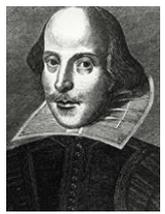


Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare



William Shakespeare was born in 1564 and died in 161. He wrote many plays and poems.

What was it like in Elizabethan times?

- Men were in charge. Women were seen as the weaker sex and were told what to do by their fathers, husbands and brothers.
- Most women were married at a young age. The legal age for marriage was twelve.
- People didn't really marry for love. People marry for money or to have better position in society.
- The father chose a husband for their daughter.
- Your reputation was very important. If someone disrespected your family you could challenge them to a duel (sword fight).

Plot

A boy (Romeo) and a girl (Juliet) fall in love. But they come from families which hate each other, and know they will not be allowed to marry. They are so much in love they marry in secret instead. However, before their wedding night Romeo kills Juliet's cousin in a duel, and in the morning he is forced to leave her. If he ever returns to the city, he will be put to death. Juliet is then told she must marry Paris, who has been chosen by her parents, who do not know she is already married. She refuses - then agrees because she plans to fake her death and escape to be with Romeo. She takes a sleeping potion and appears to be dead, so her parents lay her in a tomb. However, Romeo does not know about the plan, visits her grave, finds her 'dead', and kills himself. Juliet finally wakes up, finds Romeo dead, and then kills herself.

Characters

Montagues

- Lord Montague
- Lady Montague
- Romeo
- Benvolio
- Mercutio

Capulets

- Lord Capulet
- Lady Capulet
- Juliet
- Nurse
- Tybalt

Key words

Patriarchal society	Men having the power and being in charge
Elizabethan	The time when Queen Elizabeth I was ruling Britain
Conform	Doing what is expected of you
Dominant	Being in charge/having power over others

PEE paragraph

- Point** (your idea about the text)
- Evidence** (quotation from the text)
- Explain** (how your quote supports your point)