
Creative Response Draft- A Fiend's Confession

I have been a beast, yes a selfish fiend. Corrupted by power and the weird sisters' promises, I egged my husband Macbeth on to murdered the gracious Duncan, our most fair and noble monarch who was supposed to live out his days. What a fool I was to believe words that came from the mouths of the instruments of darkness. I am Eve, coaxing Adam to eat the Forbidden Fruit that returns all of our bodies to the dust as they were made by the Creator from dust. I may as well have killed him myself if I was really convinced about the prophecy, and I claim equal responsibility for both their demise. I regret even to think about the turmoil that has descended across our fair Scotland as a result of my reckless actions. The natural order, the holy Chain of Being, has been upset and great unhappiness was cast upon the land, due to its breakage. How cowardly of me to murder him, not through my own hands, but the hands of others. I should've been the serpent, not the innocent flower that offers its disguise!

His blood will never be able to be washed from my hand. The stain is there to stay and tantalise us, and a little water will never rid us of the memory of the deed, yea, not even all the water in all great Neptune's oceans would wash it off our minds. That damned spot shall persist until the last syllable of recorded time. My husband, naïve as he was, committed the hideous deed on my behalf. If I were really to be a courageous, cruel and masculine man, as the spirits promised to render me, I should be killing Duncan myself. Bewitched to thou spirits that tends to mortal thoughts, thou simultaneously fair and foul entities, thou hast not made me a man, but a being shrouded by androgyny, neither man, nor woman, filled from the crown to the toe topful with the direst cruelty! Thou hast unsexed me beyond the thin line that divides the human from the non-human, and I have fallen on the wrong side of it. I have been rendered an animal, a bestial being that craves for power, feeds on power and will commit the most sinister deeds to acquire it.

Thou wicked spirits, hast ruined and poisoned my soul, but thou hast did likewise to my husband's soul. My husband, returning from his well deserved victory in the battle against the Norwegians and quelling the treacherous rebellion, encountered thine embodiments, the three weird sisters upon that heath. Thou hast expelled his decency, integrity, loyalty and nobility from his mind and sowed the utmost treachery, ambition and greed in their stead. It would be impossible for him to conceive this sinister plot of his own accord, as he was our late king's kinsman and he served him loyally for the duration of his untainted life. I didn't take the weird sisters' words with skepticism and I pushed him towards conceiving and executing this treacherous conspiracy. Propelled by his vaulting ambitions and my precise plan for the murderous, treacherous deed, he killed Duncan in cold blood. Poisoned by the weird sisters' promises, he believed that he could challenge Fate, and make himself as well as our descendants kings when he is a mere mortal. I assumed the role of my dearest husband's partner of greatness, seduced by the throne of Scotland and the weird sisters' promises, and convinced him to murder Duncan and upset the Great Chain of Being. Vengeance shall befall on both of us for interrupting the Chain of Being, earthly and divine.

I can't feel the need to live any longer because I'm currently reduced to a subhuman being infested by ambition, hungry for power. My ambition and my lust for power is what made me the Queen of Scotland, however these are the very things that caused my downfall, as well as my husband's downfall. The damned spot I have on my hand would be a constant reminder of all my deeds. To look at it even once feels like being stabbed a thousand times. The voice that my husband heard right after he murdered the gracious Duncan was right in saying "sleep no more", as both of us will never have a good night's sleep, a normal mind and clear conscience in our remaining earthly lives ever again. I am well aware that all the sinister, manipulative and questionable deeds I've committed

in my petty life won't stop haunting me even after death, but at least in death I will dull my senses that perceive this unbearable agony. And now, I make the leap, as I'm summoned to hell by my conscience. My soul shall be freed from its ungodly torture.

Creative Response- Reflective Analysis

Explain how your piece links to Macbeth (use quotes from creative response): I explored the themes of guilt, ambition, power, corruption, gender identity and remorse in my creative response, all of which are themes that directly and simultaneously affects Lady Macbeth, as well as Macbeth himself, who is mentioned in my text. I used quotes from Macbeth and paraphrased them in Lady Macbeth's monologue to suit her point of view, for example "propelled by his (Macbeth's) vaulting ambitions", "sleep no more", "thou spirits that tend on mortal thoughts", "unsex", "...been the serpent, not the innocent flower that offers its disguise". My response made connections to "Macbeth" in terms of its context, views and values by exploring the aforementioned themes as well as discussing the beliefs (present in Macbeth) of Shakespeare's contemporary audiences, like the Great Chain of Being that would bring disaster if upset, and I included allusions to the Bible, because people in the 16th and 17th centuries are very religious (which results to the general public's obsession with witchcraft, a key inspiration for Shakespeare's "Macbeth").

Explain the mechanics of your style and writing (use quotes from creative response): I used lots of characterisation in my creative response to gain a better understanding of the conflicted character that is Lady Macbeth. I created a menacing tone, implying that trouble's in the air with the witches' and the evil spirits' omnipresence ("Thou wicked spirits, hast ruined and poisoned my soul"), then the tone morphed to become more mysterious towards the end of my response (last paragraph), because I felt that it's of appropriate style, as Lady Macbeth is being chased by death and when she decides to embrace it rather than being tortured by her guilty conscience. I utilised and paraphrased lots of nature imageries present in "Macbeth", like "Neptune's oceans", "sow" and the serpent and the flower imagery. I also used foreshadowing to question the sanity of Macbeth ("he believed that he could challenge Fate, and make himself as well as our descendants kings when he is a mere mortal"), and the eventual consequences that the Macbeth couple would have to face ("Vengeance shall befall on both of us for interrupting the Chain of Being, earthly and divine").

Describe the developmental processes and evaluate your piece: I had some difficulties balancing out all my writing techniques, and I felt that I didn't include enough dramatic irony in my creative response. I then realised that I don't need as much dramatic irony in my creative response, because the setting of my creative response is after the stage in the play where including lots of dramatic irony would be appropriate. Some strengths of my creative response would be that I was able to deconstruct Lady Macbeth's complex characterisation developed by Shakespeare, and that I have a fluent usage of Shakespearean literary devices such as foreshadowing, metaphors, dramatic irony and imagery. An improvement for my piece could be to compare Lady Macbeth's experiences and Macbeth's experiences directly.