

FIRST APPARITION

Macbeth! Macbeth!
Macbeth! Beware Macduff!
Beware the Thane of Fife!
Dismiss me. Enough.
He descends.

MACBETH

Whate'er thou art, for thy
good caution, thanks.
Thou hast harped my fear
aright. But one word
more—

*Thunder. Second Apparition,
a Bloody Child.*

SECOND APPARITION

Macbeth! Macbeth!
Macbeth!—
Be bloody, bold, and
resolute. Laugh to scorn
The power of man, for none
of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth.
He descends.

MACBETH

Then live, Macduff; what
need I fear of thee?
But yet I'll make assurance
double sure

And take a bond of fate.
Thou shalt not live,
That I may tell pale-hearted
fear it lies,
And sleep in spite of
thunder.

*Thunder. Third Apparition,
a Child Crowned, with a
tree in his hand.*

What is this
That rises like the issue of a
king
And wears upon his baby
brow the round
And top of sovereignty?

THIRD APPARITION
Be lion-mettled, proud, and
take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or
where conspirers are.
Macbeth shall never
vanquished be until
Great Birnam Wood to high
Dunsinane Hill
Shall come against him.

He descends.

MACBETH
That will never be.
Who can impress the forest,

bid the tree
Unfix his earthbound root?
Sweet bodements, good!
Rebellious dead, rise never
till the Wood
Of Birnam rise, and our
high-placed Macbeth
Shall live the lease of nature,
pay his breath
To time and mortal custom.
Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing.
Tell me, if your art
Can tell so much: shall
Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?