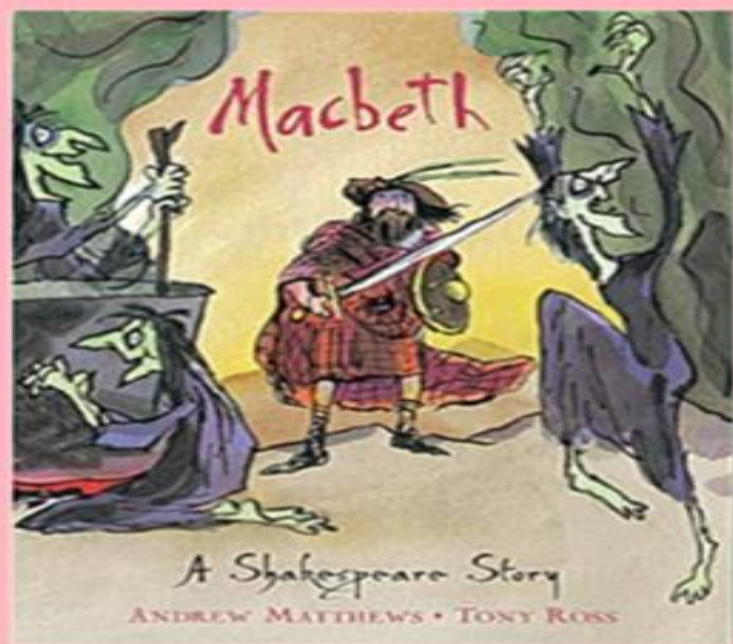
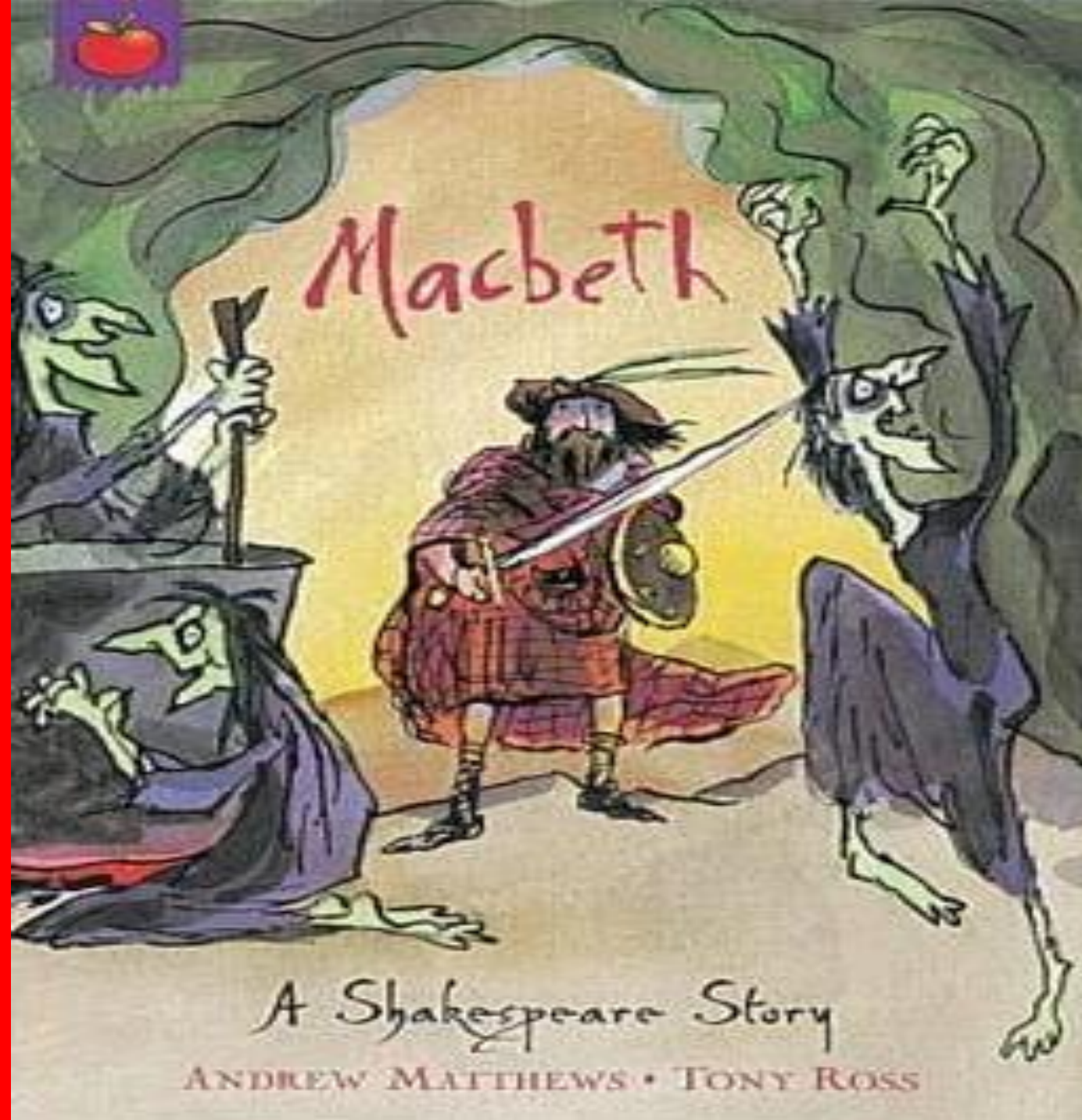


