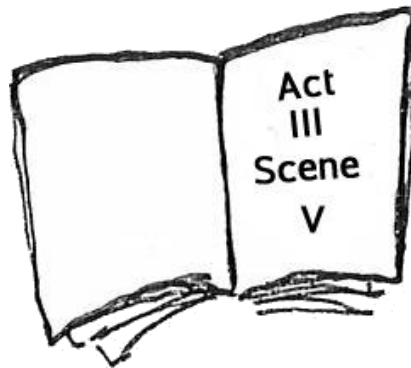


Act 3, Scene 5

The second key scene.



What's happened so far in the play?

- Romeo and Juliet meet at Capulet's ball. They fall instantly in love. They marry in secret.
- Almost immediately after the wedding, Romeo is involved in a brawl with Tybalt (Juliet's cousin) who has (accidentally?) killed Mercutio (Romeo's friend).
- As a result of killing Tybalt, Romeo is banished from Verona for ever. When Juliet finds out her husband has killed her cousin she is really upset, but stays loyal to Romeo.
- Romeo spends one night with Juliet, his wife. So that they have more time together, Juliet goes to bed early, saying she is too upset about Tybalt's death to stay up. Romeo has to flee the city; they don't know when they'll see each other again.
- As he leaves, Lady Capulet arrives in Juliet's bedroom to tell her that her father has arranged for her to marry Paris on Thursday.

Capulet is worried about how much Juliet is crying about Tybalt's death.



Capulet:

When the sun sets, the air doth drizzle dew;
But for the sunset of my brother's son
It rains downright.—

Capulet again compares his daughter to nature, her tears are rain.

He compares her to a ship, the sea, and the winds. Her eyes, the sea because they flow with tears. Her body is the ship sailing on her tears. The winds her sighs.

How now! a conduit, girl? what, still in tears?
Evermore showering? In one little body
Thou counterfeit'st a bark, a sea, a wind:
For still thy eyes, which I may call the sea,
Do ebb and flow with tears; the bark thy body is,
Sailing in this salt flood; the winds, thy sighs;
Who,—raging with thy tears and they with them,—
Without a sudden calm, will overset
Thy tempest-tossed body.—How now, wife!
Have you deliver'd to her our decree?

He is worried that unless she calms down, her sadness will overwhelm her.

Decree = an order. Capulet's attitude to her marriage has changed.

Lady Capulet is annoyed with Juliet for refusing to marry Paris. She even says she wishes Juliet was dead!



Lady Capulet:

Ay, sir; but she will none, she gives you thanks.
I would the fool were married to her grave!

Capulet can't understand why she isn't pleased to be marrying such a great man.

Capulet:

Soft! take me with you, take me with you, wife.
How! will she none? doth she not give us thanks?

Capulet really seems confused by Juliet's refusal –he thought he was doing it for her own good.

Is she not proud? doth she not count her bles'd,
Unworthy as she is, that we have wrought
So worthy a gentleman to be her bridegroom?

Juliet:

Not proud you have; but thankful that you have:
Proud can I never be of what I hate;
But thankful even for hate that is meant love.



Juliet says she is thankful but hates the idea of marrying Paris. This seems very strong to her father, but not to the audience who know she's already married. **DRAMATIC IRONY**



Capulet is amazed. He cannot understand why Juliet isn't pleased.

Capulet:

How now, how now, chop-logic! What is this?
Proud,—and, I thank you,—and I thank you not:—
And yet not proud:—mistress minion, you,
Thank me no thankings, nor proud me no prouds,
But fettle your fine joints 'gainst Thursday next
To go with Paris to Saint Peter's Church,
Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither
Out, you green-sickness carrion! out, you baggage!
You tallow-face!

Spoilt girl

Drag on a fence — this was a punishment for criminals

A corpse

Tallow = animal fat

Impudent girl or prostitute

Capulet is insulting Juliet because she is so pale. Why is she pale?

Lady Capulet:

Fie, fie! what, are you mad?

Who is Lady C talking to? Is she still angry with Juliet or is she trying to calm down her husband?

Is Juliet really kneeling now? Why?



Juliet: Good father, I beseech you on my knees,
Hear me with patience but to speak a word.

A despicable
person

Capulet: Hang thee, young baggage! disobedient
wretch!

