ACT 1, SCENE 3: Paris Sales Pitch

Enter Lady Capulet and the Nurse in Juliet's room. The Nurse is flapping her gums nonstop, fussing with lace and ribbons like she's prepping a pig for prom.

LADY CAPULET

Nurse! Where the hell is Juliet? Go drag her ass in here!

NURSE

By my long-lost virginity lost at 12 and what's left of my knees, I already called her, ya impatient banshee. Juliet! Hey, brat! Get your tight little ass in here!

Enter JULIET, looking like she'd rather be anywhere else.

JULIET

What now? Can't a girl have five minutes without getting pimped out like some kind of fancy-bred fuckdoll?

LADY CAPULET

You shut your mouth when you're talking to me. You're nearly fourteen — ripe for the taking. I was your age when I squeezed you out, and trust me, nobody asked me how I felt about it.

NURSE

Oh gods, I remember it clear as piss. She was a tiny gremlin — always falling, farting, and chewing everything that didn't bite back. Now look at her, all tits and tantrums.

JULIET

Thanks for that poetic imagery, old woman. Truly heartwarming.

LADY CAPULET

Listen up. Paris wants to marry you. He's rich, hot enough not to scare livestock, and loaded like a royal whorehouse. Your father's throwing a big-ass party just so he can parade you around like a prize cow.

JULIET

And if I don't wanna be auctioned off to some rich prick with a nice jawline?

NURSE

Then you'll end up a lonely old bitch like me, drinking bathtub wine and screaming at stray cats. Take the dick while it's being offered, sweetheart.

JULIET

Inspiring. Truly.

LADY CAPULET

You'll meet him tonight. Smile. Look desirable. Pretend you give half a shit. Maybe you'll like him. Maybe not. Doesn't matter. He's got coin. That's all that counts.

NURSE

Exactly. Marriage is just legalized prostitution with cake. You pick the guy who brings gold and maybe doesn't snore.

JULIET

Wow. What a magical fucking vision of the future.

LADY CAPULET

Zip it. Look pretty, act obedient, and for the love of decency, don't embarrass me in front of the town.

NURSE

Yeah, don't scare the merchandise away. Bat your lashes, jiggle your assets, and let the dumb boys drool.

JULIET

What a goddamn dream.

They exit, Nurse still babbling, Lady Capulet sighing like she's already given up, Juliet glaring at the ceiling like it owes her an apology.