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Theme-Men were
expected to be
chivalrous and
honorable

"Follow me close, for "Villain I am none.
I will speak to them. Therefore
Gentlemen, good farewell. I see thou
den. A word with knowst me not."
one of you." (Shakespeare 3.1
(Shakespeare 3.1 33- 59-60)
34)

Act 3 Scene 1

WWSD

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Stylistic Devices in Shakespeare

"I take things like honor and loyalty seriously. It's more important to me than any materialistic thing or any fame I could have" (Lloyd Banks). This quote formulated by Lloyd Banks shows the historical mindset of men and the value they put on honor. In Shakespeare's play, *Romeo and Juliet*, specifically Act 3 Scene 1, many ideas of men during this time period were portrayed through the employment of stylistic devices in the character's speeches. Shakespeare successfully develops the theme of the duties of men and their expectations to be chivalrous and honorable.

Shakespeare used the stylistic device of hyperboles in Mercutio's speech to help develop the central theme of the duties of men and their expectations to be chivalrous and honorable. When Mercutio was trying to provoke Benvolio he proclaimed "Thou wilt quarrel with a man for cracking nuts having no other reason but because thou hast hazel eyes" (Shakespeare 3.1.18-19). This quote successfully utilizes a hyperbole to exaggerate the situation that would aggravate Benvolio. This also shows the expectation that men were expected to fight for their honor. As well as using a hyperbole, Shakespeare also developed his central idea with the use of a simile. Another line from Mercutio's speech was "Thy head is as full of quarrels as an egg is full of meat; and yet thy head had been beaten as addle as an egg for quarreling" (Shakespeare 3.1.20-23). Through this quote Mercutio uses a simile to provoke and explain to Benvolio that his head is always full of aggression and is ready to pick a fight (quarrels), just like an egg is full of meat. Through the use of both stylistic devices in Mercutio's speech, Shakespeare develops the theme and also allows banter between Mercutio and Benvolio to try and get them to fight. These similar ideas and devices can be seen later on in Romeo's speech.

Shakespeare uses the device hyperbole and the technique foreshadowing in Romeo's speech to build his theme that the duties of men included being chivalrous and honorable. While Romeo was angry about Mercutio's death, he tells Tybalt that, "...fire-eyed fury will be my conduct now!" (Shakespeare 3.1 117) This quote shows, that because of Mercutio's death, Romeo is being dramatic and says that he is "fire-eyed" thus creating a hyperbole. This is an exaggeration because Romeo isn't actually fire-eyed, he's just infuriated. In this speech, Shakespeare also uses foreshadowing to develop his theme. Foreshadowing is shown when Romeo says, "...for Mercutio's soul is but a little way above our heads, staying for thine to keep him company" (Shakespeare 3.1 119-121). This quote is foreshadowing because Romeo is telling Tybalt that one of them will die. He is also saying that Mercutio's soul is waiting above their heads for another soul to accompany him on his journey. Both of these devices develop the same central theme as well as incorporating the humorous and dramatic storyline.

As one can see, Shakespeare uses many stylistic devices to help communicate his theme, men should be chivalrous and honorable, in speeches throughout his play. Through these devices, Shakespeare communicates that men need to fight for matters to show their bravery. These devices also add to the plot by making the play a complex, yet entertaining revered story, that is virtually timeless. One can bring home and acknowledge these values that today's society lacks.

Cast List

1. Benvolio(Lauren)-Butch McCoy
2. Mercutio(Ryan)-Montana
3. Romeo(Vanessa)-Rusty McCoy
4. Tybalt(Dakota)-Tahoe Hatfield

Introductory Page

The wild west Shakespeare adaptation makes it easy to portray the theme as the storyline and stylistic devices translate smoothly into the different theme. We plan to execute the adapted play through an altered script, costume design tied to the time period, and also incorporating slang and behavioral styles that make the adaptation unique. Through these ideas, we hope to carry some of the popular Shakespeare ideas into our own to make our play enjoyable and memorable.

The overall production concept will take place in wild west times with the two sides being the Hatfields and the McCoys. Romeo's family, the Montagues, will be the McCoys and Juliet's family, the Capulets, will be the Hatfields. Act 3, Scene 1 is the scene where Mercutio and Tybalt fight and Mercutio dies. After that, Romeo gets infuriated over his death and fights and kills Tybalt. Our interpretation of the scene will be at a saloon and instead of swords, the characters will be using old-style guns. We will set the scene with the background of a saloon and old west objects such as tumbleweeds and western clothes. Our interpretation will be conveyed through the use of two clearly feuding families. Our overall concept will also compare with the theme, tone and characterization in Romeo and Juliet.

