Key Quotes from Act II (in sequential plot order): Dialogue, Soliloquies, and Asides in *Macbeth* Name

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| D, S, or A | Speaker | **Quote** **(**Add citation**).** | Significance |
| Dialogue | Banquo (to Macbeth) | “What, sir, not yet at rest? The king's a-bed:/He hath been in unusual pleasure,” | \*\*Dramatic Irony\*\* (before the murder of Duncan) |
| Soliloquy | Macbeth | “Is this a dagger which I see before me,/The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee./I have thee not, and yet I see thee still./Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible/To feeling as to sight? or art thou but/A dagger of the mind, a false creation,/Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?... There's no such thing: It is the bloody business which informs Thus to mine eyes/…*bell rings*/I go, and it is done; the bell invites me./Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell/That summons thee to heaven or to hell.” | Macbeth imagines a dagger in the air. |
| Soliloquy | Lady Macbeth | “Alack, I am afraid they have awaked,/And 'tis not done. The attempt and not the deed/Confounds us. Hark! I laid their daggers ready;/He could not miss 'em. Had he not resembled/My father as he slept, I had done't.” | (during/just after the murder of Duncan) |
| Dialogue | Lady Macbeth (to Macebth) | “These deeds must not be thought After these ways; so, it will make us mad.” | (after the murder of Duncan) |
| Dialogue | Macbeth (to Lady Macbeth) | “Methought I heard a voice cry 'Sleep no more!/Macbeth does murder sleep', the innocent sleep,/Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,/The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,/Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course,/Chief nourisher in life's feast,-- |  |
| Dialogue | Lady Macbeth (to Macbeth) | “Infirm of purpose!/Give me the daggers: the sleeping and the dead/Are but as pictures: 'tis the eye of childhood/That fears a painted devil. If he do bleed,/I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal;/For it must seem their guilt.” |  |
| Soliloquy | Macbeth | “Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood/Clean from my hand?” |  |
| Dialogue | Porter (door man; to Macduff, and Lennox) | “drink, sir, is a great/provoker of three things./ …Marry, sir, nose-painting, sleep, and/urine. Lechery, sir, it provokes, and unprovokes;/ it provokes the desire, but it takes/away the performance:” | Comic Relief (to relieve tension of Duncan’s murder) (**Watch for dramatic irony after this scene)** |
| Dialogue | Macduff (to the other thanes) | “Awake, awake!/Ring the alarum-bell. Murder and treason!/Banquo and Donalbain! Malcolm! awake!/Shake off this downy sleep, death's counterfeit,/And look on death itself!” |  |
| Dialogue | Macduff (to Lady Macbeth) | “O gentle lady,/'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak:/The repetition, in a woman's ear,/Would murder as it fell.” |  |
| Dialogue | Macbeth (to Macduff and the other thanes) | “O, yet I do repent me of my fury,/That I did kill them.” (the guards he framed) |  |
| Dialogue | Malcolm (to Donalbain) | “What will you do? Let's not consort with them:/To show an unfelt sorrow is an office/Which the false man does easy. I'll to England.” |  |
| Dialogue | Donalbain (to Malcom) | “To Ireland, I; our separated fortune/Shall keep us both the safer: where we are,/There's daggers in men's smiles: the near in blood,/The nearer bloody.” |  |
| Dialogue | Macduff (to Ross) | Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's two sons,/Are stol'n away and fled; which puts upon them/Suspicion of the deed. |  |