

Macbeth Act III Notes

III.i

Banquo says Macbeth now has everything the 3 weird sisters promised and he is afraid that Macbeth "played foully" for it.

Banquo hopes that their predictions for him will come true also.

Macbeth invites Banquo to a feast and tells Banquo he is worried that Malcolm and Donalbain are going to try to take his crown away.

Two murderers meet with Macbeth and Macbeth instructs them to kill Banquo and Fleance, his son.

III.ii

Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are not happy.

Macbeth realizes that killing Duncan wasn't enough; he needs to kill the others that are a threat to him (Banquo, Fleance, Malcolm, and Donalbain)

Macbeth asks Lady Macbeth to be very kind to Banquo at the feast so that he doesn't suspect anything.

III.iii

The 2 murderers are surprised that a 3rd man has joined them and question him. He says that Macbeth asked him to help.

The murderers kill Banquo as he is yelling for Fleance to run and seek revenge for this treachery.

Fleance escapes.

III.iv.

Feast begins at Macbeth's castle.

Murderers come to inform Macbeth that Banquo is dead, but Fleance escaped.

Macbeth remarks that there is not a place for him at the table. Others point out the one empty chair reserved for him. He goes crazy, saying that Banquo is sitting there (his ghost). Lady Macbeth says that he has always been a little crazy and for the guests to sit back down and he will be back to normal shortly.

Macbeth has another outburst and the guests leave.

III.v.

Hecate is mad at the witches because they have caused trouble and they did not tell her so she could have a part.

She will be taking over from now on.

Hecate says they will meet with Macbeth the next day and she will further lead him on and confuse him.

III.vi.

Lennox and the Lord discuss how Fleance has been blamed for his father's death, but they both still suspect Macbeth.

The Lord tells Lennox that Macduff has gone to England to join Malcolm and will ask for King Edward to help them overthrow Macbeth.