Compare and Contrast: The Triumph of Love and Twelfth Night

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Compare and Contrast Essay Outline

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   1. Twelfth Night
   2. The Triumph of Love
   3. ‘‘The Triumph of Love is an original motion picture with its own ideas and plot but it is doubtful to say that it does not share some ideas with William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night’’
2. Same
   1. Themes
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Triumph of Love and Twelfth Night Compare and Contrast

Literary works are things that we all greatly enjoy throughout our lives, with their exciting plots and interesting characters. There is no doubt that we have never enjoyed any sort of play, or maybe perhaps a movie. Influence is the key of a great piece of work as it is a great guide. Twelfth Night is a play written by the great William Shakespeare, one of history’s most renowned playwrights of all time. The play is about a woman by the name of Viola who disguises herself as a man throughout the story to get close to her love, Duke Orsino. Twelfth Night is a romantic comedy in which several characters attempt to fool each other into thinking that certain characters are in love with them; they all go through tons of shenanigans which may end up in mishap. The same can be said for the movie Triumph of Love, which was released in the year 2001. The movie is about a princess who falls in love with a man named Agis, who was taught to despise her and woman entirely. She disguises herself as a man just to get closer to him, even if it means seducing other characters just so she could be next to him. The Triumph of Love is an original motion picture with its own ideas and plot but it is doubtful to say that it does not share some ideas with William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night.

There are many things which are very similar in both stories, such as the reoccurring theme of cross dressing and romantic comedy. Both main characters of Triumph of Love and Twelfth Night use some kind of disguise to trick the rest into thinking they are men when they are actually women. The Princess in Triumph of Love dresses up as a man so she could get close to the Prince whom she has fallen deeply in love with but later develops into an issue as the families that she interacts with are rivals to her family so it could have cost her life. In Twelfth Night, a similar fashion is used. Viola loves Orsino so she disguises herself as a man named Cesario to go and help him but he eventually falls in love with Olivia who is in love with Viola’s alter-ego Cesario. The main similarity is that it has to do with a woman who could not something as a man but can do if people believed she was a man. Sir Toby and Sir Andrew are very similar to Dimas as he is drunk most of the time and they have similar traits. Viola can easily relate to the Princess due to what they do in their own respective story such as cross dressing to get to where they want to be. Prince Agis can be compared to Olivia as they are attractive to the protagonists of their own story. Both stories have a character named Festus with similar attributes except he is a jester in Twelfth Night but a gardener in Triumph of Love.

Both stories heavily have to do with forbidden love, which is love they desperately want but could not or never have. The points of view of all the characters are very similar; they all see each other as possible love interests for one another but each other knows they would not easily get it based on their occupation. In Twelfth Night, Malvolio is tricked into thinking Olivia likes him so he started to open up to her. A similar event happens in Triumph of Love when the cross dressed Princess fools a man and a woman into thinking that she, or he has a huge attraction to them. The characters in both stories were all obviously driven by blind strong love.

There are some major differences when it comes to some characters within each story. Each story had a set of unique characters. Triumph of Love had some extra characters which were involved in the main story line which do not have any similarity to anyone in Twelfth Night. In Twelfth Night, Olivia is a woman who was attractive to one person. However in Triumph of Love, Agis is a man who was attractive to many characters throughout the movie. Viola was the only character in Twelfth Night to cross dress as a man whereas in Triumph of Love, there are two women who pose themselves as men in order to trick the other characters. The settings of each story are far from similar. Triumph of Love is set in a European country throughout the whole movie while the story in Twelfth Night takes place in a fictional placed called Illyria. The period of time between the stories is different as Triumph of Love takes place around the 18th century, and Twelfth Night is around the 16th century. Triumph of Love features a lot of different locations throughout the story while Twelfth Night takes place inside a house in almost its entirety. The plots in each story may share some similarity but they are both completely different. The story in Triumph of Love is more political as it bases on the fact she strives to share the throne with Agis while Twelfth Night is a love story between three people who are not at all satisfied because they can never gain what they want.

Twelfth Night is a charmingly exquisite play as expected from a writer with a huge caliber such as William Shakespeare. Triumph of Love is a mediocre film to say the least, but it definitely has its funny moments. Movies today still have some kind of influence from geniuses such as Shakespeare which is why it is important to appreciate the classics which may be the sole reason why entertainment is still present to this day. There were some big differences in both Triumph of Love and Twelfth Night but there are some huge similarities that one may assume that the movie was directly based on this specific play. Shakespeare’s works continue to influence generations to come.