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**THEATRESQUARED**

**2020 SHAKESPEARE ACADEMY**

**MACBETH**

**ACT I**

**SCENE I. A desert place.**

*Thunder and lightning. Enter three Witches*

**First Witch**

When shall we three meet again
In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

**Second Witch**

When the hurlyburly's done,
When the battle's lost and won.

**Third Witch**

That will be ere the set of sun.

**First Witch**

Where the place?

**Second Witch**

Upon the heath.

**Third Witch**

There to meet with Macbeth.

**First Witch**

I come, Graymalkin!

**Second Witch**

Paddock calls.

**Third Witch**

Anon.

**ALL**

Fair is foul, and foul is fair:
Hover through the fog and filthy air.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE II. A camp near Forres.**

*Alarum within. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, LENNOX*

**LENNOX**

Who comes here?

*Enter ROSS*

**MALCOLM**

The worthy thane of Ross.

**DONALBAIN**

What a haste looks through his eyes! So should he look
That seems to speak things strange.

**ROSS**

God save the king!

**DUNCAN**

Whence camest thou, worthy thane?

**ROSS**

From Fife, great king;
Where the Norweyan banners flout the sky
And fan our people cold. Norway himself,
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**

And what of Macbeth?

**ROSS**

For brave Macbeth--well he deserves that name--
Disdaining fortune, with his brandish'd steel,
Which smoked with bloody execution.

**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**

What he hath lost noble Macbeth hath won.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE III. A heath near Forres.**

*Thunder. Enter the three Witches, Drums*

**Third Witch**

A drum, a drum!
Macbeth doth come.

**ALL**

The weird sisters, hand in hand,
Posters of the sea and land,
Thus do go about, about:
Thrice to thine and thrice to mine
And thrice again, to make up nine.
Peace! the charm's wound up.

*Enter MACBETH and BANQUO*

**MACBETH**

So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

**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?

**First Witch**

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

**Second Witch**

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

**Third Witch**

All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter!

**BANQUO**

I' the name of truth, My noble partner
You greet with present grace and great prediction
Of noble having and of royal hope.
If you can look into the seeds of time,
And say which grain will grow and which will not,
Speak then to me.

**First Witch**

Hail!

**Second Witch**

Hail!

**Third Witch**

Hail!

**First Witch**

Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.

**Second Witch**

Not so happy, yet much happier.

**Third Witch**

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

**First Witch**

Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

**MACBETH**

Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more:
By Sinel's death 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.

Say from whence you owe this strange intelligence?

Speak, I charge you.

*Witches vanish*

**BANQUO**

Whither are they vanish'd?

**MACBETH**

Into the air; and what seem'd corporal melted
As breath into the wind. Would they had stay'd!

Your children shall be kings.

**BANQUO**

You shall be king.

**MACBETH**

And thane of Cawdor too: went it not so?

**BANQUO**

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

*Enter ROSS and LENNOX*

**ROSS**

The king hath happily received, Macbeth,
The news of thy success. As thick as hail
Came post with post; and every one did bear
Thy praises in his kingdom's great defence,
And pour'd them down before him.

**LENNOX**

We are sent
To give thee from our royal master thanks;
Only to herald thee into his sight.

**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?

**LENNOX**

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

**MACBETH**

[Aside] Glamis, and thane of Cawdor!
The greatest is behind.

*To ROSS and LENNOX*

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**

Oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,
Win us with honest trifles, to betray's
In deepest consequence.

Cousins, a word, I pray you.

**MACBETH**

[Aside] Come what come may,
Time and the hour runs through the roughest day.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE IV. Forres. The palace.**

*Flourish. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, LENNOX, and Attendants*. *Enter MACBETH, BANQUO, ROSS*

**DUNCAN**

O worthiest cousin!
The sin of my ingratitude even now
Was heavy on me! Only I have left to say,
More is thy due than more than all can pay.

**MACBETH**

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

**DUNCAN**

Sons, kinsmen, thanes,
And you whose places are the nearest, know
We will establish our estate upon
Our eldest, Malcolm, whom we name hereafter
The Prince of Cumberland; which honour must
Not unaccompanied invest him only,
But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall shine
On all deservers.

**MACBETH**

I'll be myself the harbinger and make joyful
The hearing of my wife with your approach;
So humbly take my leave.

**DUNCAN**

My worthy Cawdor!

**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. Stars, hide your fires;
Let not light see my black and deep desires.

**SCENE V. Inverness. Macbeth's castle.**

**LADY MACBETH**

“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 of greatness, that thou
mightst not lose the dues of rejoicing, by being
ignorant of what greatness is promised thee.'
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.

