

Richard III abbreviated

Act 1, Scene 2

Pride

Situation: Following Richard's interesting defense: that he murdered her father-in-law and husband because "twas thy heavenly face that set me on" wins the Lady Anne, the late Prince Edward's widow, Anne accepting the sinister Richard duke of Gloucester's ring, mildly saying "To take is not to give."

He places a ring on her finger.

RICHARD: If thy poor devoted servant may but beg one favor at thy gracious hand, thou dost confirm his happiness forever.

ANNE: What is it?

RICHARD: That it may please you leave these sad designs to him that hath most cause to be a mourner.

ANNE: With all my heart, and much it joys me too to see you are become so penitent.

Anne exits. The Halberds exit with the corpse.

RICHARD: Was ever woman in this humor wooed? Was ever woman in this humor won?

Richard to himself, No. 3

She will be mine, but I will not keep her
Long, killing her husband and his father,
Taking her heart to its most extreme hate,
Having God and her conscience against me,
And yet I'll win her with no friends to wait
On me but the devil and looks that be.
Ha! Hath she forgot her Edward, whom I
Some three months since stabbed in angry mood? Why,
The world cannot again afford a
Sweeter and a lovelier gentleman,
Framed valiant, wise and royal by nature. The
Thought that she'll lower her eyes on me can
Change how I'm seen. I'll have tailors study
Fashions and have them adorn my body.

RICHARD: Shine out, fair sun, till I have bought a glass, that I may see my shadow as I pass.