

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.