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Analysis of Othello Play

Othello is a tragedy-based episode presented by William Shakespeare at around 1602 (Escolme 7). The piece, which was set in Venice, revolved around two leading personalities namely Iago and Othello. The author of this was born between 1563 and 1565 and sparingly pursued his education in grammar school. After marrying Anne Hathaway to whom they got two children, Shakespeare left for London and immediately ventured in dramatic writing and acting activities. His successful practice and implementation enabled him to gain popularity as an experienced playwright in the then Global Theater. Based on the provided information, the first performance of the *Othello* play took place at King James' court by what we call King's Men in November, 2nd 1604. The whole presentation was set during the warfare and physical confrontations between two places; Turkey and Venice (Escolme 11). This depiction was derived from various historical evidences particularly Knolles Richard's *History of the Turks* that was likely written in 1603. While the program was demonstrated on the stage in ancient times, there are many things the audience should expect to visualize especially in mise en scene (Jones et al. 17). The presenters, for example, wore long clothing or outfits commonly portrayed during the Elizabethan time. Besides, the whole process was originally accompanied by stunning and fulfilling sounds, excellent music, and composition.

Based on my observation, the play involves sexual jealousy occasioned by Othello, the military officer and Iago. Such a condition emanates from power and societal rank where the latter unsuccessfully expected to be promoted. Contrary to the anticipation, Othello promotes Cassio to a lieutenant position (Shakespeare 3). This occurrence angered Iago who instantly declared war and vengeance to the two personalities. First of all, the character endeavored to negatively affect the relationship between Othello and his alleged lover, Desdemona with the first and most notable one being convincing the father of the woman that the two had already engaged in sexual activities. This accusation is taken seriously by the Brabantio, now the biological father of the lady who takes the matter to the High Court. The second attempt the villain engages in to distract the general wellbeing of other individuals in the tragedy is when at the military campaigns in a place called Cyprus. Within the location, we see Iago getting Cassio drunk in order to accomplish his unfriendly acts. He continued with this unlawful plan by staging a propaganda that Cassio and Desdemona are in a romantic relationship, something that annoy or irritate the protagonist (Shakespeare 9). All these happenings, in my opinion, are to ensure there is a distracted cooperation between the three people who according to the scoundrel are enjoying good times at the workplace and home. Although he initiated failed to achieve his mission of convincing the opposite character about unworthy love affairs, it is depicted in the presentation that sharing Desdemona's handkerchief with the other party acted as an emphasizing platform as Othello could now be assured that the two are having a sexual affair especially in his absence. In my opinion, Othello is a play that portrays racial prejudices towards people of color. This situation is occasioned by the fact that the protagonist, regardless of being royal and determined to perform as a general, is despised by the natives by obstructing him from marrying the daughter of a rich personality in Venice (Knutson 322). In the contemporary production, I will

consider Othello as an African personality who has otherwise struggled to achieve the unexpected in society. Irrespective of his unique race, he eventually got promoted to the highest rank in the region – a situation that angered many individuals including Iago.

Furthermore, I intend to communicate and present visual conditions in stage by using original costumes that were likely utilized during the Shakespearean time. To effectively deal with this situation and allow for proper representation, there is a need to begin the exercise by encouraging the performers or members to use long clothes and resemble the mentioned era. In addition to such, I will ensure those involved wore clothes with mixed colors to evoke what we call attractiveness and appealing perspective. Such a coloring complexion, in my views, will help to attract the potential viewers and at the same instance modernizing the whole events. For example, mixing black, white, and grey color in the theatrical state is pertinent because these pigmentations ascertain more about what usually happens in the contemporary world (Jones et al. 17). Changing costumes and general visual representation is fundamental because of many factors such as life-related dynamism that forces people to use the readily available materials. Whereas people in Elizabethan era used unique items to construct theatrical outfits, these materials are currently unavailable and hence using the existing clothing components is welcomed in this context. Contrary to the previous time, for instance, many actors use color-related mixing perspective to show perfection as far as dramatic demonstration is concerned. In addition to this description and highlight, I will consider modernizing the general presentation of the theatre so as to enhance the visual impression of the whole process. This alteration will be accompanied by many conditions including regular flashes of light of varied lighting intensity and color. I think this situation will make the performance to be lively and beautiful especially to the targeted group. In close reference to this depiction, it is worth noting that modernizing the

stage and the overall conditions of the performers should be taken into consideration as doing so will revolutionize the whole performance and allow people to embrace modernity.

While there are many scenes in Othello episode, I will consider directing Act 3 Scene 3 because it depicts more about love and jealousy among characters, which is the ultimatum of the whole play. The section begins with the harsh interaction between Desdemona and Othello as the later accuses the former over sexual infidelity. Othello, an officer and a husband to Desdemona, has been told by Iago about the occasion, a situation that angers him (Shakespeare 3). This occurrence creates uncertainty between the two couples as Othello starts to doubt his lover and that he believes she has an affair with Cassio, a now promoted lieutenant. To effectively direct this scene, there is a need for me to incorporate various production designs including costuming. The clothes should have consistent and proper coloring to evoke aesthesia as well as creating an appealing impression especially to the intended audience. Some of the items that should be available to necessitate the whole process are long boots, military uniforms for officers like Othello and Cassio who are serving in military departments, and white gown for Desdemona (Shakespeare 23). Incorporating dark colored clothing is important in this piece because it signifies the unwelcoming mood between characters that are otherwise engaging in conflict occasioned by alleged infidelity. Other than the stated costumes presented by other personalities like Iago, Cassio, and Othello, I will ensure that the feminine individual use the glowing gown as this helps to ascertain her general innocence and purity regardless of being wrongfully accused of being a romantic relationship with another person. This representation will differentiate the stated characters from others who have constantly staged war and confrontations amongst themselves. However, I believe should put on black or dark costume to

show his sinister or rather evil character traits. His costuming must directly coincide with the problems he has caused between Desdemona and Othello.

In addition to costume, my presentation of the play will also depend on lighting and sound systems as the two will help to ascertain more about the theme and mood of the episode. For example, the theatrical hall or room should contain flashes of varied lighting conditions that fade away instantly. This representation, in my opinion, is fundamental because it enables the viewers to effectively visualize the whole events and make reliable decisions as far as the idea and atmosphere are concerned. As the scene commences, there is a need to integrate bright or striking light to efficiently see the general emotions of Iago with his evil character. Although he might have hidden his negative behaviors, such illumination will definitely show his dark side occasioned by the presented unfriendly dark-colored clothes. Besides, I will use the shadows and dark complexion to show the bad side of Iago. Based on this highlight and explanation, incorporating varied lighting sources and colors is important since it allows the general viewers to know the character traits of varied personalities in the play. There are many instances where Shakespeare used sounding conditions to portray traits of varied characters (Jones et al. 27). To enhance the whole process, I will in this regard direct the stated scene by using specified musical and thematic experiences. Within the section, Desdemona should present the “willow song” to reflect on the agonizing situation. The harsh and unfriendly songs from Iago should enable the audience to understand his devilish intentions. This musical theory, if effectively accommodated, will show the character traits all personalities and help to build the plot.

Work Cited

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