

Romeo and Juliet

William Shakespeare

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Opening pages

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P.O. Box 2782
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1595

by William Shakespeare

Dramatis Personae

Chorus.

Â Â Escalus, Prince of Verona. Â Â Paris, a young Count, kinsman to the Prince. Â Â Montague, heads of two houses at variance with each other. Â Â Capulet, heads of two houses at variance with each other. Â Â An old Man, of the Capulet family. Â Â Romeo, son to Montague. Â Â Tybalt, nephew to Lady Capulet. Â Â Mercutio, kinsman to the Prince and friend to Romeo. Â Â Benvolio, nephew to Montague, and friend to Romeo Â Â Tybalt, nephew to Lady Capulet. Â Â Friar Laurence, Franciscan. Â Â Friar John, Franciscan. Â Â Balthasar, servant to Romeo. Â Â Abram, servant to Montague. Â Â Sampson, servant to Capulet. Â Â Gregory, servant to Capulet. Â Â Peter, servant to Juliet's nurse. Â Â An Apothecary. Â Â Three Musicians. Â Â An Officer.

Â Â Lady Montague, wife to Montague. Â Â Lady Capulet, wife to Capulet. Â Â Juliet, daughter to Capulet. Â Â Nurse to Juliet.

^ ^ Citizens of Verona; Gentlemen and Gentlewomen of both houses; ^
^ ^ ^ Maskers, Torchbearers, Pages, Guards, Watchmen, Servants, and
^ ^ ^ ^ Attendants.

THE PROLOGUE

Enter Chorus.

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

ACT I. Scene I. Verona. A public place.

Enter Sampson and Gregory (with swords and bucklers) of the house of Capulet.

Samp. Gregory, on my word, we'll not carry coals. Greg. No, for then we should be colliers. Samp. I mean, an we be in choler, we'll draw. Greg. Ay, while you live, draw your neck out of collar. Samp. I strike quickly, being moved. Greg. But thou art not quickly moved to strike. Samp. A dog of the house of Montague moves me. Greg. To move is to stir, and to be valiant is to stand. Samp. Therefore, if thou art moved, thou runn'st away. Samp. A dog of that house shall move me to stand. I will take the wall of any man or maid of Montague's. Greg. That shows thee a weak slave; for the weakest goes to the wall. Samp. 'Tis true; and therefore women, being the weaker vessels, are ever thrust to the wall. Therefore I will push Montague's men from the wall and thrust his maids to the wall. Greg. The quarrel is between our masters and us their men. Samp. 'Tis all one. I will show myself a tyrant. When I have fought with the men, I will be cruel with the maids- I will cut off their heads. Greg. The heads of the maids? Samp. Ay, the heads of the maids, or their maidenheads. Take it in what sense thou wilt. Greg. They must take it in sense that feel it. Samp. Me they shall feel while I am able to stand; and 'tis known I am a pretty piece of flesh. Greg. 'Tis well thou art not fish; if thou hadst, thou hadst been poor-John. Draw thy tool! Here comes two of the house of Montagues.

Enter two other Servingmen [Abram and Balthasar].

Samp. My naked weapon is out. Quarrel! I will back thee. Greg.
 How? turn thy back and run? Samp. Fear me not. Greg. No,
 marry. I fear thee! Samp. Let us take the law of our sides; let them
 begin. Greg. I will frown as I pass by, and let them take it as they
 list. Samp. Nay, as they dare. I will bite my thumb at them; which is
 a disgrace to them, if they bear it. Abr. Do you bite your
 thumb at us, sir? Samp. I do bite my thumb, sir. Abr. Do you
 bite your thumb at us, sir? Samp. [aside to Gregory] Is the law of our
 side if I say ay? Greg. [aside to Sampson] No. Samp. No, sir, I
 do not bite my thumb at you, sir; but I bite my a thumb, sir. Greg.
 Do you quarrel, sir? Abr. Quarrel, sir? No, sir. Samp. But
 if you do, sir, am for you. I serve as good a man as you. Abr. No
 better. Samp. Well, sir.

Enter Benvolio.

Greg. [aside to Sampson] Say 'better.' Here comes one of my
 master's kinsmen. Samp. Yes, better, sir. Abr. You lie. Samp.
 Draw, if you be men. Gregory, remember thy swashing blow.
 They fight. Ben. Part, fools! [Beats down their swords.] Put up your swords.
 You know not what you do.

Enter Tybalt.

Tyb. What, art thou drawn among these heartless hinds? Ben.
 Turn thee Benvolio! look upon thy death. Ben. I do but keep the
 peace. Put up thy sword, Or manage it to part these men with
 me. Tyb. What, drawn, and talk of peace? I hate the word
 As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee. Have at thee, coward!
 They fight.

Enter an officer, and three or four Citizens with clubs or
partisans.

Officer. Clubs, bills, and partisans! Strike! beat them down!
Citizens. Down with the Capulets! Down with the Montagues!

Enter Old Capulet in his gown, and his Wife.

Cap. What noise is this? Give me my long sword, ho! Wife. A
crutch, a crutch! Why call you for a sword? Cap. My sword, I say!
Old Montague is come And flourishes his blade in spite of me.

Enter Old Montague and his Wife.

Mon. Thou villain Capulet!- Hold me not, let me go. M. Wife.
Thou shalt not stir one foot to seek a foe.

Enter Prince Escalus, with his Train.

Prince. Rebellious subjects, enemies to peace, Profaners of
this neighbour-stained steel- Will they not hear? What, ho! you
men, you beasts, That quench the fire of your pernicious rage
With purple fountains issuing from your veins! On pain
of torture, from those bloody hands Throw your mistempered
weapons to the ground And hear the sentence of your moved
prince. Three civil brawls, bred of an airy word By
thee, old Capulet, and Montague, Have thrice disturb'd the quiet
of our streets And made Verona's ancient citizens
Cast by their grave beseeching ornaments To wield old
partisans, in hands as old, Cank'red with peace, to part your
cank'red hate. If ever you disturb our streets again,
Your lives shall pay the forfeit of the peace. For this time all the
rest depart away. You, Capulet, shall go along with me;
And, Montague, come you this afternoon, To know our
farther pleasure in this case, To old Freetown, our common

judgment place. **Once more, on pain of death, all men depart.**
Exeunt [all but Montague, his Wife, and Benvolio].
Mon. Who set this ancient quarrel new abroad?
Speak, nephew, were you by when it began?
Ben. Here were the servants of your adversary
 And yours, close fighting ere I did approach.
 I drew to part them. In the instant came
 The fiery Tybalt, with his sword prepar'd;
 Which, as he breath'd defiance to my ears,
 He swung about his head and cut the winds,
 Who, nothing hurt withal, hiss'd him in scorn.
 While we were interchanging thrusts and blows,
 Came more and more, and fought on part and part,
 Till the Prince came, who parted either part.
M. Wife. O, where is Romeo? Saw you him to-day?
Right glad I am he was not at this fray.
Ben. Madam, an hour before the worshipp'd sun
 Peer'd forth the golden window of the East,
 A troubled mind drave me to walk abroad;
 Where, underneath the grove of sycamore
 That westward rooteth from the city's side,
 So early walking did I see your son.
 Towards him I made; but he was ware of me
 And stole into the covert of the wood.
 I- measuring his affections by my own,
 Which then most sought where most might not be found,
 Being one too many by my weary self-
 Pursu'd my humour, not Pursuing his,
 And gladly shunn'd who gladly fled from me.
Mon. Many a morning hath he there been seen,
 With tears augmenting the fresh morning's dew,
 Adding to clouds more clouds with his deep sighs;
 But all so soon as the all-cheering sun
 Should in the farthest East bean to draw
 The shady curtains from Aurora's bed,
 Away from light steals home my heavy son
 And private in his chamber pens himself,
 Shuts up his windows, locks fair daylight out
 And makes himself an artificial night.
 Black and portentous must this humour prove
 Unless good counsel may the cause remove.
Ben. My noble uncle, do you know

the cause? Â Â Mon. I neither know it nor can learn of him. Â Â Ben.
Have you importun'd him by any means? Â Â Mon. Both by myself and
many other friends; Â Â Â Â Â But he, his own affections' counsellor, Â Â Â Â
Â Â Â Is to himself- I will not say how true- Â Â Â Â Â But to himself so
secret and so close, Â Â Â Â Â So far from sounding and discovery, Â Â Â Â
Â Â As is the bud bit with an envious worm Â Â Â Â Â Ere he can spread his
sweet leaves to the air Â Â Â Â Â Or dedicate his beauty to the sun. Â Â Â Â
Â Â Could we but learn from whence his sorrows grow, Â Â Â Â Â We
would as willingly give cure as know.

Enter Romeo.

A A Ben. See, where he comes. So please you step aside, A A A A I'll
 know his grievance, or be much denied. A A Mon. I would thou wert so
 happy by thy stay A A A A To hear true shrift. Come, madam, let's away,
 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
 A A A A A A A A Exeunt [Montague and Wife]. A A Ben. Good morrow,
 cousin. A A Rom. Is the day so young? A A Ben. But new struck nine. A
 A Rom. Ah me! sad hours seem long. A A A A Was that my father that
 went hence so fast? A A Ben. It was. What sadness lengthens Romeo's
 hours? A A Rom. Not having that which having makes them short. A A
 Ben. In love? A A Rom. Out- A A Ben. Of love? A A Rom. Out of her
 favour where I am in love. A A Ben. Alas that love, so gentle in his view,
 A A A A Should be so tyrannous and rough in proof! A A Rom. Alas that
 love, whose view is muffled still, A A A A Should without eyes see
 pathways to his will! A A A A Where shall we dine? O me! What fray
 was here? A A A A Yet tell me not, for I have heard it all. A A A A
 Here's much to do with hate, but more with love. A A A A Why then, O
 brawling love! O loving hate! A A A A O anything, of nothing first
 create! A A A A O heavy lightness! serious vanity! A A A A Misshapen
 chaos of well-seeming forms! A A A A Feather of lead, bright smoke,
 cold fire, sick health! A A A A Still-waking sleep, that is not what it is A
 A A A This love feel I, that feel no love in this. A A A A Dost thou not

laugh? *Ben.* No, coz, I rather weep. *Rom.* Good heart, at what?
Ben. At thy good heart's oppression. *Rom.* Why, such is love's
transgression. *Ben.* Griefs of mine own lie heavy in my breast,
Which thou wilt propagate, to have it prest With more of
thine. This love that thou hast shown Doth add more grief to too
much of mine own. *Love* is a smoke rais'd with the fume of
sighs; *Being* purg'd, a fire sparkling in lovers' eyes; *Being* vex'd,
a sea nourish'd with lovers' tears. *What* is it else?
A madness most discreet, A choking gall, and a preserving
sweet. *Farewell*, my coz. *Ben.* Soft! I will go along. *An* if you
leave me so, you do me wrong. *Rom.* Tut! I have lost
myself; I am not here: *This* is not Romeo, he's some other
where. *Ben.* Tell me in sadness, who is that you love? *Rom.*
What, shall I groan and tell thee? *Ben.* Groan? Why, no; *But*
sadly tell me who. *Rom.* Bid a sick man in sadness make his
will. *Ah*, word ill urg'd to one that is so ill! *In* sadness,
cousin, I do love a woman. *Ben.* I aim'd so near when I suppos'd
you lov'd. *Rom.* A right good markman! And she's fair I love. *Ben.*
A right fair mark, fair coz, is soonest hit. *Rom.* Well, in that
hit you miss. She'll not be hit With Cupid's arrow. She hath
Dian's wit, *And*, in strong proof of chastity well arm'd, *From*
Love's weak childish bow she lives unharm'd. *She* will not stay
the siege of loving terms, *Nor* bide th' encounter of assailing
eyes, *Nor* ope her lap to saint-seducing gold. *O*, she's
rich in beauty; only poor *That*, when she dies, with beauty dies
her store. *Ben.* Then she hath sworn that she will still live chaste?
Rom. She hath, and in that sparing makes huge waste; *For*
beauty, starv'd 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 *Do* I live dead that live to tell it now. *Ben.*
Be rul'd by me: forget to think of her. *Rom.* O, teach me how I

should forget to think! Ben. By giving liberty unto thine eyes.
 Examine other beauties. Rom. 'Tis the way To call
 hers (exquisite) in question more. These happy masks that kiss
 fair ladies' brows, Being black puts us in mind they hide the
 fair. He that is stricken blind cannot forget The
 precious treasure of his eyesight lost. Show me a mistress that
 is passing fair, What doth her beauty serve but as a note
 Where I may read who pass'd that passing fair? Farewell.
 Thou canst not teach me to forget. Ben. I'll pay that doctrine, or else
 die in debt. Exeunt.

Scene II. A Street.

Enter Capulet, County Paris, and [Servant] -the Clown.

Cap. But Montague is bound as well as I, In penalty alike;
 and 'tis not hard, I think, For men so old as we to keep the
 peace. Par. Of honourable reckoning are you both, And
 pity 'tis you liv'd at odds so long. Cap. But now, my lord, what say
 you to my suit? Cap. 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; Let two more summers wither in their
 pride Ere we may think her ripe to be a bride. Par. Younger
 than she are happy mothers made. Cap. And too soon marr'd are
 those so early made. The earth hath swallowed all my hopes but
 she; 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.
 An she agree, within her scope of choice Lies my
 consent and fair according voice. This night I hold an old
 accustom'd feast, Whereto I have invited many a guest,
 Such as I love; and you among the store, One more, most
 welcome, makes my number more. At my poor house look to
 behold this night Earth-treading stars that make dark heaven
 light. Such comfort as do lusty young men feel When
 well apparell'd April on the heel Of limping Winter treads, even
 such delight Among fresh female buds shall you this night
 Inherit at my house. Hear all, all see, And like her most
 whose merit most shall be; Which, on more view of many,
 mine, being one, May stand in number, though in reck'ning
 none. Come, go with me. [To Servant, giving him a paper] Go,
 sirrah, And trudge about Through fair Verona; find
 those persons out Whose names are written there, and to them

say, My house and welcome on their pleasure stay-
 Exeunt [Capulet and Paris]. Serv. Find them out whose names
 are written here? It is written that the shoemaker should meddle
 with his yard and the tailor with his last, the fisher with his
 pencil and the painter with his nets; but I am sent to find those
 persons whose names are here writ, and can never find what
 names the writing person hath here writ. I must to the learned.
 In good time!

Enter Benvolio and Romeo.

Ben. Tut, man, one fire burns out another's burning; One
 pain is lessened by another's anguish; Turn giddy, and be holp
 by backward turning; One desperate grief cures with another's
 languish. Take thou some new infection to thy eye, And the rank
 poison of the old will die. Rom. Your plantain leaf is
 excellent for that. Ben. For what, I pray thee? Rom. For your
 broken shin. Ben. Why, Romeo, art thou mad? Rom. Not mad,
 but bound more than a madman is; Shut up in prison, kept
 without my food, Whipp'd and tormented and- God-den, good
 fellow. Serv. God gi' go-den. I pray, sir, can you read? Rom.
 Ay, mine own fortune in my misery. Serv. Perhaps you have learned
 it without book. But I pray, can you read anything you see? Rom.
 Ay, If I know the letters and the language. Serv. Ye say
 honestly. Rest you merry! Rom. Stay, fellow; I can read. He reads.

'Signior Martino and his wife and daughters; County Anselmo and his
 beauteous sisters; The lady widow of Vitruvio; Signior Placentio and His
 lovely nieces; Mercutio and his brother Valentine; Mine uncle Capulet,
 his wife, and daughters; My fair niece

Rosaline and Livia; Signior Valentio and his cousin Tybalt; Lucio and the lively Helena.'

 [Gives back the paper.] A fair assembly. Whither should they come? Serv. Up. Rom. Whither? Serv. To supper, to our house. Rom. Whose house? Serv. My master's. Rom. Indeed I should have ask'd you that before. Serv. Now I'll tell you without asking. My master is the great rich Capulet; and if you be not of the house of Montagues, I pray come and crush a cup of wine. Rest you merry! Exit. Ben. At this same ancient feast of Capulet's Sups the fair Rosaline whom thou so lov'st; With all the admired beauties of Verona. Go thither, and with unattainted eye Compare her face with some that I shall show, And I will make thee think thy swan a crow. Rom. When the devout religion of mine eye Maintains such falsehood, then turn tears to fires; And these, who, often drown'd, could never die, Transparent heretics, be burnt for liars! One fairer than my love? The all-seeing sun Ne'er saw her match since first the world begun. Ben. Tut! you saw her fair, none else being by, Herself pois'd with herself in either eye; But in that crystal scales let there be weigh'd Your lady's love against some other maid That I will show you shining at this feast, And she shall scant show well that now seems best. Rom. I'll go along, no such sight to be shown, But to rejoice in splendour of my own. [Exeunt.]

Scene III. Capulet's house.

Enter Capulet's Wife, and Nurse.

Wife. Nurse, where's my daughter? Call her forth to me. Nurse. Now, by my maidenhead at twelve year old, I bade her come. What, lamb! what ladybird! God forbid! Where's this girl? What, Juliet!

Enter Juliet.

