



## The Theme of Revenge in Shakespeare's play Hamlet

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### ABSTRACT

This Paper examines and tries to explain the problem of vengeance in Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*. Firstly, this research will define and give the meaning of the term revenge. Secondly, the reasons for Hamlet's delay will also be explained. Also with this research will talk about the summary of the play *Hamlet*. The researcher then mentions how Shakespeare explored the study's theme in his play.

At that time of the Elizabethan era the revenge plays were at its climax of popularity. Most of them were tragedy or melodrama with so many vicissitudes and turns to keep the audience spellbound.

**Keywords:** *revenge, delay, vicissitudes, tragedy.*

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### AIM OF THE RESEARCH

This research is an attempt or examine to show the audience or whole world that Hamlet as a revenge play also the study will focus on the various reasons of Hamlet's delay.

### INTRODUCTION

The play *Hamlet* considers as a revenge tragedy. Was written by William Shakespeare between 1599 and 1601 then published in 1603. The author wants to explain and show the revenge of Hamlet. Hamlet was the prince of Denmark, wants to revenge from the recent or the current king of his country, his uncle named Claudius, who killed Hamlet's father, because Claudius wants to dominate on throne and take the crown also marry the queen Gertrude the Mother of prince Hamlet. When Hamlet tried to revenge his father by killing Claudius, He killed Polonius by accident, the father of Ophelia and Laertes. After that Laertes wants to revenges his father's death by killing Hamlet. The events take us to the king of Norway, who killed by Hamlet's father in battle. Fortinbras becomes the prince of Norway and now wanted to revenge from Hamlet on the sake of Norway. At the beginning of the play, Hamlet is in a miserable mood over the death of his father and the betrayal of his mother because she got married from his uncle. That make worse is that only one or two months after, the horrible and untimely death, Hamlet's mother, the queen remarries Hamlet's uncle Claudius that makes the prince Hamlet live in terrible and uncomfortable life. One day the apparition of the dead King Hamlet appears before prince Hamlet and tells that Claudius is the person who killed his father. A prime illustration of the people's hesitancy is seen in William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Hamlet, the main character in this play, has dramatic reluctance when he feels the want to exact revenge for his father's passing. He hesitates after realizing how uncommon his father's passing is. He has a strong desire to learn how his father passed away. He also wants to get revenge on whoever killed his father, but he is ultimately hesitant because of all the tensions in his psyche. Hamlet's father, King Hamlet, had been assassinated by his uncle Claudius, who has since taken on the role of his father. Because he was so stunned, he vowed to exact revenge on the man and made a killing commitment to both his father and himself. As Hamlet struggles with despair over his mother Queen Gertrude's refusal to grant him permission to kill Claudius, he continues to hunt for a method to avenge the death of his father. When Hamlet murders Polonius, the father of his beloved Ophelia, the issue has already continued. Until she passes away, Ophelia is in shock. Hamlet becomes much more hesitant as a result of the issue. Sadly, Hamlet's hesitancy is still there in his character. He hesitates because his father's ghost compels him to murder Claudius every time. Hamlet is hesitant to act because he fears that his mother will be upset once more. He is also wary because if anybody finds out about his plans, they may jail Hamlet. His sad hesitance at this point puts him in jeopardy. The majority of William Shakespeare's works depict the characters' psychological growth, including that of both the major and minor characters. These phenomena are the focus of psychological research that mirrors life's realities. Four factors led the author to select *Hamlet* drama as the study's subject. The *Hamlet* drama's characters and characterizations are intriguing to study, which is the first justification. The second reason is that the castle-centered setting of the *Hamlet* drama makes it special. The third justification relates to the dramatization of *Hamlet*. The climax appears many times throughout the story's chronological storyline. The first climax in *Hamlet* happens when Hamlet is certain that Claudius really did kill his father. The second climax in *Hamlet* takes

place during and immediately following the sword fight in the final act, which results in the deaths of Laertes, Gertrude, Claudius, and Hamlet. The drama's topic of doubt is the final factor, which increases the researcher's interest in the play's analysis. According to the traditions of his day, Hamlet is obligated to avenge the death of his father. However, he also has a duty to uphold morality. As a result, Hamlet finds it extremely difficult to make decisions and deters from acting decisively. Due to the significance of Hamlet's position in the story, the scholar is particularly interested in studying him. The ghost told prince Hamlet should revenge his father's death. Hamlet becomes confused of this problem and filled with rage and decides that he should kill Claudius. Eventually Prince Hamlet takes his revenge upon his uncle by killing him but prince Hamlet also loses his life by the poison. Actually this play shows us the conflicts and revenge between the people even the relatives.

### **About the Author**

William Shakespeare was an English poet, actor and playwright, widely considered as the greatest writer in the History of English literature and English language. Was born in (1564-1616). Shakespeare lived during the renaissance, during the Elizabethan era. He was one of an eight-child family, some of them passed away while they were quite little. Shakespeare traveled to London in his twenties in order to pursue a career as an actor, leaving his family behind. He wrote at least 38 plays, 154 sonnets, poems and a few other verses. His plays have been translated into many languages. Shakespeare's plays were played both in public venues like the renowned Globe Theater and in the royal courts of England.

### **Literature Review**

Indeed the revenge was a famous theme in Elizabethan drama. Basically lets define the revenge. Revenge is defined as the act of inflicting harm, humiliation, or hurt on someone who has been wronged. We have an example or idiom "an eye for an eye" is a citation from various sections of the Hebrew Bible (Leviticus 24:19-21, Exodus 21:22-25, and Deuteronomy 19:21), that means a person who has harmed another's eye is compelled to compensate with the worth of his or her own eye. Many works of literature, including Shakespeare's work Hamlet, are based on this mythological perspective (DiYanni).

As they defined Revenge as "an act of harming a person or group in response to a grievance, usually in order to obtain justice in illegal means, using one's own hands" (revenge, 2019,). Bacon [1] explained that and said "Revenge is a kind of wild justice, which the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out. For as for the first wrong, it doth but offend the law".

"Blood for blood," or the urge to take vengeance on one's attacker regardless of the law or one's faith, is referred to as revenge. From the middle of the 1580s through the start of the 1640s, the topic of retribution was prevalent. Thomas Kyd, Christopher Marlowe, George Peele, and William Shakespeare, with his play Hamlet, were some of the well-known writers of the era who contributed to this topic.

Around the same time, many other plays on retaliation made their debuts, and all of them showed "a deep understanding into the moral and spiritual ramifications of revenge." The Tragedy of Hoffman (1602) by Henry Chettle, The Revenger's Tragedy (1606), and The Atheist's Tragedy (1607) are among the top five (1610-11). The revenger then experiences uncertainty about his ability to exact his vengeance, which typically requires complex and laborious preparation. He finally decides to exact his retribution. Other traits that are typical of revenge plays include the appearance of a ghost to convince the revenger to carry out the deed, bloody deeds, intrigues, madness, and high melodrama, as well as the death of the revenger and occasionally his collaborator at the moment of success or even while carrying out the revenge.

Taylor [2] asserts that one of William Shakespeare's most well-known and still-popular plays is Hamlet. The main theme of the play is revenge, which leads to the killing of numerous innocent individuals. Shakespeare concentrates on Prince Hamlet's problems, which are depicted as beautiful, rather than his uncle's terrible deeds. At the start of the play, Prince Hamlet is visited by the spirit of King Hamlet, who informs him that his uncle Claudius poisoned him.

### **Methodology**

In order to achieve the study's objective by presenting the study's concept and thinking, the researcher provides the methodological procedures and data used in the investigation. The research utilized material from primary references (Hamlet), further thesis, dissertations, books, and other secondary materials, to fulfill the study's objective. Additionally, a few Shakespeare quotes from the play are utilized, along with quotes from books and articles, to provide the study's thesis.

## **The Theme of Revenge**

The play essentially focuses on the topic of revenge to be taken. Shakespeare made an effort to capitalize on the dramatic confrontation between Hamlet and his uncle, which is based on the theme of retribution. Retaliation, specifically retaliation for the death of the king Hamlet, is the driving force that determines the turns of the play's story, including its exposition, slow growth, suspense, peak, and tragedy. The motivation underlying the story is not just Hamlet's thirst for vengeance, but Laertes' as well. Both of the King Hamlet and Polonius the characters in the Hamlet play are brutally killed. King Hamlet, who was the first character to be killed, is expected to receive justice through his son Prince Hamlet. In the craze of vengeance, Hamlet mistakes murders Polonius for Claudius, who is concealed behind arras. He had no remorse, and all he could think about was getting even for the death of his father.

