

Macbeth - Episode 11 "The Final Battle"

Malcolm is with his army and orders the soldiers to throw down their branches, telling them how they are to divide up to fight. Siward (Malcolm's uncle) is to lead the first battle with his son, Young Siward. Malcolm will fight alongside worthy Macduff.

In the battlefield Young Siward comes face to face with Macbeth. They fight and Macbeth easily kills the young boy.

The battle continues and the rebel army easily win the day. Siward leads Malcolm into Dunsinane Castle.

Macduff is looking for Macbeth on the battlefield wanting to kill him in revenge for the murder of his wife and children.

Macbeth refuses to give up thinking himself invincible as the witches had surely said.

Macduff finds him and shouts **"Turn, hellhound, turn."**

Macbeth says he has been avoiding Macduff more than any other man: he feels he has enough of his family's blood on his hands already. They start to fight and Macbeth brags that he has a charmed life as he cannot be killed by one of woman born.

But to Macbeth's horror Macduff says: **"Despair they charm...Macduff was from his mother's womb untimely ripped."**

In other words, he wasn't born in the 'usual way' but by a Caesarean delivery, cut straight from his mother's stomach.

He realises that the witches had lied to him, juggling their words in riddles. He falls to his knees refusing to fight on. Macduff calls him a coward and threatens to have him stuck on a pole for people to look upon with the word tyrant written beneath.

Macduff's taunts stir Macbeth to life again. He says he will not yield to kiss the ground at young Malcolm's feet. Though all the odds are against him, that Birnam Wood has indeed come to Dunsinane and Macduff was not of woman born, he will fight to the end.

"Lay on, Macduff,

And damned be him that first cries ‘Hold, enough.’”

They fight to the death.

The day is almost ended and the battle won. Ross reports to Malcolm and Siward that Young Siward has “paid a soldier’s debt” and though only young he died like a man.

A victorious Macduff enters with Macbeth’s severed head in his hand. He hails Malcolm as the new king of Scotland.

Now king, Malcolm thanks his men and makes his thanes and kinsmen Scotland’s first ever earls. He calls home anyone who fled from Macbeth’s tyranny, referring to the Macbeths as **“this dead butcher and his fiend-like queen”**, whom he reveals killed herself. He thanks everyone and invites them to attend his coronation at Scone.

Now answer these questions

1. How does Malcolm divide his army?

Siward (his uncle) will lead 1st battle with young Siward. Malcolm will fight alongside Macduff.

2. Macbeth and Young Siward fight – who wins?

Macbeth.

3. Why does Macduff want to fight Macbeth specifically?

To avenge the murder of his wife and children.

4. What does Macbeth say he will not do?

Will not give up thinking himself invincible.

5. What does Macduff call Macbeth?

Hellhound

6. Why is Macbeth avoiding Macduff?

He thinks he has too much Macduff family blood on his hands.

7. What kind of a life has Macbeth led?

A “charmed life”

8. Who cannot kill Macbeth?

“no man of woman born.”

9. What is Macduff's reply?

Macduff was from his mother's womb untimely ripped (C-section)

10. What does he mean by this?

Caesarean section.

11. What will Macduff do to Macbeth if he refuses to fight?

Stick him on a pole for people to look at with "tyrant" written below.

12. How many of the witches' predictions have now come true?

3: Thane of Cawdor, King, Birnam Wood moved to Dunsinane.

13. Macduff and Macbeth fight, who is victorious?

Macduff

14. Ross says that Young Siward "paid a soldier's debt" What does he mean by that?

He died in battle like a man. (Fatal wounds on front/ not back, so he died bravely, was not running away).

15. How do we know that Macbeth is dead?

Macduff has his head.

16. Who is proclaimed rightful King of Scotland?

Malcolm.

17. What is Malcolm's first proclamation?

Makes his Thanes and kinsmen Scotland's first ever Earls.

18. How does he describe Macbeth?

"this dead butcher."

19. Who is the "fiend-like queen" who killed herself?

Lady Macbeth.

20. Where is Malcolm to be crowned?

Scone.