

Henry VI Part 1 abbreviated

Act 5, Scene 5

Acceptance

Situation: Suffolk, who plays a major role in Henry VI Part 2, having fallen for the French maid Margaret and having convinced Henry VI that she should be his queen, hopes through her to lobby the young king and in the doing influence English public policy.

Henry VI to Suffolk

Whether it be through force of your report,
Noble Suffolk, or that I've yet to court
Or been touched by the fire of inflaming
Love, being a tender youth, I cannot
Tell, but inside my tormented being,
Trapped with fear and hope, I'm sick with my thought
Of thinking here alone. Therefore, my lord,
To France and procure the beautiful ward
Of France, maid Margaret, to cross the seas
To be in England as my queen to be.
Be gone, I say, for this time disagrees
With me. I am perplexed, so conduct me
Where from company I can gain relief
By quietly reflecting on my grief.

The King exits.

GLOUCESTER: Ay, grief, I fear me, both at first and last.

Gloucester and Exeter exit.

SUFFOLK: Thus Suffolk hath prevailed. Margaret shall now be queen and rule the king; but I will rule both her, the king and realm.