

Coffee, Campfires & Shakespeare

Campfire Revision Series: Macbeth in a Minute

1-Minute Summary:

Macbeth, a valiant warrior, is corrupted by ambition after a prophecy promises him kingship. Urged on by Lady Macbeth, he murders King Duncan, seizing the crown but losing his peace. Haunted by guilt and paranoia, he becomes a tyrant, destroying all who threaten him. His downfall comes when his overconfidence blinds him to fate's warnings, and justice is restored through his death.

Top 5 Key Quotes:

“ If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly. ”

Macbeth wrestles with his conscience — showing ambition battling morality.

“ Look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under 't. ”

Lady Macbeth's manipulation and deceit drive the tragic action.

“ Is this a dagger which I see before me? ”

Hallucination blurs reality, symbolising Macbeth's descent into guilt.

“ Out, damned spot! Out, I say! ”

Lady Macbeth's psychological collapse mirrors Macbeth's moral decay.

“ Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow... ”

A reflection on futility and the meaninglessness of unchecked ambition.

Themes to Revisit:

Ambition · Guilt · Fate vs Free Will · Masculinity · The Supernatural

Campfire Challenge:

In three flames of ambition, summarise Macbeth's downfall — one sentence per flame.

Notes from the Flames:
