## **Assignment: Midterm Part I**

The characters I decided to compare.

Romeo from Romeo and Juliet

Iago from Othello

The theme that defines both characters is the destructive power of jealousy and the consequences of their terrible actions.

**Key scenes:**

Romeo and Juliet Act 3, Scene 1, line 115: Romeo kills Tybalt in a jealous rage after Tybalt kills Mercutio, sparking a chain of events leading to Romeo and Juliet's tragic fate.

Romeo and Juliet Act 5, Scene 3, line 160: Romeo finds Juliet dead and kills himself out of despair, demonstrating the destructive power of jealousy and its ability to blind individuals to reason and logic.

Othello Act 3, Scene 3, line 225: Iago plants seeds of jealousy in Othello's mind, convincing him that his wife Desdemona is having an affair with Cassio, setting Othello's tragic downfall in motion.

Othello Act 5, Scene 2, lines 305: Iago's plot is revealed, and he is brought to justice for manipulating Othello's jealousy and causing the play's tragic events.

For Act II I will focus on how each character is reckless and hurts those closest to them. Romeo and Iago are driven to extreme actions by jealousy, leading to horrible consequences for themselves and those around them. Romeo's jealousy over Tybalt's actions causes him to act impulsively, ultimately leading to his demise. In contrast, Iago's jealousy over Cassio's promotion drives him to plot against Othello and manipulate him into committing terrible deeds. Additionally, the scenes in both plays underscore the importance of holding accountable those who exploit jealousy to cause harm and the aftermath that comes from envy or even miscommunication, which often happens in life.

References:

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