

William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet



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Adaptation and activities by **Derek Sellen**

Extra activities by **Jennifer Gascoigne**

Introduction and dossiers by **Robert Hill**

Illustrated by **Giovanni Manna**



BLACK CAT

VICENS VIVES - ROMEO AND JULIET (BLACK CAT. READING AND TRAINING)
- ISBN: 9788431689483

Editors: Rebeca Raynes, Michela Buzzo
Editors: Rebeca Raynes, Michela Buzzo
Design and art direction: Nadia Maestri
Computer graphics: Simona Corniola
Picture research: Laura Lagomarsino

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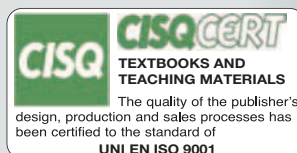


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94; bfi Stills: 95.

First edition, 2008
First reprint, 2009
Second reprint, 2011
Third reprint, 2012
Fourth reprint, 2013

© 2007 BLACK CAT PUBLISHING,
a brand of DE AGOSTINI SCUOLA, Novara
© Published by EDICIONES VICENS VIVES, S.A.



Legal Deposit: B. 1.660-2011
ISBN: 978-84-316-8948-3
V.V. Order N°: GD89

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PRINTED IN SPAIN.

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- If you put the CD directly into the CD-ROM drive, the software will open automatically.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS for CD-ROM

PC:

- Pentium III processor
- Windows 98, 2000 or XP
- 64 Mb RAM (128Mb RAM recommended)
- 800x600 screen resolution 16 bit
- 12X CD-ROM drive
- Audio card with speakers or headphones

Macintosh:

- Power PC G3 or above (G4 recommended)
- Mac OS 10.1.5
- 128 Mb RAM free for the application

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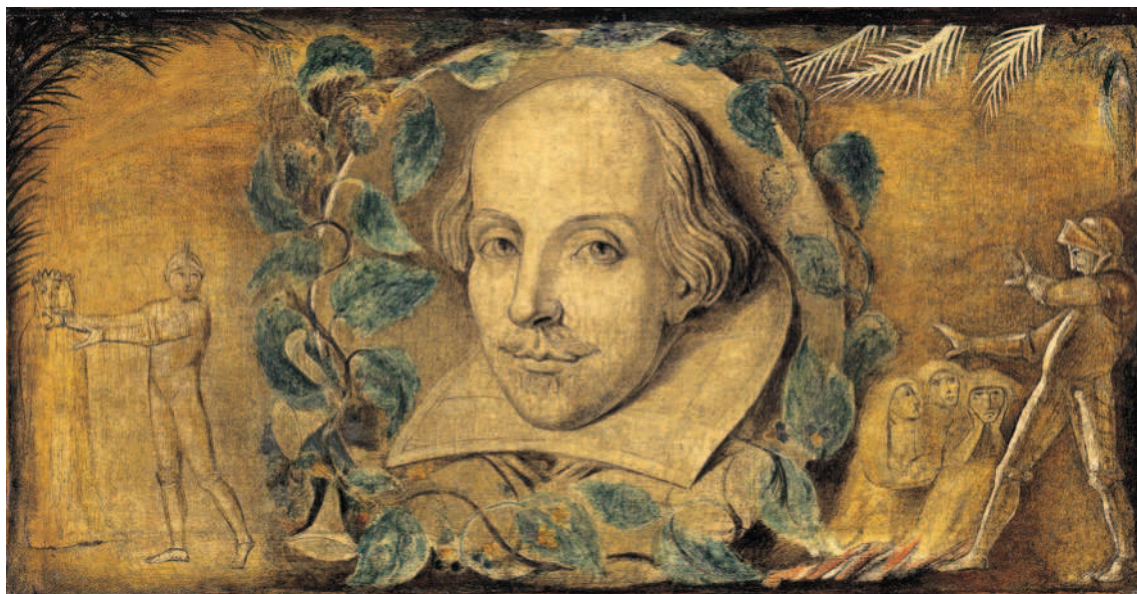
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This story is recorded in full.



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the extracts linked to the listening activities.



William Shakespeare (1800-03) by the Romantic poet and painter **William Blake** (1757-1827).

Shakespeare's Life

William Shakespeare was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon, a town in central England, on or near 23 April (we are not sure of the date, but we celebrate his birthday on the 23rd). His father, John Shakespeare, made and sold gloves,¹ and was an important person in Stratford. His mother, Mary Arden, came from quite a rich family. John and Mary had eight children, but three of them died young, so the young Shakespeare grew up with four brothers and one sister.

Shakespeare went to the Grammar School in Stratford. He got quite a good education, but he left in his early teens, before finishing school. His father had problems with money at that time; perhaps he wanted him to start work. So, Shakespeare didn't go to university.

In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. He was 18 and she was 26. They soon had a daughter, Susanna, and in 1585 they had twins, a boy, Hamnet, and a girl, Judith. Hamnet, however, died when he was only 11.

1. **gloves** : you wear these on your hands.



We are not sure what Shakespeare did between 1585 and 1592, but we know that he was already working in London as an actor and playwright ¹ in 1592. Some other playwrights didn't like him because he wasn't from a university, but Shakespeare was soon very successful. In 1594 he became a member of a company of actors called the 'Lord Chamberlain's Men', so called because their patron ² was the Lord Chamberlain, an important person at Queen Elizabeth's court. This company became the most successful in London. It built the Globe Theatre, south of the River Thames, in 1599, and later changed its name to the 'King's Men' when James became king in 1603. Shakespeare wrote two plays a year for this company until about 1608.

