



MACBETH
UPDATED EDITION

Edited by A. R. Braunmuller

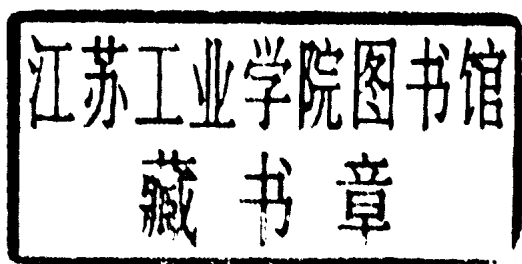
MACBETH

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A. R. BRAUNMULLER

University of California, Los Angeles



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

'If I have done well, and as fitting the story, it is that which I desired: but if slenderly and meanly, it is that which I could attain unto.'¹ Most of what I say about *Macbeth* must already have been said in the voluminous writings about the play, and anyone who reads Thomas Wheeler's excellent '*Macbeth*': *An Annotated Bibliography*, 1990, will understand how little there is that has not been said about this compelling play. I acknowledge debts I recall and apologise for failing to acknowledge those I do not.

A children's rhyme assures us that big fleas have little fleas to bite'em; editors have editors, and even associate general editors have a general editor. For me, the editor's editor is Brian Gibbons, and his light touch and gentle bite made me always wish for the most succinct and clearest phrase, note, and collation. Paul Chipchase, Sue Gibbons, Judith Harte, and Sarah Stanton did more to improve this effort than they will ever say, or I will ever know.

Now I essay the impossible task of parsing my further indebtedness. Those creditors include R. A. Foakes, whose edition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* helped me shape the Introduction here, students in the courses named English 247 and 142C (at the University of California, Los Angeles), and my research assistants – several of whom were supported by my university's Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies under the direction of, first, Michael J. B. Allen and, latterly, Patrick Geary, and others of whom were supported, just as generously, by the Research Committee of my university's Academic Senate, who also supported my own work – (chronologically, as memory serves) Kari Schoening, Owen Staley, Margaret Sullivan, Jerome Arkenberg, Karl Hagen, and Billy Phelan, who helped over several years. These individuals' compulsiveness, argumentativeness, and learning often equalled my own, and I thank them, as I also thank the institution, UCLA, that supported them and me.

Michael Cohen, David Stuart Rodes, and I worked long and valuably on an electronic, multi-media version of *Macbeth*, now published as a CD-Rom ('The Voyager *Macbeth*', 1994), and I learned much from our joint venture. A fragment of Michael Cohen's effort appears here in Appendix 1; David Rodes's beneficent influence has pervaded not just this edition and our electronic version, but all my university service. Our joint effort also allowed me to be instructed (but not convinced) by Lisa Harrow. Many colleagues at UCLA – Charles A. Berst, Robert W. Dent, Claire McEachern, Donka Minkova, Alan Roper, Norman J. W. Thrower, Robert N. Watson – taught me things (from maps to philology, Shaw to annotation to Davenant) I needed to know and did not. The Sheriff's Department of Los Angeles County retrieved my stolen automobile and the edition it contained with remarkable dispatch, and I thank those public servants.

¹ 2 Maccabees 15.38, cited by Gordon Crosse, *Shakespearean Playgoing 1890–1952*, 1953, p. 159.

My debts extend, geographically, far beyond Los Angeles to: Lee Bliss (Santa Barbara, California), Constance Jordan (Claremont, California), Stephen Orgel (Stanford, California), F. J. Levy (Washington), Thomas L. Berger (Canton, N.Y., and London), Leonard Tennenhouse (Providence, Rhode Island), for a remark he has probably now forgotten, Barbara Mowat (Washington, D.C.), Alan Dessen (North Carolina), John Astington (Ontario), Randall McLeod (or any passing cloud), Alan Somerset and his extraordinary computer program, 'Feste', and Paul Werstine (also Ontario), Pauline Croft, J. P. Ferris, G. R. Proudfoot, the Tivoli Research Group, Joanna Udall (all in London), Robert Baldwin (Greenwich), Peter Holland (Cambridge), Jenny Wormald and the generous folk of the Oxford Text Archive (Oxford), Mary White Foakes and Sylvia Morris of the Shakespeare Centre Library (Stratford-upon-Avon), Niky Rathbone and the Birmingham Public Library's Shakespeare Library's staff and their unfailing good humour (Birmingham), Gareth Roberts for help with matters alchemical (Exeter), Akiko Kusunoki (Tokyo).

