

Opera Funtime

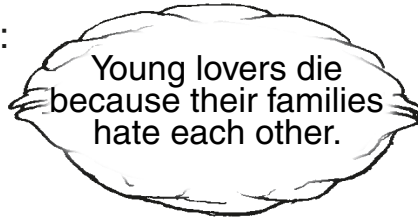
presents



Roméo and Juliette

by Charles Gounod

This opera in a nutshell:



OPERA FUNTIME COLLECTION

The Abduction from the Seraglio	Mozart
Aida	Verdi
The Barber of Seville	Rossini
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Don Giovanni	Mozart
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Idomeneo.	Mozart
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Pagliacci	Leoncavallo
Rigoletto	Verdi
Roméo and Juliette	Gounod
The Tales of Hoffmann.	Offenbach
Tosca	Puccini
La Traviata.	Verdi
Turandot	Puccini

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A YOUNG PERSON'S INTRODUCTION TO THE ARTS
featuring

ROMÉO and JULIETTE

by Charles Gounod



Illustration and layout by Valerie Mydske

Produced by the following members of the Education Committee of the Young Patronesses of the Opera in cooperation with Florida Grand Opera:

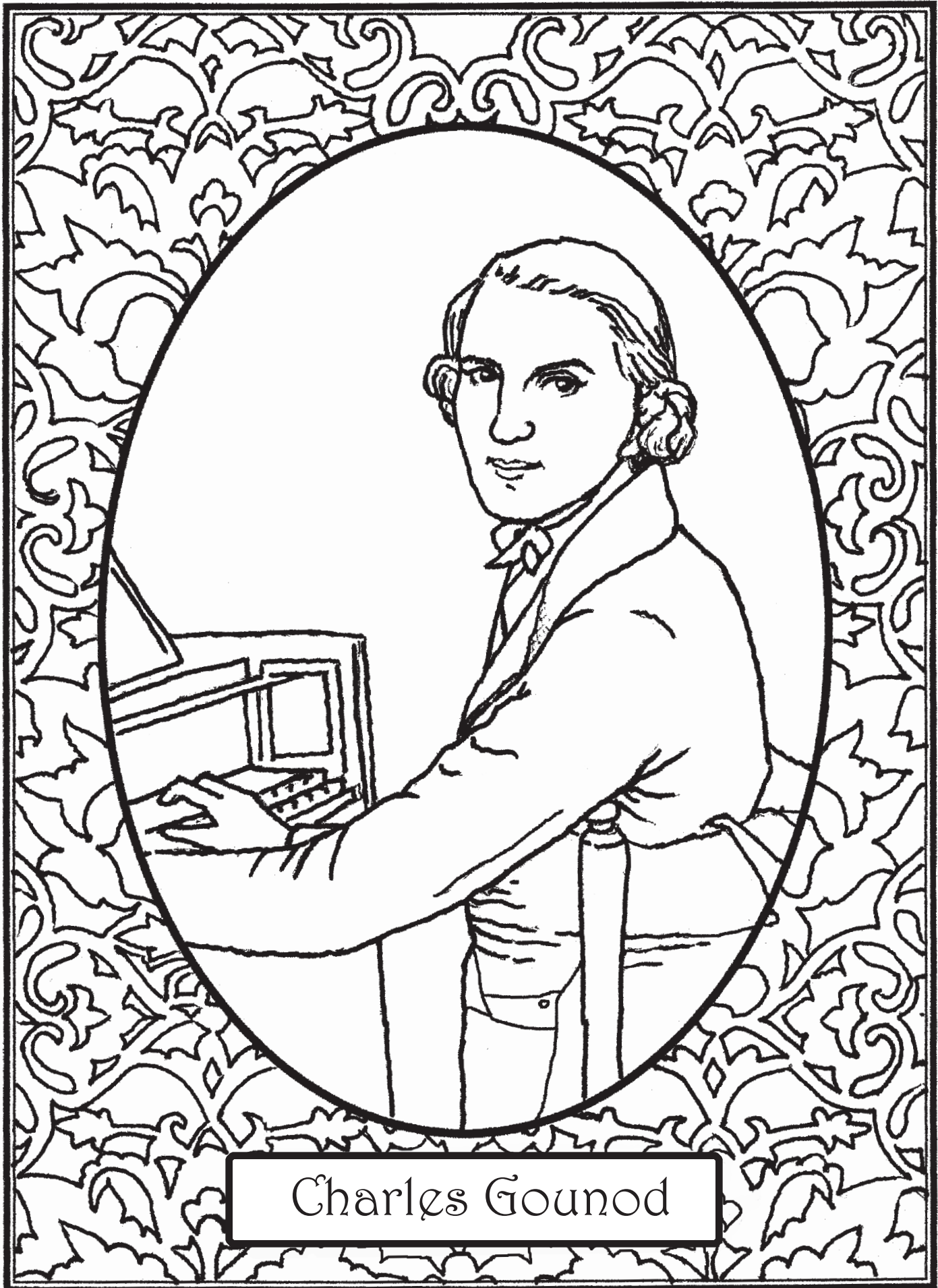
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The Composer, Charles Gounod, 1852-1893, was born in Paris, France during the Romantic Period. His father was a famous artist and his mother a fine musician. From an early age, she gave him his first music lessons. When Charles was five, his father died. He was placed in a boarding school, but his intense love for music distracted him from his studies. In 1836 he entered the Paris Conservatoire. Three years later he won the prestigious Prix de Rome award which allowed him to travel to Italy. While in Italy he fell under the influence of sixteenth century Italian music and was introduced to the theatre.

Gounod was a deeply religious man and had considered becoming a priest. He wrote many choral works and was an outstanding organist. His operas are known for their memorable melodies and musical characterizations. *Faust* gave him international recognition, followed in 1867 by *Roméo and Juliette*. In all, he composed 12 operas. He died in Paris in 1893, while writing his own requiem mass.

The Librettists, Michel Carré and Jules Barbier

A libretto is the story of the opera. The librettist is one who writes the story. Gounod worked with this team of librettists for *Faust* and for *Roméo and Juliette*. They used a new French translation of Shakespeare's play and never read the original English version. The opera is sung in French.



Charles Gounod

CHARACTERS



MERCUTIO
Roméo's best friend
baritone



FRIAR LAURENT
Kindly man of God, friend of both young people
bass



ROMÉO
Son of Count Montague
tenor



DUKE OF VERONA
Wise city ruler
bass



STEPHANO
Roméo's page
soprano
* (pants role)

THE MONTAGUES

IN THIS OPERA



JULIETTE
Count Capulet's
daughter
soprano



GERTRUDE
Juliette's nurse
and friend
mezzo-soprano



TYBALT
Juliette's cousin
tenor



COUNT CAPULET
Juliette's father
Capulet family head
bass



COUNT PARIS
Engaged to Juliette and
Tybalt's friend
baritone

THE CAPULETS

Roméo and Juliette

Roméo was a Montague,
Juliette, a Capulet.
Their story was a sad one,
One you will not soon forget.

