

## **“Throw to earth this unprevailing woe”**

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When I was ten years old a catastrophic event hit my family, my parents got divorced. *Hamlet* relates to my life through his strained parent relationship and my divorced parents.

When I first heard my parents were splitting I could not believe it, I thought it was a joke. It struck me harder than it did my brother because I was younger. I loved my father and did not want him to leave. Hamlet suffered through the same thing that I went through with losing his father to death. Similar to Hamlet I was close with my dad and it was hard to see him go through depression post divorce. After Hamlet's father died he went into a deep depression, which eventually led to his own death. It is hard to admit but my father went in a way crazy from losing my mom to the point where I was not allowed to visit him because it was unsafe. Seeing my father in this state was unsettling and upsetting to me. Being only ten made it harder for me to understand what was happening. In addition, people such as my mom and brother wouldn't tell me all of what was happening because I was “too little” to understand which was frustrating.

Hamlet went through deception as well but on a different scale. His uncle arranged his friends to lead him to his death and lie to him. Also he was lied to about how his father died. His own uncle killed his father out of lust for the throne. In the play Hamlet's mother tells him that he should get over his father's death and that it is not appropriate to still be upset. I was not told to get over my parents divorce but they expected me to deal with it and not dwell on it. This was hard for me because I never wanted my parents to split up but it happened and it shook me to my core similar to Hamlet's emotions.

The worst part about the divorce was that my friends would say they understand what I was going through when in reality they did not know the beginning of what was happening to my family and me. In addition to that, some people would even joke about wanting their parents divorced which angered me. I would never wish for my own parents to get a divorce.

I believe *Hamlet* can still relate to present day issues such as divorce and other topics as well. Many people can still relate to the loss and strife Hamlet went through over his last years of life. Hamlet should be required in all schools curriculum in my opinion. It opens up teenagers eyes to the deceptiveness of the real world such as trust, loyalty, and knowing who you are. I believe even 400 years from now people will still be able to relate to this play whether it is through forbidden love or a great loss.