

broke, be wary, look about!" and then exits the stage. Notice there is no adoration in the Nurse's speech; she doesn't even call Juliet by her name. This shows the audience that the bond between them is fading and is near completely gone when Juliet is found "dead".

We can see that the Nurse's relationship between her and Juliet started completely open and honest, the Nurse felt no need to hold anything back when talking to Juliet and playing on the easy puns and double meanings of quotes made by others, "...by having him, making yourself no less." To which the Nurse's response was, "no less? Nay bigger! Women grow by men." This also relates to the Nurse's bawdy sense of humour. Juliet trusts the Nurse enough to confide in her about Romeo, "my only love sprung from my only hate!" showing that she feels completely safe to tell the nurse that she's in love with a Montague. The contrast between love and hate shows the complexity of the matter and that Juliet would have needed to fully trust the Nurse in order to keep her love secret from Capulet. When the Nurse suggests that Juliet should forget about Romeo and marry Paris, she loses Juliet's trust and confidence. Juliet decides to seek the help of Friar Laurence. Thereafter she no longer involves the Nurse in her secret plans. "...go in, and tell my lady I am gone, having displeased my father, to Lawrence's cell - to make confession and be absolved." Shakespeare uses dramatic irony to show that Juliet is lying to the Nurse. This means that the trust has gone.

The strongest bond between Juliet and the Nurse is the way that the Nurse is very much a mother figure to Juliet. Juliet's biological mother is detached and distant, this is because in wealthy families mothers would not have troubled themselves with the task of raising a child and so would have hired a wet-nurse to do this for her. The Nurse is like a second and more loving parent. The nurse has lost her own daughter Susan, and has become wet-nurse to Juliet. "...Susan and she... God rest all Christian souls... Were of an age. Well, Susan's with God... She was too good for me." Clearly, Shakespeare suggests, Susan has been idealized. Juliet is the nurse's "replacement baby", a piece of information that goes far to explain the profound bond between surrogate daughter and surrogate mother. William Shakespeare was a replacement baby himself; he had two older sisters who both died in infancy. Perhaps this is why he goes into depth about Juliet as a child. The Nurse uses a hyperbole to show how well she knows Juliet, "...I can tell her age unto an hour..." ironically the fact that Juliet's mother has to ask the Nurse how old Juliet is shows that the Nurse definitely plays the mother role to Juliet. This relationship does not change, however, at the same point as the others, instead it dies when the Nurse believes that Juliet is dead, or at least, we hear no more of their relationship.

In conclusion the Nurse could be seen as fickle and yet loving and thoughtful, she changes her opinions and her comical sides fades but she remains a mother figure to Juliet until death, and even when Juliet is believed dead the Nurse shows her despair, for she still loved Juliet and in the end only did what she had to do in order to protect Juliet.