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### Macbeth: A Touch of The Supernatural

In William Shakespeare's, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, it is clear to see that Macbeth becomes obsessed with the power of the supernatural as the play progresses. When he first meets the witches, Macbeth is skeptical and does not fully believe their prophecy. It is when the first part of the prophecy is completed, as Ross delivers the news from the King, that Macbeth puts more trust in the witches and says “ Glamis and Thane of Cawdor:/ The greatest is behind/...” (Shakespeare. I. III. 116-120). This is the starting point of Macbeth's downfall into his obsession with the supernatural ways. He becomes fixated on the fact that the witches were right and as the reader soon find out, will do anything to make their prophecies come true. As Macbeth sinks deeper into his obsession, he places even more of his trust in the supernatural, yet he begins to have nightmares and see ghosts because he's so invested. As Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost, he cries “Prithee, see there! behold! look! lo! how say you?/...If charnel-houses and our graves must send/ Those that we burry back...”(III.IV. 69-73) When Banquo's ghost is seen, it shows just how far from sanity Macbeth is being pushed because of his strong fixation on the prophecy. As Macbeth is confused he turns again to the only thing that makes sense to him at that moment, which is the power of the supernatural and he is dragged further into his obsession. Finally, Macbeth's obsession of the supernatural grows too strong and he goes to see the witches again, expecting them to have the answers, completely trusting them. After yet another fear-filled

break down, Macbeth decides he's had enough, he says "I will to-morrow/ And betimes I will - to the weird sisters/ More shall they speak; for I am bent to know"(III. IV. 132-134). When Macbeth meets with the witches he demands to know the secrets of his future, and as they tell him it seems quite possible that there will be no end to Macbeth's rule, this definitely does not help his ever growing obsession and he again becomes fixated on these revelations, trusting his very life to what the supernatural beings said. Macbeth becomes fixated over many things throughout the play, but the power of the supernatural is what he is most obsessed with and definitely what drives him insane progressively throughout the play.

Work Cited

Shakespeare, William, edit. Roma Gill. *The Tragedy of Macbeth*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1977.  
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