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THEATRICUM BOTANICUM



MACBETH

By William Shakespeare

*Students Act the Classics– Prepped for San Jose HGES 2012- Rm 21 – 16g/18b
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WHAT YOU NEED FOR COSTUMES

“Macbeth” takes place in Scotland. It is loosely based on historical events between 1040 and 1057 starting when King Duncan I was killed by one of his generals, Macbeth. We want to convey a *suggestion* of the location and period as outlined below. If your child plays more than one character, costumes changes should be limited to the adding or subtracting of a layer so no full changes are required.

SHOES: Please, no tennis shoes! Wear flat, non-skid shoes such as boots, jazz shoes or T'ai Chi shoes (if not slippery), ballet slippers, etc.

MALE CHARACTERS – BASIC COSTUME:

Since the play takes place in Scotland, your basic costume should achieve the idea of a **kilt** or **tunic** with a belt at the waist (**all should have belts**).

A kilt is a plaid skirt that reaches to the knee. Wear a plain shirt (black, brown, or navy are best) on top that can be tucked in and more plaid material draped over your shirt as a sash or cape (see pictures). Your plaids on top and bottom do NOT have to match.

A tunic can be created with a large shirt that reaches to the knees and can be belted. (a very long, black, brown, navy or dark green t-shirt for example.) Over it, you can drape some plaid material (see pictures).

Leg covering: Most characters will need dark tights, leggings or tight sweat pants underneath.

NOBLES: MACBETH. BANQUO, MACDUFF, SON OF MACDUFF, LENNOX, ROSS, ANGUS, FLEANCE, MENTEITH, CAITHNESS, LORDS, GHOST KINGS: To the above, add some pieces of leather (straps, belts, etc.) criss-crossed over your clothes. Perhaps some fur pieces. This is Medieval Scotland and the men are warriors.

Specific Character Notes:

Banquo also appears as a ghost, drape sheer white material over the costume.

Ghost Kings add crowns and sheer, white material draped over them.

Macbeth can dress up his tunic/kilt with extra jewelry – pendant, broach, rings, etc. Once he is King, he needs a crown.

Thanes, if your character is a thane, create a piece of jewelry (such as a large pendant) to signify your higher status.

King Duncan must look richer than the rest – choose a bolder color (purple, red, etc.) jewels (broaches, pendants, etc.), perhaps a fur cloak of some sort and, a crown.

Doctor Use a plain robe down to his ankles (like a choir robe - tan, brown or gray).

Porter & Murderers are poor men can either be tunics or large shirts with wide pants down to the calves (sweatpants cut off or rolled up) with no socks. They could look rumpled or dirty – their belts can be frayed-looking—maybe use a piece of rope.

Siward & Young Siward Are English, not Scottish so no kilts. Wear an oversized long-sleeved shirt belted at the waist, dark sweatpants rolled up to just under the knee, with dark tights or kneesocks. Boots and a cape would be nice to wear.

Appartions Sheer white fabric over your costume with, perhaps, a prop.

Fleance & Macduff's Son tunic over tights – no leather or kilt.

FEMALE CHARACTERS – BASIC LOOK:

A leotard and tights are great for underneath to keep you covered. The dress of this period is long, straight, and Medieval – think King Arthur. Try and create this with fabric or pieces that you already have. Perhaps a long straight shirt belted over a long skirt. Or a single piece of fabric over the leotard and tights, with a neck cut out and a belt.

Colors should be simple and darker.

SEE THE SHOE NOTE ABOVE – ballet, jazz, T'ai chi, slippers, etc. NO TENNIS SHOES. NO HIGH HEELS.

Specific Character Notes:

Lady MacDuff is the wife of a thane and can wear richer colors..

Lady Macbeth should have jewelry, perhaps a cloak – anything to help her look richer. She will need a crown once she becomes Queen

WITCHES & HECATE – BASIC LOOK

You are magic creatures who live in the forest. Use your imagination and go wild. Perhaps flowing material (cape, robe, skirt). It is a good idea to wear tights and leggings underneath, so that your fabric can hang and flow and be easy to move in. Think of forest night colors – green, black, brown, etc.

You can weave leaves and twigs in your hair. You may even want to make a half-mask, as long as it does not cover your mouth and we can still see your eyes clearly.

Be certain that if you are playing more than one character, your Witch outfit is VERY easy and fast to throw over your body. Include purses to keep spell ingredients in.

Hecate, as the leader, should be distinguished from the others – perhaps by red in the costume – perhaps a flowing scarf or piece of red material attached in front.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR PROPS

WE WILL SUPPLY ALL WEAPONS (SWORDS & DAGGERS) AS NEEDED

DUNCAN - Crown

MACBETH – crown (received from Duncan after he's dead)

LADY MACBETH – Letter, candle, crown

LENNOX, ROSS, ANGUS, SEYTON Gentlewoman – goblets for the banquet scene

MACDUFF – Macbeth's head (can be a sack with something large in it)

WITCHES – Caldron, spell ingredients

FLEANCE – lantern or torch

DOCTOR – pad and pencil

SERGEANT – bloody bandage

A PORTER – bottle (NOT GLASS) or boda bag

SON OF MACDUFF – a toy to play with (perhaps a small wooden animal or ball)

ALL AT BANQUET: Table and chairs for banquet, goblets to toast Macbeth

Some images to help you with your costumes – but do your own research too to come up with ideas!



