



## Friar Lawrence

THEME	ACT	QUOTES	ANALYISIS
Good vs evil	Act 2	<u>baleful weeds</u>	He uses a soliloquy, describing his plants as "baleful weeds", evoking the theme of death which is ever-present and foreshadowing the poison we see Romeo drink at the play's denouement (climax). Also shows he is aware of the capacity nature has for good but also for evil.
	Act 2	<u>two opposed kings [ reside] in man</u> <u>as well as herbs</u>	States that there is good and evil in men as well as in plants. He speaks of evil as if it were a natural quality and comparing men to plants, he dispels the notion that humans are any more superior than nature. After all, many of the men in the play have a bit of a superiority complex (they think they are superior).
	Act 2	the earth, that's nature's mother, is her tomb./ what is her burying, grave that is her womb	His use of <b>rhyming couplets</b> , rhyming tomb with womb <b>juxtapose</b> life and death and his <b>iambic pentameter</b> makes the line seem almost like a proverb (a rhyming phrase that tells a moral or a lesson); it makes it memorable. These techniques make friar Lawrence appear to have some sort of higher knowledge of the workings of life and nature.
	Act 2	the sweetest honey is loathsome in its own deliciousness	<u>"Honey"</u> , has connotations of greed and sweetness, which contrasted against how friar Lawrence is talking of a bad future he foresees, is sinister.
	Act 2	<u>I gave her, so tortuered by my art, a</u> <u>sleeping potion</u>	Friar Lawrence uses the his plants or his <u>"art"</u> for Juliet and thus becomes the thing he warns of at the play's start.



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A religious mediator	Act 2	Holy Saint Francis	He reminds us, with this line, of his faith, which furthers his role as a <b>mediator</b> . For it is <b>quintessentially catholic</b> to desire peace and harmony.  He is a <b>mediator of Romeo's expectations</b> ,
	Act 2	<u>wisely and slow.</u> <u>They stumble that run fast</u>	encouraging him to be less hasty. Indeed, friars were, and still are, often tasked with providing people with advice not solely (only) on matters of faith. Romeo confides in Friar Lawrence not his own father, showing that Lawrence acts as a paternal figure for Romeo. This characterises him as wise and un-biased.
	Act 2	<u>These violent delights</u> <u>have violent ends</u>	He speaks with a <b>narrator like tone</b> , using repetition to show his apprehension. But he is attempting to <b>mediate the conflict</b> .  He is trying to manage Romeo's frustration.
	Act 3	<u>The world is broad and</u> <u>wide</u>	Friar Lawrence is paternal (fatherly) in his mediation. He attempts to reconcile conflict but does not succeed in this.  Perhaps this is Shakespeare communicating the overwhelming power of fate, in that mediation and logic cannot surmount it, despite the friar's best efforts.



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The folly of Friar Lawrence		stand[s] to be impeached and purged	The word <u>"purged"</u> has religious connotations, reminding us that he is a religious man and thus all his actions are driven by a catholic desire to do good and yet his folly is that he ultimately fails.
		entreated her to come forth, /And bear this work of heaven with patience	He claims to have tried to persuade Juliet to be less hasty. He uses religious imagery to justify that he only meant good, but it somehow falls flat in the face of this tragedy. As aforementioned, Elizabethans were devoutly religious and thus friar Lawrence would have been granted with a lot of inherent trust from the audience because if this. And yet his ability to still do wrong shows him to be inherently human. He exemplifies that even men guided by religion can still commit wrong, no matter his intentions.
		let [his] old life be sacrificed [] unto the rigor of the severest law	Like a true religious man, he is willing to repent for his sin. Ultimately the Friar had the best intentions and is willing to repent to prove this, but despite his good intentions, his folly was that he could not overcome the insurmountable power of fate.