

# **Scotland, Inc.**

**A Short Story in Five Parts**

**Based on the play Macbeth by William  
Shakespeare**

**Written by Benjamin Seidenberg**

# **Part 1**

## **Chapter 1**

In the corner of the reception area of the offices of Scotland, Inc, a TV is on, but no one is watching. The CNN reporter discusses a new political scandal. The names are different, but the rest is the same as it always is. As more commentators argue the facts of the scandal, the argument gets more and more heated. Finally, the host announces they will pause for a commercial break. There are the usual commercials for CNN shows. Then the screen goes black. After a few seconds, a commercial for a television psychic begins. The psychic claims that she sees the future. She predicts that someone named Macbeth is about to call her. As she finishes her sentence, the phone begins to ring. As she begins to answer, the receptionist changes channels. No one in the reception area realizes the significance of the commercial that they didn't even see.

## Chapter 2

Scotland, Inc. is a financial company, run by the Chief Executive Officer, Duncan. Duncan runs Scotland, Inc. with a very hands-on management style. He directly controls the firing and hiring of all his employees, leaving the Human Resource department with very little to do. Through his long term as CEO, he has never had an unprofitable quarter. The stock price of Scotland, Inc. has skyrocketed during his reign. He is loved by employees and Wall Street alike, for being dedicated, fair and honest. His office is decorated simply, reflecting his selfless dedication to the company. He is being briefed by a young manager. With him is the Chief Operating Officer, Malcolm. Malcolm is like a son to Duncan. Duncan hired him, and whenever he was promoted, he brought Malcolm with him. The two are very good friends, and Duncan

relies on Malcolm to handle the most delicate matters in the company.

The manager is briefing the two of them on a failed hostile takeover that a rival company attempted. Norway, Ltd. had begun to purchase the stock of Scotland, Inc. though proxies so secretly that no one had notice. No one, that is, but Macbeth, a vice president of the company. He and another officer, named Banquo single handedly managed the company's assets to defend against this takeover. The CEO notes Macbeth's diligence and the manager leaves.

As he passes through the executive secretary's office, a Senior Vice President named Ross come in. Ross tells Duncan that another Senior Vice President, the one in charge of the Cowdor project, had aided in the takeover. He had passed information to Norway, Ltd. about various assets of Scotland, Inc. and had worked within the inside to conceal the takeover.

Ross also stresses the importance of Macbeth in the defense from the takeover. Duncan, furious at the treachery, demands the immediate firing of that Vice President, and tells Ross to promote Macbeth to fill his place at the head of the division dedicated to the Cowdor project. Ross leaves to find Macbeth and notify him of the promotion.

### **Chapter 3**

As Ross leaves the CEO's office, he passes through the office of Duncan's secretary. Her TV is on mute, but is showing the same psychic as the TV in the reception area. She is doing a live show, televised from a busy city street near the offices of Scotland, Inc. Macbeth and Banquo are walking by, heading for a late lunch. The psychic yells out to them, announcing their presence to the surrounding spectators.

“Look!” she yelled. “It's Macbeth, the Senior Vice President of Scotland, Inc. He's in charge of their Glamis Hotel Division and the Cowdor project. He's also their next CEO.” She then points a long, thin, wrinkled finger at Banquo. “And next to him is Banquo, whose protégé will use his vision as he runs the company as CEO.”

The two are shocked, and hurry over. Macbeth stares at the psychic and demands answers.

“What do you mean, head of the Cowdor project? That division is already under an officer more experienced than I. And what is this nonsense about being CEO?” She pauses, but doesn’t speak.

“Answer me!” shouts Macbeth. However, the show goes into commercial break, and the psychic leaves. The TV crew packs up their gear as the spectators depart and Macbeth and Banquo stare.

“What could she mean by that?” Banquo asks Macbeth. “My protégés will become CEOs? It’d be nice to see my vision for the company carried out – but how would this happen? But you.... CEO! How?”

“I don’t know.” said Macbeth. “But what about that part where she said I would be in charge of the Cowdor project? That’s a huge step up from managing the Glamis Hotel

chain, and the VP there is still in Duncan’s inner circle. What could this woman be talking about?”

As the two young executives stood talking, Ross sees them, and hurries over, Angus in tow.

“Macbeth! Congratulations!” Macbeth turns to the executive and greets him. Ross then delivers his news.

