



Tragedy

A **tragedy** is a play dealing with tragic events and having an unhappy ending, especially one concerning the downfall of the main character. *Romeo and Juliet* is a tragedy. Death is often an aspect of tragedy, but the real essence of the tragedy is usually some “fatal flaw” in one of the characters, for example, lack of self-knowledge, lack of judgement, or pride.

DIRECTIONS: Identify the “fatal flaw” in *Romeo and Juliet* that makes this play a tragedy. Discuss how this flaw drives the story and its tragic outcome.
