

ROMEO AND JULIET BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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Abstract: Romeo and Juliet is a play by William Shakespeare, written around 1594–1596. The play has been shown in many ways, like in books, songs, dances, and plays. Romeo and Juliet are seen as the classic example of lovers facing tough fate. The play happens in Verona and tells the tale of a big fight between two families, the Montagues and the Capulets. This fight leads to sad endings for Romeo and Juliet, the main characters. The story shows how love and a hidden wedding stand against hate and payback. It makes Romeo and Juliet, who are deeply in love but are from rival families, become mature fast and sadly die feeling hopeless.

Key words: tragedy, mutual love, secret marriage, youth, family obligations, conflict, death.

Аннотация: «Ромео и Джульетта» — пьеса Уильяма Шекспира, написанная примерно в 1594–1596 годах. Спектакль был показан разными способами: в книгах, песнях, танцах и пьесах. Ромео и Джульетта считаются классическим примером влюбленных, столкнувшихся с трудной судьбой. Действие пьесы происходит в Вероне и рассказывает историю большой битвы между двумя семьями, Монтекки и Капулетти. Эта борьба приводит к печальному финалу для главных героев Ромео и Джульетты. История показывает, как любовь и тайная свадьба противостоят ненависти и расплате. Это заставляет Ромео и Джульетту, которые глубоко влюблены, но происходят из конкурирующих семей, быстро взрослеть и, к сожалению, умирать, чувствуя себя безнадежно.

Ключевые слова: трагедия, взаимная любовь, тайный брак, молодость, конфликт, смерть.

So'z boshi: Romeo va Julietta - Uilyam Shekspirning 1594-1596 yillarda yozilgan pyesasi. Spektakl ko'p jihatdan taqdim etilgan: kitoblarda, qo'shiqlarda, raqslarda va spektakllarda. Romeo va Julietta qiyin taqdirga duch kelgan sevishtanlarning klassik namunasi hisoblanadi. Spektakl Veronada bo'lib o'tadi va ikki oila Montague va Kapulets o'rtasidagi buyuk jang haqida hikoya qiladi. Bu kurash bosh qahramonlar Romeo va Juliettaning ayanchli yakuniga olib keladi. Hikoya sevgi va yashirin to'yning nafrat va qasosga qanday qarshi turishini ko'rsatadi. Bu esa bir-biriga

qattiq muhabbat qo‘ygan, lekin bir-biriga qarama-qarshi oilalardan chiqqan Romeo va Julietaning tez ulg‘ayishiga va, afsuski, umidsiz holda vafot etishiga sabab bo‘ladi.

Kalit so‘zlar: fojia, o‘zaro sevgi, yashirin nikoh, yoshlik, ziddiyat, o‘lim.

Romeo and Juliet, a tragic play penned by William Shakespeare between 1591-1595, stands as one of his most beloved and often staged works. The love story of Romeo and Juliet has inspired countless romantic works and cemented the titular characters as the most iconic young lovers in literature. Shakespeare drew inspiration from earlier tales but added his own twists and depth to craft his unique rendition of the renowned narrative.

The play is set in Verona, Italy, and begins with a scuffle between members the rival families Montague and Capulet. The two families are sworn enemies. The beginning scuffle is between servants of those two houses, and shows that the ill will and animosity of the families runs through the families from the primary members of the family down to their servants.

The story takes place in Verona, Italy, and starts with a fight between members of the feuding Montague and Capulet families. These two households are deeply hostile towards each other. The initial brawl involves the servants of both families, highlighting how the hatred and hostility between them extend from the main family members to their servants.

Capulet, the patriarch of the Capulet household, has started receiving suitors interested in his young daughter, Juliet. Although he asks Count Paris, a relative of Prince Escalus of Verona, to wait two years before their engagement, he invites him to a party at the Capulet residence. Juliet's mother and nurse try to persuade Juliet that marrying Paris would be advantageous. On the Montague side, Romeo, the son of Montague, confides in his cousin Benvolio about his recent sadness. Romeo is heartbroken over his unrequited love for a Capulet relative named Rosaline. Despite the risks of attending a Capulet party, Romeo goes in hopes of winning Rosaline's affection. However, he ends up falling in love with Juliet instead. When Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, learns that Romeo has been at the party, he becomes hostile towards him. Capulet, Juliet's father, intervenes, not wanting violence to erupt in his household.

