

Romeo and Juliet – Quotes from Act 2 Scenes 1 & 2

*“Can I go forward when my heart is here?
Turn back, dull earth, and find thy centre out.”*

Romeo is outside the wall which leads to the Capulets' garden. He does not want to go home because his heart is in the Capulets' house. If he leaves this place, he will be an empty shell because Juliet has his heart.

Romeo believes Mercutio can joke about love because he has never experienced the pain of unrequited love.

“He jests at scars that never felt a wound.”

“O Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo?”

Juliet, wondering why Romeo has to be called Romeo Montague. If he were not, the course of true love could run smoothly.



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

Juliet, pondering the significance of names. Romeo would not be acceptable to her family because he is a Montague, but does that name define him?

Romeo says that lovers rush towards one another as eagerly as schoolboys rush from school. However, lovers part as reluctantly and slowly as schoolboys trudge towards school.

*“Love goes toward love, as
schoolboys from their books.
But love from love toward
school with heavy looks. .”*