*Enter a Messenger*

What is your tidings?

**MESSENGER 1**

The king comes here to-night.

**LADY MACBETH**

Thou'rt mad to say it:
Is not thy master with him? who, were't so,
Would have inform'd for preparation.

**MESSENGER 1**

So please you, it is true: our thane is coming.

**LADY MACBETH**

Give him tending;
He brings great news.

*Exit Messenger*

The raven himself is hoarse
That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,
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, nor keep peace between
The effect and it!

*Enter MACBETH*

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor!

**MACBETH**

My dearest love,
Duncan comes here to-night.

**LADY MACBETH**

And when goes hence?

**MACBETH**

To-morrow, as he purposes.

**LADY MACBETH**

O, never
Shall sun that morrow see!
**MACBETH**

We will speak further.

**LADY MACBETH**

Only look up clear;
To alter favour ever is to fear:
Leave all the rest to me.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE VI. Before Macbeth's castle.**

*Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, BANQUO, LENNOX, ROSS, and Attendants*

**DUNCAN**

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

*Enter LADY MACBETH*

**DUNCAN**

See, see, our honour'd hostess!

Where's the thane of Cawdor?
We coursed him at the heels, and had a purpose
To be his purveyor: but he rides well;
And his great love, sharp as his spur, hath holp him
To his home before us. Fair and noble hostess,
We are your guest to-night.

**LADY MACBETH**

Your servants ever
Have theirs, themselves and what is theirs, in compt,
To make their audit at your highness' pleasure,
Still to return your own.

**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.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE VII. Macbeth's castle.**

**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.  I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on the other.

*Enter LADY MACBETH*

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; and I have bought
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,
Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,
Not cast aside so soon.

**LADY MACBETH**

Was the hope drunk
Wherein you dress'd yourself? hath it slept since?
And wakes it now, to look so green and pale
At what it did so freely? Wouldst thou have that
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,
And live a coward in thine own esteem,
Letting 'I dare not' wait upon 'I would,'
Like the poor cat i' the adage?

**MACBETH**

Prithee, peace:
I dare do all that may become a man;
Who dares do more is none.

**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.

**MACBETH**

If we should fail?

**LADY MACBETH**

We fail!
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we'll not fail.

**MACBETH**

I am settled, and bend up
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.
Away, and mock the time with fairest show:
False face must hide what the false heart doth know.

*Exeunt*

**ACT II**

**SCENE I. Court of Macbeth's castle.**

*Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE bearing a torch before him*

**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.
This diamond he greets your wife withal,
By the name of most kind hostess.

**MACBETH**

Being unprepared,
Our will became the servant to defect.

**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**

Thanks, sir: the like to you!

*Exeunt BANQUO and FLEANCE*

**MACBETH**

Go bid thy mistress, when my drink is ready,
She strike upon the bell. Get thee to bed.

*Exit Servant*

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?
I see thee yet, in form as palpable
As this which now I draw.
It is the bloody business which informs
Thus to mine eyes.

*A bell rings*

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.

*Exit*

**SCENE II. The same.**

*Enter LADY MACBETH*

**LADY MACBETH**

That which hath made them drunk hath made me bold;
What hath quench'd them hath given me fire.
Hark! Peace!
**MACBETH**

[Within] Who's there? what, ho!

**LADY MACBETH**

*Enter MACBETH*

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.
Did not you speak?

**MACBETH**

When?

**LADY MACBETH**

Now.

**MACBETH**

As I descended?

**LADY MACBETH**

Ay.

**MACBETH**

Hark!
Who lies i' the second chamber?

**LADY MACBETH**

Donalbain.

**MACBETH**

This is a sorry sight.

*Looking on his hands*

**LADY MACBETH**

A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

**MACBETH**

There's one did laugh in's sleep, and one cried
'Murder!'
Methought I heard a voice cry 'Sleep no more!
Macbeth does murder sleep', sleep no more;

Macbeth shall sleep no more.'

**LADY MACBETH**

Who was it that thus cried? Why, worthy thane,
You do unbend your noble strength, to think
So brainsickly of things. Go get some water,
And wash this filthy witness from your hand.
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: the sleeping and the dead
Are but as pictures: 'tis the eye of childhood
That fears a painted devil. If he do bleed,
I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal;
For it must seem their guilt.

*Exit. Knocking within*

**MACBETH**

Whence is that knocking?
How is't with me, when every noise appals me?
What hands are here? ha! they pluck out mine eyes.
Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood
Clean from my hand? No, this my hand will rather
The multitudinous seas in incarnadine,
Making the green one red.