Many writers of this time were poor, but Shakespeare made a lot of money both from writing and because he owned part of the theatre. He made at least £200 each year (ten times as much as a schoolteacher), and in some years he even made £500. He bought land and houses in Stratford, including one of the best houses, called New Place, which he bought in 1597. His family, who didn't move to



From **The View of London** (1650) by the Dutch map-maker Claes Jansz Visscher (1587-1652).
There was only one bridge over the Thames, called London Bridge.

1. **playwright** : a person who writes plays.
2. **patron** : a rich person who gives money to a writer, artist, musician etc.

1 Comprehension check

Fill in this fact file about Shakespeare. Write words or notes.

Name: William Shakespeare

Dates: 1564 -

Place of birth:

Family background:

Education:

Profession: went to London; became an actor

Professional success:

Marriage & family:

Personality:

His writing, in general:

Most famous works, in particular:

.....

Interesting things about his life & works:

.....

Interesting things about when he lived:

.....

2 Research

Work on your own or in pairs. Are you curious about anything in Shakespeare's life, works or times that was not in the introduction? If so, try to find out about it in books or on the Internet.

3 Writing

Who is the most famous writer that your country has produced? Does everyone agree about who it is? Work on your own or in pairs, and make a fact file for this writer. Use the same model as in activity 1.

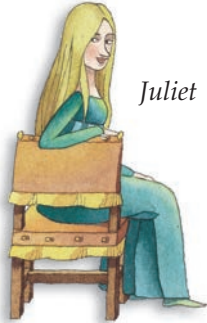
4 Speaking

Use the fact file that you made in activity 3 to make an oral presentation about your famous writer to a visitor to your country. Point out any interesting similarities and differences with Shakespeare's life, works and times.

The Characters



The Prince



Juliet



Romeo



Friar Laurence



Lord Capulet



Lady Capulet



Lord Montague



Lady Montague



The Nurse



Paris



Mercutio



Benvolio



Tybalt



The Montagues and the Capulets



In the beautiful city of Verona, there were two families — the Montagues and the Capulets. They hated each other. They had hated each other for hundreds of years.

One day two servants of the house of Capulet were walking in the streets.

‘If I meet any man or woman from the house of Montague, I’ll push them out of the way,’ said Sampson.

‘No, you’ll run away,’ laughed his friend, Gregory.

‘Don’t worry about that,’ said Sampson. ‘I’ll stand and fight.’

Just then two servants from the house of Montague came into the same street.

Romeo and Juliet

Sampson took out his sword ¹ and bit ² his thumb ³ at them. This was a great insult. The two groups of servants began to fight.

'The Montagues are better than the Capulets,' shouted ⁴ the servants of the Montagues.

'Our masters, the Capulets, are better,' shouted the servants of the Capulets.

Then Benvolio, a member of the Montague family, arrived. He tried to make peace.

'Stop, fools! ⁵ Put away your swords.'

But no one listened to him. The servants continued fighting and Benvolio took out his sword to stop them. Then Tybalt arrived. He was a Capulet, the most dangerous member of the family. He loved fighting.

'Benvolio, you have drawn your sword. ⁶ Now you must fight with me. Look at your death!'

'I am only trying to separate these fools,' replied Benvolio. 'Put away your sword or use it to help me keep the peace.'

'Peace!' snarled ⁷ Tybalt. 'I hate the word. I hate all Montagues and I hate you!'

With those words, Tybalt attacked Benvolio with his sword.

Then Lord and Lady Capulet arrived. Lord Capulet was old but he wanted to fight too. 'Bring me my sword!' he shouted.

'You're too old to fight,' said Lady Capulet. 'You don't need a sword. You need a crutch.' ⁸

Then Lord and Lady Montague arrived. Lord Montague was swinging ⁹ his sword although his wife tried to stop him.

1. **sword** [sɔ:d] :



2. **bit** : past form of 'bite' (*bite-bit-bitten*)

3. **thumb** : the largest finger; 'biting your thumb' was a great insult in this period of history.



4. **shouted** : spoke very loudly.

5. **fools** : stupid people.

6. **have drawn your sword** : (*draw-drew-drawn*) have taken out your sword.

7. **snarled** : said in an angry way.

8. **a crutch** : something to help a person with a broken leg to walk.

9. **swinging** : moving violently.



The Montagues and the Capulets

PART ONE

More and more people came. Soon everyone was fighting. It was very dangerous.

At last the Prince of Verona arrived. He was very angry.

‘Stop fighting! I want peace in my city! Drop your weapons or you will all die! This is the third time that your families have been fighting in the streets.

‘Lord Capulet and Lord Montague, you are old but you are not wise.¹ You must promise not to fight. Lord Capulet, come with me now. We must talk. Lord Montague, come and see me this afternoon. If your two families fight again, you will both die!’

Everyone went away except the Montagues. The fight was over.

‘How did it begin?’ Lord Montague asked Benvolio.

‘The servants were fighting. I drew my sword to stop them. Then Tybalt arrived. He began fighting with me. Soon everyone was involved.’²

‘Where is my son, Romeo? Is he safe?’ asked Lady Montague.

‘I saw him this morning, an hour before sunrise,’ replied Benvolio. ‘He was walking alone in the fields. He saw me but he didn’t want my company. He went into the forest.’

Lord Montague nodded. ‘People have often seen him there in the morning. He cries. Then he comes home and locks³ himself in his room. He shuts out the daylight and spends all his time alone in the dark. Something is wrong.’⁴

‘Have you questioned him?’

‘Yes, but he gives no answer.’

‘But look, he’s coming now,’ said Benvolio. ‘I’ll ask him about his problems.’

‘I hope he will answer you. We’ll leave you to speak privately,’ said Lord Montague.

Romeo was on his way back from the forest to the city.

‘Good morning, cousin,’ said Benvolio.

