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### **Script Draft #8 - 09/12/2020**

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### **Macbeth, the Movie**

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### By

### William Shakespeare

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### Adapted by

### Becky Beth Benedict

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### 1A. INT. CREDIT SEQUENCE

### *Tracking shot - a black wall. One by one, bloody handprints appear, until five of them lead to the word “MACBETH” painted on the wall.*

FADE TO:

1B. FADE IN: EXT. A BATTLEFIELD - DAY

*Overlaid with titles. Slow pan of a field of dead bodies (use all cast & crew- & EXTRAS)- no distinguable characters or faces - scattered over an open field.* MACBETH *&* BANQUO *survey the field. They climb into Macbeth’s vehicle. Pan back as* WITCH #2 *appears, picks the pocket of a dead body, and withdraws the* CHARM NECKLACE*.*

FADE TO:

1C. FADE IN: EXT. THE MAGICAL WOOD - DAY

### *Fairy door. A pond. A tree, adorned with a* FAIRY SHRINE*. A rumble of thunder. A flash of lightning. Enter* THREE WITCHES*.*

WITCH #1

When shall we three meet again

In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

WITCH #2

(swinging the NECKLACE)

When the hurlyburly's done,

When the battle's lost and won.

WITCH #3

That will be ere the set of sun.

WITCH #1

Where the place?

WITCH #2

Upon the heath.

WITCH #3

There to meet with Macbeth. Anon.

WITCH #1

Fair is foul,

WITCH #2

and foul is fair:

WITCH #1

Hover through the fog

ALL WITCHES

And filthy air.

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### CUT TO:

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### 2. FADE IN: EXT. DUNCAN’S COMMAND POST - SAME DAY

### *Alarums as the Scottish flag flies. A table with laptops where* LENNOX *confers with* DUNCAN*, King of Scotland, attended by two* SECRET SERVICE MEMBERS*.* ANGUS *enters, bloody and wounded.* SECRET SERVICE MEMBERS *react;* DUNCAN *permits the entrance.*

DUNCAN

What bloody man is that? He can report, of the revolt the newest state.

LENNOX

Hail, brave friend! Say to the king the knowledge of the broil as thou didst leave it.

ANGUS

Doubtful it stood; the merciless Macdonwald - worthy to be a rebel, but all's too weak: for brave Macbeth - well he deserves that name - with his brandish'd steel, which smoked with bloody execution, and fix'd his head upon our battlements.

DUNCAN

O valiant cousin! Worthy gentleman!

ANGUS

But I am faint, my gashes cry for help.

DUNCAN

(to SECRET SERVICE #1)

Go get him surgeons.

SECRET SERVICE #1 *exits, guiding* ANGUS*. Enter* ROSS*.* SECRET SERVICE MEMBER #2 *reacts; again,* DUNCAN *waves him off.*

DUNCAN

(cont’d)

Who comes here?

LENNOX

The worthy thane of Ross.

ROSS

God save the king!

DUNCAN

Whence camest thou, worthy thane?

ROSS

From Fife, great king; where the Norwegian banners flout the sky and fan our people cold. Norway, with terrible numbers, assisted by that most disloyal traitor the thane of Cawdor, began a dismal conflict; point against point rebellious, arm 'gainst arm, curbing his lavish spirit: and, to conclude, the victory fell on us.

DUNCAN

Great happiness! No more that thane of Cawdor shall deceive our bosom interest: go pronounce his present death, and with his former title greet Macbeth.

ROSS

I'll see it done.

DUNCAN

(to MALCOLM)

What he hath lost noble Macbeth hath won.

ROSS *exits.*

CUT TO:

3. EXT. THE MAGICAL WOOD - SAME DAY

*Thunder and lightning. Back in the witches’ hollow; the pond, the trees, the fairy shrine. Tracking shots and cuts as the WITCHES gather about a sacrificial table, conducting a drumming ritual with the* NECKLACE*.*

WITCH #3

A drum, a drum!

Macbeth doth come.

WITCHES

(each crossing their own arms one at a time and circling around the altar table)

The weird sisters, hand in hand,

Posters of the sea and land,

Thus do go about, about:

Thrice to thine

*The* FIRST WITCH *swings the* NECKLACE.

WITCHES (cont’d)

and thrice to mine

*The* SECOND WITCH *swings the* NECKLACE.

WITCHES (cont’d)

and thrice again to make up nine.

*The* THIRD WITCH *swings the* NECKLACE.

WITCHES (cont’d)

Peace! The charm’s wound up.

*The* FIRST WITCH *snatches the* NECKLACE *and attaches it to the fairy tree. The* WITCHES *hide.*

MACBETH *and* BANQUO *roll up in the car.* MACBETH *gets out to relieve himself.* BANQUO *gets out to be the lookout*. A*fter* MACBETH *has finished urinating, the two look around the spot where they are, unknowingly wandering toward the witches’ hollow.*

MACBETH

So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

*The* WITCHES *appear - out of nowhere.*

BANQUO

What are these so wither'd and so wild in their attire, that look not like the inhabitants o' the earth, and yet are on't?

MACBETH

Speak, if you can: what are you?

WITCH #1

All hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, thane of Glamis!

WITCH #1 *bows and kneels, covering her eyes.*

WITCH #2

All hail, Macbeth, hail to thee, thane of Cawdor!

WITCH #2 *bows and kneels, covering her ears.*

WITCH #3

All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter!

WITCH #3 *bows and kneels, covering her mouth.* MACBETH *reacts, afraid.*

BANQUO

Good sir, why do you start; and seem to fear things that do sound so fair?

(to WITCHES)

My noble partner you greet with present grace and great prediction of noble having and of royal hope,

to me you speak not. If you can look into the seeds of time, and say which grain will grow and which will not, speak then to me.

WITCH #1

(rising, hands & head upward)

Hail!

WITCH #2

(rising, hands & head upward)

Hail!

WITCH #3

(rising, hands & head upward)

Hail!

*The* WITCHES *encircle* BANQUO*.*

WITCH #1

Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.

WITCH #2

Not so happy, yet much happier.

WITCH #3

Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none: So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!