*Re-enter LADY MACBETH*

**LADY MACBETH**

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

*Knocking within*

I hear a knocking
At the south entry: retire we to our chamber;
A little water clears us of this deed:
How easy is it, then! Your constancy
Hath left you unattended.

*Knocking within*

**MACBETH**

To know my deed, 'twere best not know myself.

*Knocking within*

Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would thou couldst!

*Exeunt*

**SCENE III. The same.**

*Knocking within. Enter a Porter*

**Porter**

Here's a knocking indeed! If a
man were porter of hell-gate, he should have
old turning the key.

*Knocking within*

Knock,
knock, knock! Who's there, i' the name of
Beelzebub? Here's a farmer, that hanged
himself on the expectation of plenty: come in
time; have napkins enow about you; here
you'll sweat for't.

*Knocking within*

Knock,
knock! Who's there, in the other devil's
name? Faith, here's an equivocator, that could
swear in both the scales against either scale;
who committed treason enough for God's sake,
yet could not equivocate to heaven: O, come
in, equivocator.

*Knocking within*

Knock,
knock, knock! Who's there? Faith, here's an
English tailor come hither, for stealing out of
a French hose: come in, tailor; here you may
roast your goose.

*Knocking within*

Knock,
knock; never at quiet! What are you? But
this place is too cold for hell. I'll devil-porter
it no further: I had thought to have let in
some of all professions that go the primrose
way to the everlasting bonfire.

*Knocking within*

Anon, anon! I pray you, remember the porter.

*Opens the gate*

*Enter MACDUFF and LENNOX*

**MACDUFF**

Was it so late, friend, ere you went to bed,
That you do lie so late?

**Porter**

'Faith sir, we were carousing till the
second cock: and drink, sir, is a great
provoker of three things.

**MACDUFF**

What three things does drink especially provoke?

**Porter**

Marry, sir, nose-painting, sleep, and
urine. Lechery, sir, it provokes, and unprovokes;
it provokes the desire, but it takes
away the performance: therefore, much drink
may be said to be an equivocator with lechery:
**MACDUFF**

I believe drink gave thee the lie last night.

**Porter**

That it did, sir.

**MACDUFF**

Is thy master stirring?

*Enter MACBETH*

Our knocking has awaked him; here he comes.

**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.

*Exit*

**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 .

My young remembrance cannot parallel
A fellow to it.

**MACBETH**

'Twas a rough night.

*Re-enter MACDUFF*

**MACDUFF**

O horror, horror, horror!

**LENNOX**

What's the matter.

**MACDUFF**

Confusion now hath made his masterpiece!
Approach the chamber, and destroy your sight.

*Exeunt MACBETH and LENNOX*

Awake, awake!
Ring the alarum-bell. Murder and treason!
Banquo and Donalbain! Malcolm! awake!

*Bell rings*

*Enter LADY MACBETH*

**LADY MACBETH**

What's the business,
That such a hideous trumpet calls to parley
The sleepers of the house? speak, speak!

**MACDUFF**

O gentle lady,
'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak.

*Enter BANQUO*

O Banquo, Banquo,
Our royal master 's murder'd!

**LADY MACBETH**

Woe, alas!
What, in our house?

**BANQUO**

Too cruel any where.
Dear Duff, I prithee, contradict thyself,
And say it is not so.

*Re-enter MACBETH and LENNOX, with ROSS*

**MACBETH**

Had I but died an hour before this chance,
I had lived a blessed time

*Enter MALCOLM and DONALBAIN*

**DONALBAIN**

What is amiss?

**MACDUFF**

Your royal father 's murder'd.

**MALCOLM**

O, by whom?

**LENNOX**

Those of his chamber, as it seem'd, had done 't:
Their hands and faces were an badged with blood;
So were their daggers, which unwiped we found
Upon their pillows:
They stared, and were distracted; no man's life
Was to be trusted with them.

**MACBETH**

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

**MACDUFF**

Wherefore did you so?

**MACBETH**

Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious,
Loyal and neutral, in a moment? who could refrain,
That had a heart to love, and in that heart
Courage to make 's love known?

**LADY MACBETH**

Help me hence, ho!

**MACDUFF**

Look to the lady.

*LADY MACBETH is carried out*

**MALCOLM**

[Aside to DONALBAIN] Why do we hold our tongues,
That most may claim this argument for ours?

**DONALBAIN**

[Aside to MALCOLM]
Let 's away; Our tears are not yet brew'd.

**MALCOLM**

[Aside to DONALBAIN] Nor our strong sorrow
Upon the foot of motion.

