Table Of Contents

King John Act 1		•		•	 	•	 ••	 •	•	••	•	 •		 •	 •		 •	• •	••	 •	 • •	•	 •	• •			 •		 •			2
King John Act 2		•		•	 	•	 • •	 •	•	• •	•			 •	 •	 •	 •	•	• •		 • •	•		• •		•	 •	 •				7
King John Act 3		•		•	 	•	 • •	 •	•	• •	•			 •	 •	 •	 •	•	• •		 • •	•		• •		•	 •	 •			•	18
King John Act 4		•		•	 	•	 • •	 •	•	• •	•			 •	 •	 •	 •	•	• •		 • •	•	 •	• •		•	 •	 •			•	29
King John Act 5	••	•	••	•	 	•	 ••	 •	•	••	•	 •	 •	 •	 •	 •	 •	• •	••	 •	 • •	•	 •	• •	• •		 •		 •	••	•	39

King John Act 1

[00:00:51] Now, say, Chatillon, what would France with us? [00:00:55] Thus, after greeting, speaks the King of France [00:00:58] In my behavior to the majesty, The borrow'd majesty, of England here. [00:01:01] [00:01:04] A strange beginning: 'borrow'd majesty!' [00:01:07] Silence, good mother; hear the embassy. [00:01:10] Philip of France, in right and true behalf [00:01:13] Of thy deceased brother Geffrey's son, [00:01:16] Arthur Plantagenet, lays most lawful claim [00:01:19] To this fair island and the territories, [00:01:23] To Ireland, Poictiers, Anjou, Touraine, Maine, [00:01:28] Desiring thee to lay aside the sword [00:01:31] Which sways usurpingly these several titles, [00:01:34] And put these same into young Arthur's hand, [00:01:36] Thy nephew and right royal sovereign. [00:01:39] What follows if we disallow of this? [00:01:42] The proud control of fierce and bloody war, [00:01:46] To enforce these rights so forcibly withheld. [00:01:49] Here have we war for war and blood for blood, [00:01:53] Controlment for controlment: so answer France. [00:01:57] Then take my king's defiance from my mouth, [00:02:00] The farthest limit of my embassy. [00:02:02] Bear mine to him, and so depart in peace: Be thou as lightning in the eyes of France; [00:02:08] For ere thou canst report I will be there, [00:02:10] The thunder of my cannon shall be heard: [00:02:13] [00:02:15] So hence! Be thou the trumpet of our wrath [00:02:19] And sullen presage of your own decay. [00:02:22] An honourable conduct let him have: [00:02:23] Pembroke, look to 't. Farewell, Chatillon. [00:02:30] What now, my son! have I not ever said [00:02:33] How that ambitious Constance would not cease [00:02:35] Till she had kindled France and all the world, [00:02:38] Upon the right and party of her son? [00:02:40] This might have been prevented and made whole [00:02:42] With very easy arguments of love, [00:02:46] Which now the manage of two kingdoms must [00:02:48] With fearful bloody issue arbitrate. [00:02:50] Our strong possession and our right for us. [00:02:52] Your strong possession much more than your right, [00:02:56] Or else it must go wrong with you and me: [00:02:59] So much my conscience whispers in your ear, [00:03:03] Which none but heaven and you and I shall hear. [00:03:06] My liege, here is the strangest controversy [00:03:09] Come from country to be judged by you, [00:03:10] That e'er I heard: shall I produce the men? [00:03:13] Let them approach. [00:03:15] Our abbeys and our priories shall pay This expedition's charge. [00:03:17] [00:03:20] What men are you? [00:03:21] Your faithful subject I, a gentleman Born in Northamptonshire and eldest son, [00:03:24] [00:03:26] As I suppose, to Robert Faulconbridge, [00:03:28] A soldier, by the honour-giving hand [00:03:29] Of Coeur-de-lion knighted in the field. [00:03:31] What art thou? [00:03:32] The son and heir to that same Faulconbridge. [00:03:35] Is that the elder, and art thou the heir?

[00:03:38] You came not of one mother then, it seems. [00:03:40] Most certain of one mother, mighty king; [00:03:42] That is well known; and, as I think, one father: [00:03:45] But for the certain knowledge of that truth [00:03:46] I put you o'er to heaven and to my mother: [00:03:48] Of that I doubt, as all men's children may. [00:03:51] Out on thee, rude man! thou dost shame thy mother [00:03:54] And wound her honour with this diffidence. [00:03:56] I, madam? no, I have no reason for it; [00:04:01] That is my brother's plea and none of mine; [00:04:03] The which if he can prove, a' pops me out **[00:04:04]** At least from fair five hundred pound a year: [00:04:07] Heaven guard my mother's honour and my land! [00:04:10] A good blunt fellow. Why, being younger born, [00:04:14] Doth he lay claim to thine inheritance? [00:04:16] I know not why, except to get the land. [00:04:18] But once he slander'd me with bastardy: [00:04:23] But whether I be as true begot or no, [00:04:24] That still I lay upon my mother's head, [00:04:27] But that I am as well begot, my liege,--[00:04:31] Fair fall the bones that took the pains for me!--[00:04:35] Compare our faces and be judge yourself. [00:04:37] If old sir Robert did beget us both [00:04:39] And were our father and this son like him. [00:04:41] O old sir Robert, father, on my knee [00:04:43] I give heaven thanks I was not like to thee! [00:04:47] Why, what a madcap hath heaven lent us here! [00:04:51] He hath a trick of Coeur-de-lion's face; [00:04:53] The accent of his tongue affecteth him. [00:04:55] Do you not read some tokens of my son [00:04:57] In the large composition of this man? [00:05:00] Mine eye hath well examined his parts [00:05:02] And finds them perfect Richard. Sirrah, speak, [00:05:05] What doth move you to claim your brother's land? [00:05:07] Because he hath a half-face, like my father. [00:05:09] With half that face would he have all my land: [00:05:12] A half-faced groat five hundred pound a year! [00:05:14] My gracious liege, when that my father lived, [00:05:16] Your brother did employ my father much,--Well, sir, by this you cannot get my land: [00:05:20] [00:05:21] Your tale must be how he employ'd my mother. [00:05:23] And once dispatch'd him in an embassy [00:05:25] To Germany, there with the emperor [00:05:26] To treat of high affairs touching that time. [00:05:29] The advantage of his absence took the king [00:05:32] And in the mean time sojourn'd at my father's; [00:05:34] Where how he did prevail I shame to speak, [00:05:38] But truth is truth: large lengths of seas and shores [00:05:42] Between my father and my mother lay, [00:05:44] As I have heard my father speak himself, [00:05:46] When this same lusty gentleman was got. [00:05:49] Upon his death-bed he by will bequeath'd [00:05:51] His lands to me, and took it on his death [00:05:54] That this my mother's son was none of his: [00:05:57] And if he were, he came into the world [00:06:00] Full fourteen weeks before the course of time. [00:06:06] Then, good my liege, let me have what is mine, [00:06:08] My father's land, as was my father's will. [00:06:11] Sirrah, your brother is legitimate; [00:06:15] Your father's wife did after wedlock bear him,

[00:06:18] And if she did play false, the fault was hers; [00:06:20] Which fault lies on the hazards of all husbands [00:06:22] That marry wives. Tell me, how if my brother, [00:06:25] Who, as you say, took pains to get this son, [00:06:28] Had of your father claim'd this son for his? [00:06:31] In sooth, good friend, your father might have kept [00:06:34] This calf bred from his cow from all the world; [00:06:36] In sooth he might; then, if he were my brother's, [00:06:39] My brother might not claim him; nor your father, [00:06:42] Being none of his, refuse him: this concludes; [00:06:47] My mother's son did get your father's heir; [00:06:50] Your father's heir must have your father's land. [00:06:52] Shall then my father's will be of no force [00:06:54] To dispossess that child which is not his? [00:06:57] Of no more force to dispossess me, sir, Than was his will to get me, as I think. [00:06:58] [00:07:01] Sirrah, whether thou hadst rather be a Faulconbridge [00:07:05] And like thy brother, to enjoy thy land, [00:07:08] Or the reputed son of Coeur-de-lion, [00:07:12] Lord of thy presence and no land beside? [00:07:15] Madam, an if my brother had my shape, [00:07:17] And I had his, sir Robert's his, like him; [00:07:19] And if my legs were two such riding-rods, [00:07:22] My arms such eel-skins stuff'd, my face so thin [00:07:25] That in mine ear I durst not stick a rose [00:07:26] Lest men should say 'Look, where three-farthings goes!' [00:07:29] And, to his shape, were heir to all this land, [00:07:31] Would I might never stir from off this place, [00:07:33] I would give it every foot to have this face; [00:07:36] I would not be sir Nob in any case. [00:07:39] I like thee well: wilt thou forsake thy fortune, [00:07:43] Bequeath thy land to him and follow me? [00:07:45] I am a soldier and now bound to France. [00:07:50] Brother, take you my land, I'll take my chance. [00:07:55] Your face hath got five hundred pound a year, [00:07:58] Yet sell your face for five pence and 'tis dear. [00:08:00] Madam, I'll follow you unto the death. [00:08:04] Nay, I would have you go before me thither. [00:08:06] Our country manners give our betters way. [00:08:08] What is thy name? [00:08:10] Philip, my liege, so is my name begun, [00:08:13] Philip, good old sir Robert's wife's eldest son. [00:08:18] From henceforth bear his name whose form thou bear'st: [00:08:22] Kneel thou down Philip, but rise more great, [00:08:26] Arise sir Richard and Plantagenet. [00:08:40] Brother by the mother's side, give me your hand: [00:08:43] My father gave me honour, yours gave land. [00:08:47] Now blessed by the hour, by night or day, [00:08:51] When I was got, sir Robert was away! [00:08:53] The very spirit of Plantagenet! [00:08:56] I am thy grandam, Richard; call me so. [00:09:00] Madam, by chance but not by truth; what though? [00:09:05] Something about, a little from the right, [00:09:07] In at the window, or else o'er the hatch: [00:09:09] Who dares not stir by day must walk by night, [00:09:11] And have is have, however men do catch: [00:09:13] Near or far off, well won is still well shot, [00:09:16] And I am I, howe'er I was begot. [00:09:21] Go, Faulconbridge: now hast thou thy desire; [00:09:24] A landless knight makes thee a landed squire.

[00:09:26] Come, madam, and come, Richard, we must speed [00:09:31] For France, for France, for it is more than need. [00:09:37] Brother, adieu: good fortune come to thee! [00:09:46] For thou wast got i' the way of honesty. [00:09:55] A foot of honour better than I was; [00:09:59] But many a many foot of land the worse. [00:10:05] Well, now can I make any Joan a lady. [00:10:09] 'Good den, sir Richard!' 'God-a-mercy, fellow!'--[00:10:12] And if his name be George, I'll call him Peter; [00:10:14] For new-made honour doth forget men's names; [00:10:17] 'Tis too respective and too sociable [00:10:19] For your conversion. Now your traveller, [00:10:23] He and his toothpick at my worship's mess, [00:10:26] And when my knightly stomach is sufficed, [00:10:29] Why then I suck my teeth and catechise My picked man of countries: 'My dear sir,' [00:10:30] [00:10:34] Thus, leaning on mine elbow, I begin, [00:10:37] 'I shall beseech you'--that is question now; [00:10:39] And then comes answer like an Absey book: [00:10:41] 'O sir, at your best command' says answer; [00:10:44] At your service; at your employment sir; [00:10:46] 'No, sir,' says question, 'I, sweet sir, at yours:' [00:10:49] And so, ere answer knows what question would, [00:10:52] Saving in dialogue of compliment, [00:10:54] And talking of the Alps and Apennines, [00:10:56] The Pyrenean and the river Po, [00:10:58] It draws toward supper in conclusion so. [00:11:07] But this is worshipful society [00:11:13] And fits the mounting spirit like myself, [00:11:16] For he is but a bastard to the time [00:11:18] That doth not smack of observation: [00:11:20] And so am I, whether I smack or no; [00:11:23] And not alone in habit and device, [00:11:26] Exterior form, outward accoutrement, [00:11:28] But from the inward motion to deliver [00:11:29] Sweet, sweet, sweet poison for the age's tooth: [00:11:34] Which, though I will not practise to deceive, [00:11:36] Yet, to avoid deceit, I mean to learn; [00:11:41] For it shall strew the footsteps of my rising. [00:11:47] But who comes in such haste in riding-robes? [00:11:50] What woman-post is this? hath she no husband [00:11:54] That will take pains to blow a horn before her? [00:12:02] O me! it is my mother. How now, good lady! [00:12:08] What brings you here to court so hastily? [00:12:10] Where is that slave, thy brother? where is he, [00:12:13] That holds in chase mine honour up and down? [00:12:16] My brother Robert? old sir Robert's son? [00:12:18] Colbrand the giant, that same mighty man? [00:12:20] Is it sir Robert's son that you seek so? [00:12:23] Sir Robert's son! Ay, thou unreverend boy, [00:12:25] Sir Robert's son: why scorn'st thou at sir Robert? [00:12:28] He is sir Robert's son, and so art thou. [00:12:32] James Gurney, wilt thou give us leave awhile? [00:12:34] Good leave, good Philip. [00:12:35] Sparrow: James, [00:12:38] There's toys abroad: anon I'll tell thee more. [00:12:46] Madam, I was not old sir Robert's son: [00:12:49] Sir Robert might have eat his part in me [00:12:50] Upon Good-Friday and ne'er broke his fast: [00:12:54] Sir Robert could do well: marry, to confess,

[00:12:57] Could he get me? Sir Robert could not do it: [00:13:01] We know his handiwork: then, good my mother, [00:13:05] To whom am I beholding for these limbs? [00:13:08] Sir Robert never holp to make this leg. [00:13:11] Hast thou conspired with thy brother too, [00:13:13] That for thine own gain shouldst defend mine honour? [00:13:16] What means this scorn, thou most untoward knave? [00:13:20] Knight, knight, good mother, Basilisco-like. [00:13:25] What! I am dubb'd! I have it on my shoulder. [00:13:28] But, madam, I was not old sir Robert's son; [00:13:35] I have disclaim'd sir Robert and my land; [00:13:37] Legitimation, name and all is gone: Then, good my mother, let me know my father; [00:13:40] [00:13:45] Some proper man, I hope: who was it, mother? [00:13:52] Hast thou denied thyself a Faulconbridge? [00:13:53] As faithfully as I deny the devil. [00:14:02] King Richard Coeur-de-lion was thy father: [00:14:08] By long and vehement suit I was seduced [00:14:13] To make room for him in my husband's bed: [00:14:16] Heaven lay not my transgression to my charge! [00:14:24] Thou art the issue of my dear offence, [00:14:26] Which was so strongly urged past my defence. [00:14:31] Now, by this light, were I to get again, [00:14:34] Madam, I would not wish a better father. [00:14:37] Some sins do bear their privilege on earth, [00:14:40] And so doth yours; your fault was not your folly: [00:14:45] Needs must you lay your heart at his dispose, [00:14:46] Subjected tribute to commanding love, [00:14:49] Against whose fury and unmatched force [00:14:51] The aweless lion could not wage the fight, [00:14:54] Nor keep his princely heart from Richard's hand. [00:14:56] He that perforce robs lions of their hearts [00:14:58] May easily win a woman's. Ay, my mother, [00:15:05] With all my heart I thank thee for my father! [00:15:09] Who lives and dares but say thou didst not well [00:15:10] When I was got, I'll send his soul to hell. [00:15:13] Come, lady, I will show thee to my kin; [00:15:20] And they shall say, when Richard me begot, [00:15:23] If thou hadst said him nay, it had been sin: [00:15:27] Who says it was, he lies; I say 'twas not.

