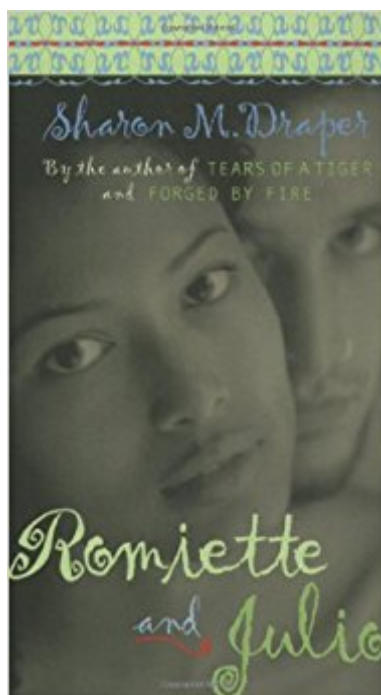


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# Romiette And Julio



## Synopsis

**Star Crossed Lovers** When Romiette Cappelle meets Julio Montague, she feels as though she has met the soul mate who can rescue her from her recurring nightmare about fire and water. But like the Shakespearean characters whose names echo theirs, Romiette and Julio discover that not everyone approves of their budding romance. In their case, it is because Romiette is African-American and Julio is Hispanic, and the Devildogs, a dangerous local gang, violently oppose their interracial relationship. When the Devildogs threaten to teach them a lesson, Romiette and Julio come up with a risky plan to escape from the gang's fearsome shadow. But things go terribly awry, and the two find themselves caught up in a deadly reality more frightening than Romiette's nightmare -- and in a desperate struggle to avoid the tragic fate of Shakespeare's famous young lovers.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 610L (What's this?)

Mass Market Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Simon Pulse; unknown edition (May 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689842090

ISBN-13: 978-0689842092

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.9 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 156 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #67,588 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Peer Pressure](#) #65 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice & Racism](#) #101 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Hispanic](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 6-10-A contemporary retelling of the Romeo and Juliet story with a happy, upbeat ending. Sixteen-year-old Julio Montague's parents have moved their family to Cincinnati, OH, in order to get their son out of his gang-ridden high school in Corpus Christi, TX. Romiette Cappelle, also 16, is the daughter of successful African-American parents and the granddaughter of college professors.

When these two young people, both from proud heritages, begin a romance, they must deal not only with their parents' prejudices but also with the threats of a local gang called The Family. At times, Romiette and Julio effectively parallels and contemporizes the original story. The young couple meet, not at the Capulets' feast, but in an Internet chat room. Julio's friend, Ben Olsen (read Benvolio), who looks like a punk rocker, has an optimistic and irreverent attitude that balances Julio's passion and volatility. At other times, the allusions to the play are obvious and heavy-handed. Nonetheless, this novel is more than simply a carefully plotted teenage romance. Draper gives a realistic portrayal of the interactions among high school students as well as their relationships with their parents. The book also examines how gangs can gain power and take control. All of the characters have unique voices and the writing style shifts according to the action. Romiette and Julio would be a wonderful curriculum tie-in book, but it also stands alone as a first-rate novel about contemporary teens. Jane Halsall, McHenry Public Library District, IL Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

When Romiette Capelle, aka Afroqueen, and Julio Montague, aka Spanishlover, meet in an Internet chat room, neither of them has any idea they both go to the same Cincinnati high school. Afroqueen is from a prominent African American family; Spanishlover is Hispanic and the new kid in town. When Romiette and Julio meet in person, they know they are fated to be together. In keeping with their Shakespearean counterparts, they are thwarted in love: a local gang, the Devildogs, is set on keeping Romiette away from the "foreigner." The dialogue (and there's lots of it) is jarring and stilted, and Romiette's father and some peripheral adult characters are overdone. But Draper has created Julio's parents and Romiette's mother with sensitivity and has given readers a pair of intriguing, unusual protagonists with the sort of real thoughts and feelings that will make this interracial story satisfying despite its stylistic problems. Holly Koelling --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

(I am 14 and reviewing this on my mom's account) This was a pretty good spin on the original Shakespeare play. It had enough similarities to make it clear that it was a spinoff of Romeo and Juliet, but not so many that it was copying Shakespeare. The story is about two kids who become lovers, but the local gang doesn't want the two to be together because of their different races. Julio comes up with a plan to expose the gang, but things go very wrong when the plan doesn't go exactly the way they wanted and the couple ends up in big trouble. I thought it was a good story, and well based off of Shakespeare's classic love story. I'd recommend this for middle schoolers who

have already read Romeo And Juliet, as it will make more sense to those who have already read the original.

I'm an adult reader and have read this book twice...before they changed the cover artwork (not so happy with change, the girl doesnt look like the described Romiette!) and after the redo. A fan of Sharon Draper's very attentive style of writing that doesn't stray away from the story at hand. Enjoyed the added pieces of Destiny with Ben, written at a time of early internet use (chatrooms are almost classic cult now) the fact that main characters needed to meet in person for the relationship to develop speaks volumes today!! appreciate the reference to Shakespeare's original and the need to culminate into a unique yet happy end for a hopeful message to its young readers and to the young at heart.

Took FOREVER to arrive. This book was recommended by a public school for a summer reading/homework assignment for neighbor entering 8th grade. By the time it arrived the neighbor kid was no longer interested in the assignment and we found ourselves (me) marathon reading three days before school started. The book is geared toward African-American teens, but addresses common issues in high schools, such as love, friends, gangs and prejudices. And, how it's important to let family and friends know about troubles with gangs and bullies. Of course, neighbor kid didn't "get" the subtle hints; book was way too long and outcome was predictable. Predictable for me as neighbor didn't finish. She's in school now and I think may still be trying to catch up on massive summer assignment.

Though I've only read it once, I think that "Romiette and Julio" is the best written version of the Romeo and Juliet story ever! It takes place in modern times and in Cincinnati, Ohio. I hope that more people read this book because it shows an alternate ending for Shakespeare's original tale. Romiette is an African-American girl who ends up falling in love with Julio who is of Spanish descent. The novel begins with Romiette having a nightmare and Julio's first day of school. Julio and his family moved from Corpus Christi, Texas. On his first day, he goes to school angry about the move and ends up punching out Ben who becomes Julio's best friend. Throughout the story, Ben, Julio, Romiette, and Romiette's best friend, Destiny, have to deal with the local gang called the Devildogs because of Romiette and Julio's relationship and racial differences. To find out more please read the book! In my own opinion, "Romiette and Julio" is the BEST version of the Shakespeare's story!

So much drama, so much adventure! I absolutely love this book! Coming from a 14 year old, this book showed a lot of character and plot twists. My favorite part was when Destiny had her vibes

Luv This Book ~f~ ~ Å,~ ~™~ ~ Read It In High School 9th Grade Yr & Had To Order It When I Came Across It !!

I really liked this book. If you love romance and teenagers destined to be together, then this is the book for you.

I gave this book 5 stars because this book goes against the odds. All of Sharon drapers books have such a powerful influence where you don't want to stop reading the book. This is the best of one of her books since I've read Tears of a Tiger and Forged by Fire. I really hope that there's going to be a second book

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