**SCENE IV. Outside Macbeth's castle.**

Shakespeare showing the audience the depth of what is going on through another perspective

*Enter ROSS and an old Man*

**Old Man**

Threescore and ten I can remember well:  
Within the volume of which time I have seen  
Hours dreadful and things strange; but this sore night  
Hath trifled former knowings.

**ROSS**

Ah, good father,  
Thou seest, the heavens, as troubled with man's act,  
Threaten his bloody stage: by the clock, 'tis day,  
And yet dark night strangles the travelling lamp:  
Is't night's predominance, or the day's shame,  
That darkness does the face of earth entomb,  
When living light should kiss it?

Falcon would be “above” the mousing owl, but in this case the mousing owl killed the falcon. This shows how big the disturbance will be with the death of Duncan. Disrupt the “natural” order of things (like the falcon killing the owl). This shows the audience that the crime Macbeth committed is so big that it is going to disrupt everything.

**Old Man**

'Tis unnatural,  
Even like the deed that's done. On Tuesday last,  
A falcon, towering in her pride of place,  
Was by a mousing owl hawk'd at and kill'd.

**ROSS**

And Duncan's horses--a thing most strange and certain--  
Beauteous and swift, the minions of their race,  
Turn'd wild in nature, broke their stalls, flung out,  
Contending 'gainst obedience, as they would make  
War with mankind.

**Old Man**

'Tis said they eat each other.

**ROSS**

They did so, to the amazement of mine eyes  
That look'd upon't. Here comes the good Macduff.

*Enter MACDUFF*

How goes the world, sir, now?

**MACDUFF**

Why, see you not?

**ROSS**

Is't known who did this more than bloody deed?

**MACDUFF**

Those that Macbeth hath slain.

**ROSS**

Alas, the day!  
What good could they pretend?

**MACDUFF**

They were suborn'd:  
Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's two sons,  
Are stol'n away and fled; which puts upon them  
Suspicion of the deed.

Ross believes that Duncan’s sons (Malcolm and Donalbain) killed Duncan.

Ross is going to Scone to see Macbeth crowned king; Macduff is going to Fife. This shows the audience that Macduff doubts that Macbeth should be king. Another character who is hiding behind his words.

**ROSS**

'Gainst nature still!  
Thriftless ambition, that wilt ravin up  
Thine own life's means! Then 'tis most like  
The sovereignty will fall upon Macbeth.

**MACDUFF**

He is already named, and gone to Scone  
To be invested.

**ROSS**

Where is Duncan's body?

**MACDUFF**

Carried to Colmekill,  
The sacred storehouse of his predecessors,  
And guardian of their bones.

**ROSS**

Will you to Scone?

**MACDUFF**

No, cousin, I'll to Fife.

**ROSS**

Well, I will thither.

**MACDUFF**

Well, may you see things well done there: adieu!  
Lest our old robes sit easier than our new!

**ROSS**

Farewell, father.

**Old Man**

God's benison go with you; and with those  
That would make good of bad, and friends of foes!

*Exeunt*