

The Most Excellent and Lamentable Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet

Prologue

Enter CHORUS.

Chorus.

Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.
5 From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life;
Whose misadventured piteous overthrows
Do with their death bury their parents' strife.
The fearful passage of their death-marked love,
10 And the continuance of their parents' rage,
Which, but their children's end, naught could remove,
Is now the two hours' traffic of our stage;
The which if you with patient ears attend,
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.

[Exit.]

Act I, Scene I

- The story takes place in _____, Italy, in the late _____s.
- The _____ and the _____, have been fighting for several years.
- A _____ breaks out among the two families over a _____, considered a rude gesture
- _____ Escalus stops the _____, threatens the next violators with _____, and pulls Montague and Capulet aside separately to speak with them.

Romeo.

She hath, and in that sparing makes huge waste;
220 For beauty, starved with her severity,
Cuts beauty off from all posterity.
She is too fair, too wise, wisely too fair,
To merit bliss by making me despair.
She hath forsworn to love, and in that vow
225 Do I live dead that live to tell it now.

Benvolio.

Be ruled by me; forget to think of her.

Romeo.

O, teach me how I should forget to think!

Benvolio.

By giving liberty unto thine eyes.
Examine other beauties.

Act I, Scene II

Paris.

Of honorable reckoning are you both,
5 And pity 'tis you lived at odds so long.
But now, my lord, what say you to my suit?

Capulet.

But saying o'er what I have said before:
My child is yet a stranger in the world,
She hath not seen the change of fourteen years;
10 Let two more summers wither in their pride

Ere we may think her ripe to be a bride.

Paris.

Younger than she are happy mothers made.

Capulet.

And too soon marred are those so early made.

Earth hath swallowed all my hopes but she;

15 She is the hopeful lady of my earth.

But woo her, gentle Paris, get her heart;

My will to her consent is but a part.

- Romeo and Benvolio find out that a great party is being thrown at the house of _____.
- They are not invited, but since _____ is on the invitation list, Benvolio convinces Romeo that they must sneak in to compare _____ beauty with that of other girls.

Act I, Scene III

- _____ asks Juliet what she thinks of a marriage to _____.

Lady Capulet.

Speak briefly, can you like of Paris' love?

Juliet.

I'll look to like, if looking liking move;

But no more deep will I endart mine eye

Than your consent gives strength to make it fly.

Act I, Scene IV

- On the way to _____, Romeo confesses in a _____ that he had a bad dream earlier that night.
- _____ interrupts the walk to the party with a wild speech about _____. Benvolio fears they'll be late to dinner.

Benvolio.

This wind you talk of blows us from ourselves.

105 Supper is done, and we shall come too late.

Romeo.

I fear, too early; for my mind misgives

Some consequence yet hanging in the stars

Shall bitterly begin his fearful date

With this night's revels and expire the term

110 Of a despisèd life, closed in my breast,

By some vile forfeit of untimely death.

But he that hath the steerage of my course

Direct my sail! On, lusty gentlemen!

Act I, Scene V

- _____, _____, _____, and friends arrive just in time for _____.
- Romeo sees _____ for the first time.

Romeo.

O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!
It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night
As a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—
Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear!
50 So shows a snowy dove trooping with crows
As yonder lady o'er her fellows shows.
The measure done, I'll watch her place of stand
And, touching hers, make blessed my rude hand.
Did my heart love till now? Forswear it, sight!
55 For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.

- _____ recognizes Romeo's voice, and tells his uncle _____ that Romeo is making a mockery of their party, and should be killed. Capulet replies:

Capulet.

He shall be endured.
What, goodman boy! I say he shall. Go to!
80 Am I the master here, or you? Go to!
You'll not endure him, God shall mend my soul!
You'll make a mutiny among my guests!
You will set cock-a-hoop. You'll be the man!

- Romeo and Juliet meet. Romeo takes her _____ as he speaks to her:

95 **Romeo.**

If I profane with my unworhiest hand
This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this:
My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.

Juliet.

Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,
100 Which mannerly devotion shows in this;
For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,
And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.

Romeo.

Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?

Juliet.

Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer.

Romeo.

105 O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do!
They pray; grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.

Juliet.

Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake.

Romeo.

Then move not while my prayer's effect I take.
Thus from my lips, by thine my sin is purged.

[Kisses her.]

- Romeo finds out from the nurse that Juliet is a _____, his family's _____.
- Juliet finds out that Romeo is a _____, her family's _____.

