Lysander Audition Monologue

*Context: Hermia’s father, Egeus, has promised Demetrius her hand in marriage, and the Athenian court has threatened her on pain of death to obey her father even though she truly loves Lysander. Having tried to fight against this decision, they now make plans to elope.*

A good persuasion: therefore, hear me, Hermia.

I have a widow aunt, a dowager

Of great revenue, and she hath no child.

From Athens is her house remote seven leagues,

And she respects me as her only son.

There, gentle Hermia, may I marry thee;

And to that place the sharp Athenian law

Cannot pursue us. If thou lovest me then,

Steal forth thy father's house to-morrow night;

And in the wood, a league without the town,

Where I did meet thee once with Helena,

To do observance to a morn of May,

There will I stay for thee.