Bitesize

Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare Romeo and Juliet – Themes - Duality transcript

VOICEOVER

Shakespeare liked pairs. Not pears.

Like a pair of ideas or things that can be better understood together.

A good word for this double nature is Duality.

Duality can be opposites like hot and cold.

Or just different, but complimentary, like cheese and onion,

or salt and vinegar.

Hmm. Thanks.

Our young lovers definitely complement each other.

They ignore the opposition of their families.

Characters' oppose each other too: Paris versus Romeo, Mercutio versus Tybalt.

Opposing ideas and concepts are explored too: passion versus reason, home versus exile, freedom versus obedience.

Shakespeare's genius is that he usually avoids the obvious duality of good versus evil.

He knew that life is often far more complicated than that.

See? Evil brought a dip.

Ooh. I bet it's spicy.