Juliet.

140 My only love, sprung from my only hate!
Too early seen unknown, and known too late!
Prodigious birth of love it is to me
That I must love a loathed enemy.

Act II, Scene I

- Romeo _____ his _____ on the walk home and jumps the _____ wall.
- _____ picks on him while he's within earshot, but Romeo doesn't return to his friends.
- His attention turns toward a _____ he sees emanating from the _____ house:

Romeo (*coming forward*).

He jests at scars that never felt a wound.

[*Enter JULIET at a window.*]

- But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?
It is the East, and Juliet is the sun!
Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,
5 Who is already sick and pale with grief
That thou her maid art far more fair than she.
Be not her maid, since she is envious.
Her vestal livery is but sick and green,
And none but fools do wear it. Cast it off.
10 It is my lady! O, it is my love!
O, that she knew she were!
She speaks, yet she says nothing. What of that?
Her eye discourses; I will answer it.
I am too bold; 'tis not to me she speaks.
15 Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,
Having some business, do entreat her eyes
To twinkle in their spheres till they return.
What if her eyes were there, they in her head?
The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars
20 As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven
Would through the airy region stream so bright
That birds would sing and think it were not night.
See how she leans her cheek upon her hand!
O, that I were a glove upon that hand,
That I might touch that cheek!

- Romeo overhears _____ confess her _____ for him, and speaks with her.
- After a long _____, they decide to _____ marry the _____.

Act II, Scene III

- At dawn, Romeo goes to visit his priest and friend, _____ Laurence, explaining:

Romeo.

- Then plainly know my heart's dear love is set
On the fair daughter of rich Capulet;
As mine on hers, so hers is set on mine,
60 And all combined, save what thou must combine
By holy marriage. When and where and how
We met, we wooed, and made exchange of vow,
I'll tell thee as we pass; but this I pray,
That thou consent to marry us today.

Friar.

- 65 Holy Saint Francis! What a change is here!
Is Rosaline, that thou didst love so dear,
So soon forsaken? Young men's love then lies
Not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes.
Jesu Maria! What a deal of brine
- 70 Hath washed thy sallow cheeks for Rosaline!
How much salt water thrown away in waste
To season love, that of it doth not taste!
The sun not yet thy signs from heaven clears,
Thy old groans ring yet in mine ancient ears.
- 75 Lo, here upon thy cheek the stain doth sit
Of an old tear that is not washed off yet.
If e'er thou wast thyself, and these woes thine,
Thou and these woes were all for Rosaline.
And art thou changed? Pronounce this sentence then:
- 80 Women may fall when there's no strength in men.

- Eventually Friar Laurence _____ the teens, saying:

Friar.

- 90 In one respect I'll thy assistant be;
For this alliance may so happy prove
To turn your households' rancor to pure love.

Act II, Scene IV

- Later that morning, _____ and _____ wonder where _____ is.
- Benvolio tells Mercutio that _____, angry at the party crashing, has sent a _____ to Romeo's house.
- _____ shows up and his friends, mostly Mercutio, _____ teases Romeo about _____.
- Juliet's _____, who arrives to discuss the details of the marriage with Romeo, becomes the subject of an _____ practical joke, Mercutio calls a "_____."

Act II, Scene V

- The _____ tells Juliet she and Romeo will marry at the church today.
- Neither the _____, or the _____ are aware of the marriage.

Act II, Scene VI

- Friar Lawrence, before he marries the teens, gives _____ to Romeo:

Friar.

- These violent delights have violent ends
10 And in their triumph die, like fire and powder,
Which, as they kiss, consume. The sweetest honey

Is loathsome in his own deliciousness
And in the taste confounds the appetite.
Therefore love moderately: long love doth so;
15 Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.

Act III, Scene I

- After the _____ wedding, Benvolio _____ Mercutio about their day's agenda:

Benvolio.

I pray thee, good Mercutio, let's retire.
The day is hot, the Capels are abroad,
And, if we meet, we shall not 'scape a brawl,
For now, these hot days, is the mad blood stirring.

- Too late. The Capulets _____ the two on the street. Tybalt talks some smack.
- A _____ Romeo turns up, and when _____ Tybalt, known as the _____
_____, calls him a " _____ " him, Romeo says:

Romeo.

Tybalt, the reason that I have to love thee
Doth much excuse the appertaining rage
65 To such a greeting. Villain am I none.
Therefore farewell. I see thou knowest me not.