Jul. How now? Who calls? Nurse. Your mother. Jul. Madam, I am here. What is your will? Wife. This is the matter- Nurse, give leave awhile, We must talk in secret. Nurse, come back again; I have rememb'ed me, thou's hear our counsel. Thou knowest my daughter's of a pretty age. Nurse. Faith, I can tell her age unto an hour. Wife. She's not fourteen. Nurse. I'll lay fourteen of my teeth- And yet, to my teen be it spoken, I have but four- She is not fourteen. How long is it now To Lammas-tide? Wife. A fortnight and odd days. Nurse. Even or odd, of all days in the year, Come Lammas Eve at night shall she be fourteen. Susan and she (God rest all Christian souls!) Were of an age. Well, Susan is with God; She was too good for me. But, as I said, On Lammas Eve at night shall she be fourteen; That shall she, marry; I remember it well. 'Tis since the earthquake now eleven years; And she was wean'd (I never shall forget it), Of all the days of the year, upon that day; For I had then laid wormwood to my dug, Sitting in the sun under the dovehouse wall. My lord and you were then at Mantua. Nay, I do bear a brain. But, as I said, When it did taste the wormwood on the nipple Of my dug and felt it bitter, pretty fool, To

see it tetchy and fall out with the dug! Shake, quoth the
 dovehouse! 'Twas no need, I trow, To bid me trudge.
 And since that time it is eleven years, For then she could stand
 alone; nay, by th' rood, She could have run and waddled all
 about; For even the day before, she broke her brow;
 And then my husband (God be with his soul! 'A was a merry
 man) took up the child. 'Yea,' quoth he, 'dost thou fall upon thy
 face? Thou wilt fall backward when thou hast more wit;
 Wilt thou not, Jule?' and, by my holidam, The pretty wretch
 left crying, and said 'Ay.' To see now how a jest shall come
 about! I warrant, an I should live a thousand yeas, I
 never should forget it. 'Wilt thou not, Jule?' quoth he, And,
 pretty fool, it stinted, and said 'Ay.' Wife. Enough of this. I pray thee
 hold thy peace. Nurse. Yes, madam. Yet I cannot choose but laugh
 To think it should leave crying and say 'Ay.' And yet,
 I warrant, it had upon its brow A bump as big as a young
 cock'rel's stone; A perilous knock; and it cried bitterly.
 'Yea,' quoth my husband, 'fall'st upon thy face? Thou wilt fall
 backward when thou comest to age; Wilt thou not, Jule?' It
 stinted, and said 'Ay.' Jul. And stint thou too, I pray thee, nurse, say
 I. Nurse. Peace, I have done. God mark thee to his grace! An I might live to
 see thee married once, I have my wish. Wife. Marry, that 'marry' is
 the very theme I came to talk of. Tell me, daughter Juliet, How
 stands your disposition to be married? Jul. It is an honour
 that I dream not of. Nurse. An honour? Were not I thine only nurse,
 I would say thou hadst suck'd wisdom from thy teat. Wife.
 Well, think of marriage now. Younger than you, Here in
 Verona, ladies of esteem, Are made already mothers. By my
 count, I was your mother much upon these years That
 you are now a maid. Thus then in brief: The valiant Paris seeks
 you for his love. Nurse. A man, young lady! lady, such a man

As all the world- why he's a man of wax. Wife. Verona's summer
 hath not such a flower. Nurse. Nay, he's a flower, in faith- a very
 flower. Wife. What say you? Can you love the gentleman? Wife Wife
 This night you shall behold him at our feast. Wife Wife Wife Read o'er the
 volume of young Paris' face, Wife Wife Wife And find delight writ there with
 beauty's pen; Wife Wife Wife Examine every married lineament, Wife Wife Wife And
 see how one another lends content; Wife Wife Wife And what obscur'd in this
 fair volume lies Wife Wife Wife Find written in the margent of his eyes, Wife Wife Wife
 This precious book of love, this unbound lover, Wife Wife Wife To beautify
 him only lacks a cover. Wife Wife Wife The fish lives in the sea, and 'tis much
 pride Wife Wife Wife For fair without the fair within to hide. Wife Wife Wife That
 book in many's eyes doth share the glory, Wife Wife Wife That in gold clasps
 locks in the golden story; Wife Wife Wife So shall you share all that he doth
 possess, Wife Wife Wife By having him making yourself no less. Nurse.
 No less? Nay, bigger! Women grow by men Wife Wife. Speak briefly,
 can you like of Paris' love? Wife Wife Jul. I'll look to like, if looking liking
 move; Wife Wife Wife But no more deep will I endart mine eye Wife Wife Wife Than
 your consent gives strength to make it fly.

Enter Servingman.

[illegible]

Scene IV. A street.

Enter Romeo, Mercutio, Benvolio, with five or six other Maskers;
Torchbearers.

Rom. What, shall this speech be spoke for our excuse? Or
 shall we on without apology? Ben. The date is out of such prolixity.
 We'll have no Cupid hoodwink'd with a scarf, Bearing
 a Tartar's painted bow of lath, Scaring the ladies like a
 crowkeeper; Nor no without-book prologue, faintly spoke
 After the prompter, for our entrance; But, let them measure
 us by what they will, We'll measure them a measure, and be
 gone. Rom. Give me a torch. I am not for this ambling. Being
 but heavy, I will bear the light. Mer. Nay, gentle Romeo, we
 must have you dance. Rom. Not I, believe me. You have dancing
 shoes With nimble soles; I have a soul of lead So
 stakes me to the ground I cannot move. Mer. You are a lover.
 Borrow Cupid's wings And soar with them above a common
 bound. Rom. I am too sore enpierced with his shaft To soar
 with his light feathers; and so bound I cannot bound a pitch
 above dull woe. Under love's heavy burthen do I sink. Mer.
 And, to sink in it, should you burthen love- Too great
 oppression for a tender thing. Rom. Is love a tender thing? It is too
 rough, Too rude, too boist'rous, and it pricks like thorn. Mer.
 If love be rough with you, be rough with love. Prick love
 for pricking, and you beat love down. Give me a case to put my
 visage in. A visor for a visor! What care I What
 curious eye doth quote deformities? Here are the beetle brows
 shall blush for me. Ben. Come, knock and enter; and no sooner in
 But every man betake him to his legs. Rom. A torch for me!
 Let wantons light of heart Tickle the senseless rushes with their

heels; For I am proverb'd with a grandsire phrase, I'll
be a candle-holder and look on; The game was ne'er so fair, and
I am done. Mer. Tut! dun's the mouse, the constable's own word!
If thou art Dun, we'll draw thee from the mire Of this
sir-reverence love, wherein thou stick'st Up to the ears. Come,
we burn daylight, ho! Rom. Nay, that's not so. Mer. I mean, sir,
in delay We waste our lights in vain, like lamps by day.
Take our good meaning, for our judgment sits Five times in
that ere once in our five wits. Rom. And we mean well, in going to
this masque; But 'tis no wit to go. Mer. Why, may one ask?
Rom. I dreamt a dream to-night. Mer. And so did I. Rom.
Well, what was yours? Mer. That dreamers often lie. Rom. In
bed asleep, while they do dream things true. Mer. O, then I see
Queen Mab hath been with you. She is the fairies' midwife, and
she comes In shape no bigger than an agate stone On
the forefinger of an alderman, Drawn with a team of little
atomies Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep; Her
wagon spokes made of long spinners' legs, The cover, of the
wings of grasshoppers; Her traces, of the smallest spider's web;
Her collars, of the moonshine's wat'ry beams; Her
whip, of cricket's bone; the lash, of film; Her wagoner, a small
grey-coated gnat, Not half so big as a round little worm
Prick'd from the lazy finger of a maid; Her chariot is an
empty hazelnut, Made by the joiner squirrel or old grub,
Time out o' mind the fairies' coachmakers. And in this state
she gallops night by night Through lovers' brains, and then they
dream of love; O'er courtiers' knees, that dream on cursies
straight; O'er lawyers' fingers, who straight dream on fees;
O'er ladies' lips, who straight on kisses dream, Which oft
the angry Mab with blisters plagues, Because their breaths with
sweetmeats tainted are. Sometime she gallops o'er a courtier's
nose, And then dreams he of smelling out a suit; And

sometime comes she with a tithe-pig's tail Tickling a parson's
nose as 'a lies asleep, Then dreams he of another benefice.
Sometimes she driveth o'er a soldier's neck, And then
dreams he of cutting foreign throats, Of breaches,
ambuscadoes, Spanish blades, Of healths five fathom deep; and
then anon Drums in his ear, at which he starts and wakes,
And being thus frightened, swears a prayer or two And sleeps
again. This is that very Mab That plats the manes of horses in
the night And bakes the elflocks in foul sluttish, hairs,
Which once untangled much misfortune bodes This is the hag,
when maids lie on their backs, That presses them and learns
them first to bear, Making them women of good carriage.
This is she- Rom. Peace, peace, Mercutio, peace!
Thou talk'st of nothing. Mer. True, I talk of dreams;
Which are the children of an idle brain, Begot of nothing but vain
fantasy; Which is as thin of substance as the air,
And more inconstant than the wind, who wooes Even now the
frozen bosom of the North And, being anger'd, puffs away from
thence, Turning his face to the dew-dropping South.
Ben. This wind you talk of blows us from ourselves.
Supper is done, and we shall come too late.
Rom. 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 Of a despised life, clos'd 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!
Ben. Strike, drum.
They march about the stage. [Exeunt.]

Scene V. Capulet's house.

Servingmen come forth with napkins.

Enter 1. Serv. Where's Potpan, that he helps not to take away? Enter 2. Serv. He shift a trencher! he scrape a trencher! Enter 3. Serv. When good manners shall lie all in one or two men's hands, and they unwash'd too, 'tis a foul thing. Enter 1. Serv. Away with the join-stools, remove the court-cubbert, look to the plate. Good thou, save me a piece of marchpane and, as thou loves me, let the porter let in Susan Grindstone and Nell. Enter Anthony, and Potpan! Enter 2. Serv. Ay, boy, ready. Enter 1. Serv. You are look'd for and call'd for, ask'd for and sought for, in the great chamber. Enter 3. Serv. We cannot be here and there too. Cheerly, boys! Be brisk awhile, and the longer liver take all. Exeunt.

Enter the Maskers, Enter, [with Servants,] Capulet, his Wife, Juliet, Tybalt, and all the Guests and Gentlewomen to the Maskers.

Cap. Welcome, gentlemen! Ladies that have their toes unplagu'd with corns will have a bout with you. Ah ha, my mistresses! which of you all will now deny to dance? She that makes dainty, She I'll swear hath corns. Am I come near ye now? Welcome, gentlemen! I have seen the day That I have worn a visor and could tell A whispering tale in a fair lady's ear, Such as would please. 'Tis gone, 'tis gone, 'tis gone! You are welcome, gentlemen! Come, musicians, play. A hall, a hall! give room! and foot it, girls. Music plays, and they dance. More light, you knaves! and turn the tables up, And quench the fire, the room is grown too hot. Ah,

sirrah, this unlook'd-for sport comes well. ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Nay, sit, nay, sit,
 good cousin Capulet, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} For you and I are past our dancing days.
^{^ ^ ^ ^} How long is't now since last yourself and I ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Were in a
 mask? ^{^ ^} 2. Cap. By'r Lady, thirty years. ^{^ ^} Cap. What, man? 'Tis not
 so much, 'tis not so much! ^{^ ^ ^ ^} 'Tis since the nuptial of Lucentio, [^]
^{^ ^ ^} Come Pentecost as quickly as it will, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Some
 five-and-twenty years, and then we mask'd. ^{^ ^} 2. Cap. 'Tis more, 'tis
 more! His son is elder, sir; ^{^ ^ ^ ^} His son is thirty. ^{^ ^} Cap. Will you
 tell me that? ^{^ ^ ^ ^} His son was but a ward two years ago. ^{^ ^} Rom.
 [to a Servingman] What lady's that, which doth enrich the hand ^{^ ^ ^ ^}
 Of yonder knight? ^{^ ^} Serv. I know not, sir. ^{^ ^} Rom. O, she doth teach
 the torches to burn bright! ^{^ ^ ^ ^} It seems she hangs upon the cheek of
 night ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear- ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Beauty too
 rich for use, for earth too dear! ^{^ ^ ^ ^} 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! ^{^ ^ ^ ^} For I ne'er saw true beauty till this
 night. ^{^ ^} Tyb. This, by his voice, should be a Montague. ^{^ ^ ^ ^}
 Fetch me my rapier, boy. What, dares the slave ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Come hither,
 cover'd with an antic face, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} To fleer and scorn at our solemnity?
^{^ ^ ^ ^} Now, by the stock and honour of my kin, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} To strike
 him dead I hold it not a sin. ^{^ ^} Cap. Why, how now, kinsman?
 Wherefore storm you so? ^{^ ^} Tyb. Uncle, this is a Montague, our foe; [^]
^{^ ^ ^} A villain, that is hither come in spite ^{^ ^ ^ ^} To scorn at our
 solemnity this night. ^{^ ^} Cap. Young Romeo is it? ^{^ ^} Tyb. 'Tis he, that
 villain Romeo. ^{^ ^} Cap. Content thee, gentle coz, let him alone. ^{^ ^ ^}
[^] 'A bears him like a portly gentleman, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} And, to say truth,
 Verona brags of him ^{^ ^ ^ ^} To be a virtuous and well-govern'd youth.
^{^ ^ ^ ^} I would not for the wealth of all this town ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Here in my
 house do him disparagement. ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Therefore be patient, take no note
 of him. ^{^ ^ ^ ^} It is my will; the which if thou respect, ^{^ ^ ^ ^} Show

a fair presence and put off these frowns, An ill-beseeming
semblance for a feast. Tyb. It fits when such a villain is a guest.
I'll not endure him. Cap. He shall be endur'd. What,
goodman boy? I say he shall. Go to! 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! Tyb. Why, uncle, 'tis a shame.
Cap. Go to, go to! You are a saucy boy. Is't so, indeed?
This trick may chance to scathe you. I know what. You must
contrary me! Marry, 'tis time.- Well said, my hearts!- You are a
princox- go! Be quiet, or- More light, more light!- For shame!
I'll make you quiet; what!- Cheerly, my hearts! Tyb.
Patience perforce with wilful choler meeting Makes my flesh
tremble in their different greeting. I will withdraw; but this
intrusion shall, Now seeming sweet, convert to bitt'rest gall.
Exit. Rom. If I profane with my unworthiest hand This
holy shrine, the gentle fine is this: My lips, two blushing
pilgrims, ready stand To smooth that rough touch with a tender
kiss. Jul. Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,
Which mannerly devotion shows in this; For saints have hands
that pilgrims' hands do touch, And palm to palm is holy
palmer's kiss. Rom. Have not saints lips, and holy palmer's too?
Jul. Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in pray'r. Rom. O, then, dear
saint, let lips do what hands do! They pray; grant thou, lest faith
turn to despair. Jul. Saints do not move, though grant for prayers'
sake. Rom. Then move not while my prayer's effect I take.
Thus from my lips, by thine my sin is purg'd. [Kisses her.] Jul. Then
have my lips the sin that they have took. Rom. Sin from my lips? O
trespass sweetly urg'd! Give me my sin again. [Kisses her.] Jul.
You kiss by th' book. Nurse. Madam, your mother craves a word
with you. Rom. What is her mother? Nurse. Marry, bachelor,
Her mother is the lady of the house. And a good lady,

and a wise and virtuous. Â Â Â I nurs'd her daughter that you talk'd
withal. Â Â Â I tell you, he that can lay hold of her Â Â Â Shall
have the chinks. Â Â Rom. Is she a Capulet? Â Â Â O dear account!
my life is my foe's debt. Â Â Ben. Away, be gone; the sport is at the best.
Â Â Rom. Ay, so I fear; the more is my unrest. Â Â Cap. Nay,
gentlemen, prepare not to be gone; Â Â Â We have a trifling foolish
banquet towards. Â Â Â Is it e'en so? Why then, I thank you all. Â Â Â
I thank you, honest gentlemen. Good night. Â Â Â More torches
here! [Exeunt Maskers.] Come on then, let's to bed. Â Â Â Ah, sirrah,
by my fay, it waxes late; Â Â Â I'll to my rest. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Exeunt [all but Juliet and
Nurse]. Â Â Jul. Come hither, nurse. What is yond gentleman? Â Â
Nurse. The son and heir of old Tiberio. Â Â Jul. What's he that now is
going out of door? Â Â Nurse. Marry, that, I think, be young Petruchio.
Â Â Jul. What's he that follows there, that would not dance? Â Â Nurse. I
know not. Â Â Jul. Go ask his name.- If he be married, Â Â Â My
grave is like to be my wedding bed. Â Â Nurse. His name is Romeo, and
a Montague, Â Â Â The only son of your great enemy. Â Â Jul. My
only love, sprung from my only hate! Â Â Â Too early seen unknown,
and known too late! Â Â Â Prodigious birth of love it is to me Â Â Â
Â That I must love a loathed enemy. Â Â Nurse. What's this? what's this?
Â Â Jul. A rhyme I learnt even now Â Â Â Of one I danc'd withal. Â Â
Â
Â Â Â Â One calls within, 'Juliet.' Â Â Nurse. Anon, anon! Â Â Â
Come, let's away; the strangers all are gone. Exeunt.

PROLOGUE

Enter Chorus.

Â Â Chor. Now old desire doth in his deathbed lie, Â Â Â Â And young
affection gapes to be his heir; Â Â Â Â That fair for which love groan'd
for and would die, Â Â Â Â With tender Juliet match'd, is now not fair. Â
Â Â Â Now Romeo is belov'd, and loves again, Â Â Â Â Alike
bewitched by the charm of looks; Â Â Â Â But to his foe suppos'd he
must complain, Â Â Â Â And she steal love's sweet bait from fearful
hooks. Â Â Â Â Being held a foe, he may not have access Â Â Â Â To
breathe such vows as lovers use to swear, Â Â Â Â And she as much in
love, her means much less Â Â Â Â To meet her new beloved anywhere;
Â Â Â Â But passion lends them power, time means, to meet, Â Â Â Â
Temp'ring extremities with extreme sweet. Exit.

ACT II. Scene I. A lane by the wall of Capulet's orchard.