Thursday 25th June, 2020.

LO: To infer, based on information from a text.

Read p 26 - 35 and complete tasks.





Contents

Cast List 4

Macbeth 7

Evil in Macbeth 60

Shakespeare
and the Globe Theatre 62



Cast List



The Three Witches - or Weird Sisters



Macbeth

Thane of Glamis
General to King Duncan



Lady Macbeth

Wife to Macbeth



Banquo

General to King Duncan



King Duncan

King of Scotland



Malcolm and Donalbain

The King's sons



Macduff

Thane of Fife



A servant of
Glamis Castle



Two
Murderers

The Scene

Scotland in the eleventh century.

When shall we three meet again?

In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

When the hurly-burly's done,

When the battle's lost and won.

First and Second Witches; I.i.

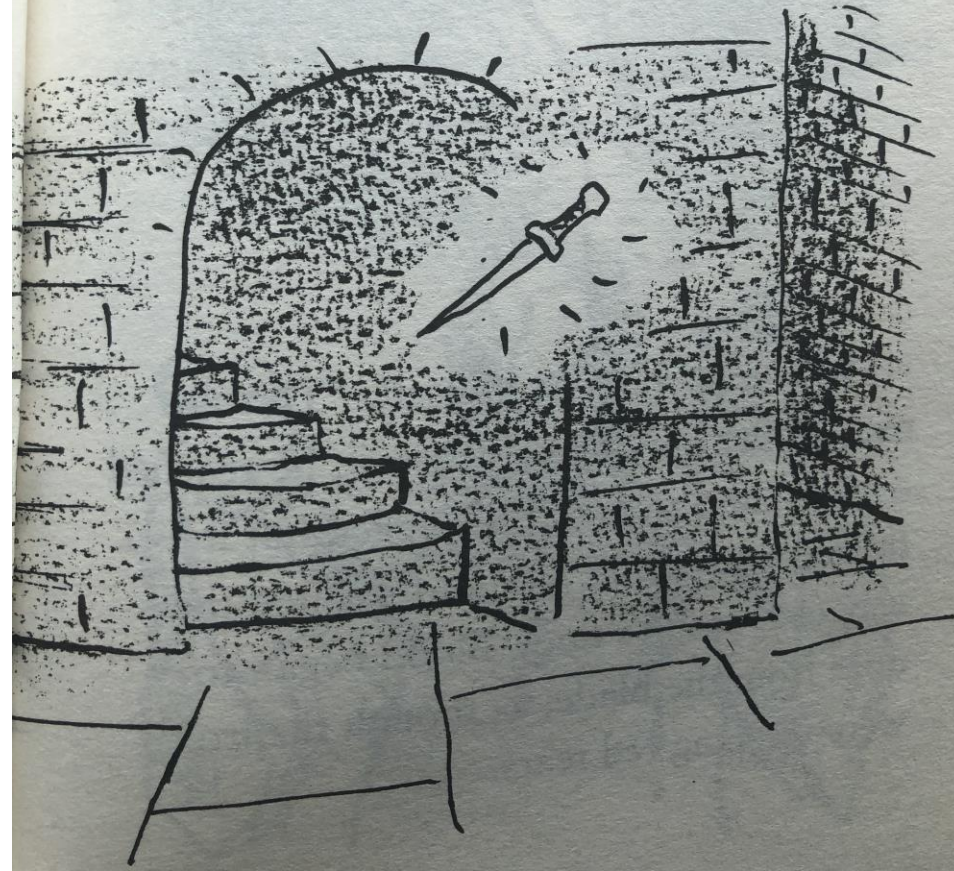
Long after the castle had fallen silent,
Macbeth left his room and crept along the
corridors. His hands trembled, and the
sound of his pulse in his ears was like the
beating of a battle drum. 'This is the hour
of the wolf and the witch,' he thought,

