



## PHRASES AND IDIOMS CONTRIBUTED BY SHAKESPEARE

*Compiled by Archik Guha (Team Supervisor, SYP)*

In the last newsletter, I mentioned a few words coined by Shakespeare. Do you know that there are many idioms and phrases which we use, which he is credited to come up with?

Well, here are few of them:

**All our yesterdays** - *Macbeth*

**All that glitters is not gold** – *The Merchant of Venice*

**All the world's a stage** – *As You Like It*

**As (good) luck would have it** – *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

**Bated breath** – *The Merchant of Venice*

**Break the ice** – *The Taming of the Shrew*

**Brevity is the soul of wit** - *Hamlet*

**Cold comfort** – *The Taming of the Shrew/King John*

**Dog will have his day** – *Hamlet*

**Full circle** – *King Lear*

**Good riddance** – *Troilus and Cressida*.

**Laughing stock** – *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

**Wild-goose chase** – *Romeo and Juliet*

(Source: [www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/2014/04/45-phrases-coined-shakespeare-450th-birthday](http://www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/2014/04/45-phrases-coined-shakespeare-450th-birthday))

[www.listenandleamusa.com/blog/8-popular-phrases-probably-didnt-know-coined-shakespeare](http://www.listenandleamusa.com/blog/8-popular-phrases-probably-didnt-know-coined-shakespeare))

## CONTENTS

1. [Phrases and Idioms Contributed by Shakespeare](#) – Archik Guha...Pg. 1
2. [About SYP](#).....Pg. 1
3. [Curtain Calls](#).....Pg. 2
4. [What to Watch??](#) Movie Review by Srishti Bhowmick.....Pg. 3
5. [Featured Testimonial](#)...Pg. 3
6. [Approaching the Sleepwalking Scene](#) – Dr. Nilanko Mallik....pg. 4
7. [World Wide Web Review](#) – Saunak Ray...Pg. 5
8. [Puzzle Time!!!](#).....Pg. 6
9. [Shakespeare in Harry Potter](#) – Yash Burman...Pg. 7
10. [Story Writing Contest](#)....Pg. 8

## ABOUT SYP

SYP was formed in 2016, commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Shakespeare. Although the group started out to perform drama, that is no longer the situation. SYP has, in the span of a few years, expanded to other forms of performance activities, including performing for the screen on YouTube.

SYP doesn't just perform Shakespeare's plays. Our performance is Shakespearean. We also take up works by others. We have made short films on YouTube on 'Thank You Ma'am' and 'The Proposal', and have also adapted T.S. Eliot's 'The Waste Land'.

# Curtain Calls



Hamlet (2016)



The Waste Land (2018)

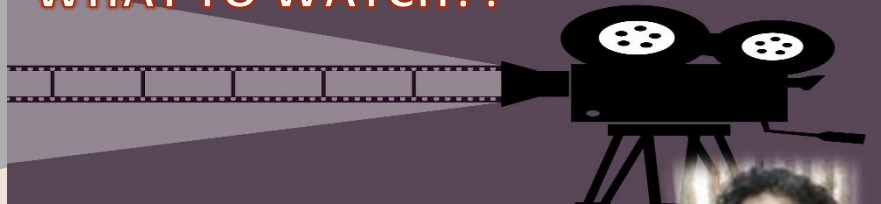


Macbeth (2019)



## She's the Man!

## WHAT TO WATCH??



### Movie Review by Srishti Bhowmick, Event Manager, SYP

Bored with lockdown? Give this movie a shot.

WARNING! “*She’s the Man*” might turn you into a die-hard Shakespeare fan. Did you know, the play *Twelfth Night* is the core inspiration for this 2006 movie? The movie follows in the footsteps of the drama as destiny plays its cards for lovers. But, instead of a Duke’s court, here we have a soccer field.

The movie kicks off with Viola’s football skills on the beach as she beats the guys at the game and their chauvinist ego. After being rejected on the team, she goes to her brother’s school, disguised as Sebastian, her twin brother, while he is in London. Do notice that in addition to the main characters retaining their Shakespearean names, the movie also adds a suave tarantula, Malvolio, and the

diner, *Cesario’s*, to portray some characters who are not shown.

