ACT 3, SCENE 1



MACBETH Ride you this afternoon?

BANQUO

Ay, my good lord.

MACBETH

We should have else desired your good advice (Which still hath been both grave and prosperous) In this day's council, but we'll take tomorrow. Is 't far you ride?

BANQUO As far, my lord, as will fill up the time 'Twixt this and supper. Go not my horse the better, I must become a borrower of the night For a dark hour or twain.

MACBETH

Fail not our feast.

BANQUO My lord, I will not.

Pause.

MACBETH

We hear our bloody cousins are bestowed In England and in Ireland, not confessing Their cruel parricide, filling their hearers With strange invention. But of that tomorrow, When therewithal we shall have cause of state Craving us jointly. Hie you to horse. Adieu, Till you return at night. Goes Fleance with you?

BANQUO

Ay, my good lord. Our time does call upon 's.

MACBETH

I wish your horses swift and sure of foot, And so I do commend you to their backs. Farewell.

END

Banquo exits. (pause)

MACBETH (CONT'D)

Let every man be master of his time Till seven at night. To make society The sweeter welcome, we will keep ourself Till suppertime alone. While then, God be with you.

Lords and all but Macbeth exits.

MACBETH (CONT'D)

(to unseen servant) Attend those men Our pleasure?

SERVANT They are, my lord, without the palace gate.

MACBETH Bring them before us.

Servant exits.