

***If you wish to submit a late Level Question 2, please send directly to Mr. Thom at [tuhl@lps.k12.co.us](mailto:tuhl@lps.k12.co.us)***

***Record your LEVEL 2 QUESTION for “Titus Act 2” below. Please, do not edit anyone else’s question. Be sure to write your name & then record your question just like Mr. Thom’s example:***

**Mr. Thom:** *Act 2 of Titus is extremely violent and salacious--is this merely for shock value (entertainment for the groundlings & the masses) or is Shakespeare trying to say something of significance? Or is he doing both?*

**Harmony:** *In act two of Titus, how does Julie Taymor use aspects of animal work (In relation to theatre of cruelty, method acting, and surrealism) during the rape scene in the woods with Lavinia, Chiron, and Demetrius? (What a terrific question! Mr. Thom)*

**Henry:** *How do Demetrius’s and Chiron’s actions and tone in Act 2 characterize both of them? (Good question, Henry--what specific actions and tone? Mr. Thom)*

**Phoebe:** In Aaron's opening monologue, what is the significance of him alluding to mythological ideas, such as Prometheus and Caucasus (which represent human effort which results in a tragedy), Semiramis (which is linked to the whore of Babylon), and sirens (women whose songs lured sailors to shipwreck)? What does this mean in terms of how Aaron views Tamora?

**Xavier:** Why are the goths (Demetrius, Chiron, and Tamora) portrayed as brutal as they are? At times their acts seem extreme, but they seem to have a definite purpose.

**Josiah:** Where is Aaron's fealty, is it based in "love" for Tamora, or is it in his love for cruelty?

**Jackson:** What is the importance of Aaron taking over the spotlight in this act, he oversees every violent action that happens in act 2, what does this have to show of where power is really displayed?

**Lupita Roman:** Tamora is right to want revenge, but why is Aaron so vengeful even though nothing was done to him directly?

**Logan:** What does Shakespeare's representation of Demetrius and Chiron Being so easily manipulated to do such terrible things by Aaron show about Human nature especially in young men?

**Kait:** How does Tamora's reaction to her sons desire to rape Lavinia and response to pleading show Tamora's lack of respect for humanity?

**Matthew Friedberg:** Why are Demetrius and Chiron so easily meatipulated?

**Sammy:** Why do Tamora and her sons refer to Lavinia as a doe many times?

**Rachel:** How does Shakespeare utilize the metaphor for Lavinia as a doe and how does such metaphor invoke feelings and a clearer image of this horrible act? Would the scene have been the same without it?

**Erin:** What is the significance of the Chiron and demetrius sudden violence? Is it justice or vengeance?

**Tony:** Are the sons of Tamora Shakespeare's way of showing the ease manipulation of humans as a whole.

**Grace:** In the beginning of Act 2, Lavinia is often referred to as a doe by Demetrius, Chiron and Aaron. In some cultures, deer symbolize femininity and gentleness, while in others, deer were said to turn into beautiful women to avoid being hunted. How is this symbolism of deer ironic to the way Lavinia was treated at the end of Act 2?

**Isabel B:**

**Lauren G:** During Aaron's opening monologue, he mentions envy which is one of the seven deadly sins. What does that mean for the 6 other deadly sins? Will they be addressed?

**Katherine G:** How and why were Demetrius and Chiron so persuaded by Aaron and his ideas?

**Charlie Downing:** What does the way Demetrius, Chiron and Aaron talk about Lavinia say about how they think of women? What was Shakespeare trying to say about these male characters?

**Patrick Hayes:** Why does Bassianus feel it is necessary to insult Tamora in the first scene? What does this say about his character (Act 1 vs Act 2)?

**Jamie Henry:** How is the comparison of Lavinia to a tree significant to the overall depth of the last scene?

**Ciara Viar:** How do you think Lavinia's role as a tragic hero is affected by her insults/ racist comments regarding Tamora and Aaron's relationship?

**Gabriel Talbert:** Does Tamora "Keep" Aaron, or does Aaron "keep" her?

**Lauren MacPherson:** How does Lavinia's son's actions manifest in today's society? And why do they think their actions are considered "love"?

**Ian Pearson:** Aaron orchestrates almost all of the developments in the plot, is he doing this all for Tamora? Or is there something else he is after?

**Mason Kuhlmann:** Is Tamora truly an evil individual or is she fighting for justice because of what Titus did to her son?

**Will Luem:** How is the idea of the pit expressed through macguffins and characters actions found throughout Act II?

**Barrett Small:** How does the juxtaposition between the way Aaron treats Tamora vs. Lavinia show his true nature?

**Amanda Lisle:** Is Shakespeare being intentional with the vulgar violence in act 2? If so what is he trying to say? Or is the violence just chaotic and random?

**Izzy Colkitt:** Why is the forest described as “suitable” for acts that are seen as dark? Does it have more to do with the literal cover a forest provides or with the connotation of the word *forest*?

**Tyler Ervin:** Does the recent treatment of both Lavinia and Tamara reveal something about Shakespeare's view on women?

**Adrianna Avalos-Moore;**

How does the violence in this chapter affect the mood of the readers?