‘It’s a sad morning,’ replied Romeo.

1. **wise** : sensible.

2. **was involved** : was part of the fight.

3. **locks** : shuts his door with a key.

4. **wrong** : not right.





Romeo and Juliet



'Why? Why are your days sad and long?'

'I am...'

'In love?'

'Out...'

'Out of love?'

'Out of my lady's favour. I love her but she does not love me. Love is a terrible thing, Benvolio. I love and I hate. Love comes from nothing. It is heavy and light, serious and foolish, ¹ hot and cold, sick ² and healthy. Are you laughing at me?'

'No, I am sad because you are sad.'

'Love is a madness. Goodbye, cousin.'

'Tell me, who do you love?'

'I love a woman.'

'I know that. But who?'

'I love sweet Rosaline. She is beautiful, intelligent and good. But she doesn't love me.'

'Forget her. There are many other girls.'

'No, I can never forget her.'



Lord Capulet decided to have a party.

'I will invite all the important people from Verona. But not the Montagues.'

He wanted his daughter, Juliet, to meet Paris, a lord from Verona, the friend of the Prince. He hoped she would marry Paris in the future. He called for his servant.

'Here is a list of names. Go and invite the guests.'³

1. **foolish** : stupid (see 'fools' p. 14).

2. **sick** : ill.

3. **guests** : people invited to a party.



Romeo and Juliet

The servant met Romeo and Benvolio in the street. He did not know that they were Montagues. 'Can you help me?' he asked. 'I can't read the names on this piece of paper.'

'Look, Romeo. Rosaline will be at the party.'

'I have an idea,' said Romeo suddenly.¹

Meanwhile,² Lady Capulet was talking to Juliet, her thirteen-year-old daughter. Juliet had an old nurse who looked after her.³

'You will meet Paris at the party,' Lady Capulet told Juliet. 'Perhaps you will marry him one day.'

'Mother, I'm too young to get married,' replied Juliet.

'I would love to see my little Juliet married,' said the Nurse. 'You will have happy days and happy nights.'



1. **suddenly** : quickly and unexpectedly.

2. **Meanwhile** : At the same time.

3. **looked after her** : took care of her.

Go back to the text

1 Comprehension check

Only ONE of the following sentences is correct. Which one is it? Rewrite the others with the right information.

- 1 Tybalt started the fight in the street.
- 2 Tybalt wanted to make peace but Benvolio wanted to fight.
- 3 Lord Capulet and Lord Montague were wise but they weren't old.
- 4 Lord Montague was worried because Romeo spent all his time with his cousin Benvolio.
- 5 Benvolio knew that Romeo was in love with Rosaline.
- 6 Paris was an important person in Verona and the Prince's cousin.
- 7 Lord Capulet's servant asked Romeo to help him invite the guests to the party.
- 8 Lord and Lady Capulet hoped Juliet would marry Paris.

2 Discussion

Work with a partner. Do you agree or disagree with these statements about some of the characters in Part One? Explain why.

- 1 Benvolio is Romeo's cousin and also his best friend.
- 2 Tybalt probably wanted to kill Benvolio in the fight.
- 3 Romeo has been in love many times before.
- 4 Juliet doesn't want to marry Paris because she doesn't like him.

3 Adjectives

A Can you remember the adjectives used in Part One? Fill in these gaps.

- 1 In the _____ city of Verona, there were two families.
- 2 Tybalt was the most _____ member of the Capulet family.
- 3 Lord Capulet was _____ but he wanted to fight too.
- 4 The Prince was very _____.
- 5 'You are _____ but you are not _____.'
- 6 'Where is my son Romeo? Is he _____?' asked Lady Montague.
- 7 Love is a _____ thing.
- 8 It is _____ and _____, _____ and _____.
- 9 'Rosaline is _____, _____ and _____.'
- 10 'I will invite all the _____ people from Verona. But not the Montagues.'



B Opposites

Romeo uses adjectives with opposite meanings to describe love: ‘Love is heavy and light, serious and foolish, hot and cold, sick and healthy.’ Here are some more adjectives. Match an adjective in A with its opposite in B.

- 1 beautiful

2 thin

3 hard-working

4 intelligent

5 sad

6 kind

7 rich

8 wonderful

9 early

10 dangerous
- A stupid

B terrible

C ugly

D safe

E poor

F lazy

G late

H happy

I fat

J cruel

Why do you think Romeo uses adjectives with opposite meanings to describe love?

C Synonyms

Synonyms are words which have similar meanings. For example, *unhappy* is a synonym of *sad*. Choose three synonyms from the words in the box for each of the six words in the table. Use your dictionary if necessary.

affluent attractive depressed ecstatic slim excellent
fantastic great glad handsome joyful miserable pretty
prosperous skinny slender unhappy wealthy

happy	
sad	
rich	
beautiful	
wonderful	
thin	

‘The Montagues are better than the Capulets.’

*The Montagues are **better than** the Capulets.*

In this sentence, the servants are comparing the Montagues with the Capulets.

Better is the comparative form of the adjective **good**.

We could rewrite the sentence in two different ways:

*The Capulets are **worse than** the Montagues.*

Or *The Capulets aren’t **as good as** the Montagues.*

4 Comparative forms

Here are some sentences about the characters in the play. Finish the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. The second sentence is started for you.

- 1 Benvolio is older than Romeo.
Romeo isn’t
- 2 The Capulet servants aren’t as hard working as the Montague servants.
The Montague servants are
- 3 The Prince is richer than Lord Capulet.
Lord Capulet isn’t
- 4 Juliet isn’t as pretty as Rosaline.
Rosaline is
- 5 Romeo is slimmer than Tybalt.
Tybalt isn’t

‘Tybalt was the most dangerous member of the family.’