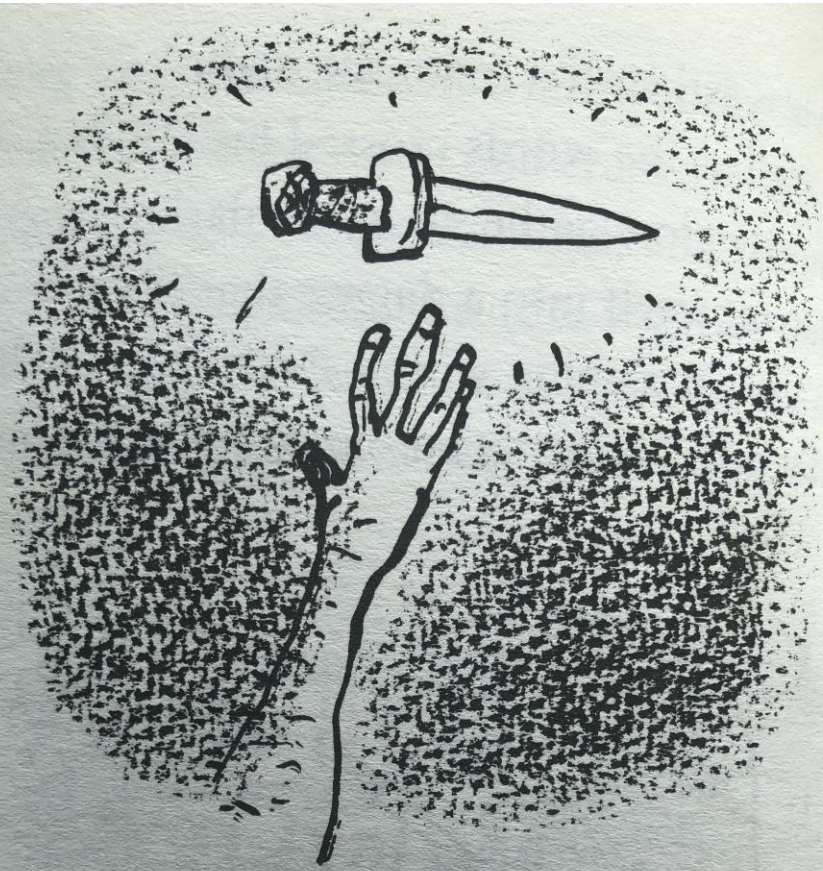
p26



'when evil spirits roam the night.'