COSTUME RENDERING

GROUP _____

NAME _____

CHARACTER NAME(S) _____

CHARACTER(S)' AGE _____

PERSONALITY _____

WEALTH _____

PERIOD _____

MOOD OF PLAY _____

BASIC COSTUME EFFECT _____

DESCRIPTION OF COSTUME:

GARMENT _____

MATERIAL _____

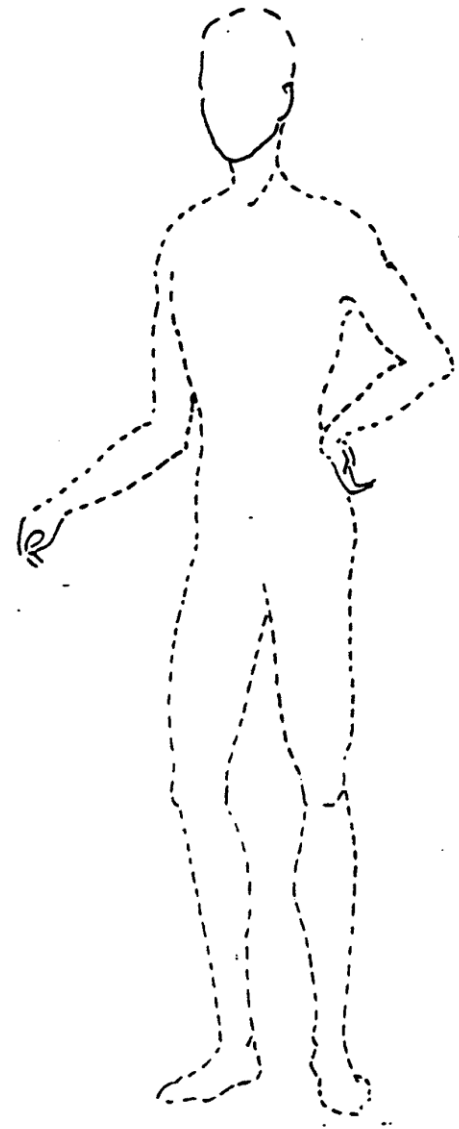
COLOR _____

TRIM _____

ACCESSORIES _____

SHOES _____

DIRECTOR COMMENTS: _____



Sketch your costume on the above figure. Include trim, accessories, shoes. Also indicate colors.

MACBETH
CAST OF CHARACTERS

MACBETH, a general of the Scottish army.

LADY MACBETH, his wife.

BANQUO, a general of the Scottish army.

MACDUFF, a Scottish nobleman.

LADY MACDUFF, his wife

LENNOX, a Scottish nobleman.

ROSS, a Scottish nobleman.

ANGUS, a Scottish nobleman.

DUNCAN, the King of Scotland.

MALCOLM, the son of Duncan.

DONALBAIN, another son of Duncan.

WITCHES

HECATE, the chief witch.

FLEANCE, the son of Banquo.

GENTLEWOMAN, attendant(s) to Lady Macbeth.

A SCOTTISH DOCTOR.

A SERGEANT.

A PORTER.

SIWARD, Earl of Northumberland; general of the English forces.

YOUNG SIWARD, Son of Siward

SON OF MACDUFF.

SEYTON, An officer attending on Macbeth.

MENTEITH, Scottish nobleman.

CAITHNESS, Scottish nobleman.

MURDERERS

APPARITIONS

GHOST KINGS

LORDS, LADIES, SOLDIERS.

Historical/Cultural Context

The historical Macbeth ruled from 1040 to 1057—Medieval Celtic Scotland.

In the barbaric Middle Ages (or Dark Ages), population pressures and struggles for land and power made war and murder a fact of life. Survival depended on having a capable warlord to protect life and property, prevent infighting, and destroy enemies. Groups of warlords would unite under the *nominal* leadership of one king to promote their common interests and war on other nations. There was no "divine right of kings" and continued, *effective leadership* was assured by warlords killing off the less capable family members.

Macbeth's reign lasted for 17 years and it appears that he was successful and prosperous [in 1050, he is reported to have "scattered money like seed to the poor at Rome." (Marianus Scottus)] Any historical reference to his brutality is only at the end of his reign.

The name "Macbeth" means "son of life", and is a first name rather than a patronymic (hence the "b" is lower case.) Macbeth would have signed his friends' high school yearbooks "Macbeth mac Findlaech" (McFinley). Lady Macbeth's first name is Gruoch (GROO-och) so she would have been Gruoch McFinley.

Shakespeare used Holinshed's account of the history of the kings of Scotland as the basis of his play (which was more fiction than fact.) In Holinshed, Macbeth is not alone in his killing of Duncan. Banquo and a few other Thanes assist him.

Macbeth and Duncan were first cousins—their grandfather was the previous King (Malcolm II). He had two daughters, which were the mothers of Macbeth and Duncan. In order to ensure that Duncan would become High King, his grandfather killed anyone else who might have been chosen before him—including Lady Macbeth's father, brother and possible first husband (other accounts name Macbeth as the killer of her first husband, in revenge for the murder of his own father.)

