

PLAY WITHIN A PLAY SHAKESPEAR

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, the vast English literature is tried to be bounded in a simple and precise manner. Since many authors of Britain wrote in 11th century to 17 century which described the position and condition of people. So this paper shows the thinking and mentality of the men, women and children of that time. There are certain Authors who had used the essence of love, romance and the thoughts about hell, heaven, superstitions, the story of revenge, threat, fear and last but not the least conspiracy between the different kingdoms. Different emotions of a human of past decades are shown with the help of stories which were shown as play or drama in the theatres of that time.

Keyword - flower of idleness, nun, revenge and tragic.

1. INTRODUCTION

This article is based on the lessons which a person can get from the stories of earlier centuries. In this paper the drama, the emotions, the revenge, the tragedy and the love is explained through different characters and their roles in their respective stories.

1.1 A MidSummer Night's Dream

It is a romantic comedy play written in the 15th century. The love triangle is shown below:

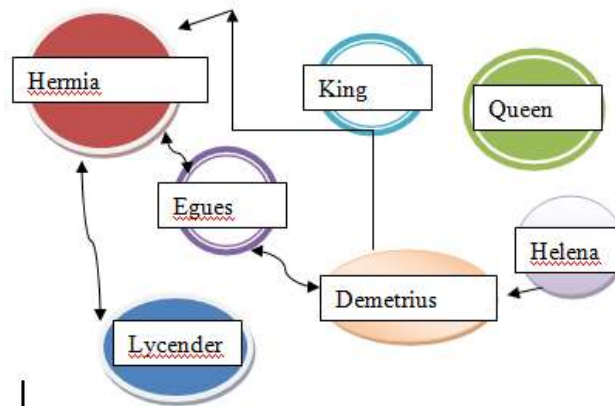


Fig.1

It starts the days when king of Duke and Queen of Amazon(Hippolita) wanted to marry each other after the victory of the king in the war.

1. Egues is the father of Hermia . He puts his request in front of the king and the queen to convince his daughter to accept to marry with Demetrius.(the person of his choice).
2. But Hermia and Lycander want to marry each other and Egues wants to Hermia to marry Demetrius.
3. On this note king and queen tell that in their country it is mendatory condition for children to marry according to their parents otherwise their sexuality will be curtailed by converting them into monk or nun.
4. They gave time to Hermia to think and get ready for marrying Demetrius.
5. Since Hermia loves Lycander, so they decide to run away with each other to the forest.
6. Helena loves Demetrius and Demetrius loves Hermia
7. When they run, Demetrius and Helena also run behind them(Hermia+Lycander) followed by(Helena+Demetrius).