Enter Romeo alone.

Â Â Rom. Can I go forward when my heart is here? Â Â Â Â Turn back, dull earth, and find thy centre out. Â [Climbs the wall and leaps down within it.]

Enter Benvolio with Mercutio.

Â Â Ben. Romeo! my cousin Romeo! Romeo! Â Â Mer. He is wise, Â Â Â Â And, on my life, hath stol'n him home to bed. Â Â Ben. He ran this way, and leapt this orchard wall. Â Â Â Â Call, good Mercutio. Â Â Mer. Nay, I'll conjure too. Â Â Â Â Romeo! humours! madman! passion! lover! Â Â Â Â Appear thou in the likeness of a sigh; Â Â Â Â Speak but one rhyme, and I am satisfied! Â Â Â Â Cry but 'Ah me!' pronounce but 'love' and 'dove'; Â Â Â Â Speak to my gossip Venus one fair word, Â Â Â Â One nickname for her purblind son and heir, Â Â Â Â Young auburn Cupid, he that shot so trim Â Â Â Â When King Cophetua lov'd the beggar maid! Â Â Â Â He heareth not, he stirreth not, be moveth not; Â Â Â Â The ape is dead, and I must conjure him. Â Â Â Â I conjure thee by Rosaline's bright eyes. Â Â Â Â By her high forehead and her scarlet lip, Â Â Â Â By her fine foot, straight leg, and quivering thigh, Â Â Â Â And the demesnes that there adjacent lie, Â Â Â Â That in thy likeness thou appear to us! Â Â Ben. An if he hear thee, thou wilt anger him. Â Â Mer. This cannot anger him. 'Twould anger him Â Â Â Â To raise a spirit in his mistress' circle Â Â Â Â Of some strange nature, letting it there stand Â Â Â Â Till she had laid it and conjur'd it down. Â Â Â Â That were some spite; my invocation Â Â Â Â Is fair and honest: in his mistress' name, Â Â Â Â I conjure only but to raise up him. Â Â

Ben. Come, he hath hid himself among these trees Â Â Â Â To be
consorted with the humorous night. Â Â Â Â Blind is his love and best
befits the dark. Â Â Mer. If love be blind, love cannot hit the mark. Â Â
Â Â Now will he sit under a medlar tree Â Â Â Â And wish his mistress
were that kind of fruit Â Â Â Â As maids call medlars when they laugh
alone. Â Â Â Â O, Romeo, that she were, O that she were Â Â Â Â An
open et cetera, thou a pop'rin pear! Â Â Â Â Romeo, good night. I'll to
my truckle-bed; Â Â Â Â This field-bed is too cold for me to sleep. Â Â
Â Â Come, shall we go? Â Â Ben. Go then, for 'tis in vain Â Â Â Â 'To
seek him here that means not to be found. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
Â
Â Exeunt.

Scene II. Capulet's orchard.

Enter Romeo.

Rom. He jests at scars that never felt a wound.

Enter Juliet above at a window.

Â Â Â Â But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? Â Â Â Â
It is the East, and Juliet is the sun! Â Â Â Â Arise, fair sun, and kill the
envious moon, Â Â Â Â Who is already sick and pale with grief Â Â Â
Â That thou her maid art far more fair than she. Â Â Â Â Be not her
maid, since she is envious. Â Â Â Â Her vestal livery is but sick and
green, Â Â Â Â And none but fools do wear it. Cast it off. Â Â Â Â It is
my lady; O, it is my love! Â Â Â Â O that she knew she were! Â Â Â Â
She speaks, yet she says nothing. What of that? Â Â Â Â Her eye
discourses; I will answer it. Â Â Â Â I am too bold; 'tis not to me she
speaks. Â Â Â Â Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven, Â Â Â Â
Having some business, do entreat her eyes Â Â Â Â To twinkle in their
spheres till they return. Â Â Â Â What if her eyes were there, they in her
head? Â Â Â Â The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars Â Â Â
Â Â As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven Â Â Â Â Would
through the airy region stream so bright Â Â Â Â That birds would sing
and think it were not night. Â Â Â Â See how she leans her cheek upon
her hand! Â Â Â Â O that I were a glove upon that hand, Â Â Â Â That I
might touch that cheek! Â Â Jul. Ah me! Â Â Rom. She speaks. Â Â Â Â
O, speak again, bright angel! for thou art Â Â Â Â As glorious to this
night, being o'er my head, Â Â Â Â As is a winged messenger of heaven
Â Â Â Â Unto the white-upturned wond'ring eyes Â Â Â Â Of mortals
that fall back to gaze on him Â Â Â Â When he bestrides the lazy-pacing
clouds Â Â Â Â And sails upon the bosom of the air. Â Â Jul. O Romeo,
Romeo! wherefore art thou Romeo? Â Â Â Â Deny thy father and refuse

thy name! Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love,
 And I'll no longer be a Capulet. Rom. [aside] Shall I hear more, or
 shall I speak at this? Jul. 'Tis but thy name that is my enemy.
 Thou art thyself, though not a Montague. What's Montague?
 it is nor hand, nor foot, Nor arm, nor face, nor any other part
 Belonging to a man. O, be some other name! What's in a
 name? That which we call a rose By any other name would
 smell as sweet. So Romeo would, were he not Romeo call'd,
 Retain that dear perfection which he owes Without that
 title. Romeo, doff thy name; And for that name, which is no
 part of thee, Take all myself. Rom. I take thee at thy word.
 Call me but love, and I'll be new baptiz'd; Henceforth
 I never will be Romeo. Jul. What man art thou that, thus bescreen'd
 in night, So stumblest on my counsel? Rom. By a name
 I know not how to tell thee who I am. My name, dear
 saint, is hateful to myself, Because it is an enemy to thee. Had I it written,
 I would tear the word. Jul. My ears have yet
 not drunk a hundred words Of that tongue's utterance, yet I
 know the sound. Art thou not Romeo, and a Montague? Rom.
 Neither, fair saint, if either thee dislike. Jul. How cam'st thou
 hither, tell me, and wherefore? The orchard walls are high and
 hard to climb, And the place death, considering who thou art,
 If any of my kinsmen find thee here. Rom. With love's light
 wings did I o'erperch these walls; For stony limits cannot hold
 love out, And what love can do, that dares love attempt. Therefore
 thy kinsmen are no let to me. Jul. If they do see thee,
 they will murder thee. Rom. Alack, there lies more peril in thine
 eye Than twenty of their swords! Look thou but sweet, And I am
 proof against their enmity. Jul. I would not for the world
 they saw thee here. Rom. I have night's cloak to hide me from their
 sight; And but thou love me, let them find me here. My life
 were better ended by their hate Than death prorogued,

wanting of thy love. *Jul.* By whose direction found'st thou out this place? *Rom.* By love, that first did prompt me to enquire. *Jul.* He lent me counsel, and I lent him eyes. *Jul.* I am no pilot; yet, wert thou as far *As* that vast shore wash'd with the farthest sea, *Jul.* I would adventure for such merchandise. *Jul.* Thou knowest the mask of night is on my face; *Jul.* Else would a maiden blush bepaint my cheek *For* that which thou hast heard me speak to-night. *Jul.* Fain would I dwell on form- fain, fain deny *What* I have spoke; but farewell compliment! *Jul.* Dost thou love me, I know thou wilt say 'Ay'; *Jul.* And I will take thy word. Yet, if thou swear'st, *Jul.* Thou mayst prove false. At lovers' perjuries, *Jul.* They say Jove laughs. O gentle Romeo, *Jul.* If thou dost love, pronounce it faithfully. *Jul.* Or if thou thinkest I am too quickly won, *Jul.* I'll frown, and be perverse, and say thee nay, *Jul.* So thou wilt woo; but else, not for the world. *Jul.* In truth, fair Montague, I am too fond, *Jul.* And therefore thou mayst think my haviour light; *Jul.* But trust me, gentleman, I'll prove more true *Than* those that have more cunning to be strange. *Jul.* I should have been more strange, I must confess, *Jul.* But that thou overheard'st, ere I was ware, *Jul.* My true-love passion. Therefore pardon me, *Jul.* And not impute this yielding to light love, *Jul.* Which the dark night hath so discovered. *Rom.* Lady, by yonder blessed moon I swear, *Jul.* That tips with silver all these fruit-tree tops- *Jul.* O, swear not by the moon, th' inconstant moon, *Jul.* That monthly changes in her circled orb, *Jul.* Lest that thy love prove likewise variable. *Rom.* What shall I swear by? *Jul.* Do not swear at all; *Jul.* Or if thou wilt, swear by thy gracious self, *Jul.* Which is the god of my idolatry, *Jul.* And I'll believe thee. *Rom.* If my heart's dear love- *Jul.* Well, do not swear. Although I joy in thee, *Jul.* I have no joy of this contract to-night. *Jul.* It is too rash, too unadvis'd, too sudden; *Jul.* Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be *Ere* one can say 'It lightens.' Sweet, good night!

This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath, May
 prove a beauteous flow'r when next we meet. Good night, good
 night! As sweet repose and rest Come to thy heart as that within
 my breast! Rom. O, wilt thou leave me so unsatisfied? Jul.
 What satisfaction canst thou have to-night? Rom. Th' exchange of
 thy love's faithful vow for mine. Jul. I gave thee mine before thou
 didst request it; And yet I would it were to give again. Rom.
 Would'st thou withdraw it? For what purpose, love? Jul. But
 to be frank and give it thee again. And yet I wish but for the
 thing I have. My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep;
 the more I give to thee, The more I have, for
 both are infinite. I hear some noise within. Dear love, adieu!
 [Nurse] calls within. Anon, good nurse! Sweet Montague, be true.
 Stay but a little, I will come again. [Exit.] Rom. O blessed, blessed night!
 I am afeard, Being in night, all this is but a dream, Too flattering-sweet to be
 substantial.

Enter Juliet above.

Jul. Three words, dear Romeo, and good night indeed. If
 that thy bent of love be honourable, Thy purpose marriage, send
 me word to-morrow, By one that I'll procure to come to thee,
 Where and what time thou wilt perform the rite; And all
 my fortunes at thy foot I'll lay And follow thee my lord
 throughout the world. Nurse. (within) Madam! Jul. I come,
 anon.- But if thou meanest not well, I do beseech thee- Nurse.
 (within) Madam! Jul. By-and-by I come.- To cease
 thy suit and leave me to my grief. To-morrow will I send. Rom.
 So thrive my soul- Jul. A thousand times good night! Exit. Rom.
 A thousand times the worse, to want thy light! Love

goes toward love as schoolboys from their books; But love from love, towards school with heavy looks.

Enter Juliet again, [above].

Jul. Hist! Romeo, hist! O for a falconer's voice To lure this tassel-gentle back again! Bondage is hoarse and may not speak aloud; Else would I tear the cave where Echo lies, And make her airy tongue more hoarse than mine With repetition of my Romeo's name. Romeo! Rom. It is my soul that calls upon my name. How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night, Like softest music to attending ears! Jul. Romeo! Rom. My dear? Jul. At what o'clock to-morrow Shall I send to thee? Rom. By the hour of nine. Jul. I will not fail. 'Tis twenty years till then. I have forgot why I did call thee back. Rom. Let me stand here till thou remember it. Jul. I shall forget, to have thee still stand there, Rememb'ring how I love thy company. Rom. And I'll still stay, to have thee still forget, Forgetting any other home but this. Jul. 'Tis almost morning. I would have thee gone- And yet no farther than a wanton's bird, That lets it hop a little from her hand, Like a poor prisoner in his twisted gyves, And with a silk thread plucks it back again, So loving-jealous of his liberty. Rom. I would I were thy bird. Jul. Sweet, so would I. Yet I should kill thee with much cherishing. Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow, That I shall say good night till it be morrow. [Exit.] Rom. Sleep dwell upon thine eyes, peace in thy breast! Would I were sleep and peace, so sweet to rest! Hence will I to my ghostly father's cell, His help to crave and my dear hap to tell. Exit

Scene III. Friar Laurence's cell.

Enter Friar, [Laurence] alone, with a basket.

Friar. The grey-ey'd morn smiles on the frowning night, And check'ring the Eastern clouds with streaks of light; And flecked darkness like a drunkard reels From forth day's path and Titan's fiery wheels. Non, ere the sun advance his burning eye The day to cheer and night's dank dew to dry, I must up-fill this osier cage of ours With baleful weeds and precious-juiced flowers. The earth that's nature's mother is her tomb. What is her burying gave, that is her womb; And from her womb children of divers kind We sucking on her natural bosom find; Many for many virtues excellent, None but for some, and yet all different. O, mickle is the powerful grace that lies In plants, herbs, stones, and their true qualities; For naught so vile that on the earth doth live But to the earth some special good doth give; Nor aught so good but, strain'd from that fair use, Revolts from true birth, stumbling on abuse. Virtue itself turns vice, being misapplied, And vice sometime's by action dignified. Within the infant rind of this small flower Poison hath residence, and medicine power; For this, being smelt, with that part cheers each part; Being tasted, slays all senses with the heart. Two such opposed kings encamp them still In man as well as herbs- grace and rude will; And where the worser is predominant, Full soon the canker death eats up that plant.

Enter Romeo.

Rom. Good morrow, father. Friar. Benedicite! What early tongue so sweet saluteth me? Young son, it argues a

distempered head So soon to bid good morrow to thy bed. Care keeps his watch in every old man's eye, And where care lodges sleep will never lie; But where unbruised youth with unstuff'd brain Doth couch his limbs, there golden sleep doth reign. Therefore thy earliness doth me assure Thou art uprous'd with some distemp'rature; Or if not so, then here I hit it right- Our Romeo hath not been in bed to-night. Rom. That last is true-the sweeter rest was mine. Friar. God pardon sin! Wast thou with Rosaline? Rom. With Rosaline, my ghostly father? No. I have forgot that name, and that name's woe. Friar. That's my good son! But where hast thou been then? Rom. I'll tell thee ere thou ask it me again. I have been feasting with mine enemy, Where on a sudden one hath wounded me That's by me wounded. Both our remedies Within thy help and holy physic lies. I bear no hatred, blessed man, for, lo, My intercession likewise steads my foe. Friar. Be plain, good son, and homely in thy drift Riddling confession finds but riddling shrift. Rom. 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, And all combin'd, save what thou must combine By holy marriage. When, and where, and how We met, we woo'd, and made exchange of vow, I'll tell thee as we pass; but this I pray, That thou consent to marry us to-day. Friar. 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 Hath wash'd 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 sighs from heaven clears, Thy old groans ring yet in mine ancient ears. Lo, here upon thy cheek the stain doth sit Of an old tear that is not wash'd off yet. If e'er thou

wast thyself, and these woes thine, Thou and these woes were
all for Rosaline. And art thou chang'd? Pronounce this sentence
then: Women may fall when there's no strength in men.
Rom. Thou chid'st me oft for loving Rosaline. Friar. For doting, not
for loving, pupil mine. Rom. And bad'st me bury love. Friar.
Not in a grave To lay one in, another out to have. Rom. I
pray thee chide not. She whom I love now Doth grace for grace
and love for love allow. The other did not so. Friar. O, she
knew well Thy love did read by rote, that could not spell.
But come, young waverer, come go with me. In one
respect I'll thy assistant be; For this alliance may so happy
prove To turn your households' rancour to pure love. Rom.
O, let us hence! I stand on sudden haste. Friar. Wisely, and slow.
They stumble that run fast.
Exeunt.

Scene IV. A street.

Enter Benvolio and Mercutio.

Mer. Where the devil should this Romeo be? Came he not home to-night?
 Ben. Not to his father's. I spoke with his man.
 Mer. Why, that same pale hard-hearted wench, that Rosaline, torments him so that he will sure run mad.
 Ben. Tybalt, the kinsman to old Capulet, hath sent a letter to his father's house.
 Mer. A challenge, on my life.
 Ben. Romeo will answer it.
 Mer. Any man that can write may answer a letter.
 Ben. Nay, he will answer the letter's master, how he dares, being dared.
 Mer. Alas, poor Romeo, he is already dead! stabb'd with a white wench's black eye; shot through the ear with a love song; the very pin of his heart cleft with the blind bow-boy's butt-shaft; and is he a man to encounter Tybalt?
 Ben. Why, what is Tybalt?
 Mer. More than Prince of Cats, I can tell you. O, he's the courageous captain of compliments. He fights as you sing prick-song-keeps time, distance, and proportion; rests me his minim rest, one, two, and the third in your bosom! the very butcher of a silk button, a duellist, a duellist! a gentleman of the very first house, of the first and second cause. Ah, the immortal passado! the punto reverse! the hay.
 Ben. The what?
 Mer. The pox of such antic, lisping, affecting fantasticoes- these new tuners of accent! 'By Jesu, a very good blade! a very tall man! a very good whore!' Why, is not this a lamentable thing, grandsir, that we should be thus afflicted with these strange flies, these fashion-mongers, these pardona-mi's, who stand so much on the new form that they cannot sit at ease on the old bench? O, their bones, their bones!

Enter Romeo.