“Macbeth, my friend, the CEO was so impressed with your defense from that hostile takeover that he has decided to put you in charge of the Cowdor project. You’re now a senior vice president!”

“A Senior Vice President?” Macbeth stutters. “But what about what’s-his-face, Duncan’s college friend who is in charge of it now?”

“Oh, he’s gone,” Ross replies. “Security should be talking to him right about now. He helped out with that takeover.”

Macbeth turns to Banquo, and the two of them converse in hushed whispers, wondering about the prophecies of the psychic, for surely they must have some meaning. Ross tells them Duncan would like to congratulate them in person, so they all head back to the office.

#### **Chapter 4**

As the four young executives head back for their meeting with Duncan, Malcolm is telling Duncan all about the firing of the Vice President who betrayed the company.

“Yes,” he says, “he did confess. When security and I arrived, he just started crying. Pathetic man. But he did sign the statement the lawyers drew up, so that’s all wrapped up.”

Just then, Duncan’s secretary buzzed him on the intercom.

“Sir? Ross, Angus, Macbeth and Banquo are all here to see you. Shall I let them in?”

“Yes, please do,” he replied. He rose to greet the four executives as they walked in.

“My friends! Your service to this company will not be forgotten. Macbeth, Banquo, you have saved the company. You have my undying gratitude.”

Both Macbeth and Banquo seem a bit overwhelmed by his gratitude. They both reaffirm their loyalty to Scotland, Inc. and Macbeth tells Duncan how honored he is to serve under Duncan's great leadership.

Duncan then turns to Malcolm and tells him that he has good news. "My friend, you have been like a son to me." He then pulls a sheet of paper out of his desk drawer. "I just received this letter from the board of directors. They have agreed to my request that in the event that anything happen to me, you shall serve as the CEO of this company. Congratulations my friend!"

Macbeth turns to Malcolm to congratulate him, but the psychic's prophesy is on his mind. He knows that being appointed as the successor to the CEO is a step he must take on his way to fulfilling this prediction.

As Macbeth thinks, Duncan makes up his mind.

"Macbeth! To celebrate your victory, let us have a banquet in the flagship Glamis hotel."

Macbeth quickly offers his hotel's full cooperation to feed the executives, and departs to make the preparations.



## Chapter 5

In the office of the Glamis Hotel, Macbeth's wife and the manager of the hotel, Lady Macbeth is checking her email. She stares at the email from Macbeth, reading about his encounter with the psychic and the subsequent promotion. Her thoughts are a jumble as she considers the possibility of her husband's success, but also his ambition. She knows he wants to fulfill the prophecy and become CEO, but she also knows that he is hesitant to take the dramatic steps required to force this prophesy to come about. She makes up her mind to convince him to bring this about by any means possible.

As she sits reflecting, one of Macbeth's assistants enters, and tells her that the CEO is coming to dinner at their hotel. He tells her he met Macbeth and sped ahead, but Macbeth should be there shortly. She thanks him, dispatches orders to the staff, then sits in her office, daydreaming about

her husband's success. She resolves to do anything she can to help him achieve success.

As she daydreams, Macbeth walks into the office. Lady Macbeth jumps up to greet him excitedly. They begin to discuss Duncan's visit. When Macbeth tells his wife that he will be staying the night in the Presidential suite of the hotel, she vows that he will never leave. When Macbeth wavers, Lady Macbeth tells him to just let her handle all of the details.

## Chapter 6

As the two converse in the office, a limousine pulls up in front of the hotel. A young bellhop greets Duncan and his entourage as they get out of the car. Lady Macbeth comes through the door and beckons the party inside. She greets Duncan, who thanks her for her hospitality. She then tells him of his importance to both her and Macbeth.

“I must tell you sir, how honored I am by your visit. The two of us owe you practically everything, and Macbeth was just telling me of the gracious promotion you offered him.”

“You’re most welcome,” replied Duncan. “But where is Macbeth? I wish to speak with him. Can you take me to him?”

Lady Macbeth leads him down the lobby, to the elevator. The lift dings as the doors close on them.

## Chapter 7

As the dinner is prepared, Macbeth paces in the study of his suite in the hotel, pondering his actions. He debates back in forth in his mind over his decision to assassinate the CEO. He notes both that Duncan has been very generous to him, and has led the company well. Macbeth questions the validity of the psychic’s claims, but keeps coming back to the fact that she was right about him taking over the Cowdor project. He is worried that killing Duncan might set off a chain of events that could be disastrous to him.

