

SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE

FREE ON YOUTUBE

6–19 April 2020

VISUAL STORY



The theatre



This is the stage. For different plays, designers add pieces of set to make it look different. You will notice that there are two large pillars holding up the roof (which is called 'the Heavens'). You won't be able to see the actors when they are behind the pillars.



When the audience arrive some of them sit in the three galleries and the others stand in the Yard, the open space in the centre.

There is a large hole in the centre of the roof to allow sunlight in. It also allows the rain in if it is raining. Occasionally, but not always, aeroplanes fly overhead during the play. You might see one. You might not.



The characters of the play



This is **Juliet**



This is **Romeo and Juliet**



This is **Romeo**



This is **Friar Lawrence**

The characters of the play



This is **Nurse**



This is **Lady Capulet**



This is **Tybalt**



This is **Tybalt and Lord Capulet**



This is **Mercutio and Benvolio**



This is **Paris**

The characters of the play



This is **Prince**



This is **Sampson**



This is **Gregory**



This is **Sampson and Gregory**

Show Notes

These are notes of things that may happen during the show, or that you may want to think about for the play.

- The play is approximately two hours and fifty minutes, and there is an interval in the middle.
- The themes of the show concern death, dying and suicide.
- There is a lot of stage fighting, but all the swords used are blunt, and nobody will be hurt. Often when there is fighting there is loud drumming happening at the same time which could be startling.
- Daggers are also used on stage, and these are also blunt.
- During the ball scene a lot of the characters wear masks to hide their face
- Fake blood is used
- Some of the actors will walk through the yard to get to the stage.
- The music can be loud at times throughout the play.
- The theatre is open to the air, and sometimes birds, helicopters, planes and other noises from outside can be heard.

What is the play about?

Shakespeare's plays are often in five parts called

'Acts'. Sometimes, people talk as the 'chorus', which means they are explaining the action straight to the audience: you.

Play summary

- At the beginning of the play, we learn that there are two rival families who live in Verona, the Montagues and the Capulets.
- The play centres on Romeo, who comes from the Montague family, and Juliet, who comes from the Capulet family. Romeo and Juliet meet at a party and fall in love. They get married but have to keep their relationship a secret because their families would not be happy about it.
- Romeo's cousin, Benvolio, and his friend, Mercutio, get into a fight with Juliet's cousin, Tybalt. Romeo tries to break up the fight but Tybalt shoots and kills Mercutio. Romeo is mad at Tybalt for killing his friend and so he kills him in revenge. The Prince of the city finds out what has happened and punishes Romeo by banishing him from Verona.
- Juliet's parents, Lord Capulet and Lady Capulet, want Juliet to marry a nobleman, Paris. Juliet does not want to marry Paris because she still loves Romeo. Juliet goes to see Friar Lawrence and asks him for advice. Friar Lawrence comes up with a plan so Juliet will not have to marry Paris. He gives Juliet a sleeping potion which will put her into such a deep sleep that she will appear dead. Friar Lawrence then sends a message to Romeo telling him of his plan and requesting that he secretly comes back to Verona to find Juliet.
- Juliet takes the sleeping potion which Friar Lawrence has given her. The next morning, Juliet's Nurse finds her in bed and thinks she is dead. Juliet's family take her to the Capulet family tomb to be laid to rest.

- Friar Lawrence meets with a friend, Friar John, and discovers that his message has not been delivered to Romeo. Meanwhile, Romeo hears from his Benvolio, that Juliet is dead. He travels back to Verona with a gun in order to take his own life.
- Romeo arrives at the Capulet tomb. Romeo then sees Juliet and, believing she is dead, he shoots himself. Juliet wakes and sees Romeo dead beside her and also takes her own life.