

**EXT. TOWN PLAZA - DAY**

THE PRINCE (late 20S) rides in on horseback with the few guards that surround him. He looks out into the crowd to notice the two families at the center of this public spectacle and proceeds to part the families like the Red Sea.

THE PRINCE  
STOP! STOP THIS SPECTACLE I SAY AT  
ONCE!

The Prince pulls the reins on his horse, his horse shrieks which brings the crowd to a dead silence.

Off to the side Paris adjusts his clothes before he approaches The Prince and his armed guards. He bows to the Prince and stands at his side.

THE PRINCE (CONT'D)  
This is truly a sad day! Bickering like children or better yet like two drunken commoners in a tavern. Have thee no shame? You shouldst know better than this. To cause such grotesque actions in view of the common folk. Thou art to be the most great families of Capulet and Montague but I see no greatness in either who stand before me on this day. Thou sees two families who hast not only soiled the honor and grace of thy fathers lineage but also of thy Lords sovereign ruler and his reign over thee-

Romeo's focus dwindles from the Prince's speech and locks eyes with the dead child laying in the crowd. He sees the child's eyes hazy and glossed over. He examines the boys colorless complexion as the blood drains from its body.

Haunted Romeo reemerges back into.

THE PRINCE (CONT'D)  
Now heed my warning to thee. From this present day on if thou so hears that either family has laid a hand or lifted a sword toward the other they not only will they be banished from this land but their family too shall face the wrath of the crown. Now lay down thy arms and go home and sin no more. You are dismissed!

The Prince and his guards ride off back to his palace, as the crowd disperses. The Capulets and Montages stare each other down before they go their separate ways.

Romeo caught in the sea of the crowd loses sight of Benvolio and Mercurio as commoners push past him as if he were a helpless raft at sea.

The town square empties with only a few townspeople left besides Romeo. Romeo catches out of the corner of his eye a WOMAN (late 30s) emerge from the crowd.

She walks slowly towards the dead child, her breath uneasy. She looks at down at the child's body then closes her eyes as tears fall from her face.

She slowly falls to her knees and lets out a roar of a cry coming from the pit her stomach and sobs into the child.

THE WOMAN

My boy! My beautiful precious  
knave! He is gone! They hast killed  
my boy!

Romeo choked up by the mother's loss he looks to see if others will help her but all they do is ignore her cries.

Romeo walks over to the woman and sits across from her and the child. He hesitates before speaking.

ROMEO

Madame? I- My sincerest sympathies  
goes to you and your household. For  
no mother should have the task of  
out living ones child.

The woman lifts her head from her child's chest to look at Romeo. The woman tries to respond but she can not find the words to formulated a sentence.

ROMEO (CONT'D)

May I offer to help you take your  
child back to your home? It is the  
least amount of kindness one can  
offer to a stranger.

The woman nods her head and stands up. Romeo takes the child into his arms and they walk down the cobblestone street.