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shakespeare s tragedy about two teenagers who fall in love encounter opposition from their feuding

families and take their own lives

oxford school shakespeare is an acclaimed edition especially designed for students with accessible on page notes and explanatory illustrations clear background information and rigorous but accessible scholarly credentials this edition of romeo and juliet includes illustrations preliminary notes reading lists including websites and classroom notes romeo and juliet is a set text for ks3 in england and remains one of the most popular texts for study by secondary students the world over

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romeo and juliet is a tragedy written by william shakespeare early in his career about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately reconcile their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and along with hamlet is one of his most frequently performed plays today the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers romeo and juliet belongs to a tradition of tragic romances stretching back to antiquity its plot is based on an italian tale translated into verse as the tragical history of romeus and juliet by arthur brooke in 1562 and retold in prose in palace of pleasure by william painter in 1567 shakespeare borrowed heavily from both but to expand the plot developed supporting characters particularly mercutio and paris believed to have been written between 1591 and 1595 the play was first published in a quarto version in 1597 this text was of poor quality and later editions corrected it bringing it more in line with shakespeare s original

romeo and juliet shakespeare s most famous tragedy and one of the world s most enduring love stories derives its plot from several sixteenth century sources shakespeare s primary inspiration for the play was arthur brooke s tragical history of romeus and juliet 1562 a long and dense poem brooke s poem in turn

was based on a french prose version written by pierre boiastuau 1559 which was derived from an italian version written by bandello in 1554 bandello s poem meanwhile was an interpretation of luigi da porto s 1525 version of a story by masuccio salernitano 1476 the plot of shakespeare s romeo and juliet remains mostly true to brooke s poem though shakespeare exercised artistic license in several instances for example as he often does shakespeare telescopes the events from brooke s poem which took place over 90 days into a few days in the play additionally shakespeare s juliet is thirteen while brooke wrote her as sixteen the time compression and the younger juliet enhance the youthful nature of the central relationship emphasizing its passion and newness one of the most powerful aspects of romeo and juliet is shakespeare s use of language the characters curse vow oaths banish each other and in general demonstrate great verbal dexterity through an overuse of action verbs in addition the play is saturated with oxymorons puns paradoxes and double entendres shakespeare even calls the use of names into question most famously in juliet s balcony soliloquy shakespeare also executed a rather strong shift in the language spoken by both romeo and juliet after they fall in love whereas romeo is hopelessly normal in his courtship before meeting juliet after he falls in love his language becomes infinitely richer and stronger romeo and juliet also deals with the issue of authoritarian law and order many of shakespeare s plays feature characters that represent the unalterable force of the law such as the duke in the comedy of errors and prince escalus in romeo and juliet in this play the law attempts to stop the civil disorder and even banishes romeo at the midpoint however as in the comedy of errors the law is eventually overpowered by the forces of love there are several different sources that inform the contemporary text of romeo and juliet romeo and juliet was first published in quarto in 1597 and republished in a new edition only two years later the second copy was used to create yet a third quarto in 1609 from which both the 1623 quarto and first folio are derived the first quarto is generally considered a bad quarto or an illicit copy created from the recollections of several actors rather than from the writer s original material the second quarto seems to be taken from shakespeare s rough draft and thus has some inconsistent speech and some lines which shakespeare apparently meant to eliminate please see the about shakespearean theater section of this note for more guidance as to these concepts romeo and juliet was popular during shakespeare s time but over the centuries it has become nothing short of omnipresent it is arguably the most filmed play of all time and has been adapted 4 times to date first by george cukor in 1936 then by franco zeffirelli in 1968 baz luhrmann in 1996 and most recently by carlo carlei in 2013 john madden s academy award winning film shakespeare in love is a fictional account of shakespeare s life while writing the play it was the basis for prokofiev s famous ballet and has inspired numerous operas pop and jazz songs books games and musicals

this annotated edition of the tragedie of romeo and juliet provides two valuable textual services to its readers it restores the language of shakespeare to that of the first folio of 1623 with its idiosyncratic but illuminating spelling capitalization and punctuation it also provides footnotes and annotations that are