WITCH #1

Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

*The* WITCHES *disappear one at a time (VFX - flicker), among overlapping calls of “Hail!”.* MACBETH *and* BANQUO *react.*

MACBETH

Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more: I know I am thane of Glamis; but how of Cawdor? the thane of Cawdor lives, a prosperous gentleman; and to be king stands not within the prospect of belief, no more than to be Cawdor. Say from whence you speak, I charge you.

BANQUO

(looking around)

Whither are they vanish'd?

MACBETH

Into the air!

BANQUO *regards the* FAIRY SHRINE *- taking a piece of his clothing & adding to it, nodding with respect.*

BANQUO

Were such things here as we do speak about? Or have we eaten on the insane root that takes the reason prisoner?

MACBETH *joins him at the* SHRINE*. Touches ribbons, but leaves no offering. Clearly skeptical. He spots the* NECKLACE, *shrugs. Picks it up and* *puts it on.*

MACBETH

(heading back to vehicle)

Your children shall be kings.

BANQUO

You shall be king.

*A beat. Eye contact. Then they burst into laughter.*

MACBETH

And thane of Cawdor too: went it not so?

BANQUO

To the selfsame tune and words. Who's here?

MACBETH’s PHONE RINGS*. He puts it on speaker phone and they each lean on the hood of the vehicle, opposite of each other. Intercut with the other end of the call:* ROSS*,* ANGUS *and* MEDICAL ATTENDANT *at an outdoor infirmary*.

ROSS

The king hath happily received, Macbeth, the news of thy success.

ANGUS

We are sent to give thee from our royal master thanks.

ROSS

And, for an earnest of a greater honour, he bade me, from him, call thee thane of Cawdor: in which addition, hail, most worthy thane! For it is thine.

BANQUO

What, can the devil speak true?

MACBETH

The thane of Cawdor lives: why do you dress me in borrow'd robes?

ANGUS

Who was the thane lives yet; but treasons capital, confess'd and proved, have overthrown him.

MACBETH

(aside)

Glamis, and thane of Cawdor!

(to ROSS and ANGUS)

Thanks for your pains.

(to BANQUO)

Do you not hope your children shall be kings, when those that gave the thane of Cawdor to me promised no less to them?

BANQUO

But 'tis strange: and oftentimes, to win us to our harm, the instruments of darkness tell us truths.

MACBETH

(again, to ROSS and ANGUS)

I thank you, gentlemen.

*A moment as* MACBETH *stares off to the distance. Handles the* NECKLACE.

BANQUO

Look, how our partner's rapt.

MACBETH

(aside)

If chance will have me king, why, chance may crown me, without my stir.

BANQUO

Worthy Macbeth, we stay upon your leisure.

MACBETH

Give me your favour: my dull brain was wrought with things forgotten. Let us toward the king.

BANQUO

Very gladly.

MACBETH

Adieu, friends.

CUT TO:

4. EXT. DUNCAN’S COMMAND POST - SAME DAY (LATER)

DUNCAN *working with papers & clipboards.* ROSS, ANGUS, LENNOX & MACDUFF *standing at attention* *and the two* SECRET SERVICE MEMBERS *removing table & setting up podium.*

DUNCAN

Is execution done on Cawdor?

ROSS

My liege, he confess'd his treasons, implored Your Highness' pardon and set forth a deep repentance: nothing in his life became him like the leaving it.

MACBETH *and* BANQUO *enter*. DUNCAN *moves to podium.*

DUNCAN

O worthiest cousin! The sin of my ingratitude even now was heavy on me. More is thy due than more than all can pay.

MACBETH

(a bow)

The service and the loyalty I owe, in doing it, pays itself.

*A moment:* MACBETH *&* MACDUFF *exchange a look as the thanes acknowledge one another.*

DUNCAN

Noble Banquo, that hast no less deserved, nor must be known no less to have done so, let me enfold thee and hold thee to my heart.

BANQUO

There if I grow, the harvest is your own.

DUNCAN

Kinsmen, thanes, and you whose places are the nearest, know we will establish our estate upon our eldest, Malcolm, whom we name hereafter Prince of Cumberland.

MACBETH

(aside)

The Prince of Cumberland! that is a step on which I must fall down, or else o'erleap, for in my way it lies.

\*SHOT of PEOPLE MAGAZINE with Malcom on the cover in Englang\*

FADE TO:

5A. EXT. MACBETH’S CASTLE - Front Porch - NEXT DAY

MACBETH’s *home, Glamis Castle. Enter* LADY MACBETH, *reading a message on her tablet.*

LADY MACBETH

(reading)

“When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came missives from the king, who all-hailed me ‘Thane of Cawdor’ by which title, before, these weird sisters saluted me, and referred me to the coming on of time, with ‘Hail, king that shalt be!’ This have I thought good to deliver thee, my dearest partner that thou mightst not be ignorant of what greatness is promised thee. Lay it to thy heart, and farewell.”

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor; and shalt be what thou art promised: yet do I fear thy nature; it is too full o' the milk of human kindness to catch the nearest way: thou wouldst be great; art not without ambition, but without the illness should attend it: Hie thee hither, that I may pour my spirits in thine ear.

(she gets a TEXT message and is reading…)

The king comes here to-night. Our thane is coming.

LADY MACBETH *begins a ritual of her own.*

LADY MACBETH

The fatal entrance of Duncan under my battlements. Come, you spirits that tend on mortal thoughts, and fill me from the crown to the toe top-full of direst cruelty! make thick my blood; stop up the access and passage to remorse, that no compunctious visitings of nature shake my fell purpose, Come, thick night, and pall thee in the dunnest smoke of hell, that my keen knife see not the wound it makes, nor heaven peep through the blanket of the dark.

*The sound of a car’s arrival.* MACBETH *enters from front walk, Lady Macbeth ends the ritual.*

LADY MACBETH

Great Glamis! Worthy Cawdor! Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter! Thy letters have transported me and I feel now the future in the instant.

MACBETH

My dearest love, Duncan comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH

And when goes hence?

MACBETH

(kneeling, removing the NECKLACE & offering it)

To-morrow, as he purposes.

LADY MACBETH

(accepting the NECKLACE)

O, never shall sun that morrow see

*Macbeth goes to sit on the porch.*

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

Your face, my thane, is as a book where men may read strange matters… *(moves to opposite seat)* Bear welcome in your eye, your hand, your tongue: look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under't. *(stands and hurries him along)* He that's coming must be provided for: and you shall put this night's great business into my dispatch.

