

Macduff, on the other hand, is impelled by the desire for revenge, and under these conditions the struggle bids fair to be equal. But before the fight is well begun, Macbeth learns that the witches' prophecy is once more false and that Macduff is not 'a man of woman born'; and though he still fights with something of his old courage there is no longer any doubt as to how the struggle must end.

1. **The Roman fool.** Among the great Romans who took their own lives were Cato, Brutus, Cassius, and Antony.

2. **lives.** Living men.

3. **Do better upon them.** Are better upon them than upon me.

4. **else.** There is a confusion of construction here.

5. **charged.** Burdened.

8. **Than terms can give thee out.** Than words can describe thee.

9. **intrenchant.** That cannot be cut, or divided.

14. **angel.** Guardian spirit, demon.

**still.** Ever.

18. **my better part of man.** The better part of my spirit.

20. **palter.** Equivocate.

26. **Painted upon a pole.** Painted upon a cloth attached to a pole, as at a circus.

29. **baited.** Tormented, as in bear-baiting.

34. **him.** He would be the correct form here.

36. **go off.** Die.

40. **but.** Repeats the sense of *only*.

41-3. He held his post without shrinking from danger, and as soon as he had proved by his courageous deeds that he had reached his full manhood, he died.

41. **The which.** *The* was formerly used to give greater definiteness to the pronoun *which*.

52. **he parted well, etc.** He took his leave of life in a becoming way; he did his duty and owed nothing to life.