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THE  
TRAGEDY OF KING RICHARD II

## DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

KING RICHARD THE SECOND.

JOHN OF GAUNT, Duke of Lancaster, } Uncles to the  
EDMUND OF LANOLEY, Duke of York, } King.

HENRY, surnamed BOLINGBROKE, Duke of Hereford, son  
to John of Gaunt, afterwards KING HENRY IV.

DUKE of AUMERLE, son to the Duke of York.

THOMAS MOWBRAY, Duke of Norfolk.

DUKE OF SURREY.

EARL OF SALISBURY.

LORD BERKELEY.

BUSHY, }  
BAGOT, } servants to King Richard.  
GREEN, }

EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

HENRY PERCY, surnamed HOTSPUR, his son.

LORD ROSS.

LORD WILLOUGHBY.

LORD FITZWATER.

BISHOP OF CARLISLE.

ABBOT OF WESTMINSTER.

Lord Marshal.

SIR PIERCE OF EXTON.

SIR STEPHEN SCROOP.

Captain of a Band of Welshmen.

QUEEN TO KING RICHARD.

DUCHESS OF YORK.

DUCHESS OF GLOSTER.

Lady attending on the Queen.

Lords, Heralds, Officers, Soldiers, Two Gardeners, Keeper,  
Messenger, Groom, and other Attendants.

SCENE: Dispersedly in England and Wales.

THE  
TRAGEDY OF KING RICHARD II  
[www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)  
ACT I.

SCENE I.—Windsor. A Room in the Castle.

*Enter King Richard, attended, John of Gaunt,  
and other Nobles.*

*K. Rich.* Old John of Gaunt, time-honour'd  
Lancaster,  
Hast thou, according to thy oath and band,\* [bond  
Brought hither Henry Hereford, thy bold son,  
Here to make good the boisterous late appeal,  
Which then our leisure would not let us hear,  
Against the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas Mow-  
bray?

*Gaunt.* I have, my liege.

*K. Rich.* Tell me, moreover, hast thou sounded  
him,  
If he appeal the duke on ancient malice,  
Or worthily, as a good subject should,  
On some known ground of treachery in him?

*Gaunt.* As near as I could sift him on that  
argument,  
On some apparent danger seen in him,  
Aim'd at your highness,—no inveterate malice.

*K. Rich.* Then call them to our presence:  
face to face,  
And frowning brow to brow, ourselves will hear  
The accuser and the accused freely speak.

*[Exeunt some Attendants.]*

## King Richard II

High-stomach'd are they both, and full of ire,  
In rage deaf as the sea, hasty as fire.

*Enter Attendants, with Bolingbroke and Norfolk.*

*Boling.* Many years of happy days befall  
My gracious sovereign, my most loving liege!

*Nor.* Each day still better other's happiness,  
Until the heavens, envying earth's good hap,  
Add an immortal title to your crown!

*K. Rich.* We thank you both: yet one but  
flatters us,  
As well appeareth by the cause you come;  
Namely, to appeal each other of high treason.—  
Cousin of Hereford, what dost thou object  
Against the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas Mow-  
bray?

*Boling.* First,—heaven be the record to my  
speech!—

In the devotion of a subject's love,  
Tendering the precious safety of my prince,  
And free from other misbegotten\* hate, [of bad origin  
Come I appellant to this princely presence.—  
Now, Thomas Mowbray, do I turn to thee,  
And mark my greeting well; for what I speak  
My body shall make good upon this earth,  
Or my divine soul answer it in heaven.  
Thou art a traitor and a miscreant;  
Too good to be so, and too bad to live,  
Since the more fair and crystal is the sky,  
The uglier seem the clouds that in it fly.  
Once more, the more to aggravate the note,  
With a foul traitor's name stuff I thy throat;  
And wish,—so please my sovereign,—ere I move,  
What my tongue speaks, my right-drawn sword  
may prove.

# Act I Scene 1

*Nor.* Let not my cold words here accuse my  
zeal.

'Tis not the trial of a woman's war,  
The bitter clamour of two eager tongues,  
Can arbitrate this cause betwixt us twain :  
The blood is hot that must be cool'd for this ;  
Yet can I not of such tame patience boast  
As to be hush'd and nought at all to say.  
First, the fair reverence of your highness curbs  
me

From giving reins and spurs to my free speech,  
Which else would post until it had return'd  
These terms of treason doubled down his throat.  
Setting aside his high blood's royalty,  
And let him be no kinsman to my liege,  
I do defy him, and I spit at him,  
Call him a slanderous coward and a villain ;  
Which to maintain I would allow him odds,  
And meet him, were I tied to run afoot  
Even to the frozen ridges of the Alps,  
Or any other ground inhabitable\* [not habitable]  
Where ever Englishman durst set his foot.  
Mean time, let this defend my loyalty :  
By all my hopes, most falsely doth he lie.

*Boling.* Pale trembling coward, there I throw  
my gage,  
Disclaiming here the kindred of the king,  
And lay aside my high blood's royalty,  
Which fear, not reverence, makes thee to ex-  
cept.

If guilty dread hath left thee so much strength  
As to take up mine honour's pawn,\* then [pledge]  
stoop ;

By that and all the rites of knighthood else,  
Will I make good against thee, arm to arm,  
What I have spoken, or thou caust devise.

## King Richard II

*Nor.* I take it up ; and by that sword I swear,  
Which gently laid my knighthood on my  
shoulder,

I'll answer thee in any fair degree,  
Or chivalrous design of knightly trial ;  
And when I mount, alive may I not light,  
If I be traitor or unjustly fight!

*K. Rich.* What doth our cousin lay to Mow-  
bray's charge?

It must be great that can inherit us  
So much as of a thought of ill in him.

*Boling.* Look, what I speak, my life shall  
prove it true :

That Mowbray hath receiv'd eight thousand  
nobles

In name of lendings for your highness' soldiers,  
The which he hath detain'd for lewd employ-  
ments,

Like a false traitor and injurious villain.

Besides, I say, and will in battle prove,  
Or here or elsewhere to the farthest verge  
That ever was survey'd by English eye,  
That all the treasons for these eighteen years  
Complotted and contrived in this land  
Fetch'd from false Mowbray their first head and  
spring.

Further I say,—and further will maintain  
Upon his bad life to make all this good,—  
That he did plot the Duke of Gloster's death,  
Suggest his soon-believing adversaries,  
And consequently, like a traitor coward,  
Sluic'd out his innocent soul through streams  
of blood ;

Which blood, like sacrificing Abel's, cries,  
Even from the tongueless caverns of the earth,  
To me for justice and rough chastisement ;

## Act I Scene 1

And, by the glorious worth of my descent,  
This arm shall do it, or this life be spent.

*K. Rich.* How high a pitch his resolution  
soars!—

Thomas of Norfolk, what say'st thou to this?

*Nor.* O, let my sovereign turn away his face,  
And bid his ears a little while be deaf,  
Till I have told this slander of his blood  
How God and good men hate so foul a liar.

*K. Rich.* Mowbray, impartial are our eyes  
and ears:

Were he my brother, nay, our kingdom's heir,  
As he is but my father's brother's son,  
Now by my sceptre's awe I make a vow,  
Such neighbour nearness to our sacred blood  
Should nothing privilege him, nor partialize  
The unstooping firmness of my upright soul.  
He is our subject, Mowbray, so art thou;  
Free speech and fearless I to thee allow.

*Nor.* Then, Bolingbroke, as low as to thy heart,  
Through the false passage of thy throat, thou  
liest!

Three parts of that receipt I had for Calais  
Disburs'd I duly to his highness' soldiers;  
The other part reserv'd I by consent,  
For that my sovereign liege was in my debt  
Upon remainder of a dear account,\* (heavy debt)  
Since last I went to France to fetch his queen:  
Now swallow down that lie. For Gloster's death,  
I slew him not, but to mine own disgrace  
Neglected my sworn duty in that case.—  
For you, my noble Lord of Lancaster,  
The honourable father to my foe,  
Once did I lay an ambush for your life,  
A trespass that doth vex my grieved soul:  
But ere I last receiv'd the sacrament

## King Richard II

I did confess it, and exactly\* begg'd [expressly  
Your grace's pardon, and I hope I had it.  
This is my fault: as for the rest appeal'd,\* [charged  
It issues from the rancour of a villain,  
A recreant and most degenerate traitor ;  
Which in myself I boldly will defend,  
And interchangeably hurl down my gage  
Upon this overweening traitor's foot,  
To prove myself a loyal gentleman  
Even in the best blood chamber'd in his bosom.  
In haste whereof, most heartily I pray  
Your highness to assign our trial day.

*K. Rich.* Wrath-kindled gentlemen, be rul'd  
by me ;  
Let's purge this choler without letting blood.  
This we prescribe, though no physician ;  
Deep malice makes too deep incision :  
Forget, forgive ; conclude, and be agreed ;  
Our doctors say this is no time to bleed.  
Good uncle, let this end where it begun ;  
We'll calm the Duke of Norfolk, you your son.

*Gaunt.* To be a make-peace shall become my  
age.  
Throw down, my son, the Duke of Norfolk's  
gage.

*K. Rich.* And, Norfolk, throw down his.

*Gaunt.* When, Harry, when?  
Obedience bids I should not bid again.

*K. Rich.* Norfolk, throw down, we bid ; there  
is no boot.\* [it is no use

*Nor.* Myself I throw, dread sovereign, at thy  
foot.

My life thou shalt command, but not my shame :  
The one my duty owes ; but my fair name,  
Despite of death that lives upon my grave,  
To dark dishonour's use thou shalt not have.



# Act I Scene 1

I am disgrac'd, impeach'd, and baffled here,  
Pierc'd to the soul with slander's venom'd spear,  
The which no balm can cure but his heart-blood  
Which breath'd this poison.

*K. Rich.* Rage must be withstood.  
Give me his gage : lions make leopards tame.

*Nor.* Yea, but not change his spots : take but  
my shame, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

And I resign my gage. My dear dear lord,  
The purest treasure mortal times afford  
Is spotless reputation ; that away,  
Men are but gilded loam or painted clay. ♡  
A jewel in a ten-times-barr'd-up chest  
Is a bold spirit in a loyal breast.

Mine honour is my life ; both grow in one :  
Take honour from me, and my life is done.  
Then, dear my liege, mine honour let me try ;  
In that I live, and for that will I die.

*K. Rich.* Cousin, throw down your gage ; do  
you begin.

*Boling.* O, God defend my soul from such  
foul sin !

Shall I seem crest-fallen in my father's sight ?  
Or with pale beggar-fear impeach my height\*

Before this outdar'd dastard ? [detract from my dignity]  
Ere my tongue  
Shall wound mine honour with such feeble  
wrong,

Or sound so base a parle, my teeth shall tear  
The slavish motive of recanting fear,  
And spit it bleeding in his high disgrace,  
Where shame doth harbour, even in Mowbray's  
face ! [Exit Gaunt.]

*K. Rich.* We were not born to sue, but to  
command ;

Which since we cannot do to make you friends,

## King Richard II

Be ready, as your lives shall answer it,  
At Coventry, upon Saint Lambert's day.  
There shall your swords and lances arbitrate  
The swelling difference of your settled hate :  
Since we cannot atone\* you, [put you at one, reconcile  
you shall see  
Justice design the victor's chivalry.—  
Lord marshal, command our officers at arms  
Be ready to direct these home alarms. [*Exeunt.*

SCENE 2.—London. A Room in the Duke of  
Lancaster's Palace.

*Enter Gaunt and Duchess of Gloster.*

*Gaunt.* Alas ! the part I had in Gloster's blood  
Doth more solicit me than your exclaims,  
To stir against the butchers of his life.  
But since correction lieth in those hands  
Which made the fault that we cannot correct,  
Put we our quarrel to the will of heaven,  
Who, when they see the hours ripe on earth,  
Will rain hot vengeance on offenders' heads.

*Duch.* Finds brotherhood in thee no sharper  
spur ?

Hath love in thy old blood no living fire ?  
Edward's seven sons, whereof thyself art one,  
Were as seven vials of his sacred blood,  
Or seven fair branches springing from one root.  
Some of those seven are dried by nature's  
course,  
Some of those branches by the Destinies cut ;  
But Thomas, my dear lord, my life, my Gloster,  
One vial full of Edward's sacred blood,  
One flourishing branch of his most royal root,  
Is crack'd, and all the precious liquor spilt,  
Is hack'd down, and his summer leaves all faded,  
By envy's hand and murder's bloody axe.

## Act I Scene 2

Ah, Gaunt, his blood was thine ! that bed, that  
womb,

That metal, that self\* mould, that [self-same  
fashion'd thee,

Made him a man ; and though thou liv'st and  
breath'st,

Yet art thou slain in him : thou dost consent  
In some large measure to thy father's death,

In that thou seest thy wretched brother die,  
Who was the model of thy father's life.

Call it not patience, Gaunt ; it is despair.

In suffering thus thy brother to be slaughter'd,

Thou show'st the naked pathway to thy life,  
Teaching stern murder how to butcher thee.

That which in mean men we entitle patience,  
Is pale cold cowardice in nobler breasts.

What shall I say ? to safeguard thine own life,  
The best way is to venge my Gloster's death.

*Gaunt.* God's is the quarrel ; for God's  
substitute,

His deputy anointed in His sight,

Hath caus'd his death ; the which, if wrongfully,  
Let heaven revenge, for I may never lift

An angry arm against His minister.

*Duch.* Where, then, alas, may I complain  
myself ?

*Gaunt.* To God, the widow's champion and  
defence.

*Duch.* Why, then, I will. Farewell, old Gaunt.  
Thou go'st to Coventry, there to behold

Our cousin Hereford and fell Mowbray fight.

O, sit my husband's wrongs on Hereford's spear,  
That it may enter butcher Mowbray's breast !

Or, if misfortune miss the first career,

Be Mowbray's sins so heavy in his bosom

That they may break his foaming courser's back,

## King Richard II

And throw the rider headlong in the lists,  
A caitiff recreant to my cousin Hereford!  
Farewell, old Gaunt; thy sometimes brother's  
wife

With her companion grief must end her life.

*Gaunt.* Sister, farewell; I must to Coventry.  
As much good stay with thee as go with me!

*Duch.* Yet one word more. Grief boundeth  
where it falls,

Not with the empty hollowness, but weight.

I take my leave before I have begun,

For sorrow ends not when it seemeth done.

Commend me to my brother, Edmund York.

Lo, this is all: nay, yet depart not so;

Though this be all, do not so quickly go;

I shall remember more. Bid him—O, what?—

With all good speed at Plashy\* visit [near Dunmow]  
me.

Alack! and what shall good old York there see  
But empty lodgings and unfurnish'd\* [untapestried]  
walls,

Unpeopled offices, untrodden stones?

And what hear there for welcome but my  
groans?

Therefore commend me; let him not come there  
To seek our sorrow that dwells every where.

Desolate, desolate, will I hence, and die:

The last leave of thee takes my weeping eye.

*[Exeunt.]*

SCENE 3.— Gosford Green, near Coventry.

*Lists set out, and a throne. Heralds, etc., attending. Enter the Lord Marshal and Aumerle.*

*Mar.* My Lord Aumerle, is Harry Hereford  
arm'd?

## Act I Scene 3

*Aum.* Yea, at all points, and longs to enter in.

*Mar.* The Duke of Norfolk, sprightly and bold,  
Stays but the summons of the appellant's trumpet.

*Aum.* Why, then, the champions are prepar'd,  
and stay  
For nothing but his majesty's approach.

*Flourish of trumpets. Enter King Richard, who takes his seat on his throne; Gaunt, Bushy, Bagot, Green, and others, who take their places. A trumpet is sounded, and answered by another trumpet within. Then enter Norfolk in armour, preceded by a Herald.*

*K. Rich.* Marshal, demand of yonder champion  
The cause of his arrival here in arms :  
Ask him his name, and orderly proceed  
To swear him in the justice of his cause.

*Mar.* In God's name and the king's, say who  
thou art,  
And why thou com'st thus knightly clad in  
arms ;  
Against what man thou com'st, and what thy  
quarrel.

Speak truly, on thy knighthood and thine oath ;  
As so defend thee heaven and thy valour !

*Nor.* My name is Thomas Mowbray, Duke of  
Norfolk ;  
Who hither come engaged by my oath,—  
Which God defend a knight should violate !—  
Both to defend my loyalty and truth  
To God, my king, and his succeeding issue,  
Against the Duke of Hereford that appeals me ;  
And, by the grace of God and this mine arm,

## King Richard II

To prove him, in defending of myself,  
A traitor to my God, my king, and me ;  
And as I truly fight, defend me heaven.

*Trumpets sound. Enter Bolingbroke in  
armour, preceded by a Herald.*

*K. Rich.* Marshal, ask yonder knight in arms,  
Both who he is, and why he cometh hither  
Thus plated in habiliments of war ;  
And formally, according to our law,  
Depose him\* in the justice of his [take his deposition]  
cause.

*Mar.* What is thy name? and wherefore  
com'st thou hither,  
Before King Richard in his royal lists?  
Against whom comest thou? and what's thy  
quarrel?  
Speak like a true knight, so defend thee heaven!

*Boling.* Harry of Hereford, Lancaster, and  
Derby,  
Am I ; who ready here do stand in arms,  
To prove, by God's grace and my body's valour,  
In lists, on Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk,  
That he's a traitor, foul and dangerous,  
To God of heaven, King Richard, and to me ;  
And as I truly fight, defend me heaven !

*Mar.* On pain of death, no person be so bold  
Or daring-hardy as to touch the lists,  
Except the marshal and such officers  
Appointed to direct these fair designs.

*Boling.* Lord marshal, let me kiss my  
sovereign's hand,  
And bow my knee before his majesty :  
For Mowbray and myself are like two men  
That vow a long and weary pilgrimage ;  
Then let us take a ceremonious leave

## Act I Scene 3

And loving farewell of our several friends.

*Mar.* The appellant in all duty greets your  
highness,

And craves to kiss your hand and take his leave.

*K. Rich.* We will descend and fold him in our  
arms.—

Cousin of Hereford, as thy cause is right,  
So be thy fortune in this royal fight!

Farewell, my blood; which if to-day thou shed,  
Lament we may, but not revenge thee dead.

*Boling.* O, let no noble eye profane a tear  
For me, if I be gor'd with Mowbray's spear.  
As confident as is the falcon's flight  
Against a bird, do I with Mowbray fight.—  
My loving lord, I take my leave of you;—  
Of you, my noble cousin, Lord Aumerle;  
Not sick, although I have to do with death,  
But lusty, young, and cheerly drawing breath.—  
Lo, as at English feasts, so I regret  
The daintiest last, to make the end more sweet:  
O thou, the earthy author of my blood,

[*To Gaunt.*

Whose youthful spirit in me regenerate  
Doth with a twofold vigour lift me up  
To reach at victory above my head,  
Add proof unto mine armour with thy prayers,  
And with thy blessings steel my lance's point,  
That it may enter Mowbray's waxen coat,  
And furbish new the name of John o' Gaunt,  
Even in the lusty haviour of his son.

*Gaunt.* God in thy good cause make thee  
prosperous!

Be swift like lightning in the execution;  
And let thy blows, doubly redoubled,  
Fall like amazing thunder on the casque  
Of thy adverse pernicious enemy:

## King Richard II

Rouse up thy youthful blood, be valiant and live.

*Boling.* Mine innocence and Saint George to thrive!

*Nor.* However God or fortune cast my lot,  
There lives or dies, true to King Richard's throne,

A loyal, just, and upright gentleman.

Never did captive with a freer heart

Cast off his chains of bondage and embrace

His golden uncontroll'd enfranchisement,

More than my dancing soul doth celebrate

This feast of battle with mine adversary.—

Most mighty liege, and my companion peers,

Take from my mouth the wish of happy years :

As gentle and as jocund as to jest

Go I to fight : truth hath a quiet breast.

*K. Rich.* Farewell, my lord ; securely I espy  
Virtue with valour couched in thine eye.—

Order the trial, marshal, and begin.

*Mar.* Harry of Hereford, Lancaster, and  
Derby,

Receive thy lance ; and God defend the right !

*Boling.* Strong as a tower in hope, I cry amen.

*Mar.* Go bear this lance [*to an Officer*] to  
Thomas, Duke of Norfolk.

*1st Her.* Harry of Hereford, Lancaster, and  
Derby,

Stands here for God, his sovereign, and himself,  
On pain to be found false and recreant,

To prove the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas Mowbray,

A traitor to his God, his king, and him ;

And dares him to set forward to the fight.

*2nd Her.* Here standeth Thomas Mowbray,  
Duke of Norfolk,

On pain to be found false and recreant,

Both to defend himself, and to approve



## Act I Scene 3

Henry of Hereford, Lancaster, and Derby,  
To God, his sovereign, and to him disloyal;  
Courageously, and with a free desire,  
Attending but the signal to begin.

*Mar.* Sound, trumpets; and set forward,  
combatants. [*A charge sounded.*]

Stay! the king hath thrown his warder down.

*K. Rich.* Let them lay by their helmets and  
their spears,

And both return back to their chairs again.

Withdraw with us; and let the trumpets sound  
While we return these dukes what we decree.

[*A long flourish.*]

Draw near, [*To the combatants.*]

And list what with our council we have done.

For that our kingdom's earth should not be  
soil'd

With that dear blood which it hath fostered,

And for our eyes do hate the dire aspect

Of civil wounds plough'd up with neighbours'  
swords,

And for we think the eagle-winged pride

Of sky-aspiring and ambitious thoughts,

With rival-hating envy, set on you

To wake our peace, which in our country's  
cradle

Draws the sweet infant breath of gentle sleep;

Which so rous'd up with boisterous untun'd  
drums,

With harsh-resounding trumpets' dreadful bray,

And grating shock of wrathful iron arms,

Might from our quiet confines fright fair peace

And make us wade even in our kindred's blood;

Therefore, we banish you our territories.—

You, cousin Hereford, upon pain of life,

Till twice five summers have enrich'd our fields

## King Richard II

Shall not regret our fair dominions,  
But tread the stranger paths of banishment.

*Boling.* Your will be done; this must my  
comfort be,—

That sun that warms you here shall shine on me;  
And those his golden beams to you here lent  
Shall point on me and gild my banishment.

*K. Rich.* Norfolk, for thee remains a heavier  
doom,

Which I with some unwillingness pronounce:  
The sly slow hours shall not determinate  
The dateless limit of thy dear\* exile; [sad  
The hopeless word of 'never to return'  
Breathe I against thee, upon pain of life.

*Nor.* A heavy sentence, my most gracious  
liege,

And all unlook'd for from your highness' mouth:  
A dearer merit,\* not so deep a maim [better meed  
As to be cast forth in the common air,  
Have I deserved at your highness' hands.  
The language I have learn'd these forty years,  
My native English, now I must forego:  
And now my tongue's use is to me no more  
Than an unstringed viol or a harp;  
Or like a cunning instrument cas'd up,  
Or, being open, put into his hands  
That knows no touch to tune the harmony.  
Within my mouth you have engaol'd my tongue,  
Doubly portcullis'd with my teeth and lips;  
And dull, unfeeling, barren ignorance  
Is made my gaoler to attend on me.  
I am too old to fawn upon a nurse,  
Too far in years to be a pupil now:  
What is thy sentence, then, but speechless death,  
Which robs my tongue from breathing native  
breath?

## Act I Scene 3

*K. Rich.* It boots thee not to be compassionate:  
After our sentence plaining comes too late.

*Nor.* Then thus I turn me from my country's  
light,  
To dwell in solemn shades of endless night.

[Retiring.]

*K. Rich.* Return again, and take an oath with  
thee.

[www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

Lay on our royal sword your banish'd hands ;  
Swear by the duty that you owe to God,—  
Our part therein we banish with yourselves,—  
To keep the oath that we administer :  
You never shall—so help you truth and God !—  
Embrace each other's love in banishment ;  
Nor ever look upon each other's face ;  
Nor ever write, regret, nor reconcile  
This lowering tempest of your home-bred hate ;  
Nor ever by advised purpose meet  
To plot, contrive, or complot any ill  
'Gainst us, our state, our subjects, or our land.

*Boling.* I swear.

*Nor.* And I, to keep all this.

*Boling.* Norfolk, so fare, as to mine enemy ;  
By this time, had the king permitted us,  
One of our souls had wander'd in the air,  
Banish'd this frail sepulchre of our flesh,  
As now our flesh is banish'd from this land :  
Confess thy treasons ere thou fly the realm ;  
Since thou hast far to go, bear not along  
The clogging burthen of a guilty soul.

*Nor.* No, Bolingbroke ; if ever I were traitor,  
My name be blotted from the book of life,  
And I from heaven banish'd as from hence !  
But what thou art, God, thou, and I do know,  
And all too soon, I fear, the king shall rue.—  
Farewell, my liege.—Now no way can I stray,

## King Richard II

Save back to England, all the world's my way.

[*Exit.*

*K. Rich.* Uncle, even in the glasses of thine eyes

I see thy grieved heart ; thy sad aspect  
Hath from the number of his banish'd years  
Pluck'd four away. [*To Bolingbroke*] Six frozen  
winters spent,

Return with welcome home from banishment.

*Boling.* How long a time lies in one little word !  
Four lagging winters and four wanton springs  
End in a word : such is the breath of kings.

*Gaunt.* I thank my liege that in regard of me  
He shortens four years of my son's exile :  
But little vantage shall I reap thereby ;  
For, ere the six years that he hath to spend  
Can change their moons and bring their times  
about,

My oil-dried lamp and time-bewasted light  
Shall be extinct with age and endless night ;  
My inch of taper will be burnt and done,  
And blindfold death not let me see my son.

*K. Rich.* Why, uncle, thou hast many years  
to live.

*Gaunt.* But not a minute, king, that thou  
canst give :

Shorten my days thou canst with sudden sorrow,  
And pluck nights from me, but not lend a  
morrow ;

Thou canst help time to furrow me with age,  
But stop no wrinkle in his pilgrimage ;  
Thy word is current with him for my death,  
But dead, thy kingdom cannot buy my breath.

*K. Rich.* Thy son is banish'd upon good advice,  
Whereto thy tongue a party-verdict gave :  
Why at our justice seem'st thou, then, to lower?

## Act I Scene 3

*Gaunt.* Things sweet to taste prove in digestion sour.

You urg'd me as a judge ; but I had rather  
You would have bid me argue like a father.  
O, had it been a stranger, not my child,  
To smooth his fault I should have been more  
mild :

A partial slander sought I to avoid,  
And in the sentence my own life destroy'd.  
Alas ! I look'd when some of you should say,  
I was too strict, to make mine own away ;  
But you gave leave to my unwilling tongue  
Against my will to do myself this wrong.

*K. Rich.* Cousin, farewell ;—and, uncle, bid  
him so :

Six years we banish him, and he shall go.

[*Flourish.* *Exeunt King Richard and train.*

*Aum.* Cousin, farewell : what presence must  
not know,

From where you do remain let paper show.

*Mar.* My lord, no leave take I ; for I will ride  
As far as land will let me by your side.

*Gaunt.* O, to what purpose dost thou hoard  
thy words,

That thou return'st no greeting to thy friends ?

*Boling.* I have too few to take my leave of  
you,

When the tongue's office should be prodigal  
To breathe the abundant dolour of the heart.

*Gaunt.* Thy grief is but thy absence for a time.

*Boling.* Joy absent, grief is present for that  
time.

*Gaunt.* What is six winters ? they are  
quickly gone.

*Boling.* To men in joy ; but grief makes one  
hour ten.

## King Richard II

*Gaunt.* Call it a travel that thou tak'st for pleasure.

*Boling.* My heart will sigh when I miscall it so,  
Which finds it an enforced pilgrimage.

*Gaunt.* The sullen passage of thy weary steps  
Esteem a foil, wherein thou art to set  
The precious jewel of thy home-return.

*Boling.* Nay, rather, every tedious stride I  
make

Will but remember me what a deal of world  
I wander from the jewels that I love.  
Must I not serve a long apprenticeship  
To foreign passages,\* and in the end, [travel  
Having my freedom, boast of nothing else  
But that I was a journeyman to grief?

*Gaunt.* All places that the eye of heaven visits  
Are to a wise man ports and happy havens.  
Teach thy necessity to reason thus :

There is no virtue like necessity ;  
Think not the king did banish thee,  
But thou the king ; woe doth the heavier sit  
Where it perceives it is but faintly borne.

Go, say I sent thee forth to purchase honour,  
And not the king exil'd thee ; or suppose  
Devouring pestilence hangs in our air,  
And thou art flying to a fresher clime.

Look, what thy soul holds dear, imagine it  
To lie that way thou go'st, not whence thou  
com'st ;

Suppose the singing-birds musicians,  
The grass whereon thou tread'st the presence  
strew'd,

The flowers fair ladies, and thy steps no more  
Than a delightful measure or a dance ;  
For gnarling sorrow hath less power to bite  
The man that mocks at it and sets it light.

## Act I Scene 4

*Boling.* O, who can hold a fire in his hand  
By thinking on the frosty Caucasus?  
Or cloy the hungry edge of appetite  
By bare imagination of a feast?  
Or wallow naked in December snow  
By thinking on fantastic summer's heat?  
O, no! the apprehension of the good  
Gives but the greater feeling to the worse.  
Fell sorrow's tooth doth never rankle more  
Than when it bites, but lanceth not the sore.

*Gaunt.* Come, come, my son, I'll bring thee  
on thy way;

Had I thy youth and cause, I would not stay.

*Boling.* Then, England's ground, farewell:  
sweet soil, adieu;

My mother, and my nurse, that bears me yet  
Where'er I wander, boast of this I can,—  
Though banish'd, yet a true-born Englishman.

[*Exeunt.*]

### SCENE 4.—The Court.

*Enter King Richard, Bagot, and Green;  
Aumerle following.*

*K. Rich.* We did observe.—Cousin Aumerle,  
How far brought you high Hereford on his  
way?

*Aum.* I brought high Hereford, if you call  
him so,  
But to the next highway, and there I left him.

*K. Rich.* And say, what store of parting  
tears were shed?

*Aum.* Faith, none for me; except the north-  
east wind,  
Which then blew bitterly against our faces,  
Awak'd the sleeping rheum, and so by chance

## King Richard II

Did grace our hollow parting with a tear.

*K. Rich.* What said our cousin when you parted with him?

*Aum.* 'Farewell:'

And, for my heart disdained that my tongue  
Should so profane the word, that taught me craft  
To counterfeit oppression of such grief,  
That words seem'd buried in my sorrow's grave.  
Marry, would the word 'farewell' have lengthen'd  
hours,

And added years to his short banishment,  
He should have had a volume of farewells;  
But since it would not, he had none of me.

*K. Rich.* He is our cousin, cousin; but 'tis  
doubt,

When time shall call him home from banish-  
ment,

Whether our kinsman come to see his friends.

Ourselves, and Bushy, Bagot here, and Green,  
Observ'd his courtship to the common people;

How he did seem to dive into their hearts

With humble and familiar courtesy;

What reverence he did throw away on slaves,

Wooing poor craftsmen with the craft of smiles,

And patient underbearing of his fortune,

As 'twere to banish their affects with him.

Off goes his bonnet to an oyster-wench;

A brace of draymen bid God speed him well,

And had the tribute of his supple knee,

With, 'Thanks, my countrymen, my loving  
friends;'

As were our England in reversion his,

And he our subjects' next degree in hope.

*Green.* Well, he is gone; and with him go  
these thoughts.

Now for the rebels which stand out in Ireland;



## Act I Scene 4

Expedient manage\* must be made, [expeditious measures  
my liege,

Ere further leisure yield them further means  
For their advantage and your highness' loss.

*K. Rich.* We will ourself in person to this war ;  
And, for our coffers, with too great a court  
And liberal largess, are grown somewhat light,  
We are enforc'd to farm our royal realm ;  
The revenue whereof shall furnish us

For our affairs in hand. If that come short,  
Our substitutes at home shall have blank  
charters\* ; [promissory notes

Whereto, when they shall know what men are  
rich,  
They shall subscribe them for large sums of  
gold,  
And send them after to supply our wants ;  
For we will make for Ireland presently.

*Enter Bushy.*

Bushy, what news ?

*Bushy.* Old John of Gaunt is very sick, my  
lord,  
Suddenly taken ; and hath sent post-haste  
To entreat your majesty to visit him.

*K. Rich.* Where lies he ?

*Bushy.* At Ely House.

*K. Rich.* Now put it, God, in his physician's  
mind  
To help him to his grave immediately !  
The lining of his coffers shall make coats  
To deck our soldiers for these Irish wars.—  
Come, gentlemen, let's all go visit him :  
Pray God we may make haste, and come too  
late ! [Exeunt.

# King Richard II

## ACT II.

SCENE 1.—London. A Room in Ely House.  
*Gaunt on a couch; the Duke of York and others  
standing by him.*

*Gaunt.* Will the king come, that I may  
breathe my last  
In wholesome counsel to his unstaid youth?

*York.* Vex not yourself, nor strive not with  
your breath;  
For all in vain comes counsel to his ear.

*Gaunt.* O, but they say the tongues of dying  
men  
Enforce attention like deep harmony :  
Where words are scarce, they are seldom spent  
in vain ;  
For they breathe truth that breathe their words  
in pain.

He that no more must say is listen'd more  
Than they whom youth and ease have taught  
to gloze\* ; [talk smoothly  
More are men's ends mark'd than their lives  
before.

The setting sun, and music at the close,  
As the last taste of sweets, is sweetest last,  
Writ in remembrance more than things long  
past.

Though Richard my life's counsel would not  
hear,

My death's sad tale may yet undeaf his ear.

*York.* No ; it is stopp'd with other flattering  
sounds,

As praises of his state ; then, there are fond  
Lascivious metres, to whose venom sound  
The open ear of youth doth always listen ;  
Report of fashions in proud Italy,

## Act II Scene 1

Whose manners still our tardy apish nation  
Limps after, in base imitation.

Where doth the world thrust forth a vanity—

So it be new, there's no respect how vile—

That is not quickly buzz'd into his ears?

Then all too late comes counsel to be heard,

Where will doth mutiny with wit's regard.

Direct not him whose way himself will choose :

'Tis breath thou lack'st, and that breath wilt  
thou lose.

*Gaunt.* Methinks I am a prophet new inspir'd,  
And thus, expiring, do foretell of him :

His rash fierce blaze of riot cannot last,

For violent fires soon burn out themselves ;

Small showers last long, but sudden storms are  
short ;

He tires betimes that spurs too fast betimes ;

With eager feeding food doth choke the feeder :

Light vanity, insatiate cormorant,

Consuming means, soon preys upon itself.

This royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle,

This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,

This other Eden, demi-paradise ;

This fortress built by Nature for herself

Against infection and the hand of war ;

This happy breed of men, this little world,

This precious stone set in the silver sea,

Which serves it in the office of a wall,

Or as a moat defensive to a house,

Against the envy of less happier lands ;

This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this

England,

This nurse, this teeming womb of royal kings,

Fear'd by their breed, and famous by their birth,

Renowned for their deeds as far from home,

For Christian service and true chivalry,

## King Richard II

As is the sepulchre in stubborn Jewry  
Of the world's ransom, blessed Mary's Son :  
This land of such dear souls, this dear dear land,  
Dear for her reputation through the world,  
Is now leas'd out—I die pronouncing it—  
Like to a tenement or pelting\* farm. [paltry  
England, bound in with the triumphant sea,  
Whose rocky shore beats back the envious siege  
Of watery Neptune, is now bound in with shame,  
With inky blots and rotten parchment bonds :  
That England, that was wont to conquer others,  
Hath made a shameful conquest of itself.  
Ah, would the scandal vanish with my life,  
How happy then were my ensuing death !

*Enter King Richard and Queen, Aumerle,  
Bushy, Green, Bagot, Ross, and Willoughby.*

*York.* The king is come ; deal mildly with his  
youth,  
For young hot colts, being rag'd, do rage the  
more.

*Queen.* How fares our noble uncle, Lancaster ?

*K. Rich.* What comfort, man ? How is't  
with aged Gaunt ?

*Gaunt.* O, how that name befits my compo-  
sition !

Old Gaunt, indeed ; and gaunt in being old :  
Within me grief hath kept a tedious fast ;  
And who abstains from meat that is not gaunt ?  
For sleeping England long time have I watch'd ;  
Watching breeds leanness, leanness is all gaunt :  
The pleasure that some fathers feed upon  
Is my strict fast,—I mean my children's looks ;  
And therein fasting, hast thou made me gaunt.  
Gaunt am I for the grave, gaunt as a grave,  
Whose hollow womb inherits nought but bones.

## Act II Scene 1

*K. Rich.* Can sick men play so nicely with their names?

*Gaunt.* No, misery makes sport to mock itself: Since thou dost seek to kill my name in me, I mock my name, great king, to flatter thee.

*K. Rich.* Should dying men flatter those that live?

*Gaunt.* No, no; men living flatter those that die.

*K. Rich.* Thou, now a-dying, say'st thou flatter'st me.

*Gaunt.* O, no! thou diest, though I the sicker be.

*K. Rich.* I am in health, I breathe, and see thee ill.

*Gaunt.* Now, He that made me knows I see thee ill;

Ill in myself to see, and in thee seeing ill.  
Thy death-bed is no lesser than the land  
Wherein thou liest in reputation sick;  
And thou, too careless patient as thou art,  
Commit'st thy anointed body to the cure  
Of those physicians that first wounded thee.  
A thousand flatterers sit within thy crown,  
Whose compass is no bigger than thy head;  
And yet, incaged in so small a verge,\*

[a circuit of twelve miles]

The waste is no whit lesser than thy land.  
O, had thy grandsire, with a prophet's eye,  
Seen how his son's son should destroy his sons,  
From forth thy reach he would have laid thy  
shame

Deposing thee before thou wert possess'd,  
Which art possess'd now to depose thyself.  
Why cousin, wert thou regent of the world,  
It were a shame to let this land by lease;

## King Richard II

But for thy world enjoying but this land,  
It is not more than shame to shame it so?  
Landlord of England art thou, and not king:  
Thy state of law is bondslave to the law;  
And——

*K. Rich.* And thou a lunatic lean-witted fool,  
Presuming on an ague's privilege,  
Dar'st with thy frozen admonition  
Make pale our cheek, chasing the royal blood  
With fury from his native residence.  
Now by my seat's right royal majesty,  
Wert thou not brother to great Edward's son,  
This tongue that runs so roundly in thy head  
Should run thy head from thy unreverent  
shoulders.

*Gaunt.* O, spare me not, my brother Edward's  
son,  
For that I was his father Edward's son;  
That blood already, like the pelican,  
Hast thou tapp'd out, and drunkenly carous'd.  
My brother Gloster, plain well-meaning soul—  
Whom fair befall in heaven 'mongst happy  
souls!—

May be a precedent and witness good  
That thou respect'st not spilling Edward's blood.  
Join with the present sickness that I have,  
And thy unkindness be like crooked age,  
To crop at once a too long wither'd flower.  
Live in thy shame, but die not shame with  
thee!

These words hereafter thy tormentors be!—  
Convey me to my bed, then to my grave:  
Love they to live that love and honour have.

[*Exit, borne out by his Attendants.*]

*K. Rich.* And let them die that age and  
sullens have;

## Act II Scene 1

For both hast thou, and both become the grave.

*York.* I do beseech your majesty, impute his words

To wayward sickliness and age in him :

He loves you, on my life, and holds you dear

As Harry, Duke of Hereford, were he here.

*K. Rich.* Right, you say true, as Hereford's love, so his ;

As theirs, so mine ; and all be as it is.

*Enter Northumberland.*

*North.* My liege, old Gaunt commends him to your majesty.

*K. Rich.* What says he ?

*North.* Nay, nothing ; all is said.

His tongue is now a stringless instrument ;

Words, life, and all, old Lancaster hath spent.

*York.* Be York the next that must be bankrupt so !

Though death be poor, it ends a mortal woe.

*K. Rich.* The ripest fruit first falls, and so doth he ;

His time is spent, our pilgrimage must be :

So much for that.—Now for our Irish wars :

We must supplant those rough rug-headed kerns, \*

[foot soldiers

Which live like venom, where no venom else,

But only they, have privilege to live.

And for these great affairs do ask some charge,

Towards our assistance we do seize to us

The plate, coin, revenues, and movables,

Whereof our uncle Gaunt did stand possess'd.

*York.* How long shall I be patient ? ah, how long

Shall tender duty make me suffer wrong ?

Not Gloster's death, nor Hereford's banishment,

## King Richard II

Not Gaunt's rebukes, nor England's private wrongs,

Nor the prevention of poor Bolingbroke

About his marriage, nor my own disgrace,

Have ever made me sour my patient cheek,

Or bend one wrinkle on my sovereign's face.

I am the last of noble Edward's sons,

Of whom thy father, Prince of Wales, was first :

In war was never lion rag'd more fierce,

In peace was never gentle lamb more mild,

Than was that young and princely gentleman.

His face thou hast, for even so look'd he,

Accomplish'd with the number of thy hours ;

But when he frown'd, it was against the French,

And not against his friends ; his noble hand

Did win what he did spend, and spent not that

Which his triumphant father's hand had won ;

His hands were guilty of no kindred's blood,

But bloody with the enemies of his kin.

O Richard ! York is too far gone with grief,

Or else he never would compare between.

*K. Rich.* Why, uncle, what's the matter ?

*York.*

O my liege,

Pardon me, if you please ; if not, I, pleas'd

Not to be pardon'd, am content withal.

Seek you to seize, and gripe into your hands,

The royalties and rights of banish'd Hereford ?

Is not Gaunt dead, and doth not Hereford live ?

Was not Gaunt just, and is not Harry true ?

Did not the one deserve to have an heir ?

Is not his heir a well-deserving son ?

Take Hereford's rights away, and take from time

His charters and his customary rights ;

Let not to-morrow, then, ensue to-day ;

Be not thyself ; for how art thou a king

But by fair sequence and succession ?



## Act II Scene 1

Now, afore God—God forbid I say true!—  
If you do wrongfully seize Hereford's rights,  
Call in the letters-patents that he hath  
By his attorneys-general to sue  
His livery, and deny his offer'd homage,  
You pluck a thousand dangers on your head,  
You lose a thousand well-disposed hearts,  
And prick my tender patience to those thoughts  
Which honour and allegiance cannot think.

*K. Rich.* Think what you will: we seize into  
our hands

His plate, his goods, his money, and his lands.

*York.* I'll not be by the while; my liege,  
farewell.

What will ensue hereof, there's none can tell;  
But by bad courses may be understood  
That their events can never fall out good. [*Exit.*

*K. Rich.* Go, Bushy, to the Earl of Wiltshire  
straight:

Bid him repair to us to Ely House,  
To see this business. To-morrow next  
We will for Ireland; and 'tis time, I trow.  
And we create, in absence of ourself,  
Our uncle York lord governor of England;  
For he is just, and always lov'd us well.—  
Come on, our queen: to-morrow must we part;  
Be merry, for our time of stay is short.

[*Flourish. Exeunt King, Queen, Bushy,  
Aumerle, Green, and Bagot.*

*North.* Well, lords, the Duke of Lancaster  
is dead.

*Ross.* And living too, for now his son is duke.

*Willo.* Barely in title, not in revenue.

*North.* Richly in both, if justice had her right.

*Ross.* My heart is great; but it must break  
with silence,

## King Richard II

Ere't be disburthen'd with a liberal tongue.

*North.* Nay, speak thy mind; and let him  
ne'er speak more

That speaks thy words again to do thee harm!

*Willo.* Tends that thou 'dst speak to the Duke  
of Hereford?

If it be so, out with it boldly, man;

Quick is mine ear to hear of good towards him.

*Ross.* No good at all that I can do for him;  
Unless you call it good to pity him,  
Bereft and gelded of his patrimony.

*North.* Now, afore God, 'tis shame such  
wrongs are borne

In him, a royal prince, and many moe

Of noble blood in this declining land.

The king is not himself, but basely led

By flatterers; and what they will inform,

Merely in hate, 'gainst any of us all,

That will the king severely prosecute

'Gainst us, our lives, our children, and our  
heirs.

*Ross.* The commons hath he pill'd\* with [stripped]  
grievous taxes,

And lost their hearts; the nobles hath he fin'd  
For ancient quarrels, and quite lost their hearts.

*Willo.* And daily new exactions are devis'd;  
As blanks,\* benevolences,\* and I wot [blank charters]  
not what: [forced loans]

But what, o' God's name, doth become of this?

*North.* Wars have not wasted it, for warr'd  
he hath not,

But basely yielded upon compromise

That which his ancestors achiev'd with blows:

More hath he spent in peace than they in wars.

*Ross.* The Earl of Wiltshire hath the realm  
in farm.

## Act II Scene 1

*Willo.* The king's grown bankrupt, like a broken man.

*North.* Reproach and dissolution hangeth over him.

*Ross.* He hath not money for these Irish wars, His burthenous taxations notwithstanding, But by the robbing of the banish'd duke.

*North.* His noble kinsman: most degenerate king!

But, lords, we hear this fearful tempest sing, Yet seek no shelter to avoid the storm ; We see the wind sit sore upon our sails, And yet we strike not, but securely\* [in false security] perish.

*Ross.* We see the very wrack that we must suffer ;

And unavoided is the danger now, For suffering so the causes of our wrack.

*North.* Not so : even through the hollow eyes of death

I spy life peering ; but I dare not say How near the tidings of our comfort is.

*Willo.* Nay, let us share thy thoughts, as thou dost ours.

*Ross.* Be confident to speak, Northumberland : We three are but thyself ; and, speaking so, Thy words are but as thoughts ; therefore, be bold.

*North.* Then thus : I have from Port le Blanc, a bay

In Brittany, receiv'd intelligence

That Harry Duke of Hereford, Renald Lord Cobham,

[? The son of Richard Earl of Arundel

That late broke from the Duke of Exeter, His brother, Archbishop late of Canterbury, Sir Thomas Erpingham, Sir John Ramston,

## King Richard II

Sir John Norbery, Sir Robert Waterton, and  
Francis Quoint,—

All these, well furnish'd by the Duke of Bretagne,  
With eight tall ships, three thousand men of  
war, [expedition

Are making hither with all due expedience,\*  
And shortly mean to touch our northern shore;  
Perhaps they had ere this, but that they stay  
The first departing of the king for Ireland.

If, then, we shall shake off our slavish yoke,  
Imp out\* our drooping country's broken [repair  
wing,

Redeem from broking pawn\* the [the pawnbroker  
blemish'd crown,

Wipe off the dust that hides our sceptre's gilt,  
And make high majesty look like itself,  
Away with me in post to Ravenspurgh\*;

[at mouth of the Humber  
But if you faint, as fearing to do so,  
Stay and be secret, and myself will go.

*Ross.* To horse, to horse! urge doubts to them  
that fear.

*Willow.* Hold out my horse, and I will first be  
there. [Exeunt.

SCENE 2.—London. A Room in the Palace.

*Enter Queen, Bushy, and Bagot.*

*Bushy.* Madam, your majesty is too much sad:  
You promis'd, when you parted with the king,  
To lay aside self-harming heaviness,  
And entertain a cheerful disposition.

*Queen.* To please the king, I did; to please  
myself,  
I cannot do it: yet I know no cause  
Why I should welcome such a guest as grief,

## Act II Scene 2

Save bidding farewell to so sweet a guest  
As my sweet Richard. Yet, again, methinks  
Some unborn sorrow, ripe in fortune's womb,  
Is coming towards me, and my inward soul  
With nothing trembles: at something it grieves,  
More than with parting from my lord the king.

*Bushy.* Each substance of a grief hath twenty  
shadows,

Which shows like grief itself, but is not so:  
For sorrow's eye, glazed with blinding tears,  
Divides one thing entire to many objects;  
Like perspectives, which rightly gaz'd upon  
Show nothing but confusion, eyed awry  
Distinguish form: so your sweet majesty,  
Looking awry upon your lord's departure,  
Find shapes of grief more than himself to  
wail;

Which, look'd on as it is, is nought but shadows  
Of what it is not. Then, thrice-gracious queen,  
More than your lord's departure weep not:  
more's not seen;

Or if it be, 'tis with false sorrow's eye,  
Which for things true weeps things imaginary.

*Queen.* It may be so; but yet my inward soul  
Persuades me it is otherwise: howe'er it be,  
I cannot but be sad; so heavy sad,  
As,—though, on thinking, on no thought I  
think,—

Makes me with heavy nothing faint and shrink.

*Bushy.* 'Tis nothing but conceit, my gracious  
lady.

*Queen.* 'Tis nothing less: conceit is still deriv'd  
From some forefather grief; mine is not so,  
For nothing hath begot my something grief,  
Or something hath the nothing that I grieve.  
'Tis in reversion that I do possess,

## King Richard II

But what it is, that is not yet known ; what  
I cannot name ; 'tis nameless woe, I wot.

*Enter Green.*

*Green.* God save your majesty!—and well  
met, gentlemen :—

I hope the king is not yet shipp'd for Ireland.

*Queen.* Why hop'st thou so? 'tis better hope  
he is ;

For his designs crave haste, his haste good hope :  
Then wherefore dost thou hope he is not shipp'd ?

*Green.* That he, our hope, might have retir'd  
his power,  
And driven into despair an enemy's hope,  
Who strongly hath set footing in this land.  
The banish'd Bolingbroke repeals himself,  
And with uplifted arms is safe arriv'd  
At Ravenspurgh.

*Queen.* Now God in heaven forbid !

*Green.* O madam, 'tis too true ; and that is  
worse,  
The Lord Northumberland, his son young  
Henry Percy,

The Lords of Ross, Beaumont, and Willoughby,  
With all their powerful friends, are fled to him.

*Bushy.* Why have you not proclaim'd  
Northumberland,  
And all the rest of the revolted faction, traitors ?

*Green.* We have : whereupon the Earl of  
Worcester  
Hath broke his staff, resign'd his stewardship,  
And all the household servants fled with him  
To Bolingbroke.

*Queen.* So, Green, thou art the midwife to my  
woe,  
And Bolingbroke my sorrow's dismal heir ;

## Act II Scene 2

Now hath my soul brought forth her prodigy,  
And I, a gasping new-deliver'd mother,  
Have woe to woe, sorrow to sorrow join'd.

*Bushy.* Despair not, madam.

*Queen.* Who shall hinder me?

I will despair, and be at enmity  
With cozening hope; he is a flatterer,  
A parasite, a keeper-back of death,  
Who gently would dissolve the bands of life,  
Which false hope lingers in extremity.

*Enter York.*

*Green.* Here comes the Duke of York.

*Queen.* With signs of war about his aged neck :  
O, full of careful business are his looks!—  
Uncle, for God's sake, speak comfortable words.

*York.* Should I do so, I should belie my  
thoughts :

Comfort's in heaven; and we are on the earth,  
Where nothing lives but crosses, care, and grief.  
Your husband, he is gone to save far off,  
Whilst others come to make him lose at home :  
Here am I left to underprop his land,  
Who, weak with age, cannot support myself.  
Now comes the sick hour that his surfeit made ;  
Now shall he try his friends that flatter'd him.

*Enter a Servant.*

*Serv.* My lord, your son was gone before I  
came.

*York.* He was? Why, so! go all which way  
it will!

The nobles they are fled, the commons they are  
cold,

And will, I fear, revolt on Hereford's side.  
Sirrah, get thee to Plashy, to my sister Gloster ;  
Bid her send me presently a thousand pound.

## King Richard II

Hold, take my ring.

*Serv.* My lord, I had forgot to tell your lordship,  
To-day, as I came by, I called there ;  
But I shall grieve you to report the rest.

*York.* What is 't, knave ?

*Serv.* An hour before I came the duchess died.

*York.* God for his mercy ! what a tide of woes  
Comes rushing on this woeful land at once !  
I know not what to do. I would to God—  
So my untruth had not provok'd him to it—  
The king had cut off my head with my  
brother's !—

What, are there no posts despatch'd for Ireland ?  
How shall we do for money for these wars ?—  
Come, sister,—cousin, I would say ; pray pardon  
me.—

Go, fellow [*To the Servant*], get thee home, pro-  
vide some carts,

And bring away the armour that is there.

[*Exit Servant.*]

Gentlemen, will you go muster men ? If I know  
How or which way to order these affairs,  
Thus thrust disorderly into my hands,  
Never believe me. Both are my kinsmen :  
The one is my sovereign, whom both my oath  
And duty bids defend ; the other, again,  
Is my kinsman, whom the king hath wrong'd,  
Whom conscience and my kindred bids to right.  
Well, somewhat we must do.—Come, cousin, I'll  
Dispose of you.—Gentlemen, go, muster up your  
men,

And meet me presently at Berkeley Castle.

I should to Plashy too ;

But time will not permit : all is uneven,

And every thing is left at six and seven.

[*Exeunt York and Queen.*]



## Act II Scene 2

*Bushy.* The wind sits fair for news to go to  
Ireland,

But none returns. For us to levy power  
Proportionable to the enemy  
Is all impossible.

*Green.* Besides, our nearness to the king in  
love  
Is near the hate of those love not the king.

*Bagot.* And that's the wavering commons;  
for their love  
Lies in their purses, and whoso empties them  
By so much fills their hearts with deadly hate.

*Bushy.* Wherein the king stands generally  
condemn'd.

*Bagot.* If judgment lie in them, then so do we,  
Because we ever have been near the king.

*Green.* Well, I will for refuge straight to  
Bristol Castle:  
The Earl of Wiltshire is already there.

*Bushy.* Thither will I with you; for little office  
The hateful commons will perform for us,  
Except like curs to tear us all to pieces.—  
Will you go along with us?