Love teen comedy? Then this one’s gonna be your favorite. From Viola’s disguise to Duke Orsino’s crush on Olivia, or Olivia falling in love with Viola (disguised as Sebastian) and Viola’s love for Orsino—it’s truly an amusing mess! The director also shows just how difficult it must have been for Viola to pass off with the other boys (at all the other times she was not running errands in the drama by Shakespeare) and also manages to show the sensitive side of Orsino.

The twelve nights that the Bard once weaved with romance and humour, now pose as an excellent movie emphasizing gender equality, identity and relationships in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. And for all the guys out there – there is an interesting football match where all is “revealed”, at times, quite literally! Puzzled? Just watch it.

## FEATURED TESTIMONIAL



### Swagato Kabiraj, Ad Hoc Member since 2016

SYP forms a very important chapter in my brief career on stage. As one of the first members of the team when it was formed in 2016, thoughts of SYP arouses feelings of nostalgia. Working on SYP projects has always been interesting. The summer rehearsals on the rooftop! Nothing beats that! Most cherished memories—getting punishment if you are late to learn your lines, and learning proper body language for enactment of specific scenes! And yes, I miss the meetings which would end with chocolates and cakes! My busy schedule has prevented me from taking up acting roles in the recent SYP productions, but I always try to free my schedule for the days of productions...so that I can come and watch and be part of the team still, even as crew member!

It has been a privilege to work with the teacher/director who has been a good guide. Hope to work again very soon!

All the best to the group!



## Approaching the Sleepwalking Scene – *Macbeth*, Act V, Scene I

by Dr. Nilanko Mallik, Founder-Director, SYP



SYP *Macbeth* (2019), Lady Macbeth (Srishti Bhowmick) in Act V, Sc. I. Pic by Anik Saha.

The “Sleepwalking Scene” of Lady Macbeth (Act V, Scene I) is of interest not just to the students of literature, but to students of psychology as well. And professional actors. And of late, neurolinguists.

The intensity of the dark night is matched equally with the chilling groans of Lady Macbeth, uttered in no less than three subtle distinctions.

The opening of the scene actually takes the audience and readers by surprise. Of course, it is one of the most awaited scenes of the drama, but if someone were to watch it without knowing the plot, one would be surprised. Nothing prepares the audience for it. The previous scene in the previous act is rather long, with Malcolm and Macduff conversing, and Ross telling about the murder of the family of Macduff. The grief-stricken, revenge-seeking Macduff exits the stage. The hearts of the audience are all set for a fight.

And then, this scene, which starts with a doctor and a nurse conversing. It would seem to test the patience of the audience after the throbbing ending of the previous scene. And yet, in just a few lines, the conversation begs our curiosity, as the audience is forced to wonder who they refer to in their

conversation. The answer is not revealed by the speakers. Lady Macbeth makes the chilling appearance herself. Most directors present her in white in this scene. An ironical contrast to her blackened soul? Perhaps. But this scene has been enacted regionally many times over; not in the contents, but in the appearance. Remember the many spooky settings with a lady in white, walking in the dead of night, with a candle in hand? Yes, this scene is the origin of all such scenes with which we are so familiar. This scene is an interesting study in Cognitive Neuroscience as to how it makes the audience forget the previous scene in just a while, after making them impatient with the conversation of the Doctor and the Nurse at the start. Imagine, in particular, the Jacobean audience, sitting in broad daylight, listening to a lady rant out her confusions with a candle in hand. Chilling? That is where the lines of Shakespeare come in to bring out the ambience of the dark night when the audience would have seen only daylight in the open-air stage of the Elizabethan and Jacobean times. “Out, damned spot, out, I say!” she utters frantically, and the previous scene is out of the heads of the audience.

As told earlier, nothing prepares the audience for this scene. However, we were given two cues earlier (Banquet Scene and two scenes before that), where Lady Macbeth is no longer her dominant self. It is so subtle that most will miss it, but these serve as clues to the gradual decline of Lady Macbeth, even before the Banquet scene. In the Banquet scene, she does not get up, and Macbeth comments on that, to which she says, “Pronounce it for me, sir” (*Mac.* III.4). It hints that she is not feeling well. In fact, she hasn’t been feeling well for quite some time. Before the murder of Banquo, when Macbeth asks darkness to cover the land, and it seems that “light thickens”, Lady Macbeth is a bit shaky (*Mac.* III.2). Macbeth feels this is due to his words and states, “Thou marvel’st at my words: but hold thee still” (*Mac.* III.2). These two cues go enough to suggest that she is no longer her resolute self, although she does come to the rescue of her husband in the Banquet scene, as she has not completely lost her sanity, but only begun to show signs of instability, that too, as physical weakness. So, this continues down the line—but now we see her really fallen in the sleepwalking scene. This is the last scene of Lady Macbeth. Some films show Lady Macbeth after the suicide, being

carried on a stretcher, or just fallen on the ground. But the Shakespearean audience would not get to see that. And again, they are not prepared for this to be the final scene of Lady Macbeth.

