

Literacy World
Comets
Stage 4

Title: Three Tales from Shakespeare
Author: Retold by Martin Waddell
Year: 6 **Genre:** Classic Texts

Summaries

Macbeth
Macbeth commands the army of Scotland. After battle, he meets three witches, who prophesy that he will be king. Macbeth's ambition is fuelled by his wife. Lady Macbeth urges her husband to kill the king in his sleep, and helps him carry out the deed. Macbeth is declared king, but he is haunted by what he has done. He consults the witches again, who prophesy seemingly impossible things, so Macbeth believes that he is invincible. He eliminates his enemies, but the prophecies come true in unexpected ways. Macbeth is slain by Macduff.

Romeo & Juliet
The Montagues and Capulets are bitter enemies, but Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet fall in love at first sight. Friar Lawrence marries them in secret, but before they can tell anyone, a fight breaks out and Romeo kills Juliet's cousin. Romeo's punishment is to be banished from Verona, and the Capulets make plans for Juliet's wedding to Prince Paris. Juliet forms a plan - she will drink a poison that makes her look as if she were dead, allowing her to escape. The plan goes wrong, and Romeo kills himself because he thinks that Juliet is dead, then Juliet kills herself because Romeo lies dead beside her.

Hamlet
Hamlet meets his father's ghost, who says that he was poisoned by his brother, Claudius. Claudius has since married Hamlet's mother, Queen Gertrude. Hamlet pretends to be mad to reveal his uncle's guilt, but he drives his beloved Ophelia to suicide. Hamlet produces a play that mirrors his father's murder. In response, Claudius tricks him into a duel with Laertes, Ophelia's brother. Laertes' sword and Hamlet's drink are both poisoned. During the duel Gertrude and Claudius both drink the poison and die. Hamlet and Laertes are both cut by the poisoned sword and die. Hamlet's father is avenged.

Primary Framework Objectives:
Y6 strand 2: Understand underlying themes, causes and points of view
Y6 strand 3: Recognise rhetorical devices used to argue, persuade, mislead and sway the reader

Literacy World Comets Stage 4: Three Tales from Shakespeare Guided Reading Card Framework

By Martin Waddell

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