

Start here.

William Shakespeare - Hamlet

Hamlet is a tragic story that has major themes throughout it including ~~murder, death~~, death, betrayal, love and the biggest one is revenge. [↑] madness

The statement 'a bleak portrait of a world in which the balance has been disturbed' does align with the story of Hamlet as his life wasn't too bad until his father died and then his uncle became the king shortly after. The balance of Hamlet's world is first disturbed when his father shows up as a ghost outside the castle. It tells Hamlet that he was murdered by Claudius (the new king).

Hamlet wasn't sure whether it was telling the truth or not and whether it was actually his father's spirit.

The supernatural action of the ghost showing up ~~also~~ represents something is horribly wrong. ~~murder~~

This is shown when Marcellus (a guard) states 'there's something rotten in the state of Denmark'.

Hamlet wants to prove to himself that the ghost is real and telling the truth, he decides to put an 'antic disposition' on and thinks of a plan to do so.

He gets the players that come to do a play of how the ghost said the king died and if Claudius reacts, then it would confirm that the king's spirit was correct.

Claudius does react to the play and Hamlet wants to get revenge for what Claudius did to his father.

The ghost described the murder as 'murder most foul'. Throughout the play, it is questioned as to whether Hamlet has actually gone crazy or if he is just putting it on.

He pushes everyone that he was close to away.

~~He seems to have gone mad~~ The first sign that shows he isn't pretending to be crazy anymore is when he is in the chamber with his mother and he sees the ghost and she can't see it. Also, another one is when he kills Polonius and he just doesn't care. He even plays a bit of hide and seek with people trying to find the body.

Hamlet's girlfriend, Ophelia, also goes mad after Hamlet is horrible to her and then kills her father. She wanders around dazed, singing and picking flowers. This causes her own death as she was picking flowers in a tree, then falls and drowns in the river.

The perspective of the statement is represented ~~through~~ ~~the~~ as Denmark starts rotting from the inside out.

It starts from within the castle, with Hamlet wanting to get revenge on Claudius and kill him which starts to affect outside of the castle as well.

Hamlet has many opportunities to kill Claudius but doesn't. This raises suggestions that Hamlet is a coward and can't act on what he speaks. He had an opportunity when Claudius was confessing what

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he had done in the castle church. Hamlet claims he didn't kill him then because he didn't want Claudius to go to heaven, he wants him to go to hell.

This story could be described as a 'bleak portrait of ~~of~~ a world in which the balance has been disturbed' because even at the beginning of the story, Hamlet is unhappy and possibly depressed because his father just died and in a matter of weeks later, his mother has remarried to his uncle. He feels betrayed in a way. Claudius and Gertrude to just get over his father's death as he should be celebrating their marriage.

Hamlet shows to the audience his despair and his true feelings usually when no one else is around. His life is ruined when he realises that Claudius did kill ~~the~~ the king so he could have it all.

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