

## Second Murder Sides

Speaking scenes: 12, 14

Non-speaking scenes: 19

### Scene 12 (starts halfway through)

#### MACBETH

I wish your horses swift and sure of foot;  
And so I do commend you to their backs.  
Farewell.-

*Exit BANQUO*

Let every man be master of his time  
Till seven at night:  
To make society the sweeter welcome,  
We will keep ourself till supper-time alone:  
While then, God be with you.

*Exeunt all but MACBETH, and Macbeth's Messenger*

Sirrah, a word with you.  
Attend those men Our pleasure?

#### Macbeth's Messenger

They are, my lord,  
Without the palace gate.

#### MACBETH

Bring them before us.

*Exit Macbeth's Messenger*

To be thus is nothing;  
But to be safely thus.--Our fears in Banquo  
Stick deep. He chid the sisters  
When first they put the name of king upon me,  
And bade them speak to him: then prophet-like  
They hail'd him father to a line of kings:  
Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,  
And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,  
Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,  
No son of mine succeeding. If't be so,  
For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;  
For them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd;  
To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!  
Who's there!

*Re-enter Macbeth's Messenger, with two Murderers*

Now go to the door, and stay there till we call.

*Exit Macbeth's Messenger*

Was it not yesterday we spoke together?

**First Murderer**

It was, so please your highness.

**MACBETH**

Well then, now  
Have you consider'd of my speeches? Know  
That it was he in the times past which held you  
So under fortune, which you thought had been  
Our innocent self.

**First Murderer**

You made it known to us.

**MACBETH**

I did so, and went further. Do you find  
Your patience so predominant in your nature  
That you can let this go? Are you so gospell'd  
To pray for this good man and for his issue,  
Whose heavy hand hath bow'd you to the grave  
And beggar'd yours for ever?

**First Murderer**

We are men, my liege.

**MACBETH**

Both of you  
Know Banquo was your enemy.

**Both Murderers**

**True, my lord.**

**MACBETH**

So is he mine; and though I could  
With barefaced power sweep him from my sight  
And bid my will avouch it, yet I must not,  
For certain friends that are both his and mine,  
Whose loves I may not drop, and thence it is,  
That I to your assistance do make love,  
Masking the business from the common eye  
For sundry weighty reasons.

**Second Murderer**

**We shall, my lord,  
Perform what you command us.**

**First Murderer**

Though our lives--

**MACBETH**

Your spirits shine through you. Within this hour at most  
I will advise you where to plant yourselves;  
Acquaint you with the perfect spy o' the time,  
The moment on't; for't must be done to-night,  
And something from the palace; always thought  
That I require a clearness: and with him--  
(To leave no rubs nor botches in the work)  
Fleance his son, that keeps him company,  
Whose absence is no less material to me  
Than is his father's, must embrace the fate  
Of that dark hour. Resolve yourselves apart:  
I'll come to you anon.

**Both Murderers**

**We are resolved, my lord.**

**MACBETH**

I'll call upon you straight: abide within.

*Exeunt Murderers*

It is concluded. Banquo, thy soul's flight,  
If it find heaven, must find it out to-night.

*Exit*

**Scene 14**

**A park near the palace.**

**Murderer 2:** Student

*Enter three Murderers*

**First Murderer**

But who did bid thee join with us?

**Third Murderer**

Macbeth.

**Second Murderer**

**He needs not our mistrust, since he delivers**

**Our offices and what we have to do**

**To the direction just.**

**First Murderer**

Then stand with us.

The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day:

Now spurs the lated traveller apace

To gain the timely inn; and near approaches

The subject of our watch.

**Third Murderer**

Hark! I hear horses.

**BANQUO**

[Within] Give us a light there, ho!

**First Murderer**

His horses go about.

**Third Murderer**

Almost a mile: but he does usually,

So all men do, from hence to the palace gate

Make it their walk.

*Enter BANQUO, and FLEANCE with a torch*

**Second Murderer**

**A light, a light!**

**Third Murderer**

'Tis he.

**First Murderer**

Stand to't.

**BANQUO**

It will be rain to-night.

**First Murderer**

Let it come down.

*They set upon BANQUO*

**BANQUO**

O, treachery! Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly!

*Dies. FLEANCE escapes*

**Third Murderer**

There's but one down; the son is fled.

**Second Murderer**

**We have lost**

**Best half of our affair.**

**First Murderer**

Well, let's away,  
and say how much is done.

*Exeunt*