

The Queen's Deception:
Unveiling the Dark Majesty in Mozart's The Magic Flute

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In Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's opera called the Magic Flute, the Queen played an important role throughout the musical performance and had a fabulously terrifying character. The Queen, after appearing in a burst of thunder, practically lied about her daughter, Pamina, to Prince Tamino. She had claimed that the evil Sarastro have enslaved and imprisoned Pamina. The Queen portrayed her unhappiness and misery to Prince Tamino since she lost her daughter and promised to give him Pamina after he set her free (The Magic Flute). Because the Queen's three ladies had previously rescued Prince Tamino from a serpent, she asked him to rescue Pamina from Sarastro. However, after Tamino was led by the three spirits to the temple of Sarastro, he learned that the Queen was the evil one and not Sarastro. The Queen did not want to let people see this side of her; however, Tamino discovered it.

The Queen's anger and rage burned towards Sarastro. She wanted to take Sarastro out of the picture. In the past, the Queen attempted to take the Sun's Crown. However, Sarastro and his men had run the Queen out of their town and prevented her from achieving her goal (Borths). After Prince Tamino discovered the Queen's deception, the Queen appeared to her daughter and flung a dagger to her, commanding her to kill Sarastro (The Magic Flute).

The Queen's action probably made her daughter feel abandoned and confused. In the YouTube video, the Queen sang, "If you do not cause Sarastro to die a painful death, you are no longer my daughter. If you do not slay Sarastro, you shall be my child no more!" (Mozart, 1:33). Pamina probably pondered, "But why must I kill Sarastro? And if I do not, why will you, mother, abandon me and disown me? I thought you are my mother and you loved me". Taking another person's life and being forsaken if one does not accomplish this task can leave any child feel abandoned and confused by his or her mother.

Work Cited

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