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Clive Francis

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Clive Francis : There Is Nothing Like a Thane!: The Lighter Side of Macbeth before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised There Is Nothing Like a Thane!: The Lighter Side of Macbeth:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Glorious and funBy Pasha ProudfootDelightful anecdotes about the Scottish play and superb caricature sketchesA fun book and a great discussion pieceHighly recommended

There is Nothing Like a Thane is a follow-up to Clive Francis's highly successful There is Nothing Like a Dane! The Lighter Side of Hamlet. Thane is a hilarious compilation of unintentional funny moments from a variety of

productions of Macbeth - interwoven with Francis's witty caricatures. It also delves into the many superstitions, which have dogged the play since 1603, making it possibly the unluckiest play ever written. We hear of how some actors fared better than others when playing the role of the Thane. If Ralph Richardson's was the worst, Peter O'Toole's was certainly the funniest. Olivier was deemed the greatest, John Gielgud the most successful, and Charles Laughton the silliest. We also hear from Orson Welles, David Garrick, Charles Dickens and William McGonagall - who refused to die for fear of upsetting his audience. Not to be outdone we shall hear from a number of Lady Macbeths as well, including Sybil Thorndike, who'd pray every night in the wings so as to ward away evil spirits. This is a book for all those who love the theater, especially the Bard.

About the Author Clive Francis is as well known as an actor as well as a caricaturist. He has made over a hundred television appearances, while his London stage career began in 1966 with *There's a Girl in My Soup*, followed by a large number of West End shows. He joined Alan Ayckbourn's company at the National Theatre in 1986 and was Scrooge for two years running at the Royal Shakespeare Company's Christmas Carol. Clive has had seven solo exhibitions as a professional caricaturist. Past books include *Laugh Lines* and *Sir John: The Many Faces of Gielgud*.