

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Romeo & Juliet

Act 1, scene 1: Lady Montague, Benvolio, Romeo

LADY MONTAGUE

O, where is Romeo? saw you him to-day?

BENVOLIO

Madam, 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,
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.

[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.

[Exit 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

In sadness, cousin, I do love a woman.

BENVOLIO

Be ruled by me, forget to think of her.

ROMEO

O, teach me how I should forget to think!

BENVOLIO

Examine other beauties!

ROMEO

Farewell: thou canst not teach me to forget.

BENVOLIO

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