(putting on the NECKLACE)

Leave all the rest to me.

*She exits into the house, going as if to answer the door.*

FADE OUT:

5B. EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE - Wooden Arch Door - LATER

DUNCAN, *with entourage -* BANQUO, LENNOX, ROSS, ANGUS, MACDUFF - *regarding the castle. Some lounge on the grass, others slouch against walls. The two* SECRET SERVICE MEMBERS *stand at attention.*

DUNCAN

This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air nimbly and sweetly recommends itself unto our gentle senses.

LADY MACBETH opens the door*.*

DUNCAN

(cont’d)

See, see, our honour'd hostess!

LADY MACBETH

(curtsy)

All our service in every point twice done and then done double.

DUNCAN

Fair and noble hostess, we are your guest to-night.

LADY MACBETH

Your servants ever.

DUNCAN

Give me your hand; conduct me to mine host: we love him highly, and shall continue our graces towards him. By your leave, hostess.

*Lady Macbeth bows & gestures for Duncan to enter. He does so and others prepare to follow.*

CUT TO:

5C. INT/EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE -LATER

*A room within the castle, off the main dining hall. Sounds of:* DUNCAN *et al, at a banquet in full swing.* *Shots of: candelabrum, a banquet table, wine glasses.* MACBETH *enters the private porch with tankard.*

MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly: if the assassination could trammel up the consequence, and catch with his surcease success; that but this blow might be the be-all and the end-all here. He's here in double trust; first, as I am his kinsman and his subject, strong both against the deed; then, as his host, who should against his murderer shut the door, not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been so clear in his great office.

MACBETH

(cont’d)

I have no spur to prick the sides of my intent, but only vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself and falls on the other.

LADY MACBETH *appears.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

How now! what news?

LADY MACBETH

He has almost supp'd: why have you left the chamber?

MACBETH

Hath he ask'd for me?

LADY MACBETH

Know you not he has?

MACBETH

We will proceed no further in this business: he hath honour'd me of late.

LADY MACBETH

Was the hope drunk wherein you dress'd yourself? Hath it slept since? Art thou afeard to be the same in thine own act and valour as thou art in desire?

MACBETH

Prithee, peace: I dare do all that may become a man.

LADY MACBETH

What beast was't, then, that made you break this enterprise to me? When you durst do it, then you were a man; and, to be more than what you were, you would be so much more the man. I have given suck, and know how tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me: I would, while it was smiling in my face, have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless gums, and dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn as you have done to this.

MACBETH

If we should fail?

LADY MACBETH

We fail! But screw your courage to the sticking-place, and we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep - his two chamberlains will I with wine and wassail so convince that memory, the warder of the brain, shall be a fume, and when in swinish sleep, what cannot you and I perform upon the unguarded Duncan?

MACBETH

(a realization)

Will it not be received, when we have mark'd with blood those sleepy two of his own chamber and used their very daggers, that they have done't? (pause) I am settled. Away, and mock the time with fairest show: false face must hide what the false heart doth know.

*They return to the dining hall.*

FADE OUT:

6A. EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE - SAME, NIGHT

*Outside the front door, later that night. A* STORM *outside. MACBETH gazing at the heavens,contemplating much. BANQUO enters.*

BANQUO

What, sir, not yet at rest? The king's a-bed: he hath been in unusual pleasure, and sent forth great largess to your offices.

MACBETH

Being unprepared, our will became the servant to defect; which else should free have wrought.

BANQUO

All's well. I dreamt last night of the three weird sisters: to you they have show'd some truth.

MACBETH

I think not of them: yet, when we can entreat an hour to serve, we would spend it in some words upon that business, if you would grant the time.

BANQUO

At your kind'st leisure.

MACBETH

Good repose the while!

BANQUO *exits.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

Is this a dagger which I see before me, the handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee. I have thee not, and yet I see thee still. Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible to feeling as to sight? Or art thou but a dagger of the mind, a false creation, proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain? It is the bloody business which informs thus to mine eyes. Now o'er the one halfworld Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse the curtain'd sleep; hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear thy very stones prate of my whereabout -

*Somewhere in the castle, a* BELL *rings.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

I go, and it is done; the bell invites me.Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell that summons thee to heaven or to hell.

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6B. EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE - SAME - Back Balcony

LADY MACBETH *enters with tankard. The* STORM *in the background.*

LADY MACBETH

That which hath made them drunk hath made me bold; what hath quench'd them hath given me fire. (a sound) Hark! Peace! It was the owl that shriek'd. He is about it: the doors are open; and the surfeited grooms do mock their charge with snores: I have drugg'd their possets.

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

Alack, I am afraid they have awaked, and 'tis not done. The attempt and not the deed confounds us. Hark! I laid their daggers ready; he could not miss 'em.

MACBETH *enters, carrying daggers and bloodied.*

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

My husband!

MACBETH

I have done the deed. Didst thou not hear a noise?

LADY MACBETH

I heard the owl scream and the crickets cry.

MACBETH

(looking at his hands)

This is a sorry sight.

LADY MACBETH

A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

MACBETH

There's one did laugh in's sleep, and one cried “Murder!” That they did wake each other: I stood and heard them. But they did say their prayers, one cried “God bless us!” and “Amen” the other, as they had seen me with these hangman's hands. Listening their fear, I could not say “Amen,” when they did say “God bless us!”

LADY MACBETH

Consider it not so deeply.

MACBETH

But wherefore could not I pronounce “Amen”? I had most need of blessing, and “Amen” stuck in my throat.

LADY MACBETH

These deeds must not be thought after these ways; so, it will make us mad.

MACBETH

Methought I heard a voice cry “Sleep no more! Macbeth does murder sleep”, the innocent sleep, the death of each day's life, “Sleep no more!” to all the house: “Glamis hath murder'd sleep, and therefore Cawdor shall sleep no more; Macbeth shall sleep no more.”

LADY MACBETH

Go get some water, and wash this filthy witness from your hand. (seeing the daggers) Why did you bring these daggers from the place? They must lie there: go carry them; and smear the sleepy grooms with blood.

