**Macbeth WOOSH**

Narrator: Thunder and lightning crash above a Scottish moor. **Three haggard old women, the**

**witches**, appear out of the storm. One of the witches has a long hooked nose and sniffs the air, like a dog searching for a scent.

One witch: **“I hear him, I hear him…”**

N: The second witch has a tuft of silvery hair coming from her chin and grins showing her

manky gums.

Witch 2: **“I hear the sound of hooves sisters”**.

N: The third witch has milky blind eyes but ‘looks’ around as if she can see everything.

**Witch 3: “I see him! He comes! Let the spell begin!”**.

N: In eerie, chanting tones, they make plans to meet again upon the heath, after the battle, to

confront Macbeth.

**All Witches: “Fair is foul, and foul is fair: Hover through the fog and filthy air.”**

N: As quickly as they arrive, they disappear.

**WOOSH**

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Narrator: King Duncan's generals, **Macbeth** and **Banquo** are riding their horses through driving rain.

Macbeth is tall and muscular with a brave and noble appearance. Banquo is younger and slimmer with a mouth that seems unable to smile. Suddenly, their horses rear up in fear and the two soldiers struggle to control their horses. They have encountered **three strange women** on bleak Scottish moorland on their way home from quelling a rebellion. Macbeth cannot believe what he sees and doesn’t know quite what the three ‘women’ are.

Macbeth: “**What are these so withered and wild in their looks, they look like aliens yet here**

**they are on Earth!”**

N: The witches give three prophesies:

**First Witch:** **“All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee, Thane of Glamis!”**

**2nd Witch** **“All hail, Macbeth, hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor!”**

**Third Witch** **“All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be King hereafter!”**

N: Banquo is rather suspicious of them and demands that they speak to him.

**Banquo: “To me you speak not. If you can tell the future say what will happen to me!”**

3 Witches: **“Banquo –you won’t be King but your children will be”.**

N: Macbeth seems entranced by what they have said. Once again, as quickly as they have

appeared, they disappear. Macbeth stares thoughtfully into the distance as he wonders

**Macbeth “I am already Thane of Glamis but how can I be Thane of Cawdor when there already**

**is one. And the King of Scotland? How can it be?”**.

**WOOSH**

**Narrator:** Out of the distance surrounded by soldiers appears **King Duncan** who is told by one of his

soldiers that Macbeth and Banquo fought with great courage and violence. He pulls his horse to a stop and claims

Duncan: **“The Thane of Cawdor has been executed for treason. I hereby name Macbeth the**

**title of Thane of Cawdor and name my sons Malcolm and Donaldbain heirs to the throne.”**

N: Macbeth declares his joy but notes to himself that the King’s sons now stand between him

and the crown. Plans are made for Duncan to dine at Macbeth’s castle that evening, and Macbeth goes on ahead of the royal party to inform his wife of the king’s impending arrival. Macbeth sends a letter to warn his wife and tell her the exciting things the witches said. Banquo looks on with great suspicion at his friend.

**WOOSH**

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**Narrator: Lady Macbeth** is standing staring out of the window looking like the cat that has just got

the cream. She has grasped in her hand a letter from her husband. She looks at it and grins with an evil smirk. Lady Macbeth murmurs that she knows Macbeth is ambitious, but fears he is not strong enough to do what has to be done.

Lady Mac: “**I know my husband. He is ambitious but I don’t think he has the guts to do what he**

**needs to. If only he were more of a man.**”

N: She decides to convince her husband to do whatever is required to seize the crown. She

wants to put her natural femininity aside so she can do the evil deed. As she stares out of the window a gust of wind whips her hair around. She whispers to herself under her breath

Lady Mac: “**Make me less of a woman so I can be filled with cruelty and then I can do this evil**

**deed”.**

N: A roll of thunder crashes around the castle.

**WOOSH**

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**Narrator: Macbeth** returns to the castle. He looks deeply into his **Lady Macbeth’s** eyes, noticing a

strange look she is giving him. He gets a worried feeling in the pit of his stomach.

