

they the witches
 perfect'st most
 perfect, helt sikre
 mortal knowledge
 hvad dødelige kan
 vide, dvs. det er
 overnaturligt, hvad
 de ved
 'vanish forsvinde
 rapt fordybet, betaget
 'missive udsending
 all-hail hilse
 weird sisters the
 witches
 coming-on of time
 fremtiden
 deliver thee fortælle
 dig
 the dues of rejoicing
 den glæde der er
 passende
 lay it to thy heart
 tænk over det uden
 at fortælle det til
 andre
 Glamis generally
 [glamz] but when
 the rhythm requires
 it [glamis]. En
 landsby i Skotland,
 hvor Glamis castle
 også ligger
 nature (her) person-
 lighed
 catch tage
 thou would'st be du
 ønsker at blive
 illness onskab
 attend følge med
 holily (her) på
 ærefuld vis
 wrongly på uærlig
 vis
 'st wouldst

At the beginning of the play Macbeth is introduced as the respected, loyal and brave warrior who leads King Duncan's forces to victory in a battle that could have gone either way, were it not for Macbeth's leadership. We learn that the benevolent King Duncan, overjoyed, decides to make Macbeth his
 5 new Thane of Cawdor and announces that the previous treacherous Thane of Cawdor will be executed – information that Macbeth himself has not yet received when he meets three witches on the heath on his way home from the battle. They hail him "Thane of Glamis!", "Thane of Cawdor!" and "King hereafter". Macbeth is already Thane of Glamis and when im-
 10 mediately afterwards he is informed that he has been given the title Thane of Cawdor, he remarks, "Glamis, and Thane of Cawdor: / The greatest is behind." Macbeth meets King Duncan, thanking him for his new title. King Duncan announces that his son, Malcolm, will be the new Prince of Cumberland and thereby his successor. Macbeth now sees Malcolm as an
 15 obstacle to him becoming king, a major turning point in Macbeth's changing morality. He reveals this in an 'aside' by telling the stars to hide their fires lest they reveal his dark and deadly desires (Act 1, sc. 4, l. 50-51). They then all go to Macbeth's castle to celebrate.

Macbeth

ACT I, SCENE 5. Inverness. A room in Macbeth's castle.

Enter LADY MACBETH, reading a letter

LADY MACBETH

They met me in the day of success; and I have learned by the perfect'st report, they have more in them than mortal knowl-
 edge. When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt in
 5 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
 10 greatness is promised thee. Lay it to thy heart, 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' the milk of human kindness
 To catch the nearest way. Thou wouldst be great;
 15 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'dst have, great Glamis,

have it vil have
kronen
that mordet
hie thee hither [hai]
skynd dig at komme
hertil
that = so that
spirits mit mod
chastise ['tʃæstaiz]
undertrykke
valour mod
im'pede hindre
the golden round
kongekronen
metaphysical over-
naturlig
withal med
tidings nyheder
master herre
(Macbeth)
were't so hvis det var
sådan
so please you
undskyld mig (for at
modsigte Dem)
thane adelsmand og
kriger
had the speed of him
var hurtigere end
ham
had scarcely more
havde knap nok
luft nok
make up his message
give besked
give him tending
sørg for ham
the raven himself is
hoarse that croaks
ravnen bliver hæs
af at skrige. Man
mente, at en ravn,
der sad på et hustag
og skreg, var et
varsel om død
fatal skæbningsvanger
battlements fæst-
ningsværk
tend on ledsage
mortal thoughts
tanker om mord
unsex fjern mine
kvindelige egen-
skaber
crown to the toe top
til tå
direst mest forfær-
delig
remorse anger

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,
That I may pour my spirits in thine ear,
And chastise with the valour of my tongue
All that impedes thee from the golden round,
Which fate and metaphysical aid doth seem
To have thee crown'd withal. –

Enter a Messenger

What is your tidings?

Messenger

The king comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH

Thou'rt mad to say it

Is not thy master with him? who, were't so,
Would have inform'd for preparation.

Messenger

So please you, it is true: our thane is coming,
One of my fellows had the speed of him,
Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely more
Than would make up his message.

LADY MACBETH

Give him tending:

He brings great news. *Exit Messenger*

The raven himself is hoarse

That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,
And fill me, from the crown to the toe, top-full
Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood,
Stop up th' access and passage to remorse;

compunctious visi-
tings of nature
angergivende anfald
af mildhed
fell purpose onde
forehavende
keep peace between
Th' effect and it
skabe fred mellem
resultatet (mordet)
og mit forehavende
take for (her) erstat
med
milk står for mildhed
gall galde står for had
murdering ministers
mordets ånder
sightless usynlig
wait on ledsage
mischief skade
pall thee indhyld dig
dunnest mørkest
peep through kigge,
titte igennem
hold stop
by the all-hail ud
fra hilsenerne (fra
heksene)
transported glædet,
henrykt
in the instant i
dette nu
hence herfra
purposes har i sinde
men may read strange
matters folk vil
kunne se hvad han
føler og tænker
to be'guile the time,
look like the time
hvis man vil narre
verden, må man se
ud ligesom den
be provided for blive
sørget for, blive
skaffet af vejen
dis'patch kontrol,
ledelse
sole sovereign sway
and masterdom
enemagt og herre-
dømme
look up clear se
almindelig ud
to alter favour (mine)
ever is to fear det er
altid et tegn på frygt,
når ens ansigtsud-
tryk ændres

That no compunctious visitings of nature
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between
Th' effect and it! Come to my woman's breasts,
And take my milk for gall, you murdering ministers,

45 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**

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.

MACBETH

My dearest love,

55 Duncan comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH

And when goes hence?

MACBETH

To-morrow, as he purposes.

LADY MACBETH

O, never

Shall sun that morrow see!

Your face, my thane, is as a book where men
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,

60 Look like the time, bear welcome in your eye,
Your hand, your tongue: look like the 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.

LADY MACBETH

Only look up clear;

To alter favour ever is to fear.

Leave all the rest to me.

70 *Exeunt*

(1625)

SPECTATORS

LOVE

EVIL

MAN AND NATURE

EMPIRE