*Tybalt was **the most dangerous** member of the family.*

This sentence means that nobody in the Capulet family is **more dangerous** than Tybalt.

the most dangerous is the superlative form of the adjective **dangerous**.

We often use phrases like *in the world, in my family, in the class, I know* etc. with the superlative form.

For example: *Mount Everest is **the highest** mountain **in the world**.*

*Bob is **the nicest** person **I know**.*

5 Superlative forms

Rewrite these sentences. Use the superlative form of the adjective.

- 1 Nobody in my class is more intelligent than Lisa.
- 2 I don’t know a person who is lazier than my brother.
- 3 Nobody in my family is kinder than my grandmother.
- 4 No sport in the world is better than football.
- 5 I don’t know a place more exciting than Tokyo.



6 Too + adjective

Look at these two sentences from the Part One of the story.

(Lady Capulet to her husband) *'You are too old to fight.'*

(Juliet to her mother) *'I am too young to get married.'*

Make similar sentences with **too... to...** . Use the words in lists A and B below.

For example: *It's too late to go shopping.*

A

- lazy
- tired
- fat
- young
- cold
- ill
- unhappy
- late
- early
- heavy
- stupid
- poor
- intelligent

B

- carry
- drive a car
- go shopping
- go dancing
- study
- go to bed
- wear this dress
- pass the test
- go to the beach
- eat dinner
- learn English
- make a mistake
- play football

Work with a partner. Compare your sentences.

7 Dialogues

Complete these dialogues. Use **too + adjective**.

- 0 A: *Why can't you do the exercise?*
B: *Because it's too difficult.*
- 1 A: *Why don't you want to come swimming today?*
B: *Because I'm*
- 2 A: *Shall we eat in this restaurant?*
B: *No, it's*
- 3 A: *Wake up! It's time to get up.*
B: *But it's only 6 o'clock! It's*
- 4 A: *Drink your tea! It's time to leave.*
B: *I can't . It's*
- 5 A: *Mum! Kevin and I want to get married.*
B: *You must wait. You're*

Practise the dialogues with a partner.

8 Vocabulary – families

Complete these words. Each word is the name of a member of a family.

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Romeo is Lord Montague's | s _ _ |
| 2 | My father's sister is my | a _ _ |
| 3 | Juliet is Lady Capulet's | d _ _ _ t e r |
| 4 | Lord Montague is Romeo's | f _ _ _ |
| 5 | Benvolio is Romeo's | _ o u s i n |
| 6 | Lady Capulet is Juliet's | m _ _ _ |
| 7 | Romeo is an only child. He has no | b r _ _ _ _ s |
| 8 | He has no | s _ _ _ _ |
| 9 | Romeo has two | p a r _ _ |
| 10 | Lady Capulet is Lord Capulet's | w _ _ |
| 11 | He is her | h _ _ _ _ |
| 12 | My father's brother is my | u _ _ _ |
| 13 | My mother's mother is my | grand _ _ _ _ |
| 14 | My sister's son is my | n _ _ _ _ |

Now read DOWN from the letter 's' in the first line. Put the letters in these spaces:

S _ _ _ - _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ V _ R S

These are the words used by Shakespeare to describe Romeo and Juliet in the prologue (a kind of introduction) to his play. The first phrase means 'unlucky'.

9 Family opinions

- A Write one or two sentences about your opinions of other members of your family. Use a dictionary if necessary. For example:

I think my father is too strict sometimes.

- B Now write one or two sentences about what other members of your family think about you. Use a dictionary if necessary. For example:

My sister thinks I am too noisy.



10 Listening – The Queen of the Fairies 1

Look at the six sentences below. You will hear a conversation between Romeo and his friend Mercutio. Decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect. If it is correct, put a tick (✓) in the box under A for YES. If it is not correct, put a tick (✓) in the box under B for NO.

	A	B
	Yes	No
1 Mercutio thinks that Romeo is deeply in love.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Romeo dreamt about Juliet last night.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Queen Mab is a real person.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Mercutio says that Queen Mab keeps us awake.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Mercutio says that Queen Mab visits girls, soldiers and lovers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 Mercutio thinks that Queen Mab is very powerful.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11 Now rewrite the incorrect sentences.

12 Discussion

In exercise 10 Romeo and Mercutio talk about dreams. Below is a list of things people sometimes dream about and a list of their possible meanings. Match a dream with a meaning then discuss your ideas with a partner.

DREAMS

If you dream about

- a tree with lots of apples,
- buying a bicycle,
- birds that are flying away,
- eating a cake,
- riding an elephant,
- ladybirds,
- a spider sitting on you,
- drinking fresh water,

MEANINGS

it means that

- you're not going to meet a nice person.
- you're going to have problems.
- you have many friends.
- you're going to be sad and lonely.
- you're going to have a long, healthy life.
- someone is going to visit you.
- you need to be more active and do some sport.
- you're going to have good luck.

PET 13 Writing – a letter

Imagine that you are a 16th-century silk merchant from London. You were travelling through Verona on your way to Venice when you saw a lot of people fighting in the street. You are writing a letter to your son in England. You want to describe what happened. Explain about the Montagues and the Capulets. Describe the fight and tell him about the Prince's decision. Your letter must begin like this:

I'm writing to you from Verona, a beautiful city not far from Venice. The local wine is excellent but the people are not very peaceful. Yesterday I saw a street fight.

Write 100 words.

- fairies** : (singular, fairy) small magical creatures with wings.

Before you read

1 What do you think?

Who do you think will say the following words from Part Two of the story? Romeo or Juliet?

