

The flight of the White Raven

The witches run out on to the stage and burst up from beneath the ground. They dance and yell, they laugh and flail.

Agnes- I am the witch who your children cry for fear of.

Alisa- I am the witch who makes your horses to bolt.

Ava- I am the witch who makes the moon a feartie.

Amelia- I am the witch who makes princes fall in love with their own castles.

Adamina- I am the witch who makes your son to blush.

Alana- I am the witch who sees you as you die.

Annag- I am the witch who is offering you my hand.

Annis- I am the witch who leads this band.

All Witches- We are witches who you see as a cat, a toad and bat. We live by streams, nooks and crannies. We are the witches who you see as grannies. Spiders, flies, the terror of old mannies!!!!

They begin their transfiguration.

I would go into a hare. Wi' sorrow and sigh, and meickle care.

But if not a hare then a cat, wi' sorrow and sigh, and a black shot.

And if not a cat then maybe a crow – wi' sorrow and sigh and a black throw.

From women to animal we would go.

I conjure thee, Go wi' me!

And I shall go in the devil's name,

Aye, till I come back again.

The witches bound away in their animal form.

Enter the men.

MacPherson- Do you know the words Gregor.

Gregor- Aye, I swear.

Macpherson- You'll no be lying again.

Gregor- I'm no, I promise.

MacIntosh- He's pulling your leg Drew. He'll no be a horseman.

Gregor- I will so. I'll tame any horse.

MacPherson- Then give us the verse.

Gregor Stutters

MacIntosh- Aye, he's feart o' the devil. He sees his face whenever he is about to recite it and then he becomes hoofed.

Gregor- I'm no hoofed you sprigin.

MacIntosh- Don't you call me a sprigin. I'm nae the one who consorts with noddies, Burkes and the evils of the night.

Gregor- I dinnae meet with Burkes!!!

MacPherson- No one meets with Burkes or noddies or sprigins!!! Now come, the night is falling and our time is short. The devil waits for no man, least of all our frail kind. So gee us the full verse.

Gregor- Aye, alright, let me gather myself first.

Gregor turns and mutters to himself, trying to remember the verse then turns and recites.

Gregor- Hele, conceal, never reveal; Neither write, nor di- nor...nor....

MacIntosh- The devil will never have this. He'll peel him, boil him then eat him for his dinner.

MacPherson- Come on Gregor, we've writ, read and said a thousand times. Fit colour is the feet of the horse?

Gregor- White!!!

MacPherson- Fit colour is his tail?

Gregor- (trying to remember) Chestnut!!!!

MacIntosh- Aye and fits his master's name?

Gregor does not answer.

MacIntosh- It's Cain!!! How do you no know this already, its been months.

Gregor- I knew it Jaimie, you just didnae let me think for the light of the moon.

MacIntosh- Then get on with it or else be labelled a man and man alone.

Gregor- Hele, conceal, never reveal; Neither write, nor dite, nor...nor....cut in the....in the sand.

MacIntosh- Let's leave this trembling numpty. He'll no be a horseman and he'll no be a servant of the devil. He couldnae be a servant to a pig if he tried.

Gregor- I'll kill you Jaimie!!!!

Lunges for him

MacPherson- Desist, cease your battle you foolish sons.

MacPherson pulls them off each other.

MacPherson- It is not just the devil who watches us. Do you wish to wake the hosts of heaven? It is a sin we do to seek for magic, never forget that. We must treat this with fear, lest the devil give us up to the almighty and I would not want my soul in his hands for even the devil fears god. Now, on swift wings we must depart, for an unfriendly eye will be watching us at this hour.

MacIntosh- Let you realise Gregor, it is the devil's turf you will be walking on and a more jealous chieftain you will never meet, save for the father himself.

MacPherson- Come!!! Do not dither!!!! The buck does not linger in the lair of the beast and you shouldnae dae the same.

MacPherson pushes them both away.

Renter the witches

Agnes- We are the witches who ride the night air.

Alisa- We are the witches who are hid in the corner of your room.

Ava- We are the witches who a man will seek for help.

