

*Christine
December 1, 2005
English p. 1*

*Journal #1 for Othello
(Act 1, Scene 1)*

This 1st scene is basically setting up for the rest of the story. Iago is discussing with Roderigo of his hatred for Othello. Also Othello has eloped with Desdemona who is Brabantio's daughter. When Brabantio finds out that they eloped he puts out a search for Othello. But the funny thing is that Roderigo has a secret crush on Desdemona.

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Journal #2 for Othello
(Act 1, Scene 2)

In this scene Iago warned Othello that Brabantio is looking for him since he eloped with Desdemona. In the mist of all that Cassio comes with orders for Othello that he is to meet with the duke and senators of Venice about Turkish invasion in the Venetian colony of Cyprus. Brabantio and his armed band came to seize Othello treason and then Othello convinces Brabantio to come with him to see the duke. Once they got their Brabantio pleaded his case against Othello for what him and Desdemona did.

*Christine
December 3, 2005
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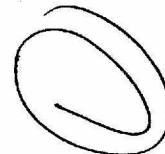
*Journal for Othello
(Act 1, Scene 3)*

It starts out with the duke and the senators discussing the movements of the Turkish fleet and they come up with the theory that the target is Cyprus. Then Brabantio and Othello come and Brabantio accuses Othello of bewitching his daughter Desdemona into eloping with him. Then Desdemona comes and she tells her father Brabantio that she married Othello because she loves him, that he didn't bewitch her. After that the duke orders Othello to Cyprus and lets Desdemona join him. Othello gives the job of protecting his new wife to Iago. Now that the two have wed Roderigo threatens to commit suicide because he loves Desdemona but Iago convinces him not to. Iago now is foiling up a plan to use Othello's marriage to get back at him and to get Cassio's place as lieutenant.

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December 5, 2005
English p. 1 & 2

**Close Reading Questions:
Othello**

1. Roderigo is threatening to kill himself because Desdemona, who the love of his life married Othello.
2. **The unusual metaphor that Roderigo uses is: "...then we have a prescription to die when death is our physician."**
3. Iago is 28 years old.
4. **"Iago's Bestiary"- guinea hen**
5. In this passage Iago states his feelings towards love. The evidence that shows that Iago is in control of his life is: "... why the power and corrigible authority lies within our wills." (line 367-368)
6. **On Iago's "I have professed me thy friend, and I confess me knit to thy deserving..." (line 379-380), I think he is talking about his friendship with Roderigo.**
7. The literal meaning that "put money in thy purse" (line 382) has in this context is that Iago is trying to pursue Roderigo to turn his land and other material possessions in cash.
8. **Iago's reasons that for believing Othello & Desdemona's love can't last:**
 - ✓ **That there relationship is just lust.**
 - ✓ **Changeable wills.**
 - ✓ **He thinks once they have sex she will find the error of her ways.**
 - ✓ **It also seems that he is beating money that their love won't last.**
9. I think, "thus do I ever make my fool my purse" means that he is never a fool with money, that he knows how to manage it.
10. **The 2 motives Iago gives here for hanging out with Roderigo is one, to gain knowledge and two, for his own profit.**
11. Iago's new reason for hating Othello is that he is a Moor and a fool.
12. **Iago's is qualifying his new reason for hating Othello is that he "has done my office" meaning that Othello has done his sexual duty as a husband.**
13. As an actor I would pause for a couple of seconds because he is saying that Cassio is an attractive man maybe meaning that he is gay.
14. **Iago's stated objectives are double knavery.**
15. The plan that Iago arrives at here is that to tell Othello lies about his wife Desdemona to try and make him leave her.
16. **Othello will believe that his wife is betraying him with Cassio because he will believe what he thinks is real friends over a woman.**
17. Othello will believe what Iago is telling him because he thinks all men are honest.



Christine
December 8, 2005
English p. 1

Journal for Othello
(Act 2, Scene 1)

Summary:

The Turkish fleet is destroying everything they see. Then Cassio, Desdemona, Emilia, and Iago arrive safely in Cyprus. Then Desdemona desperately waits for Othello. After they are both together Iago puts his plot in affect to try and break the two of them up. Iago then persuades Roderigo that Desdemona is in love with Cassio. But to top it all off Iago is also trying to persuade Roderigo to help him get Cassio dismissed from the lieutenancy.



My Reaction:

I think that Iago is a very persuasive and indicative person. I believe that Roderigo is a very gullible person and will pretty much believe or fall for anything. Everyone in the play pretty much has their own different fault in my opinion and it is tending to come out more as we get deeper into the play. The thing that I wonder most is that if is that if Roderigo will succeed with his plan of breaking apart of Othello & Desdemona. I mean their love seems pure but love doesn't conquer all. Also the fact that usually in Shakespeare's tragedies the main character always dies.