Ben. Here comes Romeo! here comes Romeo! Mer. Without
 his roe, like a dried herring. O flesh, flesh, how art thou
 fishified! Now is he for the numbers that Petrarch flow'd in.
 Laura, to his lady, was but a kitchen wench (marry, she had a
 better love to berhyme her), Dido a dowdy, Cleopatra a gypsy,
 Helen and Hero hildings and harlots, This be a gray eye or so,
 but not to the purpose. Signior Romeo, bon jour! There's a French
 salutation to your French slop. You gave us the counterfeit
 fairly last night. Rom. Good morrow to you both. What counterfeit
 did I give you? Mer. The slip, sir, the slip. Can you not conceive?
 Rom. Pardon, good Mercutio. My business was great, and in such a
 case as mine a man may strain courtesy. Mer. That's as much
 as to say, such a case as yours constrains a man to bow in the
 hams. Rom. Meaning, to cursy. Mer. Thou hast most kindly hit
 it. Rom. A most courteous exposition. Mer. Nay, I am the very
 pink of courtesy. Rom. Pink for flower. Mer. Right. Rom.
 Why, then is my pump well-flower'd. Mer. Well said! Follow me
 this jest now till thou hast worn out thy pump, that, when the
 single sole of it is worn, the jest may remain, after the wearing,
 solely singular. Rom. O single-sold jest, solely singular for the
 singleness! Mer. Come between us, good Benvolio! My wits faint.
 Rom. Swits and spurs, swits and spurs! or I'll cry a match. Mer.
 Nay, if our wits run the wild-goose chase, I am done; for thou
 hast more of the wild goose in one of thy wits than, I am sure, I
 have in my whole five. Was I with you there for the goose? Rom.
 Thou wast never with me for anything when thou wast not there
 for the goose. Mer. I will bite thee by the ear for that jest. Rom.
 Nay, good goose, bite not! Mer. Thy wit is a very bitter sweeting;
 it is a most sharp sauce. Rom. And is it not, then, well serv'd in to a
 sweet goose? Mer. O, here's a wit of cheveril, that stretches from an
 inch narrow to an ell broad! Rom. I stretch it out for that
 word 'broad,' which, added to the goose, proves thee far and

wide a broad goose. *Â Â Mer.* Why, is not this better now than groaning for love? Now art *Â Â Â Â* thou sociable, now art thou Romeo; now art thou what thou art, by *Â Â Â Â* art as well as by nature. For this drivelling love is like a *Â Â Â Â* great natural that runs lolling up and down to hide his bauble in *Â Â Â Â* a hole. *Â Â Ben.* Stop there, stop there! *Â Â Mer.* Thou desirest me to stop in my tale against the hair. *Â Â Ben.* Thou wouldst else have made thy tale large. *Â Â Mer.* O, thou art deceiv'd! I would have made it short; for I was *Â Â Â Â* come to the whole depth of my tale, and meant indeed to occupy *Â Â Â Â* the argument no longer. *Â Â Rom.* Here's goodly gear!

Enter Nurse and her Man [Peter].

Â Â Mer. A sail, a sail! *Â Â Ben.* Two, two! a shirt and a smock. *Â Â Nurse.* Peter! *Â Â Peter.* Anon. *Â Â Nurse.* My fan, Peter. *Â Â Mer.* Good Peter, to hide her face; for her fan's the fairer face of *Â Â Â Â* the two. *Â Â Nurse.* God ye good morrow, gentlemen. *Â Â Mer.* God ye good-den, fair gentlewoman. *Â Â Nurse.* Is it good-den? *Â Â Mer.* 'Tis no less, I tell ye; for the bawdy hand of the dial is now *Â Â Â Â* upon the prick of noon. *Â Â Nurse.* Out upon you! What a man are you! *Â Â Rom.* One, gentlewoman, that God hath made for himself to mar. *Â Â Nurse.* By my troth, it is well said. 'For himself to mar,' quoth *Â Â Â Â* 'a? Gentlemen, can any of you tell me where I may find the young *Â Â Â Â* Romeo? *Â Â Rom.* I can tell you; but young Romeo will be older when you have *Â Â Â Â* found him than he was when you sought him. I am the youngest of *Â Â Â Â* that name, for fault of a worse. *Â Â Nurse.* You say well. *Â Â Mer.* Yea, is the worst well? Very well took, i' faith! wisely, *Â Â Â Â* wisely. *Â Â Nurse.* If you be he, sir, I desire some confidence with you. *Â Â Ben.* She will endite him to some supper. *Â Â Mer.* A bawd, a bawd, a bawd! So ho! *Â Â Rom.* What hast thou found? *Â Â Mer.* No hare, sir; unless a hare, sir, in a lenten pie, that is *Â Â Â Â* something stale and hoar ere it be spent *Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â*

He walks by them and sings.

An old hare hoar, And an old hare hoar, Is very good meat in Lent; But a hare that is hoar Is too much for a score When it hoars ere it be spent.

Romeo, will you come to your father's? We'll to dinner thither.
 Rom. I will follow you.
 Mer. Farewell, ancient lady. Farewell, [sings] lady, lady, lady.
 Exeunt Mercutio, Benvolio.
 Nurse. Marry, farewell! I Pray you, Sir, what saucy merchant was this that was so full of his ropery?
 Rom. A gentleman, nurse, that loves to hear himself talk and will speak more in a minute than he will stand to in a month.
 Nurse. An 'a speak anything against me, I'll take him down, an 'a were lustier than he is, and twenty such jacks; and if I cannot, I'll find those that shall. Scurvy knave! I am none of his flirt-gills; I am none of his skains-mates. And thou must stand by too, and suffer every knave to use me at his pleasure!
 Peter. I saw no man use you at his pleasure. If I had, my weapon should quickly have been out, I warrant you. I dare draw as soon as another man, if I see occasion in a good quarrel, and the law on my side.
 Nurse. Now, afore God, I am so vexed that every part about me quivers. Scurvy knave! Pray you, sir, a word; and, as I told you, my young lady bid me enquire you out. What she bid me say, I will keep to myself; but first let me tell ye, if ye should lead her into a fool's paradise, as they say, it were a very gross kind of behaviour, as they say; for the gentlewoman is young; and therefore, if you should deal double with her, truly it were an ill

thing to be off'ed to any gentlewoman, and very weak dealing. *Â Â*
Rom. Nurse, commend me to thy lady and mistress. I protest unto *Â Â Â*
Â thee- *Â Â Nurse.* Good heart, and i' faith I will tell her as much. Lord,
Â Â Â Â Lord! she will be a joyful woman. *Â Â Rom.* What wilt thou
 tell her, nurse? Thou dost not mark me. *Â Â Nurse.* I will tell her, sir, that
 you do protest, which, as I take *Â Â Â Â* it, is a gentlemanlike offer. *Â Â*
Rom. Bid her devise *Â Â Â Â* Some means to come to shrift this
 afternoon; *Â Â Â Â* And there she shall at Friar Laurence' cell *Â Â Â Â*
 Be shriv'd and married. Here is for thy pains. *Â Â Nurse.* No, truly, sir;
 not a penny. *Â Â Rom.* Go to! I say you shall. *Â Â Nurse.* This
 afternoon, sir? Well, she shall be there. *Â Â Rom.* And stay, good nurse,
 behind the abbey wall. *Â Â Â Â* Within this hour my man shall be with
 thee *Â Â Â Â* And bring thee cords made like a tackled stair, *Â Â Â Â*
 Which to the high topgallant of my joy *Â Â Â Â* Must be my convoy in
 the secret night. *Â Â Â Â* Farewell. Be trusty, and I'll quit thy pains. *Â Â*
Â Â Farewell. Commend me to thy mistress. *Â Â Nurse.* Now God in
 heaven bless thee! Hark you, sir. *Â Â Rom.* What say'st thou, my dear
 nurse? *Â Â Nurse.* Is your man secret? Did you ne'er hear say, *Â Â Â Â*
 Two may keep counsel, putting one away? *Â Â Rom.* I warrant thee my
 man's as true as steel. *Â Â Nurse.* Well, sir, my mistress is the sweetest
 lady. Lord, Lord! *Â Â Â Â* when 'twas a little prating thing- O, there is a
 nobleman in *Â Â Â Â* town, one Paris, that would fain lay knife aboard;
 but she, good *Â Â Â Â* soul, had as lieve see a toad, a very toad, as see
 him. I anger *Â Â Â Â* her sometimes, and tell her that Paris is the
 properer man; but *Â Â Â Â* I'll warrant you, when I say so, she looks as
 pale as any clout *Â Â Â Â* in the versal world. Doth not rosemary and
 Romeo begin both with *Â Â Â Â* a letter? *Â Â Rom.* Ay, nurse; what of
 that? Both with an R. *Â Â Nurse.* Ah, mocker! that's the dog's name. R is
 for the- No; I know *Â Â Â Â* it begins with some other letter; and she
 hath the prettiest *Â Â Â Â* sententious of it, of you and rosemary, that it
 would do you good *Â Â Â Â* to hear it. *Â Â Rom.* Commend me to thy
 lady. *Â Â Nurse.* Ay, a thousand times. [Exit Romeo.] Peter! *Â Â Peter.*

Anon. Nurse. Peter, take my fan, and go before, and apace. Exeunt.

Scene V. Capulet's orchard.

Enter Juliet.

Juliet. The clock struck nine when I did send the nurse; In
 half an hour she promis'd to return. Perchance she cannot meet
 him. That's not so. O, she is lame! Love's heralds should be
 thoughts, Which ten times faster glide than the sun's beams
 Driving back shadows over low'ring hills. Therefore do
 nimble-pinion'd doves draw Love, And therefore hath the
 wind-swift Cupid wings. Now is the sun upon the highmost hill
 Of this day's journey, and from nine till twelve Is
 three long hours; yet she is not come. Had she affections and
 warm youthful blood, She would be as swift in motion as a ball;
 My words would bandy her to my sweet love, And his
 to me, But old folks, many feign as they were dead-
 Unwieldy, slow, heavy and pale as lead.

Enter Nurse [and Peter].

O God, she comes! O honey nurse, what news? Hast
 thou met with him? Send thy man away. Nurse. Peter, stay at the
 gate. [Exit Peter.]
 Juliet. Now, good sweet nurse- O Lord, why look'st thou sad? Though
 news be sad, yet tell them merrily; If good, thou
 shamest the music of sweet news By playing it to me with so
 sour a face. Nurse. I am aweary, give me leave awhile. Fie,
 how my bones ache! What a jaunce have I had! Juliet. I would thou
 hadst my bones, and I thy news. Nay, come, I pray thee speak.
 Good, good nurse, speak. Nurse. Jesu, what haste! Can you not stay
 awhile? Do you not see that I am out of breath? Juliet. How

art thou out of breath when thou hast breath? To say to me that thou art out of breath? The excuse that thou dost make in this delay Is longer than the tale thou dost excuse. Is thy news good or bad? Answer to that. Say either, and I'll stay the circumstance. Let me be satisfied, is't good or bad? Nurse. Well, you have made a simple choice; you know not how to choose a man. Romeo? No, not he. Though his face be better than any man's, yet his leg excels all men's; and for a hand and a foot, and a body, though they be not to be talk'd on, yet they are past compare. He is not the flower of courtesy, but, I'll warrant him, as gentle as a lamb. Go thy ways, wench; serve God. What, have you din'd at home? Jul. No, no. But all this did I know before. What says he of our marriage? What of that? Nurse. Lord, how my head aches! What a head have I! It beats as it would fall in twenty pieces. My back o' t' other side,- ah, my back, my back! Beshrew your heart for sending me about To catch my death with jauncing up and down! Jul. I' faith, I am sorry that thou art not well. Sweet, sweet, sweet nurse, tell me, what says my love? Nurse. Your love says, like an honest gentleman, and a courteous, and a kind, and a handsome; and, I warrant, a virtuous- Where is your mother? Jul. Where is my mother? Why, she is within. Where should she be? How oddly thou repliest! 'Your love says, like an honest gentleman, "Where is your mother?"' Nurse. O God's Lady dear! Are you so hot? Marry come up, I trow. Is this the poultice for my aching bones? Henceforward do your messages yourself. Jul. Here's such a coil! Come, what says Romeo? Nurse. Have you got leave to go to shrift to-day? Jul. I have. Nurse. Then hie you hence to Friar Laurence' cell; There stays a husband to make you a wife. Now comes the wanton blood up in your cheeks: They'll be in scarlet straight at any news. Hie you to church; I must another way, To fetch a ladder, by

the which your love Must climb a bird's nest soon when it is
dark. I am the drudge, and toil in your delight; But
you shall bear the burthen soon at night. Go; I'll to dinner; hie
you to the cell. Jul. Hie to high fortune! Honest nurse, farewell.
Exeunt.

Scene VI. Friar Laurence's cell.

Enter Friar [Laurence] and Romeo.

Friar. So smile the heavens upon this holy act That
 after-hours with sorrow chide us not! Rom. Amen, amen! But come
 what sorrow can, It cannot countervail the exchange of joy
 That one short minute gives me in her sight. Do thou but
 close our hands with holy words, Then love-devouring death do
 what he dare- It is enough I may but call her mine. Friar.
 These violent delights have violent ends 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; Too swift arrives as tardy as too
 slow.

Enter Juliet.

Here comes the lady. O, so light a foot Will ne'er wear
 out the everlasting flint. A lover may bestride the gossamer
 That idles in the wanton summer air, And yet not fall; so
 light is vanity. Jul. Good even to my ghostly confessor. Friar.
 Romeo shall thank thee, daughter, for us both. Jul. As much to him,
 else is his thanks too much. Rom. Ah, Juliet, if the measure of thy
 joy Be heap'd like mine, and that thy skill be more To
 blazon it, then sweeten with thy breath This neighbour air, and
 let rich music's tongue Unfold the imagin'd happiness that both
 Receive in either by this dear encounter. Jul. Conceit, more
 rich in matter than in words, Brags of his substance, not of
 ornament. They are but beggars that can count their worth; But
 my true love is grown to such excess cannot sum up

sum of half my wealth. Â Â Friar. Come, come with me, and we will
make short work; Â Â Â Â For, by your leaves, you shall not stay alone
Â Â Â Â Till Holy Church incorporate two in one. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
Â
Â
Â [Exeunt.]

ACT III. Scene I. A public place.

Enter Mercutio, Benvolio, and Men.

Ben. I pray thee, good Mercutio, let's retire. The day is hot,
 the Capulets abroad. And if we meet, we shall not scape a
 brawl, For now, these hot days, is the mad blood stirring.
 Mer. Thou art like one of these fellows that, when he enters the
 confines of a tavern, claps me his sword upon the table and says
 'God send me no need of thee!' and by the operation of the second
 cup draws him on the drawer, when indeed there is no need.
 Ben. Am I like such a fellow?
 Mer. Come, come, thou art as hot a jack in
 thy mood as any in Italy; and as soon moved to be moody, and
 as soon moody to be moved.
 Ben. And what to?
 Mer. Nay, an there were two such, we should have none shortly, for
 one would kill the other. Thou! why, thou wilt quarrel with a man
 that hath a hair more or a hair less in his beard than thou hast.
 Thou wilt quarrel with a man for cracking nuts, having no other
 reason but because thou hast hazel eyes. What eye but such an eye
 would spy out such a quarrel? Thy head is as full of quarrels as
 an egg is full of meat; and yet thy head hath been beaten as
 an addle as an egg for quarrelling. Thou hast quarrell'd with a man
 for coughing in the street, because he hath wakened thy dog that
 hath lain asleep in the sun. Didst thou not fall out with a
 tailor for wearing his new doublet before Easter, with another
 for tying his new shoes with an old riband? And yet thou wilt
 tutor me from quarrelling!
 Ben. An I were so apt to quarrel as thou
 art, any man should buy the fee simple of my life for an hour
 and a quarter.
 Mer. The fee simple? O simple!

Enter Tybalt and others.

Ben. By my head, here come the Capulets. Mer. By my heel, I care not. Tyb. Follow me close, for I will speak to them. Gentlemen, good den. A word with one of you. Mer. And but one word with one of us? Couple it with something; make it a word and a blow. Tyb. You shall find me apt enough to that, sir, an you will give me occasion. Mer. Could you not take some occasion without giving? Tyb. Mercutio, thou consortest with Romeo. Mer. Consort? What, dost thou make us minstrels? An thou make minstrels of us, look to hear nothing but discords. Here's my fiddlestick; here's that shall make you dance. Zounds, consort! Ben. We talk here in the public haunt of men. Either withdraw unto some private place And reason coldly of your grievances, Or else depart. Here all eyes gaze on us. Mer. Men's eyes were made to look, and let them gaze. I will not budge for no man's pleasure,

Enter Romeo.

Tyb. Well, peace be with you, sir. Here comes my man. Mer. But I'll be hang'd, sir, if he wear your livery. Marry, go before to field, he'll be your follower! Your worship in that sense may call him man. Tyb. Romeo, the love I bear thee can afford No better term than this: thou art a villain. Rom. Tybalt, the reason that I have to love thee Doth much excuse the appertaining rage To such a greeting. Villain am I none. Therefore farewell. I see thou knowest me not. Tyb. Boy, this shall not excuse the injuries That thou hast done me; therefore turn and draw. Rom. I do protest I never injur'd thee, But love thee better than thou canst devise Till thou shalt know the reason of my love; And so good Capulet, which name I tender As dearly as mine own, be satisfied. Mer. O calm, dishonourable, vile submission! Alla stoccata carries it away. [Draws.] Tybalt, you ratcatcher, will you walk? Tyb. What wouldst thou have

with me? **Mer.** Good King of Cats, nothing but one of your nine lives. That I **mean** to make bold withal, and, as you shall use me hereafter,

dry-beat the rest of the eight. Will you pluck your sword out of his pitcher by the ears? Make haste, lest mine be about your ears ere it be out. **Tyb.** I am for you. [Draws.] **Rom.** Gentle Mercutio, put thy rapier up. **Mer.** Come, sir, your passado! **Hold, Tybalt!** Good Mercutio! **Tybalt** under Romeo's arm thrusts Mercutio in, and flies **with his Followers]. Mer.** I am hurt. **A plague o' both your houses!** I am sped. **Is he gone and hath nothing?** **Ben.** What, art thou hurt? **Mer.** Ay, a scratch, a scratch. Marry, 'tis enough. **Where is my page?** Go, villain, fetch a surgeon. **Courage, man.** The hurt cannot be much. **Mer.** No, 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door; but 'tis enough, 'twill serve. Ask for me to-morrow, and you shall find me a grave man. I am peppered, I warrant, for this world. A plague o' 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 arm. **Rom.** I thought all for the best. **Mer.** Help me into some house, Benvolio, Or I shall faint. A plague o' both your houses! **They have made worms' meat of me.** I have it, **A**

And soundly too. Your houses! [Exit. [supported by Benvolio]. Rom. This gentleman, the Prince's near ally, My very friend, hath got this mortal hurt In my behalf- my reputation stain'd With Tybalt's slander- Tybalt, that an hour Hath been my kinsman. O sweet Juliet, Thy beauty hath made me effeminate And in my temper soft'ned valour's steel.