Polonius the father of Laertes, who committed the second victim of the play and murdered mistakenly by prince Hamlet, is expected to receive justice through his son Laertes. Both Prince Hamlet and Laertes go to exact retribution for the deaths of their fathers, but they employ different strategies to do it. As far as the state's crime against the person is concerned, King Claudius devises a covert scheme to assassinate Hamlet while he is in England. The drama's main topic is retribution. The play's pivotal moments show a number of people expressing their desire to wreak revenge on someone who has mistreated them in the past, which sets up the play's sad climax because vengeance nearly always results in catastrophe.

The ghost also plays a major part in Hamlet since the ghost is an essential component of a vengeance play. Here, the ghost is primarily associated with the retribution concept, which provides validity for such a norm. The play's opening scene establishes the tone for the whole production, which is veiled in fear and mystery. The ghost may be seen, but it is a shadowy figure that resembles Hamlet's father, the late king of Denmark, in terms of attire and armour. In the first scene, the ghost makes two appearances but will not answer Horatio's query. The drama is somewhat affected by the rumor that the ghost is Horatio, and it creates the required emotional tension. In the future, Hamlet is informed about the ghost's presence.

Shakespeare emphasized this to show Hamlet's moral side: "Haste me to know it, that I, with wings as swift as meditation or the thoughts of love, may sweep to my revenge" [3]. Some reviewers noted that Hamlet's hesitation to kill Claudius and exact revenge was morally motivated. Despite the terrible death of hero, this point of view was widely contested. The author rejected the idea of revenge in one manner or another. It confirmed a moral component for the viewers or readers.

Hamlet's father murdered the Norwegian monarch, and his son Fortinbras, the prince, promised retribution against both Norway and Denmark. Hamlet, the only survivor of the tragedy, eventually ascends to the throne of Denmark. The death of King Hamlet is regarded to be the catalyst for all of this. Shakespeare's retribution plot involves the murder of innocent people, and the topic is utilized to demonstrate how seeking revenge usually results in tragedy.

Hamlet's desire to seek revenge on his mother for wedding Claudius so soon after his father's passing by axing the man who had been her husband in just two months is another instance of conflict in his nature. The apparition of his father had advised prince Hamlet to let his mother deal with her own morals, saying that the internal strife she would cause would be sufficient retaliation. Hamlet decides to take matters into his own hands and face his mother, which also serves as an external indicator of conflict, because he does not believe that the passive retaliation via his mother's conscience is sufficient or appropriate for her transgression.

In a unique literary style and outlook on life, Shakespeare portrayed his play Hamlet as a metaphor of human struggles. This approach sees society issues as the mirror image of personal differentiation and divergence. Shakespeare focused on the enhanced reality of beauty inside the literary brain after first discovering the conflicts of human psychology. He had thoroughly analyzed the philosophy of human conflicts in Hamlet and attempted to end the animosity between men and women.

It's crucial to remember that Hamlet's inner turmoil is only resolved at the conclusion of his quest to revenge the death of his father. Hamlet cannot feel really free till he feels that all members of the court will actually know the reality and move on in the future knowing how the reign of Hamlet's father ended since the killing is kept a secret from any person save Hamlet, the ghost, Horatio, and Claudius. Horatio is supposed to go on in Hamlet's stead and complete the task that Hamlet can no longer do, despite the fact that he wishes he could kill himself.

The play Hamlet's conclusion also features a lot of killings. When the queen consumes the tainted wine, she is the first to pass away. Hamlet stabs King Claudius to death with a poisoned sword, and Laertes also perishes at the hands of a poisoned sword strike. Hamlet eventually passes away from the sword wound. Only one of the four killings that take place in the play's climactic scene—Hamlet's—is premeditated.

The other three are erratic and disorderly. As a result, all these dramatic events turn the play "Hamlet" into a real tragedy in the sense of retribution.

### **Hamlet demonstrates that it is a play about bloodshed, adultery, corruption, and death.**

The most well-known vengeance tragedy of all time was Shakespeare's Hamlet. The most famous play, Hamlet, was created into a drama of violent motif of retribution by Claudius's captivating plans of sadistic aim to kill the monarch Hamlet and to be married with his wife. The moment the ghost revealed the truth about the murder of King Hamlet, the seeds of bloodshed, adultery, corruption, and death were already in the ground. Here, we may argue that the appearance of the ghost has induced the experience in the Hamlet narrative. As Claudius unlawfully and violently took the throne of King Hamlet, his murder was more than just a strange incident; it revealed the depraved psyche of the man. After Gertrude wed Claudius, the signs of infidelity appeared quickly. With her late husband's brother, she had a second marriage. More than enough evidence existed to demonstrate Gertrude's mental instability. She was a type of revolting lady who, when she was married to Claudius, only thought about her personal happiness and neglected to consider her kid. Gertrude's egotistical behaviors toward the illicit connection were adapted from Hamlet in the play.

