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Relevancy within Poetry

Matthew Truesdale argues in the article "Why it is ridiculous not to teach Shakespeare in school" Why shakespeare should be taught in schools, and how he is important for students to learn and understand how his work can relate to modern day situations not only with students but with the real world as well. He talks about how situations that deal with judgement based on ethnicity, how Shakespeare can be taught in many different ways not just one specific way to get the full enjoyment and why Shakespeare is still important to this day. Truesdale argues that Shakespeare is still impactful in the modern day.

Truesdale states that how his school is predominantly white and argues against that should teach only white authors. "... I enjoy reading a wide range of literature of ethnically-diverse writers who tell stories about the human experience as it is experienced today." An argument Truesdale has against Dusbiber is stated here. He specifically says "So what Shakespeare wrote 450 years ago is not applicable to her teaching today? Ethnically diverse students don't foolishly fall in love and over-dramatize every facet of that experience? Or feel jealousy or rage? Or fall victim to discrimination" Though she says that she wanted to read and enjoy other authors Truesdale argues that Shakespeare is great for students to not only learn but to understand and analyze. This helps students with language, understand and comprehend. Truesdale has a good point saying that if he was taught a while ago he still

shouldn't be taught. Dusbiber has a good point about other authors, that doesn't give her an exception to not teach Shakespeare. Though Dusbiber has a strong and suitable argument, she has to have stronger points to try and convince people that Shakespeare is pointless to teach.

Though Dusbiber says she would rather read authors from different ethnicities Truesdale believes that teaching other ethnicities not just Shakespeare but other authors wouldn't be such a bad thing.

Another thing that Truesdale says in this article is that you can relate Shakespeare throughout many different movies/shows. Truesdale states, "In certain arenas, being able to carry on even a brief conversation about a plot point from *King Lear* is important and can give one credibility. I also think it's a neat little thing to see something in a movie, another book, or even (gasp!) real life, and think, 'Hey—this reminds me of that scene in Hamlet when...'.' Shows and movies such as House of cards that is based on Richard III. Frank, like Richard, speaks directly to the audience, and he murderously plots his way through power while pretending to be a modest man of the people, Rise of the Planet of the Apes was based off of the act Julius Caesar a young chimp and feels moved to quote Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," saying, "But as for Caesar, kneel down, kneel down, and wonder." They name the young chimp Caesar, and like his counterpart, he goes on to lead an empire at a pivotal time. Even The Lion King was based off of Hamlet Simba's royal father is murdered by his evil uncle, who then takes his crown, and "Hakuna Matana"-singing Timon and Pumbaa fall into the Rosencrantz and Guildenstern roles.

The last point Truesdale pointed out was the way he states how Shakespeare is still relevant to this day. He says "Shakespeare is more than just a 'long dead british guy,' and I

believe he has much to teach us about the modern human condition" He expresses his belief and tells us how we can learn from his time, the struggles the characters face so that we can relate and solve problems. It also teaches students how to overcome their insecurities and their failed accomplishments. Many of Shakespeare's plays involve insecurities which students can relate to. Such as Othello who has been lied to and "betrayed". Many students can relate to this topic because students have been lied to, have gossip around the school, etc... So he proves that Shakespeare is still alive as ever and is teaching us his ways of dealing with struggles.

Though Dusbiber has a really good point about how she says, "... I enjoy reading a wide range of literature of ethnically-diverse writers who tell stories about the human experience as it is experienced today." Though Truesdale pointed out, most of Shakespeare's work can be related to real experiences we have as human beings. This brings back the point that, Shakespeare is still relevant to this day, and he has inspired so many people. This proves he is alive as ever and telling stories like never before.