They met at a grand party,
Count Capulet's masked ball.
Roméo and his friends crept in
Wearing masks, they fooled them all.

But as fate would have it
He and Juliette fell in love,
A love that really had no chance,
So said the stars above.

Their families had a long term feud
And friends all filled with hate.
The young lovers were caught in between;
For them it was too late.

Friar Laurent hoped the marriage
Of the beautiful young pair
Would end the families' hatred,
Stop their anger and despair.

But Tybalt killed Mercutio,
And Roméo did avenge.
So Roméo was banished.
What a horrible revenge!

Count Capulet, not knowing
That his Juliette had wed,
Had arranged another marriage.
Paris was the groom instead.





Friar Laurent acted quickly
And he came up with a plan:
With God's help he'd keep her
From marrying this young man.

He gave Juliette a potion.
She did appear to die.
Roméo found her in the crypt
And said his last goodbye.

He did not get the letter
That explained the Friar's plot.
Her body would seem pale and cold,
But dead, Juliette was not.

Roméo took some poison.
Just then she did awake!
Seeing what had happened,
Her own dagger she did take.

She would not live without him,
And gave up her own life
So that they could be together
Up in heaven, man and wife.

Each of the rival families
Lost their only precious child
All because of violence
And tempers that ran wild.

This story shows how awful
Hate and rage can really be.
For the end will never justify
The means of cruelty.

WHERE ARE THEY?

Roméo and Juliet were real people.
Their story took place in less than a week in the 1300's.
Their houses still exist in Verona, Italy.
The Capulet house and its famous balcony are tourist attractions.
Roméo's house is nearby but cannot be visited.



ITALY, the "BOOT,"
has many beautiful and famous
historic sites.

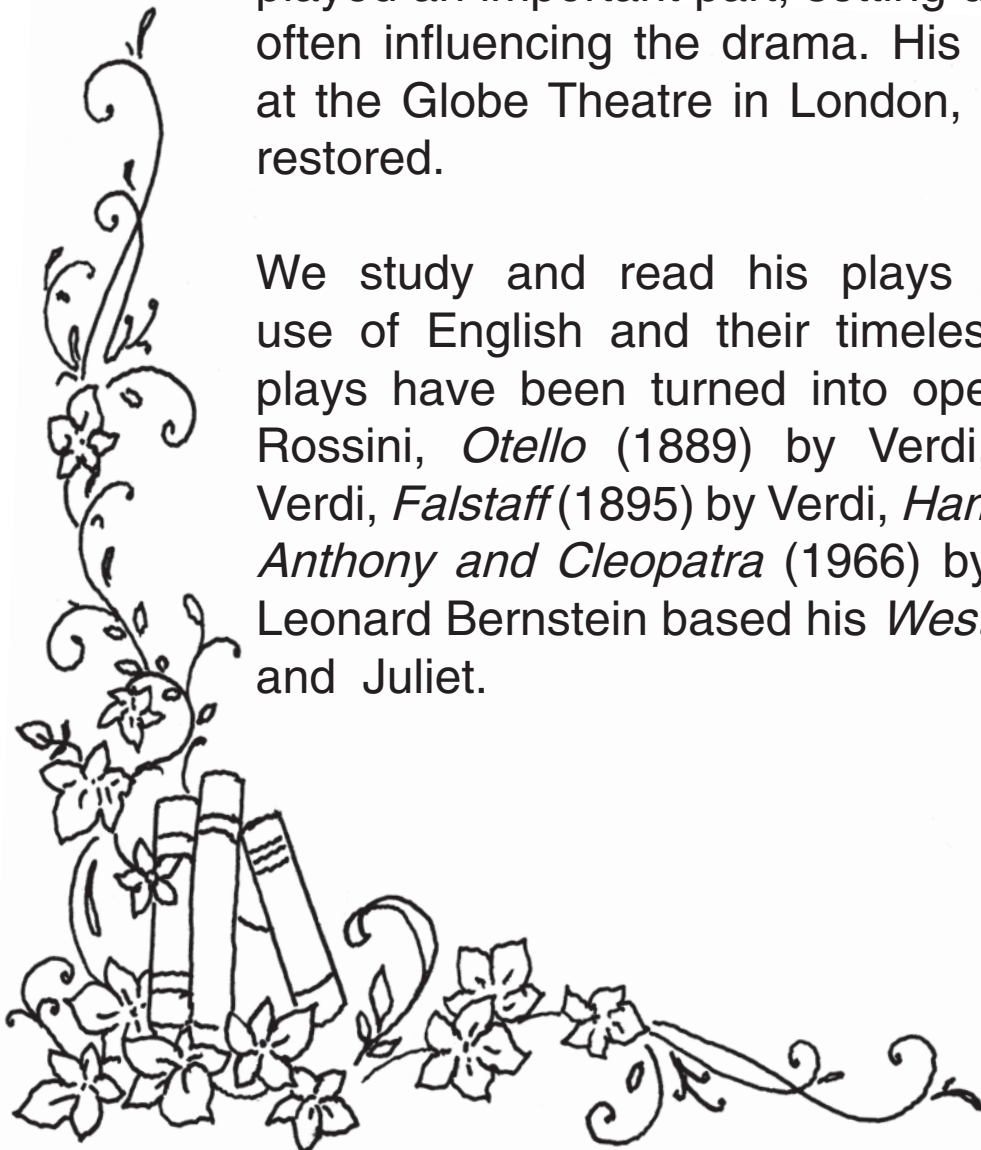
Draw a line from each city
to its main attraction.

The STORY OF ROMÉO AND JULIET and SHAKESPEARE'S PLAY

The story of Roméo and Juliet dates to the 1300's, two hundred years before Shakespeare wrote his play *Roméo and Juliet* in 1595. In Italy of the middle ages there were several versions of the ancient feud between two families and the hopes of two young people to finally end their families' long time quarrels.

William Shakespeare turned the Roméo and Juliet story into the world's best known play about the "star crossed lovers." He lived in the age of Queen Elizabeth I, when there was increased interest in history and scientific matters. For Shakespeare, music played an important part, setting up the atmosphere and often influencing the drama. His plays were performed at the Globe Theatre in London, which has since been restored.

We study and read his plays today for their great use of English and their timeless tales. Some of his plays have been turned into operas: *Otello* (1822) by Rossini, *Otello* (1889) by Verdi, *Macbeth* (1859) by Verdi, *Falstaff* (1895) by Verdi, *Hamlet* (1868) by Thomas, *Anthony and Cleopatra* (1966) by Barber, and others. Leonard Bernstein based his *West Side Story* on Roméo and Juliet.