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All were generous, and, even more important, all were patient.

A. R. B.

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Los Angeles, Washington, Stratford, London

ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS

1. Shakespeare's plays

Shakespeare's plays, when cited in this edition, are abbreviated in a style slightly modified from that used in the *Harvard Concordance to Shakespeare*. Other editions of Shakespeare are abbreviated under the editor's surname (Furness, Hudson) unless they are the work of more than one editor. In such cases, an abbreviated series title is used (Cam., Oxford). When more than one edition by the same editor is cited, later editions are discriminated with a raised figure (Theobald²). All quotations from Shakespeare, except those from *Macbeth*, use the lineation of *The Riverside Shakespeare*, under the general editorship of G. Blakemore Evans.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| <i>Ado</i> | <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> |
| <i>Ant.</i> | <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i> |
| <i>AWW</i> | <i>All's Well That Ends Well</i> |
| <i>AYLI</i> | <i>As You Like It</i> |
| <i>Cor.</i> | <i>Coriolanus</i> |
| <i>Cym.</i> | <i>Cymbeline</i> |
| <i>Err.</i> | <i>The Comedy of Errors</i> |
| <i>Ham.</i> | <i>Hamlet</i> |
| <i>1H4</i> | <i>The First Part of King Henry the Fourth</i> |
| <i>2H4</i> | <i>The Second Part of King Henry the Fourth</i> |
| <i>H5</i> | <i>King Henry the Fifth</i> |
| <i>1H6</i> | <i>The First Part of King Henry the Sixth</i> |
| <i>2H6</i> | <i>The Second Part of King Henry the Sixth</i> |
| <i>3H6</i> | <i>The Third Part of King Henry the Sixth</i> |
| <i>H8</i> | <i>King Henry the Eighth</i> |
| <i>JC</i> | <i>Julius Caesar</i> |
| <i>John</i> | <i>King John</i> |
| <i>LLL</i> | <i>Love's Labour's Lost</i> |
| <i>Lear</i> | <i>King Lear</i> |
| <i>Mac.</i> | <i>Macbeth</i> |
| <i>MM</i> | <i>Measure for Measure</i> |
| <i>MND</i> | <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> |
| <i>MV</i> | <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> |
| <i>Oth.</i> | <i>Othello</i> |
| <i>Per.</i> | <i>Pericles</i> |
| <i>R2</i> | <i>King Richard the Second</i> |
| <i>R3</i> | <i>King Richard the Third</i> |
| <i>Rom.</i> | <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> |
| <i>Shr.</i> | <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> |
| <i>STM</i> | <i>Sir Thomas More</i> |
| <i>Temp.</i> | <i>The Tempest</i> |
| <i>TGV</i> | <i>The Two Gentlemen of Verona</i> |
| <i>Tim.</i> | <i>Timon of Athens</i> |

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Tit.</i> | <i>Titus Andronicus</i> |
| <i>TN</i> | <i>Twelfth Night</i> |
| <i>TNK</i> | <i>The Two Noble Kinsmen</i> |
| <i>Tro.</i> | <i>Troilus and Cressida</i> |
| <i>Wiv.</i> | <i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i> |
| <i>WT</i> | <i>The Winter's Tale</i> |

