

# Macbeth for KS2

## Cast

Witch 1  
Witch 2  
Witch 3  
Narrator  
Messenger  
King Duncan  
Courtier 1  
Courtier 2  
Courtier 3  
Macbeth  
Banquo  
Lady Macbeth  
Malcolm  
Donalbain  
Assassin 1  
Assassin 2  
Macduff  
Angus  
Ross  
Doctor  
Servant

## The Play

*Open with a Witch's dance.*

Witch 1 : When shall we three meet again?

Witch 2 : In thunder, lightning...

Witch 3 : Or in rain?

*Witches exit.*

Narrator : Welcome to the hills of Scotland where it all begins. A story of black magic and of murdered Kings.

*Fanfare. King Duncan and his courtiers enter. A messenger enters breathlessly.*

Messenger : Your Majesty, your Majesty, I have news from the battlefield.

King Duncan : Well speak up! Don't keep me waiting!

Messenger : The rebels have been defeated. Macbeth and Banquo are returning home.

*The courtiers applaud and congratulate the King*

King Duncan : Macbeth's efforts must be rewarded.

Courtier 1 : Why not make him a Lord your Majesty?

Courtier 2 : He is already Lord of Glamis.

Courtier 3 : The Lord of Cawdor was the leader of the rebels.

Messenger : He was killed during the battle your Majesty.

King Duncan : Then my decision is made. I shall make Macbeth Lord of Cawdor as well.

*The King writes out a message and hands it to the Messenger who exits. Fanfare. All exit.*

Narrator : And so a message was sent to give Macbeth his reward. To tell him that, of Cawdor, he was now the Lord. Across the heath, Macbeth and Banquo were returning home. Suddenly it all went dark and they were no longer alone.

*Macbeth and Banquo enter chatting happily. Suddenly it goes dark and the Witches enter slowly. There is a rumble of thunder. Macbeth and Banquo draw their swords. The Witches circle the two men.*

Macbeth : Who are you?

Banquo : What do you want?

Macbeth : Stand aside you horrible hags!

Witch 1 : All hail Macbeth! Hail to thee Lord of Glamis.

Macbeth : Yes I am Macbeth, Lord of Glamis.

Banquo : And I am Banquo, Lord of...

Witch 2 : All hail Macbeth! Hail to thee Lord of Cawdor.

Banquo : No, he's not the Lord of ...

Witch 3 : All hail Macbeth, who shall be King of Scotland!

Macbeth : Who shall be king?

Banquo : What about me?

*The Witches turn on Banquo suddenly making him jump.*

Witches : Banquo! You will NOT be King, but you will be the father of Kings.

*The Witches vanish.*

Banquo : Wait, tell me more. Who were they?

Macbeth : They said I will be King.

Banquo : Yes, but they also called you the Lord of Cawdor when you're not. He was killed in the battle.

*The Messenger enters breathlessly.*

Messenger : My Lord, my Lord. I have news from the King!

Macbeth : Well speak up! Don't keep me waiting!

Messenger : (*Reading scroll*) In honour of your glorious victory I, King Duncan, pronounce you Lord of Cawdor.

Witches (offstage) : All hail Macbeth! Hail to thee Lord of Cawdor

Banquo : How did those witches know you were going to become Lord of Cawdor?

Macbeth : I don't know but they also said I would become King!

Narrator : Excited by the news Macbeth wrote a letter home to tell his wife about his future upon the Scottish throne.

*Macbeth writes a letter and hands it to the Messenger who exits. Macbeth and Banquo exit. Lady Macbeth enters followed by the Messenger who enters breathlessly. The Messenger hands Lady Macbeth the letter.*

Narrator : As soon as the letter reached the hand of Lady Macbeth she began to plot and plan King Duncan's death. She arranged a victory feast for the following night. To the King and his sons she sent a formal invite.

*Lady Macbeth hands the Messenger the invites and he exits. Soon after Macbeth enters and hugs his wife.*

Lady Macbeth : Tonight you must kill the King.