candid and plainspoken in their accounting of shakespeare s themes especially his frequent if oft overlooked and underappreciated bawdy puns and allusions an extensive introduction is included as are appendices detailing typographical errors stage directions emended lineations and character tags from the first folio

a study edition of romeo and juliet featuring facing notes activities text graded by importance and illustrations

this study argues that romeo and juliet perhaps shakespeare s most popularly known play repays thorough investigation read afresh the play is an extraordinary exploration of domestic conflict social relations and linguistic practice drawing upon recent criticism on history and literature and the rarely discussed work of eighteenth and nineteenth century women critics sasha roberts presents new readings of romeo and juliet and its early modern cultural context concisely argued chapters address a wide range of themes including rival texts body politics ethnic identity adolescence sexuality masculinity relations between women family dynamics ritual behaviour language bawdy and the commodification of romantic love and examine the play s striking imagery of disease blood beds and wombs clearly written this lively and accessible study of romeo and juliet will be of interest to readers both new to and familiar with the play

the tragedy romeo and juliet is about love between a young man and woman from two feuding families the montagues and the capulets the authenticity of this story is not confirmed but historical signs and life motives from the italian background of the plot tell that there was a certain truth in a sad story about lovers from verona romeo and juliet is the most famous tragedy of shakespeare e g everybody heard this line for never was a story of more woe than this of juliet and her romeo

for this updated critical edition of romeo and juliet hester lees jeffries has written a completely new introduction it draws on recent research in theatre to set romeo and juliet in its mid 1590s context making connections with other plays by shakespeare and other literature of the period as well as with the social and cultural contexts of the day with discussions of london and italy dancing and duelling marriage gender and sexuality it includes detailed discussion of the play in performance from the restoration to the present day with a particular focus on film including global cinema music and dance and also explores other adaptations and afterlives including young adult fiction the edition retains the commentary and textual analysis of the previous editor g blakemore evans the textual analysis is prefaced with a short note contextualising its conclusions in the light of more recent research

illustrated edition includes 20 original full page illustrations that bring verona s streets the balcony and the final act to life bonus features a crisp plot summary a handy characters list and a brief author biography of

william shakespeare step into moonlit verona where a glance becomes destiny and a whispered vow defies an ancient feud this beautifully illustrated edition of romeo and juliet pairs shakespeare s unforgettable poetry with twenty evocative artworks turning every scene into a moment you can see feel and remember follow romeo montague and juliet capulet from the electric spark of first love to the breathless choices that change their world duels at dawn secret weddings at noon and messages that race the clock at night shakespeare s language dazzles with wit and wordplay while digging into themes that still strike home today love versus hate youth versus authority fate versus choice perfect for students book clubs and collectors this edition is designed for effortless reading and deeper appreciation the summary gives you the story at a glance ideal before or after reading the characters list helps you keep every montague capulet and friend straight during the action the concise author biography places shakespeare s life and stage in context enriching every line whether you re discovering the play for the first time or returning to a favorite this edition offers a vivid accessible journey through the world s most famous love story now illuminated with striking art and thoughtful extras that make verona feel brand new

romeo if i profane with my unworthiest hand this holy shrine the gentle sin is this my lips two blushing pilgrims ready stand to smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss juliet good pilgrim you do wrong your hand too much which mannerly devotion shows in this for saints have hands that pilgrims hands do touch and palm to palm is holy palmers kiss romeo and juliet act i scene v romeo and juliet is a tragedy written by william shakespeare early in his career about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately reconcile their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and along with hamlet is one of his most frequently performed plays today the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers romeo and juliet belongs to a tradition of tragic romances stretching back to antiquity its plot is based on an italian tale translated into verse as the tragical history of romeus and juliet by arthur brooke in 1562 and retold in prose in palace of pleasure by william painter in 1567 shakespeare borrowed heavily from both but to expand the plot developed supporting characters particularly mercutio and paris believed to have been written between 1591 and 1595 the play was first published in a quarto version in 1597 this text was of poor quality and later editions corrected it bringing it more in line with shakespeare s original shakespeare s use of his poetic dramatic structure especially effects such as switching between comedy and tragedy to heighten tension his expansion of minor characters and his use of sub plots to embellish the story has been praised as an early sign of his dramatic skill the play ascribes different poetic forms to different characters sometimes changing the form as the character develops romeo for example grows more adept at the sonnet over the course of the play romeo and juliet has been adapted numerous times for stage film musical and opera during the english restoration it was revived and heavily revised by william davenant david garrick s 18th century version also modified several scenes removing material then considered indecent and georg benda s operatic adaptation omitted much of the

