

Macbeth Act 4- Quotes

From Act 4, Scene 1

"Beware Macduff."

Said by the first apparition.

Used to show:

- The witches' warning
- Macbeth's growing fear
- Beginning of Macduff as the real threat

"None of woman born shall harm Macbeth."

From the second apparition.

Used to show:

- Equivocation (misleading prophecy)
- Macbeth's false confidence
- Dramatic irony

"Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until / Great Birnam Wood to high Dunsinane Hill / Shall come against him."

From the third apparition.

Used to show:

- Impossible-sounding prophecy
- Macbeth's overconfidence
- Supernatural deception

"From this moment / The very firstlings of my heart shall be / The firstlings of my hand."

Macbeth after hearing Macduff fled.

Used to show:

- Impulsiveness
- Ruthlessness
- Moral decline

"The castle of Macduff I will surprise, Seize upon Fife, give to th' edge o' th' sword / His wife, his babes, and all unfortunate souls/ That trace him in his line. "

Shows:

- Complete tyranny
- Killing of innocents
- Loss of humanity

From Act 4, Scene 2 (Lady Macduff)

"He loves us not."

Lady Macduff about Macduff leaving.

Used to show:

- Feeling of abandonment
- Emotional vulnerability

"I have done no harm."

Lady Macduff before being attacked.

Used to show:

- Innocence
- Tragic irony

From Act 4, Scene 3 (Malcolm & Macduff)

"Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell."

Malcolm testing Macduff.

Used to show:

- Appearance vs reality
- Suspicion

"O Scotland, Scotland!"

Macduff grieving for his country.

Used to show:

- Patriotism
- Love for nation

"Bleed, bleed, poor country!"

Shows:

- Scotland suffering under Macbeth
- Tyranny

"All my pretty ones? Did you say all?"

Macduff after hearing about his family.

Used to show:

- Shock
- Grief
- Pathos

"Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself..."

Macduff swearing revenge.

Used to show:

- Transformation from grief to revenge
- Preparation for climax