- Mercutio, angry at Romeo's "vile _____," fights Tybalt in the street, despite the prince's promise of _____ to the next offenders of the peace.
- Romeo, trying to _____ the fight, restrains _____ who, without the use of his _____ is pierced by _____ sword. _____ says:

Mercutio.

I am hurt.
A plague a' both houses! I am sped.
Is he gone and hath nothing?

Benvolio.

What, art thou hurt?

Mercutio.

Ay, ay, a scratch, a scratch. Marry, 'tis enough.
95 Where is my page? Go, villain, fetch a surgeon.
[Exit PAGE.]

Romeo.

Courage, man. The hurt cannot be much.

Mercutio.

No, 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide
as a church door; but 'tis enough, 'twill serve. Ask
for me tomorrow, and you shall find me a grave man.
100 I am peppered, I warrant, for this world. A plague
a' both your houses! Zounds, a dog, a rat, a mouse,
a cat, to scratch a man to death! A braggart, a rogue,
a villain, that fights by the book of arithmetic! Why
the devil came you between us? I was hurt under your
105 arm.

Romeo.

I thought all for the best.

Mercutio.

Help me into some house, Benvolio,
Or I shall faint. A plague a' both your houses!
They have made worms' meat of me. I have it,

110 And soundly too. Your houses!

[*He dies.*]

- Romeo, _____, chases down the triumphant _____, and says:

Romeo.

Now, Tybalt, take the "villain" back again
That late thou gavest me; for Mercutio's soul
Is but a little way above our heads,

130 Staying for thine to keep him company.

Either thou or I, or both, must go with him.

- They fight. _____ is killed, and Romeo _____.
- Lady Capulet, upset at the death of her _____, begs the prince for justice:

Lady Capulet.

I beg for justice, which thou, prince, must give;
Romeo slew Tybalt, Romeo must not live.

- The prince decides to _____ Romeo from _____ on pain of _____.

Act III, Scene II

- Juliet first _____ against Romeo for killing her _____, but then quickly defends him for killing the man who would have killed him.
- It's Romeo's _____, though, which drives her most to despair.
- The nurse agrees to bring _____ to the house for a _____ visit.

Act III, Scene III

- In Friar Laurence's cell, Romeo throws himself on the _____, moaning and weeping.
- Upon the nurse's arrival, Romeo, wild with guilt at the pain he has caused _____, tries to _____ himself.
- Friar Laurence _____ Romeo he must see _____, move to _____, and wait for the prince's _____.

Act III, Scene IV

- On a sudden impulse, _____ promises _____ that _____ will marry him the day after tomorrow. He thinks it will cheer her up following _____.

Act III, Scene V

• Just before _____, Romeo is preparing to leave the _____ house when the nurse barges in to say _____ is on her way in.

• Romeo and Juliet share a final, quick _____:

Juliet.

O, think'st thou we shall ever meet again?

Romeo.

I doubt it not; and all these woes shall serve
For sweet discourses in our times to come.

Juliet.

O God, I have an ill-divining soul!

55 Methinks I see thee, now thou art so low,

As one dead in the bottom of a tomb.

Either my eyesight fails, or thou look'st pale.

Romeo.

And trust me, love, in my eye so do you.

Dry sorrow drinks our blood. Adieu, adieu! [Exit.]

• Lady Capulet enters with what she thinks is good news: Juliet is to _____ Paris in a few days.

• Juliet, upset over the news, tells her _____ and _____ she will not marry Paris.

• _____ and Lady _____ swear they will disown Juliet if she does not.

• The nurse says:

Nurse.

Faith, here it is.

215 Romeo is banished; and all the world to nothing

That he dares ne'er come back to challenge you;

Or if he do, it needs must be by stealth.

Then, since the case so stands as now it doth,

I think it best you married with the county.

220 O, he's a lovely gentleman!

Romeo's a dishclout to him. An eagle, madam,

Hath not so green, so quick, so fair an eye

As Paris hath. Beshrew my very heart,

I think you are happy in this second match,

225 For it excels your first; or if it did not,

Your first is dead—or 'twere as good he were

As living here and you no use of him.

• Juliet, feeling _____ by her nurse, asks her to relay a message to her parents: she'll

be at Friar Laurence's cell asking _____ for forgiveness. In a _____, Juliet says:

Juliet.

Ancient damnation! O most wicked fiend!