And as the words crossed his mind, a
ghostly glow gathered in the darkness,
shaping itself into a dagger that floated
in the air, shining with a sickly green light.
Macbeth almost cried out in terror.





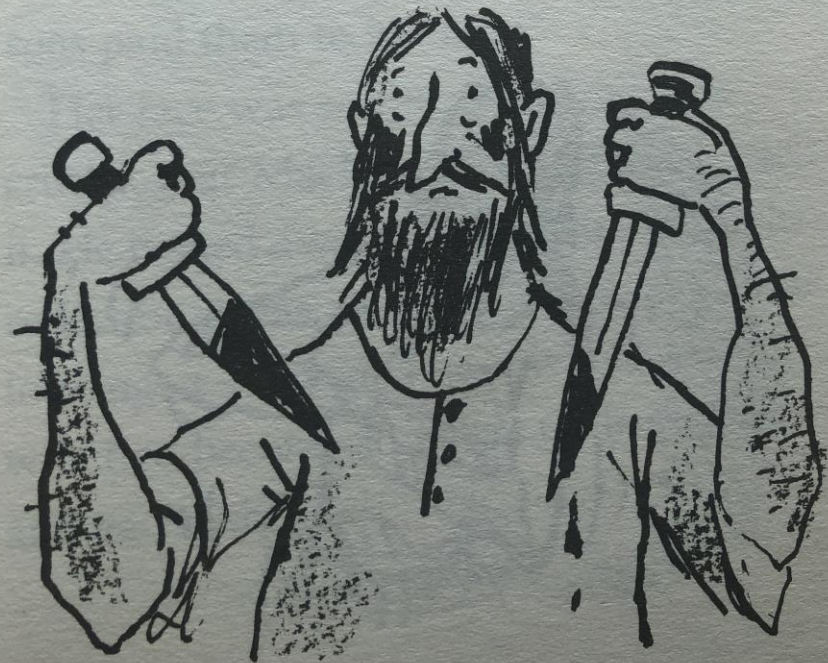
"Be calm!" he told himself. "This is a trick of the mind!" To prove it, he reached out his hand to take the dagger, but it floated away from him and pointed the way to Duncan's door. Blood began to ooze from the blade, as though the iron were weeping red tears.

A bell tolled midnight.

"Duncan's funeral bell is ringing!" muttered Macbeth, and he followed the dagger through the gloom.

* * *

Lady Macbeth also heard the bell toll, and it seemed a long time before her husband returned. There was blood on his face and hands, and he carried two daggers.



"You should not have brought the daggers here!" said Lady Macbeth. "Go back and put them into the guards' hands, as we planned!"

Macbeth's eyes were blank. He shook his head. "I will not go back there!" he said hoarsely.

"Then *I will!*" said Lady Macbeth, and snatched the daggers from Macbeth's hands and left the room.



Macbeth stood where he was, shivering uncontrollably, seeing nothing but Duncan's dead eyes staring. He tried to pray, but his lips and tongue would not form the words.

In a short while, Lady Macbeth came back, holding her red hands up to the candle-light. "I smeared blood over the guards' faces, to make them seem guilty," she said. "In the morning, we will have them tortured until they say that Duncan's sons paid them to kill him!"

Her face was so full of triumph and cruelty, that Macbeth no longer recognised it. He turned away, and caught sight of his reflection in the mirror. It was as if he were looking at someone else – as if he and his wife had become strangers to themselves and each other.



Glamis Castle was woken in the grey light of dawn by voices shouting, "Murder! The King is slain!" Shocked guests ran from their rooms and spoke in whispers. Who could have murdered the King?



Rumours flew through the castle like swallows – and suspicion fell on Malcolm and Donalbain, who had the most to gain from their father's death.



Malcolm and Donalbain were convinced that Macbeth was the murderer, but they did not dare to accuse him – who would believe that the hero of the battle against the Norwegians would slay his own King?

