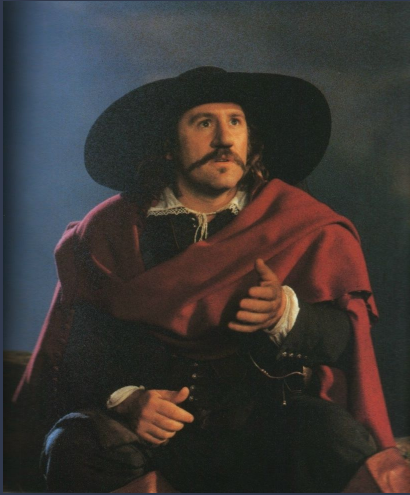


Cyrano De Bergerac

Characterization

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Cyrano



Characterization:

RAGUENEAU: No painter today can do him justice...with his triple-plumed hat and six-tailed jacket and his sword sticking up beneath his cloak like the proud tail of a rooster...Above his collar he carries a nose—and my good lords, what a nose it is! When people see it, they immediately think it's a false nose. They think it's a joke and that soon Cyrano will take it off. But, alas, Cyrano never takes it off.” (Rostand 16)

Cyrano: “No, when I walk abroad, I bear a haughty plume of independence. Everything shines about me...” (Cyrano, 34). Cyrano's words and actions show his outward self confidence.

Cyrano: “I order silence! And I challenge every man here!”(25).

Christian



Characterization

ROXANE: "A poor young man, who all this time has loved me, timidly, from afar, and dares not speak...And it just so happens, dear cousin, he's a cadet of your regiment...A cadet in your own company...He is proud, noble, young, intrepid, handsome-"

"I am tired of these borrowed letters and borrowed speeches!"

"Oh! I'm afraid that she is coquettish and refined! I fear I'm not intelligent enough for her! How can I dare speak with her? I'm only a shy and honest soldier—not very good with words at all."

Roxane

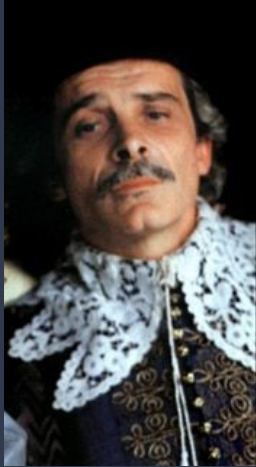


Characterization

Ah, gentlemen, she is exquisite—adorable—ravishing!...She's as sweet as a peach smiling at a strawberry!...And so fresh and cool! Any man approaching her might catch a chill at the heart! (Rostrand 17)

Cyrano: "She is a mortal danger to all men. She is beautiful without knowing it, and possesses charms that she's not even aware of. She is like a trap set by nature—a sweet perfumed rose in whose petals Cupid lurks in ambush! Anyone who has seen her smile has known perfection. She instills grace in every common thing and divinity in every careless gesture. Venus in her shell was never so lovely, and Diana in the forest never so graceful as my Lady when she strides through Paris!"

DeGuiche



Characterization

Ligniere: “That's Count de Guiche. He's in love with her, but he happens to be married to the niece of Armand de Richelieu. Wants to set Roxane up with a certain sorry fellow by the name of Valvert—a viscount” (Rostand 18).

De Guiche: “ He's becoming a nuisance!...Won't anyone silence him?”(Rostand 31). DeGuiche is put off by and impatient with Cyrano's arrogant behavior.

LeBret



Characterization

Cyrano: “ The dull friendships which you and others keep enfold your neck like an open-laced collar.” (Rostand 71) Le Bret keeps “dull friendships” according to Cyrano.

LeBret: “You must stop paying heed to these fools! They'll have you ruined! Ask a real friend and he'll tell you the truth about the effects of your arrogant behavior!” (Rostrand 58). LeBret is cautious and anxious about Cyrano's behavior.

Ligniere



Characterization

“LIGNIERE, **disheveled but distinguished-looking**, with **disordered shirt-front** is arm-in-arm with CHRISTIAN DE NEUVILLETTE...” (Rostand 11).

Brissaille says, “[laughing] Not drunk yet?” (Rostand 11).

Raguenue



Characterization

Ligniere: “[*introducing him to Christian*] The pastry-cook of the actors and the poets!” (Rostand 14).

Ragueneau: “[*standing on a table*] My shop is being invaded! They’re breaking everything! How magnificent!” (Rostand 64). Ragueneau loves the excitement of a good fight.

“... I give those poor starving fellows the freedom to eat, while I gratify my own dearest weakness!”

Cyrano De Bergerac

Literary Devices

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What literary device is this?

Cyrano: “Yes Samson! Will you lend me your jawbone, sir?” (24)

A man thinks that Cyrano thinks very highly of himself and asks him if he is Samson. Cyrano replies with this clever answer - the Biblical man Samson had killed 100 men with the jawbone of a donkey.

Allusion

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A man thinks that Cyrano thinks very highly of himself and asks him if he is Samson. Cyrano replies with this clever answer - the Biblical man Samson had killed 100 men with the jawbone of a donkey.

What literary device is this?

