

Aim:How does Romeo's friend, Mercutio, add excitement and conflict to the play?

Mercutio

Relative of Prince

Feels entitled ...
"owns world"

Romeo's best friend ...

*Invited to Capulet Party
↳ "Ticket in"

Intentionally rude, nasty @ times

O, then, I see Queen Mab hath been with you.
 She is the fairies' midwife, and she comes
 In shape no bigger than an agate-stone
 On the fore-finger of an alderman,
 Drawn with a team of little gnomes
 Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep;
 Her wagon-spokes made of long spiders' legs,

queen mab

And then dreams he of smelling out a suit;
 And sometime comes she with a tithe-bag's tail
 Tickling a person's nose as he asleep,
 Then dreams he of another benefice;
 Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck,
 And then dreams he of cutting for eigan throats,
 Of breaches, ambuscadoes, Spanish blades,



The cover of the wings of an antelope;
 The traces of the smallest spider's web,
 The collars of the moonshine's watery beams,
 Her whip of cricket's bone, the lash of film,
 Her wisdom a small grey-coated quail,
 Not so big as a round little worm
 Prick'd from the lazy finger of a maid;
 Her chariot is an empty hazel-nut
 Made by the pinner squirrel or old grub,
 Time out o' mind the fairies' coachmakers.
 And in this state she gallops night by night
 Through lovers' brains, and then they dream of love;
 O'er courtiers' knees, that dream on court'sies straight,
 O'er lawyers' fingers, who straight dream on fees,
 O'er judges' lips, who straight on suits do eam,
 Which oft the angry Mab with blisters plagues,
 Because their dreams, with sweetmeats tainted are:
 Sometime she gallops o'er a courtier's nose,

Of health's five-fathom deep;
 and then again
 Drums in his ear,
 at which he starts and wakes,
 And being thus frighted
 swears a prayer or two
 And sleeps again. This is that very Mab
 That plots the magics of horses in the night,
 And dabbles the effects in foul clutched hairs,
 Which once untangled, much misfortune bodes;
 This is the hag, when maids lie on their backs,
 That presses them and learns them first to bear,
 Making them women of good carriage:
 And she...

Mercutio - Romeo & Juliet Act I, Scene 4
 Writ by William Shakespeare

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Queen Mab & Her Fairies

Name _____ Period _____



Who is QUEEN MAB?



Queen Mab is a fairy that Mercutio talks about in Act 1, Scene 4. She brings dreams to people at night. Re-read Mercutio's speech about Queen Mab and complete the following activities & answer the questions.

1. List 4 physical descriptions that Mercutio gives about Queen Mab.

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Ln 59-73
1. "no bigger than an agate stone" → fit on a ring
 2. "... chariot is an empty hazel nut."
 3. "Her whip a cricket's bone..."
 4. "... + traces of smallest spider webs."

2. Draw a Picture of Queen Mab & her chariot using those 4 descriptions. It does not have to be highly artistic, but you have to show the 4 descriptions you listed above. Label them if you wish.

3. According to Mercutio, what kinds of dreams does Queen Mab deliver to the following people

Lovers: Love
 Lawyers: Fees, ~~A~~
 Ladies: Kisses
 A parson: Prayers
 A soldier: Cutting throats, ambushes...

4. What does Romeo believe about dreams?

Romeo is afraid of his dream.
 He fears a "consequence" "hanging in stars"
 Fate

5. What does Mercutio believe about dreams?

Dreams are Silly...

6. Why would Mercutio tell such a fantastic story about Queen Mab to Romeo? What is he trying to convince Romeo of?

His friends are annoyed that he is so depressed and want to have fun.

Solemnity - Celebration
(Choler-anger)

2. A) Tybalt recognizes Romeo by his voice. He wants to kill Romeo on the spot. He believes Romeo is there to be a party crasher. B) Lord Capulet wants Tybalt to stop. He doesn't want the party ruined and Romeo is a good person.

1. "Beauty too rich for use ..."
"She doth teach the torches
to burn bright!!"

