

AUTHOR WHO IMPACTED POP CULTURE

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Abstract

This assignment is about an Author which I believe has had an impact on pop culture. The person I believe to have had a very significant influence both knowing and unknowingly is Robert Greene. I will be discussing some of his earlier publications such as *The 48 Laws of Power* (Robert, 1998) and *The Art of Seduction* (Greene, 2001) and how each book had a different impact. (Placeholder1)

HOW ROBERT GREENE IMPACTED POP CULTURE

HOW I GAINED A NEW PERSPECTIVE

I decided to discuss the contributions of Robert Greene and his impact upon the pop culture. Previously I held a very harsh judgement in regards to his motivation for producing and unleashing his books upon this world. I really felt it was done with malice or perhaps plain ignorance as to the impact such a publication would have on those who have come into contact with his earlier publications.

This Assignment has caused me to dig deeper into Robert's life. Which his bio really didn't offer much information. I learned that he was once a script writer and his wife is a filmmaker. I learned that he held nearly 80 jobs before becoming a best-selling author. He says his turning point was when he met a book packager, Joost Elffers, who he pitched his book to then wrote a treatment that became *The 48 Laws of Power* (Robert, 1998). I also learned that although he is Jewish he does not believe in God, but he does acknowledge there is "something there". He turned away from Hollywood which says a great deal about him to me. It was actually hearing him speak his peace on TikTok, of all places, that gave me the most clarity.

It was as if Robert read my Essay and wanted to clear up the misunderstandings and suspicions I had expressed previously. Turns out he had a great many reviews that perceived his work as sinister as I initially had. Once I was able to hear his voice, see his eyes and actually feel his spirit, rather than read text that is easily misinterpreted, I had a different perspective on the matter.

On one of his personal blog clips I saw on Robert Greene's official TikTok (Greene, Are the 48 Law of Power evil?, 2022) he basically explained his motivations and revealed that his target audience was the nice people. He said that inherently evil people really do not need his book because it's already within their DNA. He went on to say that a majority of his readers are average people that have no understanding of the games of power.

MY NEW PERSPECTIVE AND WHAT IS THEURGY

What most interested me is his assurance that this book does not have the power to corrupt a person that reads it. Which really got me to thinking about the books structure again. I come from a history of various forms of magick and I began to examine it to see if I could sense the work of a theurgist which means "divine working". Which is basically a "power higher than all human wisdom embracing the blessings of divination, the purifying powers of initiation and in a word all operations of divine possession (Proclus, 1963) Take note of the underlined and the syntax of the conclusion that is literal.

Theurgy is an arcane practice that employs many sets of magical practice and can only be performed by an adept through rite of passage. The elements within The 48 Laws of Power (Robert, 1998) exhibit many telling signs upon deep examination. I am able to identify it because of my submersion into occult practices and initiation rites that were imposed upon me as a child. Theurgy is a rarely seen practice in today's society because the decline of magical practice.

There are many forms of Theurgy this form happens to be something I innately practice in my own writing. However I perceive his practice is as that of a Master Artisan, due to the fact that he incorporates various forms of the Arts such as fine arts, mastery arts, strategic arts, dark arts and arcane arts that there is no record of only passed down thru rite of passage. These arts in combination with a mostly unknown form of literary arts combined with mathematic equations in what is known as literary equations and literal equations give letters and numbers a formulaic value which only the composer can will into existence. This combination with the use of various forms of algebra, which means “the reunion of broken parts” or “balancing”, such as Lie algebra in order to satisfy the Jacobi identity in analytical mechanics, quantum mechanics and physics which is a property of a binary operation. (Wikipedia, n.d.) All of the above in conglomeration with his compilation of historical data which I believe to be his adept perception of theurgy used in the past similarly, along with the element of his theurgist interpretation of the configurations being rewritten and reformed by his hand afforded him the authority to compose that which he calls The 48 Laws of Power. (Robert, 1998) Furthermore, A theurgist has the rite of passage to reveal mysteries, initiate, retrace the divine signatures through the layers of being, invoke action, evoke the presence of deities with the goal of henosis meaning ‘uniting with the divine.’ A theurgist works like with like.

THAT MOMENT I SAW VALUE IN HIS WORK

I felt as if I should thank him for his hard work and dedication to the process of creating his first book. Which was not just some conspiracy theory but in fact exhaustive hours of research initially seeking compelling historical evidence that could provide the reader with real life case studies which demonstrated variations in the procurement of power from diverse walks

of life. Furthermore he was able to simultaneously convey inferred aspects of which collective ignorance has been placed at a disadvantage with regards to understanding how power works. This is what my human eye perceived and yet my theurgist eye saw much deeper, as you read.