Hamlet did follow the idea to imagine anything repulsive about his mother after witnessing the selfish attitudes. Women in Hamlet can only trick men since they just conceal their age by wearing makeup. Hamlet learned the true meaning of life at the play's finale, which he had previously mistaken for his upbringing. Since life entails grabbing the reins and dealing with heinous crimes like murder, corruption, and adultery, Hamlet has shown these aspects as the harsh realities of existence.

### **The Appearance Of The Ghost To Hamlet In Order To Tell Him About His Father's Killer**

It should be noted that in plays about retaliation, the ghostly presence plays an important role in informing the protagonist of the narrative about the villains. The ghost was the adviser for getting revenge, therefore in Hamlet, the ghost-like figure revealed knowledge concerning King Hamlet's death. The ghost said that his own brother Claudius was the killer and instructed his son to exact revenge on him. The first scene of Shakespeare's Hamlet was the creepiest, filled with mysterious settings and cloaked in terrifying situations.

The late Danish ruler King Hamlet has appeared as a shadowy figure that appears to be wearing his regal robes and is adorned with armor. Horatio was dumbfounded at first when he first encountered the ghost of the late king Hamlet because he couldn't believe what he was seeing. Horatio asked the spectral presence two questions over the course of two appearances in the same location, but neither time did the ghost respond. Later, Hamlet learned about the ghost apparition. When the late king's ghost revealed who had killed him to Hamlet, the play's actual suspense began to build.

The ghost revealed to Hamlet that Claudius, his own brother, was truly the one who killed him. Hamlet became determined after that and made the decision to exact revenge on his uncle Claudius. Hamlet focused and began to consider his need for retribution. He was determined to assassinate Claudius since he had wrongfully ascended to the throne of his father, a harsh fact that was unknown to the majority of the kingdom's populace. Hamlet thought it was important to exact retribution with the murderer's complete cooperation since the ghost also revealed that he would be the one who could exact revenge on the perpetrator.

### **THE LOVE AFFAIR WITH OPHELIA IS HAMLET'S FIRST FAILURE.**

Ophelia served as Hamlet's most dependable character. She was totally dependent on her father and brother. She made an effort to comply with her father's and brother's requests whenever possible. Ophelia adored Hamlet but abruptly stopped speaking to him after being advised to do so by her father and brother. But Hamlet was a bright and successful young man, and he might have chosen to live a happy and secure life with Ophelia. Given how much he cherished Ophelia, he might live a very happy married life with her. However, he had no alternative but to seek retribution for the murder of his father because he had gotten himself into such a difficult predicament. Ophelia immediately consented to return all the letters Hamlet had given her during their romantic relationship when Polonius asked her to. He was disappointed in women's nature when he learned that Ophelia had rejected him. His mother's wedding to his uncle only a few days after the passing of her first spouse angered and frightened him. In addition to feeling completely destroyed, Hamlet was also mortified by Gertrude's hasty marriage.

When he displayed his philosophy regarding human reality in the graveyard scene, his misogynistic concept was also very intense. He claimed that he did so to remind the "young lady," where "young lady" refers to the entire female race, that the female race would also share the same fate as the skulls of the graveyard regardless of how beautifully and artistically she (the female race) does paint her cheeks at the moment. He said that she will pass away in the same way, becoming a simple skull and some bones devoid of ostentation or beauty.

### **The development of psychological conflicts in Hamlet's mind**

The things that struck Hamlet the most were the psychological issues. And the delay in exacting retribution upon Claudius is what sparked those disputes. Actually, Hamlet was struggling with indecision. He did consider everything carefully, and as a result, he decided to assassinate Claudius indirectly rather than directly. Hamlet has started an Italian drama called "Gonzago" with the same plot line as his father's murder case in order to watch the response of his uncle Claudius in an effort to establish that Claudius was the real criminal. When it came to executing Claudius, which was his first inner battle, he was incredibly vigilant and sensitive.