King John Act 2

[00:15:48] Before Angiers well met, brave Austria. Arthur, that great forerunner of thy blood, [00:15:51] [00:15:56] Richard, that robb'd the lion of his heart And fought the holy wars in Palestine, [00:15:58] [00:16:01] By this brave duke came early to his grave: [00:16:04] And for amends to his posterity, [00:16:07] At our importance hither is he come, [00:16:09] To spread his colours, boy, in thy behalf, [00:16:13] And to rebuke the usurpation [00:16:15] Of thy unnatural uncle, English John: [00:16:20] Embrace him, love him, give him welcome hither. God shall forgive you Coeur-de-lion's death [00:16:25] The rather that you give his offspring life, [00:16:28] [00:16:30] Shadowing their right under your wings of war: [00:16:33] I give you welcome with a powerless hand, But with a heart full of unstained love: [00:16:35] [00:16:38] Welcome before the gates of Angiers, duke. [00:16:40] A noble boy! Who would not do thee right? [00:16:44] Upon thy cheek lay I this zealous kiss, [00:16:49] As seal to this indenture of my love, [00:16:51] That to my home I will no more return, [00:16:54] Till Angiers and the right thou hast in France, [00:16:58] Together with that pale, that white-faced shore, Whose foot spurns back the ocean's roaring tides [00:17:02] And coops from other lands her islanders, [00:17:05] [00:17:08] Even till that England, hedged in with the main, [00:17:11] That water-walled bulwark, still secure [00:17:14] And confident from foreign purposes, [00:17:16] Even till that utmost corner of the west Salute thee for her king: till then, fair boy, [00:17:19] [00:17:23] Will I not think of home, but follow arms. [00:17:27] O, take his mother's thanks, a widow's thanks, [00:17:32] Till your strong hand shall help to give him strength [00:17:35] To make a more requital to your love! The peace of heaven is theirs that lift their swords [00:17:37] [00:17:40] In such a just and charitable war. Arthur! Arthur! [00:17:44] Well then, to work: our cannon shall be bent [00:17:49] [00:17:51] Against the brows of this resisting town. Call for our chiefest men of discipline, [00:17:53] [00:17:55] To cull the plots of best advantages: [00:17:57] We'll lay before this town our royal bones, [00:17:59] Wade to the market-place in Frenchmen's blood, [00:18:02] But we will make it subject to this boy. [00:18:05] Stay for an answer to your embassy, [00:18:07] Lest unadvised you stain your swords with blood: [00:18:09] My Lord Chatillon may from England bring, That right in peace which here we urge in war, [00:18:11] [00:18:14] And then we shall repent each drop of blood [00:18:15] Which hot rash haste so indirectly shed. [00:18:19] A wonder, lady! lo, upon thy wish, Our messenger Chatillon is arrived! [00:18:20] [00:18:26] What England says, say briefly, gentle lord; We coldly pause for thee; Chatillon, speak. [00:18:30] [00:18:33] Then turn your forces from this paltry siege [00:18:35] And stir them up against a mightier task. [00:18:38] England, impatient of your just demands, [00:18:40] Hath put himself in arms: the adverse winds,

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[00:18:43] Whose leisure I have stay'd, have given him time [00:18:45] To land his legions all as soon as I; [00:18:49] His marches are expedient to this town, [00:18:52] His forces strong, his soldiers confident. [00:18:55] With him along is come the mother-queen, [00:18:57] An Ate, stirring him to blood and strife; [00:19:00] With her her niece, the Lady Blanch of Spain; [00:19:02] With them a bastard of the king's deceased, [00:19:05] And all the unsettled humours of the land, [00:19:07] Rash, inconsiderate, fiery voluntaries, [00:19:10] With ladies' faces and fierce dragons' spleens, [00:19:13] Have sold their fortunes at their native homes, [00:19:15] Bearing their birthrights proudly on their backs, [00:19:17] To make hazard of new fortunes here: [00:19:21] In brief, a braver choice of dauntless spirits Than now the English bottoms have waft o'er [00:19:24] [00:19:26] Did nearer float upon the swelling tide, [00:19:28] To do offence and scath in Christendom. **[00:19:32]** The interruption of their churlish drums [00:19:33] Cuts off more circumstance: they are at hand, **[00:19:36]** To parley or to fight; therefore prepare. [00:19:37] How much unlook'd for is this expedition! [00:19:41] By how much unexpected, by so much [00:19:43] We must awake endavour for defence; [00:19:45] For courage mounteth with occasion: [00:19:47] Let them be welcome then: we are prepared. [00:20:02] Peace be to France, if France in peace permit [00:20:06] Our just and lineal entrance to our own; [00:20:09] If not, bleed France, and peace ascend to heaven, [00:20:14] Whiles we, God's wrathful agent, [00:20:16] do correct their proud contempt that beats His peace to heaven. [00:20:28] Peace be to England, if that war return [00:20:31] From France to England, there to live in peace. [00:20:36] England we love: and for that England's sake [00:20:41] With burden of our armour here we sweat. [00:20:44] This toil of ours should be a work of thine: [00:20:48] But thou from loving England art so far, [00:20:52] That thou hast under-wrought his lawful king Cut off the sequence of posterity, [00:20:54] Out-faced infant state and done a rape [00:20:56] [00:21:00] Upon the maiden virtue of the crown. [00:21:03] Look here upon thy brother Geffrey's face; [00:21:05] These eyes, these brows, were moulded out of his: [00:21:08] This little abstract doth contain that large [00:21:13] Which died in Geffrey, and the hand of time [00:21:18] Shall draw this brief into as huge a volume. [00:21:23] That Geffrey was thy elder brother born, [00:21:28] And this his son; England was Geffrey's right [00:21:32] And this is Geffrey's: in the name of God [00:21:36] How comes it then that thou art call'd a king, [00:21:40] When living blood doth in these temples beat, [00:21:44] Which owe the crown that thou o'ermasterest? [00:21:47] From whom hast thou this great commission, France, [00:21:51] To draw my answer from thy articles? [00:21:54] From that supernal judge, which stirs good thoughts [00:21:58] In any breast of strong authority, [00:22:00] To look into the blots and stains of right: [00:22:03] That judge hath made me guardian to this boy: [00:22:07] By whose warrant I impeach thy wrong [00:22:10] And by whose help I mean to chastise it.

[00:22:15] Alack, thou dost usurp authority. [00:22:17] Excuse; it is to beat usurping down. [00:22:20] Who is it thou dost call usurper, France? [00:22:23] Let me make answer; thy usurping son. [00:22:28] Out, insolent! thy bastard shall be king, [00:22:33] That thou mayst be a queen, and cheque the world! [00:22:36] My bed was ever to thy son [00:22:38] as true as thine was to thy husband; [00:22:41] and this boy liker in feature to his father Geffrey [00:22:43] Than thou and John in manners; being as like [00:22:45] As rain to water, or devil to his dam. [00:22:49] My boy a bastard! By my soul, [00:22:53] I think his father never was so true begot: [00:22:56] It cannot be, an if thou wert his mother. [00:22:58] There's a good mother, boy, that blots thy father. [00:23:02] There's a good grandam, boy, that would blot thee. [00:23:06] Hear the crier. [00:23:08] What the devil art thou? [00:23:10] One that will play the devil, sir, with you, [00:23:12] An a' may catch your hide and you alone: [00:23:15] You are the hare of whom the proverb goes, [00:23:17] Whose valour plucks dead lions by the beard: [00:23:20] I'll smoke your skin-coat, an I catch you right; [00:23:22] Look to't Sirrah; i' faith, I will, i' faith. [00:23:25] O, well did he become that lion's robe [00:23:28] That did disrobe the lion of that robe! [00:23:30] It lies as sightly on the back of him [00:23:32] As great Alcides' shows upon an ass: [00:23:35] But, ass, I'll take that burthen from your back, [00:23:39] Or lay on that shall make your shoulders crack. [00:23:41] What craker is this same that deafs our ears [00:23:45] With this abundance of superfluous breath? [00:23:48] Lewis, determine what we shall do straight. [00:23:49] Women and fools, break off your conference. [00:23:58] King John, this is the very sum of all; [00:24:02] England and Ireland, Anjou, Touraine, Maine, [00:24:06] In right of Arthur do I claim of thee: [00:24:09] Wilt thou resign them and lay down thy arms? [00:24:12] My life as soon: I do defy thee, France. [00:24:15] Arthur of Bretagne, yield thee to my hand; [00:24:19] And out of my dear love I'll give thee more [00:24:21] Than e'er the coward hand of France can win: [00:24:24] Submit thee, boy. [00:24:25] Come to thy grandam, child. [00:24:28] Do, child, go to it grandam, child: [00:24:32] Give grandam kingdom, and it grandam will [00:24:35] Give it a plum, a cherry, and a fig: [00:24:38] There's a good grandam. [00:24:40] Good my mother, peace! [00:24:42] I would that I were low laid in my grave: [00:24:43] I am not worth this coil that's made for me. [00:24:46] His mother shames him so, poor boy, he weeps. [00:24:49] Now shame upon you, whether she does or no! [00:24:52] His grandam's wrongs, and not his mother's shames, [00:24:55] Draws those heaven-moving pearls from his poor eyes, [00:24:58] Which heaven shall take in nature of a fee; [00:25:02] Ay, with these crystal beads heaven shall be bribed [00:25:05] To do him justice and revenge on you. [00:25:09] Thou monstrous slanderer of heaven and earth! [00:25:11] Thou monstrous injurer of heaven and earth!

[00:25:18] Call not me slanderer; thou and thine usurp the dominations, [00:25:24] royalties and rights of this oppressed boy: [00:25:29] this is thy eld'st son's son, [00:25:33] Infortunate in nothing but in thee: [00:25:36] Thy sins are visited in this poor child; [00:25:38] The canon of the law is laid on him, [00:25:40] Being but the second generation [00:25:42] Removed from thy sin-conceiving womb. [00:25:45] Bedlam, have done. [00:25:47] I have but this to say, [00:25:49] That he is not only plagued for her sin, [00:25:52] But God hath made her sin and her the plague [00:25:55] On this removed issue, plague for her [00:25:59] And with her plague; her sin his injury, [00:26:02] Her injury the beadle to her sin, [00:26:04] All punish'd in the person of this child, [00:26:08] And all for her; a plague upon her! [00:26:11] Thou unadvised scold, I can produce a will [00:26:15] that bars the title of thy son. [00:26:19] Ay, who doubts that? a will! a wicked will: [00:26:24] A woman's will; a canker'd grandam's will! [00:26:28] Peace, lady! pause, or be more temperate: [00:26:30] It ill beseems this presence [00:26:31] to cry aim to these ill-tuned repetitions. [00:26:34] Some trumpet summon hither to the walls [00:26:36] These men of Angiers: let us hear them speak [00:26:40] Whose title they admit, Arthur's or John's. [00:26:49] Who is it that hath warn'd us to the walls? [00:26:51] 'Tis France, for England. [00:26:54] England, for itself. [00:26:56] You men of Angiers, and my loving subjects--[00:26:58] You loving men of Angiers, Arthur's subjects, [00:27:02] Our trumpet call'd you to this gentle parle--[00:27:04] For our advantage: therefore hear us first. [00:27:12] These flags of France, that are advanced here [00:27:14] Before the eye and prospect of your town, [00:27:16] Have hither march'd to your endamagement: [00:27:19] The cannons have their bowels full of wrath, [00:27:22] And ready mounted are they to spit forth Their iron indignation 'gainst your walls: [00:27:24] [00:27:27] All preparation for a bloody siege [00:27:30] All merciless proceeding by these French [00:27:33] Confronts your city's eyes, your winking gates; [00:27:35] And but for our approach those sleeping stones, [00:27:40] That as a waist doth girdle you about, [00:27:43] By the compulsion of their ordinance [00:27:44] By this time from their fixed beds of lime [00:27:47] Had been dishabited, and wide havoc made [00:27:50] For bloody power to rush upon your peace. [00:27:53] But on the sight of us your lawful king, [00:27:58] Who painfully with much expedient march [00:28:00] Have brought a countercheque before your gates, [00:28:03] To save unscratch'd your city's threatened cheeks, [00:28:06] Behold, the French amazed vouchsafe a parle; [00:28:12] And now, instead of bullets wrapp'd in fire, [00:28:15] To make a shaking fever in your walls, [00:28:17] They shoot but calm words folded up in smoke, **[00:28:21]** To make a faithless error in your ears: [00:28:24] Which trust accordingly, kind citizens, [00:28:27] And let us in, your king, whose labour'd spirits,

[00:28:31] Forwearied in this action of swift speed, [00:28:34] Crave harbourage within your city walls. [00:28:39] When I have said, make answer to us both. [00:28:43] Lo, in this right hand, whose protection [00:28:46] Is most divinely vow'd upon the right [00:28:49] Of him it holds, stands young Plantagenet, [00:28:52] Son to the elder brother of this man, [00:28:55] And king o'er him and all that he enjoys: [00:28:58] For this down-trodden equity, we tread [00:29:01] In warlike march these greens before your town, [00:29:04] Being no further enemy to you [00:29:07] than the constraint of hospitable zeal [00:29:10] In the relief of this oppressed child [00:29:13] Religiously provokes. Be pleased then to pay that duty [00:29:17] which you truly owe [00:29:20] To him that owes it, namely this young prince: And then our arms, like to a muzzled bear, [00:29:26] [00:29:29] Save in aspect, hath all offence seal'd up; [00:29:33] Our cannons' malice vainly shall be spent [00:29:36] Against the invulnerable clouds of heaven; [00:29:38] And with a blessed and unvex'd retire, [00:29:41] With unhack'd swords and helmets all unbruised, [00:29:44] We will bear home that lusty blood again [00:29:48] Which here we came to spout against your town, [00:29:50] And leave your children, wives and you in peace. [00:29:56] But if you fondly pass our proffer'd offer, 'Tis not the roundure of [00:30:02] [00:30:04] your old-faced walls can hide you from our messengers of war, [00:30:09] Though all these English and their discipline [00:30:12] Were harbour'd in their rude circumference. [00:30:15] Then tell us, shall your city call us lord, [00:30:18] In that behalf which we have challenged it? [00:30:23] Or shall we give the signal to our rage [00:30:26] And stalk in blood to our possession? [00:30:30] In brief, we are the king of England's subjects: [00:30:35] For him, and in his right, we hold this town. [00:30:37] Acknowledge then the king, and let me in. [00:30:40] That can we not; but he that proves the king, [00:30:43] To him will we prove loyal: till that time [00:30:47] Have we ramm'd up our gates against the world. [00:30:50] Doth not the crown of England prove the king? [00:30:52] And if not that, I bring you witnesses, [00:30:54] Twice fifteen thousand hearts of England's breed,--[00:30:57] Bastards, and else. [00:30:58] To verify our title with their lives. [00:31:01] As many and as well-born bloods as these,--[00:31:03] Some bastards too. [00:31:05] Stand in his face to contradict his claim. [00:31:08] Till you compound whose right is worthiest, **[00:31:11]** We for the worthiest hold the right from both. [00:31:22] Then God forgive the sin of all those souls [00:31:25] That to their everlasting residence, [00:31:27] Before the dew of evening fall, shall fleet, [00:31:30] In dreadful trial of our kingdom's king! [00:31:33] Amen, amen! Mount, chevaliers! to arms! [00:31:41] Saint George, that swinged the dragon, and e'er since [00:31:44] Sits on his horseback at mine hostess' door, [00:31:46] Teach us some fence! [00:31:48] Sirrah, were I at home, [00:31:50] At your den, sirrah, with your lioness

[00:31:52] I would set an ox-head to your lion's hide, [00:31:53] And make a monster of you. [00:31:55] Peace! no more. [00:31:56] O tremble, for you hear the lion roar. [00:31:59] Up higher to the plain; where we'll set forth [00:32:02] In best appointment all our regiments. [00:32:04] Speed then, to take advantage of the field. [00:32:06] It shall be so; and at the other hill [00:32:08] Command the rest to stand. God and our right! [00:32:37] You men of Angiers, open wide your gates, [00:32:39] And let young Arthur, Duke of Bretagne, in, [00:32:42] Who by the hand of France this day hath made Much work for tears in many an English mother, [00:32:44] [00:32:47] Whose sons lie scattered on the bleeding ground; [00:32:51] Many a widow's husband grovelling lies, [00:32:53] Coldly embracing the discolour'd earth: And victory, with little loss, doth play [00:32:56] [00:32:59] Upon the dancing banners of the French, [00:33:01] Who are at hand, triumphantly display'd, [00:33:04] To enter conquerors and to proclaim [00:33:06] Arthur of Bretagne England's king and yours. [00:33:11] Rejoice, you men of Angiers, ring your bells: King John, your king and England's doth approach, [00:33:15] [00:33:17] Commander of this hot malicious day: [00:33:20] Their armours, that march'd hence so silver-bright, [00:33:23] Hither return all gilt with Frenchmen's blood; There stuck no plume in any English crest [00:33:28] [00:33:30] That is removed by a staff of France; [00:33:33] Our colours do return in those same hands [00:33:36] That did display them when we first march'd forth; [00:33:40] And, like a jolly troop of huntsmen, come [00:33:43] Our lusty English, all with purpled hands, [00:33:45] Dyed in the dying slaughter of their foes: [00:33:49] Open your gates and gives the victors way. [00:33:53] Heralds, from off our towers we might behold, [00:33:57] From first to last, the onset and retire [00:33:59] Of both your armies; whose equality [00:34:03] By our best eyes cannot be censured: [00:34:07] Blood hath bought blood and blows have answered blows; Strength match'd with strength, and power confronted power: [00:34:11] Both are alike; and both alike we like. [00:34:15] One must prove greatest: while they weigh so even, [00:34:20] [00:34:25] We hold our town for neither, yet for both. [00:34:41] France, hast thou yet more blood to cast away? [00:34:45] Say, shall the current of our right roam on? [00:34:49] Whose passage, vex'd with thy impediment, [00:34:51] Shall leave his native channel and o'erswell [00:34:54] With course disturb'd even thy confining shores, [00:34:58] Unless thou let his silver water keep [00:35:01] A peaceful progress to the ocean. [00:35:04] England, thou hast not saved one drop of blood, [00:35:10] In this hot trial, more than we of France; [00:35:13] Rather, lost more. And by this hand I swear, [00:35:16] That sways the earth this climate overlooks, [00:35:19] Before we will lay down our just-borne arms, [00:35:22] We'll put thee down, 'gainst whom these arms we bear, [00:35:27] Or add a royal number to the dead, [00:35:30] Gracing the scroll that tells of this war's loss [00:35:34] With slaughter coupled to the name of kings. [00:35:37] Ha, majesty! how high thy glory towers,