All his research and data as a result lead to the discovery of a reoccurring theme of yet another a game that was implicitly being played. He does introduce the concealment of some kind of game in *The 48 Laws of Power* (Robert, 1998) which was with relation to war and ruler ship. He said his first book is based on the historical evolution of power and exposes the implications of past transgressions through which power was attained. Written in order to help people truly comprehend what power is and how it's used. That entire book is the demonstration of how he recasted the former definitions of power and composed Laws that cannot be broken.

HOW HIS RESEARCH LEAD TO ANOTHER DISCOVERY

Once he uncovered the truth which revealed to him the undeniable existence of what I refer to as vampire culture of which he also admitted he was a participator in, now reformed. I was glad that he had found the pattern in his research for *The 48 Laws of power* (Robert, 1998). Which he was compelled to follow up with his second book *The Art of Seduction* (Greene, *The Art of Seduction*, 2001). Which includes factual case studies and historical accounts of some very prominent people that corroborate that there is an implicit vying that's been taking place right under our noses.

THE IMPACTS ON POP CULTURE

I have noticed the decline of popular culture from the 90's to the present. The issue is that although this has been going on long before the book this was not something its practitioners were going out of their way to teach others nor inform them that there is in fact a competition that they had the upper hand in.

That brilliant culture we once knew has been destroyed by the prison culture. From the way they sag their pants, to the glorification of the prison culture, to the segregation of races, to the politics of gangs in prison being implemented out in the streets. It is known that the streets are governed from the prisons. There are masterminds employing the knowledge from these books in a very strategic manner and successfully so.

While I am certain it was not just his books that contributed to the rapid decline of societal unity and its culture, I cannot help but to notice how the once implicit game is now known to the masses and now it's every man for himself. Everyone is in secret competition perpetuating division amongst our communities. There is also a much more blatant display of manipulation as if it's the new norm. Now people are adopting the characteristics of the archetypes by being fake because they have to play a role to get what they want, making fake the new norm. It begs the question did Robert Greene really want to prevent people from becoming victims?

I read some reviews on both books and I must say a great many people have had the same initial opinion with regards to the motives of either of these books. Although I don't think that *48 Laws of Power* (Robert, 1998) was really aimed towards people to educate them on how to wage wars. That is just not the vibe I got from that book. Besides he would be considered a threat to national security for just the implication of practical application within or against our society. Just look at the prisoners who applied it. It gave the powerless access to war strategies that made them able to successfully control the outside from the inside with power. Was not the goal to help readers achieve the understanding of power in order achieve precisely that which the prisoners have? Maybe not to that degree but to give the underdog a fighting chance. Through my theurgist perspective I once again saw the divine signature of operation which has to do with

the dismantling or displacement in order to reunite with the divine. The significance of the prisoners being displaced are a demonstration of how effective this work actually is. Because they were able to in some capacity achieve the aspect of invoking action, through their ability to control the streets. Although it happens to be that of a destructive nature it seems necessary in order to carry out the dismantling of the original displacement. The fact that this book reached them and they were able to in whatever form be able to draw closer to the perfecting of oneself, no matter how lowly, despite their circumstances implicates that same sort of reclamation of power is possible for us all. It is proof a theurgist works like with like. Which is why Robert Greene comes off as so confident that his book does not have the ability to corrupt.

MY FIRST INTRODUCTION TO THE 48 LAWS OF POWER

When I first read it I was intrigued by the way that he offered insight as to the methods employed by the rulers, military forces and even within current governments to gain ultimate power. I found it to be very relevant to modern day society in a very well thought out fashion. In theurgy it is the retracing of the divine signatures through the layers of divine being in order to recover transcendent essence.

The breakdown of the transgressions which had played a role in the outcome of each example would not have made a whole lot of sense without the intelligence and the psychological approach to the observance of the law that was transgressed. Then he offers a reversal or solution which can be implemented once you are aware of all the elements and their cause and effect. Presenting origins of the dismantling and displacement of our henosis.

One day I was playing my ukulele and my brother told me Never Outshine the Master. I didn't know what he meant until he gave me the book to read the first law. When I read the first rule I was finally made aware that I was unwittingly "outshining the master" and I was unaware

there even was an unspoken law that innately people were governed by. Had I read that book sooner I may have avoided a great many pitfalls and devastations. Some laws are not written only implied which would make it difficult for anyone to know exactly where they went wrong.

