

## Romeo and Juliet – Quotes from Act 3 Scenes 4 and 5

*“I think she will be ruled  
in all aspects by me.”*

Lord Capulet tells Paris that Juliet will do whatever he tells her to do. Paris is worried that he has not had an opportunity to properly woo Juliet before their marriage but Lord Capulet is sure he can speak for Juliet and accept the marriage proposal on her behalf. However,

he will soon find that his daughter is not as biddable as he thinks!

On the morning after their first night together as a married couple, Romeo tells Juliet that he must leave her because if he is found in Verona, he will be executed.

*“I must be gone and live, or  
stay and die.”*

*“Come death, and welcome!  
Juliet wills it so.”*

Romeo responds jokingly to Juliet’s pleas for him to stay with her. He says that he would happily accept a death sentence if Juliet asked him to stay with her and risk it. Of course, she will not do so, and his words alert her to the real danger he faces.

*“O, thinkst thou we shall ever meet again?”*

As they part, Juliet asks Romeo if he thinks they will ever meet again. Unfortunately, her concern is justified and this will indeed be their last real meeting.

Lady Capulet is angry because Juliet refuses to marry Paris. She says that it would be better if Juliet were dead than to disobey her parents. Of course, Lady Capulet does not really mean this. However, the audience is once again reminded that the Prologue foretold the deaths of Romeo and Juliet. Therefore, Lady Capulet’s words have more significance than she could ever have guessed.

*“I would the fool were married to her grave.”*

*“An you be mine, I’ll give you to my friend.  
And you be not, hang, beg,  
starve, die in the streets”*

Lord Capulet tells Juliet that if she is his daughter (‘an’ means ‘if’) she will marry Paris. If she does not marry him, Lord Capulet will disown Juliet and leave her to beg and die in the streets, for all he cares. It is

unlikely he means this but is instead venting his temper because his daughter is disobeying him. After all, he would have had a right to be furious at the time the play was written because children – particularly daughters – were meant to obey their fathers without question.

The Nurse tells Juliet that Paris is a better match for her than Romeo and she should be happy to be marrying him. It is easy to imagine how betrayed Juliet feels at this stage when her mother, father and beloved Nurse have let her down.

*“I think you are happy in tis  
second match,  
For it excels your first”*

*“I’ll to the Friar to know his  
remedy.  
If all else fails myself has  
power to die.”*

this stage.

Juliet says she will go to see Friar Laurence in the hope that he has an answer to her problems. If he cannot help her, she intends to take her own life. The tension in the play is rising every minute at