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Shakespeare's Hamlet has been described as 'a bleak portrait of a world in which the balance has been disturbed.'

This above perspective does to some small degree align with my perspective of Hamlet. ~~But~~ But there are many aspects of the play in which I find Shakespeare ~~did~~ did not write a bleak portrait of a world of balance being disturbed!

Firstly one could say from my personal reading that Hamlet was a bleak portrait of a disturbed balance, after all Hamlet is a tragedy where the main character is killed before the balance or justice is restored. The tragedy doesn't lie in a massacre but in the murder of Hamlet.

Shakespeare from the very start of the play portrays a bleak world of total unease and disturbance of balance. He shows this in the irony of the lines between Bernardo and Marcellus

"Halt, who goes there?"

unwell yourself,

long live the king"

This banter between the digging of the graves shows a complete disturbance.

a scene or ritual which is carried out routinely and every Friday each night is changed in the face of an interlude. This unusual change foreshadows to the audience an interlude which has occurred deeper in the play between Hamlet, Claudius and King Hamlet.

We later can see that the king (Hamlet's father) was tragically killed. The bleak setting of the scene is shattered by Hamlet's quick wit and strength.

"a little more than kin and less than kind"

Hamlet ~~was~~ who was the rightful heir to the Crown after his father's death has just been replaced for his Uncle. This highlights a disturbance in the order and real balance of the world.

Further more Shakespeare, includes the visit of the king's dead Ghost who comes to visit Hamlet.

"revenge my foul and unspoken  
murder."

This quote from the Ghost to Hamlet displays how an imbalance has occurred in the world. This balance being that the dead and those in purgatory can talk to the living, something which from personally reading of the play hasn't occurred in Denmark before.

Shakespeare also cleverly leaves the audience's view on the ghost and his advice open for debate. Throughout the play Shakespeare ~~never~~ <sup>never</sup> hints to the reader that what the Ghost says about his death is even the truth. This ~~enables~~ <sup>enables</sup> the future events of Shakespeare ~~the~~ <sup>killing</sup> Claudius ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> out of a ghost's ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> words as an imbalance in justice, and spiritual ideologies of the time. In the context of Shakespeare people were to take orders and listen to the Queen or Gaining party of the time. Shakespeare then portrays a world where people can be forced to listen to the dead ~~who~~ <sup>who</sup> only want possible revenge or for their torment to stop. Shakespeare completely flips the normal views of

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Society upside down.

I also do believe from Personal reading that Shakespeare didn't write the play as a bleak world in which balance has been disturbed as its main purpose. Shakespeare wrote the play of Hamlet in the form of a ~~tragedy~~ tragedy so the portrayal of a bleak world just fits into the context of a normal Shakespearean Tragedy. On this point so does a disturbed world. From <sup>personal</sup> ~~personally~~ readings of Shakespeare's play Hamlet and also, Macbeth another tragedy I believe they both portray qualities of imbalance, disturbed worlds, and are bleak as a catalyst for many deeper themes and points Shakespeare likes to make about society.

Shakespeare likes to comment on a moral dilemma. That man's facing.

Shakespeare clearly conveys how the society of the time is struggling when water to follow the religious morals or to follow earthly ideas.

This is seen in Hamlet's soliloquy.

"O that this too to flesh would melt"

This use of the above line and the ~~structure~~ use of ~~the pattern~~ ~~the~~ ~~troubled~~ the rhythm of iambic pentameter. convey Hamlet's moral dilemma. Does he trust the benevolence of the earthly Ghost willing Claudio to rescue his father or ~~does~~ does he want to listen to the religious because if the ghost is wrong he ~~will~~ <sup>will</sup> end up in Hell and sent Claudio to heaven. This dilemma between his desire for earthly revenge and religious ideologies is seen in the scene when he can



← Tick this box if you have continued this answer in another writing booklet.





*disturbed balance.*

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