Amelia- We are the witches he will find.

Adamina- We are the witches who he will trust.

Alana- We are the witches that will show him all is not lost.

Incantation

I conjure thee,

Go wi me.

Come dread spirits, come

And show us the form of a man.

A man of highland stock

But one who lets wild horses run amock.

Agnes- He comes.

Annag- Aye it is him.

Annis- He looks forlorn.

Alisa- He looks as if to mourn.

Agnes- Let us give him a scare, that will shake him from his stupor.

Ava- It will fix his gaze. He will not know to run.

Amelia- Quick he approaches, to the ground.

Adamina- We jump together.

Alana- We shout together.

Over comes Gregor.

Gregor- Fit to do? Fit to do? I am no sorry mind but I cannot hope to serve the devil. Fit if I were to cheat his majesty. Perhaps I could come up with some ruse, worthy of ald horny. Maybe, I could have the words written on the blindfold? I could read it and they'd be none the wiser. Ach, If only I could write. Fit if I were to bribe one of them to cut holes in the blindfold? Then they could mouth the words to me. Ach, I have not a penny to give. Fit if I were to make them think the devil himself had already possessed me? They would let me in then I could rip off the blindfold and pretend I were ald horny in the flesh. Then they would bow down to me and no horse would ever reject me again. Ach,

but then the real devil may punish me for imitating him. If God sends you to hell for making him a graven image, I can only imagine what the king of hell will do to you for trying to take on his likeness.

The witches leap out.

Agnes and Alisa- Yeeeeeahhhhhh.

They scare the living daylights out of Gregor, running circles around him, making him fall to the ground, quivering.

Gregor- What is this terror that assaults me? Who are these wicked sisters, these weird women that seem to appear like mist?

Annag- We are the witches of Cabrach moor.

Annis- We fly with the white raven into the sky.

Agnes- With eye of eagle to guide our way.

Alisa- And screech of Heron to signal our coming.

Ava- We know who you are Gregor Campbell.

Amelia- Wanting of power and force.

Adamina- That can be used to tame a horse.

Alana- A boy you are.

Annag- but man you wish to be.

Annis- A stallion you need to make this happen.

Agnes- Black as night.

Alisa- Fiery as the sun.

Ava- Stronger than Heracles.

Amelia- Only one who is blacker can grant you this.

Adamina- It is the power of the old horney yea seek.

Alana- With the devil's power, anything could be achieved.

Annag- prince of horses you could become.

Anis- Lord of riders.

Agnes- No man would ever doubt you again.

Alisa- No woman could resist you.

Ava- All foes would tremble.

Amelia- "Here comes the great horseman" they would say.

Adamina- "He makes horses move like thunderbolts".

Alana- "Is he the king of the fairies?" they may ask.

Annag- "Can he bend all of nature to his will?"

Annis- "Perhaps he could destroy us with a glare."

Agnes- "Perhaps it is god we look on."

Alisa- "Perhaps we should make an offering to him."

Ava- And yea would approach, and they would yell in chorus grand.

Amelia- "Hail Campbell, lord of all horses, King of nature."

Adamina- Even the devil may fear you.

Alana- None of this can happen if you cannae speak to the ald loon.

Annag- Scared wee Gregor cannae even picture his face.

Annis- Lest he bring himself to puking.

Agnes- Thus a boy he will stay.

Alisa- And never a god.

Ava- If only he could speak to the devil.

Gregor- Grant me this power sisters.

The witches cackle wildly.

Alisa- That is no easy bargain.

Agnes- We cannae just grant favours like coins to beggars.

Ava- Fit do we get for our good work?

Amelia- The wood worker gets paid for crafting a cup.

Amelia- The cook for bringing you food to sup.

Adamina- So why nae us?

Alana- Are we too dread to help.

Annag- Too hideous to tip?

Annis- Too vulgar to live?

Gregor- say what you want and I shall grant it.

Agnes- All that you own.

Gregor- Fit?

Alisa- Every part aside from the clothes yea are standing up in.

Ava- It will seem like naught compared to what you will have.