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[00:35:42] When the rich blood of kings is set on fire! [00:35:45] O, now doth Death line his dead chaps with steel; [00:35:47] The swords of soldiers are his teeth, his fangs; [00:35:491 And now he feasts, mousing the flesh of men. [00:35:53] In undetermined differences of kings. [00:35:57] Why stand these royal fronts amazed thus? [00:35:59] Cry, 'havoc!' kings; back to the stained field, [00:36:02] You equal potents, fiery kindled spirits! [00:36:04] Then let confusion of one part confirm the other's peace: [00:36:06] Till then, blows, blood and death! [00:36:12] Whose party do the townsmen yet admit? [00:36:16] Speak, citizens, for England; who's your king? The king of England; when we know the king. [00:36:20] [00:36:26] Know him in us, that here hold up his right. [00:36:30] In us, that are our own great deputy [00:36:33] And bear possession of our person here, [00:36:35] Lord of our presence, Angiers, and of you. [00:36:39] A greater power then we denies all this; [00:36:42] And till it be undoubted, we do lock [00:36:45] Our former scruple in our strong-barr'd gates; [00:36:48] King'd of our fears, until our fears, resolved, [00:36:52] Be by some certain king purged and deposed. [00:36:58] By heaven, these scroyles of Angiers flout you, kings, [00:37:04] And stand securely on their battlements, [00:37:06] As in a theatre, whence they gape and point [00:37:09] At your industrious scenes and acts of death. [00:37:11] Your royal presences be ruled by me: [00:37:15] Do like the mutines of Jerusalem, [00:37:19] Be friends awhile and both conjointly bend [00:37:22] Your sharpest deeds of malice against this town: [00:37:25] By east and west let France and England mount [00:37:27] Their battering cannon charged to the mouths, [00:37:28] Till their soul-fearing clamours have brawl'd down [00:37:31] The flinty ribs of this contemptuous city: [00:37:34] I'ld play incessantly upon these jades, [00:37:37] Even till unfenced desolation [00:37:39] Leave them as naked as the vulgar air. [00:37:41] That done, dissever your united strengths, And part your mingled colours once again; [00:37:45] [00:37:47] Turn face to face and bloody point to point; [00:37:50] Then, in a moment, Fortune shall cull forth [00:37:51] Out of one side her happy minion, [00:37:53] To whom in favour she shall give the day, [00:37:55] And kiss him with a glorious victory. [00:37:58] How like you this wild counsel, mighty states? [00:38:01] Smacks it not something of the policy? [00:38:03] Now, by the sky that hangs above our heads, [00:38:05] I like it well. Say France, shall we knit our powers [00:38:10] And lay this Angiers even to the ground; [00:38:13] Then after fight who shall be king of it? [00:38:18] An if thou hast the mettle of a king, [00:38:24] Being wronged as we are by this peevish town, why then, [00:38:27] Turn thou the mouth of thy artillery, [00:38:28] As we will ours, against these saucy walls; [00:38:30] And when that we have dash'd them to the ground, [00:38:31] Why then defy each other and pell-mell [00:38:34] Make work upon ourselves, for heaven or hell. [00:38:43] Let it be so. Say, where will you assault? [00:38:49] We from the west will send destruction [00:38:52] Into this city's bosom.

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[00:38:55] I from the north. [00:38:56] Our thunder from the south [00:38:58] Shall rain their drift of bullets on this town. **[00:39:02]** O prudent discipline! From north to south: [00:39:03] Austria and France shoot in each other's mouth: [00:39:06] I'll stir them to it. Come, away, away! [00:39:09] Hear us, great kings: vouchsafe awhile to stay, [00:39:13] And I shall show you peace and fair-faced league; [00:39:16] Win you this city without stroke or wound; [00:39:19] Rescue those breathing lives to die in beds, [00:39:22] That here come sacrifices for the field: [00:39:25] Persever not, but hear me, mighty kings. [00:39:29] Speak on with favour; we are bent to hear. [00:39:32] That daughter there of Spain, the Lady Blanch, [00:39:35] Is niece to England: look upon the years [00:39:39] Of Lewis the Dauphin and that lovely maid: [00:39:42] If lusty love should go in quest of beauty, [00:39:45] Where should he find it fairer than in Blanch? [00:39:48] If zealous love should go in search of virtue, [00:39:51] Where should he find it purer than in Blanch? [00:39:53] If love ambitious sought a match of birth, [00:39:55] Whose veins bound richer blood than Lady Blanch? [00:40:00] Such as she is, in beauty, virtue, birth, [00:40:02] Is the young Dauphin every way complete: [00:40:05] If not complete of, say he is not she; [00:40:10] And she again wants nothing, to name want, [00:40:13] If want it be not that she is not he: [00:40:17] He is the half part of a blessed man, [00:40:19] Left to be finished by such as she; [00:40:22] And she a fair divided excellence. [00:40:24] Whose fulness of perfection lies in him. [00:40:28] O, two such silver currents, when they join, [00:40:31] Do glorify the banks that bound them in; [00:40:34] And two such shores to two such streams made one, [00:40:36] Two such controlling bounds shall you be, kings, [00:40:40] To these two princes, if you marry them. [00:40:43] This union shall do more than battery can [00:40:46] To our fast-closed gates; for at this match, [00:40:50] With swifter spleen than powder can enforce, [00:40:53] The mouth of passage shall we fling wide ope, [00:40:56] And give you entrance: but without this match, [00:41:01] The sea enraged is not half so deaf, [00:41:05] Lions more confident, mountains and rocks [00:41:08] More free from motion, no, not Death himself [00:41:11] In moral fury half so peremptory, [00:41:13] As we to keep this city. [00:41:28] Here's a stay [00:41:29] That shakes the rotten carcass of old Death [00:41:31] Out of his rags! Here's a large mouth, indeed, [00:41:36] That spits forth death and mountains, rocks and seas, [00:41:40] Talks as familiarly of roaring lions [00:41:42] As maids of thirteen do of puppy-dogs! [00:41:44] What cannoneer begot this lusty blood? [00:41:47] He speaks plain cannon fire, and smoke and bounce; [00:41:49] He gives the bastinado with his tongue: [00:41:52] Our ears are cudgell'd; not a word of his [00:41:55] But buffets better than a fist of France: [00:41:59] Zounds! I was never so bethump'd with words [00:42:02] Since I first call'd my brother's father dad. [00:42:07] Son, list to this conjunction, make this match;

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[00:42:11] Give with our niece a dowry large enough: [00:42:16] For by this knot thou shalt so surely tie [00:42:19] Thy now unsured assurance to the crown, [00:42:23] That yon green boy shall have no sun to ripe [00:42:26] The bloom that promise h a mighty fruit. [00:42:31] I see a yielding in the looks of France; [00:42:34] Mark, how they whisper: urge them while their souls [00:42:38] Are capable of this ambition, [00:42:40] Lest zeal, now melted by the windy breath [00:42:43] Of soft petitions, pity and remorse, [00:42:47] Cool and congeal again to what it was. [00:42:49] Why answer not the double majesties [00:42:52] This friendly treaty of our threaten'd town? [00:42:56] Speak England first, that hath been forward first [00:43:01] To speak unto this city: what say you? [00:43:06] If that the Dauphin there, thy princely son, [00:43:10] Can in this book of beauty read 'I love,' [00:43:13] Then Anjou and fair Touraine, Maine, Poictiers, [00:43:16] And all that we upon this side the sea, [00:43:19] Except this city now by us besieged, [00:43:21] Find liable to our crown and dignity, [00:43:24] Shall gild her bridal bed and make her rich [00:43:27] In titles, honours and promotions, [00:43:30] As she in beauty, education, blood, [00:43:33] Holds hand with any princess of the world. [00:43:37] What say'st thou, boy? look in the lady's face. [00:43:43] I do, my lord; and in her eye I find a wonder, [00:43:47] or a wondrous miracle, [00:43:48] The shadow of myself form'd in her eye: [00:43:51] Which being but the shadow of your son, [00:43:53] Becomes a sun and makes your son a shadow: [00:44:00] I do protest I never loved myself [00:44:02] Till now infixed I beheld myself [00:44:05] Drawn in the flattering table of her eye. [00:44:11] Drawn in the flattering table of her eye! [00:44:15] Hang'd in the frowning wrinkle of her brow! [00:44:18] And quarter'd in her heart! he doth espy [00:44:21] Himself love's traitor: this is pity now, [00:44:27] That hang'd and drawn and quartered, there should be [00:44:29] In such a love so vile a lout as he. [00:44:34] My uncle's will in this respect is mine: [00:44:37] If he see aught in you that makes him like, [00:44:40] That any thing he sees, which moves his liking, [00:44:43] I can with ease translate it to my will; [00:44:46] Or if you will, to speak more properly, [00:44:49] I will enforce it easily to my love. [00:44:53] Further I will not flatter you, my lord, [00:44:55] That all I see in you is worthy love, [00:44:57] Than this; that nothing do I see in you, [00:45:00] Though churlish thoughts themselves [00:45:02] should be your judge, [00:45:04] That I can find should merit any hate. [00:45:10] What say these young ones? What say you my niece? [00:45:15] That she is bound in honour still to do [00:45:18] What you in wisdom still vouchsafe to say. [00:45:21] Speak then, prince Dauphin; can'st thou love this lady? [00:45:25] Nay, ask me if I can refrain from love; [00:45:27] For I do love her most unfeignedly. [00:45:30] Then do I give Volquessen, Touraine, Maine, [00:45:33] Poictiers and Anjou, these five provinces,

[00:45:36] With her to thee; and this addition more, [00:45:39] Full thirty thousand marks of English coin. [00:45:43] Philip of France, if thou be pleased withal, [00:45:46] Command thy son and daughter to join hands. [00:45:50] It likes us well; young princes, close your hands. [00:45:54] And your lips too; for I am well assured [00:45:57] That I did so when I was first assured. [00:46:04] Now, citizens of Angiers, ope your gates, [00:46:08] Let in that amity which you have made; [00:46:11] For at Saint Mary's chapel presently [00:46:13] The rites of marriage shall be solemnized. [00:46:19] Is not the Lady Constance in this troop? [00:46:22] I know she is not, for this match made up [00:46:25] Her presence would have interrupted much: [00:46:27] Where is she and her son? tell me, who knows. [00:46:29] She is sad and passionate at your highness' tent. And, by my faith, this league that we have made [00:46:32] [00:46:34] Will give her sadness very little cure. [00:46:39] Brother of England, how may we content [00:46:42] This widow lady? In her right we came; [00:46:45] Which we, God knows, have turn'd another way, [00:46:48] To our own vantage. [00:46:50] We will heal up all; [00:46:52] For we'll create young Arthur Duke of Bretagne [00:46:55] And Earl of Richmond; and this rich fair town [00:46:59] We make him lord of. Call the Lady Constance; [00:47:02] Some speedy messenger bid her repair [00:47:04] To our solemnity: I trust we shall, [00:47:06] If not fill up the measure of her will, [00:47:08] Yet in some measure satisfy her so [00:47:10] That we shall stop her exclamation. [00:47:14] Go we, as well as haste will suffer us, [00:47:16] To this unlook'd for, unprepared pomp. [00:47:40] Mad world! mad kings! mad composition! [00:47:49] John, to stop Arthur's title in the whole, [00:47:51] Hath willingly departed with a part, [00:47:53] And France, whose armour conscience buckled on, [00:47:57] Whom zeal and charity brought to the field As God's own soldier, rounded in the ear [00:47:59] [00:48:03] With that same purpose-changer, that sly devil, That broker, that still breaks the pate of faith, [00:48:07] [00:48:10] That daily break-vow, he that wins of all, [00:48:14] Of kings, of beggars, old men, young men, maids, [00:48:17] Who, having no external thing to lose [00:48:18] But the word 'maid,' cheats the poor maid of that, [00:48:21] That smooth-faced gentleman, tickling Commodity, [00:48:30] Commodity, the bias of the world, [00:48:36] The world, who of itself is balanced well, [00:48:38] Made to run even upon even ground, [00:48:40] Till this advantage, this vile-drawing bias, This sway of motion, this Commodity, [00:48:44] [00:48:48] Makes it take head from all indifferency, [00:48:49] From all direction, purpose, course, intent: [00:48:53] And this same bias, this Commodity, [00:48:55] This bawd, this broker, this all-changing word, [00:48:58] Clapp'd on the outward eye of fickle France, [00:49:00] Hath drawn him from his own determined aid, [00:49:02] From a resolved and honourable war, [00:49:04] To a most base and vile-concluded peace. [00:49:09] And why rail I on this Commodity?

- [00:49:15] But for because he hath not woo'd me yet:
 [00:49:18] Not that I have the power to clutch my hand,
 [00:49:20] When his fair angels would salute my palm;
 [00:49:23] But for that my hand, as unattempted yet,
 [00:49:27] Like a poor beggar, raileth on the rich.
 [00:49:31] Well, whiles I am a beggar, I will rail
 [00:49:36] And say there is no sin but to be rich;
- [00:49:41] And being rich, my virtue then will be
- [00:49:44] To say there is no vice but beggary.
- [00:49:48] Since kings break faith upon commodity,
- [00:49:53] Gain, be my lord, for I will worship thee.

King John Act 3

[00:50:10] Gone to be married! gone to swear a peace! [00:50:18] False blood to false blood join'd! gone to be friends! [00:50:27] Shall Lewis have Blanch, and Blanch those provinces? It is not so; thou hast misspoke, misheard: [00:50:35] [00:50:40] Be well advised, tell o'er thy tale again: [00:50:44] It cannot be; thou dost but say 'tis so: [00:50:48] I trust I may not trust thee; for thy word [00:50:51] Is but the vain breath of a common man: [00:50:53] Believe me, I do not believe thee, man; [00:50:55] I have a king's oath to the contrary. Thou shalt be punish'd for thus frighting me, [00:50:59] [00:51:03] For I am sick and capable of fears, Oppress'd with wrongs and therefore full of fears, [00:51:06] [00:51:10] A widow, husbandless, subject to fears, [00:51:15] A woman, naturally born to fears; And though thou now confess thou didst but jest, [00:51:19] [00:51:21] With my vex'd spirits I cannot take a truce, [00:51:24] But they will quake and tremble all this day. [00:51:28] What dost thou mean by shaking of thy head? [00:51:33] Why dost thou look so sadly on my son? [00:51:38] What means that hand upon that breast of thine? [00:51:43] Why holds thine eye that lamentable rheum, [00:51:45] Like a proud river peering o'er his bounds? Be these sad signs confirmers of thy words? [00:51:50] Then speak again; not all thy former tale, [00:51:54] But this one word, whether thy tale be true. [00:51:59] [00:52:05] As true as I believe you think them false [00:52:08] That give you cause to prove my saying true. [00:52:11] O, if thou teach me to believe this sorrow, Teach thou this sorrow how to make me die. [00:52:15] [00:52:18] And let belief and life encounter so [00:52:20] As doth the fury of two desperate men [00:52:23] Which in the very meeting fall and die. [00:52:31] Lewis marry Blanch! O boy, then where art thou? [00:52:44] France friend with England, what becomes of me? [00:52:51] Fellow, be gone: I cannot brook thy sight: This news hath made thee a most ugly man. [00:52:53] [00:52:56] What other harm have I, good lady, done, [00:52:58] But spoke the harm that is by others done? [00:53:00] Which harm within itself so heinous is [00:53:01] As it makes harmful all that speak of it. [00:53:04] I do beseech you, madam, be content. [00:53:07] If thou, that bid'st me be content, wert grim, [00:53:13] Ugly and slanderous to thy mother's womb, [00:53:16] Full of unpleasing blots and sightless stains, [00:53:20] Lame, foolish, crooked, swart, prodigious, [00:53:25] Patch'd with foul moles and eye-offending marks, [00:53:29] I would not care, I then would be content. [00:53:33] For then I should not love thee, no, nor thou [00:53:34] Become thy great birth nor deserve a crown. But thou art fair, and at thy birth, dear boy, [00:53:38] Nature and Fortune join'd to make thee great: [00:53:41] [00:53:48] Of Nature's gifts thou mayst with lilies boast, [00:53:50] And with the half-blown rose. But Fortune, [00:53:56] O, She is corrupted, changed and won from thee; [00:54:00] She adulterates hourly with thine uncle John, [00:54:03] And with her golden hand hath pluck'd on France [00:54:06] To tread down fair respect of sovereignty,

