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**MACBETH**

By William Shakespeare

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S  
**MACBETH**

WHEN SHALL WE THREE  
MEET AGAIN?  
IN THUNDER, LIGHTNING,  
OR IN RAIN?

WHEN THE HURLYBURLY'S DONE,  
WHEN THE BATTLE'S LOST  
AND WON

UPON THE HEATH  
THERE TO MEET  
WITH MACBETH



**E**ARLY IN THE ELEVENTH CENTURY, SCOTLAND WAS TORN BY A REBELLION AGAINST DUNCAN, ITS KING. MACBETH, THE THANE OF GLAMIS, AND FIRST COUSIN TO THE KING, LED THE LOYAL ARMY INTO BATTLE. DUNCAN AND HIS SONS, MALCOLM AND DONALD BAIN, WAITED ANXIOUSLY AT THEIR CAMP FOR THE OUTCOME.



WHAT BLOODY MAN IS THAT? HE CAN REPORT, AS BODDLETH BY HIS FLIGHT, OF THE REVOLT.

DOUBTFUL IT STOOD, AS TWO SPENT SWIMMERS THAT DO CLING TOGETHER AND CHOKE THEIR ART.

A sign of nobility

Whisper each other's feelings

BUT ALL'S TOO NEAR, FOR BRAVE MACBETH (WELL HE DESERVES THAT NAME), DISDAINING FORTUNE, WITH HIS BRANDISHED STEEL, CARVED OUT HIS PASSAGE. TILL HE FACED THE OLIVE AND FIRED HIS HEAD UPON OUR BATTLEMENTS.

O VALIANT COUSIN!

An army leader

THEN THE LOYAL THANE OF ROSS ARRIVED.



THE VICTORY FELL ON US.

SPEAK HAPPINESS?

**T**HE KING CONDEMNED THE THANE OF GARDNER, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE REBELLION, TO DEATH.

NO MORE THAT THANE OF GARDNER SHALL DECEIVE OUR BOSOM INTEREST. SO PRODUCE HIS PRESENT DEATH, AND WITH HIS FORMER TITLE GREAT MACBETH WHAT HE HATH LOST NOW I' MACBETH HATH WON.



ON THE FOGGY FIELDS NEAR DUNCAN'S CAMP, THE THREE WITCHES MET AGAIN

FAIR IS FOUL, AND FOLL  
IS FAIR  
HOVER THROUGH THE FOG  
AND FILTHY AIR



A DRUM, A DRUM!  
MACBETH DOETH COME



MACBETH AND BANQUO, ANOTHER SCOTTISH NOBLEMAN APPROACHED ON THEIR WAY TO THE KING

WHAT ARE THESE, SO WITHERED  
AND SO WILD IN THEIR ATTIRE,  
THAT LOOK NOT LIKE THE  
INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH,  
AND YET ARE GENT?



ALL HAIL, MACBETH!  
HAIL TO THEE, THANE  
OF GLAMIS!

ALL HAIL, MACBETH!  
HAIL TO THEE, THANE  
OF CAWDOR!

ALL HAIL,  
MACBETH,  
THAT SHALT  
BE KING  
HEREAFTER!





## AT DUNCAN'S CAMP

IS EXECUTION  
DONE ON CARROK?

I HAVE SPOKE  
WITH ONE THAT  
SAW HIM DIE, WHO  
DID REPORT THAT HE  
SET FORTH A DEEP  
REPENTANCE NOTHING  
IN HIS LIFE BECAME HIM  
LIKE THE LEAVING IT



## THEN MACBETH ARRIVED

O WORTHWEST COUSIN,  
MORE IS THY DUE  
THAN ALL CAN PAY



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,  
WHICH DO BUT WHAT THEY SHOULD  
BY DOING EVERYTHING  
SAFE TOWARD YOUR LOVE  
AND HONOR



**B**UT AS THE KING WELCOMED BANQUO,  
MACBETH WAS THINKING OF THE  
PREDICTION THAT HE, HIMSELF  
WOULD BE KING

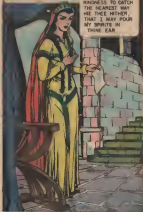
WELCOME BANQUO, LET ME  
HOLD THEE TO MY HEART

STARS, HIDE YOUR FIRES!  
LET NOT LIGHT SEE MY BLACK  
AND DEEP DESPERS  
THE EYE WINK AT THE HAND  
YET LET THAT OC  
WHICH THE EYE FEARS, WHEN  
IT IS DONE, TO SEE



**A** OVERHEARD MACBETH'S CASTLE, LADY MACBETH RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HER HUSBAND TELLING HER OF HIS NEW HORRORS AND OF THE WITCHES' PROPHECIES. GUILD AND CURSING, LADY MACBETH LIFT HER HUSBAND KNEW THAT MACBETH COULD ONLY BE KING IF DUNCAN WERE DEAD.

BLAME THOU ART AND CARDON, AND SHALT BE WHAT THOU ART PROMISED. YET DO I FEAR THY NATURE: IT IS TOO FULL OF THE MILK OF HUMAN RHINDNESS TO CATCH THE NEAREST WAY WE THEE HITHER, THAT I MAY POOR MY SPIRITS IN THINE EAR.



**A** MESSENGER THEY ENTERED

THE KING COMES HERE TO-NIGHT



THE RAVEN HIMSELF IS HEARD: THAT CROAKS THE FATAL ENTRANCE OF DUNCAN UNDER MY BATTLEMENTS—COME, YOU SPIRITS THAT TEND ON MORTAL THOUGHTS, UNDO ME HERE AND FILL ME, FROM THE CROWN TO THE TOE, TOP-FULL OF DIRTEST CRUELTY! COME, THOU NIGHT, AND FALL<sup>1</sup> THIS IN THE DUNNET<sup>2</sup> SHORE 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!

<sup>1</sup>Cover <sup>2</sup>Entrance





MY DEAREST LOVE,  
DUNCAN COMES HERE  
TO-NIGHT

AND WHEN  
GOES HENCE?



TO-MORROW

O NEVER SHALL  
SUN THAT  
MORROW SEE!

