

Student's Name

Professor's Name

Course Name and Number

Assignment Due Date

Themes and Poetic Elements in William Shakespeare's "Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow"

The English dramatist, William Shakespeare, remains one of the most celebrated and quoted poets and play writers in the history of the English language and the sphere of drama. The English playwright was responsible for numerous plays and poetic presentations, which resonate with real-life experiences to date. Among such famous poems was "Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow," which was spoken by Macbeth. The soliloquy was right after the death of Macbeth's wife in the middle of a testing time. At that time, Macbeth was facing an attack on his castle and suffering from the doom of his previous wickedness. Against this backdrop, Macbeth confesses his troubles and despair under a disguise, which portrays repentance and desperation.

The key themes in Shakespeare's poem include death and the futility of life, where the poet underscores it in the *play* called life, death is inevitable despite the emptiness it causes. Under the vanity of life, this play compares an individual's existence to the minor roles one would play in a humorous presentation, which are interesting only while they last. In the end, both the character and the roles are forgotten. In addition, time and fate equally spring as significant themes in the soliloquy. Time and fate paint the ideation that life is a script that plays out. Life inevitably ends irrespective of the plans and ambitions that one might have for the future.

Death, time, and fate remain mysterious, and this play presents the unprecedentedness of everyone's future. The themes are evident in Macbeth's hopelessness and despair since they mutilate his dreams and fantasies. They also negate the efforts and plans he had established with his wife, thereby making his entire life unfruitful. Death occasions disappointments, regardless of one's plans or past actions. For instance, Macbeth murdered the king to accord his wife a peaceful life, only to die abruptly. Just like all Shakespeare's plays, Macbeth's words are endowed with multiple poetic elements such as tone, repetition, rhythm, metaphors, and symbolism, among others.

Macbeth has employed a resigned tone to express his indifference with the wife's death, metaphor in his representation of time with the word 'tomorrow,' (Shakespeare line 1) and metaphors like 'poor player,' (line 6) and 'brief candle' (line 5) to depict meaninglessness and shortness of life. Besides, 'poor player' and 'brief candle' paint a reality where one has a specific role to perform, and they would be gone immediately they are done. Even worse, the 'player' is forgotten. Just like a candle, the role, however interesting it may be, is often brief. Further, repetition has equally been outlined in the play, as the word 'tomorrow' appears more than once to underscore Macbeth's feelings. The repetition of the word 'tomorrow' is monotonous, illustrating Macbeth's boring life as shown by recurring misfortunes.

The soliloquy represents Macbeth's resignation and disappointment in life, which conditions struggles and sacrifices in pursuit of happiness only for death to appear before gratification takes shape. The play illuminates the emptiness people encounter at the loss of a loved one, especially before previous plans are realized. Even though Macbeth is justified in his regrets and distress, life is not meant to be permanent, and humanity must give their all today since tomorrow remains unknown. The main lesson from the play, which equally stands in

conflict with it, is that love should be peaceful and not weaponized to justify evils like murder.

Lastly, hope should remain one's anchor at all times.

Work Cited

Shakespeare, William. *The Tragedy of Macbeth*. The British Library, 1720.

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