

Drama reflection

Literature



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BUSTER**

Examining the Allure of an Anti-Hero in Modern Drama In 40 – 50 words) why do you think the anti-hero or anti-heroine characters are popular in American culture within the last decade?

In the current world, evil lurks all over. Viewers of such productions relate more with anti-hero characters as they portray what happens in real life. The viewers relate to whatever vices the anti-hero characters do on screen as it reflects what goes on in the areas around them.

2) (In 70 - 80 words) what does this say about America's popular culture?

Based on the popularity of anti-hero characters among Americans, America's popular culture seems to be one that is love with villains. The immoral traits portrayed by these characters are more realistic as compared to the image that would be reflected by moral heroes. The world filled is with crime, economic hardships and hypocrisy. The American society is no different. How much they endorse anti-hero characters is proof that the American culture accepts that evil is here to stay, both on screen and in real life.

3) (In 70 - 80 words) Use what you learned in Module 9 about literary theory.

What does this construct imply about popular dramas in American culture?

Popularity of dramas in America depends on their viewership and critic ratings. These dramas utilize the difference between the anti-hero and the hero. The two seem to be opposite of each other based on the qualities they portray in the dramas. The most popular dramas centre around good versus evil construct. A good example is Jack Bauer in the television series 24, currently airing its 9 season.

4) Analyzing an Anti-Hero in Popular Television or Theatre Culture

The anti-hero or anti-heroine is the lead character in any story, movie or

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theatre production that has traits opposite to those of a straight-up hero. Despite their harmful actions, they are popular and are never labeled villains. They appear to be victims of circumstances. To redeem themselves or help others, they go to the extreme including killing other people but to the audience the actions are justifiable, best exemplified by Jack Bauer in the television drama 24.

Jack fits almost perfectly into the definition of an anti-hero. He is a damaged character. He is a rebel, always in problems with people in high positions including the government. He is not scared to bend the set rules to get what he wants. The quality makes him a loner always carrying out his missions alone, or with few allies willing to help him, the central one being Chloe O'Brian. Jack has a passionate conviction. He only does what is right according to him not caring what others think of his actions.

Despite his merciless actions, Jack is more of a hero rather than the villain in the drama. He earns the love of most viewers of the show. Even though his actions are in most cases brutal and harmful to his victims, they are understandable. He does what he does with a good intention in mind, for example, killing terrorists to protect the lives of innocent citizens. The good intention behind his actions and his sacrifices earns him the sympathy of his audience. His "heroic" actions make him the main attraction to the series, making him a popular character he is in pop culture.

In conclusion, anti-heroes are an accurate reflection of the current trends in society. The world today is evil, and the good morals of the typical hero may not win the battle. As a result, anti-heroes are the necessary evil that can heal what is ailing society. What is portrayed by anti-heroes on the screen or theatre is a reflection of what is happening in the world around them. What

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they portray is real, and the trend is most likely to stick around for long.

Works Cited

Hrezo, Margaret S, and John M. Parrish. *Damned If You Do: Dilemmas of Action in Literature and Popular Culture*. Lanham, Md: Lexington Books, 2010. Print.