

Romeo and Juliet Timeline

As in many great pieces of literature, little time elapses in the course of this play. Below is a timeline for the events of the play. The play begins at 9:00 am on a Sunday. Once we get there, you will have to complete a short synopsis of the events for Acts IV-V. At what time does each event take place?

Day	Act.Scen e	Time	Location	Events
Sunday	I.i	8:30 am	A Verona Street	The Montagues and Capulets have a dangerous and violent brawl in the streets of Verona. They are broken up by the arrival of the Prince who threatens them with death if they ever disturb Verona's streets again.
		9:00 am	A Verona Street	Benvolio speaks with Lord Montague about Romeo's depression and vows to find out what his problem is. Romeo enters and Benvolio finds out that Romeo is lovesick over a woman (Rosaline) who has refused his sexual advances. Benvolio counsels Romeo that all he needs to do is look at other beauties to forget about Rosaline.
	I.ii	1:00 pm	A street near Capulet's house	Capulet speaks with Paris regarding Juliet's hand in marriage. Capulet asks Paris to woo Juliet and invites him to the masque that evening at Capulet's house. Capulet sends his servant to invite the guests. Unfortunately, the servant is illiterate and needs help reading the list. He bumps into Romeo and Benvolio who help him read the list. Romeo discovers that Rosaline will be at the masque so the two friends decide to go.
	I.iii	8:00 pm	Capulet's house	Lady Capulet has a discussion with Juliet about her readiness for marriage. The nurse recounts tales of Juliet's infancy. We learn that Juliet is 13 and she doesn't feel ready to get married. Guests arrive for the party.
	I.iv	8:00 pm	A street near Capulet's house	Romeo, Benvolio, Mercutio with six other friends prepare to crash Capulet's party in disguise. Romeo's moping around and Mercutio gets irritated because he's depressing everyone and making them late for the party. Romeo says he's upset because of a dream he had and Mercutio ridicules dreams and dreamers alike. They go to the party, but Romeo has a bad feeling about it.
	I.v	8:30 pm	The hall in Capulet's house	Romeo sees Juliet and falls in love with her on first sight, totally forgetting Rosaline. He then steals a moment with Juliet to profess his love. Tybalt sees Romeo at the party and is enraged at his presence. Lord Capulet prevents Tybalt from attacking Romeo. At the end of the scene before Romeo and his friends leave, Juliet discovers that Romeo is a Montague and Romeo discovers that Juliet is a Capulet.
Monday	II.i	4:00 am	The street next to the wall of Capulet's orchard	Benvolio and Mercutio are searching for Romeo who has run away from them and hopped the wall in to Capulet's orchard. They think he's still heartsick over Rosaline. Mercutio and Benvolio are sick of looking for him and leave after making fun of him.

	II.ii	4:30 am	Capulet's orchard beneath Juliet's balcony	The famous balcony scene in which Romeo and Juliet profess their love for each other. Juliet tells Romeo that if he is serious about his love he must marry her. She will send the nurse to find him at 9:00 am to see if he is serious about marrying her.
	II.iii	6:00 am	Friar Laurence's cell	Friar Laurence is thinking about the properties of his herbs and man when Romeo appears and tells the Friar all about Juliet and he plans to marry her. Friar Laurence thinks that they have rushed into this with no thought and thinks that their love is too hasty and disastrous. However, he agrees to marry them because he hopes it will end the feud between the Capulet's and Montagues.
	II.iv	12:00 pm	A street	Romeo catches up with his pals, Benvolio and Mercutio and trades insults with them. They are amazed at the change in Romeo. We learn also how much Mercutio despises Tybalt because Tybalt is a fancy fencer with no real manly traits. The Nurse arrives and Romeo tells the nurse to have Juliet sent to Friar Laurence's cell for marriage.
	II.v	12:15 pm	Capulet's orchard	The Nurse returns and takes her sweet time telling Juliet that Romeo indeed wishes to marry her and is waiting for her in Friar Laurence's cell.
	II.vi	1:00 pm	Friar Laurence's cell	Romeo and Juliet are married
	III.i	2:00 pm	A public place in Verona	The big fight. Mercutio is slain. Tybalt is slain. Romeo is banished.
	III.ii	6:00 pm	Capulet's orchard	The nurse breaks the news of Tybalt's death to Juliet. Juliet expresses many confused emotions and concludes that she must commit suicide because Romeo is banished. The nurse persuades her to wait until she has brought Romeo to her.
	III.iii	9:00 pm	Friar Laurence's cell	Romeo bemoans his fate and talks of suicide. Friar Laurence scolds Romeo for his unmanly weakness and tells him he should be happy that he's gotten off so easy. Friar Laurence convinces Romeo to go and see Juliet to consummate their marriage and then afterward, they will figure out a way to bring him back from exile and make things all right. Romeo feels comforted by this idea and goes to be with Juliet.
	III.iv	11:00 pm	Capulet's house	Capulet in his grief and confusion decides that Juliet should marry Paris on Thursday.
Tuesday	III.v	6:00 am	Juliet's room	Romeo and Juliet wake up together the next day. Romeo must leave or be captured and put to death. As he leaves, Juliet has a premonition of Romeo in a tomb. Juliet is told by her mother that her father intends to marry her to Paris on Thursday. Juliet is shocked and outraged and refuses, vowing to marry her enemy before Paris. Lord Capulet becomes enraged by her lack of gratitude and threatens to throw her from the house if she disobeys. The Nurse offers no comfort but tells Juliet she should marry Paris because he's a better catch. Juliet vows to never again trust the nurse and leaves to seek Friar Lawrence for advice.

Tuesday	IV.i	9:00 am	Friar Laurence's cell	
Wednesday	IV.ii	9:00 am	Capulet's house	
Wednesday	IV.iii	3:00 pm	Juliet's chamber	
Thursday	IV.iv	3:00 am	Capulet's house	
Thursday	IV.v	3:30 am	Juliet's chamber	
Thursday	V.i	2:00 pm?	A street in Mantua	
Friday	V.ii	2:00 am	Friar Laurence's cell	
Friday	V.iii	5:00 am	Capulet's tomb	

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