And when we have our naked frailties hid,
That suffer in exposure, let us meet,
And question this most bloody piece of work,
To know it further.

**MALCOLM**

I'll to England.

**DONALBAIN**

To Ireland, I; our separated fortune
Shall keep us both the safer: where we are,
There's daggers in men's smiles.

**MACBETH**

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

*Exeunt*

**SCENE IV. Outside Macbeth's castle.**

**ROSS**

Is't known who did this more than bloody deed?

**MACDUFF**

Those that Macbeth hath slain.

**ROSS**

Alas, the day!
**MACDUFF**

Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's two sons,
Are stol'n away and fled; which puts upon them
Suspicion of the deed.

**ROSS**

Then 'tis most like the sovereignty will fall

upon Macbeth.

**ACT III**

**SCENE I. Forres. The palace.**

*Enter BANQUO*

**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--
As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine--
Why, by the verities on thee made good,
May they not be my oracles as well,
And set me up in hope? But hush! no more.

*Sennet sounded. Enter MACBETH, as king, LADY MACBETH, as queen, LENNOX, ROSS, Lords, Ladies, and Attendants*

**MACBETH**

Here's our chief guest.

**LADY MACBETH**

If he had been forgotten,
It had been as a gap in our great feast,
And all-thing unbecoming.

**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
Are with a most indissoluble tie
For ever knit.

**MACBETH**

Ride you this afternoon?

**BANQUO**

Ay, my good lord.

**MACBETH**

We should have else desired your good advice,
Which still hath been both grave and prosperous,
In this day's council; but we'll take to-morrow.
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**

Hie you to horse: adieu,
Till you return at night. Goes Fleance with you?

**BANQUO**

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

**MACBETH**

I wish your horses swift and sure of foot;
And so I do commend you to their backs. Farewell.

*Exit BANQUO*

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!

*Exeunt all but MACBETH, and an attendant*

Sirrah, a word with you: attend those men
Our pleasure?

**SEYTON**

They are, my lord, without the palace gate.

**MACBETH**

Bring them before us.

*Exit Attendant*

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,
And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,
Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,
No son of mine succeeding. Who's there!

*Re-enter Attendant, with two Murderers*

Now go to the door, and stay there till we call.

*Exit Attendant*

**MACBETH**

Both of you Know Banquo was your enemy.

**Both Murderers**

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: and though I could
With barefaced power sweep him from my sight
And bid my will avouch it, yet I must not,
For certain friends that are both his and mine,
Whose loves I may not drop, but wail his fall
Who I myself struck down; and thence it is,
That I to your assistance,
Masking the business from the common eye.

**Second Murderer**

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

**MACBETH**

Within this hour at most
I will advise you where to plant yourselves;
for't must be done to-night.
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:
I'll come to you anon.

**Both Murderers**

We are resolved, my lord.

**MACBETH**

I'll call upon you straight: abide within.

*Exeunt Murderers*

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

*Exit*

**SCENE II. The palace.**

**LADY MACBETH**

How now, my lord!  Sleek o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

**MACBETH**

O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!
Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, lives.

**LADY MACBETH**

But in them nature's copy's not eterne.

**MACBETH**

There's comfort yet; they are assailable;
**LADY MACBETH**

What's to be done?

**MACBETH**

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

*Exeunt*

**SCENE III. A park near the palace.**

*Enter Murderers*

**First Murderer**

Hark! I hear horses.

**BANQUO**

[Within] Give us a light there, ho!

**Second Murderer**

Then 'tis he: the rest
That are within the note of expectation
Already are i' the court.

**First Murderer**

A light, a light!

*Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE with a torch*

**Second Murderer**

'Tis he.

**First Murderer**

Stand to't.

**BANQUO**

It will be rain to-night.

**First Murderer**

Let it come down.

*They set upon BANQUO*

**BANQUO**

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

*Dies. FLEANCE escapes*

**Second Murderer**

Who did strike out the light?

**First Murderer**

Wast not the way?

**Second Murderer**

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

**First Murderer**

We have lost
Best half of our affair.

**Second Murderer**

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

*Exeunt*

**SCENE IV. The same. Hall in the palace.**

*A banquet prepared. Enter MACBETH, LADY MACBETH, ROSS, LENNOX, Lords, and Attendants*

**MACBETH**

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

**Lords**

Thanks to your majesty.

**MACBETH**

Ourself will mingle with society,
And play the humble host.

**LADY MACBETH**

Pronounce it for me, sir, to all our friends;
For my heart speaks they are welcome.

*First Murderer appears at the door*

**MACBETH**

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

*Approaching the door*

There's blood on thy face.