Macbeth : Sssh. I can't. He is my cousin.

Lady Macbeth : For you to be King, Duncan must die.

Macbeth : But how.... when?

Lady Macbeth : Tonight, as he sleeps, you will take the daggers from his guards and stab him through the heart.

Macbeth : How will I get them from his guards?

Lady Macbeth : I will put a potion in their drinks. They will sleep heavily.

*Fanfare. The Macbeths prepare to meet their guests. King Duncan, Donalbain, Malcolm and their servants enter. Macbeth bows and Lady Macbeth curtsies.*

Lady Macbeth : Your Majesty, it is a pleasure having you as our guest as always. Looking even more handsome than ever. And as for your sons, Malcolm and Donalbain.

*Lady Macbeth takes King Duncan's hand and kisses it. She then does the same to Malcolm and Donalbain.*

King Duncan : The pleasure is all mine Lady Macbeth.

Donalbain : You must be very proud of your husband.

Malcolm : His bravery has given us an important victory.

Macbeth : I was only doing my duty Sir. My servants will show you to your rooms.

*Macbeth claps his hands. His servants enter and take the bags. King Duncan, Donalbain and Malcolm follow the servants offstage.*

Lady Macbeth : It must be done tonight!

*She exits followed by Macbeth.*

*King Duncan is lying on his bed. Two guards stand to attention. Lady Macbeth brings the Guards two tankards of beer then exits.*

Narrator : While King Duncan slept two Guards waited by the door. After drinking the poisoned beer they soon began to snore.

*The Guards slump asleep. Lady Macbeth and Macbeth enter.*

Lady Macbeth : The coast is clear. Now is the time.

Macbeth : I can't do it! There must be another way!

Lady Macbeth : You are a coward! You don't deserve to be King. A king is supposed to be strong and courageous not pathetic and weak. Take the guard's daggers and go and do the deed. I will be Queen!

*Lady Macbeth exits. Macbeth creeps up to the sleeping guards and takes their daggers. He enters the Kings chamber, stands by the bed and hesitates.*

Lady Macbeth : (offstage) You are a coward! You don't deserve to be King!

*Angrily, Macbeth plunges both daggers into King Duncan's chest. There is a crack of thunder. Macbeth panics and runs from the room dropping the daggers by the guards.*

Narrator : That night Macbeth's sleep was haunted by hideous dreams. In the morning he was woken by a piercing scream.

*Lady Macbeth has entered the King's chamber and lets out a blood-curdling scream. The guards awake and reach for their daggers. Macbeth, Malcolm and Donalbain rush onstage.*

Lady Macbeth : (Acting shocked) He, he, he is dead!

Malcolm : Dead! How can that be?

Lady Macbeth : He has been stabbed! Twice through the heart!

Donalbain : (Noticing the guard's daggers) Look, your daggers! They're covered in blood!

Macbeth : You killed him! While he slept. Traitors!!!

*Macbeth draws his sword and leaps forward stabbing both guards with one thrust. They fall down dead.*

Macbeth : He was their King! They were supposed to protect him!

Donalbain : They must have worked for the rebels.

Malcolm : It is not safe for us here!

Donalbain : I will flee to England.

Malcolm : And I to Ireland.

*Malcolm and Donalbain exit. Lady Macbeth hugs Macbeth. They exit and the bodies are removed.*

Narrator : With the sons out of the country Macbeth was duly crowned. Racked with guilt he worried that the truth would soon be found. He wanted to be King forever, he never wanted to go. But he worried about the son of his old friend, Banquo.

*Macbeth and Lady Macbeth enter.*

Macbeth : The witches said his son would become King.

Lady Macbeth : Then you know what you must do?

Macbeth : What?

Lady Macbeth : Kill the boy and his father. Then our reign will be safe.

Macbeth : Now that the crown is mine I will do whatever it takes to keep it.

*Lady Macbeth exits. Two assassins enter. Macbeth whispers to them both. They nod in agreement and then move to the back of the stage. Macbeth exits.*

Narrator : Later that night the Macbeth's held a feast of celebration. All the Lords of the land came to see the coronation.