Amelia- A future king should not worry on pittance.

Adamina- And a dirty patch of land.

Alana- Barely able to grow a single crop.

Annag- Gie us this and you shall live forever.

Annis- And yea shall be a King amongst men.

Agnes- Beholden only to ald Horney.

Gregor- It is done.

Alisa- Aye, the bargain is struck.

Ava- But the magic has not begun.

Amelia- Prepare thine self, oh Gregor Campbell.

Adamina- For stronger men than you have come to us for help.

Alana- And died when they hear the words spoken.

Annag- Poor wee darlings Couldnae handle the dancing.

Annis- Or the singing.

Agnes- Their hearts give out.

Alisa- So we get paid.

Ava- But they forever stay.

Amelia- On this lonely moor.

Adamina- With na a soul to mourn them.

Alana- Nae wife to weep for them.

Annag- Only the worms for company.

Annis- Understand, they dinnae mak it tae heaven.

Agnes- Ald horney has them now.

Alisa- The souls of men he can beguile.

Ava- Easier to trick than women.

Amelia- Dangle their deepest desires in front of them.

Adamina- Be they money, power or flesh.

Alana- And you can mak em do anything.

Annag- But every so often.

Annis- A man comes along.

Agnes- Who is nae as frail as others.

Alisa- Stronger than most.

Ava- In mind

Amelia- In body

Adamina- In soul.

Alana- as he maks ald horney turn tail and flee.

Annag- All his desires are met.

Annis- And all his ambitions succeeded.

Agnes- Are yea that man Gregor.

Alisa- Are yea a warlock.

Gregor- I am man, wizard, beast, whatever thing yea wish me tae be. Now quit this singing and show your power and if yea be so kind, lend me a spell. I wish to be able to speak the horseman's words, so that ald horney will know me and all horses accept me. I wish to be like the fairy kings. Like the gods of yore before the coming of Christ. Now begin your dread curse and bring the darkness in about us.

Ava- Och, he's found his courage.

Amelia- Like a drunken braggart.

Adamina- Into the magic circle Gregor.

Alana- Yea are prepared.

Annag- Mak sure yea have your dancing shoes on Campbell.

Annis- Magik requires a fair jig.

The witches whoop, and begin to dance a wild jig.

Witches-

In the eye of the white raven,

*See this man before you,
Lift him with your wings,
Make him fly to the spirits,
Make him soar above the clouds,
Have him meet with great poets,
So that they can give him their tongue,
And he may speak the words,
That will make him forever be,
A Lord of horses, ponies and all hoofed things,
May he temper Ald Horney,
And then be able to take his hand,
Shak it with great assurance,
And henceforth impress the ald man,
We ask this of you Homer,
Ovid, Merlin and Bragi
We invoke you Tiresias
Blind poet in the underworld,
Quick the spirits come, tak him and spin him.*

The witches grab Gregor and furiously spin him. They then take him to the ground and jump over his body several times. They push him this way and that so that when he is finally oriented, they have disappeared from site.

Gregor- There is not a soul around me. Have I dreamt these weird women? Woken up from some drunken stupor. But I feel the mark of what they did. I feel something well within me. The desire to chant and to sing.

*Here comes Gregor Campbell,
To make a deal with the devil,
So that no horse will ever run from me again.
Here comes Gregor Campbell,
To present himself before ald horney,
So Jaimie MacIntosh may never tease me again.*

*Here comes Gregor Campbell,
Who is now ready,
Ready to become a God.*

Becoming the horseman

The cult of the horseman's word surrounds and blindfolds Gregor. They imitate the movement of horses.

Minister-

*Horses o' the devil gee us a nae
The feet that makes earthquakes
The breath that makes the North wind cold
And the southern wind fire
The eyes that burn with rage
The tail that trails behind thee as yea gallop
We bring before you a new son of man
Who wishes to master your bridle,
And move as swift as the birds of the sky,
Ald horney, come tae us now,
Make your judgement of this man.
Is he fit to ride a horse,
Or is he doomed tae walk.*

Acolite-

*He comes,
He comes now,
Ald horney wishes to see Gregor Campbell.
He comes on swift wings,*

*Duck your heads gentlemen,
Lest yea lose them.*

They all duck as if something is flying above them.

