



1591

Romeo and Juliet

By William Shakespeare

Act I

Prologue: Short summary given. Two families in Verona. Old enemies. Their children fall in love.

Scene 1: Fight breaks out between Capulets and Montagues. The Prince warns that the families will pay with their lives if battle breaks out again. Romeo is lovesick.

Scene 2: Capulets want Paris to marry Juliet. They set up a party for Paris and Juliet to meet.

Benvolio encourages Romeo to go to the Capulet party.

Scene 3: Lady Capulet talks with Juliet about getting married. Juliet is not happy about the idea of marrying Paris.

Scene 4: Romeo and friend Benvolio prepare to crash the party.

Scene 5: Romeo notices Juliet at the party. Tybalt (Juliet's cousin) notices Romeo and tells Lord Capulet. Lord Capulet refuses to throw Romeo out. Romeo flirts with Juliet. Romeo finds out Juliet is a Capulet. Romeo and Benvolio leave the party. Juliet finds out Romeo is a Montague.

Act II

Prologue: Summary given of Romeo's situation. He's now in love with Juliet but has no access to her.

Scene 1: Benvolio and Mercutio (another friend) joke about how Romeo has fallen in love again.

Scene 2: Juliet speaks her love for Romeo out the window of her room. Romeo, hidden in the Capulet orchard, hears Juliet and confesses his love for her. They agree to meet.

Scene 3: Romeo discusses his new love for Juliet with Friar Laurence.

Scene 4: Romeo and friends are joking around. Juliet's nurse comes to plan a meeting where Romeo and Juliet can get together.

Scene 5: The nurse tells Juliet to meet Romeo at the Friar's.

Scene 6: Romeo and Juliet get married.

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Act III

Scene 1: Tybalt comes to quarrel with Romeo, but Romeo refuses to fight. Tybalt kills Mercutio. Romeo gets revenge by killing Tybalt.

Scene 2: Juliet learns that Romeo killed her cousin.

Scene 3: Romeo is banished.

Scene 4: Lord Capulet plans for Juliet to marry Paris on Thursday.

Scene 5: Romeo tells Juliet he must leave. Lady Capulet tells Juliet that she is to marry Paris. Juliet argues with her parents.

Act IV

Scene 1: Paris tells Friar Laurence that he and Juliet are to be married. Juliet tells the friar that she wants to commit suicide. Friar Laurence gives Juliet a potion that will put her to sleep so her parents will think she is dead. He will send a message to Romeo to come for her.

Scene 2: Juliet returns home and tells her parents she will marry Paris.

Scene 3: Juliet and the nurse prepare for the wedding. Later Juliet takes the potion.

Scene 4: The Capulets prepare for the wedding.

Scene 5: Capulets find Juliet dead.

Act V

Scene 1: Romeo learns that Juliet is dead and decides to go kill himself.

Scene 2: Friar Laurence learns that his letter to Romeo was never delivered.

Scene 3: Romeo goes to find Juliet's dead body. Paris stops Romeo at the tomb. Romeo kills Paris.

Romeo takes poison and dies. The friar finds Romeo and Paris's bodies. Juliet wakes up and will not go away with the friar. She sees Romeo's body. She tries to kill herself with Romeo's poison, but instead stabs herself with his dagger. Families learn of the deaths and make peace.



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