The Tragic Genre from Classical to Contemporary: King Lear and A Thousand Acres

Guide for Curriculum Unit 01.04.06
by Diana Otto

This unit is an introduction to classical, Shakespearean, and modern tragedy. Students will read and contrast Shakespeare’s King Lear and Jane Smiley’s modern retelling in A Thousand Acres. Student activities include critical reading, characterization, and a formal comparison/contrast paper of the two works.

(Recommended for English, grades 11-12.)