It's easy to translate his ideas into this different time period by changing things such as the language and the setting. The theme explicated was that men are supposed to be chivalrous and honorable. The theme can be translated because the society norms were similar with the families fighting for small or even unknown reasons. The men in Romeo and Juliet's time were expected to fight in order to be brave and the same concept was used in western times. These comparisons will help accurately translate the script and events into the new scene. The tone in the original play is angry because of the fighting and a little dramatic with all the speeches in it. The tone will be translated by using the fight to make it angry and having the same ideas in the speeches, just translated into the western slang. These ideas will help for us to convert the theme, tone and characterizations into our western theme.

Through all of these ideas, the original play will be accurately transformed in a western style through the use of conveying the same theme in a different way. We will develop the same central theme to create a humorous and dramatic storyline while keeping the same message in tact. Our interpretation will take the famous, timeless story and give it a twist which will in turn make it engaging and entertaining.

Production Research

Clothing Trends

- People in the wild west wore big belts, cowboy boots, cowboy hats, flannels and bandanas. They also carried around pistols in their holsters. The stereotypical view of men in old western times would include all of that clothing plus mustaches.

Pop Culture

- The Wild West times had movies unlike today. They were under a minute long, black and white and were silent with very terrible quality. The old west also had traveling acts, including singing acts, shooting and riding (The Wild West).

History

- The Hatfields and the McCoy's have a long- running feud. The leader of the Hatfields was Anderson Hatfield and the leader of the McCoy's was Randle McCoy. Some people believe that the feud started with the murder of a McCoy that was believed to be done by a group with a Hatfield leader. However there was no attempt at retaliation by either of them. In the late 1800s, the Hatfields got in a land dispute with a McCoy cousin and the Hatfield got the land. Then, a McCoy accused one of them for stealing his hog. Throughout this time there were many petty disputes like this that caused the famous feud. A McCoy daughter and a Hatfield son wanted to get married, but their families wouldn't allow it (Hatfield and McCoy Country). For all these reasons this family feud and the Montague/Capulet feud are very similar.

Architecture

- The architecture in the Wild West was made to be geometric shapes. The buildings were made out of wood, and so were the signs on the front. The wood was colored, sometimes to draw attention to the structure (Daily Mail).

Slang

- Old Western slang was considered to be "colorful speech". For example, they would say "get a wiggle on" instead of "hurry up". Also, rather than "in good shape" they would say "in apple pie order", along with "played out" over "exhausted" (Western Slang & Phrases).

Atwater, G. M. "OLD WEST Writer's Guide - Slang, Phrases and More." Western Slang & Phrases, 2008. 22 May. 2017.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~poindexterfamily/OldWestSlang.html>.

"Hatfield and McCoy Feud | Hatfield McCoy Country." Hatfield McCoy Country. 22 May 2017.

<http://hatfieldmccoycountry.com/feud/>

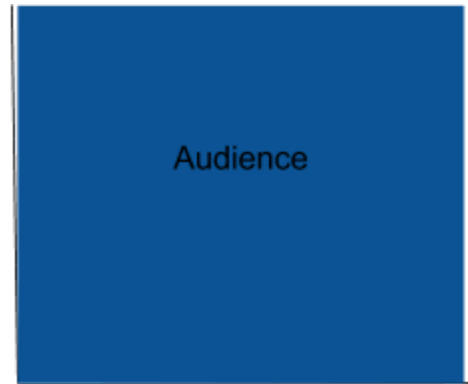
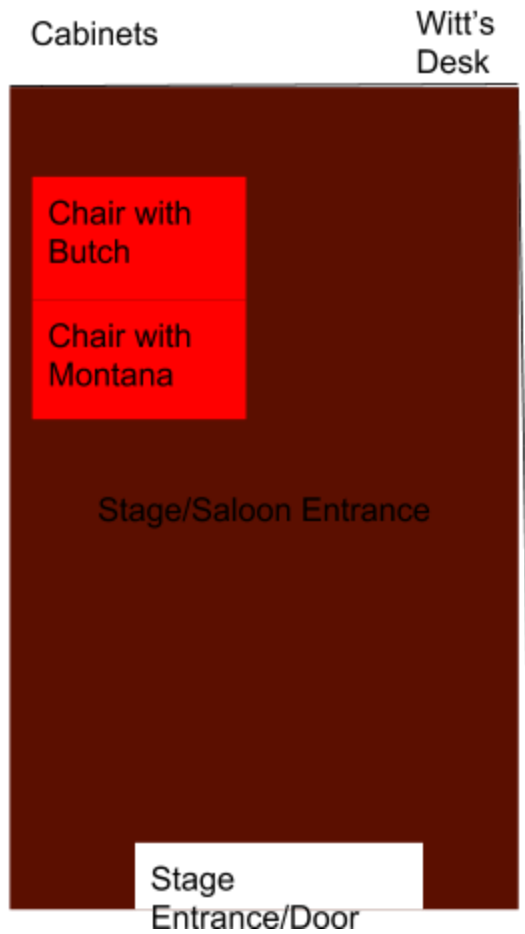
Home - The Wild West. Dean Marshall Consultancy, 1999. 22 May. 2017.

