

Ariel Brea

Professor Lisa Stubbs

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Essay #1: Hiding in Plain Sight

In Oscar Wilde's play, "The Importance of Being Earnest" there are multiple characters who are not what they seem. The author uses satire to explore various themes and provide insight into the characters and their motive for choosing to present themselves in an alternate way. Likewise, in William Shakespeare's play Henry IV Prince Harry is a character who disguises his real identity. There is a theme of masks relating to the disconnect between appearances and reality. Although the storylines differ, here is a universal theme in both writings of individuals hiding in plain sight. There seems to be a tendency of both characters in literature throughout history as well as in real life for people to pretend and take on roles to suit whatever purpose they are trying to achieve. In this essay this theme will be examined through the characters in both plays.

In Shakespeare's play, Prince Harry is also a complex character. In the first scene Prince Harry is hanging out with John Falstaff who is a thief and likes to drink. He is also a jokester and is joking in the scene with his friend. Their other friend joins them, Edward Point. They talk about the plan they have to rob someone the next day and try to tell the prince to join them. When Falstaff leaves, it is revealed the plan is actually to play a joke on Falstaff by not showing up for the planned robbery but then robbing them after they commit the act. When the prince is

all alone however it is revealed that he is hanging out with these friends on purpose. To make himself seem worse because later on when he is ready to reveal his prince nature and step into that role fully everyone will be more impressed. He states, "So, when this loose behavior I throw off And pay the debt I never promised, By how much better than my word I am, By so much shall I falsify men's hopes; And like bright metal on a sullen ground, My reformation, glittering o'er my fault, Shall show more goodly and attract more eyes Than that which hath no foil to set it off. I'll so offend to make the offense a skill, Redeeming time when men think least I will."

This is the first indication there is more to the character than meets the eye. In act two the robbery plays out and then Falstaff tries to exaggerate what happens and why he ran away saying there were hundreds of men after them. When what truly happened is revealed he continues to defend himself. An important part of act two is the exchange between Falstaff and the prince. Falstaff is pretending to be Harry to help him when he talks to his father. He essentially says why when he becomes King he should not banish him. To which the prince replies that he will banish everyone when he is King.

The significant objective of Wilde's writing is double-dealing veil of society. Regularly in Victorian culture, its members comported themselves in excessively earnest, amenable ways while they held onto alternately manipulative perspectives. Wilde uncovered this separation in scenes, for example, when Gwendolen and Cecily stay in line before the workers or when Lady Bracknell warms to Cecily after finding she is rich, yet the play genuinely turns around "sincere." Both ladies need to wed somebody named "Ernest," as the name rouses "outright certainty"; as such, the name suggests that its carrier really is sincere, legit, and dependable. Notwithstanding, Jack and Algernon have lied about their names, so they are not

really "sincere." But it additionally turns out that they were both accidentally coming clean (or its greater part, at any rate). The fast going back and forth of bits of insight and lies, of genuineness and guile, shows how really obfuscated the Victorian upsides of trustworthiness and obligation were; its characters wear and remove their veils of habits at whatever point it is advantageous.

Double characters: A subset of the "Veil of habits" topic, Wilde investigates inside and out having a double personality in Victorian culture. This duality is most evident in Algernon and Jack's episodes of "Bunburying," or their production of a modified self image to permit their own avoidance of obligation. Wilde drops a few clues that Bunburying might depict at any rate is a getaway from the abuse of marriage. As a closeted gay the majority of his life who was likewise hitched, Wilde was very much aware of the double personalities of sexual direction. Be that as it may, different characters go past this; similarly as Algernon and Jack apparently "express" their fictitious personae of Bunbury and Ernest, so does Cecily in a real sense compose correspondence among herself and Ernest (before she has at any point met him). Dissimilar to the ones who are allowed to go back and forth however they see fit, should be intellectually happy with this imaginary personality. That Jack really has been accidentally driving an existence of double.

The primary thought of duality is to underline the value of resistance that exists in the public arena and human connections. When in doubt, individuals need to analyze two unique perspectives or qualities of exactly the same thing and research the association among great and awful, malevolent and kind, high contrast. Wilde, Shelly, and Stevenson make sense of duality, utilizing different evaluation means, and this paper targets talking about the methods of how characters display this quality, their reasons, results, importance, and techniques.

We as a whole have our insider facts that we stow away from our companions, family and everybody around us. Everybody camouflages themselves sooner or later in their lives either assuming it's with a veil or another mask. The intention is to conceal the genuine character of our self. The explanation we conceal our actual selves is for different reasons. Eventually throughout everyday life, we should confront uncovering our internal identity, and what we have stowed away from the world. In any case, looks, images, and shadings can address what your identity is. We wear the cover consistently for various motivations to conceal things about us that we don't need the world to see.