

## Henry IV Part 1 abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 3

### History

**Situation:** The rebel forces have arrived at Shrewsbury with less than a full complement of available men and officers. Sir Walter Blunt, representing the king, enters, seeking to find a way to resolve the parties' differences peacefully, only to be given a lecture by Hotspur.

BLUNT: I come with gracious offers from the king, if you vouchsafe me hearing and respect.

HOTSPUR: Welcome, Sir Walter Blunt, and would to God you were of our determination.

BLUNT: The king hath sent to know the nature of your griefs. He bids you name your griefs, and with all speed you shall have your desires with interest and pardon absolute for yourself and these herein misled by your suggestion.

HOTSPUR: The king is kind.

#### Hotspur to Blunt, No. 1

My father, my uncle and I did give  
Him the crown he now wears, when he did live  
Sick in the world's regard, a poor outlaw  
Sneaking home, welcomed by my father to  
The shore when he heard him vow as a raw  
Exile he came for his name and to sue  
His seized properties, swearing him help, my  
Father served. At Ravenspurgh he did lie  
Meek, where Northumberland did lean his way,  
Drawing others; now he seeks to reform  
Certain edicts and straight decrees that lay  
Heavy on our people, those through his warm  
Smile he won, and cuts the heads of those dear  
To the absent king, left behind him here.

BLUNT: Tut, I came not to hear this.

#### Hotspur to Blunt, No. 2

Then to the point. Soon after he deposed  
Our King Richard, soon after he deprived  
Him of his life, he taxed the whole country.  
And worse, he kept his kinsman Mortimer  
Destitute there in Wales and disgraced me  
In my victories, dismissed my father  
From the court, drove my uncle from the board,  
Broke oaths and committed wrongs, forcing Lord  
Glendower, Worcester and me to tap

**This army of men determined to try  
To find safety, he seeking to entrap  
Us. Furthermore, he has forced as to pry  
Into his ascension to the crown; since,  
We've found it too thin for continuance.**

BLUNT: Shall I return this answer to the king?

HOTSPUR: Not so, Sir Walter. We'll withdraw awhile. In the morning early shall mine uncle bring him our purposes. And so farewell.

BLUNT: I would you would accept of grace and love.

HOTSPUR: And maybe so we shall.

BLUNT: Pray God you do.