**First Murderer**

'Tis Banquo's then.

**MACBETH**

Is he dispatch'd?

**Second Murderer**

My lord, his throat is cut; that I did for him.

**MACBETH**

Thou art the best o' the cut-throats: yet he's good
That did the like for Fleance.

**First Murderer**

Most royal sir,
Fleance is 'scaped.

**MACBETH**

Then comes my fit again. But Banquo's safe?

**Second Murderer**

Ay, my good lord: safe in a ditch he bides,
With twenty trenched gashes on his head;
The least a death to nature.

**MACBETH**

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

*Exit Murderer*

**LADY MACBETH**

My royal lord,You do not give the cheer.

**LENNOX**

May't please your highness sit.

*The GHOST OF BANQUO enters, and sits in MACBETH's place*

**MACBETH**

Here had we now our country's honour roof'd,
Were the graced person of our Banquo present.

**ROSS**

His absence, sir,
Lays blame upon his promise. Please't your highness
To grace us with your royal company.

**MACBETH**

The table's full.

**LENNOX**

Here is a place reserved, sir.

**MACBETH**

Where?

**LENNOX**

Here, my good lord. What is't that moves your highness?

**MACBETH**

Which of you have done this?

**Lords**

What, my good lord?

**MACBETH**

Thou canst not say I did it: never shake
Thy gory locks at me.

**ROSS**

Gentlemen, rise: his highness is not well.

**LADY MACBETH**

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 and extend his passion:
Feed, and regard him not. 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?
You look but on a stool.

**MACBETH**

Prithee, see there! behold! look! lo!
how say you? If thou canst nod, speak too.

*GHOST OF BANQUO vanishes*

**LADY MACBETH**

What, quite unmann'd in folly?

**MACBETH**

If I stand here, I saw him.

**LADY MACBETH**

Fie, for shame!

**MACBETH**

Blood hath been shed ere now, murders have been

perform'd too terrible for the ear: the times have been,
That, when the brains were out, the man would die,
And there an end; but now they rise again.

**LADY MACBETH**

My worthy lord,
Your noble friends do lack you.

**MACBETH**
Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends,
I have a strange infirmity, which is nothing
To those that know me. Come, love and health to all;
Then I'll sit down. 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;
Would he were here! to all, and him, we thirst,
And all to all.

**Lords**

Our duties, and the pledge.

*Re-enter GHOST OF BANQUO*

**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!

*Exeunt all but MACBETH and LADY MACBETH*

**MACBETH**

It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood:
Stones have been known to move and trees to speak;
How say'st thou, that Macduff denies his person
At our great bidding?

**LADY MACBETH**

Did you send to him, sir?

**MACBETH**

I hear it by the way; but I will send:
There's not a one of them but in his house
I keep a servant fee'd. I will to-morrow,
And betimes I will, to the weird sisters:
More shall they speak; for now I am bent to know.
Strange things I have in head, that will to hand;
Which must be acted ere they may be scann'd.

**LADY MACBETH**

You lack the season of all natures, sleep.

**MACBETH**

Come, we'll to sleep.
We are yet but young in deed.

**ACT IV**

**SCENE I. A cavern. In the middle, a boiling cauldron.**

*Thunder. Enter the three Witches*

**ALL**

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

**First Witch**

Round about the cauldron go;
In the poison'd entrails throw.

**Second Witch**
Eye of newt and toe of frog,
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,

**Third Witch**

For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

**ALL**

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

**Second Witch**

By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.

*Enter MACBETH*

**MACBETH**

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

**ALL**

A deed without a name.

**MACBETH**

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

**First Witch**

Speak.

**Second Witch**

Demand.

**Third Witch**

We'll answer.

**First Witch**

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

**MACBETH**

Call 'em; let me see 'em.

*Thunder. First Apparition*

**First Apparition**

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

*Descends*.

*Thunder. Second Apparition*

**ALL**

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

**Second Apparition**

Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn
The power of man, for none of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth.

*Descends*

*Thunder. Third Apparition*

**Third Apparition**

Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.

*Descends*

**MACBETH**

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?

**ALL**

Seek to know no more.

**MACBETH**

I will be satisfied: deny me this,
And an eternal curse fall on you! Let me know.

**First Witch**

Show!

**Second Witch**

Show!

**Third Witch**

Show!

**ALL**

Show his eyes, and grieve his heart;
Come like shadows, so depart!

*A show of Eight Kings; GHOST OF BANQUO following*

**MACBETH**

Filthy hags!
Why do you show me this?
What, will the line stretch out to the crack of doom?

