

William Shakespeare: *Macbeth* (Act II, Scene I)

[Macb.] Is this a dagger^o which I see before me,

Dolch

The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch^o thee.

umklammern

I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible^o

here: perceptible

To feeling as to sight? or art thou but

A dagger of the mind, a false creation,

Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?

I see thee yet, in form as palpable^o

tangible

As this which now I draw.

Thou marshall'st^o me the way that I was going;

here: guide, usher

And such an instrument I was to use.

Mine eyes are made the fools o' the other senses,

Or else worth all the rest; I see thee still,

And on thy blade and dudgeon^o gouts¹ of blood,

handle^o; splashes¹

Which was not so before. There's no such thing:

It is the bloody business which informs^o

here: takes shape

Thus to mine eyes. ... Now o'er the one half world

Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse

The curtain'd sleep; witchcraft celebrates

Pale Hecate's offerings^A, and wither'd^o murder,
verkümmert
Alarum'd by his sentinel^o, the wolf,
watchman
Whose howl's his watch, thus with his stealthy^o pace.
verstohlen
With Tarquin's^B ravishing^o strides¹, towards his design
bildschön^o; trousers¹
Moves like a ghost. Thou sure and firm-set earth,
Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear
Thy very stones prate^o of my whereabouts,
here: reveal
And take the present horror from the time,
Which now suits with it. Whiles I threat, he lives:
Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives.
[*A bell rings.*]
I go, and it is done; the bell invites me.
Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell^o
Todesgeläute
That summons thee to heaven or to hell.

^A Hecate, daughter of Perses and Asteria, was a magician who raised a temple to Diana in which she performed human sacrifice. Thus, "Hecate's offerings" are her ritual human sacrifices.

^B The Roman king Tarquin rapes Lucrece.