*Bagot.* No; I will to Ireland to his majesty.  
Farewell: if heart's presages be not vain,  
We three here part that ne'er shall meet again.

*Bushy.* That's as York thrives to beat back  
Bolingbroke.

*Green.* Alas, poor duke! the task he undertakes  
Is numbering sands, and drinking oceans dry:  
Where one on his side fights, thousands will fly.

*Bagot.* Farewell at once,—for once, for all,  
and ever.

*Bushy.* Well, we may meet again.

*Bagot.* I fear me, never.

[*Exeunt.*]

# King Richard II

SCENE 3.—The Wilds in Glostershire.

*Enter Bolingbroke and Northumberland,  
with Forces.*

*Boling.* How far is it, my lord, to Berkeley now?

*North.* Believe me, noble lord,  
I am a stranger here in Glostershire.  
These high wild hills and rough uneven ways  
Draws out our miles, and makes them wearisome;  
And yet your fair discourse hath been as sugar,  
Making the hard way sweet and delectable.  
But I bethink me what a weary way  
From Ravenspurgh to Cotswold will be found  
In Ross and Willoughby, wanting your company,  
Which, I protest, hath very much beguil'd  
The tediousness and process of my travel:  
But theirs is sweeten'd with the hope to have  
The present benefit which I possess;  
And hope to joy is little less in joy  
Than hope enjoy'd: by this the weary lords  
Shall make their way seem short, as mine hath done

By sight of what I have, your noble company.

*Boling.* Of much less value is my company  
Than your good words. But who comes here?

*Enter Harry Percy.*

*North.* It is my son, young Harry Percy,  
Sent from my brother Worcester, whencesoever.—

Harry, how fares your uncle?

*Percy.* I had thought, my lord, to have learn'd  
his health of you.

## Act II Scene 3

*North.* Why, is he not with the queen?

*Percy.* No, my good lord; he hath forsook  
the court,

Broken his staff of office, and dispers'd  
The household of the king.

*North.* What was his reason?  
He was not so resolv'd when last we spake  
together.

*Percy.* Because your lordship was proclaimed  
traitor.

But he, my lord, is gone to Ravenspurgh,  
To offer service to the Duke of Hereford,  
And sent me over by Berkeley, to discover  
What power the Duke of York had levied there;  
Then with directions to repair to Ravenspurgh.

*North.* Have you forgot the Duke of Hereford,  
boy?

*Percy.* No, my good lord; for that is not forgot  
Which ne'er I did remember: to my knowledge,  
I never in my life did look on him.

*North.* Then learn to know him now; this is  
the duke.

*Percy.* My gracious lord, I tender you my  
service,

Such as it is, being tender, raw, and young,  
Which elder days shall ripen, and confirm  
To more approved service and desert.

*Boling.* I thank thee, gentle Percy; and be sure  
I count myself in nothing else so happy  
As in a soul remembering my good friends;  
And, as my fortune ripens with thy love,  
It shall be still thy true love's recompense:  
My heart this covenant makes, my hand thus  
seals it.

*North.* How far is it to Berkeley; and what stir  
Keeps good old York there with his men of war?

## King Richard II

*Percy.* There stands the castle, by yon tuft of trees,  
Mann'd with three hundred men, as I have heard :  
And in it are the Lords of York, Berkeley, and Seymour ;  
None else of name and noble estimate.

*Enter Ross and Willoughby.*

*North.* Here come the Lords of Ross and Willoughby,  
Bloody with spurring, fiery-red with haste.

*Boling.* Welcome, my lords. I wot your love pursues  
A banish'd traitor : all my treasury  
Is yet but unfelt thanks, which, more enrich'd,  
Shall be your love and labour's recompense.

*Ross.* Your presence makes us rich, most noble lord.

*Willoughby.* And far surmounts our labour to attain it.

*Boling.* Evermore thanks, the exchequer of the poor ;  
Which, till my infant fortune comes to years,  
Stands for my bounty.—But who comes here ?

*Enter Berkeley.*

*North.* It is my Lord of Berkeley, as I guess.

*Berk.* My Lord of Hereford, my message is to you.

*Boling.* My lord, my answer is—to Lancaster ;  
And I am come to seek that name in England ;  
And I must find that title in your tongue,  
Before I make reply to aught you say.

*Berk.* Mistake me not, my lord ; 'tis not my meaning  
To raze one title of your honour out.

## Act II Scene 3

To you, my lord, I come, what lord you will,  
From the most gracious regent of this land,  
The Duke of York, to know what pricks you on  
To take advantage of the absent time,  
And fright our native peace with self-born arms.

*Enter York, attended.*

*Boling.* I shall not need transport my words  
by you;

Here comes his grace in person.—My noble  
uncle! *[Kneels.*

*York.* Show me thy humble heart, and not  
thy knee,

Whose duty is deceivable and false.

*Boling.* My gracious uncle!—

*York.*

Tut, tut!

Grace me no grace, nor uncle me no uncle:

I am no traitor's uncle; and that word 'grace'  
In an ungracious mouth is but profane.

Why have those banish'd and forbidden legs  
Dar'd once to touch a dust of England's ground?  
But, then, more 'why,'—why have they dar'd  
to march

So many miles upon her peaceful bosom,  
Frighting her pale-fac'd villages with war  
And ostentation of despised arms?

Com'st thou because the anointed king is hence?  
Why, foolish boy, the king is left behind,  
And in my loyal bosom lies his power.

Were I but now the lord of such hot youth  
As when brave Gaunt thy father, and myself,  
Rescued the Black Prince, that young Mars of  
men,

From forth the ranks of many thousand French,  
O, then, how quickly should this arm of mine,  
Now prisoner to the palsy, chastise thee

## King Richard II

And minister correction to thy fault!

*Boling.* My gracious uncle, let me know my fault.

On what condition stands it, and wherein?

*York.* Even in condition of the worst degree,  
In gross rebellion and detested treason :  
Thou art a banish'd man, and here art come  
Before the expiration of thy time,  
In braving arms against thy sovereign.

*Boling.* As I was banish'd, I was banish'd  
Hereford ;

But as I come, I come for Lancaster.

And, noble uncle, I beseech your grace  
Look on my wrongs with an indifferent eye :  
You are my father, for methinks in you  
I see old Gaunt alive : O, then, my father,  
Will you permit that I shall stand condemn'd  
A wandering vagabond, my rights and royalties  
Pluck'd from my arms perforce, and given away  
To upstart unthrifts? Wherefore was I born?  
If that my cousin king be king of England,  
It must be granted I am Duke of Lancaster.  
You have a son, Aumerle, my noble kinsman ;  
Had you first died, and he been thus trod down,  
He should have found his uncle Gaunt a father,  
To rouse his wrongs, and chase them to the bay.  
I am denied to sue my livery here,  
And yet my letters-patents give me leave :  
My father's goods are all distrain'd and sold ;  
And these and all are all amiss employ'd.  
What would you have me do? I am a subject,  
And challenge law ; attorneys are denied me,  
And therefore personally I lay my claim  
To my inheritance of free descent.

*North.* The noble duke hath been too much  
abus'd.

## Act II Scene 3

*Ross.* It stands your grace upon to do him right.

*Willo.* Base men by his endowments are made great.

*York.* My lords of England, let me tell you this :

I have had feeling of my cousin's wrongs,  
And labour'd all I could to do him right ;  
But in this kind to come, in braving arms,  
Be his own carver and cut out his way,  
To find out right with wrong,—it may not be ;  
And you that do abet him in this kind  
Cherish rebellion, and are rebels all.

*North.* The noble duke hath sworn his coming is

But for his own ; and for the right of that  
We all have strongly sworn to give him aid,  
And let him ne'er see joy that breaks that oath !

*York.* Well, well, I see the issue of these arms.  
I cannot mend it, I must needs confess,  
Because my power is weak and all ill left ;  
But if I could, by Him that gave me life,  
I would attach you all, and make you stoop  
Unto the sovereign mercy of the king ;  
But since I cannot, be it known to you  
I do remain as neuter. So, fare you well ;  
Unless you please to enter in the castle,  
And there repose you for this night.

*Boling.* An offer, uncle, that we will accept :  
But we must win your grace to go with us  
To Bristol Castle, which they say is held  
By Bushy, Bagot, and their complices,  
The caterpillars of the commonwealth,  
Which I have sworn to weed and pluck away.

*York.* It may be I will go with you ; but yet  
I'll pause ;

## King Richard II

For I am loath to break our country's laws.  
Nor friends nor foes, to me welcome you are :  
Things past redress are now with me past care.  
[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 4.—A Camp in Wales.

*Enter Salisbury and a Captain.*

*Cap.* My lord of Salisbury, we have stay'd  
ten days,  
And hardly kept our countrymen together,  
And yet we hear no tidings from the king ;  
Therefore we will disperse ourselves : farewell.

*Sal.* Stay yet another day, thou trusty Welsh-  
man :

The king repositeth all his confidence in thee.

*Cap.* 'Tis thought the king is dead ; we will  
not stay.

The bay-trees in our country are all wither'd,  
And meteors fright the fixed stars of heaven ;  
The pale-fac'd moon looks bloody on the earth,  
And lean-look'd prophets whisper fearful  
change ;

Rich men look sad, and ruffians dance and leap,  
The one in fear to lose what they enjoy,

The other to enjoy by rage and war :

These signs forerun the death or fall of kings.

Farewell ; our countrymen are gone and fled,  
As well assur'd Richard their king is dead.

[*Exit.*]

*Sal.* Ah, Richard, with the eyes of heavy mind,  
I see thy glory, like a shooting star,  
Fall to the base earth from the firmament.

Thy sun sets weeping in the lowly west,

Witnessing storms to come, woe and unrest ;

Thy friends are fled, to wait upon thy foes,

And grossly to thy good all fortune goes. [*Exit.*]



# Act III Scene 1

## ACT III.

SCENE 1.—Bolingbroke's Camp at Bristol.

*Enter Bolingbroke, York, Northumberland, Percy, Willoughby, Ross, with Bushy and Green prisoners.*

*Boling.* Bring forth these men.—

Bushy and Green, I will not vex your souls—  
Since presently your souls must part\* your [quit  
bodies—

With too much urging your pernicious lives,  
For 'twere no charity; yet, to wash your blood  
From off my hands, here in the view of men  
I will unfold some causes of your deaths.

You have misled a prince, a royal king,  
A happy gentleman in blood and lineaments,  
By you unhappied and disfigur'd clean\*; [entirely  
You have in manner with your sinful hours  
Made a divorce betwixt his queen and him,  
Broke the possession of a royal bed,  
And stain'd the beauty of a fair queen's cheeks  
With tears drawn from her eyes by your foul  
wrongs.

Myself, a prince by fortune of my birth,  
Near to the king in blood, and near in love  
Till you did make him misinterpret me,  
Have stoop'd my neck under your injuries,  
And sigh'd my English breath in foreign clouds,  
Eating the bitter bread of banishment;  
Whilst you have fed upon my signories,\* [manors  
Dispark'd my parks, and fell'd my forest-woods,  
From my own windows torn my household  
coat,\*

[arms blazoned on glass

Raz'd out my impress, leaving me no sign,  
Save men's opinions and my living blood,

## King Richard II

To show the world I am a gentleman.  
This and much more, much more than twice all  
this,  
Condemns you to the death.—See them deliver'd  
over  
To execution and the hand of death.

*Bushy.* More welcome is the stroke of death  
to me

Than Bolingbroke to England.

*Green.* My comfort is, that heaven will take  
our souls,

And plague injustice with the pains of hell.

*Boling.* My Lord Northumberland, see them  
despatch'd.

[*Exeunt North. and others, with Prisoners.*

Uncle, you say the queen is at your house ;  
For God's sake, fairly let her be entreated :  
Tell her I send to her my kind commends ;  
Take special care my greetings be deliver'd.

*York.* A gentleman of mine I have despatch'd  
With letters of your love to her at large.

*Boling.* Thanks, gentle uncle.—Come, lords,  
away,

To fight with Glendower and his complices :  
Awhile to work, and after holiday. [*Exeunt.*

SCENE 2.—The Coast of Wales. A Castle in view.

*Flourish; drums and trumpets. Enter King  
Richard, the Bishop of Carlisle, Aumerle,  
and Soldiers.*

*K. Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at  
hand?

*Aum.* Yea, my lord. How brooks your grace  
the air,

After your late tossing on the breaking seas?

## Act III Scene 2

*K. Rich.* Needs must I like it well; I weep  
for joy

To stand upon my kingdom once again.—

Dear earth, I do salute thee with my hand,  
Though rebels wound thee with their horses'  
hoofs:

As a long-parted mother with her child  
Plays fondly with her tears and smiles in  
meeting,

So, weeping, smiling, greet I thee, my earth,  
And do thee favour with my royal hands.

Feed not thy sovereign's foe, my gentle earth,  
Nor with thy sweets comfort his ravenous sense;

But let thy spiders that suck up thy venom,

And heavy-gaited toads, lie in their way,

Doing annoyance to the treacherous feet

Which with usurping steps do trample thee.

Yield stinging nettles to mine enemies;

And when they from thy bosom pluck a flower,

Guard it, I pray thee, with a lurking adder,

Whose double tongue may with a mortal touch

Throw death upon thy sovereign's enemies.

Mock not my senseless conjuration, lords;

This earth shall have a feeling, and these stones

Prove armed soldiers, ere her native king

Shall falter under foul rebellious arms!

*Car.* Fear not, my lord; that Power that  
made you king

Hath power to keep you king in spite of all.

The means that heaven yields must be embrac'd

And not neglected; else, if heaven would,

And we will not, heaven's offer we refuse,

The proffer'd means of succour and redress.

*Aum.* He means, my lord, that we are too  
remiss;

[carelessness

Whilst Bolingbroke, through our security,\*

## King Richard II

Grows strong and great in substance and in friends.

*K. Rich.* Discomfortable cousin ! know'st thou not

That when the searching eye of heaven is hid  
Behind the globe, that lights the lower world,  
Then thieves and robbers range abroad unseen,  
In murders and in outrage, boldly here ;  
But when from under this terrestrial ball  
He fires the proud tops of the eastern pines,  
And darts his light through every guilty hole,  
Then murders, treasons, and detested sins,  
The cloak of night being pluck'd from off their  
backs,

Stand bare and naked, trembling at themselves ?  
So when this thief, this traitor, Bolingbroke,  
Who all this while hath revell'd in the night,  
Whilst we were wandering with the antipodes,  
Shall see us rising in our throne, the east,  
His treasons will sit blushing in his face,  
Not able to endure the sight of day,  
But self-affrighted tremble at his sin.  
Not all the water in the rough rude sea  
Can wash the balm from an anointed king ;  
The breath of worldly men cannot depose  
The deputy elected by the Lord.  
For every man that Bolingbroke hath press'd  
To lift shrewd steel against our golden crown,  
God for his Richard hath in heavenly pay  
A glorious angel : then, if angels fight,  
Weak men must fall ; for heaven still guards  
the right.

*Enter Salisbury.*

Welcome, my lord : how far off lies your power ?

*Sal.* Nor near nor farther off, my gracious lord,

## Act III Scene 2

Than this weak arm: discomfort guides my  
tongue,

And bids me speak of nothing but despair.

One day too late, I fear, my noble lord,

Hath clouded all thy happy days on earth.

O, call back yesterday, bid time return,

And thou shalt have twelve thousand fighting  
men!

To-day, to-day, unhappy day, too late,

O'erthrows thy joys, friends, fortune, and thy  
state;

For all the Welshmen, hearing thou wert dead,

Are gone to Bolingbroke, dispers'd, and fled.

*Aum.* Comfort, my liege! why looks your  
grace so pale?

*K. Rich.* But now the blood of twenty  
thousand men

Did triumph in my face, and they are fled;

And till so much blood thither come again,

Have I not reason to look pale and dead?

All souls that will be safe fly from my side,

For time hath set a blot upon my pride.

*Aum.* Comfort, my liege! remember who you  
are.

*K. Rich.* I had forgot myself; am I not king?

Awake, thou sluggard majesty! thou sleep'st.

Is not the king's name forty thousand names?

Arm, arm, my name! a puny subject strikes

At thy great glory. Look not to the ground,

Ye favourites of a king: are we not high?

High be our thoughts. I know my uncle York

Hath power enough to serve our turn. But

who comes here?

*Enter Scroop.*

*Scroop.* More health and happiness betide  
my liege

## King Richard II

Than can my care-tun'd tongue deliver him !

*K. Rich.* Mine ear is open and my heart  
prepar'd ;

The worst is worldly loss thou canst unfold.

Say, is my kingdom lost ? why, 'twas my care ;

And what loss is it to be rid of care ?

Strives Bolingbroke to be as great as we ?

Greater he shall not be ; if he serve God,

We'll serve him too, and be his fellow so.

Revolt our subjects ? that we cannot mend ;

They break their faith to God as well as us.

Cry woe, destruction, ruin, loss, decay ;

The worst is death, and death will have his day.

*Scroop.* Glad am I that your highness is so  
arm'd

To bear the tidings of calamity.

Like an unseasonable stormy day,

Which makes the silver rivers drown their shores

As if the world were all dissolv'd to tears,

So high above his limits swells the rage

Of Bolingbroke, covering your fearful land

With hard bright steel, and hearts harder than  
steel.

White-beards have arm'd their thin and hairless  
scalps

Against thy majesty ; and boys, with women's  
voices,

Strive to speak big, and clap their female joints

In stiff unwieldy arms against thy crown :

Thy very beadsmen\* learn to bend their bows

Of double-fatal yew against thy state ; [pensioners

Yea, distaff-women manage rusty bills

Against thy seat : both young and old rebel,

And all goes worse than I have power to tell.

*K. Rich.* Too well, too well thou tell'st a tale  
so ill.

## Act III Scene 2

Where is the Earl of Wiltshire? where is Bagot?  
What has become of Bushy? where is Green?  
That they have let the dangerous enemy  
Measure our confines with such peaceful steps?  
If we prevail, their heads shall pay for it;  
I warrant they have made peace with Boling-  
broke.

*Scroop.* Peace have they made with him,  
indeed, my lord.

*K. Rich.* O villains, vipers, damn'd without  
redemption!

Dogs, easily won to fawn on any man!  
Snakes, in my heart-blood warm'd, that sting  
my heart!

Three Judases, each one thrice worse than Judas!  
Would they make peace? Terrible hell make  
war

Upon their spotted souls for this offence!

*Scroop.* Sweet love, I see, changing his pro-  
perty,

Turns to the sourest and most deadly hate.  
Again uncurse their souls; their peace is made  
With heads, and not with hands: those whom  
you curse

Have felt the worst of death's destroying hand,  
And lie full low, grav'd in the hollow ground.

*Aum.* Is Bushy, Green, and the Earl of Wilt-  
shire dead?

*Scroop.* Yea, all of them at Bristol lost their  
heads.

*Aum.* Where is the duke my father with his  
power?

*K. Rich.* No matter where; of comfort no  
man speak:

Let's talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs,  
Make dust our paper, and with rainy eyes

## King Richard II

Write sorrow on the bosom of the earth.  
Let's choose executors, and talk of wills ;  
And yet not so, for what can we bequeath,  
Save our deposed bodies to the ground ?  
Our lands, our lives, and all are Bolingbroke's,  
And nothing can we call our own but death,  
And that small model of the barren earth  
Which serves as paste and cover to our bones.  
For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground,  
And tell sad stories of the death of kings :  
How some have been depos'd, some slain in war,  
Some haunted by the ghosts they have depos'd,  
Some poison'd by their wives, some sleeping  
kill'd,

All murther'd : for within the hollow crown  
That rounds the mortal temples of a king  
Keeps Death his court, and there the antic\* [buffoon  
sits,

Scoffing his state, and grinning at his pomp,  
Allowing him a breath, a little scene,  
To monarchize, be fear'd, and kill with looks ;  
Infusing him with self and vain conceit,  
As if this flesh, which walls about our life,  
Were brass impregnable, and humour'd thus  
Comes at the last, and with a little pin  
Bores through his castle wall, and—farewell  
king !

Cover your heads, and mock not flesh and blood  
With solemn reverence ; throw away respect,  
Tradition, form, and ceremonious duty,  
For you have but mistook me all this while :  
I live with bread like you, feel want, taste grief,  
Need friends. Subjected thus,  
How can you say to me, I am a king ?

*Car.* My lord, wise men ne'er wail their  
present woes,



## Act III Scene 2

But presently prevent the ways to wail.  
To fear the foe, since fear oppresseth strength,  
Gives, in your weakness, strength unto your foe,  
And so your follies fight against yourself.  
Fear, and be slain ; no worse can come to fight :  
And fight and die is death destroying death,  
Where fearing dying pays death servile breath.

*Aum.* My father hath a power ; inquire of him,  
And learn to make a body of a limb.

*K. Rich.* Thou chid'st me well. Proud  
Bolingbroke, I come  
To change blows with thee for our day of doom.  
This ague-fit of fear is over-blown ;  
An easy task it is to win our own.—  
Say, Scroop, where lies our uncle with his  
power ?

Speak sweetly, man, although thy looks be sour.  
*Scroop.* Men judge by the complexion of the  
sky

The state and inclination of the day ;  
So may you by my dull and heavy eye,  
My tongue hath but a heavier tale to say.  
I play the torturer, by small and small  
To lengthen out the worst that must be spoken.  
Your uncle York is join'd with Bolingbroke ;  
And all your northern castles yielded up,  
And all your southern gentlemen in arms  
Upon his faction.

*K. Rich.* Thou hast said enough.—  
Beshrew thee, cousin, which didst lead me  
forth [To Aumerle.  
Of that sweet way I was in to despair !  
What say you now ? what comfort have we  
now ?

By heaven, I'll hate him everlastingly  
That bids me be of comfort any more.

## King Richard II

Go to Flint Castle : there I'll pine away ;  
A king, woe's slave, shall kingly woe obey.  
That power I have, discharge ; and let them go  
To ear\* the land that hath some hope to grow, (till  
For I have none. Let no man speak again  
To alter this, for counsel is but vain.

*Aum.* My liege, one word.

*K. Rich.* He does me double wrong  
That wounds me with the flatteries of his tongue.  
Discharge my followers : let them hence away,  
From Richard's night to Bolingbroke's fair day.  
[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 3.—Wales. Before Flint Castle.

*Enter, with drum and colours, Bolingbroke and Forces ; York, Northumberland, and others.*

*Boling.* So that by this intelligence we learn  
The Welshmen are dispers'd ; and Salisbury  
Is gone to meet the king, who lately landed  
With some few private friends upon this coast.

*North.* The news is very fair and good, my  
lord :  
Richard not far from hence hath hid his head.

*York.* It would beseem the Lord Northumber-  
land  
To say 'King Richard.' Alack the heavy day  
When such a sacred king should hide his head !

*North.* Your grace mistakes ; only to be brief  
Left I his title out.

*York.* The time hath been,  
Would you have been so brief with him, he  
would  
Have been so brief with you, to shorten you,  
For taking so the head, your whole head's length.

*Boling.* Mistake not, uncle, further than you  
should.

## Act III Scene 3

*York.* Take not, good cousin, further than you should,  
Lest you mistake : the heavens are o'er your head.

*Boling.* I know it, uncle, and oppose not myself  
Against their will. But who comes here?

*Enter Percy.*

Welcome, Harry : what, will not this castle yield?

*Percy.* The castle royally is mann'd, my lord,  
Against thy entrance.

*Boling.* Royally!  
Why, it contains no king?

*Percy.* Yes, my good lord,  
It doth contain a king : King Richard lies  
Within the limits of yond lime and stone ;  
And with him are the Lord Annerle, Lord  
Salisbury,

Sir Stephen Scroop ; besides a clergyman  
Of holy reverence,—who, I cannot learn.

*North.* O, belike it is the Bishop of Carlisle.

*Boling.* Noble lord, [*To Northumberland.*]  
Go to the rude ribs of that ancient castle ;  
Through brazen trumpet send the breath of parle  
Into his ruin'd ears, and thus deliver :  
Henry Bolingbroke  
On both his knees doth kiss King Richard's hand,  
And sends allegiance and true faith of heart  
To his most royal person ; hither come  
Even at his feet to lay my arms and power,  
Provided that my banishment repeal'd,  
And lands restor'd again, be freely granted.  
If not, I'll use the advantage of my power,  
And lay the summer's dust with showers of blood

## King Richard II

Rain'd from the wounds of slaughter'd Englishmen :

The which, how far off from the mind of Bolingbroke

It is, such crimson tempest should bedrench  
The fresh green lap of fair King Richard's land,  
My stooping duty tenderly shall show.

Go, signify as much, while here we march  
Upon the grassy carpet of this plain.

[*North. advances to the Castle with a trumpet.*  
Let's march without the noise of threatening  
drum,

That from the castle's tatter'd battlements  
Our fair appointments may be well perus'd.  
Methinks King Richard and myself should meet  
With no less terror than the elements  
Of fire and water, when their thundering shock  
At meeting tears the cloudy cheeks of heaven.  
Be he the fire, I'll be the yielding water :  
The rage be his, while on the earth I rain  
My waters,—on the earth, and not on him.  
March on, and mark King Richard how he looks.

*A parle sounded, and answered by another trumpet within. Flourish. Enter on the walls King Richard, the Bishop of Carlisle, Aumerle, Scroop, and Salisbury.*

See, see, King Richard doth himself appear,  
As doth the blushing discontented sun  
From out the fiery portal of the east,  
When he perceives the envious clouds are bent  
To dim his glory, and to stain the track  
Of his bright passage to the occident.

*York.* Yet looks he like a king : behold, his  
eye,  
As bright as is the eagle's, lightens forth

## Act III Scene 3

Controlling majesty. Alack, alack, for woe,  
That any harm should stain so fair a show!

*K. Rich.* We are amaz'd; and thus long have  
we stood [To Northumberland.

To watch the fearful bending of thy knee,  
Because we thought ourself thy lawful king:

An if we be, how dare thy joints forget  
To pay their awful duty to our presence?

If we be not, show us the hand of God  
That hath dismiss'd us from our stewardship;

For well we know, no hand of blood and bone  
Can gripe the sacred handle of our sceptre,

Unless he do profane, steal, or usurp.

And though you think that all, as you have done,  
Have torn their souls by turning them from us,

And we are barren and bereft of friends,

Yet know, my master, God omnipotent,

Is mustering in his clouds, on our behalf,

Armies of pestilence; and they shall strike

Your children yet unborn and unbegot,

That lift your vassal hands against my head,

And threat the glory of my precious crown.

Tell Bolingbroke—for yond methinks he stands—

That every stride he makes upon my land

Is dangerous treason: he is come to ope

The purple\* testament of bleeding war; [blood-stained

But ere the crown he looks for live in peace,

Ten thousand bloody crowns of mother's sons

Shall ill become the flower of England's face,

Change the complexion of her maid-pale peace

To scarlet indignation, and bedew

Her pastures' grass with faithful English blood.

*North.* The King of Heaven forbid our lord  
the king

Should so with civil and uncivil arms

Be rush'd upon! Thy thrice-noble cousin,

## King Richard II

Harry Bolingbroke, doth humbly kiss thy hand  
And by the honourable tomb he swears,  
That stands upon your royal grandsire's bones,  
And by the royalties of both your bloods—  
Currents that spring from one most gracious  
head—

And by the buried hand of warlike Gaunt,  
And by the worth and honour of himself,  
Comprising all that may be sworn or said,  
His coming hither hath no further scope  
Than for his lineal royalties, and to beg  
Enfranchisement immediate on his knees :  
Which on thy royal party\* granted once, [part  
His glittering arms he will commend to rust,  
His barbed steeds to stables, and his heart  
To faithful service of your majesty.  
This swears he, as he is a prince, is just ;  
And, as I am a gentleman, I credit him.

*K. Rich.* Northumberland, say thus the king  
returns :

His noble cousin is right welcome hither ;  
And all the number of his fair demands  
Shall be accomplish'd without contradiction.  
With all the gracious utterance thou hast  
Speak to his gentle hearing kind commends.—  
We do debase ourself, cousin, do we not,

[*To Aumerle.*

To look so poorly, and to speak so fair ?  
Shall we call back Northumberland, and send  
Defiance to the traitor, and so die ?

*Aum.* No, good my lord ; let's fight with  
gentle words  
Till time lend friends, and friends their helpful  
swords.

*K. Rich.* O God, O God ! that e'er this tongue  
of mine,

## Act III Scene 3

That laid the sentence of dread banishment  
On yond proud man, should take it off again  
With words of sooth! O that I were as great  
As is my grief, or lesser than my name!  
Or that I could forget what I have been!  
Or not remember what I must be now!  
Swell'st thou, proud heart, I'll give thee scope  
to beat,

Since foes have scope to beat both thee and me.  
*Aum.* Northumberland comes back from  
Bolingbroke.

*K. Rich.* What must the king do now? Must  
he submit?

The king shall do it. Must he be depos'd?  
The king shall be contented. Must he lose  
The name of king? O' God's name, let it go.  
I'll give my jewels for a set of beads,  
My gorgeous palace for a hermitage,  
My gay apparel for an alms-man's gown,  
My figur'd goblets for a dish of wood,  
My sceptre for a palmer's walking staff,  
My subjects for a pair of carved saints,  
And my large kingdom for a little grave,  
A little little grave, an obscure grave;  
Or I'll be buried in the king's highway,  
Some way of common trade, where subjects'  
feet

May hourly trample on their sovereign's head:  
For on my heart they tread now whilst I live,  
And, buried once, why not upon my head?—  
*Aumerle*, thou weep'st; my tender-hearted  
cousin!—

We'll make foul weather with despised tears;  
Our sighs and they shall lodge the summer corn  
And make a dearth in this revolting land.  
Or shall we play the wantons with our woes,

## King Richard II

And make some pretty match with shedding  
tears?

As thus ;—to drop them still upon one place,  
Till they have fretted us a pair of graves  
Within the earth ; and, therein laid, there lies  
Two kinsmen digg'd their graves with weeping  
eyes.

Would not this ill do well? Well, well, I see  
I talk but idly, and you mock at me.—  
Most mighty prince, my Lord Northumberland,  
What says King Bolingbroke? will his majesty  
Give Richard leave to live till Richard die?  
You make a leg, and Bolingbroke says ay.

*North.* My lord, in the base\* court [lower or outer  
he doth attend  
To speak with you ; may it please you to come  
down?

*K. Rich.* Down, down I come ; like glistering  
Phaeton,  
Wanting the manage of unruly jades.

[*Northumberland retires to Bolingbroke.*  
In the base court? Base court, where kings  
grow base,  
To come at traitors' calls, and do them grace.  
In the base court? Come down? Down, court!  
down, king!

For night-owls shriek where mounting larks  
should sing. [Exeunt from above.

*Boling.* What says his majesty?

*North.* Sorrow and grief of heart  
Makes him speak fondly, like a frantic man ;  
Yet he is come.

*Enter King Richard and his Attendants below.*

*Boling.* Stand all apart,  
And show fair duty to his majesty.—



## Act III Scene 4

My gracious lord,— [Kneeling.

*K. Rich.* Fair cousin, you debase your princely  
knee

To make the base earth proud with kissing it ;  
Me rather had my heart might feel your love  
Than my unpleas'd eye see your courtesy.

Up, cousin, up ; your heart is up, I know.  
Thus high at least, although your knee be low.

*Boling.* My gracious lord, I come but for  
mine own.

*K. Rich.* Your own is yours, and I am yours,  
and all.

*Boling.* So far be mine, my most redoubted  
lord,

As my true service shall deserve your love.

*K. Rich.* Well you deserve : they well deserve  
to have

That know the strong'st and surest way to get.—

Uncle, give me your hand : nay, dry your eyes ;

Tears show their love, but want their remedies.—

Cousin, I am too young to be your father,

Though you are old enough to be my heir.

What you will have, I'll give, and willing too ;

For do we must what force will have us do.—

Set on towards London ; cousin, is it so ?

*Boling.* Yea, my good lord.

*K. Rich.* Then I must not say no

[Flourish. Exeunt.

SCENE 4.—Langley. The Duke of York's  
Garden.

*Enter the Queen and two Ladies.*

*Queen.* What sport shall we devise here in  
this garden

To drive away the heavy thought of care ?

*1st Lady.* Madam, we'll play at bowls.

## King Richard II

*Queen.* 'Twill make me think the world is  
full of rubs,\* [checks

And that my fortune runs against the bias.

*1st Lady.* Madam, we'll dance.

*Queen.* My legs can keep no measure in delight,  
When my poor heart no measure keeps in grief:  
Therefore, no dancing, girl; some other sport.

*1st Lady.* Madam, we'll tell tales.

*Queen.* Of sorrow or of joy?

*1st Lady.* Of either, madam.

*Queen.* Of neither, girl:

For if of joy, being altogether wanting,  
It doth remember me the more of sorrow;  
Or if of grief, being altogether had,  
It adds more sorrow to my want of joy:  
For what I have, I need not to repeat;  
And what I want, it boots not to complain.

*1st Lady.* Madam, I'll sing.

*Queen.* 'Tis well that thou hast cause;  
But thou shouldst please me better wouldst  
thou weep.

*1st Lady.* I could weep, madam, would it do  
you good.

*Queen.* And I could sing, would weeping do  
me good,

And never borrow any tear of thee.  
But stay, here come the gardeners;  
Let's step into the shadow of these trees.  
My wretchedness unto a row of pins,  
They'll talk of state; for every one doth so  
Against a change: woe is forerun with woe.

*[Queen and Ladies retire.]*

*Enter a Gardener and two Servants.*

*Gard.* Go, bind thou up yond dangling  
apricocks,

## Act III Scene 4

Which, like unruly children, make their sire  
Stoop with oppression of their prodigal weight ;  
Give some supportance to the bending twigs.  
Go thou, and like an executioner  
Cut off the heads of too-fast-growing sprays,  
That look too lofty in our commonwealth :  
All must be even in our government.  
You thus employ'd, I will go root away  
The noisome weeds, which without profit suck  
The soil's fertility from wholesome flowers.

*1st Serv.* Why should we, in the compass of  
a pale,\* [enclosure

Keep law and form and due proportion,  
Showing, as in a model, our firm estate,  
When our sea-walled garden, the whole land,  
Is full of weeds ; her fairest flowers chok'd up,  
Her fruit-trees all unprun'd, her hedges ruin'd,  
Her knots disorder'd, and her wholesome herbs  
Swarming with caterpillars ?

*Gard.* Hold thy peace.

He that hath suffer'd this disorder'd spring  
Hath now himself met with the fall of leaf.  
The weeds that his broad-spreading leaves did  
shelter,

That seem'd in eating him to hold him up,  
Are pluck'd up, root and all, by Bolingbroke,  
I mean the Earl of Wiltshire, Bushy, Green.

*1st Serv.* What, are they dead ?

*Gard.* They are ; and Bolingbroke  
Hath seiz'd the wasteful king. O, what pity is it  
That he had not so trimm'd and dress'd his land  
As we this garden ! We at time of year  
Do wound the bark, the skin of our fruit-trees,  
Lest, being over-proud in sap and blood,  
With too much riches it confound itself :  
Had he done so to great and growing men,

## King Richard II

They might have liv'd to bear, and he to taste  
Their fruits of duty. Superfluous branches  
We lop away, that bearing boughs may live :  
Had he done so, himself had borne the crown,  
Which waste and idle hours hath quite thrown  
down.

*1st Serv.* What! think you, then, the king  
shall be depos'd?

*Gard.* Depress'd he is already, and depos'd  
'Tis doubt he will be : letters came last night  
To a dear friend of the good Duke of York's  
That tell black tidings.

*Queen.* O, I am press'd to death through  
want of speaking! [*Coming forward.*  
Thou, old Adam's likeness, set to dress this  
garden,

How dares thy harsh rude tongue sound this  
unpleasing news?

What Eve, what serpent hath suggested thee  
To make a second fall of cursed man?

Why dost thou say King Richard is depos'd?  
Dar'st thou, thou little better thing than earth,  
Divine his downfall? Say, where, when, and how  
Can'st thou by this ill tidings? speak, thou  
wretch.

*Gard.* Pardon me, madam : little joy have I  
To breathe this news ; yet what I say is true.  
King Richard, he is in the mighty hold  
Of Bolingbroke ; their fortunes both are  
weigh'd :

In your lord's scale is nothing but himself,  
And some few vanities that make him light ;  
But in the balance of great Bolingbroke,  
Besides himself, are all the English peers,  
And with that odds he weighs King Richard  
down.

## Act IV Scene 1

Post you to London, and you'll find it so ;  
I speak no more than every one doth know.

*Queen.* Nimble mischance, that art so light  
of foot,

Doth not thy embassage belong to me,  
And am I last that knows it? O, thou think'st  
To serve me last, that I may longest keep  
Thy sorrow in my breast.—Come, ladies, go,  
To meet at London London's king in woe.—  
What! was I born to this, that my sad look  
Should grace the triumph of great Bolingbroke?—  
Gardener, for telling me this news of woe,  
Pray God the plants thou graft'st may never  
grow! [*Exeunt Queen and Ladies.*]

*Gard.* Poor queen! so that thy state might  
be no worse,

I would my skill were subject to thy curse.  
Here did she fall a tear; here, in this place,  
I'll set a bank of rue, sour herb of grace:  
Rue, even for ruth, here shortly shall be seen,  
In the remembrance of a weeping queen.

[*Exeunt.*]

### ACT IV.

SCENE 1.—London. Westminster Hall. The  
Lords spiritual on the right side of the  
throne; the Lords temporal on the left;  
the Commons below.

*Enter Bolingbroke, Aumerle, Surrey, North-  
umberland, Percy, Fitzwater, another Lord,  
the Bishop of Carlisle, the Abbot of West-  
minster, and Attendants. Officers behind  
with Bagot.*

*Boling.* Call forth Bagot.—

Now, Bagot, freely speak thy mind,  
What thou dost know of noble Gloster's death;

## King Richard II

Who wrought it with the king, and who perform'd

The bloody office of his timeless\* end. [untimely

*Bagot.* Then set before my face the Lord Aumerle.

*Boling.* Cousin, stand forth, and look upon that man. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Bagot.* My Lord Aumerle, I know your daring tongue

Scorns to unsay what once it hath deliver'd.

In that dead time when Gloster's death was plotted

I heard you say, 'Is not my arm of length,  
That reacheth from the restful English Court  
As far as Calais, to my uncle's head?'

Amongst much other talk, that very time,  
I heard you say that you had rather refuse  
The offer of an hundred thousand crowns  
Than Bolingbroke's return to England;  
Adding withal, how blest this land would be  
In this your cousin's death.

*Aum.* Princes, and noble lords,  
What answer shall I make to this base man?  
Shall I so much dishonour my fair stars,  
On equal terms to give him chastisement?  
Either I must, or have mine honour soil'd  
With the attainder of his slanderous lips.—  
There is my gage, the manual seal of death,  
That marks thee out for hell; I say, thou liest,  
And will maintain what thou hast said is false  
In thy heart-blood, though being all too base  
To stain the temper of my knightly sword.

*Boling.* Bagot, forbear; thou shalt not take it up.

*Aum.* Excepting one, I would he were the best  
In all this presence that hath mov'd me so.

## Act IV Scene 1

*Fitz.* If that thy valour stand on sympathy,  
There is my gage, Aumerle, in gage to thine :  
By that fair sun that shows me where thou  
stand'st,

I heard thee say, and vauntingly thou spak'st it,  
That thou wert cause of noble Gloster's death.  
If thou deni'st it twenty times, thou liest ;  
And I will turn thy falsehood to thy heart,  
Where it was forged, with my rapier's point.

*Aum.* Thou dar'st not, coward, live to see  
the day.

*Fitz.* Now, by my soul, I would it were this  
hour.

*Aum.* Fitzwater, thou art damn'd to hell for  
this.

*Percy.* Aumerle, thou liest ; his honour is  
as true

In this appeal as thou art all unjust ;  
And that thou art so, there I throw my gage,  
To prove it on thee to the extremest point  
Of mortal breathing : seize it, if thou dar'st.

*Aum.* And if I do not, may my hands rot off,  
And never brandish more revengeful steel  
Over the glittering helmet of my foe !

*Lord.* I task the earth to the like, forsworn  
Aumerle ;

And spur thee on with full as many lies  
As may be holloa'd in thy treacherous ear  
From sun to sun. There is my honour's pawn ;  
Engage it to the trial, if thou dar'st.

*Aum.* Who sets me else ? by heaven, I'll  
throw at all !

I have a thousand spirits in one breast,  
To answer twenty thousand such as you.

*Surrey.* My Lord Fitzwater, I do remember  
well

## King Richard II

The very time Aumerle and you did talk.

*Fitz.* My lord, 'tis very true; you were in presence then,

And you can witness with me this is true.

*Surrey.* As false, by heaven, as heaven itself is true.

*Fitz.* Surrey, thou liest.

*Surrey.* Dishonourable boy!

That lie shall lie so heavy on my sword  
That it shall render vengeance and revenge  
Till thou, the lie-giver, and that lie do lie  
In earth as quiet as thy father's skull:  
In proof whereof, there is mine honour's pawn;  
Engage it to the trial, if thou dar'st.

*Fitz.* How fondly\* dost thou spur a [foolishly forward horse!

If I dare eat, or drink, or breathe, or live,  
I dare meet Surrey in a wilderness,  
And spit upon him, whilst I say he lies,  
And lies, and lies; there is my bond of faith,  
To tie thee to my strong correction.  
As I intend to thrive in this new world,  
Aumerle is guilty of my true appeal\*: [charge  
Besides, I heard the banish'd Norfolk say  
That thou, Aumerle, didst send two of thy  
men

To execute the noble Duke at Calais.

*Aum.* Some honest Christian trust me with a gage,

That Norfolk lies: here do I throw down this,  
If he may be repeal'd, to try his honour.

*Boling.* These differences shall all rest under gage

Till Norfolk be repeal'd\*: repeal'd he [recalled shall be,

And, though mine enemy, restor'd again



## Act IV Scene 1

To all his lands and signories. When he's re-  
turn'd,

Against Aumerle we will enforce his trial.

*Car.* That honourable day shall ne'er be seen.

Many a time hath banish'd Norfolk fought  
For Jesu Christ in glorious Christian field,  
Streaming the ensign of the Christian cross  
Against black pagans, Turks, and Saracens!

And toil'd with works of war, retir'd himself  
To Italy; and there, at Venice, gave

His body to that pleasant country's earth,  
And his pure soul unto his captain Christ,  
Under whose colours he had fought so long.

*Boling.* Why, bishop, is Norfolk dead?

*Car.* As surely as I live, my lord.

*Boling.* Sweet peace conduct his sweet soul  
to the bosom

Of good old Abraham!—Lords appellants,  
Your differences shall all rest under gage  
Till we assign you to your days of trial.

*Enter York, attended.*

*York.* Great Duke of Lancaster, I come to thee  
From plume-pluck'd Richard, who with willing  
soul

Adopts thee heir, and his high sceptre yields  
To the possession of thy royal hand.

Ascend his throne, descending now from him,—  
And long live Henry, of that name the fourth!

*Boling.* In God's name I'll ascend the regal  
throne.

*Car.* Marry, God forbid!

Worst in this royal presence may I speak,  
Yet best beseeming me to speak the truth.  
Would God that any in this noble presence  
Were enough noble to be upright judge

## King Richard II

Of noble Richard! then true noblesse would  
Learn him forbearance from so foul a wrong.  
What subject can give sentence on his king?  
And who sits here that is not Richard's subject?  
Thieves are not judg'd but they are by to hear,  
Although apparent guilt be seen in them;  
And shall the figure of God's majesty,  
His captain, steward, deputy elect,  
Anointed, crowned, planted many years,  
Be judg'd by subject and inferior breath,  
And he himself not present? O, forbid it, God,  
That, in a Christian climate, souls refin'd  
Should show so heinous, black, obscene a deed!  
I speak to subjects, and a subject speaks,  
Stirr'd up by God, thus boldly for his king.  
My Lord of Hereford here, whom you call king,  
Is a foul traitor to proud Hereford's king;  
And if you crown him, let me prophesy,—  
The blood of English shall manure the ground,  
And future ages groan for this foul act;  
Peace shall go sleep with Turks and infidels,  
And in this seat of peace tumultuous wars  
Shall kin with kin\* and kind with kind\* con-  
found;

[akin by blood and by nature

Disorder, horror, fear, and mutiny  
Shall here inhabit, and this land be call'd  
The field of Golgotha and dead men's skulls.  
O, if you rear this house against this house,  
It will the woefullest division prove  
That ever fell upon this cursed earth.

Prevent, resist it, let it not be so,  
Lest children's children cry against you woe!

*North.* Well have you argued, sir; and, for  
your pains,

Of capital treason we arrest you here.—  
My Lord of Westminster, be it your charge

## Act IV Scene 1

To keep him safely till his day of trial.—  
May it please you, lords, to grant the commons'  
suit?

*Boling.* Fetch hither Richard, that in com-  
mon view

He may surrender; so we shall proceed  
Without suspicion.

*York.* I will be his conduct. [*Exit.*]

*Boling.* Lords, you that here are under our  
arrest,

Procure your sureties for your days of answer.  
Little are we beholding to your love, [*To Carlisle.*]  
And little look'd for at your helping hands.

*Re-enter York, with King Richard, and  
Officers bearing the crown, etc.*

*K. Rich.* Alack! why am I sent for to a king  
Before I have shook off the regal thoughts  
Wherewith I reign'd? I hardly yet have learn'd  
To insinuate, flatter, bow, and bend my knee:  
Give sorrow leave awhile to tutor me  
To this submission. Yet I well remember  
The favours of these men: were they not mine?  
Did they not sometime cry, All hail! to me?  
So Judas did to Christ: but he, in twelve,  
Found truth in all but one; I, in twelve  
thousand, none.

God save the king!—Will no man say amen?  
Am I both priest and clerk? Well then, amen.  
God save the king! although I be not he;  
And yet, amen, if heaven do think him me.—  
To do what service am I sent for hither?

*York.* To do that office of thine own good will  
Which tired majesty did make thee offer:  
The resignation of thy state and crown  
To Henry Bolingbroke.

# King Richard II

*K. Rich.* Give me the crown. Here,  
cousin, seize the crown ;

On this side my hand, and on that side thine.  
Now is this golden crown like a deep well  
That owes\* two buckets, filling one another ; [owns  
The emptier ever dancing in the air,  
The other down, unseen, and full of water :  
That bucket down and full of tears am I,  
Drinking my griefs, whilst you mount up on  
high.

*Boling.* I thought you had been willing to  
resign.

*K. Rich.* My crown I am ; but still my griefs  
are mine.

You may my glories and my state depose,  
But not my griefs ; still am I king of those.

*Boling.* Part of your cares you give me with  
your crown.

*K. Rich.* Your cares set up do not pluck my  
cares down.

My care is loss of care, by old care done ;  
Your care is gain of care, by new care won :  
The cares I give I have, though given away ;  
They tend the crown, yet still with me they stay.

*Boling.* Are you contented to resign the crown ?

*K. Rich.* Ay, no ; no, ay ; for I must nothing  
be ;

Therefore no no, for I resign to thee.  
Now mark me, how I will undo myself.  
I give this heavy weight from off my head,  
And this unwieldy sceptre from my hand,  
The pride of kingly sway from out my heart ;  
With mine own tears I wash away my balm,  
With mine own hands I give away my crown,  
With mine own tongue deny my sacred state,  
With mine own breath release all duteous oaths :

## Act IV Scene 1

All pomp and majesty I do forswear ;  
My manors, rents, revenues I forego ;  
My acts, decrees, and statutes I deny :  
God pardon all oaths that are broke to me !  
God keep all vows unbroke that swear to thee !  
Make me, that nothing have, with nothing  
griev'd,  
And thou with all pleas'd, that hast all achiev'd !  
Long mayst thou live in Richard's seat to sit,  
And soon lie Richard in an earthly pit !  
God save King Henry, unking'd Richard says,  
And send him many years of sunshine days !  
What more remains ?

*North.* No more, but that you read  
[Offering a paper.

These accusations, and these grievous crimes  
Committed by your person and your followers  
Against the state and profit of this land ;  
That, by confessing them, the souls of men  
May deem that you are worthily depos'd.

*K. Rich.* Must I do so? and must I ravel  
out

My weav'd-up follies? Gentle Northumberland,  
If thy offences were upon record,  
Would it not shame thee in so fair a troop  
To read a lecture of them? If thou wouldst,  
There shouldst thou find one heinous article,  
Containing the deposing of a king,  
And cracking the strong warrant of an oath,  
Mark'd with a blot, damn'd in the book of  
heaven.—

Nay, all of you that stand and look upon me,  
Whilst that my wretchedness doth bait\* [worry  
myself,  
Though some of you, with Pilate, wash your  
hands,

## King Richard II

Showing an outward pity, yet you Pilates  
Have here deliver'd me to my sour cross,  
And water cannot wash away your sin.

*North.* My lord, despatch; read o'er these articles.

*K. Rich.* Mine eyes are full of tears, I cannot see;

And yet salt water blinds them not so much

But they can see a sort of traitors here.

Nay, if I turn mine eyes upon myself,

I find myself a traitor with the rest;

For I have given here my soul's consent

To undeck the pompous body of a king,

Make glory base and sovereignty a slave,

Proud majesty a servant, state a peasant.

*North.* My lord,—

*K. Rich.* No lord of thine, thou haught insulting man,

Nor no man's lord; I have no name, no title,

No, not that name was given me at the font,

But 'tis usurped.—Alack the heavy day,

That I have worn so many winters out,

And know not now what name to call myself!

O that I were a mockery king of snow,

Standing before the sun of Bolingbroke,

To melt myself away in water drops!—

Good king, great king,—and yet not greatly good,—

And if my word be sterling yet in England,

Let it command a mirror hither straight,

That it may show me what a face I have,

Since it is bankrupt of his majesty.

*Boling.* Go, some of you, and fetch a looking-glass.  
[Exit an Attendant.]

*North.* Read o'er this paper while the glass doth come.

## Act IV Scene 1

*K. Rich.* Fiend, thou torment'st me ere I  
come to hell!

*Boling.* Urge it no more, my Lord Northumberland.

*North.* The commons will not then be satisfied.

*K. Rich.* They shall be satisfied; I'll read  
enough,

When I do see the very book indeed

Where all my sins are writ, and that's myself.

[*Re-enter Attendant with a glass.*

Give me the glass, and therein will I read.

No deeper wrinkles yet? hath sorrow struck

So many blows upon this face of mine,

And made no deeper wounds?—O flattering  
glass,

Like to my followers in prosperity,

Thou dost beguile me! Was this face the face

That every day under his household roof

Did keep ten thousand men? Was this the face

That, like the sun, did make beholders wink?

Was this the face that fac'd so many follies,

And was at last out-fac'd by Bolingbroke?

A brittle glory shineth in this face:

As brittle as the glory is the face;

[*Dashes the glass against the ground.*

For there it is, crack'd in a hundred shivers.

Mark, silent king, the moral of this sport:

How soon my sorrow hath destroy'd my face.

*Boling.* The shadow of your sorrow hath  
destroy'd

The shadow of your face.

*K. Rich.* Say that again.

The shadow of my sorrow? Ha! let's see:

'Tis very true, my grief lies all within;

And these external manners of lament

Are merely shadows to the unseen grief

## King Richard II

That swells with silence in the tortur'd soul ;  
There lies the substance: and I thank thee, king,  
For thy great bounty, that not only giv'st  
Me cause to wail, but teachest me the way  
How to lament the cause. I'll beg one boon,  
And then be gone and trouble you no more.  
Shall I obtain it?

*Boling.* Name it, fair cousin.

*K. Rich.* Fair cousin! I am greater than a  
king:

For when I was a king, my flatterers  
Were then but subjects; being now a subject,  
I have a king here to my flatterer.

Being so great, I have no need to beg.

*Boling.* Yet ask.

*K. Rich.* And shall I have?

*Boling.* You shall.

*K. Rich.* Then give me leave to go.

*Boling.* Whither?

*K. Rich.* Whither you will, so I were from  
your sights.

*Boling.* Go, some of you, convey him to the  
Tower.

*K. Rich.* O, good! Convey? conveyers are  
you all,

That rise thus nimbly by a true king's fall.

[*Exeunt K. Rich., some Lords, and a Guard.*]

*Boling.* On Wednesday next we solemnly set  
down

Our coronation: lords, prepare yourselves.

[*Exeunt all but the Abbot of Westminster,  
the Bishop of Carlisle, and Aumerle.*]

*Abbot.* A woeful pageant have we here beheld.

*Car.* The woe's to come; the children yet un-  
born

Shall feel this day as sharp to them as thorn.



## Act V Scene 1

*Aun.* You holy clergymen, is there no plot  
To rid the realm of this pernicious blot?

*Abbot.* My lord,  
Before I freely speak my mind herein,  
You shall not only take the sacrament  
To bury mine intents, but also to effect  
Whatever I shall happen to devise.  
I see your brows are full of discontent,  
Your hearts of sorrow, and your eyes of tears :  
Come home with me to supper ; I will lay  
A plot shall show us all a merry day. [*Exeunt.*

### ACT V.

SCENE 1.—London. A Street leading to  
the Tower.

*Enter Queen and Ladies.*

*Queen.* This way the king will come ; this is  
the way  
To Julius Cæsar's ill-erected tower,  
To whose flint bosom my condemned lord  
Is doom'd a prisoner by proud Bolingbroke.  
Here let us rest, if this rebellious earth  
Have any resting for her true king's queen.—

*Enter King Richard and Guard.*

But soft, but see, or rather do not see,  
My fair rose wither ; yet look up, behold,  
That you in pity may dissolve to dew,  
And wash him fresh again with true-love tears.  
Ah, thou, the model where old Troy did stand ;  
Thou map of honour ; thou King Richard's tomb,  
And not King Richard ; thou most beauteous inn,  
Why should hard-favour'd grief be lodg'd in  
thee,  
When triumph is become an alehouse guest?

