



Romeo and Juliet's Restaurant Wars

A "Seussified" spoof of
Romeo and Juliet

by Christina Hamlett and Jamie Dare



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SEUSSPEARE: ROMEO AND JULIET'S RESTAURANT WARS

Seusspeare:

**Romeo and Juliet's
Restaurant Wars**

A "Seussified" spoof of
Romeo and Juliet

by Christina Hamlett and Jamie Dare

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(12M, 11F, 2 M or F)

ROMEO — Juliet's handsome boyfriend (M)

JULIET — Romeo's beautiful girlfriend (F)

FRANK — Romeo's father (M)

MARIE — Romeo's mother (F)

LOIS — Juliet's mother (F)

WARREN — Juliet's father (M)

TYBALT — Juliet's hot-headed cousin (M)

MERCUTIO — Romeo's dim-witted best friend (M)

AMY — Juliet's BFF in love with Mercutio (F)

COUNT PARIS — Restaurant critic in love with Juliet (M)

ALICE — Capulets' housekeeper (F)

FRYER LAWRENCE — Owner of a chicken delivery service (M)

SAMANTHA DANIELS — *Top Chef* announcer (F)

GIADA de PRADA — *Top Chef* judge (F)

GORDON ZOLA — *Top Chef* judge (M)

JULIA KIDD — *Top Chef* judge (F)

Extras — Restaurant staff and customers

WIFE 1 (F)

HUSBAND 1 (M)

COOK 1 (M or F)

WIFE 2 (F)

HUSBAND 2 (M)

COOK 2 (M)

WIFE 3 (F)

HUSBAND 3 (M)

CUSTOMER 1 (M or F)

PRODUCTION NOTES

Setting — 14th century Verona

With the exception of spotlight scenes played in the center aisle and in front of the curtain, all action transpires on a split set. Stage Left is Capulet's, an upscale restaurant that features a shiny and pristine Upstage cooking galley, three small dining tables with white tablecloths and silver bud vases, and a Stage Left entryway next to a staircase leading to a balcony. A Stage Right (opening) window on a center wall divides the two restaurants. An elegant hanging sign Upstage displays the restaurant's name.

Stage Right is Montague's, a quintessential Italian eatery. A very messy cooking galley and counter are Upstage. The three dining tables have red and white checked tablecloths and messy candles stuck in Chianti bottles. Stage Right is an entryway. A sandwich board Downstage Right displays the restaurant's name along with a chalk listing of the day's specials: "Mussels in marinara," "Pasta alla carbonara," and "Veal parmigiana."

Props

Restaurant signs, tablecloths (white for Capulet's, red and white checked for Montague's), silver bud vases, candles in Chianti bottles, tableware with fake food and beverages, menus, "Reserved" sign, order pad and pen, Kindle, takeout bag, two frying pans, broom, large microphone, announcement card, two champagne flutes, two rubber chickens, newspaper, serving tray, cloth napkins folded as swans, plate of pasta, notepad and pen, two garbage bags and trash, cell phones, backpack, books, gigantic dumbbell, pen and paper, towel, air freshener, flowers, antique brooch, red rose, suitcase, goblet, two letters with envelopes, two sword scabbards, wooden spoons, ring.

Lighting and Sound

Flashlights waving, spotlights, clanging metal, and doors slamming as indicated in the script.

Music

Note: While specific tunes have been recommended by the playwrights, these are left to the discretion of the director.

Rigoletto's "La donna è mobile"

"Funiculì, Funiculà"

"Hooray for Hollywood" theme music

1920s jazz dance music

Cuban-style dance music

Carlos Gardel's "Por una Cabeza"

"Puttin' on the Ritz"

"Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go" — Wham!

Costume Suggestions

Elizabethan with adjustments as indicated.

