

GHS RICHARD II Competition Scene Act IV Scene 1, Act V Scene 1, 4 & 5

ACT IV SCENE I. Westminster Hall.

Enter, as to the Parliament, HENRY BOLINGBROKE, DUKE OF AUMERLE, NORTHUMBERLAND, HENRY PERCY, LORD FITZWATER, DUKE OF SURREY, the BISHOP OF CARLISLE, the Abbot Of Westminster, and another Lord, Herald, Officers, and BAGOT

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Now, Bagot, freely speak thy mind;

What thou dost know of noble Gloucester's death.

BAGOT

My Lord Aumerle,

In that dead time when Gloucester'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 mine uncle's head?'

DUKE OF AUMERLE

Princes and noble lords,

What answer shall I make to this base man?

There is my gage, the manual seal of death,

That marks thee out for hell: I say, thou liest,

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Bagot, forbear; thou shalt not take it up.

LORD FITZWATER

There is my gage, Aumerle, in gage to thine:

I heard thee say, and vauntingly thou spakest it
That thou wert cause of noble Gloucester's death.

DUKE OF AUMERLE

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

HENRY PERCY

Aumerle, thou liest; his honour is as true

In this appeal as thou art all unjust;
there I throw my gage,

LORD

I task the earth to the like, forsworn Aumerle;
From sun to sun: there is my honour's pawn;

DUKE OF AUMERLE

Who sets me else? by heaven, I'll throw at all:

DUKE OF SURREY

My Lord Fitzwater, I do remember well

The very time Aumerle and you did talk.

LORD FITZWATER

'Tis very true: you were in presence then;
And you can witness with me this is true.

DUKE OF SURREY

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

LORD FITZWATER

Surrey, thou liest.

DUKE OF SURREY

Dishonourable boy!

That lie shall lie so heavy on my sword,

That it shall render vengeance and revenge

In proof whereof, there is my honour's pawn;

LORD FITZWATER

How fondly dost thou spur a forward horse!

Aumerle is guilty of my true appeal:

Enter DUKE OF YORK, attended

DUKE OF 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, fourth of that name!

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

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

BISHOP OF CARLISLE

Marry. God forbid!

What subject can give sentence on his king?
And who sits here that is not Richard's subject?
Shall the figure of God's majesty,
His captain, steward, Anointed, crowned,
Be judged by subject and inferior breath,
And he himself not present? O, forfend it, God,
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.
Prevent it, resist it, let it not be so,
Lest child, child's children, cry against you woe!

NORTHUMBERLAND

Well have you argued, sir; and, for your pains,

Of capital treason we arrest you here.
HENRY BOLINGBROKE
Fetch hither Richard, that in common view

He may surrender; so we shall proceed Without suspicion.

DUKE OF YORK

I will be his conduct.

Exit

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Lords, you that here are under our arrest,
Procure your sureties for your days of answer.
Little are we beholding to your love,
And little look'd for at your helping hands.

Re-enter DUKE OF YORK, with KING RICHARD II, and Officers bearing the regalia

KING RICHARD II

Alack, why am I sent for to a king,
I hardly yet have learn'd
To insinuate, flatter, bow, and bend my limbs:
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?

To do what service am I sent for hither?

DUKE OF YORK

The resignation of thy state and crown

To Henry Bolingbroke.

KING RICHARD II

Give me the crown. Here, cousin, seize the crown;

On this side my hand, and on that side yours.

Now is this golden crown like a deep well

Drinking my griefs, whilst you mount up on high.

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

I thought you had been willing to resign.

KING RICHARD II

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.

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Part of your cares you give me with your crown.

KING RICHARD II

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.

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Are you contented to resign the crown?

KING RICHARD II

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,

With mine own hands I give away my crown,

With mine own tongue deny my sacred state,

With mine own breath release all duty's rites:

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!

Long mayst thou live in Richard's seat to sit,

And soon lie Richard in an earthly pit!

God save King Harry, unking'd Richard says,

And send him many years of sunshine days!

What more remains?

NORTHUMBERLAND

No more, but that you read

These accusations and these grievous crimes
Committed by your person and your followers.

