Student Name

Teacher Name

Language Arts

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Title

Prompt: In most stories, there is one character who works against the main character. At the end, there is usually a resolution between the main character and this antagonist. Consider your story. Should the main character be reconciled with the antagonist? Write a persuasive essay in which you argue for your opinion. Provide reasons for your position and examples to support your reasons.

 Has one every wondered if everyone should get a happy ending in books? *The False Prince* is a book about a man named Bevin Conner, who devised a plan to make a random orphan king. The boy was to imitate who they thought to be the deceased Prince Jaron of Carthya. Bevin Conner was the antagonist in this story. The antagonist is someone who works against the protagonist, or main character. The protagonist is the real Prince Jaron, who was hiding as an orphan named Sage. With his plan, Conner tried to commit treason, but coincidentally ended up picking the real Prince Jaron to be his false Prince. Prince Jaron should not forgive Bevin Conner for his crimes against himself and his family, or for Conner’s crimes against his country.

 The prince should not forgive Conner for his crimes against himself and his family. Conner committed many crimes against Jaron in the book. For example, Conner hired pirate to attack Prince Jaron’s ship and kill everyone aboard. Luckily, Prince Jaron had escaped the ship shortly beforehand, for if not, he would have been murdered by Conner’s pirates. Also, when Prince Jaron was placed on his throne, and had outed Conner’s plan to betray his country, Conner tried to kill Jaron. As the guards came to get Conner, he grabbed for a knife he had hidden in his coat and yelled, “As I always said, *Sage,* if I go down, so do you!” (Nielsen 337). Bevin Conner throughout the book also committed many crimes against the royal family. He poisoned the family, which eventually killed them all except for Jaron, who was thought to have been murdered at the time. Prince Jaron should not forgive Bevin Conner for attempting to murder him and for the murder of his entire royal family.

 Jaron also should not forgive Conner because of his crimes against the country of Carthya. Bevin Conner planned to put a false royal on the throne. Once the boy was king, his first act was to appoint Conner to the position of the king’s highest regent or next in line for the throne. Conner told the orphans, “I assure you it is not treason. Indeed, in a roundabout way, it may prevent treason in King Eckbert’s court” (Nielsen 54). However, by trying to put a false royal on the throne, Conner had the intent to commit treason. This plan was treasonous because Conner planned to manipulate the people of Cathy and the royal bloodline by making a false prince. Conner really knew his plan would be considered treasonous because he went through a lot of trouble to cover up what he was doing. Jaron of Cathy should not forgive Bevin Conner for this act of treason.

 Prince Jaron should not forgive Bevin Conner for his crimes. After the loss of his family, Prince Jaron suffered through beatings and being treated like property, all of the good of his country. He knew he had to win his throne to protect his country from Conner and his treasonous plan. Conner, on the other hand, murdered the royal family and planned to commit treason just to make himself next in line for the throne. Not everyone in stories should get a happy ending, including Conner. This book correctly did not end with Prince Jaron of Cathy reconciling with Bevin Conner.

1. In the beginning of the book, why did Sage run when Conner came to get him?
2. How does Conner plan to convince the court that one of the boys is Prince Jaron after he had died so long ago?
3. Why does Sage have such a fighter personality?
4. Why does Sage not tell Conner where the rock is after has has been beaten? Is there another reason other than he does not want Conner to own him?
5. How does Jaron feel after his dad tells him he could not return to the castle? After his family had been murdered, do his feelings change and how?