**Lady Mac: “Duncan is old and weak dear husband. His sons will not make a good King. But you**

**will. We have to kill him whilst he sleeps here tonight.”.**

N: Macbeth reels backwards in horror. Can his wife read his mind? How did she know what he

was thinking? He storms away from her claiming

**Macbeth: “I will never commit treason and murder! “**

**Lady Mac: “But darling you don’t want people to think you’re a coward do you? This is your**

**chance. You’ll never get another perfect opportunity to become King. Come on darling, you can do it. Don’t let everyone see you’re a weak and feeble coward”.**

Macbeth: **“I am not a coward.”**

3 Witches: **“You shall be King…”** (echoing round and round his mind)

Macbeth: “**Duncan will not see tomorrow.**”

**WOOSH**

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**Narrator: Macbeth**'s return is followed almost at once by **Duncan's** arrival. Guests at the castle all

bow as he rides past on his horse. Trumpets are sounded and Macbeth and his wife rush to greet him. Bowing as he approaches.

Duncan: **“Oh, what a beautiful castle you have Macbeth! I’m so delighted to be here**. Lady

Macbeth, you are such a fine hostess”.

Lady Mac: **“It is my duty your highness. We owe our king so much it is the least we can do.”**

N: All the time she never stops smiling at him and looking like such an innocent woman.

Duncan enters the castle with Macbeth and his wife following. They grin at each other and nod showing that their plan is about to begin.

**WOOSH**

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**N: Macbeth** paces backward and forward by himself, pondering his idea of assassinating

Duncan. He says that killing the King would be easy if there was a guarantee there wouldn’t be any horrible consequences.

Macbeth: “**I will be judged by God. Murder will return and plague me”.**

N: Macbeth puts his head in his hands, unable to control the guilty thoughts rushing round his

mind. He next considers the reasons why he ought not to kill Duncan:

**Macbeth: “I am Duncan’s servant and loyal soldier. He is here in my house as my guest. Also**

**the king is widely admired as a morally good ruler. How can I kill such a man?”**

N: Macbeth faces the fact that there is no reason to kill the king other than his own ambition,

which he realises is an unreliable reason. **Lady Macbeth** enters and Macbeth declares that he no longer intends to kill Duncan.

Macbeth: **“What will happen if we fail?”.**

Lady Mac: **“As long as we are bold, we will be successful. Prove to me you’re not a coward!**

**While Duncan sleeps, I will give his guards wine to make them drunk, and then you can slip in and murder Duncan. You will smear the blood of Duncan on the sleeping servants to make them look guilty.”**

**N:** Macbeth agrees to the murder.

**WOOSH**

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N: Later that night, **everyone** in the castle is asleep after enjoying a fabulous party. Lady

Macbeth has given the guards drugged wine and they lay snoring, fast asleep. Macbeth creeps along the corridor when suddenly he stops dead in his tracks.

**Macbeth: “What’s this? A dagger? In front of my eyes? No, it’s just my mind playing tricks on**

**me!”.**

N: The dagger starts to move… towards Duncan’s chamber! It waits for Macbeth and moves

again, luring him toward the bedroom. Macbeth enters the room stealth like and with a heart of stone kills the King. He comes back out of the room with the daggers in his hands. **Lady Macbeth** storms over to him and punches his arm.

**Lady Mac: “What are you doing you idiot? They** (pointing to the daggers) **should be by the guards**

**with the blood on them. Stupid man. Give them here, I’ll do it myself.”**

N: She leaves the bloody daggers beside the guards and smears Duncan’s blood all over

them with her hands. **Macduff** along with Duncan’s sons **Malcolm** and **Donalbain** arrive on their horses. They go to wake Duncan who they think has slept for far too long. Cries of horror ring round the castle. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth looked shocked and horrified.

Lady Mac: **“How could this happen in *my* castle?”.**

Macbeth: **“Those guards are murderers. I will kill them for the King!” (**and storms off to murder

the guards.)

**Donalbain: “Oh dear father! Who has done this to you?”**

N: Their knees are shaking and their lips are trembling as they wonder if they will be next to be

murdered. They flee, fearing for their lives, but this just makes them look guilty and they are nevertheless blamed for the murder. **Macbeth** is elected King of Scotland, but is plagued by feelings of guilt and insecurity.

**Macbeth: “Did I really have to do that to become King? What if I’d have just waited? It might**

**have happened anyway. But now, Banquo’s going to know who did it. And to top it all the witches said his son would be King. Not a chance!”**

**WOOSH**

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Narrator: At a celebratory banquet, everyone is eating and drinking and having a great time. In a

room away from the party, the **murderers** return and tell **Macbeth** Banquo is dead.

**Macbeth: “Excellent! But what about Fleance, his son?”**

Murderers: **“Sorry Sir, your Highness, Macbeth, but well, you see, he is young and fast, and well,**

**he escaped Your Highness.”**

Macbeth: **“What? You useless idiots! That was the most important part of the plan.”**

Narrator: He shouts. Macbeth grabs the murderers and in a moment of fury throws them into a pit

where they will die and rot. Returning to the party, Macbeth looks around wondering where he should seat himself.