**NEXT EVENING, DUNCAN ARRIVED AT INVERNESS, WHILE THE KING WAS BEING ENTERTAINED IN HIS ROOM, IN ANOTHER, MACBETH CONSIDERED HIS PLAN TO MURDER HIM**



HE'S HERE IN DOUBLE TRUST,  
FIRST, AS I AM HIS KINGSMAN  
AND HIS SUBJECT,  
THEN, AS HIS HOST,  
WHO SHOULD AGAINST HIS  
MURDERER SHUT THE DOOR,  
NOT BEAR THE KNIFE MYSELF  
BESIDES, THIS DUNCAN  
HATH BEEN  
SO CLEAR IN HIS GREAT OFFICE,  
THAT HIS VIRTUES  
WILL PLEAD LIKE ANGELS,  
TRUMPET-TONGUED, AGAINST  
THE DEEP DAMNATION OF HIS  
TAKING-OFF,  
AND PITY, LIKE A HAKED  
NEW-BORN BARE,  
STRIDING THE BLAST, OR  
HEAVEN'S CHERUBIN, HORSED  
UPON THE SIGHTLESS COURSERS  
OF THE AIR,  
SHALL BLOW THE HORRID DEED  
IN EVERY EYE,  
THAT TEARS SHALL DROWN THE  
WIND I HAVE NO BRUIE  
TO PRICK THE SIDES OF MY  
INTENT, BUT ONLY  
MILL-TIVE AMBITION, WHICH  
O'ERLEAPS ITSELF  
AND FALLS ON THE OTHER SIDE

**HE RECEIVED A DECISION  
AND WHEN LADY MACBETH  
ENTERED, HE ANNOUNCED IT**



WE WILL PROCEED  
NO FURTHER IN  
THIS BUSINESS



I CARE DO ALL THAT  
MAY BECOME A MAN,  
WHO DARES DO MORE  
IS NONE

WHAT BEAST WAST THEN  
THAT MADE YOU BREAK THIS  
ENTERPRISE TO ME?  
WHEN YOU DURST DO IT, THEN  
YOU WERE A MAN,  
AND, TO BE MORE THAN WHAT  
YOU WERE, YOU WOULD  
BE SO MUCH MORE THE MAN  
I HAVE GIVEN SUCK, AND KNOW  
HOW TENDER 'TIS TO LOVE  
THE BABE THAT MILKS ME  
I WOULD, WHILE IT WAS  
SMILING IN MY FACE,  
HAVE PLUCKED MY NIPPLE  
FROM HIS SORELESS OLMS,  
AND DASHED THE BRAINS OUT,  
HAD I SO SWORN  
AS YOU HAVE DONE TO THIS



IF WE SHOULD  
FAIL?

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,\*\*  
CONVINCE\*\*\*  
WHEN IN SWISH SLEEP  
THEIR DRENCHED NATURES LIE AS  
IN A DEATH,  
WHAT CANNOT YOU AND I PERFORM  
UPON  
THE UNSGUARDED DUNCAN? WHAT  
NOT PUT UPON  
HIS SPOREY OFFICERS, WHO SHALL  
BEAR THE GUILT  
OF OUR GREAT QUELL?

\*Caravan  
\*\*Merriment  
\*\*\*Overcome



LADY MACBETH'S PLAN CONVINCED MACBETH

BRING FORTH MEN-CHILDREN ONLY,  
FOR THY UNGAINTED METTLE\*  
SHOULD COMPOSE  
NOTHING BUT MALES  
AWAY, AND MOCK THE TIME  
WITH FAIRER SHOW,  
FALSE FACE MUST HIDE  
WHAT THE FALSE  
HEART BOTH KNOW

\*Substance

LAST NIGHT, WHILE MACBETH AWAITED HIS WIFE'S SIGNAL THAT THE WAY WAS CLEAR, HE SAW BEFORE HIM THE IMAGE OF HIS INSTRUMENT



TO 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-OPRESSED BRAIN?

I SEE THEE YET, IN FORM AS PALPABLE AS THIS WHICH NOW I DRAW THOU MARSHAL<sup>1</sup> ME THE WAY THAT I WAS GOING, AND SUCH AN INSTRUMENT I WAS TO USE MINE EYES ARE MADE THE POOLS OF THE OTHER SENSES, OR ELSE WORTH ALL THE REST. I SEE THEE STILL, AND ON THY BLADE AND HILT<sup>2</sup> GOULTS OF BLOOD, WHICH WAS NOT SO BEFORE THERE'S NO SUCH THING IT IS THE BLOODY BUSINESS WHICH INFORMS THIS TO MINE EYES



<sup>1</sup>Lead  
<sup>2</sup>Warden bar

THEN HE HEARD  
LADY MACBETH  
HEAR THE SIGNAL  
BELL

I DU, 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



LADY MACBETH WAITED IN THE DARKNESS

HE IS ABOUT IT THE DOORS ARE OPEN,  
AND THE GROOMS DO MOCK THEIR CHARGE  
WITH SNORES I SAID THEIR DAGGERS  
READY, HE COULD NOT MISS 'EM 'HAD  
HE' NOT RESEMBLED MY FATHER AS HE  
SLEPT, I HAD DONE!



\*Dancer

THEN MACBETH ENTERED

I HAVE DONE THE  
DEED DOST THOU  
NOT HEAR A NOISE?



METHOUGHT I HEARD A VOICE CRY  
"SLEEP NO MORE!"  
MACBETH DOES MURDER SLEEP-- THE  
INNOCENT SLEEP,  
SLEEP THAT KISSES UP THE REVELED\*\*\*  
SLEEVE\*\*\* OF CARE,  
THE DEATH OF EACH MAN'S LIFE, SOME  
LABOR'S BATH,  
BALM OF HURT MINDS, GREAT NATURE'S  
SECOND COURSE,  
CHIEF NOURISHER IN LIFE'S HEART  
STILL IT CRIED "SLEEP NO MORE!" TO  
ALL THE HOUSE  
"SLAMS WITH MURDERED SLEEP, AND  
THEREFORE CANNOT  
SHALL SLEEP NO MORE?" MACBETH SHALL  
SLEEP NO MORE!"



\*Smothered  
\*\*Tangled  
\*\*\*Strand

WHY, WORTHY THANE, YOU DO LABOUR  
YOUR NOBLE STRENGTH TO THINK SO  
BRANDISHLY OF THINGS WHY DID YOU  
BRING THESE DAGGERS FROM THE PLACE?  
THEY MUST LIE THERE SO CARRY THEM  
AND SNEAK THE SLEEPY GROOMS  
WITH BLOOD



I'LL GO NO MORE  
[ AM AFRAID TO  
THINK WHAT I HAVE  
DONE, LOOK ON'T  
AGAIN I DARE NOT

INFIRM OF PURPOSE?  
GIVE ME THE DAGGERS  
IF HE DO BLEED, I'LL  
WASH THE FACES OF  
THE GROOMS WITHAL,  
FOR IT MUST SEEM  
THEIR GUILT.



**T**HEY  
MACBETH  
HEARD  
A  
KNOCKING

WHENCE IS THAT  
KNOCKING? HOW  
IS'T WITH ME WHEN  
EVERY NOISE  
APPALLS ME?



*LADY MACBETH RETURNED, HER HANDS SMEARED WITH DUNCAN'S BLOOD*

MY HANDS ARE OF YOUR  
COLOR, BUT I SHAME  
TO WEAR A HEART SO WHITE  
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?  
HARK! MORE KNOCKING

WAKE DUNCAN WITH  
THE KNOCKING? I  
WOULD THOU  
COULDST!



THE PORTER  
OPENED  
THE SOUTH  
ENTRY TO  
MACDUFF  
AND LENOX

IS THY MASTER  
STIRRING?



