R&J Reading Schedule

Dan Argentar, 21 April 2018

*Suggestion for close readings after the film*

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|  |  |  | **READ** |  | **Summary** |
| Act I, (Prologue) | | | Act I is exposition and introduction of conflict  Prologue = setting, backstory, Fate, & death of R&J |
|  | **I.i** | Line 55-End | Levels of love, starting with servants, brawl, Prince’s decree, intro R. & depression et al |
|  | **I.ii** | ALL | Paris asks Cap. for J’s hand, told “wait until she’s 16 and only if she wants to”. Illiterate servant asks R for help. We find out Ros. is his love. Plan to crash party. |
|  | **I.iii** | Line 60-End | Lady C. & Nurse tell J. about Paris, talk of marriage, sex. We see J as dutiful daughter. |
|  | **I.iv** | Summarize OR Line 14-28 & Line 95-End | Famous Queen Mab speech. Level of love. R’s prophetic dream. Fate. |
|  | **I.v** | Line 15-End | Party. R sees J. Tybalt sees R. Lord C. ok w/R at party. R&J sonnet/kiss. Discover they’re enemies |
| **Act II (**Prologue) (Summarize) | | | Act II is rising action.  Prologue says they like each other. |
|  | **II.i** | Summarize | R. ditches friends, jumping Cap. backyard wall. Mercutio makes fun of love, thinking R. still upset over Rosaline |
|  | **II.ii** | ALL | Balcony scene |
|  | **II.iii** | Line 31-End | Friar Laurence’s speech about good/bad in plants & people. R. acts “injured” by love. Friar chides him over his “flavor of the moment” “love”, agrees to marry them to end feud (and get kudos) |
|  | **II.iv** | Summarize All  OR  Line 145-End  OR  Read the dirty scene | R’s friends upset he ditched them. Tybalt (great swordsman) sent a challenge to R’s house.  Nurse comes, Mercutio torments her (dirty!), R. plots marriage with her, wins her over. Nurse to get rope ladder from his servant (for wedding night) |
|  | **II.v** | Summarize | J. impatient at Nurse’s slow return. Nurse teases about R. & wedding. Tells J. to go to confession. |
|  | **II.vi** | ALL  Or Summarize | Wedding scene. Friar warns about rushing in. R&J can’t be left alone! |
| Act III | | | Act III is the climax (O! I am fortune’s Fool!) |
|  | **III.i** | ALL (?)  OR  Lines | Tyb. kills Merc. & R. kills Tyb. Feud redux. R. banished/exiled.  Another dirty scene at the start but important to understand why Merc. fights Tyb. |
|  | **III.ii** | Summarize OR  Line 36-End | J. waits for R.  to come for wedding night. Ponders what losing their mutual virginity will be like |
|  | **III.iii** | ALL (?) | R. at Friar’s cell (sanctuary) finds out of banishment, attempts suicide. Nurse tells him to man-up for J’s sake. He does. They make a plan for future. |
|  | **III.iv** | Summarize | Late Mon/Early Tues: All worried J. grieving to death over Tyb. Cap. decides to move wedding up to “tomorrow” (Wed) but settles on Thurs. |
|  |  | **III.v** | Line 1-64  *Summarize:*  Line 65- 125  *Read*Line 126-End | Morning after wedding night. R&J debate if AM/PM (must he go?). Lady C. coming.  R&J say goodbye-- possibly forever. Lady C. announces wedding, J. refuses, Lord C. rages, Nurse suggests bigamy, J. goes to Friar. |
|  | Act IV | | | Act IV is about consequences: resolution |
|  |  | **IV.i** | Summarize 1-43  OR read them to see how nice Paris is.  Read Lines 44-End | Paris/Friar plan wedding. J. rejects Paris. Once he goes, she tells Friar “fix it or I kill myself”. Friar offers ruffie to fake her death. Friar will write to R. to come get J.  They have 2 ½ days. |
|  |  | **IV.ii** | Summarize  OR  Read Lines 14-36 | J. apologizes to dad. Lord C. moves wedding up to tomorrow (before J can change mind again). Problem! |
|  |  | **IV.iii** | ALL or Summarize | Tues. PM: J’s fears of ruffie. Drinks anyway. |
|  |  | **IV.iv** | Summarize | 3 AM Wed.  Wedding prep/comic scene |
|  |  | **IV.v** | Lines 1-95  Skip Peter/Musicians | J. found “dead”. Mourning/sorrow. Friar chides them for grief. Orders burial. Comic end piece. |
|  | Act V | | | Catharsis! “New normal”/status quo |
|  |  | **V.i** | ALL (time)  OR Lines 1-36, Summarize rest | R. hears J died. Defies God. Apothecary scene\*. Head home to commit suicide. |
|  |  | **V.ii** | Summarize  OR  ALL (time) | Friars discuss why letter didn’t get to R. Friar gets crowbar to break J. out, heads to tomb. |
|  |  | **V.iii** | Summarize Line 1-73  Read 74-170  Summarize 171-285  Read 286-End  OR  Read 91-170, Summarize 171-285, Read 286-end |  | Paris mourning/protecting J’s grave. Fight btwn. R. and Paris. Paris’ death & last request. R. dies, Friar comes/abandons J. and J. stabs herself w/R’s dagger. Prince, Caps. Monts, all come, discover truth from Friar/Nurse, make up, start “good” feud over burial and statues. Three families lost 2 ea and are genetically wiped out. |

\*Reading schedule adapted from a response to a post on the 2ndaryELA group page on Facebook:

Argentar, Dan. “Romeo and Juliet Reading Schedule”. Facebook.com. 21 April, 2018. Web. 23 April,  2018.