## King Richard II

*K. Rich.* Join not with grief, fair woman, do  
not so,  
To make my end too sudden : learn, good soul,  
To think our former state a happy dream ;  
From which awak'd, the truth of what we are  
Shows us but this. I am sworn brother, sweet,  
To grim Necessity ; and he and I  
Will keep a league till death. Hie thee to  
France,  
And cloister thee in some religious house :  
Our holy lives must win a new world's crown,  
Which our profane hours here have stricken  
down.

*Queen.* What ! is my Richard both in shape  
and mind  
Transform'd and weakened ? Hath Bolingbroke  
Depos'd thine intellect ? Hath he been in thy  
heart ?  
The lion, dying, thrusteth forth his paw,  
And wounds the earth, if nothing else, with rage  
To be o'erpower'd ; and wilt thou, pupil-like,  
Take thy correction mildly, kiss the rod,  
And fawn on rage with base humility,  
Which art a lion and a king of beasts ?

*K. Rich.* A king of beasts, indeed ; if aught  
but beasts,  
I had been still a happy king of men.  
Good sometime queen, prepare thee hence for  
France :  
Think I am dead and that even here thou tak'st,  
As from my death-bed, thy last living leave.  
In winter's tedious nights sit by the fire  
With good old folks, and let them tell thee tales  
Of woeful ages long ago betid ;  
And ere thou bid good-night, to quit their grief  
Tell thou the lamentable tale of me,

## Act V Scene 1

And send the hearers weeping to their beds.  
For why, the senseless brands will sympathize  
The heavy accent of thy moving tongue,  
And in compassion weep the fire out ;  
And some will mourn in ashes, some coal-black,  
For the deposing of a rightful king.

*Enter Northumberland attended.*

*North.* My lord, the mind of Bolingbroke is  
chang'd ;

You must to Pomfret, not unto the Tower.—  
And, madam, there is order ta'en for you ;  
With all swift speed you must away to France.

*K. Rich.* Northumberland, thou ladder where-  
withal

The mounting Bolingbroke ascends my throne,  
The time shall not be many hours of age  
More than it is, ere foul sin, gathering head,  
Shall break into corruption. Thou shalt think,  
Though he divide the realm, and give thee half,  
It is too little, helping him to all ;  
And he shall think that thou, which know'st  
the way

To plant unrightful kings, wilt know again,  
Being ne'er so little urg'd, another way  
To pluck him headlong from the usurped throne.  
The love of wicked friends converts to fear ;  
That fear to hate ; and hate turns one or both  
To worthy danger and deserved death.

*North.* My guilt be on my head, and there an  
end.

Take leave, and part ; for you must part  
forthwith.

*K. Rich.* Doubly divorc'd !—Bad men, ye  
violate

A twofold marriage ; 'twixt my crown and me,  
And then betwixt me and my married wife.

## King Richard II

Let me unkiss the oath 'twixt thee and me ;  
And yet not so, for with a kiss 'twas made.—  
Part us, Northumberland ; I towards the north,  
Where shivering cold and sickness pines the  
clime ;

My wife to France, from whence, set forth in  
pomp,

She came adorned hither like sweet May,  
Sent back like Hallowmas or short'st of day.

*Queen.* And must we be divided? must we  
part?

*K. Rich.* Ay, hand from hand, my love, and  
heart from heart.

*Queen.* Banish us both, and send the king  
with me.

*North.* That were some love, but little policy.

*Queen.* Then whither he goes thither let me go.

*K. Rich.* So two, together weeping, make one  
woe.

Weep thou for me in France, I for thee here ;  
Better far off than near, be ne'er the near.

Go, count thy way with sighs ; I mine with  
groans.

*Queen.* So longest way shall have the longest  
moans.

*K. Rich.* Twice for one step I'll groan, the  
way being short,

And piece the way out with a heavy heart.

Come, come, in wooing sorrow let's be brief,  
Since, wedding it, there is such length in grief.  
One kiss shall stop our mouths, and dumbly  
part ;

Thus give I mine, and thus take I thy heart.

[*They kiss.*

*Queen.* Give me mine own again ; 'twere no  
good part

## Act V Scene 2

To take on me to keep and kill thy heart.

[*They kiss again.*]

So, now I have mine own again, begone,  
That I may strive to kill it with a groan.

*K. Rich.* We make woe wanton with this fond  
delay :

Once more, adieu ; the rest let sorrow say.

*[Exit.*

SCENE 2.—London. A Room in the Duke of  
York's Palace.

*Enter York and his Duchess.*

*Duch.* My lord, you told me you would tell  
the rest,

When weeping made you break the story off,  
Of our two cousins coming into London.

*York.* Where did I leave ?

*Duch.* At that sad stop, my lord,  
Where rude misgovern'd hands from windows'  
tops

Threw dust and rubbish on King Richard's head.

*York.* Then, as I said, the duke, great Boling-  
broke,

Mounted upon a hot and fiery steed,  
Which his aspiring rider seem'd to know,  
With slow but stately pace kept on his course,  
While all tongues cried, 'God save thee, Boling-  
broke !'

You would have thought the very windows  
spake,

So many greedy looks of young and old  
Through casements darted their desiring eyes  
Upon his visage ; and that all the walls

With painted imagery had said at once,  
'Jesu preserve thee ! welcome, Bolingbroke !'

Whilst he, from one side to the other turning,

## King Richard II

Bareheaded, lower than his proud steed's neck,  
Bespake them thus,—‘I thank you, countrymen:’  
And thus still doing, thus he pass'd along.

*Duch.* Alas, poor Richard! where rides he  
the whilst?

*York.* As in a theatre the eyes of men,  
After a well-grac'd actor leaves the stage,  
Are idly bent on him that enters next,  
Thinking his prattle to be tedious;  
Even so, or with much more contempt, men's  
eyes

Did scowl on gentle Richard: no man cried,  
‘God save him!’

No joyful tongue gave him his welcome home;  
But dust was thrown upon his sacred head,  
Which with such gentle sorrow he shook off,  
His face still combating with tears and smiles,  
The badges of his grief and patience,  
That had not God, for some strong purpose,  
steel'd

The hearts of men, they must perforce have  
melted,

And barbarism itself have pitied him.

But heaven hath a hand in these events,  
To whose high will we bound our calm contents.  
To Bolingbroke are we sworn subjects now,  
Whose state and honour I for aye allow.

*Duch.* Here comes my son Aumerle.

*York.* Aumerle that was;  
But that is lost for being Richard's friend,  
And, madam, you must call him Rutland now.  
I am in parliament pledge for his truth  
And lasting fealty to the new-made king.

*Enter Aumerle.*

*Duch.* Welcome, my son; who are the violets  
now

## Act V Scene 2

That strew the green lap of the new-come  
spring?

*Aum.* Madam, I know not, nor I greatly care  
not:

God knows I had as lief be none as one.

*York.* Well, bear you well in this new spring  
of time,

Lest you be cropp'd before you come to prime.  
What news from Oxford? hold those justs and  
triumphs?

*Aum.* For aught I know, my lord, they do.

*York.* You will be there, I know.

*Aum.* If God prevent not, I purpose so.

*York.* What seal is that that hangs without  
thy bosom?

Yea, look'st thou pale? let me see the writing.

*Aum.* My lord, 'tis nothing.

*York.* No matter, then, who sees it.

I will be satisfied; let me see the writing.

*Aum.* I do beseech your grace to pardon me.

It is a matter of small consequence,  
Which for some reasons I would not have  
seen.

*York.* Which for some reasons, sir, I mean to  
see.

I fear, I fear,—

*Duch.* What should you fear?

'Tis nothing but some bond that he is enter'd  
into

For gay apparel 'gainst the triumph-day.

*York.* Bound to himself! what doth he with  
a bond

That he is bound to? Wife, thou art a fool.—

Boy, let me see the writing.

*Aum.* I do beseech you, pardon me; I may  
not show it.

## King Richard II

*York.* I will be satisfied ; let me see it, I say.

[*Snatches it, and reads.*

Treason ! foul treason ! villain ! traitor ! slave !

*Duch.* What's the matter, my lord ?

*York.* Ho ! who's within there ?

*Enter a Servant.*

*Saddle my horse.*

God for his mercy, what treachery is here !

*Duch.* Why, what is't, my lord ?

*York.* Give me my boots, I say ; saddle my horse.—

Now, by mine honour, by my life, my troth,

I will appeach\* the villain. [*Exit Servant.* (impeach

*Duch.*

What's the matter,

*York.* Peace, foolish woman.

*Duch.* I will not peace.—What is the matter, son ?

*Aum.* Good mother, be content ; it is no more Than my poor life must answer.

*Duch.*

Thy life answer !

*York.* Bring me my boots : I will unto the king.

*Re-enter Servant with boots.*

*Duch.* Strike him, Aumerle. Poor boy, thou art amaz'd.

Hence, villain ! never more come in my sight.

[*To the Servant.*

*York.* Give me my boots, I say.

*Duch.* Why, York, what wilt thou do ?

Wilt thou not hide the trespass of thine own ?

Have we more sons, or are we like to have ?

Is not my teeming date drunk up with time ?

And wilt thou pluck my fair son from mine age,

And rob me of a happy mother's name ?

Is he not like thee ? is he not thine own ?



## Act V Scene 3

*York.* Thou fond mad woman,  
Wilt thou conceal this dark conspiracy?  
A dozen of them here have ta'en the sacrament,  
And interchangeably set down their hands,  
To kill the king at Oxford.

*Duch.* He shall be none;  
We'll keep him here: then what is that to him?

*York.* Away, fond woman! were he twenty  
times my son  
I would appeach him.

*Duch.* Hadst thou groan'd for him  
As I have done, thou wouldst be more pitiful.  
But now I know thy mind; thou dost suspect  
That I have been disloyal to thy bed,  
And that he is a bastard, not thy son.  
Sweet York, sweet husband, be not of that mind:  
He is as like thee as a man may be,  
Not like to me, nor any of my kin,  
And yet I love him.

*York.* Make way, unruly woman! [*Exit.*]

*Duch.* After, Aumerle! mount thee upon his  
horse;  
Spur, post, and get before him to the king,  
And beg thy pardon ere he do accuse thee.  
I'll not be long behind; though I be old,  
I doubt not but to ride as fast as York.  
And never will I rise up from the ground  
Till Bolingbroke have pardon'd thee. Away,  
begone! [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 3.—Windsor. A Room in the Castle.

*Enter Bolingbroke as King, Percy, and  
other Lords.*

*Boling.* Can no man tell of my unthrifty son?  
'Tis full three months since I did see him last:  
If any plague hang over us, 'tis he.

## King Richard II

I would to God, my lords, he might be found.  
Inquire at London, 'mongst the taverns there,  
For there, they say, he daily doth frequent,  
With unrestrained loose companions,  
Even such, they say, as stand in narrow lanes,  
And beat our watch, and rob our passengers ;  
While he, young wanton and effeminate boy,  
Takes on the point of honour to support  
So dissolute a crew.

*Percy.* My lord, some two days since I saw  
the prince,

And told him of these triumphs held at Oxford.

*Boling.* And what said the gallant ?

*Percy.* His answer was : he would unto the  
stews,

And from the common'st creature pluck a glove,  
And wear it as a favour ; and with that  
He would unhorse the lustiest challenger.

*Boling.* As dissolute as desperate ; yet through  
both

I see some sparks of better hope,  
Which elder days may happily bring forth.  
But who comes here ?

*Enter Aumerle hastily.*

*Aum.* Where is the king ?

*Boling.* What means

Our cousin, that he stares and looks so wildly ?

*Aum.* God save your grace ! I do beseech  
your majesty,

To have some conference with your grace alone.

*Boling.* Withdraw yourselves, and leave us  
here alone. [*Exeunt Percy and Lords.*

What is the matter with our cousin now ?

*Aum.* For ever may my knees grow to the  
earth, [*Kneels.*

## Act V Scene 3

My tongue cleave to my roof within my mouth,  
Unless a pardon ere I rise or speak.

*Boling.* Intended or committed was this fault?  
If on the first, how heinous e'er it be,  
To win thy after love I pardon thee.

*Aum.* Then give me leave that I may turn the  
key,  
That no man enter till my tale be done.

*Boling.* Have thy desire.

[*Aumerle locks the door.*]

*York* [*within*]. My liege, beware! look to  
thyself;

Thou hast a traitor in thy presence there.

*Boling.* Villain, I'll make thee safe.

[*Drawing.*]

*Aum.* Stay thy revengeful hand; thou hast  
no cause to fear.

*York* [*within*]. Open the door, secure, fool-  
hardy king:

Shall I, for love, speak treason to thy face?

Open the door, or I will break it open.

[*Boling. opens the door and locks it again.*]

*Enter York.*

*Boling.* What is the matter, uncle? speak;  
Recover breath; tell us how near is danger,  
That we may arm us to encounter it.

*York.* Peruse this writing here, and thou shalt  
know

The treason that my haste forbids me show.

*Aum.* Remember, as thou read'st, thy promise  
pass'd.

I do repent me; read not my name there:

My heart is not confederate with my hand.

*York.* It was, villain, ere thy hand did set it  
down.—

## King Richard II

I tore it from the traitor's bosom, king ;  
Fear, and not love, begets his penitence.  
Forget to pity him, lest thy pity prove  
A serpent that will sting thee to the heart.

*Boling.* O heinous, strong, and bold conspiracy !

O loyal father of a treacherous son !  
Thou sheer, immaculate, and silver fountain,  
From whence this stream through muddy  
passages

Hath held his current and defil'd himself !  
Thy overflow of good converts to bad,  
And thy abundant goodness shall excuse  
This deadly blot in thy digressing son.

*York.* So shall my virtue be his vice's bawd,  
And he shall spend mine honour with his shame,  
As thriftless sons their scraping fathers' gold.  
Mine honour lives when his dishonour dies,  
Or my sham'd life in his dishonour lies :  
Thou kill'st me in his life ; giving him breath,  
The traitor lives, the true man's put to death.

*Duch.* [*within*]. What ho, my liege ! for God's sake, let me in.

*Boling.* What shrill-voic'd suppliant makes this eager cry ?

*Duch.* A woman, and thine aunt, great king ; 'tis I.

Speak with me, pity me, open the door :  
A beggar begs that never begg'd before.

*Boling.* Our scene is alter'd from a serious thing,

And now chang'd to *The Beggar and the King*.—  
My dangerous cousin, let your mother in :  
I know she's come to pray for your foul sin.

[*Aumerle unlocks the door.*]

*York.* If thou do pardon, whosoever pray,

## Act V Scene 3

More sins for this forgiveness prosper may.  
This fester'd joint cut off, the rest rests sound ;  
This let alone will all the rest confound.

*Enter Duchess.*

*Duch.* O king, believe not this hard-hearted man !

Love, loving not itself, none other can.

*York.* Thou frantic woman, what dost thou make here ?

Shall thy old dugs once more a traitor rear ?

*Duch.* Sweet York, be patient.—Hear me, gentle liege. [*Kneels.*

*Boling.* Rise up, good aunt.

*Duch.* Not yet, I thee beseech :

For ever will I kneel upon my knees,

And never see day that the happy sees

Till thou give joy ; until thou bid me joy,

By pardoning Rutland, my transgressing boy.

*Aum.* Unto my mother's prayers I bend my knee. [*Kneels.*

*York.* Against you both my true joints bended be. [*Kneels.*

Ill mayst thou thrive, if thou grant any grace !

*Duch.* Pleads he in earnest ? look upon his face ;

His eyes do drop no tears, his prayers are in jest ;

His words come from his mouth, ours from our breast :

He prays but faintly, and would be denied ;

We pray with heart and soul, and all beside :

His weary joints would gladly rise, I know ;

Our knees shall kneel till to the ground they grow :

His prayers are full of false hypocrisy ;

## King Richard II

Ours of true zeal and deep integrity.

Our prayers do out-pray his ; then let them have  
That mercy which true prayers ought to have.

*Boling.* Good aunt, stand up.

*Duch.* Nay, do not say 'stand up ;'  
But 'pardon' first, and afterwards 'stand up.'  
And if I were thy nurse, thy tongue to teach,  
'Pardon' should be the first word of thy speech.  
I never long'd to hear a word till now ;  
Say 'pardon,' king ; let pity teach thee how :  
The word is short, but not so short as sweet ;  
No word like 'pardon' for kings' mouths so meet.

*York.* Speak it in French, king ; say *par-  
donne-moi.*

*Duch.* Dost thou teach pardon pardon to  
destroy ?

Ah, my sour husband, my hard-hearted lord,  
That set'st the word itself against the word !  
Speak 'pardon' as 'tis current in our land ;  
The chopping\* French we do not under- [changing  
stand.

Thine eye begins to speak, set thy tongue there ;  
Or in thy piteous heart plant thou thine ear,  
That hearing how our plaints and prayers do  
pierce,

Pity may move thee 'pardon' to rehearse.

*Boling.* Good aunt, stand up.

*Duch.* I do not sue to stand ;  
Pardon is all the suit I have in hand.

*Boling.* I pardon him, as God shall pardon me.

*Duch.* O happy vantage of a kneeling knee !  
Yet am I sick for fear : speak it again ;  
Twice saying 'pardon' doth not pardon twain,  
But makes one pardon strong.

*Boling.* With all my heart  
I pardon him.

## Act V Scene 4

*Duch.* A god on earth thou art.

*Boling.* But for our trusty brother-in-law,  
and the abbot,

With all the rest of that consorted crew,  
Destruction straight shall dog them at the  
heels.—

Good uncle, help to order several powers  
To Oxford, or where'er these traitors are:

They shall not live within this world, I swear,  
But I will have them, if I once know where.

Uncle, farewell,—and, cousin mine, adieu;

Your mother well hath pray'd, and prove you  
true.

*Duch.* Come, my old son: I pray God make  
thee new. [*Exeunt.*]

### SCENE 4.—The Same.

*Enter Sir Pierce of Exton and a Servant.*

*Exton.* Didst thou not mark the king, what  
words he spake?—

'Have I no friend will rid me of this living fear?'  
Was it not so?

*Serv.* Those were his very words.

*Exton.* 'Have I no friend?' quoth he: he  
spake it twice,

And urg'd it twice together, did he not?

*Serv.* He did.

*Exton.* And, speaking it, he wistly look'd on  
me,

As who should say,—'I would thou wert the  
man

That would divorce this terror from my heart;'  
Meaning the king at Pomfret. Come, let's go:  
I am the king's friend, and will rid his foe.

[*Exeunt.*]

# King Richard II

SCENE 5.—Pomfret. The Dungeon of the Castle.

*Enter King Richard.*

*K. Rich.* I have been studying how I may compare

This prison where I live unto the world :  
And, for because the world is populous,  
And here is not a creature but myself,  
I cannot do it ; yet I'll hammer it out.  
My brain I'll prove the female to my soul,  
My soul the father ; and these two beget  
A generation of still-breeding thoughts,  
And these same thoughts people this little world,  
In humours like the people of this world,  
For no thought is contented. The better sort,  
As thoughts of things divine, are intermix'd  
With scruples, and do set the word itself  
Against the word :  
As thus,—‘ Come, little ones ; ’ and then again,—  
‘ It is as hard to come as for a camel  
To thread the postern of a needle's eye.’  
Thoughts tending to ambition, they do plot  
Unlikely wonders : how these vain weak nails  
May tear a passage through the flinty ribs  
Of this hard world, my ragged prison walls ;  
And, for they cannot, die in their own pride.  
Thoughts tending to content flatter themselves  
That they are not the first of fortune's slaves,  
Nor shall not be the last ; like silly beggars,  
Who, sitting in the stocks, refuge their shame,  
That many have, and others must sit there ;  
And in this thought they find a kind of ease,  
Bearing their own misfortune on the back  
Of such as have before endur'd the like.  
Thus play I, in one person, many people,  
And none contented : sometimes am I king ;



## Act V Scene 5

Then treason makes me wish myself a beggar,  
And so I am : then crushing penury  
Persuades me I was better when a king ;  
Then am I king'd again : and by and by  
Think that I am unking'd by Bolingbroke,  
And straight am nothing. But whate'er I am,  
Nor I, nor any man that but man is,  
With nothing shall be pleas'd till he be eas'd  
With being nothing. Music do I hear? [*Music.*  
Ha, ha ! keep time. How sour sweet music is  
When time is broke and no proportion kept !  
So is it in the music of men's lives.  
And here have I the daintiness of ear  
To hear time broke in a disorder'd string,  
But, for the concord of my state and time,  
Had not an ear to hear my true time broke.  
I wasted time, and now doth Time waste me ;  
For now hath Time made me his numbering  
clock :  
My thoughts are minutes, and with sighs they  
jar\* [tick  
Their watches on unto mine eyes, the outward  
watch,  
Whereto my finger, like a dial's point,  
Is pointing still, in cleansing them from tears.  
Now, Sir, the sound that tells what hour it is,  
Are clamorous groans, that strike upon my  
heart,  
Which is the bell : so sighs, and tears, and  
groans  
Show minutes, times, and hours ; but my time  
Runs posting on in Bolingbroke's proud joy,  
While I stand fooling here, his Jack o' the clock.  
This music mads me : let it sound no more ;  
For though it have help madmen to their wits  
In me it seems it will make wise men mad.

## King Richard II

Yet blessing on his heart that gives it me !  
For 'tis a sign of love, and love to Richard  
Is a strange brooch in this all-hating world.

*Enter Groom.*

*Groom.* Hail, royal prince !

*K. Rich.* Thanks, noble peer ;  
The cheapest of us is ten groats too dear.  
What art thou ? and how com'st thou hither,  
Where no man ever comes but that sad dog  
That brings me food to make misfortune live ?

*Groom.* I was a poor groom of thy stable, king,  
When thou wert king ; who, travelling towards  
York,

With much ado at length have gotten leave  
To look upon my sometimes royal master's face.  
O, how it yearn'd my heart when I beheld  
In London streets that coronation day,  
When Bolingbroke rode on roan Barbary,  
That horse that thou so often hast bestrid,  
That horse that I so carefully have dress'd !

*K. Rich.* Rode he on Barbary ? Tell me,  
gentle friend,  
How went he under him ?

*Groom.* So proudly as if he had disdain'd the  
ground.

*K. Rich.* So proud that Bolingbroke was on  
his back !  
That jade hath eat bread from my royal hand ;  
This hand hath made him proud with clapping  
him.

Would he not stumble ? would he not fall  
down,

Since pride must have a fall, and break the  
neck

Of that proud man that did usurp his back ?

## Act V Scene 5

Forgiveness, horse! why do I rail on thee,  
Since thou, created to be awed by man,  
Wast born to bear? I was not made a horse;  
And yet I bear a burthen like an ass,  
Spur-gall'd and tir'd by jauncing\* [hard-riding  
Bolingbroke.

*Enter Keeper with a dish.*

*Keep.* Fellow, give place; here is no longer  
stay. [To the Groom.

*K. Rich.* If thou love me, 'tis time thou wert  
away.

*Groom.* What my tongue dares not, that my  
heart shall say. [Exit.

*Keep.* My lord, will't please you to fall to?

*K. Rich.* Taste of it first, as thou art wont to do.

*Keep.* My lord, I dare not. Sir Pierce of  
Exton, who lately came from the king, com-  
mands the contrary.

*K. Rich.* The devil take Henry of Lancaster  
and thee!

Patience is stale, and I am weary of it.

[Beats the Keeper.

*Keep.* Help, help, help!

*Enter Exton and Servants armed.*

*K. Rich.* How now! what means death in  
this rude assault?

Villain, thine own hand yields thy death's  
instrument.

[Snatching a weapon, and killing one.

Go thou, and fill another room in hell.

[He kills another; then Exton strikes him down.

That hand shall burn in never-queenching fire  
That staggers thus my person.—Exton, thy  
fierce hand

## King Richard II

Hath with the king's blood stain'd the king's  
own land.

Mount, mount, my soul! thy seat is up on high,  
Whilst my gross flesh sinks downward, here to  
die. [Dies.

*Exton.* As full of valour as of royal blood.  
Both have I spilt; O, would the deed were good!  
For now the devil, that told me I did well,  
Says that this deed is chronicled in hell.  
This dead king to the living king I'll bear.  
Take hence the rest, and give them burial here.  
[Exeunt.

SCENE 6.—Windsor. A Room in the Castle.

*Flourish.* Enter Bolingbroke as King, York,  
Lords, and Attendants.

*Boling.* Kind uncle York, the latest news we  
hear  
Is that the rebels have consum'd with fire  
Our town of Cicester in Glostershire;  
But whether they be ta'en or slain we hear not.

*Enter Northumberland.*

Welcome, my lord: what is the news?

*North.* First, to thy sacred state wish I all  
happiness.  
The next news is, I have to London sent  
The heads of Salisbury, Spencer, Blunt, and  
Kent:

The manner of their taking may appear  
At large discoursed in this paper here.

[Presenting a paper.

*Boling.* We thank thee, gentle Percy, for thy  
pains,  
And to thy worth will add right worthy gains.

## Act V Scene 6

*Enter Fitzwater.*

*Fitz.* My lord, I have from Oxford sent to  
London  
The heads of Brocas and Sir Bennet Seely,  
Two of the dangerous consorted traitors  
That sought at Oxford thy dire overthrow.

*Boling.* Thy pains, Fitzwater, shall not be  
forgot;  
Right noble is thy merit, well I wot.

*Enter Percy, with the Bishop of Carlisle.*

*Percy.* The grand conspirator, Abbot of  
Westminster,  
With clog of conscience and sour melancholy,  
Hath yielded up his body to the grave;  
But here is Carlisle living, to abide  
Thy kingly doom and sentence of his pride.

*Boling.* Carlisle, this is your doom:—  
Choose out some secret place, some reverend  
room,  
More than thou hast, and with it joy thy life;  
So as thou liv'st in peace, die free from strife:  
For though mine enemy thou hast ever been,  
High sparks of honour in thee have I seen.

*Enter Exton, with Attendants bearing a coffin.*

*Exton.* Great king, within this coffin I present  
Thy buried fear; herein all breathless lies  
The mightiest of thy greatest enemies,  
Richard of Bordeaux, by me hither brought.

*Boling.* Exton, I thank thee not; for thou  
hast wrought  
A deed of slander with thy fatal hand  
Upon my head and all this famous land.

*Exton.* From your own mouth, my lord, did  
I this deed.

## King Richard II

*Boling.* They love not poison that do poison  
need,

Nor do I thee : though I did wish him dead,  
I hate the murderer, love him murdered.

The guilt of conscience take thou for thy labour,  
But neither my good word nor princely favour :  
With Cain go wander through the shades of  
night,

And never show thy head by day nor light.—

Lords, I protest, my soul is full of woe,

That blood should sprinkle me to make me grow ;

Come, mourn with me for that I do lament,

And put on sullen black incontinent.\* [immediately

I'll make a voyage to the Holy Land,

To wash this blood off from my guilty hand.

March sadly after ; grace my mournings here,

In weeping after this untimely bier. [*Exeunt.*

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KING HENRY IV

*PART I*

*DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.*

KING HENRY the Fourth.

HENRY, Prince of Wales, } sons to the King.

JOHN of Lancaster,

EARL OF WESTMORELAND.

SIR WALTER BLUNT.

THOMAS PERCY, Earl of Worcester.

HENRY PERCY, Earl of Northumberland.

HENRY PERCY, surnamed HOTSPUR, his son.

EDMUND MORTIMER, Earl of March.

RICHARD SCROOP, Archbishop of York.

ARCHIBALD, Earl of Douglas.

OWEN GLENDOWER.

SIR RICHARD VERNON.

SIR JOHN FALSTAFF.

SIR MICHAEL, a friend to the Archbishop of York.

POINS.

GADSHILL.

PETO.

BARDOLPH.

LADY PERCY, wife to Hotspur, and sister to Mortimer.

LADY MORTIMER, daughter to Glendower, and wife to  
Mortimer.

MISTRESS QUICKLY, hostess of a tavern in Eastcheap.

Lords, Officers, Sheriff, Vintner, Chamberlain, Drawers,  
two Carriers, Travellers, and Attendants.

SCENE: England.



THE  
FIRST PART OF KING HENRY IV  
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ACT I.

SCENE 1.—London. The Palace.

*Enter King Henry, Lord John of Lancaster,  
the Earl of Westmoreland, Sir Walter  
Blunt, and others.*

*King.* So shaken as we are, so wan with care,  
Find we a time for frightened peace to pant,  
And breathe short-winded accents of new broils  
To be commenc'd in strands afar remote.

No more the thirsty entrance\* of this [gaps or crannies]  
soil

Shall daub her lips with her own children's  
blood ;

No more shall trenching\* war channel [trench-cutting]  
her fields,

Nor bruise her flowerets with the armed hoofs  
Of hostile paces ; those opposed eyes

Which, like the meteors of a troubled heaven,  
All of one nature, of one substance bred,

Did lately meet in the intestine shock

And furious close\* of civil butchery, [grapple]

Shall now, in mutual well-beseeming ranks,

March all one way and be no more oppos'd

Against acquaintance, kindred, and allies :

The edge of war, like an ill-sheathed knife,

No more shall cut his master. Therefore, friends,

As far as to the sepulchre of Christ,

# First Part of King Henry IV

Whose soldier now, under whose blessed cross  
We are impressed and engag'd to fight,  
Forthwith a power of English shall we levy,  
Whose arms were moulded in their mothers'  
womb

To chase these pagans in those holy fields  
Over whose acres walk'd those blessed feet  
Which fourteen hundred years ago were nail'd  
For our advantage on the bitter cross.  
But this our purpose is a twelvemonth old,  
And bootless 'tis to tell you we will go ;  
Therefore we meet not now.—Then let me hear  
Of you, my gentle cousin Westmoreland,  
What yesternight our council did decree  
In forwarding this dear expedience.\*

[important expedition

*West.* My liege, this haste was hot in question,  
And many limits of the charge set down  
But yesternight, when all athwart there came  
A post from Wales loaden with heavy news ;  
Whose worst was, that the noble Mortimer,  
Leading the men of Herefordshire to fight  
Against the irregular and wild Glendower,  
Was by the rude hands of that Welshman taken,  
And a thousand of his people butchered ;  
Upon whose dead corpse there was such misuse,  
Such beastly shameless transformation  
By those Welshwomen done, as may not be  
Without much shame retold or spoken of.

*King.* It seems then that the tidings of this  
broil  
Brake off our business for the Holy Land.

*West.* This match'd with other like, my  
gracious lord ;  
Far more uneven and unwelcome news  
Came from the north, and thus it did report :

## Act I Scene 1

On Holy-rood day, the gallant Hotspur there,  
Young Harry Percy and brave Archibald,  
That ever-valiant and approved Scot,  
At Holmedon met,  
Where they did spend a sad and bloody hour,  
As by discharge of their artillery,  
And shape of likelihood, the news was told ;  
For he that brought them, in the very heat  
And pride of their contention did take horse,  
Uncertain of the issue any way.

*King.* Here is a dear, a true-industrious friend,  
Sir Walter Blunt, new-lighted from his horse,  
Stain'd with the variation of each soil  
Betwixt that Holmedon and this seat of ours ;  
And he hath brought us smooth and welcome  
news.

The Earl of Douglas is discomfited ;  
Ten thousand bold Scots, two and twenty  
knights,  
Balk'd\* in their own blood did Sir Walter [piled up  
see

On Holmedon's plains. Of prisoners, Hotspur  
took

Mordake the Earl of Fife, and eldest son  
To beaten Douglas, and the Earl of Athol,  
Of Murray, Angus, and Menteith ;  
And is not this an honourable spoil ?  
A gallant prize ? ha ! cousin, is it not ?

*West.* In faith,  
It is a conquest for a prince to boast of.

*King.* Yea, there thou mak'st me sad and  
mak'st me sin  
In envy that my Lord Northumberland  
Should be the father to so blest a son,  
A son who is the theme of honour's tongue,  
Amongst a grove the very straightest plant,

# First Part of King Henry IV

Who is sweet Fortune's minion and her pride ;  
Whilst I, by looking on the praise of him,  
See riot and dishonour stain the brow  
Of my young Harry. O, that it could be prov'd  
That some night-tripping fairy had exchang'd  
In cradle-clothes our children where they lay,  
And call'd mine Percy, his Plantagenet !  
Then would I have his Harry, and he mine.  
But let him from my thoughts.—What think  
you, coz,

Of this young Percy's pride ? the prisoners  
Which he in this adventure hath surpris'd,  
To his own use he keeps, and sends me word,  
I shall have none but Mordake Earl of Fife.

*West.* This is his uncle's teaching, this is  
Worcester,

Malevolent to you in all aspects ;  
Which makes him prune himself, and bristle up  
The crest of youth against your dignity.

*King.* But I have sent for him to answer this ;  
And for this cause awhile we must neglect  
Our holy purpose to Jerusalem.

Cousin, on Wednesday next our council we  
Will hold at Windsor : so inform the lords ;  
But come yourself with speed to us again,  
For more is to be said and to be done

Than out of\* anger can be uttered. [because of

*West.* I will, my liege. [*Exeunt.*

SCENE 2.—London. An Apartment of the  
Prince's.

*Enter the Prince of Wales and Falstaff.*

*Fal.* Now, Hal, what time of day is it, lad ?

*Prince.* Thou art so fat-witted, with drinking  
of old sack and unbuttoning thee after supper

## Act I Scene 2

and sleeping upon benches after noon, that thou hast forgotten to demand that truly which thou wouldst truly know. What a devil hast thou to do with the time of the day? Unless hours were cups of sack, and minutes capons, and clocks the tongues of bawds, and dials the signs of leaping-houses, and the blessed sun himself a fair hot wench in flame-coloured taffeta,\* I see no reason [shot silk why thou shouldst be so superfluous to demand the time of the day.

*Fal.* Indeed, you come near me now, Hal; for we that take purses go by the moon and the seven stars,\* and not by Phœbus, (Pleiades he, 'that wandering knight so fair.' And, I prithee, sweet wag, when thou art king, as, God save thy grace,—majesty I should say, for grace thou wilt have none,—

*Prince.* What, none?

*Fal.* No, by my troth, not so much as will serve to be prologue to an egg and butter.

*Prince.* Well, how then? come, roundly, roundly.

*Fal.* Marry, then, sweet wag, when thou art king, let not us that are squires of the night's body be called thieves of the day's beauty: let us be Diana's foresters, gentlemen of the shade, minions of the moon; and let men say we be men of good government, being governed, as the sea is, by our noble and chaste mistress the moon, under whose countenance we steal.

*Prince.* Thou sayest well, and it holds well too; for the fortune of us that are the moon's men doth ebb and flow like the sea, being governed, as the sea is, by the moon. As, for proof, now: a purse of gold most resolutely

## First Part of King Henry IV

snatched on Monday night, and most dissolutely spent on Tuesday morning; got with swearing 'Lay by,'\* and spent with crying 'Bring [i.e. more wine 'Stand' in\*];' now in as low an ebb as the foot of the ladder, and by and by in as high a flow as the ridge of the gallows.

*Fal.* By the Lord, thou sayest true, lad. And is not my hostess of the tavern a most sweet wench?

*Prince.* As the honey of Hybla, my old lad of the castle. And is not a buff jerkin a most sweet robe of durance\*? [strong material]

*Fal.* How now, how now, mad wag! what, in thy quips and thy quiddities? what a plague have I to do with a buff jerkin?

*Prince.* Why, what a pox have I to do with my hostess of the tavern?

*Fal.* Well, thou hast called her to a reckoning many a time and oft.

*Prince.* Did I ever call for thee to pay thy part?

*Fal.* No; I'll give thee thy due, thou hast paid all there.

*Prince.* Yea, and elsewhere, so far as my coin would stretch; and where it would not, I have used my credit.

*Fal.* Yea, and so used it that, were it not here apparent that thou art heir apparent,—But, I prithee, sweet wag, shall there be gallows standing in England when thou art king, and resolution thus fobbed\* as it is with the [cheated rusty curb of old father antic\* the law? [buffoon Do not thou, when thou art king, hang a thief.

*Prince.* No; thou shalt.

*Fal.* Shall I? O rare! By the Lord, I'll be a brave judge!

## Act I Scene 2

*Prince.* Thou judgest false already; I mean, thou shalt have the hanging of the thieves, and so become a rare hangman.

*Fal.* Well, Hal, well; and in some sort it jumps with my humour as well as waiting in the court, I can tell you.

*Prince.* For obtaining of suits?

*Fal.* Yea, for obtaining of suits, whereof the hangman hath no lean wardrobe. 'Sblood, I am as melancholy as a gib cat\* or a [an old tom-cat] lugged bear.

*Prince.* Or an old lion, or a lover's lute.

*Fal.* Yea, or the drone of a Lincolnshire bag-pipe.

*Prince.* What say'st thou to a hare, or the melancholy of Moor-ditch?

*Fal.* Thou hast the most unsavoury similes and art indeed the most comparative,\* rascal-liest, sweet young prince. But, [full of comparisons] Hal, I prithee, trouble me no more with vanity. I would to God thou and I knew where a commodity\* of good names were to be bought! [supply] An old lord of the council rated me the other day in the street about you, sir, but I marked him not; and yet he talked very wisely, but I regarded him not; and yet he talked wisely, and in the street too.

*Prince.* Thou didst well; for wisdom cries out in the streets, and no man regards it.

*Fal.* O, thou hast damnable iteration, and art indeed able to corrupt a saint. Thou hast done much harm upon me, Hal; God forgive thee for it! Before I knew thee, Hal, I knew nothing; and now am I, if a man should speak truly, little better than one of the wicked. I must give over this life, and I will give it over;

## First Part of King Henry IV

by the Lord, an I do not, I am a villain! I'll be damned for never a king's son in Christendom.

*Prince.* Where shall we take a purse to-morrow, Jack?

*Fal.* Zounds, where thou wilt, lad, I'll make one; an I do not, call me villain and baffle me.

*Prince.* I see a good amendment of life in thee; from praying to purse-taking.

*Fal.* Why, Hal, 'tis my vocation, Hal; 'tis no sin for a man to labour in his vocation.

*Enter Poins.*

Poins!—Now shall we know if Gadshill have set a watch.—O, if men were to be saved by merit, what hole in hell were hot enough for him? This is the most omnipotent villain that ever cried 'Stand' to a true man.

*Prince.* Good morrow, Ned.

*Poins.* Good morrow, sweet Hal.—What says Monsieur Remorse? what says Sir John Sack-and-Sugar? Jack! how agrees the devil and thee about thy soul, that thou soldest him on Good-Friday last for a cup of Madeira and a cold capon's leg?

*Prince.* Sir John stands to his word, the devil shall have his bargain; for he was never yet a breaker of proverbs: he will give the devil his due.

*Poins.* Then art thou damned for keeping thy word with the devil.

*Prince.* Else he had been damned for cozening the devil.

*Poins.* But, my lads, my lads, to-morrow morning, by four o'clock, early at Gadshill! There are pilgrims going to Canterbury with rich offerings, and traders riding to London



## Act I Scene 2

with fat purses. I have vizards\* for you [masks all; you have horses for yourselves. Gadshill lies to-night in Rochester; I have bespoke supper to-morrow night in Eastcheap: we may do it as secure as sleep. If you will go, I will stuff your purses full of crowns; if you will not, tarry at home and be hanged.

*Fal.* Hear ye, Yedward; if I tarry at home and go not, I'll hang you for going.

*Poins.* You will, chops?

*Fal.* Hal, wilt thou make one?

*Prince.* Who, I rob? I a thief? not I, by my faith.

*Fal.* There's neither honesty, manhood, nor good fellowship in thee, nor thou cam'st not of the blood royal, if thou dar'st not stand for ten shillings.

*Prince.* Well then, once in my days I'll be a madcap.

*Fal.* Why, that's well said.

*Prince.* Well, come what will, I'll tarry at home.

*Fal.* By the Lord, I'll be a traitor then, when thou art king.

*Prince.* I care not.

*Poins.* Sir John, I prithee, leave the prince and me alone; I will lay him down such reasons for this adventure that he shall go.

*Fal.* Well, God give thee the spirit of persuasion and him the ears of profiting, that what thou speakest may move and what he hears may be believed, that the true prince may, for recreation sake, prove a false thief; for the poor abuses of the time want countenance. Farewell; you shall find me in Eastcheap.

*Prince.* Farewell, thou latter spring! farewell, All-hallown\* summer! [*Exit Falstaff*]. [NOV. 1

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Poins.* Now, my good sweet honey lord, ride with us to-morrow ; I have a jest to execute that I cannot manage alone. Falstaff, Bardolph, Peto, and Gadshill shall rob those men that we have already waylaid : yourself and I will not be there ; and when they have the booty, if you and I do not rob them, cut this head off from my shoulders.

*Prince.* How shall we part with them in setting forth ?

*Poins.* Why, we will set forth before or after them, and appoint them a place of meeting, wherein it is at our pleasure to fail ; and then will they adventure upon the exploit themselves, which they shall have no sooner achieved, but we'll set upon them.

*Prince.* Yea, but 'tis like that they will know us by our horses, by our habits, and by every other appointment, to be ourselves.

*Poins.* Tut ! our horses they shall not see ; I'll tie them in the wood : our vizards we will change after we leave them ; and, sirrah, I have cases of buckram for the nonce, to inmask our noted outward garments.

*Prince.* Yea, but I doubt they will be too hard for us.

*Poins.* Well, for two of them, I know them to be as true-bred cowards as ever turned back ; and for the third, if he fight longer than he sees reason, I'll forswear arms. The virtue of this jest will be, the incomprehensible lies that this same fat rogue will tell us when we meet at supper : how thirty, at least, he fought with ; what wards, what blows, what extremities he endured ; and in the reproof of this lies the jest.

*Prince.* Well, I'll go with thee : provide us

## Act I Scene 3

all things necessary, and meet me to-morrow night in Eastcheap; there I'll sup. Farewell.

*Poins.* Farewell, my lord. [Exit.]

*Prince.* I know you all, and will awhile uphold  
The unyok'd humour of your idleness;  
Yet herein will I imitate the sun,  
Who doth permit the base contagious clouds  
To smother up his beauty from the world,  
That, when he please again to be himself,  
Being wanted, he may be more wonder'd at,  
By breaking through the foul and ugly mists  
Of vapours that did seem to strangle him.  
If all the year were playing holidays,  
To sport would be as tedious as to work;  
But when they seldom come, they wish'd-for  
come,

And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents.  
So, when this loose behaviour I throw off  
And pay the debt I never promised,  
By how much better than my word I am,  
By so much shall I falsify men's hopes;  
And like bright metal on a sullen ground,  
My reformation, glittering o'er my fault,  
Shall show more goodly and attract more eyes  
Than that which hath no foil to set it off.  
I'll so offend, to make offence a skill;  
Redeeming time when men think least I will.

[Exit.]

SCENE 3.—London. The Palace.

*Enter the King, Northumberland, Worcester,  
Hotspur, Sir Walter Blunt, with others.*

*King.* My blood hath been too cold and  
temperate,  
Unapt to stir at these indignities,  
And you have found me; for accordingly  
You tread upon my patience: but be sure

## First Part of King Henry IV

I will from henceforth rather be myself,  
Mighty and to be fear'd, than my condition,  
Which hath been smooth as oil, soft as young  
down,

And therefore lost that title of respect  
Which the proud soul ne'er pays but to the  
proud.

*Wor.* Our house, my sovereign liege, little  
deserves

The scourge of greatness to be us'd on it,  
And that same greatness too which our own  
hands

Have help\* to make so portly. [helped

*North.* My lord,—

*King.* Worcester, get thee gone; for I do see  
Danger and disobedience in thine eye.

O, sir, your presence is too bold and peremptory,  
And majesty might never yet endure  
The moody frontier of a servant brow.

You have good leave to leave us; when we need  
Your use and council, we shall send for you.

[Exit Worcester.

You were about to speak. [To North.

*North.* Yea, my good lord.

Those prisoners in your highness' name de-  
manded,

Which Harry Percy here at Holmedon took,  
Were, as he says, not with such strength denied  
As is deliver'd to your majesty;

Either envy, therefore, or misprision\* [mistake  
Is guilty of this fault, and not my son.

*Hot.* My liege, I did deny no prisoners,  
But I remember, when the fight was done,  
When I was dry with rage and extreme toil,  
Breathless and faint, leaning upon my sword,  
Camethereacertainlord, neat, and trimly dress'd,

## Act I Scene 3

Fresh as a bridegroom ; and his chin new reap'd  
Show'd like a stubble-land at harvest-home.  
He was perfum'd like a milliner,  
And 'twixt his finger and his thumb he held  
A pouncet-box, which ever and anon  
He gave his nose and took 't away again ;  
Who therewith angry, when it next came there,  
Took it in snuff : and still he snuff'd and talk'd,  
And as the soldiers bore dead bodies by,  
He call'd them untaught knaves, unmannerly,  
To bring a slovenly unhandsome corpse  
Betwixt the wind and his nobility.  
With many holiday and lady terms  
He question'd me ; among the rest, demanded  
My prisoners in your majesty's behalf.  
I then, all smarting with my wounds being cold,  
To be so pester'd with a popinjay,\* [parrot  
Out of my grief and my impatience,  
Answer'd neglectingly I know not what,  
He should, or he should not ; for he made me mad  
To see him shine so brisk, and smell so sweet,  
And talk so like a waiting-gentlewoman  
Of guns and drums and wounds,—God save the  
mark !—  
And telling me the sovereign'st thing on earth  
Was parmaceti for an inward bruise ;  
And that it was great pity, so it was,  
That villanous salt-petre should be digg'd  
Out of the bowels of the harmless earth,  
Which many a good tall\* fellow had de- [sturdy  
stroy'd  
So cowardly ; and but for these vile guns,  
He would himself have been a soldier.  
This bald unjointed chat of his, my lord,  
I answer'd indirectly, as I said ;  
And I beseech you, let not his report

# First Part of King Henry IV

Come current for an accusation  
Betwixt my love and your high majesty.

*Blunt.* The circumstance consider'd, good my  
lord,

Whate'er Lord Harry Percy then had said  
To such a person and in such a place,  
At such a time, with all the rest retold,  
May reasonably die, and never rise  
To do him wrong or any way impeach  
What then he said, so he unsay it now.

*King.* Why, yet he doth deny his prisoners,  
But with proviso and exception,  
That we at our own charge shall ransom straight  
His brother-in-law, the foolish Mortimer ;  
Who, on my soul, hath wilfully betray'd  
The lives of those that he did lead to fight  
Against that great magician, damn'd Glendower,  
Whose daughter, as we hear, the Earl of March  
Hath lately married. Shall our coffers, then,  
Be emptied to redeem a traitor home? [compound  
Shall we buy treason, and indent\* with fears,  
When they have lost and forfeited themselves?  
No, on the barren mountains let him starve ;  
For I shall never hold that man my friend  
Whose tongue shall ask me for one penny cost  
To ransom home revolted Mortimer.

*Hot.* Revolted Mortimer !

He never did fall off, my sovereign liege,  
But by the chance of war ; to prove that true  
Needs no more but one tongue for all those  
wounds,  
Those mouthed\* wounds, which valiantly [gaping  
he took

When on the gentle Severn's sedgy bank,  
In single opposition, hand to hand,  
He did confound the best part of an hour

## Act I Scene 3

In changing hardiment\* with great [exchanging blows]  
Glendower.

Three times they breath'd and three times did  
they drink,

Upon agreement, of swift Severn's flood ;  
Who then, affrighted with their bloody looks,  
Ran fearfully among the trembling reeds,  
And hid his crisp head in the hollow bank  
Blood-stained with these valiant combatants.  
Never did base and rotten policy  
Colour her working with such deadly wounds ;  
Nor never could the noble Mortimer  
Receive so many, and all willingly :  
Then let not him be slander'd with revolt.

*King.* Thou dost belie him, Percy, thou dost  
belie him ;

He never did encounter with Glendower.

I tell thee,

He durst as well have met the devil alone

As Owen Glendower for an enemy.

Art thou not asham'd? But, sirrah, henceforth

Let me not hear you speak of Mortimer.

Send me your prisoners with the speediest means,

Or you shall hear in such a kind from me

As will displease you.—My Lord Northumber-  
land,

We license your departure with your son.—

Send us your prisoners, or you will hear of it.

*[Exeunt King Henry, Blunt, and train.]*

*Hot.* An if the devil come and roar for them,

I will not send them. I will after straight

And tell him so ; for I will ease my heart,

Although it be with hazard of my head.

*North.* What, drunk with choler? stay and  
pause awhile.

Here comes your uncle.

# First Part of King Henry IV

*Re-enter Worcester.*

*Hot.* Speak of Mortimer !  
Zounds, I will speak of him ; and let my soul  
Want mercy, if I do not join with him :  
Yea, on his part I 'll empty all these veins,  
And shed my dear blood drop by drop i' the dust,  
But I will lift the down-trod Mortimer  
As high in the air as this unthankful king,  
As this ingrate and canker'd Bolingbroke.

*North.* Brother, the king hath made your  
nephew mad.

*Wor.* Who struck this heat up after I was  
gone ?

*Hot.* He will, forsooth, have all my prisoners ;  
And when I urg'd the ransom once again  
Of my wife's brother, then his cheek look'd pale,  
And on my face he turn'd an eye of death,  
Trembling even at the name of Mortimer.

*Wor.* I cannot blame him ; was he not pro-  
claim'd  
By Richard that dead is, the next of blood ?

*North.* He was ; I heard the proclamation :  
And then it was when the unhappy king—  
Whose wrongs in us God pardon !—did set forth  
Upon his Irish expedition ;  
From whence he, intercepted, did return  
To be depos'd and shortly murdered.

*Wor.* And for whose death we in the world's  
wide mouth  
Live scandaliz'd and foully spoken of.

*Hot.* But, soft, I pray you ; did King Richard  
then  
Proclaim my brother Edmund Mortimer  
Heir to the crown ?

*North.* He did ; myself did hear it.

*Hot.* Nay, then I cannot blame his cousin king,



## Act I Scene 3

That wish'd him on the barren mountains  
starve.

But shall it be, that you, that set the crown  
Upon the head of this forgetful man  
And for his sake wear the detested blot  
Of murtherous subornation, shall it be,  
That you a world of curses undergo,  
Being the agents, or base second means,  
The cords, the ladder, or the hangman rather?  
O, pardon me that I descend so low,  
To show the line and the predicament  
Wherein you range under this subtle king!  
Shall it for shame be spoken in these days,  
Or fill up chronicles in time to come,  
That men of your nobility and power  
Did gage\* them both in an unjust behalf, [pledge  
As both of you—God pardon it!—have done,  
To put down Richard, that sweet lovely rose,  
And plant this thorn, this canker,\* [dog-rose  
Bolingbroke?

And shall it in more shame be further spoken,  
That you are fool'd, discarded, and shook off  
By him for whom these shames ye underwent?  
No; yet time serves wherein you may redeem  
Your banish'd honours and restore yourselves  
Into the good thoughts of the world again,  
Revenge the jeering and disdain'd contempt  
Of this proud king, who studies day and night  
To answer all the debt he owes to you  
Even with the bloody payment of your deaths.  
Therefore, I say,—

*Wor.* Peace, cousin, say no more.  
And now I will unclasp a secret book,  
And to your quick-conceiving discontents  
I'll read you matter deep and dangerous,  
As full of peril and adventurous spirit

## First Part of King Henry IV

As to o'er-walk a current roaring loud  
On the unsteadfast footing of a spear.

*Hot.* If he fall in, good night! or sink or swim:  
Send danger from the east unto the west,  
So honour cross it from the north to south,  
And let them grapple; O, the blood more stirs  
To rouse a lion than to start a hare!

*North.* Imagination of some great exploit  
Drives him beyond the bounds of patience.

*Hot.* By heaven, methinks it were an easy leap,  
To pluck bright honour from the pale-fac'd  
moon,  
Or dive into the bottom of the deep,  
Where fathom-line could never touch the  
ground,

And pluck up drowned honour by the locks,  
So he that doth redeem her thence might wear  
Without corrival\* all her dignities; [rival]  
But out upon this half-fac'd fellowship!

*Wor.* He apprehends a world of figures here,  
But not the form of what he should attend.—  
Good cousin, give me audience for a while.

*Hot.* I cry you mercy.

*Wor.* Those same noble Scots  
That are your prisoners,—

*Hot.* I'll keep them all.  
By God, he shall not have a Scot of them;  
No, if a Scot would save his soul, he shall not.  
I'll keep them, by this hand.

*Wor.* You start away  
And lend no ear unto my purposes.  
Those prisoners you shall keep.

*Hot.* Nay, I will; that's flat.  
He said he would not ransom Mortimer,  
Forbad my tongue to speak of Mortimer;  
But I will find him when he lies asleep,

## Act I Scene 3

And in his ear I'll holla 'Mortimer!'  
Nay, I'll have a starling shall be taught to speak  
Nothing but 'Mortimer,' and give it him,  
To keep his anger still in motion.

*Wor.* Hear you, cousin; a word.

*Hot.* All studies here I solemnly defy,  
Save how to gall and pinch this Bolingbroke;  
And that same sword-and-buckler Prince of  
Wales,

But that I think his father loves him not  
And would be glad he met with some mischance,  
I would have him poison'd with a pot of ale.

*Wor.* Farewell, kinsman; I'll talk to you  
When you are better temper'd to attend.