CALLING FROM HIS BEDROOM, MACBETH RECEIVED HIS GUESTS AND, AT MACDUFF'S REQUEST,  
DIRECTED HIM TO THE KING'S APARTMENT

HE DID COMMAND  
ME TO CALL HIM,  
I HAVE ALMOST  
SLIPPED THE HOUR

DOES THE KING  
HENCE TO-DAY?

HE DOES, HE DID  
APPOINT SO



THE NIGHT HAS BEEN UNRULY WHERE  
WE LAY,  
OUR CHIMNEYS WERE BLOWN DOWN,  
AND, AS THEY SAY,  
LAMENTING HEARD 'T THE AIR, STRANGE  
SCREAMS OF DEATH,  
AND PROPHECYING, WITH ACCENTS  
TERRIBLE,  
OF FIRE COMBUSTION AND CONFUSED  
EVENTS  
NEW HATCHED TO THE WOIFUL TIME  
THE OBSCURE BIRD\*  
CLAIMED THE LIVELONG NIGHT SOME  
SAY THE EARTH  
WAS FEVEROUS AND 'D NO SHAKE

'T WAS A  
ROUGH  
NIGHT



**Suddenly**

O HORROR,  
HORROR,  
HORROR!  
TONGUE NOR  
HEART CANNOT  
CONCEIVE NOR  
NAME THEE!



**M**ACBETH AND LENORR RAN TO THE KING'S CHAMBER AS LADY MACBETH AND BANGUO ENTERED THE ROOM

AWAKE, AWAKE!  
RING THE ALARM BELL,  
MURDER AND TREASON!  
BANGUO AND DONALDBAIN!  
MALCOLM! AWAKE!  
SHAKE OFF THIS DROWNY  
SLEEP, DEATH'S  
COUNTERFEIT,  
AND LOOK ON DEATH ITSELF!  
UP, UP, AND SEE  
THE GREAT DOOM'S BRACE!  
OUR ROYAL MASTER'S  
MURDERED!



WHAT IN  
OUR HOUSE?



**T**HEN MACBETH AND LENORR RETURNED

HAD I BUT DIED AN  
HOUR BEFORE  
THIS CHANCE,  
I HAD LIVED A  
BLESSED TIME,  
FOR FROM THIS  
INSTANT  
THERE'S NOTHING  
SERIOUS IN  
MORTALITY,  
ALL IS BUT TOYS,  
REVENGE AND  
GRACE IS DEAD,  
THE WINE OF LIFE IS  
DRAWN, AND THE  
MERE LEES<sup>a</sup>  
IS LEFT THIS VAULT  
TO BRAG OF



**MALCOLM AND DONALBAN, SONS OF THE MURDERED KING, RECEIVED THE NEWS.**

WHAT IS ARISS?

YOUR ROYAL FATHER'S MURDERED.

BY WHOM?



THOSE OF HIS CHAMBER, AS IT SEEMED, HAD DONE IT. THEIR HANDS AND FACES WERE ALL BAGED WITH BLOOD, SO WERE THEIR DAGGERS, WHICH LAYED HE FOUND UPON THEIR PILLOWS.

O, YET I DO REPENT ME OF MY FURY THAT I DID KILL THEM.



**MALCOLM HAD RUSHED IN AND KILLED THE SLEEPY GUARDS BEFORE THEY COULD DENY THE MURDER NOW HE TRIED TO HIDE HIS GUILT.**



WHO CAN BE WISE, AMAZED, TEMPERATE, AND FURIOUS, LOYAL AND NEUTRAL, IN A MOMENT? NO MAN HERE LAY DUNCAN, HIS SILVER SKIN LACED WITH HIS GOLDEN BLOOD: THERE, THE MURDERERS, STEEPED IN THE COLORS OF THEIR TRADE WHO COULD REFRAIN THAT HAD A HEART TO LOVE AND IN THAT HEART COURAGE TO MAKE 'S LOVE KNOWN?

**WHEN THE OTHERS LEFT, MALCOLM AND DONALBAN MADE THEIR PLANS.**

THIS MURDEROUS DEFT THAT'S SHOD WITH NOT YET LIGHTED, AND OUR SAFEST WAY IS TO AVOID THE ARM THEREFORE TO HORSE I AND LET US NOT BE DAINTY OF LEAVE-TAKING BUT SHUT AWAY I'LL TO ENGLAND



TO IRELAND I OUR SEPARATED FORTUNE SHALL KEEP US BOTH THE SAFER WHERE WE ARE, THERE'S DAGGERS IN MEN'S SMILES.



**MACDUFF AND ROSS MEET  
SOME DAYS LATER**

IS'T KNOWN WHO  
DID THIS MORE  
THAN BLOODY  
DEED?

THOSE THAT MACBETH  
HATH SLAIN, THEY WERE  
SUBORNED\* MALCOLM AND  
DONALBAN, THE KING'S TWO  
SONS, ARE STOLEN AWAY AND FLED,  
WHICH PUTS UPON THEM SUSPICION  
OF THE DEED



\*Stealed to the ill

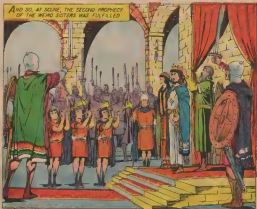
THOU 'TIS MOST  
LIKE THE  
SOVEREIGNTY  
WILL FALL UPON  
MACBETH

HE IS ALREADY  
NAMED, AND COME  
TO SCENE TO BE  
INVESTED\*



\*Crowned

**AND SO, AT SCENE, THE SECOND PROPHECY  
OF THE WITCH SISTERS WAS FULFILLED**



**BANQUO, THE GUEST OF KING MACBETH AND HIS QUEEN AT THE PALACE, LOOKED ABOUT HIM AND REMEMBERED**

THOU HAST IT NOW -- KING, CANNON,  
GLAMES, ALL,  
AS THE WEIRD WOMEN PROMISED,  
AND I FEAR  
THOU PLAYEDST MOST FOULLY FOR'T



**THEN MACBETH ENTERED**

TO-NIGHT WE HOLD A SOLEMN  
SUPPER, SIR,  
AND I'LL REQUEST YOUR  
PRESENCE

LET YOUR  
HIGHNESS  
COMMAND  
UPON ME



WILL YOU THIS  
AFTERNOON?  
GOES FLEANCE\*  
WITH YOU?

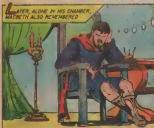
AY, MY  
GOOD LORD



\*Fleance's son

**LATER, ALONE IN HIS CHAMBER, MACBETH ALSO REMEMBERED**

THERE IS NONE BUT HE  
WHOSE BEING I DO FEAR, AND UNDER  
HIM MY GODDUS IS RENUKED  
THE SISTERS HALLED 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,  
TO MAKE THEM KINGS, THE SEED  
OF BANQUO KINGS?  
RATHER THAN SO, COME, FATE,  
INTO THE LIST,  
AND CHAMION ME TO THE  
UTTERANCE\*\*.