*Apparitions vanish*

What, is this so?

**First Witch**

Ay, sir, all this is so: but why
Stands Macbeth thus amazedly?

*Music. The witches dance and then vanish.*

*Enter LENNOX*

**LENNOX**

What's your grace's will?

**MACBETH**

Saw you the weird sisters?

**LENNOX**

No, my lord.

**MACBETH**

Came they not by you?

**LENNOX**

No, indeed, my lord.

**MACBETH**

Infected be the air whereon they ride;
And damn'd all those that trust them! I did hear
The galloping of horse: who was't came by?

**LENNOX**

'Tis two or three, my lord, that bring you word
Macduff is fled to England.

**MACBETH**

Fled to England!

**LENNOX**

Ay, my good lord.

**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. No boasting like a fool;
This deed I'll do before this purpose cool.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE II. Fife. Macduff's castle.**

*Enter LADY MACDUFF, her Son, and ROSS*

**LADY MACDUFF**

What had he done, to make him fly the land?

**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,
His mansion and his titles in a place
From whence himself does fly? He loves us not.

**ROSS**

My dearest coz,
I pray you, school yourself: but for 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 am so much a fool, should I stay longer,
It would be my disgrace and your discomfort:
I take my leave at once.

*Exit*

**LADY MACDUFF**

Sirrah, your father's dead;
And what will you do now? How will you live?

**Child**

As birds do, mother.

**LADY MACDUFF**

What, with worms and flies?

**Child**

With what I get, I mean; and so do they.

**LADY MACDUFF**

Poor bird!

**Child**

Was my father a traitor, mother?

**LADY MACDUFF**

Ay, that he was.

**Child**

What is a traitor?

**LADY MACDUFF**

Why, one that swears and lies.

**Child**

And be all traitors that do so?

**LADY MACDUFF**

Every one that does so is a traitor, and must be hanged.

**Child**

And must they all be hanged that swear and lie?

**LADY MACDUFF**

Every one.

*Enter a Messenger*

**Messenger 2**

Bless you, fair dame! I am not to you known,
If you will take a homely man's advice,
Be not found here; hence, with your little ones.
To fright you thus, methinks, I am too savage;
To do worse to you were fell cruelty,
Which is too nigh your person. Heaven preserve you!

*Exit*

**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?

*Enter Murderers*

What are these faces?

**First Murderer**

Where is your husband?

**LADY MACDUFF**

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

**First Murderer**

He's a traitor.

**Child**

Thou liest, thou shag-hair'd villain!

**First Murderer**

What, you egg!

*Stabbing him*

Young fry of treachery!

**Child**

He has kill'd me, mother:
Run away, I pray you!

*Dies*

*Exit LADY MACDUFF, crying 'Murder!' Exeunt Murderers, following her*

**SCENE III. England. Before the King's palace.**

*Enter MALCOLM and MACDUFF*

**MALCOLM**
This tyrant, whose sole name blisters our tongues,
Was once thought honest: you have loved him well.

**MACDUFF**

I am not treacherous.

**MALCOLM**

But Macbeth is.
Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell.

**MACDUFF**

Not in the legions
Of horrid hell can come a devil more damn'd
In evils to top Macbeth.

**MALCOLM**

I grant him bloody,
Luxurious, avaricious, false, deceitful,
Sudden, malicious, smacking of every sin
That has a name: but there's no bottom, none.

*Enter ROSS*

**MACDUFF**

See, who comes here?

**MALCOLM**

My countryman.

**MACDUFF**

My ever-gentle cousin, welcome hither.

Stands Scotland where it did?

**ROSS**

Alas, poor country!
Almost afraid to know itself. It cannot
Be call'd our mother, but our grave.

**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?

**ROSS**

Why, well.

**MACDUFF**

And all my children?

**ROSS**

Well too.

**MACDUFF**

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**

What concern they?
The general cause? or is it a fee-grief
Due to some single breast?

**ROSS**

No mind that's honest
But in it shares some woe; though the main part
Pertains to you alone.

**MACDUFF**

If it be mine,
Keep it not from me, quickly let me have it.

**ROSS**

Let not your ears despise my tongue for ever,
Which shall possess them with the heaviest sound
That ever yet they heard.

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

**MALCOLM**

Merciful heaven!
**MACDUFF**

My children too?

**ROSS**

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

**MACDUFF**

And I must be from thence!
My wife kill'd too?

**ROSS**

I have said.

**MACDUFF**

He has no children. All my pretty ones?
Did you say all?

**MALCOLM**

Dispute it like a man.

**MACDUFF**

I shall do so;
But I must also feel it as a man.

