



## TUTORIAL 7: KILLING GROUND

Hello again - I'm Nigel - and welcome to today's workshop on our musical version of **Macbeth**. Our song today is called 'Killing ground' - it's a rap for Malcolm's army as they march on Dunsinane, seeking revenge on Macbeth. It's quite short and shouldn't take as long to learn...so if you've got time today you could even go straight on to our last song – the 'Finale'. Have a listen.

*Woah.*

*We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!*

*Dunsinane your time is through.*

*It's payback time for the men you killed*

*And every drop of blood you spilled.*

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?*

*That's the harbinger of death!*

*Woah.*

As you heard, the only sung part is the chorus, which consists of two phrases, both to the same tune.

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?*

*That's the harbinger of death!*

In case you're wondering, 'a 'harbinger of death' is a 'bringer of death'. This time, as I sing the tune, try to draw the shape of the tune, with your hands held out in front of you. Here we go.

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?*

*That's the harbinger of death!*

The first few notes are the same, then it goes down then up again - and, of course, the second phrase does exactly the same. This time as you listen to the chorus tap the beat on your knee. Then be ready to sing the chorus back immediately after, when I count you in.

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?*

*That's the harbinger of death!*



Ready and -

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

And again! Ready -

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

If you look at the words to the verse you'll see that some have been underlined - these are the ones to emphasise or accent, just like you accented certain words in our other raps. So now let's learn Verse 1, beginning 'We're coming Macbeth...' which goes like this:

*Woah.  
We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
Dunsinane your time is through.  
It's payback time for the men you killed  
And every drop of blood you spilled.*

We're going to learn all four lines of the first verse now. After you hear line 1, repeat it straight away. Then the same with lines 2, 3 and 4. Let's practise to begin, with the first line only. Listen first and tap your knee on the beat like you did earlier.

*We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!*

Get the idea? Let's go right through each line now without a break. Here we go - listen to each line before you come in.

*We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!*

*Dunsinane your time is through.  
Dunsinane your time is through.*



*It's payback time for the men you killed  
It's payback time for the men you killed*

*And every drop of blood you spilled.  
And every drop of blood you spilled.*

Well done. We'll go right through the whole verse after I count you in. Ready and -

*We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
Dunsinane your time is through.  
It's payback time for the men you killed  
And every drop of blood you spilled.*

Try it one more time to make sure. And go on to sing the chorus this time too. After I count you in. Ready and -

*We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
Dunsinane your time is through.  
It's payback time for the men you killed  
And every drop of blood you spilled.  
Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

Let's have a look at Verse 2 now. Follow the words as you listen.

*You messed with us and we'll mess with you  
We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through  
We boxed you in and we foxed you round  
Welcome to the killing ground.*

We'll go right through each line now as we did in Verse 1, without a break. Here we go - listen to each line before you come in.

*You messed with us and we'll mess with you  
You messed with us and we'll mess with you*

*We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through  
We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through*



Killing ground - song tutorial

*We boxed you in we foxed you round  
We boxed you in and we foxed you round*

*Welcome to the killing ground.  
Welcome to the killing ground.*

Right - now we can try through that verse all the way through.  
After I count you in. Ready and -

*You messed with us and we'll mess with you  
We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through  
We boxed you in and we foxed you round  
Welcome to the killing ground.*

Let's do that just once more and this time sing the chorus too.  
Ready and -

*You messed with us and we'll mess with you  
We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through  
We boxed you in and we foxed you round  
Welcome to the killing ground.  
Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

Okay. Let's go on to the last verse now. Follow the words from  
'Live by the sword...'

*Live by the sword by the sword you'll die  
Nobody here will hear you cry.  
Nobody here will mourn your soul.  
No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.*

We'll go right through each line now as we did for Verses 1 and 2 without a break. Notice that the first word - 'Live' - starts on a strong beat. Here we go! Listen to each line before you come in.

*Live by the sword by the sword you'll die  
Live by the sword by the sword you'll die*



*Nobody here will hear you cry.  
Nobody here will hear you cry.*

*Nobody here will mourn your soul.  
Nobody here will mourn your soul.*

*No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.  
No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.*

Right - we can try through that verse all the way through after I count you in. Ready and -

*Live by the sword by the sword you'll die  
Nobody here will hear you cry.  
Nobody here will mourn your soul.  
No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.*

Good. We'll try that verse once again and as before go on to sing the chorus as well. Ready and -

*Live by the sword by the sword you'll die  
Nobody here will hear you cry.  
Nobody here will mourn your soul.  
No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.  
Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

Well done everyone! You're ready to rap 'Killing ground' all the way through - with just the backing track if you're feeling really confident. Make sure you stand up when you do - to give the rap maximum energy - and if you like you could try dividing into two groups to rap either alternate lines or perhaps alternate verses. And I'll be back again next time - so until then - bye!

*Woah.  
We're coming Macbeth! We're coming for you!  
Dunsinane your time is through.  
It's payback time for the men you killed  
And every drop of blood you spilled.*



*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

*Woah.*

*You messed with us and we'll mess with you  
We're Malcolm's boys we're coming through  
We boxed you in and we foxed you round  
Welcome to the killing ground.*

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

*Woah.*

*Live by the sword by the sword you'll die  
Nobody here will hear you cry.  
Nobody here will mourn your soul.  
No bells, Macbeth, for you will toll.*

*Hear them trumpets? Feel their breath?  
That's the harbinger of death!*

*Woah.*

*Woah.*

