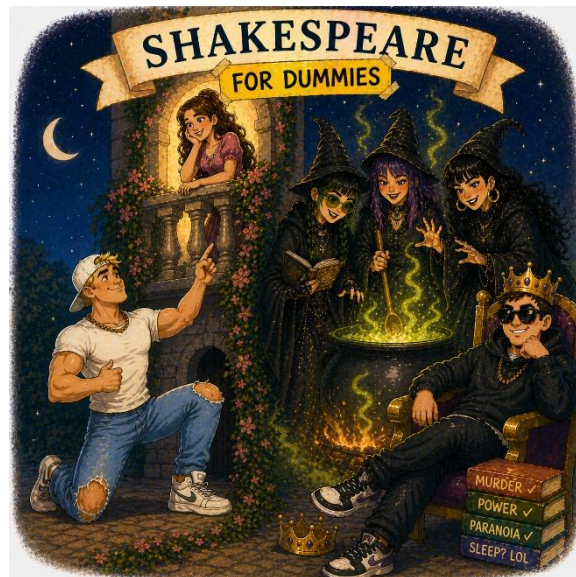


SHAKESPEARE FOR DUMMIES – FREE PREVIEW PDF

## Shakespeare For Dummies



**Written By Jodie-Lee Wilde**

Produced By The Script Locker

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Official Short Scene Pack

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## WELCOME TO THE SCRIPT LOCKER

Thank you for checking out SHAKESPEARE FOR DUMMIES!

‘Shakespeare For Dummies’ is a fast-paced comedy scene designed for schools, performing arts academies, youth theatres, and drama groups looking for a fun, engaging performance piece with plenty of larger-than-life characters and laugh-out-loud moments.

Created by performing arts teachers, this scene pack is designed to be flexible and easy to stage. Characters can be adapted, doubled, expanded, or adjusted to suit your cast size and production needs, allowing you to make the performance your own.

### INCLUDED IN THE SCENE PACK

- Editable Script Document
- PDF Script Copy
- Synopsis
- Character Breakdown
- Character List & Approximate Line Count
- Logo & Promotional Artwork

### PERFORMANCE NOTES

This scene has been written with simplicity and flexibility in mind. Minimal staging is required, making it ideal for showcases, drama festivals, classroom performances, youth theatre productions, and end-of-term presentations.

The scene can be performed with simple costume pieces and props or expanded into a larger production depending on your available resources.

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# **SHAKESPEARE FOR DUMMIES**

## **Synopsis**

This script is a fast-paced, comedic retelling of two of Shakespeare's most famous plays, Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth, presented by a group of narrators and actors who constantly interrupt, joke, and modernise the stories.

The performance begins with Romeo and Juliet, introduced as a tragic love story between two teenagers from rival families. The narrators summarise this dramatically but humorously, with interruptions, modern references (like texting and phone signal), and exaggerated acting.

The second half shifts to Macbeth, framed as a darker, more violent story. After a comedic mix-up with witches (including a joke reference to Hocus Pocus), the real witches prophesize Macbeth's rise to power. Again, the story is told in a chaotic, humorous style with political jokes, modern comparisons, and frequent narrator interruptions.

This short scene script uses comedy, audience engagement, and modern language to simplify and entertain while covering the key plot points of both tragedies in a very short time.



## CHARACTER OVERVIEW

**Narrators** – A lively ensemble of storytellers who guide the audience through the action with humour, modern references and constant interruptions. Ideal for sharing lines across a large cast.

**Romeo** – An overconfident romantic who believes he's irresistible, bringing plenty of comedy to Shakespeare's famous hero.

**Juliet** – Quick to fall in love and equally dramatic, matching Romeo's over-the-top enthusiasm.

**The Party Guests** – Sensible voices who question Romeo and Juliet's questionable life choices while adding extra humour.

**Macbeth** – Easily influenced, hopelessly indecisive and hilariously incompetent despite his ambitions.

**Lady Macbeth** – Bold, bossy and wonderfully dramatic, constantly cleaning up Macbeth's mistakes.

**The Supporting Cast** – From witches and kings to loyal friends and unlikely heroes, these colourful supporting characters help bring Shakespeare's most famous tragedies to life... at breakneck speed!



## SCRIPT SAMPLE

### SHAKESPEARE FOR DUMMIES

*(All performers enter and start to warm up as if for a race)*

N1 – Right folks get your brains in gear, we're about to smash through two of the most famous Shakespeare plays of all time. But it's going to go quick so are we all ready...?

