



career about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately reconcile their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and along with hamlet is one of his most frequently performed plays

provides the text of the play accompanied by notes and an introduction also includes a section of study questions and a brief biography of shakespeare

reproduction of the original shakespeare s tragedy of romeo and juliet by j william rolfe

romeo and juliet is a tragedy written by william shakespeare early in his career about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately reconcile their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and along with hamlet is one of his most frequently performed plays today the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers romeo and juliet belongs to a tradition of tragic romances stretching back to antiquity the plot is based on an italian tale translated into verse as the tragical history of romeus and juliet by arthur brooke in 1562 and retold in prose in palace of pleasure by william painter in 1567 shakespeare borrowed heavily from both but expanded the plot by developing a number of supporting characters particularly mercutio and paris believed to have been written between 1591 and 1595 the play was first published in a quarto version in 1597 the text of the first quarto version was of poor quality however and later editions corrected the text to conform more closely with shakespeare s original shakespeare s use of his poetic dramatic structure especially effects such as switching between comedy and tragedy to heighten tension his expansion of minor characters and his use of sub plots to embellish the story has been praised as an early sign of his dramatic skill the play ascribes different poetic forms to different characters sometimes changing the form as the character develops romeo for example grows more adept at the sonnet over the course of the play romeo and juliet has been adapted numerous times for stage film musical and opera venues during the english restoration it was revived and heavily revised by william davenant david garrick s 18th century version also modified several scenes removing material then considered indecent and georg benda s romeo und julie omitted much of the action and added a happy ending performances in the 19th century including charlotte cushman s restored the original text and focused on greater realism john gielgud s 1935 version kept very close to shakespeare s text and used elizabethan costumes and staging to enhance the drama in the 20th and into the 21st century the play has been adapted in versions as diverse as george cukor s 1936 film romeo and juliet franco

zeffirelli s 1968 version romeo and juliet and baz luhrmann s 1996 mtv inspired romeo juliet

excerpt from the tragedy of romeo and juliet q 1 differs so considerably and in so many minute details from the received text that the variations can not be rightly exhibited in notes it must be read in its entirety and happily it is easily accessible in the facsimile by praetorius in mommsen s reprint in the caizoria ge s zalzspeare in furness and with most advantage for the student in the new shakspere society s reprint of parallel texts of t ze first t zoo quartos admirably edited by mr daniel such readings as have been adopted from q i into the text of modern editors have a special claim to attention these i have with few exceptions recorded and have added in notes and in appendix i several lines and passages differing from the received text in a way which can hardly be accounted for by errors of the printer or reporter in these or in some of these we probably find work of shakespeare discarded in his revision of the play about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

the tragedy romeo and juliet is one of the most famous plays written by the english author william shakespeare it s one of the most famous love themed tragedies ever it was the first tragedy ever written by shakespeare he wrote it in 1593 after completing his two comedies which are less known nowadays the piece was written during the first phase of his career as a writer it was inspired by a commonly known legend about two lovers from verona who ended their lives tragically because of love even dante mentioned the tragedy of the families montague and capulet in his divine comedy in part referring to the purgatory additionally there are records pointing to the fact that it was a historical event from 1303 also the love story was mentioned in work called history of verona which was printed in the period around 1595 several authors used the motif of a tragic couple of verona in their works before shakespeare however shakespeare s version remained the most famous one the tragedy tells the story about two young people that fall in love with each other despite the animosity between their families that are consumed by hatred and rivalry their love seems impossible at first but they get married secretly in the course of various conflicts occurring between the

two families romeo murders juliet s cousin and thus has to leave the country however he remains in hiding not to leave juliet behind juliet s parents want to marry her to a prominent nobleman but she would rather die than violate her love and marriage with romeo she receives help again from the priest who married them he gives juliet a potion that would put her to sleep but not kill her so that her family would think she is dead setting her free the priest sends the message to romeo telling him that juliet is alive however the message never reaches him after hearing about juliet s death romeo arrives at her tomb where he takes his life by drinking poison because he sees no sense in living a life without juliet upon that juliet wakes up and tries to drink the last drops of poison from romeo s lips to die but when she sees that it is not enough she takes a dagger and commits suicide both families then realize that their irrational hatred took the lives of young people but it failed to stop true love which is the sole morality of the story this tragedy is the source of several timeless sentences that remain quoted to this day among them is the most famous one o romeo o romeo wherefore art thou romeo it is as if juliet almost curses her fate for falling in love with romeo yet it does not stop her from loving him the balcony scenes in which romeo declares his love to juliet have remained a synonym to romantic declarations of love to this day and all love stories are compared to this very one known as the greatest love story ever the tragedy of romeo and juliet was written in pentameter the introduction was written in the form of the shakespearean sonnet comprised of 14 lines

excerpt from tragedy of romeo and juliet this edition of romeo and juliet first published in 1879 is now thoroughly revised on the same general plan as its predecessors in the new series while i have omitted most of the notes on textual variations i have retained a sufficient number to illustrate the curious and significant differences between the first and second quartos among the many new notes are some calling attention to portions of the early draft of the play some of them very bad which shakespeare left unchanged when he revised it the references to dowden in the notes are to his recent and valuable edition of the play which i did not see until this of mine was on the point of going to the printer the quotation on page 288 of the appendix is from his shakspeare his mind and art which by the way was reprinted in this country at my suggestion about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast

majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

a tragedy written early in the career of playwright william shakespeare about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately unite their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and is one of his most frequently performed plays today the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers she is only fourteen he is only a few years older their families are bitter enemies sworn to hatred yet romeo and juliet meet and fall passionately in love defying their parents wishes they are secretly married but their brief happiness is shattered by fate includes a biography from the author

romeo if i profane with my unworthiest hand this holy shrine the gentle sin is this my lips two blushing pilgrims ready stand to smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss juliet good pilgrim you do wrong your hand too much which mannerly devotion shows in this for saints have hands that pilgrims hands do touch and palm to palm is holy palmers kiss romeo and juliet act i scene v romeo and juliet is a tragedy written by william shakespeare early in his career about two young star crossed lovers whose deaths ultimately reconcile their feuding families it was among shakespeare s most popular plays during his lifetime and along with hamlet is one of his most frequently performed plays today the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers romeo and juliet belongs to a tradition of tragic romances stretching back to antiquity its plot is based on an italian tale translated into verse as the tragical history of romeus and juliet by arthur brooke in 1562 and retold in prose in palace of pleasure by william painter in 1567 shakespeare borrowed heavily from both but to expand the plot developed supporting characters particularly mercutio and paris believed to have been written between 1591 and 1595 the play was first published in a quarto version in 1597 this text was of poor quality and later editions corrected it bringing it more in line with shakespeare s original shakespeare s use of his poetic dramatic structure especially effects such as switching between comedy and tragedy to heighten tension his expansion of minor characters and his use of sub plots to embellish the story has been praised as an early sign of his dramatic skill the play ascribes different poetic forms to different characters sometimes changing the form as the character develops romeo for example grows more adept at the sonnet over the course of the play romeo and juliet has been adapted numerous times for stage film musical and opera during the english restoration it was revived and heavily revised by william davenant david garrick s 18th century version also modified several scenes removing material then considered indecent and georg benda s operatic

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