

Henry IV Part 2 abbreviated

Act 5, Scene 5

Counsel

Situation: John Falstaff is ordered by the Chief Justice to be sent to the Fleet, a prison, Falstaff not having been as sensitive to the new reality as he needed to be, having cried out as the king crossed the stage “King Hal, my royal Hal. God save thee my sweet boy.”

FALSTAFF: God save thy Grace. King Hal, my royal Hal. God save thee, my sweet boy.

KING: My Lord Chief Justice, speak to that vain man.

CHIEF JUSTICE TO FALSTAFF: Have you your wits? Know you what 'tis you speak?

FALSTAFF TO THE KING: My king, my Jove, I speak to thee, my heart!

KING: I know thee not, old man. I have long dreamt of such a kind of man, so surfeit-swelled, so old, and so profane; but being awaked, I do despise my dream. Make less thy body hence, and more thy grace.

Henry V to Falstaff

Reply not to me with a fool-born jest.
The world shall soon perceive that I have wrest
Myself from those that kept me company,
When thou dost hear I'm as I have been, as
The tutors of my riots approach me.
Till then I banish thee all as here has
Been done to other misleaders, not to
Come near our person. I will allow you
Just enough means to enforce you not to
Evils. We will, as we hear you reform
Yourselves, according to your strengths, give you
Advancement. Make your body more the norm,
And I speak to you: the grave doth open
For thee thrice wider than for other men.

CHIEF JUSTICE: Go, carry Sir John Falstaff to the Fleet. Take all his company along with him.

FALSTAFF: My lord, my lord.

CHIEF JUSTICE: I cannot now speak. I will hear you soon. Take them away.