English Drama Fest 2013

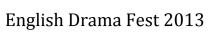


Set Scene 2 (taken from Macbeth)

After hearing about the witches' prophecy that Macbeth will become King, Lady Macbeth has resolved to urge her husband to do whatever that is required to get the crown, even murder. Macbeth at first declares that he no longer intends to kill Duncan after some thoughts, but then agrees to proceed with the murder after his wife's persuasion.

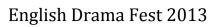
Macbeth Act 1 Scene 5 & Scene 7

Original Version	Modern Version
Enter LADY MACBETH, alone, with a letter	LADY MACBETH enters, reading a letter.
LADY MACBETH (reading) "They met me in the day of success, and I have learned by the perfectest report they have more in them than mortal knowledge. When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it came missives from the king, who all-hailed me 'Thane of Cawdor,' by which title, before, these weird sisters saluted me, and referred me to the coming on of time with 'Hail, king that shalt be!' This have I thought good to deliver thee, my dearest partner of greatness, that thou might'st not lose the dues of rejoicing, by being ignorant of what greatness is promised thee. Lay it to thy heart, and farewell."	"The witches met me on the day of my victory in battle, and I have since learned that they have supernatural knowledge. When I tried desperately to question them further, they vanished into thin air. While I stood spellbound, messengers from the king arrived and greeted me as the thane of Cawdor, which is precisely how the weird sisters had saluted me before calling me 'the future king!' I thought I should tell you this news, my dearest partner in greatness, so that you could rejoice along with me about the greatness that is promised to us. Keep it secret, and farewell."
Glamis thou art, and Cawdor; and shalt be What thou art promised. Yet do I fear thy nature; It is too full o' th' milk of human kindness To catch the nearest way: thou wouldst be great, Art not without ambition, but without The illness should attend it. What thou wouldst highly, That wouldst thou holily; wouldst not play false, And yet wouldst wrongly win. Thou'ld'st have, great Glamis, That which cries, "Thus thou must do," if thou have it, And that which rather thou dost fear to do, Than wishest should be undone. Hie thee hither,	(she looks up from the letter) You are thane of Glamis and Cawdor, and you're going to be king, just like you were promised. But I worry about whether or not you have what it takes to seize the crown. You are too full of the milk of human kindness to strike aggressively at your first opportunity. You want to be powerful, and you don't lack ambition, but you don't have the mean streak that these things call for. The things you want to do, you want to do like a good man. You don't want to cheat, yet you want what doesn't belong to you. There's something you want, but you're afraid to do what you need to do to get it. You want it to be done for you. Hurry home so I can persuade you and talk you out of whatever's keeping you from going after the crown. After all, fate and



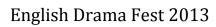


That I may pour my spirits in thine ear And chastise with the valor of my tongue All that impedes thee from the golden round, Which fate and metaphysical aid doth seem To have thee crowned withal.	witchcraft both seem to want you to be king.
Enter SERVANT	A SERVANT enters.
What is your tidings?	What news do you bring?
SERVANT	SERVANT
The king comes here tonight.	The king is coming here tonight.
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
Thou 'rt mad to say it.	You must be crazy to say that! Isn't Macbeth with the king, and wouldn't
Is not thy master with him, who, were 't so,	Macbeth have told me in advance so I could prepare, if the king were
Would have informed for preparation?	really coming?
SERVANT	SERVANT
So please you, it is true: our thane is coming.	I'm sorry, but it's the truth. Macbeth is coming. He sent a messenger
One of my fellows had the speed of him,	ahead of him who arrived here so out of breath that he could barely
Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely more	speak his message.
Than would make up his message.	I A DV M A CD DEBY
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
Give him tending.	Take good care of him. He brings great news.
He brings great news. Exit SERVANT	The SERVANT exits.
The raven himself is hoarse	
That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan	So the messenger is short of breath, like a hoarse raven, as he announces Duncan's entrance into my fortress, where he will die. Come, you spirits
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits	that asist murderous thoughts, make me less like a woman and more
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,	like a man, and fill me from head to toe with deadly cruelty! Thicken my
And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full	blood and clog up my veins so I won't feel remorse, so that no human
Of direst cruelty. Make thick my blood.	compassion can stop my evil plan or prevent me from accomplishing it!
Stop up the access and passage to remorse,	Come to my female breast and turn my mother's milk into poisonous
That no compunctious visitings of nature	acid, you murdering demons, wherever you hide, invisible and waiting
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between	to do evil! Come, thick night, and cover the world in the darkest smoke
The effect and it! Come to my woman's breasts,	of hell, so that my sharp knife can't see the wound it cuts open, and so
And take my milk for gall, you murd'ring ministers,	heaven can't peep through the darkness and cry, "No! Stop!"





Wherever in your sightless substances You wait on nature's mischief. 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!"	
Enter MACBETH	MACBETH enters.
Great Glamis, worthy Cawdor, Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter, Thy letters have transported me beyond This ignorant present, and I feel now The future in the instant.	Great thane of Glamis! Worthy thane of Cawdor! You'll soon be greater than both those titles, once you become king! Your letter has transported me from the present moment, when who knows what will happen, and has made me feel like the future is already here.
MACBETH	MACBETH
My dearest love,	My dearest love, Duncan is coming here tonight.
Duncan comes here tonight.	
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
And when goes hence?	And when is he leaving?
MACBETH	MACBETH
Tomorrow, as he purposes.	He plans to leave tomorrow.
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
0, never	That day will never come. Your face betrays strange feelings, my lord,
Shall sun that morrow see!	and people will be able to read it like a book. In order to deceive them,
Your face, my thane, is as a book where men	you must appear the way they expect you to look. Greet the king with a
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,	welcoming expression in your eyes, your hands, and your words. You
Look like the time. Bear welcome in your eye,	should look like an innocent flower, but be like the snake that hides
•	
	every night and day for the rest of our lives.
·	
	МАСВЕТИ
Your hand, your tongue. Look like th' innocent flower, But be the serpent under 't. He that's coming Must be provided for; and you shall put This night's great business into my dispatch, Which shall to all our nights and days to come Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom. MACBETH We will speak further.	underneath the flower. The king is coming, and he's got to be taken care of. Let me handle tonight's preparations, because tonight will change every night and day for the rest of our lives. MACBETH We will speak about this further.





