

Henry VI Part 1 abbreviated

Act 1, Scene 4

Death

Situation: High on the walls of the city of Orleans, the young Master Gunner's son nervously lights and shoots his cannon instead of running to his father, as instructed, his father having said come to me if you "spiest any."

The Gunner's son enters with a stick to light a cannon.

SALISBURY: Sir Thomas Gargrave and Sir William Glansdale, let me have your express opinions where is best place to make our battery next.

GARGRAVE: I think, at the north gate, for there stands lords.

GLANSDALE: And I, here, at the bulwark of the bridge.

TALBOT: For aught I see, this city must be famished.

Salisbury is shot and falls.

Talbot to Salisbury, No. 2

O Salisbury, speak if thou canst, do speak.
One of thy eyes and the side of thy cheek
Struck off! Accursed tower! Woe to the hand
That hath contrived this fatal tragedy.
One who overcame thirteen battles and
Trained Henry the Fifth. Livest Salisbury?
Look up to Heaven for grace with thy one
Eye, and Heaven, be most gracious to none
If not to him. Hast thy any life, Sir
Thomas Gargrave? Speak. Just look at me; nay,
I'll bury his body that fails to stir.
Look, Salisbury beckons as if to say
"Remember to avenge me when I'm still
Unto the French." Plantagenet, I will.

An alarum sounds. Thunder is heard and lightening seen.

TALBOT: Whence cometh this alarm and the noise?

A Messenger enters.

MESSENGER: My lord, my lord, the French have gathered head. The Dauphin, with one Joan la Pucelle joined, a holy prophetess new risen up, is come with a great power to raise the siege.

Salisbury lifts himself up and groans.

TALBOT: Hear, hear how dying Salisbury doth groan! Frenchmen, I'll be a Salisbury to you. Convey me Salisbury into his tent, and then we'll try what these dastard Frenchmen dare.