

# CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	ix
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	xii
ABBREVIATIONS AND REFERENCES	xiii
INTRODUCTION	xxi
I.	xxi
1. The text	xxi
2. Date and occasion: with consideration of the poetic style	xxxiv
3. Sources and antecedents	lviii
II. THE PLAY	lxxxix
1. The exposition	lxxxix
2. Design and plot	xciv
3. Characters and comedy	cii
4. Lyricism, music and dance	cxx
5. Setting: woodland and fairyland; moon	cxxv
6. The principal themes	cxxx
<i>A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM</i>	i
APPENDIX I Source materials	129
APPENDIX II Four textual cruces	154
APPENDIX III The mislined verse in Q1, v. i.	163
APPENDIX IV Quince's Prologue (v. i. 108-16) rightly punctuated	165