KING RICHARD II

Must I do so? and must I ravel out

My weaved-up folly?

NORTHUMBERLAND

My lord, dispatch; read o'er these articles.

KING RICHARD II

Mine eyes are full of tears, I cannot see:

NORTHUMBERLAND

My lord,--

KING RICHARD II

No lord of thine, thou haught insulting man,

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

'tis usurp'd:

NORTHUMBERLAND

Read o'er this paper

KING RICHARD II

Fiend, thou torment'st me ere I come to hell!

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Urge it no more, my Lord Northumberland.

NORTHUMBERLAND

The commons will not then be satisfied.

KING RICHARD II

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.

I'll beg one boon,
And then be gone and trouble you no more.
Shall I obtain it?

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Name it, fair cousin.

KING RICHARD II

And shall I have?

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

You shall.

KING RICHARD II

Then give me leave to go.

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Whither?

KING RICHARD II

Whither you will, so I were from your sights.

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

Go, some of you convey him to the Tower.

KING RICHARD II

O, good! convey? conveyers are you all,

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

Exeunt KING RICHARD II, some Lords, and a Guard

HENRY BOLINGBROKE

On Wednesday next we solemnly set down

Our coronation: lords, prepare yourselves.

Exeunt all except the BISHOP OF CARLISLE, the Abbot of Westminster, and DUKE OF AUMERLE

ABBOT

A woeful pageant have we here beheld.

BISHOP OF CARLISLE

The woe's to come; the children yet unborn.

Shall feel this day as sharp to them as thorn.

Exeunt

KING RICHARD II

Join not with grief, fair woman, Hie thee to France

And cloister thee in some religious house:

Think I am dead and that even here thou takest,

As from my death-bed, thy last living leave.

Northumberland, thou ladder wherewithal

The mounting Bolingbroke ascends my throne,

NORTHUMBERLAND

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

Take leave and part; for you must part forthwith.

KING RICHARD II

Doubly divorced! Bad men, you violate

A twofold marriage, 'twixt my crown and me,

And then betwixt me and my married wife.

Let me unkiss the oath 'twixt thee and me;

QUEEN

And must we be divided? must we part?

KING RICHARD II

Ay, hand from hand, my love, and heart from heart.

QUEEN

Then whither he goes, thither let me go.

KING RICHARD II

One kiss shall stop our mouths, and dumbly part;

Once more, adieu; the rest let sorrow say.

Exeunt

ACT 5 SCENE IV. The same.

Enter EXTON and 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?

Servant

These were his very words.

EXTON

And speaking it, he wistly look'd on me,

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

SCENE V. Pomfret castle.

Enter a Groom of the Stable

Groom

Hail, royal prince!

KING RICHARD II

Thanks, noble peer;

The cheapest of us is ten groats too dear.

Groom

I was a poor groom of thy stable, king,

Enter Keeper, with a dish

Keeper

Fellow, give place; here is no longer stay.

KING RICHARD II

If thou love me, 'tis time thou wert away.

Groom

What my tongue dares not, that my heart shall say. Exit

Keeper

My lord, will't please you to fall to?

KING RICHARD II

Taste of it first, as thou art wont to do.

Keeper

My lord, I dare not: Sir Pierce of Exton, who lately came from the king, commands the contrary.

KING RICHARD II

The devil take Henry of Lancaster and thee!

Patience is stale, and I am weary of it.

Beats the keeper

Keeper

Help, help, help!

Enter EXTON and Servants, armed

KING RICHARD II

How now! what means death in this rude assault?

Villain, thy own hand yields thy death's instrument.

Snatching an axe from a Servant and killing him

Go thou, and fill another room in hell.

He kills another. Then Exton strikes him down

That hand shall burn in never-quenching fire

That staggers thus my person. Exton, thy fierce hand

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

BISHOP OF CARLISLE / ALL

And future ages groan for this foul act;

Peace shall go sleep and in this seat of peace tumultuous wars

Shall kin with kin and kind with kind confound;

Disorder, horror, fear and mutiny

Shall here inhabit,

If you raise this house against this house,

It will the woofullest division prove

That ever fell upon this cursed earth.