MACBETH

I'll go no more: I am afraid to think what I have done; look on't again I dare not.

LADY MACBETH

Infirm of purpose! Give me the daggers: I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal; for it must seem their guilt.

LADY MACBETH *exits the way* MACBETH *entered, carrying the daggers. Somewhere in the castle, there comes the sound of* KNOCKING, *over the* STORM*.*

MACBETH

Whence is that knocking? How is't with me, when every noise appalls me? What hands are here?

LADY MACBETH *returns, bloodied. No more daggers.*

LADY MACBETH

My hands are of your colour; but I shame to wear a heart so white.

*The* KNOCKING *again.*

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

I hear a knocking at the south entr; a little water clears us of this deed: how easy is it, then!

*They disappear together. More* KNOCKING*.*

FADE TO:

7A. EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE FRONT DOOR - NEXT DAWN

*The fading* STORM *carries us from one scene to the next. MACDUFF is banging on the door of Glamis Castle, LENNOX is in the background..*

MACBETH *enters* onto step, opening the door.

LENNOX

Good morrow, noble sir.

MACBETH

Good morrow, both.

MACDUFF

Is the king stirring, worthy thane?

MACBETH

Not yet.

MACDUFF

He did command me to call timely on him: I have almost slipp'd the hour.

MACBETH

I'll bring you to him.

MACDUFF

I'll make so bold to call, for 'tis my limited service.

MACBETH *motions ofr MACDUFF to enter the house and proceed to the king’s room.* MACDUFF *disappears within.* MACBETH *and* LENNOX *are alone outside.*

LENNOX

Goes the king hence to-day?

MACBETH

He does: he did appoint so.

LENNOX

The night has been unruly: where we lay, our chimneys were blown down; and, as they say, lamentings heard i' the air; strange screams of death, some say, the earth was feverous and did shake.

MACBETH

'Twas a rough night.

LENNOX

My young remembrance cannot parallel a fellow to it.

OFF-SCREEN - MACDUFF’S SCREAM

MACDUFF

(voice)

MURDER!!!

MACDUFF *flies out the door, horrorstruck.*

MACDUFF

(cont’d)

O horror, horror, horror! Tongue nor heart cannot conceive nor name thee!

LENNOX

What's the matter?

MACDUFF

Most sacrilegious murder!

MACBETH

What is 't you say?

LENNOX

Mean you His Majesty?

MACDUFF

Approach the chamber, and destroy your sight, do not bid me speak; see, and then speak yourselves.

MACBETH *and* LENNOX *run inside.* MACDUFF *vomits into a bush as others begin to arrive.* ROSS *and* ANGUS *appear with Starbucks cups in their hands and chatting with MALCOLM on Facetime;* BANQUO *enters from the home & keeps an eye on* MACDUFF. LENNOX *and* MACBETH *return;* LENNOX *looks ill.*

MACBETH

Had I but died an hour before this chance, I had lived a blessed time; for, from this instant, there's nothing serious in mortality: all is but toys: renown and grace is dead.

MALCOLM *arrives, returning from an early morning jog.*

MALCOLM

What is amiss?

MACDUFF

Your royal father's murder'd.

MALCOLM

O, by whom?

MACBETH

O, yet I do repent me of my fury, that I did kill them.

MACDUFF

Wherefore did you so?

*Phone ends up ignored at someone’s side or on the ground.*

MACBETH

Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious, loyal and neutral, in a moment? Here lay Duncan, his silver skin laced with his golden blood; there, the murderers, steep'd in the colours of their trade, their daggers unmannerly breech'd with gore: who could refrain, that had a heart to love, and in that heart courage to make 's love known?

*HUBBUB NOISE from other discussing the situation*

MALCOLM

(aside)

Why do I hold my tongue, that most may claim this argument for me? What should be spoken here, where my fate may rush, and seize me? I'll be away; my tears are not yet brew'd. Nor my strong sorrow upon the foot of motion.

MALCOLM hangs up unnoticed.

BANQUO

Let us meet, and question this most bloody piece of work, to know it further.

*There’s a rumble of agreement among those gathered.*

MACBETH

(taking charge)

Let's briefly put on manly readiness, and meet i' the hall together.

CUT TO:

7B. EXT. GLAMIS CASTLE - Stone Wall - MORNING, LATER

ROSS, *carrying a* NEWSPAPER *with* PHOTOS *of the murderers on the front,* *and* MACDUFF, *crossing paths.* ROSS *is looking for an update.*

ROSS

Here comes the good Macduff.

How does the world sit now?

MACDUFF

Those that Macbeth hath slain.

ROSS

Alas, the day! What good could they pretend?

MACDUFF

They were set up. Malcolm, the king's heir, has stol'n away and fled; which puts upon him suspicion of the deed.

ROSS

'Gainst nature still! Thriftless ambition, that wilt ravin up thine own life's means! Then 'tis most like the sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth.

MACDUFF

He is already named, and gone to Scone to be crowned.

ROSS

Will you to Scone?

MACDUFF

No, cousin, I'll to Fife.

ROSS

Well, I will thither.

MACDUFF

Well, may you see things well done there: adieu! Lest our old robes sit easier than our new!

*Exit, in opposite directions.*

FADE OUT:

### 8A. EXT. PARKING LOT, GLAMIS CASTLE - DAY, SOME TIME LATER

BANQUO *and his son,* FLEANCE*, are preparing for an outing. Banquo regards the castle. FLEANCE puts a small bag in their car.*

BANQUO

Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all, as the weird women promised, and, I fear, thou play'dst most foully for't: yet it was said it should not stand in thy posterity, but that myself should be the root and father of many kings. If there come truth from them - but hush! No more.

*Enter* MACBETH*, now King,* LADY MACBETH*, now Queen.*

MACBETH

Here's our chief guest.

LADY MACBETH

If he had been forgotten, it had been as a gap in our great feast.

MACBETH

To-night we hold a solemn supper sir, and I'll request your presence.

BANQUO

Let your highness command upon me; to the which my duties.

MACBETH

Ride you this afternoon?

BANQUO

Ay, my good lord.

MACBETH

Is't far you ride?

BANQUO

As far, my lord, as will fill up the time 'twixt this and supper.

MACBETH

Fail not our feast.

BANQUO

My lord, I will not.

