

Macbeth is conscious of the severity of his actions and is still undecided

Act 1 Scene vii

uncertainty  
 doesn't name the act  
 different connotations to murder

doesn't utter Duncan's name

does not say murder

BIBLICAL  
 1 Peter 5  
 evil consequences? → damnation

inner turmoil: moral scruples vs pragmatism  
 unsharpened ambition & consequences  
 cowardice?

net

CONFUSED

MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly. If the assassination could trammel up the consequence, and catch with his surcease success; that but this blow might be the be-all and the end-all here, But here, upon this bank and shoal of time, We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases we still have judgment here, that we but teach bloody instructions, which, being taught, return to plague th' inventor: this even-handed justice commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice to our own lips. He's here in double trust: First, as I am his kinsman and his subject, Strong both against the deed; then, as his host, Who should against his murderer shut the door, Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been So clear in his great office, that his virtues Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against the deep damnation of his taking-off; And pity, like a naked newborn babe, Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubim, horsed Upon the sightless couriers of the air, Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye, That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur To prick the sides of my intent, but only Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself And falls on th' other.

ambition, but fears the consequences

[S] sound - sibilance - hissing of a snake - symbolism

instead of murder  
 willing to disregard the consequences in the afterlife

fear of consequences and damnation  
 JUSTICE personification

metaphor  
 does not mention his loyalty as RATTORR

name,

insight into Duncan's character  
 magnifies the horror of his murder

similes & metaphors

denotes his motivation as a lord on a rider's heel  
 is he in control?  
 theme: overextend oneself

consequences  
 metaphorical  
 metaphor - tears  
 Duncan is a deer  
 very  
 theme  
 And falls on th' other. *predominance*

Guiding questions:

- What does Macbeth discuss?
- What themes are obvious?
- What character traits do you notice? How would you describe Macbeth?
- What literary devices can you identify?