Bottom Audition Monologue

*Context: Bottom, a local craftsman, was rehearsing with his amateur acting troupe in the woods, when a fairy, Puck, turned him into a half-man half-donkey, and made the Fairy Queen, Titania, fall head-over-heels in love with him. The resulting mischief has finally been settled and all, Bottom included, returned to normal. He awakes for slumber thinking he had just gone off stage to wait for his cue in rehearsal and remembers bit and pieces of the previous night thinking it to be the strangest dream.*

When my cue comes, call me, and I will answer. My next is, ‘Most fair Pyramus’. Heigh-ho! Peter Quince? Flute the bellows-mender? Snout the tinker? Starveling? Gods my life! Stolen hence, and left me asleep? I have had a most rare vision. I have had a dream, past the wit of man to say what dream it was. Man is but an ass if he go about to expound this dream. Methought I was - there is no man can what. Me thought I was - and methought I had - but man is but a patched fool if he will offer to say what methought I had. The eye of man hath not heard, the ear of man hath not seen, man’s hand is not able to taste, his tongue to conceive, nor his heart to report what my dream was. I will get Peter Quince to write a ballad of this dream. It shall be called ‘Bottom’s Dream’, because it hath no bottom.