

Macbeth Adaptation

Main Characters

- Guru Marakandeya
(the present Dharamguru)
- Sushruta
(successor of Guru Markandeya)
- Kraustuki
- Abha
(the adopted child)
- Vatsyana
(Kraustuki's companion)
- Guru Parashara
- Guru Shukra
- Guru Jaratkaru
- Guru Kanad

Synopsis

Act1

Scene1

The Dharamguru Markandeya, Guru Parashara, Guru Shukra, Guru Jaratkaru, Guru Kanad and Vatsyana are sitting around the fire, chanting mantras and performing the rituals. Kraustuki comes running and sits besides Guru Markandeya.

Scene 2

Guru Parashar and Guru Shukra along with Kraustuki and Vatsyana are wandering around in the town. They find an orphan girl on their way. They take her back to the Aashram.

Scene 3

There's a huge gathering, all the important people of the town are present. Guru Markandeya announces adoption of the orphan child as his own daughter. Kraustuki is given Deeksha.

Scene 4

Abha, Kraustuki and Vatsyana are reading 'The Gita'. Vatsyana then explains the quotes from the holy book to the other two.

Act2

Scene1

(After 12 years)

A public meeting has been arranged. All the town folks are present outside the Aashram. Guru Sushruta is declared as the next Dharamguru.

Scene2

Abha is taking bath in the river, Kraustuki and Vatsyana get a glimpse of her while they are passing by from the banks of the river.

Scene 3

Kraustuki goes to Abha, Vatsyana warns Kraustuki and asks him to stay away from Abha.

Scene4

Kraustuki is not sure what to do next. Abha tells him her plans of taking over the Dharamguru by killing him, and Kraustuki agrees eventually.

Scene 5

Kraustuki tells everyone about his dream, how God came and predicted Markandeya's death. Everyone is in great shock.

Scene 6

The dream comes true. The holy book (one which is passed by one Dharamguru to the next one to take that place.) is found in Kraustuki's hut. Guru Markandeya's body disappears.

Scene 7

Guru Markandeya's aspergillum catches fire and it dissolves in no time. The Gurus talk about this unnatural happening.

Act3

Scene1

Kraustuki is the new Dharamguru. Vatsyana is suspicious of Kraustuki. Kraustuki is not bothered about his responsibilities, he is with two women in his chamber, Vatsyana keeps a close watch on him.

Scene2

Months pass, and there is chaos all around the town. Kraustuki comes drunk late to the Aashram, Vatsyana is observing all this.

Scene3

Abha kills Vatsyana. Sushruta insists Kraustuki to do something about the chaos in the town, to bring some order. They call a meeting of all the gurus, but Kraustuki comes drunk and he falls down in front of everyone.

Scene4

All the gurus are angry with Kraustuki's behaviour. Kraustuki hallucinates Vatsyana's ghost coming after him, and he runs out of the Aashram in fear.

Scene5

Sushruta and Parashara are planning to protest against Kraustuki for the good of the town. Abha goes to them, pretending to support them.

Act4

Scene1

Before Sushruta can do anything, he gets the news that Kraustuki is beaten to death by some town men.

Scene2

Everything is going according to Abha's plans. Everyone wants Abha to take the lead as she is the daughter of Markandeya.

Scene3

Abha is declared as the Guru Mata, when she returns to the Aashram, she finds her chamber windows painted with blood.

Scene4

Abha is alone in her chamber. She is happy, but that doesn't remain for long, she realizes what she has done.

Scene5

Vatsyana's ghost comes in real this time and kills nAbha while she is asleep. In the morning Sushruta finds the holy book next to his bed.

Commentary

Act1

Scene1

Opens with a scene where all the gurus are performing the rituals. Vatsyana is older than Kraustuki and prefers to sit with the gurus and learn the mantras than playing with Kraustuki. Kraustuki is only six years old, very immature. He keeps playing around and then goes and sits next to Markandeya.

Scene2

The town has grown prosperous in the rule of Guru Markandeya, and the town folks are very happy with him. He sends other gurus from the Aashram time to time around the town to keep check of any problems in the town. While Guru Parashara and Guru Shukra are wandering around they find an orphan girl, they take her back and Markandeya decides to raise her as his own daughter.

