

# CHARACTER GUIDE ROMEO + JULIET

## Gaslight Theatre Company

Character	Age	Description
Chorus Friar Lawrence	40-60	These characters are intertwined as one. Incredibly wise, thoughtful, and altruistic. They recount this tale from their perspective.
Sampson Apothecary	20-30 30-40	One of Tybalt's muscle. Always getting into dumb trouble with Gregory. The Apothecary is of a similar age and might be found sampling their own supply; business is struggling and times are tough. This doubling provides the actor with two dynamic character opportunities.
Gregory Page*	20-30 20-20	One of Tybalt's muscle. Always getting into dumb trouble with Sampson. The Page is slightly younger and of opposite disposition as they live to serve County Paris. This doubling provides the actor with two dynamic character opportunities.
Abraham Friar John	20-30 30-40	One of Romeo's friends. Energetic. Rascally. Friar John is not the brightest bulb but well-meaning. This doubling provides the actor with two dynamic character opportunities.
Balthasar*	20-30	Romeo's friend. Perhaps the most like Romeo, which is why they often serve as Romeo's assistant.
Tybalt	30-40	Capulet's nephew, likely played by a hetero man who is threatened by those unlike himself (i.e., Mercutio). Given to fits of rage and carries the grudge against the Montagues the heaviest. Bravado.
Benvolio	20-30	Romeo's best friend and cousin. Kind, thoughtful, smart and well-spoken. A "ride or die" who also tries to keep the peace.
Mercutio	20-30	Romeo's very close friend and cousin of the Prince. Wild. Adventurous. Disregard for consequences, given to drama, but the life of the party and will always have your back. Perhaps non-binary.
Romeo	20-30	Once full of passion and adventure. Loves easily and falls hard. Moody and depressed, but his discovery of Juliet ignites a new fire. Can keep traditional casting, but played by/as a woman, playing across Juliet in same-sex relationship, the longing for Rosaline remains consistent and/or adds an additional layer of unrequited love.
Juliet	20-30	Our ingenue, likely played as by/as a woman. Aspirational, creative, and yearning to see the world. Struggling under the authority of her traditional parents who want to see her married to County Paris and lead a similarly traditional life. If playing in a hetero relationship with Romeo, she might be more sure of herself. If playing across same-sex Romeo, she might be exploring her sexual interests, perhaps closeted, and her resistance to marrying Paris adds an additional layer.
Capulet	50-60	Parent of Juliet. Bold, brash. Given to fits of rage. Due to plot, likely played by/as a man in a hetero relationship with Lady Capulet.
Lady Capulet	50-60	Parent of Juliet. Flighty, selfish, not a particularly attentive parent. Due to plot, likely played by/as a woman in a hetero relationship with Capulet.
Nurse	50-60	Juliet's nanny who is loving, bubbly, maybe a little sassy, but well-intentioned. More of Juliet's parent than either of them. Great comedic timing.
Montague	50-60	Parent of Romeo. An attentive parent who observes Romeo's recent disposition but not an entirely present figure. Open to hetero or same sex relationship with (Lady) Montague.
Lady Montague	50-60	Parent of Romeo. Gentle, perhaps sickly, as the character dies off-stage towards the end of the play. Open to hetero or same sex relationship with Montague.
The Prince	40-60	The ruler of Verona and administer of justice. They are influential, smart, and powerful and likely used to Montague vs. Capulet feuds, especially with close relations to many in both families.
County Paris	30-40	A kinsman of the Prince seeking to marry Juliet, which Capulet is keen to happen. Sure, Paris is handsome and wealthy but also ineffectual. Likely played by/as a man.