## QUICK CARD: Macbeth

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| Reference  | Macbeth. William Shakespeare.<br>ISBN-13: 978-0743477109   |
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| Plot       | When General Macbeth returns a hero from battle, he encounters three witches<br>who prophesy that he will not only be awarded a new title, but also that he will<br>soon become king. These dark predictions, together with his wife's urgings,<br>spur ambitious Macbeth to aid the prophecy's fulfillment by assassinating his<br>cousin, king Duncan. Murder is compounded with murder as Macbeth strives<br>to maintain his tenuous hold on the throne.Meanwhile, Malcolm musters an<br>army to regain his rightful throne and punish the traitors.  |
| Setting    | Scotland in the time of Duncan the Meek.   |
| Characters | <ul> <li>Macbeth (protagonist) – general of Duncan's army</li> <li>Lady Macbeth, Macbeth's wife</li> <li>Duncan, King of Scotland</li> <li>Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's sons</li> <li>Banquo – general of the king's army and friend of Macbeth</li> <li>Macduff</li> <li>Lady Macduff, Macduff's wife</li> <li>Three Witches, the Wyrd Sisters (antagonists) – the Fates</li> <li>Lennox, nobleman of Scotland</li> <li>Rosse, nobleman of Scotland</li> <li>Menteth, nobleman of Scotland</li> <li>Cathness, nobleman of Scotland</li> <li>Fleance, son of Banquo</li> <li>Siward, Earl of Northumberland, general of the English forces</li> <li>Young Siward, Siward's son</li> <li>Seyton, an officer attending Macbeth</li> <li>Boy, son to Macduff</li> <li>English Doctor/Scottish Doctor</li> <li>Three Murderers</li> <li>Porter</li> </ul> |

| Conflict         | <ul> <li>Man vs. Self</li> <li>Man vs. Man</li> <li>Man vs. Fate</li> </ul>  |
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| Theme            | The tragic downfall of Macbeth is the story of a noble and loyal man brought to<br>ruin by his own fatal flaws, ambition and fear of man, spurred on by the<br>counsels of darkness, who wish him no good. |
| Literary Devices | Dramatic irony; Allusion; Blank Verse  |