“ (Still Writing) I worship you...(He stops, just as he is about to sign, and gets up, slipping the letter into his jacket.) No need to sign, since I’ll give it to her myself.” (53)

Here Cyrano is writing a letter to Roxane to express his love for her. He, thinking he will give the letter to her himself, does not sign it. We, the audience, can feel that this is leading to something in the future.

Foreshadowing

“ (Still Writing) I worship you...(He stops, just as he is about to sign, and gets up, slipping the letter into his jacket.) No need to sign, since I’ll give it to her myself.” (53)

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What literary device is this?

The Duenna exclaims, “Oh! Look! The knocker is wrapped with cloth!
[speaking to knocker] So they have gagged you, noisy one, lest you disturb the fine speakers!” (89)

Personification

The Duenna exclaims, “Oh! Look! The knocker is wrapped with cloth!
[*speaking to knocker*] So they have gagged you, noisy one, lest you disturb the fine speakers!” (89)

The doorknocker is described as “gagged” and “noisy” as if it speaks



What literary device
is this?

“My hatred is like a stiff and starched collar which presses in upon me and keeps my head held high! And every new enemy adds a stiff new pleat to it, for hatred grips like a vice, but frames one like a halo!” (71)

Simile

“My hatred is like a stiff and starched collar which presses in upon me and keeps my head held high! And every new enemy adds a stiff new pleat to it, for hatred grips like a vice, but frames one like a halo!” (71)

What literary device
is this?

“Oh, Lise loved the warriors and I loved the poets! We gave away too much. Any cakes that were left by Apollo were quickly snapped up by Mars. You can see why financial ruin didn't take very long.” (Rostand 81)

Allusion

“Oh, Lise loved the warriors and I loved the poets! We gave away too much. Any cakes that were left by Apollo were quickly snapped up by Mars. You can see why financial ruin didn't take very long.” (Rostand 81)

This is an allusion because the author is indirectly describing the poets and warriors to the Mythical gods, Apollo and Mars. Apollo is the god of poetry and Mars is the god of war.

What literary device
is this?

“Dramatic: ‘When it bleeds, it’s like the Red Sea!’”(Rostand 32).

Hyperbole Allusion Simile

“Dramatic: ‘When it bleeds, it’s like the Red Sea!’”(Rostand 32).

After someone comments on the size of Cyrano’s nose, he goes through many different ways that people can say that his nose is large. This is an exaggeration because it compares the blood from his nose to the Red Sea.

Allusion to Red Sea

Simile compares it to Red Sea using “like”

What literary device
is this?

Cyrano says, "Find a protector, I suppose, a patron, and cling to him like ivy round a tree?" (75)

Simile

Cyrano says, "Find a protector, I suppose, a patron, and cling to him like ivy round a tree?" (75)

What literary device
is this?

The scarf worn by De Guiche that he takes off in battle in order to go unnoticed serves as a _____. Cyrano claims he would have picked it up and worn it.

Symbol

The scarf worn by De Guiche that he takes off in battle in order to go unnoticed serves as a _____. Cyrano claims he would have picked it up and worn it.

The scarf symbolizes courage/bravery.

What literary device
is this?

An example of a(n)_____ is when De Guiche asks Cyrano if he has read a certain book written in Spain during the 1600's, *Don Quixote*. (69)

Allusion

An example of an allusion in the play is when De Guiche asks Cyrano if he has read a certain book written in Spain during the 1600's, *Don Quixote*. (69)

Don Quixote was a dreamer who seemed foolish to many. De Guiche is trying to criticize Cyrano.

What literary device is this?

Pretty much any line that Cyrano speaks to Roxane while he pretends to be Christian.

“How gladly I would give my happiness for the sake of yours, even without your knowledge...”

Dramatic Irony

Pretty much any line that Cyrano speaks to Roxane while he pretends to be Christian.

“How gladly I would give my happiness for the sake of yours, even without your knowledge...”

What literary device
is this?

“...and his sword sticking up beneath
his cloak like the proud tail of a
rooster” (Rostand 16).

Simile

“...and his sword sticking up beneath
his cloak like the proud tail of a
rooster” (Rostand 16).

What literary device
is this?

Roxane: “[with a little grimace] I hoped
for cream, but you're giving me water!
Explain to me how you love me!”
(Rostand 82)

Metaphor

Roxane: “[with a little grimace] I hoped for cream, but you're giving me water! Explain to me how you love me!”
(Rostand 82)

Cream vs. water = something special (of substance and used to top desserts) vs something that has no taste.

What literary device
is this?

“True, that smile of yours makes a
pretty passport!” Carbon speaking of
Roxane (127)

Metaphor

“True, that smile of yours makes a pretty passport!” Carbon speaking of Roxane (127)

What literary device
is this?

“Well what a success that was” -Cyrano
after listening to Christian attempt to speak
for himself (93)

Verbal Irony

“Well what a success that was” -Cyrano
after listening to Christian attempt to speak
for himself (93)

What literary device is this?

Cadet: What, in God's name, can we eat?

Cyrano: [*throws him a book*] *The Iliad!* A little food for thought!

pun

Cadet: What, in God's name, can we eat?

Cyrano: [*throws him a book*] *The Iliad!* A little food for thought!