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**Soliloquy 1: Juliet Drinks the Potion**

*As you read, annotate by highlighting words/phrases that help develop Juliet’s tone, the internal or external conflicts affecting her, figurative language, or other significant lines of dialogue. For each item you highlight, make a note in the column on the far right. In your notes, include any ideas you have regarding how you might reimagine this scene. Think of what expressions, gestures, etc. Juliet might make, or how you could alter the character, setting, or scene creatively. Also answer the questions provided.*

***Context:*** *The friar’s plan to help Juliet involves her taking a false poison to fake her own death. She tells her parents that she will marry Paris, then gives clever excuses to the nurse and her mother so that they leave her alone for the evening. It is then that she delivers this soliloquy and drinks the potion.*

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| **JULIET**  Farewell!—God knows when we shall meet again.  I have a faint cold fear thrills through my veins  That almost freezes up the heat of life.  I’ll call them back again to comfort me.—  Nurse!—What should she do here?  My dismal scene I needs must act alone.  Come, vial. *(holds out the vial)*  What if this mixture do not work at all?  Shall I be married then tomorrow morning?  No, no. This shall forbid it. Lie thou there.  *(lays her knife down)*  What if it be a poison, which the friar  Subtly hath ministered to have me dead,  Lest in this marriage he should be dishonored  Because he married me before to Romeo?  I fear it is. And yet, methinks, it should not,  For he hath still been tried a holy man.  How if, when I am laid into the tomb,  I wake before the time that Romeo  Come to redeem me? There’s a fearful point.  Shall I not, then, be stifled in the vault  To whose foul mouth no healthsome air breathes in,  And there die strangled ere my Romeo comes?  Or, if I live, is it not very like  The horrible conceit of death and night,  Together with the terror of the place—  As in a vault, an ancient receptacle,  Where for these many hundred years the bones  Of all my buried ancestors are packed;  Where bloody Tybalt, yet but green in earth,  Lies festering in his shroud; where, as they say,  At some hours in the night spirits resort—?  Alack, alack, is it not like that I,  So early waking, what with loathsome smells,  And shrieks like mandrakes torn out of the earth,  That living mortals, hearing them, run mad—?  Oh, if I wake, shall I not be distraught,  Environèd with all these hideous fears,  And madly play with my forefather’s joints,  And pluck the mangled Tybalt from his shroud,  And, in this rage, with some great kinsman’s bone,  As with a club, dash out my desperate brains?  Oh, look! Methinks I see my cousin’s ghost  Seeking out Romeo, that did spit his body  Upon a rapier’s point. Stay, Tybalt, stay!  Romeo, Romeo, Romeo! Here’s drink. I drink to thee.  *She drinks and falls down on the bed, hidden by the bed curtains.* | **JULIET**  Good-bye. Only God knows when we’ll meet again. There is a slight cold fear cutting through my veins. It almost freezes the heat of life. I’ll call them back here to comfort me. Nurse!—Oh, what good would she do here?  In my desperate situation, I have to act alone.  Alright, here’s the vial.  What if this mixture doesn’t work at all? Will I be married tomorrow morning? No, no, this knife will stop it. Lie down right there.  *(she lays down the knife)*  What if the Friar mixed the potion to kill me? Is he worried that he will be disgraced if I marry Paris after he married me to Romeo? I’m afraid that it’s poison. And yet, it shouldn’t be poison because he is a trustworthy holy man.  What if, when I am put in the tomb, I wake up before Romeo comes to save me? That’s a frightening idea. Won’t I suffocate in the tomb? There’s no healthy air to breathe in there. Will I die of suffocation before Romeo comes?  Or if I live, I’ll be surrounded by death and darkness. It will be terrible.  There will be bones hundreds of years old in that tomb, my ancestors' bones.  Tybalt’s body will be in there, freshly entombed, and his corpse will be rotting. They say that during the night the spirits are in tombs.  Oh no, oh no. I’ll wake up and smell awful odors. I’ll hear screams that would drive people crazy.    If I wake up too early, won’t I go insane with all these horrible, frightening things around me, start playing with my ancestors' bones, and pull Tybalt’s corpse out of his death shroud? Will I grab one of my dead ancestor’s bones and bash in my own skull? Oh, look! I think I see my cousin Tybalt’s ghost. He’s looking for Romeo because Romeo killed him with his sword. Wait, Tybalt, wait! Romeo, Romeo, Romeo! Here’s a drink. I drink to you.  *She drinks from the vial and falls on her bed, hidden by her bed curtains.* | Why does Juliet change her mind about calling the nurse for help?  What are Juliet’s intentions with the knife?  Does Juliet trust the friar? Should she?  What is Juliet afraid will happen to her? Is she right to fear this? Why? Do you think it has already happened in a way?  Draw or describe what the audience might see if they could see Juliet falling into the coma-like sleep. |

What emotions/tones does Juliet go through in this soliloquy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Copy three key quotations from the original Shakespeare text. On the right, explain the significance of each in the context of the scene and play. How does the quote help develop the character, theme, conflict, etc.?

