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EN20F

December 3, 2019

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The Blame for the Deaths of Romeo and Juliet

One may be very shocked by what two teenagers would do for love. In the play, *Romeo and Juliet*, two love-struck teenagers meet but, one is a Capulet and one is a Montague. To try and get around this issue, they try to create their destiny secretly. Sadly, the ongoing family feud will cut right through it and end terribly. Friar Laurence, Romeo and Juliet, and Lord and Lady Capulet all contributed to the deaths of Romeo and Juliet.

Friar Laurence helped Romeo and Juliet in hopes that the battle between the families would resolve. When Romeo and Juliet first met, Romeo rushed to Friar Laurence to try and get him to marry them. Friar Laurence agreed because he thought that by doing this it would end the feud between families. When simply he should have just said no, their deaths easily could have been prevented. Friar Laurence states, "I'll thy assistant be; For this alliance may so happy prove, To turn your households' rancour to pure love." (2.3.90). After Juliet found out she had to marry Paris, she went to Friar Laurence to try and see if he could help her. Friar Laurence agreed and gave her a potion to take so her family would think she is "dead" but, this all backfired because the message did not get to Romeo in time. When he found out Juliet was dead, he killed himself. Friar Laurence says, "Take thou this vial being then in bed And this distilled liquor drink thou off." (4.1.195). All of Friar Laurence's intentions were good but in this case, he should not have got involved. Friar Laurence contributed to the deaths, but Romeo and Juliet should also blame themselves.

Romeo and Juliet did not think their plans through and rushed their love. When they first met it was love at first sight for them both. This love story would have been perfect if their families were not in an ongoing feud. When they found out that their last names could never be associated together, they decided to not tell anyone. The only people who knew

were the nurse and Friar Lawrence. By simply speaking up they both would still be alive, and they could have possibly ended the feud. Friar Lawrence said, "where thou shalt live till we can find a time to blaze your marriage." (3.3.150). Also, when Romeo and Juliet first met, they wanted to be together right away, before even knowing each other they got married. If they just slowed down and really thought about what they were doing, this could have worked out way better. Also, they were only teenagers without much experience, this was almost bound to happen. Juliet states, "O Romeo, Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo Deny thy father thy name." (2.2.40). *Explain quote + how it supports your idea* Romeo and Juliet were not the only ones to blame, Lord and Lady Capulet should also be held responsible. ✓

Lord and Lady Capulet pushed the wedding on to Juliet, even after how bad she did not want it. ✓ Lady Capulet and Paris make a plan that Juliet will marry Paris. Lady Capulet does not know that Juliet is already married to Romeo. When Lady Capulet tells Juliet that she will be marrying Paris, she became upset. Juliet cries and begged to her parents about how bad she does not want to get married. Her parents do not listen to her and they say she must go through with it, she has no option. Lord Capulet says, "To go with Paris to Saint Peter's Church, Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither." (3.5.150). After all the fighting between Juliet and her parents, Lord Capulet finally says if Juliet does not follow through with the wedding, he will disown her as a daughter. This really pushed Juliet towards her suicide. Juliet felt like she had no one. Her one true love was dead, and she cannot go back to her parents, they would either make her be with Paris or be mad that she was in love with a Montague. The only person she could turn to was the nurse, she got no support from anybody else. Lord Capulet says, "I tell thee what: get to Church on Thursday, or never look me in the face." (3.5.165). If Lord and Lady Capulet just stopped and listened to Juliet or at least tried to understand her no one would be dead, they are the most to blame for the deaths. ✓

In conclusion, Friar Lawrence, Romeo and Juliet, and Lord and Lady Capulet all contributed to the deaths of Romeo and Juliet. Friar Lawrence's unorganized plan, Romeo

and Juliet rushing everything and Lord and Lady Capulet pushing the marriage was all too much to manage. The very devastating love story of *Romeo and Juliet* should teach everyone that great things take time. If you want something to work out you cannot just expect it to be perfect right away, you need to take time to learn. Also, by trying to rush everything, nothing will turn out how you want it to.

No personal pronouns