**Macbeth’s First Soliloquy – The Dagger Speech (Act I Scene 7)**  
[1](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "1');) If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well

2 It were done quickly: if th' assassination  
[3](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "3');) Could trammel up the consequence, and catch

4 With his surcease success; that but this blow  
[5](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "5');) Might be the be-all and the end-all — here,  
[6](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "6');) But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,  
[7](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "7');) We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases  
[8](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "8');) We still have judgment here, that we but teach  
9 Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return  
10 To plague the inventor. This even-handed justice

11 Commends th’ ingredients of our poisoned chalice  
12 To our own lips. He's here in double trust:  
13 First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,  
14 Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,  
15 Who should against his murderer shut the door,  
16 Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan  
[17](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "17');) Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been  
[18](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "18');) So clear in his great office, that his virtues  
19 Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against  
[20](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "20');) The deep damnation of his taking-off;  
21 And pity, like a naked new-born babe,  
[22](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "22');) Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubins, horsed  
[23](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "23');) Upon the sightless couriers of the air,  
24 Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,  
[25](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "25');) That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur

26 To prick the sides of my intent, but only  
[27](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "27');) Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself  
[28](javascript:poptastic('Notes17.html" \l "28');) And falls on the other —