Romeo & Juliet
Act 1, scene 1: Lady Montague, Benvolio, Romeo

## LADY MONTAGUE

O, where is Romeo? saw you him to-day?

## **BENVOLIO**

Madam, 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.

## **LADY MONTAGUE**

Many a morning hath he there been seen, with tears, Adding to clouds more clouds with his deep sighs.

# **BENVOLIO**

My noble madam, do you know the cause?

# **LADY MONTAGUE**

I neither know it nor can learn of him.

## **BENVOLIO**

Have you importuned him by any means?

## LADY MONTAGUE

Both by myself and many other friends: But he Is to himself.

[Enter ROMEO]

## **BENVOLIO**

See, where he comes: so please you, step aside; I'll know his grievance, or be much denied.

## **LADY MONTAGUE**

I'll away.
[Exit LADY MONTAGUE]

## **BENVOLIO**

Good-morrow, cousin.

## **ROMEO**

Is the day so young? Ay me! sad hours seem long. Was that my mother that went hence so fast?

# **BENVOLIO**

It was. What sadness lengthens Romeo's hours? In love?

## **ROMEO**

Out—

# **BENVOLIO**

Of love?

# **ROMEO**

In sadness, cousin, I do love a woman.

# **BENVOLIO**

Be ruled by me, forget to think of her.

# **ROMEO**

O, teach me how I should forget to think!

# **BENVOLIO**

Examine other beauties!

## **ROMEO**

Farewell: thou canst not teach me to forget.

# **BENVOLIO**

I'll pay that doctrine, or else die in debt.

# Romeo & Juliet Act 1, scene 3: Lady Capulet, the Nurse, Juliet

## **LADY CAPULET**

Nurse, where's my daughter? call her forth to me!

#### **NURSE**

Now, at twelve year old, I bade her come. What, Juliet! God forbid! Where's this girl? What, Juliet!

(Enter JULIET)

# **JULIET**

How now! who calls?

#### NURSE

Your MOTHER.

## **JULIET**

Madam, I am here. What is your will?

## **LADY CAPULET**

This is the matter:--Nurse, give leave awhile, We must talk in secret:--NURSE, come back again! Thou know'st my daughter's of a pretty age. Faith, I can tell her age unto an hour. She's fourteen.

#### NURSE

She is - NOT fourteen.

### LADY CAPULET

Enough of this! I pray thee, hold thy peace.

## **NURSE**

Peace, I have done. [to Juliet] An I might live to see thee married once, I have my wish.

## LADY CAPULET

That is the very theme I came to talk of. Tell me, daughter Juliet, how stands your disposition to be married?

## **JULIET**

It is an honour - that I dream not of.

#### **NURSE**

An honour!

## **LADY CAPULET**

Well, 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.

#### LADY CAPULET

Verona's summer hath not such a flower.

## **NURSE**

Nay, he's a FLOWER; in faith, a very flower!!

[exit]

## **LADY CAPULET**

What say you? can you love the gentleman? This night you shall behold him at our feast; Speak briefly, can you like of Paris' love?

# **JULIET**

I'll look to like, if looking liking move. (Re-enter Nurse)

## **NURSE**

Madam! the guests are come, I must hence to wait; I beseech you, follow straight.

## **LADY CAPULET**

We follow thee. Juliet!?!? The county stays!

[exit]

# **NURSE**

Go, girl, seek happy nights to happy day!

# Romeo & Juliet Act 1, scene 4: Romeo, Mercutio, Benvolio

#### **ROMEO**

Give me a torch: I am not for this ambling; Being but heavy, I will bear the light.

## **MERCUTIO**

Nay, gentle Romeo, we must have you dance!

## **ROMEO**

Not I, I have a soul of lead.

## **BENVOLIO**

You are a lover; borrow Cupid's wings, and soar!

## **ROMEO**

Under love's heavy burden do I sink.

#### **MERCUTIO**

And, to sink in it? Too great oppression for a tender thing.

#### ROMEO

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

## **MERCUTIO**

If love be rough with you, be rough with love!

#### **BENVOLIO**

Prick love for pricking and you beat love down!

## **ROMEO**

The game was never so fair, and I am done.

#### **BENVOLIO**

We mean well in going to this mask...

#### **ROMEO**

I dream'd a dream to-night...

## **MERCUTIO**

And so did I!

## **ROMEO**

Well, what was yours?