<http://www.thewildwest.org/>

"How the Wild West REALLY looked: Gorgeous sepia-tinted pictures show the landscape as it was charted for the very first time." Mail Online. 22 May. 2017.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2149899/The-American-West-youve-seen-Amazing-19th-century-pictures-landscape-chartered-time.html>

Set Design



Properties List



Props for Act 3 Scene 1- Squirt guns, whips (phone chargers), horses on sticks

Lauren and Vanessa will bring in the squirt guns

Lauren and Dakota-horses on sticks

Ryan-charger, belt, cowboy hat, flannel shirt

Lauren- flannels, possibly hats and boots, charger, belt

Vanessa- cowboy boots for Romeo (possibly for Lauren), charger, belt, (possibly fake mustaches)

Dakota- belt, charger

Costume Design

Romeo (Rusty)

BesWiz



This costume for Rusty was picked because this is what people would wear in the West. There is a blue hat and blue flannel because Romeo is a Montague and they wear blue.

Benvolio (Butch)



This costume for Butch was picked because this is from the West. There is a blue hat and blue flannel because Benvolio is a Montague and they wear blue.

Tybalt (Tahoe)



This costume for Tahoe was picked because it is something Western people wear. There is a red flannel and red hat because Tybalt is a Capulet and they wear red.

Mercutio (Montana)



This costume for Montana was picked because it is something that would've been worn in the West. There aren't red or blue anything because Mercutio isn't a Capulet or a Montague.

Tech List

In our scene we will be using a saloon from old western days as the backdrop. The blinds will be open and the lights will be on for our play to make it seem like we are outside in the desert. We will be playing old western music during the fighting scenes because the characters will be gun dueling.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B-WzN9g8ZvCAYWw3YkJMRGt4bTg>

<https://youtu.be/XnGCmZkh7n4>



Script

Act 3

Scene 1

Although the Hatfields and McCoys are hot and heavy with their feud, Rusty and Judith are newly wed and are happier than ol' Blue layin on the porch, chewing on a big ol catfish head. In this scene, Tahoe and Montana get into a scuffle despite Rusty trying to keep the peace. Shots were fired leading to a bloody day.

Butch. Montana, I could tell you how I hate those darn Hatfields till the cows come home. With the weather being hotter than a goat's butt in a pepper patch I reckon a fight is a brewing. We should get home before that happens.

Montana. Don't pee down my back and tell me it's raining! You are always fixing for a fight. You are madder than a wet hen. You'd fight just about anyone, man, woman, or child.

Butch. I ain't like that.

Montana. You are too. You are more ornery than an old coot!

Butch. And why is that?

Montana. How am I supposed to explain it to you if you don't already know! You got everybody under the impression that you are a peace loving man of god but in reality we all know the truth. I've seen you around and when you ain't under the spotlight you always getting into fights, trying to get everybody to throw hands. You very well know that you are extra angry after a night in the saloon. Not to mention you were always a nuisance as a child.

Butch. Oh yeah? My mama would've disowned me if I was half as likely to get into a fight as you.

Montana. You best stop thinking that way.

Butch. Well we better stop bickering as we got bigger fish to fry. Look over yonder there come those heel bitin Hatfields.

Montana. Well I don't give a diddly darn.
(Tahoe and his boys enter)

Tahoe. (Scowling) Can I have a word with one of you gents?

Montana. A word? I am busier than a moth in a mitten! Why don't you make it worth my while and pull out that revolver you wear so proudly.

Tahoe. Name the time and the place.

Montana. Good lord Tahoe! Ain't no time like the present.