[00:54:09] And made his majesty the bawd to theirs. [00:54:14] France is a bawd to Fortune and King John, [00:54:21] That strumpet Fortune, that usurping John! [00:54:26] Tell me, thou fellow, is not France forsworn? [00:54:32] Envenom him with words, or get thee gone [00:54:35] And leave those woes alone which I alone [00:54:36] Am bound to under-bear. [00:54:38] Pardon me, madam, [00:54:39] I may not go without you to the kings. [00:54:44] Thou mayst, thou shalt; I will not go with thee: [00:54:55] I will instruct my sorrows to be proud; [00:54:58] For grief is proud and makes his owner stoop. [00:55:05] To me and to the state of my great grief [00:55:08] Let kings assemble; for my grief's so great [00:55:13] That no supporter but the huge firm earth [00:55:17] Can hold it up: here I and sorrows sit; [00:55:24] Here is my throne, bid kings come bow to it. [00:55:31] 'Tis true, fair daughter; and this blessed day [00:55:34] Ever in France shall be kept festival: [00:55:36] To solemnize this day the glorious sun [00:55:38] Stays in his course and plays the alchemist, [00:55:40] Turning with splendor of his precious eve [00:55:43] The meagre cloddy earth to glittering gold: [00:55:46] The yearly course that brings this day about [00:55:49] Shall never see it but a holiday. [00:55:52] A wicked day, and not a holy day! [00:55:56] What hath this day deserved? what hath it done, [00:55:59] That it in golden letters should be writ [00:56:01] Among the high tides of the calendar? [00:56:04] Nay, rather turn this day out of the week, [00:56:06] This day of shame, oppression, perjury. [00:56:11] Or, if it must stand still, let wives with child [00:56:14] Pray that their burthens may not fall this day, [00:56:17] Lest that their hopes prodigiously be cross'd: [00:56:20] But on this day let seamen fear no wreck; [00:56:23] No bargains break that are not this day made: This day, all things begun come to ill end, [00:56:26] [00:56:33] Ney, faith itself to hollow falsehood change! [00:56:38] By heaven, lady, you shall have no cause [00:56:42] To curse the fair proceedings of this day: [00:56:44] Have I not pawn'd to you my majesty? [00:56:47] You have beguiled me with a counterfeit [00:56:51] Resembling majesty, which, being touch'd and tried, [00:56:56] Proves valueless: you are forsworn, forsworn; [00:57:03] You came in arms to spill mine enemies' blood, [00:57:07] But now in arms you strengthen it with yours: [00:57:11] The grappling vigour and rough frown of war [00:57:14] Is cold in amity and painted peace, [00:57:19] And our oppression hath made up this deed. [00:57:22] Arm, arm, you heavens, against these perjured kings! [00:57:27] A widow cries; be husband to me, heavens! [00:57:30] Let not the hours of this ungodly day [00:57:32] Wear out the day in peace; but, ere sunset, [00:57:35] Set armed discord 'twixt these perjured kings! [00:57:39] Hear me, O, hear me! [00:57:42] Lady Constance, peace! [00:57:44] War! war! no peace! peace is to me a war [00:57:51] O Lymoges! O Austria! thou dost shame [00:57:54] That bloody spoil: thou slave, thou wretch, thou coward! [00:57:59] Thou little valiant, great in villany!

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[00:58:01] Thou ever strong upon the stronger side! [00:58:05] Thou Fortune's champion that dost never fight [00:58:10] But when her humorous ladyship is by [00:58:11] To teach thee safety! thou art periured too. [00:58:16] And soothest up greatness. What a fool art thou, [00:58:21] A ramping fool, to brag and stamp and swear [00:58:25] Upon my party! Thou cold-blooded slave, [00:58:30] Hast thou not spoke like thunder on my side, [00:58:33] Been sworn my champion, bidding me depend [00:58:35] Upon thy fate, thy fortune and thy strength, [00:58:38] And dost thou now fall over to my foes? Thou wear a lion's hide! doff it for shame, [00:58:41] [00:58:45] And hang a calf's-skin on those recreant limbs. [00:58:49] O, that a man should speak those words to me! [00:58:52] And hang a calf's-skin on those recreant limbs. Thou darest not say so, villain, for thy life. [00:58:54] And hang a calf's-skin on those recreant limbs. [00:58:57] [00:59:00] We like not this; thou dost forget thyself. [00:59:10] Here comes the holy legate of the pope. [00:59:23] Hail, you anointed deputies of heaven! [00:59:33] To thee, King John, my holy errand is. [00:59:38] I Pandulph, of fair Milan cardinal. [00:59:39] And from Pope Innocent the legate here, [00:59:42] Do in his name religiously demand Why thou against the church, our holy mother, [00:59:44] [00:59:48] So wilfully dost spurn; and force perforce [00:59:53] Keep Stephen Langton, chosen archbishop [00:59:56] Of Canterbury, from that holy see? [00:59:59] This, in our foresaid holy father's name, [01:00:01] Pope Innocent, I do demand of thee. [01:00:08] What earthy name to interrogatories [01:00:10] Can task the free breath of a sacred king? [01:00:14] Thou canst not, cardinal, devise a name [01:00:17] So slight, unworthy and ridiculous, [01:00:20] To charge me to an answer, as the pope. [01:00:25] Tell him this tale; and from the mouth of England [01:00:28] Add thus much more, that no Italian priest [01:00:31] Shall tithe or toll in our dominions; [01:00:33] But as we, under God, are supreme head, So under Him that great supremacy. [01:00:36] [01:00:38] Where we do reign, we will alone uphold, [01:00:41] Without the assistance of a mortal hand: [01:00:45] So tell the pope, all reverence set apart [01:00:49] To him and his usurp'd authority. [01:00:52] Brother of England, you blaspheme in this. [01:00:55] Though you and all the kings of Christendom [01:00:57] Are led so grossly by this meddling priest, [01:00:59] Dreading the curse that money may buy out; [01:01:03] And by the merit of vile gold, dross, dust, Purchase corrupted pardon of a man, [01:01:07] Who in that sale sells pardon from himself, [01:01:09] Though you and all the rest so grossly led [01:01:12] [01:01:14] This juggling witchcraft with revenue cherish, [01:01:19] Yet I alone, alone do me oppose [01:01:20] Against the pope and count his friends my foes. [01:01:26] Then, by the lawful power that I have, [01:01:29] Thou shalt stand cursed and excommunicate. [01:01:34] And blessed shall he be that doth revolt [01:01:36] From his allegiance to an heretic; [01:01:40] And meritorious shall that hand be call'd,

[01:01:43] Canonized and worshipped as a saint, [01:01:45] That takes away by any secret course [01:01:50] Thy hateful life. [01:01:55] O, lawful let it be [01:01:57] That I have room with Rome to curse awhile! [01:02:01] Good father cardinal, cry thou amen [01:02:03] To my keen curses; for without my wrong [01:02:05] There is no tongue hath power to curse him right. [01:02:08] There's law and warrant, lady, for my curse. [01:02:11] And for mine too: since law can do no right, [01:02:15] Let it be lawful that law bar no wrong: [01:02:18] Law cannot give my child his kingdom here, **[01:02:23]** For he that holds his kingdom holds the law; [01:02:26] Therefore, since law itself is perfect wrong, [01:02:31] How can the law forbid my tongue to curse? [01:02:35] Philip of France, on peril of a curse, [01:02:38] Let go the hand of that arch-heretic; [01:02:41] And raise the power of France upon his head, [01:02:44] Unless he do submit himself to Rome. [01:02:46] Look'st thou pale, France? do not let go thy hand. [01:02:48] Philip, what say'st thou to the cardinal? [01:02:53] What should he say, but as the cardinal? [01:02:56] Bethink you, father; for the difference [01:02:58] Is purchase of a heavy curse from Rome, **[01:03:00]** Or the light loss of England for a friend: [01:03:02] Forego the easier. [01:03:04] That's the curse of Rome. [01:03:06] O Lewis, stand fast! the devil tempts thee here [01:03:09] In likeness of a new untrimmed bride. [01:03:11] The Lady Constance speaks not from her faith, [01:03:14] But from her need. [01:03:15] O, if thou grant my need, [01:03:19] Which only lives but by the death of faith, [01:03:21] That need must needs infer this principle, [01:03:24] That faith would live again by death of need. [01:03:27] O then, tread down my need, and faith mounts up; [01:03:30] Keep my need up, and faith is trodden down! The king is moved, and answers not to this. [01:03:33] [01:03:36] O, be removed from him, and answer well! [01:03:39] I am perplex'd, and know not what to say. [01:03:43] What canst thou say but will perplex thee more, [01:03:46] If thou stand excommunicate and cursed? [01:03:51] Good reverend father, make my person yours, [01:03:54] And tell me how you would bestow yourself. [01:03:57] This royal hand and mine are newly knit, [01:04:00] And the conjunction of our inward souls [01:04:02] Married in league, coupled and linked together [01:04:03] With all religious strength of sacred vows; [01:04:07] The latest breath that gave the sound of words [01:04:09] Was deep-sworn faith, peace, amity, true love [01:04:13] Between our kingdoms and our royal selves, [01:04:17] And even before this truce, but new before, [01:04:20] No longer than we well could wash our hands [01:04:22] To clap this royal bargain up of peace, [01:04:25] Heaven knows, they were besmear'd and over-stain'd [01:04:28] With slaughter's pencil, where revenge did paint [01:04:33] The fearful difference of incensed kings: [01:04:38] And shall these hands, so lately purged of blood, [01:04:43] So newly sworn in faith, so strong in both, [01:04:49] Unyoke this seizure and this kind regreet?

[01:04:53] Play fast and loose with faith? so jest with heaven, [01:05:01] Make such unconstant children of ourselves, [01:05:03] As now again to snatch our palm from palm, [01:05:08] Unswear faith sworn, and on the marriage-bed [01:05:13] Of smiling peace to march a bloody host, [01:05:16] And make a riot on the gentle brow [01:05:20] Of true sincerity? O, holy sir, [01:05:23] My reverend father, let it not be so! [01:05:28] Out of your grace, devise, ordain, impose [01:05:33] Some gentle order; and then we shall be blest [01:05:40] To do your pleasure and continue friends. [01:05:46] All form is formless, order orderless, [01:05:50] Save what is opposite to England's love. [01:05:54] Therefore to arms! be champion of our church, [01:05:57] Or let the church, our mother, breathe her curse, [01:06:00] A mother's curse, on her revolting son. [01:06:05] France, thou mayst hold a serpent by the tongue, [01:06:08] A chafed lion by the mortal paw, [01:06:10] A fasting tiger safer by the tooth, [01:06:12] Than keep in peace that hand which thou dost hold. [01:06:16] I may disjoin my hand, but not my faith. [01:06:21] So makest thou faith an enemy to faith; [01:06:25] And like a civil war set'st oath to oath, [01:06:27] Thy tongue against thy tongue. O, let thy vow [01:06:31] First made to heaven, first be to heaven perform'd, [01:06:35] That is, to be the champion of our church! [01:06:38] What since thou sworest is sworn against thyself [01:06:41] And may not be performed by thyself, [01:06:43] For that which thou hast sworn to do amiss [01:06:47] Is not amiss if it be truly done, [01:06:52] And being not done, where doing tends to ill, [01:06:54] The truth is then best done not doing it: [01:06:58] The better act in purposes mistook [01:07:03] Is to mistake again; though indirect, [01:07:07] Yet indirection thereby grows direct, [01:07:09] And falsehood falsehood cures, as fire cools fire [01:07:13] Within the scorched veins of one new-burn'd. [01:07:19] It is religion that doth make vows kept; But thou hast sworn against religion, [01:07:25] [01:07:27] By what thou swear'st against the thing thou swear'st, [01:07:31] And makest an oath the surety for thy truth [01:07:34] Against an oath: the truth thou art unsure [01:07:38] To swear, swears only not to be forsworn; [01:07:41] Else what a mockery should it be to swear! [01:07:44] But thou hast sworn only to be forsworn; [01:07:48] And most forsworn, to keep what thou dost swear. [01:07:52] Therefore thy later vows against thy first [01:07:55] Is in thyself rebellion 'gainst thyself; [01:07:59] And better conquest never canst thou make [01:08:01] Than arm thy constant and thy nobler parts [01:08:04] Against these giddy loose suggestions: [01:08:08] Upon which better part our prayers come in, [01:08:12] If thou youchsafe them. But if not, then know [01:08:17] The peril of our curses light on thee [01:08:21] So heavy as thou shalt not shake them off, [01:08:26] But in despair die under their black weight. [01:08:35] Rebellion, flat rebellion! [01:08:37] Will't not be? [01:08:38] Will not a calfs-skin stop that mouth of thine? [01:08:41] Father, to arms!

[01:08:44] Upon thy wedding-day? [01:08:46] Against the blood that thou hast married? [01:08:48] What, shall our feast be kept with slaughter'd men? [01:08:51] Shall braying trumpets and loud churlish drums, [01:08:53] Clamours of hell, be measures to our pomp? [01:08:57] O husband, hear me! alack, how new [01:09:00] Is husband in my mouth! even for that name, [01:09:04] Which till this time my tongue did ne'er pronounce, [01:09:07] Upon my knee I beg, go not to arms [01:09:09] Against mine uncle. [01:09:11] Made hard with kneeling, I do pray to thee, [01:09:13] Thou virtuous Dauphin, alter not the doom [01:09:15] Forethought by heaven! [01:09:17] Now shall I see thy love: what motive may [01:09:19] Be stronger with thee than the name of wife? That which upholdeth him that thee upholds, [01:09:22] [01:09:24] His honour: O, thine honour, Lewis, thine honour! [01:09:32] I muse your majesty doth seem so cold, [01:09:35] When such profound respects do pull you on. [01:09:39] I will denounce a curse upon his head. [01:09:43] Thou shalt not need. England, I will fall from thee. [01:10:02] O fair return of banish'd majesty! [01:10:06] O foul revolt of French inconstancy! [01:10:10] France, thou shalt rue this hour within this hour. [01:10:15] Old Time the clock-setter, that bald sexton Time, [01:10:20] Is it as he will? well then, France shall rue. [01:10:38] The sun's o'ercast with blood: fair day, adieu! [01:10:44] Which is the side that I must go withal? [01:10:47] I am with both: each army hath a hand; [01:10:50] And in their rage, I having hold of both, [01:10:53] They swirl asunder and dismember me. [01:10:56] Husband, I cannot pray that thou mayst win; [01:11:00] Uncle, I needs must pray that thou mayst lose; [01:11:03] Father, I may not wish the fortune thine; [01:11:05] Grandam, I may not wish thy wishes thrive: [01:11:09] Whoever wins, on that side shall I lose [01:11:13] Assured loss before the match be play'd. [01:11:18] Lady, with me, with me thy fortune lies. There where my fortune lives, there my life dies. [01:11:25] [01:11:33] Cousin, go draw our puissance together. [01:11:35] France, I am burn'd up with inflaming wrath; [01:11:38] A rage whose heat hath this condition, [01:11:41] That nothing can allay, nothing but blood, [01:11:45] The blood, and dearest-valued blood, of France. [01:11:49] Thy rage sham burn thee up, and thou shalt turn [01:11:53] To ashes, ere our blood shall quench that fire: [01:11:58] Look to thyself, thou art in jeopardy. [01:12:02] No more than he that threats. To arms let's hie! [01:12:11] Now, by my life, this day grows wondrous hot; [01:12:15] Some airy devil hovers in the sky [01:12:18] And pours down mischief. Austria's head lie thou there, [01:12:24] While Philip breathes. [01:12:27] Hubert, keep this boy. Philip, make haste: [01:12:30] My mother is assailed in our tent. [01:12:31] And ta'en, I fear. [01:12:32] My lord, I rescued her; [01:12:34] Her highness is in safety, fear you not: [01:12:35] But on, my liege; for very little pains [01:12:38] Will bring this labour to an happy end. [01:12:43] So shall it be; your grace shall stay behind