**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!

*Exeunt*

**ACT V**

**SCENE I. Dunsinane. Ante-room in the castle.**

*Enter a Doctor (Seyton) and Ross*

**Doctor**

I have two nights watched with you, but can perceive
no truth in your report. When was it she last walked?

**ROSS**

Since his majesty went into the field, I have seen
her rise from her bed, throw her night-gown upon
her, unlock her closet, take forth paper, fold it,
write upon't, read it, afterwards seal it, and again
return to bed; yet all this while in a most fast sleep.

*Enter LADY MACBETH, with a taper*

Lo you, here she comes! This is her very guise;
and, upon my life, fast asleep. Observe her; stand close.

**Doctor**

You see, her eyes are open.

**ROSS**

Ay, but their sense is shut.

**Doctor**

What is it she does now? Look, how she rubs her hands.

**ROSS**

It is an accustomed action with her, to seem thus
washing her hands: I have known her continue in
this a quarter of an hour.

**LADY MACBETH**

Yet here's a spot.

**Doctor**

Hark! she speaks.

**LADY MACBETH**

Out, damned spot! out, I say!--One: two: why,
then, 'tis time to do't.--Hell is murky!--Fie, my
lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need we
fear who knows it, when none can call our power to
account?--Yet who would have thought the old man
to have had so much blood in him.

**Doctor**

Do you mark that?

**LADY MACBETH**

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: you mar all with
this starting.

**Doctor**

Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

**ROSS**

She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of
that: heaven knows what she has known.

**LADY MACBETH**

Here's the smell of the blood still: all the
perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little
hand. Oh, oh, oh!

**Doctor**

What a sigh is there! The heart is sorely charged.

**ROSS**

I would not have such a heart in my bosom for the
dignity of the whole body.

**LADY MACBETH**

To bed, to bed! there's knocking at the gate:
come, come, come, come, give me your hand. What's
done cannot be undone.--To bed, to bed, to bed!

*Exit*

**Doctor**

Will she go now to bed?

**ROSS**

Directly.

**Doctor**

Foul whisperings are abroad: unnatural deeds
Do breed unnatural troubles: infected minds
To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE II. The country near Dunsinane.**

*Drum and colours. Enter MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, LENNOX, and Soldiers*

**MENTEITH**

The English power is near, led on by Malcolm,
His uncle Siward and the good Macduff:
Revenges burn in them; for their dear causes
Would to the bleeding and the grim alarm
Excite the mortified man.

**LENNOX**

Near Birnam wood
Shall we well meet them; that way are they coming.Mo

**CAITHNESS**

Who knows if Donalbain be with his brother?

**LENNOX**

For certain, sir, he is not.

**MENTEITH**

What does the tyrant?

**CAITHNESS**

Great Dunsinane he strongly fortifies:
Some say he's mad; others that lesser hate him
Do call it valiant fury.

**LENNOX**
Those he commands move only in command,
Nothing in love: now does he feel his title
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe
Upon a dwarfish thief.

**CAITHNESS**

Well, march we on,
To give obedience where 'tis truly owed.

**LENNOX**
Make we our march towards Birnam.

*Exeunt, marching*

**SCENE III. Dunsinane. A room in the castle.**

*Enter MACBETH and SEYTON, Messenger*

**MACBETH**

Bring me no more reports.
Till Birnam wood remove to Dunsinane,
I cannot taint with fear. What's the boy Malcolm?
Was he not born of woman? The spirits that know
All mortal consequences have pronounced me thus:
'Fear not, Macbeth; no man that's born of woman
Shall e'er have power upon thee.'

**MESSENGER 3**

There be ten thousand--

**MACBETH**

Geese, villain!

**MESSENGER 3**

Soldiers, sir.

**MACBETH**

Go prick thy face, and over-red thy fear,
Thou lily-liver'd boy. What soldiers, patch?
Death of thy soul! those linen cheeks of thine
Are counsellors to fear. What soldiers, whey-face?

**MESSENGER 3**

The English force, so please you.

**MACBETH**

Take thy face hence.

*Exit Servant*

Seyton!--I am sick at heart, Seyton, I say!

**SEYTON**

What is your gracious pleasure?

**MACBETH**

Give me my armour.

**SEYTON**

'Tis not needed yet.

**MACBETH**

I'll put it on.
Send out more horses; skirr the country round;
Hang those that talk of fear. Give me mine armour.
How does the patient, doctor?

**SEYTON**

Not so sick, my lord,
As she is troubled with thick coming fancies,
That keep her from her rest.

