Name: \_\_\_\_**ANSWER KEY**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Romeo and Juliet Act 4 Guided Notes

**Act 4, Scene 1**

* Paris is talking with Friar Lawrence about the coming wedding when Juliet arrives
* After Paris leaves, Juliet threatens suicide if Friar cannot save her from marrying Paris
* Friar gives her a potion that will make her appear as if she is dead the morning of the wedding
* Friar assures Juliet that when she wakes in the Capulet vault, Romeo will be there to take her away

**Act 4, Scene 1- Famous Quotes**

* Friar: “On Thursday, sir? The time is very short.”
* Paris: “My father Capulet will have it so.”
* Friar: “You say you do not know the lady’s mind? Uneven is the course. I like it not” (4.1.1-5).
* Juliet: “Tell me not Friar that thou hearest of this, unless thou tell me how I may prevent it. If in thy wisdom thou canst give no help, do thou but call my resolution wise, and with this knife I’ll help it presently… be not so long to speak. I long to die!” (4.1.51-5).
  + Juliet threatens suicide…just like Romeo did!

**Act 4, Scene 1- Friar’s Plan**

* The steps: “Hold then. Go home; be merry; give consent to marry Paris” (4.1.91-2).
* “Wednesday is tomorrow. Tomorrow night, look that thou lie alone; Let not the Nurse lie with thee in thy chamber” (4.1.93-4).
* “Take thou this vial, being then in bed, and this distilling liquor drink thou off; when presently through all thy veins shall run a cold and drowsy humor, for no pulse shall keep his native progress, but surcease” (4.1.95-100).
* “Thou shalt continue two and forty hours and then awake as if from a pleasant sleep. Shall Romeo of my letters know our drift, and hither shall he come” (4.1.107-110)
  + If all goes according to plan, Juliet will appear to be dead, buried in her family tomb on Thursday, awake 42 hours later, and Romeo will be there to take her to Mantua

**Literary Terminology**

* Static Character- one who is unchanging in personality, temperament and behavior
  + Friar Lawrence
  + Romeo
  + Mercutio
  + Benvolio
  + Paris
  + Tybalt
* Round Character- one who changes throughout the course of a story; one who “rounds out” to become a different person
  + Juliet

**Act 4, Scene 2**

* It is Tuesday; Capulet energetically directs preparations for Juliet’s wedding
* When she returns from Friar Lawrence and pretends to have learned obedience, Capulet is so delighted that he moves the wedding up to the next day
* He leaves to tell Paris the new date
  + The wedding will now take place on Wednesday, not Thursday
  + How does this complicate Friar’s plan? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Act 4, Scene 2- Famous Quotes**

* Juliet, to Capulet: “Pardon, I beseech you. Henceforward I am ever ruled by you” (4.2.22-3)
* Capulet: “Send for the County. Go tell him of this. I’ll have this knot knit up tomorrow morning” (4.1.24-5).
  + This pun reveals that Capulet is so eager to have Juliet marry, he will change the date without her consideration
* Capulet: “My heart is wondrous light since the same wayward girl is so reclaimed” (4.2.4-9).

**Act 4, Scene 3**

* It is Tuesday night; Juliet sends the Nurse away for the evening
* Juliet’s soliloquy reveals her terror at the prospect of awaking in her family’s burial vault
* She overcomes and realizes she must follow the plan if she wants to see Romeo ever again
* She drinks the potion that Friar Lawrence gave her

**Act 4, Scene 3- Famous Quotes**

* Juliet, to her mother: “Farewell—God knows when we shall meet again” (4.3.15)
* Juliet: “What if this mixture do not work at all? Shall I be married then tomorrow morning?...How if, when I am laid into the tomb, I wake before the time that Romeo come to redeem me? There’s a fearful point…Romeo, Romeo, Romeo! Here’s drink. I drink to thee” (4.3.30-60).

**Act 4, Scene 4**

* It is Wednesday morning; the Capulets and the Nurse stayed up all night to get ready for the wedding
* Capulet, hearing Paris approach with musicians, orders the Nurse to “go waken Juliet. Go and trim her up. I’ll go and chat with Paris. Hie, make haste” (4.4.28-30).
* Nurse: “How sound is she asleep! I needs must wake her…Lady, lady lady! Alas, alas! Help, help! My lady’s dead!”(4.3.13-17)
* Capulet: “Death lies on her like an untimely frost upon the sweetest flower of the field” (4.4.33-4)
  + Poetic devices: alliteration, personification, simile

**Act 4, Scene 4- Famous Quotes**

* Capulet: “Death is my son-in-law; death is my heir. My daughter he hath wedded. I will die and leave him all. Life, living, all is death’s.”
  + Death personified claims Capulet’s inheritance
* Friar: “Weep you now, seeing she is advanced above the clouds, as high as heaven itself?...You run mad, seeing that she is well…Bear her to church, for though fond nature bids us all lament, yet nature’s tears are reason’s merriment” (4.4.70-90).
* Capulet: “All things that we ordained festival turn from their office to black funeral: our instruments to melancholy bells, our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast.”
  + This is an analogy- festival: black funeral::instruments: melancholy bells

**Themes in Act 4**

* Love and Hate
  + Which force is stronger?
* Secrecy
  + Friar’s plan to reunite Romeo and Juliet is tricky, but just might work
* Marriage
  + Juliet’s refusal to obey her father’s order to marry Paris followed by a sudden apology complicate matters