

Solution for 1.1 Pursued by a Bear (Answer = HAMLET)

As the first hint "Pursued by a bear! Who would come up with a wacky stage direction like that?" suggests, the title of this puzzle is a hint at the theme. Specifically "Exit, pursued by a bear" is a famous stage direction from the Shakespeare play *The Winter's Tale*.

Looking at the puzzle we see a series of movie posters and book covers with a quote (again from *The Winter's Tale*) in the middle. The second hint "Books and movies... I wonder what they might have in common? And how might you connect them?" suggests that we need to find a way to join them. Searching for some of the titles we should quickly see that they are all inspired by works by Shakespeare and in particular there is one book and one movie inspired by each play:

LHS Shakespeare	LHS image	RHS image	RHS Shakespeare
The Taming of the Shrew	10 Things I Hate About You	Wyrd Sisters	Macbeth
Othello	All Night Long	Vinegar Girl	The Taming of the Shrew
The Tempest	Forbidden Planet	Love in Idleness	A Midsummer Night's Dream
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Get Over It	Asterix and the Great Divide	Romeo and Juliet
Macbeth	Men of Respect	Exposure	Othello
King Lear	Ran	Cakes and Ale	Twelfth Night
Twelfth Night	She's The Man	Ariel	The Tempest
Romeo and Juliet	West Side Story	A Thousand Acres	King Lear

The third hint "Join the dots and extract the letter that each line passes through, to spell out another film inspired by a work of Shakespeare." tells us what to do next:



The lines uniquely intercept the letters LION KING, and a quick google or your own pop culture knowledge will tell you that the film *The Lion King* is widely believed to be based on Shakespeare's **HAMLET**, which is the solution.

Author's Notes:

Sorry to all the teams who were thrown by the title and spent some time guessing *The Winter's Tale*-related answers, and kudos to those who discovered that there is a character in the *Timon & Pumbaa* TV show who is a bear (but what is a bear doing in Africa?). That was an unintentional red herring – the title was just supposed to give you a Shakespearean nudge!