

## King John abbreviated

Act 5, Scene 2

### Challenge

**Situation:** The Dauphin is riding-high with battlefield successes. With Salisbury's support, he tells Pandulph that he will not honor his request to lay down his arms, saying "Am I Rome's slave? What penny hath Rome borne? What men provided?" He tells the Bastard to "end thy bravado" when the Bastard tries to frighten him.

BASTARD: According to the fair play of the world, let me have audience. I am sent to speak, my holy lord of Milan, from the King. I come to learn how you have dealt with him.

PANDULPH: The Dauphin flatly says he'll not lay down his arms.

BASTARD: By all the blood that ever fury breathed, now hear our English king, for his royalty doth speak in me.

### Bastard to Dauphin

The king is prepared to strip this dwarfish  
War from his lands, smiling at the apish  
And unseemly approach, the unadvised  
Reveling and unheard-of insolence  
Shown by your boyish troops. He who chastised  
You in your towns and counties doesn't sense  
You'll find wished for renown. Like an eagle  
That swoops down on an annoyance that'll  
Approach his nest, know that our monarch is  
In arms, prepared to make your rebels heir  
To eternal shame for believing 'tis  
Their right to be here in England. Each fair  
Maiden warrior who trips after the drum  
Will live with a spiteful disposition.

DAUPHIN: There end thy bravado and go away in peace. We grant thou canst out scold us. Fare thee well. We hold our time too precious to be spend with such a brabber.

PANDULPH: Give me leave to speak.

BASTARD: No, I will speak.

DAUPHIN: We will attend to neither. Strike up the drums, and let the tongue of war plead for our interest and our being here.