Hamlet's plan to try suicide is how his moral dilemma first surfaced. He was confused by the fact that his mother had wed the murderer Claudius while his own uncle had killed his father. But in the end, he must exact his vengeance, which plunged him into despair and a severe moral quandary since his inner heart didn't want to handle all these extraordinarily difficult and dangerous acts.

These important statements were coupled with Hamlet's introspective reflection on life and what came next. These amazing sentences were spoken by Hamlet to portray to the audience his inner battle about his fear of the hereafter. According to Hamlet, a man was chosen to carry the sad burdens of life, which includes the fear of death and the fear of the unknown. Hamlet had brought up suicide at the end of this play. The unsewn realm, from which no one shall ever return, will be the life that exists beyond death. He was serious, perplexed, and concerned about this belief of life after death. In addition to his internal struggle, Hamlet has now discovered an external conflict. The Prince Hamlet grew enraged and resolved to exact more revenge on his mother after learning of her remarriage to Claudius. The spirit of his father, on the other hand, said that his wife Gertrude doesn't deserve to be punished by being killed. The ghost said that Gertrude's own guilt will one day consume her soul, which would be the most terrible situation in her life and be sufficient for her.

After becoming aware of Gertrude's mental punishment ideals, Hamlet did disagree with the ghost of his father. He truly believed that the only effective method to punish her would be by overt acts of retaliation. Hamlet has approached this dangerous assignment in this manner and addressed his mother. Being an electrifying individual, William Shakespeare skillfully portrayed Hamlet's problems as the emblems of people's fundamental conflicts, with allusions to many facets of human nature and the compatibility of one person with another. Hamlet was presented as having deeply rooted and natural human traits.

He has followed his impulses, making blunders, becoming angry, wanting to punish the bad guys, and being unconscious of his own faults. Shakespeare established the philosophy of people's battles with their minds and attempted to bring about change amongst men and women who were treated unfairly. Shakespeare is an unfathomable skill of human psychology. Hamlet's inner self was astounded by his uncle's actions and emotions, which had been focused on his mother. Hamlet experienced emotional breakdown and did think about his father's untimely death. He then vowed solemnly that only if he was successful in exacting revenge on the killer Claudius would his inner self find peace. Hamlet also understood that no one in the kingdom was aware of the details surrounding the murder of his father, giving him the opportunity to carry out the difficult job of killing Claudius. All of these issues undoubtedly contributed to the significant and important struggles that Shakespeare so masterfully depicts in Hamlet's thoughts.

### **DILEMMAS & CONFLICTS**

All of Hamlet's characters are in various ways confronted with choices, moral quandaries, and conflicts of allegiance, which may be why the so-called "To be or not to be" soliloquy serves as an excellent symbol of the entire play. ( It is also likely the reason why Freud regarded Hamlet to be the source of inspiration for his theory of the mind as a setting for dynamic conflicts. Hamlet is most renowned for having to decide between his love for Ophelia and her job as the King's accessory. He also needs to decide whether or not he should believe the ghost ,if he has sufficient justification to kill Claudius, and whether or not retribution is justified. The latter feels bad about what he done. Even though Gertrude appears to adore Claudius, she also admits that she has her faults since she also loves Hamlet. Despite the fact that doing so would mean betraying Hamlet, Ophelia must follow her father. Possibly for the sake of the greater good, Guildenstern and Rosencrantz breach the confidence of their boyhood buddy, although they later appear to feel bad about it. Laertes, in stark contrast to them, is free to return to his studies instead of becoming a "prisoner" of Danish public life, but he has no question that he is bound by the rules of retribution, while Polonius never seems to have any doubts at all.

### **THE MOMENT OF CAPTURING THE KINGDOM AND FORTINBRAS'S ENTERING DENMARK**

Fortinbras, the prince of Norway, entered Denmark with full intention, accompanied by English ambassadors. He first believed Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were deceased. After that, he was horrified to witness the horrific image of the entire royal family lying bloodied on the ground. Fortinbras had intended to get revenge for the murder of his father,

but after learning the terrible tale of the whole royal family, he became speechless. After hearing the entire tragic tale from Horatio, Fortinbras ordered that Hamlet be treated with the necessary respect at the conclusion of the play. As a result, Hamlet was taken away in a manner appropriate for a fallen soldier. The harsh history of Denmark came to an end when Fortinbras finally conquered the country.

