

Shakespeare's biography

*. William Shakespeare was born in 1564; in Stratford-upon-Avon – London, England.

*. His father John Shakespeare was a glove – maker.

*. Shakespeare attended a grammar school but he didn't proceed his education.

Grammar school = primary school

Proceed = complete

*. In 1582, he married an older woman, Anne Hathaway, and had three children with her.

*. His wife was eight years older than him.

*. His children are: Susana, Judith, and Hamnet.

*. Around 1590, he left his family behind and travelled to London to work as an actor and playwright.

*. He became a part – owner – of the Globe Theater.

*. He died in 1616 at the age of 5.

*. He wrote 37 plays and 154 sonnets that carry his name

Carry his name = Shakespearean sonnet.

Sonnet = a poem of 14 lines.

Othello

Characters:

Othello

Desdemona

Iago

Roderigo

Cassio

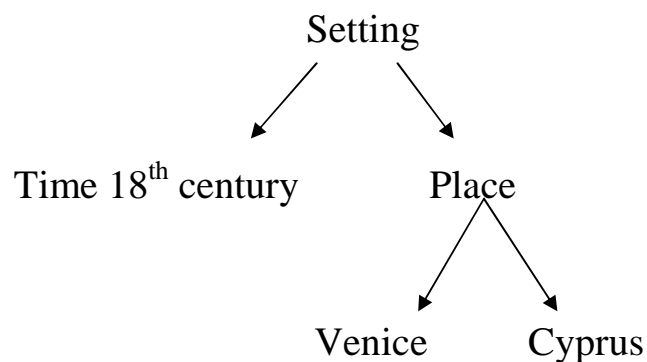
Emilia

Brabantio

Bianca

Montano

The duke of Venice



Othello: hero, protagonist, General

Desdemona: heroine, beautiful lady, Brabantio's daughter.

Elope = escape secretly

*. Othello and Desdemona eloped.

Iago: the bad character, villain, antagonist, flag carrier, an ancient. Close friend to Othello,

Rodrigo: nobleman, very rich.

Cassio: handsome soldier, accountant.

Emilia: Desdemona's lady in waiting (maid = female servant), Iago's wife.

Brabantio: Desdemona's father, senator, a man of power.

Bianca: Cassio's beloved, council of senators.

Montano: governor of Cyprus.

*. Iago wanted promotion to get a higher position.

*. Symbols:

1. Handkerchief.

2. Song willow.

(P.42) by Othello

Most potent, grave, and reverend signiors,

My very noble and approved good masters,

That I have taken away this old man's daughter

It is most true; true I have married her.

This speech has been said by Othello to the Duke and Senators of Venice and Brabantio.

When Brabantio accuses Othello of using magic (witchcraft) on Desdemona, Othello says that it is true he has taken his daughter and it's also true that he married her. And this is the only magic (witchcraft) he has done to her but nothing else. He says that he is not an educated man and not a good speaker. For the last nine months he was just a soldier and knows nothing beyond (behind) the battle field. He says if you all give me time to show you what magic and drugs I employed (used) to his daughter.

(P.46) By Othello

Her father loved me, oft invited me;

Still questioned me the story of my life,

From year to year the battle, sieges, fortunes

That I have passed.

This speech by Othello to Senators.

Othello says that Brabantio, Desdemona's father liked loved me. He made Othello his guest; he liked to hear about my adventures and deadly stories that Othello that seen (faced). Othello says that he has traveled outside the civilized world. Desdemona herself over heard (listen secretly to somebody) his stories and liked them. She was going quickly to do the house works and gets back to hear the stories again. When she listened to his stories, she felt so sad that Othello has faced all of these difficulties and wished he would never experience them. Desdemona was distressed to hear about his past and loved him for the adventures and difficulties he faced, and she confessed that she could love such a brave man. Othello told her of his love and this is the only magic (witchcraft) he has done.

(P.58) By Iago

It is merely a lust of the blood and a permission
Of the will. Come, be a man! Drown thyself?
Drown cats and blind puppies! I have professed
Me thy friend and I confess me knit to thy deserving.

This speech has been said by Iago to Roderigo when the latter decided to drown himself for loosen Desdemona.

Iago here works upon Roderigo and tells him that Desdemona will soon get tire of Othello. You only put money in my purse and keep your hope. The Moor may change in his feelings; Desdemona may soon wish a younger lover and such a match between a barbarian, and a highly civilized lady can't last. It is too ridiculous (stupid, silly, and foolish) to talk about drowning while there is much hope. Iago impressing on him the need to raise the money and a sure him that he hats Othello has much as Roderigo does and will enjoy carrying getting revenge upon him (Othello).

(P60) by Iago

Thus do I never make my fool my purse;

For I mine own gained knowledge should profane

If I would time expend with such a snip

But for my sport and profit. I hate the Moor;

Iago to himself (soliloquy)

Iago is so happy to his success to trick the fool Roderigo. Alone, he begins to make plans for involving Cassio in his plot in order to increase his own self importance and sense of power and also to revenge upon Cassio too. He intends to hint (remark) to Othello that Cassio is too friendly with Desdemona. It is possibly Brabantio's parting warning to Othello has given Iago. Cassio is the proper man to accuse because he is handsome and well mannered. One that people might easily suspect of being a ladies' man. The Moor is a free and open nature that thinks men honest and he is easily to be tricked.

(P.80) by Iago

That Cassio loves her, I do well believe it;

That she loves him, 'tis apt and of great credit.

The Moor, howbeit that I endure him not,

Is of a constant, loving, noble nature,

Iago to himself (soliloquy)

Iago as usual thinks a loud and makes further plans in a soliloquy (talk to himself) by now he has persuaded (convinced) to himself that Cassio loves Desdemona, even that she loves him. Iago's great difficulty is his knowledge of Othello's nobility but a new thought (idea) occurs (happens) to Iago, in fact a whole new situation. Now he says that he himself loves Desdemona, that he also suspects Othello of making love to his wife, Emilia. He gives so many reasons for his actions that it is hard to believe anyone is the true one. He even suspects that Cassio too has made love to Emilia. He is determined to practice upon Othello's peace and quiet. Even to madness, but how or exactly why is certainly is confused as yet.

(P.88) by Iago

If I can fasten but one cup upon him

With that which he hath drunk to-night already,

He'll be as full of quarrel and offense

As my young mistress dog. Now my sick fool Roderigo,

Iago to himself (soliloquy)

When he is setting a plan to revenge upon Cassio by preparing him for the fight with Roderigo. Iago says if I can persuade (convince) Cassio to drink one more cup of wine to that he has drunken before, he will become so easy to be irritated and angry and quick angry reaction to fight. Iago has already taken part (joined) in a noisy drinking session with three young men from Cyprus, noble boys who to stand up straight at a chance to defend the island's reputation for war. Now I will place Cassio in the ranks of the three drunken men and push him to insult Cyprus.