1.2 Story of Fairy Land

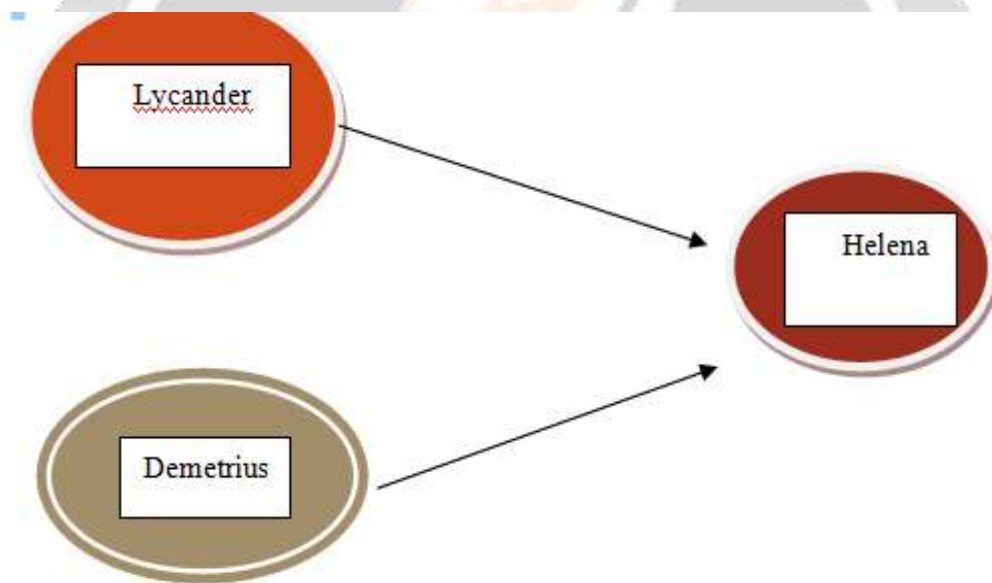


Fig.2

New love equation

Along with this two couple story , there is another story of Forest which runs parallel to this . Yes, that is the story of fairyland. There is a kingdom of fairyland controlled by the king (Oberon) and queen(Titania).

They both were finghting with one another on a point that out of them who would take care of their children. Titania keeps the child with herself and because of this Oberron wanted to take revenge from her.

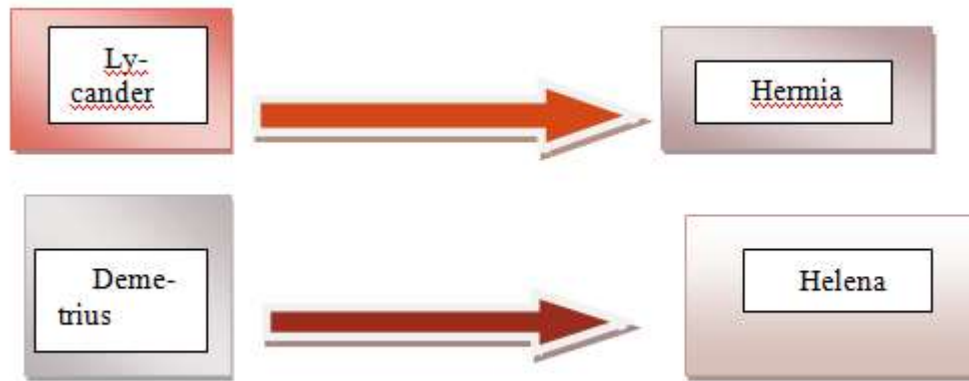


Fig.3

So , he called his servant (Robin goodfellow) also known as ‘puck’ in the play, and told him to bring ‘love in idleness’(which is a magical flower of fairy land) and its juice is very magical.

Keypoint: The magic is whosoever would keep the juice of this flower in his or her eyes and open it afterwards then the person would be in front of his/her will become his/her beloved.

Oberon wants to keep this juice into the eyes of his wife titania.Now both the couple meet at one point in forest and start fighting with each other. After some time they sleep. Oberon sees this puzzle and he wants to solve this puzzle. In the city on the other hand side , on the occasion of the wedding of king and queen , there is a play which would be played by Nick and his team.

Nick and his team visits the forest and they start rehearsing the play.

Puck is told to put the juice into the eyes of the persons suggested by Oberon but he did the opposite.

Puck puts the juice into the eyes of Lycander but Oberon suggestion is Demetrius . Now a situation arrives when Lycander sees Helena and consider her as his beloved. Helena thinks that Lycander makes fun of her by showing his love towards her. She thinks that Lycander is pretending to love her . Now the new love equation is shown in Fig 2 above. On the other hand side, the play artist Nick was wearing a mask of donkey and Titania sees him and starts loving him. So Oberon takes his revenge by doing this with Titania. One night when every one was sleeping , puck is told to bring another flower to normalize everything. So he did that and evrything becomes normal. Again the new love equation is in Fig 3.

Similary , Titania regrets a lot for loving Nick who is having a mask of Donkey

(Audience laughs in the play)

When they all move to city that time King and queen allowed everyone to marry the person of their own choice . Nick and his team starts the play but it did not goes well.

(Puck arrives in the play and he tells every to forget this play as a bad dream) and ends the play.

1.2. Hemlet

This is a story of the city of Denmark. It is performed in 16th century. It is a tragedy and it involves revenge.

