

B.A Sem - 03

English MPC-04

Topic : "Macbeth"  
(William Shakespeare)

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32. Stars, hide your fires!  
Let not light see my black and  
deep desire. The eyes wink  
at hand; yet let that be  
which the eye fears, when  
it is done, to see. - I, iv

This is the part of  
soliloquy uttered by Macbeth  
the protagonist of the tragedy  
entitled Macbeth by William  
Shakespeare.

Having been excited  
by the third prophecy of the  
witch Macbeth develops wrong  
ambition in his mind to catch  
the throne through the murder  
of King Duncan's proclamation  
about his elder son Malcolm  
to be the Prince of Cumberland  
aggravates Macbeth's ambition  
to the greatest height. Macbeth's  
conscience does not allow him

to think over the heinous plan of killing Duncan. He realises that this brutal crime can't be executed in the light of stars. That is why he prays to the evil powers to cover up even the twinkling of the stars. He is afraid of the fact that even the least light would expose his black and nefarious deed. He thinks that his action of the hand may not be seen by his eyes.

Thus this mental conflict of Macbeth compels the spectators of the play to conclude that Macbeth is by nature not a murderer. He is certainly a noble person driven to the path of sin due to his tragic trait, that is his ambition.

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