

# Quote cards

The twenty to learn. Cut on the dashes. Fold on Fold. Quote on the front. Meaning on the back.

**Fair is foul, and foul is fair**

Witches · Act 1, Scene 1 · the supernatural · appearance and reality

FOLD

Good things are bad. Bad things are good. That is the rule of the play.

**So foul and fair a day I have not seen**

Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 3 · the supernatural · appearance and reality

FOLD

Macbeth's first words copy the witches. He has not met them yet.

**Stars, hide your fires; Let not light see my black and deep desires**

Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 4 · ambition · guilt · appearance and reality

FOLD

Macbeth asks the stars to go dark. He does not want anyone to see what he wants.

**Yet do I fear thy nature; It is too full o' th' milk of human kindness**

Lady Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 5 · gender and manhood · ambition

FOLD

Lady Macbeth thinks her husband is too kind. She wants to make him hard.

**Come, you spirits That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here**

Lady Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 5 · gender and manhood · the supernatural · violence

FOLD

She asks the spirits to take away the woman in her. Then she can be cruel.

**Look like th' innocent flower, But be the serpent under 't**

Lady Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 5 · appearance and reality

FOLD

Look like a nice flower. Be the snake under it. That is her plan.

**I have no spur To prick the sides of my intent, but only Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself And falls on th' other**

---

Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 7 · ambition

---

FOLD

Macbeth has no good reason to kill. Only wanting more. Wanting more jumps too far and falls.

**When you durst do it, then you were a man**

---

Lady Macbeth · Act 1, Scene 7 · gender and manhood · violence

---

FOLD

She says a real man would do it. He believes her.

**Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?**

---

Macbeth · Act 2, Scene 1 · the supernatural · guilt · violence

---

FOLD

Macbeth sees a knife in the air. Real or not, it points him to the king's room.

**Macbeth does murder sleep**

---

Macbeth · Act 2, Scene 2 · guilt

---

FOLD

A voice says he has killed sleep itself. He will not sleep well again.

**Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand?**

---

Macbeth · Act 2, Scene 2 · guilt · violence

---

FOLD

Can the whole sea wash the blood off his hands? No.

**A little water clears us of this deed**

---

Lady Macbeth · Act 2, Scene 2 · guilt · appearance and reality

---

FOLD

She says a bit of water will clean them. In Act 5, nothing can.

**To be thus is nothing, But to be  
safely thus**

---

Macbeth · Act 3, Scene 1 · ambition · kingship

---

FOLD

Being king is nothing if you are not safe.  
So Macbeth must kill again.

**O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear  
wife!**

---

Macbeth · Act 3, Scene 2 · guilt

---

FOLD

His mind is full of stings. He stops telling  
his wife his plans.

**Thou canst not say I did it. Never  
shake Thy gory locks at me**

---

Macbeth · Act 3, Scene 4 · guilt · the  
supernatural

---

FOLD

Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost at dinner.  
No one else can. They see a king going  
mad.

**I am in blood Stepped in so far that,  
should I wade no more, Returning  
were as tedious as go o'er**

---

Macbeth · Act 3, Scene 4 · violence · guilt

---

FOLD

He is so deep in blood that going back is  
as hard as going on. So he goes on.

**By the pricking of my thumbs,  
Something wicked this way comes**

---

Witches · Act 4, Scene 1 · the supernatural ·  
appearance and reality

---

FOLD

The witches call Macbeth 'something  
wicked'. He is one of them now.

**none of woman born Shall harm  
Macbeth**

---

Apparition · Act 4, Scene 1 · fate and free will ·  
the supernatural · appearance and reality

---

FOLD

No one born from a woman can hurt  
Macbeth. He feels safe. He should not.

**Out, damned spot, out, I say!**

---

Lady Macbeth · Act 5, Scene 1 · guilt

---

FOLD

Lady Macbeth walks in her sleep. She washes her hands. The blood is not there. She still sees it.

**Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow  
Creeps in this petty pace  
from day to day**

---

Macbeth · Act 5, Scene 5 · fate and free will

---

FOLD

Day follows day. None of them mean anything.