*Minister-
The devil has landed,
We must to meet him.*

*Acolite-
Quick, before he becomes impatient.
Put him in the circle.*

All those who are there make a circle around him. A man holding a hoof approaches, it is clear to the audience that this is all faked.

Minister- Take a shak of ald horney

Gregor grabs the hoof and almost panics.

Minister- What is the tender of the oath?

MacPherson and MacIntosh are there. They watch with trepidation.

Gregor- Hele, conceal, never reveal; neither write, nor dite, nor recite; nor cut, nor carve, nor write in the sand.

Minister- stand Gregor.

Gregor is stood up and the blindfold removed. The hoof has been hidden from site.

Everyone-

*Here's to the horse with four white feet,
The Chestnut tail and mane-
A star on his face and a spot on his breast,
And his master's name was Cain.*

Minister-

His majesty accepts you Gregor Campbell. Go forth into the world where no horse will ever run from thee again.

Gregor-

I am at his majesties pleasure, and I thank thee for his blessing.

Minister-

*It is done gentlemen,
Now we must away,
Let us leave this place that is touched by hell.*

Exeunt cult

Gregor-

So the witches did not lie. I truly have the voice of a poet. I wonder what else may come true. Will a horse see me and think, "ah, there is a man worthy to ride on my back." Will folk see me ride over the hillside and think, "Is that a king who can ride swifter than the wind with the sound of thunder beneath him?" Will other men see me and begin to tremble? The witch's power is within me and I intend to make use of it. Come white raven, come. Make me fly as they do. Give me the sight, the strength and the will. Make me a lord amongst men!!!

Gregor strides off.

The witches fly into the centre.

(cackling)

Agnes- Gregor thinks himself a great man now.

Alisa- Full of confidence.

Ava- Full of virulence.

Amelia- Och, I wonder what he will do next.

Adamina- Will he try and tame a horse.

Alana- He may well succeed.

Annag- After all, he's got ald horney's blessing.

Annis- Aye, but he should be careful. That wasnae really ald horney.

Agnes- Aye, but he doesnae know that.

Alisa- Aye, but he may.

Ava- Maybe someday but for now he is the devil's man.

Alisa- Still, he could hurt himself.

Adamina- Are you falling for the wee bairn Alisa?

Alisa- Nae atal, but I want to be there when it happens.

They cackle wildly.

Witches-

Son of Campbell,

Grand in spirit,

*New found power,
Horse tamer you have become,
Be wary of the sun,
It shines on shadows,
And reveals what is hidden.
And you may not like what it reveals,
But nevertheless it is bidden.*

They fly off, laughing wildly.

The football match

The men run on carrying a football.

MacIntosh-

*Remember the rules,
Recite them now,
No hand nor foot may touch this ball,
Lest any man wish for his team to fall.
Head, chest, elbow or arse,
May be used to make a pass.*

The whole group recites the last four lines.

Altogether-

*No hand, nor foot may touch this ball,
Lest any man wish for his team to fall.
Head, chest, elbow or arse,
May be used to make a pass.*

The ball is thrown high into the air. And a chaotic game begins.

MacIntosh- Go on Campbell!!! That's nae how you play. What is that?

Gregor- Shut your mouth, Jaimie, or I'll shut it for you!!!

MacIntosh- Ah, what's the wee lad going to do, is he gonna call me a sprigin again.

Gregor- He's gonna run you over if you dinnae shut it.

MacIntosh- Ach, he's only just been accepted by the devil and now he thinks he can stand shoulder to shoulder wee the rest o' us. Well you cannae dee that yet, not until you actually tame a horse. As far as I know you have nae done that yet.

MacPherson- Ach, hud your weesht. Stop tormenting the poor loon. Gregor will tame a horse in time, just as you did.

MacIntosh- Aye it took time for me right enough. But this one will never woo a horse. He cannae even win a game of spunnie.

