

# Imagery In Shakespeare's Othello and Cymbeline

Paper Submission: 12/07/2021, Date of Acceptance: 25/07/2021, Date of Publication: 26/07/2021

## Abstract

One of the four greatest tragedy is written by Shakespeare some critics say that okay believe is a romance and some say that it is a tragedy this paper highlights what is imagery in English literature the device of imaginary is used effectively in Shakespeare's Othello in Cambelline published in 1622 though it was written in 1303-04 Cambelline is thought to have written in 1609-10 It was published in 1623.

Othello is packed with imagery of jealousy. There is religious imagery, voice imagery and animal imagery. There is God imagery in Cambelline magical imagery is also part of Othello can't believe deals with the themes of innocence and jealousy it might be compared with all Othello and winter's tale in that respect.

Shakespeare's imagery often includes metaphors or similes. Shakespeare uses imagery to explore and put emphasis to a particular idea we should see each play as an extended metaphor.

**Keywords:** Imaginary, Jealousy, Love, War, Birds, Animals

## Introduction

Othello was published in 1603-04 .It is one of the four great tragedies. The play deals jealousy. The play is compact. Imagery creates pictures before our mind. Imagery appeals to our senses of touch, hearing, smell. Writers use imagery to express meaning beyond literal explanation.

As with all of Shakespeare's plays, there are lots of types of imagery that occurred in Othello .

1. Visual imagery what we see
2. Auditory what we hear
3. Olfactory imagery what we smell
4. Gustatory imagery what we taste
5. What we feel or touch.

We find the religious imagery in the act 5 scene 2 of Othello. Iago uses a lot of animal imagery to describe Othello. In act 1 scene 1 Iago calls Othello 'Barbary horse' and an 'old' black ram', he uses this imagery to make Desdemona's father angry and telling him that Othello and Desdemona are making the beast with two backs.

## Aim of Study

Author rejoices in reading Shakespeare. The lines of his drama are poetical. The aim of this study is imagery in his two drama. There is handkerchief imagery and imagery of jealousy in Othello

## Animal Imagery

Animal imagery is used to illustrate the darker parts of humankind. Animal imagery is used to dehuman Othello and shame Brabantio into action. Iago calls to him

"Even now, now very now, an old black ram /is tugging your white eve."

(1:1)

He is pointing out to Othello and Desdemona. He goes on to liken Othello to a horse. You will have your daughter covered with a Barbary horse. You will have your nephews neigh to you." 1;1 Animal imagery also helps show the contrast between things and characters.

## Religious Imagery

Sin and forgiveness are really important in Othello and this language is tied into images of light and dark, white and black here is an example of jealousy Iago says

"O beware, my lord of jealousy it is the green-eyed monster, which doth mock the meat it feeds on" 13;3

"Not poppy nor mandragora. nor of the drowsy syrup of the world Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep which thou owedest yesterday "

Lack of sleep is a sign of discontent. No medicine can restore Iago to a happy state. This is the last scene 5;2



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Animal references are also used to shape Iago's character. After Othello and Desdemona have received Brabantio's reluctant blessing, Roderigo who wanted to marry Desdemona laments to Iago. He says he will now drown himself because he is distraught. " Ere I would say I would drown myself for the love of a guinea hen, I would change my humanity with a baboon "

The animal imagery in Othello also serves to set the tone for the play. We hear of lions prowling in the woods. We think of viciousness, cunning, and ferocity. When we imagine pigs wallowing in mire, we think of laziness, uncleanness, and ugliness. These images bring to mind all of humanity's basest qualities, and we are forced to look at the flaws in characters, be it the jealousy of Iago, the gullibility of Othello or the ignorance of Desdemona.

In his essay "of Two Minds", Charles Keim remarks upon the final use of references in act 5. The animal imagery invoked earliest by Othello and earliest by Iago reaches its grim end in the Moor's definition of himself as a "circumcised dog". We find magical imagery in Othello.

"Witchcraft" is referred to first in Act 1, when Brabantio blames Othello of bewitching Desdemona. Act 3 scene 3, Othello talks about the handkerchief he gave to Desdemona, he says a 'charmer' gave it to his mother and she told her while she kept it/ t would make her amiable and subdue my father. Examples of religious imagery are in Othello viz. the idea of sin and forgiveness are recurring in Othello. Images of light and dark, and white and black` Desdemona for example, is described as 'fair' and 'heavenly' with Emilia telling Othello "O the more angel she, and you the blacker devil, when he admits of murdering his wife . In Acts 5 scene 2 we explore religious language is used in Desdemona's final moments in the play. Shakespeare uses these references so much in the last scene

Othello wants Desdemona to die after she's admitted her wrongs and says here that he doesn't want to kill her until that's happened. Her husband Othello asks her to pray or confess her wrongs five times in this scene before he eventually kills her and says that it is too late when she finally asks for one prayer 'g that get mordiful. weelld not have the linges in thy pain' I that am cruel am yet merciful. I would not have thee linger in thy pain '

Comparison of humans to animals was an interesting and powerful tool that that was effectively used by many Shakespeare. Animal imagery also helps show a contrast between things ;especially characters. Iago is evil and manipulative. Desdemona on the other hand, is a very different character from Othello and Iago. Her purity and goodness are apparent in the beginning and continue to be highlighted throughout the entire play . She says to Emilia,"Nobody," I myself. Farewell .commend me to my kind lord and farewell. (7 125-6) Before these words, Othello strangled and tried to kill Desdemona. She remained loyal to him even after terrible things he had done to her.

War imagery is another example of imagery in Othello. War is the background story for every type of people since time immemorial. War is in the minds of people since time immemorial .War is in the minds of people in household. one's emotions and even in one's own mind

In the drama, Othello Shakespeare combines the imagery of love and war to reveal the personality of the main character Othello.. Othello's military life overruled his civilian life. Othello had no time to interact with people and citizens. because his love for war. Cymbeline is a romance but it was listed as a tragedy in the first folio. It deals with the themes of innocence and jealousy. It might be compared with Othello and Winter's Tale in that respect. It is also known as the Tragedie of Cymbeline. It's setting is in ancient Britain. The play was certainly produced as early as 1611

Cymbeline the Roman Empire,'s vassal, King of Britain, had two sons, Guiderius and Arviragus, but they were stolen 20 years earlier as infants by an exiled traitor named Belarius. The musicians are directed by Cloten to play outside of Imogen's door and wake her with sweet harmonies. They sing a song with beautiful lyrical imagery .

We find bird imagery in 'Cymbeline' .According to G. Wilson Knight, "Birdlife is very significantly used in Shakespeare". Shakespeare introduced nearly 60 species of birds in his works. Before the word ornithology was not coined, man was fascinated by their colours, beauty and melodious chirping.

Since time immemorial ravens have become symbols of something absurd, having an evil character . In Othello the raven flies "O-er the infected house"

#### Conclusion

Shakespeare has referred to the most famous Greek myth about Philomela , - Nightingale. The phoenix is the type of the mythical bird. Phoenix is found in both As You Like It and in Cymbeline.

If she be furnished with a mind so rare she, th' Arabian bird ,and I have lost is the wago Cymbeline (1:7:16-18).

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