

The tragedy in Hamlet lies in the fact that Hamlet, the hero was human and was violently wronged and was justified in seeking revenge. Hamlet the play is a tragedy, and Hamlet the character is the tragic hero of the play. Hamlet, like all tragic heroes, brings out feelings of pity and fear from the reader. The reader pities Hamlet because his father died by murder, and because Hamlet becomes mad as he learns that his uncle was the murderer. The audience fears him because he transforms at points into a monster, crazed and impassioned, waiting for the perfect moment to take revenge. Obviously, Hamlet is neither completely good or evil. He is, instead only human.

Hamlet is a tragic human, mad at points, and completely sane at others. At the beginning of the play, Hamlet is completely sane. He is still mourning his father's death, and he is very angry at his uncle and his mother for marrying so soon, but he is not crazy. When Hamlet first learns from the ghost that his father was murdered by his uncle, he becomes furious and is anxious for revenge, but at this point he is still sane. His first sign of insanity occurs when he harasses Ophelia. Later, because after killing Polonius, he does not think twice about what he has done, and has no remorse. And when Claudius questions Hamlet about the location of the dead body, he does not refuse to tell, but rather jokes and riddles, saying Polonius is "At supper...no where he eats but where he is eaten: and he is "In Heaven." By the end of the play, some people might believe that Hamlet has surely proven his madness and evil nature, since he has directly and indirectly killed Polonius, Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, Ophelia, and Claudius. However, even though he has shown apparent transformation from sanity to insanity by the time he finally takes revenge and kills Claudius, Hamlet truly