

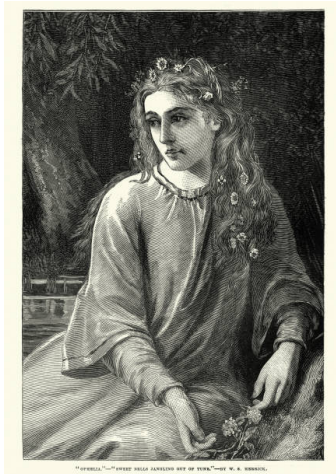
## **“I Shall No Longer Be a Puppet of Any Men’s Desires” – Ophelia’s Role in Shakespeare’s *Hamlet***

### **Ergebnisse aus dem Englisch-LK von Frau Reins**

*Die Schülerinnen und Schüler der Leistungskurse Englisch des 12. Jahrgangs lesen derzeit Hamlet von William Shakespeare und analysieren diesbezüglich unter anderem die Rolle der Frauen in dem Stück. Nachdem sie hierbei feststellten, dass insbesondere Ophelia kaum zu Wort kommt und nur den Anweisungen ihrer männlichen Verwandten Folge leistet, gaben sie Ophelia eine Stimme und reflektierten in selbstverfassten Monologen Ophelias Rolle. Einige der Ergebnisse sind hier zu lesen:*

Oh, woe is me!  
What a tangled web we weave!  
I am expected to be, to stay, a dutiful daughter, yet my desires are disregarded.  
I am expected to make a faithful wife, yet my feelings are ignored.  
I am expected to be a subservient subject, yet my autonomy is taken away.  
My father, through his machinations and manipulations, has led me to this place.  
I am naught but a mere pawn in this wretched game of his, my life not my own.  
But no more.  
From this day on, I shall no longer be bound by his will.  
I will no longer be held captive by his lies and deceptions.  
I want the freedom to choose my own direction in life, to shape my own fate, to be independent and strong and courageous and be my own person. Be a woman.  
I shall courageously stand up and fight against the injustice done to me.  
I want to be able to follow my own dreams and aspirations, to pursue a life that I choose, not one that has been chosen for me.  
I am the daughter of a nobleman, and I will not be made to feel less than that.  
I shall no longer be a puppet of any men’s desires.  
No more will I be a victim of their whims and orders.  
I am taking action.  
I am reclaiming my life.  
I am claiming my freedom.

- Leticia Brückner



Why is it that I cannot obtain what I desire?  
I have always followed the rules and customs set in this country.  
Haven't I been the perfect maiden? Beautiful, quiet and healthy.  
I am all of that. All that they expect of me.  
I don't think that I am in need of advice made my men who are not restricted by anything at all and are able to follow what not their heart but body desires.  
No one said anything about my brother's travels and his never ending yearn for adventure.  
Yet I meet disdain simply for not rushing to reject the advances made by a man who I slightly fancy.  
Is it so wrong of me to want, to need, to expect, to feel.  
I have never committed any crime nor have I ever been sinful.  
So why am I being so poorly treated as if I were a sinner or criminal?  
I feel belittled and ashamed of my father's and brother's advices.  
Am I not worthy of trust and respect in their colored lenses?  
What do they see me as to treat me as such?  
These days I feel my senses becoming more dull.  
My voice does not seem to be heard by anyone, by me.  
I guess it truly is mad for a maiden to desire, to feel.  
My body has become unfamiliar to me.  
It is attached to my head yet I feel it being naturally taken from me.  
As if it was never mine to begin with.

- Sofia Sonam