

MACBETH

ACT V NOTES

ACT V VOCABULARY

- PERTURBATION: disturbance
- PRISTINE: original; unspoiled
- CLAMOROUS: noisy
- HARBINGERS: forerunners; omens

SHAKESPEAREAN TRAGEDY

- Shakespearean drama in which the main character meets an unhappy end
- Contains a tragic hero (protagonist)
- Casually relates events that lead this character to disaster, at least partly through his or her flaw
- Lively action
- Use of comic scenes to offset the mood of sadness

TRAGIC HERO

- Central character of a tragedy
- Not all good, not all bad
- Person of high rank and personal quality (established at the beginning of the play)
- Destruction is caused by a **tragic flaw**
- Humbled/enlightened by the end of the play
- Audience identifies with & pities the tragic hero
- Allows others to see their own potential for destruction

TRAGIC FLAW

- Personality trait that leads to the tragic hero's downfall
 - Greed
 - Pride
 - Ambition

TRAGIC IMPULSE

- In the final act, the tragic hero shows some redeeming qualities
- Shows the tragic hero confronting his or her limits in a noble way
- Reminds the audience that the tragic hero is not entirely bad
- Positive/uplifting experience for the audience

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