\*\*Defied  
\*\*Unleashed

**M**ACBETH HAD TWO MURDERERS BROUGHT TO HIM WITH THEM, HE PLOTTED THE END OF BANQUO AND FLEANCE



I AM ONE, MY LIEGE,  
WHOM THE VILE BLINDS AND  
BUFFETS OF THE WORLD  
HATH SO INCENSED THAT I  
AM RECKLESS WHAT  
I DO TO SPITE THE WORLD

AND I ANOTHER  
SO WEARY WITH DISASTERS,  
TUGGED WITH FORTUNE,  
THAT I WOULD SET MY  
LIFE ON ANY CHANCE,  
TO MOVE IT OR BE RID ON'T

BOTH OF YOU  
KNOW BANQUO WAS YOUR  
ENEMY,  
SO IS HE MINE, AND  
THOUGH I COULD  
WITH BARRACED  
POWER SWEEP HIM  
FROM MY SIGHT  
YET I MUST NOT,  
FOR SUNDRY WEIGHTY  
REASONS



I WILL ADVISE YOU WHERE  
TO PLANT YOURSELVES,  
FOR 'T MUST BE DONE TO-NIGHT



LATER, LADY MACBETH FOUND THE KING ALONE AND WORRIED

HOW NOW, MY LORD?  
WHY DO YOU KEEP ALONE?  
THINGS WITHOUT ALL  
REMEDY SHOULD BE  
WITHOUT RESARD  
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE



WE HAVE SCORCHED<sup>a</sup> THE SNAKE,  
NOT KILLED IT  
SHE'LL CLOSE AND BE HERSELF,  
WHILST OUR POOR MALICE  
REMAINS IN DANGER OF HER  
FORMER TOOTH  
BUT LET THE FRAMES OF THINGS  
DELIGHT, BOTH THE WORLDS  
SUFFER,  
ERE WE WILL EAT OUR MEAL IN  
FEAR AND SLEEP  
IN THE AFFLICTION OF THESE  
TERRIBLE DREAMS  
THAT SHAKE US NIGHTLY  
BETTER BE WITH THE DEAD,  
WHOM WE, TO GAIN OUR PEACE,  
HAVE SENT TO PEACE,  
THAN ON THE TORTURE OF THE  
LIVING TO LIE  
IN RESTLESS ECSTASY DUNCAN  
IS IN HIS GRAVE,  
AFTER LIFE'S PITIFUL FEVER  
HE SLEEPS WELL  
TREASON HAS DONE HIS WORST  
NOR STEEL, NOR POISON,  
MALICE DOMESTIC, FOREIGN LEVY,  
NOTHING,  
CAN TOUCH HIM FURTHER

<sup>a</sup>Scorched

THAT EVENING, LYING IN WAIT FOR BANQUO AND FLEANCE, THE TWO MURDERERS WERE SURPRISED TO SEE A THIRD

BUT WHO DID BIG  
THREE JOIN WITH US?

MACBETH



THEN STAND  
WITH US

HARK I  
I HEAR  
HORSES



IT WILL BE  
RAIN TO-NIGHT



LET IT  
COME DOWN!



THERE'S BUT ONE  
DOWN! THE SON  
IS FLED



LATER, WHILE GUESTS WERE BEING SEATED IN THE BANQUET HALL, THE KING WAS CALLED ASIDE



MACBETH RETURNED TO THE BANQUET TABLE





THOU CANST NOT SAY  
I DO IT NEVER  
SHAKE THY GORY  
LOOKS AT ME

GENTLEMEN,  
RISE HIS  
HIGHNESS IS  
NOT WELL

SIT, WORTHY FRIENDS  
THE FIT IS MOMENTARY,  
FEED, AND REGARD  
HIM NOT



PRITHEE, SEE THERE?  
BEHOLD! LOOK!  
LO! NOW SAY YOU?  
WHY, WHAT CARE I?  
IF THOU CANST NOT,  
SPEAK TOO

*Then  
the  
ghost  
was  
gone*

IF I STAND HERE, I SAW HIM  
THE TIME HAS BEEN,  
THAT, WHEN THE BRAINS WERE  
OUT, THE MAN WOULD DIE,  
AND THERE AN END, BUT  
NOW THEY RISE AGAIN,  
WITH TWENTY MORTAL  
MURDERS ON THEIR  
CROWNS,  
AND PUSH US FROM  
OUR STOOLS THIS  
IS MORE STRANGE  
THAN SUCH A MURDER!

MY WORTHY LORD,  
YOUR NOBLE FRIENDS  
DO LAKE YOU



I DO NOT 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?  
THEN I'LL SIT DOWN  
GIVE ME SOME WINE,  
FILL FULL,  
I DRINK TO THE GENERAL  
JOY OF THE WHOLE TABLE,  
AND TO OUR DEAR FRIEND  
BANGOU, WHOM WE MISS  
WOULD HE WERE HERE! TO  
ALL, AND HIM, WE THIRST,  
AND ALL TO ALL



NOT AS HE STARTED TO TAKE HIS SEAT, AGAIN HE  
SAW THE FORM OF THE MURDERED BANGOU

HAUNT AND BURN MY  
SIGHT? LET THE  
EARTH HIDE THEM?  
THY BONES ARE NARROWLESS,  
THY BLOOD IS COLD,  
THOU HAST NO SPICULATION  
IN THOSE EYES,  
WHICH THOU DOST GLARE  
WITH?

I PRAY YOU, SPEAK NOT  
HE DROWS WORSE AND  
WORSE  
AT ONCE, GOOD NIGHT  
STAND NOT UPON THE ORDER  
OF YOUR GOING,  
BUT GO AT ONCE



#### AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE GUESTS

YOU HAVE DISPLACED THE MIRTH  
BROKE THE GOOD MEETING  
WITH MOST NOBLED DISORDER

IT WILL HAVE BLOOD, THEY  
SAY, BLOOD WILL HAVE BLOOD



I WILL TO-MORROW TO  
THE WEIRD SISTERS  
WORE SHALL THEY SPEAK,  
FOR NOW I AM  
SENT TO NYON,  
BY THE WORST MEANS,  
THE WORST FOR  
MINE OWN GOOD  
ALL CAUSES SHALL GIVE  
WHY I AM IN BLOOD  
STEPPED IN SO FAR THAT,  
SHOULD I WADE NO  
MORE,  
RETURNING WERE AS  
TEDIOUS AS GO OVER





THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, THE  
WITCH SISTERS PREPARED  
TO RECEIVE MACBETH

DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TOIL  
AND TROUBLE,  
FIRE BURN AND CALDRON  
BUBBLE



Then...