## **MERCUTIO**

That dreamers often lie!

## **ROMEO**

In bed asleep, while they do dream things true!

#### **MERCUTIO**

O, then, I see Queen Mab hath been with you. She is the fairies' midwife and she gallops night by night through lovers' brains, and then they dream of love; This is she—

#### **ROMEO**

Peace, peace, Mercutio, peace! Thou talk'st of nothing.

#### **MERCUTIO**

True, I talk of dreams, which are the children of an idle brain...

## **BENVOLIO**

Supper is done, and we shall come too late.

## **ROMEO**

I fear, too early: for my mind misgives some consequence yet hanging in the stars...

[Mercutio and Benvolio guff, making complaining noises]

But, on, lusty gentleman!

# **BENVOLIO and MERCUTIO**

Strike, drum!

# Romeo & Juliet Act 2, scene 2: Romeo, Juliet

### **ROMEO**

But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!

## **JULIET**

O Romeo, Romeo! wherefore art thou Romeo?

## **ROMEO**

Shall I hear more, or shall I speak at this?

## **JULIET**

What's in a name? that which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.

(Romeo steps forward to Juliet)

What man art thou?

## **ROMEO**

My name is hateful to myself, because it is an enemy to thee.

## **JULIET**

Art thou not Romeo and a Montague?

This is the place death, if any of my kinsmen find thee here.

## **ROMEO**

Alack, there lies more peril in thine eye than twenty of their swords.

# **JULIET**

Dost thou love me? O gentle Romeo, pronounce it faithfully.

## **ROMEO**

If my heart's dear love-

## **JULIET**

Well, do not swear: It is too rash, too sudden; Good night, good night!

## **ROMEO**

O, wilt thou leave me so unsatisfied?

## **JULIET**

What satisfaction canst thou have to-night?

## **ROMEO**

The exchange of thy love's faithful vow for mine.

# **JULIET**

Good night, good night! parting is such sweet sorrow, That I shall say good night till it be morrow.

## **ROMEO**

Sleep dwell upon thine eyes, so sweet to rest!

# Romeo & Juliet

Act 2, scene 3: Friar Laurence, Romeo

### **ROMEO**

Good morrow, father.

#### FRIAR LAURENCE

Benedicite! What early tongue so sweet saluteth me? Our Romeo hath not been in bed to-night!

## **ROMEO**

That last is true; the sweeter rest was mine.

## FRIAR LAURENCE

God pardon sin! wast thou with Rosaline?

#### ROMEO

With Rosaline, my ghostly father? no; I have forgot that name, and that name's woe.

#### FRIAR LAURENCE

That's my good son: but where hast thou been, then?

#### **ROMEO**

Plainly know my heart's dear love is set on the fair daughter of rich Capulet.

#### FRIAR LAURENCE

HOLY SAINT FRANCIS! what a change is here! Young men's love then lies not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes. And art thou changed? Pronounce this sentence then, women may fall, when there's no strength in men.

## **ROMEO**

I pray thee, she whom I love now doth grace for grace and love for love allow; the other did not so.

#### FRIAR LAURENCE

But come, come, go with me! In one respect I'll thy assistant be; For this alliance may so happy prove, to turn your households' **rancor** to **pure love**.

## **ROMEO**

O, let us hence! I stand on sudden haste!

## FRIAR LAURENCE

Wisely and slow... they stumble that run fast!

Romeo & Juliet
Act 2, scene 5: Juliet, the Nurse

# **JULIET**

I did send the nurse to him, and in half an hour she promised to return...O God, she comes!

(Enter the Nurse, gasping and panting)
O honey nurse, what news? Hast thou met with him? O Lord, why look'st thou sad?

## **NURSE**

I am a-weary, give me leave awhile: Fie, how my bones ache!

## **JULIET**

Nay, come, I pray thee, speak; good, good nurse, speak.

## **NURSE**

Jesu, what haste? 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? 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... What, have you dined at home?

# **JULIET**

No, no: What says he of our marriage? What of that?

## **NURSE**

Lord, how my head aches!,--O, my back, my back!

# **JULIET**

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 kind, and a handsome, --Where is your mother?

## **JULIET**

Where is my mother! Why, she is within; Where should she be?

## **NURSE**

Are you so hot? Henceforward do your messages yourself!

## **JULIET**

Come, come, what says Romeo?

# **NURSE**

Have you got leave to go to church today?