All – Yeah.

N1 – I said are you all ready...?

All – *(With more enthusiasm)* Yeah!

N1 – Then let's get cracking! We're starting with the most famous love story out there.

N3 – Titanic?

*(All shoot a look at N3)*

N2 – Don't be such a fool! Titanic happened way later than when this story was written!

N3 – Ignore me then!

N2 – We're talking Romeo and Juliet, written in 1594.

All – *(With attitude)* Say what?

N2 – I know, that's like crazy long ago right!

N4 – *(Dramatically)* It's about the children of mortal enemies who fall for each other and it all gets a bit sad. They end up dying a painful and lonely death. There's blood and gore and all sorts!  
*(Changing tune)* Happy little storyline don't you think...?



*(The scene cuts to a party. NARRATORS become partygoers and start dancing in whatever style you choose. ROMEO walks in dancing like he's God's gift. JULIET also enters dancing. They bump into each other)*

ROMEO – Oh my God you're gorgeous. I think I love you!

JULIET – Oh my God I love you too! That's totally crazy right!

GUEST1 – *(Still dancing whilst speaking)* But you've only just met!  
How can you possibly love each other?

GUEST2 – Plus, your parents absolutely hate each other.

ROMEO – Oh no! You're not a Capulet, are you?

JULIET – *(With attitude)* Yeah and what?

ROMEO – I'm a Montague!

GUEST3 – *(To the audience)* Plot twist!!!

JULIET – Well we can just carry on this love affair but in secret right?

ROMEO – That sounds totally doable.

JULIET – Wicked!

*(They carry on dancing for a little and dissolve to the side as the scene continues)*

N5 – *(Breaking out of the scene to speak to the audience)* What these two lovebirds didn't count on was that their rival families would end up brawling and killing both leaders of the opposing tribe.



N6 – The leader of the sharks, Bernardo, the leader of the Jets, Riff!

N5 – No, that’s West Side Story!

N6 – Same thing!

N5 – Technically yes but we’re talking Shakespeare here!

N6 – Fair enough!

N7 – *(Interrupting)* Anyway. Let’s get to the good bit! The families lock Juliet away, and banish Romeo blah blah blah blah but despite that, the lovebirds decide they’re going to run off together but the plan goes horribly wrong.

*(JULIET rushes in, puts down a letter and acts out drinking a potion. She falls to the floor in dramatic style)*

N8 – Yeah so Juliet takes a potion that makes it look like she’s dead...

N9 – *(Interrupting)* But she’s not.

N8 – And with her, has a letter telling Romeo that she’s just sleeping.

N9 – *(Interrupting)* But Romeo didn’t get that letter!

N8 – Yeah thank you for your help.

N9 – *(Happily)* You are welcome!!!

N10 – Maybe if they’d emailed or text...

N9 – You think they had that technology back then. Plus getting a signal in a crypt... Especially if they were with EE.

N10 – Tell me about it! Anyway, we digress! Take it away folks!



*(ROMEO rushes in and sees JULIET on the floor in a heap)*

ROMEO – Jules babe, why would you go and kill yourself. I know I’m God’s gift and all that but really?! Well, my life ain’t worth living now so I guess I’m going to kill myself too...  
*(Dies dramatically)*

JULIET – *(Waking up totally breaking character)* Get off of me Romeo. You’re such a lump!

N9 – *(Whispering to her)* You’re meant to be in love...

JULIET – *(She remembers)* Oh yeah. Sorry... I mean, Oh my God Romeo, what have you done? *(Looking around)* Suppose I should kill myself now too. *(Dies dramatically)*

N10 – And that’s basically it!

N9 – *(Crying)* It’s just so sad.

N10 – Pull yourself together! We’ve got another story to tell. Onto to the next!

N11 – Right this one is my favourite. It’s Macbeth!

All – *(Looking worried)* Shhhhh

N11 – What, I only said Macbeth!

All – Shhhhh

N11 – But the title of the play is...

N12 – *(Jumping in quickly)* Don’t say it! You never say it in a theatre... It’s bad luck!

N11 – But we’re not in a theatre...

...



## **WANT THE FULL SCENE?**

The full SHAKESPEARE FOR DUMMIES Short Scene Pack includes:

- Full editable script
- Character breakdowns
- Character line counts
- Flexible casting
- Printable PDF copies
- Logos and images for promotion

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