

THE "RAPPERA" OF PYRAMUS AND THISBE

From "PCUK – A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S REMIX"
by ROBIN KINGSLAND

This full transcript of the "Rappera", as performed by the rapper crew of Bad-Ass, Dog, As-Bo, Sex-O-Fone and Quincy at the end of the play, is presented here as a royalty free resource for comparison for teachers and students looking at Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

ALL

Gather round you congregation
Listen to our declaration
Gonna rock you with a rap sensation
And a story with a love foundation

SEX-O-FONE

We got the crew, we're solid and tight

ASBO

And we hope that our "rappera" will move you tonight

ALL

Droppin you the plot
Droppin you the plot (Whoo-ha!)
Droppin you the plot
Droppin you the plot (Whoo-ha!)

Droppin you the plot
Droppin you the plot (Whoo-ha!)
Droppin you the plot
Droppin you the plot (Whoo-ha!)

DOG shuffles in as the wall.

DOG (*as WALL*)

I'm just a wall – but I'm moved to elucidate
'Cos I got a tragic story to communicate,
Forget Juliet
Forget Romeo
Never mind that Ant'ny and Cleo, bro...
What could be better for a big shot weddin'
Than a tragedy a couple end up stiff and dead in.
We're bringin' it to you so fresh that it's crispy –
The Tale of Pyramus and his boo Thisbe

ASBO (*as THISBE*)

My names Thisbe – Don't doubt me
This story be at least half about me
And how love took a tragic turn
And wound up with my ashes in a urn....

DOG (*as WALL*)

See there's a blood right – handsome and sporty
Who was fly and caught the eye of a high-end shorty

SEX-O-FONE struts about as PYRAMUS

He be a smooth blood - Pyramus was his handle.
He loved her right back - no other dime held a candle to her -
Only thing that made the road ahead tough -
Daddy swore down that Pyramus was not good enough for his daughter,

BAD ASS starts finger-wagging at the couple as "FATHER"

Wouldn't let him court her.
These two guys - they was like oil and water,
Daddy knew her heart but he wouldn't support her
Which made our lover's lives....a lot shorter....

DOG (*as WALL*)
Every night you'd find Pyramus loping....
Outside the house - his heart full of hopin'....
Try'na talk Thisbe into eloping....
Stretchin' up trying-to-look-over my coping...
When through a chink in my bricks that was open....
He heard Thisbe, be cryin and mopin... he said:

*PYRAMUS and THISBE alternately
whisper & listen through DOG's "WALL"*

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS*)
Coo-ee Coo-ee, baby
Coo-ee Coo-ee,
Coo-ee Coo-ee Baby
Coo-ee Coo-ee,

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
What's this I hear? Man that's so clear!

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS*)
Coo-ee Coo-ee, baby
Coo-ee Coo-ee,

DOG (*as WALL*)
He told Thisbe to meet him at an old mausoleum.
Deep in the woods, where no-one would see 'em.

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
I'll be waiting there, baby, come what may

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS*)
I'll be there too, Boo, soon as I can slip away

*The mood changes. AS-BO (As THISBE) creeps
into the wood, clutching a scarf around his/her neck*

DOG (*as WALL*)
Now-she's-a -
-lone, far away from the familiar hood

And now she's deep in the wood
And Thisbe's impatient to meet with her beau.

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)

I'm a little bit scared, but I won't let it show!

(On his own account, in his own voice, glancing at Quincey)

I may be playin' a shorty, but still I'm ma-cho – knowa'amsayin'

QUINCEY

Kicker is - this forest is placid by day

But in the night, wild beasts come lookin' for prey,

BAD-ASS (*as LION*)

I'm a lion. And she's right to fear me

Woman-or-child-best-not-come-anywhere near me

After I arrive, nothing much stays alive,

I'm a hunter – I kill, spill blood to survive.....

I kill things to thrive

BAD-ASS (as LION) roars.

