

Romeo and Juliet – Quotes from Act 5 Scenes 1 & 2

*“How fares my lady Juliet?
That I ask again,
For nothing can be ill if she be
well.”*

Romeo’s servant, Balthasar, has arrived in Mantua with news of Juliet’s death. Before he can speak, however, Romeo asks him eagerly if Juliet is well.

Romeo has bought poison from the apothecary and intends to drink it in Juliet’s tomb so he can be with her in death. He calls the poison a ‘cordial’ or pleasant-tasting medicine because he welcomes the death it will bring.

*“Come cordial and not
poison, go with me
To Juliet’s grave. For there I
must use thee.”*

*“Now must I to the monument
alone.
Within three hours will fair
Juliet wake”*

Friar Laurence has heard the awful news that Romeo did not receive his letter. He must rush to Juliet’s tomb and be there when she wakes up.