Tahoe. *(slyly changing the subject)* Well uh, you been talking with Rusty?

Montana. *(Purposely misunderstanding the word)* Talking!?! We sure as heck ain't talking, we don't like each other that way.

Butch. If yall feel like fightin then y'all better do it in private cause people are lookin. If you tryna do it right here and now, after what the sheriff said, you don't have the sense that god gave a goose.

Montana. I ain't afraid of no Hatfield, no matter what I ain't movin!

(Rusty saunters in)

Tahoe. Well enough with you. I got bigger fish to fry. *(nods at Rusty)*

Montana. *(again misunderstanding Tahoe)* Rusty? A fish? I knew that you were dumb but I didn't know that you were so dumb you could throw yourself on the ground and miss. There is a tree stump in Louisiana with a higher IQ.

Tahoe. Rusty get over here and show me what you're made of. You're a dirty scumbag, you egg suckin dog.

Rusty. *(Slowly walking toward Tahoe trying to calm him down)* Settle down. You are barkin up the wrong tree. I got reason to love you so I won't fight.

Tahoe. Whatever you're mumbling about doesn't bother me. You turn and draw or be shot down unarmed!

Rusty. You got your knickers in a knot for the wrong reason partner. I ain't never harmed nobody and I don't intend to. I got reason to love you. If we put the past behind our sorry feud we can be as happy as if we had good sense.

Montana. You coward. You gonna make me have a fit! *(As speaking walks slowly toward Rusty)* You low lying *(Step)*, no good *(Step)*, pansy.

(Slowly pulls out his revolver)

Looks like it's just gonna be me and you to a good ole southern duel.

Tahoe. Decide to teach me a lesson after I turn your friend (*Nods at Rusty*) into a stuttering disgrace?

Montana. Yes indeed. I don't give a darn about him anymore! This is between me and you. Let's give it the ole three steps or you can skedaddle like the snake you are.

Tahoe. Alrighty then. Yeeeeeeehaw!

(Pulls out his guns)

Rusty. Settle down, settle down fellas.

Montana. Get outta my way, before it's you on the other side of this boomstick.

(Music begins and they have a duel where they walk three steps away and then turn and shoot at each other.)

Rusty. *(While the duel is beginning)* Butch get over here and help me break this up, for the sheriff gets here.

Rusty. *(Right after they draw)* Montana stop!

(Montana looks at Rusty and while he is distracted, he is shot)

Montana. *(On the ground)* I've been hurt real bad. Must be fatter than a tick if Tahoe shot me. He couldn't hit the broadside of a barn. Curse your families for getting me into this mess. I might be a wrangler who is almost done wranglin.

Butch. How bad is it?

Montana. Not bad, had worse. But quit your piddlin and go fetch Doc.

Rusty. Gotta be brave partner. It can't be that doggone bad.

Montana. It ain't deeper than the ole river and ain't wider than a field but it hurts. Curse your families especially you Rusty, for that darn distraction. If I had my druthers Tahoe would be long gone without no intervention from a coward.

Rusty. I ain't meanin for no one to get hurt and all, honest.

Montana. *(Voice slowly growing weaker)* Take me into the saloon Butch! I'm bouta pass out if I stay out in this weather. It's hotter than a jalapeno.

(Butch leaves with Montana)

Rusty. Man, if my brains were dynamite I couldn't blow my nose. My wife Judith is making me less of a man than peas in a can. My partner got hurt protecting me from a feud that wasn't his. I shall get revenge and give that Tahoe something to be worried about. I'll tie his knickers into the tightest knot he will ever see.

(Butch comes back outside the saloon)

Butch. Rusty, Rusty, ole Montana is dead! Deader than a turkey on Thanksgiving.

Rusty. Well looks like this blessed day ain't done with the killing.

(Tahoe comes back on stage)

Butch. What in tarnation! That varmint Tahoe is coming back, and he is madder than a panther in the rain.

Rusty. You shouldn't be here alive and well while my pal Montana is deader than a doornail. I ain't mad I am absolutely furious. Red in the face! You're gonna regret showing your face around here at this time.

Tahoe. I ain't scairt. I'm locked and loaded.

Rusty. Well thats for the best because this town ain't big enough for the both of us.

(They pull out their guns and start shooting at each other, Tahoe dies)

Butch. Rusty! Get outta ere! Scram! The sheriff will shoot you dead if he sees you here! Take your feet and run faster out of this town then green grass through a goose. Be gone!

(Rusty runs off stage. Scene ends)