- 1 'I cannot wait to see¹ fair² Rosaline.'
- 2 'I have never loved until now.'
- 3 'I must kiss you.'
- 4 'Let's change our names. Then we can love.'
- 5 'A rose can have any name. It always smells sweet.'
- 6 'Love has sent me here to you.'
- 7 'Will you be true?'³
- 8 'It is very sad and sweet to say goodnight. But tomorrow we will be married.'

1. **I cannot wait to see** : I am very excited about seeing.
2. **fair** : beautiful.
3. **'will you be true?'** : (here) will you always love me?

2 Vocabulary

Here are some words from Part Two. Match them with the pictures.



A a mask B a dove C a cheek D wings E a crow F lips

Now read and listen to Part Two and check your ideas for exercise 1.



The Garden of the Capulets



omeo went to the party with Benvolio and his friend, Mercutio. They were all wearing masks. It was very dangerous for the Montagues and their friends to go to a party in the house of the Capulets.

‘I cannot wait to see ¹ fair ² Rosaline,’ said Romeo as they approached ³ the house.

Lord Capulet welcomed them. ‘Come in, gentlemen. Dance and drink and eat. Enjoy yourselves.’ He did not recognise the son of his enemy, Lord Montague.

He spoke to all the guests. ‘Now, girls, dance to the music. When I was younger, I whispered sweet things in the ears of the ladies. But now I am old. My dancing days are finished. I’ll sit here with the old people and talk about the past.’

1. **I cannot wait to see** : I am very excited about seeing.

2. **fair** : beautiful.

3. **approached** : came near.

As they went into the house, Romeo saw Juliet for the first time. He forgot Rosaline! He fell in love!

‘Who is that lady?’ asked Romeo. ‘She is more beautiful than the moon. She is like a bright jewel¹ in the darkness. She is like a dove among crows. I have never loved until now.’

But Tybalt recognised Romeo’s voice. ‘It is a Montague. Bring me my sword. It is a great insult for a Montague to come here to laugh at our party. I will kill him.’

‘What’s the matter, Tybalt?’ asked Lord Capulet.

‘That man in the mask is a Montague, uncle.’

‘Be calm, Tybalt. Is it Romeo? He has a good reputation in Verona. This is a party. I want no trouble² in my house. Let him enjoy himself.’

‘No, uncle. He is our enemy.’

‘Don’t be cheeky,³ young man. I am the master in this house. You must do as I say.’

Tybalt did not agree but he did not want to make Lord Capulet angry. ‘I will leave the party. I cannot stay here with a Montague in the room. But I will not forget. Romeo will have a good time tonight but tomorrow he will pay!’

Romeo went to Juliet and talked to her. He did not know who she was. He took her hand gently in his.

‘My lips are ready to kiss you,’ he said softly.⁴

‘I do not know you,’ protested Juliet.

‘I must kiss you,’ insisted Romeo.

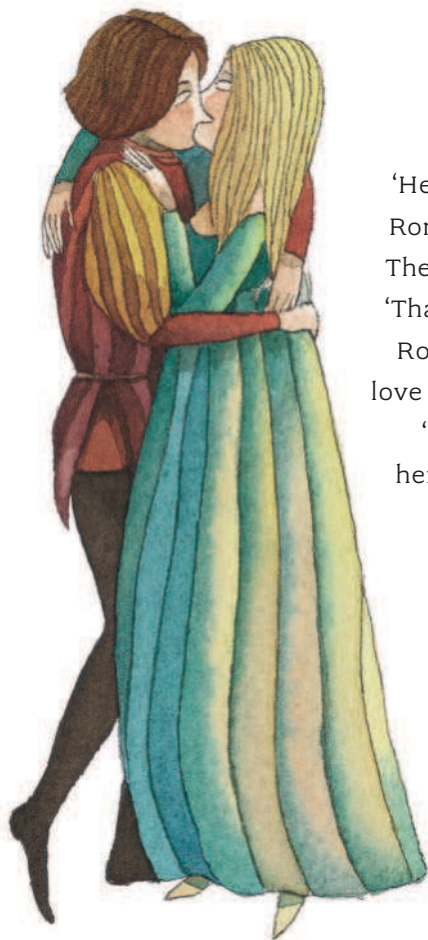


1. **jewel** : a diamond, for example.

2. **trouble** : problems.

3. **cheeky** : rude, not polite.

4. **softly** : in a low, quiet voice.



‘Here I am,’ said Juliet. ‘My lips are here.’

Romeo kissed Juliet. He kissed her a second time.

Then the Nurse came to take Juliet to her mother.

‘That is Juliet. She is a Capulet,’ the Nurse told Romeo.

Romeo was very surprised and upset.¹ He was in love with the daughter of the enemy of his family.

‘Quickly, let’s go,’ said Benvolio. ‘It is dangerous here.’

Juliet asked the Nurse, ‘Who is that young man?’

‘That is Romeo. He is a Montague.’

Juliet was also very surprised and upset. She was in love with the son of the enemy of her family. ‘We can never get married,’ she thought.

After they left the party, Mercutio and Benvolio looked for Romeo.

‘Look! He’s there in the shadows.² What’s he doing?’ said Mercutio.

‘He’s jumping the wall. He’s going into the garden of the Capulets.’

Mercutio called out. ‘Romeo! Madman!³ Lover! He’s going to look for Rosaline.’

‘Quiet! You’ll make him angry,’ said Benvolio. ‘His love is blind.’⁴

Mercutio laughed. ‘Good night, Romeo. He’s probably sitting under a tree, dreaming about that girl. He’s mad.’

Mercutio and Benvolio went home. The night was silent.

In the dark garden, Romeo suddenly saw a light. Juliet was standing on her balcony. ‘She’s beautiful,’ he thought. ‘Her eyes are stars. They give light to the night. Her glove⁵ touches her cheek — I would like to be her glove!’