As he is lost in thought, Lady Macbeth enters and tells him that Duncan has begun to eat, and was asking for Macbeth. He tells her he no longer wants to kill Duncan, and she calls him a coward. She asks him if he is still a man, and calls his ambition into question. He tells her he is worried about failure;

but she tells him that if they are strong, they will succeed. She tells him of her plan:

She will get Duncan's assistants drunk so that Macbeth can shoot him, and then smear the blood on the sleeping assistants to make them guilty. He reluctantly agrees, and they decide to carry out the plan that very night.

## **Part 2**

## Chapter 1

Late that night, Banquo wanders the corridors of the hotel, lost in thought. His assistant and protégé, Fleance comes up to him and tries to convince him to go to bed. Banquo refuses, saying he is having nightmares. Fleance presses him about the nightmares, but Banquo refuses to share any more information.

The two wander by Macbeth, who is leaving his office. Banquo greets him, surprised to see him still awake. The two have a quick conversation.

“You’ve taken over Cowdor!” exclaimed Banquo. “She must be right! Imagine, you being CEO. And my vision carried out through my protégés! She must be right, don’t you think? She has to be!”

“I really haven’t thought that much about it yet,” replied Macbeth. “Let’s just talk about this later, ok?”

“Sure” agrees Banquo. “Goodnight Macbeth. I will see you in the morning.”

Banquo and Fleance depart. Macbeth wanders down the halls, towards his office and the suite where Duncan is staying. Suddenly, he sees a gun, floating in midair. He grasps for it, but it is in front of his closed fist. He reaches again, but once again it is out of reach. His mind races as he tries to determine if the gun is real or a hallucination. He sees a thin stream of smoke, rising from the barrel. His limbs feel cold as pangs of fear run through him.

“It’s just my imagination” he whispers to himself. His computer pings, the signal that Lady Macbeth has taken care of the assistants. He hurries down the hall towards Duncan’s suite.

## Chapter 2

As Macbeth enters the presidential suite, Lady Macbeth leaves it. She is elated and euphoric, amazed at the extreme ease of intoxicating the assistants. She stares at the door, seeing Macbeth murder Duncan in her mind's eye. She sees him becoming CEO, the power and prestige that he will have, and through him, that she will share. Lost in her imagination, she is startled to hear Macbeth cry out from the suite. She wonders how he could possibly fail, as she prepared the gun and silenced herself.

She wonders why she didn't just kill Duncan for Macbeth. She thinks for a few seconds then realizes he looks too much like her father. Her pondering is interrupted as Macbeth steps out of the suite, hands covered in blood.

As he stood there, Lady Macbeth began to reassure him then noticed the gun still in his hands.

"What!" she yelled. "Why didn't you leave the gun? We have to put it by the assistants, so that they will get the blame. Take it back, right now!"

Macbeth turns to the doorway, but doesn't walk forward.

"I can't" he said. "I just can't do it."

"Oh for heaven's sake!" she exclaimed. "I'll do it", she says, walking through the door. A minute or two later, she emerged again, with her hands covered in blood. She looks at her hands, both bright red, then grabs his hand, pulling him to the bathroom down the hall.

As they wash the blood off of themselves, she turns to him.

"See? A little water and the guilt is gone. Wasn't that easy?"

### Chapter 3:

The sound of the doorbell fills the lobby of the hotel. Someone outside is ringing it repeatedly, demanding entrance. Finally, a member of the night staff unlocks the door and admits Macduff, another Senior Vice President of Scotland, Inc. He notes with disgust the drunkenness of the employee, and the two begin a long and obscene conversation about the effects of alcohol. The employee insists that it provokes desire yet reduces performance. As Macduff warms up his reply, Macbeth walks by.

“Hey, Macbeth!” shouts out Macduff.

“How are you Macduff?” replies the weary Macbeth.

“Not bad. Hey, listen, I have an early morning meeting with Duncan, can you take me to him?”

“Sure thing. He’s right down that hall; take a left, the large doors at the end of the corridor.”

“Thanks,” replied Macduff as he left. However, less than a minute passed before his shout was heard throughout the building, as he came running back to the others.

