

Go, sirrah, 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.

I am sent to find those persons
Whose names are here writ. . .
I must to the learned.

Do you bite your
thumb at us, sir?

In the ancient Italian city of Verona, Lord Capulet was planning a party. He was sure no members of the Montague family would turn up, as the Capulets and Montagues had been feuding for years. The quarrel ran so deep that even their servants fought. But Lord Capulet was wrong.

Is love a tender thing? It is too rough,
Too rude, too boisterous; and it pricks like thorn.

Did my heart love
till now?

Romeo, Lord Montague's son, and Mercutio,
his friend, *did* come—in disguise. Romeo was
infatuated with Lord Capulet's niece, Rosaline.

However, Romeo forgot all about Rosaline
when he saw Lord Capulet's sweet young
daughter, Juliet. Her beauty stole his heart.

Uncle, this is
a Montague!
Young Romeo, is it?
O! She doth
teach the
torches to burn
bright.

'Tis a
shame.
He shall be endur'd.
A snowy dove
trooping with crows.

The only
son of your
great enemy.
My only love
sprung
from my
only
hate!

Unfortunately, Romeo was
recognized by Lord Capulet's
fiery nephew, Tybalt.

But Lord Capulet forbade
fighting at his ball and
made Romeo welcome.

So Romeo wooed Juliet and
soon their love was mutual,
despite the feud.

Will you
be my
Juliet?

No!

He loves her.

Go on!
Kiss her.

Nuts
for sale!
Eat my
fine
nuts!

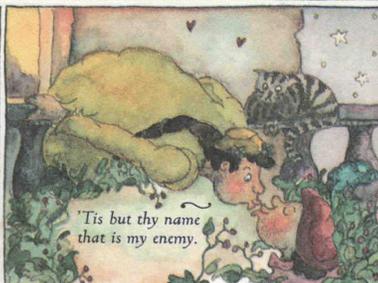
And
her
only 13.



As the party ended, Juliet ran to her balcony to declare her love for Romeo to the stars.



Romeo risked death by climbing the Capulets' orchard wall to see Juliet.



That night, the loving pair agreed to wed in secret, lest their feuding families part them.



As dawn broke, and Juliet's nurse finally got her to bed, Romeo raced to Friar Lawrence.



The friar agreed to marry the sweethearts, hoping this would unite the families.



Later that morning, Juliet joined Romeo at the chapel, and the happy pair were wed.



Then Romeo and Juliet parted, as they knew they must, until Friar Lawrence had broken the news to their families.



On the way home, Romeo met his good friends Benvolio and Mercutio, who were being harangued by Tybalt for consorting with a Montague.



Romeo, now related to Tybalt by his marriage, tried to prevent a fight, but failed.



Tybalt and Mercutio's swords clashed and Mercutio fell dead.



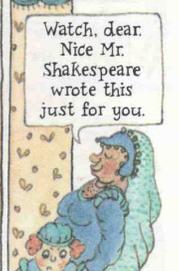
Provoked by his friend's death, Romeo struck Tybalt a fatal blow.



Soppy nonsense!



Yes, dear.



Watch, dear. Nice Mr. Shakespeare wrote this just for you.



Boring.



Well done, boys, nice deaths.



Hey, get that bear off there.



Is he really dead, Murn?





Let Romeo hence
in haste.

The prince of Verona was tired of the feuding families disturbing the peace, so when he heard of the deaths, he banished Romeo.



O serpent heart.

Unhappy Juliet! Her cousin killed by Romeo and Romeo exiled! What could Romeo do but go and beg her forgiveness—and say farewell?



I must be gone.



Stay yet. 'Tis morn. It is not near.



The lark. The nightingale.



Daylight! A meteor.



I'll stay and die. Be gone.



Farewell.



I would that Thursday were tomorrow.

Prepare her, wife.

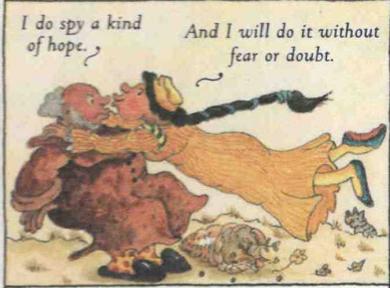
Ho! Daughter.

Not until morning did the lovers part, hoping that soon Friar Lawrence could secure a pardon for Romeo and pacify their families.

But Lord Capulet, thinking to comfort Juliet after Tybalt's death, told her faithful suitor, Paris, that they could marry on Thursday.