ROMÉO AND JULIETTE

Prologue

The chorus and orchestra briefly tell the story of two young people who are tragically locked in a feud between their noble families. Roméo and Juliette will pay with their lives because of the hatred between the Montagues and the Capulets.



Act I: The Masked Ball

A grand masked ball is taking place at the Capulet palace in Verona. All the guests wear masks, adding to the excitement. The evening celebrates the birthday of Count Capulet's beautiful daughter – Juliette.

Count Capulet intends to announce that Juliette will marry Count Paris, nephew of the Prince. But, as is the custom of the day, he has not told Juliette. Everyone at the party sings of Juliette's beauty.

Three masked men sneak into the party. They are Roméo, Mercutio, and Benvolio, all members of the Montague family - hated enemies of the Capulets. Roméo says he wants to leave and does not want to cause trouble. He says he had a strange dream the night before and feels it is a bad omen. Mercutio says his dream was probably from Queen Mab, the fairy queen. She causes young lovers to fall in love with someone they can never have.

Mercutio

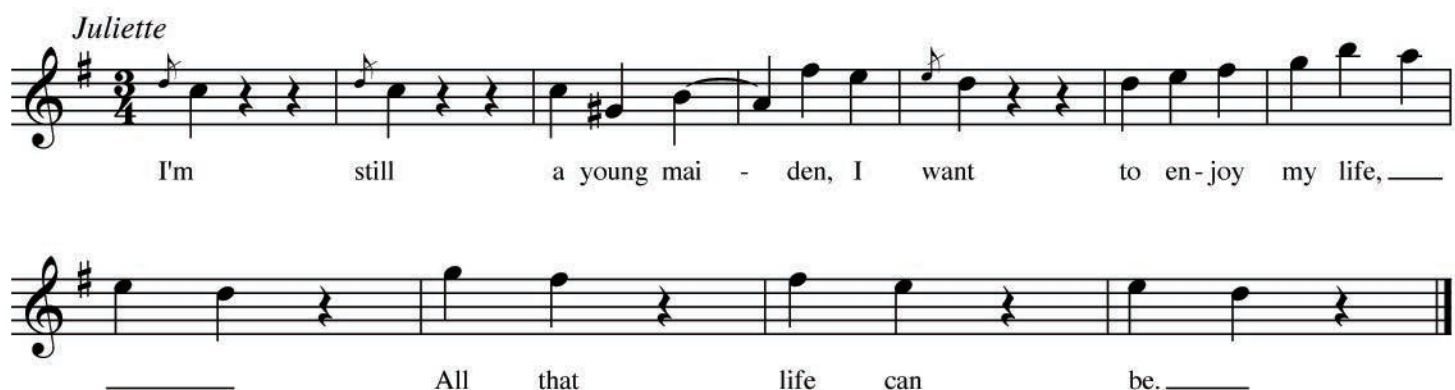


Mab, the fair-y queen who makes you dream of things you can - not have.

As Mercutio makes fun of him, Roméo sees Juliette for the first time. Roméo declares she is as lovely as an angel. They hear some Capulets coming and the Montagues hide in the great hall.

Juliette is very happy on her special night. Gertrude, her nurse and companion, suggests that Juliette marry Count Paris. Juliette rejects the idea of marrying so young. She wants to enjoy her youth.

Juliette



I'm still a young mai - den, I want to en-joy my life, —

— All that life can be. —

When Gertrude leaves the room, Roméo tells Juliette that he has fallen in love with her. She says that though she has not known him for long, she feels the same. They do not even know each other's name. As they introduce themselves, Tybalt returns. He recognizes Roméo. Juliette cannot believe her ears. The man she has fallen in love with is one of her family's worst enemies!

Tybalt is very angry that Roméo and his friends would dare to come to this party. He wants to fight them. Count Capulet tries to prevent a scene and asks everyone to relax and enjoy the evening.

Mercutio rushes Roméo out of the Capulet house.

Act II: The Balcony Scene

Later that night Roméo, his page Stephano, and Mercutio secretly climb into the Capulet garden. There is a candle glowing in Juliette's window. Roméo compares Juliette to the rising sun and asks her to come out onto her balcony.



Her window opens and she appears. She calls out, “Roméo, Roméo, wherefore art thou? What dreadful luck that you would have the name of Montague – a name so despised by my family.”

Juliette



Tis but a name! Why do you have _____ that hat - ed name? _____

The image shows a musical staff for Juliette's line. It is in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody consists of several measures of music, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note with a slur. The lyrics are written below the staff, with blank lines for the missing parts of the lyrics.

When she appears, they vow to put their families' conflict aside. They declare their love for one another. He will change his name if it offends her.

The Capulets hear noises and suspect that there are Montagues in the garden. Gertrude comes out to bring Juliette back into her room. Once the garden is clear, Roméo returns, hoping his happiness is not just a dream.

Romeo

Andante



Night so lo - ve - ly I am fear - ful since it is night, this is all but a dream.

The image shows a musical staff for Romeo's line. It is in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The melody consists of several measures of music, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note with a slur. The lyrics are written below the staff.

As soon as she is able, Juliette returns to her balcony and says that she wants to marry Roméo. They bid each other goodnight declaring that parting is such sweet sorrow.

Juliette

Fare - well I hate to part, — un - til to - mor - row.

Romeo

For me to leave is such sweet sor - row, un - til to - mor - row

Juliette happily arrives in Friar Laurent’s cell, where Roméo is waiting. The Friar marries the handsome young couple, even though he knows about the troubles between their families. He is hoping that their union will end the years of feuding between the Capulets and the Montagues. They exchange rings.


Scene Two: Outside the Capulet House

Later that day Stephano, who is looking for Roméo, sings a serenade on his guitar. The song insults the Capulets. After some taunting, a fight breaks out between the rival families. Mercutio and Tybalt challenge each other.

Roméo, newly married, tries to keep the peace. At first, he refuses to fight. Tybalt stabs Mercutio, whose dying words are “A plague on both your houses.” Roméo kills Tybalt. Before he dies, Tybalt asks for revenge and insists that Juliette marry Paris the next day.

All the townspeople weep. The Duke of Verona appears and denounces both families for the deaths. He banishes Roméo to Mantua, never to return. Roméo laments his fate.

Romeo



Oh dread - ful day, — horr - ible day, — I'm grie - ving so.

Act IV: Scene One: The Bedroom


Roméo comes to Juliette's room to say "good-bye." The newlyweds have only this night together. Once more they declare their love.

Juliette



Night, here it is our wed-ding night! Sweet ten-der wed-ding night! —

Romeo.



But Roméo must leave by dawn. A bird singing awakens them. Juliette says it is the nightingale. Roméo fears it is the lark, the signal of dawn.

Juliette



No, No! It can't be the day! —

Roméo departs hurriedly.

