

Henry IV Part 1 abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 1

Counsel

Situation: Edmund Mortimer and the earl of Worcester take Hotspur aside for a talk following a second meeting of the rebels; a meeting during which once again Hotspur had questioned decisions made by the movement's leader Owen Glendower.

MORTIMER: Fie, cousin Percy, how you cross my father!

HORSPUR: I cannot choose. Sometime he angers me with telling me of the dreamer Merlin and his prophecies. O, he is as tedious as a tired horse, a failing wife, worse than a smoky house.

MORTIMER: In faith, he is a worthy gentleman.

Worcester to Hotspur

Since coming hither, you have done your best
To put him quite besides himself and test
His patience, my lord. As your uncle, I
Say you must learn to amend this fault. Though
It shows greatness and courage and the tie
Of blood; that's the dearest grace rendered so.
Yet your actions doth present harsh rage, a
Defect of manners, pride and disdain, the
Least haunts noblemen, causing them to owe
Less to young men acting so. Do not doubt
Cousin, that man is not alive that so
Have tempted him as you have done without
The taste of censure and danger. But do
Not use it often, let me entreat you.

HOTSPUR: Well, I am schooled. Here come our wives, and let us take our leave.

Glendower and the ladies enter. They sing and enjoy each others company.

GLENDOWER: Come, come, Lord Mortimer, you are as slow as hot Lord Percy is on fire to go.
To horse immediately.

MORTIMER: With all my heart.