

Macbeth admits that the only thing driving him on is his selfish ambition which he fears might be greater than his ability to achieve it.

Macbeth's resolve to not kill Duncan crumbles under the scornful attack of his wife especially when she questioned his bravery and accused him of being a coward. When she reassures him that they could not fail, Macbeth is finally resolved. "False face must hide what false heart doth know"

The vision of the bloodied dagger shows us how much his mind has been tainted by dark thoughts and evil.

After the murder had been carried out, Macbeth seems shaken terribly and his feeling of regret and guilt is evident. "Macbeth does murder sleep, the innocent sleep" "wherefore could I not pronounce 'Amen' "

When the King's murder was discovered, Macbeth uses over the top rich language which is an indication of his deception and his 'false face' - he is trying too hard to appear innocent.

The fact that he murdered the grooms shows that he will now start going his own way.

Macbeth decides to kill Banquo as he is determined to battle fate and deliberately try to stop his sons from being kings. We see that Macbeth is spending less time deliberating over his next murder. It seems Macbeth is now committed to the path of evil.

Macbeth is afflicted by terrible dreams and says that "full of scorpions is my mind". The lack of peaceful sleep reflects his lack of innocence.

Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost, probably as a result of his guilty conscience and the growing evil inside him and throws his coronation banquet into chaos, in the same way his reign as King will throw Scotland into turmoil.

In his next meeting with the witches, the witches themselves say that Macbeth has become evil like themselves "Something wicked this way comes". It is also interesting to notice that he talks to them in an almost conversational way and this contrasts with the way he seemed afraid when he first met them.

Macbeth decides to kill off MacDuff's family just for the sake of it and this shows how ruthless and decisive he has become in contrast to the Macbeth who felt guilty about murdering someone and spent ages deliberating whether he should or not do it. Macbeth is going to start acting without thinking of the consequences "The very firstlings of my heart shall be/ the very firstlings of my hand" It shows us he has become a ruthless dictator. This murder which served no purpose whatsoever marks the lowest point in Macbeth's moral decline.