

1. The earth that's nature's mother is her tomb.
What is her burying grave, that is her womb;
And from her womb children of divers kind
We sucking on her natural bosom find,
Many for many virtues excellent,
None but for some, and yet all different.

Friar Laurence; personification of the earth – it has a womb and children

Paradox – the earth is both the womb and the tomb of plant life (and people)

This is a soliloquy that takes place when just before Romeo approaches Friar to ask if he will marry R&J. The Friar is speaking of the nature of plants and people and how they – even in their differences – are seen as virtuous to Earth. The evil in earth – as in people – is only in how nature is used – or how people behave.

2. These violent delights have violent ends
And in their triumph die, like fire and powder,
Which, as they kiss, consume.

Friar Laurence – this scene takes place when Friar Laurence marries Romeo to Juliet. He cautions the two young lovers to temper their violent passions because explosive passions will also have an explosive end.

Metaphor – compares delights and ends to fire and powder

Personification – fire and powder kissing

3. I fear too early, for my mind misgives / Some consequence yet hanging in the stars / Shall bitterly begin his fearful date
/ With this night's revels, and expire the term / Of a despised life closed in my breast / By some evil forfeit of untimely
death. / But he hath steerage of my course / Direct my sail.

Romeo – this takes place when Romeo is about to go to the Capulet's mansion for the party. He has a bad feeling about the party – a sense of death and doom.

Foreshadowing – the deaths that will follow once Romeo and Juliet meet and fall in love

Destiny and Fate – theme is reinforced.

4. O serpent hid with a flow'ring face! / Did ever dragon keep so fair a cave? / Beautiful tyrant, fiend angelical! / Dove-
feathered raven, wolfish-ravens lamb. / Despised substance of divinest show! / Just opposite to what thou justly
seem'st / A damned saint, an honorable villain.

Juliet – the scene takes place when Juliet has just discovered that Romeo killed her cousin, Tybalt. She is upset with Romeo and feels deceived by his beautiful exterior which she thinks hides his murderous interior.

Oxymoron – beautiful tyrant, fiend angelical both describe Romeo with opposite words which express Juliet's conflicting emotions