Stephen Greenblatt, renowned Shakespearean scholar, founder of the theory of the subversion containment dialectic, has often argued that these various regimes and those in power continue to infuse their extremely narrowed versions of a society by treating its subjects inhumanely.

This “dialectic” as posited by Stephen Greenblatt has gained the attention among “new historicist critics” who study Renaissance literature (249), and the main idea asserts that any effective political and cultural regime had to implement and establish subversion practices intentionally designed to “contain” any form of opposition in an already established society (Abrams, Halpern 249). What is particularly unsettling about the subversion-containment dialectic is the pandemic manifestation of this phenomenon upon those individuals who were not of privilege or rank. Peasants, Catholic peasants, who lived during the reign of both Queen Elizabeth I and James I would have lived in fear of practicing their form of religion, of feeling inferior, and of being reduced to a subaltern due to the whims of a Protestant-practicing monarchy, and of perpetuating his or her inhumane status quo. DQ CA.