DOG (*as WALL*)

Try'na to stay chill, Thisbe sets off retreating,

Doesn't know there's no danger -

BAD-ASS (*as LION*)

'Cos I had just eaten,

Missed the blood on my jaws – she was too busy splittin'

AS-BO slips away

BAD-ASS (*as LION*)

But she left her scarf lying just where she'd been sitting

DOG (*as WALL*)

Now the lion sees the scarf just trailed on the ground..

BAD-ASS (*as LION*)

Hey it's something to play with, so I fling it round

A few bars of popping as the LION plays with the scarf

BAD-ASS (*as LION*)

And by the time a loach off to my lair for a rest

Chick's scarf is bare bloody and torn – It's a mess

DOG (*as WALL*)

Now Pyramus is late - he gets on the scene

PYRAMUS isn't there for his cue. QUINCY has to repeat:

QUINCY

Now Pyramus is late..... PYRAMUS IS LATE....

YO-YO (*Yelling*)

PYRAMUS IS LATE!!!

PYRAMUS snaps to attention and runs in....Track restarts...

DOG (*as WALL -WHACKING SEX-O-FONE*)
Now Pyramus is late - he gets on the scene
No sign of his Thisbe, but what can this mean??

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS*)
Her scarf torn and bloody? – There is only one thesis
Some lion tore my poor shorty to pieces.

SEX-O-FONE (as PYRAMUS) strides around being "guilt-ridden"

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS*)
This plan was all mine, and it's cost me my boo!
If my boo ain't pulled through, I'd best murf myself too!

Long writhing death scene from PYRAMUS, at the end of which...

DOG (*as WALL*)
Now Thisbe....

PYRAMUS
Wait!

A final spectacular writhe.. and PYRAMUS dies

DOG (*as WALL*)
Now Thisbe was feeling much stronger –
She wouldn't stay away any longer
She ran back to hook up with her lover...
A decision that couldn't have been wrong... er...
She returns to the clearing just-in-time-to clock

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
My Pyramus Dying!!!?

QUINCEY/DOG/
Imagine the shock!

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
Baby - - who this thing to you?
Who took your own borer and run the thing through you.

DOG (*as WALL*)
But the scarf in his hand tells its own tragic story –

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
Did you think I was dead when you saw this all gory!

SEX-O-FONE (*as PYRAMUS – Reviving*)
I did, and I couldn't face a world with no you in it,
So I iced myself, and now I'm all blue... er.. Innit.....

AS-BO (*as THISBE*)
Be cool baby. We'll soon be together –
Side by side

Heart to heart
for ever and ever....

She stabs herself with his sword. There is a moment when, having used it, AS-BO doesn't know what to do with the sword. After a moment's hesitation, AS-BO sticks it back into PYRAMUS. QUINCY despairs.

DOG (*as WALL*)
Now Thisbe's daddy, he's beginning to fear,
That something has happened to his daughter dear

BAD-ASS returns as the FATHER, wringing his hands.

DOG
He's feeling so low...
Puts out a BOLO
He sends parties to scour the hood

QUINCY and DOG do very theatrical "Looking acting"

DOG
And when they get to the scene in the wood
By the old Mausoleum, they call up their boss
And tell-him-to-come-to-terms with a terrible loss

*QUINCY and DOG pick up the bloody scarf and sword,
and shows them to BAD-ASS (As FATHER)*

DOG (*as WALL*)
He tears out his hair

BAD-ASS (As FATHER) does "distraught" acting

He curses his wall,

BAD-ASS (As FATHER) kicks DOG (as WALL)

Then he sees that he's the real cause of it all

BAD-ASS (*as FATHER*)
If only

DOG (*as WALL*)
He wails.

BAD-ASS (*as FATHER*)
I stayed out of love's way
Then Pyramus and Thisbe- they'd be here today....

ALL
Yeah - Pyramus and Thisbe would be here today....

DOG
And that... is the end of our play!