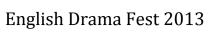
LADY MACBETH Only look up clear. To alter favor ever is to fear. Leave all the rest to me.	LADY MACBETH You should project a peaceful mood, because if you look troubled, you will arouse suspicion. Leave all the rest to me.
Exeunt	They exit.

Enter LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH enters.
How now! What news?	What news do you have?
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
He has almost supped. Why have you left the chamber?	He has almost finished dinner. Why did you leave the dining room?
MACBETH	MACBETH
Hath he asked for me?	Has he asked for me?
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
Know you not he has?	Don't you know he has?
MACBETH	MACBETH
We will proceed no further in this business.	We can't go on with this plan. The king has just honored me, and I have
He hath honored me of late, and I have bought	earned the good opinion of all sorts of people. I want to enjoy these
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,	honors while the feeling is fresh and not throw them away so soon.
Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,	
Not cast aside so soon.	
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
Was the hope drunk	Were you drunk when you seemed so hopeful before? Have you gone to
Wherein you dressed yourself? Hath it slept since?	sleep and woken up green and pale in fear of this idea? From now on this
And wakes it now, to look so green and pale	is what I'll think of your love. Are you afraid to act the way you desire?
At what it did so freely? From this time	Will you take the crown you want so badly, or will you live as a coward,
Such I account thy love. Art thou afeard	always saying "I can't" after you say "I want to"? You're like the poor cat in
To be the same in thine own act and valor	the old story.
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that	
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,	
And live a coward in thine own esteem,	
Letting "I dare not" wait upon "I would,"	
Like the poor cat i' th' adage?	

English Drama Fest 2013



MACDETHI	MACDEMI
MACBETH	MACBETH
Prithee, peace:	Please, stop! I dare to do only what is proper for a man to do. He who
I dare do all that may become a man;	dares to do more is not a man at all.
Who dares do more is none.	
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
What beast was 't, then,	If you weren't a man, then what kind of animal were you when you first
That made you break this enterprise to me?	told me you wanted to do this? When you dared to do it, that's when you
When you durst do it, then you were a man;	were a man. And if you go one step further by doing what you dared to do
And to be more than what you were, you would	before, you'll be that much more the man. The time and place weren't
Be so much more the man. Nor time nor place	right before, but you would have gone ahead with the murder anyhow.
Did then adhere, and yet you would make both.	Now the time and place are just right, but they're almost too good for you.
They have made themselves, and that their fitness now	I have suckled a baby, and I know how sweet it is to love the baby at my
Does unmake you. I have given suck, and know	breast. But even as the baby was smiling up at me, I would have plucked
How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me.	my nipple out of its mouth and smashed its brains out against a wall if I
I would, while it was smiling in my face,	had sworn to do that the same way you have sworn to do this.
Have plucked my nipple from his boneless gums	
And dashed the brains out, had I so sworn as you	
Have done to this.	
MACBETH	MACBETH
If we should fail?	But if we fail—
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
We fail?	We, fail? If you get your courage up, we can't fail. When Duncan is
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,	asleep—the day's hard journey has definitely made him tired—I'll get his
And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep—	two servants so drunk that their memory will go up in smoke through the
Whereto the rather shall his day's hard journey	chimneys of their brains. When they lie asleep like pigs, so drunk they'll
Soundly invite him—his two chamberlains	be dead to the world, what won't you and I be able to do to the unguarded
Will I with wine and wassail so convince	Duncan? And whatever we do, we can lay all the blame on the drunken
That memory, the warder of the brain,	servants.
Shall be a fume, and the receipt of reason	
A limbeck only: when in swinish sleep	
Their drenchèd natures lie as in a death,	
What cannot you and I perform upon	
The unguarded Duncan? What not put upon	





His spongy officers, who shall bear the guilt Of our great quell?	
MACBETH	MACBETH
Bring forth men-children only,	May you only give birth to male children, because your fearless spirit
For thy undaunted mettle should compose	should create nothing that isn't masculine. Once we have covered the two
Nothing but males. Will it not be received,	servants with blood, and used their daggers to kill, won't people believe
When we have marked with blood those sleepy two	that they were the culprits?
Of his own chamber and used their very daggers,	
That they have done 't?	
LADY MACBETH	LADY MACBETH
Who dares receive it other,	Who could think it happened any other way? We'll be grieving loudly
As we shall make our griefs and clamor roar	when we hear that Duncan has died.
Upon his death?	
MACBETH	MACBETH
I am settled, and bend up	Now I'm decided, and I will exert every muscle in my body to commit this
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.	crime. Go now, and pretend to be a friendly hostess. Hide with a false
Away, and mock the time with fairest show.	pleasant face what you know in your false, evil heart.
False face must hide what the false heart doth know.	
Exeunt	They exit.