The characters are as under:

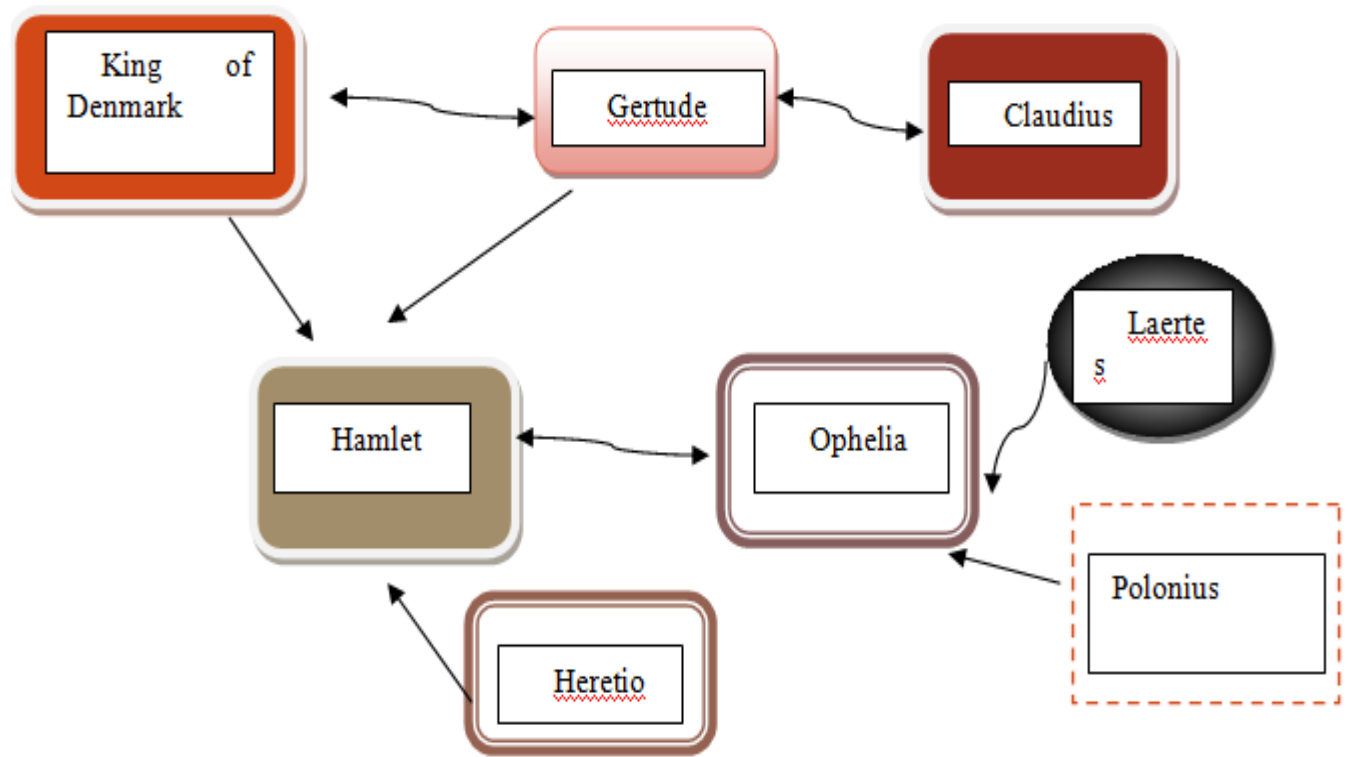


Fig.4

The drama begins in such a way that the two security guards see the ghost of the king of Denmark who has died. Hamlet is the son of the Denmark's king and Gertrude. Heretic is the friend of Hamlet while Ophelia is the daughter of Polonius who is the chamber person of the kingdom. Laertes is the brother of Ophelia and Claudius is the younger brother of the Denmark's king.