**MACBETH**

Cure her of that.
Canst thou not minister to a mind diseased,
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow.

**SEYTON**

Therein the patient must minister to himself.

**MACBETH**

Throw physic to the dogs; I'll none of it.
Come, put mine armour on; give me my staff.

I will not be afraid of death and bane,
Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE IV. Country near Birnam wood.**

*Drum and colours. Enter MACDUFF, MENTEITH, CAITHNESS*

**MACDUFF**

What wood is this before us?

**MENTEITH**

The wood of Birnam.

**MACDUFF**

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.

**MENTEITH**

It shall be done.

**CAITHNESS**

The time approaches
That will with due decision make us know
**MENTEITH**
Thoughts speculative their unsure hopes relate,
But certain issue strokes must arbitrate:
Towards which advance the war.

*Exeunt, marching*

**SCENE V. Dunsinane. Within the castle.**

*Enter MACBETH, SEYTON*

*A cry of women within*

**MACBETH**

What is that noise?

*SEYTON exits*

I have almost forgot the taste of fears;
The time has been, my senses would have cool'd
To hear a night-shriek; and my fell of hair
Would at a dismal treatise rouse and stir
As life were in't: I have supp'd full with horrors;
Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts
Cannot once start me.

*Re-enter SEYTON*

Wherefore was that cry?

**SEYTON**

The queen, my lord, is dead.

**MACBETH**

She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word.
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. Out, out, brief candle!
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.

*Enter a Messenger*

Thou comest to use thy tongue; thy story quickly.

**Messenger 1**

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

**MACBETH**

Well, say, sir.

**Messenger 1**

As I did stand my watch upon the hill,
I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,
The wood began to move.

**MACBETH**

Liar and slave!

**Messenger 1**

Let me endure your wrath, if't be not so:
Within this three mile may you see it coming;
I say, a moving grove.

**MACBETH**

If thou speak'st false,
Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive.

'Fear not, till Birnam wood
Do come to Dunsinane:' and now a wood
Comes toward Dunsinane. Arm, arm, and out!
Ring the alarum-bell! Blow, wind! come, wrack!
At least we'll die with harness on our back.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE VI. Dunsinane. Before the castle.**

*Drum and colours. Enter MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, MACDUFF, and their Army, with boughs*

**MENTEITH**

Now near enough: your leafy screens throw down.
And show like those you are. You, worthy uncle,
Shall, with my cousin, Lead our first battle:

**CAITHNESS**

Fare you well.
Do we but find the tyrant's power to-night,
Let us be beaten, if we cannot fight.

**MACDUFF**

Make all our trumpets speak; give them all breath,
Those clamorous harbingers of blood and death.

*Exeunt*

**SCENE VII. Another part of the field.**

*Alarums. Enter MACBETH*

**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.

*Enter CAITHNESS*

**CAITHNESS**

What is thy name?

**MACBETH**

My name's Macbeth.

**CAITHNESS**

The devil himself could not pronounce a title
More hateful to mine ear.

**MACBETH**

No, nor more fearful.

**CAITHNESS**

Thou liest, abhorred tyrant; with my sword
I'll prove the lie thou speak'st.

*They fight and CAITHNESS is slain*

**MACBETH**

Thou wast born of woman
But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn,
Brandish'd by man that's of a woman born.

*Exit*

*Alarums. Enter MACDUFF*

**MACDUFF**

Tyrant, show thy face!
If thou be'st slain and with no stroke of mine,
My wife and children's ghosts will haunt me still.
Let me find him, fortune!

*Exit. Alarums*

*Enter MALCOLM, MENTEITH and DONALBAIN*

**MENTEITH**

This way, my lord; the castle's gently render'd:
The tyrant's people on both sides do fight;
The noble thanes do bravely in the war;
The day almost itself professes yours,
And little is to do.

**MALCOLM**

We have met with foes
That strike beside us.

**MENTEITH**

Enter, sir, the castle.

*Exeunt. Alarums*

**SCENE VIII. Another part of the field.**

*Enter MACDUFF*

**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.

**MACDUFF**

Then yield thee, coward.

**MACBETH**

I will not yield,
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,
Lay on, Macduff!

*Exeunt, fighting. Alarums*

*Re-enter MACDUFF, with MACBETH's head*

*Enter Malcolm and soldiers*

**MACDUFF**

Behold where stands the usurper's cursed head
I see thee compass'd with thy kingdom's pearl,
That speak my salutation in their minds;
Whose voices I desire aloud with mine:
Hail, King of Scotland!

**ALL**

Hail, King of Scotland!

*Flourish*

*All Bow to King Malcolm.*