

# MACBETH

BY

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Scene Summaries

# Act I Summaries

- Scene i – three witches decide to meet with Macbeth after the battle
- Scene ii – Macbeth defeats traitor & King gives Macbeth the title of Thane of Cawdor
- Banquo & Macbeth are good friends & fight together in the war
- Dramatic Irony (add to www) – when the audience knows something the characters do not!

# Act I Summaries

- Scene iii – witches make predictions: Macbeth will be:

- Thane of Glamis (already is!)
- Thane of Cawdor (is but doesn't know it yet!)
- King
- Banquo will be:
  - Lesser than Macbeth but greater
  - Not as lucky as Macbeth but luckier
  - Not a king, but kids will be kings

**Macbeth & Banquo find out that Macbeth is now the Thane of Cawdor & Macbeth begins to dream of being king!**

# Act I Summaries

- Scene iv – Macbeth gets close to the king to gain his trust & eventually be king himself, but King Duncan proclaims his son Malcolm heir to the throne. Macbeth admits that Malcolm is now a problem!
- Scene v – at their castle, Lady Macbeth is reading a letter from her husband describing the witches' prophecies. She thinks her husband is too weak to act & decides that when the king visits their castle, they will kill the king!

# Act I Summaries

- Scene vi – King Duncan arrives at Macbeth's castle & is welcomed by Lady Macbeth (who is secretly plotting his murder!)
- Scene vii – Macbeth admits to self that his ambition has led him to thoughts of murder. Lady Macbeth taunts him to show his manliness by killing Duncan!

# Act II Summary

- Scene i – Macb & Banquo decide to talk about the witches' predictions later. MacB hallucinates a bloody dagger.
- Scene ii – Macb kills king; brings daggers back to bedroom; Lady MacB tells MacB to take daggers back, but he won't; she does & covers guards with blood & puts daggers beside them

# Act II Summaries

- Scene iii – Macduff comes to Macbeth's castle & discovers the king is murdered; Macbeth kills the guards out of “loyalty & anger” (lie) really MacB wanted to cry! Malcolm & Donalbain (king's sons) decide to run away/hide bc fear for lives!
- Scene iv – MacB becomes king; Macduff doubts MacB! Malcolm & Donalbain run away & are potential suspects of the murder!

# Act III Summaries

- Scene i – Mcb hires murderers to kill Banquo & Fleance
- Scene ii – Lady Mcb tells Mcb to quit being so nervous & sad – Mcb hints something bad might happen to Banq!
- Scene iii - The murderers kill Banquo, but Fleance escapes.
- Scene iv – Banquet; murderers tell McB that Banquo is dead/Fleance escaped; McB sees Banquo's ghost; Lady McB makes excuses that McB is ill & tells everyone to leave.



# Act III Summaries

- Scene v – Hecate (head witch) meets with 3 witches & decides to be involved in ruining McB.
- Scene vi – Now Lennox suspects McB and asks about Macduff; Macduff is in England raising an army against McB...McB summoned Macduff to come back, but Macduff refused.