A guest: **“Macbeth There’s a place here. Come, sit.”**

Narrator: Macbeth stares at the chair upon which he sees a **ghostly figure** with its head hung low.

As he approaches, it raises his head and laughs with such evil it chills Macbeth’s bones. No one else can see the ghost. They are looking at Macbeth like he is a man gone mad. Macbeth sees the ghost of Banquo,all bloody and gory.

**Macbeth: “Don’t you shake your bloody hair at me!”**

Narrator: Everyone whispers and looks at Macbeth as he yells into thin air

**Macbeth: “Get back to your grave monster!”**

Narrator: He concerns the guests at the feast with his strange manner. **Lady Macbeth** tries to calm

him but is rejected.She tries to gently move her husband to the exit of the room when he cries

Macbeth: **“Banquo’s spirit must be laid to rest. Only the Witches can set me free!”**

**WOOSH**

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**Narrator: Macbeth** returns to the windy, wet and miserable moor to seek out the **Witches.** He finds

them huddled round a fire, mumbling and muttering to themselves.

A witch: **“Macbeth has come to learn about the future!”**

N: He stares at them, wondering what else they can read from his mind.

2nd Witch: **“Here, drink this”**

N: Trying not to vomit, Macbeth drinks the sloppy green gunge. Macbeth sees strange lights

and sways from side to side. He kneels In front of the Witches.

**Witches: “Beware Macduff, the Thane of Fife!”**, **“No man born of a woman can harm you!”**,

**“You will rule until Birnam Wood walks to Dunsinane Hill.”**

N: Macbeth staggers away from the Witches filled with delight at what the Witches have told

him. “I am invincible!” he cries to the howling winds. He then embarks on a reign of terror which includes killing Macduff's family, while Macduff himself has gone to join Malcolm at the court of the English king, Edward. When Macduff hears of the dreadful news

**Malcolm**

**& Macduff**: **“Macbeth is up to no good. He is an evil King. We will defeat him!”**

**WOOSH**

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Narrator: Back at the castle **Lady Macbeth**, paralysed with guilt, walks in her sleep. She paces up

and down the castle, rubbing her hands, like there is something on them that she can’t get off. A **Doctor** and her **Waiting Woman** look at her wondering what is wrong with her.

**Waiting W: “Who’d have thought the old man would have so much blood in him?”**

N: The Doctor and Waiting Woman look at each other horrified. The Doctor rushes to Macbeth

who is looking out from the turret of the castle

**Doctor: “My Lord, your wife, she is very ill”**.

**Macbeth: “Well just give her some medicine and leave me alone!”**

N: A while later, as Macbeth is hearing reports about Malcolm’s approaching army, Lady

Macbeth takes her life by jumping off the roof. **Macbeth** feels safe in his remote castle at Dunsinane as he remembers what the Witches told him. Suddenly a messenger enters the room.

**Messenger “My Lord, My Lord, there is some strange news I have to tell you!”**

**Macbeth: “Well? Spit it out boy”! You cannot tell me anything that will frighten me!”**

**Messenger: “My Lord, Birnam Wood moves. It moves toward Dunsinane hill!”**

**WOOSH**

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**N: Macbeth** leaps out of his throne and storms toward the messenger who whimpers and runs

for his life! He rushes to the top of the castle where he sees hundreds of **Malcolm’s army** carrying branches in front of them to disguise their numbers.

**Macbeth: “Cursed Witches! You tricked me! Bring me my armour, I must fight for my crown.”**

N: He shouts waiving his fist in the air as if he knows the Witches are watching him. As

Malcom’s army invades the castle, Macbeth fights off every soldier …

**Macbeth: “You were born of woman!”** (laughs)

Macduff. **“Greetings Macbeth. I am here to take revenge for the murder of my wife and**

**children”**

**Macbeth: Stay back! I cannot be harmed by you, born from a woman”.**

Macduff: **“My mother died before I lived. I was cut from her by a Doctor”.**

N: Macbeth broke out into hysterical laughter. The Witches had told him a pack of lies and he

realised he had been tricked. With one clean strike, Macduff’s sword removed Macbeth’s head from his body.

Army: (Celebration!!!)

N: Victorious cheers rang out from below as Macbeth’s head was placed upon a spear. The

crown was placed rightfully on Malcolm’s head as the crowd all cheered

**Army: “All hail! All hail!”**