

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act III.i



Henry Fuseli, *Titania and Bottom*, circa 1790

Vocab I Please define the following words:

Abide - Odious - Enthralled - Knavery

“...the truth, reason, and love keep little company together nowadays.”

In *Comic Characters of Shakespeare* John Palmer writes that to Nick Bottom “...all...beings, fairy, heroic, or human are equally congenial*. [He] has a welcome ready for all that may betide**,” (93).

Examine Bottom in Acts I.ii and III.i. Do you agree with Palmer’s assertion that Bottom finds all things “equally congenial?” In your response, please be sure to discuss his interactions with different characters and situations. Cite the text and provide commentary to support your claim.

* **congenial** (adj) - pleasing ****betide** (v) - happen