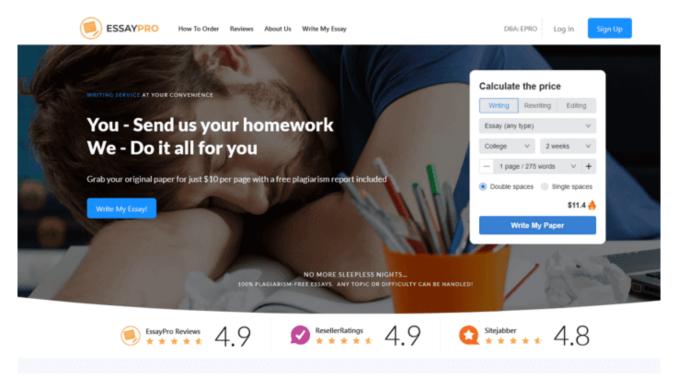
Madness and Insanity in Shakespeare's Hamlet - The Sanity of Ophelia



ENTER HERE => https://bit.ly/abcdessay108

The Impact of Madness on Ophelia of Hamlet
Without question, the role of madness in Hamlet is as vital to the plot and the play's success as Hamlet himself; neither the character nor the play would be able to function without the driving (although somewhat sluggish) force that madness represents. The connection of one to the other, of character to condition, is so intertwined and entangled that Hamlet has come to symbolize the particular form of madness (i.e. melancholy brought about by a humoral imbalance) with which he is afflicted. Indeed, any discussion of Hamlet would be grossly incomplete without an examination of the madness (or lack thereof) from which he suffers; similarly, any discussion of melancholy would, perhaps, border on invalid were it to neglect the obvious connection to the world's most famous literary example. What is overlooked, however, are the effects and the drastically different results of the same condition (or at least, a condition that closely parallels Hamlet's) on the play's second most confounding character, Ophelia.
Early in the play (Act 1, Scene 2), during the first of many insightful soliloquies (insightful

for us as much for him), Hamlet utters, somewhat offhandedly, a summation of his feelings towards his mother's "o'erhasty marriage": "Frailty thy name is woman." Offensive though the quip may be to women of contemporary society (and any not quite passive women of Shakespeare's era), Hamlet's comment was, in many respects, indicative of the prevailing attitude, at least among most men, of the time. Although exceptions to the social system were far from nonexistent (Queen Elizabeth being the most obvious example), women were discriminated against to such an extent...

... middle of paper ...

... New York: Philosophical Library, 1970.

Emerson, Kathy Lynn. The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life in Renaissance England From 1485-1649. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 1996.

Heffernan, Carol Falvo. The Melancholy Muse: Chaucer, Shakespeare and Early Medicine. Pittsburgh: Duquesne UP, 1995.

Hoeniger, F. David. Medicine and Shakespeare in the English Renaissance. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1992.

Lidz, Theodore. Hamlet's Enemy: Madness and Myth in Hamlet. Vision Press, 1975.

Lyons, Bridget Gellert. Voices of Melancholy. New York: Barnes and Noble, 1971.

Schiesari, Juliana. The Gendering of Melancholia: Feminism, Psychoanalysis, and the Symbolics of Loss in Renaissance Literature. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1992.

Shakespeare, William. Hamlet. Ed. George Lyman Kittredge. Boston: Ginn and Company, 1939.

Other Arcticles:

- Top Term Paper Editing Sites Ca
- Custom Custom Essay Ghostwriters For Hire For Masters
- Top Thesis Proposal Ghostwriting Site For Mba
- Popular Rhetorical Analysis Essay Proofreading Websites Ca
- Cheap Article Review Writers Service For Phd
- Best Argumentative Essay Ghostwriting Services Usa
- Custom Personal Statement Writers Site Au