

ACT I

(A dimly lit stage. Wind howls. A bell tolls in the distance.)

ROMEO

(whispering, then louder)

It is the east,

and Juliet is the sun.

(Thunder. A pause.)

JULIET

O Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo?

Deny thy father and refuse thy name;

Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love,

And I'll no longer be a Capulet.

(She moves to the balcony rail.)

ROMEO:

(aside)

Shall I hear more, or shall I speak at this?

JULIET

'Tis but thy name that is my enemy;

Thou art thyself, though not a Montague.

What's Montague? it is nor hand, nor foot,

Nor arm, nor face, nor any other part

Belonging to a man.

(She stops suddenly.)

JULIET

O be some other name!

ROMEO

(stepping forward)

I take thee at thy word:

Call me but love, and I'll be new baptized;

Henceforth I never will be Romeo.

ACT II

(Morning light. Birds chirp.)

NURSE

Madam!

JULIET

Nurse?

NURSE

Your mother.

(Exit Nurse.)

JULIET

Then, window, let day in, and let life out.