

HUMOR AND SATIRE IN W. SHAKESPEARE'S COMEDIES

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ABSTRACT.

This article is written mainly through information about Shakespeare's comedies. Especially, in this article, we wrote about humor and satire and their purpose of application in his comedies.

KEYWORDS: Humor, satire, comedy, society.

INTRODUCTION:

Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest poets and playwrights of his time, and his influence extends far beyond. His works touch the heart and capture the attention of people across different ages, cultures, and backgrounds. The universal themes of love, power, betrayal, and the human condition, combined with his exquisite use of language, ensure that his plays and sonnets remain relevant and compelling. His ability to delve into the complexities of human nature and express profound truths in beautiful, impactful ways is truly remarkable. Indeed, Shakespeare's use of humor and satire as tools in his comedies has played a significant role in ensuring their enduring relevance and appeal. These elements not only entertain but also serve to critique societal norms, human folly, and the complexities of relationships and power dynamics. Through clever wordplay, irony, and exaggerated situations, Shakespeare invites his audience to laugh while also reflecting on deeper truths about the human condition. This blend of entertainment and insight is a testament to his genius and is something that modern storytellers and educators can learn from. By incorporating humor and satire into teaching or writing, one can engage audiences more effectively, making complex ideas more accessible and memorable.

FINDING THINGS:

Shakespeare's comedies are known for their wit, complex characters, and intricate plots, often featuring themes of love, mistaken identities, and happy resolutions. Some of his most celebrated comedies include: "Two Gentlemen of Verona", "The Comedy of Errors", "The Taming of the Shrew", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "The Merchant of Venice", "Much Ado About Nothing", "As You Like It", "Twelfth Night", These comedies are so famous among people during several years.

“The Comedy of Errors” indeed stands out as one of Shakespeare's earliest and most humor-filled plays. Edward Everett Hale wrote: “They do not represent every side of Shakespeare’s genius as it is displayed in comedy. “The Comedy of Errors”, for instance, is characterized by an element of broad farce in action, which we do not find in these plays”. Its reliance on wordplay, slapstick, and mistaken identities creates a whirlwind of confusion and hilarity that's unique in his body of work. The play's exploration of identity, confusion, and the eventual reconciliation of the separated twins and their companions offers a rich tapestry for analysis, especially in terms of how humor is used to navigate and resolve conflict. The fact that it has been adapted into various forms over the centuries speaks to its universal appeal and the timeless nature of its comedy. But though Shakespeare does not shun the mention of what were to him everyday things, he does not in the least have an everyday atmosphere. The characteristic which makes his comedies as a whole different from the comedies of the present day is their ideal atmosphere. Not present in every one of the comedies, it is clearly noticeable in those in our volume. Shakespeare didn't actually write novels; he's famous for his plays and sonnets. However, his comedic plays are where his talent for humor and satire really shines. Some of his most well-known comedies include "A Midsummer Night's Dream," where the interplay of humans and fairies leads to humorous misunderstandings and love triangles. Then there's "The Merchant of Venice," which, while having its darker moments, includes witty characters like Portia and situations that critique societal norms. "Twelfth Night" is another gem, full of mistaken identities, cross-dressing, and slapstick humor. Each of these plays uses comedy to explore themes of love, society, and human folly in insightful yet entertaining ways.

CONCLUSION:

These plays, among others, highlight Shakespeare's ability to blend humor, satire, and insightful commentary on human nature and society. Shakespeare wrote comedies for several reasons, reflecting both his genius as a playwright and the demands of his audience. Comedy, with its mix of humor, satire, and often a happy ending, was hugely popular in Elizabethan England. It provided a way for Shakespeare to explore and critique societal norms, human behavior, and relationships in a manner that was entertaining yet thought-provoking. Through comedy, he could address complex themes like love, gender roles, and social hierarchy in a way that was accessible and engaging to his audience. Moreover, the comedic elements allowed him to add layers to his characters, making them more relatable and human. Shakespeare's comedies, with their intricate plots and memorable characters, were not just about making people laugh; they were about holding a mirror up to society.

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