[01:12:45] So strongly guarded. [01:12:47] Cousin, look not sad: [01:12:50] Thy grandam loves thee; and thy uncle will [01:12:52] As dear be to thee as thy father was. [01:12:55] O, this will make my mother die with grief! [01:13:01] Cousin, away for England! haste before: [01:13:02] And, ere our coming, see thou shake the bags [01:13:05] Of hoarding abbots; imprisoned angels [01:13:07] Set at liberty: the fat ribs of peace **[01:13:09]** Must by the hungry now be fed upon: [01:13:13] Use our commission in his utmost force. [01:13:14] Bell, book, and candle shall not drive me back, [01:13:16] When gold and silver becks me to come on. [01:13:19] I leave your highness. Grandam, I will pray, [01:13:24] If ever I remember to be holy, [01:13:25] For your fair safety; so, I kiss your hand. [01:13:34] Farewell, gentle cousin. [01:13:43] Coz, farewell. [01:13:46] Come hither, little kinsman; hark, a word. [01:13:51] Come hither, Hubert. [01:14:03] O my gentle Hubert, [01:14:04] We owe thee much! within this wall of flesh [01:14:07] There is a soul counts thee her creditor [01:14:10] And with advantage means to pay thy love: [01:14:13] And my good friend, thy voluntary oath [01:14:16] Lives in this bosom, dearly cherished. [01:14:19] Give me thy hand. [01:14:25] I had a thing to say. [01:14:26] But I will fit it with some better tune. [01:14:31] By heaven, Hubert, I am almost ashamed [01:14:34] To say what good respect I have of thee. [01:14:36] I am much bounden to your majesty. [01:14:38] Good friend, thou hast no cause to say so yet, [01:14:40] But thou shalt have; and creep time ne'er so slow, [01:14:44] Yet it shall come from me to do thee good. [01:14:50] I had a thing to say, but let it go: [01:14:53] The sun is in the heaven, and the proud day, [01:14:56] Attended with the pleasures of the world, [01:14:57] Is all too wanton and too full of gawds [01:15:00] To give me audience: if the midnight bell [01:15:04] Did, with his iron tongue and brazen mouth, [01:15:07] Sound on into the drowsy race of night; [01:15:10] If this same were a churchyard where we stand, [01:15:13] And thou possessed with a thousand wrongs, [01:15:17] Or if that surly spirit, melancholy, [01:15:20] Had baked thy blood and made it heavy-thick, [01:15:24] Which else runs tickling up and down the veins, [01:15:27] Making that idiot, laughter, keep men's eyes [01:15:29] And strain their cheeks to idle merriment, [01:15:34] A passion hateful to my purposes, [01:15:37] Or if that thou couldst see me without eyes, [01:15:39] Hear me without thine ears, and make reply [01:15:42] Without a tongue, using conceit alone, [01:15:45] Without eyes, ears and harmful sound of words; [01:15:48] Then, in despite of brooded watchful day, [01:15:51] I would into thy bosom pour my thoughts: [01:15:57] But, ah, I will not! yet I love thee well; [01:16:03] And, by my troth, I think thou lovest me well. [01:16:05] So well, that what you bid me undertake, [01:16:07] Though that my death were adjunct to my act,

Ambrose Video King John

[01:16:09] By heaven, I would do it. [01:16:10] Do not I know thou wouldst? [01:16:13] Good Hubert, Hubert, Hubert, throw thine eye [01:16:18] On young boy: I'll tell thee what, my friend, [01:16:24] He is a very serpent in my way; [01:16:26] And whereso'er this foot of mine doth tread. [01:16:29] He lies before me: dost thou understand me? [01:16:33] Thou art his keeper. [01:16:35] And I'll keep him so, [01:16:36] That he shall not offend your majesty. [01:16:38] My lord? [01:16:39] A grave. [01:16:42] He shall not live. [01:16:45] Enough. [01:16:49] I could be merry now. Hubert, I love thee; [01:16:57] Well, I'll not say what I intend for thee: [01:17:01] Remember. Madam, fare you well: [01:17:04] I'll send those powers o'er to your majesty. [01:17:07] My blessing go with thee! [01:17:10] Cousin, Away for England, go: [01:17:13] Hubert shall be your man, attend on you [01:17:15] With all true duty. On toward Calais, ho! [01:17:32] So, by a roaring tempest on the flood, [01:17:35] A whole armado of convicted sail [01:17:37] Is scatter'd and disjoin'd from fellowship. [01:17:41] Courage and comfort! all shall yet go well. [01:17:46] What can go well, when we have run so ill? [01:17:49] Are we not beaten? Is not Angiers lost? [01:17:52] Arthur ta'en prisoner? divers dear friends slain? [01:17:57] And bloody England into England gone, [01:17:59] O'erbearing interruption, spite of France? [01:18:03] What he hath won, that hath he fortified: [01:18:06] So hot a speed with such advice disposed, [01:18:09] Such temperate order in so fierce a cause. [01:18:11] Doth want example: who hath read or heard [01:18:15] Of any kindred action like to this? [01:18:16] Well could I bear that England had this praise, [01:18:18] So we could find some pattern of our shame. [01:18:24] Look, who comes here! a grave unto a soul; [01:18:29] Holding the eternal spirit against her will, [01:18:32] In the vile prison of afflicted breath. [01:18:37] I prithee, lady, go away with me. [01:18:40] Lo, now I now see the issue of your peace. [01:18:45] Patience, good lady! comfort, gentle Constance! [01:18:48] No, I defy all counsel, all redress, [01:18:52] Save that which ends all counsel, true redress, [01:18:56] Death, death; O amiable lovely death! [01:19:04] Thou odouriferous stench! sound rottenness! [01:19:10] Arise forth from the couch of lasting night, [01:19:14] Thou hate and terror to prosperity, [01:19:17] And I will kiss thy detestable bones [01:19:20] And put my eyeballs in thy vaulty brows [01:19:22] And ring my fingers with thy household worms [01:19:26] And be a carrion monster like thyself: [01:19:33] Come, grin on me, and I will think thou smilest [01:19:36] And buss thee as thy wife. Misery's love, [01:19:41] O, come to me! [01:19:42] O fair affliction, peace! [01:19:44] No, no, I will not, having breath to cry: [01:19:47] O, that my tongue were in the thunder's mouth!

[01:19:49] Then with a passion would I shake the world; [01:19:53] And rouse from sleep that fell anatomy [01:19:55] That cannot hear a lady's feeble voice, [01:19:58] Which scorns a modern invocation. [01:20:01] Lady, you utter madness, and not sorrow. [01:20:07] Thou art not holy to belie me so; [01:20:10] I am not mad: this hair I tear is mine; [01:20:16] My name is Constance; I was Geffrey's wife; [01:20:18] Young Arthur is my son, and he is lost: [01:20:24] I am not mad: I would to heaven I were! [01:20:30] For then, 'tis like I could forget myself: [01:20:34] O, if I could, what grief should I forget! [01:20:38] Preach some philosophy to make me mad, [01:20:42] And thou shalt be canonized, cardinal; [01:20:46] For being not mad but sensible of grief, [01:20:50] My reasonable part produces reason [01:20:53] How I may be deliver'd of these woes, [01:20:56] And teaches me to kill or hang myself: [01:21:02] If I were mad, I should forget my son, [01:21:06] Or madly think a babe of clouts were he: [01:21:09] I am not mad; too well, too well I feel [01:21:14] The different plague of each calamity. [01:21:18] Bind up those tresses. O, what love I note [01:21:22] In the fair multitude of those her hairs! [01:21:25] Where but by chance a silver drop hath fallen, [01:21:28] Even to that drop ten thousand wiry friends [01:21:32] Do glue themselves in sociable grief, [01:21:34] Like true, inseparable, faithful loves, [01:21:38] Sticking together in calamity. [01:21:40] To England, if you will. [01:21:43] Bind up your hairs. [01:21:45] Aye, that I will; and wherefore will I do it? [01:21:48] I tore them from their bonds and cried aloud [01:21:51] 'O that these hands could so redeem my son, [01:21:53] As they have given these hairs their liberty!' [01:21:56] But now I envy at their liberty, And will again commit them to their bonds, [01:21:58] [01:22:00] Because my poor boy is a prisoner. [01:22:04] And, father cardinal, I have heard you say That we shall see and know our friends in heaven: [01:22:08] [01:22:14] If that be so, I shall see my child again; [01:22:17] For since the birth of Cain, the first male child, [01:22:21] To him that did but yesterday suspire, [01:22:23] There was not such a gracious creature born. [01:22:27] And now will canker-sorrow eat my bud [01:22:31] And chase the native beauty from his cheek [01:22:35] And he will look as hollow as a ghost, [01:22:40] As dim and meagre as an ague's fit, [01:22:44] And so he'll die; and, rising so again, [01:22:51] When I shall meet him at the court of heaven [01:22:56] I shall not know him: therefore never, never [01:23:02] Must I behold my pretty Arthur more. [01:23:06] You hold too heinous a respect of grief. [01:23:10] He talks to me that never had a son. [01:23:13] You are as fond of grief as of your child. [01:23:20] Grief fills the room up of my absent child, [01:23:24] Lies in his bed, walks up and down with me, [01:23:29] Puts on his pretty looks, repeats his ways, [01:23:33] Stuffs out his gracious garments with his form; [01:23:38] Then, have I reason to be fond of grief?

[01:23:44] So fare you well: had you such a loss as I, [01:23:52] I could give better comfort than you have. [01:23:56] I will not keep this form upon my head, [01:24:04] When there is such disorder in my wit. [01:24:10] O Lord! my boy, my Arthur, my fair son! [01:24:21] My life, my joy, my food, my all the world! [01:24:29] My widow-comfort, and my sorrows' cure! [01:24:38] I fear some outrage, and I'll follow her. [01:24:54] There's nothing in this world can make me joy: [01:25:02] Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale [01:25:06] Vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man; [01:25:11] And bitter shame hath spoil'd the sweet world's taste That it yields nought but shame and bitterness. [01:25:14] [01:25:19] Before the curing of a strong disease, [01:25:23] Even in the instant of repair and health, [01:25:25] The fit is strongest; evils that take leave, On their departure most of all show evil: [01:25:29] [01:25:35] What have you lost by losing of this day? [01:25:41] All days of glory, joy and happiness. [01:25:46] If you had won it, certainly you had. [01:25:51] No, no; when Fortune means to men most good, [01:25:54] She looks upon them with a threatening eye. 'Tis strange to think how much King John hath lost [01:25:58] [01:26:02] In this which he accounts so clearly won: [01:26:08] Are not you grieved that Arthur is his prisoner? [01:26:11] As heartily as he is glad he hath him. [01:26:13] Your mind is all as youthful as your blood. [01:26:19] Now hear me speak with a prophetic spirit; [01:26:20] For even the breath of what I mean to speak [01:26:23] Shall blow each dust, each straw, each little rub, [01:26:27] Out of the path that shall directly lead [01:26:31] Thy foot to England's throne; and therefore mark. [01:26:41] John hath seized Arthur; and it cannot be [01:26:45] That, whiles warm life plays in that infant's veins, The misplaced John should entertain an hour, [01:26:48] One minute, nay, one quiet breath of rest. [01:26:51] A sceptre snatch'd with an unruly hand [01:26:55] [01:26:57] Must be as boisterously maintain'd as gain'd; [01:27:01] And he that stands upon a slippery place Makes nice of no vile hold to stay him up: [01:27:03] That John may stand, then Arthur needs must fall; [01:27:08] [01:27:15] So be it, for it cannot be but so. [01:27:20] But what shall I gain by young Arthur's fall? [01:27:24] You, in the right of Lady Blanch your wife, [01:27:31] May then make all the claim that Arthur did. [01:27:36] And lose it, life and all, as Arthur did. [01:27:40] How green you are and fresh in this old world! [01:27:44] John lays you plots; the times conspire with you; [01:27:50] For he that steeps his safety in true blood [01:27:53] Shall find but bloody safety and untrue. This act so evilly born shall cool the hearts [01:27:55] [01:27:59] Of all his people and freeze up their zeal, [01:28:03] That none so small advantage shall step forth [01:28:05] To cheque his reign, but they will cherish it; [01:28:08] No natural exhalation in the sky, [01:28:11] No scope of nature, no distemper'd day, [01:28:15] No common wind, no customed event, [01:28:17] But they will pluck away his natural cause [01:28:19] And call them meteors, prodigies and signs, [01:28:24] Abortives, presages and tongues of heaven,

[01:28:28] Plainly denouncing vengeance upon John. [01:28:31] May be he will not touch young Arthur's life, [01:28:33] But hold himself safe in his prisonment. [01:28:36] O, sir, when he shall hear of your approach, [01:28:42] If that young Arthur be not gone already, [01:28:47] Even at that news he dies; and then the hearts [01:28:54] Of all his people shall revolt from him [01:28:57] And kiss the lips of unacquainted change [01:29:02] And pick strong matter of revolt and wrath [01:29:04] Out of the bloody fingers' ends of John. [01:29:07] Methinks I see this hurly all on foot: [01:29:10] And, O, what better matter breeds for you [01:29:13] Than I have named! The bastard Faulconbridge [01:29:16] Is now in England, ransacking the church, [01:29:20] Offending charity: if but a dozen French [01:29:23] Were there in arms, they would be as a call [01:29:24] To train ten thousand English to their side, [01:29:28] Or as a little snow, tumbled about, [01:29:33] Anon becomes a mountain. O noble Dauphin, [01:29:39] Go with me to the king: 'tis wonderful [01:29:43] What may be wrought out of their discontent, [01:29:45] Now that their souls are topful of offence. [01:29:50] For England go: I will whet on the king. [01:29:58] Strong reasons make strong actions: let us go: [01:30:08] If you say ay, the king will not say no.

King John Act 4

[01:30:49] Heat me these irons hot; and look thou stand [01:30:50] Within the arras: when I strike my foot [01:30:53] Upon the bosom of the ground, rush forth, And bind the boy which you shall find with me [01:30:55] [01:30:57] Fast to the chair: be heedful: hence, and watch. [01:31:00] I hope your warrant will bear out the deed. [01:31:02] Uncleanly scruples! fear not you: look to't. [01:31:19] Young lad, come forth; I have to say with you. [01:31:27] Good morrow, Hubert. [01:31:28] Good morrow, little prince. [01:31:30] As little prince, having so great a title [01:31:32] To be more prince, as may be. You are sad. [01:31:36] Indeed, I have been merrier. [01:31:38] Mercy on me! [01:31:40] Methinks no body should be sad but I: [01:31:42] Yet, I remember, when I was in France, [01:31:44] Young gentlemen would be as sad as night, [01:31:46] Only for wantonness. [01:31:47] If I talk to him, with his innocent prate [01:31:49] He will awake my mercy which lies dead: [01:31:53] Therefore I will be sudden and dispatch. [01:31:56] Are you sick, Hubert? you look pale to-day: [01:32:00] In sooth, I would you were a little sick, [01:32:02] That I might sit all night and watch with you: [01:32:04] I warrant I love you more than you do me. [01:32:06] His words do take possession of my bosom. [01:32:11] Read here, young Arthur. [01:32:17] How now, foolish rheum! [01:32:20] Turning dispiteous torture out of door! [01:32:24] I must be brief, lest resolution drop [01:32:26] Out at mine eyes in tender womanish tears. [01:32:35] Can you not read it? Is it not fair writ? [01:32:39] Too fairly, Hubert, for so foul effect: [01:32:43] Must you with hot irons burn out both mine eyes? [01:32:45] Young boy, I must. [01:32:47] And will you? [01:32:48] And I will. [01:32:49] Have you the heart? [01:32:50] I have sworn to do it; [01:32:52] And with hot irons must I burn them out. [01:32:55] An if an angel should have come to me [01:32:57] And told me Hubert should put out mine eyes, [01:32:59] I would not have believed him,--no tongue but Hubert's. [01:33:06] Come forth. [01:33:07] Do as I bid you do. [01:33:09] O, save me, Hubert, save me! my eyes are out [01:33:11] Even with the fierce looks of these bloody men. [01:33:14] Give me the iron, I say, and bind him here. [01:33:15] Alas, what need you be so boisterous-rough? [01:33:17] I will not struggle, I will stand stone-still. [01:33:21] For heaven sake, Hubert, let me not be bound! [01:33:23] Nay, hear me, Hubert, drive these men away, [01:33:25] And I will sit as quiet as a lamb; [01:33:27] I will not stir, nor wince, nor speak a word, [01:33:29] Nor look upon the iron angerly: [01:33:31] Thrust but these men away, and I'll forgive you, [01:33:33] Whatever torment you do put me to. [01:33:37] Go, stand within; let me alone with him.

