Charlie Nitschelm

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David Richman

My Response to Medea

I believe that tragedy occurs when hate exceeds that of love. Love is a powerful force driven through the connection with another being. Medea is a woman that poured her life into a man. She sacrificed a safe sanctuary and moved to foreign lands. She bore his children and raised them closely. She killed her own brother for him. Love poured from her veins, but was wronged. The man, Jason, committed the ultimate offense to choke all undying love, adultery.

Her life was based on Jason. After discovering Jason’s intent with another woman, she lost control. In my opinion, she deserves the right to a breakdown. The point where I disagree with her actions is when it goes too far. Medea had a chance to start again, live somewhere else and give up on the life she tried to create for herself. This did not entice Medea as it would others, her hate for Jason trumped any of the love she has ever had for him. This moment is when tragedy occurs. She wanted to hurt Jason. She wanted to make him feel pain. I enjoyed Rebecca’s response with her comparison to modern time adultery. It occurs too often in our society, and usually when it comes to divorce, the mother, who did not cheat, can get the house, child support, and most importantly, full custody of the kids. This outcome hurts the man severely, which is understandable. But, Medea takes measures into her own hands. Fueled by rage, she commits murder on the only good I saw from the relationship with Jason, her kids. She felt the only way to truly make him feel pain is to kill the one thing he has left from her. Is this an appropriate response? I felt cheated while watching this play out because I feel no woman would ever have the drive of so much hate to kill the only thing she has left. Although I can never truly feel Medea in that moment, I am left uneasy. The ultimate tragedy is losing a child, and second being wronged by a lover. Her hate pushed her to be irrational in my view, and causes her to experience the ultimate loss. All she wanted to do was to hurt him, but has she succeeded? Did she come out victorious?

Overall, watching Medea was encapsulating. One thing that I always enjoy doing is understanding other people’s situations. Being empathetic is important, and to truly succeed in that is to understand. I struggled with this while watching Medea. Her actions were driven by emotion, and that is a dangerous thing. It caused her to lose everything. What I have taken from Medea is not that I should kill my kids in the future if I am ever wronged, but make sure to take life when it comes at me not emotionally, but rationally. Although I think when dealing with something so emotionally driven, like love, you do need to find a mix of both. But NEVER leave your actions up to your feelings. That is when a kid gets killed.