Romeo and Juliet — Work clothes and coats to cover them during their rendezvous

Frank — Overweight, balding, slovenly, and wearing a horizontal-striped shirt; later an undershirt and baggy pants

Marie — Plump and maternal

Lois — Stylish and bejeweled, hooded cloak

Warren — Velvet jacket and ascot

Mercutio — Gangster-style fedora, button-down shirt open to the waist, white dinner jacket

Amy — Flapper headband, flowing skirt

Count Paris — Dressed to the nines and with a moustache

Alice — Hairstyle, blue dress, and apron recognizable as straight from *The Brady Bunch*

Fryer Lawrence — Hat with a brightly colored felt chicken on it, an apron that reads "Fryer Lawrence Fresh Fowl"

Samantha Daniels — Long red gown, very glamorous

Giada de Prada — Cute as a bug's ear

Gordon Zola — Starched white chef apparel with his name
emblazoned on the front

Julia Kidd — Flowered dress

Cook 1 — Starched white jacket and toque

Cook 2 — Slovenly with five o'clock shadow and a kerchief
on his head

Customer 1 — Raincoat

1 *(At rise, we hear the elegant instrumental strains of Rigoletto's "La*
2 *donna è mobile" as the lights come up Stage Left. Two of the three*
3 *tables are occupied by elegant guests having dinner. The third*
4 *table has a "Reserved" sign on it. The stylish and bejeweled LOIS*
5 *Capulet is chatting with WIFE 1 and HUSBAND 1. COOK 1 in a*
6 *starched white jacket and toque is seen working in the neat galley*
7 *area.)*

8 **LOIS: Did you enjoy the special dish?**

9 **WIFE 1: Lois, dear, it was de-lish!**

10 **Yummy-nummy, truly great!**

11 **HUSBAND 1:** *(Displaying empty plate)* **Look at me — I licked my**
12 **plate!** *(LOIS' dapper husband WARREN, sporting a velvet jacket,*
13 *an ascot, and a vexed expression, appears on the balcony and*
14 *begins his descent into the dining room.)*

15 **LOIS: At Capulet's, we strive to please.**

16 **And now perhaps some fruit and cheese?**

17 **WIFE 1: Tempting, but I'd split my skirt!**

18 **HUSBAND 1: Count me in — bring on dessert!** *(LOIS starts to turn*
19 *toward the galley but is intercepted by WARREN.)*

20 **WARREN: She's not upstairs, she's not outdoors!**

21 **She didn't finish half her chores!**

22 **LOIS: You're sure she didn't step outside?**

23 **WARREN: Where? There's nowhere there to hide.**

24 **LOIS: Her cell phone?**

25 **WARREN: Tried it six times three.** *(Suspiciously)*

26 **I think that she's ignoring me.**

27 **LOIS: Perhaps it's simply not turned on.**

28 **WARREN: Face the facts — our daughter's gone!**

29 **LOIS: Oh, Warren, don't exaggerate.**

30 **I'm sure she's only running late.**

31 **WARREN: I grounded her! Did you forget?**

32 **I said, "You're grounded, Juliet!"**

33 **Tonight of nights to go amiss ...**

34 **LOIS: What's with all the howl and hiss?**

35 **I'm sure she'll show for second shift.**

36 **WARREN: She'll miss Count Paris ... Catch my drift?** *(Points to*
37 *reserved table.)*