Though they knew it would be taken as proof of their guilt, Duncan's sons fled for their lives. Donalbain sailed for Ireland,



and Malcolm rode across the border into England, to put himself under the protection of the English King.

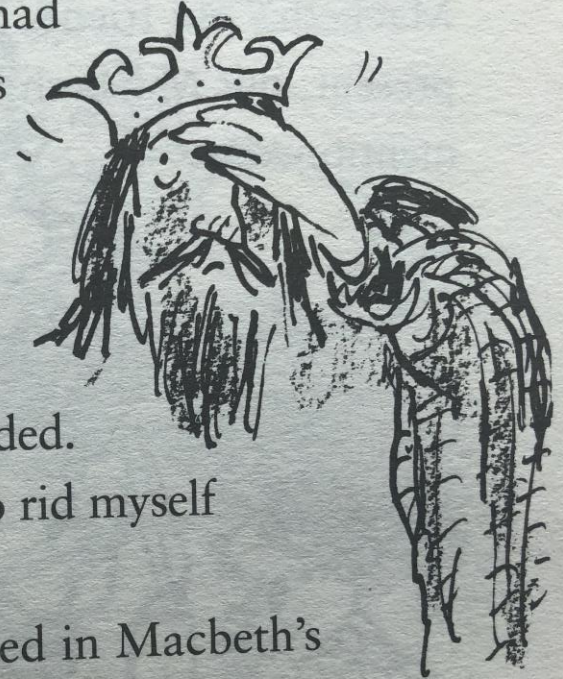


Now nothing stood between Macbeth and the throne.

He was crowned, but the crown did not bring him the pleasure he had imagined. His secret dream had come true, but he was disturbed by other dreams – dreams of what the witches had foretold for Banquo's descendants.

'Have I lied and murdered to set Banquo's spawn on the throne?' he brooded. 'I must find a way to rid myself of him, and his son.'

A dark plan formed in Macbeth's mind, and he kept it a secret – even from Lady Macbeth. Without either of them realising, the strange force that had compelled them to kill Duncan was slowly driving them apart.



LO: To infer, based on information from a text.

Task 1: p 26 - 35



1. Replace the words in bold with synonyms: Without realising, the **strange** force that had **compelled** Lady Macbeth and Macbeth to **kill** Duncan was **slowly** driving them apart.
2. What does Lady Macbeth do to make the guards seem guilty?
3. Why do people think Malcolm and Donalbain have murdered the King?
4. After their father's murder, Donalbain and Malcolm flee to Ireland. True or false?

If you finish this section and there is still time, move on to the Spicy/Hot task 1.

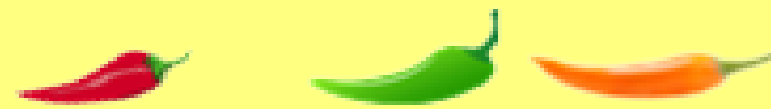
Task 1:



1. What might Macbeth be thinking and feeling when he sees the dagger?
2. What might Lady Macbeth be thinking and feeling while she waits for Macbeth to return on page 29?
3. On page 30, why does Lady Macbeth say, "You should not have brought the daggers here!"
4. Copy any words or phrases on pages 30 and 31 that suggest Macbeth feels guilty about what he has done.
5. Why do you think Malcolm and Donalbain are convinced that Macbeth is the murderer?
6. In the play, when Macbeth sees the dagger he says, "Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?" (II.i)
7. What do you think the dagger symbolises?
8. Do you think Macbeth really sees a dagger?
9. Macbeth is being driven to murder by a strange force and cannot be held responsible for his actions. Do you agree? Use evidence from the text.



Task 2: p 26 - 34.



1. Why do you think Macbeth had two daggers?
2. How do you think the King's murder will affect Macbeth and Lady Macbeth?
3. How do you think Macbeth will rid himself of Banquo and his son?



- **Write a summary of these pages in six sentences.**
- **Re-write pages 29-31 from Lady Macbeth's point of view.**