Juliet began to speak to the night. She did not know that Romeo was listening.

‘Ah, Romeo,’ she sighed.⁶

1. **upset** : sad, confused.

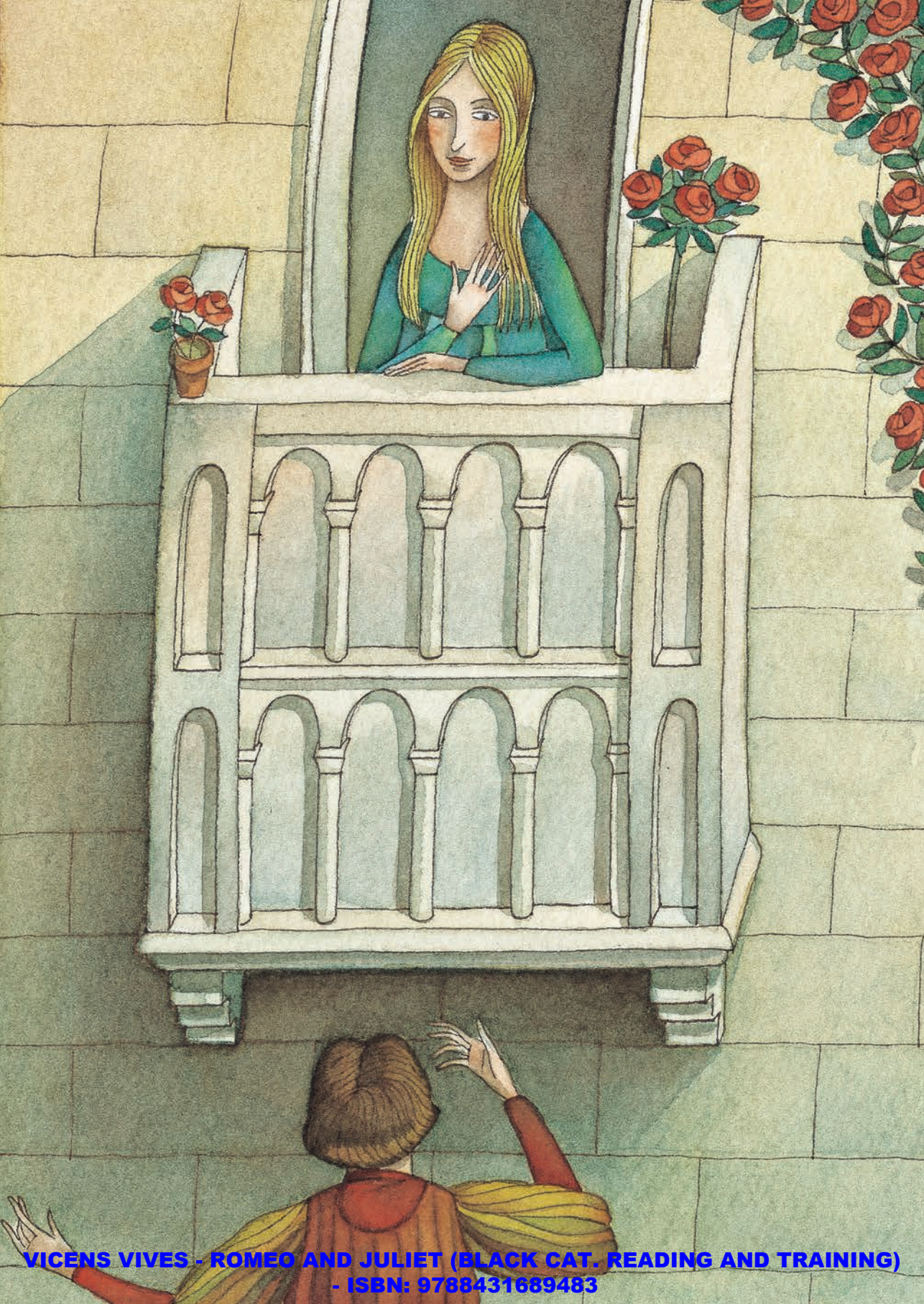
2. **shadows** : dark places without light.

3. **Madman** : a man whose actions aren’t normal.

4. **blind** : not able to see.

5. **glove** : you wear this on your hand.

6. **sighed** [said] : breathed heavily.



Romeo and Juliet

'Speak again, angel,' he whispered.¹

'O Romeo, Romeo! Why is your name Romeo?

Let's change our names. Then we can love.

Forget that you are a Montague.

Or, if you love me, I will not be a Capulet.

Montague and Capulet are only names.

A rose can have any name. It always smells² sweet.'

Romeo called out.³ 'I will change my name for you.'

'Who's there?' asked Juliet. 'Who is listening in the middle of the night?'

'I will not tell you my name because it is your enemy.'

'I know your voice. Are you Romeo? But how did you get over the garden wall?'

'Love gave me wings. No walls can shut out love.'

'If my family find you, they will murder you.'

'The night hides me. I am safe. Love has sent me here to you.'

Romeo and Juliet talked together. Romeo knew Juliet's secret — she loved him. They decided to get married secretly.

'Will you be true?' asked Juliet.

'Yes, my darling,' replied Romeo. 'I promise by the moon.'

'But the moon changes. Will your love change?'

'Never. I will always love you. Do you love me?'

'I told the night that I loved you and you heard me. But I wish I had been silent.'⁴

'Have you changed your mind?'⁵

'No, my love is as deep as the sea. But I must go. The Nurse is calling. Good night, Romeo.'

'Good night, Juliet.'

The Nurse called: 'Juliet! Juliet!'

'I'm coming, Nurse. Good night.'

