SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

M A C B E T H

Act I, scene 5: *Duncan Comes Here*

Lady Macbeth, Macbeth

[This may be performed with one or both the previous full soliloquies inserted to replace these edited versions.]

LADY MACBETH
[Enter reading a letter]
'They met me in the day of success:
and I have learned by the perfectest report, they have more in them than mortal knowledge.
They referred me to the coming on of time, with 'Hail, king that shalt be!'
When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished.
This have I thought good to deliverthee, my dearest partner of greatness. Lay it to thy heart, and farewell.'
[Enter gentlewoman]
What is your tidings?

GENTLEWOMAN
Madam, the king comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH
Give him tending; He brings great news!
[Exit gentlewoman]

The raven himself is hoarse that croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits that tend on mortal thoughts,
Fill me from the crown to the toe top-full of direst cruelty!
[Enter MACBETH]

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor! I feel now the future in the instant.

MACBETH
My dearest love, Duncan comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH
And when goes hence?

MACBETH
To-morrow, as he purposes.

LADY MACBETH
O, never shall sun that morrow see!
Look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under't.

MACBETH
We will speak further…

LADY MACBETH
Only look up clear; To alter favour ever is to fear:
Leave all the rest to me.