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[01:33:40] I am best pleased to be from such a deed. [01:33:45] Alas, I then have chid away my friend! [01:33:48] He hath a stern look, but a gentle heart: [01:33:51] Let him come back, that his compassion may [01:33:53] Give life to yours. [01:33:55] Come, boy, prepare yourself. [01:33:56] Is there no remedy? [01:33:57] None, but to lose your eyes. [01:33:59] O heaven, that there were but a mote in yours, [01:34:02] A grain, a dust, a gnat, a wandering hair, [01:34:05] Any annoyance in that precious sense! [01:34:07] Then feeling what small things are boisterous there, [01:34:09] Your vile intent must needs seem horrible. [01:34:12] Is this your promise? go to, hold your tongue. [01:34:16] Hubert, the utterance of a brace of tongues [01:34:17] Must needs want pleading for a pair of eyes: [01:34:20] Let me not hold my tongue, let me not, Hubert; [01:34:22] Or, Hubert, if you will, cut out my tongue, [01:34:25] So I may keep mine eyes: O, spare mine eyes. [01:34:28] Though to no use but still to look on you! [01:34:31] Lo, by my truth, the instrument is cold [01:34:35] And would not harm me. [01:34:36] I can heat it, boy. [01:34:39] No, in good sooth: the fire is dead with grief, [01:34:42] Being create for comfort, to be used [01:34:44] In undeserved extremes: see else yourself; [01:34:47] There is no malice in this burning coal; [01:34:50] The breath of heaven has blown his spirit out [01:34:52] And strew'd repentent ashes on his head. [01:34:54] But with my breath I can revive it, boy. [01:34:56] An if you do, you will but make it blush [01:34:58] And glow with shame of your proceedings, Hubert: [01:35:01] Nay, it perchance will sparkle in your eyes; [01:35:04] And like a dog that is compell'd to fight, [01:35:07] Snatch at his master that doth tarre him on. [01:35:13] Well, see to live; I will not touch thine eye **[01:35:19]** For all the treasure that thine uncle owes: [01:35:24] Yet am I sworn and I did purpose, boy, [01:35:27] With this same very iron to burn them out. [01:35:30] O, now you look like Hubert! all this while [01:35:32] You were disguised. [01:35:34] Peace; no more. Adieu. [01:35:37] Your uncle must not know but you are dead; [01:35:41] I'll fill these dogged spies with false reports: [01:35:43] And, pretty child, sleep doubtless and secure, [01:35:48] That Hubert, for the wealth of all the world, [01:35:51] Will not offend thee. [01:35:53] O heaven! I thank you, Hubert. [01:35:56] Silence; no more: go closely in with me: [01:36:01] Much danger do I undergo for thee. [01:36:23] Here once again we sit, once again crown'd, [01:36:26] And looked upon, I hope, with cheerful eyes. [01:36:33] This 'once again,' but that your highness pleased, [01:36:38] Was once superfluous: you were crown'd before, [01:36:42] And that high royalty was ne'er pluck'd off, [01:36:44] The faiths of men ne'er stained with revolt; [01:36:47] Fresh expectation troubled not the land [01:36:49] With any long'd-for change or better state. [01:36:53] Therefore, to be possess'd with double pomp, [01:36:55] To guard a title that was rich before,

[01:36:57] To gild refined gold, to paint the lily, [01:37:00] To throw a perfume on the violet, [01:37:02] To smooth the ice, or add another hue [01:37:04] Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light [01:37:06] To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish, [01:37:08] Is wasteful and ridiculous excess. [01:37:13] But that your royal pleasure must be done, [01:37:16] This act is as an ancient tale new told, [01:37:20] And in the last repeating troublesome, [01:37:23] Being urged at a time unseasonable. In this the antique and well noted face [01:37:27] Of plain old form is much disfigured; [01:37:29] [01:37:31] And, like a shifted wind unto a sail, [01:37:34] It makes the course of thoughts to fetch about, [01:37:36] Startles and frights consideration, Makes sound opinion sick and truth suspected, [01:37:38] For putting on so new a fashion'd robe. [01:37:41] [01:37:44] When workmen strive to do better than well. [01:37:47] They do confound their skill in covetousness: [01:37:51] And oftentimes excusing of a fault [01:37:54] Doth make the fault the worse by the excuse, [01:37:56] As patches set upon a little breach [01:37:59] Discredit more in hiding of the fault [01:38:01] Than did the fault itself before it was so patch'd. To this effect, before you were new crown'd, [01:38:04] [01:38:06] We breathed our counsel: but it pleased your highness [01:38:09] To overbear it, and we are all well pleased, [01:38:15] Since all and every part of what we would [01:38:16] Doth make a stand at what your highness will. [01:38:20] Some reasons of this double coronation [01:38:24] I have possess'd you with and think them strong; [01:38:28] And more, more strong, then lesser is my fear, [01:38:31] I shall indue you with: meantime but ask [01:38:34] What you would have reform'd that is not well, [01:38:36] And well shall you perceive how willingly [01:38:39] I will both hear and grant you your requests. Then I, as one that am the tongue of these, [01:38:45] [01:38:48] To sound the purpose of all their hearts, Both for myself and them, but, chief of all, [01:38:51] Your safety, for the which myself and them [01:38:56] Bend their best studies, heartily request [01:38:59] [01:39:04] The enfranchisement of Arthur; whose restraint [01:39:11] Doth move the murmuring lips of discontent [01:39:12] To break into this dangerous argument,--[01:39:16] If what in rest you have in right you hold, [01:39:23] Why then your fears, which, as they say, attend [01:39:26] The steps of wrong, should move you to mew up [01:39:29] Your tender kinsman and to choke his days With barbarous ignorance and deny his youth [01:39:32] [01:39:34] The rich advantage of good exercise? That the time's enemies may not have this [01:39:39] [01:39:43] To grace occasions, let it be our suit [01:39:47] That you have bid us ask his liberty; [01:39:51] Which for our goods we do no further ask [01:39:54] Than whereupon our weal, on you depending, [01:39:58] Counts it your weal he have his liberty. [01:40:06] Let it be so: I do commit his youth [01:40:09] To your direction. Hubert, what news with you? [01:40:21] This is the man should do the bloody deed; [01:40:23] He show'd his warrant to a friend of mine:

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[01:40:27] The image of a wicked heinous fault [01:40:30] Lives in his eye; that close aspect of his [01:40:33] Does show the mood of a much troubled breast; [01:40:36] And I do fearfully believe 'tis done, [01:40:39] What we so fear'd he had a charge to do. [01:40:43] The colour of the king doth come and go [01:40:45] Between his purpose and his conscience, [01:40:46] Like heralds 'twixt two dreadful battles set: [01:40:50] His passion is so ripe, it needs must break. [01:40:53] And when it breaks, I fear will issue thence [01:40:55] The foul corruption of a sweet child's death. [01:41:05] We cannot hold mortality's strong hand: [01:41:08] Good lords, although my will to give is living, [01:41:12] The suit which you demand is gone and dead: [01:41:15] He tells us Arthur is deceased to-night. Indeed we fear'd his sickness was past cure. [01:41:18] [01:41:21] Indeed we heard how near his death he was [01:41:25] Before the child himself felt he was sick: [01:41:30] This must be answer'd either here or hence. [01:41:49] Why do you bend such solemn brows on me? [01:41:52] Think you I bear the shears of destiny? [01:41:54] Have I commandment on the pulse of life? [01:41:59] It is apparent foul play; and 'tis shame [01:42:02] That greatness should so grossly offer it: [01:42:10] So thrive it in your game! and so, farewell. [01:42:16] Stay yet, Lord Salisbury; I'll go with thee, [01:42:18] And find the inheritance of this poor child, [01:42:21] His little kingdom of a forced grave. [01:42:27] That blood which owed the breadth of all this land, [01:42:31] Three foot of it doth hold: bad world the while! [01:42:38] This must not be thus borne: this will break out [01:42:44] To all our sorrows, and ere long I doubt. [01:42:57] They burn in indignation. I repent: [01:43:00] There is no sure foundation set on blood, [01:43:03] No certain life achieved by others' death. [01:43:06] A fearful eye thou hast: where is that blood That I have seen inhabit in those cheeks? [01:43:13] [01:43:16] So foul a sky clears not without a storm: [01:43:19] Pour down thy weather: how goes all in France? From France to England. Never such a power [01:43:22] [01:43:26] For any foreign preparation [01:43:27] Was levied in the body of a land. [01:43:29] The copy of your speed is learn'd by them; [01:43:32] For when you should be told they do prepare, [01:43:34] The tidings come that they are all arrived. [01:43:37] O, where hath our intelligence been drunk? [01:43:40] Where hath it slept? Where is my mother's care, [01:43:43] That such an army could be drawn in France, [01:43:45] And she not hear of it? [01:43:47] My liege, her ear [01:43:50] Is stopp'd with dust; the first of April died [01:43:54] Your noble mother: and, as I hear, my lord, [01:44:02] The Lady Constance in a frenzy died [01:44:03] Three days before: but this from rumour's tongue [01:44:06] I idly heard; if true or false I know not. [01:44:10] Withhold thy speed, dreadful occasion! [01:44:14] O, make a league with me, till I have pleased [01:44:16] My discontented peers! What! mother dead! [01:44:18] How wildly then walks my estate in France! [01:44:25] Under whose conduct came those powers of

[01:44:28] Thou for truth givest out are landed here? [01:44:30] Under the Dauphin. [01:44:32] Thou hast made me giddy [01:44:34] With these ill tidings. [01:44:37] Now, what says the world [01:44:38] To your proceedings? do not seek to stuff [01:44:40] My head with more ill news, for it is full. [01:44:44] But if you be afeard to hear the worst, [01:44:45] Then let the worst unheard fall on your head. [01:44:48] Bear with me cousin, for I was amazed [01:44:52] Under the tide: but now I breathe again [01:44:55] Aloft the flood, and can give audience [01:44:58] To any tongue, speak it of what it will. [01:45:01] How I have sped among the clergymen, [01:45:02] The sums I have collected shall express. [01:45:04] But as I travell'd hither through the land. [01:45:07] I find the people strangely fantasied; [01:45:09] Possess'd with rumours, full of idle dreams, [01:45:11] Not knowing what they fear, but full of fear: [01:45:15] And here a prophet, that I brought with me [01:45:17] From forth the streets of Pomfret, whom I found [01:45:19] With many hundreds treading on his heels; [01:45:21] To whom he sung, in rude harsh-sounding rhymes, [01:45:24] That, ere the next Ascension-day at noon, [01:45:25] Your highness should deliver up your crown. [01:45:34] Thou idle dreamer, wherefore didst thou so? [01:45:37] Foreknowing that the truth will fall out so. [01:45:44] Hubert, away with him: imprison him: [01:45:49] And on that day at noon whereon he says [01:45:51] I shall yield up my crown, let him be hang'd. [01:45:54] Deliver him to safety; and return, [01:45:56] For I must use thee. [01:46:01] O my gentle cousin, [01:46:03] Hear'st thou the news abroad, who are arrived? [01:46:06] The French, my lord; men's mouths are full of it: [01:46:09] Besides, I met Lord Bigot and Lord Salisbury, [01:46:13] With eyes as red as new-enkindled fire, [01:46:15] And others more, going to seek the grave [01:46:16] Of Arthur, who they say is kill'd to-night [01:46:18] On your suggestion. [01:46:21] Gentle kinsman, go, **[01:46:24]** And thrust thyself into their companies: [01:46:26] I have a way to win their loves again; [01:46:29] Bring them before me. [01:46:33] I will seek them out. [01:46:36] Nay, but make haste; the better foot before. [01:46:40] O, let me have no subject enemies, [01:46:41] When adverse foreigners affright my towns [01:46:43] With dreadful pomp of stout invasion! [01:46:45] Be Mercury, set feathers to thy heels, [01:46:51] And fly like thought from them to me again. [01:46:53] The spirit of the time shall teach me speed. [01:46:56] Spoke like a sprightful noble gentleman. [01:46:59] Go after him; for he perhaps shall need [01:47:02] Some messenger betwixt me and the peers; [01:47:03] And be thou he. [01:47:05] With all my heart, my liege. [01:47:06] My mother dead! [01:47:10] My lord, they say five moons were seen to-night; [01:47:14] Four fixed, and the fifth did whirl about

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

[01:47:16] The other four in wondrous motion. [01:47:19] Five moons! [01:47:21] Old men and beldams in the streets [01:47:22] Do prophesy upon it dangerously: [01:47:25] Young Arthur's death is common in their mouths: [01:47:27] And when they talk of him, they shake their heads [01:47:30] And whisper one another in the ear; [01:47:32] And he that speaks doth gripe the hearer's wrist, [01:47:35] Whilst he that hears makes fearful action, [01:47:38] With wrinkled brows, with nods, with rolling eyes. [01:47:42] I saw a smith stand with his hammer, thus, [01:47:44] The whilst his iron did on the anvil cool, [01:47:47] With open mouth swallowing a tailor's news; [01:47:49] Who, with his shears and measure in his hand, [01:47:52] Standing on slippers, which his nimble haste [01:47:53] Had falsely thrust upon contrary feet, Told of a many thousand warlike French [01:47:56] [01:47:58] That were embattailed and rank'd in Kent: [01:48:01] Another lean unwash'd artificer [01:48:03] Cuts off his tale and talks of Arthur's death. [01:48:11] Why seek'st thou to possess me with these fears? [01:48:15] Why urgest thou so oft young Arthur's death? [01:48:18] Thy hand hath murder'd him: I had a mighty cause [01:48:21] To wish him dead, but thou hadst none to kill him. [01:48:24] No had, my lord! why, did you not provoke me? [01:48:26] It is the curse of kings to be attended [01:48:29] By slaves that take their humours for a warrant [01:48:31] To break within the bloody house of life, [01:48:35] And on the winking of authority [01:48:36] To understand a law, to know the meaning [01:48:38] Of dangerous majesty, when perchance it frowns [01:48:40] More upon humour than advised respect. [01:48:45] Here is your hand and seal for what I did. [01:48:52] O, when the last account 'twixt heaven and earth [01:48:56] Is to be made, then shall this hand and seal [01:48:58] Witness against us to damnation! [01:49:03] How off the sight of means to do ill deeds [01:49:09] Make deeds ill done! Hadst not thou been by, A fellow by the hand of nature mark'd, [01:49:13] [01:49:16] Quoted and sign'd to do a deed of shame, This murder had not come into my mind: [01:49:18] [01:49:23] But taking note of thy abhorr'd aspect, [01:49:27] Finding thee fit for bloody villany, [01:49:29] Apt, liable to be employ'd in danger, [01:49:31] I faintly broke with thee of Arthur's death; [01:49:34] And thou, to be endeared to a king, [01:49:35] Made it no conscience to destroy a prince. [01:49:38] My lord--[01:49:39] Hadst thou but shook thy head or made a pause [01:49:43] When I spake darkly what I purposed, [01:49:47] As bid me tell my tale in express words, [01:49:49] Deep shame had struck me dumb, made me break off, [01:49:52] And those thy fears might have wrought fears in me: [01:49:56] But thou didst understand me by my signs [01:50:00] And didst in signs again parley with sin; [01:50:03] Yea, without stop, didst let thy heart consent, [01:50:07] And consequently thy rude hand to act [01:50:10] The deed, which both our tongues held vile to name. [01:50:14] Out of my sight, and never see me more! [01:50:19] My nobles leave me; and my state is braved,

[01:50:22] Even at my gates, with ranks of foreign powers: [01:50:25] Nay, in the body of this fleshly land, This kingdom, this confine of blood and breath, [01:50:28] [01:50:31] Hostility and civil tumult reigns [01:50:34] Between my conscience and my cousin's death. [01:50:44] Arm you against your other enemies, [01:50:45] I'll make a peace between your soul and you. [01:50:49] Young Arthur is alive: this hand of mine [01:50:53] Is yet a maiden and an innocent hand, [01:50:57] Not painted with the crimson spots of blood. [01:51:00] Within this bosom never enter'd yet [01:51:02] The dreadful motion of a murderous thought; And you have slander'd nature in my form, [01:51:05] [01:51:08] Which, howsoever rude exteriorly, [01:51:10] Is yet the cover of a fairer mind Than to be butcher of an innocent child. [01:51:12] Doth Arthur live? O, haste thee to the peers, [01:51:19] [01:51:28] Throw this report on their incensed rage, [01:51:30] And make them tame to their obedience! [01:51:32] Forgive the comment that my anger made [01:51:34] Upon thy feature; for my passion was blind, [01:51:37] And foul imaginary eyes of blood [01:51:39] Presented thee more hideous than thou art. [01:51:41] O, answer not, but to my closet bring The angry lords with all expedient haste. [01:51:44] [01:51:45] I conjure thee but slowly; run more fast. [01:52:11] The wall is high, and yet will I leap down: [01:52:15] Good ground, be pitiful and hurt me not! [01:52:19] There's few or none do know me: if they did, [01:52:21] This ship-boy's semblance hath disguised me quite. [01:52:29] I am afraid; and yet I'll venture it. [01:52:33] If I get down, and do not break my limbs, [01:52:36] I'll find a thousand shifts to get away: [01:52:38] As good to die and go, as die and stay. [01:52:57] O me! my uncle's spirit is in these stones: [01:53:02] Heaven take my soul, and England keep my bones! [01:53:28] Lords, I will meet him at Saint Edmundsbury: [01:53:33] It is our safety, and we must embrace This gentle offer of the perilous time. [01:53:36] Who brought that letter from the cardinal? [01:53:39] The Count Melun, a noble lord of France, [01:53:41] [01:53:44] Whose private with me of the Dauphin's love [01:53:46] Is much more general than these lines import. [01:53:48] To-morrow morning let us meet him then. [01:53:51] Or rather then set forward; for 'twill be [01:53:53] Two long days' journey, lords, or ere we meet. [01:53:59] Once more to-day well met, distemper'd lords! [01:54:05] The king by me requests your presence straight. The king hath dispossess'd himself of us: [01:54:08] [01:54:13] We will not line his thin bestained cloak With our pure honours, nor attend the foot [01:54:15] [01:54:17] That leaves the print of blood where'er it walks. Return and tell him so: we know the worst. [01:54:19] [01:54:22] Whate'er you think, good words, I think, were best. [01:54:27] Our griefs, and not our manners, reason now. [01:54:29] But there is little reason in your grief; [01:54:30] Therefore 'twere reason you had manners now. [01:54:32] Sir. sir. impatience hath his privilege. [01:54:35] 'Tis true, to hurt his master, no man else. [01:54:37] This is the prison. What is he lies here?