'Good night.'

'It is very sad and very sweet to say good night. But tomorrow we will be married.'

1. **whispered** : said very quietly.

2. **smells** : (here) has a perfume.

3. **called out** : spoke loudly.

4. **I wish I had been silent** : It was better for me not to speak.

5. **changed your mind** : changed your idea.





Go back to the text

PET 1 Comprehension check

For each question, mark the correct letter – A, B, C or D.

- 1 Why were Romeo and his friends wearing masks at the party?
A ☐ They didn't want people to recognise them.
B ☐ It was a fashion of those days.
C ☐ Because everyone had to wear masks.
D ☐ Because they had ugly faces.
- 2 What did Lord Capulet want Tybalt to do?
A ☐ leave the party
B ☐ enjoy himself at the party
C ☐ kill Romeo after the party
D ☐ do nothing
- 3 After the party, Romeo went to the Capulets' garden
A ☐ to look for Rosaline.
B ☐ to be near Juliet.
C ☐ to sit under a tree and dream.
D ☐ to meet Juliet.
- 4 When Romeo saw Juliet on her balcony, she was
A ☐ thinking aloud about Romeo.
B ☐ looking for Romeo in the garden.
C ☐ waiting for Romeo to come to her.
D ☐ admiring the beautiful night sky.

2 Discussion

Work with a partner. Discuss these questions.

- 1 When he saw Juliet, Romeo fell in love with her immediately. Why did he forget Rosaline so quickly?
- 2 Juliet is nearly fourteen years old. There are two weeks before her birthday. She told her mother she was too young to get married. Now she can't wait to marry Romeo. What made her change her mind?
- 3 Many people think that Juliet is a strong character. For example, she says that she loves Romeo before Romeo says that he loves her. What do you think?
- 4 Mercutio calls Romeo 'mad' and a 'madman'. Can you think of any examples of 'mad love' from stories, songs or films?

‘They decided to get married secretly.’

When we want to describe how somebody does something, we use an adverb.

This kind of adverb is called an adverb of manner.

We usually make an adverb of manner by adding **-ly** to the adjective form.

For example: speak *in a soft way* = speak *softly*

They decided to get married secretly.

For adjectives of more than one syllable ending in **-y**, change the **-y** to **-i**.

For example: *happy* – *happily*

The following adverbs of manner are irregular:

good(adj) – well(adv) fast(adj) – fast(adv) hard(adj) – hard(adv)

3 Adverbs

Write the adverbs from of these adjectives. Make any necessary spelling changes.

angry	passionate
anxious	private
beautiful	sad
immediate	stupid
lazy	sweet
loud	violent
lucky	warm

4 Complete the sentences below with a suitable adverb from exercise 3.

- Romeo fell in love with Juliet
- The Prince spoke to the people
- Lord Montague asked Benvolio to speak to Romeo
- Lord Capulet welcomed his guests
- The Nurse called Juliet's name
- Juliet smiled
- The servants behaved
- Romeo and Juliet loved each other
- At the party, the musicians played
- Lady Montague asked about Romeo

5 Vocabulary – love and marriage

In Shakespeare's play, Juliet says the following words to say goodnight to Romeo:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 5 8 8 9 10 11
 — — — — — — — — — — — — —
 8 12 13 13 4 8 14 3 3 14 12
 — — — — — — — — — — — — —

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet.

If you can find the words in the gaps below, you will find out what Juliet said.

0 The answer for number 1 is 'RING'.

Therefore, 3 = R 5 = I 6 = N 7 = G

1 A married woman wears this on her finger: 3 5 6 7

2 When people get married there is a: 12 13 D D 5 6 7

3 The woman who gets married is the: B 3 5 D 13

4 The man who gets married is the: B 3 5 D 13 7 3 14 14 M

5 They often get married in a: 10 11 9 3 10 11

6 They are married in church by a: 1 3 5 13 8 4

7 Everybody hopes the couple will be: 11 2 1 1 Y

8 But sometimes marriages end in: D 5 V 14 3 10 13

9 Romeo and Juliet will marry: 8 13 10 3 13 4 L Y

10 Sometimes people have a broken: 11 13 2 3 4

11 Romeo and Juliet were in: L 14 V 13

12 They fell in love at first: 8 5 G 11 4

13 Rosaline was Romeo's first: G 5 3 L F 3 5 13 6 D

What do you think Juliet's words mean? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

The blockbuster *Titanic* (1997) won Oscars for best film and best director (James Cameron). Of course, it is not Shakespeare's play! But the story is very similar: two young people (the boy is played by Leonardo di Caprio again!) from different backgrounds¹ fall in love, but after a few days their love ends in death.

A lot of films, not only *Titanic*, have used Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Shakespeare in Love (1999) won Oscars for best film and best actress (Gwyneth Paltrow). The story – completely fictional! – is about Shakespeare falling in love and writing *Romeo and Juliet*. It gives a good idea of the Elizabethan theatre; it shows how boy actors played female parts, such as Juliet, because women were not allowed to act in the theatres.

1 Comprehension check

Which of the six films described above

- 1 has/have a lot of songs and dancing?
- 2 is/are not films of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*?
- 3 has/have young actors playing *Romeo and Juliet*?
- 4 has/have older actors playing *Romeo and Juliet*?
- 5 gives/give a good idea of the Elizabethan theatre?
- 6 was/were filmed in Italy?
- 7 has/have modern settings?
- 8 won Oscars?

2 On your own or in pairs, make a question about the films to ask other students in the class.

3 Discussion

- 1 Have you seen any of these films? If so, what is your opinion?
- 2 Which film(s) would you like to see, and why?

1. **backgrounds** : your background is your family and your education. It includes race, religion and if you are rich or poor.