2. Editions, adaptations, other works of reference, and periodicals

Works mentioned once in the Commentary appear there with full bibliographical information; all others are cited by the shortened titles listed below.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Abbott | E. A. Abbott, <i>A Shakespearian Grammar</i> , 3rd edn, 1870; references are to numbered sections |
| Adams | J. Q. Adams (ed.), <i>Chief Pre-Shakespearean Dramas</i> , 1924 |
| Adelman | Janet Adelman, <i>Suffocating Mothers: Fantasies of Maternal Origin in Shakespeare's Plays, 'Hamlet' to 'The Tempest'</i> 1992 |
| <i>AEB</i> | <i>Analytical and Enumerative Bibliography</i> |
| Agate | James Agate, <i>Brief Chronicles</i> , 1943 |
| Allen | Michael J. B. Allen, 'Macbeth's genial porter', <i>ELR</i> 4 (1974), 326–36 |
| Armstrong | William A. Armstrong, 'Torch, cauldron and taper: light and darkness in <i>Macbeth</i> ', in Antony Coleman and Antony Hammond (eds.), <i>Poetry and Drama 1570–1700</i> , 1981, pp. 47–59 |
| AV | The Holy Bible, 1611 (Authorised Version) |
| Barlow | Frank Barlow, 'The King's Evil', <i>EHR</i> 95 (1980), 3–27 |
| Barrough | Philip Barrough, <i>The Methode of Phisicke</i> , 1583 |
| Bartholomeusz | Dennis Bartholomeusz, ' <i>Macbeth</i> ' and the Players, 1969 |
| Bate | Philip Bate, <i>The Oboe: An Outline of its History</i> , 3rd edn, 1975 |
| BBC | British Broadcasting Corporation |
| <i>Belman</i> | Thomas Dekker, <i>The Belman of London</i> (1608), in Oliphant Smeaton (ed.), ' <i>The Guls Hornbook</i> ' and ' <i>The Belman of London</i> ', 1904 |
| Bevington | David Bevington, <i>Action is Eloquence: Shakespeare's Language of Gesture</i> , 1984 |
| Biggs | Murray Biggs et al. (eds.), <i>The Arts of Performance in Elizabethan and Early Stuart Drama</i> , 1991 |
| Blackfriars | <i>Macbeth</i> , ed. R. W. Dent, 1969 (Blackfriars Shakespeare) |
| Bloch | Marc Bloch, <i>The Royal Touch</i> (1923), trans. J. E. Anderson, 1973 |
| <i>Blurt</i> | Thomas Dekker (?), <i>Blurt, Master Constable</i> (1602), ed. Thomas L. Berger, 1979 |
| Booth | Stephen Booth, ' <i>King Lear</i> ', ' <i>Macbeth</i> ', <i>Indefinition, and Tragedy</i> , 1983 |
| Bradley | A. C. Bradley, <i>Shakespearean Tragedy</i> (1904), rpt. 1955 |
| Braunmuller, <i>Letter-Book</i> | A. R. Braunmuller (ed.), <i>A Seventeenth-Century Letter-Book</i> , 1983 |
| Brennan | Anthony Brennan, <i>Onstage and Offstage Worlds in Shakespeare's Plays</i> , 1989 |

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| Brooke | <i>The Tragedy of Macbeth</i> , ed. Nicholas Brooke, 1990 (Oxford Shakespeare) |
| Brooks | Cleanth Brooks, <i>The Well Wrought Urn</i> , 1947 |
| Bullough | Geoffrey Bullough (ed.), <i>Narrative and Dramatic Sources of Shakespeare</i> , 8 vols., 1957–75 |
| Burnim | Kalman A. Burnim, <i>David Garrick, Director</i> , 1961 |
| Byrne | Muriel St Clare Byrne, 'Fifty years of Shakespearian production: 1898–1948', <i>S.Sur.</i> 2 (1949), 1–20 |
| c. | <i>circa</i> ('about', used for an uncertain date or dates) |
| Cam. | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. W. G. Clark and W. A. Wright, '2nd edn', 9 vols., 1891–93, vii (1892) (Cambridge Shakespeare) |
| Camden | William Camden, <i>Remains Concerning Britain</i> (1605), ed. R. D. Dunn, 1984 |
| Campbell, <i>Life</i> | Thomas Campbell, <i>Life of Mrs Siddons</i> , 2 vols., 1834 |
| Capell | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>Mr William Shakespeare, his Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , ed. Edward Capell, 10 vols., 1767–8, iv |
| Capell, <i>Notes</i> | Edward Capell, <i>Notes and Various Readings to Shakespeare</i> , 3 vols., 1779–80; references are to vol. II (1780), first pagination-sequence, unless otherwise noted |
| Caretti | Laura Caretti (ed.), <i>Il Teatro del personaggio: Shakespeare sulla scena italiana dell'800</i> , 1979 |
| Carlisle | Carol Jones Carlisle, <i>Shakespeare from the Greenroom</i> , 1969 |
| Carlson | Marvin Carlson, <i>The Italian Shakespearians</i> , 1985 |
| Carter | Thomas Carter, <i>Shakespeare and Holy Scripture</i> , 1905 |
| Cercignani | Fausto Cercignani, <i>Shakespeare's Works and Elizabethan Pronunciation</i> , 1981 |
| Chambers | <i>Macbeth</i> , ed. E. K. Chambers, 1893 (Warwick Shakespeare) |
| <i>Changeling</i> | Thomas Middleton and William Rowley, <i>The Changeling</i> (1622), ed. George W. Williams, 1966 (Regents Renaissance Drama) |
| Chapman | <i>The Plays of George Chapman: The Tragedies</i> , gen. ed. Allan Holaday, 1987 |
| Clarendon | William Shakespeare, <i>Select Plays: Macbeth</i> , ed. W. G. Clark and W. Aldis Wright, 1869 (Clarendon Press Series) |
| Clark | Arthur Melville Clark, <i>Murder Under Trust, or, The Topical 'Macbeth'</i> , 1981 |
| Clark, 'Inversion' | Stuart Clark, 'Inversion, misrule and the meaning of withcraft', <i>P&P</i> 87 (May 1980), 98–127 |
| Clarkson and Warren | P. S. Clarkson and C. T. Warren, <i>The Law of Property in Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Drama</i> , 1942 |
| Coleridge | Samuel Taylor Coleridge, <i>Coleridge's Criticism of Shakespeare</i> , ed. R. A. Foakes, 1989 |
| Collier | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. J. Payne Collier, 8 vols., 1842–4, vii (1843) |
| Collier ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. J. Payne Collier, 1853 |
| conj. | conjecture, conjectured by |
| corr. | corrected |