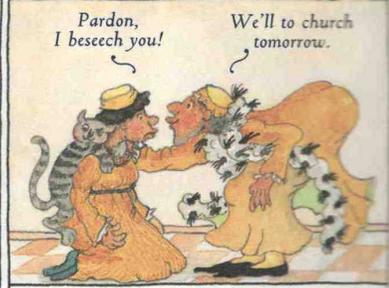


God's bread! It makes me mad.



I do spy a kind of hope.

And I will do it without fear or doubt.



Pardon, I beseech you!

We'll to church tomorrow.

Horrified, Juliet rejected the plan, but dared not reveal her marriage to Romeo.

Juliet ran to Friar Lawrence for help, and in desperation, they agreed to a devious plot.

Accordingly, Juliet went home and, to her father's joy, agreed to marry Paris.



What if it be poison?



Slug-a-bed.

Bride!



Lady! Lady!



Help! My lady's dead.



Before the wedding, Juliet took a drug so as to appear dead for forty-two hours.

When Juliet's nurse tried to wake her, she seemed quite lifeless.

So, amid deep mourning, the wedding party became a funeral procession.



How could she?



Her poor nurse.



Put a sock in it.

Discipline is what she needs.

Silly kids!



O lamentable day.

Alack the day.

Juliet was carried to the family burial vault, from where, according to the friar's plan, Romeo would rescue her.



Pardon me for bringing these ill news.

Is it even so?

Romeo, mate, it's not true.

But the friar's letter, telling Romeo of the scheme, went astray. A messenger told Romeo the false news of Juliet's sudden "death."



O, I am slain.

I will go call the watch.

I'll bury thee in a triumphant grave.

Romeo bought poison and went to the tomb. There he found Paris, who in his misery, attacked Romeo, who slew him in defence.



Romeo! Alack, alack.

We are not happy.

Then Romeo gave Juliet a kiss and drank the poison. Just too late, Friar Lawrence arrived, now aware that his letter had not reached Romeo.



What an unkind hour.

As the friar cried out in horror, Juliet awoke to see Romeo, lifeless beside her.



O happy dagger.

I dare no longer stay.

Hearing voices approach, the friar fled. But Juliet, unable to imagine life without Romeo, took up his dagger and, stabbing herself, fell dead upon her husband's body.



Poor sacrifices of our enmity.

For never was a story of more woe Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.

I thought this was a romance. It's a bloomin' tragedy.

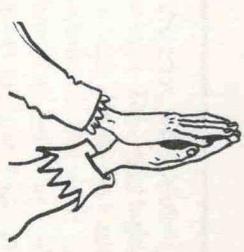
When the families of the Montagues and Capulets arrived upon this tragic scene, they were grief stricken at the consequences of their vendetta. Lord Capulet and Lord Montague vowed to raise a golden statue to each other's child. Thus they buried their feud, along with their precious children, Romeo and his sweet Juliet.



Who let that dog in?

I bet they can't recall the cause of the feud.

So true.

Act	What happens?	Day	Important quotes -fill in your own ideas
ACT 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riot • Paris asks to marry Juliet • Party. Romeo and Juliet meet • Balcony Scene 	SUNDAY	<p>'My only love sprung from my only hate! Too early seen unknown, and known too late! (Juliet: Act 1, scene 5, lines 137-8)</p> 
ACT 2/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friar agrees to marry Romeo and Juliet • Tybalt challenges Romeo • Romeo and Juliet marry • Tybalt kills Mercutio • Romeo kills Tybalt • Romeo banished • Romeo and Juliet spend night together 	MONDAY	<p>'... O sweet Juliet, Thy beauty hath made me effeminate. (Romeo: Act 3, scene 1, lines 104-5)</p> 
ACT 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romeo leaves • Lord Capulet insists Juliet marry Paris on Thursday • Friar's plan to pretend Juliet dead • Lord Capulet brings wedding forward to Wednesday • Juliet takes potion 	TUESDAY	<p>'Hark thee, young baggage, disobedient wretch! I tell thee what, get thee to church a Thursday, Or never after look me in the face. (Lord Capulet: Act 3, scene 5, lines 160-2)</p> 
ACT 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juliet found 'dead' 	WEDNESDAY	<p>'O son, the night before thy wedding day Halt Death in with thy wife.' (Lord Capulet: Act 4, scene 5, lines 35-6)</p> 
ACT 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning • Romeo learns of Juliet's 'death', buys poison and travels to Verona • Night • Friar finds out his letter to Romeo was not delivered • Romeo arrives at Capulet tomb • Romeo kills Paris and then himself • Juliet wakes, refuses to go with Friar, and kills herself • Prince Capulet and Lord Montague arrive 	THURSDAY	<p>'Capulet, Montague? See what a scourge is laid upon your hate, That heaven finds means to kill your joys with love! (Prince Escalus: Act 5, scene 3, lines 291-3)</p> 