Enter Benvolio.

Ben. O Romeo, Romeo, brave Mercutio's dead! That gallant spirit hath aspir'd the clouds, Which too untimely here did scorn the earth. Rom. This day's black fate on moe days doth depend; This but begins the woe others must end.

Enter Tybalt.

Ben. Here comes the furious Tybalt back again. Rom. Alive in triumph, and Mercutio slain? Away to heaven respective lenity, And fire-ey'd fury be my conduct now! Now, Tybalt, take the 'villain' back again That late thou gavest me; for Mercutio's soul Is but a little way above our heads, Staying for thine to keep him company. Either thou or I, or both, must go with him. Tyb. Thou, wretched boy, that didst consort him here, Shalt with him hence. Rom. This shall determine that. They fight. Tybalt falls. Ben. Romeo, away, be gone! The citizens are up, and Tybalt slain. Stand not amaz'd. The Prince will doom thee death If thou art taken. Hence, be gone, away! Rom. O, I am fortune's fool! Ben. Why dost thou stay? Exit Romeo.

Enter Citizens.

Citizen. Which way ran he that kill'd Mercutio? Tybalt,
 that murd'rer, which way ran he? Ben. There lies that Tybalt. Citizen.
 Up, sir, go with me. I charge thee in the Prince's name
 obey.

Enter Prince [attended], Old Montague, Capulet, their Wives, and [others].

Prince. Where are the vile beginners of this fray? Ben. O noble
 Prince. I can discover all the unlucky manage of this fatal
 brawl. There lies the man, slain by young Romeo, that
 slew thy kinsman, brave Mercutio. Cap. Wife. Tybalt, my
 cousin! O my brother's child! O Prince! O husband! O, the
 blood is spill'd Of my dear kinsman! Prince, as thou art true, For
 blood of ours shed blood of Montague. O cousin, cousin! Prince.
 Benvolio, who began this bloody fray? Ben. Tybalt, here slain,
 whom Romeo's hand did stay. Romeo, that spoke him fair, bid him
 bethink himself How nice the quarrel was, and urg'd withal Your
 high displeasure. All this- uttered With gentle breath, calm look,
 knees humbly bow'd- Could not take truce with the unruly spleen
 Of Tybalt deaf to peace, but that he tilts With piercing steel at
 bold Mercutio's breast; Who, all as hot, turns deadly point to point,
 And, with a martial scorn, with one hand beats Cold death aside and
 with the other sends It back to Tybalt, whose dexterity Retorts it.
 Romeo he cries aloud, 'Hold, friends! friends, part!' and swifter than
 his tongue, His agile arm beats down their fatal points, And 'twixt
 them rushes; underneath whose arm An envious thrust from Tybalt
 hit the life Of stout Mercutio, and then Tybalt fled; But by-and-by
 comes back to Romeo, Who had but newly entertain'd revenge, And
 to't they go like lightning; for, ere I Could draw to part them, was
 stout Tybalt slain; And, as he fell, did Romeo turn and fly.

This is the truth, or let Benvolio die. Cap. Wife. He is a kinsman to the Montague; Affection makes him false, he speaks not true. Some twenty of them fought in this black strife, And all those twenty could but kill one life. I beg for justice, which thou, Prince, must give. Romeo slew Tybalt; Romeo must not live. Prince. Romeo slew him; he slew Mercutio. Who now the price of his dear blood doth owe? Mon. Not Romeo, Prince; he was Mercutio's friend; His fault concludes but what the law should end, The life of Tybalt. Prince. And for that offence Immediately we do exile him hence. I have an interest in your hate's proceeding, My blood for your rude brawls doth lie a-bleeding; But I'll amerce you with so strong a fine That you shall all repent the loss of mine. I will be deaf to pleading and excuses; Nor tears nor prayers shall purchase out abuses. Therefore use none. Let Romeo hence in haste, Else, when he is found, that hour is his last. Bear hence this body, and attend our will. Mercy but murders, pardoning those that kill.

Exeunt.

Scene II. Capulet's orchard.

Enter Juliet alone.

Jul. Gallop apace, you fiery-footed steeds, Towards
 Phoebus' lodging! Such a wagoner As Phaeton would whip you
 to the West And bring in cloudy night immediately. Spread thy close curtain, love-performing night,
 That runaway eyes may wink, and Romeo Leap to these arms untalk'd of and
 unseen. Lovers can see to do their amorous rites By
 their own beauties; or, if love be blind, It best agrees with night.
 Come, civil night, Thou sober-suited matron, all in black,
 And learn me how to lose a winning match, Play'd for a
 pair of stainless maidenhoods. Hood my unmann'd blood,
 bating in my cheeks, With thy black mantle till strange love,
 grown bold, Think true love acted simple modesty.
 Come, night; come, Romeo; come, thou day in night;
 For thou wilt lie upon the wings of night Whiter than new snow upon a
 raven's back. Come, gentle night; come, loving, black-brow'd
 night; Give me my Romeo; and, when he shall die, Take him and cut him out in little stars,
 And he will make the face of heaven so fine That all the world will be in love with
 night And pay no worship to the garish sun. O, I have
 bought the mansion of a love, But not possess'd it; and though I
 am sold, Not yet enjoy'd. So tedious is this day As is
 the night before some festival To an impatient child that hath
 new robes And may not wear them. O, here comes my nurse,

Enter Nurse, with cords.

And she brings news; and every tongue that speaks But Romeo's name speaks heavenly eloquence. Now, nurse,

what news? What hast thou there? the cords

That Romeo bid thee fetch?

Nurse. Ay, ay, the cords.

[Throws them down.]

Jul. Ah me! what news? Why dost thou wring thy hands?

Nurse. Ah, weraday! he's dead, he's dead, he's dead!

We are undone, lady, we are undone!

Alack the day! he's gone, he's kill'd, he's dead!

Jul. Can heaven be so envious?

Nurse. Romeo can, Though heaven cannot. O Romeo, Romeo!

Who ever would have thought it? Romeo!

Jul. What devil art thou that dost torment me thus?

This torture should be roar'd in dismal hell.

Hath Romeo slain himself? Say thou but 'I,'

And that bare vowel 'I' shall poison more

Than the death-darting eye of cockatrice.

I am not I, if there be such an 'I';

Or those eyes shut that make thee answer 'I.'

If he be slain, say 'I'; or if not, 'no.'

Brief sounds determine of my weal or woe.

Nurse. I saw the wound, I saw it with mine eyes,

(God save the mark!) here on his manly breast.

A piteous corse, a bloody piteous corse;

Pale, pale as ashes, all bedaub'd in blood,

All in gore-blood. I swoounded at the sight.

Jul. O, break, my heart! poor bankrout, break at once!

To prison, eyes; ne'er look on liberty!

Vile earth, to earth resign; end motion here,

And thou and Romeo press one heavy bier!

Nurse. O Tybalt, Tybalt, the best friend I had!

O courteous Tybalt! honest gentleman

That ever I should live to see thee dead!

Jul. What storm is this that blows so contrary?

Is Romeo slaughter'd, and is Tybalt dead?

My dear-lov'd cousin, and my dearer lord?

Then, dreadful trumpet, sound the general doom!

For who is living, if those two are gone?

Nurse. Tybalt is gone, and Romeo banished;

Romeo that kill'd him, he is banished.

Jul. O God! Did Romeo's hand shed Tybalt's blood?

Nurse. It did, it did! alas the day, it did!

Jul. O serpent heart, hid with a flow'ring face!

Did ever dragon keep so fair a cave?

Beautiful tyrant! fiend angelical! Dove-feather'd raven!
 wolvish-ravening lamb! Despised substance of divinest show!
 Just opposite to what thou justly seem'st- A damned
 saint, an honourable villain! O nature, what hadst thou to do in
 hell When thou didst bower the spirit of a fiend In
 mortal paradise of such sweet flesh? Was ever book containing
 such vile matter So fairly bound? O, that deceit should dwell
 In such a gorgeous palace! Nurse. There's no trust, No faith,
 no honesty in men; all perjur'd, All forsworn, all
 naught, all dissemblers. Ah, where's my man? Give me some
 aqua vitae. These griefs, these woes, these sorrows make me
 old. Shame come to Romeo! Jul. Blister'd be thy tongue
 For such a wish! He was not born to shame. Upon his
 brow shame is asham'd to sit; For 'tis a throne where honour
 may be crown'd Sole monarch of the universal earth. O,
 what a beast was I to chide at him! Nurse. Will you speak well of
 him that kill'd your cousin? Jul. Shall I speak ill of him that is my
 husband? Ah, poor my lord, what tongue shall smooth thy name
 When I, thy three-hours wife, have mangled it? But
 wherefore, villain, didst thou kill my cousin? That villain
 cousin would have kill'd my husband. Back, foolish tears, back
 to your native spring! Your tributary drops belong to woe,
 Which you, mistaking, offer up to joy. My husband lives,
 that Tybalt would have slain; And Tybalt's dead, that would
 have slain my husband. All this is comfort; wherefore weep I
 then? Some word there was, worser than Tybalt's death,
 That murd'red me. I would forget it fain; But O, it presses to
 my memory Like damned guilty deeds to sinners' minds! 'Tybalt is dead,
 and Romeo- banished.' That 'banished,'
 that one word 'banished,' Hath slain ten thousand Tybalts.
 Tybalt's death Was woe enough, if it had ended there; Or, if sour
 woe delights in fellowship And needly will be rank'd

with other griefs, Why followed not, when she said 'Tybalt's
dead,' Thy father, or thy mother, nay, or both, Which
modern lamentation might have mov'd? But with a rearward
following Tybalt's death, 'Romeo is banished'- to speak that
word Is father, mother, Tybalt, Romeo, Juliet, All
slain, all dead. 'Romeo is banished'- There is no end, no limit,
measure, bound, In that word's death; no words can that woe
sound. Where is my father and my mother, nurse? Nurse.
Weeping and wailing over Tybalt's corse. Will you go to them?
I will bring you thither. Jul. Wash they his wounds with tears? Mine
shall be spent, When theirs are dry, for Romeo's banishment. Take
up those cords. Poor ropes, you are beguil'd, Both
you and I, for Romeo is exil'd. He made you for a highway to
my bed; But I, a maid, die maiden-widowed. Come,
cords; come, nurse. I'll to my wedding bed; And death, not
Romeo, take my maidenhead! Nurse. Hie to your chamber. I'll find
Romeo To comfort you. I wot well where he is. Hark
ye, your Romeo will be here at night. I'll to him; he is hid at
Laurence' cell. Jul. O, find him! give this ring to my true knight
And bid him come to take his last farewell.
Exeunt.

Scene III. Friar Laurence's cell.

Enter Friar [Laurence].

Â Â Friar. Romeo, come forth; come forth, thou fearful man. Â Â Â Â Affliction is enanmour'd of thy parts, Â Â Â Â And thou art wedded to calamity.

Enter Romeo.

Â Â Rom. Father, what news? What is the Prince's doom Â Â Â Â What sorrow craves acquaintance at my hand Â Â Â Â That I yet know not? Â Â Â Â Friar. Too familiar Â Â Â Â Is my dear son with such sour company. Â Â Â Â I bring thee tidings of the Prince's doom. Â Â Rom. What less than doomsday is the Prince's doom? Â Â Friar. A gentler judgment vanish'd from his lips- Â Â Â Â Not body's death, but body's banishment. Â Â Rom. Ha, banishment? Be merciful, say 'death'; Â Â Â Â For exile hath more terror in his look, Â Â Â Â Much more than death. Do not say 'banishment.' Â Â Friar. Hence from Verona art thou banished. Â Â Â Â Be patient, for the world is broad and wide. Â Â Rom. There is no world without Verona walls, Â Â Â Â But purgatory, torture, hell itself. Â Â Â Â Hence banished is banish'd from the world, Â Â Â Â And world's exile is death. Then 'banishment' Â Â Â Â Is death misterm'd. Calling death 'banishment,' Â Â Â Â Thou cut'st my head off with a golden axe Â Â Â Â And smilest upon the stroke that murders me. Â Â Friar. O deadly sin! O rude unthankfulness! Â Â Â Â Thy fault our law calls death; but the kind Prince, Â Â Â Â Taking thy part, hath brush'd aside the law, Â Â Â Â And turn'd that black word death to banishment. Â Â Â Â This is dear mercy, and thou seest it not. Â Â Rom. 'Tis torture, and not mercy. Heaven is here, Â Â Â Â Where Juliet lives; and every cat and dog Â Â Â Â And little mouse, every unworthy thing, Â Â Â Â Live here in heaven and may look on her; Â Â Â Â But Romeo may not. More

validity, More honourable state, more courtship lives
 In carrion flies than Romeo. They may seize On the white
 wonder of dear Juliet's hand And steal immortal blessing from
 her lips, Who, even in pure and vestal modesty, Still
 blush, as thinking their own kisses sin; But Romeo may not- he
 is banished. This may flies do, when I from this must fly; They
 are free men, but I am banished. And sayest thou yet
 that exile is not death? Hadst thou no poison mix'd, no
 sharp-ground knife, No sudden mean of death, though ne'er so
 mean, But 'banished' to kill me- 'banished'? O friar,
 the damned use that word in hell; Howling attends it! How hast
 thou the heart, Being a divine, a ghostly confessor, A
 sin-absolver, and my friend profess'd, To mangle me with that
 word 'banished'? Friar. Thou fond mad man, hear me a little speak.
 Rom. O, thou wilt speak again of banishment. Friar. I'll give
 thee armour to keep off that word; Adversity's sweet milk,
 philosophy, To comfort thee, though thou art banished. Rom.
 Yet 'banished'? Hang up philosophy! Unless philosophy
 can make a Juliet, Displant a town, reverse a prince's doom,
 It helps not, it prevails not. Talk no more. Friar. O, then I see
 that madmen have no ears. Rom. How should they, when that wise
 men have no eyes? Friar. Let me dispute with thee of thy estate.
 Rom. Thou canst not speak of that thou dost not feel. Wert thou
 as young as I, Juliet thy love, An hour but married, Tybalt
 murdered, Doting like me, and like me banished, Then mightst thou speak,
 then mightst thou tear thy hair, And fall upon the ground, as I do now,
 Taking the measure of an unmade grave. Knock. Knock
 [within]. Friar. Arise; one knocks. Good Romeo, hide thyself. Rom.
 Not I; unless the breath of heartsick groans, Mist-like
 infold me from the search of eyes. Knock. Friar. Hark, how they

knock! Who's there? Romeo, arise; Thou wilt be taken.- Stay awhile!- Stand up; Knock. Run to my study.- By-and-by!- God's will, What simpleness is this.- I come, I come! Knock. Who knocks so hard? Whence come you? What's your will? Nurse. [within] Let me come in, and you shall know my errand. I come from Lady Juliet. Friar. Welcome then.

Enter Nurse.

Nurse. O holy friar, O, tell me, holy friar, Where is my lady's lord, where's Romeo? Friar. There on the ground, with his own tears made drunk. Nurse. O, he is even in my mistress' case, Just in her case! Friar. O woeful sympathy! Piteous predicament! Nurse. Even so lies she, Blubb'ring and weeping, weeping and blubbering. Stand up, stand up! Stand, an you be a man. For Juliet's sake, for her sake, rise and stand! Why should you fall into so deep an O? Rom. (rises) Nurse- Nurse. Ah sir! ah sir! Well, death's the end of all. Rom. Spakest thou of Juliet? How is it with her? Doth not she think me an old murtherer, Now I have stain'd the childhood of our joy With blood remov'd but little from her own? Where is she? and how doth she! and what says My conceal'd lady to our cancell'd love? Nurse. O, she says nothing, sir, but weeps and weeps; And now falls on her bed, and then starts up, And Tybalt calls; and then on Romeo cries, And then down falls again. Rom. As if that name, Shot from the deadly level of a gun, Did murther her; as that name's cursed hand Murder'd her kinsman. O, tell me, friar, tell me, In what vile part of this anatomy Doth my name lodge? Tell me, that I may sack The hateful mansion. [Draws his dagger.] Friar. Hold thy desperate hand. Art thou a man? Thy form cries out thou art; Thy tears are womanish, thy wild acts denote The unreasonable fury of a beast. Unseemly woman in a

seeming man! Or ill-beseeming beast in seeming both! I thought thy
 Thou hast amaz'd me. By my holy order, I thought thy
 disposition better temper'd. Hast thou slain Tybalt? Wilt thou
 slay thyself? And slay thy lady that in thy life lives, By doing damned hate upon thyself? Why rail'st thou on thy
 birth, the heaven, and earth? Since birth and heaven and earth,
 all three do meet In thee at once; which thou at once wouldst
 lose. Fie, fie, thou shamest thy shape, thy love, thy wit, Which, like a usurer, abound'st in all, And usest none in that
 true use indeed Which should bedeck thy shape, thy love, thy
 wit. Thy noble shape is but a form of wax Digressing
 from the valour of a man; Thy dear love sworn but hollow
 perjury, Killing that love which thou hast vow'd to cherish; Thy wit,
 that ornament to shape and love, Misshapen in the
 conduct of them both, Like powder in a skilless soldier's flask,
 Is set afire by thine own ignorance, And thou
 dismemb'red with thine own defence. What, rouse thee, man!
 Thy Juliet is alive, For whose dear sake thou wast but lately
 dead. There art thou happy. Tybalt would kill thee, But thou slewest Tybalt. There art thou happy too. The law, that
 threat'ned death, becomes thy friend And turns it to exile. There
 art thou happy. A pack of blessings light upon thy back; Happiness courts thee in her best array; But, like a
 misbehav'd and sullen wench, Thou pout'st upon thy fortune
 and thy love. Take heed, take heed, for such die miserable. Go get thee to thy love, as was decreed, Ascend her
 chamber, hence and comfort her. But look thou stay not till the
 watch be set, For then thou canst not pass to Mantua, Where thou shalt live till we can find a time To blaze your
 marriage, reconcile your friends, Beg pardon of the Prince, and
 call thee back With twenty hundred thousand times more joy Than thou went'st forth in lamentation. Go before, nurse.

