

# Romeo and Juliet

By Haley VanNorman

Romeo and Juliet is a play about “star crossed lovers.” and the two main characters, Romeo and Juliet’s,” so called love. Their families are feuding and the hatred and selfishness shown by their parents fighting is a central theme. The two young kids see each other, and “fall in love” but they are really just physically attracted to each other. It's not really true love at all. They hoped that it would bring the two families, the Montagues and the Capulets, together, at first we might expect that these two young lovers would break the feud and unite the familys. If the world was a perfect place we would have seen, the families would be reasonable and not act like children and once in for all resolve the fued, and Romeo and Juliet would have a public wedding and happily ever after. But the hatred between the Capulets and the Montagues was almost too strong to overcome. In the end Romeo and Juliet’s “love” was in fact strong enough to overcome the hate, but at th price of their lives. In the beginning of the play Romeo and Juliet are just two young kids caught up in trying to find everything so early in life, Romeo is a young kid searching for women and love. In the beginning he chose Rosaline, Rosaline has sworn to remain a virgin, and have absolutely no sexual intercourse. Romeo expresses his feelings about it to Benvolio saying” I love someone but she doesn't love me” (Act 1, Scene 1, line 158) and Benvolio makes fun of him.

When Juliet is first shown in the play, she is in her bedroom with her mother and Nurse, and in this time, her job as a young lady was to wait for her parents to marry her to someone, and Juliet's mother announces that Paris will be her future husband. She is obedient at first. But

then when Romeo and Juliet meet, the idea of love, sex, romance, and marriage, come in and takeover the rest of the play. Romeo decides to show up at the capulet's party, Benvolio suggests to look for other women to get over Rosaline and that is exactly what he did, he and Juliet meet, and he later decides that he needs to see her again. So after the party he returns to the Capulets, Juliet thinks that their love, then decides that she will no longer be a Capulet. Then they meet Friar Lawrence, and by the end of that scene he has agreed to marry them. They come up with a plan and by the end of act two they are married, less than a day after they meet, it's not real love, Romeo doesn't really know what real love is. So by the end of the play they kill themselves, to escape from the world that has kept them apart.

Romeo and Juliet isn't a love story, it's a tragedy, a tragedy caused by two young confused minds and the fighting of their parents. Everyone looks at this as a love story but what is it? Were they in love or were they young kids who were attracted to each other's physical appearance?