- Cotgrave Randle Cotgrave, *A Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues*, 1611
- Crosse Gordon Crosse, *Shakespearan Playgoing 1890–1952*, 1953
- Daemonologie* James VI and I, *Daemonologie* (1598), ed. G. B. Harrison, Bodley Head Quartos, 1924
- Damned Art* *The Damned Art: Essays in the Literature of Witchcraft*, ed. Sydney Anglo, 1977
- Davenant *Macbeth, a Tragedy* [adapted by William Davenant] With all the alterations . . . and New Songs. As it's now acted at the Dukes [sic] Theatre, 1674
- Davies, *Life* Thomas Davies, *Memoirs of the Life of David Garrick*, 2 vols., 1780
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- De Quincey Thomas De Quincey, 'On the knocking at the gate in *Macbeth*' (1823), in *The Collected Writings of Thomas De Quincey*, ed. David Masson, 14 vols., 1889–90, x, 389–95
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- Dutch Courtesan* John Marston, *The Dutch Courtesan* (1605), ed. M. L. Wine, 1965 (Regents Renaissance Drama)
- Dyce *Macbeth in The Works of William Shakespeare*, ed. Alexander Dyce, 6 vols., 1857, v
- Dyce² *Macbeth in The Works of William Shakespeare*, ed. Alexander Dyce, 9 vols., 1864–7, vii (1866)
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| edn | edition |
| <i>Edward III</i> | <i>Edward III</i> , ed. Giorgio Melchiori, NCS, 1998 |
| <i>EHR</i> | <i>English Historical Review</i> |
| <i>ELH</i> | <i>ELH: A Journal of English Literary History</i> |
| <i>ELN</i> | <i>English Language Notes</i> |
| <i>ELR</i> | <i>English Literary Renaissance</i> |
| Everett | Barbara Everett, <i>Young Hamlet: Essays on Shakespeare's Tragedies</i> , 1989 |
| F | <i>Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1623 (First Folio) |
| F2 | <i>Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1632 (Second Folio) |
| F3 | <i>Mr. William Shakespear's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies</i> , 1663–4 (Third Folio) |
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| Globe | <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. W. G. Clark and W. Aldis Wright, 1865 (Globe Edition) |
| <i>Golden Age</i> | Thomas Heywood, <i>The Golden Age</i> , 1611 |
| Greg | W. W. Greg, <i>The Shakespeare First Folio</i> , 1955 |
| Grey | Zachary Grey, <i>Critical, Historical, and Explanatory Notes on Shakespeare</i> , 2 vols., 1754 |
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- Hinman Charlton Hinman, *The Printing and Proof-Reading of the First Folio of Shakespeare*, 2 vols., 1963
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- Johnson *The Plays of William Shakespeare*, ed. Samuel Johnson, 8 vols., 1765, vi
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- Knight *Macbeth* in *The Pictorial Edition of the Works of Shakespeare*, ed. Charles Knight, 6 vols., *Tragedies*, II, 1841
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- Massinger Philip Massinger, *The Plays and Poems of Philip Massinger*, ed. Philip Edwards and Colin Gibson, 5 vols., 1976
- MED* *Middle English Dictionary*; references are adapted to the forms used by *OED*
- Milton *Poetical Works of John Milton*, ed. Helen Darbishire, 2 vols., 1952–5
- Mirror* J. C. Gray (ed.), *Mirror up to Shakespeare: Essays in Honour of G. R. Hibbard*, 1984
- MLN* *Modern Language Notes*
- MLR* *Modern Language Review*
- Morley Henry Morley, *The Journal of a London Playgoer, from 1851 to 1866*, 1866
- MSC* *Malone Society Collections*
- MSR* *Malone Society Reprints*
- Muir *Macbeth*, ed. Kenneth Muir (1951), rev. ed, 1984 (Arden Shakespeare)
- Mullin Michael Mullin, 'Strange images of death: Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's *Macbeth*, 1911', *Theatre Survey* 17 (1976), 125–42
- Mulryne Ronnie Mulryne, 'From text to foreign stage: Yukio Ninagawa's cultural translation of *Macbeth*', in *Shakespeare from Text to Stage*, ed. Patricia Kennan and Mariangela Tempera, 1992, pp. 131–43