Is it more sin to wish me thus forsworn,

Or to dispraise my lord with that same tongue

240 Which she hath praised him with above compare

So many thousand times? Go, counselor!

Thou and my bosom henceforth shall be twain.

I'll to the friar to know his remedy.

If all else fail, myself have power to die. [Exit.]

Act IV, Scene I

- Juliet encounters _____ at the friar's cell, making arrangements for their _____.
- In private, Juliet says she'll _____ before she marries Paris.
- Friar Laurence says he has the answer to the problem:

Friar.

Hold, then. Go home, be merry, give consent
90 To marry Paris. Wednesday is tomorrow.
Tomorrow night look that thou lie alone;
Let not the nurse lie with thee in thy chamber.
Take thou this vial, being then in bed,
And this distilling liquor drink thou off;
95 When presently through all thy veins shall run
A cold and drowsy humor; for no pulse
Shall keep his native progress, but surcease;
No warmth, no breath, shall testify thou livest;
The roses in thy lips and cheeks shall fade
100 To wanny ashes, thy eyes' windows fall
Like death when he shuts up the day of life;
Each part, deprived of supple government,
Shall, stiff and stark and cold, appear like death;
And in this borrowed likeness of shrunk death
105 Thou shalt continue two-and-forty hours,
And then awake as from a pleasant sleep.
Now, when the bridegroom in the morning comes
To rouse thee from thy bed, there art thou dead.
Then, as the manner of our country is,
110 In thy best robes uncovered on the bier
Thou shalt be borne to that same ancient vault
Where all the kindred of the Capulets lie.
In the meantime, against thou shalt awake,
Shall Romeo by my letters know our drift;
115 And hither shall he come; and he and I
Will watch thy waking, and that very night
Shall Romeo bear thee hence to Mantua.
And this shall free thee from this present shame,
If no inconstant toy nor womanish fear
120 Abate thy valor in the acting it.

- Friar Laurence sends _____ on an errand to deliver the plan to Romeo in Mantua.

Act IV, Scenes II, III, IV, and V

- _____ is so happy about Juliet's change of heart, he moves the wedding up ____ day.
- _____ persuades her _____ and _____ to leave her alone this night.

Juliet.

Farewell! God knows when we shall meet again.
15 I have a faint cold fear thrills through my veins
That almost freezes up the heat of life.
I'll call them back again to comfort me.
Nurse!— What should she do here?

My dismal scene I needs must act alone.
20 Come, vial.
What if this mixture do not work at all?
Shall I be married then tomorrow morning?
No, no! This shall forbid it. Lie thou there.

[Lays down a dagger.]

What if it be a poison which the friar
25 Subtly hath ministered to have me dead,
Lest in this marriage he should be dishonored
Because he married me before to Romeo?
I fear it is; and yet methinks it should not,
For he hath still been tried a holy man.
30 How if, when I am laid into the tomb,
I wake before the time that Romeo
Come to redeem me? There's a fearful point!
Shall I not then be stifled in the vault,
To whose foul mouth no healthsome air breathes in,
35 And there die strangled ere my Romeo comes?
Or, if I live, is it not very like
The horrible conceit of death and night,
Together with the terror of the place—
As in a vault, an ancient receptacle
40 Where for this many hundred years the bones
Of all my buried ancestors are packed;
Where bloody Tybalt, yet but green in earth,
Lies fest'ring in his shroud; where, as they say,
At some hours in the night spirits resort—
45 Alack, alack, is it not like that I,
So early waking—what with loathsome smells,
And shrieks like mandrakes torn out of the earth,
That living mortals, hearing them, run mad—
I, if I wake, shall I not be distraught,
50 Environèd with all these hideous fears,
And madly play with my forefathers' joints,
And pluck the mangled Tybalt from his shroud,
And, in this rage, with some great kinsman's bone
As with a club dash out my desp'rate brains?
55 O, look! Methinks I see my cousin's ghost
Seeking out Romeo, that did spit his body
Upon a rapier's point. Stay, Tybalt, stay!
Romeo, Romeo, Romeo, I drink to thee.

[She falls upon her bed within the curtains.]

- _____ consumes the house the morning of Juliet's _____.
- Friar Laurence suggests the family move forward with Juliet's _____.

Act V, Scene I

- Balthasar, Romeo's _____, hears of Juliet's death, and goes to _____ to tell Romeo.
- Romeo, who never received the letter from _____, visits an apothecary, a _____, who's poverty forces him to sell Romeo a vial of _____.

