

Lyrics for the Theme from the 1968 *Romeo & Juliet*

“What is a Youth”

Lyrics by Eugene Walter
Music by Nino Rota

What is a youth? Impetuous fire.
What is a maid? Ice and desire.
The world wags on, a rose will bloom....
It then will fade:
so does a youth, so does the fairest maid.
Comes a time when one sweet smile
has a season for a while....
Then love's in love with me.
Some they think only to marry,
others will tease and tarry.
Mine is the very best parry.
Cupid he rules us all.
Caper the cape, but sing me the song,
Death will come soon to hush us along.
Sweeter than honey... and bitter as gall,
Love is a task and it never will pall.
Sweeter than honey and bitter as gall.
Cupid rules us all.