



### 3.3 Banquo is murdered and his son escapes

#### Audience

**Will** we see the murder of Banquo?

**What** will happen to the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth

**Who** will try to stop Macbeth from killing his old friend and new enemies

**Are** we going to the Castle or elsewhere?

#### Setting

**Location:** the scene is clearly outdoors as they are waiting for Banquo and are some way from the 'palace gate'.

**Conditions:** Banquo has a sense it will rain this evening – 'it will be rain tonight' he tells his son as they make their way to the castle.

**Time:** it is dusk as the murderer states that the west yet glimmers with some streaks of day, the sun is setting. However, it is dark enough for there to be a light – *a light a light* the other murderer states

**Space:** Outside the castle walls – liminal space

#### Character

**See:** the murderers see a man and a child. Banquo sees three strangers

**Envy:** Banquo envies the fact his son can escape. The murderers envy the fact the son can escape.

**Predicament:** The murderers want to kill the 'best half of their affair' but all they can do is give up and 'say how much is done'. Banquo wants to live but all he can do is sacrifice himself

**Stake:** Banquo needs to save his son, The murderers need to complete their job, Fleance needs to gain his life

**Identity/unidentity:** Banquo goes from being a paternal father 'there will be rain tonight' to a terrified widower 'fly good Fleance, fly, fly, fly'. His son will become an orphan

#### Language

**Pre scene:** Banquo and his son have been out for a ride together, to fill the time before they go to the castle for the party

**Iambic:** the lines are split and shared between the murderers and the murdered. They finish off each other sentences. It's as though they are all part of the same act.

**Pronoun:** The murderers use us, our, our, we, us, our, us, we and our throughout the scene. They have been asked to kill on behalf of their employer.

**Underpoem:** this has a very clear story to tell: Us, Macbeth

#### Impact

**See:** the first time they have seen murder in front of them. The fourth murder in the play

**Remind:** the witches predictions. Banquo's son is still alive

**Think:** if he is willing to kill children when will he stop

**Feel:** relieved that Fleance got away as it provides hope

**React:** curious to know how Macbeth will react when he is told Fleance escaped