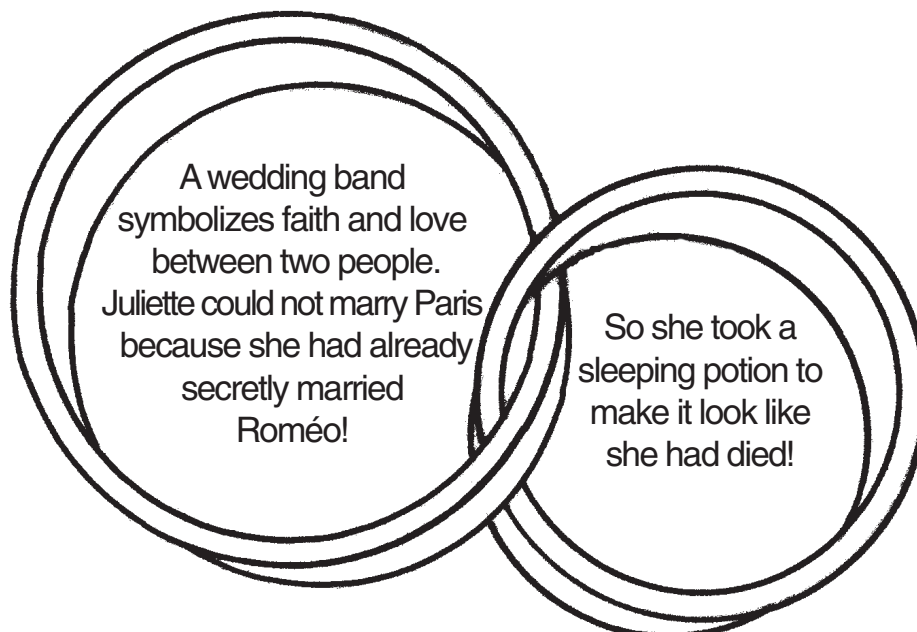
Gertrude brings Count Capulet and Friar Laurent into Juliette's room. The Count tells Juliette of Tybalt's dying wish. He orders her to prepare for her wedding to Paris and then leaves her room.

Juliette is heart broken. She tells the Friar that she would rather die than marry Count Paris. She begs him for help.

Friar Laurent offers her a potion that will make her appear to die. He says that he will notify Roméo in a letter. Upon awakening she and Roméo can run away together. Juliette is afraid, but she takes the potion.

Scene Two: The Wedding

In the Capulet's palace the celebration of Juliette's marriage to Count Paris begins. Just as Paris tries to put the ring on her finger, Juliette falls. Everyone thinks she is dead.



Act V: In the Tomb of the Capulets

Friar Laurent learns that neither of his letters to Roméo reached him. Roméo enters Juliette's tomb. He speaks of his love for her and kisses her cool, pale lips. He is so overcome by her death that he drinks a flask of poison.

Just then she awakes.

He tells her what he has done. She cannot live without him and takes her own life using her dagger. They pray for God's forgiveness and together they die.

Juliette

Fa - ther Fa - ther, — For - give us please! —

Romeo.

It was impossible for Roméo and Juliette to celebrate their love together because of the hatred of their feuding families. By changing one letter at a time, see how you can turn this hate into love!

HATE

----- (tardy)

----- (lo-cal)

----- (exist)

LOVE

THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

The opera *Roméo and Juliette* is full of wonderful quotations from the master of English verse, William Shakespeare. Here are some of them, but you will have to figure them out from the clues!

“A  of  crossed lovers...”






Prologue – chorus singing of Roméo and Juliette

“ **2** holds, both alike in dignity, in fair Verona, where we lay our scene.”

Prologue – chorus setting the scene

“But soft! What  through yonder  breaks? It is the east and Juliette is the .”

Act II, scene II – Roméo, watching for Juliette

“**C** how she leans her cheek upon her ! O, that  were a  upon that , that  might touch that cheek!”

Act II, scene II – Roméo seeing Juliette on her balcony

“O Roméo, Roméo! Where   thou Roméo?”

Act II, scene II – Juliette calling from her balcony

“What’s in a name? That which we call a , by any other name would smell as sweet.”

Act II, scene II – Juliette, speaking of their family differences

“Good , good ! Parting is such sweet sorrow, that  shall say good  till it  morrow.


Act II, scene II – Juliette to Roméo

WHO AM I?

Unscramble the names of these characters, placing one letter in each square.
The circled letters will form the eleven - letter name of a very famous person connected to this opera!


1. PHESTONA =

○				○	○		
---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--




2. KEDU =

		○	○
--	--	---	---



3. SRAIP =

				○
--	--	--	--	---




4. LETACUP =

		○				
--	--	---	--	--	--	--




5. TEJETULI =

				○			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--




6. RIFAR =

			○	
--	--	--	---	--



7. MOROE =

○			○	
---	--	--	---	--



ANSWER: _ _ _ _ _

How many words (of three letters or more),
can you make from this man's name?

If you found 25, you could be a gardener
at the Capulet house!

If you found 50, you might become a Count or a Duke!



ACT IT OUT

Roméo and Juliette

Characters:

Tybalt, Juliette's cousin, a Capulet
Paris, Capulet relative, engaged to Juliette
Count Capulet, nobleman of Verona
Juliette, daughter of Count Capulet
Roméo, a Montague
Mercutio, friend of Roméo
Gertrude, Juliette's nurse
Guests



ACT I Place: Verona, Italy Time: The 1300's

A great party is taking place in the grand ballroom of the Capulet palace. It is a masked ball to celebrate the birthday of Count Capulet's daughter, Juliette. Also, the proud father is planning to announce his daughter's engagement to Paris, a distant relative of the Capulets, even though the two young people have never met.

Enter stage right: Tybalt and Paris

Tybalt: How fortunate you are to be the one chosen to marry Juliette, a rare pearl beyond price.
Paris: Since I haven't met her, I hope that she is the treasure you say.
Tybalt: Look, look. Here she is entering with her father.

Enter stage center: Juliette and her father, Count Capulet

Count Capulet: *(to the assembled guests)* Welcome! Friends, share with me the joy as we celebrate this, my beloved daughter Juliette's birthday.
Women Guests: She is truly a beauty!
Men Guests: Like a new flower just bloomed this morning.
Juliette: Never has the world seemed so enchanted!
 You all add to my joy by just being here with me. Thank you.
Count Capulet: *(again to his guests)* Young men, young women, celebrate your youth while you still can and dance the night away!

All exit to the dance hall.

Roméo and his friend Mercutio enter, creeping in from stage left and wearing masks, since they are uninvited and unwelcome guests.

Mercutio: Here we should be safe. Take off your mask.

Roméo: No. We do not want to be recognized,
and we do not want to get into a fight.
I had a terrible dream last night.

Mercutio: What was the dream about?

