

A Midsummer Night's Dream

A text from the University of Texas UTOPIA "Shakespeare Kids" website, created by the UT Shakespeare at Winedale Outreach program; for more information, visit this "knowledge gateway" site at <http://utopia.utexas.edu>.

This text has been edited slightly for students in grades 5-8.

PUCK'S "I'LL FOLLOW YOU!" SPEECH TO THE CRAFTSMEN (FROM SCENE 5, OR ACT 3, SCENE 1)

Setting: The woods near Athens, at midnight. Puck is chasing Quince, Snug, Snout, Starveling, and Flute, after turning Nick Bottom's head into a donkey's head.

PUCK:

I'll follow you, I'll lead you about, around –
Through bog, through bush, through brake, through briar –
Sometime a horse I'll be, sometime a hound,
A hog, a headless bear, sometime a fire;
And neigh, and bark, and grunt, and roar, and burn,
Like horse, hound, hog, bear, fire, at every turn!