Commend me to thy lady, And bid her hasten all the house to bed, Which heavy sorrow makes them apt unto. Romeo is coming. Nurse. O Lord, I could have stay'd here all the night To hear good counsel. O, what learning is! My lord, I'll tell my lady you will come. Rom. Do so, and bid my sweet prepare to chide. Nurse. Here is a ring she bid me give you, sir. Hie you, make haste, for it grows very late. Exit. Rom. How well my comfort is reviv'd by this! Friar. Go hence; good night; and here stands all your state: Either be gone before the watch be set, Or by the break of day disguis'd from hence. And he shall signify from time to time Every good hap to you that chances here. Give me thy hand. 'Tis late. Farewell; good night. Rom. But that a joy past joy calls out on me, It were a grief so brief to part with thee. Farewell. Exeunt.

Scene IV. Capulet's house

Enter Old Capulet, his Wife, and Paris.

Cap. Things have fall'n out, sir, so unluckily That we have
 had no time to move our daughter. Look you, she lov'd her
 kinsman Tybalt dearly, And so did I. Well, we were born to die.
 'Tis very late; she'll not come down to-night. I
 promise you, but for your company, I would have been abed an
 hour ago. Par. These times of woe afford no tune to woo. Madam, good night.
 Commend me to your daughter. Lady. I will,
 and know her mind early to-morrow; To-night she's mew'd up
 to her heaviness. Cap. Sir Paris, I will make a desperate tender
 Of my child's love. I think she will be rul'd In all respects
 by me; nay more, I doubt it not. Wife, go you to her ere you go
 to bed; Acquaint her here of my son Paris' love And
 bid her (mark you me?) on Wednesday next- But, soft! what
 day is this? Par. Monday, my lord. Cap. Monday! ha, ha! Well,
 Wednesday is too soon. Thursday let it be- a Thursday, tell her
 She shall be married to this noble earl. Will you be
 ready? Do you like this haste? We'll keep no great ado- a friend
 or two; For hark you, Tybalt being slain so late, It
 may be thought we held him carelessly, Being our kinsman, if
 we revel much. Therefore we'll have some half a dozen friends,
 And there an end. But what say you to Thursday? Par. My
 lord, I would that Thursday were to-morrow. Cap. Well, get you
 gone. A Thursday be it then. Go you to Juliet ere you go to bed;
 Prepare her, wife, against this wedding day. Farewell,
 my lord.- Light to my chamber, ho! Afore me, It is so very very
 late That we may call it early by-and-by. Good night.
 Exit all

^ ^

Exeunt

Scene V. Capulet's orchard.

Enter Romeo and Juliet aloft, at the Window.

Â Â Jul. Wilt thou be gone? It is not yet near day. Â Â Â Â It was the
 nightingale, and not the lark, Â Â Â Â That pierc'd the fearful hollow of
 thine ear. Â Â Â Â Nightly she sings on yond pomegranate tree. Â Â Â
 Â Believe me, love, it was the nightingale. Â Â Rom. It was the lark, the
 herald of the morn; Â Â Â Â No nightingale. Look, love, what envious
 streaks Â Â Â Â Do lace the severing clouds in yonder East. Â Â Â Â
 Night's candles are burnt out, and jocund day Â Â Â Â Stands tiptoe on
 the misty mountain tops. Â Â Â Â I must be gone and live, or stay and
 die. Â Â Jul. Yond light is not daylight; I know it, I. Â Â Â Â It is some
 meteor that the sun exhales Â Â Â Â To be to thee this night a
 torchbearer Â Â Â Â And light thee on the way to Mantua. Â Â Â Â
 Therefore stay yet; thou need'st not to be gone. Â Â Rom. Let me be
 ta'en, let me be put to death. Â Â Â Â I am content, so thou wilt have it
 so. Â Â Â Â I'll say yon grey is not the morning's eye, Â Â Â Â 'Tis but
 the pale reflex of Cynthia's brow; Â Â Â Â Nor that is not the lark whose
 notes do beat Â Â Â Â The vaulty heaven so high above our heads. Â Â
 Â Â I have more care to stay than will to go. Â Â Â Â Come, death, and
 welcome! Juliet wills it so. Â Â Â Â How is't, my soul? Let's talk; it is
 not day. Â Â Jul. It is, it is! Hie hence, be gone, away! Â Â Â Â It is the
 lark that sings so out of tune, Â Â Â Â Straining harsh discords and
 unpleasing sharps. Â Â Â Â Some say the lark makes sweet division; Â
 Â Â Â This doth not so, for she divideth us. Â Â Â Â Some say the lark
 and loathed toad chang'd eyes; Â Â Â Â O, now I would they had
 chang'd voices too, Â Â Â Â Since arm from arm that voice doth us
 affray, Â Â Â Â Hunting thee hence with hunt's-up to the day! Â Â Â Â
 O, now be gone! More light and light it grows. Â Â Rom. More light and
 light- more dark and dark our woes!

Enter Nurse.

A Nurse. Madam! Jul. Nurse? Nurse. Your lady mother is coming to your chamber. The day is broke; be wary, look about. Jul. Then, window, let day in, and let life out.

[Exit.] Rom. Farewell, farewell! One kiss, and I'll descend.

He goeth down.

Jul. Art thou gone so, my lord, my love, my friend?

I must hear from thee every day in the hour,

For in a minute there are many days.

O, by this count I shall be much in years

Ere I again behold my Romeo!

Rom. Farewell!

I will omit no opportunity That may convey my greetings, love, to thee.

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

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

Jul. O God, I have an ill-divining soul!

Methinks I see thee, now thou art below,

As one dead in the bottom of a tomb.

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

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

Dry sorrow drinks our blood. Adieu, adieu!

Exit.

Jul. O Fortune, Fortune! all men call thee fickle.

If thou art fickle, what dost thou with him That is renown'd for faith?

Be fickle, Fortune;

For then I hope thou wilt not keep him long But send him back.

Lady. [within] Ho, daughter! are you up?

Jul. Who is't that calls? It is my lady mother.

Is she not down so late, or up so early?

What unaccustom'd cause procures her hither?

Enter Mother.

Â Â Lady. Why, how now, Juliet? Â Â Jul. Madam, I am not well. Â Â
 Lady. Evermore weeping for your cousin's death? Â Â Â Â What, wilt

thou wash him from his grave with tears? *Â Â Â Â* An if thou couldst,
 thou couldst not make him live. *Â Â Â Â* Therefore have done. Some
 grief shows much of love; *Â Â Â Â* But much of grief shows still some
 want of wit. *Â Â* Jul. Yet let me weep for such a feeling loss. *Â Â* Lady.
 So shall you feel the loss, but not the friend *Â Â Â Â* Which you weep
 for. *Â Â* Jul. Feeling so the loss, *Â Â Â Â* I cannot choose but ever weep
 the friend. *Â Â* Lady. Well, girl, thou weep'st not so much for his death *Â Â*
Â Â Â As that the villain lives which slaughter'd him. *Â Â* Jul. What
 villain, madam? *Â Â* Lady. That same villain Romeo. *Â Â* Jul. [aside]
 Villain and he be many miles asunder.- *Â Â Â Â* God pardon him! I do,
 with all my heart; *Â Â Â Â* And yet no man like he doth grieve my heart.
Â Â Lady. That is because the traitor murderer lives. *Â Â* Jul. Ay,
 madam, from the reach of these my hands. *Â Â Â Â* Would none but I
 might venge my cousin's death! *Â Â* Lady. We will have vengeance for
 it, fear thou not. *Â Â Â Â* Then weep no more. I'll send to one in Mantua,
Â Â Â Â Where that same banish'd runagate doth live, *Â Â Â Â* Shall
 give him such an unaccustom'd dram *Â Â Â Â* That he shall soon keep
 Tybalt company; *Â Â Â Â* And then I hope thou wilt be satisfied. *Â Â*
 Jul. Indeed I never shall be satisfied *Â Â Â Â* With Romeo till I behold
 him- dead- *Â Â Â Â* Is my poor heart so for a kinsman vex'd. *Â Â Â Â*
 Madam, if you could find out but a man *Â Â Â Â* To bear a poison, I
 would temper it; *Â Â Â Â* That Romeo should, upon receipt thereof, *Â Â*
Â Â Soon sleep in quiet. O, how my heart abhors *Â Â Â Â* To hear him
 nam'd and cannot come to him, *Â Â Â Â* To wreak the love I bore my
 cousin Tybalt *Â Â Â Â* Upon his body that hath slaughter'd him! *Â Â*
 Lady. Find thou the means, and I'll find such a man. *Â Â Â Â* But now
 I'll tell thee joyful tidings, girl. *Â Â* Jul. And joy comes well in such a
 needy time. *Â Â Â Â* What are they, I beseech your ladyship? *Â Â* Lady.
 Well, well, thou hast a careful father, child; *Â Â Â Â* One who, to put
 thee from thy heaviness, *Â Â Â Â* Hath sorted out a sudden day of joy *Â Â*
Â Â Â That thou expects not nor I look'd not for. *Â Â* Jul. Madam, in
 happy time! What day is that? *Â Â* Lady. Marry, my child, early next

Thursday morn The gallant, young, and noble gentleman, The County Paris, at Saint Peter's Church, Shall happily make thee there a joyful bride. Jul. Now by Saint Peter's Church, and Peter too, He shall not make me there a joyful bride! I wonder at this haste, that I must wed Ere he that should be husband comes to woo. I pray you tell my lord and father, madam, I will not marry yet; and when I do, I swear It shall be Romeo, whom you know I hate, Rather than Paris. These are news indeed! Lady. Here comes your father. Tell him so yourself, And see how he will take it at your hands.

Enter Capulet and Nurse.

Cap. When the sun sets the air doth drizzle dew, But for the sunset of my brother's son It rains downright. How now? a conduit, girl? What, still in tears? Evermore show'ring? In one little body Thou counterfeit'st a bark, a sea, a wind: For still thy eyes, which I may call the sea, Do ebb and flow with tears; the bark thy body is Sailing in this salt flood; the winds, thy sighs, Who, raging with thy tears and they with them, Without a sudden calm will overset Thy tempest-tossed body. How now, wife? Have you delivered to her our decree? Lady. Ay, sir; but she will none, she gives you thanks. I would the fool were married to her grave! Cap. Soft! take me with you, take me with you, wife. How? Will she none? Doth she not give us thanks? Is she not proud? Doth she not count her blest, Unworthy as she is, that we have wrought So worthy a gentleman to be her bridegroom? Jul. Not proud you have, but thankful that you have. Proud can I never be of what I hate, But thankful even for hate that is meant love. Cap. How now, how now, choplogic? What is this? 'Proud'- and 'I thank you'- and 'I thank you not'- And yet 'not proud'? Mistress minion you, Thank me no thankings, nor proud me no

prouds, But fettle your fine joints 'gainst Thursday next
To go with Paris to Saint Peter's Church, Or I will drag thee
on a hurdle thither. Out, you green-sickness carrion I out, you
baggage! You tallow-face! Lady. Fie, fie! what, are you
mad? Jul. Good father, I beseech you on my knees, Hear
me with patience but to speak a word. Cap. Hang thee, young
baggage! disobedient wretch! I tell thee what- get thee to
church a Thursday Or never after look me in the face. Speak not,
reply not, do not answer me! My fingers itch. Wife,
we scarce thought us blest That God had lent us but this only
child; But now I see this one is one too much, And
that we have a curse in having her. Out on her, hilding! Nurse.
God in heaven bless her! You are to blame, my lord, to
rate her so. Cap. And why, my Lady Wisdom? Hold your tongue, Good
Prudence. Smatter with your gossips, go! Nurse. I
speak no treason. Cap. O, God-i-god-en! Nurse. May not one
speak? Cap. Peace, you mumbling fool! Utter your gravity
o'er a gossip's bowl, For here we need it not. Lady. You are
too hot. Cap. God's bread I it makes me mad. Day, night, late, early,
At home, abroad, alone, in company, Waking or
sleeping, still my care hath been To have her match'd; and
having now provided A gentleman of princely parentage, Of
fair demesnes, youthful, and nobly train'd, Stuff'd, as
they say, with honourable parts, Proportion'd as one's thought
would wish a man- And then to have a wretched puling fool, A
whining mammet, in her fortune's tender, To answer
'I'll not wed, I cannot love; I am too young, I pray you pardon
me!' But, an you will not wed, I'll pardon you. Graze
where you will, you shall not house with me. Look to't, think
on't; I do not use to jest. Thursday is near; lay hand on heart,
advise: An you be mine, I'll give you to my friend; An
you be not, hang, beg, starve, die in the streets, For, by my soul,

I'll ne'er acknowledge thee, Â Â Â Â Nor what is mine shall never do thee good. Â Â Â Â Trust to't. Bethink you. I'll not be forsworn. Exit. Â Â Jul. Is there no pity sitting in the clouds Â Â Â Â That sees into the bottom of my grief? Â Â Â Â O sweet my mother, cast me not away! Â Â Â Â Delay this marriage for a month, a week; Â Â Â Â Or if you do not, make the bridal bed Â Â Â Â In that dim monument where Tybalt lies. Â Â Lady. Talk not to me, for I'll not speak a word. Â Â Â Â Do as thou wilt, for I have done with thee. Exit. Â Â Jul. O God!- O nurse, how shall this be prevented? Â Â Â Â My husband is on earth, my faith in heaven. Â Â Â Â How shall that faith return again to earth Â Â Â Â Unless that husband send it me from heaven Â Â Â Â By leaving earth? Comfort me, counsel me. Â Â Â Â Alack, alack, that heaven should practise stratagems Â Â Â Â Upon so soft a subject as myself! Â Â Â Â What say'st thou? Hast thou not a word of joy? Â Â Â Â Some comfort, nurse. Â Â Nurse. Faith, here it is. Â Â Â Â Romeo is banish'd; and all the world to nothing Â Â Â Â That he dares ne'er come back to challenge you; Â Â Â Â Or if he do, it needs must be by stealth. Â Â Â Â Then, since the case so stands as now it doth, Â Â Â Â I think it best you married with the County. Â Â Â Â O, he's a lovely gentleman! Â Â Â Â Romeo's a dishclout to him. An eagle, madam, Â Â Â Â Hath not so green, so quick, so fair an eye Â Â Â Â As Paris hath. Beshrew my very heart, Â Â Â Â I think you are happy in this second match, Â Â Â Â For it excels your first; or if it did not, Â Â Â Â Your first is dead- or 'twere as good he were Â Â Â Â As living here and you no use of him. Â Â Jul. Speak'st thou this from thy heart? Â Â Nurse. And from my soul too; else beshrew them both. Â Â Jul. Amen! Â Â Nurse. What? Â Â Jul. Well, thou hast comforted me marvellous much. Â Â Â Â Go in; and tell my lady I am gone, Â Â Â Â Having displeas'd my father, to Laurence' cell, Â Â Â Â To make confession and to be absolv'd. Â Â Nurse. Marry, I will; and this is wisely done. Exit. Â Â Jul. Ancient damnation! O most wicked fiend! Â Â Â Â Is it more sin to wish me thus forsworn, Â Â Â Â Or to dispraise my lord with that same tongue Â Â Â Â Which she hath

prais'd him with above compare So many thousand times? Go,
counsellor! 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. Friar Laurence's cell.

Enter Friar, [Laurence] and County Paris.

Friar. On Thursday, sir? The time is very short. Par. My father Capulet will have it so, And I am nothing slow to slack his haste. Friar. You say you do not know the lady's mind. Uneven is the course; I like it not. Par. Immoderately she weeps for Tybalt's death, And therefore have I little talk'd of love; For Venus smiles not in a house of tears. Now, sir, her father counts it dangerous That she do give her sorrow so much sway, And in his wisdom hastes our marriage To stop the inundation of her tears, Which, too much minded by herself alone, May be put from her by society. Now do you know the reason of this haste. Friar. [aside] I would I knew not why it should be slow'd.- Look, sir, here comes the lady toward my cell.

Enter Juliet.

Par. Happily met, my lady and my wife! Jul. That may be, sir, when I may be a wife. Par. That may be must be, love, on Thursday next. Jul. What must be shall be. Friar. That's a certain text. Par. Come you to make confession to this father? Jul. To answer that, I should confess to you. Par. Do not deny to him that you love me. Jul. I will confess to you that I love him. Par. So will ye, I am sure, that you love me. Jul. If I do so, it will be of more price, Being spoke behind your back, than to your face. Par. Poor soul, thy face is much abus'd with tears. Jul. The tears have got small victory by that, For it was bad enough before their spite.

