

Act I

[The lights go up to reveal Cathy standing alone.]

Cathy Two groups – who cannot stand one another,
Here in Verona, where all this took place,
From which an heiress and my dear brother
Produced a tale that time can not erase.
A tale of love; with passion and unease
Where lustful lovers paid the final cost.
A tale of idols and celebrities,
And what occurs when certain stars are crossed.
It seems to me like only yesterday
I saw the birth of love – truly intense,
But only when this love had blown away
Did all the squabbling families see sense.
So onwards with the show and please have fun,
But don't get too attached to anyone...

Song 1 – Prologue

Scene 1 - A Street in Verona

[Cathy is joined by Romeo who enters along with Merco.]

Romeo Hey Cathy.

Cathy Romeo, where the hell have you been? I was looking for you.

Romeo I was looking for you too.

Cathy That's a lie. You know it, I know it, and I know you know I know it.

Romeo *[sheepish]* Yeah...

Cathy You were on Capulet Hill again, weren't you?

Romeo I don't know what you're talking about.

Cathy You were stalking that bimbo again.

Romeo Hey, Rosaline is not a bimbo. She just... chooses to express her intelligence in non-conventional ways.

Cathy How many times do you need to be told to stay away from Capulet Hill? It's bad enough that we have to deal with those douche-bags at school.

Romeo Look, I can take care of myself, okay?

Merco Sorry, um, I hate to interrupt this lover's tiff but –

Romeo Lover? Gross! Dude, she's my sister.

Merco Sister, huh? And is your sister single?

Romeo Of course she's single, I mean... look at her.

Cathy Hey!

Merco I think she's positively breathtaking – and I would be charmed if you would do me the honour of allowing me to buy you a drink sometime this evening. [**Cathy** *stares at him blankly.*]

Cathy Who the hell is this guy?

Romeo I met him at the market. He's new in town and has no friends.

Cathy So now you're like the Mother Theresa of losers?

Merco Hey, I'm not a loser.

Cathy Do you have a job?

Merco No...

Cathy A girlfriend?

Merco Negative.

Cathy A car?

Merco Not at the moment.

Cathy A life?

Merco Define life...

Cathy See? You're a loser baby.

Merco Some people also know me as Merco.

Cathy Merco?

Merco Short for Mercutio.

Cathy Yeah, we'll stick with Merco. Look Merco, you seem like a sensible guy. Don't let this idiot brother of mine go near Capulet Hill. Those guys don't like us, and we sure as hell don't like them.

Merco Dare I ask why?

Cathy

Good God, you really are new in town. Look, here's the crash course: Verona is our town. Our families have lived here for generations since like, the dawn of time. Now about ten years ago, some dumb-ass Hollywood movie star was shooting a crappy movie on our lake when he decided that he loved our town so much that he just had to build a mansion here. Within a few years, a butt-load of other overpaid washed-out actors and rock star wannabes started building their houses here too. Before we knew it, we were suddenly flooded with pretentious douche-baggery.

Merco And all these celebrities live on Capulet Hill?

Cathy Yep. It's not like there's a lot of places to choose from. Verona's a pretty small town and it's either there or around Montague Market – and those snobs wouldn't dream of living with the rest of us peasants.

Merco And don't any of you peasants... people live on Capulet Hill?

Cathy Property prices on Capulet Hill have sky-rocketed. You can't live there unless you're ultra-rich and fart money.

Merco I swallowed a Euro once.

Cathy Great, and what's that got to do with anything?

Merco Well, I may not be able to fart money, but if you hang around for long enough...

Cathy Charming.

Merco Is it just me, or am I detecting some kind of connection over here?

Cathy It's just you. [**Alex and Jody enter along with a small group of Montagues.**]

Alex Yo Romeo! It's her! She's coming this way!

Romeo Really?

Jody Yeah, and get this; she just broke up with her boyfriend.

Romeo No way!

Alex So you gonna make your move?

Romeo Oh you just watch me.

Jody We wouldn't miss it.

Cathy Are you gonna make an ass of yourself?

Alex Again.

Alex Again.

Romeo Yeah, alright, we get it. I have a tendency to declare my undying love to random chicks on a regular basis. But this time it's different. Ros is an angel, she's a living dream, she's a miracle, she's...

Jody She's here! [**Rosaline** enters with **Blake, Chris** and some other **Capulets**.]

Blake I wouldn't worry about it Ros – there's plenty of fish in the sea.

Ros Oh I'm not worried. Having a boyfriend is all well and good, but not having a boyfriend is even... you know... weller and gooder.

Chris Especially on a night like tomorrow.

Ros Oh yeah – the party! I'm so excited to have my big brother back! Can you imagine? My own brother – a star!

Merc Who's her brother?

Romeo Her brother's T-Bolt.

Merc What's that? Some kind of superhero?

Romeo Even more awesome – he's a rapper.

Ros His welcome home party tomorrow is seriously gonna rock. Seriously. Oh, and remember: it's masquerade! Yay!

Romeo Hey...

Ros Uh, can I help you?

Romeo Yeah... I mean, if you want to. I was thinking maybe... um... The thing is... You are like, the most –

Ros Are you a Montague?

Romeo Well... yeah.

Ros Right. Listen Montague, I would really appreciate it if whenever you felt like talking to me again in future – you decided... not to. Okay? Okay. [**Rosaline** and the **Capulets** walk further across the stage giggling.]

See, guys are falling at my feet already – it's so great to be single. Now let me tell you what I'm gonna be wearing tomorrow...

Jody Whoa! Crash and burn!

Alex That has got to hurt.

Merc I don't get it. What's the big deal about this chick anyway?

Romeo What's the big deal? Do I have to point it out to you?