

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Romeo & Juliet

Act 1, scene 3: Lady Capulet, the Nurse, Juliet

LADY CAPULET

Nurse, where's my daughter? call her forth to me!

NURSE

Now, at twelve year old, I bade her come. What, Juliet! God forbid! Where's this girl? What, Juliet!

(Enter JULIET)

JULIET

How now! who calls?

NURSE

Your MOTHER.

JULIET

Madam, I am here. What is your will?

LADY CAPULET

This is the matter:--Nurse, give leave awhile, We must talk in secret:--NURSE, come back again! Thou know'st my daughter's of a pretty age. Faith, I can tell her age unto an hour. She's fourteen.

NURSE

She is - NOT fourteen.

LADY CAPULET

Enough of this! I pray thee, hold thy peace.

NURSE

Peace, I have done. *[to Juliet]* An I might live to see thee married once, I have my wish.

LADY CAPULET

That is the very theme I came to talk of. Tell me, daughter Juliet, how stands your disposition to be married?

JULIET

It is an honour - that I dream not of.

NURSE

An honour!

LADY CAPULET

Well, by my count, I was your mother much upon these years that you are now a maid. Thus then in brief: The valiant Paris seeks you for his love.

NURSE

A man, young lady! lady, such a man as all the world.

LADY CAPULET

Verona's summer hath not such a flower.

NURSE

Nay, he's a FLOWER; in faith, a very flower!!

[exit]

LADY CAPULET

What say you? can you love the gentleman? This night you shall behold him at our feast; Speak briefly, can you like of Paris' love?

JULIET

I'll look to like, if looking liking move. *(Re-enter Nurse)*

NURSE

Madam! the guests are come, I must hence to wait; I beseech you, follow straight.

LADY CAPULET

We follow thee. Juliet!?!? The county stays!

[exit]

NURSE

Go, girl, seek happy nights to happy day!