

## **King John abbreviated**

Act 1, Scene 1

### **Pride**

**Situation:** Philip Faulconbridge, having now been knighted Sir Richard Plantagenet, is known throughout the play as the Bastard. He shares with us his joy of being recognized by the king as a member of the royal family. He is quite the hero of the play.

KING JOHN: Arise Sir Richard and Plantagenet.

BASTARD, RISING, TO ROBERT FAULCONBRIDGE: Brother, by th' mother's side, give me your hand. My father gave me honor, yours gave land.

QUEEN ELEANOR: The very spirit of Plantagenet! I am thy grandam, Richard. Call me so.

BASTARD: Madam, by chance but not by truth. I am I, howe'er I was begot.

KING JOHN: Come, Richard. We must speed for France.

#### **Bastard to Himself, No. 1**

Brother, adieu, good fortune come to thee,  
For thou wast born by way of honesty.  
You are in honor much richer than I,  
But much poorer in land, and I can now  
Make any fair maid a lady. With my  
New honor I can forget how to bow,  
Or any man's name, not needing to be  
So considerate. Our society  
Fits this ascending spirit as a sir  
Who doth not slight courtesy, but doth sing  
Inside himself the wish to deliver  
Sweet flattery to the age's liking.  
Though I shall not practice to deceive, yet  
Flattery shall make me a man well met.