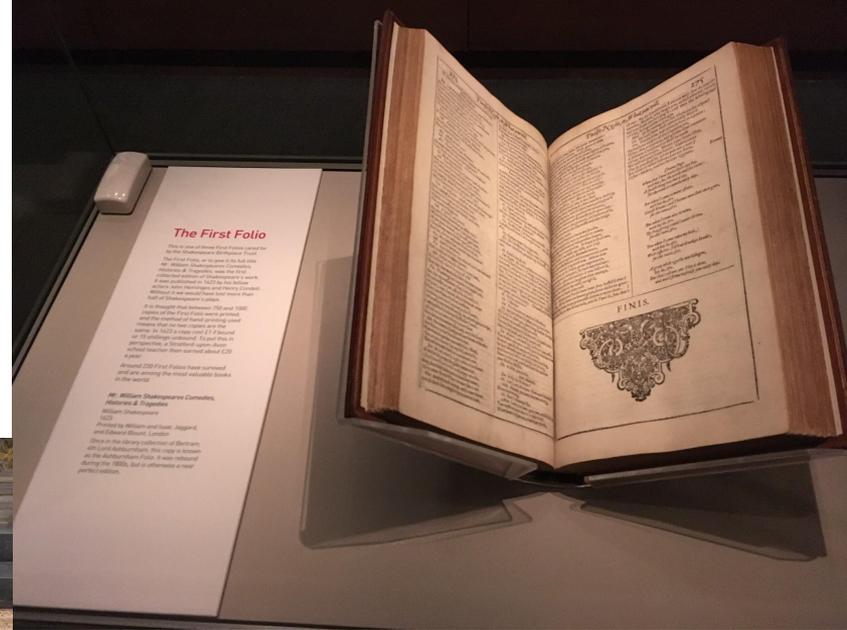
Writing and Theatre

- Closure of theatres 1593
- Lord Chamberlain's Men
 - The King's Men



Late Years

- Retired after 1611
- Died 23 April 1623
- First Folio 1623



Production History



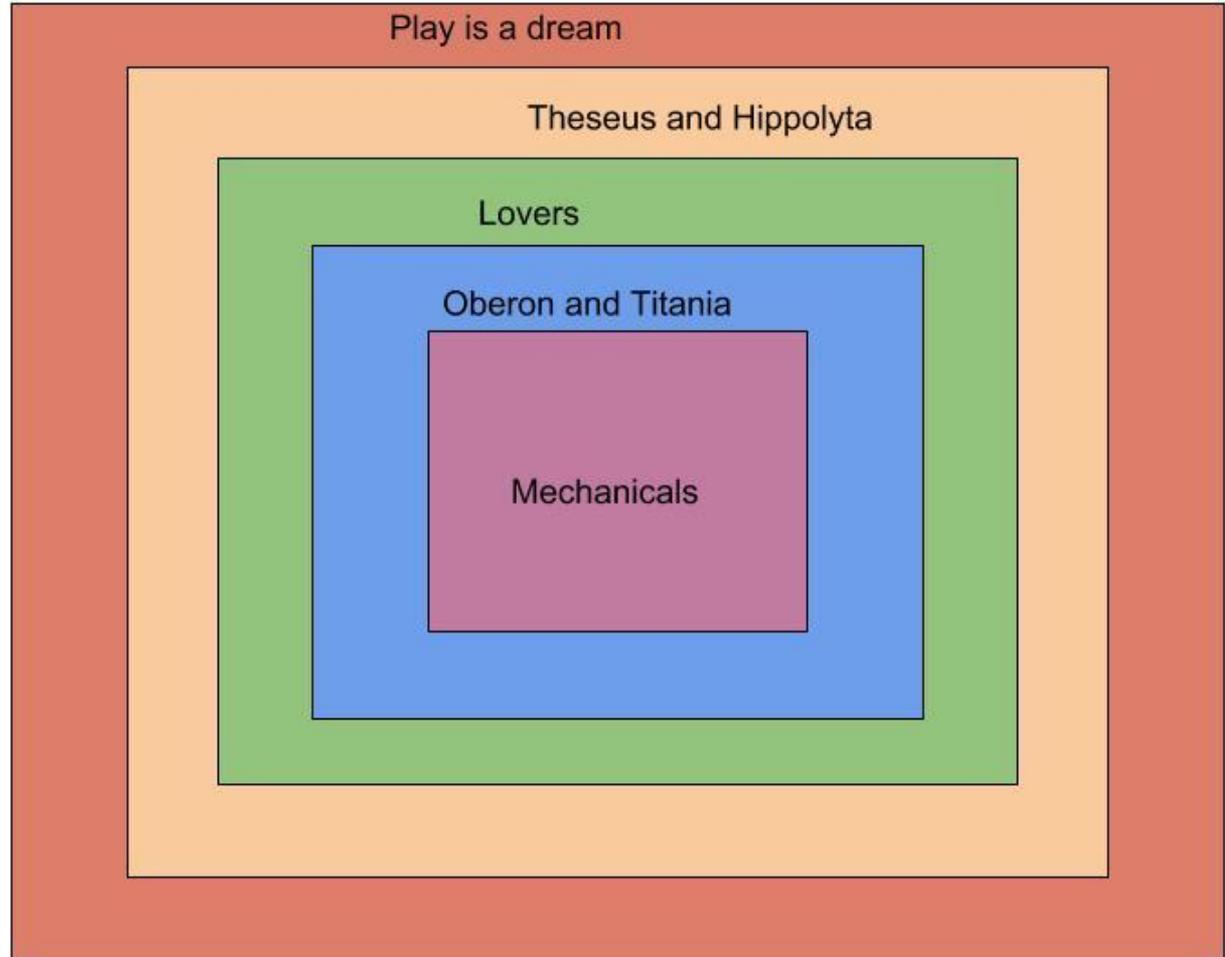
Written around
1594-96

Possibly written
for an aristocratic
wedding



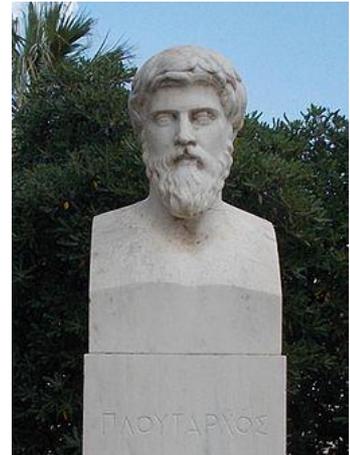
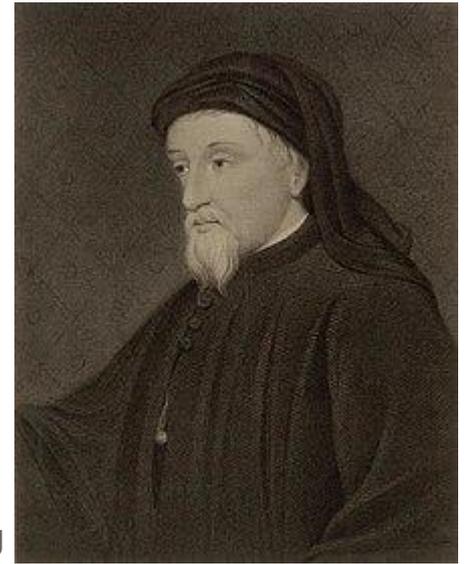
Plot

- Order, Disorder, Reorder
- What is real?
- Plots within plots
- Resolution in the fourth act



Shakespeare's Sources

- Theseus and Hippolyta
 - Chaucer's *Knight's Tale*
 - Theseus' conquering Amazons
 - Ypolita (Hippolyta) and Emelye
 - Rite of May
 - Welcome May in the woods with singing and dancing
 - Thomas North's translation of Plutarch's *Lives of Noble Grecians and Romans*
 - Tells the histories of Classical figures
 - Theseus' conquer of Amazons and his marriage
 - Antiope or Hippolyta



More of Shakespeare Sources!

- Midsummer Eve
 - June 23
 - Solstice marked by holiday and stories of fairies and madness
- Pyramus and Thisbe
 - Ovid's *Metamorphoses*
 - Book IV
- Bottom
 - Apuleius's *Golden Ass*
 - Lucius, who is curious about magic, accidentally turns himself into an ass.





William Shakespeare @Shak... · 13m ▾
Turning Midsummer Nights Dream into a computer game called "Donkey Song."



William Shakespeare @Sha... · 17 Jul ▾
Iambic pentameter: because sometimes I can only deal with ten syllables of thee at a time.



William Shakespeare @Sh... · 14 Aug ▾
Take it from Prospero: 'tis easier to control the weather than a teenage daughter.



William Shakespeare @Sh... · 15 Aug ▾
Write the supporting roles as if you might have to play one. In rep. For twenty years.
[#WritingTips](#)



William Shakespeare @Shakes... · 6h ▾
If you've forbidden your daughter to see a boy, hire a priest. You're about to have a wedding, or a funeral, or both.
[#WednesdayWisdom](#)



William Shakespeare @Sh... · 21 Aug ▾
Pun intended. Pun always intended. Bother not with the footnotes.



William Shakespeare @Shakes... · 5d ▾
Oberon hath laid off Puck. From now on, Oberon's orders will be bungled by a smartphone app instead.



William Shakespeare @Sh... · 04 Sep ▾
Q. What dost thou get when cousins marry each other for three generations in a row?
A. The Elizabethan ruling class.