*North.* Why, what a wasp-stung and impatient  
fool

Art thou to break into this woman's mood,  
Tying thine ear to no tongue but thine own!

*Hot.* Why, look you, I am whipp'd and scourg'd  
with rods,

Nettled and stung with pismires, when I hear  
Of this vile politician, Bolingbroke.

In Richard's time,—what do ye call the place?—  
A plague upon't! it is in Gloucestershire;  
'Twas where the madcap duke his uncle kept,  
His uncle York,—where I first bow'd my knee  
Unto this king of smiles, this Bolingbroke,  
'Sblood!

When you and he came back from Ravens-  
purgh.\*

[a port at mouth of the Humber

*North.* At Berkeley castle

*Hot.* You say true.

Why, what a candy\* deal of courtesy [sugared  
This fawning greyhound then did proffer me!  
Look, 'when his infant fortune came to age,'  
And 'gentle Harry Percy,' and 'kind cousin,'—

## First Part of King Henry IV

O, the devil take such cozeners!—God forgive me!—

Good uncle, tell your tale, for I have done.

*Wor.* Nay, if you have not, t' it again;

We will stay your leisure.

*Hot.* I have done, i' faith.

*Wor.* Then once more to your Scottish prisoners.

Deliver them up without their ransom straight,  
And make the Douglas' son your only mean  
For powers in Scotland; which, for divers  
reasons

Which I shall send you written, be assur'd,  
Will easily be granted.—You, my lord,

[*To Northumberland.*

Your son in Scotland being thus employ'd,  
Shall secretly into the bosom creep  
Of that same noble prelate, well belov'd,  
The archbishop.

*Hot.* Of York, is it not?

*Wor.* True; who bears hard  
His brother's death at Bristol, the Lord Scroop.  
I speak not this in estimation,  
As what I think might be, but what I know  
Is ruminated, plotted, and set down,  
And only stays but to behold the face  
Of that occasion that shall bring it on.

*Hot.* I smell it; upon my life, it will do well.

*North.* Before the game's afoot, thou still  
let'st slip.

*Hot.* Why, it cannot choose but be a noble  
plot.

And then the power of Scotland and of York,—  
To join with Mortimer, ha?

*Wor.* And so they shall.

*Hot.* In faith, it is exceedingly well aim'd.

## Act II Scene 1

*Wor.* And 'tis no little reason bids us speed,  
To save our heads by raising of a head ;  
For, bear ourselves as even as we can,  
The king will always think him in our debt,  
And think we think ourselves unsatisfied,  
Till he hath found a time to pay us home.  
And see already how [www.dubtool.com.cn](http://www.dubtool.com.cn)  
To make us strangers to his looks of love.

*Hot.* He does, he does ; we'll be reveng'd on  
him.

*Wor.* Cousin, farewell. No further go in this  
Than I by letters shall direct your course.  
When time is ripe, which will be suddenly,  
I'll steal to Glendower and Lord Mortimer ;  
Where you and Douglas and our powers at once,  
As I will fashion it, shall happily meet,  
To bear our fortunes in our own strong arms,  
Which now we hold at much uncertainty.

*North.* Farewell, good brother ; we shall  
thrive, I trust.

*Hot.* Uncle, adieu ; O, let the hours be short  
Till fields and blows and groans applaud our  
sport ! [*Exeunt.*]

### ACT II.

SCENE 1.—Rochester. An Inn Yard.

*Enter a Carrier with a lantern in his hand.*

*1st Car.* Heigh-ho ! an it be not four by the  
day, I'll be hanged ! Charles' wain is over the  
new chimney, and yet our horse not packed.—  
What, ostler !

*Ost.* [*Within*] Anon, anon.

*1st Car.* I prithee, Tom, beat Cut's saddle, put  
a few flocks in the point ; the poor jade is wrung  
in the withers out of all cess.

# First Part of King Henry IV

*Enter another Carrier.*

*2nd Car.* Peas and beans are as dank here as a dog, and that is the next way to give poor jades the bots ; this house is turned upside down since Robin Ostler died.

*1st Car.* Poor fellow! never joyed since the price of oats rose ; it was the death of him.

*2nd Car.* I think this be the most villanous house in all London road for fleas ; I am stung like a tench.

*1st Car.* Like a tench ! by the mass, there is ne'er a king christen could be better bit than I have been since the first cock.

*2nd Car.* Why they will allow us ne'er a jordan, and then we leak in your chimney ; and your chamber-lie breeds fleas like a loach.

*1st Car.* What, ostler ! come away, and be hanged ! come away.

*2nd Car.* I have a gammon of bacon and two razes of ginger, to be delivered as far as Charing-cross.

*1st Car.* God's body ! the turkeys in my pannier are quite starved.—What, ostler ! A plague on thee ! hast thou never an eye in thy head ? canst not hear ? An't were not as good deed as drink, to break the pate on thee, I am a very villain. Come, and be hanged ! hast no faith in thee ?

*Enter Gadshill.*

*Gads.* Good morrow, carriers. What's o'clock ?

*1st Car.* I think it be two o'clock.

*Gads.* I prithee, lend me thy lantern, to see my gelding in the stable.

*1st Car.* Nay, soft, I pray ye ; I know a trick worth two of that, i' faith.

## Act II Scene 1

*Gads.* I prithee, lend me thine.

*2nd Car.* Ay, when? canst tell? Lend me thy lantern, quoth a'? marry, I'll see thee hanged first.

*Gads.* Sirrah carrier, what time do you mean to come to London?

*2nd Car.* Time enough to go to bed with a candle, I warrant thee.—Come, neighbour Mugs, we'll call up the gentlemen; they will along with company, for they have great charge.

[*Exeunt Carriers.*]

*Gads.* What, ho! chamberlain!

*Cham.* [Within] 'At hand,' quoth pick-purse.

*Gads.* That's even as fair as—'at hand,' quoth the chamberlain; for thou variest no more from picking of purses than giving direction doth from labouring; thou layest the plot how.

*Enter Chamberlain.*

*Cham.* Good morrow, Master Gadshill. It holds current that I told you yesternight; there's a franklin\* in the wild of Kent [freeholder hath brought three hundred marks with him in gold. I heard him tell it to one of his company last night at supper; a kind of auditor; one that hath abundance of charge too,—God knows what. They are up already, and call for eggs and butter; they will away presently.

*Gads.* Sirrah, if they meet not with Saint Nicholas' clerks,\* I'll give thee this [highwaymen neck.

*Cham.* No, I'll none of it; I prithee, keep that for the hangman; for I know thou worshippest Saint Nicholas as truly as a man of falsehood may.

*Gads.* What talkest thou to me of the hang-

## First Part of King Henry IV

man? if I hang, I'll make a fat pair of gallows; for if I hang, old Sir John hangs with me, and thou know'st he is no starveling. Tut! there are other Trojans that thou dream'st not of, the which for sport sake are content to do the profession some grace; that would, if matters should be looked into, for their own credit sake, make all whole. I am joined with no foot land-rakers,\* no long-staff sixpenny [footpads strikers,\* none of these mad mus- [petty thieves tachio-purple-hued malt-worms\*; but [tipplers with nobility and tranquillity, burgomasters and great oneyers, such as can hold in, such as will strike sooner than speak, and speak sooner than drink, and drink sooner than pray: and yet I lie; for they pray continually to their saint, the commonwealth; or rather, not pray to her, but prey on her, for they ride up and down on her and make her their boots.

*Cham.* What, the commonwealth their boots? will she hold out water in foul way?

*Gads.* She will, she will; justice hath liquored her. We steal as in a castle, cock-sure; we have the receipt of fern-seed, we walk invisible.

*Cham.* Nay, by my faith, I think you are more beholding to the night than to fern-seed for your walking invisible.

*Gads.* Give me thy hand; thou shalt have a share in our purchase,\* as I am a true [plunder man.

*Cham.* Nay, rather let me have it, as you are a false thief.

*Gads.* Go to; *homo* is a common name to all men. Bid the ostler bring my gelding out of the stable. Farewell, ye muddy knave.

[*Exeunt.*



## Act II Scene 2

SCENE 2.—The Highway, near Gadshill.

*Enter Prince Henry and Poins.*

*Poins.* Come, shelter, shelter ; I have removed Falstaff's horse, and he frets like a gummed velvet.

*Prince.* Stand close. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Enter Falstaff.*

*Fal.* Poins ! Poins, and be hanged ! Poins !

*Prince.* Peace, ye fat-kidneyed rascal ! what a brawling dost thou keep !

*Fal.* Where's Poins, Hal ?

*Prince.* He is walked up to the top of the hill ; I'll go seek him.

*Fal.* I am accursed to rob in that thief's company ; the rascal hath removed my horse, and tied him I know not where. If I travel but four foot by the squire\* further afoot, [measuring rule] I shall break my wind. Well, I doubt not but to die a fair death for all this, if I scape hanging for killing that rogue. I have forsworn his company hourly any time this two and twenty years, and yet I am bewitched with the rogue's company. If the rascal have not given me medicines to make me love him, I'll be hanged ; it could not be else ; I have drunk medicines.—Poins ! Hal !—a plague upon you both !—Bardolph ! Peto !—I'll starve ere I'll rob a foot further. An 'twere not as good a deed as drink, to turn true man and to leave these rogues, I am the veriest varlet that ever chewed with a tooth. Eight yards of uneven ground is threescore and ten miles afoot with me ; and the stony-hearted villains know it well enough. A plague upon it when thieves cannot be true

## First Part of King Henry IV

one to another! [*They whistle.*] Whew! A plague upon you all! Give me my horse, you rogues; give me my horse, and be hanged!

*Prince.* Peace, ye fat-guts! lie down; lay thine ear close to the ground, and list if thou canst hear the tread of travellers.

*Fal.* Have you any levers to lift me up again, being down? 'Sblood, I'll not bear mine own flesh so far afoot again for all the coin in thy father's exchequer. What a plague mean ye to colt\* me thus? [trick

*Prince.* Thou liest; thou art not colted, thou art uncolted.\* [unhorsed

*Fal.* I prithee, good Prince Hal, help me to my horse, good king's son.

*Prince.* Out, you rogue! shall I be your ostler?

*Fal.* Go, hang thyself in thine own heir-apparent garters! If I be ta'en I'll peach for this. An I have not ballads made on you all and sung to filthy tunes, let a cup of sack be my poison! When a jest is so forward, and afoot too,—I hate it.

*Enter Gadshill, Bardolph and Peto with him.*

*Gads.* Stand.

*Fal.* So I do, against my will.

*Poins.* O, 'tis our setter\*; I know [i. e. watcher] his voice.

*Bard.* What news?

*Gads.* Case ye, case ye; on with your vizards: there's money of the king's coming down the hill; 'tis going to the king's exchequer.

*Fal.* You lie, you rogue; 'tis going to the king's tavern.

*Gads.* There's enough to make us all.

*Fal.* To be hanged.

## Act II Scene 2

*Prince.* You four shall front them in the narrow lane; Ned and I will walk lower: if they scape from your encounter, then they light on us.

*Peto.* How many be there of them?

*Gads.* Some eight or ten.

*Fal.* Zounds, will they not rob us?

*Prince.* What, a coward, Sir John Paunch?

*Fal.* Indeed, I am not John of Gaunt, your grandfather; but yet no coward, Hal.

*Prince.* Well, we leave that to the proof.

*Poins.* Sirrah Jack, thy horse stands behind the hedge; when thou need'st him, there thou shalt find him. Farewell, and stand fast.

*Fal.* Now cannot I strike him, if I should be hanged.

*Prince.* Ned, where are our disguises?

*Poins.* Here, hard by; stand close.

[*Exeunt Prince and Poins.*]

*Fal.* Now, my masters, happy man be his dole, say I; every man to his business.

*Enter Travellers.*

*1st Trav.* Come, neighbour: the boy shall lead our horses down the hill; we'll walk afoot awhile, and ease our legs.

*Thieves.* Stand!

*Travellers.* Jesu bless us!

*Fal.* Strike; down with them; cut the villains' throats. Ah! whoreson caterpillars! bacon-fed knaves! they hate us youth: down with them; fleece them.

*Travellers.* O, we are undone, both we and ours for ever!

*Fal.* Hang ye, gorbellied\* knaves, are [paunchy ye undone? No, ye fat chuffs\*; I would [clowns

## First Part of King Henry IV

your store were here! On, bacons, on! What, ye knaves! young men must live. You are grandjurors, are ye? we'll jure ye, i' faith.

*[Here they rob them and bind them. Exeunt.]*

*Re-enter Prince Henry and Poins.*

*Prince.* The thieves have bound the true men. Now could thou and I rob the thieves and go merrily to London, it would be argument for a week, laughter for a month, and a good jest for ever.

*Poins.* Stand close; I hear them coming.

*Enter the Thieves again.*

*Fal.* Come, my masters, let us share, and then to horse before day. An the Prince and Poins be not two arrant cowards, there's no equity stirring; there's no more valour in that Poins than in a wild-duck.

*Prince.* Your money!

*Poins.* Villains!

*[As they are sharing, the Prince and Poins set upon them; they all run away (Falstaff after a blow or two), leaving the booty behind them.]*

*Prince.* Got with much ease. Now merrily to horse.

The thieves are scatter'd and possess'd with fear

So strongly that they dare not meet each other;  
Each takes his fellow for an officer.

Away, good Ned. Falstaff sweats to death,  
And lards the lean earth as he walks along;  
Were't not for laughing, I should pity him.

*Poins.* How the rogue roar'd! *[Exeunt.]*

## Act II Scene 3

SCENE 3.—Warkworth Castle.

*Enter Hotspur, reading a letter.*

*Hot.* 'But, for mine own part, my lord, I could be well contented to be there, in respect of the love I bear your house.' He could be contented! why is he not, then? In respect of the love he bears our house! he shows in this, he loves his own barn better than he loves our house. Let me see some more. '*The purpose you undertake is dangerous;*'—why, that's certain: 'tis dangerous to take a cold, to sleep, to drink; but I tell you, my lord fool, out of this nettle, danger, we pluck this flower, safety. '*The purpose you undertake is dangerous, the friends you have named uncertain, the time itself unsorted, and your whole plot too light for the counterpoise of so great an opposition.*' Say you so, say you so? I say unto you again, you are a shallow cowardly hind, and you lie. What a lackbrain is this! by the Lord, our plot is a good plot as ever was laid; our friends true and constant: a good plot, good friends, and full of expectation; an excellent plot, very good friends. What a frosty-spirited rogue is this! Why, my lord of York commends the plot and the general course of the action. Zounds, an I were now by this rascal, I could brain him with his lady's fan. Is there not my father, my uncle, and myself? lord Edmund Mortimer, my lord of York, and Owen Glendower? is there not besides the Douglas? have I not all their letters to meet me in arms by the ninth of the next month? and are they not some of them set forward already? What a pagan rascal is this! an infidel! Ha! you shall

## First Part of King Henry IV

see now, in very sincerity of fear and cold heart, will he to the king and lay open all our proceedings. O, I could divide myself and go to buffets, for moving such a dish of skim'd milk with so honourable an action! Hang him! let him tell the king; we are prepared. I will set forward to-night.

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*Enter Lady Percy.*

How now, Kate! I must leave you within these two hours.

*Lady P.* O, my good lord, why are you thus alone?

For what offence have I this fortnight been  
A banish'd woman from my Harry's bed?  
Tell me, sweet lord, what is't that takes from  
thee

Thy stomach, pleasure, and thy golden sleep?  
Why dost thou bend thine eyes upon the earth,  
And start so often when thou sitt'st alone?  
Why hast thou lost the fresh blood in thy cheeks,  
And given my treasures and my rights of thee  
To thick-eyed musing and curst melancholy?  
In thy faint slumbers I by thee have watch'd,  
And heard thee murmur tales of iron wars,  
Speak terms of manage to thy bounding steed,  
Cry 'Courage! to the field!' And thou hast  
talk'd

Of sallies and retires, of trenches, tents,  
Of palisadoes, frontiers,\* parapets, [forts  
Of basilisks,\* of cannon, culverin,\* [large guns  
Of prisoners' ransom and of soldiers slain,  
And all the current of a heady fight.

Thy spirit within thee hath been so at war  
And thus hath so bestirr'd thee in thy sleep,  
That beads of sweat have stood upon thy brow,

## Act II Scene 3

Like bubbles in a late-disturbed stream ;  
And in thy face strange motions have appear'd,  
Such as we see when men restrain their breath  
On some great sudden hest.\* O, what por- [behest  
tents are these?

Some heavy business hath my lord in hand,  
And I must know it, else he loves me not.

*Hot.* What, ho!

*Enter Servant.*

Is Gilliams with the packet gone?

*Serv.* He is, my lord, an hour ago.

*Hot.* Hath Butler brought those horses from  
the sheriff?

*Serv.* One horse, my lord, he brought even now.

*Hot.* What horse? a roan, a crop-ear, is it not?

*Serv.* It is, my lord.

*Hot.* That roan shall be my throne.

Well, I will back him straight.—O *esperance!*—  
Bid Butler lead him forth into the park.

*[Exit Servant.]*

*Lady P.* But hear you, my lord.

*Hot.* What say'st thou, my lady?

*Lady P.* What is it carries you away?

*Hot.* Why, my horse, my love, my horse.

*Lady P.* Out, you mad-headed ape!

A weasel hath not such a deal of spleen  
As you are toss'd with. In faith,  
I'll know your business, Harry, that I will.  
I fear my brother Mortimer doth stir  
About his title, and hath sent for you  
To line his enterprise; but if you go—

*Hot.* So far afoot, I shall be weary, love.

*Lady P.* Come, come, you paraquito,\* [little parrot  
answer me

Directly unto this question that I ask.

## First Part of King Henry IV

In faith, I'll break thy little finger, Harry,  
An if thou wilt not tell me all things true.

*Hot.* Away,

Away, you trifler! Love! I love thee not,  
I care not for thee, Kate; this is no world  
To play with mammet\* and to tilt with <sup>(puppets</sup>  
lips;

We must have bloody noses and crack'd crowns,  
And pass them current too.—God's me, my  
horse!—

What say'st thou, Kate? what would'st thou  
have with me?

*Lady P.* Do you not love me? do you not,  
indeed?

Well, do not then; for since you love me not,  
I will not love myself. Do you not love me?  
Nay, tell me if you speak in jest or no.

*Hot.* Come, wilt thou see me ride?

And when I am o' horseback, I will swear  
I love thee infinitely. But hark you, Kate;  
I must not have you henceforth question me  
Whither I go, nor reason whereabout,  
Whither I must, I must; and, to conclude,  
This evening must I leave you, gentle Kate.  
I know you wise, but yet no farther wise  
Than Harry Percy's wife: constant you are,  
But yet a woman: and for secrecy,  
No lady closer; for I well believe  
Thou wilt not utter what thou dost not know;  
And so far will I trust thee, gentle Kate.

*Lady P.* How! so far?

*Hot.* Not an inch further. But hark you, Kate:  
Whither I go, thither shall you go too;  
To-day will I set forth, to-morrow you.  
Will this content you, Kate?

*Lady P.* It must of force. [*Exeunt.*



## Act II Scene 4

SCENE 4.—The Boar's-Head Tavern, Eastcheap.

*Enter the Prince and Poins.*

*Prince.* Ned, prithee, come out of that fat-<sup>\*</sup> [vat room, and lend me thy hand to laugh a little.

*Poins.* Where hast been, Hal?

*Prince.* With three or four loggerheads amongst three or four score hogsheads. I have sounded the very base-string of humility. Sirrah, I am sworn brother to a leash of drawers<sup>\*</sup>; and can call them all by their [tapsters christen names, as Tom, Dick, and Francis. They take it already upon their salvation, that though I be but Prince of Wales, yet I am the king of courtesy; and tell me flatly I am no proud Jack, like Falstaff, but a Corinthian, a lad of mettle, a good boy,—by the Lord, so they call me!—and when I am king of England, I shall command all the good lads in Eastcheap. They call drinking deep, dyeing scarlet; and when you breathe in your watering, they cry 'hem!' and bid you play it off. To conclude, I am so good a proficient in one quarter of an hour, that I can drink with any tinker in his own language during my life. I tell thee, Ned, thou hast lost much honour, that thou wert not with me in this action. But, sweet Ned,—to sweeten which name of Ned, I give thee this pennyworth of sugar, clapped even now into my hand by an under-skinker,<sup>\*</sup> one that [tapster never spake other English in his life than 'Eight shillings and sixpence,' and 'You are welcome,' with this shrill addition, 'Anon, anon, sir! Score a pint of bastard<sup>\*</sup> in the Half- [a sweet wine moon,' or so. But, Ned, to drive away the time till Falstaff come, I prithee, do thou stand in

## First Part of King Henry IV

some by-room, while I question my puny drawer to what end he gave me the sugar ; and do thou never leave calling 'Francis,' that his tale to me may be nothing but 'Anon.' Step aside, and I'll show thee a precedent.

*Poins.* Francis!

*Prince.* Thou art perfect.

*Poins.* Francis!

[*Exit Poins.*]

*Enter Francis.*

*Fran.* Anon, anon, sir.—Look down into the Pomgarnet, Ralph.

*Prince.* Come hither, Francis.

*Fran.* My lord?

*Prince.* How long hast thou to serve, Francis?

*Fran.* Forsooth, five years, and as much as to—

*Poins.* [*Within*] Francis!

*Fran.* Anon, anon, sir.

*Prince.* Five year! by'r lady, a long lease for the clinking of pewter. But, Francis, darest thou be so valiant as to play the coward with thy indenture and show it a fair pair of heels and run from it?

*Fran.* O Lord, sir, I'll be sworn upon all the books in England, I could find in my heart—

*Poins.* [*Within*] Francis!

*Fran.* Anon, sir.

*Prince.* How old art thou, Francis?

*Fran.* Let me see—about Michaelmas next I shall be—

*Poins.* [*Within*] Francis!

*Fran.* Anon, sir.—Pray stay a little, my lord.

*Prince.* Nay, but hark you, Francis; for the sugar thou gavest me,—'twas a pennyworth, was't not?

## Act II Scene 4

*Fran.* O lord, sir, I would it had been two!

*Prince.* I will give thee for it a thousand pound; ask me when thou wilt, and thou shalt have it.

*Poins.* [*Within*] Francis!

*Fran.* Anon, anon.

*Prince.* Anon, Francis? No, Francis; but to-morrow, Francis; or, Francis, o' Thursday; or indeed, Francis, when thou wilt. But, Francis!

*Fran.* My lord?

*Prince.* Wilt thou rob this leathern jerkin, crystal button, not-pated,\* agate-ring, [cropped puke\* - stocking, caddis\* - garter, [puce [worsted smooth-tongue, Spanish-pouch,—

*Fran.* O Lord, sir, who do you mean?

*Prince.* Why, then, your brown bastard is your only drink; for look you, Francis, your white canvas doublet will sully: in Barbary, sir, it cannot come to so much.

*Fran.* What, sir?

*Poins.* [*Within*] Francis!

*Prince.* Away, you rogue! dost thou not hear them call?

[*Here they both call him; he stands amazed, not knowing which way to go.*

*Enter Vintner.*

*Vint.* What, stand'st thou still, and hear'st such a calling? Look to the guests within.— [*Exit Francis.*] My lord, old Sir John, with half-a-dozen more, are at the door; shall I let them in?

*Prince.* Let them alone awhile, and then open the door. [*Exit Vintner.*] Poins!

*Re-enter Poins.*

*Poins.* Anon, anon, sir.

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Prince.* Sirrah, Falstaff and the rest of the thieves are at the door; shall we be merry?

*Poins.* As merry as crickets, my lad. But hark ye; what cunning match have you made with this jest of the drawer? come, what's the issue?

*Prince.* I am now of all humours that have showed themselves humours since the old days of goodman Adam to the pupil age of this present twelve o'clock at midnight.

*Re-enter Francis.*

What's o'clock, Francis?

*Fran.* Anon, anon, sir. [*Exit.*

*Prince.* That ever this fellow should have fewer words than a parrot, and yet the son of a woman! His industry is up-stairs and down-stairs; his eloquence the parcel of a reckoning. I am not yet of Percy's mind, the Hotspur of the north; he that kills me some six or seven dozen of Scots at a breakfast, washes his hands, and says to his wife 'Fie upon this quiet life! I want work.' 'O my sweet Harry,' says she, 'how many hast thou killed to-day?' 'Give my roan horse a drench,' says he; and answers 'Some fourteen,' an hour after; 'a trifle, a trifle.'—I prithee, call in Falstaff: I'll play Percy, and that damned brawn shall play Dame Mortimer his wife. 'Rivo!' says the drunkard. Call in ribs, call in tallow.

*Enter Falstaff, Gadshill, Bardolph, and Peto; Francis following with wine.*

*Poins.* Welcome, Jack, where hast thou been?

*Fal.* A plague of all cowards, I say, and a vengeance too! marry, and amen!—Give me a cup of sack, boy.—Ere I lead this life long, I'll

## Act II Scene 4

sew nether stocks\* and mend them [short stockings and foot them too. A plague of all cowards!—Give me a cup of sack, rogue.—Is there no virtue extant? *[He drinks.*

*Prince.* Didst thou never see Titan kiss a dish of butter? pitiful-hearted butter, that melted at the sweet tale of the sun! if thou didst, then behold that compound.

*Fal.* You rogue, here's lime in this sack too: there is nothing but roguery to be found in villanous man; yet a coward is worse than a cup of sack with lime in it. A villanous coward!—Go thy ways, old Jack; die when thou wilt, if manhood, good manhood, be not forgot upon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten herring. There live not three good men unhang'd in England; and one of them is fat and grows old; God help the while! a bad world, I say. I would I were a weaver; I could sing psalms or any thing. A plague of all cowards, I say still.

*Prince.* How now, wool-sack! what mutter you?

*Fal.* A king's son! If I do not beat thee out of thy kingdom with a dagger of lath, and drive all thy subjects afore thee like a flock of wild-geese, I'll never wear hair on my face more. You Prince of Wales!

*Prince.* Why, you whoreson round man, what's the matter?

*Fal.* Are not you a coward? answer me to that,—and Poins there?

*Poins.* Zounds, ye fat paunch, an ye call me coward, by the Lord, I'll stab thee.

*Fal.* I call thee coward! I'll see thee damned ere I call thee coward; but I would give a

## First Part of King Henry IV

thousand pound I could run as fast as thou canst. You are straight enough in the shoulders, you care not who sees your back; call you that backing of your friends? A plague upon such backing! give me them that will face me.—Give me a cup of sack; I am a rogue, if I drunk to-day.

*Prince.* O villain! thy lips are scarce wiped since thou drunkenest last.

*Fal.* All's one for that. [*He drinks.*] A plague of all cowards, still say I.

*Prince.* What's the matter?

*Fal.* What's the matter! there be four of us here have ta'en a thousand pound this day morning.

*Prince.* Where is it, Jack? where is it?

*Fal.* Where is it! taken from us it is; a hundred upon poor four of us.

*Prince.* What, a hundred, man?

*Fal.* I am a rogue, if I were not at half-sword with a dozen of them two hours together. I have scaped by miracle. I am eight times thrust through the doublet, four through the hose; my buckler cut through and through; my sword hacked like a hand-saw—*ecce signum!* I never dealt better since I was a man; all would not do. A plague of all cowards!—Let them speak; if they speak more or less than truth, they are villains and the sons of darkness.

*Prince.* Speak, sirs; how was it?

*Gads.* We four set upon some dozen—

*Fal.* Sixteen at least, my lord.

*Gads.* And bound them.

*Peto.* No, no, they were not bound.

*Fal.* You rogue, they were bound, every man of them; or I am a Jew else, an Ebrew Jew.

## Act II Scene 4

*Gads.* As we were sharing, some six or seven fresh men set upon us—

*Fal.* And unbound the rest, and then come in the other.

*Prince.* What, fought you with them all?

*Fal.* All! I know not what you call all; but if I fought not with fifty of them, I am a bunch of radish: if there were not two or three and fifty upon poor old Jack, then am I no two-legged creature.

*Prince.* Pray God you have not murdered some of them.

*Fal.* Nay, that's past praying for: I have peppered two of them; two I am sure I have paid, two rogues in buckram suits. I tell thee what, Hal, if I tell thee a lie, spit in my face, call me horse. Thou knowest my old ward; here I lay, and thus I bore my point. Four rogues in buckram let drive at me—

*Prince.* What, four? thou saidst but two even now.

*Fal.* Four, Hal; I told thee four.

*Poins.* Ay, ay, he said four.

*Fal.* These four came all a-front, and mainly thrust at me. I made me no more ado but took all their seven points in my target, thus.

*Prince.* Seven? why, there were but four even now.

*Fal.* In buckram?

*Poins.* Ay, four, in buckram suits.

*Fal.* Seven, by these hilts, or I am a villain else.

*Prince.* Prithee, let him alone; we shall have more anon.

*Fal.* Dost thou hear me, Hal?

*Prince.* Ay, and mark thee too, Jack.

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* Do so, for it is worth the listening to. These nine in buckram that I told thee of—

*Prince.* So, two more already.

*Fal.* Their points being broken,—

*Poins.* Down fell their hose.

*Fal.* Began to give me ground; but I followed me close, came in foot and hand; and with a thought seven of the eleven I paid.

*Prince.* O monstrous! eleven buckram men grown out of two!

*Fal.* But, as the devil would have it, three misbegotten knaves in Kendal green came at my back and let drive at me; for it was so dark, Hal, that thou couldst not see thy hand.

*Prince.* These lies are like their father that begets them; gross as a mountain, open, palpable. Why, thou clay-brained guts, thou knotty-pated fool, thou whoreson, obscene, greasy tallow-catch,—

*Fal.* What, art thou mad? art thou mad? is not the truth the truth?

*Prince.* Why, how couldst thou know these men in Kendal green, when it was so dark thou couldst not see thy hand? come, tell us your reason; what sayest thou to this?

*Poins.* Come, your reason, Jack, your reason.

*Fal.* What, upon compulsion? Zounds, an I were at the strappado,\* or all the [a cruel torture racks in the world, I would not tell you on compulsion. Give you a reason on compulsion! if reasons were as plentiful as blackberries, I would give no man a reason upon compulsion, I.

*Prince.* I'll be no longer guilty of this sin; this sanguine coward, this bed-presser, this horseback-breaker, this huge hill of flesh,—



## Act II Scene 4

*Fal.* 'Sblood, you starveling, you elf-skin, you dried neat's tongue, you bull's pizzle, you stock-fish,—O for breath to utter what is like thee!—you tailor's yard, you sheath, you bow-case, you vile standing-tuck,—

*Prince.* Well, breathe awhile, and then to it again; and when thou hast tired thyself in base comparisons, hear me speak but this.

*Poins.* Mark, Jack.

*Prince.* We two saw you four set on four and bound them, and were masters of their wealth. Mark now, how a plain tale shall put you down. Then did we two set on you four; and, with a word, out-faced you from your prize, and have it; yea, and can show it you here in the house: and, Falstaff, you carried your guts away as nimbly, with as quick dexterity, and roared for mercy and still run and roared, as ever I heard bull-calf. What a slave art thou, to hack thy sword as thou hast done, and then say it was in fight! What trick, what device, what starting-hole, canst thou now find out to hide thee from this open and apparent shame?

*Poins.* Come, let's hear, Jack; what trick hast thou now?

*Fal.* By the Lord, I knew ye as well as he that made ye. Why, hear you, my masters; was it for me to kill the heir-apparent? should I turn upon the true prince? why, thou knowest I am as valiant as Hercules: but beware instinct; the lion will not touch the true prince. Instinct is a great matter; I was now a coward on instinct. I shall think the better of myself and thee during my life; I for a valiant lion, and thou for a true prince. But, by the Lord, lads, I am glad you have the money.—Hostess, clap

## First Part of King Henry IV

to the doors; watch to-night, pray to-morrow.— Gallants, lads, boys, hearts of gold, all the titles of good fellowship come to you! What, shall we be merry? shall we have a play extempore?

*Prince.* Content; and the argument shall be thy running away.

*Fal.* Ah, no more of that, Hal, an thou lovest me.

*Enter Hostess.*

*Host.* O Jesu, my lord the prince!

*Prince.* How now, my lady the hostess! what sayest thou to me?

*Host.* Marry, my lord, there is a nobleman of the court at door would speak with you; he says he comes from your father.

*Prince.* Give him as much as will make him a royalman, and send him back again to my mother.

*Fal.* What manner of man is he?

*Host.* An old man.

*Fal.* What doth gravity out of his bed at midnight?—Shall I give him his answer?

*Prince.* Prithee, do, Jack.

*Fal.* Faith, and I'll send him packing. [*Exit.*

*Prince.* Now, sirs: by 'r lady, you fought fair;—so did you, Peto;—so did you, Bardolph: you are lions too, you ran away upon instinct, you will not touch the true prince; no, fie!

*Bard.* Faith, I ran when I saw others run.

*Prince.* Tell me now in earnest, how came Falstaff's sword so hacked?

*Peto.* Why, he hacked it with his dagger, and said he would swear truth out of England but he would make you believe it was done in fight, and persuaded us to do the like.

*Bard.* Yea, and to tickle our noses with spear-grass\* to make them bleed, and [*couch-grass*

## Act II Scene 4

then to beslobber our garments with it and swear it was the blood of true men. I did that I did not this seven year before, I blushed to hear his monstrous devices.

*Prince.* O villain, thou stolest a cup of sack eighteen years ago, and wert taken with the manner, and ever since thou hast blushed extempore. Thou hadst fire and sword on thy side, and yet thou rannest away ; what instinct hadst thou for it ?

*Bard.* My lord, do you see these meteors ? do you behold these exhalations ?

*Prince.* I do.

*Bard.* What think you they portend ?

*Prince.* Hot livers and cold purses.

*Bard.* Choler, my lord, if rightly taken.

*Prince.* No, if rightly taken, halter.

*Re-enter Falstaff.*

Here comes lean Jack, here comes bare-bone.—How now, my sweet creature of bombast\* !<sup>[padding</sup> How long is 't ago, Jack, since thou sawest thine own knee ?

*Fal.* My own knee ! when I was about thy years, Hal, I was not an eagle's talon in the waist ; I could have crept into any alderman's thumb-ring : a plague of sighing and grief ! it blows a man up like a bladder. There's villainous news abroad : here was Sir John Bracy from your father ; you must to the court in the morning. That same mad fellow of the north, Percy, and he of Wales, that gave Amamon the bastinado and made Lucifer cuckold and swore the devil his true liegeman upon the cross of a Welsh hook\*—what a plague call you <sup>[bill or halberd</sup> him ?

*Poins.* O, Glendower.

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*Fal.* Owen, Owen, the same; and his son-in-law Mortimer, and old Northumberland, and that sprightly Scot of Scots, Douglas, that runs o' horseback up a hill perpendicular,—

*Prince.* He that rides at high speed and with his pistol kills a sparrow flying.

*Fal.* You have hit it. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Prince.* So did he never the sparrow.

*Fal.* Well, that rascal hath good mettle in him; he will not run.

*Prince.* Why, what a rascal art thou then to praise him so for running!

*Fal.* O' horseback, ye cuckoo; but afoot he will not budge a foot.

*Prince.* Yes, Jack, upon instinct.

*Fal.* I grant ye, upon instinct. Well, he is there too, and one Mordake, and a thousand blue-caps\* more. Worcester is stolen [Scotchmen away to-night; thy father's beard is turned white with the news: you may buy land now as cheap as stinking mackerel.

*Prince.* Then 'tis like, if there come a hot sun and this civil buffeting hold, we shall buy maiden-heads as they buy hob-nails, by the hundreds.

*Fal.* By the mass, lad, thou say'st true; it is like we shall have good trading that way. But tell me, Hal, art not thou horrible afraid? thou being heir-apparent, could the world pick thee out three such enemies again as that fiend Douglas, that spirit Percy, and that devil Glendower? Art thou not horribly afraid? doth not thy blood thrill at it?

*Prince.* Not a whit, i' faith; I lack some of thy instinct.

*Fal.* Well, thou wilt be horribly chid to-

## Act II Scene 4

morrow when thou comest to thy father; if thou love me, practise an answer.

*Prince.* Do thou stand for my father, and examine me upon the particulars of my life.

*Fal.* Shall I? content; this chair shall be my state, this dagger my sceptre, and this cushion my crown.

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*Prince.* Thy state is taken for a joined-stool, thy golden sceptre for a leaden dagger, and thy precious rich crown for a pitiful bald crown!

*Fal.* Well, an the fire of grace be not quite out of thee, now shalt thou be moved. Give me a cup of sack to make my eyes look red, that it may be thought I have wept; for I must speak in passion, and I will do it in King Cambyzes' vein.

*Prince.* Well, here is my leg.

*Fal.* And here is my speech.—Stand aside, nobility.

*Host.* O Jesu, this is excellent sport, i' faith!

*Fal.* Weep not, sweet queen, for trickling tears are vain.

*Host.* O, the father, how he holds his countenance!

*Fal.* For God's sake, lords, convey my tristful queen;

For tears do stop the flood-gates of her eyes.

*Host.* O Jesu, he doth it as like one of these harlotry players as ever I see!

*Fal.* Peace, good pint-pot; peace, good tickle-brain.—Harry, I do not only marvel where thou spendest thy time, but also how thou art accompanied: for though the camomile, the more it is trodden on the faster it grows, yet youth, the more it is wasted the sooner it wears. That thou art my son, I have partly thy

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mother's word, partly my own opinion, but chiefly a villanous trick of thine eye and a foolish hanging of thy nether lip, that doth warrant me. If then thou be son to me, here lies the point; why, being son to me, art thou so pointed at? Shall the blessed sun of heaven prove a micher\* and eat black-<sup>currant</sup> berries?—a question not to be asked. Shall the son of England prove a thief and take purses?—a question to be asked. There is a thing, Harry, which thou hast often heard of and it is known to many in our land by the name of pitch: this pitch, as ancient writers do report, doth defile; so doth the company thou keepest: for, Harry, now I do not speak to thee in drink but in tears, not in pleasure but in passion, not in words only, but in woes also; and yet there is a virtuous man whom I have often noted in thy company, but I know not his name.

*Prince.* What manner of man, an it like your majesty?

*Fal.* A goodly portly man, i' faith, and a corpulent; of a cheerful look, a pleasing eye, and a most noble carriage; and, as I think, his age some fifty, or, by'r lady, inclining to three score; and now I remember me, his name is Falstaff: if that man should be lewdly given, he deceiveth me; for, Harry, I see virtue in his looks. If then the tree may be known by the fruit, as the fruit by the tree, then, peremptorily I speak it, there is virtue in that Falstaff; him keep with, the rest banish. And tell me now, thou naughty varlet, tell me, where hast thou been this month?

*Prince.* Dost thou speak like a king? Do thou stand for me, and I'll play my father.

## Act II Scene 4

*Fal.* Depose me? if thou dost it half so gravely, so majestically, both in word and matter, hang me up by the heels for a rabbit-sucker or a poulter's hare.

*Prince.* Well, here I am set.

*Fal.* And here I stand.—Judge, my masters.

*Prince.* Now, Harry, whence come you?

*Fal.* My noble lord, from Eastcheap.

*Prince.* The complaints I hear of thee are grievous.

*Fal.* 'Sblood, my lord, they are false; nay, I'll tickle thee for a young prince, i' faith.

*Prince.* Swarest thou, ungracious boy? henceforth ne'er look on me. Thou art violently carried away from grace: there is a devil haunts thee in the likeness of a fat old man; a tun of man is thy companion. Why dost thou converse with that trunk of humours, that bolt-hutch of beastliness, that swollen parcel of dropsies, that huge bombard of sack, that stuffed cloak-bag of guts, that roasted Manning-tree ox with the pudding in his belly, that reverend vice, that grey iniquity, that father ruffian, that vanity in years? Wherein is he good, but to taste sack and drink it? wherein neat and cleanly, but to carve a capon and eat it? wherein cunning, but in craft? wherein crafty, but in villany? wherein villanous, but in all things? wherein worthy, but in nothing?

*Fal.* I would your grace would take me with you; whom means your grace?

*Prince.* That villanous abominable misleader of youth, Falstaff, that old white-bearded Satan.

*Fal.* My lord, the man I know.

*Prince.* I know thou dost.

*Fal.* But to say I know more harm in him

## First Part of King Henry IV

than in myself, were to say more than I know. That he is old, the more the pity, his white hairs do witness it; but that he is, saving your reverence, a whoremaster, that I utterly deny. If sack and sugar be a fault, God help the wicked! if to be old and merry be a sin, then many an old host that I know is damned; if to be fat be to be hated, then Pharaoh's lean kine are to be loved. No, my good lord: banish Peto, banish Bardolph, banish Poins; but for sweet Jack Falstaff, kind Jack Falstaff, true Jack Falstaff, valiant Jack Falstaff, and therefore more valiant, being, as he is, old Jack Falstaff, banish not him thy Harry's company, banish not him thy Harry's company: banish plump Jack, and banish all the world.

*Prince.* I do, I will. [A knocking heard.]

[*Exeunt Hostess, Francis, and Bardolph.*]

*Re-enter Bardolph, running.*

*Bard.* O, my lord, my lord! the sheriff with a most monstrous watch is at the door.

*Fal.* Out, ye rogue! Play out the play; I have much to say in the behalf of that Falstaff.

*Re-enter the Hostess.*

*Host.* O Jesu, my lord, my lord!

*Prince.* Heigh, heigh! the devil rides upon a fiddlestick. What's the matter?

*Host.* The sheriff and all the watch are at the door; they are come to search the house. Shall I let them in?

*Fal.* Dost thou hear, Hal? never call a true piece of gold a counterfeit; thou art essentially mad, without seeming so.

*Prince.* And thou a natural coward, without instinct.

*Fal.* I deny your major. If you will deny the



## Act II Scene 4

sheriff, so; if not, let him enter: if I become not a cart as well as another man, a plague on my bringing up! I hope I shall as soon be strangled with a halter as another.

*Prince.* Go, hide thee behind the arras\* ; [tapestry—the rest walk up above.—Now, my masters, for a true face and good conscience.

*Fal.* Both which I have had; but their date is out, and therefore I'll hide me.

*Prince.* Call in the sheriff.—

[*Exeunt all except the Prince and Peto.*

*Enter Sheriff and the Carrier.*

Now, master sheriff, what is your will with me?

*Sher.* First, pardon me, my lord. A hue and cry Hath follow'd certain men unto this house.

*Prince.* What men?

*Sher.* One of them is well known, my gracious lord,

A gross fat man.

*Car.* As fat as butter.

*Prince.* The man, I do assure you, is not here; For I myself at this time have employ'd him.

And, sheriff, I will engage my word to thee

That I will, by to-morrow dinner-time,

Send him to answer thee, or any man,

For any thing he shall be charg'd withal;

And so let me entreat you leave the house.

*Sher.* I will, my lord. There are two gentlemen Have in this robbery lost three hundred marks

*Prince.* It may be so: if he have robb'd these men,

He shall be answerable; and so farewell.

*Sher.* Good night, my noble lord.

*Prince.* I think it is good morrow, is it not?

*Sher.* Indeed, my lord, I think it be two o'clock.

[*Exeunt Sheriff and Carrier.*

# First Part of King Henry IV

*Prince.* This oily rascal is known as well as Paul's. Go, call him forth.

*Peto.* Falstaff!—Fast asleep behind the arras, and snorting like a horse.

*Prince.* Hark, how hard he fetches breath. Search his pockets. [*He searcheth his pockets.*] What hast thou found?

*Peto.* Nothing but papers, my lord.

*Prince.* Let's see what they be; read them.

*Peto.* [Reads] { *Item, A capon, . . . 2s. 2d.*  
                  { *Item, Sauce, . . . 4d.*  
                  { *Item, Sack, two gallons, 5s. 8d.*  
                  { *Item, Anchovies and*  
                          *sack after supper, 2s. 6d.*  
                  { *Item, Bread, . . . ob.*

*Prince.* O monstrous! but one half-penny-worth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack! What there is else, keep close; we'll read it at more advantage. There let him sleep till day. I'll to the court in the morning. We must all to the wars, and thy place shall be honourable. I'll procure this fat rogue a charge of foot; and I know his death will be a march of twelve-score. The money shall be paid back again with advantage. Be with me betimes in the morning; and so, good morrow, Peto. [*Exeunt.*]

*Peto.* Good morrow, good my lord.

## ACT III.

SCENE 1.—Bangor. The Archdeacon's House.

*Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Mortimer, and Glendower.*

*Mort.* These promises are fair, the parties sure,  
And our induction full of prosperous hope.

*Hot.* Lord Mortimer, and cousin Glendower,

## Act III Scene 1

Will you sit down?—

And Uncle Worcester. A plague upon it!  
I have forgot the map.

*Glend.* No, here it is.

Sit, cousin Percy; sit, good cousin Hotspur,  
For by that name as oft as Lancaster  
Doth speak of you, his cheek looks pale, and  
with

A rising sigh he wisheth you in heaven.

*Hot.* And you in hell, as oft as he hears Owen  
Glendower spoke of.

*Glend.* I cannot blame him; at my nativity  
The front of heaven was full of fiery shapes,  
Of burning cressets\*; and at my birth [beacon lights]  
The frame and huge foundation of the earth  
Shak'd like a coward.

*Hot.* Why, so it would have done at the same  
season, if your mother's cat had but kittened,  
though yourself had never been born.

*Glend.* I say the earth did shake when I was  
born.

*Hot.* And I say the earth was not of my mind,  
If you suppose as fearing you it shook.

*Glend.* The heavens were all on fire, the earth  
did tremble.

*Hot.* O, then the earth shook to see the  
heavens on fire,  
And not in fear of your nativity.  
Diseased nature oftentimes breaks forth  
In strange eruptions; oft the teeming earth  
Is with a kind of colic pinch'd and vex'd  
By the imprisoning of unruly wind  
Within her womb; which, for enlargement  
striving,  
Shakes the old beldam\* earth and topples [irony]  
down

## First Part of King Henry IV

Steeple and moss-grown towers. At your birth  
Our grandam earth, having this distemperature,  
In passion shook.

*Glend.* Cousin, of many men  
I do not bear these crossings. Give me leave  
To tell you once again that at my birth  
The front of heaven was full of fiery shapes,  
The goats ran from the mountains, and the herds  
Were strangely clamorous to the frightened fields.  
These signs have mark'd me extraordinary,  
And all the courses of my life do show  
I am not in the roll of common men.  
Where is he living, clipp'd in with\* the enclosed by  
sea

That chides the banks of England, Scotland,  
Wales,

Which calls me pupil, or hath read to me?  
And bring him out that is but woman's son  
Can trace me in the tedious ways of art  
And hold me pace\* in deep experi- keep pace with me  
ments.

*Hot.* I think there's no man speaks better  
Welsh.

I'll to dinner.

*Mort.* Peace, cousin Percy; you will make  
him mad.

*Glend.* I can call spirits from the vasty deep.

*Hot.* Why, so can I, or so can any man;  
But will they come when you do call for them?

*Glend.* Why, I can teach you, cousin, to com-  
mand

The devil.

*Hot.* And I can teach thee, coz, to shame the  
devil

By telling truth; tell truth and shame the devil.  
If thou have power to raise him, bring him hither,

## Act III Scene 1

And I'll be sworn I have power to shame him  
hence.

O, while you live, tell truth and shame the devil!

*Mort.* Come, come, no more of this unprofitable chat.

*Glend.* Three times hath Henry Bolingbroke  
'made head [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

Against my power; thrice from the banks of  
Wye

And sandy-bottom'd Severn have I sent him  
Bootless home and weather-beaten back.

*Hot.* Home without boots, and in foul weather  
too!

How scapes he agues, in the devil's name?

*Glend.* Come, here's the map; shall we divide  
our right

According to our threefold order ta'en?

*Mort.* The archdeacon hath divided it

Into three limits very equally.

England, from Trent and Severn hitherto,

By south and east is to my part assign'd;

All westward, Wales beyond the Severn shore,

And all the fertile land within that bound,

To Owen Glendower; and, dear coz, to you

The remnant northward, lying off from Trent.

And our indentures tripartite\* are [triple agreement  
drawn;

Which being sealed interchangeably,

A business that this night may execute,

To-morrow, cousin Percy, you and I

And my good Lord of Worcester will set forth

To meet your father and the Scottish power,

As is appointed us, at Shrewsbury.

My father Glendower is not ready yet,

Nor shall we need his help these fourteen days.

Within that space you may have drawn together

## First Part of King Henry IV

Your tenants, friends, and neighbouring gentlemen.

*Glend.* A shorter time shall send me to you, lords :

And in my conduct shall your ladies come ;  
From whom you now must steal and take no  
leave, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

For there will be a world of water shed  
Upon the parting of your wives and you.

*Hot.* Methinks my moiety, north from Burton here,

In quantity equals not one of yours.

See how this river comes me cranking\* in, [winding  
And cuts me from the best of all my land

A huge half-moon, a monstrous cantle\* out. [portion

I'll have the current in this place damn'd up ;

And here the smug and silver Trent shall run

In a new channel, fair and evenly ;

It shall not wind with such a deep indent,

To rob me of so rich a bottom here.

*Glend.* Not wind? it shall, it must ; you see  
it doth.

*Mort.* Yea, but mark how he bears his course,  
and runs me up

With like advantage on the other side ;

Gelding the opposed continent as much

As on the other side it takes from you.

*Wor.* Yea, but a little charge will trench him  
here,

And on this north side win this cape of land ;

And then he runs straight and even.

*Hot.* I'll have it so ; a little charge will do it.

*Glend.* I will not have it alter'd.

*Hot.*

Will not you?

*Glend.* No, nor you shall not.

*Hot.*

Who shall say me nay?

## Act III Scene 1

*Glend.* Why, that will I.

*Hot.* Let me not understand you, then ; speak it in Welsh.

*Glend.* I can speak English, lord, as well as you ;

For I was train'd up in the English court ;  
Where, being but young, I fram'd to the harp  
Many an English ditty lovely well,  
And gave the tongue a helpful ornament,  
A virtue that was never seen in you.

*Hot.* Marry, and I am glad of it with all my heart.

I had rather be a kitten and cry mew  
Than one of these same metre ballad-mongers ;  
I had rather hear a brazen candlestick turn'd,  
Or a dry wheel grate on the axle-tree ;  
And that would set my teeth nothing on edge,  
Nothing so much as mincing poetry.

'Tis like the forc'd gait of a shuffling nag.

*Glend.* Come, you shall have Trent turn'd.

*Hot.* I do not care : I'll give thrice so much land  
To any well-deserving friend ;  
But in the way of bargain, mark ye me,  
I'll cavil on the ninth part of a hair.

Are the indentures drawn ? shall we be gone ?

*Glend.* The moon shines fair ; you may away  
by night.

I'll haste the writer, and withal  
Break with your wives of your departure hence ;  
I am afraid my daughter will run mad,  
So much she doteth on her Mortimer. [*Exit.*

*Mor.* Fie, cousin Percy ! how you cross my father !

*Hot.* I cannot choose ; sometime he angers me  
With telling me of the moldwarp\* and the mole  
ant,

## First Part of King Henry IV

Of the dreamer Merlin and his prophecies,  
And of a dragon and a finless fish,  
A clip-wing'd griffin and a moulted raven,  
A couching lion and a ramping cat,  
And such a deal of skimble-skamble stuff  
As puts me from my faith. I tell you what,  
He held me last night at least nine hours  
In reckoning up the several devils' names  
That were his lackeys; I cried 'hum,' and 'well,  
go to,'

But mark'd him not a word. O, he is as tedious  
As a tir'd horse, a railing wife;  
Worse than a smoky house: I had rather live  
With cheese and garlic in a windmill, far,  
Than feed on cates\* and have him talk {dainties  
to me

In any summer-house in Christendom.

*Mor.* In faith, he is a worthy gentleman,  
Exceedingly well read, and profited  
In strange concealments, valiant as a lion,  
And wondrous affable, and as bountiful  
As mines of India. Shall I tell you, cousin?  
He holds your temper in a high respect,  
And curbs himself even of his natural scope  
When you do cross his humour; faith, he does.  
I warrant you, that man is not alive  
Might so have tempted him as you have done,  
Without the taste of danger and reproof;  
But do not use it oft, let me entreat you.

*Wor.* In faith, my lord, you are too wilful-  
blame,\* {wilfully blamable  
And since your coming hither have done enough  
To put him quite beside his patience.  
You must needs learn, lord, to amend this fault.  
Though sometimes it show greatness, courage,  
blood,—



## Act III Scene 1

And that's the dearest grace it renders you,—  
Yet oftentimes it doth present harsh rage,  
Defect of manners, want of government,  
Pride, haughtiness, opinion, and disdain ;  
The least of which haunting a nobleman  
Loseth men's hearts and leaves behind a stain  
Upon the beauty of all parts besides,  
Beguiling them of commendation.

*Hot.* Well, I am school'd ; good manners be  
your speed !  
Here come our wives, and let us take our leave.

*Re-enter Glendower with the ladies.*

*Mort.* This is the deadly spite that angers  
me ;

My wife can speak no English, I no Welsh.

*Glend.* My daughter weeps : she will not  
part with you ;

She'll be a soldier too, she'll to the wars.

*Mort.* Good father, tell her that she and my  
aunt Percy

Shall follow in your conduct speedily.

*[Glendower speaks to her in Welsh  
and she answers him in the same.]*

*Glend.* She is desperate here ; a peevish self-  
willed harlotry, one that no persuasion can do  
good upon. *[The lady speaks in Welsh.]*

*Mort.* I understand thy looks : that pretty  
Welsh

Which thou pour'st down from these swelling  
heavens

I am too perfect in ; and, but for shame,  
In such a parley should I answer thee.

