

Nathalie Rios,
Sharon Molina,
Ashley Guzman
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The Little Prince Chapter 10

“ ‘Approach, so that I may see you better,’ said the king, who felt consumingly proud of being at last a king over somebody.’ ” The book *The Little Prince* written by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry is a work of fiction. The two important characters in chapter 10 are the Little Prince and the King. Throughout the book, our main character, the Little Prince, meets different types of people. The characters of all the different planets he visited opened up his eyes to realities he has never thought of before. The universal theme that order may be natural or constructed is shown in chapter 10 through the characterization of a senseless king, the nature of loneliness, and the artificiality of judgement.

First of all, order is supported by the characterization of a senseless king, “a ruler with nobody to rule over.” Once the Little Prince landed on the majesty’s tiny planet, the King did not have people, yet he instantly ordered the Little Prince to do all sorts of unnecessary demands. The King was being portrayed as a senseless person because of his behavior towards the Little Prince when he first arrived at his planet. According to the text on page 23 it states, “Ah! Here is a subject,” exclaimed the king, when he saw the little prince coming. And the little prince asked himself: “How could he recognize me when he had never seen me before?” The king never once meet the Little Prince and he’s already making it seem as if he knew him as one of his own subjects so he looked very irregular. But since the King is of a higher class and the Little Prince is of a lower class, the King sees him as a person to throw

orders at. On page 24 in the book it says, "For his rule was not only absolute: it was also universal. "And the stars obey you?" Certainly they do," the king said. "They obey instantly. I do not permit insubordination." In other words the king is even ordering pointless objects to do what they always do to keep his role of a monarch. This empty headed king symbolizes absolute authority but he does not have any power over anyone, for he is the only person in his planet, making him seem more senseless than ever.

Secondly, order is showed through natural loneliness. The King is the only one living on his planet which makes him lonely with no one to communicate or interact with. His planet is very miniature one that only him and his big robe adjust inside it, therefore there is no absolute space for anyone other than his solitary self. According to the text it states, "The Little Prince looked everywhere to find a place to sit down; but the entire planet was crammed and obstructed by the king's magnificent ermine robe." This is relatable because for example, you go to a fair, festival, or theme park, and you ride the horse carousel ride. Only one person can ride each horse because of the small size. Imagine riding the carousel with no one around your surrounding, being the only one there, you



will feel isolated and that's just how the king's feels in his planet full of loneliness. This chapter also shows the image of the abandoned king. The image shown reminds me of how one day we will all go off to university or college to follow our dreams, but we all go alone. We go along far from home without any of our loved ones the ones that have always been with us, and we feel like we're on our own little planet just like the king is. As the nature of loneliness is explored throughout the chapter it makes you realize and rely on what the king feels like, it makes us think about how one day we will be our own lonely king in a planet just for our own selves where we may feel abandoned like him.

Finally, order is constructed in chapter 10 through the artificiality of judgement. The king told The Little Prince he would make him a minister of justice if he stayed in that planet to keep him company. He told him that he would judge a rat and condemn him to death but his mistakes would be apologized from time to time because he is the only one in the planet. In the book, Antoine says, “You can judge this old rat. From time to time you will condemn him to death. But you will pardon him on each occasion; for he must be treated thriftily. He is the only one we have.” In the real world, we cannot condemn someone to death and then say they are forgiven. That would mean that we are making up fake excuses only to judge someone that doesn’t really deserve it. The King made silly orders, he thought that by telling the Little Prince that he would become a minister of Justice, he would be able to belittle anyone for whatever reason. According to the book, Saint-Exupery says, “ ‘Do not go. I will make you a Minister!’ ” “Minister of what?” “Minister of--of Justice!” “But there is nobody here to judge!” ” Just like the king believes others but himself should be judged, we judge others with the lie that society has portrayed to us. An example of this is racism. White people believe they are better than dark skinned colored men and women. Racist people just hurt others with no real proof of what they are saying. Many whites say that black people are worthless and dumber than them. No one has ever discovered evidence that supports this reason and this relates to what the king does in his planet. He judges based on what he thinks should happen. There is no justice or order in his gloomy planet because he is the only one there.

In conclusion, the universal theme order is explored in this chapter because it shows us that the king was a lonely leader and did not know how to rule over someone properly. This fictional story demonstrates the natural and constructed order of this monarch. In this chapter, order is explored in three ways: characterization of a senseless king, the nature of loneliness, and the artificiality of

judgement. All people are lonely at some point and if no people exist in our lives, there is no order. We become a mess due to the fact that we have no one that we can rely on to help us. Everyone thinks that the world revolves around them, and in this world they can do whatever they please. The truth is that this world does not revolve around one single person and to accomplish such a difficult desire, one must put the effort to do so in their own natural way.

Works Cited

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