

LADY MACDUFF

Young man, your father's dead.

What are you going to do now? How are you going to live?

SON

I will live the way birds do, Mother.

LADY MACDUFF

What? Are you going to start eating worms and flies?

SON

I mean I will live on whatever I get, like birds do.

LADY MACDUFF

You'd be a pitiful bird.

SON

No matter what you say, my father is not dead.

LADY MACDUFF

Yes, he is dead. What are you going to do for a father?

SON

Maybe you should ask, what will you do for a husband?

LADY MACDUFF

Oh, I can buy twenty husbands at any market.

SON

If so, you'd be buying them to sell again.

LADY MACDUFF

You talk like a child, but you're very smart anyway.

SON

Was my father a traitor, Mother?

LADY MACDUFF

Yes, he was.

SON

What is a traitor?

LADY MACDUFF

Someone who makes a promise and breaks it.

SON

And is everyone who swears and lies a traitor?

LADY MACDUFF

Everyone who does so is a traitor and should be hanged.

SON

And should everyone who makes promises and breaks them be hanged?

LADY MACDUFF

Everyone.

SON

Who should hang them?

LADY MACDUFF

The honest men.

SON

The the liars are fools, for there are enough liars in the world to beat up the honest men and hang them.

LADY MACDUFF

(laughing) Heaven help you for saying that, boy! *(sad again)* But what will you do without a father?

SON

If he were dead, you'd be weeping for him. If you aren't weeping, it's a good sign that I'll soon have a new father.

LADY MACDUFF

Silly babbler, how you talk!