

Full of vexation come I, with complaint
Against my child, my daughter Hermia.

Stand forth, Demetrius. My noble lord,
This man hath my consent to marry her.

Stand forth, Lysander. And my gracious duke,
This man hath bewitched the bosom of my child.-

Thou, thou, Lysander, thou hast given her rhymes,
And interchanged love tokens with my child.
Thou hast by moonlight at her window sung,
And stol'n the impression of her fantasy
With bracelets of thy hair, rings, gauds, conceits.

I'm here, full of anger, to complain about my
daughter Hermia.

Step forward, Demetrius. My lord, this man,
Demetrius, has my permission to marry her.

Step forward, Lysander. But this other man,
Lysander, has cast a magic spell over my child's
heart.

You, you, Lysander, you've given her poems,
and exchanged tokens of love with my daughter.
You've pretended to be in love with her, singing
fake love songs softly at her window by
moonlight, and you've captured her imagination
by giving her locks of your hair, rings, toys,
trinkets,

And, my gracious duke,
Be it so she will not here before your grace
Consent to marry with Demetrius,
I beg the ancient privilege of Athens:
As she is mine, I may dispose of her;
Which shall be either to this gentleman
Or to her death, according to our law.

And, my gracious duke, if she won't agree to
marry Demetrius right now, I ask you to let me
exercise the right that all fathers have in
Athens. Since she belongs to me, I can do what
I want with her -as the law says: I can either
make her marry Demetrius, or have her killed.

- Who does he want to marry his daughter, and who doesn't he want to?
- What are his complaints against the one he doesn't like?
- What choices does he feel he is faced with? Why does he think he will get his way?