Historically, Macbeth killed Duncan in battle and was, in turn, killed by Malcolm in battle (which accounts for the end of his reign being perceived of as brutal. If Malcolm was challenging him, he would have had to respond). The description of Duncan's murder used by Shakespeare is either: the way that their grandfather was murdered or the description of the murder of King Duffe (Holinshed).

In Norse mythology, the three "weird" sisters (spelled "wayward" in the Folio) were Fate or Destiny. Celtic and Norse mythology had much in common (and England had been ruled by the Vikings until shortly before Macbeth's reign so their legacy was still fresh.)

Fife was one of the most powerful (and wealthiest) regions of medieval Scotland. According to one source, Dunsinane is located in Fife (so we might surmise that Macbeth took possession after the murder of the MacDuff family). MacDuff's castle was built over underground caves (used by smugglers) and it is believed that he used these to sneak out of Scotland.

Banquo is the mythical antecedent of James I, who was the ruler of England following Queen Elizabeth I and Shakespeare's patron. His "line" would become the Stewarts (Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots, was James' mother). Shakespeare's *MacBeth* was first performed for James I, after Elizabeth's death.

James had written two influential treatises that affect the play: one denouncing regicide and the other against witchcraft. [The one against regicide probably persuaded Shakespeare not to include Banquo, the King's supposed ancestor, in the killing of Duncan; the one against witchcraft is thought to have resulted in the insertion of Act III, Sc5 (and it is commonly agreed that Shakespeare did NOT write it.)]

According to some sources, the civil war at the beginning of the play actually happened. The "Norwegians" are the Vikings and Sweno was their king at the time. The rebelling thanes allied themselves with the Vikings against Duncan, who had tried to institute feudalism into Scotland (tying serfs to the land by law). In one source, Duncan's castle is surrounded, and both Macbeth and Banquo fight through to free him. [Neither Holinshed nor Shakespeare place Duncan in battle, but rather waiting in comfort to hear the outcome]

Lady Macbeth had a son, Lulach, by a previous marriage. After Macbeth's death, he succeeded him very briefly before being killed by Malcolm. Even though the weird sisters predict that Macbeth shall not have children with Lady Macbeth, this explains her statement "I have given suck, and know how tender it is to love the babe that milks me."

Scottish Thanes were kings in their own right (as were all the warlords in Medieval Europe). When Malcolm makes them all Earls at the end of the play, he is actually *demoting* them, and establishing the English system of one central King with absolute power. When James ascended to the English throne (James I of England and VI of Scotland) the Scottish crown ceased to exist as an independent entity and was subsumed within the English monarchy.

The law of "host" in Celtic society was ancient and inviolable. It superceded all other rules of conduct.



CASTING SHEET - 16g/18 b (34)

In addition to the below, it is likely all will play soldiers and witches at some point as well.

Pg 10-17

Pg 17-28

Pg. 28-42

- 1-3) MACBETH _____
- 4-7) LADY MACBETH _____
- 8) BANQUO/BANQUO's GHOST & SOLDIER at end _____
- 9) MACDUFF, KING #1 _____
- 10) LADY MACDUFF _____
- 11) ANGUS _____
- 12) LENNOX, KING #2 _____
- 13) ROSS, KING #3 _____
- 14) DUNCAN, KING #4, SOLDIER at end _____
- 15) MALCOLM, KING #5 _____
- 16) DONALBAIN, APPARITION #1 _____
- 17) WITCH #1 _____
- 18) WITCH #2 _____
- 19) WITCH #3 _____
- 20) WITCH #4 _____
- 21) WITCH #5 _____
- 22) HECATE _____
- 23) FLEANCE, MENTEITH, APPARITION #3, KING #6 _____
- 24) DOCTOR _____
- 25) MESSENGER, KING #8 _____
- 26) SERGEANT at beginning, YOUNG SIWARD _____
- 27) PORTER & APPARITION #2 _____
- 28) SIWARD, SOLDIER at beginning _____
- 29) SON OF MACDUFF & KING #7 _____
- 30) SEYTON, SOLDIER at beginning _____
- 31) LADY IN WAITING _____
- 32) MURDERER #1 & SOLDIER at end _____
- 33) MURDERER #2 & SOLDIER at end _____
- 34) MURDERER #3 & SOLDIER at end _____

Scene 1 [A heath. Thunder and lightning. Enter WITCHES.]

WITCH #1.
When shall we all meet again

WITCH #4
In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

WITCH #2.
When the hurlyburly's done,

WITCH #3
When the battle's lost and won.

WITCH #5
Where the place?

WITCH #1
Upon the heath.

WITCH #3
There to meet with Macbeth.

ALL.
Fair is foul, and foul is fair:
Hover through the fog and filthy air. [Exeunt.]

Scene 2
[A camp. Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, LENNOX, ANGUS, MENTEITH, SOLDIERS, a bleeding SERGEANT.]

DUNCAN.
What bloody man is that? He can report,
The newest state.

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

SERGEANT.
Doubtful it stood;
But all's too weak for brave Macbeth;-
He faced the slave; unseam'd him from the nave to th'chops,
And fix'd his head upon our battlements!

DUNCAN.
So well thy words become thee as thy wounds;
They smack of honour both.- Go get him surgeons. [Exit SERGEANT, SOLDIERS.]
Who comes here? [Enter ROSS]

MALCOLM.
The worthy thane of Ross.

