

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Juliet's Desperate Dilemma: Act 4 of 'Romeo and Juliet'

In Act 4 of William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," the tension and drama escalate as Juliet faces a dire predicament. Act 4 centers on Juliet's desperate attempts to avoid marrying Paris and her willingness to take extreme measures for love.

### Scene 1: Juliet's Refusal

Act 4 opens with a conversation between Juliet and her father, Lord Capulet. He informs her of the marriage arrangement with Paris and insists that she marry him. Juliet is devastated by this news and pleads with her father to delay the wedding, but he is adamant.

### Scene 2: Juliet's Plan

Juliet seeks the counsel of Friar Laurence and begs him for help. She tells him that she would rather die than marry Paris. In response, Friar Laurence devises a daring plan. He gives Juliet a potion that will make her appear dead for 42 hours. Juliet agrees to take the potion, and the friar assures her that he will send a message to Romeo informing him of the plan.

### Scene 3: Juliet's Sacrifice

Juliet returns to her father and agrees to marry Paris, pretending to have a change of heart. Lord Capulet is overjoyed by her apparent compliance and decides to move the wedding up to the following day.

### Scene 4: Preparations for the Wedding

The Capulet household is bustling with wedding preparations as they get ready for the ceremony. Capulet is pleased with Juliet's change of heart, and the joyous atmosphere contrasts sharply with Juliet's inner turmoil.

### Scene 5: Juliet's "Death"

The morning of the wedding arrives, and Juliet takes the potion given to her by Friar Laurence. She falls into a deep sleep, appearing lifeless. The Capulets believe she is dead and grieve her loss, while Romeo remains unaware of the plan.