

NEW PERSPECTIVES

MACBETH by William Shakespeare Shhh...akespeare - New Perspectives Theatre Company

Macbeth is a Thane, a Lord in Scotland

SCENE 1 – Three weird sisters tell Macbeth that he will be King

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

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

Second Witch

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

Third Witch

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

DRUM**Third Witch**

A drum, a drum!
 Macbeth doth come.
 'Hail, king that shalt be!

DRUM**Second Witch**

A drum, a drum!
 Macbeth doth come.
 'Hail, king that shalt be!

DRUM**First Witch**

A drum, a drum!
 Macbeth doth come.
 'Hail, king that shalt be!

DRUM**SCENE 2 – Macbeth tells his wife about the witch's prophecy****MACBETH**

'These weird sisters saluted me, and referred me to the coming on of time, with 'Hail, king that shalt be!' When I burned to question them further, they made themselves air into which they vanished. 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. Lay it to thy heart, and remember my dearest love, King Duncan comes to you tonight.'

SCENE 3 – Lady Macbeth wants her husband to kill King Duncan**LADY MACBETH**

King Duncan comes here tonight.
 And tomorrow goes hence.
 O never shall sun that morrow see.

The raven himself is hoarse
 That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
 Under my battlements. Come, you spirits
 That tend on mortal thoughts,
 And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full
 Of direst cruelty! 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'
 My husband we shall make our griefs and clamour
 Roar upon his death.

SCENE 4 – Macbeth worries about committing murder

MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well
 It were done quickly: But in these cases
 We still have judgment here; that we but teach
 Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return
 To plague the inventor:
 Pity, like a naked new-born babe,
 Striding the blast,
 Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
 That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur
 To prick the sides of my intent, but only
 Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
 And falls on the other.

LEADING INTO SCENE 5 – Lady Macbeth convinces her husband to kill King Duncan

MACBETH

We will proceed no further in this business.

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? Art thou afraid
 To be the same in thine own act and valour
 As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou live a coward in thine own esteem,
 Letting 'I dare not' wait upon 'I would,'
 Like the poor cat i' the adage?

MACBETH

If we should fail?

LADY MACBETH

We fail!

But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
 And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep--
 His two chamberlains
 Will I with wine and wassail so convince
 That memory, the warder of the brain,
 Shall be a fume, and the receipt of reason
 A limbeck only: when in swinish sleep
 Their drenched natures lie as in a death,
 What cannot you and I perform upon
 The unguarded Duncan? what not put upon
 His spongy officers, who shall bear the guilt
 Of our great quell?

MACBETH

I am settled, and bend up
 Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.

SCENE 6**MACBETH**

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.
 Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going;
 And such an instrument I was to use.
 Thou sure and firm-set earth,
 Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear
 Thy very stones prate of my whereabouts,
 And take the present horror from the time,
 Which now suits with it.

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.

KING PLAYING CARD IS TORN TO SYMBOLISE THE MURDER**SCENE 7 – Macbeth regrets his actions****MACBETH**

I have done the deed
 (*Looks at hands.*) This is a sorry sight.

LADY MACBETH

A foolish thought to say a sorry sight.

MACBETH

There's one did laugh in 's sleep, and one cried, "Murder!"
That they did wake each other. I stood and heard them.
But they did say their prayers, and addressed them
Again to sleep.

One cried, "God bless us!" and "Amen" the other,
As they had seen me with these hangman's hands.
List'ning their fear I could not say "Amen",
When they did say "God bless us!"

LADY MACBETH

Consider it not so deeply.

MACBETH

But wherefore could not I pronounce "Amen"?
I had most need of blessing, and "Amen"
Stuck in my throat.

LADY MACBETH

These deeds must not be thought
After these ways. So it will make us mad.

MACBETH

Methought I heard a voice cry, "Sleep no more!
Macbeth does murder sleep"--the innocent sleep,
Sleep that knits up the raveled sleeve of care.
Still it cried, "Sleep no more!" to all the house.
"Glamis hath murdered sleep, and therefore Cawdor
Shall sleep no more. Macbeth shall sleep no more."

LADY MACBETH

Things without all remedy
Should be without regard. What's done is done.
Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all,
As the weird women promised.

SCENE 8 – Recap on the story so far

**We have met three weird sisters,
We have met Macbeth and his wife Lady Macbeth.
Macbeth has killed King Duncan and become King himself, just as the
weird sisters predicted.**

All is well, apart from Macbeth's best friend Banquo

**Who Macbeth fears will now get Kings,
BANQUO's children will be Kings**

SCENE 9 – Macbeth worries about his best friend Banquo and has him killed

MACBETH

To be thus is nothing,
But to be safely thus.
Our fears in Banquo stick deep.
There is none but he whose being I do fear.
First, they put the name of king upon me,
Then, prophet-like,
They hailed him father to a line of kings.
If 't be so,
For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind.
For them the gracious Duncan have I murdered.

It is concluded. Banquo, thy soul's flight,
If it find heaven, must find it out to-night.
Cut his throat and with him Fleance his son
They must embrace the fate of that dark hour.

SCENE 10

KING PLAYING CARD IS RIPPED APART

SCENE 11

MACBETH

It will have blood, they say. Blood with have blood.
I am in blood
Stepped in so far that, should I wade no more,
Returning were as tedious as go o'er.

SCENE 12 – The witches chant a big spell and tell Macbeth that he can not be killed by anyone who is naturally born

THE WITCHES

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

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

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

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth! beware Macduff;
Beware the thane of Fife.
Be bloody, bold, and resolute.
For none of woman born shall harm Macbeth.
For none of woman born shall harm Macbeth,
For none of woman born shall harm Macbeth.

SCENE 13 – Macbeth feels invincible, like he can now do whatever he wants. He plots to kill rival Thane Macduff's family

MACBETH

That will never be.
The castle of Macduff I will surprise,
Seize upon Fife, give to th' edge o' th' 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.

KING PLAYING CARD IS RIPPED APART

SCENE 15

MACBETH

My wife is sick,
She is troubled with thick-coming fancies
That keep her from her rest.

SCENE 16 – Lady Macbeth is unwell. She sees blood on her hands which she cannot wipe clean

LADY MACBETH

Yet here's a spot. Out, damned spot! Out, I say! Hell is murky!
Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood
in him.
What, will these hands ne'er be clean? Here's the smell of the blood
still.

SCENE 17 - King playing card is ripped apart

SCENE 18 – Macbeth mourns the death of his wife

MACBETH

My queen is dead.
 There would have been a time for such a word.
 Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,
 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.

Come, come. What's done cannot be undone.
 I'll fight till from my bones my flesh be hacked.
 Swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn,
 Brandished by man that's of a woman born.
 I bear a charmed life, which must not yield
 To one of woman born.

SCENE 19 – The witches prophecy becomes irrelevant

Macduff was from his mother's womb
 Untimely ripped.
 Accursèd be that tongue that tells me so,
 For it hath cowed my better part of man!

Yet I will try the last. Before my body
 I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff,
 And damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

The final King playing card is torn apart to symbolise the death of Macbeth

We would love to see your own versions and receive feedback on our online Shhh...akearpeare resources, so please do send photos, videos and comments to jayne@newperspectives.co.uk

