

## Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare

### Romeo and Juliet – Performance analysis – The tomb (The Big Scene) transcript

#### TITLE

THE  
BIG  
SCENE

#### PRESENTER

Hello and welcome to The Big Scene. We're in the tomb at the end of 'Romeo and Juliet' [CAPTION – ROMEO AND JULIET] and it's about as cheerful as the last time I saw my in-laws, Christmas 96. Thanks for asking.

The young lad Romeo [CAPTION - ROMEO] has killed himself [CAPTION – KILLED SELF] believing Juliet to be dead by poison [CAPTION - THOUGHT JULIET WAS DEAD] and she has awoken to find him dead [CAPTION - JULIET] and killed herself [CAPTION - ABOUT TO KILL SELF] with his dagger. [CAPTION - VERY SAD] It's a veritable bloodbath and there's not a dry eye in the house. But only if the director does his job right. Remember, the audience has been building up [CAPTION – DIRECTOR] to this moment for the past few hours so it's got to be dramatically satisfying. Otherwise, you could have a riot on your hands.

#### JULIET

Yea, noise? Then I'll be brief.

Oh happy dagger!

#### PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]

Ah the wooden dagger. A tactic as old as my hairstyle but they both get the job done.

#### PRESENTER

Alright, alright it's clearly a prop but come on guys, it's a play, she's not actually gonna die. Suspend your flipping disbelief will you?

#### PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]

Textbook approach. It's the kind of move that Shakespeare himself might have gone for and she, oh she finishes it off with a hanky representing the blood. That is lovely. No need for fancy pants special effects and...

Oh dear, oh no, that is just disappointing.

#### DIRECTOR WEARING HAT

[Speaking to the laughing man behind him]

# Bitesize

Is that your doing? Get out.

**PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

And he's off.

**PRESENTER**

Well, what did you expect from that kind of behaviour?  
Unbelievable.

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**PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

Oh well this is child's play if you ask me and Juliet clearly agrees.

**PASSERBY**

Argh! Argh!

**PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

Oh he's been a touch unlucky there.

**PRESENTER**

They need a moment of inspiration to bring this death to life. You know what I mean.

**PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

Well, well, well, this is modern. I've checked the text guys and Juliet specifically calls it a dagger. You start bringing guns into the equation, mimed or otherwise, and you're gonna have to deal with that line. And me! [SFX – BANG]

**JULIET**

Ooh there rust and...let me die!

**PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

Oh and an inspired touch! I don't think anybody saw that shot coming!

Super special effects skill from the director there.  
Well played my son!

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**DIRECTOR WEARING HAT**

That's great. I really liked the way you did that. It is quite out there. And I just slightly worry that we might be alienating the audience too much so, if it's alright with you I'd like to just try something else.

# Bitesize

## **PRESENTER**

Oh dear. What a pity! Shameful scenes of descent at the end there. And that is a sure fire way of getting yourself recast.

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## **PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

No surprise she's off, [CAPTION – SUBSTITUTION] straight to the dressing room. [CAPTION – JULIET OFF JULIET ON]  
Let's see what the substitute can do.

## **SUBSTITUTE JULIET**

There rust and let me die.

## **PRESENTER [OFF SCREEN]**

Oh and what a finish! Stunning, powerful!

## **PRESENTER**

We don't have to see it. We know what's happened. And the audience's imagination will be running riot.

Hold on! How am I supposed to see where... very funny guys. Stop mucking around. Ooh. Aw... Turn the ruddy lights on.