Act V, Scene II

- Friar _____ returns to Friar Laurence with the bad news: He tells Friar Laurence:

John

5 Going to find a barefoot brother out,
One of our order, to associate me
Here in this city visiting the sick,
And finding him, the searchers of the town,
Suspecting that we both were in a house
10 Where the infectious pestilence did reign,
Sealed up the doors, and would not let us forth,
So that my speed to Mantua there was stayed.

Laurence

Who bare my letter, then, to Romeo?

John

I could not send it—here it is again—
15 Nor get a messenger to bring it thee,
So fearful were they of infection.

Act V, Scene III

- _____ is found _____ outside the Capulet _____ when he encounters Romeo, attempting to go in.

Paris

This is that banished haughty Montague
50 That murd' red my love's cousin—with which
griefIt is supposed the fair creature died—
And here is come to do some villainous shame
To the dead bodies. I will apprehend him.
Stop thy unhallowèd toil, vile Montague!
55 Can vengeance be pursued further than death?
Condemnèd villain, I do apprehend thee.
Obey, and go with me; for thou must die.

Romeo

I must indeed; and therefore came I hither.
Good gentle youth, tempt not a desp'rate man.

- They fight. Paris is _____. Paris's _____ witnesses the murder. Before his last _____, Paris asks Romeo to place him in the _____ with _____. Romeo does so.

Romeo

I'll bury thee in a triumphant grave.
A grave? O, no, a lanthorn, slaught' red youth,
85 For here lies Juliet, and her beauty makes
This vault a feasting presence full of light.
Death, lie thou there, by a dead man interred.
[Lays him in the tomb.]
How oft when men are at the point of death
Have they been merry! Which their keepers call
190 A lightning before death. O, how may I
Call this a lightning? O my love, my wife!
Death, that hath sucked the honey of thy breath,

Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty.
 Thou art not conquered. Beauty's ensign yet
 95 Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,
 And death's pale flag is not advanced there.
 Tybalt, liest thou there in the bloody sheet?
 O, what more favor can I do to thee
 Than with that hand that cut thy youth in twain
 100 To sunder his that was thine enemy?
 Forgive me, cousin! Ah, dear Juliet,
 Why art thou yet so fair? Shall I believe
 That unsubstantial Death is amorous,
 And that the lean abhorred monster keeps
 105 Thee here in dark to be his paramour?
 For fear of that I still will stay with thee
 And never from this pallet of dim night
 Depart again. Here, here will I remain
 With worms that are thy chambermaids. O, here
 110 Will I set up my everlasting rest
 And shake the yoke of inauspicious stars
 From this world-wearied flesh. Eyes, look your last!
 Arms, take your last embrace! And, lips, O you
 The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss
 115 A dateless bargain to engrossing death!
 Come, bitter conduct; come, unsavory guide!
 Thou desperate pilot, now at once run on
 The dashing rocks thy seasick weary bark!
 Here's to my love! (*Drinks.*) O true apothecary!
 120 Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.

[*Falls.*]

- Friar Laurence comes in and finds _____ and _____ dead.
- Juliet _____ to find _____ and _____ both dead.
- Friar Laurence tries to _____ Juliet to hide away in a nunnery.
- Juliet refuses. Friar Laurence can no longer stay. He hears the _____ coming, and doesn't want to _____.

Juliet

160 Go, get thee hence, for I will not away.
 [*Exit FRIAR.*]
 What's here? A cup, closed in my true love's hand?
 Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end.
 O churl! Drunk all, and left no friendly drop
 To help me after? I will kiss thy lips.
 165 Haply some poison yet doth hang on them
 To make me die with a restorative.

[*Kisses him.*]

Thy lips are warm!

Chief Watchman (*within*) Lead, boy. Which way?

Juliet

Yea, noise? Then I'll be brief. O happy dagger!
 [*Snatches Romeo's dagger.*]
 170 This is thy sheath; there rust, and let me die.
 [*She stabs herself and falls.*]

- Both _____ are called to witness the scene in the tomb.
- The prince questions Romeo's _____, Paris' _____, and Friar Laurence, whose stories all check out.
- Montague promises to erect a _____ of Juliet, and Capulet promises to erect a statue of _____.

Prince

305 A glooming peace this morning with it brings.
The sun for sorrow will not show his head.
Go hence, to have more talk of these sad things;
Some shall be pardoned, and some punishèd;
For never was a story of more woe
310 Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.

[*Exeunt omnes.*]