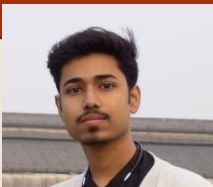
Nothing in the scene fits their expectations. Shakespeare continuously jars them with the confused utterances of Lady Macbeth. Yet, if one were to quote from *Hamlet*, “Though this be madness, yet there is method in’t” (II.2). Analysing the words of the sleepwalking scene would go beyond the scope of this newsletter. So, more matter for another newsletter! It should suffice to say that this scene, complete in bringing about the development of Lady Macbeth by showing her steady fall (development need not always lead to rise in character traits), places her on the same footing as other great characters of Literature, removes all accusations of her being a “fourth witch”, which some critics have made, and shows just how sublime and delicate the human mind is, like the body.



Watch SYP’s rendition of the scene by clicking this link: [https://youtu.be/\\_OAKUnkJpus](https://youtu.be/_OAKUnkJpus)



## World Wide Web Review



Sounak Datta, Member, SYP

**Website Name:**

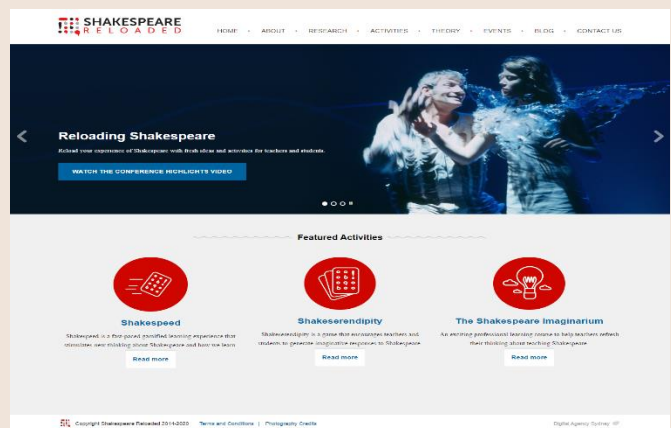
<https://shakespearereloaded.edu.au/>

**What the website is about:** This website is created under the “Better Strangers project”, a collaboration by the University of Sydney and Sydney school Barker College. It aims to present Shakespeare in modern context in front of the world. Many research works of scholars around the world are being published here. The website has been presented in an extremely colourful manner which makes it easier to surf around.

It also contains different sections like “Shakespeed”, “Shakeserendipity” and “The Shakespeare Imaginarium”. The first one provides “fast-paced gamified learning experience” that helps students and teachers to learn more about Shakespeare in a fun manner. Second one is a game that helps students and teachers to grow imaginative ideas towards Shakespeare. The third one is an online course, especially for the teachers, so that they can present Shakespeare’s works better to their students. The first and second sections can also be used as a teaching methodology in class.

Other pages contain information about different events, blogs, theories and researches on Shakespeare.

The best part of this website are the pictures of different stage performances of works of Shakespeare at different events.





# PUZZLE TIME!!

It's time for some fun! Find names of prominent Shakespeare's characters, generally conceived to play negative roles, hidden in this maze of alphabets. Answers will be revealed in the next issue! Words can be left-right, right-left, up-down, down-up, diagonal (in any manner). Need help? Here are clues to help with the characters!

P	O	I	D	N	U	M	D	E	U
Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	L	K	J
A	H	G	K	C	O	L	Y	H	S
N	L	F	D	S	A	V	M	N	U
H	B	O	I	A	G	O	V	C	I
O	C	X	N	Z	S	L	F	G	D
J	J	C	A	S	S	I	U	S	U
N	K	L	O	R	O	O	W	E	A
O	L	I	V	E	R	D	F	G	L
D	H	J	K	L	Z	X	C	V	C

up-down, down-up, diagonal (in any manner). Need help? Here are clues to help with the characters!