“Duncan! He’s dead!” he shouts as the both Macbeth and Lennox, a lower executive who had accompanied him race into the room. There, spread before them, was a dreadful sight: Duncan’s body, splayed out in anguish with two bullet holes in his chest. The sheets beneath him were soaked with blood, and the floor underneath revealed a pool of blood beginning to congeal.

As they stand in shock, outside the room where the murder was committed, Malcolm walks in, talking with Donalbain, the Chief Financial Officer. The two of them stare at the group of pale people outside their leader’s room, and are shocked. They are told that Duncan was dead, and that his

assistants were believed to be guilty, since they had a bloody gun with them.

“I took care of them, though” announces Macbeth.

When the others stare at him in shock, he elaborates:

“I just couldn’t stand the thought of those vermin living after what they did. I shot them with their own gun. It serves them right.”

At this point, Lady Macbeth, who had already been queasy, fell to the ground in a faint. Macbeth yelled for a doctor. Malcolm and Donalbain realize that they are the highest ranking executives in the company, and might be in danger, so they exit quickly, then flee from the company, dropping out of sight.

#### **Chapter 4:**

The TV in the reception area of Scotland, Inc. is still tuned to CNN. As the small ticker on the bottom of the screen scrolls on, a news item passes, without anyone noting its contents. It reads: “CEO of Scotland, Inc. murdered, COO/CFO missing. Macbeth appointed CEO by Board of Directors.” The ticker then comments on a mineral find in South Africa before the story ends and the commercials begin.

## **Part 3**



## Chapter 1:

The CEO's office at Scotland, Inc. looks dramatically different than it did when it was occupied by Duncan. Macbeth has lavishly decorated it, with rare artwork on the walls, plush seats, a humidor filled with Cuban cigars, a liquor cabinet with expensive alcohol and other trappings, making it a room fit to meet a king.

Macbeth sits at his desk, next to his wife, who is acting as his special assistant and helping him manage the company. Across from him is Banquo, who still holds his position given to him by the late Duncan.

“Won't you please join us for dinner Banquo?” asks Macbeth. “You're a great friend. Besides, we have some business to discuss. Malcolm and Donalbain have both been hired by England, LLC., and I think that they are planning to use what they know of Scotland, Inc. against us.”

“Certainly, I will come over,” agreed Banquo. “I'm going driving this afternoon, and I'll make sure to end up at your place. I'll see you then.”

He then leaves, followed by Lady Macbeth, who has some errands to attend to. Macbeth is left with his own thoughts. He ponders about the psychic's warning, deciding that since they said that Banquo's protégés will become CEO, Banquo is his only threat.

As he is pondering, his secretary sends in his next appointment. Two members of the mafia enter, and Macbeth begins to speak to them. He convinces them that Banquo has been a problem for them, and they agree to kill Banquo. Macbeth stresses the importance of also killing Fleance.

## **Chapter 2:**

Later that day, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth meet in his office. Both feel nervous and are shaken up over the murder. Macbeth tells her that he has “taken care” of Banquo and that he won’t live much longer. He asks her to be extra kind to him during the meal that they are planning so that he is unprepared when the mafia comes after him.

## **Chapter 3:**

The two gang members from the morning meeting are riding around downtown on a motorcycle. They had heard from Banquo’s coworkers that he had just bought a new Porsche, painted bright orange, and was riding it around the city. They spent about two hours before they finally spot it. After following it for a while, they decide to make their move as Banquo and Fleance (who is riding with him) drive through a

rough area of the city. While the thug in front pulls up even with the car, the one in the rear opens fire with an automatic weapon, directly into the window of the Porsche. Banquo is killed, but as he dies, the car jerks to the side, and Fleance manages to jump out, and run off into the crowd. A police car happened to be near by, and begins to pursue the motorcycle. The gangsters flee, allowing Fleance to escape.

## **Part 4**

## **Chapter 1:**

Someone has finally changed the channel of the TV in the reception area of Scotland, Inc. It is now displaying one of the entertainment channels on cable that practically no one watches, but everyone is forced to buy as part of a bundle. The next show begins, and it is that of the television psychic who advised Macbeth and Banquo in the first place. She discusses her powers of prevision then says the phone will ring. Right as she finishes her sentence, her prediction is vindicated. Macbeth is on the line, and demands answers to the questions raised by her previous predictions. As she speaks, her voice sounds different for each of the three pieces of information she imparts. She tells Macbeth to beware of Macduff, that none born of woman can harm him, and that he is safe until Birnam, Inc. moves to Dunsinane Hill.

