

MACBETH

ACT ONE SCENE TWO



MACBETH KILLS MACDONWALD

VEHICULA



LECTUS EGET

MAGNA LACUS TEMPUS
12:00 NOON

Key Ideas

Devices

Imagery: This scene is full of references to blood and brutality: "Carved his passage"

Simile

"As two spent swimmers" describes the two sides in the war and how neither was winning and both were drowning.

"As cannons overcharged" describes Banquo and Macbeth's fighting doubly hard.

Personification: "Fortune ...rebel's whore" Describes how luck played a role in the battle as a negative force.

Allusion: "Golgotha" refers to the place where Christ was crucified and describes the brutality of the battle.

Bellona's bridegroom is an allusion to being married to the goddess of war and describes the soldiers.

Themes

Ambition: The Thane of Cawdor was ambitious and he was killed for his ambition.

Most important Event

Macbeth earns the title Thane of Cawdor. This event shows the generosity of the king as well as plays into the prophecies of the witches.

2 Key Quotes

Character development:

1. Bloody Soldier "For brave Macbeth ... his head on our battlements" (lines 18 - 26) This quote shows Macbeth's attitude toward killing and toward traitors. He is seen as loyal as well as brutal.

2. Duncan: "Go pronounce his present death" (line 73). Although Duncan seems to be a kind and fair king, he is not afraid to punish those who deserve it.

What is a Man? A King?

A man protects his king and is not afraid of killing on the battlefield. "Unseamed him from the nave to the chaps."

A king rewards all deservers and punishes those who are traitors. "What he hath lost noble Macbeth hath won."

ANIMAL IMAGERY: "AS SPARROWS EAGLES OR THE HARE THE LION" (I.ii.38 - 40) Shakespeare uses royal animals to impress upon the audience that Banquo and Macbeth are upper class and are brave.

PLOT

- Duncan interviews a bloody soldier who has saved Malcolm.
- The soldier reports on the battle in which Macbeth brutally kills Macdonwald by disemboweling him
- The soldier then reports that the Norwegians then sent in new troops but it only made Macbeth the Banquo fight harder and the victory fell to Scotland.
- the king rewards the soldier by offering his surgeons.
- Ross and Angus then report on a second battlefield where the Norwegians have invaded the area of Fife and there are so many the their banners make the air cold.
- They also report that the Thane of Cawdor has been in league with the enemy and has been captured.
- After much fighting, the Scots have won this battle also and the King Sweno is asking for a peace treaty.
- The Scots won't sign the treaty or return the bodies of the slain Norwegians until Sweno pays them \$10 000.
- Duncan orders the death of the traitor Cawdor and orders that his lands and title be given to Macbeth

