

Romeo ∞ Julia of Cracow

Libretto

DRAMATIS PERSONAE:

Romeo
Voice
Suzanne
Jasmine
Girls choir
12-year-old girl
Tourist
Voices
Chiley
Rosa
Julia
Ballet
Choir

ACT 1

SCENE 1

Attic room with books, table, bed and a large wardrobe. Rooftops of old buildings can be seen through the window. Romeo is 35, dressed in black pants and a white shirt.

Romeo

I can't marry you.
C'mon, don't be foolish.
I mean - you can live
here if you want to.
We can be friends, you know.
But we cannot be Man and Wife.
Why? Well...
because you're a pigeon.

We can hear flapping of the wings and cooing of a pigeon.

Romeo

I am sorry but you have to understand.

SCENE 2

The same room.

Romeo

I saw Suzanne last week.
She's pretty. Very beautiful.
But she's probably a lesbian,
or maybe she has a boyfriend,
or I don't even think
she would like me at all.

Voice

How do you know?

Romeo

Oh, well...

Voice

Did you talk to her?

Romeo

No, should I?

Voice

Of course!

Romeo

I don't know how.
I'm so bad with small talk.

Voice

You have to try.

SCENE 3

A month later. Coffee house. Books, old tables and chairs. Romeo looks at Suzanne who's looking at the books. He takes a deep breath before he stands up and starts moving towards Suzanne. This is a mythic trip for him: the path between the tables is a journey through an ocean. His Odyssey exhausts him so much that by the time he approaches her, he can barely speak.

Romeo

What's your favorite ocean?

Suzanne stands next to the bookshelves.

Suzanne

What?

Romeo

Ocean! Hmm.. which one do you like the most?

Suzanne

Oh...I...I think...oh...I know! Atlantic!

Romeo

Do you know what the origins of that name are?

Suzanne

No.

Romeo

It is named after the continent of Atlantis.
Have you ever heard of it?

Suzanne

Oh, yes.. it's some kind of an underwater country...

Romeo

Well, not quite.
It used to be a great civilization
before the people of Atlantis abused their power,

destroyed life and the whole continent sank.
I come from there.
I am forty thousand years old.

Voice

offstage

Oh no, please, don't do that!

Suzanne

Ha, ha! You can't be that old!

Romeo

Why not?

Suzanne

You don't look that old!