

Macbeth

To reward Macbeth for his victory and loyalty, King Duncan awards the title of Thane of Cawdor to Macbeth. Macbeth begins to think the weird sisters spoke truthfully when they said he would be king.

The Weird Sisters

*"Fair is foul, and foul is fair;
Hover through the fog and filthy air."*



Lady Macbeth is determined to make certain her husband becomes King. She plans for Macbeth to murder Duncan in his sleep. Macbeth reluctantly agrees.

The Royal Family



Duncan
King of Scotland



Malcolm
Duncan's elder son



Donalbain
Duncan's younger son

"He was a gentleman on whom
I built an absolute trust."

Macbeth
Thane of Glamis
*"Stars, hide your fires;
Let not light see my black
and deep desires."*

Noble Scottish Families



Banquo

A commander of
Duncan's army
*"Thou hast it now... and
I fear thou played'st
most foully for't."*



Macduff

Thane of Fife
*"What, all my pretty
chickens and their dam
at one fell swoop?"*



Young
Siward

Siward's Son
Scottish Nobles
*"Thou hast it now... and
I fear thou played'st
most foully for't."*



Angus

Ross Lennox Caithness Mentieth
Commander of the
English forces
*"Thou hast it now... and
I fear thou played'st
most foully for't."*



Young
Siward

Siward's Son
Scottish Nobles
*"Thou hast it now... and
I fear thou played'st
most foully for't."*

On a foggy heath near a battlefield in Scotland, Macbeth and Banquo stumble upon three weird sisters, who greet Macbeth with three titles: Thane of Glamis, Thane of Cawdor, and future King. The Thane of Cawdor and King Duncan are alive, so Macbeth is puzzled. The women also tell Banquo his sons will be kings. When the men seek further explanation, the figures disappear.

Macbeth's Army



Lady Macbeth

Macbeth's Wife
*"Stars, hide your fires;
Let not light see my black
and deep desires."*



Porter

Servant



Doctor

Gentlewoman
attending Lady Macbeth

Macduff arrives in the morning to rouse Duncan, but finds he's been murdered.

Duncan's sons flee to England and Ireland, afraid that they will also be murdered. However, their flight makes them look guilty.

Folger SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

EDUCATION

Advancing knowledge & the arts
www.folger.edu/education