#### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Act I, scene 7: Lady Macbeth, Macbeth

### MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well It were done quickly...

[Enter LADY MACBETH]

How now! what news?

**LADY MACBETH** He has almost supp'd: why have you left the chamber?

**MACBETH** Hath he ask'd for me?

## LADY MACBETH

Know you not he has?

### MACBETH

We will proceed no further in this business: He hath honour'd me of late.

### LADY MACBETH

Art thou afeard to be the same in thine own act and valour As thou art in desire?

### MACBETH

Prithee, peace: I dare do all that may become a man.

### LADY MACBETH

What made you break this enterprise to me? When you durst do it, then you were a man.

### MACBETH

If we should fail?

### LADY MACBETH

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

## MACBETH

I am settled. Away, and mock the time with fairest show: False face must hide what the false heart doth know.

#### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

## MACBETH

Act II, scene 2: Lady Macbeth, Macbeth

### LADY MACBETH

Hark! I laid their daggers ready; He could not miss 'em... [*Enter MACBETH*] My husband!

### MACBETH

I have done the deed....This is a sorry sight. *[Looking at his hand]* 

### LADY MACBETH

A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

### MACBETH

One cried 'God bless us!' and 'Amen' the other; As they had seen me with these hangman's hands.

### LADY MACBETH

Consider it not so deeply.

#### MACBETH

Methought I heard a voice cry 'Sleep no more! Macbeth does murder sleep, Macbeth shall sleep no more'.

### LADY MACBETH

Who was it that thus cried? Go get some water, and wash this filthy witness from your hand.... [He reveals daggers] Why did you bring these daggers from the place? They must lie there! Go smear the sleepy grooms with blood.

### MACBETH

I'll go no more: I am afraid to think what I have done; Look on't again I dare not.

### LADY MACBETH

Infirm of purpose! Give me the daggers. For it must seem their guilt.

[She exits to put the daggers in the king's chamber. Knocking within]

### MACBETH

What hands are here? Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand? No! [Re-enter LADY MACBETH]

### LADY MACBETH

My hands are of your colour... [More knocking offstage] I hear a knocking, be not lost so poorly in your thoughts!

### MACBETH

To know my deed, 'twere best not know myself. [More knocking offstage]

Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would thou couldst!

### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

### MACBETH Act IV, scene 1: Witches and Macbeth

### MACBETH

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

## ALL

A deed without a name.

## MACBETH

I conjure you, answer me to what I ask you.

## FIRST WITCH

Speak.

### **SECOND WITCH**

Demand.

### **THIRD WITCH**

We'll answer.

### ALL

Come, high or low; Thyself and office deftly show!

### FIRST WITCH

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

## MACBETH

But one word more,--

## FIRST WITCH

I will not be commanded: here's another, more potent than the first.

## **SECOND WITCH**

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth! Be bloody, bold, and resolute; none of woman born Shall harm Macbeth.

# MACBETH

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

## THIRD WITCH

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

# MACBETH

That will never be! Yet my heart throbs to know one thing: shall Banquo's issue ever reign in this kingdom?

# ALL

Seek to know no more!

## MACBETH

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

## FIRST WITCH

Show!

## **SECOND WITCH**

Show!

# THIRD WITCH

Show!

# ALL

Shown his eyes, and grieved his heart; Come like shadows, so depart!

# MACBETH

Where are they? Gone? The castle of Macduff I will surprise, give to the edge o' the sword his wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls.

This deed I'll do before this purpose cool.

### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Act II, scene 3: Banquo Soliloquy (2-7 voices)

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 that myself should be the root and father of many kings.

If there come truth from them—As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine—

Why, by the verities on thee made good,

may they not be my oracles as well, and set me up in hope?

But hush! no more.

### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Act V, scene 8: Macduff, Macbeth

## MACDUFF

That way the noise is. Tyrant, show thy face! Turn, hell-hound, turn!

## MACBETH

Of all men else I have avoided thee...

## MACDUFF

I have no words: My voice is in my sword!

[They fight, Duff is cut]

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** I'll not fight with thee.

# MACDUFF

Then yield thee, coward, we'll have thee painted on a pole, and underwrit, 'Here may you see the tyrant.'

# MACBETH

I will try the last. Lay on, Macduff, and damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

[Macduff kills Macbeth]

**MACDUFF** THE TIME IS FREE!

#### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Ensemble Soliloquy: Macbeth's Dagger Speech, Act II, scene 1 (2-7 voices)

Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?

Come, let me clutch thee. I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou but a dagger of the mind, a false creation, Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?

I see thee still, and on thy blade, gouts of blood, Which was not so before. There's no such thing!

Whiles I threat, he lives: Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives. [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.

#### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Ensemble Soliloquy: Lady Macbeth's Raven Speech, Act I, scene 5 (2-5 voices)

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!

Stop up the access and passage to remorse, That no visitings of nature shake my fell purpose.

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!'

### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Act III, scene 2: Lennox Soliloquy (2-7 voices)

The night has been unruly:

where we lay, our chimneys were blown down;

and, as they say, Lamentings heard i' the air;

strange screams of death, and prophesying with accents terrible...

Of dire combustion and confused events new hatch'd to the woeful time:

the obscure bird clamour'd the livelong night:

some say, the earth was feverous and did shake

#### Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

MACBETH Ensemble Soliloquy: Macbeth's Tomorrow Speech, Act V, scene 5 (1-11 voices)

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.