Macbeth is puzzled by this, and demands an explanation. However, as he opens his mouth to speak, she hangs up. As he sits pondering this new advice, Lennox enters his office.

“I have some bad news, boss,” he says. “Macduff has left the company, and has been hired by England, LLC. Sorry I had to be the one to tell you. Gotta run, got a meeting in five.” He departs.

Macbeth is angered at this. He realizes that the psychic told him he must be wary with Macduff. He decides he wants to take no chances, and places a call to the mobsters, telling them to go to Macduff’s home and kill his wife and children. He leans back after the call and fishes in his desk for an aspirin. The stress of staying on top is beginning to get to him.

## Chapter 2:

Ross is visiting Macduff's home to warn Lady Macduff of the danger posed to her family by Macbeth. All she can talk about is how her husband abandoned her and her children to run away. Ross tries to convince her he did what was necessary, and she must trust him, but she still is stuck on her point of view. Ross leaves, sad to see her like this.

As she sits at her computer, Lady Macduff gets a strange email. It reads:

Warning!

Macbeth wants revenge for your  
husband's betrayal. You and your  
family are not safe. You must flee  
now, to preserve your lives.

A Friend

She reads the email, but deletes it, muttering out loud "I haven't done anything wrong, they will leave me alone." She continues with her work, but is soon interrupted by the doorbell ringing incessantly. She goes to open it.

At the door are the two mobsters. She runs, fleeing into the woods. One mobster kills the children who are helpless to prevent their deaths as the other chases her. Gunshots are heard, and he returns as the two depart.

### **Chapter 3:**

In the reception area outside of the office of the CEO of England, LLC., Malcolm is sitting in a plush chair, waiting. Finally, Macduff arrives. Malcolm thinks he might be an ally in the fight to bring down the despot who took over Scotland, Inc., but needs to test him.

“You’re a low life traitor, aren’t you Macduff?” he goads. “You left Scotland, Inc. to come here, without your wife or children. You don’t care about anything but your own success.”

“That’s not true!” protests Macduff. “I love Scotland, Inc.! My family has worked in it for generations. My father was a CFO you know. I just can’t stand what that scum Macbeth has done to the place. With Duncan, it was always about the company. With Macbeth, it’s about himself. I heard

what you guys were doing here, planning a hostile takeover, and I want to help as best I can.”

Malcolm thinks for a few minutes then decides he can trust Macduff. As they turn to enter the CEO’s office, Ross shows up. He tells Macduff that his wife and children need him, and that he should return to Scotland, Inc. before it is too late. Macduff refuses however, saying he can never go back while Macbeth is in charge. Satisfied with his loyalty, Ross tells him of the death of his family. Shaken, Macduff vows revenge. He and Malcolm go into the office, to prepare a hostile takeover using the resources of England, LLC.

## **Part 5**

## Chapters 1-11, Inclusive:

In the infirmary at the Glamis Hotel, one of Lady Macbeth's friends is talking with the onsite doctor.

"She's been like this for a week" he is saying.

"Sleepwalking, fainting... she keeps talking about regretting something as she sleeps, but no one knows what. She also says something about 'the blood, the blood everywhere,' but no one knows what it means."

"Poor thing," says her friend. "I've known her since college. She always seemed the stable type, I don't know how this --". She breaks off as Lady Macbeth enters, her face contorted, obviously sleepwalking.

"Out, Out, Damn spot" she says as she wrings her hands. "Go away! Go away, I tell you! The blame is too much. Make it stop! MAKE IT STOPPPPP!"

As she begins screaming, the doctor jabs her with a needle, and gives her something that makes her sleep. They ease her back to bed, shaking their heads over her condition.

\* \* \*

Meanwhile, the TV in the reception area is back on CNN. It's a financial show, and the hosts are talking about a hostile takeover being prepared by England, LLC. England, LLC. is using a subsidiary, Birnam, Inc. to gain assets to use to commit the takeover. They also discuss how Macbeth is consolidating the assets of Scotland, Inc. around Dunsinane Hill, to protect his investments there.

