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English 12

Fate vs. Human Error

In the play *Romeo and Juliet*, written by William Shakespeare is a tragic love story between two young people and the ancient hatred of their families. It is a very well-admired play and there have been controversies today, about fate and human error. So which one caused the dramatic ending? Fate or human error?

Human error. The most fitting adjective to describe a play such as *Romeo and Juliet*, also a series of mistakes and untimely actions happening nonstop. The hatred of the Capulet and Montague families has affected two “star-crossed lovers,” many years later. That particular hatred was caused between 2 or more people and their feelings, there is simply no “fate” involved whatsoever. The unfortunate rivalry between these two lovers, was only the beginning of the fatal plot.

After seeing Juliet for the first time, Romeo’s obvious love for her was at first sight. Tybalt however was not well pleased with this sight and did so carry the hatred of Montagues in his blood. When Tybalt murders Romeo’s cousin Mercutio, the mistaken murder of Tybalt was Romeo’s human error that therefore caused him to be banished. Romeo’s rage and hurt overtook him and resulted in the death of Tybalt, and this caused more rivalry between both families, especially because the decease Tybalt just so happened to be Juliet’s cousin. This caused more controversy within Juliet, who loved Tybalt dearly and her new husband Romeo.

When the Friar steps in and attempts to save Juliet and her Romeo’s love for one another, all seemed great, until the faithful servant of Romeo gets to him first to tell of Juliet’s planned death. Romeo takes his life, right before Juliet awakens and the “two star-crossed lovers” both end up taking their lives for one another. The untimely action between the Friar’s servant and Romeo’s resulted in the death of two young lovers. Yet another example of human error within this famous play has been presented.

The many opportunities that could have kept Juliet and Romeo together, were ruined by much human error. Too many little mistakes caused the tragic death of the main characters, not fate. Mistakes however are part of human nature, some have more dramatic results, such as death.