

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

VOICEOVER

In Shakespeare's day, people believed in fate in the same way that we believe in gravity today.

So when the play begins by telling us that Romeo and Juliet are star crossed and death marked, the audience know that they're in for it.

It's not just the audience, Romeo and Juliet seem to have a sixth sense about their gloomy fate.

Before the Capulet party, Romeo is worried that something bad is hanging in the stars and worries about an untimely death.

Juliet sees Romeo outside her window as one dead in the bottom of a tomb.

When Romeo kills Tybalt he calls himself 'Fortune's Fool'.

Oh dear. And when it all goes pear shaped in the tomb the Friar thinks that a greater power has thwarted their plans.

Romeo and Juliet can't escape their fate.

Ask that pair if they think Astrology is a bit of harmless fun.