A.P. Senior English/2017-2018
Blindness and Vision
Berger-White

<div align="center">

Goddard on *King Lear*

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Among the critics of Shakespeare that I've read, Harold Goddard stands for me head and shoulders above the rest, and this in many ways is his masterpiece. This is monumental, visionary—a great, challenging essay, one that really necessitates your best reading and thinking. To that end, I've divided it in two nights of work.

Due Monday (11/13)
Please read the first eight sections in Goddard's criticism on *King* Lear—Goddard's pages 136-155—and create a list of five passages as talking points—starting places for a conversation. Please have in writing either a question or a statement ready to go for each.

Due Tuesday (11/14)
Please finish reading the Goddard essay. As you begin to move through it, make sure you are reading with the larger point—Goddard's argument—in mind.

Your assignment for Tuesday is to write a short, focused essay in which you name and explain Goddard's *overarching argument*. Please support this with several key passages for support. Conclude by naming Goddard's *most radical claim*.

This should be formal, focused analysis. Please structure the essay this way:

(1) Start with a tight, bold paragraph in which you explain in your own words what Goddard argues about *King Lear*. If it's useful to you, you might want to begin with some variation on: "In his critical essay on Shakespeare's *King Lear*, Harold Goddard argues that…"

(2) Then move to a paragraph that includes at least three central passages from Goddard's essay that support your claim. These should be smoothly and thoughtfully integrated into your prose. Again, if it's useful to you, you might begin this paragraph with some variation on: "Goddard develops his argument (about *x*) by…"

(3) Your third paragraph should highlight Goddard's most radical claim—his most extreme point—and explain how it fits with his overall argument.

(4) Finally, conclude with a paragraph that (now that you have fairly represented Goddard's argument) comments (briefly) on these ideas. How does Goddard's argument shed light on *King Lear*? To what extent do you believe his argument? His analysis? Why or why not?

Suggested Length: 750 words
Value: 50 points