DUNCAN.
Whence camest thou, worthy thane?

ROSS.
From Fife, great king;
Assisted by that most disloyal traitor
The thane of Cawdor. There was a dismal conflict;
But to conclude, the victory fell on us!

DUNCAN.
Great happiness!
Go pronounce his present death,
And with his former title, greet Macbeth. [EXIT ROSS]
What he hath lost, noble Macbeth hath won! [Exeunt.]

Scene 3 [Thunder. Enter WITCHES.]

WITCH #2
Where hast thou been, sister?

WITCH #4
Killing swine.

WITCH #3
Sister, where thou?

WITCH #5
Look what I have.

WITCHES #1, 2, 3, 4
Show me, show me.

WITCH #5
Here I have a pilot's thumb,
Wrack'd as homeward he did come. [Drum sounds.]

WITCH #1
A drum, a drum!

WITCH #3

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?

MACBETH.

Speak, if you can;- what are you?

WITCH #4

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

WITCH #2.

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

WITCH #3.

All hail, Macbeth, that shalt be King hereafter!

BANQUO.

If you can look into the seeds of time,
Speak, then, to me.

WITCH #1.

Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.

WITCH #2.

Not so happy, yet much happier.

WITCH #5

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

ALL WITCHES.

Banquo and Macbeth, all hail!

[WITCHES vanish]

MACBETH.

Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more!

BANQUO.

Whither are they vanish'd?

MACBETH.

Into the air- 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? [Enter ROSS and ANGUS, MENTEITH]
Who's here?

ROSS.

The king hath happily received, Macbeth,
The news of thy success; and bad me call thee
Thane of Cawdor:

MENTEITH.

Hail, most worthy thane! Hail, thane of Cawdor!

BANQUO [aside].

What, can the devil speak true?

MACBETH.

The thane of Cawdor lives.

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.-
[aside 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 [aside to MACBETH].

But 'tis strange: [Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN,
LENNOX, SOLDIERS, SERGEANT, SEYTON]

DUNCAN.
O worthiest cousin!
More is thy due, than more than all can pay.

MACBETH.
The service and the loyalty I owe,
In doing it, pays itself. Your highness' part
Is to receive our duties; and our duties
Are to your throne and state, children and servants.

DUNCAN.
Noble Banquo, thou hast no less deserved.
Sons, kinsmen, thanes,
We will establish our estate upon
Our eldest, Malcolm; whom we name hereafter
The Prince of Cumberland; from hence to Inverness,
And bind us further to you.

MACBETH.
I'll be myself the messenger, and make joyful
The hearing of my wife with your approach:
So, I humbly take my leave.

DUNCAN.
My worthy Cawdor! [Exeunt to house of Macbeth]

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. [Exit, hurriedly before others]

Scene 4 [Inverness. Macbeth's castle. Enter LADY MACBETH alone, w/letter.]

LADY MACBETH [reads].
"They met me in the day of success; and I have learn'd by the perfect'st report, they have more in them than mortal knowledge. When I burnt in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanish'd. Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came missives from the king, who all-hail'd me 'Thane of Cawdor;' by which title, before, these weird sisters saluted me, and refer'd me to the coming on of time, with 'Hail, king that shalt be!'"

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor; and shalt be
What thou art promised: yet do I fear thy nature;
It is too full o' th'milk of human kindness
To catch the nearest way: What is your tidings? [Enter a MESSENGER.]

MESSENGER.

The king comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH.

Thou'rt mad to say it:
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! 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,
To cry "Hold, hold!" Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor! [Enter MACBETH.]
Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter!

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! He that's coming
Must be provided for: and you shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch. [Exeunt.]

Scene 5

[Enter DUNCAN, MALCOLM, DONALBAIN, BANQUO, LENNOX, MACDUFF,
ROSS, ANGUS, MENTEITH, SOLDIERS, SERGEANT]

DUNCAN.

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

BANQUO.

The air is delicate. [Enter LADY MACBETH.]

DUNCAN.

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

LADY MACBETH.

Welcome all!

DUNCAN (to Lady MacBeth)

Give me your hand; conduct me to mine host:

We love him highly; by your leave, hostess. [Exeunt. MACBETH stood watching.]

MACBETH.

If it were done- when 'tis done- then 'twere well

It were done quickly: But in these cases

We still have judgement here; I have no spur

To prick the sides of my intent, but only

Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself,

And falls on th'other. How now! what news? [Enter LADY 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.

What beast was't

That made you break this enterprise to me?

MACBETH.

If we should fail?

LADY MACBETH.

We fail!

But screw your courage to the sticking-place,

And we'll not fail!

MACBETH.

Away, and mock the time with fairest show:

False face must hide what the false heart doth know. [Exeunt.]

Scene 6 [Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE with a torch before him.]

BANQUO.

How goes the night, boy?

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FLEANCE.

The moon is down; I have not heard the clock.

BANQUO.

A heavy summons lies like lead upon me,
And yet I would not sleep:- Who's there? [Enter MACBETH & SEYTON.]

MACBETH.

A friend.

BANQUO.

What, sir, not yet at rest? The king's a-bed.
I dreamt last night of the three weird sisters:
To you they have show'd some truth.