THE EVIDENCE OF MAGICAL PROPERTIES WHICH I FOUND

I really think that book served a higher purpose than he lets on. Which I identified it as Theurgy. The intensity delivered a methodically strategic assault one can only surmise all throughout reading was his spiritual warfare against that which is unspoken and unknown. At least that's my hope. I identified that book's magical properties immediately, yet due to my skewed perspective I felt it was malicious because of the energy that book emitted. Despite my appreciation for enlightenment I felt like this book in the wrong hands could be dangerous. Especially after so many told me not to tell people about the book because they wanted the upper hand. From a theurgist perspective there is an ancient fragment of the Chaldean Oracles that is said to be found in mid second century Neoplatonist work which read "For the theourgoi do not fall under the fate-governed heard."

I think he was trying to reverse a great deal of inherited trauma from each transgression thus breaking the curse of ignorance off those who comprehend its purpose and know how to make positive use of its insights in order to thwart all future trials due to the errors therein. It was clearly a formula he wrote in this book. The formula only works if you use all the ingredients provided. Hence my reason to believe it to be of a magical nature.

Once he established in writing the 48 laws, He established a foundation under some type of authority and the definition of once implicit laws caused them to formulate. He then cancelled out the power of the prior displacement within those case studies and rerouted it to be the example of the transgression of the law. He then brought balance to the equation through his law

of reversal which he derived from Theurgy, the rites of power to be able to substantiate they were in fact now laws that can be enforced by those whom understood power and used his formula. He dismantled the prior displacement and composed anew law.

IS THE ART OF SEDUCTION A GRIMOIRE?

With regard to "The Art of Seduction" I am still going to be harsh. Because this book comes off as predatory. It speaks in a rather encouraging tone with regards to applications of these practices into culture. It is comprised of 24 chapters the first being "Choose the right victim". This bothers me. It is nothing like "The 48 Laws of power". It is incredibly dark. It reminds me of a Grimoire the way it is structured. It gives off dark arts vibes to me, which is why I initially believed the motives to be sinister. I revisited the book and immediately remembered why I felt so strongly before. It is because it triggers PTSD when I read it.

The other chapter titles are no better, chapter 10 for instance, "Use the demonic power of words to sow confusion"? This phrase alone proves that he is very adept and this quite possibly could be a Grimoire. As I said before The 48 Laws of power (Robert, 1998) demonstrated to me the use of Theurgy, Literary Equations, formulas and the fact that he felt he had the rite of passage to be able to establish "Laws" of any sort are clear indications that in fact Robert Greene is a Master Artisan or theurgist.

Although he declares with conviction that he was not encouraging the implementation of the Art form which he in fact discovered, shed light upon it which now solidified that once unknown practice into being an art form and moreover wrote the entire structure of The Art of Seduction (Greene, The Art of Seduction, 2001)! He knows the power of the written and spoken word full well. Furthermore he has admitted he is a reformed Rake who employed such practices at one time himself. From theurgist perspective I am able to witness an origin of the

displacement of henosis. However I cannot equate this body of work with theurgy due to the fact it has nothing to do with the reunification of the divine. It is actually the opposite.

This book casts 9 Archetypes along with keys and dangers, 18 victims, 4 phases of seduction 24 seduction techniques along with keys and reversals if any and he provides examples and there is even a bonus at the end “How to sell anything to the masses”. This is eerily identical to the structure Grimoires use. I sincerely hope that when he wrote this he used his evil for good and created its foundations to offer the underdog a fighting chance as with his first book. I want to believe that this man is sincere in the fact that he wrote it to enlighten those who had no idea that this kind of fuckery was at play in this world.

MY CONCLUSION

In conclusion I read an article in The Guardian where he addresses those who think he is evil. He responded simply “I am not evil I am just a realist”. Now I believe the sinister vibes these books give off are just our innate Spidey senses alerting us that there is a great and terrible force contained in these books. True Grimoires are protected and sealed with magick that will perform whatever function necessary to carry out its purpose. It can be undeniably felt. Because a Grimoire is a book of many years of devotion and contains spells, sigils and formulas they have collected and if it gets into hands of the wrong person, it could be dangerous. So they assure that it cannot be misused or in some cases unable to be seen or understood by the un-adept. Then there is always the curse they all must have for the misuse of it.

There is a huge difference in these two works which again lead me to believe he is a Master Artisan because he can wield the arts as magick as demonstrated within The Art of Seduction (Greene, The Art of Seduction, 2001) and he is also a theurgist because I am able to find within The 48 Laws of power (Robert, 1998) the divine signatures through the layers.

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