CHARACTERS

The Three Witches

Three supernatural beings who practice a kind of black magic. Their prophecies of Macbeth's rise to power set the events of the play in motion.

Duncan

The King of Scotland, later murdered by Macbeth.

Malcolm and Donalbain

Duncan's sons. Early in the play Malcolm is named as Duncan's heir – making him a suspect when Duncan is murdered.

Macbeth

An ambitious warrior, one of the leaders of Duncan's army. The Witches' prophecy leads him to murder Duncan so that he himself can be king.

Lady Macbeth

Macbeth's wife.

A Porter

A doorman at Macbeth's castle.

Banquo

Macbeth's friend, and cocommander in Duncan's army. He also hears the witches' prophesies, but resists their temptation.

Fleance

Banquo's son.

Macduff

A Scottish thane (nobleman) who comes to prominence after the murder of Duncan and leads the opposition to Macbeth.

Lady Macduff

His wife, later murdered on Macbeth's orders.

Siward

The Earl of Northumberland, commander of the English army. He supports Malcolm's return to the Scottish throne.

Also assorted noblemen, soldiers, apparitions, murderers, messengers and a doctor.

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