West Side Story vs. Romeo and Juliet

Tony and Maria

Romeo and Juliet

Anita

Nurse

Riff

Tybalt

Bernardo

Mercutio

Chino

Paris

The Sharks

The Capulets

The Jets

The Montagues

The film begins with a fight between the Jets and the Sharks

The play begins with a fight between Montague and Capulet servants.

Tony goes to a dance that the Sharks are also going to. He meets Maria for the first time and falls in love with her. Her brother is angry and there is almost another fight.

Romeo’s friends tell him to go to a ball that will be at the Capulet house. He meets Juliet and falls in love with her. Her family is appalled.

Tony comes to Maria’s house and she climbs down the fire escape to meet him. They tell each other that they are in love, but are hesitant because of their friends and families.

Romeo comes to Juliet’s window. They speak to each other and express their love. They talk about the family rivalries but realize their love is stronger than the hate between them.

There is a fight and Bernardo kills Riff and Tony kills Bernardo (Maria’s brother)

Tybalt kills Mercutio and Romeo kills Tybalt (Juliet’s cousin).

Maria blames the killings on the society and hatred around them.

Juliet forgives Romeo but is in despair because he is banished.

Chino kills Tony and Maria holds him as he dies.

Romeo kills Paris and then himself. Juliet holds him and the kills herself.

The rival gangs make peace.

The two families make peace.