

Dramatic Irony:

This is when the audience is aware of something that the characters are not. This can create humour or suspense and the dialogue or monologues take on a new meaning.

Examples

- In Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" the mourning lady Olivia quickly becomes infatuated with a messenger who is there to deliver news about his master's love for Olivia. This is a love triangle in itself, however, what the audience knows and lady Olivia does not is that the messenger is actually a woman in disguise who is in love with her master.
- In "Romeo and Juliet", Romeo drinks poison because he believes Juliet is dead. The audience is aware that Juliet is only in a drug induced sleep and will shortly awaken.
- "The Truman Show" is entirely based on dramatic irony because Truman doesn't realized the world around him is fake and has been created for a TV show in which he has been starring since birth.



[illegible]