*Banquo and his son enter chatting happily. The Assassins begin to stalk them.*



Narrator : As Banquo and his son made their way to Castle Macbeth Macbeth's men attacked them and stabbed Banquo to death.

*There is a brief fight between Banquo and the Assassins. Banquo is stabbed and falls to the ground. His son manages to escape and flees.*

Narrator : Macbeth had wanted Banquo's son to die that day but in the violent struggle the boy managed to slip away.

*The Assassins carry Banquo's body offstage. Macbeth enters and then the Assassins join him.*

Macbeth : Is it done?

Assassin 1 : Banquo is dead.

Macbeth : And the boy?

Assassin 2 : He got away.

Macbeth : What!!! I told you he must die. You will pay for this with your lives.

*Assassin1 kicks Assassin2*

Assassin 1 : Ignore him your majesty. Just his idea of a joke. The boy is dead. I have his blood on my hands.

Macbeth : Then you have done well. Come, let me reward you.

*A table is brought on stage. Lady Macbeth and Macbeth sit at the ends. Ross, Angus and Macduff sit along the side. Lady Macbeth is chatting happily with the Lords. Macbeth is silent.*

Narrator : In the castle's grand hall the Lords were having a good time. But Macbeth believed they all knew about his crime. However none of the guests knew the truth about their host. As they sat there eating Macbeth saw Banquo's ghost.

*Banquo's ghost enters behind the table. Macbeth sees him and cries out in shock. None of the others can see the ghost.*

Macbeth : *(gasping)* Banquo!

Ross : Yes, where is Banquo?

Banquo : You killed me.

Angus : I guess he couldn't make it.

Macbeth : *(Backing away from Banquo)* I didn't do it!

Macduff : Do what my Lord?

Macbeth : Kill him.

Ross : Who, King Duncan?

Macbeth : *(Pointing at Banquo)* Banquo.

Angus : Banquo killed King Duncan?

Banquo : You cannot hide the truth forever.

Macbeth : No, get away from me! Leave me alone!

Macduff : Your Majesty?

Lady Macbeth : Forgive my husband, he is still grief stricken.

Ross : Of course, we should leave.

Macbeth : (Crying) Please, leave me alone. I did not do it!

Angus : Good night my Lady, my Lord.

*Angus, Ross and Macduff bow and then exit. Banquo's ghost remains.*

Macbeth : Can you not see him?

Lady Macbeth : Who?

Macbeth : Banquo, right before your eyes!

Lady Macbeth : Stop it! (*She slaps him*) Your behaviour will make them suspicious.

*Banquo's ghost slowly exits.*

Macbeth : Could you not see him?

Lady Macbeth : I saw nothing!

*She exits eventually followed by Macbeth. The table is cleared away.*

Narrator : Later that night as her husband lay in bed  
Lady Macbeth was haunted by visions of the dead.

*Lady Macbeth stands in the middle of the stage. King Duncan and Banquo circle her. She holds her head in her hand and drops to her knees. King Duncan and Banquo exit. Lady Macbeth then exits hurriedly.*

Narrator : Macbeth was desperate to know what his future had in store. So he went to find the witches so that they could tell him more.

*The witches enter and circle a large cauldron.*

Witch 1 : Double, double, toil and trouble.

Witch 2 : Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

*Macbeth enters. The witches hide behind the cauldron.*

Macbeth : Witches! Show yourself to me! I need to know  
if my crown is safe. Will I still be King?

*There is a crash of thunder.*

Witches : All hail Macbeth!

*The witches slowly appear and begin to circle Macbeth.*

Witch 1 : Hail to thee Lord of Glamis.

Witch 2 : Hail to thee Lord of Cawdor.

Witch 3 : Hail to thee King of Scotland.

Witch 1 : Beware of Macduff, the Lord of Fife.

Witch 2 : For he is the only one who can end your life.

Witch 3 : You will never be defeated until Great Birnam  
Wood...

