

## Romeo and Juliet / 2.2

**Juliet** O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore **are you** Romeo?  
Deny **your** father and refuse **your** name;  
Or, if **you will** not, be but sworn my love,  
And I'll no longer be a Capulet...  
5 'Tis but **your** name that is my enemy;...  
Romeo, doff **your** name,  
And for **your** name, which is no part of **you**,  
Take all myself.

**Romeo** I take **you** at **your** word.  
10 Call me but love, and I'll be new baptiz'd;  
Henceforth I never will be Romeo.

**Juliet** What man **are you** that thus bescreen'd in night  
So stumble on my counsel?

**Romeo** By a name  
15 I know not how to tell **you** who I am.  
My name, dear saint, is hateful to myself,  
Because it is an enemy to **you**;  
Had I it written, I would tear the word.

**Juliet** My ears have yet not drunk a hundred words  
20 Of **your** tongue's uttering, yet I know the sound.  
**Are you** not Romeo, and a Montague?

**Romeo** Neither, fair maid, if either *thee* dislike.

**Juliet** How **came you** hither, tell me, and wherefore?  
The orchard walls are high and hard to climb,  
25 And the place death, considering who **you are**,  
If any of my kinsmen find **you** here.

**Romeo** With love's light wings did I o'erperch these walls,  
For stony limits cannot hold love out,  
And what love can do, that dares love attempt;  
30 Therefore **your** kinsmen are no stop to me.

**Juliet** If they do see **you**, they will murder **you**.

**Romeo** Alack, there lies more peril in **your** eye  
Than twenty of their swords! Look **you** but sweet,  
And I am proof against their enmity.

35 **Juliet** I would not for the world they saw **you** here.

**Romeo** I have night's cloak to hide me from their eyes,  
And but **you** love me, let them find me here;  
My life were better ended by their hate,  
Than death prorogued, wanting of **your** love.

40 **Juliet** By whose direction found **you** out this place?

**Romeo** By love, that first did prompt me to inquire;  
He lent me counsel, and I lent him eyes.  
I am no pilot, yet, were **you** as far  
As that vast shore [wash'd] with the farthest sea,  
45 I should adventure for such merchandise.

**Juliet** **You** know the mask of night is on my face,  
Else would a maiden blush bepaint my cheek  
For that which **you** have heard me speak to-night.  
Fain would I dwell on form, fain, fain deny  
50 What I have spoke, but farewell compliment!  
Do **you** love me? I know **you** will say, "Ay,"  
And I will take **your** word; yet, if **you** swear,  
**You** may prove false: at lovers' perjuries  
They say Jove laughs. O gentle Romeo,  
55 If **you** do love, pronounce it faithfully;  
Or if **you** think I am too quickly won,  
I'll frown and be perverse, and say **you** nay,  
So **you** will woo, but else not for the world.  
In truth, fair Montague, I am too fond,  
60 And therefore **you** may think my behavior light,  
But trust me, gentleman, I'll prove more true

Than those that have [more] coying to be strange.  
 I should have been more strange, I must confess,  
 But that **you** overheard, ere I was ware,  
 65 My true-love passion; therefore pardon me,  
 And not impute this yielding to light love,  
 Which the dark night hath so discovered.

**Romeo** Lady, by yonder blessed moon I vow,  
 That tips with silver all these fruit-tree tops --

70 **Juliet** O, swear not by the moon, th' inconstant moon,  
 That monthly changes in her [circled] orb,  
 Lest that **your** love prove likewise variable.

**Romeo** What shall I swear by?

75 **Juliet** Do not swear at all;  
 Or if **you** will, swear by **your** gracious self,  
 Which is the god of my idolatry,  
 And I'll believe **you**.

**Romeo** If my heart's dear love --

80 **Juliet** Well, do not swear. Although I joy in **you**,  
 I have no joy of this contract to-night,  
 It is too rash, too unadvis'd, too sudden,  
 Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be  
 Ere one can say it lightens. Sweet, good night!  
 This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath,  
 85 May prove a beauteous flow'r when next we meet.  
 Good night, good night! as sweet repose and rest  
 Come to **your** heart as that within my breast!

**Romeo** O, will **you** leave me so unsatisfied?

**Juliet** What satisfaction can **you** have to-night?

90 **Romeo** Th' exchange of **your** love's faithful vow for mine.

**Juliet** I gave **you** mine before **you** did request it;  
 And yet I would it were to give again.

**Romeo** Would **you** withdraw it? for what purpose, love?

95 **Juliet** But to be frank and give it **you** again,  
 And yet I wish but for the thing I have.  
 My bounty is as boundless as the sea,  
 My love as deep; the more I give to **you**,

The more I have, for both are infinite.  
 [Nurse calls within.]  
 100 I hear some noise within; dear love, adieu!  
 Anon, good nurse! Sweet Montague, be true.  
 Stay but a little, I will come again. [Exit above.]

**Romeo** O blessed, blessed night! I am afeard,  
 105 Being in night, all this is but a dream,  
 Too flattering-sweet to be substantial.  
 [Enter JULIET above.]

**Juliet** Three words, dear Romeo, and good night indeed.  
 If that **your** bent of love be honorable,  
**Your** purpose marriage, send me word to-morrow,  
 110 By one that I'll procure to come to **you**,  
 Where and what time **you** will perform the rite,  
 And all my fortunes at **your** foot I'll lay,  
 And follow **you** my lord throughout the world.

**[Nurse.]** Within.] Madam!

115 **Juliet** I come, anon. -- But if **you** mean not well,  
 I do beseech **you** --

**[Nurse.]** Within.] Madam!

**Juliet** By and by, I come--  
 120 To cease **your** strife, and leave me to my grief.  
 To-morrow will I send.

**Romeo** So thrive my soul --

**Juliet** A thousand times good night! [Exit above.]

**Romeo** A thousand times the worse, to want **your** light.  
 Love goes toward love as schoolboys from their books,  
 125 But love from love, toward school with heavy looks.  
 [Retiring.]