Roméo: It was a crazy dream.
It included a tiny woman in a chariot driven by a gnat.

Mercutio: That sounds like the dream of the fairy queen-- Queen Mab.
She brings lovers together even though danger awaits them.

Roméo: Yes, that sounds like the one.
I am afraid that maybe it was a bad omen.

They exit stage left just as Juliette and her nurse enter stage right.

Juliette: *(to Gertrude)* Shouldn't we be getting back to the dance?

Gertrude: First tell me what you think of Paris.
He would make a great husband.

Juliette: I hardly think of marriage yet.
I want to enjoy the springtime of my life.
Oh, look Gertrude, someone is calling you.

Gertrude exits stage left.

Juliette starts to follow as Roméo enters stage right.

Roméo: *(to Juliette, as he removes his mask)*
Pray stay, adorable angel. Are you real?
Truly, you are too beautiful for this earth.
May I dare to place a kiss on your divine hand?

Juliette: Such prayers of love should be granted
and pardoned for their daring.
(she offers her hand to be kissed)

Roméo: *(kisses her hand)* My lips will never be the same
now that they have touched your precious hand.
Wait! I hear someone coming.

Juliette: *(looking toward stage left)* It is my cousin Tybalt.

Roméo: And you are...?
Juliette: The daughter of Count Capulet.
Roméo: Heaven help us!

(Enter Tybalt from stage left)

Tybalt: Juliette, we thought you were with us.
When we missed you, we came back to find you.
(glancing toward Roméo, who quickly puts on his mask)
Who is your friend?
Juliette: I do not know.
Tybalt: *(trying to get a closer look while Roméo tries to avoid him.)*
He seems to be avoiding me.
Roméo: Farewell to you sir. *(Roméo exits)*
Tybalt: I recognize that voice! It's that cursed Roméo!
Juliette: Roméo?
Tybalt: I will take care of him! He will die for coming here! *(Tybalt exits)*
Juliette: It was Roméo! Oh, what a horrible fate.
Our family hatred runs so deep. I have only just met him,
but I feel that if I cannot be with him I shall die.

Guests begin to return. Tybalt and Paris enter from one side of the stage, Roméo and Mercutio from the other (still in their masks)

Paris: Which one is he?
Tybalt: *(pointing to Roméo)* That one is Roméo! *(Tybalt rushes at him)*
Roméo: *(aside)* My name is probably like a curse to her, but I love her!
Mercutio: Look at Tybalt's angry face. I feel a fight coming on.
Tybalt: I am shaking with rage.

Guests begin to leave to avoid a fight.

Count Capulet: *(Moving in between Tybalt and Roméo)*
(to Tybalt) Please stay calm.
(to his guests) We have a lovely banquet prepared for you.
Come on everyone. The evening has just begun.
Tybalt: *(to Roméo)* I swear Roméo, you will suffer for this!
Mercutio: *(to Roméo)* Be careful.
Let us use our heads and get out of here as soon as possible.
Count Capulet: Let the party go on! Let us drink and dance until dawn.
Guests: Yes, let us enjoy this special party.
Let us celebrate the pleasures of life!

THE FAMILY FEUD

Draw a line from the character to his or her family.

Two of these characters were neutral.

They wanted to help the families live in peace.

Circle them.



CAPULET FAMILY



MONTAGUE FAMILY

Count Capulet

Count Paris

Duke of Verona

Friar Laurent

Gertrude

Juliette

Mercutio

Roméo

Stephano

Tybalt

PUZZLING PROPS



ACROSS:

3. The lovers exchanged these as they wed.
6. This appeared in Juliette's window.
8. Juliette's wedding cap had one.
9. Stephano strummed it.
10. They saw into the crypt with this.
12. Mercutio was killed with one of these.

DOWN:

1. A guest wore one to the Capulets' ball.
2. It sang to the lovers in the morning.
4. Roméo drank some and died.
5. Juliette stabbed herself with one.
7. Roméo never got this from the Friar.
8. This held Juliette's potion.
11. A servant carried this to see in the dark.

MAKE A MASK

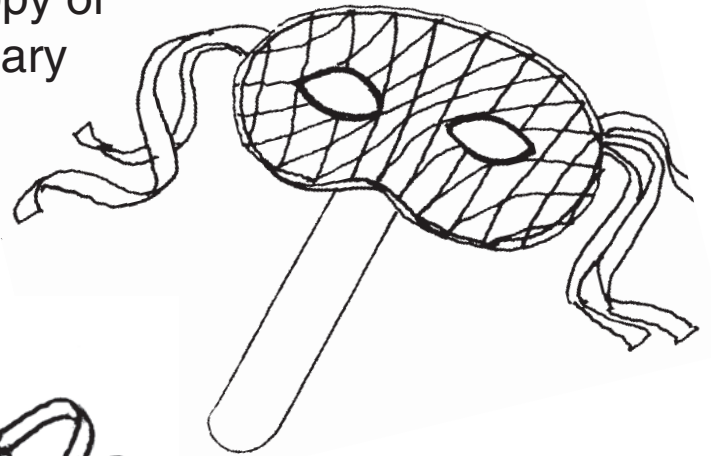
You can cut a mask out of cardboard, decorating it with feathers, sequins, jewels, ribbons, or fancy wrapping paper.

At the masked ball in this opera the guests held their masks on sticks, so that they were easily removed. You may want to staple or glue your mask to a craft stick.

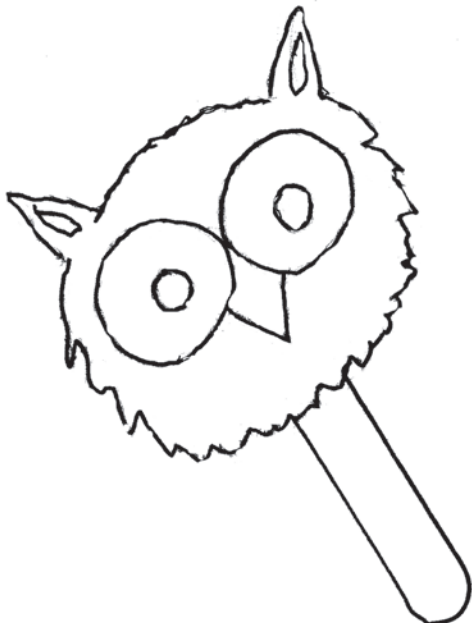


They can be animals or people,

Masks can be happy or sad, sweet or scary



Simple or fancy, male or female.



Have fun and...

be creative!



LOVE BIRDS



Roméo and Juliette have only one night together as man and wife.

They awaken to a lark singing. Roméo says,

“The lark is telling us it is daylight.”

Juliette cries, “No. It cannot be morning! It is not a lark.

It must be a nightingale - the lover’s friend.”

Roméo persists, “It is the lark announcing that the day has come.”