MACBETH

We hear, our bloody cousin is bestow'd in England, not confessing their cruel patricide. But of that to-morrow. Adieu, till you return at night.

FLEANCE *honks the horn in the car*.

MACBETH

(cont’d)

Goes Fleance with you?

BANQUO

Ay, my good lord: our time does call upon 's.

MACBETH

Farewell.

BANQUO *gets in the car with* FLEANCE *and drives off.*

MACBETH

(cont’d, to LADY MACBETH)

Let every man be master of his time till seven at night: to make society the sweeter welcome, we will keep ourself till supper-time alone: while then, God be with you!

LADY MACBETH *exits into castle.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

To be thus is nothing; but to be safely thus - our fears in Banquo stick deep. He chid the sisters when first they put the name of king upon me, and bade them speak to him: then prophet-like they hail'd him father to a line of kings: upon my head they placed a fruitless crown, no son of mine succeeding. If 't be so, for Banquo's issue have I fouled my mind; for them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd; to make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings! Rather than so, come fate into the list. And champion me to the utterance!

*MACBETH looks around and motiones to a vehicle for the occupants to approach him. Enter the three* ASSASSINS *- from their vehicle.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

Who's there!

ASSASSIN #1

(bowing)

Please Your Highness.

MACBETH

You know Banquo was your enemy.

ASSASSIN #2

True, my lord.

MACBETH

So is he mine; and in such bloody distance, that every minute of his being thrusts against my near'st of life: that I to your assistance do make love, masking the business from the common eye for sundry weighty reasons.

ASSASSIN #3

We shall, my lord, perform what you command us.

MACBETH

Your spirits shine through you. Within this hour at most; for't must be done to-night, and something from the palace; Fleance his son, that keeps him company, whose absence is no less material to me than is his father's, must embrace the fate of that dark hour. Resolve yourselves apart.

ASSASSINS

(together)

We are resolved, my lord.

MACBETH

It is concluded. Banquo, thy soul's flight, if it find heaven, must find it out to-night.

CUT TO:

8B. INT. GLAMIS CASTLE - SAME

*Returning to the castle,* MACBETH *walks up the sidewalk to the front porch, He meets* LADY MACBETH*,* *awaiting him, using her hand sanitizer.*

LADY MACBETH

How now, my lord! Why do you keep alone, of sorriest fancies your companions making, using those thoughts which should indeed have died with them they think on? What's done is done.

MACBETH

In the affliction of these terrible dreams that shake us nightly: better be with the dead, whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace, than on the torture of the mind to lie in restless ecstasy.

LADY MACBETH

Come on; gentle my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks; be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

MACBETH

So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you: O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife! Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, lives.

LADY MACBETH

What's to be done?

MACBETH

Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck, till thou applaud the deed.

*He exits.*

FADE OUT:

8C. EXT. - SAME, EVENING

*The* ASSASSINS *are in a car- wearing black masks and hoodies, chasing the car of* BANQUO *and* FLEANCE.

ASSASSIN #3

Hark!

ASSASSIN #2

Then 'tis he.

ASSASSIN #3

'Tis he.

ASSASSIN #1

Stand to't.

*CUT to Banqo’s car,* BANQUO *tries to keep control, but knows he needs to warn* FLEANCE*.*

BANQUO

O, treachery! Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly! Thou mayst revenge.

CUT TO: *sky or trees; sounds of a car crash.* BANQUO *is killed -* CUT TO: *a crushed cell phone in* FLEANCE’s *hand -* CUT TO:FLEANCE *running away into the woods, scared; sounds of heavy breathing and running -* CUT TO: *the* ASSASSINS *in their car.*

ASSASSIN #3

There's but one down; the teen is fled.

*Sounds of emergency sirens are heard.*

ASSASSIN #2

We have lost best half of our affair.

ASSASSIN #1

Well, let's away, and say how much is done.

9A. INT. GLAMIS CASTLE, DINING HALL - NIGHT

*The banquet - under a tent, with long tables and strung white lights above. Present:* MACBETH, LADY MACBETH, ROSS, LENNOX, ANGUS*.*

MACBETH

You know your own degrees; sit down: at first and last the hearty welcome.

ROSS/LENNOX/ANGUS

(overlapping & improvised)

Thanks to your majesty.

LADY MACBETH

To all our friends; for my heart speaks they are welcome. (Uses her hand sanitizer)

ASSASSIN *#1 appears at the tent door, but does not enter. Catches* MACBETH’s *attention.*

MACBETH

(noticing)

Be large in mirth; anon we'll drink a measure the table round.

(approaching the ASSASSIN)

Is Banquo dispatch'd?

ASSASSIN #1

My lord, his throat is cut; that I did for him.Most royal sir, Fleance is 'scaped.

MACBETH

But Banquo's safe?

ASSASSIN #1

Ay, my good lord: safe in a ditch.

MACBETH

Thanks for that. Get thee gone: to-morrow we'll hear, ourselves, again.

ASSASSIN #1 *departs.* LADY MACBETH *breaks the moment.*

LADY MACBETH

My royal lord, you do not give the cheer...

MACBETH

(to her)

Sweet remembrancer!

(returning to others)

Now, good digestion wait on appetite, and health on both!

LENNOX

May't please Your Highness sit.

*As he speaks,* BANQUO’s GHOST *enters the hall, and takes* MACBETH’s *empty seat at the table.* MACBETH *stops, not noticing at first.*

MACBETH

The table’s full.

LENNOX

(the GHOST’s chair)

Here is a place reserved, sir.

MACBETH

Where?

LENNOX

Here, my good lord. What is't that moves Your Highness?

MACBETH *recognizes the* GHOST.

MACBETH

(to all)

Which of you have done this?

ANGUS

What, my good lord?

MACBETH

(to GHOST)

Thou canst not say I did it: never shake thy gory locks at me!

ROSS

Gentlemen, rise: His Highness is not well.

LADY MACBETH

(to LORDS)

Sit, worthy friends: my lord is often thus, and hath been from his youth: pray you, keep seat; the fit is momentary; upon a thought he will again be well: if much you note him, you shall offend him.

(approaching MACBETH, aside)

Are you a man?

MACBETH

Ay, and a bold one, that dare look on that which might appal the devil.