MACBETH.

I think not of them:
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 SEYTON.]
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.
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 to DUNCAN's chamber.]
[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!
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,
That death and nature do contend about them,
Whether they live or die.

MACBETH [**within**].

Who's there? what, ho!

LADY MACBETH.

Alack, I am afraid they have awaked,
And 'tis not done! - I laid their daggers ready;
He could not miss 'em.- Had he not resembled
My father as he slept, I had done't.- My husband!

[Enter MACBETH w/bloody daggers.]

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.

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!"

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,
Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care.
Still it cried "Sleep no more!" to all the house.

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:

LADY MACBETH.

Infirm of purpose!
Give me the daggers: If he do bleed,
I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal;
For it must seem their guilt. [Exit. Knock 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? [Enter LADY MACBETH.]

LADY MACBETH.

My hands are of your colour; but I shame
To wear a heart so white. [knock.] I hear a knocking
At the south entry:- retire we to our chamber:
A little water clears us of this deed:

MACBETH.

Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would thou couldst! [Exeunt.]

Scene 7

PORTER.

Here's a knocking indeed! [knock.] Knock, knock, knock!
Who's there, i' th' name of Belzebub? [knock.] Knock, knock!
Who's there, i' th' other devil's name? [knock.] Who's there?
[knock.] Knock, knock; never at quiet! What are you?- [knock.]
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 crow'd: and drink, sir, is a great provoker of three things: nose-painting, sleep, and urine.

MACDUFF.

Is thy master stirring?— here he comes. [Enter MACBETH.]

LENNOX.

Good morrow, noble sir.

MACBETH.

Good morrow, both.

MACDUFF.

Is the king stirring, worthy thane?
He did command me to call timely on him:

MACBETH.

I'll bring you to him. [Shows MACDUFF the way]

LENNOX.

The night has been unruly: where we lay,
Our chimneys were blown down: and, as they say,
Lamentings heard i' th'air; the obscure bird
Clamour'd the livelong night: some say, the earth
Was feverous and did shake.

MACBETH.

'Twas a rough night. [Enter MACDUFF.]

MACDUFF.

O horror, horror, horror!

MACBETH and LENNOX.

What's the matter?

MACDUFF.

Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope
The Lord's annointed temple, and stole thence
The life o' th'building!

MACBETH.

What is't you say? the life?

LENNOX.

Mean you his majesty? [MACBETH and LENNOX run to DUNCAN.]

MACDUFF.

Awake, awake!-- murder and treason!-
Banquo and Donalbain! Malcolm! awake! [Bell rings.]
[Enter LADY MACBETH. ALL RUN IN]

LADY MACBETH.

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

MACDUFF.

Our royal master's murder'd!

LADY MACBETH.

Woe, alas!
What, in our house? [Enter LENNOX, ROSS, MALCOLM, 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 all badged with blood.

MACBETH.(entering from chamber)

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? No man:

LADY MACBETH.

Help me hence, ho! (she faints.)

MACDUFF.

Look to the lady.

BANQUO.

Let's question this most bloody piece of work,
To know it further. By God's great hand I fight
Of treasonous malice!

MACDUFF.

And so do I.

ALL.

So all! [Exeunt all but MALCOLM and DONALBAIN]
[MACDUFF & ROSS STAND ASIDE]

MALCOLM [aside to DONALBAIN]

What will you do? Let's not consort with them:
I'll to England.

DONALBAIN [aside to MALCOLM].

To Ireland I.

There's daggers in men's smiles.

[EXIT QUICKLY, OBSERVED BY MACDUFF & ROSS]

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.

MACDUFF.

He is already named, and gone to be crown'd.
I'll away to Fife. Adieu.

ROSS.

Farewell. [Exeunt.]

Scene 8

[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
But that myself should be the root and father
Of many kings. But, hush; no more.

[SONG: OVER FUNERAL PROCESSION TAKING DUNCAN'S BODY OUT.
AT END OF PROCESSION ARE MACBETH, as king; LADY MACBETH, as queen].

MACBETH. (To BANQUO)
To-night we hold a solemn supper, sir,
And I'll request your presence.
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
'Twi'x't this and supper.

MACBETH.
Fail not our feast.

BANQUO.
My lord, I will not.

MACBETH.
We hear, our bloody cousins, Malcolm and Donalbain
Have bestow'd to England and to Ireland.
Goes Fleance with you?

BANQUO.
Ay, my good lord.

MACBETH.
Farewell. Till supper-time.
Our fears in Banquo stick deep. Who's there?
Was it not yesterday we spoke together?

[EXIT BANQUO]
[Enter MURDERERS.]

MURDERER #1.
It was, so please your highness.

MACBETH.
Well, then, now
Have you consider'd of my speeches?
Both of you know Banquo was your enemy.

MURDERER #2.

True, my lord.

MACBETH.

So is he mine. Do you find
Your patience so predominant in your nature
That you can let this go?

MURDERER #1

I am one, my liege,
Whom the vile blows and buffets of the world
Have so incensed that I am reckless what
I do to spite the world.

MURDERER #2

And I another
So weary with disasters, tugg'd with fortune,
That I would set my lie on any chance,
To mend it, or be rid on't;

MURDERER #3

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

MACBETH.

