

# IAGO FROM SHAKESPEARE

*Iago is a fictional character in Shakespeare's Othello (c. 1609). Iago is the play's main antagonist, and Othello's standard-bearer. He is the husband of.*

Don't act the villain, don't look it, or speak it, by scowling and growling, I mean, but think it all the time. In Iago, Shakespeare shows us a character who acts against his reputation. Iago begins his plan by getting Cassio drunk, which results in him assaulting another soldier named Montano. Othello and Iago He manipulates his wife Emilia, Desdemona's lady-in-waiting, into taking from Desdemona a handkerchief that Othello had given her; he then tells Othello that he had seen it in Cassio's possession. Through Iago's language, Roderigo is duped into mis-seeing a trick Othello will later fall for. Iago closes just as he began, with a command to follow instructions: 'watch you tonight; for the command' 2. Food imagery abounds. Structure Iago's power over Roderigo is emphasised through his sentence structure. Jacobean portrayals often reduce women to saints, mothers or whores. Continue Reading. Through thought-out words and actions Iago is able to manipulate others to do things that benefit him and move him closer to his goals. Engaged earlier in complex word-play with Cassio and Desdemona, he can now relax into an easier deception: false intimacy with Roderigo. He feels justified in his actions and does not invite sympathy or understanding as a result. But for all this, as his plot against Othello starts moving and gathering momentum, he loses control of it and must take real risks to prevent it from crashing. With Roderigo's extended silence, it too feels like an extended aside. Iago portrays desire in low terms, with reductive language: Desdemona's adoration is 'violence', Othello's wooing tales are 'bragging Iago in this play, has the qualities of the Devil in medieval and Renaissance morality plays: He is a liar, he makes promises he has no intention of keeping, he tells fancy stories in order to trap people and lead them to their destruction, and he sees other's greatest vulnerabilities and uses these to destroy them. Possibly Iago was always a villain and confidence trickster who set up a false reputation for honesty, but how can one set up a reputation for honesty except by being consistently honest over a long period of time? The Jacobean view of Venetian women, in particular the idea that they were sexually immoral compounds how credible Roderigo, and Othello, find Iago's portrayal of Desdemona. Is Iago Evil? Iago's base reduction figures sex as hunger: 'her eye must be fed' 2. Shakespeare has built the character of Iago from an idea already existing in the theatrical culture of his time: the Devil in religious morality plays, which developed into the villain in Elizabethan drama and tragedy. This could be due to his belief that she has had an affair, but his character is so consistently unpleasant that the audience does not assign his malignancy to her behavior. He even draws Roderigo's conclusions for him, using the language of instructive discipline to describe imagined adultery: 'when these mutualities so marshal the way, hard at hand comes the master and main exercise' 2. Probably, yes! Yet earlier Iago tells us it is Cassio who 'takes her by the palm' 2. He is a sociopath and without real emotions. In the play,, the characters are faced with the choice to either conquer or succumb to the overpowering force of evil. He demotes him, and refuses to have him in his company. Quick in motion as in thought; lithe and sinuous as a snake. God replies: "I am that I am" Exodus,iii, What you know, you know. Being gullible, Roderigo has given Iago his purse. Necessity forces his hand, and, in order to destroy Othello, he must also destroy Roderigo, Emilia, Desdemona, and ultimately himself. His is the longest part with 1, lines. However, Roderigo seems to know Iago best. That night, Iago and his accomplice Roderigo make a botched attempt to kill Cassio, after which Iago has to kill Roderigo to keep him from talking.