### **HAMLET'S DELAY IN SEEKING REVENGE**

Hamlet was the one who was forced to assassinate Claudius in retaliation for his father's death. However, he was unable to put that into effect due to a number of factors and his delays. In reality, Hamlet was viewed as a guy who was unable to make decisions and who frequently said too much and acted too little. Hamlet did not portray his tendency to put off decisions on the ghost issue until the first scene of this play. In the play, the ghost had a significant part to play. No one knew the King was slain since there were no witnesses to his death. As a result, the ghost will be the only place to get the knowledge. Additionally, unlike previous heroes in vengeance tragedies, Hamlet did not immediately accept the ghost's account, unlike other heroes in other revenge dramas.

Hamlet didn't readily accept the ghost's claims. He sought to reconcile the ghost's account of his father's passing in this way. Another circumstance that caused the process of getting even to drag out was Hamlet's decision to stage a play using the same narrative of his father's death. Hamlet made preparations to perform a play named "The murder of Gonzalo" after observing the ensemble of players in order to corroborate the ghost's account of his father's death. He reasoned that by watching the king's response, he would be able to determine whether or not he was indeed a murderer. Hamlet once more put off murdering Claudius while the latter was in prayer. Hamlet believed that killing Claudius when he was in a state of prayer would be a grave error. Hamlet has thought about this and concluded that if he kills Claudius while he is praying to God, Claudius will enter paradise. Hamlet subsequently blew his third opportunity to get revenge on Claudius when he accidentally killed Polonius because he mistook Polonius for Claudius. Hamlet has been dispatched to England in the wake of this awful and unfortunate murder. His plan of retaliation was therefore postponed. During his visit to England, he formed a firm decision to return home with all of his might and might to exact retribution. But in reality, he put things off, and as a result, he had to pay with his life towards the play's conclusion.

### **The reason behind Hamlet's delay**

All vengeance plays share another crucial element in common: the tragic hero resists exacting the retribution until the play's conclusion after having finally decided on it. Prince Hamlet was obligated to murder his uncle in retaliation for the killing of his father. But due to a number of factors and his delays, he was unable to put that into effect. Hamlet was seen to be a vacillating individual who tended to ponder a much yet act too little.

Hamlet's vengeance is postponed in several important ways:

1. Compared to earlier vengeance tragedy protagonists, Hamlet's response to the apparition was rather unique. It's because he didn't instantly accept the ghost's account as true. But in this instance, Hamlet did cast doubt on the ghost's mere existence and entertained the idea that it may be a malevolent spirit.
2. Another circumstance that caused the procedures of getting even to take longer was Hamlet's decision to stage a play based on the same version of his father's death. Hamlet then uses the play's depiction of his father's death to prove Claudius' guilt. Hamlet is persuaded of his guilt after Claudius storms out of the play.
3. In contrast to Fortinbras and Laertes' hasty acts, Hamlet was a Renaissance gentleman, carefully considers his retaliation. Act 3, Scene 3 offers Hamlet the chance to murder his uncle Claudius, for instance. He prepares to draw his blade, but he worries that if Claudius is slain while in prayer will go to paradise, And prince Hamlet won't go to heaven.
4. Hamlet is banished to England after killing Polonius, making it difficult for him to approach Claudius and exact vengeance. He makes the decision to sharpen his thirst for vengeance on his travels.

### **CONCLUSION**

Hamlet was a masterful and clever example of a vengeance play. Shakespeare's Hamlet was a gorgeous and funny vengeance story. The drama began with the concept of revenge and carried it through to the very end. Hamlet was persuaded to exact revenge on Claudius, the man who killed his father, by the ghost of Hamlet. He soon came to the conclusion that there would be no just justice, thus he had no choice but to resolve the situation on his own. As a result of carrying out this challenging and dangerous act of retribution, Hamlet's mind was frayed and he was experiencing the symptom of uncertainty. Following a careful reading of Hamlet, it can be concluded that the play adheres very closely to the typical plot devices used in all Elizabethan tragedies. First and foremost, Hamlet must take the law into his own hands in order to revenge the death of his father because there is no impartial judicial system in place. Hamlet is led to Claudius by the spirit of his father, who also informs him of Claudius's horrible deeds. After that Hamlet consistently postpones taking his retribution and always finds a method to do it, then he eventually did it.

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