Gregor- You have a big mouth Jaimie MacIntosh. I swear I will shut it forever!!!

MacPherson- Oi oi, calm doon. We will have no threats of violence here. You may be the devils new man Gregor, but that does not mak you his new weapon.

Gregor- And you are not my doting mother Drew!!!

MacPherson- Aye, but I am your mentor and have protected you since birth, so hud your tongue and listen to me. Ignore this man's jibes. You have potential in you so do not squander it on some petty vendetta. Jaimie is a boorish, arrogant man, I make no secret of it. But the bigger man will not rise to his nonsense.

Gregor- You have taught me to be a coward Drew MacPherson, no longer. From this day forward I look after myself.

MacPherson- You do that and I will never step in to help yea again.

MacIntosh- Don't, let him rot. He was always fool. Let him die one.

Gregor- I swear that you will not live to see the next sunrise. I will have the devil take you down to hell, so help me God.

MacIntosh- Aye, is that so. Well God is nae listening son and neither is the devil. You have always been weak Gregor and you will forever more.

Gregor- Leave. I am sick of the sight of both of you!!!

MacIntosh- Aye, as are we of you, you flaming amadan.

Gregor- Leave Drew, I dinnae want your judgement on me.

MacPherson- Ach, then rot in your intransigence you stubborn bastard.

All the other men leave.

Gregor- Witches come!! Witches surround me now!!! I have need of you come now!!!!

The witches come out.

Agnes- Ach, hud your weesht.

Alisa- Can a sorceress not have a nap in piece.

Ava- We aren't servants to arrive at your beck and call.

Amelia- We are women who do not answer to anybody at all.

Gregor- I apologise to you women and offer you my thanks. But I must ask for your help once more. There is a man about these parts who must be dealt wi. His name is Jaimie-

Adamina- MacIntosh, aye we know.

Alana- We are nae as dumb as you think.

Annag- We are cleverer than you Gregor.

Annis- No, not by a long shot it seems.

Gregor- Fit do you mean?

They all laugh hysterically.

Agnes- Fit do we mean.

Alisa- Its like he wants tae listen to our voices.

Ava- Aye, well maybe he does.

Amelia- No Ava, I dinnae think so.

Alana- I mean would you?

Ava- Aye, I suppose not.

They cackle again.

Gregor- Ach, get on wi it will ya!!!

They all go 'ooooooooo'

Annag- Somebody is a wee bit touchy.

Annis- Have Jaimie's taunts finally got to you.

Agnes- Has he hurt your feelings wee darling.

Alisa- Do you want to go have a cry.

Ava- Like a wee bairn looking for its mummy.

Amelia- Or his pappy.

Adamnina- Does he really look like someone who had a pappy?

Alana- Aye, maybe not.

They laugh even harder.

Gregor- Will you just shut it or I'll...

Annag- Or what Gregor.

Annis- Will you attack us using your powers?

Agnes- aye, well dinnae forget, he is the devil's man noo.

Alisa- Gregor the great are you?

Ava- Gregor, knight of darkness.

Amelia- Ach, he's a lord now ladies, he demands to be feared.

Adamina- Aye, well what's his punishment then?

Alana- Go on Gregor what terrors await us?

Annag- Will you beat us?

Annis- Will you set dogs on us?

Agnes- Will you make us beg Gregor?

Alisa- Donnae keep us in suspense Gregor.

Ava- Aye, we're waiting.

Amelia- Go on loon, tell us.

Adamina- We're all dying to hear.

Gregor- I'll...I'll...I'll tell your names to the court in Aberdeen.

The witches actually go silent for this.

Annag- You wouldna.

Gregor- Aye, I would. I'll tell them the tale of the witches of Cabrach moor, I'll tell them how you bewitched me and set me to joining a cult in league wi the devil.

Alana- Is he serious?

Gregor- Aye I am.

Annis- Aye he is. You winnae dae that ta ma girls.