\* \* \*

In the Dunsinane Hill offices of Scotland, Inc., Macbeth paces back and forth. He tries convincing himself that everything is ok. The psychic has been right about everything



so far, and Birnam, Inc. has shown no signs of moving to Dunsinane Hill. Therefore he must be safe.

As he paces, the phone rings. It's the doctor from the Glamis Hotel. The doctor tells Macbeth of his wife's sleepwalking. He says it's one of the strangest cases he's ever seen. Macbeth yells at the doctor, and tells him to "Just cure her!" before slamming down the phone.

\* \* \*

In the offices of England, LLC., Malcolm is discussing tactics for the takeover with a Vice President named Siwad. They decide they will use a shell corporation belonging to Birnam, Inc. to buy out various properties on Dunsinane Hill at much higher prices than normal, to surprise Macbeth. They know that the workers of Scotland, Inc. would jump at the chance to make so much profit on those buildings.

\* \* \*

Macbeth wanders around his office, boasting to himself that his victory is ensured. He finally manages to convince himself, when the doors open and the doctor rushes in.

"I had to come tell you myself," he says. "Lady Macbeth is dead. I'm sorry."

As the doctor leaves, Macbeth rants and raves in the privacy of his office. He yells and screams at the unfairness of life. Suddenly, his doors open, and an assistant comes in with more bad news.

"Sir? Those properties we managed to sell with a huge profit margin. Well, one of our lawyers traced the corporation that bought them. It belongs to Birnam, Inc."

As the assistant leaves, Macbeth realizes that the prophecy is being fulfilled.

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In the offices of England, LLC., Malcolm hits enter on the keyboard, sending an order to his associate on Wall Street. The properties that were purchased are sold, and the money is used to buy out stock of Scotland, Inc. The takeover has begun.

\* \* \*

As the various companies owned by England, LLC. buy out stock, Macbeth begins using his personal wealth to try and preserve control by buying more shares, not realizing all his former managers are pooling their personal fortunes to do the same. Macbeth heads back to the main office of Scotland, Inc. to carry out the transactions.

\* \* \*

As Macbeth enters the offices, so do Malcolm and Siwad. Malcolm still knows how to get on the computer systems of Scotland, Inc. and plans to use the information there to help the takeover.

\* \* \*

Macduff follows the pair in, and heads up to the CEO's office. As he passes through the doors, Macbeth sees him, and shouts out "YOU!" He is so enraged at the presence of Macduff that he grabs an antique sword he had hanging on the wall, and lunges towards Macduff.

Macduff jumps aside and grabs another sword off the wall. Wanting to revenge his family, he begins fighting with Macduff. They make a unique sight, two businessmen, with jackets, ties, and swords, lunging at each other. As they battle, Macbeth shouts out to Macduff.

"It's futile! You can't stop me. The psychic said that none born of woman can hurt me! They've been right so far, so I am invincible!"

"Oh really?" counters Macduff. "Well, just so you know, Mr.-I-Can't-Get-Hurt, I was born by a Cesarean section.

And I took fencing in college. You're the one who is fighting a futile fight."

They continue fighting, but Macbeth is visibly shaken. As the fight continues, Macduff pushes Macbeth back, towards the elevators.

\* \* \*

In the trading offices, Malcolm and Siwad sit back from their computers, exhausted, but happy. They have completed the hostile takeover and England, LLC. now has a controlling stake in Scotland, Inc. Just as they are congratulating each other, Ross enters.

"Siwad, I'm afraid I have some very bad news for you. Your son was working in the hostile takeover, and invested his entire fortune in an intermediary that he was going to trade for Scotland, Inc. stocks. However, before he completed the transaction, his investment was bought out by another

company, and he went completely bankrupt. He got so enraged that he committed suicide. I'm so very sorry."

As Ross and Malcolm console Siwad, Macduff enters. He is carrying Macbeth's executive pass key that will open any door in any building owned by the company. He hands it to Malcolm, and proclaims him to be CEO of Scotland Inc.

As the people surround him, Malcolm pledges to lead in the example of his mentor, Duncan, and not that cursed despot Macbeth. He proclaims that such a man will never control the company, and that a new age has begun for Scotland, Inc.

"Thank you, all of you," he says to those around him. "Your dedication has ensured a bright future for this company, and I am in debt to all of you. Now, it is time to get back to work."