
WING IT

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Inspired by our class reading of Macbeth

I should have planned my lesson last night.
There would have been a time for such a word:
tomorrow ... and tomorrow; and today
creeps forth the steady feeling of regret
of half-baked plans.

And all my yesterdays have been spent
lighting the way to dead ends,
 to confusing instructions,
 to misplaced slides,
 to spelling mistakes (in an English class?!),
to crystal clear hindsight:
if you don't know what's happening, how are they supposed to?

Out, out—that stubborn haze,
like a walking shadow of doubt, that plays at organization
and then plays no more. This is a tale,
told by an idiot, full of improvised bullshit and 6am plans
signifying ... growth?

There's only so much self-pity I can engage in.
It's time to stop up the access and passage to remorse.
 What have I learned from procrastination?
 From going green and pale at the mountain of delayed responsibility?
Well ... to do it better; to sharpen the keen edge of desperation and triumph into feathers
and to wing it even harder.

“Spirits, make thick my blood. Take my milk for gall.”
The words take hold of my choked arts and teach them to kick.
Beating out the rhythm, I find the courage to fly.
A chicken-feathered mockery—a rushed Icarus—
yet the chaos makes me lion-mettled, proud, and resolute.

Now, no man of woman born can break my stride—
my method, bear-like, fights the course:

1. Look not so pale.
2. Best it were done quickly.
3. Buy the golden opinions of others.

“Screw your courage
to the sticking place
and you
will not
fail.”

References

Shakespeare, W. (2005). *Macbeth*. (R. Gibson, Ed.). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Author Biography

Catherine Green is a recently graduated secondary English teacher from Wichita State University about to begin her first year of teaching. Her work often focuses on connecting experiences from her life as a student to reflections on the best practices implemented by teachers. Catherine comes from Wellington, Kansas, and claims Wichita as her home. To read more of her work, view her blog at <https://leanmeanmsgreenmachine.blogspot.com>. She can be reached by email at catherinegreen0000@gmail.com.



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