

## Romeo and Juliet abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 3

### Insight

**Situation:** Romeo, having spent most of the night under Juliet's bedroom balcony, the two of them having decided to marry, leaves Capulet's orchard to seek out Friar Lawrence. He promises Juliet that he'll do his best to make arrangements for a wedding. He finds the friar at dawn out picking flowers, talking to himself.

Friar Lawrence to himself

Each gray-eyed morn's streaks of light offer new  
Hope as the smiling sun dries the dank dew  
Of cool nights. To reach a goal elusive,  
Where hope is constant and required if dreams  
Of true love to be. This willow-branch sieve,  
Filled with harmful weeds and fresh flowers, means  
All in life hath value, as Earth, the source  
Of life of diverse kind, renews its course  
With grace through time, where all to the earth at  
Sometime some special good doth give. Yet seek  
With care your best wishes, for the thought that  
Poison may hath residence in a weak  
Flower with medicine power, and curbs  
Its use, applies in man, as well as herbs.

ROMEO: Good morrow, Father.

FRIAR LAWRENCE: What early tongue so sweet saluteth me? Thy earliness doth me assure our Romeo hath not been in bed tonight. Wast thou with Rosaline?

ROMEO: With Rosaline, my ghostly Father? No, I have forgot that name and that name's woe.

FRIAR LAWRENCE: But where hast thou been then?

ROMEO: I have been feasting with mine enemy.

FRIAR LAWRENCE: Be plain, good son, and homely in thy drift.

ROMEO: Then plainly know my heart's dear love is set on the fair daughter of rich Capulet. As mine on hers, so hers is set on mine. This I pray, that thou consent to marry us today.