Neither wants to believe that it is time for them to part.

Roméo has been banished to Mantua and must tear himself away.

They say their sad “farewell.”

Juliette offers a touching prayer to the angels for Roméo.

The lark is a small bird known for its extravagant songs
and symbolizes a new day.

The nightingale is known for its melodious singing, especially at night.

Connect each bird to what they would most likely see.



NIGHTINGALE

- SUN
- MOON
- STARS
- CLOUDS
- CANDLELIGHT
- WOODPECKER
- BUTTERFLY
- ROOSTER
- SHADOW
- FIREFLY
- DAWN
- OWL
- BAT



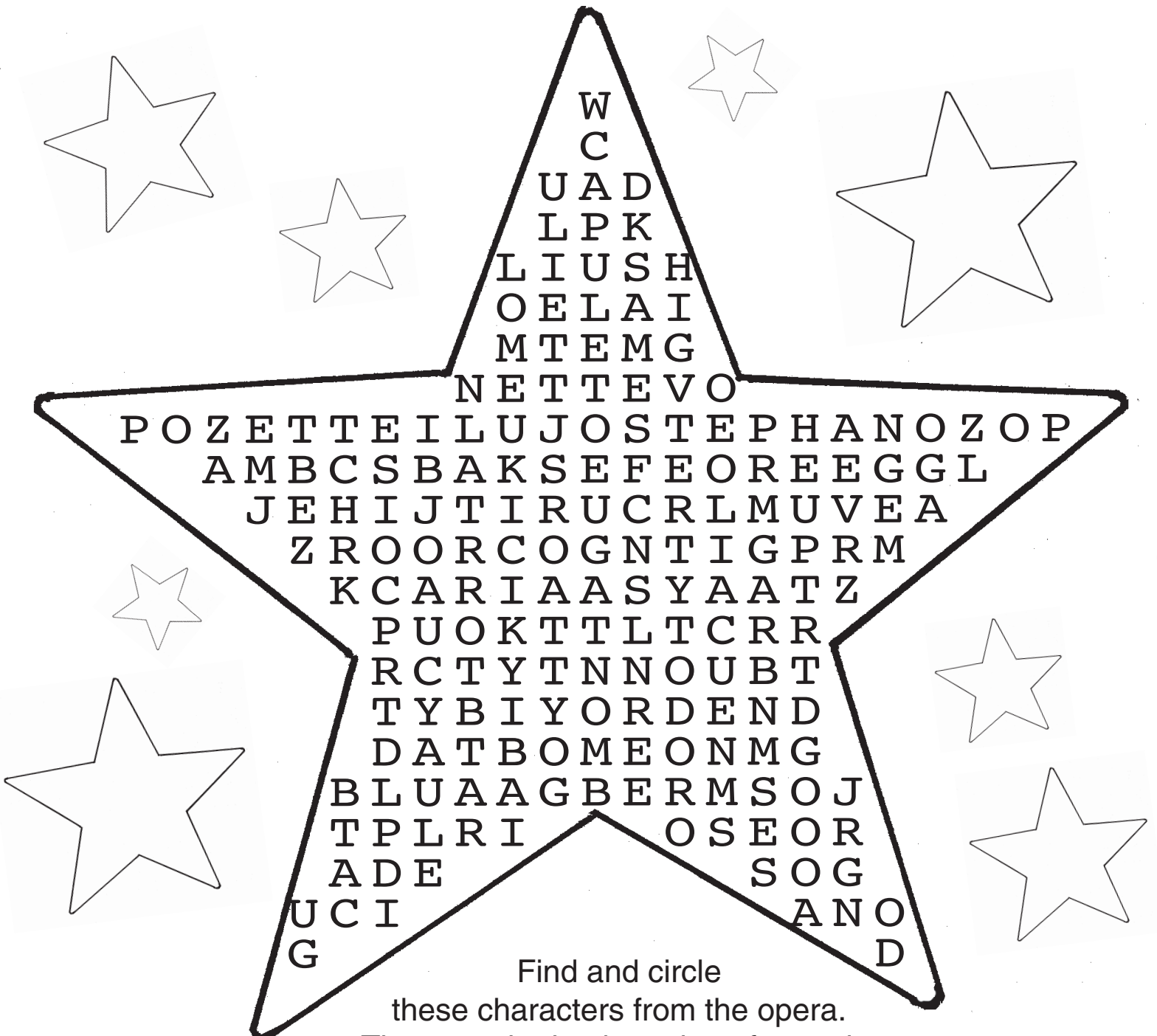
LARK

STAR SEARCH

There are those who believe that the stars influence the events in people's lives. They feel that bad things happen when the stars do not line up in the right order.

Shakespeare was a great believer in the stars.

You will often hear that Roméo and Juliette were "star crossed lovers."



Find and circle these characters from the opera. They may be backwards or forwards, or diagonal.

CAPULET, FRIAR, GERTRUDE, JULIETTE, MERCUTIO, MONTAGUE, PARIS, ROMÉO, STEPHANO, TYBALT

THE BALLAD OF QUEEN MAB

At the Capulets' masked ball Roméo tells Mercutio that he has had a nightmare.
It makes him fear that something bad is going to happen.
Mercutio says that the dream is the work of Queen Mab, the fairy queen.

Mercutio describes Queen Mab:

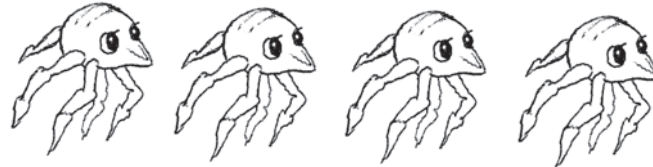
"...a tiny fairy who drives her chariot
across the noses of sleeping people, and
makes them want things that are forbidden to them.
She is no bigger than a small jewel in a ring.



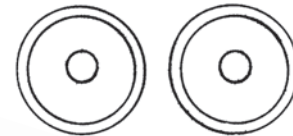
Her chariot is an empty hazel nut



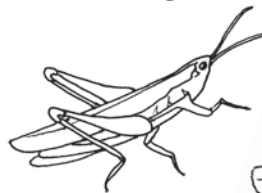
and is drawn by a team of mites.



The wagon spokes are made of spiders' legs.



The cover is of grasshopper wings.



Tiny traces of spider's web decorate the carriage.



The mites' collars are little water beams from the moon's glow.



Her whip is a cricket bone,



and her lash the tiniest hair.