*[The lady speaks again in Welsh.]*  
I understand thy kisses and thou mine,

And that's a feeling disputation ;

## First Part of King Henry IV

But I will never be a truant, love,  
Till I have learn'd thy language ; for thy tongue  
Makes Welsh as sweet as ditties highly penn'd,  
Sung by a fair queen in a summer's bower,  
With ravishing division, to her lute.

*Glend.* Nay, if you melt, then will she run  
mad. [*The lady speaks again in Welsh.*]

*Mort.* O, I am ignorance itself in this !

*Glend.* She bids you on the wanton rushes\*  
lay you down

[*rushes strewn on floor*]

And rest your gentle head upon her lap,  
And she will sing the song that pleaseth you  
And on your eyelids crown the god of sleep,  
Charming your blood with pleasing heaviness,  
Making such difference 'twixt wake and sleep  
As is the difference betwixt day and night  
The hour before the heavenly-harness'd team  
Begins his golden progress in the east.

*Mort.* With all my heart I'll sit and hear her  
sing ;

By that time will our book, I think, be drawn.

*Glend.* Do so ;

And those musicians that shall play to you  
Hang in the air a thousand leagues from hence,  
And straight they shall be here : sit, and attend.

*Hot.* Come, Kate, thou art perfect in lying  
down ; come, quick, quick, that I may lay my  
head in thy lap.

*Lady P.* Go, ye giddy goose.

[*The music plays.*]

*Hot.* Now I perceive the devil understands  
Welsh ;

And 'tis no marvel he is so humorous.

By'r lady, he is a good musician.

*Lady P.* Then should you be nothing but  
musical, for you are altogether governed by

## Act III Scene 1

humours. Lie still, ye thief, and hear the lady sing in Welsh.

*Hot.* I had rather hear Lady, my brach, howl in Irish.

*Lady P.* Wouldst thou have thy head broken?

*Hot.* No.

*Lady P.* Then be still, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Hot.* Neither; 'tis a woman's fault.

*Lady P.* Now God help thee!

*Hot.* To the Welsh lady's bed.

*Lady P.* What's that?

*Hot.* Peace! she sings.

[*Here the Lady sings a Welsh song.*]

*Hot.* Come, Kate, I'll have your song too.

*Lady P.* Not mine, in good sooth.

*Hot.* Not yours, in good sooth! Heart! you swear like a comfit-maker's wife. 'Not you, in good sooth,' and 'as true as I live,' and 'as God shall mend me,' and 'as sure as day.' [i.e. delicate And giv'st such sarcenet\* surety for thy oaths, As if thou never walk'st further than Finsbury. Swear me, Kate, like a lady as thou art, A good mouth-filling oath, and leave 'in sooth,' And such protest of pepper-gingerbread, To velvet-guards\* and Sunday-citizens.

Come, sing. [wearers of velvet trimmings]

*Lady P.* I will not sing.

*Hot.* 'Tis the next way to turn tailor, or be red-breast teacher. An the indentures be drawn, I'll away within these two hours; and so, come in when ye will. [Exit.

*Glend.* Come, come, Lord Mortimer; you are as slow

As hot Lord Percy is on fire to go.

By this our book is drawn; we'll but seal, and then

# First Part of King Henry IV

To horse immediately.

*Mort.* With all my heart. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 2.—London. The Palace.

*Enter the King, Prince of Wales, and others.*

*King.* Lords, give us leave; the Prince of  
Wales and I

Must have some private conference: but be  
near at hand,

For we shall presently have need of you.

[*Exeunt Lords.*]

I know not whether God will have it so,  
For some displeasing service I have done,  
That, in his secret doom, out of my blood  
He'll breed revengement and a scourge for me;  
But thou dost in thy passages of life  
Make me believe that thou art only mark'd  
For the hot vengeance and the rod of heaven  
To punish my mistreadings. Tell me else,  
Could such inordinate and low desires,  
Such poor, such bare, such lewd, such mean  
attempts,

Such barren pleasures, rude society,  
As thou art match'd withal and grafted to,  
Accompany the greatness of thy blood  
And hold their level with thy princely heart?

*Prince.* So please your majesty, I would I  
could

Quit all offences with as clear excuse  
As well as I am doubtless I can purge  
Myself of many I am charg'd withal;  
Yet such extenuation let me beg,  
As, in reproof of many tales devis'd,  
Which oft the ear of greatness needs must hear,  
By smiling pick-thanks\* and base news-  
mongers,

## Act III Scene 2

I may, for some things true, wherein my youth  
Hath faulty wander'd and irregular,  
Find pardon on my true submission.

*King.* God pardon thee! yet let me wonder,  
Harry,

At thy affections, which do hold a wing  
Quite from the flight of all thy ancestors;  
Thy place in council thou hast rudely lost,  
Which by thy younger brother is supplied,  
And art almost an alien to the hearts  
Of all the court and princes of my blood.  
The hope and expectation of thy time  
Is ruin'd, and the soul of every man  
Prophetically do forethink thy fall.  
Had I so lavish of my presence been,  
So common-hackney'd in the eyes of men,  
So stale and cheap to vulgar company,  
Opinion, that did help me to the crown,  
Had still kept loyal to possession  
And left me in reputeless banishment,  
A fellow of no mark nor likelihood.  
By being seldom seen, I could not stir  
But like a comet I was wonder'd at;  
That men would tell their children 'This is he';  
Others would say 'Where, which is Boling-  
broke?'

And then I stole all courtesy from heaven,  
And dress'd myself in such humility  
That I did pluck allegiance from men's hearts,  
Loud shouts and salutations from their mouths,  
Even in the presence of the crowned king.  
Thus did I keep my person fresh and new;  
My presence, like a robe pontifical,  
Ne'er seen but wonder'd at: and so my state,  
Seldom but sumptuous, showed like a feast  
And won by rareness such solemnity.

## First Part of King Henry IV

The skipping king, he ambled up and down  
With shallow jesters and rash bavin\* [dry brushwood  
wits,  
Soon kindled and soon burnt; carded\* [discarded  
his state,  
Mingled his loyalty with capering fools,  
Had his great name profaned with their scorns,  
And gave his countenance, against his name,  
To laugh at gibing boys and stand the push  
Of every beardless vain comparative,  
Grew a companion to the common streets,  
Enfeoff'd\* himself to popularity; [yielded  
That, being daily swallow'd by men's eyes,  
They surfeited with honey and began  
To loathe the taste of sweetness, whereof a little  
More than a little is by much too much.  
So when he had occasion to be seen,  
He was but as the cuckoo is in June,  
Heard, not regarded; seen, but with such eyes  
As, sick and blunted with community,  
Afford no extraordinary gaze,  
Such as is bent on sun-like majesty  
When it shines seldom in admiring eyes;  
But rather drows'd and hung their eyelids down,  
Slept in his face and render'd such aspect  
As cloudy men use to their adversaries,  
Being with his presence glutt'd, gorg'd, and full.  
And in that very line, Harry, standest thou;  
For thou hast lost thy princely privilege  
With vile participation: not an eye  
But is aweary of thy common sight,  
Save mine, which hath desir'd to see thee more:  
Which now doth that I would not have it do,  
Make blind itself with foolish tenderness.

*Prince.* I shall hereafter, my thrice gracious  
lord,

## Act III Scene 2

Be more myself.

*King.* For all the world  
As thou art to this hour was Richard then  
When I from France set foot at Ravenspurgh,  
And even as I was then is Percy now.  
Now, by my sceptre and my soul to boot,  
He hath more worthy interest to the state  
Than thou the shadow of succession ;  
For of no right, nor colour like to right,  
He doth fill fields with harness in the realm,  
Turns head against the lion's armed jaws,  
And, being no more in debt to years than thou,  
Leads ancient lords and reverend bishops on  
To bloody battles and to bruising arms.  
What never-dying honour hath he got  
Against renowned Douglas ! whose high deeds,  
Whose hot incursions and great name in arms,  
Holds from all soldiers chief majority  
And military title capital  
Through all the kingdoms that acknowledge  
Christ.  
Thrice hath the Hotspur, Mars in swathing  
clothes,  
This infant warrior, in his enterprises  
Discomfited great Douglas, ta'en him once,  
Enlarged\* him and made a friend of him, [freed  
To fill the mouth of deep defiance up  
And shake the peace and safety of our throne.  
And what say you to this? Percy, North-  
umberland,  
The Archbishop's grace of York, Douglas,  
Mortimer,  
Capitulate against us and are up.  
But wherefore do I tell these news to thee?  
Why, Harry, do I tell thee of my foes,  
Which art my near'st and dearest enemy?

## First Part of King Henry IV

Thou that art like enough, through vassal fear,  
Base inclination, and the start of spleen,  
To fight against me under Percy's pay,  
To dog his heels and curtsy at his frowns,  
To show how much thou art degenerate.

*Prince.* Do not think so; you shall not find  
it so; [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

And God forgive them that so much have sway'd  
Your majesty's good thoughts away from me!  
I will redeem all this on Percy's head,  
And in the closing of some glorious day  
Be bold to tell you that I am your son;  
When I will wear a garment all of blood  
And stain my favours in a bloody mask,  
Which, wash'd away, shall scour my shame  
with it.

And that shall be the day, whene'er it lights,  
That this same child of honour and renown,  
This gallant Hotspur, this all-praised knight,  
And your unthought-of Harry chance to meet.  
For every honour sitting on his helm,  
Would they were multitudes, and on my head  
My shames redoubled! for the time will come,  
That I shall make this northern youth exchange  
His glorious deeds for my indignities.  
Percy is but my factor, good my lord,  
To engross up glorious deeds on my behalf;  
And I will call him to so strict account,  
That he shall render every glory up,  
Yea, even the slightest worship of his time,  
Or I will tear the reckoning from his heart.  
This, in the name of God, I promise here;  
The which if He be pleas'd I shall perform,  
I do beseech your majesty may salve  
The long-grown wounds of my intemperance:  
If not, the end of life cancels all bands;



## Act III Scene 3

And I will die a hundred thousand deaths  
Ere break the smallest parcel of this vow.

*King.* A hundred thousand rebels die in this!  
Thou shalt have charge and sovereign trust  
herein.

*Enter Blunt.*

How now, good Blunt? thy looks are full of  
speed.

*Blunt.* So hath the business that I come to  
speak of.

Lord Mortimer of Scotland hath sent word  
That Douglas and the English rebels met  
The eleventh of this month at Shrewsbury.  
A mighty and a fearful head they are,  
If promises be kept on every hand,  
As ever offer'd foul play in a state.

*King.* The Earl of Westmoreland set forth  
to-day,  
With him my son, Lord John of Lancaster;  
For this advertisement is five days old.—  
On Wednesday next, Harry, you shall set for-  
ward;  
On Thursday we ourselves will march: our  
meeting  
Is Bridgenorth; and, Harry, you shall march  
Through Gloucestershire; by which account,  
Our business valued, some twelve days hence  
Our general forces at Bridgenorth shall meet.  
Our hands are full of business: let's away;  
Advantage feeds him fat while men delay.

*[Exeunt.]*

SCENE 3.—Eastcheap. The Boar's-Head Tavern.

*Enter Falstaff and Bardolph.*

*Fal.* Bardolph, am I not fallen away vilely  
since this last action? do I not bate? do I not

## First Part of King Henry IV

dwindle? Why, my skin hangs about me like an old lady's loose gown; I am withered like an old apple-john. Well, I'll repent, and that suddenly, while I am in some liking; I shall be out of heart shortly, and then I shall have no strength to repent. An I have not forgotten what the inside of a church is made of, I am a peppercorn, a brewer's horse. The inside of a church! Company, villanous company, hath been the spoil of me.

*Bard.* Sir John, you are so fretful, you cannot live long.

*Fal.* Why, there is it: come sing me a bawdy song; make me merry. I was as virtuously given as a gentleman need to be, virtuous enough; swore little; diced not above seven times a week; went to a bawdy-house not above once in a quarter—of an hour; paid money that I borrowed, three or four times; lived well and in good compass: and now I live out of all order, out of all compass.

*Bard.* Why, you are so fat, Sir John, that you must needs be out of all compass, out of all reasonable compass, Sir John.

*Fal.* Do thou amend thy face, and I'll amend my life. Thou art our admiral, thou bearest the lantern in the poop,—but 'tis in the nose of thee; thou art the Knight of the Burning Lamp.

*Bard.* Why, Sir John, my face does you no harm.

*Fal.* No, I'll be sworn; I make as good use of it as many a man doth of a Death's-head or a *memento mori*. I never see thy face but I think upon hell-fire and Dives that lived in purple; for there he is in his robes, burning, burning. If thou wert any way given to virtue, I would

## Act III Scene 3

swear by thy face ; my oath should be 'By this fire, that's God's angel : ' but thou art altogether given over, and wert indeed, but for the light in thy face, the son of utter darkness. When thou rannest up Gadshill in the night to catch my horse, if I did not think thou hadst been an ignis-fatuus or a ball of wildfire, there's no purchase in money. O, thou art a perpetual triumph, an everlasting bonfire-light ! Thou hast saved me a thousand marks in links and torches, walking with thee in the night betwixt tavern and tavern ; but the sack that thou hast drunk me would have bought me lights as good cheap at the dearest chandler's in Europe. I have maintained that salamander of yours with fire any time this two and thirty years ; God reward me for it !

*Bard.* 'Sblood, I would my face were in your belly !

*Fal.* God-a-mercy ! so should I be sure to be heartburned.

*Enter Hostess.*

How now, Dame Partlet the hen ! have you inquired yet who picked my pocket ?

*Host.* Why, Sir John, what do you think, Sir John ? do you think I keep thieves in my house ? I have searched, I have inquired, so has my husband, man by man, boy by boy, servant by servant ; the tithe of a hair was never lost in my house before.

*Fal.* Ye lie, hostess : Bardolph was shaved and lost many a hair ; and I'll be sworn my pocket was picked. Go to, you are a woman, go.

*Host.* Who, I ? no ; I defy thee. God's light ! I was never called so in mine own house before.

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* Go to, I know you well enough.

*Host.* No, Sir John; you do not know me, Sir John. I know you, Sir John; you owe me money, Sir John, and now you pick a quarrel to beguile me of it. I bought you a dozen of shirts to your back.

*Fal.* Dowlas, filthy dowlas\*; I have [a coarse linen] given them away to bakers' wives, and they have made bolters\* of them. [sieves]

*Host.* Now, as I am a true woman, holland of eight shillings an ell. You owe money here besides, Sir John, for your diet and by-drinkings, and money lent you, four and twenty pound.

*Fal.* He had his part of it; let him pay.

*Host.* He? alas, he is poor; he hath nothing.

*Fal.* How! poor? look upon his face; what call you rich? let them coin his nose, let them coin his cheeks. I'll not pay a denier.\* What, will you make a younker of [the smallest coin] me? shall I not take mine ease in mine inn but I shall have my pocket picked? I have lost a seal-ring of my grandfather's worth forty mark.

*Host.* O Jesu, I have heard the prince tell him, I know not how oft, that that ring was copper!

*Fal.* How! the prince is a Jack, a sneak-cup; 'sblood! an he were here, I would cudgel him like a dog, if he would say so.

*Enter the Prince and Peto, marching, and Falstaff meets them playing on his truncheon like a fife.*

How now, lad! is the wind in that door, i' faith? must we all march?

*Bard.* Yea, two and two, Newgate fashion.

*Host.* My lord, I pray you, hear me.

*Prince.* What sayest thou, Mistress Quickly?

### Act III Scene 3

How doth thy husband? I love him well; he is an honest man.

*Host.* Good my lord, hear me.

*Fal.* Prithee, let her alone, and list to me.

*Prince.* What sayest thou, Jack?

*Fal.* The other night I fell asleep here behind the arras and had my pocket picked. This house is turned bawdy-house; they pick pockets.

*Prince.* What didst thou lose, Jack?

*Fal.* Wilt thou believe me, Hal? three or four bonds of forty pound a-piece, and a sealing of my grandfather's.

*Prince.* A trifle, some eight-penny matter.

*Host.* So I told him, my lord; and I said I heard your grace say so: and, my lord, he speaks most vilely of you, like a foul-mouthed man as he is, and said he would cudgel you.

*Prince.* What! he did not?

*Host.* There's neither faith, truth, nor womanhood in me else.

*Fal.* There's no more faith in thee than in a stewed prune; nor no more truth in thee than in a drawn fox; and for womanhood, Maid Marian may be the deputy's wife of the ward to thee. Go, you thing, go.

*Host.* Say, what thing? what thing?

*Fal.* What thing! why, a thing to thank God on.

*Host.* I am no thing to thank God on, I would thou shouldst know it; I am an honest man's wife: and, setting thy knighthood aside, thou art a knave to call me so.

*Fal.* Setting thy womanhood aside, thou art a beast to say otherwise.

*Host.* Say, what beast, thou knave, thou?

*Fal.* What beast! why, an otter.

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Prince.* An otter, Sir John! why an otter?

*Fal.* Why, she's neither fish nor flesh; a man knows not where to have her.

*Host.* Thou art an unjust man in saying so; thou or any man knows where to have me, thou knave, thou!

*Prince.* Thou sayest true, hostess; and he slanders thee most grossly.

*Host.* So he doth you, my lord; and said the other day you ought\* him a thousand pound. [sounded]

*Prince.* Sirrah, do I owe you a thousand pound?

*Fal.* A thousand pound, Hal! a million: thy love is worth a million; thou owest me thy love.

*Host.* Nay, my lord, he called you Jack, and said he would cudgel you.

*Fal.* Did I, Bardolph?

*Bard.* Indeed, Sir John, you said so.

*Fal.* Yea, if he said my ring was copper.

*Prince.* I say 'tis copper; darest thou be as good as thy word now?

*Fal.* Why, Hal, thou knowest, as thou art but man, I dare; but as thou art prince, I fear thee as I fear the roaring of the lion's whelp.

*Prince.* And why not as the lion?

*Fal.* The king himself is to be feared as the lion; dost thou think I'll fear thee as I fear thy father? nay, an I do, I pray God my girdle break.

*Prince.* O, if it should, how would thy guts fall about thy knees! But, sirrah, there's no room for faith, truth, nor honesty in this bosom of thine; it is all filled up with guts and midriff. Charge an honest woman with picking thy pocket! why, thou whoreson, impudent, embossed rascal, if there were anything in thy pocket but tavern-reckonings, memorandums

## Act III Scene 3

of bawdy-houses, and one poor penny-worth of sugar-candy to make thee long-winded, if thy pocket were enriched with any other injuries but these, I am a villain: and yet you will stand to it; you will not pocket up wrong. Art thou not ashamed?

*Fal.* Dost thou hear, Hal? thou knowest in the state of innocency Adam fell; and what should poor Jack Falstaff do in the days of villany? Thou seest I have more flesh than another man, and therefore more frailty. You confess, then, you picked my pocket?

*Prince.* It appears so by the story.

*Fal.* Hostess, I forgive thee: go, make ready breakfast; love thy husband, look to thy servants, cherish thy guests: thou shalt find me tractable to any honest reason; thou seest I am pacified.—Still? Nay, prithee, be gone. [*Exit Hostess.*] Now, Hal, to the news at court; for the robbery, lad, how is that answered?

*Prince.* O, my sweet beef, I must still be good angel to thee; the money is paid back again.

*Fal.* O, I do not like that paying back; 'tis a double labour.

*Prince.* I am good friends with my father and may do any thing.

*Fal.* Rob me the exchequer the first thing thou doest, and do it with unwashed hands too.

*Bard.* Do, my lord.

*Prince.* I have procured thee, Jack, a charge of foot.

*Fal.* I would it had been of horse. Where shall I find one that can steal well? O for a fine thief, of the age of two and twenty or thereabouts! I am heinously unprovided. Well, God be thanked for these rebels, they

## First Part of King Henry IV

offend none but the virtuous; I laud them, I praise them.

*Prince.* Bardolph!

*Bard.* My lord?

*Prince.* Go bear this letter to Lord John of Lancaster, to my brother John; this to my Lord of Westmoreland. [*Exit Bardolph.*] Go, Peto, to horse, to horse; for thou and I have thirty miles to ride yet ere dinner time. [*Exit Peto.*] Jack, meet me to-morrow in the Temple Hall at two o'clock in the afternoon.

There shalt thou know thy charge; and there receive

Money and order for their furniture.

The land is burning; Percy stands on high; And either they or we must lower lie. [*Exit.*

*Ful.* Rare words! brave world!—Hostess, my breakfast, come!—

O, I could wish this tavern were my drum!

[*Exit.*

### ACT IV.

SCENE 1.—The Rebel Camp near Shrewsbury.

*Enter Hotspur, Worcester, and Douglas.*

*Hot.* Well said, my noble Scot; if speaking truth

In this fine age were not thought flattery,  
Such attribution should the Douglas have,  
As not a soldier of this season's stamp  
Should go so general current through the world.  
By God, I cannot flatter; I defy  
The tongues of soothers; but a braver place  
In my heart's love hath no man than yourself.  
Nay, task me to my word; approve me, lord.

*Doug.* Thou art the king of honour;



## Act IV Scene 1

No man so potent breathes upon the ground  
But I will beard him.

*Hot.* Do so, and 'tis well.

*Enter a Messenger with letters.*

What letters hast thou there?—I can but thank  
you.

[www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Mess.* These letters come from your father.

*Hot.* Letters from him! why comes he not  
himself?

*Mess.* He cannot come, my lord; he is grievous  
sick.

*Hot.* Zounds! how has he the leisure to be sick  
In such a justling time? Who leads his power?  
Under whose government come they along?

*Mess.* His letters bear his mind, not I, my lord.

*Wor.* I prithee, tell me, doth he keep his bed?

*Mess.* He did, my lord, four days ere I set forth;  
And at the time of my departure thence  
He was much fear'd by his physicians.

*Wor.* I would the state of time had first been  
whole

Ere he by sickness had been visited;  
His health was never better worth than now.

*Hot.* Sick now! droop now! this sickness doth  
infect

The very life-blood of our enterprise;  
'Tis catching hither, even to our camp.  
He writes me here, that inward sickness—  
And that his friends by deputation could not  
So soon be drawn, nor did he think it meet  
To lay so dangerous and dear a trust  
On any soul remov'd but on his own.  
Yet doth he give us bold advertisement,  
That with our small conjunction we should on,  
To see how fortune is dispos'd to us;

## First Part of King Henry IV

For, as he writes, there is no quailing now,  
Because the king is certainly possess'd  
Of all our purposes. What say you to it?

*Wor.* Your father's sickness is a maim to us.

*Hot.* A perilous gash, a very limb lopp'd off;  
And yet, in faith, it is not; his present want  
Seems more than we shall find it. Were it good  
To set the exact wealth of all our states  
All at one cast? to set so rich a main\* [stake  
On the nice hazard of one doubtful hour?  
It were not good; for therein should we read  
The very bottom and the soul of hope,  
The very list,\* the very utmost bound [limit  
Of all our fortunes.

*Doug.* Faith, and so we should;  
Where now remains a sweet reversion.  
We may boldly spend upon the hope of what  
Is to come in;  
A comfort of retirement lives in this.

*Hot.* A rendezvous, a home to fly unto,  
If that the devil and mischance look big  
Upon the maidenhead of our affairs.

*Wor.* But yet I would your father had been  
here.

The quality and hair\* of our attempt [complexion  
Brooks no division. It will be thought  
By some, that know not why he is away,  
That wisdom, loyalty, and mere dislike  
Of our proceedings kept the earl from hence:  
And think how such an apprehension  
May turn the tide of fearful faction  
And breed a kind of question in our cause;  
For well you know we of the offering side  
Must keep aloof from strict arbitrement,  
And stop all sight-holes, every loop from whence  
The eye of reason may pry in upon us.

## Act IV Scene 1

This absence of your father's draws a curtain,  
That shows the ignorant a kind of fear  
Before not dreamt of.

*Hot.* You strain too far.  
I rather of his absence make this use :  
It lends a lustre and more great opinion,  
A larger dare to our great enterprise,  
Than if the earl were here ; for men must think,  
If we without his help can make a head  
To push against a kingdom, with his help  
We shall o'erturn it topsy-turvy down.  
Yet all goes well, yet all our joints are whole.

*Doug.* As heart can think ; there is not such  
a word  
Spoke of in Scotland as this term of fear.

*Enter Sir Richard Vernon.*

*Hot.* My cousin Vernon! welcome, by ray soul.

*Ver.* Pray God my news be worth a welcome,  
lord.  
The Earl of Westmoreland, seven thousand  
strong,

Is marching hitherwards; with him Prince John.

*Hot.* No harm ; what more ?

*Ver.* And further, I have learn'd,  
The king himself in person is set forth,  
Or hitherwards intended speedily,  
With strong and mighty preparation.

*Hot.* He shall be welcome too. Where is his  
son,  
The nimble-footed madcap Prince of Wales,  
And his comrades, that daff'd the world aside,  
And bid it pass ?

*Ver.* All furnish'd, all in arms ;  
All plum'd like estridges\* that wing the ostriches  
wind ;

## First Part of King Henry IV

Baited\* like eagles having lately (flapping wings)  
bath'd;

Glittering in golden coats, like images;  
As full of spirit as the month of May,  
And gorgeous as the sun at midsummer;  
Wanton as youthful goats, wild as young bulls.  
I saw young Harry, with his beaver on,  
His cuisses on his thighs, gallantly arm'd,  
Rise from the ground like feather'd Mercury,  
And vaulted with such ease into his seat,  
As if an angel dropp'd down from the clouds,  
To turn and wind a fiery Pegasus  
And witch the world with noble horsemanship.

*Hot.* No more, no more; worse than the sun  
in March,

This praise doth nourish agues. Let them come;  
They come like sacrifices in their trim,  
And to the fire-eyed maid of smoky war  
All hot and bleeding will we offer them:  
The mailed Mars shall on his altar sit  
Up to the ears in blood. I am on fire  
To hear this rich reprisal is so nigh  
And yet not ours.—Come, let me take my  
horse,

Who is to bear me like a thunderbolt  
Against the bosom of the Prince of Wales;  
Harry to Harry shall, hot horse to horse,  
Meet and ne'er part till one drop down a corse.  
O that Glendower were come!

*Ver.* There is more news;

I learn'd in Worcester, as I rode along, (collect forces)  
He cannot draw his power\* this fourteen days.

*Doug.* That's the worst tidings that I hear of  
yet.

*Wor.* Ay, by my faith, that bears a frosty  
sound.

## Act IV Scene 2

*Hot.* What may the king's whole battle reach unto?

*Ver.* To thirty thousand.

*Hot.* Forty let it be ;

My father and Glendower being both away,

The powers of us may serve so great a day.

Come, let us take a muster speedily: [www.libriol.com.cn](http://www.libriol.com.cn)

Doomsday is near ; die all, die merrily.

*Doug.* Talk not of dying ; I am out of fear  
Of death or death's hand for this one-half year.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 2.—A Public Road near Coventry.

*Enter Falstaff and Bardolph.*

*Fal.* Bardolph, get thee before to Coventry ; fill me a bottle of sack. Our soldiers shall march through ; we'll to Sutton Co'fil'\* to- [Sutton Coldfield night.

*Bard.* Will you give me money, captain ?

*Fal.* Lay out, lay out.

*Bard.* This bottle makes an angel.\* [ten shillings

*Fal.* And if it do, take it for thy labour ; and if it make twenty, take them all ; I'll answer the coinage. Bid my lieutenant Peto meet me at town's end.

*Bard.* I will, captain ; farewell. [*Exit.*]

*Fal.* If I be not ashamed of my soldiers, I am a soused gurnet. I have misused the king's press damnably. I have got, in exchange of a hundred and fifty soldiers, three hundred and odd pounds. I press me none but good householders, yeomen's sons ; inquire me out contracted bachelors, such as had been asked twice on the banns ; such a commodity of warm slaves, as had as lieve hear the devil

## First Part of King Henry IV

as a drum ; such as fear the report of a caliver\* worse than a struck fowl or a hurt [a light musket wild-duck. I pressed me none but such toasts-and-butter, with hearts in their bellies no bigger than pins' heads, and they have bought out their services ; and now my whole charge consists of ancients, corporals, lieutenants, gentlemen of companies, slaves as ragged as Lazarus in the painted cloth, where the glutton's dogs licked his sores ; and such as indeed were never soldiers, but discarded unjust serving-men, younger sons to younger brothers, revolted tapsters and ostlers trade-fallen, the cankers of a calm world and a long peace, ten times more dishonourable ragged than an old-fac'd ancient : and such have I, to fill up the rooms of them that have bought out their services, that you would think that I had a hundred and fifty tattered prodigals lately come from swine-keeping, from eating draff\* and [refuse husks. A mad fellow met me on the way and told me I had unloaded all the gibbets and pressed the dead bodies. No eye hath seen such scarecrows. I'll not march through Coventry with them, that's flat ! nay, and the villains march wide betwixt the legs, as if they had gyves on ; for indeed I had the most of them out of prison. There's but a shirt and a half in all my company ; and the half shirt is two napkins tacked together and thrown over the shoulders like an herald's coat without sleeves ; and the shirt, to say the truth, stolen from my host at Saint Alban's, or the red-nose innkeeper of Daventry. But that's all one ; they'll find linen enough on every hedge.

## Act IV Scene 2

*Enter the Prince and Westmoreland.*

*Prince.* How now, blown Jack! how now, quilt!

*Fal.* What, Hal! how now, mad wag! what a devil dost thou in Warwickshire?—My good Lord of Westmoreland, I cry you mercy; I thought your honour had already been at Shrewsbury.

*West.* Faith, Sir John, 'tis more than time that I were there, and you too; but my powers are there already. The king, I can tell you, looks for us all; we must away all to-night.

*Fal.* Tut! never fear me; I am as vigilant as a cat to steal cream.

*Prince.* I think, to steal cream indeed, for thy theft hath already made thee butter. But tell me, Jack, whose fellows are these that come after?

*Fal.* Mine, Hal, mine.

*Prince.* I did never see such pitiful rascals.

*Fal.* Tut, tut! good enough to toss; food for powder, food for powder; they'll fill a pit as well as better: tush, man, mortal men, mortal men.

*West.* Ay, but, Sir John, methinks they are exceeding poor and bare, too beggarly.

*Fal.* Faith, for their poverty, I know not where they had that; and for their bareness, I am sure they never learned that of me.

*Prince.* No, I'll be sworn; unless you call three fingers on the ribs bare. But, sirrah, make haste; Percy is already in the field.

*Fal.* What, is the king encamped?

*West.* He is, Sir John; I fear we shall stay too long.

*Fal.* Well,

## First Part of King Henry IV

To the latter end of a fray and the beginning of  
a feast

Fits a dull fighter and a keen guest. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 3.—The Rebel Camp near Shrewsbury.

*Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Douglas, and  
Vernon.*

*Hot.* We'll fight with him to-night.

*Wor.* It may not be.

*Doug.* You give him then advantage.

*Ver.* Not a whit.

*Hot.* Why say you so? looks he not for  
supply?

*Ver.* So do we.

*Hot.* His is certain, ours is doubtful.

*Wor.* Good cousin, be advis'd; stir not to-  
night.

*Ver.* Do not, my lord.

*Doug.* You do not counsel well;  
You speak it out of fear and cold heart.

*Ver.* Do me no slander, Douglas; by my life,  
And I dare well maintain it with my life,  
If well-respected honour bid me on,  
I hold as little counsel with weak fear  
As you, my lord, or any Scot that this day lives.  
Let it be seen to-morrow in the battle  
Which of us fears.

*Doug.* Yea, or to-night.

*Ver.* Content.

*Hot.* To-night, say I.

*Ver.* Come, come, it may not be. I wonder  
much,  
Being men of such great leading as you are,  
That you foresee not what impediments  
Drag back our expedition: certain horse



## Act IV Scene 3

Of my cousin Vernon's are not yet come up ;  
Your uncle Worcester's horse came but to-day ;  
And now their pride and mettle is asleep,  
Their courage with hard labour tame and dull,  
That not a horse is half the half of himself.

*Hot.* So are the horses of the enemy  
In general, journey-bated and brought low ;  
The better part of ours are full of rest.

*Wor.* The number of the king exceedeth ours ;  
For God's sake, cousin, stay till all come in.

[*The trumpet sounds a parley.*]

*Enter Sir Walter Blunt.*

*Blunt.* I come with gracious offers from the  
king,  
If you vouchsafe me hearing and respect.

*Hot.* Welcome, Sir Walter Blunt ; and would  
to God  
You were of our determination !

Some of us love you well ; and even those some  
Envy your great deservings and good name,  
Because you are not of our quality,  
But stand against us like an enemy.

*Blunt.* And God defend but still I should  
stand so,  
So long as out of limit and true rule  
You stand against anointed majesty.  
But to my charge. The king hath sent to know  
The nature of your griefs, and whereupon  
You conjure from the breast of civil peace  
Such bold hostility, teaching his duteous land  
Audacious cruelty. If that the king  
Have any way your good deserts forgot,  
Which he confesseth to be manifold,  
He bids you name your griefs, and with all  
speed

## First Part of King Henry IV

You shall have your desires with interest  
And pardon absolute for yourself and these  
Herein misled by your suggestion.

*Hot.* The king is kind ; and well we know the  
king

Knows at what time to promise, when to pay.  
My father and my uncle and myself  
Did give him that same royalty he wears ;  
And when he was not six and twenty strong,  
Sick in the world's regard, wretched and low,  
A poor unminded outlaw sneaking home,  
My father gave him welcome to the shore ;  
And when he heard him swear and vow to God  
He came but to be Duke of Lancaster,  
To sue his livery and beg his peace,  
With tears of innocency and terms of zeal,  
My father, in kind heart and pity mov'd,  
Swore him assistance, and perform'd it too.  
Now when the lords and barons of the realm  
Perceiv'd Northumberland did lean to him,  
The more and less came in with cap and knee ;  
Met him in boroughs, cities, villages,  
Attended him on bridges, stood in lanes,  
Laid gifts before him, proffer'd him their oaths,  
Gave him their heirs as pages, follow'd him  
Even at the heels in golden multitudes.  
He presently, as greatness knows itself,  
Steps me a little higher than his vow  
Made to my father, while his blood was poor,  
Upon the naked shore at Ravenspurge ;  
And now, forsooth, takes on him to reform  
Some certain edicts and some strait decrees  
That lie too heavy on the commonwealth,  
Cries out upon abuses, seems to weep  
Over his country's wrongs ; and by this face,  
This seeming brow of justice, did he win

## Act IV Scene 3

The hearts of all that he did angle for ;  
Proceeded further, cut me off the heads  
Of all the favourites that the absent king  
In deputation left behind him here,  
When he was personal in the Irish war.

*Blunt.* Tut ! I came not to hear this.

*Hot.* Then to the point.

In short time after, he depos'd the king ;  
Soon after that, depriv'd him of his life ;  
And in the neck of that, task'd\* the whole [taxed  
state ;

To make that worse, suffer'd his kinsman March,  
Who is, if every owner were well plac'd,  
Indeed his king, to be engag'd in Wales,  
There without ransom to lie forfeited ;  
Disgrac'd me in my happy victories,  
Sought to entrap me by intelligence,  
Rated mine uncle from the council-board,  
In rage dismiss'd my father from the court,  
Broke oath on oath, committed wrong on wrong,  
And in conclusion drove us to seek out  
This head of safety ; and withal to pry  
Into his title, the which we find  
Too indirect for long continuance.

*Blunt.* Shall I return this answer to the  
king ?

*Hot.* Not so, Sir Walter ; we'll withdraw  
awhile.

Go to the king ; and let there be impawn'd  
Some surety for a safe return again,  
And in the morning early shall my uncle  
Bring him our purposes : and so farewell.

*Blunt.* I would you would accept of grace and  
love.

*Hot.* And may be so we shall.

*Blunt.* Pray God you do. [*Exeunt.*

# First Part of King Henry IV

SCENE 4.—York. The Archbishop's Palace.

*Enter the Archbishop of York and Sir Michael.*

*Arch.* Hie, good Sir Michael; bear this sealed brief

With winged haste to the lord marshal;  
This to my consin Scroop, and all the rest  
To whom they are directed. If you knew  
How much they do import, you would make  
haste.

*Sir M.* My good lord,  
I guess their tenour.

*Arch.* Like enough you do.  
To-morrow, good Sir Michael, is a day  
Wherein the fortune of ten thousand men  
Must bide the touch; for, sir, at Shrewsbury,  
As I am truly given to understand,  
The king with mighty and quick-raised power  
Meets with Lord Harry; and, I fear, Sir Michael,  
What with the sickness of Northumberland,  
Whose power was in the first proportion,  
And what with Owen Glendower's absence  
thence,  
Who with them was a rated sinew too  
And comes not in, o'er-rul'd by prophecies,  
I fear the power of Percy is too weak  
To wage an instant trial with the king.

*Sir M.* Why, my good lord, you need not fear;  
There is Douglas and Lord Mortimer.

*Arch.* No, Mortimer is not there.

*Sir M.* But there is Mordake, Vernon, Lord  
Harry Percy,  
And there is my Lord of Worcester, and a head  
Of gallant warriors, noble gentlemen.

*Arch.* And so there is; but yet the king hath  
drawn

## Act V Scene 1

The special head of all the land together :  
The Prince of Wales, Lord John of Lancaster,  
The noble Westmoreland and warlike Blunt,  
And many moe corrivals\* and dear men [co-partners  
Of estimation and command in arms.

*Sir M.* Doubt not, my lord, they shall be well  
oppos'd. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Arch.* I hope no less, yet needful 'tis to fear ;  
And, to prevent the worst, Sir Michael, speed :  
For if Lord Percy thrive not, ere the king  
Dismiss his power he means to visit us,  
For he hath heard of our confederacy,  
And 'tis but wisdom to make strong against him.  
Therefore make haste. I must go write again  
To other friends ; and so farewell, Sir Michael.

[*Exeunt.*

### ACT V.

SCENE 1.—The King's Camp near Shrewsbury.

*Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord John of  
Lancaster, Sir Walter Blunt, and Falstaff.*

*King.* How bloodily the sun begins to peer  
Above yon busky\* hill ! the day looks [bosky, woody  
pale

At his distemperature.

*Prince.* The southern wind  
Doth play the trumpet to his purposes,  
And by his hollow whistling in the leaves  
Foretells a tempest and a blustering day.

*King.* Then with the losers let it sympathize,  
For nothing can seem foul to those that win.

[*The trumpet sounds.*

*Enter Worcester and Vernon.*

How now, my Lord of Worcester ! 'tis not well

## First Part of King Henry IV

That you and I should meet upon such terms  
As now we meet. You have deceiv'd our trust,  
And made us doff our easy robes of peace,  
To crush our old limbs in ungentle steel ;  
This is not well, my lord, this is not well.  
What say you to it? will you again unknit  
This churlish knot of all-~~abhorred~~ war?  
And move in that obedient orb again  
Where you did give a fair and natural light,  
And be no more an exhal'd meteor,  
A prodigy of fear and a portent  
Of broached mischief to the unborn times?

*Wor.* Hear me, my liege.

For mine own part, I could be well content  
To entertain the lag-end of my life  
With quiet hours ; for I do protest,  
I have not sought the day of this dislike.

*King.* You have not sought it! how comes it,  
then?

*Fal.* Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it.

*Prince.* Peace, chewet, peace!

*Wor.* It pleas'd your majesty to turn your  
looks

Of favour from myself and all our house ;  
And yet I must remember you, my lord,  
We were the first and dearest of your friends.  
For you my staff of office did I break  
In Richard's time ; and posted day and night  
To meet you on the way, and kiss your hand,  
When yet you were in place and in account  
Nothing so strong and fortunate as I.  
It was myself, my brother, and his son,  
That brought you home, and boldly did outdare  
The dangers of the time. You swore to us,  
And you did swear that oath at Doncaster,  
That you did nothing purpose 'gainst the state ;

## Act V Scene 1

Nor claim no further than your new-fallen right,  
The seat of Gaunt, dukedom of Lancaster :  
To this we swore our aid. But in short space  
It rain'd down fortune showering on your head ;  
And such a flood of greatness fell on you,  
What with our help, what with the absent king,  
What with the injuries of a wanton time,  
The seeming sufferances that you had borne,  
And the contrarious winds that held the king  
So long in his unlucky Irish wars  
That all in England did repute him dead :  
And from this swarm of fair advantages  
You took occasion to be quickly woo'd  
To gripe the general sway into your hand ;  
Forgot your oath to us at Doncaster,  
And being fed by us you us'd us so  
As that ungentle gull, the cuckoo's bird,  
Useth the sparrow,—did oppress our nest,  
Grew by our feeding to so great a bulk  
That even our love durst not come near your  
sight

For fear of swallowing ; but with nimble wing  
We were enforc'd, for safety sake, to fly  
Out of your sight and raise this present head ;  
Whereby we stand opposed by such means  
As you yourself have forg'd against yourself  
By unkind usage, dangerous countenance,  
And violation of all faith and troth  
Sworn to us in your younger enterprise.

*King.* These things indeed you have articulate,  
Proclaim'd at market-crosses, read in churches,  
To face the garment of rebellion  
With some fine colour that may please the eye  
Of fickle changelings and poor discontents,  
Which gape and rub the elbow at the news  
Of hurly-burly innovation ;

## First Part of King Henry IV

And never did insurrection want  
Such water-colours to impaint his cause,  
Nor moody beggars, starving for a time  
Of pell-mell havoc and confusion.

*Prince.* In both your armies there is many a  
soul

Shall pay full dearly for this encounter,  
If once they join in trial. Tell your nephew,  
The Prince of Wales doth join with all the world  
In praise of Henry Percy; by my hopes,  
This present enterprise set off his head,  
I do not think a braver gentleman,  
More active-valiant or more valiant-young,  
More daring or more bold, is now alive  
To grace this latter age with noble deeds.  
For my part, I may speak it to my shame,  
I have a truant been to chivalry,  
And so I hear he doth account me too;  
Yet this before my father's majesty—  
I am content that he shall take the odds  
Of his great name and estimation,  
And will, to save the blood on either side,  
Try fortune with him in a single fight.

*King.* And, Prince of Wales, so dare we  
venture thee,

Albeit considerations infinite  
Do make against it.—No, good Worcester, no,  
We love our people well; even those we love  
That are misled upon your cousin's part;  
And, will they take the offer of our grace,  
Both he and they and you, yea, every man  
Shall be my friend again and I'll be his.  
So tell your cousin, and bring me word  
What he will do; but if he will not yield,  
Rebuke and dread correction wait on us,  
And they shall do their office. So, be gone;



## Act V Scene 1

We will not now be troubled with reply :  
We offer fair ; take it advisedly.

*[Exeunt Worcester and Vernon.]*

*Prince.* It will not be accepted, on my life.  
The Douglas and the Hotspur both together  
Are confident against the world in arms.

*King.* Hence, therefore, every leader to his  
charge,

For, on their answer, will we set on them ;  
And God befriend us, as our cause is just !

*[Exeunt all but the Prince of Wales and Fal.]*

*Fal.* Hal, if thou see me down in the battle  
and bestride\* me, so ; 'tis a point of [i.e. protect]  
friendship.

*Prince.* Nothing but a colossus can do thee  
that friendship. Say thy prayers, and farewell.

*Fal.* I would 'twere bedtime, Hal, and all  
well.

*Prince.* Why, thou owest God a death. *[Exit.]*

*Fal.* 'Tis not due yet ; I would be loath to pay  
him before his day. What need I be so forward  
with him that calls not on me ? Well, 'tis no  
matter ; honour pricks me on. Yea, but how  
if honour prick me off when I come on ? how  
then ? Can honour set to a leg ? no ; or an arm ?  
no ; or take away the grief of a wound ? no.  
Honour hath no skill in surgery, then ? no.  
What is honour ? a word. What is that word  
honour ? air. A trim reckoning ! Who hath  
it ? he that died o' Wednesday. Doth he feel  
it ? no. Doth he hear it ? no. Is it insensible,  
then ? yea, to the dead. But will it not live with  
the living ? no. Why ? detraction will not suffer  
it. Therefore I'll none of it. Honour is a mere  
scutcheon ; and so ends my catechism. *[Exit.]*

# First Part of King Henry IV

SCENE 2.—The Rebel Camp.

*Enter Worcester and Vernon.*

*Wor.* O, no, my nephew must not know, Sir  
Richard,

The liberal and kind offer of the king.

*Ver.* 'Twere best he did.

*Wor.* Then are we all undone.

It is not possible, it cannot be,

The king should keep his word in loving us ;

He will suspect us still, and find a time

To punish this offence in other faults.

Suspicion all our lives shall be stuck full of eyes ;

For treason is but trusted like the fox,

Who, ne'er so tame, so cherish'd and lock'd up,

Will have a wild trick of his ancestors.

Look how we can, or sad or merrily,

Interpretation will misquote our looks,

And we shall feed like oxen at a stall,

The better cherish'd, still the nearer death.

My nephew's trespass may be well forgot ;

It hath the excuse of youth and heat of blood,

And an adopted name of privilege,

A hare-brain'd Hotspur, govern'd by a spleen.

All his offences live upon my head

And on his father's ; we did train him on,

And, his corruption being ta'en from us,

We, as the spring of all, shall pay for all.

Therefore, good cousin, let not Harry know,

In any case, the offer of the king.

*Ver.* Deliver what you will ; I'll say 'tis so.

Here comes your cousin.

*Enter Hotspur and Douglas.*

*Hot.* My uncle is return'd ;

Deliver up my Lord of Westmoreland.—

## Act V Scene 2

Uncle, what news?

*Wor.* The king will bid you battle presently.

*Doug.* Defy him by the Lord of Westmoreland.

*Hot.* Lord Douglas, go you and tell him so.

*Doug.* Marry, and shall, and very willingly.

*Exit.*  
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*Wor.* There is no seeming mercy in the king.

*Hot.* Did you beg any? God forbid!

*Wor.* I told him gently of our grievances,  
Of his oath-breaking; which he mended thus,  
By now forswearing that he is forsworn.  
He calls us rebels, traitors; and will scourge  
With haughty arms this hateful name in us.

*Re-enter Douglas.*

*Doug.* Arm, gentlemen! to arms! for I have  
thrown

A brave defiance in King Henry's teeth,  
And Westmoreland, that was engag'd, did  
bear it;

Which cannot choose but bring him quickly on.

*Wor.* The Prince of Wales stepp'd forth  
before the king,

And, nephew, challeng'd you to single fight.

*Hot.* O, would the quarrel lay upon our heads,  
And that no man might draw short breath  
to-day

But I and Harry Monmouth! Tell me, tell me,  
How show'd his tasking\*? seem'd it in [challenge  
contempt?

*Ver.* No, by my soul; I never in my life  
Did hear a challenge urg'd more modestly,  
Unless a brother should a brother dare  
To gentle exercise and proof of arms.  
He gave you all the duties of a man,

## First Part of King Henry IV

Trimn'd up your praises with a princely tongue,  
Spoke your deservings like a chronicle,  
Making you ever better than his praise  
By still dispraising praise valued with you ;  
And, which became him like a prince indeed,  
He made a blushing cital\* of himself, <sup>mention</sup>  
And chid his truant youth with such a grace  
As if he master'd there a double spirit  
Of teaching and of learning instantly.  
There did he pause ; but let me tell the world,  
If he outlive the envy of this day,  
England did never owe so sweet a hope,  
So much misconstrued in his wantonness.

*Hot.* Cousin, I think thou art enamoured  
On his follies ; never did I hear  
Of any prince so wild a libertine.  
But be he as he will, yet once ere night  
I will embrace him with a soldier's arm,  
That he shall shrink under my courtesy.—  
Arm, arm with speed ! and, fellows, soldiers,  
friends,  
Better consider what you have to do  
Than I, that have not well the gift of tongue,  
Can lift your blood up with persuasion.

*Enter a Messenger.*

*Mess.* My lord, here are letters for you.

*Hot.* I cannot read them now.—

O gentlemen, the time of life is short !  
To spend that shortness basely were too long,  
If life did ride upon a dial's point,  
Still ending at the arrival of an hour.  
An if we live, we live to tread on kings ;  
If die, brave death, when princes die with us !  
Now, for our consciences, the arms are fair,  
When the intent of bearing them is just,

## Act V Scene 3

*Enter another Messenger.*

*Mess.* My lord, prepare ; the king comes on apace.

*Hot.* I thank him, that he cuts me from my tale,

For I profess not talking ; only this—

Let each man do his best : and here draw I

A sword, whose temper I intend to stain

With the best blood that I can meet withal

In the adventure of this perilous day.

Now, *Esperance!* Percy! and set on.—

Sound all the lofty instruments of war,

And by that music let us all embrace ;

For, heaven to earth, some of us never shall

A second time do such a courtesy.

[*The trumpets sound. They embrace, and exeunt.*]

SCENE 3.—Plain between the Camps.

*The King enters with his power. Alarum to the battle. Then enter Douglas and Sir Walter Blunt.*

*Blunt.* What is thy name, that in the battle thus

Thou crossest me? what honour dost thou seek  
Upon my head?

*Doug.* Know, then, my name is Douglas ;  
And I do haunt thee in the battle thus  
Because some tell me that thou art a king.

*Blunt.* They tell thee true.

*Doug.* The Lord of Stafford dear to-day hath  
bought

Thy likeness, for instead of thee, King Harry,  
This sword hath ended him ; so shall it thee,  
Unless thou yield thee as my prisoner.

## First Part of King Henry IV

*Blunt.* I was not born to yield, thou haughty Scot;

And thou shalt find a king that will revenge Lord Stafford's death.

[*They fight. Douglas kills Blunt.*

*Enter Hotspur.*

*Hot.* O Douglas, hadst thou fought at Holmedon thus,

I never had triumph'd upon a Scot.

*Doug.* All's done, all's won; here breathless lies the king.

*Hot.* Where?

*Doug.* Here.

*Hot.* This, Douglas? no; I know this face full well:

A gallant knight he was, his name was Blunt, Semblably furnish'd like the king himself.

*Doug.* A fool go with thy soul, whither it goes!

A borrow'd title hast thou bought too dear; Why didst thou tell me that thou wert a king?

*Hot.* The king hath many marching in his coats.

*Doug.* Now, by my sword, I will kill all his coats;

I'll murder all his wardrobe, piece by piece, Until I meet the king.

*Hot.* Up, and away!  
Our soldiers stand full fairly for the day.

[*Exeunt.*

*Alarum. Enter Falstaff, solus.*

*Fal.* Though I could scape shot-free at London, I fear the shot here; here's no scoring but upon the pate.—Soft! who are you? Sir Walter

## Act V Scene 3

Blunt.—There's honour for you! here's no vanity! I am as hot as molten lead, and as heavy too; God keep lead out of me! I need no more weight than mine own bowels.—I have led my ragamuffins where they are peppered: there's not three of my hundred and fifty left alive; and they are for the town's end to beg during life. But who comes here?

*Enter the Prince.*

*Prince.* What, stand'st thou idle here? lend me thy sword;

Many a nobleman lies stark and stiff  
Under the hoofs of vaunting enemies,  
Whose deaths are yet unreveng'd. Prithee,  
lend me thy sword.

*Fal.* O Hal, I prithee, give me leave to breathe awhile. Turk Gregory never did such deeds in arms as I have done this day. I have paid Percy, I have made him sure.

*Prince.* He is, indeed; and living to kill thee. I prithee, lend me thy sword.

*Fal.* Nay, before God, Hal, if Percy be alive, thou get'st not my sword; but take my pistol, if thou wilt.

*Prince.* Give it me. What, is it in the case?

*Fal.* Ay, Hal; 'tis hot, 'tis hot; there's that will sack a city. [*The Prince draws it out, and finds it to be a bottle of sack.*]

*Prince.* What, is it a time to jest and dally now? [*He throws the bottle at him. Exit.*]

*Fal.* Well, if Percy be alive, I'll pierce him. If he do come in my way, so; if he do not, if I come in his willingly, let him make a carbonado\* of me. I like not such [a rasher for broiling] grinning honour as Sir Walter hath: give me

## First Part of King Henry IV

life; which if I can save, so; if not, honour comes unlooked for, and there's an end. [*Exit.*]

SCENE 4.—Another Part of the Field.

*Alarum. Excursions. Enter the King, the Prince, Lord John of Lancaster, and Westmoreland.*

*King.* I prithee,  
Harry, withdraw thyself; thou bleed'st too much.—

Lord John of Lancaster, go you with him.

*Lan.* Not I, my lord, unless I did bleed too.

*Prince.* I beseech your majesty, make up,  
Lest your retirement do amaze your friends.

*King.* I will do so.—

My Lord of Westmoreland, lead him to his tent.

*West.* Come, my lord, I'll lead you to your tent.

*Prince.* Lead me, my lord? I do not need your help;

And God forbid a shallow scratch should drive  
The Prince of Wales from such a field as this,  
Where stain'd nobility lies trodden on,  
And rebels' arms triumph in massacres!

*Lan.* We breathe too long. Come, cousin  
Westmoreland,

Our duty this way lies; for God's sake, come.

[*Exeunt Prince John and Westmoreland.*]

*Prince.* By God, thou hast deceiv'd me,  
Lancaster;

I did not think thee lord of such a spirit.

Before, I lov'd thee as a brother, John;

But now I do respect thee as my soul.

*King.* I saw him hold Lord Percy at the point



## Act V Scene 4

With lustier maintenance than I did look for  
Of such an ungrown warrior.

*Prince.* O, this boy  
Lends mettle to us all ! [Exit.

*Enter Douglas.*

*Doug.* Another king ! they grow like Hydra's  
heads.

