



# THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH

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*William Shakespeare*

GENRE: TRAGEDY

SETTING: IITH CENTURY SCOTLAND



# MAJOR CONFLICTS AND THEMES

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- MAN VS. SELF
- GOOD VS. EVIL  
(AND MAN'S  
STRUGGLE  
WITH BOTH)



# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

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- THE REAL MACBETH HELD THE THRONE IN SCOTLAND FROM 1040-1057. HE WAS A GOOD AND WISE RULER. HE DEFEATED THE PREVIOUS KING, DUNCAN IN BATTLE. MALCOLM, DUNCAN'S SON, DEFEATED AND KILLED MACBETH, THEN SLAUGHTERED HIS WHOLE FAMILY SO THAT HE COULD ENSURE HIS KINGSHIP WOULD NOT BE THREATENED.
- THE SOURCE MATERIAL WAS RAPHAEL HOLINSHED'S CHRONICLES OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND (1577).
- THE BIG QUESTION IS "WHY DID SHAKESPEARE MAKE MACBETH A VILLAIN?"

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- MACBETH WAS WRITTEN SOMETIME BETWEEN 1604-1606.
  - IT WAS FIRST PERFORMED AT THE GLOBE THEATER IN LONDON.

