

## Henry IV Part 2 abbreviated

Act 4, Scene 3.3

### Father to Son

**Situation:** Henry IV has his final conversation with his son Prince Harry, a beautiful conversation, Harry the Prince of Wales, soon to be England's Henry V.

KING: Come hither, Harry, sit thou by my bed and hear, I think, the very latest counsel that ever I shall breathe.

The prince rises and sits near the bed.

#### Henry IV to Prince Harry, No. 5

God knows, son, the indirect ways I met  
This crown and how troublesome it has set  
Upon my head. To thee it shall descend  
With better confirmation, for this soiled  
Achievement goes under with me. This end  
Leaves a legacy of fair friends embroiled  
In quarrels, having aided me, wounding  
Supposed peace. These real fears with peril seen  
I have answered, where this rough reign hath been  
A scene acting out that rude and faltered  
Beginning. Now my death brings a change in  
This harsh mood, for what in me was purchased  
Falls upon thee in a manner fairer,  
With this yours as the rightful successor.

#### Henry IV to Prince Harry, No. 6

Though thou stand'st more sure than I could do,  
Thou art not firm enough, since griefs are new.  
My friends, which thou must make thy friends, by whose  
Aid I was first advanced and whose power  
Could rise to displace the king, I do choose  
To keep well occupied lest thy refer  
To the past, when, if lying still, they might  
Get too close to my state. Therefore, the right  
Course, my Harry, is to busy giddy  
Minds with foreign quarrels, that may waste the  
Memory of the former days. Oh my  
Strength of speech is denied me, utterly.  
How I came by the crown, O God forgive,  
And grant it may with thee in true peace live.

PRINCE: You won it, wore it, kept it, gave it me. Then plain and right must my possession be,  
which I with more than with a common pain 'gainst all the world will rightfully maintain.