I am the Douglas, fatal to all those  
That wear those colours on them ; what art thou,  
That counterfeit'st the person of a king ?

*King.* The king himself ; who, Douglas, grieves  
at heart

So many of his shadows thou hast met  
And not the very king. I have two boys  
Seek Percy and thyself about the field :  
But, seeing thou fall'st on me so luckily,  
I will assay thee ; so, defend thyself.

*Doug.* I fear thou art another counterfeit ;  
And yet, in faith, thou bear'st thee like a king :  
But mine I am sure thou art, who'er thou be,  
And thus I win thee. [They fight ; the King  
being in danger, re-enter Prince of Wales.

*Prince.* Hold up thy head, vile Scot, or thou  
art like

Never to hold it up again ! the spirits  
Of valiant Shirley, Stafford, Blunt, are in my  
arms ;

It is the Prince of Wales that threatens thee,  
Who never promiseth but he means to pay.

[They fight : Douglas flies.

Cheerly, my lord ! how fares your grace ?  
Sir Nicholas Gawsey hath for succour sent,  
And so hath Clifton ; I'll to Clifton straight.

*King.* Stay, and breathe awhile.  
Thou hast redeem'd thy lost opinion,

## First Part of King Henry IV

And show'd thou mak'st some tender of my life,  
In this fair rescue thou hast brought to me.

*Prince.* O God! they did me too much injury  
That ever said I hearken'd for your death.  
If it were so, I might have let alone  
The insulting hand of Douglas over you,  
Which would have been as speedy in your end  
As all the poisonous potions in the world,  
And sav'd the treacherous labour of your son.

*King.* Make up to Clifton; I'll to Sir Nicholas  
Gawsey. [*Exit.*

*Enter Hotspur.*

*Hot.* If I mistake not, thou art Harry Mon-  
mouth.

*Prince.* Thou speak'st as if I would deny my  
name.

*Hot.* My name is Harry Percy.

*Prince.* Why, then I see

A very valiant rebel of the name.

I am the Prince of Wales; and think not, Percy,  
To share with me in glory any more:

Two stars keep not their motion in one sphere,  
Nor can one England brook a double reign,  
Of Harry Percy and the Prince of Wales.

*Hot.* Nor shall it, Harry, for the hour is come  
To end the one of us; and would to God  
Thy name in arms were now as great as mine!

*Prince.* I'll make it greater ere I part from  
thee;

And all the budding honours on thy crest  
I'll crop, to make a garland for my head.

*Hot.* I can no longer brook thy vanities.

[*They fight.*

*Enter Falstaff.*

*Fal.* Well said, Hal! to it, Hal! Nay, you  
shall find no boy's play here, I can tell you.

## Act V Scene 4

*Re-enter Douglas; he fights with Falstaff, who falls down as if he were dead, and exit Douglas. Hotspur is wounded, and falls.*

*Hot.* O, Harry, thou hast robb'd me of my youth!

I better brook the loss of brittle life  
Than those proud titles thou hast won of me;  
They wound my thoughts worse than thy sword  
my flesh:

But thought's the slave of life, and life time's  
fool;

And time, that takes survey of all the world,  
Must have a stop. O, I could prophesy,  
But that the earthy and cold hand of death  
Lies on my tongue!—No, Percy, thou art dust,  
And food for— [Dies.

*Prince.* For worms, brave Percy; fare thee  
well, great heart!

Ill-weav'd ambition, how much art thou shrunk!  
When that this body did contain a spirit,  
A kingdom for it was too small a bound;  
But now two paces of the vilest earth  
Is room enough: this earth that bears thee dead  
Bears not alive so stout a gentleman.

If thou wert sensible of courtesy,  
I should not make so dear a show of zeal;  
But let my favours hide thy mangled face,  
And, even in thy behalf, I'll thank myself  
For doing these fair rites of tenderness.  
Adieu, and take thy praise with thee to heaven!  
Thy ignomy sleep with thee in the grave,  
But not remember'd in thy epitaph!

*[He spieth Falstaff on the ground.*

What, old acquaintance! could not all this flesh  
Keep in a little life? Poor Jack, farewell!  
I could have better spar'd a better man.

## First Part of King Henry IV

O, I should have a heavy miss of thee,  
If I were much in love with vanity!  
Death hath not struck so fat a deer to-day,  
Though many dearer, in this bloody fray.  
Embowell'd will I see thee by and by;  
Till then in blood by noble Percy lie. *[Exit.*

*Fal.* *[Rising up.]* Embowelled! if thou embowel me to-day, I'll give you leave to powder me and eat me too to-morrow! 'Sblood! 'twas time to counterfeit, or that hot termagant Scot had paid me scot and lot too. Counterfeit? I lie, I am no counterfeit: to die is to be a counterfeit, for he is but the counterfeit of a man who hath not the life of a man; but to counterfeit dying, when a man thereby liveth, is to be no counterfeit, but the true and perfect image of life indeed. The better part of valour is discretion; in the which better part I have saved my life. Zounds! I am afraid of this gunpowder Percy, though he be dead. How, if he should counterfeit too and rise? by my faith, I am afraid he would prove the better counterfeit. 'Therefore I'll make him sure; yea, and I'll swear I killed him. Why may not he rise as well as I? Nothing confutes me but eyes, and nobody sees me. Therefore, sirrah *[stabbing him]*, with a new wound in your thigh, come you along with me.

*[Takes up Hotspur on his back.]*

*Re-enter the Prince of Wales and Lord John of Lancaster.*

*Prince.* Come, brother John; full bravely  
hast thou flesh'd  
Thy maiden sword.

*Lan.* But, soft! whom have we here?

## Act V Scene 4

Did you not tell me this fat man was dead

*Prince.* I did ; I saw him dead,  
Breathless and bleeding on the ground.—Art  
thou alive ?

Or is it fantasy that plays upon our eyesight ?  
I prithee, speak ; we will not trust our eyes  
Without our ears : thou art not what thou  
seem'st.

*Fal.* No, that's certain ; I am not a double  
man, but if I be not Jack Falstaff, then am I  
a Jack. There is Percy [*throwing the body  
down*] : if your father will do me any honour,  
so ; if not, let him kill the next Percy himself.  
I look to be either earl or duke, I can assure you.

*Prince.* Why, Percy I killed myself and saw  
thee dead.

*Fal.* Didst thou ? Lord, Lord, how this  
world is given to lying ! I grant you I was  
down and out of breath ; and so was he : but  
we rose both at an instant and fought a long  
hour by Shrewsbury clock. If I may be be-  
lieved, so ; if not, let them that should reward  
valour bear the sin upon their own heads. I'll  
take't on my death, I gave him this wound in  
the thigh ; if the man were alive and would  
deny it, zounds ! I would make him eat a piece  
of my sword.

*Lan.* This is the strangest tale that ever I  
heard.

*Prince.* This is the strangest fellow, brother  
John.—

Come, bring your luggage nobly on your back ;  
For my part, if a lie may do thee grace,  
I'll gild it with the happiest terms I have.

[*A retreat is sounded.*]

The trumpet sounds retreat ; the day is ours.

# First Part of King Henry IV

Come, brother, let us to the highest of the field,  
To see what friends are living, who are dead.

*[Exeunt Prince of Wales and Lancaster.]*

*Fal.* I'll follow, as they say, for reward.  
He that rewards me, God reward him! If I do  
grow great, I'll grow less; for I'll purge, and  
leave sack, and live cleanly, as a nobleman  
should do. *[Exit.]*

## SCENE 5.—Another Part of the Field.

*The trumpets sound. Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord John of Lancaster, Westmorland, and others, with Worcester and Vernon prisoners.*

*King.* Thus ever did rebellion find rebuke.—  
Ill-spirited Worcester! did not we send grace,  
Pardon, and terms of love to all of you?  
And wouldst thou turn our offers contrary?  
Misuse the tenour of thy kinsman's trust?  
Three knights upon our party\* slain to- [on our side]  
day,  
A noble earl, and many a creature else  
Had been alive this hour,  
If like a Christian thou hadst truly borne  
Betwixt our armies true intelligence.

*Wor.* What I have done my safety urg'd me to;  
And I embrace this fortune patiently,  
Since not to be avoided it falls on me.

*King.* Bear Worcester to the death, and Ver-  
non too;  
Other offenders we will pause upon.

*[Exeunt Worcester and Vernon, guarded.]*  
How goes the field?

*Prince.* The noble Scot, Lord Douglas, when  
he saw

## Act V Scene 5

The fortune of the day quite turn'd from him,  
The noble Percy slain, and all his men  
Upon the foot of fear, fled with the rest,  
And, falling from a hill, he was so bruis'd  
That the pursuers took him. At my tent  
The Douglas is; and I beseech your grace  
I may dispose of him. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*King.* With all my heart.

*Prince.* Then, brother John of Lancaster, to  
you

This honourable bounty shall belong.

Go to the Douglas, and deliver him

Up to his pleasure, ransomless and free.

His valour shown upon our crests to-day

Hath taught us how to cherish such high deeds

Even in the bosom of our adversaries.

*Lan.* I thank your grace for this high courtesy,  
Which I shall give away immediately.

*King.* Then this remains, that we divide our  
power.—

You, son John, and my cousin Westmoreland  
Towards York shall bend you with your dearest  
speed,

To meet Northumberland and the prelate Scroop,  
Who, as we hear, are busily in arms.—

Myself and you, son Harry, will towards Wales,  
To fight with Glendower and the Earl of March.

Rebellion in this land shall lose his sway,

Meeting the check of such another day;

And since this business so fair is done,

Let us not leave till all our own be won. [*Exeunt.*]

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KING HENRY IV  
*PART II*

*DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.*

RUMOUR, the Presenter.

KING HENRY the Fourth.

HENRY, Prince of Wales, afterwards King  
Henry V.,

THOMAS, Duke of Clarence,

PRINCE JOHN of Lancaster,

PRINCE HUMPHREY of Gloucester,

EARL OF WARWICK.

EARL OF WESTMORELAND,

EARL OF SURREY.

GOWER.

HARCOURT.

BLUNT.

Lord Chief-Justice of the King's Bench.

A Servant of the Chief-Justice.

EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

SCROOP, Archbishop of York.

LORD MOWBRAY.

LORD HASTINGS.

LORD BARDOLPH.

SIR JOHN COLEVILE.

TRAYERS and MORTON, retainers of Northumberland.

SIR JOHN FALSTAFF.

His Page.

BARDOLPH.

PISTOL.

POINS.

PETO.

SHALLOW, }  
SILENCE, } country justices.

DAVY, Servant to Shallow.

MOULDY, SHADOW, WART, FEEBLE, and BULLCALF,  
recruits.

FANG and SNARE, sheriff's officers.

LADY NORTHUMBERLAND.

LADY PERCY.

MISTRESS QUICKLY, hostess of a tavern in Eastcheap.

DOLL TEARSHEET.

Lords and Attendants; Porter, Drawers, Beadles,  
Grooms, &c.

A Dancer, speaker of the Epilogue.

SCENE: England.

THE  
SECOND PART OF KING HENRY IV  
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INDUCTION.

Warkworth. Before the Castle.

*Enter Rumour, painted full of tongues.*

*Rum. Open your ears; for which of you will  
stop*

*The vent of hearing when loud Rumour speaks?*

*I, from the orient to the drooping west,*

*Making the wind my post-horse, still unfold*

*The acts commeneed on this ball of earth.*

*Upon my tongues continual slanders ride,*

*The which in every language I pronounce,*

*Stuffing the ears of men with false reports.*

*I speak of peace, while covert enmity*

*Under the smile of safety wounds the world;*

*And who but Rumour, who but only I,*

*Make fearful musters and prepar'd defence,*

*Whiles the big year, swoln with some other grief,*

*Is thought with child by the stern tyrant war,*

*And no such matter? Rumour is a pipe*

*Blown by surmises, jealousies, conjectures,*

*And of so easy and so plain a stop*

*That the blunt monster with uncounted heads,\**

*The still\* discordant wavering multitude, [the dull-witted crowd*

*Can play upon it. But what need I thus*

*My well-known body to anatomize*

*Among my household? Why is Rumour here?*

*I run before King Harry's victory;*

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Who in a bloody field by Shrewsbury  
Hath beaten down young Hotspur and his troops,  
Quenching the flame of bold rebellion  
Even with the rebels' blood. But what mean I  
To speak so true at first? my office is  
To noise abroad that Harry Monmouth fell  
Under the wrath of noble Hotspur's sword,  
And that the king before the Douglas' rage  
Stoop'd his anointed head as low as death.  
This have I rumour'd through the peasant towns  
Between that royal field of Shrewsbury  
And this worm-eaten hold of ragged stone,  
Where Hotspur's father, old Northumberland,  
Lies crafty\*-sick; the posts come tiring on, [sham  
And not a man of them brings other news  
Than they have learn'd of me: from Rumour's  
tongues  
They bring smooth comforts false, worse than  
true wrongs. [Exit.*

### ACT I.

SCENE 1.—The Same.

*Enter Lord Bardolph.*

*L. Bard.* Who keeps the gate here, ho?

*The Porter opens the gate.*

Where is the earl?

*Port.* What shall I say you are?

*L. Bard.* Tell thou the earl

That the Lord Bardolph doth attend him here.

*Port.* His lordship is walk'd forth into the  
orchard;

Please it your honour, knock but at the gate,  
And he himself will answer.

# Act I Scene 1

*Enter Northumberland.*

*L. Bard.* Here comes the earl.  
[*Exit Porter.*]

*North.* What news, Lord Bardolph? every minute now

Should be the father of some stratagem.  
The times are wild; contention, like a horse  
Full of high feeding, madly hath broke loose  
And bears down all before him.

*L. Bard.* Noble earl,  
I bring you certain news from Shrewsbury.

*North.* Good, an God will!

*L. Bard.* As good as heart can wish.  
The king is almost wounded to the death;  
And, in the fortune\* of my lord [by the good fortune  
your son,

Prince Harry slain outright; and both the Blunts  
Kill'd by the hand of Douglas; young Prince  
John

And Westmoreland and Stafford fled the field;  
And Harry Monmouth's brawn, the hulk Sir  
John,

Is prisoner to your son. O, such a day,  
So fought, so follow'd, and so fairly won,  
Came not till now to dignify the times,  
Since Cæsar's fortunes!

*North.* How is this deriv'd?  
Saw you the field? came you from Shrews-  
bury?

*L. Bard.* I spake with one, my lord, that came  
from thence,  
A gentleman well bred and of good name,  
That freely render'd me these news for true.

*North.* Here comes my servant Travers, whom  
I sent

On Tuesday last to listen after news.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Enter Travers.*

*L. Bard.* My lord, I over-rode\* him on [rode past  
the way ;

And he is furnish'd with no certainties  
More than he haply may retail from me.

*North.* Now, Travers, what good tidings  
comes with you? www.libtool.com.cn

*Tra.* My lord, Sir John Umfrevile turn'd me  
back

With joyful tidings ; and, being better hors'd,  
Out-rode me. After him came spurring hard  
A gentleman, almost forspent with speed,  
That stopp'd by me to breathe his bloodied  
horse.

He ask'd the way to Chester ; and of him  
I did demand what news from Shrewsbury.  
He told me that rebellion had bad luck,  
And that young Harry Percy's spur was cold.  
With that, he gave his able horse the head,  
And bending forward struck his armed heels  
Against the panting sides of his poor jade  
Up to the rowel-head, and starting so  
He seem'd in running to devour the way,  
Staying no longer question.

*North.* Ha ! Again.

Said he young Harry Percy's spur was cold ?  
Of Hotspur, Coldspur ? that rebellion  
Had met ill luck ?

*L. Bard* My lord, I'll tell you what ;  
If my young lord your son have not the day,  
Upon mine honour, for a silken point\* [tagged lace  
I'll give my barony : never talk of it.

*North.* Why should that gentleman that rode  
by Travers  
Give then such instances of loss ?

*L. Bard.* Who, he ?

## Act I Scene 1

He was some hilding\* fellow that had [dastardly  
stolen

The horse he rode on, and, upon my life,  
Spoke at a venture. Look, here comes more  
news.

*Enter Morton.*

*North.* Yea, this man's brow like to a title-  
leaf,

Foretells the nature of a tragic volume ;  
So looks the strand whereon the imperious flood  
Hath left a witness'd usurpation.—

Say, Morton, didst thou come from Shrewsbury ?

*Mor.* I ran from Shrewsbury, my noble lord ;  
Where hateful death put on his ugliest mask  
To fright our party.

*North.* How doth my son and brother ?  
Thou tremblest ; and the whiteness in thy cheek  
Is apter than thy tongue to tell thy errand.  
Even such a man, so faint, so spiritless,  
So dull, so dead in look, so woe-begone,  
Drew Priam's curtain in the dead of night,  
And would have told him half his Troy was  
burnt ;

But Priam found the fire ere he his tongue,  
And I my Percy's death ere thou report'st it.  
This thou wouldst say, ' Your son did thus and  
thus ;

Your brother thus ; so fought the noble Douglas ;'  
Stopping my greedy ear with their bold deeds :  
But in the end, to stop mine ear indeed,  
Thou hast a sigh to blow away this praise,  
Ending with ' Brother, son, and all are dead.'

*Mor.* Douglas is living, and your brother, yet ;  
But, for my lord your son,—

*North.* Why, he is dead.  
See what a ready tongue suspicion hath !

## Second Part of King Henry IV

He that but fears the thing he would not know  
Hath by instinct knowledge from others' eyes  
That what he fear'd is chanced. Yet speak,  
Morton ;

Tell thou an earl his divination lies,  
And I will take it as a sweet disgrace,  
And make thee rich for doing me such wrong.

*Mor.* You are too great to be by me gainsaid ;  
Your spirit is too true, your fears too certain.

*North.* Yet, for all this, say not that Percy's  
dead.

I see a strange confession in thine eye ;  
Thou shak'st thy head, and hold'st it fear or sin  
To speak a truth. If he be slain, say so ;  
The tongue offends not that reports his death,  
And he doth sin that doth belie the dead,  
Not he which says the dead is not alive.  
Yet the first bringer of unwelcome news  
Hath but a losing office, and his tongue  
Sounds ever after as a sullen bell,\* [ ' passing-bell ' ]  
Remember'd knolling a departing friend.

*L. Bard.* I cannot think, my lord, your son is  
dead.

*Mor.* I am sorry I should force you to believe  
That which I would to God I had not seen ;  
But these mine eyes saw him in bloody state,  
Rendering faint quittance, wearied and out-  
breath'd,

To Harry Monmouth, whose swift wrath beat  
down

The never-daunted Percy to the earth,  
From whence with life he never more sprung up.  
In few, his death, whose spirit lent a fire  
Even to the dullest peasant in his camp,  
Being bruited once, took fire and heat away  
From the best-temper'd courage in his troops ;



## Act I Scene 1

For from his metal was his party steel'd,  
Which once in him abated, all the rest  
Turn'd on themselves, like dull and heavy lead :  
And as the thing that's heavy in itself,  
Upon enforcement flies with greatest speed,  
So did our men, heavy in Hotspur's loss,  
Lend to this weight such lightness with their fear  
That arrows fled not swifter toward their aim  
Than did our soldiers, aiming at their safety,  
Fly from the field. Then was that noble  
Worcester

Too soon ta'en prisoner ; and that furious Scot,  
The bloody Douglas, whose well-labouring sword  
Had three times slain the appearance of the king,  
Gan vail his stomach\* and did grace [lower his pride  
the shame

Of those that turn'd their backs, and in his flight,  
Stumbling in fear, was took. The sum of all  
Is that the king hath won, and hath sent out  
A speedy power\* to encounter you, my [armed force  
lord,

Under the conduct of young Lancaster  
And Westmoreland. This is the news at full.

*North.* For this I shall have time enough to  
mourn.

In poison there is physic ; and these news,  
Having been well, that would have made me sick,  
Being sick, have in some measure made me well :  
And as the wretch whose fever-weaken'd joints,  
Like strengthless hinges, buckle\* under life, [bend  
Impatient of his fit, breaks like a fire  
Out of his keeper's arms, even so my limbs,  
Weaken'd with grief, being now enrag'd with  
grief,  
Are thrice themselves. Hence, therefore, thou  
nice\* crutch! [dainty

## Second Part of King Henry IV

A scaly gauntlet now with joints of steel  
Must glove this hand; and hence, thou sickly  
quoif\* ;

[cap, hood

Thou art a guard too wanton for the head  
Which princes, flesh'd with conquest, aim to hit.  
Now bind my brows with iron; and approach  
The ragged'st hour that time and spite dare bring  
To frown upon the enrag'd Northumberland!  
Let heaven kiss earth! now let not Nature's hand  
Keep the wild flood confin'd! let order die!  
And let this world no longer be a stage  
To feed contention in a lingering act;  
But let one spirit of the first-born Cain  
Reign in all bosoms, that, each heart being set  
On bloody courses, the rude scene may end,  
And darkness be the burier of the dead!

*Tra.* This strained passion doth you wrong,  
my lord.

*L. Bard.* Sweet earl, divorce not wisdom from  
your honour.

*Mor.* The lives of all your loving complices  
Lean on your health; the which, if you give o'er  
The stormy passion, must perforce decay.  
You cast the event of war, my noble lord,  
And summ'd the account of chance, before you  
said

'Let us make head.' It was your presurmise,  
That, in the dole of blows, your son might drop.  
You knew he walk'd o'er perils, on an edge,  
More likely to fall in than to get o'er;  
You were advis'd his flesh was capable  
Of wounds and scars, and that his forward spirit  
Would lift him where most trade of danger  
rang'd:

Yet did you say 'Go forth;' and none of this,  
Though strongly apprehended, could restrain

## Act I Scene 1

The stiff-borne action. What hath then befallen,  
Or what hath this bold enterprise brought forth,  
More than that being which was like to be?

*L. Bard.* We all that are engaged to this loss  
Knew that we ventur'd on such dangerous seas  
That if we wrought our life 'twas ten to one;  
And yet we ventur'd, for the gain propos'd  
Chok'd the respect of likely peril fear'd;  
And since we are o'erset, venture again.  
Come, we will all put forth, body and goods.

*Mor.* 'Tis more than time; and, my most  
noble lord,  
I hear for certain, and do speak the truth,  
The gentle Archbishop of York is up  
With well-appointed powers; he is a man  
Who with a double surety binds his followers.  
My lord your son had only but the corpse,  
But shadows and the shows of men, to fight;  
For that same word, rebellion, did divide  
The action of their bodies from their souls,  
And they did fight with queasiness, \* con- [aversion  
strain'd,  
As men drink potions, that their weapons only  
Seem'd on our side; but, for their spirits and  
souls,  
This word, rebellion, it had froze them up,  
As fish are in a pond. But now the bishop  
Turns insurrection to religion:  
Suppos'd sincere and holy in his thoughts,  
He's follow'd both with body and with mind,  
And doth enlarge his rising with the blood  
Of fair King Richard, scrap'd from Pomfret  
stones;  
Derives from heaven his quarrel and his cause,  
Tells them he doth bestride a bleeding land,  
Gasping for life under great Bolingbroke;

## Second Part of King Henry IV

And more and less do flock to follow him.

*North.* I knew of this before; but, to speak truth,

This present grief had wip'd it from my mind.

Go in with me, and counsel every man

The aptest way for safety and revenge.

Get posts\* and letters, and make friends (messengers) with speed;

Never so few, and never yet more need.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 2.—London. A Street.

*Enter Falstaff, with his Page bearing his sword and buckler.*

*Fal.* Sirrah, you giant, what says the doctor to my water?

*Page.* He said, sir, the water itself was a good healthy water; but, for the party that owed\* (owned) it, he might have more diseases than he knew for.

*Fal.* Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at me; the brain of this foolish-compounded clay, man, is not able to invent any thing that tends to laughter, more than I invent or is invented on me: I am not only witty in myself, but the cause that wit is in other men. I do here walk before thee like a sow that hath overwhelmed all her litter but one. If the prince put thee into my service for any other reason than to set me off, why then I have no judgment. Thou whoreson mandrake, thou art fitter to be worn in my cap than to wait at my heels. I was never manned with an agate till now; but I will inset you neither in gold nor silver, but in vile apparel, and send you back again to your master,

## Act I Scene 2

for a jewel,—the juvenal, the prince your master, whose chin is not yet fledged. I will sooner have a beard grow in the palm of my hand than he shall get one on his cheek; and yet he will not stick to say his face is a face-royal. God may finish it when he will, 'tis not a hair amiss yet: he may keep it still at a face-royal, for a barber shall never earn sixpence out of it; and yet he'll be crowing as if he had writ\* man ever since his father [called himself was a bachelor. He may keep his own grace, but he's almost out of mine, I can assure him. What said Master Dombledon about the satin for my short cloak and my slops\*? [breeches

*Page.* He said, sir, you should procure him better assurance than Bardolph: he would not take his band and yours; he liked not the security.

*Fal.* Let him be damned, like the glutton! pray God his tongue be hotter! A whoreson Achitophel! a rascally yea-forsooth knave! to bear a gentleman in hand, and then stand upon security! The whoreson smooth-pates do now wear nothing but high shoes, and bunches of keys at their girdles; and if a man is through with them in honest taking up, then they must stand upon security. I had as lief they would put ratsbane in my mouth as offer to stop it with security. I looked a' should have sent me two and twenty yards of satin, as I am a true knight, and he sends me security. Well, he may sleep in security; for he hath the horn of abundance, and the lightness of his wife shines through it: and yet cannot he see, though he have his own lanthorn to light him. Where's Bardolph?

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Page.* He's gone into Smithfield to buy your worship a horse.

*Fal.* I bought him in Paul's, and he'll buy me a horse in Smithfield; an I could get me but a wife in the stews, I were manned, horsed, and wived.

*Enter the Lord Chief-Justice and Servant.*

*Page.* Sir, here comes the nobleman that committed the prince for striking him about Bardolph.

*Fal.* Wait close; I will not see him.

*Ch. Just.* What's he that goes there?

*Serv.* Falstaff, an't please your lordship.

*Ch. Just.* He that was in question for the robbery?

*Serv.* He, my lord; but he hath since done good service at Shrewsbury, and, as I hear, is now going with some charge to the Lord John of Lancaster.

*Ch. Just.* What, to York? Call him back again.

*Serv.* Sir John Falstaff!

*Fal.* Boy, tell him I am deaf.

*Page.* You must speak louder; my master is deaf.

*Ch. Just.* I am sure he is, to the hearing of any thing good.—Go, pluck him by the elbow; I must speak with him.

*Serv.* Sir John!

*Fal.* What! a young knave, and begging! Is there not wars? is there not employment? doth not the king lack subjects? do not the rebels need soldiers? Though it be a shame to be on any side but one, it is worse shame to beg than to be on the worst side, were it worse than the name of rebellion can tell how to make it.

## Act I Scene 2

*Serv.* You mistake me, sir.

*Fal.* Why, sir, did I say you were an honest man? setting my knighthood and my soldiership aside, I had lied in my throat, if I had said so.

*Serv.* I pray you, sir, then set your knighthood and your soldiership aside; and give me leave to tell you, you lie in your throat, if you say I am any other than an honest man.

*Fal.* I give thee leave to tell me so! I lay aside that which grows\* to me! If thou [belongs gettest any leave of me, hang me; if thou takest leave, thou wert better be hanged. You hunt counter\*; hence! avaunt! [are on wrong scent

*Serv.* Sir, my lord would speak with you.

*Ch. Just.* Sir John Falstaff, a word with you.

*Fal.* My good lord! God give your lordship good time of day. I am glad to see your lordship abroad; I heard say your lordship was sick: I hope your lordship goes abroad by advice. Your lordship, though not clean past your youth, hath yet some smack of age in you, some relish of the saltness of time; and I most humbly beseech your lordship to have a reverent care of your health.

*Ch. Just.* Sir John, I sent for you before your expedition to Shrewsbury.

*Fal.* An't please your lordship, I hear his majesty is returned with some discomfort from Wales.

*Ch. Just.* I talk not of his majesty; you would not come when I sent for you.

*Fal.* And I hear, moreover, his highness is fallen into this same whoreson apoplexy.

*Ch. Just.* Well, God mend him! I pray you, let me speak with you.

*Fal.* This apoplexy is, as I take it, a kind of

## Second Part of King Henry IV

lethargy, an't please your lordship; a kind of sleeping in the blood, a whoreson tingling.

*Ch. Just.* What tell you me of it? be it as it is.

*Fal.* It hath its original from much grief, from study and perturbation of the brain: I have read the cause of his effects in Galen; it is a kind of deafness.

*Ch. Just.* I think you are fallen into the disease; for you hear not what I say to you.

*Fal.* Very well, my lord, very well; rather, an't please you, it is the disease of not listening, the malady of not marking, that I am troubled withal.

*Ch. Just.* To punish you by the heels would amend the attention of your ears; and I care not if I do become your physician.

*Fal.* I am as poor as Job, my lord, but not so patient: your lordship may minister the potion of imprisonment to me in respect of poverty; but how I should be your patient to follow your prescriptions, the wise may make some dram of a scruple, or indeed a scruple itself.

*Ch. Just.* I sent for you, when there were matters against you for your life, to come speak with me.

*Fal.* As I was then advised by my learned counsel in the laws of this land-service, I did not come.

*Ch. Just.* Well, the truth is, Sir John, you live in great infamy.

*Fal.* He that buckles him in my belt cannot live in less.

*Ch. Just.* Your means are very slender, and your waste is great.

*Fal.* I would it were otherwise; I would my means were greater, and my waist slenderer.



## Act I Scene 2

*Ch. Just.* You have misled the youthful prince.

*Fal.* The young prince hath misled me; I am the fellow with the great belly, and he my dog.

*Ch. Just.* Well, I am loath to gall a new-healed wound: your day's service at Shrewsbury hath a little gilded over your night's exploit on Gads-hill; you may thank [www.libtcol.com.cn](http://www.libtcol.com.cn) the unquiet time for your quiet o'er-posting that action.

*Fal.* My lord?

*Ch. Just.* But since all is well, keep it so; wake not a sleeping wolf.

*Fal.* To wake a wolf is as bad as to smell a fox.

*Ch. Just.* What! you are as a candle, the better part burnt out.

*Fal.* A wassail candle, my lord, all tallow; if I did say of wax, my growth would approve the truth.

*Ch. Just.* There is not a white hair on your face but should have his effect of gravity.

*Fal.* His effect of gravy, gravy, gravy.

*Ch. Just.* You follow the young prince up and down, like his ill angel.

*Fal.* Not so, my lord; your ill angel is light; but I hope he that looks upon me will take me without weighing: and yet, in some respects, I grant, I cannot go, I cannot tell. Virtue is of so little regard in these costermonger times that true valour is turned bear-herd; pregnancy\* is made a tapster, and hath his quick wit [ready wit] wasted in giving reckonings; all the other gifts appertinent to man, as the malice of this age shapes them, are not worth a gooseberry. You that are old consider not the capacities of us that are young; you measure the heat of our livers with the bitterness of your galls; and we that are in the vaward\* of our youth, I [vanguard] must confess, are wags too.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Ch. Just.* Do you set down your name in the scroll of youth, that are written down old with all the characters of age? Have you not a moist eye? a dry hand? a yellow cheek? a white beard? a decreasing leg? an increasing belly? is not your voice broken? your wind short? your chin double? your wit single? <sup>weak</sup> and every part about you blasted with antiquity? and will you yet call yourself young! Fie, fie, fie, Sir John!

*Fal.* My lord, I was born about three of the clock in the afternoon, with a white head and something a round belly. For my voice, I have lost it with hallooing and singing of anthems. To approve my youth further, I will not: the truth is, I am only old in judgment and understanding; and he that will caper with me for a thousand marks, let him lend me the money, and have at him! For the box of the ear that the prince gave you, he gave it like a rude prince, and you took it like a sensible lord. I have checked him for it, and the young lion repents; marry, not in ashes and sackcloth, but in new silk and old sack.

*Ch. Just.* Well, God send the prince a better companion!

*Fal.* God send the companion a better prince! I cannot rid my hands of him.

*Ch. Just.* Well, the king hath severed you and Prince Harry; I hear you are going with Lord John of Lancaster against the Archbishop and the Earl of Northumberland.

*Fal.* Yea; I thank your pretty sweet wit for it. But look you pray, all you that kiss my lady Peace at home, that our armies join not in a hot day; for, by the Lord, I take but two

## Act I Scene 2

shirts out with me, and I mean not to sweat extraordinarily: if it be a hot day, and I brandish any thing but a bottle, I would I might never spit white again. There is not a dangerous action can peep out his head but I am thrust upon it: well, I cannot last ever; but it was always yet the trick of our English nation, if they have a good thing, to make it too common. If ye will needs say I am an old man, you should give me rest. I would to God my name were not so terrible to the enemy as it is; I were better to be eaten to death with a rust than to be scoured to nothing with perpetual motion.

*Ch. Just.* Well, be honest, be honest; and God bless your expedition!

*Fal.* Will your lordship lend me a thousand pound to furnish me forth?

*Ch. Just.* Not a penny, not a penny; you are too impatient to bear crosses.\* Fare [coins so stamped you well; commend me to my cousin Westmoreland. [*Exeunt Chief-Justice and Servant.*

*Fal.* If I do, fillip me with a three-man beetle.\* A man can no more [a heavy wooden rammer separate age and covetousness than a' can part young limbs and lechery: but the gout galls the one, and the pox pinches the other; and so both the degrees prevent my curses.—Boy!

*Page.* Sir?

*Fal.* What money is in my purse?

*Page.* Seven groats and two pence.

*Fal.* I can get no remedy against this consumption of the purse; borrowing only lingers and lingers it out, but the disease is incurable. Go bear this letter to my Lord of Lancaster; this to the prince; this to the Earl of West-

## Second Part of King Henry IV

moreland; and this to old Mistress Ursula, whom I have weekly sworn to marry since I perceived the first white hair on my chin. About it; you know where to find me. [*Exit Page.*] A pox of this gout! or, a gout of this pox! for the one or the other plays the rogue with my great toe. 'Tis no matter if I do halt; I have the wars for my colour, and my pension shall seem the more reasonable. A good wit will make use of any thing; I will turn diseases to commodity. [*Exit.*]

SCENE 3.—York. The Archbishop's Palace.

*Enter the Archbishop, the Lords Hastings, Mowbray, and Bardolph.*

*Arch.* Thus have you heard our cause and known our means;

And, my most noble friends, I pray you all,  
Speak plainly your opinions of our hopes.—  
And first, lord marshal, what say you to it?

*Mowb.* I well allow the occasion of our arms,  
But gladly would be better satisfied  
How in our means we should advance ourselves  
To look with forehead bold and big enough  
Upon the power and puissance of the king.

*Hast.* Our present musters grow upon the file  
To five and twenty thousand men of choice;  
And our supplies live largely in the hope  
Of great Northumberland, whose bosom burns  
With an incensed fire of injuries.

*L. Bard.* The question then, Lord Hastings,  
standeth thus:

Whether our present five and twenty thousand  
May hold up head without Northumberland?

*Hast.* With him, we may.

*L. Bard.* Yea, marry, there's the point;

## Act I Scene 3

But if without him we be thought too feeble,  
My judgment is, we should not step too far  
Till we had his assistance by the hand ;  
For in a theme so bloody-fac'd as this,  
Conjecture, expectation, and surmise  
Of aids incertain should not be admitted.

*Arch.* 'Tis very true, Lord Bardolph ; for indeed

It was young Hotspur's case at Shrewsbury.

*L. Bard.* It was, my lord ; who lin'd himself  
with hope,

Eating the air on promise of supply,  
Flattering himself in project of a power  
Much smaller than the smallest of his thoughts ;  
And so, with great imagination  
Proper to madmen, led his powers to death  
And winking leap'd into destruction.

*Hast.* But, by your leave, it never yet did hurt  
To lay down likelihoods and forms of hope.

*L. Bard.* Yes, in this present quality of war,  
Indeed the instant action—a cause on foot—  
Lives so in hope as in an early spring  
We see the appearing buds ; which to prove fruit,  
Hope gives not so much warrant as despair  
That frosts will bite them. When we mean to  
build,

We first survey the plot, then draw the model ;  
And when we see the figure of the house,  
Then must we rate the cost of the erection ;  
Which if we find outweighs ability,  
What do we then but draw anew the model  
In fewer offices, or at last desist  
To build at all ? Much more, in this great work,  
Which is almost to pluck a kingdom down  
And set another up, should we survey  
The plot of situation and the model,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Consent upon a sure foundation,  
Question surveyors, know our own estate,  
How able such a work to undergo,  
To weigh against his opposite; or else  
We fortify in paper and in figures,  
Using the names of men instead of men:  
Like one that draws the model of a house  
Beyond his power to build it; who, half through,  
Gives o'er and leaves his part-created cost  
A naked subject to the weeping clouds  
And waste for churlish winter's tyranny.

*Hast.* Grant that our hopes, yet likely of fair  
    birth,  
Should be still-born, and that we now possess'd  
The utmost man of expectation,  
I think we are a body strong enough,  
Even as we are, to equal with the king.

*L. Bard.* What, is the king but five and  
    twenty thousand?

*Hast.* To us no more; nay, not so much, Lord  
    Bardolph.

For his divisions, as the times do brawl,  
Are in three heads: one power against the  
    French,

And one against Glendower; perforce a third  
Must take up us. So is the unfirm king  
In three divided; and his coffers sound  
With hollow poverty and emptiness.

*Arch.* That he should draw his several  
    strengths together  
And come against us in full puissance,  
Need not be dreaded.

*Hast.*                                   If he should do so,  
He leaves his back unarm'd, the French and  
    Welsh

Baying him at the heels; never fear that.

## Act I Scene 3

*L. Bard.* Who is it like should lead his forces  
hither?

*Hast.* The Duke of Lancaster and Westmore-  
land;  
Against the Welsh, himself and Harry Mon-  
mouth:

But who is substituted against the French,  
I have no certain notice.

*Arch.* Let us on,  
And publish the occasion of our arms.  
The commonwealth is sick of their own choice;  
Their over-greedy love hath surfeited.  
An habitation giddy and unsure  
Hath he that buildeth on the vulgar heart.—  
O thou fond many,\* with what loud [foolish crowd  
applause  
Didst thou beat heaven with blessing Boling-  
broke,  
Before he was what thou wouldst have him be!  
And being now trimm'd in thine own desires,  
Thou, beastly feeder, art so full of him,  
That thou provok'st thyself to cast him up.  
So, so, thou common dog, didst thou disgorge  
Thy glutton bosom of the royal Richard;  
And now thou wouldst eat thy dead vomit up,  
And howl'st to find it. What trust is in these  
times?

They that, when Richard liv'd, would have  
him die,  
Are now become enamour'd on his grave;  
Thou, that threw'st dust upon his goodly head  
When through proud London he came sighing on  
After the admired heels of Bolingbroke,  
Criest now 'O earth, yield us that king again,  
And take thou this!' O thoughts of men  
accurs'd!

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Past and to come seems best; things present worst.

*Mowb.* Shall we go draw our numbers and set on?

*Hast.* We are time's subjects, and time bids be gone. [*Exeunt.*

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### ACT II.

SCENE 1.—London. A Street.

*Enter Hostess, Fang and his Boy with her, and Snare following.*

*Hast.* Master Fang, have you entered the action?

*Fang.* It is entered.

*Host.* Where's your yeoman? Is't a lusty yeoman? will a' stand to 't?

*Fang.* Sirrah, where's Snare?

*Host.* O Lord, ay! good Master Snare.

*Snare.* Here, here.

*Fang.* Snare, we must arrest Sir John Falstaff.

*Host.* Yea, good Master Snare; I have entered him and all.

*Snare.* It may chance cost some of us our lives, for he will stab.

*Host.* Alas the day! take heed of him; he stabbed me in mine own house, and that most beastly. In good faith, he cares not what mischief he does, if his weapon be out: he will foin\* like any devil; he will spare neither [thrust man, woman, nor child.

*Fang.* If I can close with him, I care not for his thrust.

*Host.* No, nor I neither; I'll be at your elbow.

*Fang.* An I but fist him once; an a' come but within my vice,—

*Host.* I am undone by his going; I warrant you, he's an infinitive thing upon my score.



## Act II Scene 1

Good Master Fang, hold him sure ; good Master Snare, let him not scape. A' comes continuantly to Pie-corner—saving your manhoods—to buy a saddle ; and he is indited\* to dinner to the [invited Lubber's-head in Lumbert Street, to Master Smooth's the silkman. I pray ye, since my exion\* is entered and my case so openly faction known to the world, let him be brought in to his answer. A hundred mark is a long one\* for a poor lone woman to bear ; [a long score and I have borne, and borne, and borne, and have been fubbed off, and fubbed off, and fubbed off, from this day to that day, that it is a shame to be thought on. There is no honesty in such dealing ; unless a woman should be made an ass and a beast, to bear every knave's wrong. Yonder he comes ; and that arrant malmsey-nose knave, Bardolph, with him. Do your offices, do your offices ; Master Fang and Master Snare, do me, do me, do me your offices.

*Enter Falstaff, Page, and Bardolph.*

*Fal.* How now ! whose mare's dead ? what's the matter ?

*Fang.* Sir John, I arrest you at the suit of Mistress Quickly.

*Fal.* Away, varlets ! Draw, Bardolph ! cut me off the villain's head ; throw the quean in the channel.

*Host.* Throw me in the channel ! I'll throw thee in the channel. Wilt thou ? wilt thou ? thou bastardy rogue ! Murther, murther ! Ah, thou honey-suckle\* villain ! wilt thou kill [homicidal God's officers and the king's ? Ah, thou honey-seed rogue ! thou art a honey-seed, a man-queller,\* and a woman-queller.

[slayer

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* Keep them off, Bardolph.

*Fang.* A rescue! a rescue!

*Host.* Good people, bring a rescue or two. Thou woo't, woo't thou? thou woo't, woo't thou? do, do, thou rogue! do, thou hemp-seed!

*Fal.* Away, you scullion! you rampallian! you fustilarian! I'll tickle your catastrophe.

*Enter the Lord Chief-Justice, and his men.*

*Ch. Just.* What is the matter? keep the peace here, ho!

*Host.* Good, my lord, be good to me. I beseech you, stand to me.

*Ch. Just.* How now, Sir John! what are you brawling here?

Doth this become your place, your time, and business?

You should have been well on your way to York.—

Stand from him, fellow; wherefore hang'st upon him?

*Host.* O my most worshipful lord, an't please your grace, I am a poor widow of Eastcheap, and he is arrested at my suit.

*Ch. Just.* For what sum?

*Host.* It is more than for some, my lord; it is for all, all I have. He hath eaten me out of house and home, he hath put all my substance into that fat belly of his; but I will have some of it out again, or I will ride thee o' nights like the mare.

*Fal.* I think I am as like to ride the mare, if I have any vantage of ground to get up.

*Ch. Just.* How comes this, Sir John? Fie! what man of good temper would endure this tempest of exclamation? Are you not ashamed

## Act II Scene 1

to enforce a poor widow to so rough a course to come by her own?

*Fal.* What is the gross sum that I owe thee?

*Host.* Marry, if thou wert an honest man, thyself and the money too. Thou didst swear to me upon a parcel-gilt\* goblet, sitting [partly gilt in my Dolphin-chamber, at the round table, by a sea-coal fire, on Wednesday in Wheeson week, when the prince broke thy head for liking his father to a singing-man of Windsor, thou didst swear to me then as I was washing thy wound, to marry me and make me my lady thy wife. Canst thou deny it? Did not goodwife Keech, the butcher's wife, come in then and call me gossip Quickly? coming in to borrow a mess of vinegar; telling us she had a good dish of prawns; whereby thou didst desire to eat some; whereby I told thee they were ill for a green wound? And didst thou not, when she was gone down stairs, desire me to be no more so familiar with such poor people; saying that ere long they should call me madam? And didst thou not kiss me and bid me fetch thee thirty shillings? I put thee now to thy book-oath; deny it, if thou canst.

*Fal.* My lord, this is a poor mad soul; and she says up and down the town that her eldest son is like you: she hath been in good case, and the truth is, poverty hath distracted her. But for these foolish officers, I beseech you, I may have redress against them.

*Ch. Just.* Sir John, Sir John, I am well acquainted with your manner of wrenching the true cause the false way. It is not a confident brow, nor the throng of words that come with such more than impudent sauciness

## Second Part of King Henry IV

from you, can thrust me from a level consideration; you have, as it appears to me, practised upon the easy-yielding spirit of this woman, and made her serve your uses both in purse and in person.

*Host.* Yea, in truth, my lord.

*Ch. Just.* Pray thee, peace.— Pay her the debt you owe her, and unpay the villainy you have done her; the one you may do with sterling money, and the other with current repentance.

*Fal.* My lord, I will not undergo this sneap\* without reply. You call honourable bold-<sup>[rebuke]</sup>ness impudent sauciness; if a man will make courtesy and say nothing, he is virtuous. No, my lord, my humble duty remembered, I will not be your suitor. I say to you, I do desire deliverance from these officers, being upon hasty employment in the king's affairs.

*Ch. Just.* You speak as having power to do wrong; but answer in the effect of your reputation, and satisfy the poor woman.

*Fal.* Come hither, hostess.

*Enter Gower.*

*Ch. Just.* Now, Master Gower, what news?

*Gow.* The king, my lord, and Harry Prince of Wales

Are near at hand; the rest the paper tells.

*Fal.* As I am a gentleman.

*Host.* Faith, you said so before.

*Fal.* As I am a gentleman. Come, no more words of it.

*Host.* By this heavenly ground I tread on, I must be fain to pawn both my plate and the tapestry of my dining-chambers.

*Fal.* Glasses, glasses, is the only drinking;

## Act II Scene 1

and for thy walls, a pretty slight drollery,\* or the story of the Prodigal, or the [comic painting German hunting in water-work, is worth a thousand of these bed-hangings and these fly-bitten tapestries. Let it be ten pound, if thou canst. Come, if it were not for thy humours, there's not a better wench in England. Go, wash thy face, and draw the action. Come, thou must not be in this humour with me; dost not know me? come, come, I know thou wast set on to this.

*Host.* Pray thee, Sir John, let it be but twenty nobles; i' faith, I am loath to pawn my plate, so God save me, la!

*Fal.* Let it alone; I'll make other shift: you'll be a fool still.

*Host.* Well, you shall have it, though I pawn my gown. I hope you'll come to supper. You'll pay me altogether?

*Fal.* Will I live? *[To Bardolph]* Go, with her, with her; hook on, hook on.

*Host.* Will you have Doll Tearsheet meet you at supper?

*Fal.* No more words; let's have her.

*[Exeunt Hostess, Bardolph, Officers, and Boy.]*

*Ch. Just.* I have heard better news.

*Fal.* What's the news, my lord?

*Ch. Just.* Where lay the king last night?

*Gow.* At Basingstoke, my lord.

*Fal.* I hope, my lord, all's well; what is the news, my lord?

*Ch. Just.* Come all his forces back?

*Gow.* No; fifteen hundred foot, five hundred horse,

Are march'd up to my lord of Lancaster,  
Against Northumberland and the Archbishop.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* Comes the king back from Wales, my noble lord?

*Ch. Just.* You shall have letters of me presently;

Come, go along with me, good Master Gower.

*Fal.* My lord!

*Ch. Just.* What's the matter?

*Fal.* Master Gower, shall I entreat you with me to dinner?

*Gow.* I must wait upon my good lord here; I thank you, good Sir John.

*Ch. Just.* Sir John, you loiter here too long, being you are to take soldiers up in counties as you go.

*Fal.* Will you sup with me, Master Gower?

*Ch. Just.* What foolish master taught you these manners, Sir John?

*Fal.* Master Gower, if they become me not, he was a fool that taught them me.—This is the right fencing grace, my lord; tap for tap, and so part fair.

*Ch. Just.* Now the Lord lighten thee! thou art a great fool. *[Exeunt.]*

SCENE 2.—London. Another Street.

*Enter Prince Henry and Poins.*

*Prince.* Before God, I am exceeding weary.

*Poins.* Is't come to that? I had thought weariness durst not have attached\* one of [seized] so high blood.

*Prince.* Faith, it does me; though it discolours the complexion of my greatness to acknowledge it. Doth it not show vilely in me to desire small beer?

*Poins.* Why, a prince should not be so loosely studied as to remember so weak a composition.

## Act II Scene 2

*Prince.* Belike then my appetite was not princely got; for, by my troth, I do now remember the poor creature, small beer. But, indeed, these humble considerations make me out of love with my greatness. What a disgrace is it to me to remember thy name! or to know thy face to-morrow how to take note how many pair of silk stockings thou hast, namely, these, and those that were thy peach-coloured ones! or to bear the inventory of thy shirts, as, one for superfluity, and another for use! But that the tennis-court keeper knows better than I; for it is a low ebb of linen with thee when thou keepest not racket there; as thou hast not done a great while, because the rest of thy low countries have made a shift to eat up thy holland: and God knows, whether those that bawl out the ruins of thy linen shall inherit his kingdom.

*Poins.* How ill it follows, after you have laboured so hard, you should talk so idly! Tell me, how many good young princes would do so, their fathers being so sick as yours at this time is?

*Prince.* Shall I tell thee one thing, Poins?

*Poins.* Yes, faith; and let it be an excellent good thing.

*Prince.* It shall serve among wits of no higher breeding than thine.

*Poins.* Go to; I stand the push of your one thing that you will tell.

*Prince.* Marry, I tell thee, it is not meet that I should be sad, now my father is sick; albeit I could tell to thee, as to one it pleases me, for fault of a better, to call my friend, I could be sad, and sad indeed too.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Poins.* Very hardly upon such a subject.

*Prince.* By this hand, thou thinkest me as far in the devil's book as thou and Falstaff for obduracy and persistency; let the end try the man. But I tell thee, my heart bleeds inwardly that my father is so sick; and keeping such vile company as thou art hath in reason taken from me all ostentation of sorrow.

*Poins.* The reason?

*Prince.* What wouldst thou think of me, if I should weep?

*Poins.* I would think thee a most princely hypocrite.

*Prince.* It would be every man's thought; and thou art a blessed fellow to think as every man thinks: never a man's thought in the world keeps the road-way better than thine; every man would think me an hypocrite indeed. And what accites\* your most worshipful [incites] thought to think so?

*Poins.* Why, because you have been so lewd and so much engrafted\* to Falstaff. [attached]

*Prince.* And to thee.

*Poins.* By this light, I am well spoke on; I can hear it with mine own ears: the worst that they can say of me is that I am a second brother and that I am a proper fellow of my hands\*; [size] and those two things, I confess, I cannot help. By the mass, here comes Bardolph.

*Enter Bardolph and Page.*

*Prince.* And the boy that I gave Falstaff: he had him from me Christian; and look, if the fat villain have not transformed him ape.

*Bard.* God save your grace!

*Prince.* And yours, most noble Bardolph?



## Act II Scene 2

*Bard.* Come, you virtuous ass, you bashful fool, must you be blushing? wherefore blush you now? What a maidenly man-at-arms are you become! Is it such a matter to get a pottle-pot's maidenhead?

*Page.* He call'd me e'en now, my lord, through a red lattice,\* and I could discern alehouse window no part of his face from the window; at last I spied his eyes, and methought he had made two holes in the ale-wife's new petticoat and peeped through.

*Prince.* Has not the boy profited?

*Bard.* Away, you whoreson upright rabbit, away!

*Page.* Away, you rascally Althæa's dream, away!

*Prince.* Instruct us, boy; what dream, boy?

*Page.* Marry, my lord, Althæa dreamed she was delivered of a fire-brand; and therefore I call him her dream.

*Prince.* A crown's worth of good interpretation.—There 'tis, boy.

*Poins.* O, that this good blossom could be kept from cankers\*!—Well, there is canker-worms sixpence to preserve thee.

*Bard.* If you do not make him hanged among you, the gallows shall have wrong.

*Prince.* And how doth thy master, Bardolph?

*Bard.* Well, my lord. He heard of your grace's coming to town; there's a letter for you.

*Poins.* Delivered with good respect.—And how doth the martlemas, your master?

*Bard.* In bodily health, sir.

*Poins.* Marry, the immortal part needs a physician; but that moves not him; though that be sick, it dies not.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Prince.* I do allow this wen to be as familiar with me as my dog: and he holds his place; for look you how he writes.

*Poins.* [Reads] '*John Falstaff, knight,*'—every man must know that, as oft as he has occasion to name himself: even like those that are kin to the king; for they never prick their finger but they say, 'There's some of the king's blood spilt.' 'How comes that?' says he, that takes upon him not to conceive. The answer is as ready as a borrower's cap, 'I am the king's poor cousin, sir.'

*Prince.* Nay, they will be kin to us, or they will fetch it from Japhet. But to the letter.

*Poins.* [Reads] '*Sir John Falstaff, knight, to the son of the king, nearest his father, Harry Prince of Wales, greeting.*'—

Why, this is a certificate.

*Prince.* Peace!

*Poins.* [Reads] '*I will imitate the honourable Romans in brevity;*' he sure means brevity in breath, short-winded. '*I commend me to thee, I commend thee, and I leave thee. Be not too familiar with Poins; for he misuses thy favours so much that he swears thou art to marry his sister Nell. Repent at idle times as thou mayest; and so, farewell.*

*'Thine, by yea and no, which is as much as to say, as thou usest him, Jack Falstaff with my familiars, John with my brothers and sisters, and Sir John with all Europe.*

My lord, I'll steep this letter in sack and make him eat it.

*Prince.* That's to make him eat twenty of his

## Act II Scene 2

words. But do you use me thus, Ned? must I marry your sister?

*Poins.* God send the wench no worse fortune! But I never said so.

