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## Romeo's Impulse

Skyler Shatkin  
*NSU University School*

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*Skyler Shatkin*

In one brief moment of time,  
He is at peace with the world and all of its  
splendor,  
Robber of all malice by his maiden's kiss.

But fails to stop an innocent joust,  
Only to cause Mercutio's fall.

Where once endearing whispers occupied his  
thoughts,  
Now guilt-ridden echoes of a dear dying friend,  
Replacing, resounding,  
Within Romeo's ears.

Transforming a gentle lover from romance to  
wrath,  
Raging, avenging,  
He raises his sword.  
"Alive in triumph, and Mercutio slain?"

In one brief moment of time,  
Two lovers' blissful future slain.  
"O, I am fortune's fool!"  
Not even his maiden's kiss can restore all that  
was right with the world.