Your spirits shine through you. It must be done to-night.
Fleance his son, must embrace the fate
Of that dark hour. I'll call upon you straight.
It is concluded:- Banquo, thy soul's flight,
If it find heaven, must find it out to-night.

[Exeunt MURDERERS.]

[Enter LADY MACBETH]

LADY MACBETH.

How now, my lord! why do you keep alone?
Things without all remedy hould be without regard.
What's done is done.

MACBETH

We have scorched the snake, not killed it.

LADY MACBETH

Gentle 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 live.

LADY MACBEH

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

MACBETH

There's comfort yet; they are assailable.
This night there shall be done a deed of dreadful note.

LADY MACBETH.

What's to be done?

MACBETH.

Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck,
Till thou applaud the deed.- So, prithee, go with me. [Exeunt.]

Scene 9 [A park. Enter the MURDERERS.]

MURDERER #1

Stand aside.
The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day:

MURDERER #2

Near approaches the subject of our watch.

BANQUO [within].

Give us a light there, ho!

MURDERER #3

'Tis he.

MURDERER #1

Stand to't. [Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE, with a torch.]

BANQUO.

It will be rain to-night.

MURDERER #2

Let it come down! [They assault BANQUO & FLEANCE.]

BANQUO.

O, treachery!- Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly! [Dies. FLEANCE escapes.]

MURDERER #3

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

MURDERER #1

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

Scene 10

[A room of state in the palace. Banquet prepared. Enter MACBETH, LADY MACBETH, ROSS, LENNOX, SEYTON, PORTER, LADY IN WAITING, ANGUS, SOLDIERS.]

MACBETH.
Sit you down: at first and last the hearty welcome.

ALL.
Thanks to your majesty. [Enter MURDERERS at the door.]

MACBETH
Be large in mirth; anon we'll drink a measure
The table round.- (moves to MURDERER) There's blood upon thy face.

MURDERER #2
'Tis Banquo's, then. My lord, his throat is cut.

MACBETH.
Thou art the best o' th'cut-throats.

MURDERER #3
But most royal sir,
Fleance is scaped.

MACBETH.
Then comes my fit again!

LADY MACBETH.
My royal lord,
You do not give the cheer.

LENNOX.
May't please your highness sit.
[Enter the GHOST of BANQUO in MACBETH'S place]

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. (To BANQUO'S 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.
Sit, worthy friends:- my lord is often thus,
And hath been from his youth: pray you, keep seat;
Feed, and regard him not.- (aside to MACBETH) Are you a man?

MACBETH.
Prithee, see there! behold! look! -
[GHOST disappears.]- I do forget:-
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;
And to our dear friend Banquo, whom we miss.
Would he were here!

ALL (Ad lib Cheer)
"Our duties!" "Our pledge!" "To Banquo", etc. [Enter GHOST OF BANQUO.]

MACBETH.
Avaunt! and quit my sight! let the earth hide thee! [GHOST vanishes.]
Why, so;- being gone, I am a man again.- [GUESTS rise, and EXIT, afraid]
Pray you, sit still.

LADY MACBETH.
You have displaced the mirth, broke the good meeting,
Good night:-stand not upon the order of your going,
But go at once.

ANGUS.
Good night; and better health
Attend his majesty!

LADY MACBETH.
A kind good night to all!
[Exeunt all but MACBETH and LADY MACBETH.]

MACBETH.
I will to-morrow to the weird sisters go:
More shall they speak.

LADY MACBETH.

You lack the season of all natures, sleep.

MACBETH.

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

Scene 11 [A heath. Thunder. Enter the WITCHES, meeting HECATE.]

WITCH #1.

Why, how now, Hecate! you look angrily.

HECATE.

Have I not reason, beldams as you are,
Saucy and overbold? How did you dare
To trade and traffic with Macbeth
In riddles and affairs of death;
And I, the mistress of your charms,
The close contriver of all harms,
Was never call'd to bear my part,
Or show the glory of our art?
But make amends now: get you gone,
And at the pit of Acheron
Meet me i' the morning: thither he
Will come to know his destiny:
He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear
His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace, and fear:
And you all know security
Is mortals' chiefest enemy.
Hark! I am call'd; my little spirit, see,
Sits in a foggy cloud, and stays for me. [Exit.]

WITCH#2

Come, let's make haste; she'll soon be back again.
Thrice the brinded cat hath mew'd.

WITCH #3

Thrice and once the hedge-pig whined.

WITCH #4

Harpier cries:- 'tis time, 'tis time.

WITCH #5

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

ALL.

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

WITCH #1

Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the caldron boil and bake;

WITCH #2

Eye of newt, and toe of frog,
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,

WITCH #3

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

ALL.

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

WITCH #4

Scale of dragon; tooth of wolf;
Witch's mummy, maw and gulf
Of the ravenous salt sea shark

WITCH #5

Root of hemlock digged i'the dark
Add thereto a tiger's chaudron,
For th'ingredients of our caldron.

ALL.

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

[Enter Hecate.]

WITCH #1

Cool it with a baboon's blood,
Then the charm is firm and good.

HECATE.

O, well done! I commend your pains;
And every one shall share i' the gains:
And now about the caldron sing,
Like elves and fairies in a ring,
Enchanting all that you put in.

