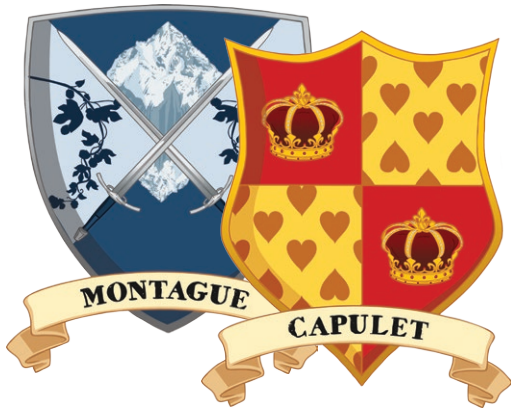


Romeo and Juliet Plot



This is the story of Romeo and Juliet, two young lovers who lived in Verona, in Italy.



In Verona, there were two families who were feuding. The families were named the Montagues and Capulets and they had hated one another for a long time – although they could no longer remember why they were fighting. At the beginning of the play, the Prince of Verona warns both families that anyone caught fighting in the streets of Verona will be sentenced to death.

One of the main characters is named Romeo Montague. Romeo is usually a peaceful young man and is more interested in love than fighting. At the beginning of the play, Romeo tells his cousin

Benvolio and his friend Mercutio that he is in love with a girl called Rosaline for a girl, but that she does not love him back. Benvolio and Mercutio tell him to forget about her and go with them to a masked ball at the Capulets' house. They know it will be dangerous because they are Montagues, but they think it will be fun as they will be in disguise.

Lord Capulet has a daughter who is called Juliet. He wants Juliet to marry Count Paris and is excited for them to spend time together at the party. When his nephew, Tybalt, tells him that there are Montagues at the party, Capulet demands that Tybalt leave them alone to enjoy the party. While Romeo is at the party, he meets Juliet – but he does not know that she is a Capulet. He falls in love with her at first sight. It is not until later that they realise that they are from the two different families and, because of that, they will not be able to be together.

Romeo decides to risk his life and sneaks to Juliet's bedroom window to speak to her. Juliet tells her nurse that she is in love with Romeo, but she doesn't realise that he is listening. They speak at the window and make plans to secretly get married, even though their families are enemies. The next day, Romeo and Juliet go to Friar Lawrence who agrees to marry them. Friar Lawrence hopes their marriage will help to bring peace to the families.

On the way home from the wedding, Tybalt, who is angry because the Montagues went to the Capulet party, challenges Romeo to a duel. Romeo refuses to fight and Mercutio agrees to fight Tybalt instead. Romeo tries to stop the fight, but Tybalt stabs Mercutio and kills him. Romeo is so angry that Mercutio is dead that he fights Tybalt and kills him. Romeo is exiled to Mantua by the Prince of Verona.



Juliet is really upset to hear that her husband Romeo has to leave Verona. She has another problem, too: her father is forcing her to marry Count Paris in three days' time. She doesn't know what to do, so she goes to Friar Lawrence for advice. Friar Lawrence gives Juliet a special type of poison. The poison will make her fall into a very deep sleep for 42 hours and everyone will think she is dead. Friar Lawrence plans to send a message to Romeo so that he can come back to Verona and meet up with Juliet when she wakes up in her family's tomb. Then they can leave Verona and be together.

Juliet does this, but Friar Lawrence's message never makes it to Romeo. Instead, Romeo hears that Juliet is dead and he returns to Verona, having bought some deadly poison. He goes to Juliet in the tomb, drinks the poison and dies. When Juliet wakes up, she finds Romeo lying dead next to her. She is so upset that she takes his dagger and kills herself.

This story is a tragedy because the ending is so sad. It is even sadder because, when the Montagues and the Capulets learn what happened with their children, the families agree to end the years of fighting. The Prince of Verona hopes that the story of Romeo and Juliet will help to keep Verona a peaceful place in future.