Gregor- Aye, I would. I'll tell them you're responsible for the whole thing. That every man in this area has been bewitched by you to join the cult of the horseman's word and sell his soul to the devil. I'll tell them that I spied you dancing wi spirits in the forest. That you invited me over and tried to entice me into the devil's service but being of strong character and with God's grace on my side, I was able to resist your temptation. I pretended to be convinced and I went along to the ceremony. There I met ald horney and he told me all the names of the witches in the North-East who have signed his book. And then I rushed to the court like a good Christian, for my concern is for the souls of others.

Agnes- Why would they believe you?

Alisa- What if we told them what you've been doing?

Gregor- Who will they believe, a group of detestable women who wear black cloaks and live on frogs, or (imitating them) poor wee Gregor.

They stand silent.

Gregor- Now shut up and do as I ask.

Annis- Well, what does mighty Gregor demand?

Gregor- I wish for the death of Jaimie MacIntosh. His time has come. I cannae live with his torments any longer.

Ava- We cannae just kill people.

Amelia- Aye, we may be witches, but we aren't murderers, hit men and mercenaries.

Gregor- Do as I ask or be women no longer.

Adamina- This is nae as simple as before, we need time.

Gregor- Time?

Annag- Aye, time to decide fit to do?

Gregor- You are witches. Throw a curse on the man and be done.

Alana- It doesnae work like that, a life must be paid for.

Gregor- Wi what?

Annis- Another life you numpty, fit else.

Agnes- Aye, bring us something to kill.

Alisa- A child normally does it.

Gregor- I am no bringing you a child.

Ava- Why ever not?

Gregor- To kill a child is the worst of sins.

Amelia- But Gregor, are we not all sinners already?

Adamina- We stand here eight witches.

Annag- And one warlock.

Alana- Our souls are already damned.

Annis- And now you fear a wee bairns death.

Gregor- I may be warlock but I am no devil. I will not bring you a child!!!

Agnes- Aye, alright. No need to get touchy.

Alisa- The loons half mad with bloodlust.

Ava- This Jaimie has riled him up like.

Amelia- Made him see red.

Adamina- aye, but without courage.

Gregor- What are you talking of?

Annag- Why do you no kill him yourself?

Alana- Aye, what's wrong Gregor?

Annis- Are you a wi bit scared?

Striking one.

Gregor- Shut it!!! I have warned you all already, I am no to be trifled with you wicked women. Now tell me what I must pay you or you will be clapped in irons by sunrise.

Annis- Gie us a horse.

Gregor- A horse?

Agnes- Aye, if you winna gie a child then a horse is next.

Alisa- A grand stallion.

Ava- White of hair.

Amelia- Like a ghost in the moonlight.

Adamina- Aye, the most impressive you can find.

Annag- Only that will suffice.

Alana- None else.

Annis- Afterall, you have the power.

Agnes- You're the devils man.

Alisa- Now you can demonstrate it.

Ava- Show the world you are a horseman true.

Gregor- When?

Amelia- Twilight.

Adamina- When the world is golden.

Annag- And underneath the swaying trees.

Alana- The spirits will come to meet us there.

Annis- Do this and you will say goodbye to Jaimie MacIntosh forever.

Gregor- I thank thee women but remember my threat. If he is not dead by tomorrow's end, a bonfire will be made to punish yea.

Annis- Twilight.

All witches- Aye twilight.

The witches go to the side. A horse enters the stage.

Gregor- Hey, hey, woa, woa

Horse naeing madly.

Gregor- Calm doon, calm doon!!!

The horse puts him on his arse.

Gregor- Aaaahhhh you sprigin!!! Fits wrong wie ya?

The horse calms down ever so slightly.

Gregor- White stallion I am have come to tame you. Do not resist a man of Satan. Give me your bridle and you will be mine. Come white stallion, come. Let me have you.

Gregor grabs it.

Gregor- I have yea. Now time to prove if the devil has kept his bargain.

He leads it around, it seems to have acclimatised to him.

Gregor- I'm sorry great stallion, but I cannot keep you.

The witches come to the middle again.

Agnes- Och, look Annis, is he not magnificent.

