

24-4-23

Romeo & Juliet - Extract Question

How do Romeo & Juliet show their feelings for one another in the extract? (15)

This extract is from act 2, scene 2 where Romeo has climbed over into the Capulet garden after meeting Juliet in act 1, scene 5. Here, after hearing Juliet's soliloquy, Romeo decides to confess his feelings of lust, passion, commitment towards Juliet.

At the start of the extract, Shakespeare expertly reveals Romeo's obvious feelings of passion towards Juliet. Romeo uses the imperative 'speak again bright angel', and then goes on to juxtapose Juliet's beauty with 'mortals'. The religious imagery perhaps is used to express Romeo's infatuation with his new love, Juliet. The adjective 'bright' has connotations of light hope & illumination giving the impression that Juliet is a source of guidance for Romeo. Contemporary audience may feel that the relationship is immature, rushed & doomed to end in tragedy.

Audience
Response

Soliloquy^{x3} Later on the extract, Shakespeare powerfully presents Juliet's feelings as frustrated & irrational. In Juliet's soliloquy, she says 'Deny thy father & refuse thy name' ^{so} this suggests she is willing to give up the Capulet name for Romeo, someone she just met a day ago. Furthermore, the imperatives 'Deny' & 'refuse' has connotations

correct.

with betrayal which could demonstrate her frustration towards having a relationship with Romeo. A typical audience may think Juliet is being too dramatic & irrational. At the same time, they can may also feel pity for Juliet as ~~their~~ ^{with Romeo} relationship _{her} will never work.

Towards the end of the extract, Shakespeare cleverly presents Juliet's feelings as infatuated. This is shown when Juliet compares Romeo to 'dear perfection' which could suggest Juliet believes Romeo is best person in the ~~whole~~ world & she should marry no one else but Romeo. Furthermore, the word 'perfection' showcases Juliet's obsession for Romeo as only Gods are perfect.