

# Shine Brighter 2de

## Flashfile 4 Star-crossed lovers Roma and Juliette

Texte p. 49 – Extrait du roman *These Violent Delights*.

*In Shanghai in the 1920s, there are two rival gangs: the Scarlet Gang, who are Chinese, and the White Flowers, who are Russian.*

“Really?” Juliette demanded through the glass door. “You climbed my house? You couldn’t have simply thrown a few pebbles<sup>1</sup>?”

Roma looked down into the gardens below. “You don’t have any pebbles.” Juliette rubbed her eyes again, forcefully this time. Maybe if she rubbed hard enough, she would realize this was all a fever dream and she’d wake up peacefully alone in her room.

She removed her hand from her eyes. Roma was still there.

They really needed to upgrade their security.

“Roma Montagov, this is unacceptable,” Juliette declared tightly. This was all too reminiscent, too wistful<sup>2</sup>, too much. “Leave before you get shot.” Even with his face shrouded in the shadows, Roma managed to convey a frown<sup>3</sup> that reached Juliette with maximum effect. He looked around, seeing no one in the gardens below him.

“Who will shoot me?”

“I’m going to shoot you,” Juliette snapped.

“No, you’re not. Open the door, dorogaya<sup>4</sup>.”

Chloe Gong, *These Violent Delights*, 2020

1. stone 2. nostalgic 3. make a face 4. dorogaya = darling in Russian