LADY MACBETH

Why do you make such faces? When all's done, you look but on a stool.

MACBETH

Prithee, see there! behold! look! Lo!If I stand here, I saw him.

LADY MACBETH

Fie, for shame!

MACBETH

That, when the brains were out, the man would die, and there an end; but now they rise again, and push us from our stools.

LADY MACBETH

My worthy lord –

MACBETH

I do forget. Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends. Come, love and health to all; give me some wine; fill full. I drink to the general joy o' the whole table, and to our dear friend Banquo, whom we miss.

LENNOX/ROSS/ANGUS

(raising glasses)

Our duties, and the pledge.

*The* GHOST *reappears, to* MACBETH’s *eyes only.*

MACBETH

(suddenly, to GHOST)

Avaunt and quit my sight! Thou hast no speculation in those eyes which thou dost glare with!

LADY MACBETH

(to others)

Think of this, good peers, but as a thing of custom: 'tis no other.

MACBETH

(to GHOST)

What man dare, I dare: unreal mockery, hence! (the GHOST vanishes) Why, so: being gone.

ROSS

What sights, my lord?

LADY MACBETH

I pray you, speak not; he grows worse and worse; question enrages him. At once, good night: stand not upon the order of your going, but go at once.

LENNOX

Good night; and better health attend his majesty!

LADY MACBETH

A kind good night to all!

*The lords begin to depart: LENNOX and ANGUS talk to each other.* ROSS *goes to MACBETH, to say goodnight, but MACBETH condescendingly shushes ROSS not to talk about the situation. MACBETH pats ROSS on the backside - ROSS grabs MACBETH’s hand and reproachfully removes it, then exits.* LENNOX *and* ANGUS *overhear this next moment.*

MACBETH

It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood...

*A moment.* LENNOX *and* ANGUS *exit;* ANGUS *is certain Macbeth is guilty,* LENNOX *is trying to be loyal.* MACBETH *and LADY MACBETH alone.*

MACBETH

(cont’d, to her)

I will to-morrow, to the weird sisters: more shall they speak; for now I am bent to know, by the worst means, the worst. For mine own good.

LADY MACBETH *tries to object to the idea of him visiting the witches again, but he is forceful, so instead:*

LADY MACBETH

You lack the season of all natures, sleep.

MACBETH

*(Agreeing)* Come, we'll to sleep.

FADE OUT:

9B. EXT. THE WALLS OF GLAMIS CASTLE - NEXT DAY (Outside Theater/Fitness Center)

LENNOX *and* ANGUS, *with Starbucks cups, discussing what they have seen the night before, news of Banquo’s death, and where the blame really lies.*

LENNOX

The gracious Duncan was pitied of Macbeth, and the right-valiant Banquo walk'd too late.

ANGUS

Whom, you may say, if't please you, Fleance kill'd, for Fleance fled: men must not walk too late. Who cannot want the thought how monstrous it was for Malcolm to kill his gracious father? Damned fact!

LENNOX

How it did grieve Macbeth! did he not straight in pious rage the two delinquents tear, that were the slaves of drink and thralls of sleep? Was not that nobly done?

(at half-nod from ANGUS)

Ay, and wisely too; So that, I say, he has borne all things well.

10. EXT. THE MAGICAL WOOD - NEXT EVENING

*The* WITCHES *have their cauldron boiling, and move around it in another ritual.*

WITCH #1

Round about the cauldron go;

In the poison'd entrails throw.

Toad, that under cold stone

Days and nights has thirty-one

Swelter'd venom sleeping got,

Boil thou first i' the charmed pot.

WITCHES

Double, double toil and trouble;

Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

WITCH #2

Fillet of a fenny snake,

In the cauldron boil and bake;

Eye of newt and toe of frog,

Wool of bat and tongue of dog,

For a charm of powerful trouble,

Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

WITCHES

Double, double toil and trouble;

Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

WITCH #3

Sliver'd in the moon's eclipse,

Nose of Turk and Tartar's lips,

Finger of birth-strangled babe

Ditch-deliver'd by a drab,

Make the gruel thick and slab:

Add thereto a tiger's chaudron,

For the ingredients of our cauldron.

WITCHES

Double, double toil and trouble;

Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

WITCH #2

By the pricking of my thumbs,

Something wicked this way comes.

*Enter* MACBETH.

MACBETH

How now, you secret, and midnight hags! What is't you do?

WITCHES

A deed without a name.

*INTERCUT:* LADY MACBETH *hiding behind a tree. She has followed* MACBETH *and is spying on him. She quickly uses her hand sanitizer.*

MACBETH

I conjure you, by that which you profess, howe'er you come to know it, answer me.

WITCH #1

Speak.

WITCH #2

Demand.

WITCH #3

We’ll answer.

WITCH #1

Say, if thou'dst rather hear it from our mouths, or from our masters?

MACBETH

Call 'em; let me see 'em.

WITCH #1

Pour in sow's blood, that hath eaten

Her nine farrow; grease that's sweaten

From the murderer's gibbet throw

Into the flame.

WITCHES

Come, high or low;

Thyself and office deftly show!

VISION #1 - *an armed head.*

MACBETH

Tell me, thou unknown power -

WITCH #1

He knows thy thought:

Hear his speech, but say thou nought.

VISION #1

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

Beware Macduff; beware the thane of Fife. Dismiss me. Enough..

LADY MACBETH, *still hidden, reacts to this prediction.*

MACBETH

(as it disappears)

Whate'er thou art, for thy good caution, thanks; but one word more -

WITCH #2

Here's another, more potent than the first.

VISION #2 - *a bloody child.*

VISION #2

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

Be bloody, bold, and resolute, for none of woman born shall harm Macbeth.

MACBETH

(as it disappears)

Then live, Macduff: what need I fear of thee?

VISION #3 - *a crowned child, bearing a tree.*

MACBETH

What is this?.

VISION #3

Be lion-mettled, proud; and take no care where conspirers are: Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until great Birnam Wood to high Dunsinane Hill shall come against him.

MACBETH

(as it disappears)

That will never be. Who can impress the forest, bid the tree unfix his earth-bound root? Yet my heart throbs to know one thing: tell me, if your art can tell so much: shall Banquo's issue ever reign in this kingdom?