Annis- Aye he is, like Apollo himself.

Alisa- So you've kept your word Gregor.

Ava- It seems you are horseman after all.

Amelia- do you trust us now Gregor.

Adamina- Do you see our magic works.

Gregor- Aye, I do. Now get this over with.

Annag- Hold on.

Alana- Aye, hold your horses Gregor.

They all whoop with laughter.

Annis- We cannae strike the killing blow.

Agnes- Aye, it is you who must.

Gregor- Why I?

Alisa- Why you? Why, is it not obvious.

Gregor- No, it is nae.

Ava- A horseman is required of course.

Amelia- We cannae touch the poor beast.

Adamina- We can only weave the spells.

Annag- And say the songs.

Alana- But you must do the deed.

Annis- So take this sword.

Agnes- And kill the horse.

Alisa- So that we may kill the man.

Gregor- What words do I say?

Ava- Say nothing.

Amelia- But feel everything.

Adamina- Death can't be described.

Annag- Only experienced.

Gregor slowly lifts the sword and kills the horse.

Alana- Now give us the blood.

Annis- And think only on the soul.

Witches-

White raven,

Here is a soul,

Not man,

But horse,

A stallion in toe.

May it fuel our wrath,

And strike down the one called MacIntosh.

May his life force wither,

His heart stop,

And his head split open.

Kill him white raven

Kill him.

Make him but a thought on the wind,

That is soon to vanish.

And then take him death,

Death, death, death!!!!

The fall of Campbell

Gregor paces nervously

Gregor- Where are they!!! These wicked women have taken me for a fool. I said before the sunrise, now it is nearly sundown and I have not heard a peep from these women. Do they take me for a fool or worse. They will learn that Gregor Campbell is not to be trifled with. They will suffer great punishment for this afront. They will burn like the hags they are. The bailiff of Aberdeen will see them. He shall see them for the evil they are and put a stop to it. They will be lead like pigs to the stake. And before they burn they will look on me. This man of Satan will be the last thing that they see, smiling as they burn. Then I will meet them in hell. I will stand wi ald horney and look down on their tortured souls as they burn forever whilst I will sup wi the devil himself in his great hall.

MacIntosh- Campbell!!!!

Gregor- Who is there?!

MacIntosh- Campbell!!!! You foul murderer!!!!

MacIntosh bounds onstage, looking as if he has been attacked.

Gregor- Jaimie!!!! You...you're alive.

MacIntosh- Aye I am, you seem shocked.

Gregor- Aye, no I am pleased t-

MacIntosh- You thought those evil harlots would be enough to strike me down but you forget I am a MacIntosh, we are made of sterner stuff.

Gregor- Please Jaimie I only meant tae-

MacIntosh- To what? To scare me! Don't try and lie Gregor, you are nae Satan. You can't lie like the old boy. You meant for those witches to kill me.

Gregor- No, Gregor please-

MacIntosh- Stop whining you little bastard!!!! I'll have you Gregor.

MacIntosh lunges for Gregor.

Gregor- No, don't kill me!!!

Gregor turns to flee but then....

Witches- Yeeeeaaaaaahhhhhh

Gregor falls flat on his arse.

Gregor- Wha...wha...what?!!

Agnes- Och, wee Gregor.

Alisa- He cannae believe his own eyes.

Ava- aye, he's a deer caught in the headlights the wee bairn.

They all whoop with laughter.

Gregor- Fit are you doing here? Fit is he doing here?!

Annis- Fit indeed?! Shall we ask him? What are you doing here Jaimie?

Gregor- Scarin the daylights out of this amadan. Annis, fit are you and the rest of the crew doing here?

Annis- Well....the same.

They all laugh, MacIntosh and the witches.

Gregor- Fit are you dread spirits talking about?

Amelia- Deary me Gregor, you really are no bright are ya.

Adamina- We're in this together.

Gregor- Who?

Annag- Jaimie and us.

Gregor- Jaimie and you?

MacIntosh- Aye, Jaimie and them.

Gregor- But how? At what point did you meet?

