

Name _____

The Tragic Turning Point: Act 3 of 'Romeo and Juliet'

Short Answer Key

1. Mercutio's death is a result of Tybalt and Mercutio challenging each other to a duel. Tybalt kills Mercutio, and Mercutio's dying curse accelerates the tragic events of the play.
2. Romeo's banishment creates a rift between him and Juliet. They are separated, and their secret love becomes more challenging to maintain.
3. Friar Laurence devises a plan for Juliet to take a potion that will make her appear dead for 42 hours. The purpose is to allow her to escape her arranged marriage to Paris and reunite with Romeo.
4. Juliet's decision to pretend to accept her father's proposal adds to the tension in the play because it intensifies the conflict between her desires and her family's expectations.
5. The consequences of Romeo's impulsive actions include his banishment from Verona and separation from Juliet. This leads to a series of tragic events, including Juliet's decision to take a potion.