Scene3

There's a huge gathering, its time to give Deeksha to Kraustuki. Kraustuki is very young to understand anything, still he is given Deeksha, and he is not even given any other choice. Guru Markandeya names the girl Abha, and declares his decision to raise her as his own daughter.

Scene4

The three of the children are reading 'The Gita'. From the very beginning the three have been in Aashram with the other gurus and all they do is sing bhajans, read the Vedas unlike the other kids of their age do.

Act2

Scene1

Twelve years pass. Kraustuki turns eighteen, Abha is two years younger than Kraustuki, she is now very beautiful young lady. Guru Markandeya decides to discontinue as the Dharamguru. And he publicly declares Sushruta the next Dharamguru. All the people are surprised, because they expect

Kraustuki to be the next after Markandeya. Kraustuki grows up perfect to be a leader and everyone has faith in him. He hears everyone saying that he was the one who truly deserved the post, more than Sushruta. Kraustuki as well as Abha both think about it.

Scene2

Abha is taking bath in the river. Kraustuki and Vatsyana pass by and this is the first time they see a girl this way. From their childhood they have been only taught of the religious scriptures and there isn't any other thought that come to their mind. Kraustuki cant stop thinking about Abha. Vatsyana is mature enough and he forgets all that soon and advices Kraustuki to the same.

Scene3

Kraustuki grows very anxious about what he saw before and he goes to Abha. Vatsyana stops him but he still goes and talks to Abha.. Abha asks him is that only what he wants, and nothing else? She tells him how much more he can get and how much more he is capable to do. That reminds him of what the the town folks were talking about before.

Scene4

Kraustuki is not sure what to do. He thinks about what all Abha said to him, he wishes to enjoy all the worldly pleasure Abha talked about, and he wishes for more power. He feels he is the rightful successor and only he should take the lead. Abha tells him her plans and assures him that she is with him. All of Kraustuki's wishes and urges as a young man comes out and forces him to agree with Abha's plans. And Abha so deeply wishes to take the top most position that she is ready to even betray her father.

Scene5

Kraustuki cannot stop thinking about Abha and his wish to be at the top. Thinking over and over again, makes him go mad and he tells everyone about God's prediction in his dreams. It comes as a great shock to everyone.

Scene6

That same night Kraustuki and Abha kill Markandeya, and in the morning nobody's able to find his body. Everybody believes that the dream came true.

Scene7

Something very weird takes place. Markandeya's aspergillum catches fire and dissolves indicating the unnatural death of Markandeya.

Act3

Scene1

Vatsyana is suspicious of Kraustuki because of his irresponsible actions. Kraustuki is not at all bothered of his responsibilities and Vatsyana comes to know about his real intentions.

Scene2

Months pass by, there's no checks over the town and there's nobody to stop the crimes taking place in the town. Kraustuki becomes an alcoholic and is always surrounded by women.

Scene3

When Abha realizes that Vatsyana can be a danger to her and Kraustuki, she kills him herself. The gurus are worried over what's all happening. Kraustuki comes drunk in the meeting and all the truth about him comes out and all the gurus are angry.

Scene4

Kraustuki hallucinates Vatsyana's ghost. The ghost comes behind Kraustuki runs out of Aashram shouting. Everyone is surprised to see Kraustuki behave in such a way, and everybody talks about him not being in a sound mind anymore.

Scene 5

To remove Kraustuki from the lead, Sushruta and Parashara need public support, and they know the public is already against Kraustuki. Abha pretends to be with them in removing Kraustuki from the lead and she adds up things of how she disapproves such a behavior of Kraustuki.

Act4

Scene1

When Kraustuki runs out of the Aashram in fear, he goes running in the town to the centre market place, and some people who are very angry with him beat him to death.

Scen2

Sushruta feels the rightful one to take the place of Dharamguru is Abha, he denies to take the place himself as he is disturbed with the death of Kraustuki.

Scene3

Abha becomes the Guru Mata. She pretends to be well but she is feeling sick. She sees the windows of her chamber painted with blood, and she is then worried, she starts doubting herself that was she seeing it all in real or was she hallucinating.

Scene4

Abha is all alone. She starts crying and feels her insides burning, and accepts that the happiness of being the head is nothing compared to the care and the joy which was given to her by her father.

Scene5

Vatsyana comes back and while Abha is asleep kills her the same way she killed. He places the holy book next to Sushruta's bed. The holybook reaches its rightful owner.