

MONTANA
SHAKESPEARE
IN THE
FREE...
PARKS
EVERY SUMMER!

MT Shakes! presents

FAITHFUL

An Adaptation of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*

FRIENDS

TEACHER'S GUIDE

*For More Information, Please Visit:
ShakespeareInTheParks.org*

SYNOPSIS

VERONA

JULIA, **PROTEUS**, and **VALENTINE** all live in Verona.

Proteus is in love with Julia. Julia is in love with Proteus. Proteus is best friends with Valentine. Valentine travels to a new town—Milan—and falls in love with **SILVIA**. Silvia falls in love with Valentine. Silvia's Dad does not approve.



When Proteus leaves home to visit his friend Valentine in Milan, he has to say goodbye to Julia. Julia decides she doesn't want to be left behind, and so—with her faithful dog **CRABBE** at her side—she sets off to follow Proteus.

When all these friends and lovers arrive in Milan, songs are sung, friendships are tested, and lessons are learned.

MILAN

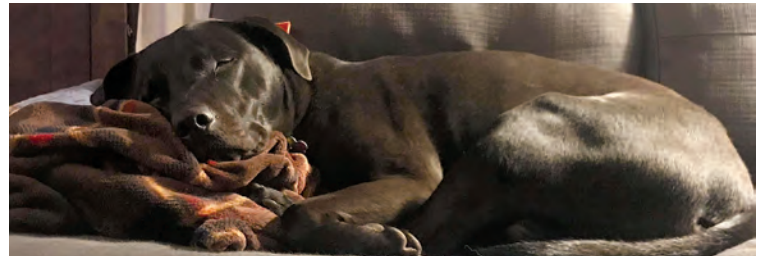
THE 2020 ACTING COMPANY



SARAH WEST
Julia



EMILY HAWKINS
Silvia



The puppet of Crabbe was based on the director's, Matt Foss' real-life dog, Gunther, who has been a faithful friend to Matt for four years (so far!). He's a rescue dog from Idaho who now enjoys a happy home in Ohio.



GABRIEL TAURMAN
Valentine



SAMUAL CHEESMAN
Proteus

MONTANA SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKS PRODUCTION COMPANY

Executive Artistic Director	Kevin Asselin
Director and Playwright	Matt Foss
Original Scenic Design	Tom Watson
Costume Design	Claudia Boddy
Properties Design	Stacy Hostetter
Education Director	Katherine Norman
Production Manager	Anna Neikirk
Technical Director	Gordon Carpenter
Stage Manager	Sara Stanek
Stitcher	Emily Cowles



BACKGROUND AND CLASSROOM DISCUSSION PROMPTS

THE PLAYWRIGHT

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



Shakespeare lived in England from 1564-1616.

We think Shakespeare wrote about 37 plays!

Shakespeare wrote plays to be performed by players (actors) in a playhouse (theater).

Shakespeare is often called the greatest writer in the English language:

- What do you think makes a great story? Why?
- What are your favorite stories, or favorite writers?

As you watch the play, think about the parts you like best and the parts about which you have questions. After the performance you'll have a chance to ask the actors!

THE PLAY

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA



Faithful Friends is based on Shakespeare's play *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

This was probably one of the first plays that Shakespeare wrote.

We don't know exactly when Shakespeare wrote each of his plays, but scholars and historians think this one was probably written around 1590—that would make it 430-years-old!

Why do you think we are still performing a story that is over 400-years-old?

Language changes over time, which is why the play might have some words that sound unfamiliar.

What are some words we use now that people in the past wouldn't know?

(Ex: emoji, flossing (dance), lol, internet).

On the next page are some words from the past we might not know today.



WORDS FROM THE PLAY

THOU / THEE / THY:

“Thee” just means “you.”

English used to have two different kinds of words for “you”: a formal version (for talking to teachers and other grown-ups) and an informal version (for talking to friends). “Thou” is the informal version, it’s how people would say “you” to their friends. Over time, we stopped having two versions, and just always say “you.”

Ex: “I love thee” = “I love you”

WEEDS: Clothes

FORSWORN: To break a promise, tell a lie

BANISHED: To be sent away and not allowed to come back

BETROTHED: Engaged to be married

ADIEU: Goodbye



2012 American Shakespeare Center featured Sophie the Dog as Crab and Benjamin Curns as Launce in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

Star Wars actor Oscar Isaac stars in a 2005 musical version of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*



MTSHAKES! SOCIAL STORY

Knowing what to expect from a new and exciting experience can help students self-regulate and positively engage with the performance. Please feel free to share this social story with individual students, or your whole classroom!



We will all walk to the place where we will watch the play.

We will sit in the audience. An audience is a big group of people who have all come to watch the story together.

The actors will come out and talk to us before the show. We can talk to the actors, or just watch. We will get to see the puppet of Crabbe, the dog!

The actors will perform a play! We will sit and listen. The play is about half an hour long.



When there is something funny, we can laugh! When there is something sad, we can cry. It's okay to react to the play; the actors like hearing responses from the audience!



At the end of the play, we will clap our hands to say "thank you for the story!"

The actors will come out and we can ask questions if we want to.



Last, we will walk back to our classroom.



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

BEFORE THE SHOW

"I rather would entreat thy company...To see the wonders of the world!"

This story starts with Valentine, Proteus, and Julia all leaving home to go on a journey to someplace new. Valentine leaves home because he wants adventure. Proteus leaves home because his Dad says he has to. Julia leaves home because she wants to be with Proteus.

Have you ever had to leave your home to go to a new place?

- Why? How did you feel about it?

What new place would you like to explore?

- Would you go to a mountain or a forest, another town, or another country? Why?
- How would you get there?
- Who lives there?
- Do you think you would be more nervous or excited?

Draw a picture of a place you would like to explore!

AS YOU WATCH THE PLAY

Think about how Valentine, Proteus, and Julia feel about leaving home to go to a new city.

AFTER THE SHOW

Julia's dog, Crabbe, travels with her on her journey. In this performance, Crabbe is a puppet!

Draw, make, or design your own version of a Crabbe puppet.

- What would it look like? What would it be made of?
- Who would move the puppet, and how?

If you do participate in any classroom activities, please share your creations with us—We would love to see what your classrooms create!



Kevin Hafso-Koppman as Proteus and Sampson as Crabbe in The Old Globe and USD Shiley Graduate Theatre Program production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*