[01:54:57] O death, made proud with pure and princely beauty! [01:55:07] The earth had not a hole to hide this deed. [01:55:11] Murder, as hating what himself hath done, [01:55:16] Doth lay it open to urge on revenge. [01:55:20] Or, when he doom'd this beauty to a grave, [01:55:23] Found it too precious-princely for a grave. [01:55:27] Sir Richard, what think you? have you beheld, [01:55:32] Or have you read or heard? or could you think? [01:55:35] Or do you almost think, although you see, [01:55:38] That you do see? could thought, without this object, [01:55:41] Form such another? This is the very top, [01:55:45] The height, the crest, or crest unto the crest, [01:55:49] Of murder's arms: this is the wildest savagery, [01:55:53] the vilest stroke, [01:55:54] That ever wall-eyed wrath or staring rage [01:55:57] Presented to the tears of soft remorse. All murders past do stand excused in this: [01:56:02] [01:56:08] And this, so sole and so unmatchable. [01:56:12] Shall give a holiness, a purity, [01:56:15] To the yet unbegotten sin of times; [01:56:18] And prove a deadly bloodshed but a jest, [01:56:23] Exampled by this heinous spectacle. [01:56:30] It is a damned and a bloody work; [01:56:34] The graceless action of a heavy hand, [01:56:37] If that it be the work of any hand. [01:56:41] If that it be the work of any hand! [01:56:44] We had a kind of light what would ensue: [01:56:46] It is the shameful work of Hubert's hand; [01:56:49] The practise and the purpose of the king: [01:56:54] From whose obedience I forbid my soul, [01:56:59] Kneeling before this ruin of sweet life, [01:57:03] And breathing to his breathless excellence [01:57:05] The incense of a vow, a holy vow, [01:57:09] Never to taste the pleasures of the world, [01:57:11] Never to be infected with delight, [01:57:13] Nor conversant with ease or idleness, [01:57:16] Till I have set a glory to this hand, [01:57:19] By giving it the worship of revenge. [01:57:23] Our souls religiously confirm thy words. [01:57:26] Lords, I am hot with haste in seeking you: [01:57:32] Arthur doth live; the king hath sent for you. [01:57:37] O, he is bold and blushes not at death. [01:57:40] Avaunt, thou hateful villain, get thee gone! [01:57:45] I am no villain. [01:57:50] Must I rob the law? [01:57:51] Your sword is bright, sir; put it up again. [01:57:53] Not till I sheathe it in a murderer's skin. [01:57:55] Stand back, Lord Salisbury, stand back, I say; [01:57:58] By heaven, I think my sword's as sharp as yours: [01:58:02] I would not have you, lord, forget yourself, [01:58:05] Nor tempt the danger of my true defence; [01:58:08] Lest I, by marking of your rage, forget [01:58:11] Your worth, your greatness and nobility. [01:58:16] Out, dunghill! darest thou brave a nobleman? [01:58:18] Not for my life: but yet I dare defend [01:58:20] My innocent life against an emperor. [01:58:22] Thou art a murderer. [01:58:24] Do not prove me so; [01:58:26] Yet I am none: whose tongue soe'er speaks false, [01:58:30] Not truly speaks; who speaks not truly, lies.

[01:58:34] Cut him to pieces. [01:58:36] Keep the peace, I say. [01:58:37] Stand by, or I shall gall you, Faulconbridge. [01:58:40] Thou wert better gall the devil, Salisbury: [01:58:42] If thou but frown on me, or stir thy foot, [01:58:45] Or teach thy hasty spleen to do me shame, [01:58:47] I'll strike thee dead. Put up thy sword betime; [01:58:53] Or I'll so maul you and your toasting-iron, [01:58:57] That you shall think the devil is come from hell. [01:58:59] What wilt thou do, renowned Faulconbridge? [01:59:01] Second a villain and a murderer? [01:59:03] Lord Bigot, I am none. [01:59:05] Who kill'd this prince? [01:59:27] 'Tis not an hour since I left him well: [01:59:34] I honour'd him, I loved him, and will weep My date of life out for his sweet life's loss. [01:59:41] Trust not those cunning waters of his eyes, [01:59:52] [01:59:55] For villany is not without such rheum; [01:59:58] And he, long traded in it, makes it seem [02:00:00] Like rivers of remorse and innocency. [02:00:03] Away with me, all you whose souls abhor [02:00:06] The uncleanly savours of a slaughter-house; [02:00:09] For I am stifled with this smell of sin. [02:00:13] Away toward Bury, to the Dauphin there! [02:00:19] There tell the king he may inquire us out. [02:00:46] Here's a good world! Knew you of this fair work? [02:00:52] Beyond the infinite and boundless reach [02:00:54] Of mercy, if thou didst this deed of death, [02:00:56] Art thou damn'd, Hubert. [02:00:57] Do but hear me, sir. [02:00:58] Ha! I'll tell thee what; [02:01:01] Thou'rt damn'd as black--nay, nothing is so black; [02:01:06] Thou art more deep damn'd than Prince Lucifer: [02:01:09] There is not yet so ugly a fiend of hell [02:01:12] As thou shalt be, if thou didst kill this child. [02:01:14] Upon my soul--[02:01:15] If thou didst but consent [02:01:17] To this most cruel act, do but despair; [02:01:26] And if thou want'st a cord, the smallest thread [02:01:29] That ever spider twisted from her womb [02:01:30] Will serve to strangle thee, a rush will be a beam [02:01:34] To hang thee on; or wouldst thou drown thyself, [02:01:36] Put but a little water in a spoon, [02:01:38] And it shall be as all the ocean, [02:01:40] Enough to stifle such a villain up. [02:01:44] I do suspect thee very grievously. [02:01:48] If I in act, consent, or sin of thought, [02:01:55] Be guilty of the stealing that sweet breath [02:01:58] Which was embounded in this beauteous clay, [02:02:03] Let hell want pains enough to torture me. [02:02:06] I left him well. [02:02:11] Go, bear him in thine arms. [02:02:18] I am amazed, methinks, and lose my way [02:02:20] Among the thorns and dangers of this world. [02:02:25] How easy dost thou take all England up! [02:02:30] From forth this morsel of dead royalty, [02:02:33] The life, the right and truth of all this realm [02:02:36] Is fled to heaven; and England now is left [02:02:38] To tug and scamble and to part by the teeth [02:02:40] The unowed interest of proud-swelling state.

The BBC Shakespeare Plays

- [02:02:46] Now for the bare-pick'd bone of majesty
 [02:02:49] Doth dogged war bristle his angry crest
 [02:02:52] And snarleth in the gentle eyes of peace:
 [02:02:54] Now powers from home and discontents at home
 [02:02:57] Meet in one line; and vast confusion waits,
 [02:03:00] As doth a raven on a sick-fall'n beast,
 [02:03:02] The imminent decay of wrested pomp.
 [02:03:07] Now happy he whose cloak and cincture can
 [02:03:08] Hold out this tempest. Bear away that child
 [02:03:10] And follow me with speed: I'll to the king:
- [02:03:13] A thousand businesses are brief in hand,
- [02:03:14] And heaven itself doth frown upon the land.

King John Act 5

[02:03:22] Thus have I yielded up into your hand [02:03:25] The circle of my glory. [02:03:28] Take again, from this my hand, as holding of the pope [02:03:33] Your sovereign greatness and authority. [02:03:46] Now keep your holy word: go meet the French, [02:03:50] And from his holiness use all your power [02:03:52] To stop their marches 'fore we are inflamed. [02:03:56] Our discontented counties do revolt; [02:03:58] Our people quarrel with obedience, [02:04:00] Swearing allegiance and the love of soul [02:04:02] To stranger blood, to foreign royalty. [02:04:05] This inundation of mistemper'd humour [02:04:07] Rests by you only to be qualified: [02:04:10] Then pause not; for the present time's so sick, [02:04:14] That present medicine must be minister'd, Or overthrow incurable ensues. [02:04:17] [02:04:20] It was my breath that blew this tempest up, [02:04:24] Upon your stubborn usage of the pope; [02:04:28] But now you are a gentle convertite, [02:04:30] My tongue shall hush again this storm of war [02:04:34] And make fair weather in your blustering land. [02:04:38] On this Ascension-day, remember well, [02:04:43] Upon your oath of service to the pope, [02:04:47] Go I to make the French lay down their arms. [02:05:03] Is this Ascension-day? Did not the prophet [02:05:06] Say that before Ascension-day at noon [02:05:08] My crown I should give off? Even so I have: [02:05:13] I did suppose it should be on constraint: [02:05:16] But, heaven be thank'd, it is but voluntary. [02:05:19] All Kent hath yielded; nothing there holds out [02:05:22] But Dover castle: London hath received, [02:05:23] Like a kind host, the Dauphin and his powers: [02:05:26] Your nobles will not hear you, but are gone [02:05:27] To offer service to your enemy, [02:05:29] And wild amazement hurries up and down [02:05:30] The little number of your doubtful friends. [02:05:34] Would not my lords return to me again, After they heard young Arthur was alive? [02:05:37] They found him dead and cast into the streets, [02:05:39] [02:05:41] An empty casket, where the jewel of life [02:05:43] By some damn'd hand was robb'd and ta'en away. [02:05:46] That villain Hubert told me he did live. [02:05:48] So, on my soul, he did, for aught he knew. [02:05:59] But wherefore do you droop? why look you sad? [02:06:04] Be great in act, as you have been in thought; [02:06:09] Let not the world see fear and sad distrust **[02:06:12]** Govern the motion of a kingly eye: [02:06:14] Be stirring as the time; be fire with fire; Threaten the threatener and outface the brow [02:06:16] [02:06:18] Of bragging horror: so shall inferior eyes, That borrow their behaviors from the great, [02:06:20] [02:06:23] Grow great by your example and put on [02:06:25] The dauntless spirit of resolution. [02:06:28] Away, and glister like the god of war, [02:06:30] When he intendeth to become the field: [02:06:33] Show boldness and aspiring confidence. [02:06:42] What, shall they seek the lion in his den, [02:06:49] And fright him there? and make him tremble there?

[02:06:53] O, let it not be said: forage, and run [02:06:57] To meet displeasure farther from the doors, [02:06:59] And grapple with him ere he comes so nigh. [02:07:07] The legate of the pope hath been with me. [02:07:10] And I have made a happy peace with him; [02:07:14] And he hath promised to dismiss the powers [02:07:16] Led by the Dauphin. [02:07:22] O inglorious league! [02:07:26] Shall we, upon the footing of our land, [02:07:30] Send fair-play orders and make compromise, [02:07:32] Insinuation, parley and base truce [02:07:35] To arms invasive? shall a beardless boy, [02:07:39] A cocker'd silken wanton, brave our fields, [02:07:42] And flesh his spirit in a warlike soil, [02:07:45] Mocking the air with colours idly spread, [02:07:46] And find no cheque? Let us, my liege, to arms: Perchance the cardinal cannot make your peace; [02:07:52] [02:07:54] Or if he do, let it at least be said [02:07:56] They saw we had a purpose of defence. **[02:08:11]** Have thou the ordering of this present time. [02:08:19] Away, then, with good courage! yet, I know, [02:08:32] Our party may well meet a prouder foe. [02:08:56] My Lord Melun, let this be copied out, [02:08:59] And keep it safe for our remembrance: [02:09:01] Return the precedent to these lords again; [02:09:04] That, having our fair order written down, [02:09:06] Both they and we, perusing o'er these notes, [02:09:10] May know wherefore we took the sacrament [02:09:12] And keep our faiths firm and inviolable. [02:09:15] Upon our sides it never shall be broken. [02:09:18] And, noble Dauphin, albeit we swear [02:09:21] A voluntary zeal and an unurged faith [02:09:23] To your proceedings; yet believe me, prince, [02:09:26] I am not glad that such a sore of time [02:09:29] Should seek a plaster by contemn'd revolt, [02:09:31] And heal the inveterate canker of one wound [02:09:34] By making many. O, it grieves my soul, That I must draw this metal from my side [02:09:39] [02:09:41] To be a widow-maker! O, and there [02:09:47] Where honourable rescue and defence [02:09:49] Cries out upon the name of Salisbury! [02:09:54] But such is the infection of the time, [02:09:58] That, for the health and physic of our right, [02:10:00] We cannot deal but with the very hand [02:10:02] Of stern injustice and confused wrong. [02:10:07] And is't not pity, O my grieved friends, [02:10:09] That we, the sons and children of this isle. [02:10:12] Were born to see so sad an hour as this: [02:10:15] Wherein we step after a stranger march [02:10:18] Upon her gentle bosom, and fill up [02:10:22] Her enemies' ranks,--I must withdraw and weep [02:10:28] Upon the spot of this enforced cause,--[02:10:34] To grace the gentry of a land remote, [02:10:39] And follow unacquainted colours here? [02:10:42] What, here? O nation, that thou couldst remove! [02:10:48] That Neptune's arms, who clippeth thee about, [02:10:50] Would bear thee from the knowledge of thyself, [02:10:53] And grapple thee unto a pagan shore; [02:10:56] Where these two Christian armies might combine [02:10:59] The blood of malice in a vein of league,

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[02:11:03] And not to spend it so unneighbourly! [02:11:14] A noble temper dost thou show in this; [02:11:17] And great affections wrestling in thy bosom [02:11:20] Doth make an earthquake of nobility. [02:11:24] O, what a noble combat hast thou fought [02:11:26] Between compulsion and a brave respect! [02:11:36] Let me wipe off this honourable dew, **[02:11:40]** That silverly doth progress on thy cheeks: [02:11:43] My heart hath melted at a lady's tears, [02:11:47] Being an ordinary inundation; [02:11:48] But this effusion of such manly drops, This shower, blown up by tempest of the soul, [02:11:51] Startles mine eyes, and makes me more amazed [02:11:56] [02:12:01] Than had I seen the vaulty top of heaven [02:12:02] Figured quite o'er with burning meteors. [02:12:08] Lift up thy brow, renowned Salisbury, And with a great heart heave away the storm: [02:12:13] [02:12:16] Commend these waters to those baby eyes [02:12:19] That never saw the giant world enraged; [02:12:22] Nor met with fortune other than at feasts, [02:12:24] Full of warm blood, of mirth, of gossiping. [02:12:27] Come, come; for thou shalt thrust thy hand as deep [02:12:34] Into the purse of rich prosperity [02:12:37] As Lewis himself: so, nobles, shall you all, [02:12:43] That knit your sinews to the strength of mine. [02:12:47] And even there, methinks, an angel spake: [02:12:54] Look, where the holy legate comes apace, [02:12:56] To give us warrant from the hand of heaven [02:12:58] And on our actions set the name of right [02:13:00] With holy breath. [02:13:03] Hail, noble prince of France! [02:13:08] The next is this, King John hath reconciled [02:13:11] Himself to Rome; his spirit is come in, [02:13:15] That so stood out against the holy church, [02:13:18] The great metropolis and see of Rome: [02:13:21] Therefore thy threatening colours now wind up; [02:13:25] And tame the savage spirit of wild war, [02:13:29] That like a lion foster'd up at hand, [02:13:30] It may lie gently at the foot of peace, [02:13:34] And be no further harmful than in show. [02:13:40] Your grace shall pardon me, I will not back: [02:13:47] I am too high-born to be propertied, [02:13:52] To be a secondary at control, [02:13:53] Or useful serving-man and instrument, [02:13:55] To any sovereign state throughout the world. [02:14:00] Your breath first kindled the dead coal of wars [02:14:03] Between this chastised kingdom and myself, [02:14:05] And brought in matter that should feed this fire; [02:14:09] And now 'tis far too huge to be blown out [02:14:11] With that same weak wind which enkindled it. [02:14:13] You taught me how to know the face of right, [02:14:18] Acquainted me with interest to this land, [02:14:21] Yea, thrust this enterprise into my heart; [02:14:24] And come ye now to tell me John hath made [02:14:26] His peace with Rome? What is that peace to me? [02:14:32] I, by the honour of my marriage-bed, [02:14:34] After young Arthur, claim this land for mine; [02:14:36] And, now it is half-conquer'd, must I back [02:14:38] Because that John hath made his peace with Rome? [02:14:41] Am I Rome's slave? What penny hath Rome borne,