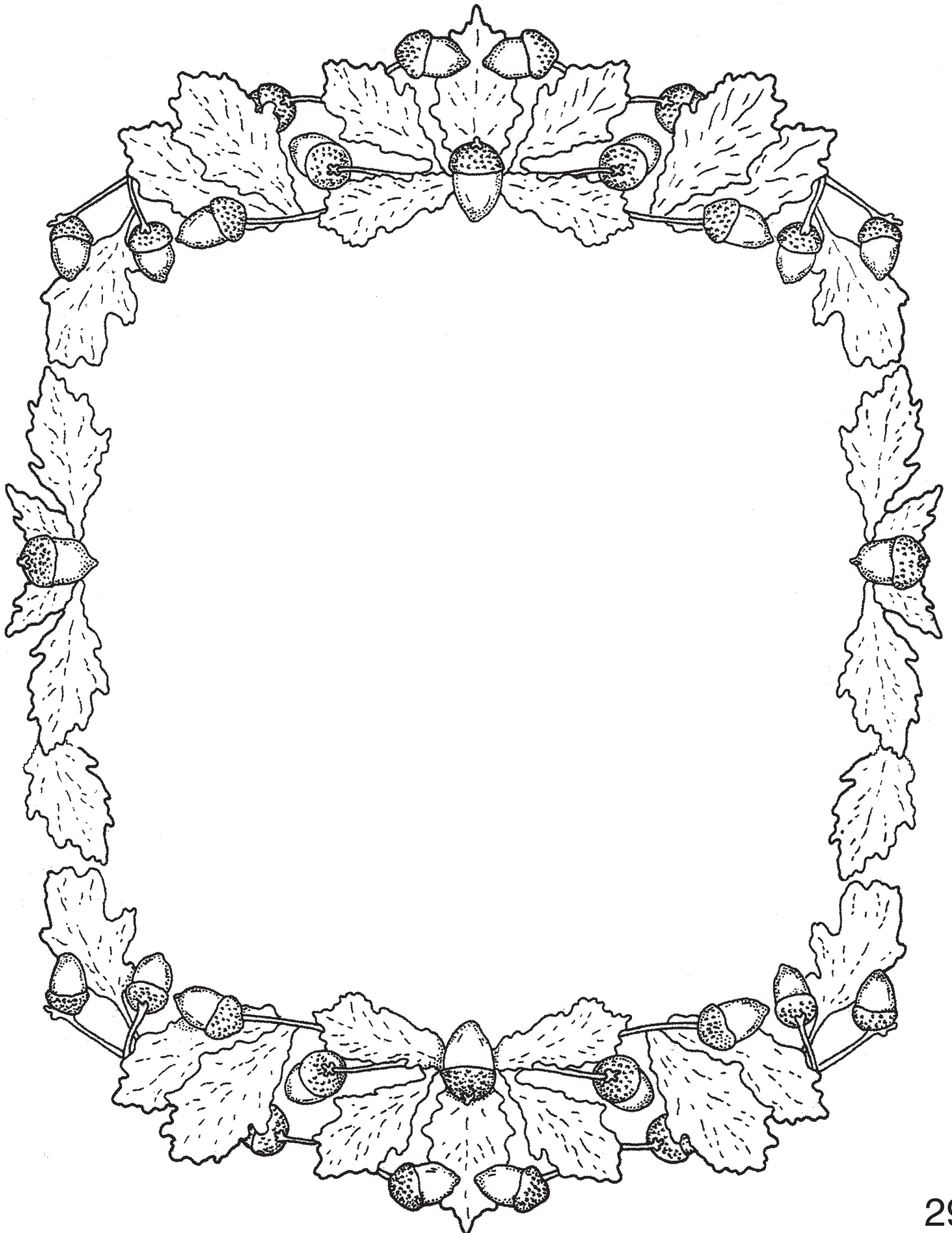
The Queen's wagoner is a grey-coated gnat -
no bigger than a little worm from a maid's dirty hand.



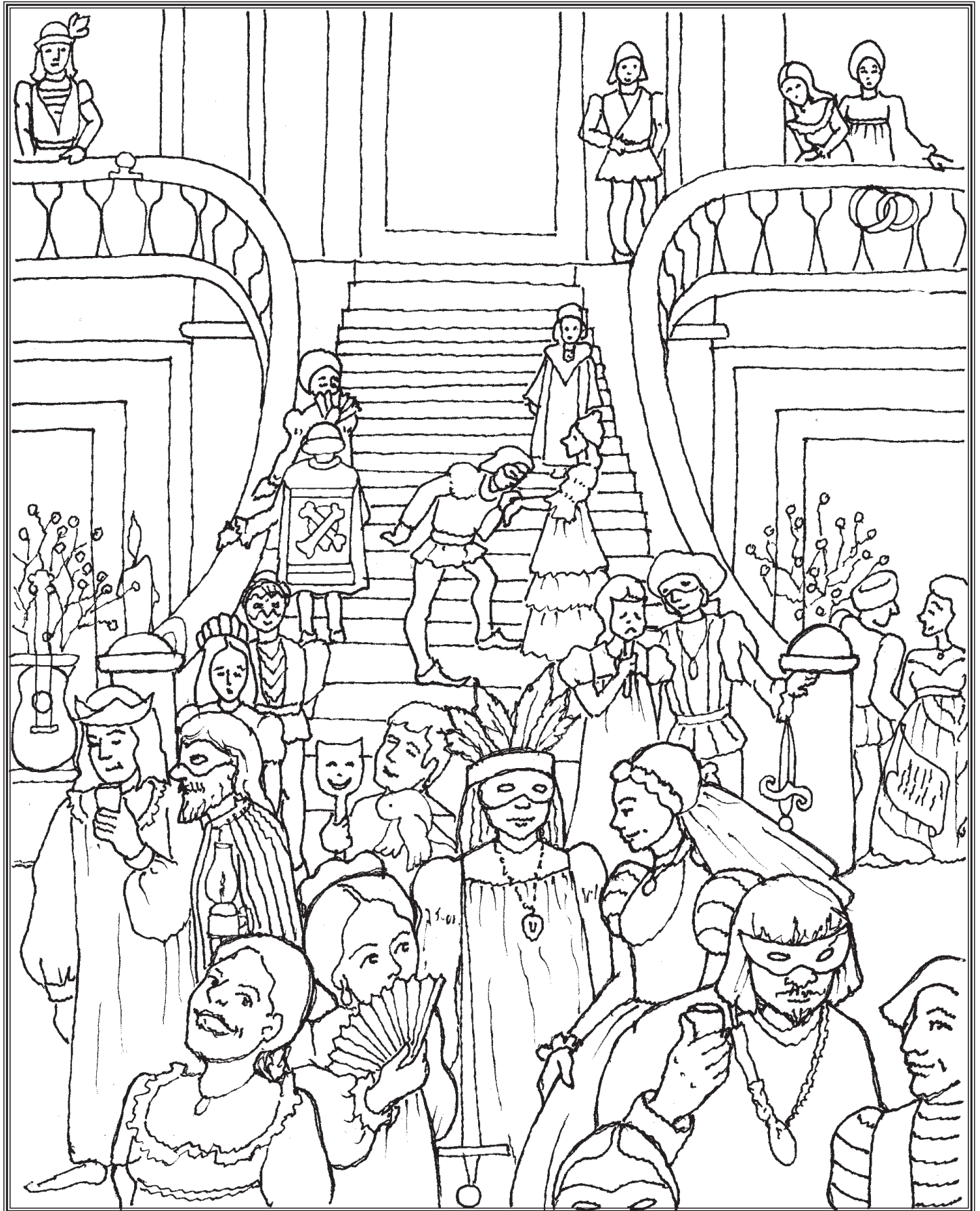
She gallops through lovers' minds, and makes them dream of love."

