A Midfummer Night (Dream

Act V, sc. 1

THESEUS

Say, what abridgement have you for this evening? What masque? what music? How shall we beguile The lazy time, if not with some delight? **Philostrate.** There is a brief how many sports are ripe:-Make choice of which your highness will see first. [Giving a paper] **Theseus.** [Reads] 'The battle with the Centaurs, to be sung By an Athenian eunuch to the harp.' We'll none of that: that have I told my love, In glory of my kinsman Hercules. [Reads] 'The riot of the tipsy Bacchanals, Tearing the Thracian singer in their rage.' That is an old device; and it was play'd When I from Thebes came last a conqueror. [Reads] The thrice three Muses mourning for the death Of Learning, late deceased in beggary.' That is some satire, keen and critical, Not sorting with a nuptial ceremony. [Reads]

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'A tedious brief scene of young PyramusAnd his love Thisbe; very tragical mirth.'Merry and tragical! tedious and brief!That is, hot ice and wondrous strange snow.How shall we find the concord of this discord?

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