Par. Thou wrong'st it more than tears with that report. Jul. That is no slander, sir, which is a truth; And what I spake, I spake it to my face. Par. Thy face is mine, and thou hast sland'ered it. Jul. It may be so, for it is not mine own. Are you at leisure, holy father, now, Or shall I come to you at evening mass? Friar. My leisure serves me, pensive daughter, now. My lord, we must entreat the time alone. Par. God shield I should disturb devotion! Juliet, on Thursday early will I rouse ye. Till then, adieu, and keep this holy kiss. Exit. Jul. O, shut the door! and when thou hast done so, Come weep with me- past hope, past cure, past help! Friar. Ah, Juliet, I already know thy grief; It strains me past the compass of my wits. I hear thou must, and nothing may prorogue it, On Thursday next be married to this County. Jul. Tell me not, friar, that thou hear'st of this, Unless thou tell me how I may prevent it. If in thy wisdom thou canst give no help, Do thou but call my resolution wise And with this knife I'll help it presently. God join'd my heart and Romeo's, thou our hands; And ere this hand, by thee to Romeo's seal'd, Shall be the label to another deed, Or my true heart with treacherous revolt Turn to another, this shall slay them both. Therefore, out of thy long-experienc'd time, Give me some present counsel; or, behold, 'Twixt my extremes and me this bloody knife Shall play the empire, arbitrating that Which the commission of thy years and art Could to no issue of true honour bring. Be not so long to speak. I long to die If what thou speak'st speak not of remedy. Friar. Hold, daughter. I do spy a kind of hope, Which craves as desperate an execution As that is desperate which we would prevent. If, rather than to marry County Paris Thou hast the strength of will to slay thyself, Then is it likely thou wilt undertake A thing like death to chide away this shame, That cop'st with death himself to scape from it;

And, if thou dar'st, I'll give thee remedy. Jul. O, bid me leap,
 rather than marry Paris, From off the battlements of yonder
 tower, Or walk in thievish ways, or bid me lurk
 Where serpents are; chain me with roaring bears, Or shut me
 nightly in a charnel house, O'ercover'd quite with dead men's
 rattling bones, With reeky shanks and yellow chapless skulls;
 Or bid me go into a new-made grave And hide me with
 a dead man in his shroud- Things that, to hear them told, have
 made me tremble- And I will do it without fear or doubt,
 To live an unstain'd wife to my sweet love. Friar. Hold, then. Go
 home, be merry, give consent To marry Paris. Wednesday is
 to-morrow. To-morrow 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 distilled liquor drink thou off;
 When presently through all thy veins shall run A cold
 and drowsy humour; 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 To
 paly ashes, thy eyes' windows fall Like death when he shuts up
 the day of life; Each part, depriv'd of supple government,
 Shall, stiff and stark and cold, appear like death; And in
 this borrowed likeness of shrunk death 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, 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 mean time,
 against thou shalt awake, Shall Romeo by my letters know our
 drift; 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 Abate
thy valour in the acting it. Jul. Give me, give me! O, tell not me of
fear! Friar. Hold! Get you gone, be strong and prosperous In this resolve. I'll send a friar with speed To Mantua, with my
letters to thy lord. Jul. Love give me strength! and strength shall help
afford. Farewell, dear father. Exeunt.

Scene II. Capulet's house.

[illegible]

A Cap. So many guests invite as here are writ. A A A A A A A A A A
 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
 A A A A [Exit a Servingman.] A A A Sirrah, go hire me twenty
 cunning cooks. A Serv. You shall have none ill, sir; for I'll try if they
 can lick A A A their fingers. A Cap. How canst thou try them so? A
 A Serv. Marry, sir, 'tis an ill cook that cannot lick his own A A A
 fingers. Therefore he that cannot lick his fingers goes not with A A A
 me. A Cap. Go, begone. A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
 Exit Servingman. A A A We shall be much unfurnish'd for this time. A
 A A What, is my daughter gone to Friar Laurence? A Nurse. Ay,
 forsooth. A Cap. Well, be may chance to do some good on her. A A A
 A A peevish self-will'd harlotry it is.

Enter Juliet.

A Nurse. See where she comes from shrift with merry look. A Cap.
 How now, my headstrong? Where have you been gadding? A Jul.
 Where I have learnt me to repent the sin A A A A Of disobedient
 opposition A A A A To you and your behests, and am enjoin'd A A A A
 By holy Laurence to fall prostrate here A A A A To beg your pardon.
 Pardon, I beseech you! A A A A Henceforward I am ever rul'd by you. A
 A Cap. Send for the County. Go tell him of this. A A A A I'll have this
 knot knit up to-morrow morning. A A Jul. I met the youthful lord at
 Laurence' cell A A A A And gave him what becomed love I might, A A
 A A Not stepping o'er the bounds of modesty. A A Cap. Why, I am glad
 on't. This is well. Stand up. A A A A This is as't should be. Let me see

the County. Ay, marry, go, I say, and fetch him hither. Now, afore God, this reverend holy friar, All our whole city is much bound to him. Jul. Nurse, will you go with me into my closet To help me sort such needful ornaments As you think fit to furnish me to-morrow? Mother. No, not till Thursday. There is time enough. Cap. Go, nurse, go with her. We'll to church to-morrow. Exeunt Juliet and Nurse. Mother. We shall be short in our provision. 'Tis now near night. Cap. Tush, I will stir about, And all things shall be well, I warrant thee, wife. Go thou to Juliet, help to deck up her. I'll not to bed to-night; let me alone. I'll play the housewife for this once. What, ho! They are all forth; well, I will walk myself To County Paris, to prepare him up Against to-morrow. My heart is wondrous light, Since this same wayward girl is so reclaim'd. Exeunt.

Scene III. Juliet's chamber.

Enter Juliet and Nurse.

Jul. Ay, those attires are best; but, gentle nurse, I pray thee leave me to myself to-night; For I have need of many orisons To move the heavens to smile upon my state, Which, well thou knowest, is cross and full of sin.

Enter Mother.

Mother. What, are you busy, ho? Need you my help? Jul. No, madam; we have cull'd such necessities As are behoveful for our state to-morrow. So please you, let me now be left alone, And let the nurse this night sit up with you; For I am sure you have your hands full all In this so sudden business. Mother. Good night. Get thee to bed, and rest; for thou hast need. Exeunt [Mother and Nurse.] Jul. Farewell! God knows when we shall meet again. 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. Come, vial. What if this mixture do not work at all? Shall I be married then to-morrow morning? No, No! This shall forbid it. Lie thou there. Lays down a dagger. What if it be a poison which the friar Subtilly hath minist'red to have me dead, Lest in this marriage he should be dishonour'd 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. I will not entertain so

bad a thought. 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, 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
Where for this many hundred years the bones Of all
my buried ancestors are pack'd; 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- 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- O, if I wake, shall I not
be distraught, Environed 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? 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, I come! this do I drink to thee.

She [drinks and] falls upon her bed within the curtains.

Scene IV. Capulet's house.

Enter Lady of the House and Nurse.

Â Â Lady. Hold, take these keys and fetch more spices, nurse. Â Â
Nurse. They call for dates and quinces in the pastry.

Enter Old Capulet.

Â Â Cap. Come, stir, stir, stir! The second cock hath crow'd, Â Â Â Â
The curfew bell hath rung, 'tis three o'clock. Â Â Â Â Look to the bak'd
meats, good Angelica; Â Â Â Â Spare not for cost. Â Â Nurse. Go, you
cot-quean, go, Â Â Â Â Get you to bed! Faith, you'll be sick to-morrow
Â Â Â Â For this night's watching. Â Â Cap. No, not a whit. What, I
have watch'd ere now Â Â Â Â All night for lesser cause, and ne'er been
sick. Â Â Lady. Ay, you have been a mouse-hunt in your time; Â Â Â Â
But I will watch you from such watching now. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
Â
Â Exeunt Lady and Nurse. Â Â Cap. A jealous hood, a jealous hood!

Enter three or four [Fellows, with spits and logs and baskets.

Â Â Â Â What is there? Now, fellow, Â Â Fellow. Things for the cook,
sir; but I know not what. Â Â Cap. Make haste, make haste. [Exit
Fellow.] Sirrah, fetch drier Â Â Â Â Â Â logs. Â Â Â Â Call Peter; he
will show thee where they are. Â Â Fellow. I have a head, sir, that will
find out logs Â Â Â Â And never trouble Peter for the matter. Â Â Cap.
Mass, and well said; a merry whoreson, ha! Â Â Â Â Thou shalt be
loggerhead. [Exit Fellow.] Good faith, 'tis day. Â Â Â Â The County will
be here with music straight, Â Â Â Â For so he said he would. Play
music. Â Â Â Â I hear him near. Â Â Â Â Nurse! Wife! What, ho! What,
nurse, I say!

Enter Nurse. Go waken Juliet; go and trim her up. I'll
go and chat with Paris. Hie, make haste, Make haste! The
bridegroom he is come already: Make haste, I say. [Exeunt.]

Scene V. Juliet's chamber.

[Enter Nurse.]

Nurse. Mistress! what, mistress! Juliet! Fast, I warrant her, she. Why, lamb! why, lady! Fie, you slug-abad! Why, love, I say! madam! sweetheart! Why, bride! What, not a word? You take your pennyworths now! Sleep for a week; for the next night, I warrant, The County Paris hath set up his rest That you shall rest but little. God forgive me! Marry, and amen. How sound is she asleep! I needs must wake her. Madam, madam, madam! Ay, let the County take you in your bed! He'll fright you up, i' faith. Will it not be? [Draws aside the curtains.] What, dress'd, and in your clothes, and down again? I must needs wake you. Lady! lady! lady! Alas, alas! Help, help! My lady's dead! O weraday that ever I was born! Some aqua-vitae, ho! My lord! my lady!

Enter Mother.

Mother. What noise is here? Nurse. O lamentable day! Mother. What is the matter? Nurse. Look, look! O heavy day! Mother. O me, O me! My child, my only life! Revive, look up, or I will die with thee! Help, help! Call help.

Enter Father.

Father. For shame, bring Juliet forth; her lord is come. Nurse. She's dead, deceas'd; she's dead! Alack the day! Mother. Alack the day, she's dead, she's dead, she's dead! Cap. Ha! let me see her. Out alas! she's cold, Her blood is settled, and her joints are stiff; Life and these lips have long been separated. Death lies

on her like an untimely frost Upon the sweetest flower of all the field.
 Nurse. O lamentable day!
 Mother. O woful time!
 Cap. Death, that hath ta'en her hence to make me wail,
 Ties up my tongue and will not let me speak.

Enter Friar [Laurence] and the County [Paris], with Musicians.

Friar. Come, is the bride ready to go to church?
 Cap. Ready to go, but never to return.
 O son, the night before thy wedding day
 Hath Death lain with thy wife. See, there she lies,
 Flower as she was, deflowered by him.
 Death is my son-in-law,
 Death is my heir;
 My daughter he hath wedded. I will die
 And leave him all. Life, living, all is Death's.
 Par. Have I thought long to see this morning's face,
 And doth it give me such a sight as this?
 Mother. Accurs'd, unhappy, wretched, hateful day!
 Most miserable hour that e'er time saw
 In lasting labour of his pilgrimage!
 But one, poor one, one poor and loving child,
 But one thing to rejoice and solace in,
 And cruel Death hath catch'd it from my sight!
 Nurse. O woe? O woful, woful, woful day!
 Most lamentable day, most woful day
 That ever ever I did yet behold!
 O day! O day! O day! O hateful day!
 Never was seen so black a day as this.
 O woful day! O woful day!
 Par. Beguil'd, divorced, wronged, spited, slain!
 Most detestable Death, by thee beguil'd,
 By cruel cruel thee quite overthrown!
 O love! O life! not life, but love in death!
 Cap. Despis'd, distressed, hated, martyr'd, kill'd!
 Uncomfortable time, why cam'st thou now
 To murder, murder our solemnity?
 O child! O child! my soul, and not my child!
 Dead art thou, dead! alack, my child is dead,
 And with my child my joys are buried!
 Friar. Peace, ho, for shame! Confusion's cure lives not
 In these confusions. Heaven and yourself
 Had part in this fair maid! now heaven hath all,
 And all the better is it for the maid.
 Your part in her you

could not keep from death, But heaven keeps his part in eternal life. The most you sought was her promotion, For 'twas your heaven she should be advanc'd; And weep ye now, seeing she is advanc'd Above the clouds, as high as heaven itself? O, in this love, you love your child so ill That you run mad, seeing that she is well. She's not well married that lives married long, But she's best married that dies married young. Dry up your tears and stick your rosemary On this fair corse, and, as the custom is, In all her best array bear her to church; For though fond nature bids us all lament, Yet nature's tears are reason's merriment. Cap. All things that we ordained festival Turn from their office to black funeral- Our instruments to melancholy bells, Our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast; Our solemn hymns to sullen dirges change; Our bridal flowers serve for a buried corse; And all things change them to the contrary. Friar. Sir, go you in; and, madam, go with him; And go, Sir Paris. Every one prepare To follow this fair corse unto her grave. The heavens do low'r upon you for some ill; Move them no more by crossing their high will. Exeunt. Manent Musicians [and Nurse]. 1. Mus. Faith, we may put up our pipes and be gone. Nurse. Honest good fellows, ah, put up, put up! For well you know this is a pitiful case. [Exit.] 1. Mus. Ay, by my troth, the case may be amended.

Enter Peter.

Pet. Musicians, O, musicians, 'Heart's ease,' 'Heart's ease!' O, an you will have me live, play 'Heart's ease.' 1. Mus. Why 'Heart's ease'? Pet. O, musicians, because my heart itself plays 'My heart is full of woe.' O, play me some merry dump to comfort me. 1. Mus. Not a dump we! 'Tis no time to play now. Pet. You will not then? 1. Mus. No. Pet. I will then give it you soundly. 1.

Mus. What will you give us? Pet. No money, on my faith, but the gleek. I will give you the minstrel. 1. Mus. Then will I give you the serving-creature. Pet. Then will I lay the serving-creature's dagger on your pate. I will carry no crotchets. I'll re you, I'll fa you. Do you note me? 1. Mus. An you re us and fa us, you note us. 2. Mus. Pray you put up your dagger, and put out your wit. Pet. Then have at you with my wit! I will dry-beat you with an iron wit, and put up my iron dagger. Answer me like men.

'When griping grief the heart doth wound,
And doleful dumps the mind oppress,
Then music with her silver sound'-

Why 'silver sound'? Why 'music with her silver sound'?
What say you, Simon Catling? 1. Mus. Marry, sir, because silver hath a sweet sound. Pet. Pretty! What say you, Hugh Rebeck? 2. Mus. I say 'silver sound' because musicians sound for silver. Pet. Pretty too! What say you, James Soundpost? 3. Mus. Faith, I know not what to say. Pet. O, I cry you mercy! you are the singer. I will say for you. It is 'music with her silver sound' because musicians have no gold for sounding.

'Then music with her silver sound
With speedy help doth lend redress.' [Exit.

1. Mus. What a pestilent knave is this same? 2. Mus. Hang him, Jack! Come, we'll in here, tarry for the mourners, and stay dinner.
Exeunt.

ACT V. Scene I. Mantua. A street.

Enter Romeo.

Rom. If I may trust the flattering truth of sleep My dreams
 presage some joyful news at hand. My bosom's lord sits lightly
 in his throne, And all this day an unaccustom'd spirit
 Lifts me above the ground with cheerful thoughts. I dreamt my
 lady came and found me dead (Strange dream that gives a dead
 man leave to think!) And breath'd such life with kisses in my
 lips That I reviv'd and was an emperor. Ah me! how
 sweet is love itself possess'd, When but love's shadows are so
 rich in joy!

Enter Romeo's Man Balthasar, booted.

Balthasar. News from Verona! How now, Balthasar? Dost thou
 not bring me letters from the friar? How doth my lady? Is my
 father well? How fares my Juliet? That I ask again, For nothing
 can be ill if she be well. Man. Then she is well, and
 nothing can be ill. Her body sleeps in Capel's monument, And
 her immortal part with angels lives. I saw her laid low
 in her kindred's vault And presently took post to tell it you.
 O, pardon me for bringing these ill news, Since you did
 leave it for my office, sir. Rom. Is it e'en so? Then I defy you, stars!
 Thou knowest my lodging. Get me ink and paper And
 hire posthorses. I will hence to-night. Man. I do beseech you, sir,
 have patience. Your looks are pale and wild and do import
 Some misadventure. Rom. Tush, thou art deceiv'd. Leave me and do
 the thing I bid thee do. Hast thou no letters to me from the friar?
 Man. No, my good lord. Rom. No matter. Get thee gone
 And hire those horses. I'll be with thee straight.

A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A Exit [Balthasar]. A A A A Well,
 Juliet, I will lie with thee to-night. A A A A Let's see for means. O
 mischief, thou art swift A A A A To enter in the thoughts of desperate
 men! A A A A I do remember an apothecary, A A A A And hereabouts 'a
 dwells, which late I noted A A A A In tatt'ed weeds, with overwhelming
 brows, A A A A Culling of simples. Meagre were his looks, A A A A
 Sharp misery had worn him to the bones; A A A A And in his needy shop
 a tortoise hung, A A A A An alligator stuff'd, and other skins A A A A
 Of ill-shaped fishes; and about his shelves A A A A A beggarly account
 of empty boxes, A A A A Green earthen pots, bladders, and musty seeds,
 A A A A Remnants of packthread, and old cakes of roses A A A A Were
 thinly scattered, to make up a show. A A A A Noting this penury, to
 myself I said, A A A A 'An if a man did need a poison now A A A A
 Whose sale is present death in Mantua, A A A A Here lives a caitiff
 wretch would sell it him.' A A A A O, this same thought did but forerun
 my need, A A A A And this same needy man must sell it me. A A A A
 As I remember, this should be the house. A A A A Being holiday, the
 beggar's shop is shut. What, ho! apothecary!

