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Write a character sketch of the character Macbeth from the play "Macbeth".

The character development of Macbeth in the play. Initially, he is portrayed as a brave and loyal Scottish general, admired for his prowess in battle and his devotion to King Duncan. Despite his honorable exterior, Macbeth harbors a strong desire for power and advancement. This latent ambition is ignited by the witches' prophecy that he will become king, leading him to contemplate the unthinkable. His character unfolds as a tumultuous and protracted struggle between the forces of good and evil inherent in every human being. It is a fierce battle, with evil ultimately triumphing after a strenuous contest. Macbeth, despite his noble nature, is compelled towards wrongdoing by an external supernatural force. This is starkly contrasted with Banquo's rational skepticism. While Banquo questions the reality of what they have seen, Macbeth is immediately captivated by the witches' words. When one prophecy is swiftly fulfilled, Macbeth eagerly anticipates the moment he will wear the crown. This marks the beginning of his internal conflict.

As the play progresses, Macbeth's ambition begins to overshadow his morality. Against his better judgement and propelled by Lady Macbeth's relentless encouragement, he murders King Duncan to seize the throne. This act marks the beginning of his moral decline. Macbeth's conscience manifests as imaginary terrors, driving him to commit more murders. Wracked with guilt and paranoia, Macbeth becomes increasingly ruthless and tyrannical. He orders the murder of Banquo and the massacre of Macduff's family to secure his position, each crime pushing him further into madness and isolation. Each act of violence only deepens his agony, plunging him into a state of horrific madness.

By the end of the play, Macbeth is a shadow of his former self. He is consumed by his guilt and fear, and his initial bravery is replaced by a frantic, almost delusional confidence. His descent into tyranny and madness ultimately led to his downfall. Therefore, Macbeth's character arc highlights the destructive power of unchecked ambition and the profound impact of moral corruption.