*Prince.* Well, thus we play the fools with the time, and the spirits of the wise sit in the clouds and mock us.—Is your master here in London?

*Bard.* Yea, my lord.

*Prince.* Where sups he? doth the old boar feed in the old frank?

*Bard.* At the old place, my lord, in Eastcheap.

*Prince.* What company?

*Page.* Ephesians, my lord, of the old church.

*Prince.* Sup any women with him?

*Page.* None, my lord, but old Mistress Quickly and Mistress Doll Tearsheet.

*Prince.* What pagan may that be?

*Page.* A proper gentlewoman, sir, and a kinswoman of my master's.

*Prince.* Even such kin as the parish heifers are to the town bull? Shall we steal upon them, Ned, at supper?

*Poins.* I am your shadow, my lord; I'll follow you.

*Prince.* Sirrah, you boy, and Bardolph, no word to your master that I am yet come to town. There's for your silence.

*Bard.* I have no tongue, sir.

*Page.* And for mine, sir, I will govern it.

*Prince.* Fare you well; go. [*Exeunt Bardolph and Page.*] This Doll Tearsheet should be some road.

*Poins.* I warrant you, as common as the way between Saint Alban's and London.

*Prince.* How might we see Falstaff bestow

## Second Part of King Henry IV

himself to-night in his true colours, and not ourselves be seen?

*Poins.* Put on two leathern jerkins and aprons, and wait upon him at his table as drawers.

*Prince.* From a God to a bull? a heavy declension! it was Jove's case. From a prince to a prentice? a low transformation! that shall be mine; for in every thing the purpose must weigh with the folly. Follow me, Ned.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 3.—Warkworth. Before the Castle.

*Enter Northumberland, Lady Northumberland, and Lady Percy.*

*North.* I prithee, loving wife, and gentle daughter,  
Give even way unto my rough affairs;  
Put not you on the visage of the times,  
And be like them to Percy troublesome.

*Lady N.* I have given over, I will speak no more.

Do what you will; your wisdom be your guide.

*North.* Alas, sweet wife, my honour is at pawn;  
And, but by going, nothing can redeem it.

*Lady P.* O yet, for God's sake, go not to these wars!

The time was, father, that you broke your word,  
When you were more endear'd to it than now;  
When your own Percy, when my heart's dear  
Harry,

Threw many a northward look to see his father  
Bring up his powers; but he did long in vain.  
Who then persuaded you to stay at home?

## Act II Scene 3

There were two honours lost, yours and your son's.

For yours, the God of heaven brighten it!  
For his, it stuck upon him as the sun  
In the grey vault of heaven, and by his light  
Did all the chivalry of England move  
To do brave acts; he was indeed the glass  
Wherein the noble youth did dress themselves.  
He had no legs that practis'd not his gait;  
And speaking thick, which nature made his  
blemish,

Became the accents of the valiant;  
For those that could speak low and tardily  
Would turn their own perfection to abuse,  
To seem like him: so that in speech, in gait,  
In diet, in affections of delight,  
In military rules, humours of blood,  
He was the mark and glass, copy and book,  
That fashion'd others. And him, O wondrous  
him!

O miracle of men! him did you leave,  
Second to none, unseconded by you,  
To look upon the hideous god of war  
In disadvantage; to abide a field  
Where nothing but the sound of Hotspur's name  
Did seem defensible: so you left him.  
Never, O never, do his ghost the wrong  
To hold your honour more precise and nice  
With others than with him! let them alone.  
The marshal and the archbishop are strong;  
Had my sweet Harry had but half their numbers,  
To-day might I, hanging on Hotspur's neck,  
Have talk'd of Monmouth's grave.

*North.* Beshrew your heart,  
Fair daughter, you do draw my spirits from me  
With new lamenting ancient oversights.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

But I must go and meet with danger there,  
Or it will seek me in another place  
And find me worse provided.

*Lady N.* O, fly to Scotland,  
Till that the nobles and the armed commons  
Have of their puissance made a little taste.

*Lady P.* If they get ground and vantage of  
the king,  
Then join you with them, like a rib of steel,  
To make strength stronger; but, for all our loves,  
First let them try themselves. So did your son;  
He was so suffer'd: so came I a widow;  
And never shall have length of life enough  
To rain upon remembrance with mine eyes,  
That it may grow and sprout as high as heaven,  
For recordation to my noble husband.

*North.* Come, come, go in with me. 'Tis with  
my mind  
As with the tide swell'd up unto his height,  
That makes a still-stand, running neither way.  
Fain would I go to meet the archbishop,  
But many thousand reasons hold me back.  
I will resolve for Scotland; there am I,  
Till time and vantage crave my company.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 4.—London. The Boar's-head Tavern in  
Eastcheap.

*Enter two Drawers.*

*1st Draw.* What the devil hast thou brought  
there? apple-johns? thou knowest Sir John  
cannot endure an apple-john.

*2nd Draw.* Mass, thou sayest true. The  
prince once set a dish of apple-johns before  
him, and told him there were five more Sir  
Johns, and, putting off his hat, said 'I will now

## Act II Scene 4

take my leave of these six dry, round, old, withered knights.' It angered him to the heart; but he hath forgot that.

*1st Draw.* Why, then, cover,\* and [lay the table set them down: and see if thou canst find out Sneak's noise; Mistress Tearsheet would fain hear some music. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*2nd Draw.* Sirrah, here will be the prince and Master Poin's anon; and they will put on two of our jerkins and aprons, and Sir John must not know of it: Bardolph hath brought word.

*1st Draw.* By the mass, here will be old utis\*; it will be an excellent stratagem. [rare fun

*2nd Draw.* I'll see if I can find out Sneak.

[*Exit.*

*Enter Hostess and Doll Tearsheet.*

*Host.* I' faith, sweetheart, methinks now you are in an excellent good temperality\*; [frame of body your pulsidge\* beats as extraordinarily as [pulse heart would desire, and your colour, I warrant you, is as red as any rose, in good truth, la! But, i' faith, you have drunk too much canaries; and that's a marvellous searching wine, and it perfumes the blood ere one can say 'What's this?'—How do you now?

*Doll.* Better than I was; hem!

*Host.* Why, that's well said; a good heart's worth gold. Lo, here comes Sir John.

*Enter Falstaff.*

*Fal.* [Singing] 'When Arthur first in court'—Empty the jordan. [*Exit 1st Drawer*] 'And was a worthy king.' How now, Mistress Doll!

*Host.* Sick of a calm\*; yea, good faith. [equalm

*Fal.* So is all her sect; an they be once in a calm, they are sick.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Doll.* You muddy rascal, is that all the comfort you give me?

*Fal.* You make fat rascals, Mistress Doll.

*Doll.* I make them! gluttony and diseases make them; I make them not.

*Fal.* If the cook help to make the gluttony, you help to make the diseases, Doll; we catch of you, Doll, we catch of you; grant that, my poor virtue, grant that.

*Doll.* Yea, joy, our chains and our jewels.

*Fal.* 'Your brooches, pearls, and ouches;' for to serve bravely is to come halting off, you know: to come off the breach with his pike bent bravely, and to surgery bravely; to venture upon the charged chambers bravely,—

*Doll.* Hang yourself, you muddy conger, hang yourself!

*Host.* By my troth, this is the old fashion; you two never meet but you fall to some discord; you are both, i' good truth, as rheumatic as two dry toasts; you cannot one bear with another's confirmities. What the good-year! one must bear, and that must be you; you are the weaker vessel, as they say, the emptier vessel.

*Doll.* Can a weak empty vessel bear such a huge full hogshead? there's a whole merchant's venture of Bourdeaux stuff in him; you have not seen a hulk better stuffed in the hold. Come, I'll be friends with thee, Jack; thou art going to the wars; and whether I shall ever see thee again or no, there is nobody cares.

*Re-enter 1st Drawer.*

*1st Draw.* Sir, Ancient Pistol's below, and would speak with you.



## Act II Scene 4

*Doll.* Hang him, swaggering rascal! let him not come hither; it is the foul-mouthed'st rogue in England.

*Host.* If he swagger, let him not come here: no, by my faith; I must live among my neighbours; I'll no swaggerers. I am in good name and fame with the very best.—Shut the door;—there comes no swaggerers here. I have not lived all this while, to have swaggering now. Shut the door, I pray you.

*Fal.* Dost thou hear, hostess?

*Host.* Pray ye, pacify yourself, Sir John; there comes no swaggerers here.

*Fal.* Dost thou hear? it is mine ancient.

*Host.* Tilly-fally, Sir John, ne'er tell me; your ancient swaggerer comes not in my doors. I was before Master Tisick, the deputy, t' other day; and, as he said to me—'twas no longer ago than Wednesday last—'I' good faith, neighbour Quickly,' says he—Master Dumbe, our minister, was by then—'neighbour Quickly,' says he, 'receive those that are civil; for,' said he, 'you are in an ill name.' Now he said so, I can tell whereupon; 'for,' says he, 'you are an honest woman, and well thought on; therefore take heed what guests you receive: receive,' says he, 'no swaggering companions.' There comes none here;—you would bless you to hear what he said.—No, I'll no swaggerers.

*Fal.* He's no swaggerer, hostess; a tame cheater,\* i' faith; you may stroke [harmless gamester him as gently as a puppy greyhound: he'll not swagger with a Barbary hen, if her feathers turn back in any show of resistance.—Call him up, drawer. [Exit 1st Drawer.]

*Host.* Cheater,\* call you him? I will [escheator

## Second Part of King Henry IV

bar no honest man my house, nor no cheater : but I do not love swaggering, by my troth ; I am the worse, when one says swagger.—Feel, masters, how I shake ; look you, I warrant you.

*Doll.* So you do, hostess.

*Host.* Do I? yea, in very truth, do I, an 'twere an aspen leaf. I cannot abide swaggers.

*Enter Pistol, Bardolph, and Page.*

*Pist.* God save you, Sir John!

*Fal.* Welcome, Ancient Pistol. Here, Pistol, I charge you with a cup of sack ; do you discharge upon mine hostess.

*Pist.* I will discharge upon her, Sir John, with two bullets.

*Fal.* She is pistol-proof, sir ; you shall hardly offend her.

*Host.* Come, I'll drink no proofs nor no bullets ; I'll drink no more than will do me good, for no man's pleasure, I.

*Pist.* Then to you, Mistress Dorothy ; I will charge you.

*Doll.* Charge me! I scorn you, scurvy companion. What! you poor, base, rascally, cheating, lack-linen mate! Away, you mouldy rogue, away! I am meat for your master.

*Pist.* I know you, Mistress Dorothy.

*Doll.* Away, you cut-purse rascal! you filthy bung, away! by this wine, I'll thrust my knife in your mouldy chaps, if you play the saucy cuttle\* with me. Away, you bottle-ale [bully rascal! you basket-hilt stale juggler, you! Since when, I pray you, sir? God's light, with two points on your shoulder? much!

*Pist.* God let me not live, but I will murder your ruff for this.

## Act II Scene 4

*Fal.* No more, Pistol; I would not have you go off here: discharge yourself of our company, Pistol.

*Host.* No, good Captain Pistol; not here, sweet captain.

*Doll.* Captain! thou abominable damned cheater, art thou not ashamed to be called captain? If captains were of my mind, they would truncheon you out, for taking their names upon you before you have earned them. You a captain! you slave, for what? for tearing a poor whore's ruff in a bawdy house? He a captain! hang him, rogue! he lives upon mouldy stewed prunes and dried cakes. A captain! God's light, these villains will make the word as odious as the word 'occupy'; which was an excellent good word before it was ill sorted; therefore captains had need look to 't.

*Bard.* Pray thee, go down, good ancient.

*Fal.* Hark thee hither, Mistress Doll.

*Pist.* Not I: I tell thee what, Corporal Bardolph, I could tear her; I'll be revenged of her.

*Page.* Pray thee, go down.

*Pist.* I'll see her damned first; to Pluto's damned lake, by this hand, to the infernal deep, with Erebus and tortures vile also. Hold hook and line, say I. Down, down, dogs! down, faitors\*! Have we not Hiren here? [rascals

*Host.* Good Captain Peesel, be quiet; 'tis very late, i' faith: I beseek you now, aggravate your choler.

*Pist.* These be good humours, indeed! Shall  
pack-horses  
And hollow pamper'd jades of Asia,  
Which cannot go but thirty mile a-day, [Hannibals  
Compare with Cæsars, and with Cannibals,\*

## Second Part of King Henry IV

And Trojan Greeks? nay, rather damn them with King Cerberus; and let the welkin roar.  
Shall we fall foul for toys?

*Host.* By my troth, captain, these are very bitter words.

*Bard.* Be gone, good ancient; this will grow to a brawl anon. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Pist.* Die men like dogs! give crowns like pins! Have we not Hiren here?

*Host.* O' my word, captain, there's none such here. What the good-year! do you think I would deny her? For God's sake, be quiet.

*Pist.* Then feed, and be fat, my fair Calipolis. Come, give's some sack.

*Si fortune me tormente, sperato me contento.*

Fear we broadsides? no, let the fiend give fire. Give me some sack; and, sweetheart, lie thou there. *[Laying down his sword.]*

Come we to full points here, and are etceteras nothing?

*Fal.* Pistol, I would be quiet.

*Pist.* Sweet knight, I kiss thy neif.\* What! [first] we have seen the seven stars.

*Doll.* For God's sake, thrust him down stairs; I cannot endure such a fustian rascal.

*Pist.* Thrust him down stairs! know we not Galloway nags?

*Fal.* Quoit\* him down, Bardolph, like a [pitch] shove-groat shilling; nay, if he do nothing but speak nothing, he shall be nothing here.

*Bard.* Come, get you down stairs.

*Pist.* What! shall we have incision\*? [blood-letting] shall we inbrue?

*[Snatching up his sword.]*

Then death rock me asleep, abridge my doleful days!

## Act II Scene 4

Why, then, let grievous, ghastly, gaping wounds  
Untwine the Sisters Three! Come, Atropos,  
I say!

*Host.* Here's goodly stuff toward!

*Fal.* Give me my rapier, boy.

*Doll.* I pray thee, Jack, I pray thee, do not  
draw. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Fal.* Get you down stairs.

[*Drawing, and driving Pistol out.*]

*Host.* Here's a goodly tumult! I'll forswear  
keeping house, afore I'll be in these tiritts and  
frights. So; murther, I warrant now.—Alas,  
alas! put up your naked weapons, put up your  
naked weapons. [*Exeunt Pistol and Bardolph.*]

*Doll.* I pray thee, Jack, be quiet; the rascal's  
gone. Ah, you whoreson little valiant villain,  
you!

*Host.* Are you nothurt i' the groin? methought  
he made a shrewd thrust at your belly.

*Re-enter Bardolph.*

*Fal.* Have you turned him out o' doors?

*Bard.* Yea, sir. The rascal's drunk. You  
have hurt him, sir, i' the shoulder.

*Fal.* A rascal! to brave me!

*Doll.* Ah, you sweet little rogue, you! Alas,  
poor ape, how thou sweatest! come, let me  
wipe thy face;—come on, you whoreson chops.—  
Ah, rogue! i' faith, I love thee; thou art as  
valorous as Hector of Troy, worth five of Aga-  
memnon, and ten times better than the Nine  
Worthies. Ah, villain!

*Fal.* A rascally slave! I will toss the rogue  
in a blanket.

*Doll.* Do if thou dar'st for thy heart; if thou  
dost, I'll canvass thee between a pair of sheets.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Enter Music.*

*Page.* The music is come, sir.

*Fal.* Let them play.—Play, sirs.—Sit on my knee, Doll.—A rascal bragging slave! the rogue fled from me like quicksilver.

*Doll.* I' faith, and thou followedst him like a church. Thou whoreson little tidy Bartholomew boar-pig, when wilt thou leave fighting o' days and foining o' nights, and begin to patch up thine old body for heaven?

*Enter, behind, Prince Henry and Poins, disguised.*

*Fal.* Peace, good Doll! do not speak like a death's-head; do not bid me remember mine end.

*Doll.* Sirrah, what humour's the prince of?

*Fal.* A good shallow young fellow; he would have made a good pantler,\* he would [pantry-man ha' chipped bread well.

*Doll.* They say Poins has a good wit.

*Fal.* He a good wit? hang him, baboon! his wit's as thick as Tewksbury mustard; there's no more conceit in him than is in a mallet.\*

[? mallard, wild duck

*Doll.* Why does the prince love him so, then?

*Fal.* Because their legs are both of a bigness, and a' plays at quoits well, and eats conger and fennel, and drinks off candles' ends for flap-dragons, and rides the wild-mare with the boys, and jumps upon joined-stools, and swears with a good grace, and wears his boots very smooth, like unto the sign of the leg,\* and [bootmaker's sign breeds no bate\* with telling of discreet [debate stories; and such other gambol faculties he has, that show a weak mind and an able body, for

## Act II Scene 4

the which the prince admits him : for the prince himself is such another ; the weight of a hair will turn the scales between their avoirdupois.

*Prince.* Would not this nave of a wheel have his ears cut off ?

*Poins.* Let's beat him before his whore.

*Prince.* Look, whether the withered elder hath not his poll clawed like a parrot.

*Poins.* Is it not strange that desire should so many years outlive performance ?

*Fal.* Kiss me, Doll.

*Prince.* Saturn and Venus this year in conjunction ! what says the almanac to that ?

*Poins.* And, look, whether the fiery Trigon, his man, be not lipping to his master's old tables, his note-book, his counsel-keeper.

*Fal.* Thou dost give me flattering busses.

*Doll.* By my troth, I kiss thee with a most constant heart.

*Fal.* I am old, I am old.

*Doll.* I love thee better than I love e'er a scurvy young boy of them all.

*Fal.* What stuff wilt have a kirtle of ? I shall receive money o' Thursday ; thou shalt have a cap to-morrow. A merry song, come ! it grows late ; we'll to bed. Thou'lt forget me when I am gone.

*Doll.* By my troth, thou'lt set me a-weeping, if thou sayest so : prove that ever I dress myself handsome till thy return.—Well, hearken the end.

*Fal.* Some sack, Francis.

*Prince.* } Anon, anon, sir. [*Coming forward.*  
*Poins.* }

*Fal.* Ha ! a bastard son of the king's ?—And art not thou Poins his brother ?

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Prince.* Why, thou globe of sinful continents, what a life dost thou lead!

*Fal.* A better than thou; I am a gentleman, thou art a drawer.

*Prince.* Very true, sir; and I come to draw you out by the ears.

*Host.* O, the Lord preserve thy good grace! by my troth, welcome to London.—Now, the Lord bless that sweet face of thine! O Jesu, are you come from Wales?

*Fal.* Thou whoreson mad compound of majesty, by this light flesh and corrupt blood, thou art welcome.

*Doll.* How, you fat fool! I scorn you.

*Poins.* My lord, he will drive you out of your revenge and turn all to a merriment, if you take not the heat.

*Prince.* You whoreson candle-mine, you, how vilely did you speak of me even now before this honest, virtuous, civil gentlewoman!

*Host.* God's blessing of your good heart! and so she is, by my troth.

*Fal.* Didst thou hear me?

*Prince.* Yea, and you knew me, as you did when you ran away by Gadshill; you knew I was at your back, and spoke it on purpose to try my patience.

*Fal.* No, no, no, not so; I did not think thou wast within hearing.

*Prince.* I shall drive you then to confess the wilful abuse; and then I know how to handle you.

*Fal.* No abuse, Hal, o' mine honour; no abuse.

*Prince.* Not to dispraise me, and call me pantler and bread-chipper and I know not what?

*Fal.* No abuse, Hal.

*Poins.* No abuse?



## Act II Scene 4

*Fal.* No abuse, Ned, i' the world; honest Ned, none. I dispraised him before the wicked, that the wicked might not fall in love with him; in which doing, I have done the part of a careful friend and a true subject, and thy father is to give me thanks for it. No abuse, Hal;—none, Ned, none:—no, faith, boys, none.

*Prince.* See now, whether pure fear and entire cowardice doth not make thee wrong this virtuous gentlewoman to close with us? is she of the wicked? is thine hostess here of the wicked? or is thy boy of the wicked? or honest Bardolph, whose zeal burns in his nose, of the wicked?

*Poins.* Answer, thou dead elm, answer.

*Fal.* The fiend hath pricked down Bardolph irrecoverable; and his face is Lucifer's privy-kitchen, where he doth nothing but roast malt-worms.\* For the boy, there is a good [tipplers] angel about him; but the devil outbids him too.

*Prince.* For the women?

*Fal.* For one of them, she is in hell already, and burns, poor soul. For the other, I owe her money; and whether she be damned for that, I know not.

*Host.* No, I warrant you.

*Fal.* No, I think thou art not; I think thou art quit for that. Marry, there is another indictment upon thee, for suffering flesh to be eaten in thy house, contrary to the law; for the which I think thou wilt howl.

*Host.* All victuallers do so; what's a joint of mutton or two in a whole Lent?

*Prince.* You, gentlewoman,—

*Doll.* What says your grace?

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* His grace says that which his flesh rebels against. [Knocking within.]

*Host.* Who knocks so loud at door?—Look to the door there, Francis.

*Enter Peto.*

*Prince.* Peto, how now! what news?

*Peto.* The king your father is at Westminster; And there are twenty weak and wearied posts Come from the north: and, as I came along, I met and overtook a dozen captains, Bare-headed, sweating, knocking at the taverns, And asking every one for Sir John Falstaff.

*Prince.* By heaven, Poins, I feel me much to blame,  
So idly to profane the precious time,  
When tempest of commotion, like the south  
Borne with black vapour, doth begin to melt  
And drop upon our bare unarmed heads.

Give me my sword and cloak.—Falstaff, good night. [Exeunt Prince Henry, Poins,  
Peto, and Bardolph.]

*Fal.* Now comes in the sweetest morsel of the night, and we must hence and leave it unpicked. [Knocking within.] More knocking at the door!

*Re-enter Bardolph.*

How now! what's the matter?

*Bard.* You must away to court, sir, presently; A dozen captains stay at door for you.

*Fal.* [To the Page] Pay the musicians, sirrah.—Farewell, hostess;—farewell, Doll. You see, my good wenches, how men of merit are sought after; the undeserver may sleep, when the man of action is called on. Farewell, good

## Act III Scene 1

wenches ; if I be not sent away post, I will see you again ere I go.

*Doll.* I cannot speak ; if my heart be not ready to burst,—well, sweet Jack, have a care of thyself.

*Fal.* Farewell, farewell.

[*Exeunt Falstaff and Bardolph.*]

*Host.* Well, fare thee well. I have known thee these twenty-nine years, come peascod-time ; but an honest and truer-hearted man,—well, fare thee well.

*Bard.* [*Within*] Mistress Tearsheet !

*Host.* What's the matter ?

*Bard.* [*Within*] Bid Mistress Tearsheet come to my master.

*Host.* O, run, Doll, run ; run, good Doll : come. [*She comes blubbered.*] Yea, will you come, Doll ?

[*Exeunt.*]

### ACT III.

SCENE 1.—Westminster. The Palace.

*Enter the King in his dressing-gown, with a Page.*

*King.* Go call the Earls of Surrey and of Warwick ;

But, ere they come, bid them o'er-read these letters,

And well consider of them. Make good speed.

[*Exit Page.*]

How many thousand of my poorest subjects  
Are at this hour asleep ! O sleep, O gentle sleep,  
Nature's soft nurse, how have I frightened thee,  
That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelids down  
And steep my senses in forgetfulness ?

Why rather, sleep, liest thou in smoky cribs,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Upon uneasy pallets stretching thee  
And hush'd with buzzing night-flies to thy  
    slumber,  
Than in the perfum'd chambers of the great,  
Under the canopies of costly state,  
And lull'd with sound of sweetest melody?  
O thou dull god, why liest thou with the vile  
In loathsome beds, and leav'st the kingly couch  
A watch-case\* or a common larum-bell? [sentry-box]  
Wilt thou upon the high and giddy mast  
Seal up the ship-boy's eyes, and rock his brains  
In cradle of the rude imperious surge  
And in the visitation of the winds,  
Who take the ruffian billows by the top,  
Curling their monstrous heads and hanging  
    them  
With deafening clamour in the slippery clouds,  
That with the hurly\* death itself awakes? [tumult]  
Canst thou, O partial sleep, give thy repose  
To the wet sea-boy in an hour so rude,  
And in the calmest and most stillest night,  
With all appliances and means to boot,  
Deny it to a king? Then, happy low, lie down!  
Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

*Enter Warwick and Surrey.*

*War.* Many good morrows to your majesty

*King.* Is it good morrow, lords?

*War.* 'Tis one o'clock, and past.

*King.* Why, then, good morrow to you all,  
    my lords.

Have you read o'er the letters that I sent you?

*War.* We have, my liege.

*King.* Then you perceive the body of our  
    kingdom

How foul it is; what rank diseases grow,

## Act III Scene 1

And with what danger, near the heart of it.

*War.* It is but as a body yet distemper'd,  
Which to his former strength may be restor'd  
With good advice and little medicine.

My Lord Northumberland will soon be cool'd.

*King.* O God! that one might read the book  
of fate, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

And see the revolution of the times  
Make mountains level, and the continent,  
Wearied of solid firmness, melt itself  
Into the sea! and, other times, to see  
The beachy girdle of the ocean  
Too wide for Neptune's hips; how chances  
mock,

And changes fill the cup of alteration  
With divers liquors! O, if this were seen,  
The happiest youth, viewing his progress  
through,

What perils past, what crosses to ensue,  
Would shut the book, and sit him down and die.  
'Tis not ten years gone

Since Richard and Northumberland, great  
friends,

Did feast together, and in two years after  
Were they at wars; it is but eight years since  
This Percy was the man nearest my soul,  
Who like a brother toil'd in my affairs  
And laid his love and life under my foot,  
Yea, for my sake, even to the eyes of Richard  
Gave him defiance. But which of you was by—  
You, cousin Nevil, as I may remember—

[*To Warwick.*]

When Richard, with his eye brimful of tears,  
Then check'd and rated by Northumberland,  
Did speak these words, now prov'd a prophecy?  
'Northumberland, thou ladder by the which

## Second Part of King Henry IV

My cousin Bolingbroke ascends my throne ;  
Though then, God knows, I had no such intent,  
But that necessity so bow'd the state  
That I and greatness were compell'd to kiss.  
'The time shall come,' thus did he follow it,  
'The time will come, that foul sin, gathering  
head, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)  
Shall break into corruption ;'—so went on,  
Foretelling this same time's condition  
And the division of our amity.

*War.* There is a history in all men's lives,  
Figuring the nature of the times deceas'd ;  
The which observ'd, a man may prophesy,  
With a near aim, of the main chance of things  
As yet not come to life, which in their seeds  
And weak beginnings lie intreasured.  
Such things become the hatch and brood of time ;  
And by the necessary form of this  
King Richard might create a perfect guess  
That great Northumberland, then false to him,  
Would of that seed grow to a greater falseness,  
Which should not find a ground to root upon,  
Unless on you.

*King.* Are these things then necessities ?  
Then let us meet them like necessities ;  
And that same word even now cries out on us.  
They say the bishop and Northumberland  
Are fifty thousand strong.

*War.* It cannot be, my lord ;  
Rumour doth double, like the voice and echo,  
The numbers of the fear'd. Please it your grace  
To go to bed. Upon my soul, my lord,  
The powers that you already have sent forth  
Shall bring this prize in very easily.  
To comfort you the more, I have receiv'd [assurance  
A certain instance\* that Glendower is dead.

## Act III Scene 2

Your majesty hath been this fortnight ill,  
And these unseason'd hours perforce must add  
Unto your sickness.

*King.* I will take your counsel ;  
And were these inward wars once out of hand,  
We would, dear lords, unto the Holy Land.

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SCENE 2.—Gloucestershire. Before Justice  
Shallow's House.

*Enter Shallow and Silence, meeting; Mouldy,  
Shadow, Wart, Feeble, Bullcalf, and Ser-  
vants with them.*

*Shal.* Come on, come on, come on, sir ; give  
me your hand, sir, give me your hand, sir : an  
early stirrer, by the rood ! And how doth my  
good cousin Silence ?

*Sil.* Good morrow, good cousin Shallow.

*Shal.* And how doth my cousin, your bed-  
fellow ? and your fairest daughter and mine,  
my god-daughter Ellen ?

*Sil.* Alas, a black ousel, cousin Shallow !

*Shal.* By yea and nay, sir, I dare say my  
cousin William is become a good scholar ; he is  
at Oxford still, is he not ?

*Sil.* Indeed, sir, to my cost.

*Shal.* He must, then, to the inns o' court  
shortly. I was once of Clement's Inn, where I  
think they will talk of mad Shallow yet.

*Sil.* You were called lusty Shallow then,  
cousin.

*Shal.* By the mass, I was called any thing ;  
and I would have done any thing indeed too,  
and roundly too. There was I, and little John  
Doit of Staffordshire, and black George Barnes,  
and Francis Pickbone, and Will Squele, a Cots-

## Second Part of King Henry IV

wold man; you had not four such swinge-bucklers\* in all the inns o' court again. [roisterers And I may say to you, we knew where the bona-robas were and had the best of them all at commandment. Then was Jack Falstaff, now Sir John, a boy, and page to Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk.

*Sil.* This Sir John, cousin, that comes hither anon about soldiers?

*Shal.* The same Sir John, the very same. I saw him break Skogan's head at the court-gate, when he was a crack\* not thus high; and the [had very same day did I fight with one Sampson Stockfish, a fruiterer, behind Gray's Inn. Jesu, Jesu, the mad days that I have spent! and to see how many of my old acquaintance are dead!

*Sil.* We shall all follow, cousin.

*Shal.* Certain, 'tis certain; very sure, very sure: death, as the Psalmist saith, is certain to all; all shall die. How a good yoke of bullocks at Stamford fair?

*Sil.* By my troth, I was not there.

*Shal.* Death is certain. Is old Double of your town living yet?

*Sil.* Dead, sir.

*Shal.* Jesu, Jesu, dead! he drew a good bow; and dead! he shot a fine shoot: John o' Gaunt loved him well, and betted much money on his head. Dead! he would have clapped i' the clout\* at twelve score; and [hit the nail of the target carried you a forehand shaft\* at four- [sent an arrow teen and fourteen and a half, that it would have done a man's heart good to see. How a score of ewes now?

*Sil.* Thereafter as they be; a score of good ewes may be worth ten pounds.



## Act III Scene 2

*Shal.* And is old Double dead?

*Sil.* Here come two of Sir John Falstaff's men, as I think.

*Enter Bardolph and one with him.*

*Bard.* Good morrow, honest gentlemen. I beseech you, which is Justice Shallow?

*Shal.* I am Robert Shallow, sir; a poor esquire of this county, and one of the king's justices of the peace. What is your good pleasure with me?

*Bard.* My captain, sir, commends him to you; my captain, Sir John Falstaff, a tall gentleman, by heaven, and a most gallant leader.

*Shal.* He greets me well, sir. I knew him a good backword man. How doth the good knight? may I ask how my lady his wife doth?

*Bard.* Sir, pardon; a soldier is better accommodated than with a wife.

*Shal.* It is well said, in faith, sir; and it is well said indeed too. Better accommodated! it is good; yea, indeed, is it: good phrases are surely, and ever were, very commendable. Accommodated! it comes of *accommodo*: very good; a good phrase.

*Bard.* Pardon me, sir; I have heard the word. Phrase call you it? by this good day, I know not the phrase; but I will maintain the word with my sword to be a soldier-like word, and a word of exceeding good command, by heaven. Accommodated; that is, when a man is, as they say, accommodated; or when a man is, being, whereby he may be thought to be accommodated; which is an excellent thing.

*Shal.* It is very just.

*Enter Falstaff.*

Look, here comes good Sir John.—Give me your

## Second Part of King Henry IV

good hand, give me your worship's good hand. By my troth, you look well and bear your years very well; welcome, good Sir John.

*Fal.* I am glad to see you well, good Master Robert Shallow.—Master Surecard, as I think?

*Shal.* No, Sir John; it is my cousin Silence, in commission with me.

*Fal.* Good Master Silence, it well befits you should be of the peace.

*Sil.* Your good worship is welcome.

*Fal.* Fie! this is hot weather, gentlemen. Have you provided me here half a dozen sufficient men?

*Shal.* Marry, have we, sir. Will you sit?

*Fal.* Let me see them, I beseech you.

*Shal.* Where's the roll? where's the roll? where's the roll? Let me see, let me see, let me see. So, so, so, so, so, so, so; yea, marry, sir.—Ralph Mouldy!—Let them appear as I call; let them do so, let them do so. Let me see; where is Mouldy?

*Moul.* Here, an't please you.

*Shal.* What think you, Sir John? a good-limbed fellow; young, strong, and of good friends.

*Fal.* Is thy name Mouldy?

*Moul.* Yea, an't please you.

*Fal.* 'Tis the more time thou wert used.

*Shal.* Ha, ha, ha! most excellent, i' faith! things that are mouldy lack use; very singular good!—In faith, well said, Sir John, very well said.

*Fal.* Prick him.

*Moul.* I was pricked well enough before, an you could have let me alone; my old dame will be undone now for one to do her husbandry

## Act III Scene 2

and her drudgery. You need not to have pricked me; there are other men fitter to go out than I.

*Fal.* Go to; peace, Mouldy! you shall go. Mouldy, it is time you were spent.

*Moul.* Spent!

*Shal.* Peace, fellow, peace! stand aside; know you where you are?—For the other, Sir John; let me see.—Simon Shadow!

*Fal.* Yea, marry, let me have him to sit under; he's like to be a cold soldier.

*Shal.* Where's Shadow?

*Shad.* Here, sir.

*Fal.* Shadow, whose son art thou?

*Shad.* My mother's son, sir.

*Fal.* Thy mother's son! like enough, and thy father's shadow; so the son of the female is the shadow of the male. It is often so, indeed; but much of the father's substance!

*Shal.* Do you like him, Sir John?

*Fal.* Shadow will serve for summer; prick him, for we have a number of shadows to fill up the muster-book.

*Shal.* Thomas Wart!

*Fal.* Where's he?

*Wart.* Here, sir.

*Fal.* Is thy name Wart?

*Wart.* Yea, sir.

*Fal.* Thou art a very ragged wart.

*Shal.* Shall I prick him down, Sir John?

*Fal.* It were superfluous; for his apparel is built upon his back and the whole frame stands upon pins: prick him no more.

*Shal.* Ha, ha, ha! you can do it, sir, you can do it; I commend you well.—Francis Feeble!

*Fee.* Here, sir.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* What trade art thou, Feeble?

*Fee.* A woman's tailor, sir.

*Shal.* Shall I prick him, sir?

*Fal.* You may; but if he had been a man's tailor, he'd ha' pricked you.—Wilt thou make as many holes in an enemy's battle as thou hast done in a woman's petticoat?

*Fee.* I will do my good will, sir; you can have no more.

*Fal.* Well said, good woman's tailor! well said, courageous Feeble! thou wilt be as valiant as the wrathful dove or most magnanimous mouse.—Prick the woman's tailor well, Master Shallow; deep, Master Shallow.

*Fee.* I would Wart might have gone, sir.

*Fal.* I would thou wert a man's tailor, that thou mightst mend him and make him fit to go. I cannot put him to a private soldier that is the leader of so many thousands; let that suffice, most forcible Feeble.

*Fee.* It shall suffice, sir.

*Fal.* I am bound to thee, reverend Feeble.—Who is next?

*Shal.* Peter Bullcalf o' the green!

*Fal.* Yea, marry, let's see Bullcalf.

*Bull.* Here, sir.

*Fal.* Fore God, a likely fellow!—Come, prick me Bullcalf till he roar again.

*Bull.* O Lord! good my lord captain,—

*Fal.* What, dost thou roar before thou art pricked?

*Bull.* O Lord, sir! I am a diseased man.

*Fal.* What disease hast thou?

*Bull.* A whoreson cold, sir, a cough, sir, which I caught with ringing in the king's affairs upon his coronation-day, sir.

## Act III Scene 2

*Fal.* Come, thou shalt go to the wars in a gown; we will have away thy cold; and I will take such order that thy friends shall ring for thee.—Is here all?

*Shal.* Here is two more called than your number; you must have but four here, sir: and so, I pray you, go in with me to dinner.

*Fal.* Come, I will go drink with you, but I cannot tarry dinner. I am glad to see you, by my troth, Master Shallow.

*Shal.* O, Sir John, do you remember since we lay all night in the windmill in Saint George's field?

*Fal.* No more of that, good Master Shallow, no more of that.

*Shal.* Ha! 'twas a merry night. And is Jane Nightwork alive?

*Fal.* She lives, Master Shallow.

*Shal.* She never could away with me.

*Fal.* Never, never; she would always say she could not abide Master Shallow.

*Shal.* By the mass, I could anger her to the heart. She was then a bona-roba. Doth she hold her own well?

*Fal.* Old, old, Master Shallow.

*Shal.* Nay, she must be old; she cannot choose but be old; certain she's old; and had Robin Nightwork by old Nightwork before I came to Clement's Inn.

*Sil.* That's fifty-five year ago.

*Shal.* Ha, cousin Silence, that thou hadst seen that that this knight and I have seen!—Ha, Sir John, said I well?

*Fal.* We have heard the chimes at midnight, Master Shallow.

*Shal.* That we have, that we have, that we have; in faith, Sir John, we have: our watch-

## Second Part of King Henry IV

word was 'Hem, boys!'—Come, let's to dinner; come, let's to dinner.—Jesu, the days that we have seen!—Come, come.

*[Exeunt Falstaff and the Justices.]*

*Bull.* Good Master Corporate Bardolph, stand my friend; and here's four Harry ten shillings in French crowns for you. In very truth, sir, I had as lief be hanged, sir, as go: and yet, for mine own part, sir, I do not care; but rather, because I am unwilling, and, for mine own part, have a desire to stay with my friends; else, sir, I did not care, for mine own part, so much.

*Bard.* Go to; stand aside.

*Moul.* And, good master corporal captain, for my old dame's sake, stand my friend: she has nobody to do any thing about her when I am gone; and she is old, and cannot help herself. You shall have forty, sir.

*Bard.* Go to; stand aside.

*Fee.* By my troth, I care not; a man can die but once: we owe God a death.\* I'll ne'er bear a base mind: an't be my [must pay our debt to nature] destiny, so; an't be not, so. No man is too good to serve 's prince; and let it go which way it will, he that dies this year is quit for the next.

*Bard.* Well said; thou'rt a good fellow.

*Fee.* Faith, I'll bear no base mind.

*Re-enter Falstaff and the Justices.*

*Fal.* Come, sir, which men shall I have?

*Shal.* Four of which you please.

*Bard.* Sir, a word with you.—I have three pound to free Mouldy and Bullcalf.

*Fal.* Go to; well.

*Shal.* Come, Sir John, which four will you have?

## Act III Scene 2

*Fal.* Do you choose for me.

*Shal.* Marry, then, Mouldy, Bullcalf, Feeble, and Shadow.

*Fal.* Mouldy and Bullcalf.—For you, Mouldy, stay at home till you are past service ;—and for your part, Bullcalf, grow till you come unto it : I will none of you. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Shal.* Sir John, Sir John, do not yourself wrong ; they are your likeliest men, and I would have you served with the best.

*Fal.* Will you tell me, Master Shallow, how to choose a man ? Care I for the limb, the thews, the stature, bulk, and big assemblance of a man ! Give me the spirit, Master Shallow. Here's Wart ; you see what a ragged appearance it is : he shall charge you and discharge you with the motion of a pewterer's hammer, come off and on swifter than he that gibbets on the brewer's bucket. And this same half-faced fellow, Shadow ; give me this man : he presents no mark to the enemy ; the foeman may with as great aim level at the edge of a penknife. And for a retreat,—how swiftly will this Feeble the woman's tailor run off ! O, give me the spare men, and spare me the great ones. Put me a caliver\* into Wart's hand, Bardolph. [musket

*Bard.* Hold, Wart, traverse ; thus, thus, thus.

*Fal.* Come, manage me your caliver. So : very well ; go to ; very good, exceeding good. O, give me always a little, lean, old, chopt,\* bald shot. Well said, i' faith, Wart ; [wizened thou'rt a good scab : hold, there's a tester\* [sixpence for thee.

*Shal.* He is not his craft's master ; he doth not do it right. I remember at Mile-end Green, when I lay at Clement's Inn,—I was then Sir

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Dagonet in Arthur's show,—there was a little quiver\* fellow, and he would manage you <sup>[active</sup> his piece thus; and he would about and about, and come you in, and come you in: 'rah, tah, tah,' would he say; 'bounce' would he say; and away again would he go, and again would a' come. I shall ne'er see such a fellow.

*Fal.* These fellows will do well, Master Shallow.—Farewell, Master Silence; I will not use many words with you.—Fare you well, gentlemen both: I thank you; I must a dozen mile to-night.—Bardolph, give the soldiers coats.

*Shal.* Sir John, the Lord bless you! God prosper your affairs! God send us peace! At your return visit our house; let our old acquaintance be renewed: peradventure I will with ye to the court.

*Fal.* Fore God, I would you would, Master Shallow.

*Shal.* Go to; I have spoke at a word. God keep you.

*Fal.* Fare you well, gentle gentlemen. [*Exeunt Justices.*] On, Bardolph; lead the men away. [*Exeunt Bardolph, Recruits, &c.*] As I return, I will fetch off\* these justices; I do see <sup>[cheat</sup> the bottom of Justice Shallow. Lord, Lord, how subject we old men are to this vice of lying! This same starved justice hath done nothing but prate to me of the wildness of his youth, and the feats he hath done about Turnbull Street; and every third word a lie, duer\* paid to the hearer than the <sup>[more promptly</sup> Turk's tribute. I do remember him at Clement's Inn like a man made after supper of a cheese-paring: when he was naked, he was, for all the world, like a forked radish, with a head



## Act IV Scene 1

fantastically carved upon it with a knife; he was so forlorn that his dimensions to any thick sight were invincible; he was the very genius of famine; yet lecherous as a monkey, and the whores called him mandrake. He came ever in the rearward of the fashion, and sung those tunes to the over-scutched\* huswifes lover-whipped that he heard the carmen whistle, and swore they were his fancies or his good-nights. And now is this Vice's dagger become a squire, and talks as familiarly of John o' Gaunt as if he had been sworn brother to him; and I'll be sworn he ne'er saw him but once in the Tilt-yard, and then he burst his head for crowding among the marshal's men. I saw it, and told John o' Gaunt he beat his own name; for you might have thrust him and all his apparel into an eel-skin; the case of a treble hautboy was a mansion for him, a court: and now has he land and beefs. Well, I'll be acquainted with him, if I return; and it shall go hard but I will make him a philosopher's two stones to me. If the young dace be a bait for the old pike, I see no reason in the law of nature but I may snap at him. Let time shape, and there an end. [Exit.

### ACT IV.

SCENE 1.—Yorkshire. Gaultree Forest.

*Enter the Archbishop of York, Mowbray, Hastings, and others.*

*Arch.* What is this forest call'd?

*Hast.* 'Tis Gaultree Forest, an't shall please your grace.

*Arch.* Here stand, my lords; and send discoverers forth

## Second Part of King Henry IV

To know the numbers of our enemies.

*Hast.* We have sent forth already.

*Arch.*

'Tis well done.—

My friends and brethren in these great affairs,  
I must acquaint you that I have receiv'd  
New-dated letters from Northumberland ;  
Their cold intent, tenour and substance, thus :  
Here doth he wish his person, with such powers  
As might hold sortance with his quality,  
The which he could not levy ; whereupon  
He is retir'd, to ripe his growing fortunes,  
To Scotland : and concludes in hearty prayers  
That your attempts may overlive the hazard  
And fearful meeting of their opposite.

*Mowb.* Thus do the hopes we have in him  
touch ground,  
And dash themselves to pieces.

*Enter a Messenger.*

*Hast.*

Now, what news?

*Mess.* West of this forest, scarcely off a mile,  
In goodly form comes on the enemy ;  
And, by the ground they hide, I judge their  
number

Upon or near the rate of thirty thousand.

*Mowb.* The just proportion that we gave them  
out.

Let us sway on and face them in the field.

*Arch.* What well-appointed leader fronts us  
here ?

*Enter Westmoreland.*

*Mowb.* I think it is my Lord of Westmoreland.

*West.* Health and fair greeting from our  
general,

The prince, Lord John and Duke of Lancaster.

## Act IV Scene 1

*Arch.* Say on, my Lord of Westmoreland, in peace :

What doth concern your coming ?

*West.* Then, my lord,

Unto your grace do I in chief address

The substance of my speech. If that rebellion

Came like itself, in base and abject routs,

Led on by bloody youth, guarded with rags,

And countenanc'd by boys and beggary,—

I say, if damn'd commotion so appear'd,

In his true, native, and most proper shape,

You, reverend father, and these noble lords

Had not been here, to dress the ugly form

Of base and bloody insurrection

With your fair honours.—You, lord archbishop,

Whose see is by a civil peace maintain'd,

Whose beard the silver hand of peace hath  
touch'd,

Whose learning and good letters peace hath  
tutor'd,

Whose white investments figure innocence,

The dove and very blessed spirit of peace,

Wherefore do you so ill translate yourself

Out of the speech of peace that bears such grace,

Into the harsh and boisterous tongue of war ;

Turning your books to graves, your ink to  
blood,

Your pens to lances, and your tongue divine

To a loud trumpet and a point of war ?

*Arch.* Wherefore do I this ? so the question  
stands.

Briefly to this end : we are all diseas'd,

And with our surfeiting and wanton hours

Have brought ourselves into a burning fever,

And we must bleed for it ; of which disease

Our late king, Richard, being infected, died.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

But, my most noble Lord of Westmoreland,  
I take not on me here as a physician,  
Nor do I as an enemy to peace  
Troop in the throngs of military men ;  
But rather show awhile like fearful war,  
To diet rank minds sick of happiness  
And purge the obstructions which begin to stop  
Our very veins of life. Hear me more plainly.  
I have in equal balance justly weigh'd  
What wrongs our arms may do, what wrongs  
we suffer,

And find our griefs heavier than our offences.  
We see which way the stream of time doth run,  
And are enforc'd from our most quiet there  
By the rough torrent of occasion ;  
And have the summary of all our griefs,  
When time shall serve, to show in articles,  
Which long ere this we offer'd to the king,  
And might by no suit gain our audience.  
When we are wrong'd and would unfold our  
griefs,

We are denied access unto his person  
Even by those men that most have done us  
wrong.

The dangers of the days but newly gone,  
Whose memory is written on the earth  
With yet appearing blood, and the examples  
Of every minute's instance, present now,  
Hath put us in these ill-beseeming arms,  
Not to break peace or any branch of it,  
But to establish here a peace indeed,  
Concurring both in name and quality.

*West.* When ever yet was your appeal denied?  
Wherein have you been galled by the king?  
What peer hath been suborn'd to grate on you,  
That you should seal this lawless bloody book

## Act IV Scene 1

Of forg'd rebellion with a seal divine  
And consecrate commotion's bitter edge?

*Arch.* My brother general, the commonwealth,  
To brother born an household cruelty,  
I make my quarrel in particular.

*West.* There is no need of any such redress ;  
Or if there were, it not belongs to you.

*Mowb.* Why not to him in part, and to us all  
That feel the bruises of the days before,  
And suffer the condition of these times  
To lay a heavy and unequal hand  
Upon our honours?

*West.* O, my good Lord Mowbray,  
Construe the times to their necessities,  
And you shall say indeed, it is the time,  
And not the king, that doth you injuries.  
Yet for your part, it not appears to me,  
Either from the king or in the present time,  
That you should have an inch of any ground  
To build a grief on. Were you not restor'd  
To all the Duke of Norfolk's signories,  
Your noble and right well remember'd father's?

*Mowb.* What thing, in honour, had my father  
lost,  
That need to be reviv'd and breath'd in me?  
The king that lov'd him, as the state stood then,  
Was force perforce compell'd to banish him ;  
And then that Henry Bolingbroke and he,  
Being mounted and both roused in their seats,  
Their neighing coursers daring of the spur,  
Their armed staves in charge, their beavers down,  
Their eyes of fire sparkling through sights\* of  
steel, [eye-holes  
And the loud trumpet blowing them together,  
Then, then, when there was nothing could have  
stay'd

## Second Part of King Henry IV

My father from the breast of Bolingbroke,—  
O, when the king did throw his warder down,  
His own life hung upon the staff he threw ;  
Then threw he down himself and all their lives  
That by indictment and by dint of sword  
Have since miscarried under Bolingbroke.

*West.* You speak, Lord Mowbray, now you  
know not what.

The Earl of Hereford was reputed then  
In England the most valiant gentleman.  
Who knows on whom fortune would then have  
smil'd?

But if your father had been victor there,  
He ne'er had borne it out of Coventry :  
For all the country in a general voice  
Cried hate upon him ; and all their prayers and  
love

Were set on Hereford, whom they doted on  
And bless'd and grac'd indeed, more than the  
king.

But this is mere digression from my purpose.  
Here come I from our princely general  
To know your griefs ; to tell you from his grace  
That he will give you audience ; and wherein  
It shall appear that your demands are just,  
You shall enjoy them, every thing set off  
That might so much as think you enemies.

*Mowb.* But he hath forc'd us to compel this  
offer ;

And it proceeds from policy, not love.

*West.* Mowbray, you overween to take it so.  
This offer comes from mercy, not from fear ;  
For, lo ! within a ken our army lies,  
Upon mine honour, all too confident  
To give admittance to a thought of fear.  
Our battle is more full of names than yours,

## Act IV Scene 1

Our men more perfect in the use of arms,  
Our armour all as strong, our cause the best ;  
Then reason will our hearts should be as good :  
Say you not then our offer is compell'd.

*Mowb.* Well, by my will we shall admit no  
parley.

*West.* That argues but the shame of your  
offence ;

A rotten case abides no handling.

*Hast.* Hath the Prince John a full commission,  
In very ample virtue of his father,  
To hear and absolutely to determine  
Of what conditions we shall stand upon ?

*West.* That is intended in the general's name ;  
I muse you make so slight a question.

*Arch.* Then take, my Lord of Westmoreland,  
this schedule,

For this contains our general grievances.  
Each several article herein redress'd,  
All members of our cause, both here and hence,  
That are insinewed\* to this action, [allied  
Acquitted by a true substantial form  
And present execution of our wills  
To us and to our purposes confin'd,  
We come within our awful banks\* [limits of reverence  
again,

And knit our powers to the arm of peace.

*West.* This will I show the general. Please  
you, lords,  
In sight of both our battles we may meet ;  
And either end in peace—which God so frame !—  
Or to the place of difference call the swords  
Which must decide it.

*Arch.* My lord, we will do so.

[Exit Westmoreland.]

*Mowb.* There is a thing within my bosom tells me

## Second Part of King Henry IV

That no conditions of our peace can stand.

*Hast.* Fear you not that ; if we can make our  
peace

Upon such large terms and so absolute  
As our conditions shall consist upon,  
Our peace shall stand as firm as rocky mountains.

*Mowb.* Yea, but our valuation shall be such  
That every slight and false-derived cause,  
Yea, every idle, nice, and wanton reason  
Shall to the king taste of this action ;  
That, were our royal faiths martyrs in love,  
We shall be winnowed with so rough a wind  
That even our corn shall seem as light as chaff  
And good from bad find no partition.

*Arch.* No, no, my lord. Note this : the king  
is weary

Of dainty and such picking grievances ;  
For he hath found to end one doubt by death  
Revives two greater in the heirs of life,  
And therefore will he wipe his tables clean,  
And keep no tell-tale to his memory  
That may repeat and history his loss  
To new remembrance ; for full well he knows  
He cannot so precisely weed this land  
As his misdoubts present occasion.  
His foes are so enrooted with his friends  
That, plucking to unfix an enemy,  
He doth unfasten so and shake a friend ;  
So that this land, like an offensive wife  
That hath enrag'd him on to offer strokes,  
As he is striking, holds his infant up,  
And hangs resolv'd correction in the arm  
That was uprear'd to execution.

*Hast.* Besides, the king hath wasted all his  
rods

On late offenders, that he now doth lack



## Act IV Scene 2

The very instruments of chastisement ;  
So that his power, like to a fangless lion,  
May offer, but not hold.

*Arch.* 'Tis very true ;  
And therefore be assur'd, my good lord marshal,  
If we do now make our atonement well,  
Our peace will, like a broken limb united,  
Grow stronger for the breaking.

*Mowb.* Be it so.  
Here is return'd my Lord of Westmoreland.

*Re-enter Westmoreland.*

*West.* The prince is here at hand ; pleaseth  
your lordship  
To meet his grace just distance 'tween our  
armies ?

*Mowb.* Your grace of York, in God's name,  
then, set forward.

*Arch.* Before, and greet his grace ; my lord,  
we come. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 2.—Another Part of the Forest.

*Enter, from one side, Mowbray, the Archbishop, Hastings, and others: from the other side, Prince John of Lancaster, and Westmoreland; Officers, and others with them.*

*Lan.* You are well encounter'd here, my  
cousin Mowbray.—  
Good day to you, gentle lord archbishop ;—  
And so to you, Lord Hastings,—and to all.—  
My Lord of York, it better show'd with you  
When that your flock, assembled by the bell,  
Encircled you to hear with reverence  
Your exposition on the holy text,  
Than now to see you here an iron man,  
Cheering a rout of rebels with your drum,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Turning the word to sword and life to death.  
That man that sits within a monarch's heart,  
And ripens in the sunshine of his favour,  
Would he abuse the countenance of the king,  
Alack, what mischiefs might he set abroad\* <sup>[flowing]</sup>  
In shadow of such greatness! With you, lord

bishop, [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)  
It is even so. Who hath not heard it spoken  
How deep you were within the books of God?  
To us the speaker in his parliament;  
To us the imagin'd voice of God himself;  
The very opener and intelligencer  
Between the grace, the sanctities, of heaven  
And our dull workings. O, who shall believe  
But you misuse the reverence of your place,  
Employ the countenance and grace of heaven,  
As a false favourite doth his prince's name  
In deeds dishonourable? You have ta'en up,  
Under the counterfeited zeal of God,  
The subjects of his substitute, my father,  
And both against the peace of heaven and him  
Have here up-swarm'd them.