HOW NOW, YOU SECRET, BLACK,  
AND MIGHTY HAGS?  
I CONJURE YOU BY THAT  
WHICH YOU PROFESS,  
HOWE'ER YOU COME TO KNOW  
IT, ANSWER ME.  
BARRER ME  
TO WHAT I ASK YOU

SPEAK

DEMAND

WE'LL  
ANSWER



THERE WAS A ROLL OF THUNDER AND THEN A STRANGE IMAGE APPEARED

HE KNOWS THY THOUGHT  
HEAR HIS SPEECH, BUT  
SAY THOU NOTHING

MACBETH! MACBETH! MACBETH!  
BEWARE MACDUFF  
DISMISS ME ENOUGH

WHATEVER THOU  
ART PER THY  
GOOD CAUTION  
THANKS



THEN  
THERE WAS  
A SECOND  
WAGG

BE BLOODY, BOLD AND RESOLUTE,  
LAUGH TO SCORN  
THE POWER OF HEAVEN, FOR NONE  
OF WOMEN BORN  
SHALL HARM MACBETH

THEN LIVE, MACDUFF! WHAT  
NEED I FEAR OF THEE?  
BUT YET I'LL HAVE ASSURANCE  
DOUBLE SURE  
AND TAKE A BOND OF FATE,  
THOU SHALT NOT LIVE!



A THIRD APPEARANCE APPEARED

MACBETH SHALL NEVER  
WASHED BE UNTIL  
GREAT BIRNHAM WOOD TO  
HIGH DUNSMOKE HILL  
SHALL COME AGAINST HIM

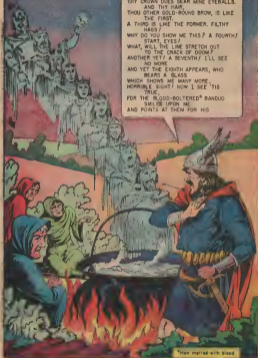
THAT WILL NEVER BE  
WHO CAN IMPRESS THE  
FOREST, AND THE TREE  
UNLESS HIS EARTH-BOUND  
ROOT?

YET MY HEART  
THROBS TO KNOW ONE THING  
TELL ME, IF YOUR ART  
CAN TELL, SO MUCH SHALL  
BANDUNG'S ISSUE EVER  
REIGN IN THIS KINGDOM?



**T**HE WITCHES' POWER BROUGHT BEFORE MACBETH THE VISION OF EIGHT KINGS, ALL DESCENDANTS OF BANQUO. THEY APPEARED ONE BY ONE, FOLLOWED BY BANQUO.

THOU ART TOO LIKE THE SPIRIT OF  
BANQUO DOWN!  
THY CROWN DOES BEAR MINE EYEBALLS,  
AND THY HAIR,  
THOU OTHER GOLD-BOUND BROW, IS LIKE  
THE FIRST.  
A THIRD IS LIKE THE FORMER, FILTHY  
HARRS!  
WHY DO YOU SHOW ME THIS? A FOURTH!  
START, EYES!  
WHAT, WILL THE LINE STRETCH OUT  
TO THE CRACK OF DOOM?  
ANOTHER YET? A SEVENTH? I'LL SEE  
NO MORE  
AND YET THE EIGHTH APPEARS, WHO  
BEARS A GLASS  
WHICH SHOWS ME MANY MORE,  
HORRIBLE SIGHT! NOW I SEE 'TIS  
TRUE,  
FOR THE BLOOD-BOLTERED<sup>a</sup> BANQUO  
SMILES UPON ME  
AND POINTS AT THEM FOR HIS



<sup>a</sup>Here mottled with blood

**F**ROM THE WITCHES' MESSAGES, MACBETH KNEW HE HAD MARRIED TO FEAR HE DECIDED TO FLEE FOR HIM AND HIS FAMILY. KILLED MACDUFF HAD ALREADY FLED TO ENGLAND, ALONG WITH MANY OTHER THINGS, TO ESCAPE MACBETH'S BLOODY REIGN. BUT HE LEFT LADY MACDUFF AND THEIR CHILDREN AT HIS CASTLE AT FIVE ONE DAY, A STRANGER CAME TO SEE LADY MACDUFF.

BLESS YOU, FAIR DAME!  
IF YOU WILL TAKE A  
HONEST MAN'S ADVICE,  
BE NOT FEAR'D HERE  
HENCE WITH YOUR  
LITTLE ONE'S.  
I DARE ASK NO LONGER.

WHYER 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.



\*A man of dwarf race

AFTER THE STRANGER LEFT,  
MACBETH'S WIFE MURDERERS CAME.

WHERE IS  
YOUR  
HUSBAND?

I HOPE IN NO PLACE SO  
UNSANCTIFIED  
WHERE SUCH AS THOU  
MAYST FIND HIM.

THEN THE MURDERERS SLEW  
ALL WHO WERE WITHIN  
MACDUFF'S CASTLE.

IN ENGLAND, MALCOLM AND MACDUFF DISCUSSED THE FLIGHT OF THEIR HOMELAND

LET US SEEK OUT SOME  
DESOLATE SHARDE, AND THERE  
WEEP OUR SAD BOSOMS EMPTY

LET US RATHER  
HOLD FAST THE MORTAL SWORD  
AND, LIKE GOOD MEN,  
RESTRICE OUR BOWFALL'N  
BIRTHDOOM EACH NEW MORN  
NEW WIDOWS HOWL, NEW ORPHANS  
CRY, NEW SORROWS  
STRIKE HEAVEN ON THE FACE



\* Duncan's elder son

**M**ALCOLM HAD FOUND  
LOYAL FRIENDS AND HE  
TOLD MACDUFF THAT PLANS  
WERE BEING MADE TO RETURN  
TO SCOTLAND AND WHY THE  
THRONE<sup>†</sup> FROM MARGRETH

GRACIOUS ENGLAND HATH  
LENT US GOOD SWORD<sup>†</sup>  
AND TEN THOUSAND MEN



<sup>†</sup>An English general, Malcolm's uncle

THE THINE OF ROSS THEN CAME, BRINGING  
THE LATEST SAD NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

SEE WHO COMES HERE  
MY EVER GENTLE COUSIN,  
WELCOME STANDS  
SCOTLAND WHERE IT DID<sup>†</sup>

ALAS, POOR  
COUNTRY



WHEN I CAME HITHER TO  
TRANSPORT THE TIDINGS,  
WHICH I HAVE HEAVILY BORNE,  
THERE RAN A RUMOR  
OF MANY WORTHY FELLOWS  
THAT WERE OUT  
NOW IS THE TIME OF HELP  
YOUR EYE IN SCOTLAND  
WOULD CREATE SOLDIERS,  
MAKE OUR WOMEN FIGHT  
TO DOFF THEIR SIRE  
DISTRESSES.