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| n., nn. | note, notes |
| <i>N & Q</i> | <i>Notes and Queries</i> |
| Nashe | Thomas Nashe, <i>The Works of Thomas Nashe</i> , ed. R. B. McKerrow, rev. edn, F. P. Wilson, 5 vols., 1958 |
| <i>Newes</i> | <i>Newes from Scotland</i> (?1591) in <i>Daemonologie</i> |
| Norbrook | David Norbrook, 'Macbeth and the politics of historiography' in Kevin Sharpe and Steven N. Zwicker (eds.), <i>Politics of Discourse</i> , 1987, pp. 78–116 |
| Nosworthy | J. M. Nosworthy, <i>Shakespeare's Occasional Plays: Their Origin and Transmission</i> , 1965 |
| NS | <i>Macbeth</i> , ed. J. D. Wilson, rev. edn, 1950 (New Shakespeare) |
| <i>OED</i> | <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> , 2nd edn |
| Oxford | <i>William Shakespeare: The Complete Works</i> , gen. eds. Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor, 1986; collations and apparatus for this edition appear in <i>Textual Companion</i> |
| <i>P&P</i> | <i>Past and Present</i> |
| Padua | Promptbook of F (University of Padua Library) prepared c. 1625–35, in G. Blakemore Evans, <i>Shakespearean Prompt-Books of the Seventeenth Century</i> , 7 vols., 1960–89, 1, i, and 1, ii |
| Patten | William Patten, <i>The Expedition into Scotlande of . . . Edward, Duke of Soommerset</i> , 1548 |
| Paul | Henry N. Paul, <i>The Royal Play of Macbeth</i> , 1950 |
| Peele | <i>The Life and Works of George Peele</i> , gen. ed. C. T. Prouty, 3 vols., 1952–70 |
| Pepys | <i>The Diary of Samuel Pepys</i> , ed. Robert Latham and William Matthews, 11 vols., 1970–83 |
| <i>PMLA</i> | <i>Publications of the Modern Language Association</i> (of America) |
| Pope | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Alexander Pope, 6 vols., 1723–5, v (1723) |
| Pope ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Alexander Pope, 10 vols., 1728, vii |
| <i>PQ</i> | <i>Philological Quarterly</i> |
| <i>Prolusions</i> | Edward Capell, <i>Prolusions; or, Select Pieces of Antient Poetry</i> , 1760 |
| <i>Prophesie</i> | <i>The Whole Prophesie of Scotland, England, and some part of France</i> , 1603 |
| Q | quarto |
| Q1673 | <i>Macbeth: a Tragedy</i> . Acted at the Dukes-Theatre, 1673 (a quarto) |
| <i>Queens</i> | <i>The Masque of Queens</i> in <i>Ben Jonson: Complete Masques</i> , ed. Stephen Orgel, 1969 |
| r | recto (the right-hand page when a manuscript or book is opened) |
| <i>Reader</i> | Vivian Salmon and Edwina Burness (ed.), <i>A Reader in the Language of Shakespearean Drama</i> , 1987 |
| <i>RenD</i> | <i>Renaissance Drama</i> |
| <i>RSC</i> | Royal Shakespeare Company |
| <i>RES</i> | <i>Review of English Studies</i> |

