

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

R O M E O & J U L I E T

Act I, scene 1: *In Love?*

Lady Montague, Benvolio, Romeo

LADY MONTAGUE

O, where is Romeo? saw you him to-day? Right glad I am he was not at this fray.

BENVOLIO

Madam, an hour before the worshipp'd sun peer'd forth the golden window of the east,

So early walking did I see your son:

Towards him I made, but he was ware of me and stole into the covert of the wood.

LADY MONTAGUE

Many a morning hath he there been seen, with tears augmenting the fresh morning dew.

Adding to clouds more clouds with his deep sighs.

BENVOLIO

My noble madam, do you know the cause?

LADY MONTAGUE

I neither know it nor can learn of him.

BENVOLIO

Have you importuned him by any means?

LADY MONTAGUE

Both by myself and many other friends: But he is to himself. Could we but learn from whence his sorrows grow.

We would as willingly give cure as know.

[Enter ROMEO]

BENVOLIO

See, where he comes: so please you, step aside;
I'll know his grievance, or be much denied.

LADY MONTAGUE

I'll away.

[Exeunt LADY MONTAGUE]

BENVOLIO

Good-morrow, cousin.

ROMEO

Is the day so young? Ay me! sad hours seem long.
Was that my mother that went hence so fast?

BENVOLIO

It was. What sadness lengthens Romeo's hours? In love?

ROMEO

Out--

BENVOLIO

Of love?

ROMEO

Out of her favour, where I am in love.

BENVOLIO

Alas, that love, so gentle in his view,
Should be so tyrannous and rough in proof!

ROMEO

In sadness, cousin, I do love a woman.

BENVOLIO

I aim'd so near, when I supposed you loved.

ROMEO

A right good mark-man! And she's fair I love.

BENVOLIO

A right fair mark, fair coz, is soonest hit.

ROMEO

Well, in that hit you miss: she'll not be hit with Cupid's arrow; she hath Dian's wit.

BENVOLIO

Be ruled by me, forget to think of her.

ROMEO

O, teach me how I should forget to think.

BENVOLIO

By giving liberty unto thine eyes; Examine other beauties!

ROMEO

Farewell: thou canst not teach me to forget.

BENVOLIO

I'll pay that doctrine, or else die in debt.