

Click to prove  
you're human





















## Romeo and juliet act 3 scene 2 analysis

Romeo and Juliet are the star-crossed lovers at the center of this tragic tale. Their families, the Montagues and Capulets, have a long-standing feud, but when Romeo and his friends attend a party at the Capulets' house in disguise, the two fall deeply in love. They decide to marry in secret, with a friar hoping to end the feud between their families. Romeo's friend Mercutio is killed by Juliet's cousin Tybalt after Romeo refuses to fight him, leading to Romeo killing Tybalt and being banished from Verona. Meanwhile, Juliet's father forces her into a marriage with Count Paris, but she takes a potion to appear dead in order to avoid the union. The plan goes awry when Romeo learns that Juliet is actually dead, not just appearing so, and he kills himself in her tomb. Juliet wakes up to find Romeo's body and joins him in death, finally ending the long-standing feud between their families. Friar Lawrence agrees to marry Romeo and Juliet, hoping it may end their families' feud. In Act 2, scenes 4-6, Mercutio and Benvolio meet the enthusiastic Romeo, who outwits Mercutio in a mental duel. The Nurse finds Romeo and delivers his message to Juliet: they are to be married at Friar Lawrence's cell that afternoon. However, when the Nurse returns, she is slow to deliver the message, causing Juliet's impatience to grow. In Act 3, scene 1, Mercutio and Benvolio encounter Tybalt on the street, but Romeo refuses to fight him. When Mercutio takes up the challenge, they duel, and Mercutio is fatally wounded. Romeo avenges his friend by killing Tybalt in a duel. The Capulets demand that Romeo pay with his life, but the Prince banishes him from Verona instead. In Act 3, scene 2, Juliet longs for Romeo to come to her. When she learns of his banishment and killing of Tybalt, she feels grief and verbally attacks Romeo initially. However, she eventually devotes herself to grieving Romeo's banishment. The Nurse promises to bring Romeo to Juliet that night. In Act 3, scene 3, Friar Lawrence tells Romeo that his punishment is banishment, not death. Romeo responds that death is preferable to being away from Juliet. When the Nurse enters and tells Romeo of Juliet's grief-stricken state, he attempts suicide. Friar Lawrence then allows Romeo to spend the night with Juliet but leave for exile in Mantua next morning. In Act 3, scene 4, Paris approaches Capulet about marrying Juliet again. Capulet promises Paris that she will marry him in three days. In Act 3, scene 5, Romeo and Juliet separate at dawn. Almost immediately, Juliet's mother comes to announce that she must marry Paris. When Juliet refuses, her father becomes enraged and vows to put her out on the streets. In Act 4, scene 1, Paris is talking with Friar Lawrence about the wedding when Juliet arrives. After Paris leaves, she threatens suicide if Friar Lawrence cannot save her from marrying Paris. Friar Lawrence gives her a potion that will make her appear dead the morning of the wedding and assures her that Romeo will be there to take her away. In Act 4, scene 2, Capulet directs preparations for the wedding. When Juliet returns from Friar Lawrence and pretends to have learned obedience, she is forced to attend the wedding preparations, unaware of the plan to fake her own death and escape with Romeo. Act 4, Scene 3: Juliet's Fate is Sealed Juliet drinks the potion to awaken from her trance. Meanwhile, Capulet's servant Peter and Paris's musicians engage in a brief exchange. Act 5, Scene 1: Romeo Learns of Juliet's Death Romeo receives news that Juliet has died and decides to join her in death. Act 5, Scene 2: Friar John Delivers the Letter Friar John arrives with the letter he was supposed to deliver to Romeo but is unable to due to the Capulets' ban. Act 5, Scene 3: Romeo's Tragic End Romeo kills Paris in a duel and then takes his own life beside Juliet's tomb. Friar Lawrence finds Juliet awake to find Romeo dead, and she subsequently dies with his dagger. Juliet is overcome with anxiety and anticipation as she waits for news from her lover Romeo. She complains that time is moving too slowly and compares it to a child waiting eagerly to wear new clothes. The Nurse enters, bringing with her news that will shatter Juliet's hopes. The Nurse reveals that Romeo has killed himself in Juliet's family's tomb, where he was banished after killing Tybalt in a duel. Juliet is devastated by the news, unable to believe that Romeo would take his own life rather than live without her. She rails against fate and nature for allowing such a tragedy to occur. In her grief, Juliet attacks Romeo's memory, calling him a "serpent heart" with a "flow'ring face" who hid behind a mask of beauty while committing a cruel act. She compares him to a ravening lamb and a wolvis-ravening wolf, highlighting the contradiction between his appearance and actions. The Nurse tries to console Juliet by pointing out that men are untrustworthy and faithless, but Juliet is beyond consolation. She laments the fact that Romeo's death has sealed her own fate as well, since she will now be forced to marry another man against her will. Overall, this scene is a poignant expression of Juliet's despair and grief at losing the one person who loved her truly. Juliet's anguish over her husband's banishment echoes through her words as she bemoans the loss of her cousin Tybalt, "These griefs, these woes, these sorrows make me old." The Nurse tries to console her, but Juliet refuses to let go of her pain, recalling that "Tybalt is dead and Romeo banished" - a phrase that seems to have killed her joy. This single word "banished" weighs heavier on her mind than Tybalt's death itself, symbolizing the irreparable loss she feels. Juliet implores the Nurse to speak well of her husband, despite him killing her cousin, highlighting the complexity of their situation and the moral dilemmas they face. In a poignant display of her grief, Juliet declares that if only one word could bring comfort, "Thy father" or "thy mother," she would say it to ease her sorrow, but even their presence can't alleviate the depth of