

# Romeo and Juliet

## Friar Lawrence's Defence

"Some shall be pardoned, and some punished" (Act V, Scene 3)



Friar Lawrence's actions have a big impact on how the plot of *Romeo and Juliet* plays out. Some people think that he is to blame for the deaths of the two lovers at the end of the play. Prince Escalus makes it clear in his final speech that there are some questions of guilt and responsibility that still need answering, but he leaves this to a time after the play has ended.

Imagine that Friar Lawrence has been accused of being guilty of Romeo and Juliet's death. How do you think he will defend himself? Write his defence speech that will convince the Prince that he only had the best of Verona at heart.