WITCHES

Seek to know no more.

*The witches dance, and then vanish.*

MACBETH

Where are they?

MACBETH *returns to his vehicle, where he is interrupted by* LENNOX*.*

LENNOX

Macduff is fled to England.

MACBETH

Fled to England!

LENNOX

Ay, my good lord*.*

LENNOX *starts to leave, but hesitates, and instead hides to eavesdrop.*

MACBETH

Time, thou anticipatest my dread exploits: the castle of Macduff I will surprise, seize upon Fife; give to the edge o' the sword his wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls that trace him in his line.

MACBETH *exits.* LENNOX *follows.* LADY MACBETH *slips out of hiding and is left to take in this information.*

FADE OUT:

11A. EXT. MACDUFF'S HOME - ANOTHER DAY - **Deck at Rutenber**

*Enter* LADY MACDUFF*, pregnant and carrying a baby in her arms or in baby carrier, and* ROSS.

LADY MACDUFF

What had he done, to make him leave his home?

ROSS

You must have patience, madam.

LADY MACDUFF

He had none: his flight was madness: when our actions do not, our fears do make us traitors.

ROSS

You know not whether it was his wisdom or his fear.

LADY MACDUFF

Wisdom! to leave his wife, to leave his babes,in a place from whence himself does flee? Little is the wisdom, where the act so runs against all reason.

ROSS

My dearest coz, your husband, he is noble, wise, judicious, and best knows the fits o' the season. I dare not speak much further; but cruel are the times, when we are traitors and do not know ourselves, I take my leave of you: shall not be long but I'll be here again: my pretty cousin, Blessing upon you!

LADY MACDUFF

(to her children)

Now, God help thee, poor monkey!

LADY MACBETH *enters, disguised as a messenger. She uses hand sanitizer from her pocket quickly before approaching.*

LADY MACBETH

Bless you, fair dame! I am not to you known, I doubt some danger does approach you nearly: be not found here; hence, with your little ones. Heaven preserve you! I dare abide no longer.

*She exits swiftly.*

LADY MACDUFF

Whither should I fly? I have done no harm. But I remember now I am in this earthly world; where to do harm is often laudable, to do good sometime accounted dangerous folly: why then, alas, do I put up that womanly defence, to say I have done no harm?

ASSASSIN #3 & MACBETH *enter.*

LADY MACDUFF

What are these faces?

ASSASSIN #3

Where is your husband?

LADY MACDUFF

I hope, in no place so unsanctified where such as thou mayst find him.

MACBETH *steps in front of* LADY MACDUFF*. Crying out,* LADY MACDUFF *and her children are murdered.*

CUT TO:

11B. EXT. ENGLAND - SOME TIME LATER

*MACDUFF is camping out in the woods - sitting by his tent, writing in his journal, where we see a photo of his family and the handwritten words “safer without me for now”*

*MACDUFF types text message “2:00 PM?”*

MALCOLM (AS TEXT MESSAGE)

Let us seek out some desolate shade, and there weep our sad bosoms empty.

MACDUFF(AS TEXT MESSAGE)

Hold fast the mortal sword.

MALCOLM (AS TEXT MESSAGE)

What I believe I'll wail.

*MALCOLM has sent a ZOOM Call to MacDuff and the rest of the scene is seen on the zoom screen.*

MACDUFF

I am not treacherous.

MALCOLM

But Macbeth is.

MACDUFF

I have lost my hopes.

MALCOLM

Why in that rawness left you wife and child?

MACDUFF

Bleed, bleed, poor country!

MALCOLM

Yet my poor country.

MACDUFF

Not in the legions of horrid hell can come a devil more damn'd in evils to top Macbeth. O Scotland, Scotland!

*ROSS appears in waiting room - Malcolm and MacDuff react and then admit he.*

MACDUFF

(cont’d)

My ever-gentle cousin, welcome hither.Stands Scotland where it did?

ROSS

Alas, poor country! Almost afraid to know itself.

MALCOLM

What's the newest grief?

ROSS

That of an hour's age doth hiss the speaker: each minute teems a new one.

MACDUFF

How does my wife?And all my children?The tyrant has not batter'd at their peace?

ROSS

They were well at peace when I did leave 'em. But I have words that would be howl'd out in the desert air, where hearing should not latch them.

MACDUFF

Hum! I guess at it.

ROSS

Your castle is surprised; your wife and babes savagely slaughter'd.

MALCOLM

Merciful heaven! Give sorrow words: the grief that does not speak whispers the o'er-fraught heart and bids it break.

MACDUFF

My children too?

ROSS

Wife, children, servants, all that could be found.

MALCOLM

Be comforted: let's make us medicines of our great revenge, to cure this deadly grief.

MACDUFF

He has no children. All my pretty ones? Did you say all? O hell-kite!

MALCOLM

Dispute it like a man.

MACDUFF

I shall do so; but I must also feel it as a man: I cannot but remember such things were, that were most precious to me. Heaven rest them now!

MALCOLM

Be this the whetstone of your sword: let grief convert to anger; blunt not the heart, enrage it.

MACDUFF

Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself; within my sword's length set him; if he 'scape, Heaven forgive him too!

MALCOLM

Come, go we to the king; our power is ready; Macbeth is ripe for shaking.

FADE OUT:

12A. EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - SOME TIME LATER - **location TBD**

*Enter* ANGUS *and* LENNOX, *who carries two* GUNS. *He conceals his own, and passes the other to* ANGUS, *who does the same.*

LENNOX

The English power is near, led on by Malcolm, and the good Macduff: revenges burn in them.

ANGUS

Near Birnam Wood shall we well meet them; that way are they coming.

LENNOX

Great Dunsinane the tyrant strongly fortifies: some say he's mad.

ANGUS

Now does he feel his secret murders sticking on his hands; now minutely revolts upbraid his faith-breach; those he commands move only in command, nothing in love: now does he feel his title hang loose about him.

CUT TO:

12B. INT. DUNSINANE CASTLE - SAME DAY - Back Balcony

MACBETH *and* SEYTON*, overlooking the army.*

MACBETH

Bring me no more reports; let them fly all: till Birnam Wood remove to Dunsinane, I cannot taint with fear. What's the boy Malcolm? Was he not born of woman? The spirits have pronounced me thus: 'Fear not, Macbeth; no man that's born of woman shall e'er have power upon thee.' Then fly, false thanes. Give me my armour.