38 **He comes tonight, that place I'm saving.**

39 **LOIS: Ah, the critic with the craving.**

40 **Why the fuss? He loves our food.**

41 **WARREN: My goal's to put him in the mood.**

42 **LOIS: The mood for what? What's in your head?**

43 **WARREN: That he'll ask Juliet to wed.**

44 **Count Paris is a savvy catch.**

45 **I can't conceive a better match!**

1 **LOIS: What if there's no spark or fizz-ness?**
2 **WARREN: Lois, dearest, (Like in The Godfather) this is business.**
3 *(The lights go down Stage Left and come up Stage Right to the*
4 *folksy accordion strains of "Funiculì, Funiculà." WIFE 2 and*
5 *HUSBAND 2 are looking at their menus as an impatient FRANK,*
6 *holding an order pad and pen, recites the specials, which are*
7 *written on a board. FRANK is overweight, balding, and somewhat*
8 *of a slob. His horizontal-striped shirt does not do his girth any*
9 *favours. In the background messy galley, we see an equally slovenly*
10 *COOK 2 with five o'clock shadow and wearing a kerchief on his*
11 *head. WIFE 3 and HUSBAND 3 are seated at another table, while*
12 *CUSTOMER 1, wearing a raincoat and reading a Kindle, sits*
13 *alone. MARIE, FRANK's wife, is at the counter with her back to the*
14 *audience and picking up an order. MARIE is plump, maternal,*
15 *and despite being somewhat of a busybody, wants to make sure*
16 *everyone gets enough to eat.)*
17 **FRANK: Mussels in some marinara,**
18 **Pasta alla carbonara.**
19 **Last is veal parmigiana.**
20 **Make your choices — whatcha wanna? (MARIE turns around**
21 **and is carrying two bowls to the table of WIFE 3 and HUSBAND**
22 **3.)**
23 **MARIE: Here's your starter — minestrone. (In the background,**
24 **COOK 2 places a large takeout bag on the counter.)**
25 **COOK 2: Takeout order — rigatoni! (CUSTOMER 1 pockets his**
26 **Kindle and goes up to retrieve the order prior to exiting Stage**
27 **Right.)**
28 **MARIE: (Concerned, to WIFE 3) You want some bread? You're**
29 **looking thin.**
30 **WIFE 2: (To FRANK) Can you repeat that list again?**
31 **FRANK: (Exasperated) Why should I repeat it twice? (Points.)**
32 **It's on the board!**
33 **MARIE: (To FRANK) That wasn't nice.**
34 **FRANK: (Defensively) They've got eyes. Why can't they see?**
35 **HUSBAND 2: (To WIFE 2) We've got an angry maître d'. (FRANK**
36 **overhears this.)**
37 **FRANK: Listen up, pal. I'm the owner.**
38 **Couldn't get a waiter loaner.**
39 **Romeo's supposed to serve —**
40 **MARIE: (Reassuringly) He'll be along.**
41 **FRANK: He's got some nerve!**
42 **MARIE: Frank, you've lost your indoor voice.**
43 **FRANK: The kid's gone AWOL. What's my choice?**
44 **Account o' him, I have to work!**
45 **MARIE: That's no excuse to be a jerk.**

1 **FRANK:** Oh, zip your lip. You're such a nag.
2 **MARIE:** You're a bozo.
3 **FRANK:** You're a hag.
4 Because of him, I'll miss my game!
5 **WIFE 2:** *(To HUSBAND 2)* I'm wishing that we never came.
6 **MARIE:** Why the shouting? Why the fight?
7 It's not as if we're full tonight. *(WIFE 2 and HUSBAND 2 duck*
8 *behind their menus.)*
9 **FRANK:** Whose fault is that? You're blaming me?
10 You coddled him too much, Marie.
11 **MARIE:** At least he knew that I was there.
12 You acted like you didn't care.
13 **FRANK:** So it begins! *(He turns to go toward the galley.)*
14 **MARIE:** *(With a shrug)* It's never over. *(She leans in to make a*
15 *pleasant recommendation to the couple.)*
16 Try the sole. It's fresh from Dover. *(The lights go down Stage*
17 *Right. A spotlight comes up in the center aisle of the theatre where*
18 *lovebirds ROMEO and JULIET, wearing coats to hide their work*
19 *clothes, are having a hard time saying good-bye. They're holding*
20 *hands and staring into each other's eyes.)*
21 **JULIET:** 'Tis time to part, my pumpkin pie.
22 I must wait tables 'til I die.
23 **ROMEO:** Alas, me too. I'm late for work.
24 My father, Frank — he'll go berserk.
25 **JULIET:** You leave first.
26 **ROMEO:** No, you.
27 **JULIET:** No, you!
28 **ROMEO:** What's the time now? Half past two? *(This snaps JULIET*
29 *from her trance. She looks around, horrified.)*
30 **JULIET:** No! 'Tis not! The sun has set.
31 **ROMEO:** We're super late. We've gotta jet. *(But they continue to*
32 *stand there, making googly eyes at each other.)*
33 I do not want to sling more hash.
34 My wealth is you. I need no cash.
35 **JULIET:** Oh, Romeo, you make me swoon.
36 I love you more than crab rangoon.
37 But still, I flaked. My dad will freak.
38 He has some guy I have to meet.
39 **ROMEO:** Another suitor, there's no doubt.
40 I hope he's bald and has the gout.
41 **JULIET:** Worry not, sweet Romeo.
42 My heart is yours from head to toe.
43 **ROMEO:** You'll stick with me?
44 **JULIET:** Like Elmer's Glue.
45 Or chewing gum that's on your shoe.

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