

## THE INFLUENCE SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMAS ON DRAMATURGY

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### INTRODUCTION

Most people agree that William Shakespeare's plays have had the greatest impact on English-language theater. Shakespeare's plays are still performed and modified for new audiences and cultures despite the fact that he penned them in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. According to *Guinness World Records*, Shakespeare remains the world's best-selling playwright, with sales of his plays and poetry believed to have achieved in excess of four billion copies in the almost 400 years since his death. He is also the third most translated author in history Shakespeare frequently examined parent-child conflict.<sup>13</sup> Shakespeare's dramatic works have had a significant influence on dramaturgy—the craft of creating and staging plays on the stage—which is one of the factors contributing to their enduring appeal.

#### Main body

Since their creation in the late 16th century, Shakespeare's dramatic works have had a considerable impact on dramaturgy (the art of composing and producing dramatic works for the stage). Shakespeare's effect on dramaturgy may be observed in many aspects of theatrical production, such as character development, language use, subject study, and structural use. The development of multifaceted characters, however, may be his greatest contribution to the art of drama. Shakespeare's plays have had the following effects on dramaturgy:

1. Developing characters: Shakespeare's plays are renowned for their rich, multifaceted characters. His method of character development has served as an inspiration to many contemporary dramatists, who have since developed more complex

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<sup>13</sup> "William Shakespeare. Ten startling Great Bard- themed world records" Genius World records. 23April 2014.

characters. Shakespeare's characters are not archetypes or stereotypes; rather, they are fully realized individuals with fully formed personalities, goals, motivations, and flaws; they are frequently complex, contradictory, and conflicted, displaying various aspects of human behavior and psychology. For instance, in *Hamlet*, Shakespeare creates a character torn between wanting to exact revenge for his father's murder and the knowledge that such actions would be morally wrong; this inner conflict makes him feel morally conflicted and drives him. Shakespeare's method of character development served as an inspiration for many contemporary writers, who strove to establish characters in their own works who were just as deep and subtle. For instance, August Wilson investigated the struggles of disadvantaged and oppressed groups for identity and dignity in works like *Fences*, while Tennessee Williams gave voice to sensitive and vulnerable populations via the creation of characters like Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

2. The use of language: Shakespeare's plays are known for their lyrical language, and many authors have been affected by it. In their plays, contemporary dramatists like Tom Stoppard, David Mamet, and Tony Kushner frequently employ heightened language. Shakespeare has also affected dramaturgy by the way he uses words. Shakespeare's plays are renowned for their poetic language, which mixes vivid imagery, metaphor, and reference with iambic pentameter (a rhythmic pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables). Although it takes careful reading and interpretation since it is sometimes thick and intricate, this language enhances the emotional impact of the dialogue and gives the characters a greater feeling of drama. Similar to Shakespeare, contemporary playwrights are drawn to the use of poetic and elevated language, investigating the melody of words and their capacity to generate meaning and emotion.

3. The use of comic relief: Shakespeare's plays frequently have comedic relief, or hilarious passages that offer a change of pace from the play's more somber themes. Additionally, a lot of contemporary writers employ humorous relief to lighten the tone of their plays and offer a counterpoint to the heavier subject matter.

4. Themes and motifs: Shakespeare's plays include a wide range of themes, such as identity, love, justice, and power. As other writers continue to explore related subjects in their work, these themes and motifs have influenced modern dramaturgy. Critic George Steiner described all English verse dramas from Coleridge to Tennyson as "feeble variations on Shakespearean themes."<sup>14</sup>

5. Structural elements: The five-act structures of many of Shakespeare's plays have a clear exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Many

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<sup>14</sup> Steiner, George. *The Death of Tragedy*. New Haven: Yale University, 1996. - p. 145

contemporary writers have been affected by this pattern in how they approach play structure. This structure offers a distinct and fulfilling narrative arc that enables the viewer to follow the drama from start to finish. Shakespeare left behind the fundamental notion of how to write an engaging and well-structured plot, which subsequent playwrights may employ different structural features and strategies.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, Shakespeare has had a significant impact on dramaturgy. He contributed complex characters, beautiful language, moving topics, and plays with strong plots that have influenced how we think about and experience theater today. Shakespeare and his plays will always be regarded as major contributors to the development of theater. Shakespeare's plays have had a lasting impact on dramaturgy, prompting a variety of writers to develop their own distinctive works while adhering to the conventions of the genre.

#### REFERENCES:

1. "William Shakespeare. Ten startling Great Bard- themed world records" Genius World records. 23April 2014.
2. Steiner, George. *The Death of Tragedy*. New Haven: Yale University, 1996. - p. 145