I tell thee what,—get thee to church o' Thursday,
Or never after look me in the face:

Speak not, reply not, do not answer me;
My fingers itch.—Wife, we scarce thought us bles'd

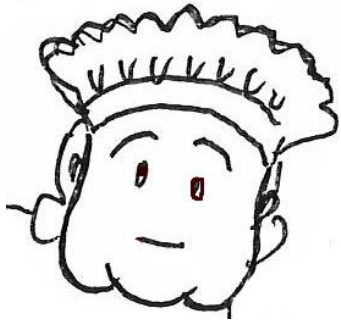
That God had lent us but this only child;
But now I see this one is one too much,
And that we have a curse in having her:
Out on her, hilding!

I feel like
slapping you.
Would Capulet
hit Juliet?

Capulet used to be sorry
to have only one child
(remember lii), but now he
thinks Juliet is too much
trouble

She disgusts me.

The Nurse stands up for Juliet – VERY unusual since women weren't supposed to argue with men, and the Nurse is only a servant so should just do as she is told. Is she surprised by Capulet's anger?



Nurse:

God in heaven bless her!—
You are to blame, my lord, to rate her so.

Sarcastic.
Capulet mocks
the Nurse.

Capulet:

And why, my lady wisdom? hold your tongue,
Good prudence; smatter with your gossips, go.

Nurse:

I speak no treason.

Go and gossip
with your friends

She doesn't think
she has said
anything wrong.
Do you agree?

Capulet:

O, God ye good-en!

Getting exasperated. Takes
the Lord's name in vain –
obviously VERY angry

Nurse:

May not one speak?

Capulet:

Peace, you mumbling fool!
Utter your gravity o'er a gossip's bowl,
For here we need it not.

Up until now the Nurse
has been treated with
respect and affection by
everyone. C is being very
rude.



Lady Capulet now stands up to Capulet. Again this is very unusual. Women had to do as they were told.

Lady Capulet:
You are too hot.



He has been worrying all the time about getting her a suitable husband. Is this true?



Capulet:

God's bread! it makes me mad:
Day, night, hour, time, tide, work, play,
Alone, in company, still my care hath been
To have her match'd, and having now provided
A gentleman of noble parentage,

From a rich family

Owens a lot of land

Of fair demesnes, youthful, and nobly train'd,
Stuff'd, as they say, with honourable parts,
Proportion'd as one's heart would wish a man,—

Well educated



Paris is everything you would want in a man.

whining

A doll

And then to have a wretched puling fool,
A whining mammet, in her fortune's tender,
To answer, 'I'll not wed,—I cannot love,
I am too young,—I pray you pardon me:—

Making fun of
Juliet

What **natural
imagery** is C
using to
describe J
here?

But, an you will not wed, I'll pardon you:
Graze where you will, you shall not house with me:
Look to't, think on't, I do not use to jest.

If Juliet does
not marry
Paris on
Thursday, he
never wants
to see her
again. He
doesn't care
what will
happen to her.

Thursday is near; lay hand on heart, advise:
An you be mine, I'll give you to my friend;
An you be not, hang, beg, starve, die i' the streets,
For, by my soul, I'll ne'er acknowledge thee,
Nor what is mine shall never do thee good:
Trust to't, bethink you, I'll not be forsworn.

[Exit.]

Stresses that he is serious.
He will not break this
promise.





Juliet appeals to her mother for help. Remember, they haven't really been close before, but it has already been seen that the Nurse can't help her

Juliet:

Is there no pity sitting in the clouds,
That sees into the bottom of my grief?
O, sweet my mother, cast me not away!
Delay this marriage for a month, a week;
Or, if you do not, make the bridal bed
In that dim monument where Tybalt lies.

Wants more time. Why?



Lady Capulet:

Talk not to me, for I'll not speak a word;
Do as thou wilt, for I have done with thee.

Lady C refuses to help J. Why?

[Exit.]

Now J has no-one on her side, the ending becomes
INEVITABLE

Juliet threatens that if she has to marry Paris, she will die and have to lie in the Capulet family tomb.
FORESHADOWING

Look at the scene carefully and answer these questions:

1. What words does Capulet use to describe Juliet?
2. How is this different to Act 1, Scene 2?
3. What do Lady Capulet's reactions reveal about Capulet?
4. What phrases show that Capulet is angry?
5. How does Capulet deal with the Nurse's interruptions? What does this reveal about them both?
6. What does Capulet say will happen if Juliet does not marry Paris? What does Juliet say will happen if she does?