[WITCHES Dance around cauldron]

WITCH #2

By the pricking of my thumbs,

WITCHES

Something wicked this way comes:- [Enter MACBETH.]

MACBETH.

How now, you secret, black, and midnight hags!
What is't you do? Answer me to what I ask you.

WITCH #3

Speak.

WITCH #4

Demand.

HECATE.

We'll answer. [Thunder. APPARITION #1: an arm'd Head.]

APPARITION #1.

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth! beware Macduff;
Beware the thane of Fife.- Dismiss me:- enough.

[Vanishes. APPARITION #2: a bloody Child.]

APPARITION #2.

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

MACBETH.

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

[Thunder. APPARITION #3: a Child crowned]

What's this, that rises like the issue of a king?

APPARITION #3.

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

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,- shall Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?

HECATE.

Seek to know no more.

MACBETH.

Deny me this,
And an eternal curse fall on you!

WITCH #5

Show!

WITCH #2

Show!

WITCH #3

Show!

HECATE.

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

[A show of 8 KINGS, the last with a glass in his hand; BANQUO'S GHOST following.]

MACBETH.

Thou art too like the spirit of Banquo; down!
Thy crown does sear mine eyeballs:- Filthy hags!
Why do you show me this? A fourth?-
Another yet?- A seventh?- I'll see no more:-
And yet the eighth appears, who bears a glass
Which shows me many more; What, is this so?

HECATE.

Ay, sir, all this is so:- Come, sisters
I'll charm the air to give a sound,
While you perform your antic round. [Strange music. The WITCHES dance, vanish.]

MACBETH.

Where are they? Gone?- [Enter LENNOX running.]

LENNOX.

My lord-

MACBETH.

Saw you the weird sisters?

LENNOX.

No, my lord. But there's two or three that bring you word
Macduff is fled to England.

MACBETH.

Fled to England!

LENNOX.

Ay, my good lord.

[Exits running]

MACBETH.

From this moment

The very firstlings of my heart shall be

The firstlings of my hand.

The castle of Macduff I will surprise;

Seize upon Fife; give to the edge o' th'sword

His wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls

That trace him in his line.

[Exeunt.]

Scene 12

[Fife. A room in Macduff's castle. Enter LADY MACDUFF, her SON, and ROSS.]

LADY MACDUFF.

What had MacDuff done, to 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,
He is noble, wise, judicious, and best knows
The fits o' th'season. I dare not speak much further:
But cruel are the times,- I take my leave: [EXIT]

LADY MACDUFF.

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

MACDUFF'S SON.

As birds do, mother.

LADY MACDUFF.

What, with worms and flies?

MACDUFF'S SON.

With what I get, I mean,; and so do they.
My father is not dead for all your saying.

LADY MACDUFF

Ay, he is dead; how wilt thou do for a father?

MACDUFF'S SON.

Nay, how will you do for a husband?

LADY MACDUFF.

Why, I can buy me twenty at any market.

MACDUFF'S SON.

Was my father a traitor, mother?

LADY MACDUFF.

Ay, that he was.

MACDUFF'S SON.

What is a traitor?

LADY MACDUFF.

Why, one that swears and lies.

MACDUFF'S SON.

And must they all be hang'd that swear and lie?

LADY MACDUFF.

Every one.

MACDUFF'S SON.
Who must hang them?

LADY MACDUFF.
Why, the honest men.

MACDUFF'S SON.
Then the liars and swearers are fools; for there are liars
and swearers enough to beat the honest men, and hang up them.

LADY MACDUFF.
Now, God help thee, poor monkey, how thou talk'st! [Enter a MESSENGER.]

MESSENGER.
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!
I dare abide no longer. [Exit.]

LADY MACDUFF.
Whither should I fly?
I have done no harm. [Enter MURDERERS.] What are these faces?

MURDERER #1
Where is your husband?

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

MURDERER #2
He's a traitor!

MACDUFF'S SON.
Thou liest, thou shag-hair'd villain!

MURDERER #3
What, you egg! [Stabbing him.]
Young fry of treachery!

MACDUFF'S SON.
He has kill'd me, mother! Run away, I pray you! [dies]
[MURDERERS kill LADY MACDUFF. Exeunt.]

Scene 13

[England. Before the King's palace. Enter MALCOLM and MACDUFF.]

MALCOLM.

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

MACDUFF.

Let us rather
Hold fast the mortal sword.

MALCOLM.

This tyrant, whose sole name blisters our tongues,
Was once thought honest:
I think our country weeps, it bleeds;
There are many hands uplifted in my right;
Old Siward, with ten thousand warlike men,
Already at a point, are setting forth.

MACDUFF.

See, who comes here? [Enter ROSS]
My ever-gentle cousin, welcome hither.
Stands Scotland where it did? How does my wife?

ROSS.

Why, well.

MACDUFF.

And all my children?

ROSS.

Let not your ears despise my tongue for ever.
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? - O hell-kite! - All?
What, all my pretty chickens and their dam
At one fell swoop?

MALCOLM.

Dispute it like a man.

MACDUFF.

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

MALCOLM.

Let grief convert to anger; enrage it.

MACDUFF.

O, I could play the woman with mine eyes,
And braggart with my tongue! - But, gentle heavens,
Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself;
Within my sword's length set him; if he scape,
Heaven forgive him too!