BE'T THEIR COMFORT  
WE ARE COMING TITHER

WOULD I COULD ANSWER  
THIS COMFORT WITH THE LIKE /  
BUT I HAVE WORDS  
THAT WOULD BE HOWLED OUT  
IN THE DESERT AIR,  
WHERE HEARING SHOULD NOT  
LATCH THEM

IF IT BE MINE,  
KEEP IT NOT FROM ME,  
QUICKLY LET ME  
HAVE IT.

YOUR CASTLE IS SURPRISED;  
YOUR WIFE AND BABES  
SAVAGELY SLAUGHTERED



O, I COULD PLAY THE  
WOMAN WITH MINE EYES  
AND BRAGGART WITH MY  
TONGUE / BUT, GENTLE  
HEAVENS,  
CUT SHORT ALL INTERMISSION  
FRONT TO FRONT  
BRING THOU THIS FEND OF  
SCOTLAND AND MYSELF  
WITHIN MY SWORD'S LENGTH  
SET HIM



**B**ACK IN SCOTLAND, MACBETH HAD MADE HIS HOME IN DUNSMUNE. TO THIS STRANG-HELD, LADY MACBETH'S BEWILDERING CALLER A DOCTOR TO DESCRIBE THE QUEER CONDUCT OF THE QUEEN.

I HAVE SEEN HER RISE FROM HER BED, THROW HER NIGHTGOWN UPON HER, UNLOCK HER CLOSET, TAKE FORTH PAPERS, FOLD IT, WRITE UPON IT, READ IT, AFTERWARDS SEAL IT, AND AGAIN RETURN TO BED. YET ALL THIS WHILE IN A MOST FAST SLEEP.

IN THIS DUMBERY AGITATION, WHAT, AT ANY TIME, HAVE YOU HEARD HER SAY?



THAT, SIR, WHICH I WILL NOT REPORT AFTER HER, NEITHER TO YOU NOR ANY ONE, HAVING NO WITNESS TO CONFIRM MY SPEECH.



WOULD YOU, WERE SHE COMING? THIS IS HER VERY GLISE, AND, UPON MY LIFE, FAST ASLEEP? OBSERVE HER; STAND CLOSE.



WHAT IS IT SHE DOES NOW? LOOK HOW SHE RUBS HER HANDS.

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.

YET HERE'S A SPOT.





OUT, DAMNED SPOT?  
OUT, I SAY!

FE, MY LORD, FE!  
& SOLDIER, WHO APPEAR? WHAT  
NEED WE FEAR WHO KNOWS IT,  
WHICH NONE CAN CALL OUR POWER  
TO ACCOUNT? YET WHO WOULD  
HAVE THOUGHT THE OLD MAN TO  
HAVE HAD SO MUCH BLOOD IN HIM?



THE THANE OF  
FERRE had a wife  
WHERE IS  
SHE NOW?

MACBETH

WHAT WILL THESE  
HANDS EVER BE CLEAN?  
HERE'S THE SMELL OF  
THE BLOOD STILL. ALL  
THE PEARLS OF  
ARABIA WILL NOT  
SWEETEN THIS LITTLE  
HAND OH, OH, OH!



WHAT A SIGN IS  
THERE! THE HEART  
IS SORELY CHARGED.



WASH YOUR HANDS, PUT ON  
YOUR NIGHTGOWN, LOOK NOT  
SO PALE! I TELL YOU YET  
AGAIN, BANQUO'S BURIED HE  
CANNOT COME OUT OH 'S  
GRIEVE 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!



FROM CASTLES AND PROVINCES ALL OVER SCOTLAND, THAMES AND THEIR FOLLOWERS MOVED SOUTHWARD TO MEET THE INVADING ARMY OF EDWARD, THE ENGLISH GENERAL.

THE ENGLISH POWER IS NEAR, LED ON BY MALCOLM, HIS UNCLE EDWARD, AND THE GOOD MACDUFF NEAR BIRNHAM WOOD SHALL WE WELL MEET THEM, THAT WAY ARE THEY COMING.

THE THAMES WERE NOT GOING OUT TO RESIST THE INVADERS, BUT TO WELCOME THEM.

GREAT DUNSHANE HE STRONGLY FORTIFIES SOME SAY HE'S MAD, OTHERS, THAT LESSER HATE HIM, DO CALL IT VALIANT FURY.

WHAT DOES THE THREATEN?

NOW DOES HE FEEL HIS SECRET MURDERS STICKING ON HIS HANDS, NOW DOES HE FEEL HIS TITLE HANG LOOSE ABOUT HIM, LIKE A GIANT'S ROBE UPON A DWARFISH THIEF.



AT DUNSMIRE, MACBETH RELIED UPON THE WITCHES' PROPHECIES TO SAVE HIM

BRING ME NO MORE REPORTS. LET THEM FLY ALL!  
TILL BIRNAM WOOD REMOVE TO DUNSMIRE,  
I CANNOT TRUST WITH FEAR



WHAT'S THE BOY MALCOLM?  
WAS HE NOT BORN OF WOMAN?  
THE SPIRITS THAT KNOW  
ALL MORIES, CONSCIENCES  
HAVE PROUNCED HE THIS  
YEAR NOT, MACBETH NO MAN  
THAT'S BORN OF WOMAN  
SHALL E'er HAVE POWER  
UPON THEE



THEN A MESSENGER ENTERS

WHERE GOT'ST THOU  
THAT GOSKIE LOOK?

THERE IS TEN THOUSAND  
SOLDIERS, SIR



WHAT SOLDIERS,  
WHY-FACE'?

THE ENGLISH  
FORCE



THIS PUSH  
WILL CHEER ME EVER OR DISSEAT ME NOW  
I HAVE LIVED LONG ENOUGH  
AND THAT WHICH SHOULD ACCOMPANY OLD AGE,  
AS HONOR, LOVE, DESERVENCE, TROOPS OF FRIENDS,  
I MUST NOT LOOK TO HAVE, BUT IN THEIR STEAD,  
CURSES, NOT LOUD BUT  
DEEP, MOUTH-HONOR,  
BREATH  
WHICH THE POOR HEART  
WOULD FAIN DENY, AND DARE NOT



I'LL FIGHT TILL  
FROM MY BONES  
MY FLESH BE  
HACKED GIVE  
ME MY ARMOR



IN BIRNAN WOOD, SHAWD MADE HIS REPORT TO MALCOLM

WE LEARN NO OTHER BUT THE CONFIDENT TYRANT  
KEEPS STILL IN DUNSMANE



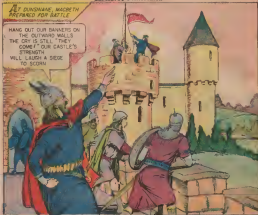
MALCOLM THEN REVEALED HIS STRATEGY

LET EVERY SOLDIER HURR HIM DOWN  
A BUSH  
AND BEAR'T BEFORE HIM THEREBY  
SHALL WE SHADOW  
THE NUMBERS OF OUR HOST AND  
MAKE DISCOVERY  
EVEN IN REPORT OF US.