Following their initial encounter, Juliet confesses her love for Romeo in secret while he listens from below her balcony. They express their desires for a future together and agree to marry the next day with the help of Friar Laurence, who hopes their union will bring peace between their feuding families. Meanwhile, Tybalt, still furious, seeks out Romeo and challenges him to a duel. However, Romeo refuses to fight, believing Tybalt is now family due to his recent marriage to Juliet. Romeo's friend Mercutio steps in to duel on his behalf and is fatally wounded. Overwhelmed with guilt and sorrow, Romeo finally confronts and kills Tybalt. Despite Montague's plea for leniency, the

Prince banishes Romeo from Verona under the threat of death. Romeo spends the night in Juliet's chamber, where they consummate their marriage.

Capulet tries to force Juliet into marrying Paris, but she refuses, much to his disappointment. Her pleas to delay the marriage with her mother are ignored. Returning to Friar Laurence for assistance, Juliet obtains a potion that will make her appear as if she's in a deathlike state. The Friar assures Juliet that he will send a messenger to inform Romeo, and after she is placed in the family tomb, she can escape with him. Tragically, the message fails to reach Romeo, and instead, he hears of Juliet's "death" from his servant. He buys poison and goes to her tomb, where he encounters Paris. A fight breaks out, resulting in Romeo killing Paris before drinking the poison himself. When Juliet awakens to find Romeo dead beside her, she decides to end her own life by stabbing herself with a dagger. The two rival families arrive at the tomb to find the lovers and Paris all deceased. In their grief, they are finally led towards reconciliation by Friar Laurence.

Themes

Love and suffering

In *Romeo and Juliet*, love is depicted not as the serene and idealized state we often envision, but rather as chaotic and perilous, closely associated with violence in both speech and action. This is most evident in the tragic climax of the story, where the "star-crossed lovers" choose to end their own lives. Shakespeare illustrates that love inherently involves turmoil in both its physical and emotional manifestations by linking it with pain and death. Throughout the play, *Romeo and Juliet*, there are numerous instances illustrating the intertwining of love and violence. For instance, after their secret marriage, Juliet describes the intensity of the passion she anticipates sharing with Romeo as a "petite mort," a term signifying a sexual climax in Elizabethan times. Additionally, when Romeo learns of Juliet's desire for him to no longer be a Montague, he symbolically offers to discard his identity by tearing up a piece of paper with his name on it. Furthermore, Juliet even threatens to take her own life when faced with the prospect of marrying Paris, demonstrating the extremes of love's intensity, which can lead to peril and death. Shakespeare implies that love is inherently tumultuous and unsettling, and its expression often involves elements of violence and danger.

Fate and fortune

In *Romeo and Juliet*, there are numerous mentions of destiny and fortune, suggesting that humans are bound by a cosmic plan beyond their control, and any efforts to resist it are futile. The play underscores the idea that people's decisions and behaviors are ultimately shaped by forces larger than themselves. In the world of *Romeo and Juliet*, fate and destiny are acknowledged as integral aspects of existence. The chorus opens the play by introducing a somber tone, hinting at a foreboding destiny looming over the unfolding events. While the characters recognize the unseen

influences governing their lives, they still attempt to defy them, often with catastrophic consequences. For instance, Juliet's lament, "Alack, alack, that heaven should practice stratagems / Upon so soft a subject as myself," reflects her belief that fate has singled her out for suffering. Despite this awareness, she persistently endeavors to challenge fate's grip, even though she realizes she is merely a pawn in its grand design. Shakespeare presents a bleak perspective on fate, suggesting that attempting to resist one's predetermined path can lead to disastrous outcomes, regardless of whether fate is perceived as omnipotent or not.

Family obligations

The love between Romeo and Juliet is forbidden due to the ongoing feud between their families, the Capulets and Montagues. While the root cause of the conflict remains undisclosed, it's evident that both sides are driven by a desire to inflict harm on the other. Romeo and Juliet are pressured to remain loyal to their respective families, but as their love deepens and encounters resistance from their kin, the play suggests that parental demands for unwavering allegiance are likely to result in tragedy. Romeo and Juliet serves as a cautionary tale about the repercussions of parents disregarding and failing to respect their children's wishes. The Prince's declaration, "See what a scourge is laid upon your hate [...] All are punished," highlights the devastation wrought by adults ignoring their children's desires. By expecting their offspring to perpetuate their long-standing feud, the older generation brings immense suffering upon their families and communities alike. Shakespeare's message is clear: both parents and children have a responsibility to one another, and by neglecting this mutual obligation, the adults in the play ultimately invite disaster upon themselves.

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