[02:14:44] What men provided, what munition sent, [02:14:46] To underprop this action? Is't not I That undergo this charge? who else but I, [02:14:48] [02:14:50] And such as to my claim are liable, [02:14:53] Sweat in this business and maintain this war? [02:14:57] Have I not heard these islanders shout out [02:14:58] 'Vive le roi!' as I have bank'd their towns? [02:15:01] Have I not here the best cards for the game, [02:15:04] To win this easy match play'd for a crown? [02:15:08] And shall I now give o'er the yielded set? [02:15:15] No, no, on my soul, it never shall be said. [02:15:21] You look but on the outside of this work. Outside or inside, I will not return [02:15:24] [02:15:26] Till my attempt so much be glorified [02:15:28] As to my ample hope was promised Before I drew this gallant head of war, [02:15:30] And cull'd these fiery spirits from the world, [02:15:32] [02:15:36] To outlook conquest and to win renown [02:15:40] Even in the jaws of danger and of death. [02:15:46] What lusty trumpet thus doth summon us? [02:15:55] According to the fair play of the world, [02:15:56] Let me have audience; I am sent to speak: My holy lord of Milan, from the king [02:16:01] [02:16:03] I come, to learn how you have dealt for him; [02:16:07] And, as you answer, I do know the scope [02:16:09] And warrant limited unto my tongue. The Dauphin is too wilful-opposite, [02:16:16] [02:16:20] And will not temporize with my entreaties; [02:16:24] He flatly says he'll not lay down his arms. [02:16:29] By all the blood that ever fury breathed, [02:16:31] The youth says well. Now hear our English king; [02:16:37] For thus his royalty doth speak in me. [02:16:40] He is prepared, and reason too he should: [02:16:45] This apish and unmannerly approach, [02:16:48] This harness'd masque and unadvised revel, [02:16:51] This unhair'd sauciness and boyish troops, The king doth smile at; and is well prepared [02:16:53] To whip this dwarfish war, these pigmy arms, [02:16:56] [02:16:59] From out the circle of his territories. That hand which had the strength, even at your door, [02:17:03] To cudgel you and make you take the hatch, [02:17:06] [02:17:08] To dive like buckets in concealed wells, [02:17:12] To crouch in litter of your stable planks, [02:17:15] To lie like pawns lock'd up in chests and trunks, [02:17:17] To hug with swine, to seek sweet safety out [02:17:20] In vaults and prisons, and to thrill and shake Even at the crying of your nation's crow, [02:17:22] Thinking his voice an armed Englishman; [02:17:24] Shall that victorious hand be feebled here, [02:17:26] [02:17:28] That in your chambers gave you chastisement? [02:17:30] No: know the gallant monarch is in arms [02:17:35] And like an eagle o'er his aery towers, [02:17:37] To souse annovance that comes near his nest. [02:17:40] And you degenerate, you ingrate revolts, [02:17:45] You bloody Neroes, ripping up the womb [02:17:48] Of your dear mother England, blush for shame; [02:17:51] For your own ladies and pale-visaged maids [02:17:53] Like Amazons come tripping after drums, [02:17:56] Their thimbles into armed gauntlets change, [02:17:58] Their needles to lances, and their gentle hearts

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[02:18:00] To fierce and bloody inclination. There end thy brave, and turn thy face in peace; [02:18:02] [02:18:07] We grant thou canst outscold us: fare thee well; [02:18:11] We hold our time too precious to be spent [02:18:13] With such a brabbler. [02:18:15] Give me leave to speak. [02:18:16] No, I will speak. [02:18:18] We will attend to neither. [02:18:19] Strike up the drums; and let the tongue of war [02:18:21] Plead for our interest and our being here. [02:18:25] Indeed your drums, being beaten, will cry out; [02:18:27] And so shall you, being beaten: do but start [02:18:32] An echo with the clamour of thy drum, [02:18:33] And even at hand a drum is ready braced [02:18:35] That shall reverberate all as loud as thine; Sound but another, and another shall [02:18:38] As loud as thine rattle the welkin's ear [02:18:39] [02:18:41] And mock the deep-mouth'd thunder: for at hand, [02:18:43] Not trusting to this halting legate here, [02:18:47] Whom he hath used rather for sport than need [02:18:49] Is warlike John; and in his forehead sits [02:18:52] A bare-ribb'd death, whose office is this day [02:18:55] To feast upon whole thousands of the French. [02:18:59] Strike up our drums, to find this danger out. [02:19:03] And thou shalt find it, Dauphin, do not doubt. [02:19:14] How goes the day with us? O, tell me, Hubert. [02:19:17] Badly, I fear. How fares your majesty? [02:19:20] This fever, that hath troubled me so long, [02:19:24] Lies heavy on me; O, my heart is sick! [02:19:28] My lord, your valiant kinsman, Faulconbridge, [02:19:30] Desires your majesty to leave the field [02:19:32] And send him word by me which way you go. [02:19:35] Tell him, toward Swinstead, to the abbey there. [02:19:40] Be of good comfort; for the great supply [02:19:41] That was expected by the Dauphin here, [02:19:43] Are wreck'd three nights ago on Goodwin Sands. This news was brought to Richard but even now: [02:19:48] [02:19:49] The French fight coldly, and retire themselves. [02:19:55] Ay me! this tyrant fever burns me up, [02:19:58] And will not let me welcome this good news. [02:20:00] Set on toward Swinstead: to my litter straight; [02:20:09] Weakness possesseth me, and I am faint. [02:20:21] I did not think the king so stored with friends. [02:20:25] Up once again; put spirit in the French: [02:20:28] If they miscarry, we miscarry too. [02:20:30] That misbegotten devil, Faulconbridge, [02:20:33] In spite of spite, alone upholds the day. [02:20:36] They say King John sore sick hath left the field. [02:20:38] Lead me to the revolts of England here. [02:20:40] When we were happy we had other names. [02:20:43] It is the Count Melun. [02:20:47] Wounded to death. [02:20:48] Fly, noble English, you are bought and sold; [02:20:53] Unthread the rude eye of rebellion [02:20:55] And welcome home again discarded faith. [02:20:58] Seek out King John and fall before his feet; **[02:21:01]** For if the French be lords of this loud day, [02:21:04] He means to recompense the pains you take [02:21:07] By cutting off your heads: thus hath he sworn [02:21:11] And I with him, and many moe with me,

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[02:21:13] Upon the altar at Saint Edmundsbury; [02:21:15] Even on that altar where we swore to you [02:21:17] Dear amity and everlasting love. [02:21:20] May this be possible? may this be true? [02:21:24] Have I not hideous death within my view, [02:21:28] Retaining but a quantity of life, [02:21:32] Which bleeds away, even as a form of wax [02:21:34] Resolveth from his figure 'gainst the fire? [02:21:39] What in the world should make me now deceive, [02:21:43] Since I must lose the use of all deceit? [02:21:47] Why should I then be false, since it is true [02:21:50] That I must die here and live hence by truth? [02:21:56] I say again, if Lewis do win the day, [02:21:59] He is forsworn, if e'er those eves of yours [02:22:02] Behold another day break in the east: [02:22:09] But even this night, whose black contagious breath Already smokes about the burning crest [02:22:12] [02:22:14] Of the old, feeble and day-wearied sun, [02:22:17] Even this ill night, your breathing shall expire, [02:22:23] Paying the fine of rated treachery [02:22:26] Even with a treacherous fine of all your lives, [02:22:28] If Lewis by your assistance win the day. [02:22:34] Commend me to one Hubert with your king: [02:22:39] The love of him, and this respect besides, [02:22:41] For that my grandsire was an Englishman, [02:22:45] Awakes my conscience to confess all this. [02:22:51] In lieu whereof, I pray you, bear me hence [02:22:55] From forth the noise and rumour of the field. [02:23:00] Where I may think the remnant of my thoughts [02:23:03] In peace, and part this body and my soul [02:23:08] With contemplation and devout desires. [02:23:14] We do believe thee: and beshrew my soul [02:23:17] But I do love the favour and the form [02:23:19] Of this most fair occasion, by the which [02:23:22] We will untread the steps of damned flight, [02:23:25] And like a bated and retired flood. [02:23:26] Leaving our rankness and irregular course, [02:23:30] Stoop low within those bounds we have o'erlook'd [02:23:32] And cabby run on in obedience [02:23:35] Even to our ocean, to our great King John. [02:23:41] My arm shall give thee help to bear thee hence; [02:23:43] For I do see the cruel pangs of death [02:23:45] Right in thine eye. Away, my friends! New flight; [02:23:50] And happy newness, that intends old right. [02:23:55] The sun of heaven methought was loath to set, [02:23:58] But stay'd and made the western welkin blush, [02:24:00] When English measure backward their own ground [02:24:02] In faint retire. O, bravely came we off, [02:24:06] When with a volley of our needless shot, [02:24:08] After such bloody toil, we bid good night; [02:24:11] And wound our tattering colours clearly up, [02:24:14] Last in the field, and almost lords of it! [02:24:17] Where is my prince, the Dauphin? [02:24:19] Here: what news? [02:24:21] The Count Melun is slain; the English lords [02:24:29] by his persuasion are again fall'n off, [02:24:35] And your supply, which you have wish'd so long, [02:24:38] Are cast away and sunk on Goodwin Sands. [02:24:46] Ah, foul shrewd news! beshrew thy very heart! [02:24:54] I did not think to be so sad to-night

[02:24:56] As this hath made me. Who was he that said [02:25:02] King John did fly an hour or two before The stumbling night did part our weary powers? [02:25:04] [02:25:07] Whoever spoke it, it is true, my lord. [02:25:10] Well; keep good quarter and good care to-night: **[02:25:15]** The day shall not be up so soon as I, [02:25:17] To try the fair adventure of to-morrow. [02:25:39] Who's there? speak, ho! speak quickly, or I shoot. [02:25:42] A friend. What art thou? [02:25:44] Of the part of England. [02:25:46] Whither dost thou go? [02:25:47] What's that to thee? why may not I demand [02:25:49] Of thine affairs, as well as thou of mine? [02:25:51] Hubert, I think? [02:25:54] Thou hast a perfect thought: [02:25:56] I will upon all hazards well believe Thou art my friend, that know'st my tongue so well. [02:25:57] [02:26:00] Who art thou? [02:26:01] Who thou wilt: and if thou please, [02:26:04] Thou mayst befriend me so much as to think [02:26:06] I come one way of the Plantagenets. [02:26:09] Unkind remembrance! thou and eyeless night [02:26:13] Have done me shame: brave soldier, pardon me, [02:26:15] That any accent breaking from thy tongue [02:26:17] Should 'scape the true acquaintance of mine ear. [02:26:19] Come, come; sans compliment, what news abroad? [02:26:22] Why, here walk I in the black brow of night, [02:26:24] To find you out. [02:26:27] Brief, then; and what's the news? [02:26:29] O, my sweet sir, news fitting to the night, [02:26:32] Black, fearful, comfortless and horrible. [02:26:36] Show me the very wound of this ill news: [02:26:37] I am no woman, I'll not swoon at it. [02:26:39] The king, I fear, is poison'd by a monk: [02:26:43] I left him almost speechless; and broke out [02:26:46] To acquaint you with this evil, that you might The better arm you to the sudden time, [02:26:48] [02:26:49] Than if you had at leisure known of this. [02:26:53] How did he take it? who did taste to him? A monk. I tell vou: a resolved villain. [02:26:55] [02:26:59] Whose bowels suddenly burst out: the king [02:27:02] Yet speaks and peradventure may recover. [02:27:06] Who didst thou leave to tend his majesty? [02:27:09] Why, know you not? the lords are all come back, [02:27:14] And brought Prince Henry in their company; [02:27:16] At whose request the king hath pardon'd them, And they are all about his majesty. [02:27:18] [02:27:22] Withhold thine indignation, mighty heaven, [02:27:28] And tempt us not to bear above our power! [02:27:32] I'll tell tree, Hubert, half my power this night, [02:27:35] Passing these flats, are taken by the tide; [02:27:39] These Lincoln Washes have devoured them; [02:27:43] Myself, well mounted, hardly have escaped. [02:27:48] Away before: conduct me to the king; [02:27:50] I doubt he will be dead or ere I come. [02:28:16] It is too late: the life of all his blood [02:28:19] Is touch'd corruptibly, and his pure brain, [02:28:23] Which some suppose the soul's frail dwelling-house, [02:28:26] Doth by the idle comments that it makes [02:28:28] Foretell the ending of mortality.

[02:28:31] His highness yet doth speak, and holds belief [02:28:33] That, being brought into the open air, [02:28:34] It would allay the burning quality [02:28:37] Of that fell poison which assaileth him. [02:28:41] Let him be brought into the orchard here. [02:28:46] Doth he still rage? [02:28:47] He is more patient [02:28:50] Than when you left him; even now he sung. [02:28:54] O vanity of sickness! fierce extremes [02:28:55] In their continuance will not feel themselves. [02:29:00] Death, having prey'd upon the outward parts, [02:29:02] Leaves them invisible, and his siege is now [02:29:06] Against the mind, the which he pricks and wounds [02:29:10] With many legions of strange fantasies, [02:29:13] Which, in their throng and press to that last hold, Confound themselves. 'Tis strange that death [02:29:16] should sing. [02:29:22] [02:29:24] I am the cygnet to this pale faint swan, [02:29:27] Who chants a doleful hymn to his own death, [02:29:30] And from the organ-pipe of frailty sings [02:29:33] His soul and body to their lasting rest. [02:29:36] Be of good comfort, prince; for you are born [02:29:38] To set a form upon that indigest [02:29:40] Which he hath left so shapeless and so rude. [02:29:53] Ay, marry, now my soul hath elbow-room; [02:29:58] It would not out at windows nor at doors. [02:30:04] There is so hot a summer in my bosom, [02:30:08] That all my bowels crumble up to dust: [02:30:12] I am a scribbled form, drawn with a pen [02:30:18] Upon a parchment, and against this fire [02:30:24] Do I shrink up. [02:30:26] How fares your majesty? [02:30:29] Poison'd,--ill fare--dead, forsook, cast off: [02:30:38] And none of you will bid the winter come [02:30:41] To thrust his icy fingers in my maw, [02:30:45] Nor let my kingdom's rivers take their course [02:30:49] Through my burn'd bosom, nor entreat the north [02:30:53] To make his bleak winds kiss my parched lips [02:30:58] And comfort me with cold. I do not ask you much, [02:31:03] I beg cold comfort; and you are so strait [02:31:09] And so ingrateful, you deny me that. [02:31:12] O that there were some virtue in my tears, [02:31:14] That might relieve you! [02:31:16] The salt in them is hot. [02:31:21] Within me is a hell; and there the poison [02:31:28] Is as a fiend confined to tyrannize [02:31:31] On unreprievable condemned blood. [02:31:38] O, I am scalded with my violent motion, [02:31:41] And spleen of speed to see your majesty! [02:31:44] O cousin, thou art come to set mine eye: [02:31:50] The tackle of my heart is crack'd and burn'd, [02:31:57] And all the shrouds wherewith my life should sail [02:32:01] Are turned to one hair, one little thread: [02:32:08] My heart hath one poor string to stay it by, [02:32:13] Which holds but till thy news be uttered; [02:32:18] And then all this thou seest is but a clod [02:32:22] And module of confounded royalty. [02:32:27] The Dauphin is preparing hitherward, [02:32:30] Where God He knows how we shall answer him; [02:32:33] For in a night the best part of my power,

[02:32:34] As I upon advantage did remove, [02:32:36] Were in the Washes all unwarily [02:32:37] Devoured by the unexpected flood. [02:32:47] You breathe these dead news in as dead an ear. [02:32:52] My liege! my lord! but now a king, now thus. [02:32:58] Even so must I run on, and even so stop. [02:33:05] What surety of the world, what hope, what stay, [02:33:10] When this was now a king, and now is clay? [02:33:17] Art thou gone so? I do but stay behind **[02:33:22]** To do the office for thee of revenge, [02:33:23] And then my soul shall wait on thee to heaven, [02:33:27] As it on earth hath been thy servant still. [02:33:36] Now, now, you stars that move in your right spheres, [02:33:40] Where be your powers? show now your mended faiths, [02:33:43] And instantly return with me again, To push destruction and perpetual shame [02:33:44] [02:33:46] Out of the weak door of our fainting land. [02:33:48] Straight let us seek, or straight we shall be sought; [02:33:51] The Dauphin rages at our very heels. [02:33:52] It seems you know not, then, so much as we: [02:33:55] The Cardinal Pandulph is within at rest, [02:33:58] Who half an hour since came from the Dauphin, [02:33:59] And brings from him such offers of our peace [02:34:03] As we with honour and respect may take, [02:34:05] With purpose presently to leave this war. [02:34:08] He will the rather do it when he sees [02:34:10] Ourselves well sinewed to our defence. [02:34:11] Nay, it is in a manner done already; [02:34:14] For many carriages he hath dispatch'd [02:34:15] To the sea-side, and put his cause and quarrel **[02:34:17]** To the disposing of the cardinal: [02:34:19] With whom yourself, myself and other lords, [02:34:22] If you think meet, this afternoon will post [02:34:25] To consummate this business happily. [02:34:31] Let it be so: and you, my noble prince, [02:34:37] With other princes that may best be spared, [02:34:38] Shall wait upon your father's funeral. [02:34:42] At Worcester must his body be interr'd; [02:34:45] For so he will'd it. [02:34:47] Thither shall it then: And happily may your sweet self put on [02:34:49] [02:34:51] The lineal state and glory of the land! [02:34:55] To whom with all submission, on my knee [02:34:58] I do bequeath my faithful services [02:35:01] And true subjection everlastingly. [02:35:04] And the like tender of our love we make, [02:35:06] To rest without a spot for evermore. [02:35:09] I have a kind soul that would give you thanks [02:35:12] And knows not how to do it but with tears. [02:35:15] O, let us pay the time but needful woe, [02:35:18] Since it hath been beforehand with our griefs. [02:35:21] This England never did, nor never shall, [02:35:25] Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror, [02:35:27] But when it first did help to wound itself. [02:35:31] Now these her princes are come home again, [02:35:33] Come the three corners of the world in arms, [02:35:34] And we shall shock them. Nought shall make us rue, [02:35:37] If England to itself do rest but true.