AT DUNSMIRE, MACBETH  
PREPARED FOR BATTLE

HANG OUT OUR BANNERS ON  
THE OUTWARD WALLS  
THE CRY IS STILL "THEY  
COME!" OUR CASTLE'S  
STRENGTH  
WILL LAUGH A SIEGE  
TO SCORN



THEN

WHAT IS  
THAT NOISE?

IT IS THE CRY  
OF WOMEN, MY  
GOOD LORD



I HAVE ALMOST FORGOT THE TASTE OF FEARS  
THE TIME HAS BEEN MY SENSES WOULD HAVE  
COOLED  
TO HEAR A NIGHT-SHRIEK, AND MY FELL OF  
HAIR  
WOULD AT A DISMAL TREATISE HOUSE AND STIR  
AS LIFE WERE IN IT I HAVE SUPPED FULL  
"WITH HORRORS  
DIRENESS", FAMILIAR TO MY SLAUGHTEROUS  
THOUGHTS,  
CANNOT ONCE START ME



\*Horror

WHEREFORE WAS THAT CRY?

THE QUEEN, MY LORD, IS DEAD



WE 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 RACE FROM DAY TO  
DAY  
TO THE LAST SYLLABLE OF RECORD'D TIME,  
AND ALL OUR YESTERDAYS HAVE LIGHTED  
FOOLS  
THE WAY TO DUSTY DEATH  
OUT, OUT, BRIEF CANDLES!



\* She would have died inevitably

LIFE'S BUT A WALKING  
SHADOW, A POOR PLAYER,  
THAT STRUTS AND PRETENS HIS  
HOUR UPON THE STAGE  
AND THEN IS HEARD NO MORE  
IT IS A TALE  
TOLD BY AN IDOT, FULL OF  
SOUND AND FURY,  
SIGNIFYING NOTHING



THERE WAS NO TIME TO HEAR  
BIRNAN'S MESSAGES WITH  
ANY DULCITY BY A MESSAGE  
WHICH BECAME UNBELIEVABLE

GRACIOUS MY LORD,  
AS I DID STAND BY WATCH UPON  
THE HILL,  
I LOOKED TOWARD BIRNAN, AND  
FROM METHOUGHT,  
THE WOOD BEGAN TO MOVE



LIAR, AND  
SLAVE!

LET ME ENJOY YOUR  
WRATH IF'T BE NOT SO  
WITHIN THIS THREE MILE  
MAY YOU SEE IT COMING,  
I SAY, A MOVING GROVE



I FELL IN RESOLUTION AND BEGAN  
TO DOUT THE EQUIVOCATION<sup>9</sup> OF  
THE FIELD,  
THAT LIES LIKE TRUTH "FEAR  
NOT, TILL BIRNAN WOOD  
DO COME TO DUNDEWANE!" AND  
NOW A WOOD  
COMES TOWARD DUNDEWANE!



RING THE ALARM BELL! BLOW, WIND!  
COME, WRACK!  
AT LEAST WE'LL DIE WITH HARNESS ON  
OUR BACK!



<sup>9</sup>Unpleasant meaning

<sup>10</sup>Distraction



MACBETH CHARGED FROM THE CASTLE HE FOUND HIMSELF ALONE IN THE FOREST, DESERTED BY HIS LAST REMAINING FOLLOWERS HE HAD BUT ONE HOPE LEFT



WHAT IS HE THAT WAS NOT BORN OF WOMAN? SUCH A ONE AM I TO FEAR, OR NONE

**T**hen Macbeth heard a challenge call behind him he turned swiftly and saw a young English nobleman

WHAT IS  
THY NAME?

MY NAME'S  
MACBETH



ABHORRED  
TYRANT!



THOU WAST BORN OF WOMAN  
BUT SWORDE I SMILE AT,  
WEAPONS LAUGH TO SCORN,  
BRANDISHED BY MAN THAT'S  
OF A WOMAN BORN



**M**ACDUFF SEARCHED  
THROUGH THE FOREST  
FOR MACBETH.

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.  
EITHER THOU, MACBETH,  
OR ELSE MY SWORD WITH AN  
UNBATTERED EDGE  
I SHEATHE AGAIN UNDEEDED\*  
LET ME FIND HIM, FORTUNE!  
AND MORE I BEG NOT.



\*having done nothing



**FORWARD AND BACK THE ARMORED WARRIORS MOVED, WHILE NEITHER GAINED VICTORY MACBETH TRIED TO CHASE THE BATTLE**

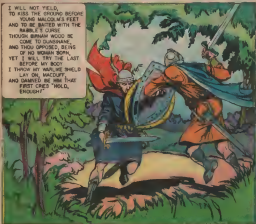


ACCURSED BE THAT TONGUE THAT  
TELLS ME SO,  
FOR IT HATH COMED BY BETTER  
PART OF MAN!  
I'LL NOT FIGHT WITH THEE!

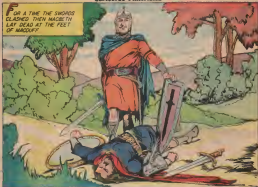
THEN YIELD THEE, COME ON,  
AND LIVE TO BE THE SHOW AND GAZE  
O' THE TIME!  
WE'LL HAVE THEE, AS OUR BAKEN  
MONSTERS ARE,  
PUNTED UPON A POLE, AND UNDERWIT  
HERE MAY YOU SEE THE TYRANT!



I WILL NOT YIELD,  
TO KISS THE GROUND BEFORE  
YOUR MALCOLM'S FEET  
AND TO BE BAITED WITH THE  
RABBIT'S CURSE  
THOUGH BIRNAN WOOD BE  
COME TO DUNDEWANE,  
AND THOU OPPOSED, BEING  
OF NO WOMAN BORN,  
YET I WILL TRY THE LAST  
BEFORE MY BODY  
I THROW MY WAR-LIKE SHIELD  
LAY ON, MACDUFF!  
AND DAMNED BE HIM THAT  
FIRST CRIES "HOLD,  
ENOUGH!"



**F**OR A TIME THE SWORDS  
CLASHED THEN MACBETH  
LAY DEAD AT THE FEET  
OF MACDOFF



**A**ND MACDOFF  
WENT TO  
HONOR MALCOLM,  
THE NEW KING  
OF SCOTLAND

HAIL, KING! FOR SO THOU ART THE TIME  
IS FREE  
I SEE THEE COMPOSSED<sup>a</sup> WITH THY  
KINGDOM'S FEAR,  
THAT SPEAK MY SALVATION IN THEIR MINDS,  
WHOSE VOICES I DESIRE ALONG WITH MINE,  
HAIL, KING OF SCOTLAND!



<sup>a</sup>Overcome

THE END

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSICS Illustrated EDITION, DON'T  
MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL. OBTAIN IT  
AT YOUR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC LIBRARY

# WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE** was born in the peaceful little town of Stratford on the banks of the Avon River in England. We do not know the exact date of his birth, but

church records show that he was baptized on April 26, 1564.