# **JULIET**

I have!!!

# **NURSE**

Then get you to Friar Laurence' cell; There stays a **husband** to make you a **wife!!** To church!

# **JULIET**

To high fortune!

# Romeo & Juliet

Act 3, scene 1: Benvolio, Mercutio, Tybalt, Romeo

## **BENVOLIO**

I Pray thee good Mercutio, let's retire. For now these hot days is the mad blood stirring.

[Enter Tybalt]

## **TYBALT**

Good den: a word with you.

## **MERCUTIO**

And but one word? Couple it with something; make it a word and a blow!

### **TYBALT**

Mercutio, thou consort'st with Romeo,--

## **BENVOLIO**

Peace! We talk here in the public haunt of men and all eyes gaze on us.

[Enter ROMEO]

#### **TYBALT**

Peace be with you sir, here comes my man. Romeo, thou art a villain!

#### **ROMEO**

Tybalt, the reason that I have to *love* thee Doth much excuse the rage to such a greeting: villain am I none..

#### **TYBALT**

BOY! This shall not excuse the injuries thou hast done me!

## **MERCUTIO**

[to Romeo, pushing him out of the way] **O calm, dishonourable, vile submission!** Tybalt, you rat-catcher, will you walk?

#### **TYBALT**

What wouldst thou have with me?

#### **MERCUTIO**

Good king of cats, nothing but one of your nine lives!

## **TYBALT**

I am for you.

## **ROMEO**

Mercutio, put thy rapier up!

#### **MERCUTIO**

Come, sir!

#### ROMEO and BENVOLIO

[shouting] Tybalt! Hold! Hold, Mercutio! Hold! [TYBALT under ROMEO's armCUT MERCUTIO, and runs out]

#### **MERCUTIO**

I am hurt. A plague o' both your houses! 'Why the devil came you between us? I was hurt under your arm!

## **ROMEO**

I thought all for the best.

### **MERCUTIO**

A PLAGUE ON BOTH YOUR HOUSES. [MERCUTIO dies]

## **BENVOLIO**

Oh Romeo! Brave Mercutio is dead! [Re-enter TYBALT]
Here comes the furious Tybalt back again!

## **ROMEO**

Now, Tybalt, for Mercutio's soul is but a little way above our heads...either thou, or I, or both, must go with him.

## **TYBALT**

Thou, wretched boy shalt with him hence! [They fight; ROMEO stabs TYBALT & he dies]

#### **ROMEO**

O, I am fortune's fool!

## **BENVOLIO**

Why dost thou stay?

# Romeo & Juliet Act 5, scene 3: Romeo, Juliet, the Prince

#### **ROMEO**

Ah, dear Juliet, why art thou yet so fair? Here, here will I remain, O, here will I set up my everlasting rest. Eyes, look your last!

Here's to my love! [*Drinks*] O true apothecary-thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.

## **JULIET**

What's here? a cup, closed in my true love's hand? Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end:

What, noise? then I'll be brief. O happy dagger!

[Snatching ROMEO's dagger, Stabs herself] There rest, and let me die.

## **PRINCE**

A glooming peace this morning with it brings; The sun, for sorrow, will not show his head:

Go hence, to have more talk of these sad things; Some shall be pardon'd, and some punished:

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

# Romeo & Juliet Prince Escalus Soliloquy

Rebellious subjects, enemies to peace, What, ho! you men, you beasts, 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 have thrice disturbed the quiet of our streets. 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 further pleasure in this case, to old Free-town, our common judgment-place.

Once more, on pain of death, all men depart!

Romeo & Juliet
Prologue Soliloquy

Two households, both alike in dignity, in fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.

From forth the fatal loins of these two foes a pair of star-crossed lovers take their life;

Whose misadventured piteous overthrows do with their death bury their parents' strife.

The fearful passage of their death-mark'd love, and the continuance of their parents' rage, which, but their children's end, nought could remove, Is now the 25 minutes' traffic of our stage;

The which if you with patient ears attend, What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.

# Romeo & Juliet Juliet's Gallop Apace Soliloquy

Gallop apace, you fiery-footed steeds, towards Phoebus' lodging; bring in cloudy night immediately, and Romeo may leap to these arms, untalked of and unseen.

Come, Romeo; come, thou day in night; For thou wilt lie upon the wings of night whiter than new snow on a raven's back.

Come, gentle night, come and 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.