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Art 101

19 November 2018

Lady Macbeth Soliloquies

All of Shakespeare’s work the most frightening and famous character is Lady Macbeth. She is more ambitious than her husband. Her first appearance is frightening as she is plotting Duncan’s murder. She is stronger and more ruthless. She is aware of the consequences but she has to push Macbeth to commit murder. She is so determined about murder that at one point she wishes that she were a man not a woman so that she can murder the king herself. The theme of power and gender is related to Lady Macbeth. Macbeth claims that she is masculine soul in a woman’s body. This can also be linked to the theme of violence and ambitious. She is often refer as a forth witch by critics. Lady Macbeth uses her manipulative power to make her husband more ambitious in order to commit murder. She manipulates her husband with outstanding effectiveness. She overrides his objections and resulted in manipulate her husband effectively. She knows how to use tricks as she questioned Macbeth’s manhood so that he must commit murder in order to prove his masculinity. When the crime is perpetrated she steadies Macbeth’s nerves instantly. As she is more ambitious than Macbeth similarly she feels guiltier about whatever she did with her husband and with herself as well. Although Shakespeare shows her very strong but the audience soon comes to know that she still has got femininity. Later, she realizes what she has done and she somehow slide slowly into madness. Audience can see her reduce to sleepwalking and trying to wash away bloodstain which is invisible. She unable to cope and becomes weak when she finds herself guilty.

Lady Macbeth has strong relationship with her husband. Audience hardly see her interacting with other characters in the paly. Except their own ambitious dreams, Lady Macbeth and Macbeth shows little affection towards each other. A soliloquy is a device that is use in drama where characters speak to him or herself loudly so that audience can hear it but characters are dumb to it. Shakespeare is famous for using soliloquies. Through the use of soliloquies when can get familiar with character’s thoughts and feelings. Soliloquies helps readers and audiences to understand the true nature of a character. After the murder accomplished, Lady Macbeth soon realizes what she has done. She gets hunted by thoughts and feels guilty about her act. She asks herself if “will these hands ne’er be clean? … Who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him?(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)” These lines shows that Lady Macbeth is not scare of her act. Shakespeare uses such words to make it clear to the readers that Lady Macbeth is awake now. She is having hallucinations. Shakespeare tries to highlight the drawback and horror of doing wrongs. Although she seems very determined and ambitious that she looks like an idle personality. But Shakespeare soon makes her and audience realizes that one cannot save him or herself after committing crime. Hallucinations and visions are repeated throughout the play and aid as a reminder of the degree to which Macbeth and Lady Macbeth shared the ability of the rising body count. In the end, Lady Macbeth gives way to visions, as she sleeps and believes that her hands are tainted with blood that cannot be eroded with any quantity of water. Once Lady Macbeth board on her deadly journey, the blood represents her guilt, and she initiate to feel that her crimes have tainted her in a way that cannot be spotless. When Macbeth killed Duncan he gets worried about blood stain in which Lady Macbeth says to him, “water will do the job(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)”. Later, she come to share his sense of dismay from being tainted. Blood signifies the guiltiness that sits like a lasting tint on the morality of Lady Macbeth, the one who hunts them to her grave.

From the start of the play there is disconnect between her actions and bold language. In Act 1 scene 5 soliloquy of Lady Macbeth, she refers to “my keen knife(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)” it looks like as if she is the one who will do the killing. The dramatic style that Shakespeare uses in the soliloquy in Act 1 scene 5 is when Shakespeare permits the spectators to listen to Lady Macbeth's deeper ideas in reaction to Macbeth's message and news that Duncan will come to stay. In the soliloquy, she uses tough language to define her strong desire to be merciless in killing Duncan. Vivid imagery is use by Shakespeare, For example, she asks that her blood be denser to prevent any remorse for murder:

“Make thick my blood.