Other records of the local city hall show that John Shakespeare, father of William, was one of the town's leading citizens. He was registered as a member of the glove-maker's guild, but he took part in a number of enterprises, and he traded in leather. He had political connections and served in several appointive and elective positions. At one time, he was the town's official ale taster. Later, he was town constable. In the year that William was four, his father was made high bailiff, or mayor, of Stratford.

As a member of a leading family, William Shakespeare was probably taught at an early age to read and to write. This private instruction prepared him to go on for what was considered advanced education in the Stratford Grammar School. It is likely that he spent most of his time there studying Latin. Probably his teachers required him to memorize long passages and to recite them in a loud, clear voice. Such exercises in speech and memory would have been very helpful when he later became an actor.

We do not know much about Shakespeare as a young man. We know that at the age of eighteen he married Anne Hathaway. They had three children, Susanna, Judith and Hamnet.

Many stories have been written about

Shakespeare's struggles in his efforts to become a writer and actor in London, but little is really known about how he got his start. Modern writers have often pictured him earning pennies by holding the horses of rich theater goers. However, there is nothing in history to show that he was ever that destitute.

In fact, we know that by the time he was twenty-eight, he was a successful actor, and that from that time until his death at the age of fifty-two, he grew increasingly popular and prosperous.

Shakespeare was one genius who was extremely popular even during his own lifetime. The theatrical companies with which he worked and the plays which he wrote were in great demand. He appeared regularly at the command of Queen Elizabeth I, and after her death, his company was sponsored by King James I.

Shakespeare was loved not only by royalty, but by all the people. His audience, according to one writer of the day, consisted of "masters, traders, sailors, old men, young men, women, boys, girls, and such like," most of whom paid one penny for the privilege of standing to see the show.

His being an actor gave Shakespeare a great advantage over writers who create plays for others to act. Shakespeare did not write on mere theory. He watched and listened to his audiences as much as his audiences watched and listened to him. He changed his lines frequently, always trying to get the most out of the dramatic situation. He developed such ability to meet the demands of an audience, that for more than 300 years his plays have been capturing audiences with the genius of their drama, their understanding and their poetry.

William Shakespeare died on April 23, 1616. Ben Jonson, a fellow poet and dramatist, later wrote a eulogy which said, in part,

"He was not of an age, but for all time!"



# THE STORY OF GREAT BRITAIN

## PART 2 THE ROMAN CONQUEST

**I**n the year 43 A.D., a Celtic people called Britons lived in Britain. They built simple villages, raised grain, fenced cattle and often fought among themselves.



Life in new England

**A**t that time, in Rome, the Emperor Claudius heard rumors of riches in Britain.

But, your excellency, Julius Caesar found nothing of value when he invaded Britain in 55 B.C.

No matter I will make it a colony of my Empire!



**T**he Roman conquerors soon built up Britain.

We're making a real city out of this London.



**T**he Britons were quickly overpowered by the invading Romans.



**A**s time passed, Roman merchants came to Britain and opened shops.

We will make money here there are slaves, cattle, iron and grain to trade in.





**T**HOUGH THE ROMANS CONQUERED THE BRITONS, THEY COULD NOT CONQUER THE NEIGHBORING PICTS. FINALLY IN THE YEARS 102 TO 107, THE EMPEROR HADRIAN HAD A STONE WALL BUILT ACROSS THE ISLAND TO KEEP OUT THOSE FIERCE FIGHTERS FROM THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS.



**D**URING THE NEXT 500 YEARS, THE ROMANS THRIVED IN BRITAIN.

THIS BATH IS ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE ONES IN ROME

NOT BAD FOR AN OUTPOST OF THE EMPIRE!



**T**HEN, IN 407, WARRING AMONG DIFFERENT GROUPS IN ROME CAUSED THE EMPEROR CONSTANTINE TO RECALL ALL OF THE ROMAN LEGIONS FROM BRITAIN.



**T**HE WITHDRAWAL OF ROMAN TROOPS LEFT THE BRITONS DEFENSELESS AGAINST RAIDERS FROM NORTHERN EUROPE. SOON, THESE RAIDERS HAD LOOTED ALL OF ROMAN BRITAIN. NOTHING REMAINED AFTER NEARLY 400 YEARS OF ROMAN RULE EXCEPT A FEW CHURCHED RUINS.



**T**HIS IS THE SECOND OF TWELVE FEATURES ON THE HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN IN THE NEXT ISSUE "SAXON ENGLAND"

## BANQUO'S DESCENDANT

WHEN JAMES I entered London in 1603 to ascend the throne of England, he found William Shakespeare and a company of the finest actors in the land waiting to welcome him. King James was the successor to Queen Elizabeth I, under whose rule Shakespeare had prospered. He and the stage company to which he belonged were favorites of Elizabeth. They often performed for Elizabeth and her court during the Christmas season, and at other festive times Elizabeth's Lord Chamberlain was their sponsor, and they were known as the Chamberlain's Men.

Fortunately for Shakespeare, King James was as good to the theater as Elizabeth had been. He was a scholar who loved literature and encouraged the arts. He wrote and published a great many poems, as well as a book of advice to poets. For the benefit of his son he even wrote a book on how to be king. He himself translated parts of the Bible from Latin into English, and it was he who sponsored the complete new edition, or "King James Version" of the Bible.

King James took over Shakespeare's company ten days after he received the crown. From that time on they were known as the King's Men and they were unchallenged as the most prominent theatrical group in England.

Shakespeare must have appreciated this support. In writing *Macbeth* he paid his compliments to James.

Shakespeare came upon the original story of *Macbeth* in a history book, *Chronicles of England, Scotland and Ireland* by Ralph Holmshad.

According to Holmshad, Macbeth became King of Scotland in the year 1040, after murdering King Duncan. Holmshad wrote that Macbeth was promised the throne by "the weird sisters," who were "goddesses of destiny or else some nymphs or fairies." He also wrote that during Macbeth's reign he sought the advice of "certain wizards and a witch" who gave him false comfort and led him to his doom.

Shakespeare's version of this (the tragedy *Macbeth*) was of tremendous interest to King James. First, James came from a long line of Scottish Kings. He was the son of Mary Queen of Scots and, too several years before he became King of England, he had been King of Scotland. Naturally he was interested in a play about Scottish Kings and Scottish history.

Second, Shakespeare built his story around the weird sisters and King James was not only a believer in witchcraft, he considered himself an expert on same. In fact he wrote a book in which he gravely discussed the ability of "evil" in telling of things to come.

Most important was the matter of Banquo and Banquo's descendants. In the play the three witches tell Banquo that he will be father to a line of kings. Later they conjure up a vision of Banquo's royal descendants.

This certainly interested James. According to legendary Scottish history James was a direct descendant of Banquo. And so when Banquo's descendants appear during the scene with the witches the last figure represents none other than the reigning king—James himself.



# Classics Illustrated Junior

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