ANTIGONE BY SOPHOCLES: SUMMARY

NAME: _____

King Oedipus has died. He has left his kingdom to his two sons (Eteocles & Polynice) who were supposed to take turns leading Thebes. But when Eteocles refuses after a year of rule, Polynice starts a civil war. The two men die fighting for the throne. Creon (their uncle) is the new ruler and he decides that Eteocles will receive a proper burial and Polynice must remain unburied on the battlefield - a harsh punishment. Antigone, Oedipus' daughter, goes against Creon and gives her brother a symbolic burial. Creon is furious and sentences Antigone to death. She is to be buried alive in a cave. Everyone tries to get Creon to change his mind - the Chorus, Creon's son Haemon, the blind prophet Tiresias. Creon will not budge. Tiresias tells Creon that the gods are angry. Finally, Creon agrees to release Antigone and bury Polynice. But it is too late. Antigone has taken her life, as do Creon's son Haemon and Creon's wife. Creon has lost everything.

Paraphrase the summary above as if you were going to explain it to your classmates (use complete sentences):

© Angel Borths 2017