action and added a happy ending performances in the 19th century including charlotte cushman s restored the original text and focused on greater realism john gielgud s 1935 version kept very close to shakespeare s text and used elizabethan costumes and staging to enhance the drama in the 20th and into the 21st century the play has been adapted in versions as diverse as george cukor s comparatively faithful 1936 production franco zeffirelli s 1968 version baz luhrmann s 1996 mtv inspired romeo juliet and the 2013 non shakespearean adaptation by carlo carlei

how can you appreciate shakespeare when you have no idea what he s saying if you ve ever sat down with the bard and found yourself scratching your head at words like quondam younker or ebon then this bundled book is just for you inside you will find a comprehensive study guide a biography about the life and times of shakespeare and a modern retelling along with the original text of shakespeare s romeo and juliet each section of this book may also be purchased individually

romeo and juliet is set in verona italy where there is an ongoing feud between the montague and capulet families the play opens with servants from both houses engaged in a street brawl that eventually draws in the family patriarchs and the city officials including prince escalus the prince ends the conflict by issuing a decree that prohibits any further fighting at the risk of great punishment meanwhile romeo a young man from the montague house laments his unrequited love for a woman named rosaline who has vowed to remain chaste for the rest of her life romeo and his friend benvolio happen to stumble across a capulet servant peter who is trying to read a list of invitees to a masked party at the capulet house that evening romeo helps peter read the list and decides to attend the party because rosaline will be there he plans to wear a mask so that he will nobody will recognize him as a montague romeo arrives at the capulets party in costume he falls in love with young juliet capulet from the moment he sees her however juliet s cousin tybalt recognizes romeo and wants to kill him on the spot lord capulet intervenes insisting that tybalt not disturb the party because it will anger the prince undeterred romeo quietly approaches juliet and confesses his love for her after exchanging loving words they kiss afterwards juliet s nurse tells romeo that juliet is a capulet which upsets the smitten youngster meanwhile juliet is similarly distraught when she finds out that romeo is a montague later that night romeo climbs the garden wall into juliet s garden juliet emerges on her balcony and speaks her private thoughts out loud she wishes romeo could shed his name and marry her upon hearing her confession romeo appears and tells juliet that he loves her she warns him to be true in his love and he swears by his own self that he will be before they part they agree that juliet will send her nurse to meet romeo at nine o clock the next day at which point he will set a place for them to be married the nurse carries out her duty and tells juliet to meet romeo at the chapel where friar laurence lives and works juliet meets romeo there and the friar marries them in secret benvolio and mercutio another one of romeo s friends are waiting on the street later that day when tybalt arrives tybalt demands to know where

romeo is so that he can challenge him to a duel in order to punish him for sneaking into the party mercutio is eloquently vague but romeo happens to arrive in the middle of the verbal sparring tybalt challenges him but romeo passively resists fighting at which point mercutio jumps in and draws his sword on tybalt romeo tries to block the two men but tybalt cuts mercutio and runs away only to return after he hears that mercutio has died angry over his friend s death romeo fights with tybalt and kills him then he decides to flee when prince escalus arrives at the murder scene he banishes romeo from verona forever the nurse tells juliet the sad news about what has happened to tybalt and romeo juliet is heart broken but she realizes that romeo would have been killed if he had not fought tybalt she sends her nurse to find romeo and give him her ring that night romeo sneaks into juliet s room and they consummate their marriage the next morning he is forced to leave when juliet s mother arrives romeo travels to mantua where he waits for someone to send news about juliet or his banishment during romeo and juliet s only night together however lord capulet decides that juliet should marry a young man named paris who has been asking for her hand lord and lady capulet tell juliet of their plan but she refuses infuriating her father when both lady capulet and the nurse refuse to intercede for the girl she insists that they leave her side

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