Stop up the access and passage to remorse(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)”

She needs her mother's milk to become "gall." In demanding this, she uses metaphor instead of the words as or like. She needs her femininity to become nasty, like the taste of the gall. Shakespeare uses the technique of alliteration in the soliloquy of Lady Macbeth. For instance, when she says:

“And take my milk for gall, you murd'ring ministers,

Wherever in your sightless substances(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*).”

This frightening soliloquy is uttered in her room alone when Lady Macbeth is full of her aspiration to the throne using metaphor, alliteration, and imagery to express the passion and intensity of her evil desire to use murder as a way forward.

In the start of Act 5, scene 1 Lady Macbeth’s soliloquies take place. It is the time in play when Lady Macbeth is slide towards madness and the doctor comes to attend her. It is the sleep walking scene of Lady Macbeth. Lady Macbeth like her husband, cannot discovery any relief, but she suffers more evidently from a mental disorder that, as she walks in sleep, and recalls the wreckages of the killings. In the beginning of the Act 5 scene 1, woman’s explanation of how Lady Macbeth walks in her sleep. However, in act 2 scene 2, Lady Macbeth tries to rub her hands in a washing process reminiscent of her line "A little water clears us of this deed(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)". If these words are not sufficient to stimulate the doubts of the doctor, then the words in act 5 scene 1 should suggest to him not only that she suffers but also the cause of this suffering.

Lady Macbeth's dialogues become disjointed and wrecked with huge emotional pressure: a troubled hostess and a dominant cold wife who turned into a comic creature whose talk (almost) means nothing. There is no reasonable construction between her memory and her sentences, and certainly, the destruction of her mind is so complete that she cannot remember events in the right order. For instance, "Out damned spot(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)" is tracked by "The Thane of Fife had a wife(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)," when she refers to Lady Macduff. Later the audience hear the lines, "Banquo's buried: he cannot come out on’s grave(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*),” She also hear Macduff at gate. It is as if all the murders have merged into one contest of seamless blood. Possibly the most absurd line that almost completely echoes a previous line of Macbeth’s. When Lady Macbeth cries, "all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand,(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)”. The line “What’s done cannot be undone” reverse the argument with her husband in Act 3 scene 2, "what's done is done". The doctor approves: In his view, Lady Macbeth wants a "divine" - priest - more than a doctor, to remind the readers of Macbeth's closest doubts when he contends with himself formerly at Duncan's murder, "If it were done when 'tis done . . . we'd jump the life to come(*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*)". Now, however, the promise of redemption has been abandoned. Lady Macbeth says that, “Hell is musky”, and the divine obscurity is repeated by the point that the scene is played completely in the dim, with the exclusion of one candle, insisted by Lady Macbeth for her presence. She might be sleepless, but the comfort of her soul really matters.

Sleep is the transition between death and alertness and gives the mind and body a chance to protect, repair, and preserve itself. Lady Macbeth's factual character was exposed through a sleepwalking scene. Her personality tracks the shape of failure, misery and decease. This form initiates when she no longer reins her husband, tracked by visions when she walks while sleeping and eventually commits suicide. In a sleepwalking scene, Lady Macbeth could not tolerate to stay without light, in contrast to the start of the play when she required to be enclosed by blackness. Audience can see Lady Macbeth asleep, talking to herself and washing her hands. She speaks with a reluctant voice, and she goes mad again and again to the remorseful facts of her past. Initial in the play, Lady Macbeth had a robust willpower and a sense of resolution from her husband and was the force that drives her behind the plot to kill Duncan. Lady Macbeth is in hell which she created herself, a stark contrast to her steadfastness and confidence at the time of Duncan's murder. Her incapability to sleep is prophesied in a voice that her husband believed he overheard while murder the king. Her hallucinations adds the play’s use of symbols and act as the horrors of achieving things by wrong means.

**Work Cited**

*Macbeth - Shakespeare Outloud.Pdf*. http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/gleneagle/Parents/LearningLab/Shakespeare%20Resources/Macbeth/Macbeth%20-%20Shakespeare%20Outloud.pdf. Accessed 18 Nov. 2019.