Macbeth character sketch

Literature, British Literature



At the beginning of the play Macbeth is a very brave solider and also is known as the Thane of Glamis. He is known as a person of great value. Macbeth has an encounter with the witches where they tell him his prophecies. Macbeth all of a sudden has an impatient ambition come to him. Right after the first prophecy of being named Thane of Cawdor becomes true; Macbeth starts to think about murdering King Duncan in order for him to become King. Also there is love in Macbeth, as he is married and tells his wife everything. He sends her a letter to keep her updated on what's going on. Macbeth is also a religious person. Before he kills Duncan, he says to Lady Macbeth that he will never be able to pray again if he does kill him. Now he is debating if he wants to kill him or not. Lady Macbeth knows her husband and she feels that he is "too full o'th' milk of him of human kindness" this basically mean he's too nice. Also Lady Macbeth says he is a coward if he doesn't kill Duncan. Macbeth doesn't want to be known as a coward to his wife, so he decided to accept that he will complete the murder of Duncan. His ambition and bravery leads him to the final decision of deciding to do it. After murdering Duncan he is regretful, he shows fear and scared that he will get caught so he decides to murder the drunk guards to put the blame on them. Macbeth was named the new King. It didn't start off good because he couldn't sleep and he felt regretful of what he did. The first murder leads to a series of death. Macbeth feared Banquo because he knew what the witches prophesied to him. Macbeth also thinks that Banquo is suspecting Macbeth for the murder of Duncan. Another thing that bothered Macbeth is that Banquo has a line of kings like his kids that are next in line and the witches only promised Macbeth to become King no one else from his family. Macbeth decides that he will hire two murders to kill Banquo and his descendants. Macbeth and his wife slowly start to fade apart. Before the murders, Macbeth would tell her anything and now he didn't even mention a thing to her about the death. Macbeth does the killing, but still has one problem to face, which is Fleance escaping. Also now Macbeth was going crazy and was haunted by Banquo's death. Macbeth started to see Banquo's ghost at the banquet. Macbeth was just worried about everyone, like he didn't know what he could do. As the play goes on Macbeth felt more worried about his security as King. Macbeth needed to figure the best and worst of his future. The witches mention he will still be in dominating power. He was told that he will not be defeated until the Wood of Brinam comes to Dunsinane. The last thing was anybody born of woman cannot harm him. This all seems impossible to Macbeth. His evilness comes out of him completely when he has orders to kill all of Macduff's family, once he was told that Macduff went to England. Macbeth heard the news that Malcolm and his soldiers are coming to Dunsinane. This bugged Macbeth, but he just continually kept thinking of the promises of the witches. He also refused to be afraid. Now Macbeth just thinks about all the trouble that becoming king brought him. His expressions that him becoming King is not worth the peace that he and Lady Macbeth had before. Even know all the other things he has on his mind, also the health of Lady Macbeth worries him. She committed suicide, and he doesn't seem to care that much but it releases his anger towards his life, which he thought was dark and disappointing. When he finds out that Birnam Wood has started to move toward Dunsinane he thinks to himself and realizes that the witches would lie to him. Overall he decides

that he's going to die in battle. He knows that he will lose the war but also knows that he'll never give up. He keeps attached to the second prophecy that the witches told him about nobody born of woman can hurt him.

Macbeth finally see's Macduff and refuses to fight him because he's already sorry for the deaths of his family. Macbeth knows that he will kill Macduff too because he is born of a woman. Macduff then tells Macbeth that he was "ripped out" from his mother's womb. They finally fight. Macbeth proves not a baby by fighting the battle. Macbeth was lied to by the witches. Towards the end Macbeth was aware that he cheated. Macbeth pays all the consequences. In the end Macbeth still dies as a strong and brave person.