Alana- Och, a long time ago now.

Annis- Aye, long before we ever troubled these parts, isn't that right Jaimie?

MacIntosh- Aye, that sounds about right.

Gregor- But why would a highland warlock join with a band of witches?

MacIntosh and the witches.

MacIntosh- Ach, there no witches Campbell.

Annis- And he is no warlock.

Gregor- Then what are you then?

Agnes- Thieves.

Alisa- Briggins.

Ava- Highwaymen.

Amelia- Burkes.

Adamina- Noddies.

Annag- Gangsters.

Alana- Thugs.

Annis- Whatever you call them, we are it.

MacIntosh- Aye, we've taken you for a fool Gregor and the best part is, we get to watch your death.

Gregor- Fit are you- No, you didnae-

Agnes- Aye, we did.

Alisa- We went to the magistrate in Aberdeen.

Ava- Told him that you're the devil's man.

Amelia- That you hold this area in a grip of fear.

Adamina- That you have gathered all these poor wretches souls.

Annag- Gathered them for your master, ald horney.

Alana- But Jaimie MacIntosh was gonnae stop ya.

Annis- A man of faith like Jaimie couldnae watch his countrymen fall to evil.

MacIntosh- But you couldnae let me stand in your way, so you tried to blackmail this poor, travelling women in to killing me.

Agnes- But by God's grace, he lived.

Alisa- For God is greater than the devil.

Ava- Aye, that's right Gregor.

Amelia- You're about tae learn that lesson.

Gregor- How?

Adamina- We have told the magistrate our story.

Gregor- Fit?!!!

Annag- He wants tae see you Gregor.

Alana- May he save us poor souls from your wrath.

Annis- By killing you Gregor.

MacIntosh- Aye, do you know how they kill witches Gregor?

Agnes- First they torture them.

Alisa- By pressing.

Ava- By stretching.

Amelia- By draggin.

Adamina- Then you're taken to the stake.

Annag- And strangled.

Alana- Before your body is burned.

Annis- And your ashes scattered to the wind.

MacIntosh- That is your fate now Gregor. And you thought me just an arrogant ass.

Drew McPherson comes on with one other and takes Gregor into custody.

McPherson- Aye, here he is. You take one side and I'll take the other.

Gregor- But, Drew, you know the truth! I'm no responsible for all this.

McPherson- I dinnae ken fit your talkin about Gregor you foul devil. You have betrayed the almighty and the law of this pious land.

Gregor- But he was there, at the cult. He saw the me tak a shak of ald horney.

McPherson- More lies from the devil's man. I am the Lord's humble servant. I obey the laws of our gracious sovereign chosen by Christ. You are a sinner and a traitor.

They drag him away.

Gregor- Please, dinnae dee this. I was tricked, tricked!!!!

McPherson- To the gaol Gregor!!!

Gregor- Stop please!!! Devil, come rescue me!!!!

MacIntosh- I feel the desire to watch a witch die. I depart from you ladies, our business satisfied. For now.

It is now just the witches.

Agnes- We are the witches who your children cry for fear of.

Alisa- We are the witches who makes your horses to bolt.

Ava- We are the witches who make the moon a feartie.

Amelia- We are the witches who makes prince's fall in love with their own castles.

Adamina- we are the witches who make your sons to blush.

Annag- We are the witches who you see as you die.

Alana- We are the witches who are offering you our hands.

Annis- We are the witches who lead this mortal tale.

Agnes- Gregor is gone now.

Alisa- Thought himself the heir to hell.

Ava- Now he is the heir to ash.

Amelia- To gallows he goes.

Adamina- With na a possession.

Annag- But the clothes he stands up in.

Alana- We have the rest.

Annis- We have the rest.

Agnes- It's no much but it'll do.

Alisa- Now we need to find someone else.

Annis- Now this story needs to end.

Witches-

White raven, White raven,

Help us fly from this place.

Take us to cities,

Gleaming and proud.

The world is large,

There is much in it.

We want our fair share,

And we shall have it.

Let us go, let us go.

This story has now come to an end.

End

