

The main characteristics of tragedy include noble characters who face or struggle against powerful obstacles, a protagonist with a character flaw or who is brought down by the cruelty of fate, and a tragic outcome that has widespread consequences. A catharsis is the release of emotions resulting in a state of moral or spiritual renewal and/or relief from anxiety or stress. Tragedies evoke a catharsis, typically pity or fear, as the audience responds to the downfall of the main character.