MALCOLM.

This tune goes manly.
Come, go we to the king; our power is ready. **[Exeunt.]**

Scene 14

[Dunsinane. A room in the castle. Enter DOCTOR & LADY in WAITING.]

DOCTOR

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

LADY IN WAITING

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.

DOCTOR

A great perturbation in nature, to receive at once the benefit of sleep, and do the effects of watching! What, at any time, have you heard her say?

LADY IN WAITING

That, sir, which I will not report after her.

DOCTOR

You may to me: and 'tis most meet you should.

LADY IN WAITING

Neither to you nor any one; having no witness to confirm my speech.

DOCTOR.

Look you, here she comes! [Enter LADY MACBETH, with a taper.]
Upon my life, fast asleep. Observe her.
You see, her eyes are open.

LADY IN WAITING

Ay, but their sense is shut.

DOCTOR

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

LADY IN WAITING

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.- 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.

LADY IN WAITING

She has spoke what she shuld 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.

LADY IN WAITING

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

LADY MACBETH.

Wash your hands, put on your nightgown; look not so pale:- I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he cannot come out on's grave.

DOCTOR.

Even so?

LADY MACBETH.

To bed, to bed; there's knocking at the gate: come, come,
what's done cannot be undone: to bed, to bed, to bed. [Exit.]

DOCTOR.

Foul whisperings are abroad: unnatural deeds
Do breed unnatural troubles
More needs she the divine than the physician.
God, God forgive us all! Look after her;
I think, but dare not speak. [Exit.]

Scene 15 [Enter MACBETH, followed by SEYTON]

MACBETH.

Bring me no more reports!
Till Birnam wood remove to Dunsinane,
I cannot taint with fear.
The devil damn thee, thou cream-faced loon!

SEYTON.

There is ten thousand-

MACBETH.
Geese, villain?

SEYTON.
Soldiers, sir.

MACBETH.
What soldiers? Death of thy soul! What soldiers, whey-face?

SEYTON.
The English force, so please you.

MACBETH.
Take thy face hence. [Exit MESSENGER.] Seyton!- I am sick at heart,
I have lived long enough: Seyton!

SEYTON.
What is your gracious pleasure?

MACBETH.
I'll fight. Give me my armour.

SEYTON.
'Tis not needed yet.

MACBETH.
Give me mine armour.- Send out more horses!
[ENTER DOCTOR & LADY IN WAITING]
How does your patient, doctor?

DOCTOR.
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?

DOCTOR.
Therein the patient must minister to himself.

MACBETH.
Throw physic to the dogs,- I'll none of it.-
Come, put mine armour on!-
I will not be afraid of death and bane,

Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane. [Exeunt all]

Scene 16

[Country near Dunsinane: a wood in view. Drums. Enter MALCOLM, OLD SIWARD and YOUNG SIWARD, MACDUFF, MENTEITH, ANGUS, LENNOX, ROSS, and SOLDIERS, marching.]

SIWARD.
What wood is this before us?

MENTEITH.
The wood of Birnam.

SIWARD.
Let every soldier hew him down a bough,
And bear't before him.

SOLDIERS.
It shall be done. [Exeunt, marching.]

Scene 17

[Dunsinane. Still within the castle. Enter MACBETH, who reacts to cries off]

MACBETH.
Wherefore was that cry? [Enter DOCTOR]

DOCTOR.
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;
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 SEYTON.]

SEYTON.
Gracious my lord,
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!

Ring the alarum-bell!-

What's he that was not born of woman?

Such a one am I to fear, or none.

[Enter YOUNG SIWARD.]

YOUNG SIWARD.

What is thy name?

MACBETH.

My name's Macbeth.

YOUNG SIWARD.

The devil himself could not pronounce a title

More hateful to mine ear!

[They fight, YOUNG SIWARD is slain.]

MACBETH.

Thou wast born of woman.

[Enter MACDUFF, calling.]

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.

Turn, hell-hound, turn!

[They fight. Alarum.]

MACBETH.

I bear a charmed life, which must not yield

To one of woman born.

MACDUFF.

Despair thy charm;

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,

Yet I will try the last: lay on, Macduff;

And damn'd be him that first cries "Hold, enough!"

[The fight. MACDUFF slays MACBETH and cuts off his head.]

Scene 18

[Enter, with drum and flags, MALCOLM, OLD SIWARD, ROSS, and SOLDIERS.]

ROSS.

Old Siward, your son has paid a soldier's debt:

SIWARD.

Then he is dead?

ROSS.

Ay.

SIWARD.

He parted well, and paid his score: (covers body)

And so, God be with him!- Here comes newer comfort.

[Enter MACDUFF, with MACBETH'S head.]

MACDUFF.

Hail, king! for so thou art: behold, where stands
Th'usurper's cursed head: Hail, King of Scotland!

ALL. (Kneeling to Malcolm)

Hail, King of Scotland! [Flourish.]

MALCOLM.

My thanes and kinsmen, henceforth be earls.

I'll call to home our exiled friends abroad,

That fled the snares of th' watchful tyranny

Of this dead butcher, and his fiend-like queen,-

Who took of her own life;-

So, thanks to all at once and to each one,

Whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone. [Flourish. Exeunt.]