Witch 1 : Climbs the hill upon which your castle is  
stood.

*The witches slowly exit.*

Macbeth : Wait! What do you mean Great Birnam Wood  
climbs the hill?

*He exits.*

Narrator : Macbeth returned to tell his wife the news that unless the trees began to walk he would never lose.

*Macbeth and Lady Macbeth enter.*

Lady Macbeth : Then we have nothing to fear. Who ever heard of trees moving? The forest cannot touch us here.

Macbeth : But what about Macduff?

Lady Macbeth : You know what to do.

*She exits.*

Macbeth : Macduff must die!

*Macbeth summons the Assassins who enter. He whispers to them. They nod and then leave.*

Narrator : So Macbeth sent his men to kill the Lord of Fife. But they could not find him so killed his child and wife. They knew Macbeth would be angry so both of them lied and told Macbeth that Macduff had indeed died.

*The Assassins enter.*

Assassin 1 : The job is done your Majesty.

Assassin 2 : Macduff will trouble you no more.

*The Assassins exit.*

Macbeth : Then no-one can hurt me. I am the King!

*The Doctor enters in a hurry.*

Doctor : Your Majesty I have grave news. Your wife is ill.

Macbeth : Is it serious?

Doctor : I'm afraid the fever is very severe. She claims to see ghosts.

Macbeth : Ghosts? Of who?

Doctor : I do not know. I must return to her. Do you wish to see her?

*Macbeth nods and they both exit.*

Narrator : When Macduff heard about his family he vowed to get revenge. To help him defeat Macbeth he called upon his friends.

*Macduff enters followed by Malcolm and Donalbain.*

Macduff : Thank you both for coming.

Malcolm : We were both shocked when we heard what had happened to your family.

Macduff : We have both suffered losses at the hand of Macbeth.

Donalbain : You think Macbeth killed our father?

Macduff : I am sure of it. I think he ordered Banquo's murder as well.

Malcolm : Then let us gather an army together and reclaim the throne.

*They all exit.*

Narrator : As they gathered an army the Doctor came to see Macbeth and broke the news that she had taken her final breath.

*Enter Macbeth and the Doctor.*

Doctor : Her suffering is over. Lady Macbeth is dead.

*Macbeth drops to his knees, head in his hands. Doctor leaves slowly. As Macbeth sobs a Servant enters.*

Servant : Your Majesty! Your Majesty! An army approaches. They carry the flag of Prince Malcolm and Prince Donalbain. They are taking cover in Great Birnam Wood.

*Macbeth jumps to his feet and looks out. At the back of the auditorium soldiers camouflaged with branches begin to move forwards.*

Macbeth : The trees! They are moving this way!

Witches : (*Offstage*) You will never be defeated until Great Birnam Wood climbs the hill upon which your castle is stood.

Macbeth : Make sure my guards are ready. Prepare to defend the castle at all costs.

*Macbeth's guards gather on stage. The Princes' army approaches. There is a large fight during which Macbeth kills several soldiers.*

Macbeth : The witches were right, I have nothing to fear. No-one can hurt me now!

*Macduff appears behind Macbeth.*

Macduff : Is that so?

Macbeth : You are nothing but a ghost. I had you killed.

Macduff : Your men killed my wife and son, but I am very much alive.

*Macduff lunges forward and there is a swordfight. Eventually Macbeth is killed. Malcolm and Donalbain enter.*

Macduff : Now that Macbeth is dead the crown can be given to its rightful owner.

*Macduff takes the crown from Macbeth and places it upon Malcolm.*

Macduff : Hail King Malcolm. Hail King of Scotland.

All : Hail King Malcolm! Hail King of Scotland!

*Macduff and Donalbain both kneel either side of Malcolm.*

Narrator : So Macduff had brought an end to Macbeth's evil reign and Scotland had a true and noble King once again.

: Thank you all for watching we hope you enjoyed the show. All we ask is for a round of applause before you have to go.

*All stand and take their bows.*

*Final Curtain.*