*Arch.* Good my Lord of Lancaster,  
I am not here against your father's peace;  
But, as I told my Lord of Westmoreland,  
The time disorder'd doth, in common sense,  
Crowd us and crush us to this monstrous form,  
To hold our safety up. I sent your grace  
The parcels and particulars of our grief,  
The which hath been with scorn shov'd from  
the court,  
Whereon this Hydra son of war is born;  
Whose dangerous eyes may well be charm'd  
asleep  
With grant of our most just and right desires,  
And true obedience, of this madness cur'd,

## Act IV Scene 2

Stoop tamely to the foot of majesty.

*Mowb.* If not, we ready are to try our fortunes  
To the last man.

*Hast.* And though we here fall down,  
We have supplies to second our attempt :  
If they miscarry, theirs shall second them ;  
And so success of mischief shall be born,  
And heir from heir shall hold this quarrel up  
Whiles England shall have generation.

*Lan.* You are too shallow, Hastings, much too  
shallow,  
To sound the bottom of the after-times.

*West.* Pleaseth your grace to answer them  
directly  
How far forth you do like their articles.

*Lan.* I like them all, and do allow them well,  
And swear here, by the honour of my blood,  
My father's purposes have been mistook,  
And some about him have too lavishly  
Wrested his meaning and authority.  
My lord, these griefs shall be with speed re-  
dress'd ;  
Upon my soul, they shall. If this may please  
you,  
Discharge your powers unto their several  
counties,  
As we will ours ; and here between the armies  
Let's drink together friendly and embrace,  
That all their eyes may bear those tokens home  
Of our restored love and amity.

*Arch.* I take your princely word for these  
redresses.

*Lan.* I give it you, and will maintain my word ;  
And thereupon I drink unto your grace.

*Hast.* Go, captain, and deliver to the army  
This news of peace ; let them have pay, and part :

## Second Part of King Henry IV

I know it will well please them. Hie thee,  
captain. [Exit Officer.]

*Arch.* To you, my noble Lord of Westmoreland.

*West.* I pledge your grace; and, if you knew what pains

I have bestow'd to breed this present peace,  
You would drink freely: but my love to ye  
Shall show itself more openly hereafter.

*Arch.* I do not doubt you.

*West.* I am glad of it.—

Health to my lord and gentle cousin, Mowbray.

*Mowb.* You wish me health in very happy season;

For I am, on the sudden, something ill.

*Arch.* Against ill chances men are ever merry;  
But heaviness foreruns the good event.

*West.* Therefore be merry, coz; since sudden sorrow

Serves to say thus,—‘some good thing comes to-morrow.’

*Arch.* Believe me, I am passing light in spirit.

*Mowb.* So much the worse, if your own rule be true. [Shouts within.]

*Lan.* The word of peace is render'd; hark, how they shout!

*Mowb.* This had been cheerful after victory.

*Arch.* A peace is of the nature of a conquest;  
For then both parties nobly are subdued,  
And neither party loser.

*Lan.* Go, my lord,  
And let our army be discharged too.

[Exit Westmoreland.]

And, good my lord, so please you, let our trains  
March by us, that we may peruse the men  
We should have cop'd withal.

## Act IV Scene 2

*Arch.* Go, good Lord Hastings,  
And, ere they be dismiss'd, let them march by.

[*Exit Hastings.*]

*Lan.* I trust, lords, we shall lie to-night  
together.

*Re-enter Westmoreland.*

Now cousin, wherefore stands our army still?

*West.* The leaders, having charge from you  
to stand,

Will not go off until they hear you speak.

*Lan.* They know their duties.

*Re-enter Hastings.*

*Hast.* My lord, our army is dispers'd already.  
Like youthful steers unyok'd, they take their  
courses

East, west, north, south; or, like a school broke  
up,

Each hurries toward his home and sporting-  
place.

*West.* Good tidings, my Lord Hastings; for  
the which

I do arrest thee, traitor, of high treason:

And you, lord archbishop, and you, Lord  
Mowbray,

Of capital treason I attach you both.

*Mowb.* Is this proceeding just and honourable?

*West.* Is your assembly so?

*Arch.* Will you thus break your faith?

*Lan.* I pawn'd thee none.

I promis'd you redress of these same grievances  
Whereof you did complain; which, by mine  
honour,

I will perform with a most Christian care.

But for you, rebels, look to taste the due

Meet for rebellion and such acts as yours.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Most shallowly did you these arms commence,  
Fondly brought here and foolishly sent hence.—  
Strike up our drums, pursue the scatter'd stray;  
God, and not we, hath safely fought to-day.—  
Some guard these traitors to the block of death,  
Treason's true bed and yielder up of breath.

[www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn) [Exit.]

SCENE 3.—Another Part of the Forest.

*Alarum. Excursions. Enter Falstaff and Colevile, meeting.*

*Fal.* What's your name, sir? of what condition are you, and of what place, I pray?

*Cole.* I am a knight, sir; and my name is Colevile of the Dale.

*Fal.* Well, then, Colevile is your name, a knight is your degree, and your place the dale: Colevile shall be still your name, a traitor your degree, and the dungeon your place, a place deep enough; so shall you be still Colevile of the dale.

*Cole.* Are not you Sir John Falstaff?

*Fal.* As good a man as he, sir, who'er I am. Do ye yield, sir? or shall I sweat for you? If I do sweat, they are the drops of thy lovers, and they weep for thy death; therefore rouse up fear and trembling, and do observance to my mercy.

*Cole.* I think you are Sir John Falstaff, and in that thought yield me.

*Fal.* I have a whole school of tongues in this belly of mine, and not a tongue of them all speaks any other word but my name. An I had but a belly of any indifferency, I were simply the most active fellow in Europe; my

## Act IV Scene 3

womb, my womb, my womb undoes me. Here comes our general.

*Enter Prince John of Lancaster, Westmoreland, Blunt, and others.*

*Lan.* The heat is past; follow no further now.— [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

Call in the powers, good cousin Westmoreland.

*[Exit Westmoreland.]*

Now, Falstaff, where have you been all this while?

When every thing is ended, then you come. These tardy tricks of yours will, on my life, One time or other break some gallows' back.

*Fal.* I would be sorry, my lord, but it should be thus; I never knew yet but rebuke and check was the reward of valour. Do you think me a swallow, an arrow, or a bullet? have I, in my poor and old motion, the expedition of thought? I have speeded hither with the very extremest inch of possibility: I have foundered nine score and odd posts; and here, travel-tainted as I am, have, in my pure and immaculate valour, taken Sir John Colevile of the Dale, a most furious knight and valorous enemy. But what of that? he saw me, and yielded; that I may justly say, with the hook-nosed fellow of Rome, 'I came, saw, and overcame.'

*Lan.* It was more of his courtesy than your deserving.

*Fal.* I know not; here he is, and here I yield him: and I beseech your grace, let it be booked with the rest of this day's deeds; or, by the Lord, I will have it in a particular ballad else, with mine own picture on the top on't, Colevile kissing my foot. To the which course if I be

## Second Part of King Henry IV

enforced, if you do not all show like gilt two-pences to me, and I in the clear sky of fame o'ershine you as much as the full moon doth the cinders of the element, which show like pins' heads to her, believe not the word of the noble. Therefore let me have right, and let desert mount.

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*Lan.* Thine's too heavy to mount.

*Fal.* Let it shine, then.

*Lan.* Thine's too thick to shine.

*Fal.* Let it do something, my good lord, that may do me good, and call it what you will.

*Lan.* Is thy name Colevile?

*Cole.* It is, my lord.

*Lan.* A famous rebel art thou, Colevile.

*Fal.* And a famous true subject took him.

*Cole.* I am, my lord, but as my betters are That led me hither : had they been rul'd by me, You should have won them dearer than you have.

*Fal.* I know not how they sold themselves, but thou, like a kind fellow, gavest thyself away gratis ; and I thank thee for thee.

*Re-enter Westmoreland.*

*Lan.* Now, have you left pursuit?

*West.* Retreat is made and execution stay'd.

*Lan.* Send Colevile with his confederates To York, to present execution.— Blunt, lead him hence, and see you guard him sure. [*Exeunt Blunt and others with Cole.* And now dispatch we toward the court, my lords. I hear the king my father is sore sick ; Our news shall go before us to his majesty,— Which, cousin, you shall bear to comfort him, And we with sober speed will follow you.

*Fal.* My lord, I beseech you, give me leave to



## Act IV Scene 3

go through Gloucestershire; and, when you come to court, stand my good lord, pray, in your good report.

*Lan.* Fare you well, Falstaff; I, in my condition,  
Shall better speak of you than you deserve.

[~~Exeunt all but Falstaff~~]

*Fal.* I would you had but the wit; 'twere better than your dukedom. Good faith, this same young sober-blooded boy doth not love me; nor a man cannot make him laugh: but that's no marvel, he drinks no wine. There's never none of these demure boys come to any proof; for thin drink doth so over-cool their blood, and making many fish-meals, that they fall into a kind of male green-sickness; and then, when they marry, they get wenches. They are generally fools and cowards; which some of us should be too, but for inflammation. A good sherris-sack\* hath a two-fold operation [dry sherry in it. It ascends me into the brain; dries me there all the foolish and dull and crudy vapours which environ it; makes it apprehensive, quick, forgetive,\* full of nimble, fiery, [inventive and delectable shapes; which, delivered o'er to the voice, the tongue, which is the birth, becomes excellent wit. The second property of your excellent sherris is the warming of the blood; which, before cold and settled, left the liver white and pale, which is the badge of pusillanimity and cowardice; but the sherris warms it and makes it course from the inwards to the parts extreme. It illumineth the face, which as a beacon gives warning to all the rest of this little kingdom, man, to arm; and then the vital commoners and inland petty spirits

## Second Part of King Henry IV

muster me all to their captain, the heart, who, great and puffed up with this retinue, doth any deed of courage; and this valour comes of sherris. So that skill in the weapon is nothing without sack, for that sets it a-work; and learning a mere hoard of gold kept by a devil, till sack commences it and sets it in act and use. Hereof comes it that Prince Harry is valiant; for the cold blood he did naturally inherit of his father, he hath, like lean, sterile, and bare land, manured, husbanded, and tilled with excellent endeavour of drinking good and good store of fertile sherris, that he is become very hot and valiant. If I had a thousand sons, the first humane principle I would teach them should be, to forswear thin potations and to addict themselves to sack.

*Enter Bardolph.*

How now, Bardolph?

*Bard.* The army is discharged all and gone.

*Fal.* Let them go. I'll through Gloucestershire; and there will I visit Master Robert Shallow, esquire. I have him already tempering between my finger and my thumb, and shortly will I seal with him. Come away.

*[Exeunt.]*

SCENE 4.—Westminster. The Jerusalem Chamber.

*Enter the King, the Princes Thomas of Clarence and Humphrey of Gloucester, Warwick, and others.*

*King.* Now, lords, if God doth give successful end

To this debate that bleedeth at our doors,

## Act IV Scene 4

We will our youth lead on to higher fields  
And draw no swords but what are sanctified.  
Our navy is address'd, our power collected,  
Our substitutes in absence well invested,  
And every thing lies level to our wish ;  
Only, we want a little personal strength,  
And pause us, till these rebels, now afoot,  
Come underneath the yoke of government.

*War.* Both which we doubt not but your  
majesty  
Shall soon enjoy.

*King.* Humphrey, my son of Gloucester,  
Where is the prince your brother ?

*Glou.* I think he's gone to hunt, my lord, at  
Windsor.

*King.* And how accompanied ?

*Glou.* I do not know, my lord.

*King.* Is not his brother, Thomas of Clarence,  
with him ?

*Glou.* No, my good lord ; he is in presence here.

*Clar.* What would my lord and father ?

*King.* Nothing but well to thee, Thomas of  
Clarence.

How chance thou art not with the prince thy  
brother ?

He loves thee, and thou dost neglect him,  
Thomas.

Thou hast a better place in his affection  
Than all thy brothers ; cherish it, my boy,  
And noble offices thou mayst effect  
Of mediation, after I am dead,  
Between his greatness and thy other brethren.  
Therefore omit him not ; blunt not his love,  
Nor lose the good advantage of his grace  
By seeming cold or careless of his will,  
For he is gracious, if he be observ'd.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

He hath a tear for pity and a hand  
Open as day for melting charity ;  
Yet notwithstanding, being incens'd, he 's flint,  
As humorous as winter, and as sudden  
As flaws\* congealed in the spring of day. [ice-flakes  
His temper, therefore, must be well observ'd.  
Chide him for faults, and do it reverently  
When you perceive his blood inclin'd to mirth ;  
But, being moody, give him line and scope,  
Till that his passions, like a whale on ground,  
Confound themselves with working. Learn  
    this, Thomas,  
And thou shalt prove a shelter to thy friends,  
A hoop of gold to bind thy brothers in,  
That the united vessel of their blood,  
Mingled with venom of suggestion—  
As, force perforce, the age will pour it in—  
Shall never leak, though it do work as strong  
As aconitum or rash gunpowder.

*Clar.* I shall observe him with all care and  
    love.

*King.* Why art thou not at Windsor with him,  
    Thomas ?

*Clar.* He is not there to-day ; he dines in  
    London.

*King.* And how accompanied ? canst thou tell  
    that ?

*Clar.* With Poin, and other his continual  
    followers.

*King.* Most subject is the fattest soil to weeds,  
And he, the noble image of my youth,  
Is overspread with them ; therefore my grief  
Stretches itself beyond the hour of death.  
The blood weeps from my heart when I do shape  
In forms imaginary the unguided days  
And rotten times that you shall look upon

## Act IV Scene 4

When I am sleeping with my ancestors.  
For when his headstrong riot hath no curb,  
When rage and hot blood are his counsellors,  
When means and lavish manners meet together,  
O, with what wings shall his affections fly  
Towards fronting peril and oppos'd decay!

*War.* My gracious lord, you look beyond him  
quite.

The prince but studies his companions  
Like a strange tongue, wherein, to gain the  
language,

'Tis needful that the most inmodest word  
Be look'd upon and learn'd; which once attain'd,  
Your highness knows, comes to no further use  
But to be known and hated. So, like gross terms,  
The prince will in the perfectness of time  
Cast off his followers; and their memory  
Shall as a pattern or a measure live,  
By which his grace must mete the lives of others,  
Turning past evils to advantages.

*King.* 'Tis seldom when the bee doth leave  
her comb

In the dead carrion.

*Enter Westmoreland.*

Who's here? Westmoreland!

*West.* Health to my sovereign, and new  
happiness

Added to that that I am to deliver!

Prince John your son doth kiss your grace's  
hand;

Mowbray, the Bishop Scroop, Hastings, and all  
Are brought to the correction of your law.

There is not now a rebel's sword unsheath'd,  
But Peace puts forth her olive everywhere.

The manner how this action hath been borne

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Here at more leisure may your highness read,  
With every course in his particular.

*King.* O Westmoreland, thou art a summer  
bird,

Which ever in the haunch\* of winter sings  
The lifting up of day. [latter end

[www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)  
*Enter Harcourt.*

Look, here's more news.

*Har.* From enemies heaven keep your majesty;  
And, when they stand against you, may they fall  
As those that I am come to tell you of!

The Earl Northumberland and the Lord Bar-  
dolph,

With a great power of English and of Scots,  
Are by the sheriff of Yorkshire overthrown.

The manner and true order of the fight  
This packet, please it you, contains at large.

*King.* And wherefore should these good news  
make me sick?

Will Fortune never come with both hands full,  
But write her fair words still in foulest letters?  
She either gives a stomach and no food,—  
Such are the poor, in health; or else a feast  
And takes away the stomach,—such are the rich,  
That have abundance and enjoy it not.

I should rejoice now at this happy news;  
And now my sight fails, and my brain is giddy.  
O me! come near me, now I am much ill.

*Glou.* Comfort, your majesty!

*Clar.* O my royal father!

*West.* My sovereign lord, cheer up yourself,  
look up.

*War.* Be patient, princes; you do know, these  
fits  
Are with his highness very ordinary.

## Act IV Scene 5

Stand from him, give him air; he'll straight be well.

*Clar.* No, no, he cannot long hold out these pangs.

The incessant care and labour of his mind  
Hath wrought the mure\* that should [worn the wall]  
confine it in [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)  
So thin that life looks through and will break out.

*Glou.* The people fear me; for they do observe  
Unfather'd heirs and loathly births of nature:  
The seasons change their manners, as the year  
Had found some months asleep and leap'd them over.

*Clar.* The river hath thrice flow'd, no ebb  
between;  
And the old folk, time's doting chronicles,  
Say it did so a little time before  
That our great-grandsire, Edward, sick'd and died.

*War.* Speak lower, princes, for the king recovers.

*Glou.* This apoplexy will certain be his end.

*King.* I pray you, take me up, and bear me hence  
Into some other chamber; softly, pray.

*[Exeunt.]*

### SCENE 5.—Another Chamber.

*The King lying on a bed: Clarence, Gloucester, Warwick, and others in attendance.*

*King.* Let there be no noise made, my gentle friends;  
Unless some dull and favourable hand  
Will whisper music to my weary spirit.

*War.* Call for the music in the other room.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*King.* Set me the crown upon my pillow here.

*Clar.* His eye is hollow, and he changes much.

*War.* Less noise, less noise!

*Enter Prince Henry.*

*Prince.* Who saw the Duke of Clarence?

*Clar.* I am here, brother, full of heaviness.

*Prince.* How now! rain within doors, and none abroad!

How doth the king?

*Glou.* Exceeding ill.

*Prince.* Heard he the good news yet?

Tell it him.

*Glou.* He alter'd much upon the hearing it.

*Prince.* If he be sick with joy, he will recover without physic.

*War.* Not so much noise, my lords.—Sweet prince, speak low;

The king your father is dispos'd to sleep.

*Clar.* Let us withdraw into the other room.

*War.* Will't please your grace to go along with us?

*Prince.* No; I will sit and watch here by the king. [*Exeunt all but the Prince.*]

Why doth the crown lie there upon his pillow,  
Being so troublesome a bedfellow?

O polish'd perturbation! golden care!

That keep'st the ports of slumber open wide

To many a watchful night! sleep with it now!

Yet not so sound and half so deeply sweet

As he whose brow with homely biggen\* [*nightcap*]  
bound

Snores out the watch of night. O majesty!

When thou dost pinch thy bearer, thou dost sit

Like a rich armour worn in heat of day,

That scalds with safety. By his gates of breath



## Act IV Scene 5

There lies a downy feather which stirs not ;  
Did he suspire, that light and weightless down  
Perforce must move.—My gracious lord! my  
father!—

This sleep is sound indeed ; this is a sleep  
That from this golden rigol\* hath divorc'd <sup>(circle</sup>  
So many English kings. Thy due from me  
Is tears and heavy sorrows of the blood,  
Which nature, love, and filial tenderness  
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously ;  
My due from thee is this imperial crown,  
Which, as immediate from thy place and blood,  
Derives itself to me. Lo, here it sits,  
Which God shall guard ; and put the world's  
whole strength

Into one giant arm, it shall not force  
This lincal honour from me : this from thee  
Will I to mine leave, as 'tis left to me. [*Exit.*  
*King. Warwick! Gloucester! Clarence!*

*Re-enter Warwick, Gloucester, Clarence, and  
the rest.*

*Clar.* Doth the king call?

*War.* What would your majesty? How  
fares your grace?

*King.* Why did you leave me here alone, my  
lords?

*Clar.* We left the prince my brother here,  
my liege,

Who undertook to sit and watch by you.

*King.* The Princee of Wales! Where is he?  
let me see him ;

He is not here.

*War.* This door is open ; he is gone this way.

*Glou.* He came not through the chamber  
where we stay'd.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*King.* Where is the crown? who took it from my pillow?

*War.* When we withdrew, my liege, we left it here.

*King.* The prince hath ta'en it hence; go, seek him out.

Is he so hasty that he doth suppose  
My sleep my death?—

Find him, my Lord of Warwick; chide him  
hither. *[Exit Warwick.]*

This part of his conjoins with my disease,  
And helps to end me.—See, sons, what things  
you are!

How quickly nature falls into revolt  
When gold becomes her object!  
For this the foolish over-careful fathers  
Have broke their sleep with thoughts, their  
brains with care,

Their bones with industry;  
For this they have engrossed\* and pil'd up <sup>amassed</sup>  
The canker'd heaps of strange-achieved gold;  
For this they have been thoughtful to invest  
Their sons with arts and martial exercises:  
When, like the bee, culling from every flower  
The virtuous sweets,  
Our thighs pack'd with wax, our mouths with  
honey,

We bring it to the hive, and, like the bees,  
Are murder'd for our pains. This bitter taste  
Yield his engrossments to the ending father.

*Re-enter Warwick.*

Now, where is he that will not stay so long  
Till his friend sickness hath determin'd me?

*War.* My lord, I found the prince in the next  
room,

## Act IV Scene 5

Washing with kindly tears his gentle cheeks,  
With such a deep demeanour in great sorrow  
That tyranny, which never quaff'd but blood,  
Would, by beholding him, have wash'd his knife  
With gentle eye-drops. He is coming hither.

*King.* But wherefore did he take away the  
crown? [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Re-enter Prince Henry.*

Lo, where he comes.—Come hither to me,  
Harry.—

Depart the chamber ; leave us here alone.

*[Exeunt Warwick and the rest.]*

*Prince.* I never thought to hear you speak  
again.

*King.* Thy wish was father, Harry, to that  
thought ;

I stay too long by thee, I weary thee.

Dost thou so hunger for mine empty chair  
That thou wilt needs invest thee with my  
honours

Before thy hour be ripe? O foolish youth!  
Thou seek'st the greatness that will overwhelm  
thee.

Stay but a little ; for my cloud of dignity  
Is held from falling with so weak a wind  
That it will quickly drop : my day is dim.  
Thou hast stolen that which after some few hours  
Were thine without offence, and at my death  
Thou hast seal'd up my expectation ;  
Thy life did manifest thou lov'dst me not,  
And thou wilt have me die assur'd of it.  
Thou hid'st a thousand daggers in thy thoughts,  
Which thou hast whetted on thy stony heart,  
To stab at half an hour of my life.

What ! canst thou not forbear me half an hour?

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Then get thee gone and dig my grave thyself,  
And bid the merry bells ring to thine ear  
That thou art crowned, not that I am dead.  
Let all the tears that should bedew my hearse  
Be drops of balm to sanctify thy head :  
Only compound me with forgotten dust ;  
Give that which gave thee life unto the worms.  
Pluck down my officers, break my decrees ;  
For now a time is come to mock at form.  
Harry the Fifth is crown'd ! up, vanity !  
Down, royal state ! all you sage counsellors,  
hence !

And to the English court assemble now,  
From every region, apes of idleness !  
Now, neighbour confines, purge you of your  
scum !

Have you a ruffian that will swear, drink, dance,  
Revel the night, rob, murder, and commit  
The oldest sins the newest kind of ways ?  
Be happy, he will trouble you no more ;  
England shall double gild his treble guilt,  
England shall give him office, honour, might ;  
For the fifth Harry from curb'd license plucks  
The muzzle of restraint, and the wild dog  
Shall flesh his tooth on every innocent.

O my poor kingdom, sick with civil blows !  
When that my care could not withhold thy riots,  
What wilt thou do when riot is thy care ?  
O, thou wilt be a wilderness again,  
Peopled with wolves, thy old inhabitants !

*Prince.* O, pardon me, my liege ! but for my  
tears,  
The moist impediments unto my speech,  
I had forestall'd this dear\* and deep rebuke <sup>[grave</sup>  
Ere you with grief had spoke and I had heard  
The course of it so far. There is your crown ;

## Act IV Scene 5

And He that wears the crown immortally  
Long guard it yours! If I affect it more  
Than as your honour and as your renown,  
Let me no more from this obedience rise,  
Which my most inward true and duteous spirit  
Teacheth, this prostrate and exterior bending.  
God witness with me, when I here came in,  
And found no course of breath within your  
    majesty,  
How cold it struck my heart! If I do feign,  
O, let me in my present wildness die,  
And never live to show the incredulous world  
The noble change that I have purposed!  
Coming to look on you, thinking you dead,  
And dead almost, my liege, to think you were,  
I spake unto this crown as having sense,  
And thus upbraided it: 'The care on thee  
    depending  
Hath fed upon the body of my father;  
Therefore, thou best of gold art worst of gold.  
Other, less fine in carat, is more precious,  
Preserving life in medicine potable;  
But thou, most fine, most honour'd, most re-  
    nown'd,  
Hast eat thy bearer up.' Thus, my most royal  
    liege,  
Accusing it, I put it on my head,  
To try with it, as with an enemy  
That had before my face murther'd my father,  
The quarrel of a true inheritor.  
But if it did infect my blood with joy,  
Or swell my thoughts to any strain of pride,  
If any rebel or vain spirit of mine  
Did with the least affection of a welcome  
Give entertainment to the might of it,  
Let God for ever keep it from my head,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

And make me as the poorest vassal is  
That doth with awe and terror kneel to it!

*King.* O my son,  
God put it in thy mind to take it hence,  
That thou mightst win the more thy father's  
love,

Pleading so wisely in excuse of it!  
Come hither, Harry, sit thou by my bed;  
And hear, I think, the very latest counsel  
That ever I shall breathe. God knows, my son,  
By what by-paths and indirect crook'd ways  
I met this crown; and I myself know well  
How troublesome it sat upon my head.  
To thee it shall descend with better quiet,  
Better opinion, better confirmation;  
For all the soil of the achievement goes  
With me into the earth. It seem'd in me  
But as an honour snatch'd with boisterous hand,  
And I had many living to upbraid  
My gain of it by their assistances;  
Which daily grew to quarrel and to bloodshed,  
Wounding supposed peace. All these bold fears  
Thou see'st with peril I have answered;  
For all my reign hath been but as a scene  
Acting that argument: and now my death  
Changes the mode; for what in me was pur-  
chas'd,

Falls upon thee in a more fairer sort;  
So thou the garland wear'st successively.  
Yet, though thou stand'st more sure than I  
could do,  
Thou art not firm enough, since griefs are green;  
And all my friends, which thou must make thy  
friends,  
Have but their stings and teeth newly ta'en out;  
By whose fell working I was first advanc'd

## Act IV Scene 5

And by whose power I well might lodge a fear  
To be again displac'd : which to avoid,  
I cut them off, and had a purpose now  
To lead out many to the Holy Land,  
Lest rest and lying still might make them look  
Too near unto my state. Therefore, my Harry,  
Be it thy course to busy giddy minds  
With foreign quarrels ; that action, hence borne  
out,

May waste the memory of the former days.  
More would I, but my lungs are wasted so  
That strength of speech is utterly denied me.  
How I came by the crown, O God forgive ;  
And grant it may with thee in true peace live !

*Prince.* My gracious liege,  
You won it, wore it, kept it, gave it me :  
Then plain and right must my possession be ;  
Which I with more than with a common pain  
'Gainst all the world will rightfully maintain.

*Enter Prince John of Lancaster.*

*King.* Look, look, here comes my John of  
Lancaster.

*Lan.* Health, peace, and happiness to my  
royal father !

*King.* Thou bring'st me happiness and peace,  
son John ;

But health, alack, with youthful wings is flown  
From this bare wither'd trunk : upon thy sight  
My worldly business makes a period.

Where is my Lord of Warwick ?

*Prince.* My Lord of Warwick !

*Enter Warwick, and others.*

*King.* Doth any name particular belong  
Unto the lodging where I first did swoon ?

*War.* 'Tis call'd Jerusalem, my noble lord.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*King.* Laud be to God! even there my life  
must end.

It hath been prophesied to me many years,  
I should not die but in Jerusalem,

Which vainly I suppos'd the Holy Land.

But bear me to that chamber: there I'll lie;

In that Jerusalem shall Harry die. *[Exit.*

### ACT V.

SCENE 1.—Gloucestershire. Shallow's House.

*Enter Shallow, Falstaff, Bardolph, and Page.*

*Shal.* By cock and pie, sir, you shall not away  
to-night.—What, Davy, I say!

*Fal.* You must excuse me, Master Robert  
Shallow.

*Shal.* I will not excuse you; you shall not be  
excused; excuses shall not be admitted; there  
is no excuse shall serve; you shall not be  
excused.—Why, Davy!

*Enter Davy.*

*Davy.* Here, sir.

*Shal.* Davy, Davy, Davy, Davy, let me see,  
Davy; let me see, Davy; let me see: yea, marry,  
William cook, bid him come hither.—Sir John,  
you shall not be excused.

*Davy.* Marry, sir, thus; those precepts cannot  
be served: and, again, sir, shall we sow the  
headland with wheat?

*Shal.* With red wheat, Davy. But for William  
cook; are there no young pigeons?

*Davy.* Yes, sir. Here is now the smith's note  
for shoeing and plough-irons.

*Shal.* Let it be cast and paid.—Sir John, you  
shall not be excused.



## Act V Scene 1

*Davy.* Now, sir, a new link to the bucket must needs be had; and, sir, do you mean to stop any of William's wages, about the sack he lost the other day at Hinckley fair?

*Shal.* He shall answer it. Some pigeons, Davy, a couple of short-legged hens, a joint of mutton, and any pretty little tiny kickshaws, tell William cook.

*Davy.* Doth the man of war stay all night, sir?

*Shal.* Yea, Davy. I will use him well; a friend i' court is better than a penny in purse. Use his men well, Davy; for they are arrant knaves, and will backbite.

*Davy.* No worse than they are backbitten, sir; for they have marvellous foul linen.

*Shal.* Well conceited, Davy. About thy business, Davy.

*Davy.* I beseech you, sir, to countenance William Visor of Woncot\* against [Wilnecote Clement Perkes of the Hill.

*Shal.* There is many complaints, Davy, against that Visor; that Visor is an arrant knave, on my knowledge.

*Davy.* I grant your worship that he is a knave, sir; but yet, God forbid, sir, but a knave should have some countenance at his friend's request. An honest man, sir, is able to speak for himself, when a knave is not. I have served your worship truly, sir, this eight years; and if I cannot once or twice in a quarter bear out a knave against an honest man, I have but a very little credit with your worship. The knave is mine honest friend, sir; therefore, I beseech your worship, let him be countenanced.

*Shal.* Go to; I say he shall have no wrong. Lookabout, Davy. [*Exit Davy.*] Where are you,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Sir John? Come, come, come, off with your boots.—Give me your hand, Master Bardolph.

*Bard.* I am glad to see your worship.

*Shal.* I thank thee with all my heart, kind Master Bardolph;—and welcome, my tall fellow [*to the Page*].—Come, Sir John.

*Fal.* I'll follow you, good Master Robert Shallow. [*Exit Shallow.*] Bardolph, look to our horses. [*Exeunt Bardolph and Page.*] If I were sawed into quantities, I should make four dozen of such bearded hermits' staves as Master Shallow. It is a wonderful thing to see the semblable coherence of his men's spirits and his: they, by observing of him, do bear themselves like foolish justices; he, by conversing with them, is turned into a justice-like serving-man. Their spirits are so married in conjunction with the participation of society that they flock together in consent, like so many wild-geese. If I had a suit to Master Shallow, I would humour his men with the imputation of being near their master; if to his men, I would curry with Master Shallow that no man could better command his servants. It is certain that either wise bearing or ignorant carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another; therefore let men take heed of their company. I will devise matter enough out of this Shallow to keep Prince Harry in continual laughter the wearing out of six fashions, which is four terms, or two actions, and a' shall laugh without intervallums. O, it is much that a lie with a slight oath and a jest with a sad brow will do with a fellow that never had the ache in his shoulders! O, you shall see him laugh till his face be like a wet cloak ill laid up!

## Act V Scene 2

*Shal.* [*Within*] Sir John!

*Fal.* I come, Master Shallow; I come, Master Shallow. [*Exit.*]

SCENE 2.—Westminster. The Palace.

*Enter Warwick and the Lord Chief Justice, meeting.*

*War.* How now, my lord chief-justice! whither away?

*Ch.-Just.* How doth the king?

*War.* Exceeding well; his cares are now all ended.

*Ch.-Just.* I hope, not dead.

*War.* He's walk'd the way of nature, And to our purposes he lives no more.

*Ch.-Just.* I would his majesty had call'd me with him;

The service that I truly did his life Hath left me open to all injuries.

*War.* Indeed I think the young king loves you not.

*Ch.-Just.* I know he doth not, and do arm myself

To welcome the condition of the time, Which cannot look more hideously upon me Than I have drawn it in my fantasy.

*Enter Lancaster, Clarence, Gloucester, Westmoreland, and others.*

*War.* Here come the heavy issue of dead Harry.

O that the living Harry had the temper Of him, the worst of these three gentlemen! How many nobles then should hold their places, That must strike sail to spirits of vile sort!

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Ch.-Just.* O God, I fear all will be overturn'd!

*Lan.* Good morrow, cousin Warwick, good morrow.

*Glou.* } Good morrow, cousin.  
*Clar.* }

*Lan.* We meet like men that had forgot to speak. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*War.* We do remember; but our argument is all too heavy to admit much talk.

*Lan.* Well, peace be with him that hath made us heavy!

*Ch.-Just.* Peace be with us, lest we be heavier!

*Glou.* O, good my lord, you have lost a friend indeed!

And I dare swear you borrow not that face  
Of seeming sorrow, it is sure your own.

*Lan.* Though no man be assur'd what grace to find,

You stand in coldest expectation.

I am the sorrier; would 'twere otherwise.

*Clar.* Well, you must now speak Sir John Falstaff fair;

Which swims against your stream of quality.

*Ch.-Just.* Sweet princes, what I did, I did in honour,

Led by the impartial conduct of my soul;

And never shall you see that I will beg  
A ragged and forestall'd remission.

If truth and upright innocency fail me,

I'll to the king my master that is dead,

And tell him who hath sent me after him.

*War.* Here comes the prince.

*Enter King Henry the Fifth, attended.*

*Ch.-Just.* Good morrow; and God save your majesty!

## Act V Scene 2

*King.* This new and gorgeous garment, majesty,

Sits not so easy on me as you think.—

Brothers, you mix your sadness with some fear :

This is the English, not the Turkish court ;

Not Amurath an Amurath succeeds,

But Harry Harry. Yet be sad, good brothers,

For, by my faith, it very well becomes you.

Sorrow so royally in you appears

That I will deeply put the fashion on

And wear it in my heart. Why then, be sad ;

But entertain no more of it, good brothers,

Than a joint burden laid upon us all.

For me, by heaven, I bid you be assur'd,

I'll be your father and your brother too ;

Let me but bear your love, I'll bear your cares.

Yet weep that Harry's dead, and so will I ;

But Harry lives, that shall convert those tears

By number into hours of happiness.

*Princes.* We hope no other from your majesty.

*King.* You all look strangely on me,—and you most ;

You are, I think, assur'd I love you not.

*Ch.-Just.* I am assur'd, if I be measur'd rightly,

Your majesty hath no just cause to hate me.

*King.* No ?

How might a prince of my great hopes forget

So great indignities you laid upon me ?

What ! rate, rebuke, and roughly send to prison

The immediate heir of England ! Was this easy ?

May this be wash'd in Lethe, and forgotten ?

*Ch.-Just.* I then did use the person of your father ;

The image of his power lay then in me :

And, in the administration of his law,

Whiles I was busy for the commonwealth,

## Second Part of King Henry IV

Your highness pleased to forget my place,  
The majesty and power of law and justice,  
The image of the king whom I presented,  
And struck me in my very seat of judgment ;  
Whereon, as an offender to your father,  
I gave bold way to my authority  
And did commit you. If the deed were ill,  
Be you contented, wearing now the garland,  
To have a son set your decrees at nought,  
To pluck down justice from your awful bench,  
To trip the course of law, and blunt the sword  
That guards the peace and safety of your person ;  
Nay, more, to spurn at your most royal image  
And mock your workings in a second body.  
Question your royal thoughts, make the case  
yours ;

Be now the father and propose a son,  
Hear your own dignity so much profan'd,  
See your most dreadful laws so loosely slighted,  
Behold yourself so by a son disdain'd ;  
And then imagine me taking your part,  
And in your power soft silencing your son.  
After this cold considerance, sentence me ;  
And, as you are a king, speak in your state  
What I have done that misbecame my place,  
My person, or my liege's sovereignty.

*King.* You are right, justice, and you weigh  
this well ;

Therefore still bear the balance and the sword :  
And I do wish your honours may increase,  
Till you do live to see a son of mine  
Offend you and obey you, as I did.  
So shall I live to speak my father's words :  
' Happy am I, that have a man so bold,  
That dares do justice on my proper\* son ;      [own  
And not less happy, having such a son,

## Act V Scene 2

That would deliver up his greatness so  
Into the hands of justice.' You did commit me :  
For which, I do commit into your hand  
The unstained sword that you have us'd to bear ;  
With this remembrance,—that you use the same  
With the like bold, just, and impartial spirit  
As you have done 'gainst me. There is my hand.  
You shall be as a father to my youth ;  
My voice shall sound as you do prompt mine ear,  
And I will stoop and humble my intents  
To your well-practis'd wise directions.—  
And, princes all, believe me, I beseech you ;  
My father is gone wild into his grave,  
For in his tomb lie my affections,  
And with his spirit sadly I survive,  
To mock the expectation of the world,  
To frustrate prophecies and to raze out  
Rotten opinion, who hath writ me down  
After my seeming. The tide of blood in me  
Hath proudly flow'd in vanity till now ;  
Now doth it turn and ebb back to the sea,  
Where it shall mingle with the state of floods  
And flow henceforth in formal majesty.  
Now call we our high court of parliament,  
And let us choose such limbs of noble counsel,  
That the great body of our state may go  
In equal rank with the best govern'd nation ;  
That war, or peace, or both at once, may be  
As things acquainted and familiar to us ;  
In which you, father, shall have foremost hand.  
Our coronation done, we will accite,\* [summon  
As I before remember'd, all our state ;  
And, God consigning to\* my good intents, [ratifying  
No prince nor peer shall have just cause to say,  
God shorten Harry's happy life one day !

[*Exeunt.*

## Second Part of King Henry IV

SCENE 3.—Gloucestershire. Shallow's Orchard.

*Enter Falstaff, Shallow, Silence, Davy,  
Bardolph, and the Page.*

*Shal.* Nay, you shall see my orchard, where, in an arbour, we will eat a last year's pippin of my own graffing, with a dish of caraways, and so forth;—come, cousin Silence;—and then to bed.

*Fal.* Fore God, you have here a goodly dwelling and a rich.

*Shal.* Barren, barren, barren; beggars all, beggars all, Sir John: marry, good air.—Spread, Davy; spread, Davy: well said, Davy.

*Fal.* This Davy serves you for good uses; he is your serving-man and your husband.

*Shal.* A good varlet, a good varlet, a very good varlet, Sir John;—by the mass, I have drunk too much sack at supper!—a good varlet.—Now sit down, now sit down. Come, cousin.

*Sil.* Ah, sirrah! quoth-a, we shall [*Sings*]  
*Do nothing but eat, and make good cheer,  
And praise God for the merry year;  
When flesh is cheap and females dear,  
And lusty lads roam here and there  
So merrily,  
And ever among so merrily.*

*Fal.* There's a merry heart! Good Master Silence, I'll give you a health for that anon.

*Shal.* Give Master Bardolph some wine, Davy.

*Davy.* Sweet sir, sit; I'll be with you anon; most sweet sir, sit.—Master page, good master page, sit. Proface\*! What you want in [*welcome*] meat, we'll have in drink. But you must bear; the heart's all. [*Exit.*]



## Act V Scene 3

*Shal.* Be merry, master Bardolph;—and, my little soldier there, be merry.

*Sil.* [Sings]

*Be merry, be merry, my wife has all;  
For women are shrews, both short and tall:  
'Tis merry in hall when beards wag all,  
And welcome merry Shrove-tide.*

*Be merry, be merry.*

*Fal.* I did not think Master Silence had been a man of this mettle.

*Sil.* Who, I? I have been merry twice and once ere now.

*Re-enter Davy.*

*Davy.* There's a dish of leather-coats\* for you.

[*To Bardolph.* [russet apples

*Shal.* Davy!

*Davy.* Your worship!—I'll be with you straight [*to Bardolph*].—A cup of wine, sir?

*Sil.* [Sings]

*A cup of wine that's brisk and fine,  
And drink unto the leman mine;  
And a merry heart lives long a.*

*Fal.* Well said, Master Silence.

*Sil.* An we shall be merry, now comes in the sweet o' the night.

*Fal.* Health and long life to you, Master Silence.

*Sil.* [Sings]

*Fill the cup, and let it come;  
I'll pledge you a mile to the bottom.*

*Shal.* Honest Bardolph, welcome; if thou wantest any thing, and wilt not call, beshrew thy heart.—Welcome, my little tiny thief [*to the Page*], and welcome indeed too.—I'll drink to Master Bardolph, and to all the cavaleros\* about London.

[*gallants*

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Davy.* I hope to see London once ere I die.

*Bard.* An I might see you there, Davy,—

*Shal.* By the mass, you'll crack a quart together, ha! will you not, Master Bardolph?

*Bard.* Yea, sir, in a pottle-pot,\* [large tankard

*Shal.* By God's liggens, I thank thee. The knave will stick by thee, I can assure thee that. A' will not out; he is true bred.

*Bard.* And I'll stick by him, sir.

*Shal.* Why, there spoke a king. Lack nothing; be merry. [*Knocking within.*] Look who's at door there.—Ho! who knocks? [*Exit Davy.*

*Fal.* Why, now you have done me right.

[*To Silence, seeing him take off a bumper.*

*Sil.* [*Sings*] *Do me right,  
And dub me knight;  
Samingo.*

Is't not so?

*Fal.* 'Tis so.

*Sil.* Is't so? Why then, say an old man can do somewhat.

*Re-enter Davy.*

*Davy.* An't please your worship, there's one Pistol come from the court with news.

*Fal.* From the court! let him come in.

*Enter Pistol.*

How now, Pistol!

*Pist.* Sir John, God save you!

*Fal.* What wind blew you hither, Pistol?

*Pist.* Not the ill wind which blows no man to good. Sweet knight, thou art now one of the greatest men in this realm.

*Sil.* By'r lady, I think a' be, but Goodman Puff of Barson.\*

[Barston

*Pist.* Puff!

## Act V Scene 3

Puff in thy teeth, most recreant coward base!—  
Sir John, I am thy Pistol and thy friend,  
And helter-skelter have I rode to thee,  
And tidings do I bring, and lucky joys,  
And golden times, and happy news of price.

*Fal.* I pray thee now, deliver them like a man  
of this world. [www.libtool.com.cn](http://www.libtool.com.cn)

*Pist.* A foutra\* for the world and world-  
lings base!

I speak of Africa and golden joys.

*Fal.* O base Assyrian knight, what is thy news?  
Let King Cophetua know the truth thereof.

*Sil.* [Sings] *And Robin Hood, Scarlet, and John.*

*Pist.* Shall dunghill curs confront the Helicons?

And shall good news be baffled?

Then, Pistol, lay thy head in Furies' lap.

*Sil.* Honest gentleman, I know not your breeding.

*Pist.* Why then, lament therefore.

*Shal.* Give me pardon, sir. If, sir, you come with news from the court, I take it there's but two ways,—either to utter them, or to conceal them. I am, sir, under the king in some authority.

*Pist.* Under which king, bezonian\*? [beggar speak, or die.

*Shal.* Under King Harry.

*Pist.* Harry the Fourth? or Fifth?

*Shal.* Harry the Fourth.

*Pist.* A foutra for thine office!—

Sir John, thy tender lambkin now is king;  
Harry the Fifth's the man. I speak the truth;  
When Pistol lies, do this, and fig me, like  
The bragging Spaniard.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*Fal.* What, is the old king dead?

*Pist.* As nail in door; the things I speak are just.

*Fal.* Away, Bardolph! saddle my horse.—Master Robert Shallow, choose what office thou wilt in the land, 'tis thine.—Pistol, I will double-charge thee with dignities.

*Bard.* O joyful day! I would not take a knighthood for my fortune.

*Pist.* What! I do bring good news?

*Fal.* Carry Master Silence to bed.—Master Shallow, my Lord Shallow, be what thou wilt; I am fortune's steward—get on thy boots; we'll ride all night.—O sweet Pistol!—Away, Bardolph! [*Exit Bardolph.*] Come, Pistol, utter more to me; and withal devise something to do thyself good.—Boot, boot, Master Shallow; I know the young king is sick for me. Let us take any man's horses; the laws of England are at my commandment. Blessed are they that have been my friends, and woe to my lord chief-justice!

*Pist.* Let vultures vile seize on his lungs also! 'Where is the life that late I led?' say they: Why, here it is; welcome these pleasant days!

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE 4.—London. A Street.

*Enter Beadles, dragging in Hostess Quickly and Doll Tearsheet.*

*Host.* No, thou arrant knave; I would to God that I might die, that I might have thee hanged: thou hast drawn my shoulder out of joint.

*1st Bead.* The constables have delivered her over to me; and she shall have whipping-cheer

## Act V Scene 5

enough, I warrant her : there hath been a man or two lately killed about her.

*Doll.* Nut-hook, nut-hook, you lie. Come on ; I'll tell you what, thou damned tripe-visaged rascal, an the child I now go with miscarry, thou wert better thou hadst struck thy mother, thou paper-faced villain.

*Host.* O the Lord, that Sir John were come ! he would make this a bloody day to somebody. But I pray God the fruit of her womb miscarry.

*1st Bead.* If it do, you shall have a dozen of cushions again ; you have but eleven now. Come, I charge you both go with me ; for the man is dead that you and Pistol beat amongst you.

*Doll.* I'll tell you what, you thin man in a censer, I will have you assoundly swunged\* [whipped for this, — you blue-bottle rogue, you filthy famished correctioner, if you be not swunged, I'll forswear half-kirtles.

*1st Bead.* Come, come, you she knight-errant, come.

*Host.* O God, that right should thus overcome might ! Well, of sufferance comes ease.

*Doll.* Come, you rogue, come ; bring me to a justice.

*Host.* Ay, come, you starved blood-hound.

*Doll.* Goodman death, goodman bones !

*Host.* Thou atomy, thou !

*Doll.* Come, you thin thing ; come, you rascal.

*1st Bead.* Very well. [Exeunt.

SCENE 5.—A Public Place near Westminster Abbey.

*Enter two Grooms, strewing rushes.*

*1st Groom.* More rushes, more rushes.

*2nd Groom.* The trumpets have sounded twice.

## Second Part of King Henry IV

1st Groom. 'Twill be two o'clock ere they come from the coronation. Dispatch, dispatch.  
[*Exeunt.*]

*Enter Falstaff, Shallow, Pistol, Bardolph, and Page.*

*Fal.* Stand here by me, Master Robert Shallow; I will make the king do you grace. I will leer upon him as he comes by; and do but mark the countenance that he will give me.

*Pist.* God bless thy lungs, good knight!

*Fal.* Come here, Pistol; stand behind me.—O, if I had had time to have made new liveries, I would have bestowed the thousand pound I borrowed of you. But 'tis no matter; this poor show doth better: this doth infer the zeal I had to see him.

*Shal.* It doth so.

*Fal.* It shows my earnestness of affection,—

*Shal.* It doth so.

*Fal.* My devotion,—

*Shal.* It doth, it doth, it doth.

*Fal.* As it were, to ride day and night; and not to deliberate, not to remember, not to have patience to shift me,—

*Shal.* It is best, certain.

*Fal.* But to stand stained with travel, and sweating with desire to see him; thinking of nothing else, putting all affairs else in oblivion, as if there were nothing else to be done but to see him.

*Pist.* 'Tis *semper idem* for *obsque hoc nihil est*: 'tis all in every part.

*Shal.* 'Tis so, indeed.

*Pist.* My knight, I will inflame thy noble liver, And make thee rage.

## Act V Scene 5

Thy Doll, and Helen of thy noble thoughts,  
Is in base durance and contagious prison ;  
Hal'd thither  
By most mechanical and dirty hand.—  
Rouse up revenge from ebon den with fell  
Alecto's snake,  
For Doll is in. Pistol speaks nought but truth.

*Fal.* I will deliver her.

*[Shouts within, and the trumpets sound.]*

*Pist.* There roar'd the sea, and trumpet-  
clangor sounds.

*Enter the King and his train, the Lord Chief-  
Justice among them.*

*Fal.* God save thy grace, King Hal! my royal  
Hal!

*Pist.* The heavens thee guard and keep, most  
royal imp of fame!

*Fal.* God save thee, my sweet boy!

*King.* My lord chief-justice, speak to that  
vain man.

*Ch.-Just.* Have you your wits? know you  
what 'tis you speak?

*Fal.* My king! my Jove! I speak to thee, my  
heart!

*King.* I know thee not, old man: fall to thy  
prayers;

How ill white hairs become a fool and jester!  
I have long dream'd of such a kind of man,  
So surfeit-swell'd, so old, and so profane;  
But, being awak'd, I do despise my dream.  
Make less thy body hence, and more thy grace;  
Leave gormandizing; know the grave doth gape  
For thee thrice wider than for other men.  
Reply not to me with a fool-born jest:  
Presume not that I am the thing I was;

## Second Part of King Henry IV

For God doth know, so shall the world perceive,  
That I have turn'd away my former self ;  
So will I those that kept me company.  
When thou dost hear I am as I have been,  
Approach me, and thou shalt be as thou wast,  
The tutor and the feeder of my riots ;  
Till then, I banish thee, on pain of death,  
As I have done the rest of my misleaders,  
Not to come near our person by ten mile.  
For competence of life I will allow you,  
That lack of means enforce you not to evil ;  
And, as we hear you do reform yourselves,  
We will, according to your strengths and  
qualities,  
Give you advancement.—Be it your charge, my  
lord,

To see perform'd the tenour of our word.

Set on.

[*Exeunt King, &c.*]

*Fal.* Master Shallow, I owe you a thousand pound.

*Shal.* Yea, marry, Sir John ; which I beseech you to let me have home with me.

*Fal.* That can hardly be, Master Shallow. Do not you grieve at this ; I shall be sent for in private to him. Look you, he must seem thus to the world : fear not your advancements ; I will be the man yet that shall make you great.

*Shal.* I cannot well perceive how, unless you should give me your doublet and stuff me out with straw. I beseech you, good Sir John, let me have five hundred of my thousand.

*Fal.* Sir, I will be as good as my word ; this that you heard was but a colour.

*Shal.* A colour that I fear you will die in, Sir John.



## Epilogue

*Fal.* Fear no colours ; go with me to dinner.—  
Come, Lieutenant Pistol ;—come, Bardolph.—I  
shall be sent for soon at night.

*Re-enter Prince John, the Lord Chief-Justice ;  
Officers with them.*

*Ch.-Just.* Go, carry Sir John Falstaff to the  
Fleet.

Take all his company along with him.

*Fal.* My lord, my lord,—

*Ch.-Just.* I cannot now speak ; I will hear  
you soon.

Take them away.

*Pist.* *Si fortune me tormente, sperato me  
contento.*

*[Exeunt all but Prince John and the Ch.-Just.]*

*Lan.* I like this fair proceeding of the king's.  
He hath intent his wonted followers  
Shall all be very well provided for ;  
But all are banish'd till their conversations  
Appear more wise and modest to the world.

*Ch.-Just.* And so they are.

*Lan.* The king hath call'd his parliament, my  
lord.

*Ch.-Just.* He hath.

*Lan.* I will lay odds, that, ere this year expire,  
We bear our civil swords and native fire  
As far as France. I heard a bird so sing,  
Whose music, to my thinking, pleas'd the king.  
Come, will you hence ? *[Exeunt.]*

## EPILOGUE.

SPOKEN BY A DANCER.

*First my fear, then my courtesy, last my speech.  
My fear is your displeasure, my courtesy my*

## Second Part of King Henry IV

*duty, and my speeche to beg your pardons. If you look for a good speeche now, you undo me; for what I have to say is of mine own making, and what indeed I should say will, I doubt, prove mine own marring. But to the purpose, and so to the venture. Be it known to you, as it is very well, I was lately here in the end of a displeasing play, to pray your patience for it and to promise you a better. I meant indeed to pay you with this; which, if like an ill venture it come unluckily home, I break, and you, my gentle creditors, lose. Here I promised you I would be, and here I commit my body to your mercies; bate me some and I will pay you some, and, as most debtors do, promise you infinitely.*

*If my tongue cannot entreat you to acquit me, will you command me to use my legs? and yet that were but light payment, to dance out of your debt. But a good conscience will make any possible satisfaction, and so would I. All the gentlewomen here have forgiven me; if the gentlemen will not, then the gentlemen do not agree with the gentlewomen, which was never seen before in such an assembly.*

*One word more, I beseech you. If you be not too much cloyed with fat meat, our humble author will continue the story, with Sir John in it, and make you merry with fair Katherine of France: where, for any thing I know, Falstaff shall die of a sweat, unless already a' be killed with your hard opinions; for Oldcastle died a martyr, and this is not the man. My tongue is weary; when my legs are too, I will bid you good night: and so kneel down before you; but, indeed, to pray for the queen.*

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