

# Henry VI Part 1 abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 3

## Persuasion

**Situation:** Meanwhile back in France, Charles VII and Joan of Arc have decided to do their best to convince the Duke of Burgundy to fight for France, Burgundy being a French nobleman who married Margaret, Richard Plantagenet's daughter, and who has been supporting Talbot and the English in their fight against the French.

BURGUNDY: Who craves a parley with the Burgundy?

PUCELLE: The princely Charles of France.

CHARLES: Speak, Pucelle, and enchant him with thy words.

PUCELLE: Brave Burgundy, let thy humble handmaid speak to thee.

BURGUNDY: Speak on; but be not overtedious.

### Pucelle to Burgundy

Look on fertile France, look on thy country;  
The cities and towns defaced as you see;  
Cruelly wasted and ruined by the foe;  
As sad as the death of a babe, as told  
In the looks of his mother. See the woe,  
The pining malady of France; behold  
The unnatural wounds which thyself hast  
Given; overturn thy edged sword and cast  
It another way. With thee here we can  
Wash away our stained spots. One blood-drop from  
Thy country's bosom should grieve thee more than  
Streams of foreign gore. Do return. Come, come  
Return, thou wandering lord; end these harms;  
Charles and the rest will take thee in their arms.

BURGUNDY ASIDE: I am vanquished; these haughty words of hers have battered me like roaring cannon shot and made me almost yield upon my knees.

BURGUNDY: Forgive me, country and sweet countrymen, and, lords, accept this hearty kind embrace. My forces and my power of men are yours. So farewell, Talbot: I'll no longer trust thee.