

Richard II abbreviated

Act 2, Scene 3

Anger

Situation: Marching south from Ravenspurgh, Bolingbroke graciously encounters an angry and aging duke of York; York proceeding to lash out at his nephew for daring to break the terms of his banishment and turn against the sitting king.

Harry Percy enters.

PERCY: My gracious lord, I tender you my service, such as it is, being tender, raw, and young.

BOLINGBROKE: I thank thee, gentle Percy.

NORTHUMBERLAND TO HIS SON: How far is it to Berkeley?

PERCY: There stands the castle by yon tuft of trees, manned with three hundred men, as I have heard.

Ross and Willoughby, now loyal to Bolingbroke, enter.

BOLINGBROKE: Welcome, my lords.

Berkeley, A friend of the king's, enters.

BERKELEY: My Lord of Hereford, my message is to you.

BOLINGBROKE: My lord, my answer is-----to Lancaster; and I am come to seek that name in England.

York enters. Bolingbroke kneels.

BOLINGBROKE: My gracious uncle.

YORK: Tut, tut

York to Bolingbroke

Uncle me no uncle, nor grace me no
Grace. "Grace" from a wicked mouth is below
Shame. Why hath thou across England's ground raced
Here, boastingly displaying despised arms
Over peaceful land, frightening her pale-faced
Villages, raising disturbing alarms?
Were I now lord of such hot youth as when
Brave Gaunt and I rescued the Black Prince, then
Captive to many thousand French, then how
Quickly would this arm, that hath now succumb
To the palsy, chastise thee, who hath now,
A six-year-banished-forbidden man, come
Before the end of his exile, to turn
To braving arms against his royal sovereign.