Great Love Stories

In the left-hand column there is a list, a-h, of elements of great love stories. In column 1 you can see that *Romeo and Juliet* has all of these elements.

Work in pairs or groups. What do you know about other great love stories? Choose one classic love story from the past (perhaps from your own culture) and one contemporary love story (perhaps a film, or even a true story). Write the titles (or the lovers' names) in columns 2 and 3. Now complete columns 2 and 3 with yes or no, to show whether the stories have the elements a-h or not.

Elements of great love stories	1. <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	2.	3.	4.
a The story ends with the death of one or both of the lovers.	Yes (both)			
b One or both of the lovers falls in love at first sight, or in a very short time.	Yes			
c Their love is 'impossible': it must stay a secret.	Yes (the feud)			
d The lovers are very young and good-looking.	Yes			
e The lovers have a very short period of happiness before something terrible happens.	Yes (a few days)			
f One of the lovers has had a previous experience of love which was not satisfactory.	Yes (Romeo)			
g The woman says she is in love first.	Yes			
h Most of the lovers' meetings take place in secret.	Yes			

Which of the elements a-h are most important in tragic love stories? Number them from 1 (the most important) to 8 (the least important) in column 4. Compare your ideas in class. Why do you think *Romeo and Juliet* has become the most famous love story in the Western world – the classic love story?

PET 1 Comprehension check

Look at the sentences below.

Decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect. If it is correct, mark A. If it is not correct, mark B.

	A	B
1 Juliet was a Capulet and Romeo was a Montague.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 First of all, Juliet's parents wanted her to marry Tybalt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Juliet's father wanted Tybalt to fight Romeo.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 The Nurse discovered Juliet talking to Romeo from the balcony.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Friar Laurence agreed to help them because he wanted peace.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 Mercutio fought Tybalt after Romeo had refused the challenge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 Romeo visited Juliet for the last time with the Nurse's help.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 The Nurse advised Juliet to forget Romeo and marry Paris.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 Paris fought Romeo because he had married Juliet secretly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 When the Friar arrived at the tomb, both lovers were dead.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Now rewrite the incorrect sentences.

PET 2 Fill in the gaps

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, mark the letter next to the correct word – A, B, C or D.

(0) love bring happiness? Romeo and Juliet (1) in love as soon as they saw each other. In other (2), it was love at first (3) Usually, falling in love is a very happy experience that (4) lead to marriage and a lifetime together. (5), in this case, the love of the teenage couple caused a series of problems. Mercutio, Tybalt and Paris all (6) In addition Romeo and Juliet killed (7) as a result of a terrible misunderstanding. (8) was responsible? Was it Friar Laurence or their parents or Tybalt? What (9) you (10) ?

0 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A Does	B Do	C Why	D Is
1 A fell	B were	C felt	D fallen
2 A terms	B words	C wise	D example
3 A seeing	B look	C sight	D glance
4 A maybe	B may	C have	D does
5 A Although	B And	C However	D Also
6 A dead	B death	C dyed	D died

Romeo and Juliet

Playscript

ACT ONE

The Montagues and the Capulets

In the beautiful city of Verona, there are two families — the Montagues and the Capulets. They hate each other. They have hated each other for hundreds of years. One day, the servants begin to fight in the streets.

SERVANTS OF THE MONTAGUES : The Montagues are better than the Capulets!

SERVANTS OF THE CAPULETS : Our masters, the Capulets, are better!

Then Benvolio and Tybalt arrive.

BENVOLIO : Stop fighting!

TYBALT : Fight with me, Benvolio.

BENVOLIO : No! Fighting is stupid!

TYBALT : Your sword is out. Fight!

Then Lord and Lady Capulet arrive. Lord Capulet is old but he wants to fight too.

LORD CAPULET : Bring me my sword.

LADY CAPULET : You're too old to fight. You don't need a sword,
you need a crutch.

*Then Lord and Lady Montague arrive. Soon everyone is fighting. It is very dangerous.
At last, the Prince arrives. He is very angry.*

PRINCE : Stop fighting! I want peace in my city.

Lord Capulet and Lord Montague, you are old but you are not wise. If your two families fight again, you will both die!

LORD CAPULET : I, Lord Capulet, promise not to fight again.

LORD MONTAGUE : I, Lord Montague, promise not to fight again.

The Prince is happy. Everyone goes away.

PAUSE

Lady Montague and Benvolio are talking.

BENVOLIO : Tybalt wants to kill all the Montagues. He's very dangerous.

LADY MONTAGUE : Where is my son, Romeo? Is he safe?

BENVOLIO : He's not here. He's walking by himself in the forest. He's sad.

LADY MONTAGUE : Why is he sad?

BENVOLIO : I don't know. But look, he's coming now. I'll ask him.

Why are you unhappy, Romeo?

ROMEO : I am in love.

BENVOLIO : Who do you love?

ROMEO : I love sweet Rosaline. She is beautiful, intelligent and good. But she doesn't love me. That is why I'm sad.

BENVOLIO : Forget her. There are many other girls.

ROMEO : No, I can never forget her.

PAUSE

Lord Capulet is talking to his wife, Lady Capulet.

LORD CAPULET : I'm going to have a party. I'll invite all the important people from Verona. But not the Montagues.

LADY CAPULET : You must invite Paris.

LORD CAPULET : Yes, I want him to meet Juliet. One day, they will get married.

LADY CAPULET : I like that idea. I'll go and tell Juliet.

LORD CAPULET : Tell my servant to come here.

SERVANT : Yes, my Lord?

LORD CAPULET : Here is a list of guests. Go and invite them.

The servant meets Romeo and Benvolio in the street. He does not know that they are Montagues.