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| Quote 3: | Significance: |

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**Soliloquy 2: Romeo with Juliet’s Body (Or what he believes to be her corpse…)**

*As you read, annotate by highlighting words/phrases that help develop Romeo’s tone, the internal or external conflicts affecting him, figurative language, or other significant lines of dialogue. For each item you highlight, make a note in the column on the far right. In your notes, include any ideas you have regarding how you might reimagine this scene. Think of what expressions, gestures, etc. Romeo might make, or how you could alter the character, setting, or scene creatively Also answer the questions provided.*

***Context:*** *The message sent by the friar to Romeo explaining Juliet’s plan to fake her death never arrives because the messenger carrying it is quarantined. When Romeo arrives at the Capulet tomb to find what he believes to be the dead body of his beloved, he fights with Paris, who is mortally wounded and dies. After lying Paris’s body next to Juliet’s per his request, Romeo speaks to his love and drinks the real poison he obtained from the apothecary.*

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| ***ROMEO****opens the tomb to reveal****JULIET****inside.*  A grave? Oh, no. A lantern, slaughtered youth,  For here lies Juliet, and her beauty makes  This vault a feasting presence full of light.  Death, lie thou there, by a dead man interred.  *(lays* PARIS *in the tomb)*  How oft when men are at the point of death  Have they been merry, which their keepers call  A lightning before death! Oh, how may I  Call this a lightning?—O my love, my wife!  Death, that hath sucked the honey of thy breath,  Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty.  Thou art not conquered. Beauty’s ensign yet  Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,  And death’s pale flag is not advancèd there.—  Tybalt, liest thou there in thy bloody sheet?  O, what more favor can I do to thee,  Than with that hand that cut thy youth in twain  To sunder his that was thine enemy?  Forgive me, cousin.—  Ah, dear Juliet,  Why art thou yet so fair? Shall I believe  That unsubstantial death is amorous,  And that the lean abhorrèd monster keeps  Thee here in dark to be his paramour?  For fear of that, I still will stay with thee,  And never from this palace of dim night  Depart again. Here, here will I remain  With worms that are thy chamber maids.  Oh, here  Will I set up my everlasting rest,  And shake the yoke of inauspicious stars  From this world-wearied flesh. Eyes, look your last.  Arms, take your last embrace. And, lips, O you  The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss  A dateless bargain to engrossing death.  *(kisses* JULIET, *takes out the poison)*  Come, bitter conduct, come, unsavoury guide.  Thou desperate pilot, now at once run on  The dashing rocks thy seasick, weary bark.  Here’s to my love! *(drinks the poison)* O true apothecary,  Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.  ***ROMEO****dies* | ***ROMEO****opens the tomb to reveal****JULIET****inside.*  A grave? Oh no! This is a lantern, dead Paris. Juliet lies here, and her beauty fills this tomb with light. Dead men, lie there. You are being buried by another dead man. *(he lays* PARIS *in the tomb)*  How often are men happy right before they die! They call it the lightness before death. Oh, how can I call this lightness? Oh, my love! My wife! Death has sucked the honey from your breath, but it has not yet ruined your beauty. You haven’t been conquered. There is still red in your lips and in your cheeks. Death has not yet turned them pale.  Tybalt, are you lying there in your bloody death shroud? Oh, what better favor can I do for you than to kill the man who killed you with the same hand that made you die young. Forgive me, cousin!  Ah, dear Juliet, why are you still so beautiful? Should I believe that death is in love with you, and that the awful monster keeps you here to be his mistress?  I don’t like that idea, so I’ll stay with you. And I will never leave this tomb. Here, here I’ll remain with worms that are your chamber-maids.  Oh, I’ll rest here forever. I’ll forget about all the bad luck that has troubled me. Eyes, look out for the last time! Arms, make your last embrace! And lips, you are the doors of breath. Seal with a righteous kiss the deal I have made with death forever.  *(*ROMEO *kisses* JULIET *and takes out the poison)*  Come, bitter poison, come, unsavory guide! You desperate pilot, let’s crash this sea-weary ship into the rocks! Here’s to my love!  ROMEO *drinks the poison*.  Oh, that pharmacist was honest! His drugs work quickly. So I die with a kiss.  ***ROMEO****dies.* | Why do you think Romeo laid Paris next to Juliet? What does his last line before doing so imply?  What does Romeo personify here? Where does this personification come up again in the soliloquy?  How does Romeo feel about Tybalt in his last moments?  What does the word righteous mean? Why do you think Romeo used it here?  How does Romeo seem to feel about taking his own life? |

What emotions/tones does Romeo go through in this soliloquy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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