

Name _____

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

Short Answer Key

1. Juliet initially resists her father's insistence on her marriage to Paris by pleading with him to delay the wedding. Her father reacts with anger and frustration.
2. Friar Laurence devises a plan for Juliet to take a potion that will make her appear dead for 42 hours. Juliet reacts with hesitation but ultimately agrees to the plan.
3. Juliet's decision to pretend to accept her father's marriage proposal is significant because it allows her to buy time and enact Friar Laurence's plan to reunite her with Romeo. It impacts the plot by setting the stage for the events that follow.
4. The preparations for Juliet's wedding create dramatic irony because the audience knows she is planning to take a potion that will make her appear dead, while the Capulet family believes they are preparing for her wedding.
5. Juliet's apparent "death" has a profound emotional impact on the Capulet family, leading to grief and mourning. It also shocks the audience and sets the stage for the tragic events that will unfold.