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| rev. | revised, revised by |
| Ritson | Joseph Ritson, <i>Remarks, Critical and Illustrative</i> , 1783 |
| Riverside | <i>The Riverside Shakespeare</i> , text ed. G. B. Evans, 1974 |
| Robbins | Rossell Hope Robbins, <i>Encyclopedia of Witchcraft and Demonology</i> , 1957 |
| Rosen | Barbara Rosen, <i>Witchcraft in England, 1558–1618</i> , 1969 |
| Rosen and Porter | David Rosen and Andrew Porter (eds.), <i>Verdi's 'Macbeth': A Sourcebook</i> , 1984 |
| Rosenberg | Marvin Rosenberg, <i>The Mask of 'Macbeth'</i> , 1978 |
| Rothwell and Melzer | Kenneth S. Rothwell and Annabelle Henkin Melzer, <i>Shakespeare on Screen: An International Filmography and Videography</i> , 1990 |
| Rowe | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 6 vols., 1709, v |
| Rowe ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 6 vols., c. 1710, v |
| Rowe ³ | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Mr William Shakespear</i> , ed. Nicholas Rowe, 9 vols., 1714, vi |
| rpt. | reprint, reprinted |
| SB | <i>Studies in Bibliography</i> |
| Schäfer | Jürgen Schäfer, <i>Shakespeares Stil: Germanisches und Romanisches Vokabular</i> , 1973; unpaginated citations refer to Appendix 3 |
| Schanzer | Ernest Schanzer, 'Four Notes on "Macbeth"', <i>MLR</i> 52 (1957), 223–7 |
| Scot | Reginald Scot, <i>The Discoverie of Witchcraft</i> (1584), ed. Brinsley Nicholson, 1886; reference is by book and chapter |
| Scotland | 'Historie of Scotland' in Raphael Holinshed <i>et al.</i> , <i>The . . . Second Volume of Chronicles</i> , 1587; reference is by page number and column (a = left-hand column, b = right) |
| Scouten | Arthur H. Scouten, 'The premiere of Davenant's adaptation of "Macbeth"', in <i>Shakespeare and Dramatic Tradition</i> , ed. W. R. Elton and William B. Long, 1989, pp. 286–93 |
| SD | stage direction |
| SH | speech heading |
| Shaheen | Naseeb Shaheen, <i>Biblical References in Shakespeare's Tragedies</i> , 1987 |
| SHR | <i>Scottish Historical Review</i> |
| sig., sigs. | signature, signatures (printers' indications of the ordering of pages in early modern books, often more accurate than page numbers) |
| Singer | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Dramatic Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Weller Singer, 10 vols., 1826, iv |
| Singer ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Dramatic Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Weller Singer, 2nd edn, 10 vols., 1856, ix |
| Sisson | C. J. Sisson, <i>New Readings in Shakespeare</i> , 2 vols., 1956 |
| Slater | Ann Pasternak Slater, <i>Shakespeare the Director</i> , 1982 |
| SP | <i>Studies in Philology</i> |
| Spenser | <i>The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser</i> , ed. J. C. Smith and E. De Selincourt, 1912 |

