



ROMEO AND JULIET

Act 5 Scene 3 Romeo edit

ROMEO

—O my love, my wife,
Death, that hath sucked the honey of thy breath,
Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty.
Thou art not conquered. Beauty's ensign yet
Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,
And death's pale flag is not advanced there.—
Tybalt, liest thou there in thy bloody sheet?
O, what more favor can I do to thee
Than with that hand that cut thy youth in twain
To sunder his that was thine enemy?
Forgive me, cousin.—Ah, dear Juliet,
Why art thou yet so fair? Shall I believe
That unsubstantial death is amorous,
And that the lean abhorred monster keeps
Thee here in dark to be his paramour?
For fear of that I still will stay with thee
And never from this palace of dim night
Depart again. Here, here will I remain
With worms that are thy chambermaids. O, here
Will I set up my everlasting rest
And shake the yoke of inauspicious stars
From this world-wearied flesh! Eyes, look your last.
Arms, take your last embrace. And, lips, O, you
The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss
A dateless bargain to engrossing death.
Come, bitter conduct, come, unsavory guide!
Thou desperate pilot, now at once run on
The dashing rocks thy seasick weary bark!
Here's to my love. *Drinking.* O true apothecary,
Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.
He dies.

Underline the words Romeo uses to describe Juliet as she lies 'dead'. Compare these with the words Romeo used to describe Rosaline at the beginning of the play. What conclusions might we draw with their similarity?

Track Romeo's use of personification when he describes death. How does he describe death? What character traits does it have, and what does it do to Juliet? What effect does this personification and its related imagery have?

How many metaphors does Romeo use in this speech? List them and identify what images they create. What does this poetic imagery tell us about Romeo and his view of the world at the end of his character's journey in the play?

Track Romeo's use of punctuation throughout this speech. How does his changing use of punctuation reflect his degree of certainty and resolve as he moves towards the decision to die?

