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AP Literature and Composition
8 August 2014

Collection of Poetry

Powerful King or Fallen King

Ruler of Thebes, strong, bold, and brave
Would the city be saved?
Oedipus did it one time
But will he be able to because of his crime?
The city roars with sickness and fear
And now Oedipus turns on his peers
A curse is announced to the city, scaring all
Will the King come to regret this and fall?

Doom

Although he is king, Oedipus holds fear within him
He knows his time as King might now be slim
The Prophet turned out to be right
Oedipus murdered his father the King
And now his own mother wears his ring
Doom, death, disgrace, and grief now haunt the palace
Jocasta is gone, and Oedipus's grief brings him madness

Because of his doom he might deserve this, but people still feel sadness
No one has ever seen so much fear and grief in one man
Oedipus now convinces Creon to ban him
Sending him away from his beloved city, palace, and children forever

Blind but Sees

The Great King lives but blind he becomes
Thebes just gets more and more glum
Sickness still spreads
Can the city even take more of this dread?
And of course, the Queen is dead
Fear, fear haunts them all
They do not want to see their beloved city fall
The king failed them once again
Can Creon lead these men?
Sickness, loss, and madness live amongst them
Maybe it can begin to grow again, like a flower on a stem

Reflection:

My collection of poems, “Powerful King or Fallen King” “Doom” and “Blind but Sees” all focus on my own interpretation of the Play, “Oedipus the King.” Everyone understands things differently. So that is why it was decided to write these poems in the way it was understood, or what was taken from reading the play. So, here in these poems, we

focus on the King and his power, but also his blindness and how he failed his city. We thread in the loss of his wife and children, but also his banishment which trigger the madman he becomes. The health of Thebes is also mentioned, but with a new start—the king being gone forever—the city could become better again under the right leader. Creon is mentioned in the poem to show how he is the only hope the city has. As a reader, it felt as though he was the one who will lead the city with his leadership skills, and stop this awful plague. Creon is also shown to have a great heart. An example of this is when he says, “Yes, it’s my doing. I know the joy they gave you all these years, the joy you must feel now” (Lines 1617-1619). This is when Creon brings Oedipus his children to say goodbye to their father before he leaves their lives forever, and Oedipus questions if this was his doing. Adding in Creon to the poem seemed very valuable in understanding the aspects of the novel.

In these poems, I liked including some literary techniques, and my own voice to make them better and easier to understand. Most poems include metaphors, similes and other techniques we learned in school as kids. I tried to include some of those things to make it more professional and “poem like”, but I found it best to just add my own characterization. I used questions, words, and feelings from the novel to create poems that will explain to people who read this play, what someone else might take away from it. And the way I wrote it seemed like the best way to do that. I included some AWUBS, and of course I rhymed to make the poem flow more.

I didn’t really understand the feeling and meaning of the play until I wrote poems about it, focusing strictly on those topics. If I was shown these poems before and after reading the play, I feel as though I might of understood the true meaning of the play, and what feeling is being portrayed better. It was organized according to what I thought was

valuable information, all leading up to the last poem which revealed the MOST important information. Poems are so important in learning literature, and I wish I would write them more.

