

Name _____



Power and Guilt

Lady Macbeth was a woman with great ambition. When she first heard that the witches had told her husband, Macbeth, that he would be king, she was overjoyed. But she also knew that Macbeth was hesitant. She believed he was too kind to take action. "Leave it to me," she told him.

That night, Lady Macbeth made a bold plan. She convinced Macbeth to take

King Duncan's life while he slept. She told Macbeth that he needed to be strong and brave. "If you want power, you must take it," she whispered. Macbeth followed her advice, and soon, he became the King of Scotland.

At first, Lady Macbeth seemed fearless. When Macbeth felt guilty about what they had done, she told him to stop worrying. "A little water clears us of this deed," she said, as if washing away the crime would also wash away their guilt. But things did not go as planned.

As Macbeth's power grew, he became more ruthless. He ordered the deaths of Banquo and Macduff's family, all to keep his throne. Lady Macbeth, once so full of confidence, started to change. She could not stop thinking about what they had done. At night, she walked in her sleep, rubbing her hands as if she were still trying to wash away the crime. She whispered, "Out, damned spot!" as if she could see the blood still on her hands.

Her strong and commanding nature had faded. She no longer controlled Macbeth. Instead, she became weak and filled with guilt. The weight of her actions became too much, and in the end, she could not live with herself.

Lady Macbeth's story shows how power and guilt can change a person. At first, she challenges the expectations of women in her time, proving that she is as strong and ambitious as any man. But in the end, her emotions take over, revealing that guilt can break even the strongest minds.