Act II, scene iii

Big Ideas

Macduff discovers the murdered Duncan. Chaos ensues.

Thematic note: Nature mirrors human life. Disorder in kingdom (murder) reflected in disorder in nature (storms, strange behavior)

Macbeth reveals he has killed the guards/chamberlains/grooms.

Macduff demands to know why.

Malcolm and Donalbain express distrust and decide to flee.

Act II, scene iv

Ross – a nobleman – and an old man discuss the disorders in nature on the night of the murder.

Malcolm and Donalbain look like suspects – because they fled.

Macbeth has been named king.

Note Macduff’s reaction.

Clothing images: “Lest our old robes sit easier than our new” (I, iv, 38)