

Macbeth Act 3- Quotes

Important Quotes in Act 3-

Act 3, Scene 1 – Macbeth's Fear & Insecurity

1. "To be thus is nothing, but to be safely thus."
👉 Shows Macbeth's insecurity. Being king means nothing unless he feels secure.
2. "Our fears in Banquo stick deep."
👉 Reveals that Banquo is his greatest threat.
3. "Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown."
👉 Symbol of his anxiety — he has no heir.
4. "For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind."
👉 He has stained his conscience for Banquo's descendants.

Act 3, Scene 2 – Guilt & Mental Disturbance

5. "O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!"
👉 Powerful metaphor showing mental torture and paranoia.
6. "Things bad begun make strong themselves by ill."
👉 Violence leads to more violence — cycle of crime.
7. "We have scorched the snake, not killed it."
👉 Banquo and Fleance are still threats.

Act 3, Scene 4 – The Banquet Scene (Guilt Made Visible)

8. "Thou canst not say I did it: never shake / Thy gory locks at me!"
👉 Macbeth's guilt takes physical form in Banquo's ghost.
9. "It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood."
👉 Crimes demand revenge — foreshadowing.
10. "I am in blood stepped in so far..."
👉 Turning point. Macbeth accepts he cannot go back.
11. "Augurs and understood relations have / By magot-pies and choughs and

rooks brought forth..."

👉 Even nature seems to expose crimes.

Act 3, Scene 5 – Hecate's Plan

12. "Security is mortals' chiefest enemy."

👉 Overconfidence will destroy Macbeth.

⚠ Very important exam quote.

Act 3, Scene 6 – Scotland Under Tyranny

13. "It weeps, it bleeds, and each new day a gash / Is added to her wounds."

👉 Scotland personified as suffering under Macbeth.

These can be used for:

- Ambition
- Guilt
- Tyranny
- Fate vs free will
- Psychological decline