



Romeo and Juliet

adapted from the play by William Shakespeare

Episode 5: Blood is spilled

[Scene 1: the streets of Verona]

Benvolio

Please, Mercutio, let's go home. It's so hot and the Capulets will be out and about. If we meet, there's bound to be a fight. This heat always makes people short-tempered.

Rosaline

Whoa. It is a scorcher of a day. Benvolio's right, they don't want to bump into some hot-headed Capulets looking for a fight. (*Seeing Tybalt*) Too late! Here come's Tybalt, looking for Romeo. They haven't seen each other since the party.

Benvolio

By my head! Here come the Capulets!

Mercutio

By my foot, I couldn't care less!

Tybalt

Gentlemen, good afternoon. Can I have a word with one of you?

Mercutio

A word? With one of us? Make it a word and a fight.

Rosaline

Why, oh why, is Mercutio winding him up?!

Benvolio

We're in a public place. Everyone can see us. And the Prince has warned us about fighting. Let's get off the streets, into somewhere more private, and talk about this calmly and sensibly. Or we go our separate ways.

Rosaline

Good old Benvolio. Still trying to keep the peace. Or at least trying to keep them out of sight...

Mercutio

I won't move for anyone.

Rosaline

(Seeing Romeo arrive) Now that is bad timing Romeo!

Tybalt

Romeo, I just have one thing to say to you. You are a villain.

Romeo

Tybalt, my love for you allows me to ignore the anger I would usually feel after such a greeting. I'm not a villain. Goodbye, I can see you don't know me at all.

Tybalt

This doesn't excuse the injuries you have done to me. Turn and draw your sword.

Romeo

I've never injured you. I actually love you more than you know.

Rosaline

Romeo's not interested in fighting Tybalt. He's related to him now, because of his secret marriage to Juliet!

Romeo

And so, good Capulet - a name I respect as much as my own - be satisfied and calm down.

Rosaline

Let's hope Tybalt listens, or this could get ugly.

Mercutio

Giving in like that is dishonourable.

Rosaline

What? Mercutio's annoyed that Romeo won't fight Tybalt? This is crazy!

Mercutio

Tybalt, you rat-catcher, will you fight with me?

Tybalt

I will.

Romeo

Gentle Mercutio, put your sword away.

Mercutio

(To Tybalt) Come on, sir! Attack me!

Romeo

Benvolio! Help me beat down their swords!

Romeo

Stop, Tybalt! Mercutio!

Mercutio

(Tybalt stabs Mercutio) I am hurt. A plague on both your houses.
(Looking for Tybalt) Is Tybalt gone? Is he injured?

Benvolio

Are you hurt?

Romeo

Courage, man. The injury can't be too bad.

Mercutio

It is enough. Ask for me tomorrow and you shall find me a grave man.
A plague on both your houses! Why did you get between us? He
wounded me under your arm.

Rosaline

Poor Mercutio! He doesn't understand why Romeo tried to stop the
fight.

Romeo

I was trying to do what was right.

Mercutio

Help me inside, Benvolio, or I will pass out. A plague on both your
houses!

Romeo

My best friend, has been hurt while fighting instead of me.

Rosaline

Romeo's blaming himself. Tybalt's anger was mostly for him.
Mercutio was standing up for Romeo and defending his honour
and now he's badly wounded.

Romeo

O sweet Juliet, your beauty has made me a coward.

Rosaline

Surely not wanting to fight Tybalt makes him a *better* man. Not a
coward?

Benvolio

(Returning from Mercutio) O Romeo, Romeo, brave Mercutio is dead!

Romeo

This terrible act will have consequences.

Benvolio

Here comes the furious Tybalt, back again.

Romeo

Alive, in triumph? And Mercutio dead? Either you, or I, or both, must go with him.

Tybalt

You wretch. You lived with him here on earth and now you will go with him to heaven.

Romeo

This fight will decide that.

Rosaline

This is a disaster. Mercutio, now Tybalt...or Romeo.

Benvolio

(To Romeo returning from the fight) Romeo, get away from here! Don't just stand there. What will the Prince do if you're caught? Get out of here!

Romeo

O, I am a fool!

Rosaline

Now Tybalt is dead as well. The prince is going to be furious. He warned them not to fight. And the poor families... The Capulet's will want justice. Even if the Prince did show mercy...what then? What will Romeo tell Juliet about all the dreadful things that have just happened..?