Act 3 Scene 4 Discussion Point and Questions

*Scene: Capulet’s house. In this scene, Paris visits the Capulets, who are mourning the death of Tybalt. He says he realizes that this is no time to talk of marriage. Capulet, however, disagrees; he decides that Juliet should marry Paris on Thursday, three days away. He tells Lady Capulet to inform Juliet immediately.*

1. How does Capulet understand the role of love when he offers Juliet in marriage to Paris?
   1. Capulet assumes that Juliet's love is something he is free to offer to whomever he wishes. Obedience seems important because he believes Juliet will agree to the marriage because he says so.
2. How do you think Juliet will react to the news that her parents have promised her to Paris?
   1. Anger. This turn of events may increase the conflict by forcing Juliet to reveal her secret marriage or escape her family to avoid marrying Paris.

Act 3 Scene 5 Discussion Points and Questions

*Scene: Capulet’s orchard. Romeo and Juliet have spent the night together, but before daylight, Romeo leaves for Mantua. As soon as he leaves, Lady Capulet comes in to tell Juliet of her father’s decision—that she will marry Count Paris on Thursday. Juliet is very upset and refuses to go along with the plan. Juliet’s father goes into a rage at her disobedience and tells her that she will marry Paris or he will disown her. The nurse advises Juliet to wed Paris, since her marriage to Romeo is over and Paris is a better man anyway. Juliet, now angry with the nurse, decides to go to Friar Laurence for help.*

**Background: Just because Juliet is of marryable age, doesn’t mean her parents won't stop treating her like a child. In adult's eyes, children were to be obedient.**

1. Think about the saying, "Love is blind." How does Romeo's love blind him and put him in danger?
   1. Romeo is "blinded" by love in the sense that he is willing to be captured and killed if that means pleasing Juliet.
2. How can Juliet's words to her mother be words of hate and love at the same time?
   1. Juliet's words sound to her mother like words of hatred toward Romeo. We know more about the situation than Lady Capulet does. We realize that Juliet is voicing the desires of her heart that she wishes she could touch Romeo, see him, go to him, and give him her love.
3. What does Lady Capulet think Juliet is crying about? What is she really crying about.
   1. The death of Tybalt; the banishment of Romeo
4. Think about Juliet's response to her mother's news. In what way would marriage based on political or social goals be less desirable than a marriage based on love?
   1. They might not have mutual respect or affection, which can result in unhappiness.
5. What does Juliet do to cause her father's anger? Is Capulet's anger justified?
   1. She rejected her choice for a husband. It's part of his role as a father to find a great husband; however, his anger goes way to far and is a dramatic change from his loving, caring demeanor seen earlier in the play. Since Juliet refuses to be ruled by him, Capulet gets angry. It's not about that though because we know the rejection is based on her love for Romeo (not to reject her father's wishes)
6. What good qualities about Paris does Capulet name?
   1. Paris is of a good family, owns good land, and is handsome, young, and educated.
7. Paris is a kinsman of the prince. What effect does this have upon Capulet's anger for Juliet?
   1. Capulet feels that if Juliet marries Paris, he will gain favor with the prince, especially when it comes with the feud with the Montagues.
8. How has Juliet's relationship with the nurse changed? When/Why did it change?
   1. She views the nurse as an adversary instead of a close confidant. When the nurse supported Juliet's parents' demand that she marry Paris and gave a detailed argument about the superiority of Paris over Romeo, that's when it changed.
9. Have your feelings changed more negatively or positively of either Romeo or Juliet from this act? Why?