SEYTON *hands* MACBETH *a gun, which* MACBETH *conceals.* SEYTON *exits.*

CUT TO:

12C. EXT. DUNSINANE COUNTRYSIDE - SAME DAY - the Woods

*The battlefield again*, MACDUFF, ANGUS, LENNOX, *and* ROSS *with* MALCOLM on Facetime looking at MAP on screen.

MALCOLM

What wood is this before you?

ANGUS

The wood of Birnam.

MALCOLM

Let every soldier hew him down a bough and bear't before him: thereby shall we shadow the numbers of our host and make discovery err in report of us.

LENNOX/ROSS

It shall be done.

CUT TO:

### 12D. EXT. THE POND - SAME DAY

*Enter* LADY MACBETH*, walking through the woods, with a hand sanitizer.*

LADY MACBETH

Yet here's a spot. Out, damned spot! out, I say!

*She throws away the hand sanitizer, as it will do her no good.*

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

One: two: why, then, 'tis time to do't. Hell is murky! Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him.

(removing her CROWN)

The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now? What, will these hands ne'er be clean? No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that:

(removing NECKLACE)

LADY MACBETH

(cont’d)

Here's the smell of the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh! What's done cannot be undone. To bed, to bed, to bed!

*She steps into the pond to drown herself.*

CUT TO:

12E. EXT. DUNSINANE CASTLE - SAME DAY - BACK BALCONY

MACBETH

Hang out our banners on the outward walls; our castle's strength will laugh a siege to scorn and beat them backward home.

*SFX - screams and the cries of women: the* WITCHES *&* LADY MACDUFF*. Enter* SEYTON *with* LADY MACBETH’s *crown and the* NECKLACE.

MACBETH

What is that noise?

SEYTON

It is the cry of women, my good lord.The queen, my lord, is dead.

MACBETH

She should have died hereafter; there would have been a time for such a word. *(accepts necklace)* To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow, creeps in this petty pace from day to day to the last syllable of recorded time, and all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death. *(kisses necklace)* Out, out, brief candle!

*Intercut:* SEYTON *moves to the window; Birnam Wood is moving towards the castle.*

MACBETH

Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage and then is heard no more: it is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

*Intercut:* MACBETH *drops the* NECKLACE*.* SEYTON *moves from window to speak.*

SEYTON

Gracious my lord, I should report that which I say I saw, but know not how to do it.

MACBETH

Well, say, say.

SEYTON

As I did stand my watch upon the hill, I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought -

BOTH

The wood began to move.

MACBETH

“Fear not, till Birnam wood do come to Dunsinane,” and now a wood comes toward Dunsinane.

SEYTON *exits;* MACBETH *picks up the* NECKLACE *once more and puts it on as he follows.*

MACBETH

(cont’d)

Arm, arm, and out! Ring the alarum-bell! Blow, wind! come, wrack! At least we'll die with harness on our back.

CUT TO:

12F. EXT - DUNSINANE COUNTRYSIDE - SAME - Forsythia Bushes

MALCOLM *and his army, carrying branches.*

MALCOLM

Now near enough: your leafy screens throw down. And show like those you are.

CUT TO:

13A. EXT. CASTLE - SAME DAY - BACK BALCONY

MACBETH

They have tied me to a stake; I cannot fly, but, bear-like, I must fight the course. What's he that was not born of woman? Such a one am I to fear, or none.

MACBETH exits, *seeking his enemies.*

CUT TO:

13A. EXT - DUNSINANE BATTLEFIELD - SAME

MACDUFF *hiding,* *seeking* MACBETH*.* MACBETH *enters &* MACDUFF *draws gun on him.*

MACDUFF

Turn, hell-hound, turn!

MACBETH

Of all men else I have avoided thee: but get thee back; my soul is too much charged with blood of thine already.

MACDUFF

I have no words: my voice is in my sword: thou bloodier villain than terms can give thee out!

*They fight.*

MACBETH

Thou losest labour: I bear a charmed life, which must not yield to one of woman born.

MACDUFF

Despair thy charm; and let the angel whom thou still hast served tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb untimely ripp'd.

MACBETH

Accursed be that tongue that tells me so, I'll not fight with thee.

MACDUFF

Then yield thee, coward!

MACBETH

I will not yield to kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet, though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane, and thou opposed, being of no woman born - Lay on, Macduff, and damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

*As fighting becomes more ferocious -*

CUT TO:

13B. EXT. DUNSINANE BATTLEFIELD (ELSEWHERE) - SAME

ROSS, LENNOX, *and* ANGUS *on the battlefield, taking stock of losses.*

LENNOX*(to MALCOLM on Facetime call)*

Macduff is missing... (to ANGUS)

Then we hear MACDUFF off camera make a gutteral victorious/painful/aggressive scream. Thanes look at each other.

*Tracking* MACDUFF*, who appears, holding* MACBETH’s *severed head in a bag and dropping the* NECKLACE*. All react as he offers both to* MALCOLM*.*

MACDUFF

Hail, king! for so thou art: behold, where stands the usurper's cursed head: the time is free. Hail, King of Scotland!

ALL

(kneeling)

Hail, King of Scotland!

MALCOLM (on Facetime call)

My thanes and kinsmen, henceforth be earls, the first that ever Scotland in such an honour named. That fled the snares of watchful tyranny -

Producing forth the cruel ministers of this dead butcher and his fiend-like queen, who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent hands took off her life; this, and what needful else that calls upon us, by the grace of Grace, we will perform in measure, time and place: so, thanks to all at once and to each one, whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone.

*Reaction, as all depart the scene. Track away, to...*

*A hiding place (The Magnolia Tree Circle) overlooking the last scene. A beat. Then* FLEANCE *emerges, surveying the battlefield.* FLEANCE *spots and picks up the* NECKLACE *from the wreckage. A distant rumble of* THUNDER*. Intercut with the reappearance of the* WITCHES, *watching him, but unseen.*

FIRST WITCH

When shall we three meet again?

*Static on* FLEANCE*, walking away, NECKLACE in hand.*

FADE OUT.

THE END.