

Juliet

Juliet is very young, not yet fourteen. She meets Romeo at a party and falls instantly in love. She is determined to be with him, although she knows her family won't approve and is brave enough to marry Romeo secretly.

Romeo

At the beginning of the play Romeo thinks he is in love with Rosaline, who doesn't love him. His friend, Benvolio takes him to a Capulet party to cheer him up and he meets Juliet, and falls in love for real. Romeo is quite quick tempered, killing both Tybalt and Paris in a rage.

Friar Lawrence

Friar Lawrence is a priest who helps Romeo and Juliet to get married, hoping that this will end the trouble between their two families. He also gives Juliet the sleeping potion which causes Romeo to think she is dead. Friar Lawrence is trying to do good, but his actions cause a lot of trouble.

Paris

Count Paris is described as handsome and rich. He wants to marry Juliet, though he doesn't seem to actually know her very well. Her parents are in favour of the marriage and try to force her to marry him (though they don't know she's already married to Romeo. Near the end of the play Romeo kills Paris in a fight at Juliet's tomb.

Nurse

The nurse is Juliet's personal servant, and was her nurse when Juliet was a child. She loves her and looks after her and, when she discovers about Juliet's love for Romeo, she helps her to get married.

Tybalt

Tybalt is Juliet's cousin. He recognises Romeo who has come uninvited to the party where he meets and falls in love with Juliet. Tybalt has a temper and starts a fight with Romeo, which results in his death.