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In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Oberon is seen as an emotionally driven person. He is easily influenced by his emotions and often acts upon them rather than what may seem more logical. For example, Oberon is jealous of Titania’s changeling boy. He believes that the changeling boy will soon replace him as the new fairy king. So, he ignores the consequences and orders Puck to drop the love juice into Titania’s eyes with the hopes of stealing the boy while she is distracted by love. He even curses at Titania to have “hateful fantasies,” and only tries to reconcile with Titania after he takes the changeling boy (2.1, 258). He does not consider the negative consequences it might have on his relationship with Titania, but is instead driven by his jealousy, which leads him to make irrational decisions. We also see this when he sees Helena and Demetrius fight. Oberon, who relates his situation to Helena, sends Puck to “anoint his eyes” so he can feel good about helping someone, not thinking about how something might go wrong if Puck made a mistake (2.1, 261).

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Oberon is portrayed to be a controlling character. He prefers to have control over his situations and always wants the outcome to be in his favour. For example, Oberon wants the “little changeling boy to be [his] henchman”, but Titania refuses to hand him over to Oberon because “his mother was a votaress of [her] order” (2.1, 120 / 123). After hearing this, Oberon gets frustrated by the lack of control he has in the situation. And since both Titania and Oberon are equal in strength and wits, it becomes more difficult for Oberon to gain control over the changeling boy. In fact, getting the changeling boy becomes the number one priority for him. Other important goals like earning Titania’s love as well as helping the Athenians become secondary goals as he doesn’t worry about any of these goals. He believes that he has full control over both of his secondary goals. So in order to get the changeling boy, Oberon resorts to trickery, using the magic love potion to force Titania to fall in love with an ass so that he could take the Changeling from under her nose. Once he completes the task, he then moves on to his secondary goals now that he has regained his control. This demonstrates Oberon’s willingness to do just about anything in order to remain in control at all times.

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Oberon is shown to be a reckless character. As the king of the fairies, Oberon’s first priority should be to protect his citizens. However, while fighting over the changeling boy with Titania, he causes chaos and disorder in the world. He acknowledges that the winds “have sucked up from the sea contagious fogs” and that “the green corn hath rotted ere his youth attained a beard”, yet he feels no remorse for the damage he has caused and continues demanding for the changeling boy (2. 1 , 74-75 79-80). By the end of the story, he gets the changeling boy, but he also left a trail of destruction behind him.

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Oberon’s main want is Titania’s changeling boy. Although he also wants Titania’s love, he clearly values the changeling boy over her feelings towards him. He demonstrates this when he demands for her to “give [him] that boy, and [he] will go with [her]”, implying that he will only go with her if he gets the boy (2.1, 143). Throughout the entire story, this selfish motivation keeps Oberon constantly driven, but he also has other wants as well.

One such want is Titania’s love. Although he clearly states that he values the changeling boy over her love, one interpretation is that he only wants the boy to keep her love, as he is worried that Titania might be raising the boy to replace him. Throughout the story, we can see Oberon trying to win back Titania’s love, like when he asks her to “take hands with [him]” (4.1, 68-69). This shows that deep down, he wants to fix this broken relationship with Titania. He also does end up undoing the effects of the love potion, and by the end of the story, he reconciles with Titania. He also wants to be respected and have full control over any situation, which he demonstrated when he interjected in the lovers’ relationships to play the role of the cupid, and helped them fall in love with the people they were supposed to fall in love with.

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream,* Oberon seems to fear the judgement of others. Throughout the story, Oberon has many goals that he wants to complete, such as taking the changeling boy from Titania and restoring the lovers’ relationships. He goes to very drastic measures in order to achieve these goals to the point where he prioritizes these goals over things that should seem more important problems like the damage that both he and Titania are causing in the environment. The reason he prioritizes achieving his goals over other important problems is because he is afraid that if he does not achieve these goals, he will become unnecessary or seemed as incompetent by others around him. This fear is also weighted by the fact that he has such a high and important position that is looked up upon by many different fairies like Puck. So it seems as though he feels pressured to seem almost perfect as he hates making mistakes. For example, when Puck applies the magic love potion on Lysander instead of Demetrius, Oberon is very upset at him and places the blame on Puck. But when Puck tries to justify himself, saying, “Did you not tell me I should know the man by the Athenian garments he had on? And so far blameless proves my enterprise” (3.2, 348-350). However, Oberon simply seems to ignore his comment and continues to insist that it is his fault. This shows how Oberon avoids the blame that was placed upon him by simply blaming Puck instead due to the fact that he is afraid of being judged. He even ignores Puck’s protests, enforcing the fact that he did not have any counter argument which is why he ended up ignoring Puck instead.

Throughout the entire play, Oberon’s main conflict is his dispute with Titania about the changeling boy. Oberon wants the changeling boy, but as the boy’s mother was Titania’s close friend, she is reluctant to give the boy up. There are many interpretations of Oberon’s motives for getting the boy. Oberon himself claims that “I do but beg a little changeling boy, to be my henchman.” (2.1, 120-121) However, another explanation is that Oberon fears that Titania may be raising the changeling boy to replace him, and so he is only acting out of jealousy. This conflict slowly spirals out of control, and Titania has “forsworn his bed and company.” (2.1, 62) As both Oberon and Titania are elementals, spirits who control nature, their hostility towards each other causes chaos in the mortal world. Eventually, Oberon decides to poison Titania with a love potion, and he “then did ask of her her changeling child, Which straight she gave me” (2.1, 55-56). After he got the changeling boy, he undid the love potion, and Titania, still confused from the effects of the potion, forgives Oberon and they reconcile.

In William Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Oberon’s character teaches us about what makes and breaks relationships. Oberon has both healthy and unhealthy relationships with others. Oberon’s relationship with Puck is a good friendship; although Puck is Oberon’s servant, Oberon treats him with respect. When Puck mistakes Lysander for Demetrius, Oberon recognizes that it was partially his own fault and forgives Puck. Oberon’s forgiveness allows him to reconcile his relationship with Puck. This shows the importance of forgiveness and how it can make relationships. Oberon has a bad relationship with Titania, as she refuses to give Oberon the changeling boy. Oberon becomes envious and hateful, and instructs Puck to put love potion in Titania’s eyes, in order to manipulate her to give him the boy. These actions are motivated by negative emotions. Oberon wishes to see Titania “full of hateful fantasies”(2.1, 244). This demonstrates how negative emotions can affect our actions and therefore break relationships. Oberon reveals to us the importance of positive emotions in a relationship. When Oberon allowed his negative emotions to influence his actions, he created problems for everybody around him. It is important to remain positive in a relationship, even when a conflict arises.