her pain. Romeo arrives in Verona, celebrating his marriage to Juliet but being cautious with Tybalt due to their family feud. Tybalt is confused by Romeo's behavior, but Mercutio challenges him to a duel, which results in Tybalt stabbing Mercutio fatally. As Mercutio dies, he curses the feuding families and Benvolio escorts him offstage. Romeo vows revenge on Tybalt, leading to their duel where Romeo emerges victorious but flees after being warned by Benvolio of the Prince's impending arrival. The Prince arrives with both families and refuses to pardon Romeo, instead banishing him from Verona, warning that he will meet his demise if he does not comply. Meanwhile, Juliet is unaware of the events unfolding outside her room, where she delivers a poignant soliloquy about Romeo. When informed by the Nurse of Tybalt's death and Romeo's banishment, Juliet scolds Romeo for his contradictions but later reconsiders after learning the truth. She laments Romeo's exile, claiming that she would rather see both her parents killed than witness him suffer such injustice. The Nurse promises to find Romeo and reunite them that night. In a separate scene, Friar Laurence consoles Romeo about his punishment, suggesting that he should be grateful for the commuted death sentence. Romeo, however, is devastated by being separated from Juliet and considers banishment a fate worse than death. As the Capulet family mourns Tybalt's demise, Lord Capulet decides to marry Juliet off to Paris in an attempt to soothe her sadness. He believes this will allow him to maintain control over her, stating that she will be "ruled / In all respects by me." The Capulets' plans for Juliet's marriage are revealed to her by Lady Capulet, but the young girl is uncooperative. She refuses to marry Paris, choosing instead to be with Romeo Montague. However, her mother believes this is just a rhetorical statement due to Romeo's involvement in Tybalt's murder. Lord Capulet enters and becomes furious, calling Juliet "young baggage" and demanding she prepare for marriage on Thursday. Meanwhile, the Nurse betrays Juliet by saying Paris is a worthy suitor, prompting Juliet to ask her to leave. The tone of the play shifts significantly in Act III, moving away from its earlier comedic romance. The death of Mercutio creates insurmountable obstacles for Romeo and Juliet's plans, making peace between their families even less likely. Mercutio's unique personality is showcased through his wit and cynicism, but it also takes a darker turn as he curses the feud before dying. The Nurse's character is further developed in Act III, showing her complexity and multi-layered nature. Her inability to share news with Juliet echoes an earlier scene, but this time it has a cruel tone due to the tragic circumstances. The parallel scenes between order and disorder also reappear, with Juliet delivering a beautiful soliloquy begging for nightfall to bring order and protection. As Juliet's situation becomes more dire, she turns to Friar Laurence for advice, foreshadowing the events that will unfold. The tension builds as the characters' relationships are put to the test, setting the stage for a tragic conclusion. The intensity of the separation between order and disorder becomes increasingly evident as Juliet speaks, with the audience aware that Romeo has killed Tybalt and will soon face punishment, while Juliet remains unaware. Every scene set in darkness after this point will be marked by characters' tragic awareness that once the sun rises, they will be subject to chaos and pain. The circumstances surrounding the tragic events in Act 3 raise questions about whether these deaths were avoidable or inevitable. Mercutio and Tybalt's deaths, as well as Romeo's banishment, are avoidable occurrences driven by human decisions rather than fate, unlike classical tragedies. Instead of being forced by fate, these events occur due to the characters' choices, especially Romeo's decision to pursue vengeance on Tybalt without considering its consequences. The tragic circumstances present a choice rather than an inevitability, making it difficult to determine who is entirely responsible for the play's tragic turn. The feud between the Montagues and Capulets ultimately prevails over the love between Romeo and Juliet. Mercutio's death affects Romeo directly, drawing him into his family's affairs despite his initial reluctance. Furthermore, Mercutio's actions can be seen as a "plague" that sets off the tragic chain of events leading to the lovers' deaths. The play highlights the role of fate in the characters' downfall through its focus on death and the image of fortune's wheel, which Juliet sees as her own demise. Juliet is a stark contrast to the turmoil surrounding her family and Romeo. In Act 3, the lovers anticipate consummating their relationship, but sex ultimately marks the beginning of their tragic fate. Here, Shakespeare portrays love as an all-consuming force that transcends selfless devotion. Juliet's unwavering commitment to her marriage is evident, even when she questions Romeo's actions. Her dedication reinforces the idea that true love exists in private realms, separate from societal expectations. In contrast, Romeo's passion is intense but also short-sighted, as he resigns himself to misery and rejects broader perspectives. This subverts traditional gender roles, as Juliet displays a stoic resolve that surpasses her husband's. Shakespeare also critiques patriarchal norms through Lord Capulet, who sees Juliet merely as an object for barter. The Nurse's words, urging Romeo to "stand, an you be a man," also imply he has acted femininely. This disparity between young and old is evident in Act 3, with the conflict between Juliet and her father being another example. The final scene highlights how adults struggle to understand youthful passion, as Lady Capulet refuses to consider Juliet's refusal to marry Paris. The Nurse's patronizing description of Paris serves as a reminder of her own frustrations with her young charge. Juliet's outburst, "Ancient damnation!" reveals the tension between their generations and the feud that has created these problems.