



1.4 – Macbeth’s promotion

Audience

What do they think Macbeth is going to next?

Who else is Macbeth going to share this discovery with?

If he kills the king this will be regicide. Only months early we had the trial of Guy Fawkes and the audience will be aware of what happened to the plotters on the 31 January 1606.

Setting

Location: Duncan’s Castle at Forres. First time we have been an inside permanent space

Conditions: There are attendants, so it is clear there is power and power at stake

Time: Given the witches met Macbeth at the setting of the sun this either the later that night or the following morning.

Space: The space belongs to the King a *flourish* indicates the arrival of a high status character

Character

Status: Duncan, Malcolm, Donalbain,, Thanes.

See: Duncan sees a valiant warrior, Malcolm sees the man his father respects, Macbeth sees an old king considering his death.

Envy: Duncan - Macbeth’s valour, Malcolm his father affection, Macbeth envies the clarity of choices.

Predicament: Duncan – Macbeth as a son/promote him, Malcolm wants his father only to look to him/be respectful, Macbeth – wants to consider killing Malcolm/block it out of his mind

Stakes: Duncan – a just successor, Macbeth – control of his choices

Identity/unidentity: Duncan – wise king/dying old man

Language 48 : 53

Pre-scene: what did Macbeth and Banquo talk about on their way to the castle?

Under poem: *step/leap, fire/desire, be/see* – be in the moment or look forward

Pronoun: *I* and *my* is used and *one* your referring to the heavens : 50

Iambic: *On which I must fall down, or else o’erleap* – 11 syllables - all the others have 10?

Hear: this section is an aside, what is the purpose of an aside?

Impact

See: King deciding who should succeed him

Remind: The arrival of James 1 from Scotland

Think: There is no primogeniture in Scotland at this time

Feel: uncertain about what is going to happen, will Macbeth *fall down* or *o’erleap*

React: do they want him to kill Malcolm and wait for Duncan’s death.....