Using Shakespeare's description, draw a picture of

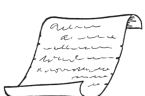
QUEEN MAB AND HER CHARIOT



HIDDEN PROPS



Find these opera props, which are hidden in the Masked Ball scene:
Sword, letter, candle, dagger, poison, lantern, rings, torch, vial, guitar and bird.



A-MAZE-ING TALE!

In the time of Roméo and Juliette, many wealthy homes had a garden maze which served as a place of entertainment or for lovers to play "Hide and Seek." Follow Roméo and Juliette through their turbulent and troubled "maze" of a courtship.

Enter:

They meet at the Ball
and fall in love



Tybalt kills
Mercutio



They wed secretly
and have one night
together



Roméo kills Tybalt and
is banished to Mantua

Both die in the crypt

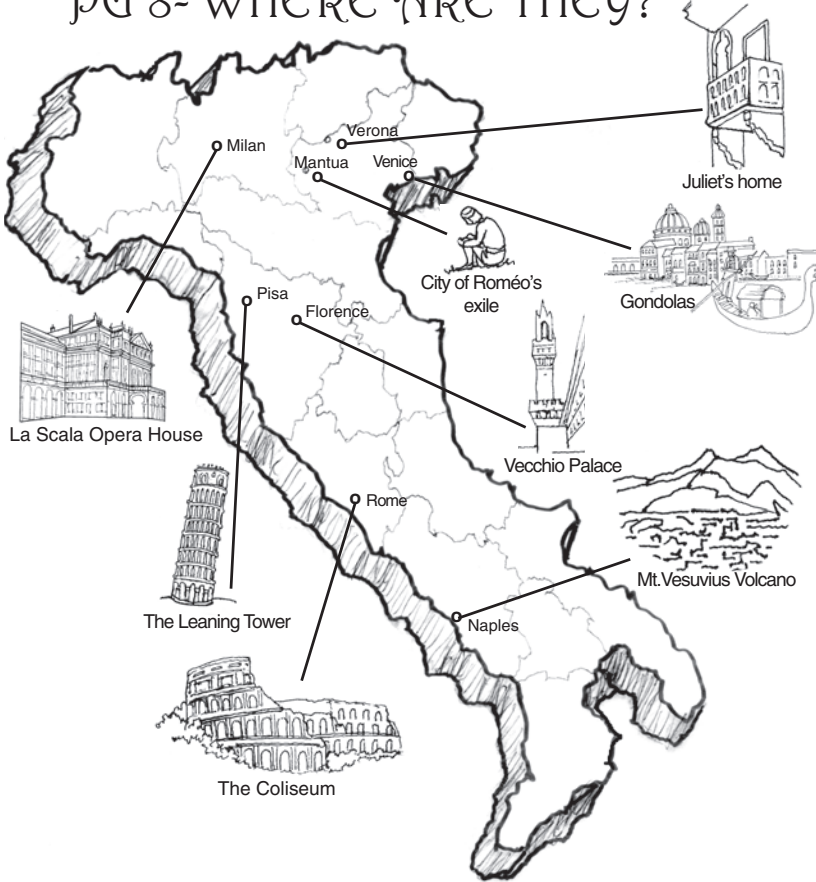


Together forever in
heaven

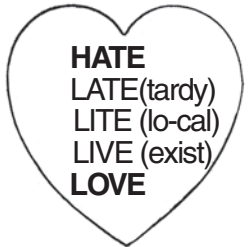


SOLUTIONS

PG 8- WHERE ARE THEY?



PG - 17



PG 18 - THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

"A pair of star crossed lovers"

"Two households, both alike in dignity,
in fair Verona, where we lay our scene."

"But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?
It is the east, and Juliette is the sun."

"See how she leans her cheek upon her hand!
O that I were a glove upon that hand,
that I might touch that cheek!"

"O Roméo, Roméo! Wherefore art thou, Roméo?"

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose,
by any other name would smell as sweet."

Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow,
that I shall say good night till it be morrow."

PG 19 - WHO AM I?

1. PHESTONA = STEPHANO

2. KEDU = DUKE

3. SRAIP = PARIS

4. LETACUP = CAPULET

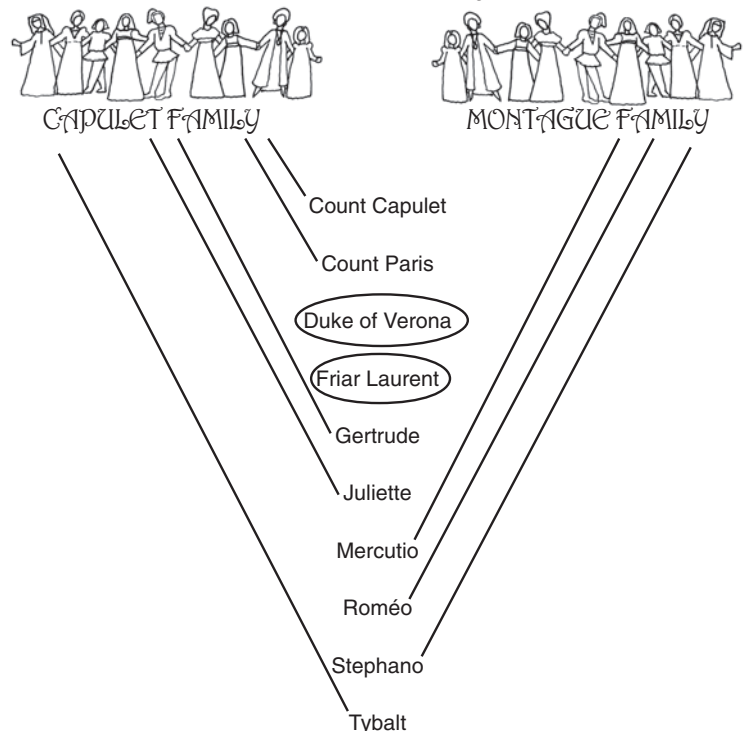
5. TEJETULI = JULIETTE

6. RIFAR = FRIAR

7. MOROE = ROMEO

ANSWER: SHAKESPEARE

PG 23 - THE FAMILY FEUD





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