**Macbeth’s First Soliloquy – The Dagger Speech (Act I Scene 7)**
1 If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well

2 It were done quickly: if th' assassination
3 Could trammel up the consequence, and catch

4 With his surcease success; that but this blow
5 Might be the be-all and the end-all — here,
6 But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,
7 We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases
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 Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been
18 So clear in his great office, that his virtues
19 Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against
20 The deep damnation of his taking-off;
21 And pity, like a naked new-born babe,
22 Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubins, horsed
23 Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
24 Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
25 That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur

26 To prick the sides of my intent, but only
27 Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
28 And falls on the other —