

NPAT RSC Character Information - Lysander

Lysander is a young gentleman in the court. He is in love with Hermia and she with him. Unfortunately, Hermia's father, Egeus, wants her to marry Demetrius. Lysander and Hermia decide to run away together but they are followed by Demetrius and Helena. Whilst there, Lysander has a magic spell put on him which makes him accidentally fall in love with Helena. The spell is eventually lifted and by the end of the play he and Hermia have married each other.

Facts we learn about Lysander at the start of the play:

- He is equally ranked to Demetrius but Egeus has chosen Demetrius to marry his daughter Hermia.
- He has an aunt who lives outside of Athens. She considers him her heir.
- Lysander and Hermia love each other.

THINGS THEY SAY

'I am, my lord, as well derived as he, As well possessed: my love is more than his, My fortunes every way as fairly ranked, If not with vantage, as Demetrius.' (Lysander, 1:1)

Lysander and Demetrius are equally ranked.

THINGS OTHERS SAY ABOUT HIM

'With cunning hast thou filched my daughter's heart.' (Egeus, 1:1)

Lysander is loved by Hermia, but Egeus thinks it was a cunning plan.