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Taming of the shrew

Relevance to multiple generations

The classic, *Taming of The Shrew*, is a comedy that deals with the complicated love story of Kate, a shrew that is rebellious to all authority figures surrounding her, and Petruchio, the man who wants to prove himself through the taming of Kate. This story is widely looked at as a classic, but today we are looking at how it can have this title. So first, what is a classic? This subject is widely debated, but for today, we are using the definition given by Esther Lombardi, a journalist that wrote on ThoughtCo about "The Definition of a Classic in Literature". She defined it through five requirements these being that it expresses artistic quality, it stands the test of time, it has universal appeal, makes connections, and it is relevant to multiple generations. In this essay, I will be looking at the way it has stayed relevant to multiple generations because with this story, even though the words on the page has not changed the story told through them has changed through generations.

We are going to be looking at the quality in the story first and how it has helped let it stay relevant through multiple generations. By looking at its characters, the content, and the writing. With the characters, one of the things that I believe made them relatable and comprehensible through multiple generations is that Shakespeare defines them early on and keeps to the behaviour patters. Through the hole play with breaks in these only used to create comedic portions or to show growth in the characters. Meaning that even if we can not relate to these characters situation, we can assume the emotions during different events and understand the reasoning behind them. These character emotions are accentuated by Shakespeare's beautiful rhyming pattern in his writing, as it expands and retracts through out the play. It has characters anger being shown through short snappy words and expands the for the more eloquent moments. These come together to paint a picture of each scene with a few descriptions of the characters and sets.

The characters, writing and story, are great, but with those alone would most likely not stay relevant through multiple generations. This story also did not just stand the stay relevant to multiple generations through the name of Shakespeare either. It has because it captures the human condition during the period in which it was written. Giving a demonstration of our growth and giving us a clear pathway to what we still must change. At the core of the story is a repulsive concept to us today; we question why Kates father (Baptista) would feel the need to force Kate into marriage with the first suitor possible with no regard to Kates opinion or feeling even though they are continuously demonstrated to him. Baptista was not intended initially to portray this message, but as this story was passed through generations, this is how it has become. As this book is read through different parts of life, it slowly presents itself with new commentary on our collective society; Allowing this story to be widely enjoyed.

With this story continually changing, I see it being a classic for a long time. With it leaves us questioning, what mistakes are we making in our culture that would seem cruel in the future?