



Romeo and Juliet

adapted from the play by William Shakespeare

Episode 6: Exile

[Scene 1: The streets of Verona]

Rosaline

Romeo, furious that Tybalt fought and killed his best friend Mercutio, has done the unthinkable. He has killed Tybalt, the cousin of Juliet, who he has secretly married. This is a disaster!

Lady Capulet

Tybalt, my nephew! Oh my brother's child! Prince, you are a man of honour, Romeo must be punished.

Prince

Benvolio, who began this fight?

Benvolio

Tybalt was killed by Romeo's hand. Romeo, spoke calmly and fairly to Tybalt. But Tybalt was too angry to see sense. He attacked Mercutio who fought back. Romeo stepped in to beat down their swords. But Tybalt killed Mercutio. He then returned to fight Romeo... who wanted revenge for Mercutio's death...

Rosaline

Bless Benvolio - he's such a loyal friend and brave. To face the prince now and to explain exactly what happened takes courage! What is the prince going to do?

Lady Capulet

I beg for justice, which only you, Prince, can give. Romeo must be punished.

Prince

Romeo killed Tybalt, Tybalt killed Mercutio. Who should pay the price for Mercutio's life?

Montague

Not Romeo, Prince. He was Mercutio's friend. His crime was taking justice into his own hands, by taking the life of Tybalt.

Prince

And for that offence he is banished immediately and must never return to Verona. Let Romeo leave quickly. Otherwise he will pay for it.

Rosaline

The prince does not want any more blood to be spilled. Romeo must leave Verona. What does this mean for Romeo and Juliet?

They just got married. What will they do?

[Scene 2: Juliet's room]

Juliet

What news? Why are you looking so worried?

Nurse

Tybalt is dead and Romeo is banished. It was Romeo who killed Tybalt, which is why he is banished.

Juliet

Oh no! Did Romeo's hand shed Tybalt's blood?

Nurse

It did! It did! Unfortunately, it did! Shame on Romeo!

Rosaline

Juliet must be so confused about her feelings. She's lost a family member and it was her husband's doing. Will this change the way she feels about Romeo?

Nurse

Wait here. I'll find Romeo and bring him to you. I know where he is.
He's hiding at Friar Lawrence's.

Juliet

O, find him! Give him this ring and tell him to come and say a final
goodbye.

Rosaline

His 'final goodbye'! After only one day, the person she has married
is being sent away forever! But at least the Prince has shown some
mercy in only banishing him. It could have been a worse punishment.

[Scene 3: Friar Lawrence's church]

Friar Lawrence

Romeo, come here! Come here!

Romeo

Friar Lawrence, what news? What is the Prince's punishment?

Friar Lawrence

He has banished you from Verona. You must leave immediately.

Romeo

Banishment? That means I must leave Juliet! That makes the
punishment so much worse!

Friar Lawrence

Someone is knocking. Hide in my study, Romeo - you will be
arrested. (*To the person knocking*) Hold on a moment!
Romeo hide! (*To the person knocking*) I'm coming! (*Opening the
door*) Who's knocking so hard? What do you want?

Nurse

I come from Lady Juliet. Where is Romeo?

Romeo
(Stepping forward) Nurse!

Nurse
Juliet would like to see you.

Friar Lawrence

Go to her, Romeo. But you must be careful not to be seen. (*To the nurse*) You go first, nurse. Tell your lady to hurry everybody else in the house to bed. Romeo will come after.

Rosaline

Oh, I do hope that the nurse and the Friar know what they're doing! Sneaking Romeo into the Capulet house at a time like this seems very dangerous! Even if it's the only way for our star-crossed lovers to see each other, for one last time.

[Scene 4: The balcony of Juliet's room]

Juliet

Are you leaving? It's not daytime yet. That birdsong was a nightingale, not a lark..

Romeo

It was the lark, singing to greet the day. Not a nightingale.

Juliet

That light is not daylight; I know it. Stay longer. You don't need to go.

Nurse

Madam! Your mother is coming to your room. The day has started. Be careful. Watch out!

Juliet

Then let the day begin and let life out.

Romeo

Goodbye! One kiss and I'll climb down.

Juliet

Do you think we'll ever meet again?

Romeo

I'm sure we will. When we're older, all of these problems will just be stories we tell each other. Goodbye! Goodbye!

Rosaline

Phew. That was close! If Lady Capulet had seen him..? Doesn't bear thinking about! And now he's leaving Verona. Safely away from the angry Capulets...but also away from Juliet. And he leaves her heart-broken. Married in secret, cousin killed and husband exiled. I have a horrible feeling things are about to get even more complicated. Why is Juliet's mother so keen to talk to her so early in the day..?