*Resolves to get his brother out of his way, then his father...so that he can claim a post unopposed.*

*He wants to be repaid to the exact pound!*

*Makes his wife steal for his schemes.*

*Manipulates someone into killing a great leader.*

*Almost everyone in the household of the Duchess hates him!*

*Kills his brother to come to power, marries soon after.*

*He does much...for nothing.*

*Fellow-conspirator in trying to assassinate the magical Duke.*

*Wants to get his brother killed by a professional wrestler.*

Take a screenshot of this puzzle, solve it by marking the names and save the image. Send your image by email to [newsletter@syp.nlsr.org](mailto:newsletter@syp.nlsr.org) and we shall mention the names of the first 10 correct entries in the next newsletter! Mention 'Newsletter 2 Puzzle' in the subject line and state your name, school/college, class (and year, for college).

## Newsletter #1 Solution:

Q	W	E	R	A	I	T	R	O	P
M	O	R	S	I	N	O	A	A	O
T	A	R	T	A	P	O	E	L	C
N	A	C	N	U	D	Y	L	O	U
O	P	A	B	S	D	E	F	I	G
H	J	K	L	E	H	Z	X	V	C
V	B	N	M	T	T	O	W	E	R
I	A	G	O	L	K	H	S	D	F

*Makes a General jealous of his wife (Iago).*

*Lets a snake bite her (Cleopatra).*

*Fools husband into giving his wedding ring away (Portia).*

*Kills to come to power (Macbeth).*

*Not worthy of his fair wife; commits suicide (Othello).*

*Keeps getting betrayed by occupant of same post (Duncan).*

*This king will give anything just to hear you flatter him! (Lear)*

*He feels music is the food of love (Orsino).*

*Falls in love soon after a shipwreck in which her brother is believed to have died (Viola).*





## Shakespeare in Harry Potter

Yash Burman, Member, SYP

“Eye of newt and toe of frog,  
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,  
Adder’s fork and blind worm’s sting.  
Lizard’s leg and owlet’s wing.”

*Do these words appear to you to be directly out of some delicious exotic recipe book? I am not sure if they are delicious...but to me, these words remind of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Prof. Flitwick leads the*



[https://vignette.wikia.nocookie.net/harrypotter/images/c/ca/Flitwick\\_conducting.png/revision/latest?cb=20150209055117](https://vignette.wikia.nocookie.net/harrypotter/images/c/ca/Flitwick_conducting.png/revision/latest?cb=20150209055117)

*school choir to sing this song before the great feast begins—and before Dumbledore gives his welcome speech—when Harry begins his third year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Wonderful music composition by John Williams!*

*But did you know that the words of the song, labelled “Double Trouble” have been taken directly from Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*? The “Cauldron scene” as it is often labelled, or, Act IV, Scene I, where the three witches prepare their potions to conjure “apparitions” to show to Macbeth. The director makes wonderful use of the song with the refrain “Double, double, toil and trouble/Fire, burn and cauldron bubble” to suit the plot of the film, which anticipates the increasing troubles for Harry and his friends, and the literal storm outside just makes this song all the more...did you think appetizing? Well, I hope not with these ingredients!*



*Watch the fantastic clip of the movie by clicking this link:*

<https://youtu.be/6IIPIVml8WM>

**STORY  
WRITING  
CONTEST!!**

*Take a look at this comic art, and spin a story, summarizing what happens in this changed situation. Whatever be your story...*

*...Macbeth should come to power. It is up to you how to make it happen. The top 3 stories, as judged by SYP members, will be published in*

*newsletter 3!*

*Mention 'Story Writing Contest – Newsletter 2' as subject of the email.*

*Send as word attachment. The attachment must state your full name, school/college, class/batch, dept/year, and name of city.*



*Artwork by Ayush Roy, Ad Hoc Member, SYP*



**Word limit: 1000 words.**

**You don't have to paint. We want the story in writing.**

**Email your stories to [newsletter@syp.nlsr.org](mailto:newsletter@syp.nlsr.org)**

**Last Date of receiving entries: 7 May, 2020, 24:00hrs, IST.**

**Decision of SYP regarding choice of winners would be final and binding.**

**Submissions with incomplete information would be rejected.**