

## Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare Much Ado About Nothing – Plot summary transcript

### VOICEOVER

This is a play about – NOTHING?! No. It's about love and lovers who pretend to hate each other, and a brother who gets up to bad tricks and ruins a wedding, but it has a happy ending anyway.

This is Leonato, the Governor, with his super catty niece, Beatrice.  
Here comes Don Pedro, with his nasty brother Don John, his young pal Claudio and Benedick!  
Beatrice and Benedick hate each other. They've got history!! Ow!

But look! Young love. Claudio fancies Leonato's daughter Hero. Hero. That's what you'd call a dog!  
So Don Pedro speaks to Leonato and sorts it out:  
Claudio and Hero will be getting hitched in a week. Cute!

But that's not the only matchmaking Don Pedro gets up to!  
Don P stiches up his pal Benedick. He talks aloud in the garden so that Benedick hears, 'Beatrice really loves Benedick', and then they trick Beatrice the same way! Kinda mean AND cute.

A night before the wedding Don John, the evil brother, hatches a naughty plan.  
He tells Claudio and Don Pedro that Hero is a cheaty cheater. He shows them Hero's window, and sure enough some guy is smooching Hero! But it's not Hero – it's her maid, all set up by Don John.

So, wedding next day and in front of everybody Claudio and Don Pedro confront Hero with their accusation!  
Hero's like 'NOT TRUE'.

Hero's so embarrassed, she fakes her own death.  
[Yeah, I've done that]

But wait! Everyone finds out what Don John did and Hero's name is cleared.

Crafty Leonato, Hero's Dad, knows Hero's still alive, but doesn't tell Claudio, to teach him a lesson!  
He's like 'Marry my secret niece' and Claudio says 'OK'.  
And at the altar 'SURPRISE! It's HERO!'

Even Benedick and Beatrice are like  
'So, we were set up too, but what the hay...'  
Hey where's Don John?

Ha! I don't see a potty in there!  
It's gonna get MESSY!