1. When guards see the ghost of the king, they rush towards Heretic and explain the incident. Now, Heretic tells about this to Hamlet after watching the ghost by himself.
2. Hamlet wants to see the ghost of his father, so he moves towards the boundaries of the castle where he finds it. The ghost explains everything about the death and explains that Claudius is behind his death and conspiracy.
3. Hamlet starts pretending that he is mad and behaves accordingly to bring the truth out.
4. Polonius, who is the father of Ophelia, keeps a keen eye on him as a spectator.
5. Hamlet did many things to prove himself as mad in front of Claudius and everyone. He pretends to do suicide and many other things.
6. Polonius assumes that Hamlet's condition is due to Ophelia as he is in deep love with her.
7. Claudius calls Hamlet's two friends to keep an eye over him.
8. On the other hand, Hamlet prepares a play in which he portrays the death of a person (showing the story told by the ghost of his father).
9. Hamlet wants to see the gestures and actions of the audience to confirm that Claudius is the real culprit.
10. He succeeds in this as Claudius moves to some other place when the scene of the death is portrayed (played with in a play).

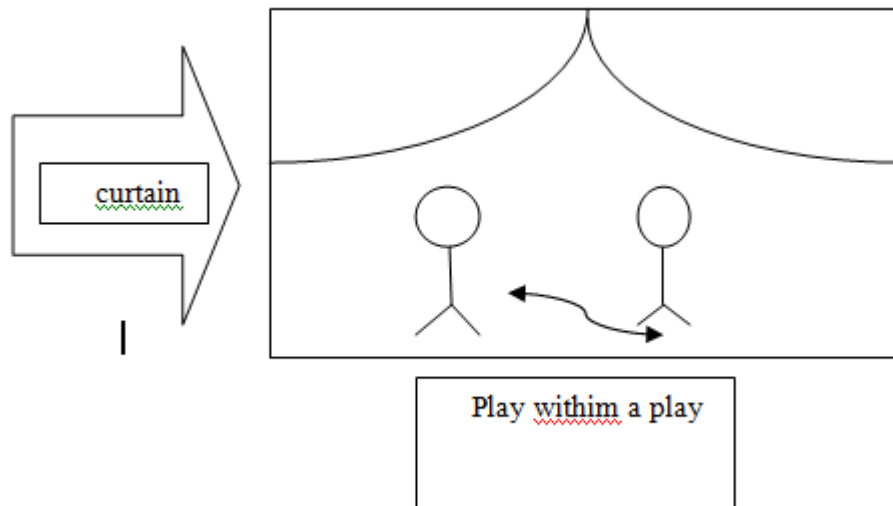


Fig.5

Now Gertrude calls Hamlet in her room. Claudius and Gertrude have married after the death of the king. When Hamlet is approaching his mother's room that time Claudius is also praying in his room. Hamlet decides to kill him on that moment but stops himself because while praying he did not want to kill him as his this work would make Claudius to go to heaven after his death and Hamlet never wants that.

When he enters in his mother's room, Polonius spies on him and he stays behind the curtains of his mother's room to overhear the things and conversation between them. When Hamlet turns into his madness while explaining his mother about the ghost of his father, Polonius screams for help and catches by Hamlet as Claudius and he gets killed by Hamlet's sword.

Claudius tells Hamlet to leave the city for some time and move to England with his two friends to save himself from this crime of death of Polonius. Ophelia dies by listening about his father's death and Hamlet moves to England.

Claudius gives Hamlet a letter to hand it over to the king of England in which it is written to kill Hamlet. Hamlet comes to know about Ophelia's death and returns back where the brother of Ophelia wants to take revenge of his father's and his sister's death. Claudius prepares the fight between them and gives a sword dipped in poison to Laertes and without poison to Hamlet. When Laertes attacks Hamlet and Hamlet gets injury. During their fight, their swords get exchanged. When Hamlet hits Laertes then Laertes dies of poison. Before dying Hamlet also kills Claudius. Gertrude dies by drinking a drink mixed with poison.

At the end everyone dies. Hence this play has a tragic ending


4. CONCLUSIONS

These two plays express the versatility of William Shakespeare that there is a need of deep understanding about the story to know the real meaning of the play. We can compare these plays with our real life that we should need emotional intelligence to stop hate, jealousy and revenge from prevailing. Also as the research work is very rapidly going on technical education. So one must not forget literature and stories of earlier centuries to give a better shape to the character of the individual.

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BIOGRAPHIES

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