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| Sprague | Arthur Colby Sprague, <i>Shakespeare and the Actors: The Stage Business in his Plays 1660–1905</i> , 1944 |
| <i>SQ</i> | <i>Shakespeare Quarterly</i> |
| <i>S.St.</i> | <i>Shakespeare Studies</i> |
| <i>S.Sur.</i> | <i>Shakespeare Survey</i> |
| Staunton | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>Routledge's Shakespeare</i> , ed. Howard Staunton, 50 parts in 3 vols., 1857–60, parts 42–3 (September–October 1859) |
| Steevens | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 10 vols., 1773, IV |
| Steevens ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, 10 vols., 1778, IV |
| Steevens ³ | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. George Steevens and Isaac Reed, 15 vols., 1793, VII |
| Stone | George Winchester Stone, Jr, 'Garrick's handling of <i>Macbeth</i> ', <i>SP</i> 38 (1941), 609–28 |
| Stratford | Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, later the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, England |
| subst. | substantively |
| Sugden | E. H. Sugden, <i>A Topographical Dictionary to the Works of Shakespeare and his Fellow Dramatists</i> , 1925 |
| Swander | Homer Swander, 'No exit for a dead body: what to do with a scripted corpse?', <i>Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism</i> 5 (1991), 139–52 |
| <i>Tamburlaine</i> | Christopher Marlowe, <i>Tamburlaine the Great</i> (Part 1 and 2), ed. J. S. Cunningham, 1981 (Revels Plays) |
| <i>Textual Companion</i> | Stanley Wells <i>et al.</i> , <i>William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion</i> , 1987 |
| Theobald | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Lewis Theobald, 7 vols., 1733, V |
| Theobald ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Lewis Theobald, 8 vols., 1740, VI |
| <i>ThN</i> | <i>Theatre Notebook</i> |
| Thomas | Keith Thomas, <i>Religion and the Decline of Magic</i> , 1971 |
| Tieck | Dorothea Tieck (trans.), <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>Shakespeare's dramatische Werke</i> , IX, 1833 |
| TLN | Through Line Number(s) in <i>The First Folio of Shakespeare</i> , ed. Charlton Hinman, 1968; each line within each play in numbered |
| <i>TLS</i> | <i>The Times Literary Supplement</i> |
| Topsell | Edward Topsell, <i>The Historie of Foure-Footed Beasts</i> , 1607 |
| <i>TQ</i> | <i>Theatre Quarterly</i> |
| Travers | <i>The Tragedy of Macbeth</i> , ed. Charles Travers [i.e. Tweedie?], 1844 |
| <i>True Lawe</i> | <i>The True Lawe of Free Monarchies</i> (1598) in <i>Minor Prose Works of King James VI and I</i> , ed. James Craigie, 1982 |
| uncorr. | uncorrected |
| Upton | John Upton, <i>Critical Observations on Shakespeare</i> , 1746 |
| <i>Utopia</i> | <i>Utopia</i> in <i>The Complete Works of St Thomas More</i> , IV, ed. Edward Surtz, S.J., and J. H. Hexter, 1965 |

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| v | verso (the left-hand page when a manuscript or book is opened) |
| Waith | Eugene M. Waith, 'Manhood and valor in two Shakespearean tragedies', <i>ELH</i> 17 (1950), 262–73 |
| Warburton | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of Shakespeare</i> , ed. William Warburton, 8 vols., 1747, vi |
| Warning | <i>A Warning for Faire Women</i> , 1599 |
| Watson | Robert N. Watson, <i>Shakespeare and the Hazards of Ambition</i> , 1984 |
| Webster | John Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malji</i> (c. 1613–14), ed. J. R. Brown, 1964 (Revels Plays), and <i>The White Devil</i> (c. 1612), ed. J. R. Brown, 2nd edn, 1966 (Revels Plays) |
| Werstine | Paul Werstine, 'Line division in Shakespeare's dramatic verse: an editorial problem', <i>AEB</i> 8 (1984), 73–125 |
| Whately | Thomas Whately, <i>Remarks on Some of the Characters of Shakespeare</i> , 1785 |
| White | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>The Works of William Shakespeare</i> , ed. R. G. White, 12 vols., 1857–66, x (1861) |
| White ² | <i>Macbeth</i> in <i>Mr William Shakespeare's Comedies Histories Tragedies and Poems</i> , ed. R. G. White, 3 vols., 1883, iii |
| Wickham, 'Castle' | Glynne Wickham, 'Hell-castle and its door-keeper', in <i>Aspects of 'Macbeth'</i> , ed. Kenneth Muir and Philip Edwards, 1977, pp. 39–45 |
| Wickham, 'Fly' | Glynne Wickham, 'To fly or not to fly? The problem of Hecate in Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> ', in <i>Essays on Drama and Theatre: Liber Amicorum Benjamin Hunningher</i> , 1973, pp. 171–82 |
| <i>Widow's Tears</i> | George Chapman, <i>The Widow's Tears</i> (c. 1605), ed. Akihiro Yamada, 1975 (Revels Plays) |
| Williams | Gordon Williams, <i>A Dictionary of Sexual Language and Imagery in Shakespearean and Stuart Literature</i> , 3 vols., 1994 |
| Williams, 'Play' | George Walton Williams, 'Macbeth: King James's play', <i>South Atlantic Review</i> 47.2 (1982), 12–21 |
| Winter | William Winter, <i>Shakespeare on the Stage</i> , series 1 (1911) |
| <i>Witch</i> | Thomas Middleton, <i>The Witch</i> (c. 1613–15?), ed. W. W. Greg, MSR, 1950 |
| <i>Woodstock</i> | <i>Woodstock: A Moral History</i> (c. 1591–4), ed. A. P. Rossiter, 1946 |

Unless otherwise noted, quotations from the Bible are taken from Bishops' Bible (1568).

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