Enter Apothecary.

Â Â Apoth. Who calls so loud? Â Â Rom. Come hither, man. I see that
 thou art poor. Â Â Â Â Hold, there is forty ducats. Let me have Â Â Â Â
 A dram of poison, such soon-speeding gear Â Â Â Â As will disperse
 itself through all the veins Â Â Â Â That the life-weary taker mall fall
 dead, Â Â Â Â And that the trunk may be discharg'd of breath Â Â Â Â
 As violently as hasty powder fir'd Â Â Â Â Doth hurry from the fatal
 cannon's womb. Â Â Apoth. Such mortal drugs I have; but Mantua's law
 Â Â Â Â Is death to any he that utters them. Â Â Rom. Art thou so bare
 and full of wretchedness Â Â Â Â And fearest to die? Famine is in thy
 cheeks, Â Â Â Â Need and oppression starveth in thine eyes, Â Â Â Â
 Contempt and beggary hangs upon thy back: Â Â Â Â The world is not

thy friend, nor the world's law; The world affords no law to
make thee rich; Then be not poor, but break it and take this.
Apoth. My poverty but not my will consents. Rom. I pay thy
poverty and not thy will. Apoth. Put this in any liquid thing you will
And drink it off, and if you had the strength Of twenty
men, it would dispatch you straight. Rom. There is thy gold- worse
poison to men's souls, Doing more murther in this loathsome
world, Than these poor compounds that thou mayst not sell.
I sell thee poison; thou hast sold me none. Farewell. Buy
food and get thyself in flesh. Come, cordial and not poison, go
with me To Juliet's grave; for there must I use thee.
Exeunt.

Scene II. Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

Enter Friar John to Friar Laurence.

John. Holy Franciscan friar, brother, ho!

Enter Friar Laurence.

Â Â Laur. This same should be the voice of Friar John. Â Â Â Â
 Welcome from Mantua. What says Romeo? Â Â Â Â Or, if his mind be
 writ, give me his letter. Â Â John. Going to find a barefoot brother out, Â
 Â Â Â One of our order, to associate me Â Â Â Â Here in this city
 visiting the sick, Â Â Â Â And finding him, the searchers of the town, Â
 Â Â Â Suspecting that we both were in a house Â Â Â Â Where the
 infectious pestilence did reign, Â Â Â Â Seal'd up the doors, and would
 not let us forth, Â Â Â Â So that my speed to Mantua there was stay'd. Â
 Â Laur. Who bare my letter, then, to Romeo? Â Â John. I could not send
 it- here it is again- Â Â Â Â Nor get a messenger to bring it thee, Â Â Â
 Â So fearful were they of infection. Â Â Laur. Unhappy fortune! By my
 brotherhood, Â Â Â Â The letter was not nice, but full of charge, Â Â Â
 Â Of dear import; and the neglecting it Â Â Â Â May do much danger.
 Friar John, go hence, Â Â Â Â Get me an iron crow and bring it straight
 Â Â Â Â Unto my cell. Â Â John. Brother, I'll go and bring it thee. Exit.
 Â Â Laur. Now, must I to the monument alone. Â Â Â Â Within this
 three hours will fair Juliet wake. Â Â Â Â She will beshrew me much
 that Romeo Â Â Â Â Hath had no notice of these accidents; Â Â Â Â But
 I will write again to Mantua, Â Â Â Â And keep her at my cell till
 Romeo come- Â Â Â Â Poor living corse, clos'd in a dead man's tomb!
 Exit.

Scene III. Verona. A churchyard; in it the monument of the Capulets.

Enter Paris and his Page with flowers and [a torch].

Par. Give me thy torch, boy. Hence, and stand aloof. Yet
 put it out, for I would not be seen. Under yond yew tree lay thee
 all along, Holding thine ear close to the hollow ground. So shall no foot upon the churchyard tread
 (Being loose, unfirm, with digging up of graves) But thou shalt hear it.
 Whistle then to me, As signal that thou hear'st something
 approach. Give me those flowers. Do as I bid thee, go.
 Page. [aside] I am almost afraid to stand alone Here in the
 churchyard; yet I will adventure. [Retires.] Par. Sweet flower, with
 flowers thy bridal bed I strew (O woe! thy canopy is dust and
 stones) Which with sweet water nightly I will dew; Or, wanting that, with tears distill'd by moans.
 The obsequies that I for thee will keep Nightly shall be to strew thy grave and
 weep. Whistle Boy. The boy gives warning something doth approach. What
 cursed foot wanders this way to-night To cross my obsequies
 and true love's rite? What, with a torch? Muffle me, night,
 awhile. [Retires.]

Enter Romeo, and Balthasar with a torch, a mattock, and a crow of iron.

Rom. Give me that mattock and the wrenching iron. Hold, take this letter. Early in the morning See thou deliver it to my
 lord and father. Give me the light. Upon thy life I charge thee,

What'e'r thou hearest or seest, stand all aloof And do
 not interrupt me in my course. Why I descend into this bed of
 death Is partly to behold my lady's face, But chiefly to
 take thence from her dead finger A precious ring- a ring that I
 must use In dear employment. Therefore hence, be gone.
 But if thou, jealous, dost return to pry In what I farther shall
 intend to do, By heaven, I will tear thee joint by joint And
 strew this hungry churchyard with thy limbs. The time and
 my intents are savage-wild, More fierce and more inexorable
 far Than empty tigers or the roaring sea. Bal. I will be
 gone, sir, and not trouble you. Rom. So shalt thou show me
 friendship. Take thou that. Live, and be prosperous; and
 farewell, good fellow. Bal. [aside] For all this same, I'll hide me
 hereabout. His looks I fear, and his intents I doubt. [Retires.]
 Rom. Thou detestable maw, thou womb of death, Gorg'd
 with the dearest morsel of the earth, Thus I enforce thy rotten
 jaws to open, And in despite I'll cram thee with more food.
 Romeo opens the tomb. Par. This is that
 banish'd haughty Montague That murd'ered my love's cousin-
 with which grief It is supposed the fair creature died-
 And here is come to do some villanous shame To the dead
 bodies. I will apprehend him. Stop thy unhallowed toil, vile
 Montague! Can vengeance be pursu'd further than death? Condemned
 villain, I do apprehend thee. Obey, and go
 with me; for thou must die. Rom. I must indeed; and therefore came
 I hither. Good gentle youth, tempt not a desp'rate man. Fly
 hence and leave me. Think upon these gone; Let them
 affright thee. I beseech thee, youth, Put not another sin upon my
 head By urging me to fury. O, be gone! By heaven, I
 love thee better than myself, For I come hither arm'd against
 myself. Stay not, be gone. Live, and hereafter say A

madman's mercy bid thee run away. **Par.** I do defy thy conjuration
 And apprehend thee for a felon here. **Rom.** Wilt thou provoke
 me? Then have at thee, boy!
 They fight.
Page. O Lord, they fight! I will go call the
 watch.
 [Exit. Paris falls.] **Par.** O, I
 am slain! If thou be merciful,
 Open the tomb, lay me with
 Juliet. [Dies.] **Rom.** In faith, I will. Let me peruse this face.
 Mercutio's kinsman, noble County Paris!
 What said my man
 when my betossed soul
 Did not attend him as we rode? I think
 He told me Paris should have married Juliet.
 Said he
 not so? or did I dream it so?
 Or am I mad, hearing him talk of
 Juliet
 To think it was so? O, give me thy hand,
 One
 writ with me in sour misfortune's book!
 I'll bury thee in a
 triumphant grave.
 A grave? O, no, a lanthorn, slaught'ed youth,
 For here lies Juliet, and her beauty makes
 This vault a
 feasting presence full of light.
 Death, lie thou there, by a dead
 man interr'd.
 [Lays him in the tomb.]
 How oft when men are at the point of death
 Have they been
 merry! which their keepers call
 A lightning before death. O,
 how may I
 Call this a lightning? O my love! my wife!
 Death, that hath suck'd the honey of thy breath,
 Hath had no
 power yet upon thy beauty.
 Thou art not conquer'd. Beauty's
 ensign yet
 Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,
 And death's pale flag is not advanced there.
 Tybalt, liest thou
 there in thy bloody sheet?
 O, what more favour can I do to thee
 Than with that hand that cut thy youth in twain
 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 Thee here in dark to be his paramour?
 For fear of that I still will stay with thee And never from this
 palace of dim night Depart again. Here, here will I remain
 With worms that are thy chambermaids. O, here 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 A dateless bargain to
 engrossing death! Come, bitter conduct; come, unsavoury
 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! Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a
 kiss I die. Falls.

Enter Friar [Laurence], with lanthorn, crow, and spade.

Friar. Saint Francis be my speed! how oft to-night Have
 my old feet stumbled at graves! Who's there? Bal. Here's one, a
 friend, and one that knows you well. Friar. Bliss be upon you! Tell
 me, good my friend, What torch is yond that vainly lends his
 light To grubs and eyeless skulls? As I discern, It
 burneth in the Capels' monument. Bal. It doth so, holy sir; and
 there's my master, One that you love. Friar. Who is it? Bal.
 Romeo. Friar. How long hath he been there? Bal. Full half
 an hour. Friar. Go with me to the vault. Bal. I dare not, sir. Bal.
 My master knows not but I am gone hence, And fearfully
 did menace me with death If I did stay to look on his intents. Friar.
 Stay then; I'll go alone. Fear comes upon me. O, much
 I fear some ill unthrifty thing. Bal. As I did sleep under this yew tree
 here, I dreamt my master and another fought, And that
 my master slew him. Friar. Romeo! Alack, alack, what
 blood is this which stains The stony entrance of this sepulchre?
 What mean these masterless and gory swords To lie

discolour'd by this place of peace? [Enters the tomb.] Â Â Â Â Romeo!
O, pale! Who else? What, Paris too? Â Â Â Â And steep'd in blood? Ah,
what an unkind hour Â Â Â Â Is guilty of this lamentable chance! The
lady stirs. Â
Â Juliet rises.
Â Â Jul. O comfortable friar! where is my lord? Â Â Â Â I do remember
well where I should be, Â Â Â Â And there I am. Where is my Romeo?
Â Â Friar. I hear some noise. Lady, come from that nest Â Â Â Â Of
death, contagion, and unnatural sleep. Â Â Â Â A greater power than we
can contradict Â Â Â Â Hath thwarted our intents. Come, come away. Â
Â Â Â Thy husband in thy bosom there lies dead; Â Â Â Â And Paris
too. Come, I'll dispose of thee Â Â Â Â Among a sisterhood of holy
nuns. Â Â Â Â Stay not to question, for the watch is coming. Â Â Â Â
Come, go, good Juliet. I dare no longer stay. Â Â Jul. Go, get thee hence,
for I will not away. Â
Â Exit [Friar].
Â Â Â Â What's here? A cup, clos'd in my true love's hand?
Â Â Â Â Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end. Â Â Â Â O churl!
drunk all, and left no friendly drop Â Â Â Â To help me after? I will kiss
thy lips. Â Â Â Â Haply some poison yet doth hang on them Â Â Â Â To
make me die with a restorative. [Kisses him.] Â Â Â Â Thy lips are
warm! Â Â Chief Watch. [within] Lead, boy. Which way? Â Â Â Â Yea,
noise? Then I'll be brief. O happy dagger! Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â
Â [Snatches
Romeo's dagger.] Â Â Â Â This is thy sheath; there rest, and let me die.
Â She stabs herself and falls [on
Romeo's body].

Enter [Paris's] Boy and Watch.

Â Â Boy. This is the place. There, where the torch doth burn. Â Â Chief
 Watch. 'the ground is bloody. Search about the churchyard. Â Â Â Â Go,
 some of you; whoe'er you find attach. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â

Enter some of the Watch. Enter Pitiful sight! here lies the County slain; Juliet bleeding, warm, and newly dead, Who here hath lain this two days buried. Go, tell the Prince; run to the Capulets; Raise up the Montagues; some others search. Enter others of the Watch. We see the ground whereon these woes do lie, But the true ground of all these piteous woes We cannot without circumstance descry.

Enter [some of the Watch,] with Romeo's Man [Balthasar].

2. Watch. Here's Romeo's man. We found him in the churchyard. Chief Watch. Hold him in safety till the Prince come hither.

Enter Friar [Laurence] and another Watchman.

3. Watch. Here is a friar that trembles, sighs, and weeps. We took this mattock and this spade from him As he was coming from this churchyard side. Chief Watch. A great suspicion! Stay the friar too.

Enter the Prince [and Attendants].

Prince. What misadventure is so early up, That calls our person from our morning rest?

Enter Capulet and his Wife [with others].

Cap. What should it be, that they so shriek abroad? Wife. The people in the street cry 'Romeo,' Some 'Juliet,' and some 'Paris'; and all run, With open outcry, toward our monument. Prince. What fear is this which startles in our ears? Chief Watch. Sovereign, here lies the County Paris slain; And Romeo dead; and Juliet, dead before, Warm and new kill'd. Prince. Search, seek, and know how this foul murder comes. Chief Watch.

Here is a friar, and slaughter'd Romeo's man, With instruments
upon them fit to open These dead men's tombs. Cap. O
heavens! O wife, look how our daughter bleeds! This dagger
hath mista'en, for, lo, his house Is empty on the back of
Montague, And it missheathed in my daughter's bosom! Wife.
O me! this sight of death is as a bell That warns my old
age to a sepulchre.

Enter Montague [and others].

Prince. Come, Montague; for thou art early up To see thy
son and heir more early down. Mon. Alas, my liege, my wife is dead
to-night! Grief of my son's exile hath stopp'd her breath. What
further woe conspires against mine age? Prince. Look, and
thou shalt see. Mon. O thou untaught! what manners is in this, To
press before thy father to a grave? Prince. Seal up the mouth
of outrage for a while, Till we can clear these ambiguities And
know their spring, their head, their true descent; And
then will I be general of your woes And lead you even to death.
Meantime forbear, And let mischance be slave to patience. Bring
forth the parties of suspicion. Friar. I am the greatest,
able to do least, Yet most suspected, as the time and place Doth
make against me, of this direful murther; And here I
stand, both to impeach and purge Myself condemned and
myself excus'd. Prince. Then say at once what thou dost know in
this. Friar. I will be brief, for my short date of breath Is not
so long as is a tedious tale. Romeo, there dead, was husband to
that Juliet; And she, there dead, that Romeo's faithful wife. I
married them; and their stol'n marriage day Was Tybalt's
doomsday, whose untimely death Banish'd the new-made
bridegroom from this city; For whom, and not for Tybalt, Juliet
pin'd. You, to remove that siege of grief from her, Betroth'd
and would have married her perforce To County

Paris. Then comes she to me And with wild looks bid me devise
 some mean To rid her from this second marriage, Or
 in my cell there would she kill herself. Then gave I her (so
 tutored by my art) A sleeping potion; which so took effect
 As I intended, for it wrought on her The form of death.
 Meantime I writ to Romeo That he should hither come as this
 dire night To help to take her from her borrowed grave,
 Being the time the potion's force should cease. But he which
 bore my letter, Friar John, Was stay'd by accident, and
 yesternight Return'd my letter back. Then all alone At
 the prefixed hour of her waking Came I to take her from her
 kindred's vault; Meaning to keep her closely at my cell
 Till I conveniently could send to Romeo. But when I came,
 some minute ere the time Of her awaking, here untimely lay
 The noble Paris and true Romeo dead. She wakes; and I
 entreated her come forth And bear this work of heaven with
 patience; But then a noise did scare me from the tomb,
 And she, too desperate, would not go with me, But, as it
 seems, did violence on herself. All this I know, and to the
 marriage Her nurse is privy; and if aught in this
 Miscarried by my fault, let my old life Be sacrific'd, some hour
 before his time, Unto the rigour of severest law. Prince.
 We still have known thee for a holy man. Where's Romeo's
 man? What can he say in this? Bal. I brought my master news of
 Juliet's death; And then in post he came from Mantua
 To this same place, to this same monument. This letter he early
 bid me give his father, And threat'ned me with death, going in
 the vault, If I departed not and left him there. Prince. Give
 me the letter. I will look on it. Where is the County's page that
 rais'd the watch? Sirrah, what made your master in this place?
 Boy. He came with flowers to strew his lady's grave; And
 bid me stand aloof, and so I did. Anon comes one with light to

ope the tomb; And by-and-by my master drew on him; And
And then I ran away to call the watch. Prince. This letter doth
make good the friar's words, Their course of love, the tidings of
her death; And here he writes that he did buy a poison And
Of a poor pothecary, and therewithal And Came to this vault to die,
and lie with Juliet. And Where be these enemies? Capulet,
Montague, And See what a scourge is laid upon your hate, And
That heaven finds means to kill your joys with love! And And I, for
winking at you, discords too, And Have lost a brace of kinsmen. All
are punish'd. Cap. O brother Montague, give me thy hand. And
This is my daughter's jointure, for no more And Can I demand. And
Mon. But I can give thee more; And For I will raise her statue in
pure gold, And That whiles Verona by that name is known, And
There shall no figure at such rate be set And As that of true and
faithful Juliet. And Cap. As rich shall Romeo's by his lady's lie- And
Poor sacrifices of our enmity! And Prince. A glooming peace this
morning with it brings. And The sun for sorrow will not show his
head. And Go hence, to have more talk of these sad things; And
Some shall be pardon'd, and some punished; And For never was a
story of more woe And Than this of Juliet and her Romeo. And
Exeunt omnes.

End of this Etext of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare The
Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet