

EDMUND IRONSIDE

A true Chronicle History called
War hath made all friends

[Believed to have been performed circa 1590]

Persons Represented

English

Edmund Ironside, *King of the Saxons, son of Ethelred the Unready*

Alfric, his general

Officers

Ulfkettle

Godwin

Aylward

Gunthranus

Archbishop of York

Emma, *widow of Ethelred, Stepmother of Edmund*

Her sons

Alfred

Edward (*later the Confessor*)

Two hostages, *Sons of Leofric and Turkillus*

Edrick, *a poor man*

His Wife, *mother of Edricus*

Stitch, *her son by Edrick*

Danes

Canutus, *Prince of Denmark, son of King Sveyn Forkbeard*

Officers

Uskataulf

Swetho

English Renegades

Leofric, *Earl of Chester*

Turkillus, *Duke of Norfolk*

Earl of Southampton, *ally of Canute*

Egina, *his daughter, later wife of Canute*

Edricus, *Earl of Mercia*

Archbishop of Canterbury

Chorus

Messengers, Herald, Danish and English Soldiers, Poor Danes, Bailiffs, Bluecoats

Scene: England, 1016

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ACT 1

Scene I.I: Southampton

[Enter Canutus, Archbishop of Canterbury, Earl of Southampton, Edricus, Leofric, Turkillus, Uskataulf and Swetho. They sit at a table.]

CANUTUS: Archbishop and you other English peers

I hear how Ethelredus late your king

my tributary, is departed life

and how his son prince Edmund wears the crown

without the notice of your free consent

or homage unto me, his sovereign.

Yourselves, lords spiritual and temporal,

besides the due my father's conquest claims

have chosen me,

and by a universal sound decree ... [I.1.10]

have solemnly throughout this little world

proclaimed me heir-apparent to the crown

when Ethelredus lived.

Then let not this young upstart prince of prates [*He riseth.*]

curb your proceedings with untutored words

but finish boldly what you have begun:

resist his private coronation

and put not up this vild dishonor done

unto you, chief commanders of the realm,

as though you were not worth the sending-for. ... [I.1.20]

CANTERBURY: Indeed his rashness is unportable
and merely nothing but a proud contempt
against us of the clergy and the rest
that have for public profit of the realm
for peace, for quiet and utility
elected prince Canutus for our king,
whose valor we have proved unto our cost,
whose love unto the church we need not doubt,
whose care for all we may rely upon,
and whose true bounty is so notable ... [I.1.30]
that even his foes admire and honor him,
when th' other what he is I need not tell
'tis too well known. I would I could say well;
but this I say and swear -- were I myself [*He riseth.*]
professed a soldier or a man at arms,
as I am one deprived from the world
and from my cradle called to serve the Lord,
I would with lance approve his title naught
and plead your coronation with my sword.

CANUTUS: Stout-hearted bishop, spoken like a man! ... [I.1.40]
Would all the English lords were of thy mind.

SOUTHAMPTON: Am I not ready to defend your right
with force of arms as doth become a knight?

LEOFRIC: I ne'er was slack or hindmost of the rest,
but ever first and foremost with the best.

EDRICUS: Had I not been a help unto your father
whenas he first arrived in Albion,
you ne'er had stood in question for the crown
nor had your father's wars so prospered.
'Twas I that first did counsel Ethelred ... [I.1.50]
to pay you tribute and to buy your league,
whereby we emptied all the treasury;
and had not gold failed, you had ne'er been king.
I had a navy once (the time when 'twas
in Ethelredus' days, your father living),
with which I should have met you on the sea
within the straits of England, and Iwis
had then no little vantage on your ships;
yet I as favoring your party most,
gave way and let you land without resistance, ... [I.1.60]
and for that fact rest foully scandalized.
Was it not I that gave intelligence

of all the councils of king Ethelred
unto your father? Did not I, I pray,
feign sickness, weakness, disadvantages
whenas the king sent me to fight with him?
Was I not causer of your good success
in all your actions since your father's death,
as namely in that battle lately fought
between yourself and Edmund Ironside, ... [I.1.70]
where I fled from him and did succor you?
Then since the only ladder upon which
your father climbed to get and you to hold
this gotten kingdom was my diligence,
I hope you will not [let] the least motion
of an ill thought creep in to hinder me,
nor do I think you used this speech by me.

CANUTUS: Why, what need all this repetition?
Good faith, I meant no harm in saying so.
Why should I doubt you? Wherefore should I fear? ... [I.1.80]
You never yet deceived me.
I cannot speak, but some or other straight
misconsters me.
Why, by my troth, my lord, I meant not you,
but those that cleave to Edmund Ironside
and hang in part against my government.
Calm ye, therefore, and be not discontent.

SOUTHAMPTON: In token then, you mean as you have said:
honor my castle with the name of court
and take a subject's welcome from his heart ... [I.1.90]
to signify you love my town and me.
[*Uskataulf whispereth in Canutus' ear.*]

USKATAULF: Why, that's a trifle, mighty sovereign.
Yield unto him in this petition.
It will confirm the people's hearts to you
and make him live and die to honor you.

CANUTUS: I willingly descend to your request
and will this night be with you at your place.

SOUTHAMPTON: I'll go before, to countenance your grace.
[*Exit Southampton. Enter a company of countrymen naking a noise.*]

COUNTRYMEN: Where is the king, that he may right our wrong?

CANUTUS: The king is here; who is it calls the king? ... [I.1.100]
I am your king. Speak, gentle countrymen,
what lawless hand hath done you injury?

1 COUNTRY: Renowned Canutus, we are all Danes by birth,
the remnant of thy needy followers,
who when thy father lived, lived here secure
and dwelt among the fattest of this land.
We then did yoke the Saxons and compelled
their stubborn necks to ear the fallow fields.
We then did force them honor us as lords
and be our slaves, our drudges and our dogs. ... [I.1.110]
But now (I know not what the cause should be
unless the instigation of their prince,
young Ironside, or else their stubborn nature)
they all rebel and with conjoined force
assault us manly, and from every part
of this perturbed island banish us.
We are not able to resist their powers,
but fall like leaves before the northern wind.
Huge heaps of us lie dead in every place,
and we unless you help, shall all be slain. ... [I.1.120]

ALL: Help, help, Canutus, help and succor us!

CANUTUS: Good countrymen, Canutus will not see you wronged,
for yet the spirit of my father Sveyn
runs in these veins, which I will shed,
even drop by drop, ere I will see you harmed.
Go in, good friends, and pacify yourselves.
Be confident in me, and if I live,
I plant you in your former quiet states.
Swetho, look to them; they shall be your care.
[Exit Swetho with the poor Danes.]
Now lords, let not this sudden rumor daunt ... [I.1.130]
Your manly hearts. Though Edmund be so strong,
we are as strong, and stronger far than he.
Then tell me, shall we now assail him?
Say, Uskataulf, what is to be done?

USKATAULF: You may, my lord, yet be remembered now
against what nation you are bound to war,
a generation like the chosen Jews:
stubborn, unwieldy, fierce and wild to tame,
scorning to be compelled against their wills,

abhorring servitude as having felt ... [I.1.140]
the overloading burden of the same.

EDRICUS: Indeed my countrymen are factious
and must be reined with a marking-stall.
Curb them, my lord, and bridle but their wills
and you shall find them mild and tractable.
If that you use them as your father did,
they dare not, nay they will not look awry,
but serve you as your slaves by conquest due.
But if you lay the team upon their necks
and let them have but any scope to run, ... [I.1.150]
why then be sure they'll gad as they were galled
and neither know themselves nor yet your grace,
for lenity doth cause them to rebel
'cause they are ignorant of living well.

USKATAULF: List how this flattering mate soothes up the king
and doth abuse his gracious sufferance.
Base, vild, insinuating sycophant,
degenerate bastard, falsely bred,
foul mother-killing Viper, traitor, slave,
the scum of vices, all the ill that may be. ... [I.1.160]
Who would excite the king to tyranny
against his countrymen but only he?
I am a Dane, renowned sovereign:
you have experience of my loyalty
and that my counsel is not mercenary.
If I were wise enough to give advice,
you should not prove a tyrant but a king.
A tyrant is abhorred of God and man,
whenas a king loved and honored.
Accomptest thou, Edricus, the Saxons fools ... [I.1.170]
or rather hardy, wise and valorous?
Their names discover what their natures are,
more hard than stones, and yet not stones indeed.
In fight, more than stones detesting flight;
in peace, as soft as wax, wise, provident.
Witness the many combats they have fought
Denmark, our country's loss by them and theirs
with many other witnesses of worth.
How often they have driven us to our shifts
and made us take the sea for our defense ... [I.1.180]
when we in number have been three to one.
Oh you deceive yourself and eke the king
in wishing him so much against himself.

Recall the former perils we have passed,
whose dear-bought times are freshly yet in mind,
the tyranny your father Sveynus used
in tithing people, killing 9 of 10.
What did ensue? Why loss of many holds,
bloodshed and war, rebellion, sword and fire;
for they are Englishmen, easy to rule ... [I.1.190]
with lenity, so they be used like men:
patient of right, impatient of wrong,
brooking no tyranny in any sort,
but hating and revenging it with death;
therefore I counsel you, if it might stand,
to win their hearts, not by severity
but by your favor, love and lenity.

CANUTUS: Good Uskataulf, I allow your speech
and praise your counsel by my own consent.
I will endeavor to suppress my rage ... [I.1.200]
and quench the burning choler of my heart,
which sometimes so inflames my inward parts
as I fall out with my best-loved friends.
I will therefore so moderate myself
as Englishmen shall think me English-born.
I will be mild and gentle to my foes
if gentleness can win their stubborn hearts.
But let us hence, my lords, by this the earl
expects us at Southampton; there we'll rest
till we consult if peace or war be best. ... [I.1.210]
[Exit omnes. Leofric pulls Turkillus by the sleeve as he is going and stays him.]

LEOFRIC: A word, my lord.

TURKILLUS: ~~~ So you use no blows.

LEOFRIC: I think you noble, virtuous, secret, wise;
else would I not have opened my intent,
which doth so much concern our private good,
to you in private. So it is, my lord.
I have oft noted your discontented gait,
which measured by my own do well declare
the mind that rules your body is not pleased;
and since so sweet a symphony appears ... [I.1.220]
betwixt our bodies' discontent, I judge
our mind's disturbance to be only one
caused from the sad neglect of these strange days.
Oh what a grief is it to noble bloods

to see each base-born groom promoted up,
each dunghill brat arrear'd to dignity,
each flatterer esteemed virtuous,
when the true, noble, virtuous gentlemen
are scorn'd, disgrac'd and held in obloquy.
Base Edricus, a traitor to his king, ... [I.1.230]
is held in honor: we two trusty subjects
are feared, suspected, and have liberty
only to live, yet not in liberty;
for what is it but prisonment or worse
whenas our children, blood of our own blood,
are kept close prisoners, pledges for our faiths?
King Edmund, who indeed is our true king,
for good regard of merit and desert,
for honor, fame and true nobility,
is rightly termed mirror of majesty. ... [I.1.240]
Canutus is a prudent, noble prince
and loves to hear him called so, too, too much
but I will tell you this: as long as we
take part against our sovereign Ironside,
we are but traitors, therefore --

TURKILLUS: Stay, noble Chester, for I spy your drift.
To heap as many titles on your head
as you have poured on mine, were but your due;
yet to cut off such troiting thieves of time,
I say 'Amen' to your intention, ... [I.1.250]
which is to leave Canutus and his court
and fly to Edmund, our true, lawful king;
but lest you should suspect my secrecy
by being won so soon to your device,
I here assure you that this very plot
hath long been hammering in my troubled brain;
and had you not prevented my intent,
I should ere long have moved you herein;
but what shall then become of our two boys,
who are our pledges? They shall surely die. ... [I.1.260]

LEOFRIC: Tut, 'tis no matter: if they die, they die.
They cannot suffer in a better time,
nor for a better cause, their country's good.
We gave them life; for us they shed their blood.

TURKILLUS: He that sent them can send us more again.
Then let us hence, delay of time is vain. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene I.2

[Enter Edricus solus.]

EDRICUS: What shall I think of him that means to beg
and can thus finely live upon his wit?
I was as mean as any basely born.
Fie, say not so, it will discredit thee.
Tut, no man hears me. Aye, but think not so,
for it will make thy peacock's plumes fall down
if one such abject thought possess thy mind.
'Tis strange to see how I am favored,
possess my dukedom and Canutus' grace
and am the chief of all his counselors; ... [I.2.10]
whenas my betters are exiled the court,
being discountenanced and out of grace.
They cannot dissemble as I can:
cloak, cozen, cog and flatter with the king;
crouch and seem courteous; promise and protest;
say much, do naught, in all things use deceit;
tell troth to no man; carry tales abroad;
whisper close secrets in the giddy air;
be a news monger; feed the king with sooths;
please all men's humors with humility ... [I.2.20]
which he must do that is a courtier
and minds to keep in favor with the king.
He that had heard my story from the end:
how many treasons I have practiced,
how many vild things I have brought to pass
and what great wonders have been compassed
by this deep-reaching pate, would think Iwis
I had been bound apprentice to deceit
and from my birthday studied villainy.
I understand Prince Edmund's up in arms, ... [I.2.30]
lays hold upon occasion's sluggish lock;
and whilst Canutus here securely sleeps,
he wins with ease what we with pain have got.
Mass, if he do, and fortune favor him,
I will so work as I'll be in his grace
and keep my living and myself unhurt;
but if Canutus chance to gain again,
then I am his, for I can gloze with all,
and yet indeed, to say the very troth,
rather of both I love Canutus best, ... [I.2.40]
for Edmund's father first did raise me up
and from a plowman's son promoted me
to be a duke for all my villainy,

and so as often as I look on him,
I must remember what he did for me
and whence I did descend and what I am,
which thoughts abase my state most abjectly.
Therefore I hate him and desire his death
and will procure his end in what I can;
but for Canutus, he doth honor me ... [I.2.50]
because he knows not whence I did descend.
Therefore of the two I love Canutus best;
yet I can play an Ambodexter's part and
swear I love, yet hate him with my heart. [*Exit.*]

Scene I.3

[*Enter Edmund and Alfric the general under the king.*]

EDMUND: Yet are ye sure, my lord, that all is fit?
Are all my soldiers furnished for this war?
What, have they meat and drink to their content?
Do not the captains pince them of their pay?

ALFRIC: Assure your majesty, my care is such
as I do daily oversee them all
and cause the meanest soldier to be served
and have his fill of meat and drink that's good
without controlment, check or menaces;
for th'only means to mar a soldier's fight -- ... [I.3.10]
pinch him of meat and pay and pinch his might.

EDMUND: Then do ye well, for I am of this mind --
he that for private base commodity
will starve his soldiers or keep back their pay;
he that to deck himself in gorgeous 'tire
will see his men go naked, die for cold,
is a plain cutthroat to the commonwealth.
A worthy captain, seeing a tall soldier
march barefoot, halting, plucked off his own shoes
and gave them to the soldier, saying 'Fellow, ... [I.3.20]
when I want shoes, then give me these again.'
But captains nowadays
pluck off their soldiers' shoes, nay sell their lives
to make them rich and gallant to the eye.
[*Enter Turkillus and Leofric.*]
But soft, what are yon two strangers?

TURKILLUS: We are rebellious traitors to your grace, [*They kneel.*]
born Englishmen but strangers to ourselves,

who in remorse of conscience, knowing well
we have in taking part with Danish Canutus
deserved death, come of our own free wills ... [I.3.30]
either to suffer for our heinous facts [acts ?]
or else embrace our pardons, which we crave
even as hereafter we shall merit it.

EDMUND: Rise up, Turkillus; Leofric, arise.
Give me your hands and with your hands your hearts.
I more esteem the life of one true subject
than the destruction of a thousand foes.
One sheep that was lost I more rejoice to find
than twenty other which I never missed.
A friend of whose return I stood in doubt ... [I.3.40]
is more welcome to me than forty other.
Oh that when strangers cannot conquer us,
we should conspire with them against ourselves!
England, if ever war thy face doth spoil,
thank not thy outward foe but inward friend;
for thou shalt never perish till that day
when thy right hand shall make thy heart away.
Go in, brave lords: your sight doth me more joy
than Agamemnon when he conquered Troy. [*Exeunt omnes.*]

ACT II

Scene II.1

[*Drum and trumpets sound. Enter a banquet. Then enter Canutus, Southampton, Archbishop, Uskataulf and Swetho, Edricus.*]

CANUTUS: My lord, my lord, you are too bountiful.
Half this expense would well have satisfied
the homely stomachs of our soldiers
and entertained ourself right royally.
Where is your daughter?

SOUTHAMPTON: ~~~ She shall give attendance
to wait upon your grace at dinner time.

CANUTUS: Nay, good my lord, unless you give
her leave to sit at board and find me table talk,
I shall not think myself a welcome guest. ... [II.1.10]

SOUTHAMPTON: May I crave pardon of your majesty.
My daughter, being young in years and manners,
is far unfit to keep a Queen's estate.

CANUTUS: I'faith, my lord, you are too scrupulous,
too unadvised, too fearful without cause,
to stand upon such nice excuses.
I love to see a table furnished,
and sure I will not sit till she comes in.

SOUTHAMPTON: Egina, daughter, come away, sweet girl.
[Enter Egina.]
The king will have thee dine with him today. ... [II.1.20]
Be not too coy, nor yet too flexible.
If chance he proffer any courtesy,
behave yourself in honorable sort
and answer him with modesty and mirth.
A means may be to make thee Queen.

CANUTUS: What, is your daughter come? Welcome, fair lady.
Your presence is as welcome as the day
after a long and weary watchful night.
Sit down, fair lady. Sit down, noble lord.
Fill me a cup of wine. Here's to the health ... [II.1.30]
of Ironside and all his followers.
Who will pledge me?

EGINA: Pardon your handmaid, and Egina will.

CANUTUS: Wilt pledge me to the health of Ironside?
What reason moves you so to fancy him?

EGINA: The good regard I bear your majesty,
for should he die before these wars were done
and you have finished strife though victory,
some other CADMUS bird worse than himself
might hap to broach some new commotion
and trouble all the state with mutinies, ... [II.1.40]
where if he lives till you have conquered him,
none after him dares renovate the wars.

CANUTUS: Sweetly and wisely answered, noble queen,
for by that name if heaven and thou consent,
by sunset all the camp shall wish thee health.
My lord, what say you to this motion?

SOUTHAMPTON: As it shall please your royal majesty,
dispose of me and whatsoe'er is mine.

CANUTUS: Madam, pleaseth it you to be a queen? ... [II.1.50]

EGINA: What my dread sovereign and my father wills
I dare not, nay I will not, contradict.

CANUTUS: Then for a manual seal receive this kiss,
[*He kisseth her.*]
the chief dumb utterer of the heart's intent;
and noble father -- now I'll call you so --
if this rash-seeming match do like you well,
deliver me possession presently
of this fair lady, your beloved child,
and we will straight to church and celebrate
the duties which belong to marriages. ... [II.1.60]
Bishop of Canterbury, you will marry us
without the sibert-asking, will ye not?

CANTERBURY: I am prepared if every part be pleased.

CANUTUS: Faith, I am pleased.

ARCHBISHOP: ~~~ But what say you?

EGINA: I say a woman's silence is consent.

CANUTUS: Why, here's a match extempore, small ado
about a weighty matter. Some perhaps
would have consumed millions to effect
what I by some spent breath have compassed. ... [II.1.70]
Lords, let us in, for I intend to be
espoused tonight with all solemnity.
After our marriage we do mean to go
to meet in open field our open foe. [*Exeunt omnes.*]

Scene II.2

[*Enter Edrick, a poor man, his wife, and Stitch.*]

EDRICK: Nay, Stitch, and you once see my son you'll swear he is
a bouncer, all in silks and gold, vengeable rich.

STITCH: How say you that?

WIFE: I can tell you, you may bless the day that ever you
happed into his service, he is a man every hairs-breadth,
a most vild brave man i' faith.

STITCH: Then we shall be well met, for I love bravery and
cleanliness out of all cry, and indeed of all things I
cannot brook an ill-favored face, hang him that wants
a good face. ... [II.2.10]

EDRICK: You are of my mind, we may say 'a pox of all good
faces' and never hurt our own.

STITCH: We may indeed, God be praised. But what house is this?
How far off are we from Southampton?

WIFE: Why, we are in the town. Th' king Canutus lies here
now, and my son is here, and all our neighbors will be
here today at the bridal for alms. [*Enter Edricus.*]

EDRICUS: Whoso desires to mount a lofty pitch
must bear himself against the stubborn wind
and shun base common popularity. ... [II.2.20]

STITCH: Who is this?

WIFE: Oh 'tis my son. Make ye handsome, tie your garters for
shame, wipe your shoes, mend your shirt-band.

EDRICK: Oh let me go to him first. God save ye, son.

EDRICUS: A pox upon him, 'tis the knave my father.
Good fellow, hast thou any suit to us?
Deliver up thy supplication.

EDRICK: Oh sir, ye know me well enough:
I am goodman Edrick, your father.

EDRICUS: My father, grout-head? Sir knave, I say you lie, ... [II.2.30]
you whoreson cuckold, you base vagabond,
you slave, you mongrel peasant, dolt and fool,
can'st thou not know a duke from common men?

WIFE: By my troth, I learned him all these names to call his father
when he was a child, and see if he can forget them yet.
Oh he is a wise man, for in faith my husband is none

of his father, for indeed a soldier begot him of me
as I went once to a fair. But son, know ye me?

EDRICUS: Thee, old hag, witch, quean, slut, drab, whore and thief:
how should I know thee, black Egyptian? ... [II.2.40]

WIFE: This is his old tricks, husband. Come, come, son:
I am sure ye know me.

EDRICUS: Aye, if not too well.
Wherefore comes yon sheep-biter? You, sir knave,
you are my brother, are ye not I pray?

STITCH: No sir, and it like ye.

EDRICUS: It likes me very well. What is your name?
Wherefore came ye hither?

WIFE: His name is Stitch, my son, we came with him
to help him to your service. ... [II.2.50]

EDRICUS: You answer for him, gossip -- wants he tongue?

STITCH: No sir, I have tongue enough if that be good.
[*He shows his tongue.*]

EDRICUS: What can ye do?

STITCH: Anything, dress a horse, scour a chamber pot, go to
plow, thrash, dick and indeed what not.

EDRICUS: Canst make clean shoes?

STITCH: Who, I? It is part of my occupation; you win my heart.
I am a cobbler for need, I can piece a shoe as well as the
best. Wipe a shoe? Look you here else -- give me your foot.

EDRICUS: Stay, not so hasty. ... [II.2.60]
We that by sly devices mean to mount
and creep into opinion by deceit
must not of all things have a scholar know
our practices; we must suppress good wits
and keep them under; we must favor fools
and with promotions win their shallow pates.
A ready wit would quickly wind us out
and pry into our secret treacheries

and wade as deep in policy as we.
But such loose-brained windy-headed slaves; ... [II.2.70]
such block-heads, dolts, fools, dunces, idiots,
such logger-headed rogues are best for us;
for we may work their wills to what we will
and win their hearts with gold to anything.
Come hither, Stitch. This villain and quean
that brought thee hither claim an interest
in my nobility, whenas God knows
my noble father died long since in wars,
being Duke of Mercia then as I am now.
Therefore -- but first to cut off long delays, ... [II.2.80]
I entertain thee for my chamberlain;
and as thou shalt prove secret, trusty, true,
I will reward thee with some higher place.
But first, to try thee, fetch the constable.
Yet stay awhile. They would suspect the truth.
I'll have thee, when thou seest me gone away,
beat these two beggars hence and teach them how
they shall hereafter choose a meaner son.
Wilt thou be trusty, wilt thou cudgel them?

STITCH: Never take care for that; I'll beat them, they ... [II.2.90]
were never better beaten since they were born.

EDRICUS: Aye, do so, Stitch, I prithee beat them well,
hark ye, and see them whipped out of the town,
and if they speak or prattle, curse or rave,
for every word give them ten blows, sweet slave.

EDRICK: Oh son, son, stay!

STITCH: Son, son, with a pestilence. You are much like to be his
father and you his mother. You brought me hither --

EDRICK: Aye.

STITCH: -- and I must beat you hence, and if you desire ... [II.2.100]
to know why, you must hereafter learn to find
a meaner man for your son than my lord is.
[*He beats them about the stage.*]

WIFE: He is my son. Oh! Oh! Oh good Stitch, hold thy hand!. [*Exeunt.*]

Scene II.3

[*Enter Canutus, Archbishop, Edricus, Uskataulf, Swetho.*]

CANUTUS: Then are they gone, 'tis certain they are fled?
Turkillus and Leofric: who would have thought it?
Did I not use them well, gave them good words,
rewarded their endeavors, and besides
graced them as much as any person here?

EDRICUS: You used them but too well, and let me say
your lenity did cause them run away.

CANUTUS: Have we not pledges of their loyalty?

EDRICUS: Ye have, my lord.

CANUTUS: ~~~ Their eldest sons, I think? ... [II.3.10]

EDRICUS: True, but they know you are too merciful.

CANUTUS: They are deceived, for since they have disturbed
the settled solace of our marriage day
and daunted our determined merriments
with causeless flight, to plague their fathers' fact,
I'll lay the treason on their children's back
and make their guiltless shoulders bear the burthen.
Fetch me the pledges, Swetho, and with them
some bloody varlet from the Danish host,
and let him bring an axe, a block and knife ... [II.3.20]
along with him, but do it quickly, Swetho,
and come again as fast.

EDRICUS: What doth your grace intend to do with them?

CANUTUS: I'll cut their hands and noses off.

EDRICUS: Your judgment doth not far enough extend
unto the height of runaways' desert.
Death is too light a punishment for traitors,
and loss of hands and nose is less than death.

USKATAULF: If an honest man had said so, I would
have liked it never the worse. ... [II.3.30]

CANUTUS: This punishment is worse than loss of life,
for it is a stinging corsive to their souls
as often as they do behold themselves
lopped and bereft of those two ornaments
which necessary use doth daily crave.

Again, it giveth others daily cause
to think how traitors should be handled,
whereas the memory of present death
is quickly buried in oblivion,
doing no good but whilst it is in doing. ... [II.3.40]
A traitor may be likened to a tree,
which being shred and topped when it is green,
doth for one twig which from the same was cut
yield twenty arms, yea twenty arms for one,
but being hacked and mangled with an axe,
the root dies and piecemeal rots away.
Even so with traitors. Cut me off their heads,
still more out of the self-same stock will sprout,
but plague them with the loss of needful members
as eyes, nose, hands, ears, feet or any such; ... [II.3.50]
oh these are cutting cards unto their souls,
earmark to know a traitorous villain by,
even as a brand is to descrie a thief.
These desperate persons for example's sake,
these ruffians, these all-daring lusty bloods,
these court appendixes, these madcap lads,
these nothing-fearing hotspurs that attend
our royal court -- tell them of hanging cheer,
they'll say it is a trick or two above ground;
tell them of quartering or the heading axe, ... [II.3.60]
they'll swear beheading is a gallant death,
and he is a dastard that doth fear to die;
but say to them, you shall be branded
or your hands cut off, or your nostrils slit;
then shallow fear makes their quivering tongues
to speak abruptly -- 'rather let us die
than we should suffer this vild ignominy'.
A valiant heart esteemeth light of death,
but honorable minds are jealous of
honorable names, then to be marked, ... [II.3.70]
which robs them of their honors, likewise robs
their hearts of joy; and like to irksome owls,
they will be bashful to be seen abroad.

USKATAULF: Alas, poor souls, it was against their wills
that their hard-hearted fathers broke the league.

EDRICUS: Alas, poor souls, it is against their wills
that they must lose their noses and their hands.
[Enter Swetho, the two pledges, and Stitch with an axe.]

CANUTUS: Come on, gentlemen, 'cause I have found
your fathers trusty as they promised
unto my father and to me; ... [II.3.80]
therefore I mean to make you worthy men
such as the world shall afterward report
did suffer torments for their country's good.
Come on, I say, prepare your visages
to bear the tokens of eternity; prepare
your noses, bid your hands adieu,
because your sires have proved themselves so true.

1 PLEDGE: Rather than this, oh kill us presently;
these being gone, we do abhor our lives,
and having these we loathe to live accursed, ... [II.3.90]
accompted traitors to our native soil.
Suffer us first to try our stripling force
with any giant of your Cyclops' size,
and let our arms fight once before our deaths
to wreak their malice on their masters' foes,
so let us perish like to gentlemen,
like to ourselves, and like to Englishmen.

CANUTUS: Look how cold water cast on burning coals
doth make the fire more fervently to flame;
even so your tears doth add unto my rage ... [II.3.100]
and makes it hotter when it 'gins to cool.
'Tis not my pleasure you should suffer death,
'cause I believe 'twould ease your fathers' griefs;
'tis not my pleasure you should try your powers
so I should give you honors undeserved
and you perchance might so redeem yourselves;
but you shall see our judgments straight performed.
Do execution on them presently!
I'll teach your fathers if they do not know
what 'tis to violate a lawful oath. ... [II.3.110]
I'll teach them what it is to play with kings,
presuming on their mercy: come I say,
what trifle ye? Delay no more the time,
for you must suffer for your fathers' crime.

2 PLEDGE: What sir, must you cut off my hands?

STITCH: Aye, and your noses too, 'twere pity in faith to mar two
such faces. Boys, will you change beards with me?

1 PLEDGE: You shall not touch my nose with those base hands:
by heaven, I'll sooner cut it off myself!

STITCH: You will think a worse pair than these a good ... [II.3.120]
pair ere night. How they'll look when their noses be off!
Everyone will take them for Frenchmen.

CANUTUS: Dispatch, I say, I must not stay so long:
the more you delay the time, the worse you speed.

1 PLEDGE: Give me the axe, I'll quickly execute
this direful judgment on my guiltless hands.

STITCH: With all my heart, you save me a labor.

CANUTUS: Stay, unadvised villain, hold thy hand,
or I will hack thee piecemeal with thy axe.
Why, art thou mad, to give thy enemy ... [II.3.130]
an instrument to kill thyself and me?
Cut off his hands first, then deliver it him. [*He cuts off one hand.*]
So, cut off th'other. [*He cuts off the other hand.*]
Now sir, fight your fill.

1 PLEDGE: Let these my stumps crave vengeance at thy hands,
thou judge of judges and thou king of kings!

CANUTUS: Cut off his nose, then let him pray again:
perchance his praying mitigates his pain. [*He cuts off his nose.*]

1 PLEDGE: Pour thy vengeance on this bloody Dane,
and let him die some unheard monstrous death! ... [II.3.140]

CANUTUS: Make quick dispatch to execute the other.
I am sure you will not now be pardoned?

2 PLEDGE: Not I, thou murdering stony-hearted Dane.
I am resolved to suffer this and more
to do my father or my country good;
they gave me life; for them I'll shed my blood.
[*He cuts off his hands and nose.*]

1 PLEDGE: Now thou hast spit thy venom, bloody king,
we do return defiance in thy face.

CANUTUS: Sirs, temper well your tongues and be advised
if not, I'll cut them shorter by an inch. ... [II.3.150]

Remember that you both have lost your hands
because your father did abuse their tongues
in perjury; go quickly away
and tell your traitorous fathers what I say.

2 PLEDGE: We go but to thy cost, proud Danish Canute,
throughout this isle thy tyranny to bruit.

1 PLEDGE: We go thy cruel butchery to ring.
Oh England, never trust a foreign king. [*Exit pledges.*]

EDRICUS: Ha, ha, ha.

CANUTUS: ~~~ Why laughest thou, Edricus? ... [II.3.160]

EDRICUS: I cannot choose, to see the villains rave.

STITCH: And I must needs laugh to bear my master company.
[*Enter a messenger running.*]

CANUTUS: What news with thee?

MESSENGER: Renowned Canutus, thy forces in the north,
which thou did'st send 'gainst Edmund Ironside,
are clean dispersed and piecemeal overthrown
by him, as these letters signify.
[*Canutus reads and then sayeth*]

CANUTUS: 'Tis wonderful, what, twenty thousand slain
of common soldiers? This unwelcome news
nips like a hoary frost our springing hopes ... [II.3.170]
and makes my fearful soldiers hang their heads.
Come hither, Edricus, void the company
that you and I may talk in secrecy. [*Exit omnes.*]
Ah Edricus, what had I best to do
to raze out this dishonorable blot
out of the brass-leaved book of living fame?
Shall it be said hereafter when report
shall celebrate my noble father's acts
that Canutus did lose what noble Sveynus got?
Shall it be said that Edmund Ironside, ... [II.3.180]
unfriended, poor, forsaken, desolate,
did overthrow the power of mighty Canutus,
whose wealth was great, friends more, but forces most?
Never since Edmund was of force to bear
a massy helmet and a curtle-axe

could I return a victor from the field
unless, as I remember, thou betrayedst
the gallant stripling once into our hands.
Then had not valor hewed him through our troops,
that day had made an end of all our griefs; ... [II.3.190]
but now, what now? Oh tell me if thou knowest
how shall I extrIBUTE my stock and name
that after-age may not report my shame?

EDRICUS: Despair not, noble king, time comes in time.
Know ye not 'tis a deed of policy
in fickle Chance to cross your mightiness,
for else in time you might dismount the queen
and throw her headlong from her rolling stone
and take her whirling wheel into your hand.
I tell your grace, Chance ever envies wise men ... [II.3.200]
and favors fools, promoting them aloft.
But as for this flea-spot of dishonor,
the greatest monarchs have endured more,
even blinking Philip's son, and many more
whose repetition were needless to recite.

CANUTUS: I prithee flatter still, on, on, what more?
Speak we of Fortune, honest sycophant?
Chance favoereth not a fool in favoring thee;
thy flattery is gracious in her eye.
Come hither, Edricus. Oh strange miracle: ... [II.3.210]
see you not in the heavens prodigious signs?
Look how the sun looks pale, the moon shines red,
the stars appear in the perturbed heaven
like little comets, and not twelve o'clock.
What is the cause then, that the stars are seen?

EDRICUS: I see them well, my lord, yet know no cause,
unless it shows the fall of Ironside.

CANUTUS: Surely it doth. Look now, they are all gone.
'Tis night, 'tis dark, beware ye stumble not;
lend me your hand, but first go fetch a torch [*Exit Edricus.*] ... [II.3.220]
to light me to my tent -- make haste I pray.
He's gone to fetch a torch to light the day! [*Enter Edricus.*]

EDRICUS: My lord, the misty vapors were so thick
they almost quenched the torch.

CANUTUS: True as all the rest. I say thy wit is thick.
Gross flattery, all-soothing sycophant,
doth blind thy eyes and will not let thee see
that others see thou art a flatterer.
Amend, amend thy life; learn to speak truth.
For shame do not, in thy declining age -- ... [II.3.230]
Children may see thy lies, they are so plain.
Oh whilst ye live, from flattery refrain.

EDRICUS: It stands not with my zeal and plighted faith
otherwise to say than as your highness saith:
your grace is able to give all their due
to make truth lie and likewise make lies true.

CANUTUS: I would it lay in me to make thee true,
but who can change the Ethiopian's hue? [*Exeunt.*]

ACT III

Scene III.1

[*Enter at one door the Archbishop of Canterbury,
at the other the Archbishop of York.*]

CANTERBURY: Why bends not the presumptuous knee of York
when Canterbury speaks? Cannot the curse
of God and me, the metropolitan
under the Pope of all Dominions
within this realm of England, cause thee fear,
proud, irreligious prelate? Know my power
stretcheth beyond thy compass even as much
as Rome doth mine. Then quiver when I curse,
and like a child indeed prostrate thyself
before my feet, that thy humility ... [III.1.10]
may move me to absolve thy former sins
and set thee free from hell's damnation.

YORK: Traitor to God and to thy lawful king,
where thou dost bless I curse, where curse I bless.
As thou art bishop, my commission
stretcheth as far as thine, and let me say
unless thou leave thy contumelious threats --
further than mine? No, Canterbury, no,
I humble me to God and not to thee.
A traitor, a betrayer of his king, ... [III.1.20]
a rebel, a profane priest, a Pharisee,

a parasite, an enemy to peace,
a foe to truth and to religion:
I say I will not bend myself to him,
and such a one art thou, and therefore hear,
unless repentance bend thy stubborn heart,
I here pronounce the curse of God and man
upon thy soul, and so farewell and mend. [*York offers to depart.*]

CANTERBURY: Stay, York, and hear me speak. Thy puffy words,
thy windy threats, thy railing curses, light ... [III.1.30]
upon thy stubborn neck unless with speed
thou dost forsake the part of Ironside
and cleave unto Canutus; and more, submit thyself
to me thy head, and to our mother church.
Reply not, bishop, for I seal thy lips
with my irrevocable bitter curse
if one untoward word slip from thy tongue.

YORK: So heapest thou coal of fire upon thy head
and blessest me with cursing, impious priest.
Oh let me die whenas I leave my king, ... [III.1.40]
a true-born prince, for any foreigner.

CANTERBURY: Oh I could eat thee. Now my crozier staff
longs to be pelting that old hoary pate.
My hands do quake with rage.

YORK: You are a champion for the devil and Canutus;
I fly not from thy curses but thy strokes. [*Exit York.*]

CANTERBURY: I'll follow thee with curses and with clubs.
[*Exit Canterbury.*]

Scene III.2

[*Enter Canutus, Southampton, Edricus, Uskataulf, Swetho,
herald-at-arms and soldiers.*]

CANUTUS: Go to yon city which we mean to sack:
new Troy, the state of Edmund Ironside;
command a parley at the city gates;
bid them choose whether they will let us in
or else withstand the utmost of our wrath
and be consumed to ashes and to coals
with flaming fire, which whilom did destroy
their mother city, quondam called Troy.

[The herald departeth from the king to the walls sounding his trumpet. The bailiffs appear above.]

HERALD: Canutus, king of England, prince of Danes, greets you by me, his trusty messenger, ... [III.2.10] commanding you to serve him as your lord, bidding you wait on him as on your king, and you shall be entreated lovingly; if not, he is prepared with fire and sword to raze your city. Thus he sends you word.

1 BAILIFF: Go tell your master thus we answer him: his ships that proudly ride upon the Thames shall anchor on the ground where he abides, borne by the bloodshed of our carcasses, and we compelled by thirst to suck the stream ... [III.2.20] of this fair river dry, so that his men may dry-shod march over the floating deeps ere we will let him enter in these gates or ope our lips to call him sovereign. Tell him we are resolved to keep him back; tell him we are no traitors, but are sworn to be King Edmund's liege-men while we live, and if he stay, that shall he soon perceive.

HERALD: Advise you, bailiffs, what is best to do; incur not danger with security. ... [III.2.30] Canutus is your king, then him obey, and to his gentle message say not nay.

BAILIFFS: We are resolved to put Canutus back. He comes not here; his threats are spent in vain.

HERALD: I fear your wills will put your wits to pain and you repent it when it is too late.

1 BAILIFF: You have your answers. Soldiers, guard the gate. *[Bailiffs depart; herald returneth.]*

HERALD: Their answer, good my lord, is negative, full of haughty courage and disdainful pride. This little peace hath brought their stomachs up, ... [III.2.40] which makes them to disdain your princely mercy.

CANUTUS: And dare they thus refuse my proffered grace? Set they so light by my commandment?

Assault the city, batter down the walls,
scale all the turrets, rush the gates asunder --
why slack ye, soldiers? Who is foremost man
to give a valiant onset on the town?
[*Assail the walls. Enter a messenger.*]

MESSENGER: Worthy commander of these warlike troops,
Edmund your foe is coming hitherward
with a choice company of armed men, ... [III.2.50]
intending to surprise you suddenly.

CANUTUS: He is welcome, though I hope unto his cost.
We are beholding to his excellence
that he vouchsafe for safeguard of his town
to yield himself without compulsion.
We are as forward and as fit as he
to give his force an equal counterbuff,
though he suppose to take us unawares.
Now, noble lords, or never, show your might
to put his men to sword and him to flight. ... [III.2.60]

SOUTHAMPTON: He that gives back, let him be slain
by his next fellow that doth second him.
If Englishmen at first begin to fly,
Southampton willingly for them will die.

USKATAULF: This day shall manifestly be known
how Danes have better hearts than Englishmen
and bodies answerable to the same,
else let them lose their everlasting fame.

EDRICUS: The day is yours before the fight begins,
great and renowned prince, fair England's king, ... [III.2.70]
for emulation which doth sometime lose,
now doth assure you of the victory.
See you not how the English lords contend,
who should excel in feats of chivalry
and creep up farthest in your highness' grace?
On th' other side, behold brave-minded Danes,
scorning to o'er-match in feats of arms,
strive who should compass most by power or wit
to amplify your honorable fame.
The soldiers are not slothful in this stir ... [III.2.80]
but ready, forward prompt and fit to fight,
expecting gladly that delightsome hour
when they shall grapple with their enemies.

Then in assurance of this happy day,
arm to the fight; it is in vain to stay.

CANUTUS: I do presume on this to win the field,
but all my striving is to get the crown. [*Sound drum within.*]
Soft, what churlish drum doth ring so rude a peal
within the hearing of our armed troops?
[*Enter Edmund with soldiers.*]
'Tis Edmund! Strike up drums, and trumpets sound! ... [III.2.90]
I'll not delay my hopes with any parley.
[*Alarum. They fight. Edmund drives Canutus off the stage.*
The drum sounds afar off.]

Scene III.3

Enter Chorus, attired in black, saying:]

CHORUS: The fight is hot, but Canutus is o'ercome,
and Edmund hunts him out from place to place.
He flies to Worcester; Edmund follows him.
The way is long, and I am waxen faint.
I fain would have you understand the truth
and see the battles acted on the stage
but that their length will be too tedious;
then in dumb shows I will explain at large
their fights, their flights and Edmund's victory,
for as they strived to conquer and to kill, ... [III.3.10]
even so we strive to purchase your good will.
[*Alarums. Enter Canutus flying, Edmund following.*
They fight. The two kings parley, sound a retreat and part.]
CHORUS: Canutus is beholding to the gracious sun,
who, grieved to see such heaps of carcasses
lie mangled and besmeared in their gore,
made haste and went to rest before his time
so that the kings for want of light agreed
to part until Aurora raise the lark,
and now 'tis morning and they join to fight.
[*Alarum. Enter Canutus at one door and Edmund at the other.*
They fight. Canutus gives back and flies. Enter the soldiers of Edmund
pursuing Canutus and his lords. Edricus takes a dead man's head
upon his sword's point, holding it up to Edmund's soldiers. They fly.
Enter Edmund again, cheering them up, and makes Canutus fly.]
CHORUS: Edricus, perceiving Canutus to have the worst,
and Edmund like to triumph in their fall, ... [III.3.20]
out of the bowels of a traitorous heart,
brought forth this subtle dangerous stratagem.
Whilst the two battles dealt the dole of death

and Edmund in the forefront stoutly fought
with words encouraging his soldiers
and with rude strokes discouraging the Danes,
Edricus took up an English dead man's head,
and sticking it upon his bloody sword
unto the vanward of King Edmund's troops,
held his despiteful and most speedy course, ... [III.3.30]
telling the soldiers Edmund Ironside
was slain, bidding the soldiers yield
or fly the field and trust unto their heels.
The soldiers in amaze began to fly;
then Edmund, hearing of this stratagem,
amongst the thickest of his enemies,
gave notice that he lived a conqueror.
His soldiers, taking heart, returned and fought.
His enemies, despairing, run away.
Edmund returns in triumph on the stage, ... [III.3.40]
but Canutus returns in passion and in rage.
What after happens, with your patience,
the entering actors gives intelligence. [*Exit.*]

Scene III.4

[*Enter Edmund Ironside with lords and soldiers.*]

EDMUND: Praised be the eternal bulwark of this land,
the fortress of my crown, in Whom I trust,
that hath thus discomfited my foes
by His omnipotent all-conquering arm.
And worthy lords, triumphant warriors
whose valors echo through the mouth of fame
and writes you worthies in the book of life
maugre the envy of detraction,
we render hearty thanks to each of you
for fighting in our rights with such bold spirits. ... [III.4.40]
Continue to be valiant, and if God
make us once happy in a peaceful reign,
I'll *guerdon* every soldier bounteously
that lifts a weapon to defend our right.
Let us not *loiter* opportunity,
but follow Danish Canute and force him fly.
On, march afore, sound trumpets, strike up drums,
let shrieking fifes tell Canute that Edmund comes!
[*The soldiers shout and exeunt.*]

Scene III.5

[*Enter Canutus, Edricus, with other lords and soldiers.*]

CANUTUS: A plague upon you all for arrant cowards!
Look how a dunghill cock, not rightly bred,
doth come into the pit with greater grace,
brustling his feathers, setting up his plumes,
clapping his wings and crowing louder out
than doth a cock of game that means to fight;
yet after when he feels the spurs to prick,
crakes like a craven and bewrays himself;
even so my big-boned Danes, addressed to fight
as thought they meant to scale the cope of heaven ... [III.5.10]
and like the giants grapple with the gods,
at first encounter rush upon their foes
but straight retire -- retire? Nay, run away
as men distraught with lightning from above
or dastards feared with a sudden fray.

EDRICUS: Renowned sovereign, do not fret yourself.
Fortune in turning will exalt your state
and change the countenance of her cloudy brow.
Now you must hope for better still and better,
and Edmund must expect still worse and worse. ... [III.5.20]
A low'ring morning proves a fairer day.
Fortune's ill-favored frown shows she will smile
on you and frown on Ironside.

CANUTUS: What tellst thou me of Fortune and her frowns,
of her sour visage and her rolling stone?
Thy tongue rolls headlong into flattery.
Now by these heavens above our wretched heads,
ye are but cowards, every one of you.
Edmund is blessed. Oh had I but his men,
I would not doubt to conquer all the world ... [III.5.30]
in shorter time than Alexander did;
but all my Danes are *Braggadocios*
and I accursed to be the general
of such a flock of fearful runaways.

SOUTHAMPTON: Remember you have lost ten thousand men,
all English-born except a thousand Danes.
Your pensive looks will kill them that survive
if thus to choler you give liberty.

CANUTUS: It were no matter if they all were slain;
then they should never run away again. ... [III.5.40]

USKATAULF: My noble lord, our countrymen are safe.
In all these broils English 'gainst English fight.
The Danes or none or very few are slain.

CANUTUS: [*Turns towards Uskataulf.*]
It was a sign ye fled and did not fight.
Is't not a dishonor unto you
to see a foreign nation fight for me,
whenas my home-bred countrymen do run,
leaving their king amongst his enemies?

EDRICUS: Give not such scope to humorous discontent: ... [III.5.50]
we are all partners of your private griefs;
kings are the heads, and if the head but ache,
the little finger is distempered;
we grieve to see you grieved, which hurteth us
and yet avails not to assuage your grief.
You are the sun, my lord, we marigolds,
whenas you shine we spread ourselves abroad
and take our glory from your influence,
but when you hide your face or darken it
with th' least encounter of a cloudy look, ... [III.5.60]
we close our eyes as partners of your woes,
drooping our heads as grass down-weighed with dew.
Then clear ye up, my lord, and cheer up us;
for now our valors are extinguished
and all our force lies drowned in brinish tears
as jewels in the bottom of the sea.
I do beseech your grace to hear me speak. [*Edricus talks to him.*]

SOUTHAMPTON: I do not like this humor in my son;
'twill quite discourage all his followers.

USKATAULF: He stops his ears to all persuasions; ... [III.5.70]
his council cannot be admitted speech:
his father Sveyn was much more patient
and could as well brook loss as victory.

CANUTUS: These words proceed not from a shallow brain.

EDRICUS: Praise the event, my lord: the end is all.
In the meantime I'll go write to Ironside
craving forgiveness, and insinuate
his yielding favor. He is pitiful,
and I am rare in moving passion.
I know the prince will quickly credit me ... [III.5.80]

and put affiance in my smooth pretense,
but whatso'er he doth or minds to do,
you shall be sure to have intelligence;
but, good my lord, leave me a little while
to private contemplation, for my head
swims full of plots and other stratagems
of great avail, and I must empty it.

CANUTUS: God prosper what thou dost intend.

EDRICUS: Pray to the devil: God is not my friend.
[*Exeunt (Canutus). Manet Edricus.*]
Stitch, what, Stitch, call in Stitch! [*Enter Stitch.*] ... [III.5.90]

STITCH: Here's a stitching indeed, you have made Stitch have a
stitch in his side with coming so hastily after dinner.

EDRICUS: Why, villain, darst thou eat meat in these troublesome times?

STITCH: Dare I eat meat? Aye, and eat Time, be he never so
troublesome. My lord, were Mars himself
made of beef and brewis I durst in
this choleric stomach devour him quick.

EDRICUS: Sure, y'are a tall man.

STITCH: Aye sir, at the end of a fray and beginning of a feast.

EDRICUS: Well, fetch me paper and a cornegraph. ... [III.5.100]

STITCH: A horn-grafter? What's that, sir?

EDRICUS: Sirrah, I mean an inkhorn.

STITCH: You mean well, sir. A blackhorn, you have dipped your
pen in many a man's inkhorn besides your own. [*Exit Stitch.*]

EDRICUS: My state may be compared unto his
that ventures all his credit and his wealth
upon the fickle hazard of a die.
The crown I level at, I venture life,
the dearest jewel and of greatest price
that any mortal hath possession of. ... [III.5.110]
My life is sweet, yet will I venture it
at all or nothing. Trust a mother-wit.
[*Enter Stitch with paper and an inkhorn.*]

STITCH: Here, sir. I would never have men that are unmarried
~~~ so unprovided as they should be  
compelled to borrow horns of young men,  
nor would I have young men to borrow inkhorns of  
married men. Oh, it is perilous when their foreheads  
proves blushing papers to bewray young buds.

EDRICUS: Sirrah, be gone, but be not far from hence.  
I presently shall have occasion ... [III.5.120]  
to employ you in some serious business.

STITCH: I will be absent when you call, I warrant you.  
[*Exit Stitch. Edricus sits down, writeth and blotteth.*]

EDRICUS: Nay, try thy wits, thou writest for a wager;  
'tis not for gold but grace and for thy life,  
a thing that would put spirit in a block  
and be a whetstone to a blunter head.  
With what exordion shall I win his heart?  
How shall I tie his ears to my discourse?  
A schoolboy hath a readier wit than I.  
I never tried my barren sconce till now, ... [III.5.130]  
and now I see I am not Edricus,  
but a most blockish and dull-pated hind,  
graveled at such an easy enterprise.  
What standest thou trifling and delaying time?  
Fetch fire from heaven and mix it with thy ink,  
gather Parnassus' dew and write with that,  
pluck Cyllen's feathers and make pens with them,  
borrow the Muses' aid and let them breathe  
some dulcet and melodious harmony,  
some never-heard-of words into thy pate. ... [III.5.140]  
[*He writeth and blotteth.*]  
Ah, fool, how hard it is to write for life!  
Had I now written for my mistress' love,  
I could have filled my pen and raised my speech  
unto the highest step of flattery.  
Had I now written for another man,  
to save his life or get him into grace,  
why all the world might have given place to me  
for sugared lines and phrases past compare.  
Had I been now in favor with the king  
and had endeavored to flatter him, ... [III.5.150]  
my pen would have distilled golden drops  
and varied terms enchanting Cerberus.  
But now I know not how or what to write.

To flatter were to aggravate my fault,  
for anger would sift out my vild intent.  
Plainly to write were to accuse myself  
and be a witness 'gainst my guilty soul.  
Yet write I will and in the plainest sort,  
for that is cousin-german unto truth,  
*Truth needs no colors. Though I mean to lie, ...* [III.5.160]  
my simple writing shall deceive his eye. [*He writeth and sayeth.*]  
Aye, so. Oh rare-conceited piece of work,  
how cunningly thou canst convert thy shape  
into an angel when thou dost intend  
to flatter the plain honest-meaning king. [*He folds it up.*]  
Now for a swift wing-footed messenger  
to fly in post that I might follow him.  
It more behooves me to be circumspect  
and with my life to trust none but myself.  
Swifter than sure is no good messenger, ... [III.5.170]  
and now I think on't -- oh 'tis excellent --  
I'll for this once deliver it myself,  
but in disguisement of my man's attire,  
so I may safely go and understand  
how Edmund is addicted unto me  
and how all matters now are managed.  
Stitch! Stitch! [*Enter Stitch.*]

STITCH: Your will, sir?

EDRICUS: My will is that you will uncase, for I mean to change apparel.

STITCH: Why sir, you'll not turn wise-man, will you? ... [III.5.180]

EDRICUS: Yes, fool, for this once. Come, I say, when?

STITCH: Marry, sir, when I see some boot coming roundly from  
you, for I promise you I will not change without boot.

EDRICUS: But I will, sirrah; come, dispatch.

STITCH: Well sir, since there is shift but I must change shifts,  
~~~ I am contented.

By my troth, sir, methinks y'are a properer man by odds
in those that ye were in these. I would I could persuade
him to believe me, then it should be known by his
apparel what a fool I have made of him. Sir, shall we
change living and lordship and name and all? ... [III.5.190]

EDRICUS: Aye, Stitch, for this once thou shalt be Lord Edricus and I Stitch. Look you keep in till I come home, I advise you, and behave yourself like a lord.

STITCH: I warrant you, good Stitch, I'll be lordly enough. Farewell, honest Stitch; farewell, fool. [*Exit Stitch.*]

EDRICUS: Now am I Edricus and Edricus' man, the secretary and the messenger, all to effect with counterfeiting guile experiments of matchless policy. Well, this plain suit doth now contain more wit than for so mean a piece of cloth is fit. [*Exit Edricus.*]

Scene III.6

[*Enter Stitch in his lord's attire, with blue-coats after him.*]

STITCH: Come on, ye blue-coated slaves, you that wear satin doublets never but at good times, and wear a blue coat but once in a year; come on, I say, ye trencher-scraping cutters, ye cloak-bag carriers, ye sword and buckler carriers, ye rubbers of horse-heels, ye devourers of fat oxen, ye swillers of March beer; come after me, I say, take example after my virtue how to mount. I proceeding from the loins of a man very little better than a gentleman, am ... [III.6.10] now by my virtue and good education to be your master, your upholders, the staff of your lives and maintainer of your masterships. Uncover, ye rogues! So. Cover! So. Sirrah, take my cloak, bear you my rapier! So. I am somewhat humorous, and it becomes me well. Follow me, follow! How I can play the lords part! Oh what a fool is my master to change his nobility for my worship.

ROGER: 'Blood, sir, or Sir Stitch, you must go in; ... [III.6.20] here's a following! We must wait on you, must we?

STITCH: "Blood, sir, you must go in' -- oh hold me, hold me, I am choleric. Why, ye shake-rag, had ye never a lord under your girdle? Plain Sir Stitch without welt or guard: why, how now, you malapert knave, have ye forgot all good manners?

ROGER: Good manners be your speed.

STITCH: Why, this 'tis to keep familiar serving-man.
As I am a Lord, by my honor I will ... [III.6.30]
revenge it with putting you out of my house.
You fellows, take example by his punishment.
Follow me just three foot behind, not above
or beneath, and Roger Rakehell, for your
sauciness, come you last. [*Exeunt.*]

ACT IV

Scene IV.I

[*Enter Edmund Ironside, Alfric, Godwin, Aylward with Edricus, disguised.*]

EDMUND: What wind doth cause your master write to us?
All is not well, I doubt. Give me the letter.
[*The letter*]
Prepare Perillus' bull to punish me
or some new never-heard-of torturing pain
to scourge me for my foul ingratitude.
Rumor did raise suspicion in my heart,
as it hath lately done within your breast
by some who envied my prosperity,
my love and zeal unto your majesty,
that you were doubtful of my spotless truth ... [IV.1.10]
and meant to cut me off by cutting short
my headless body with a bloody axe.
This on a sudden coming to my ear,
it pared my heart and struck me to the quick,
causing me flee the court to save my life
as sadly as the late-espoused man
grieves to depart from his new-married wife.
How many sighs I fetched at my depart,
how many times I turned to come again,
how oft I plained, how often I did weep, ... [IV.1.20]
were too too long to write or you to read.
But having now considered with myself
my over-light belief too credulous,
I come again like to a strayed sheep
tainted, God wot, with naught but ignorance.
Oh take me to your mercy, or if not so,
kill me yourself! Death is the end of woe.
[*Finis letter.*]

EDMUND: Hear ye, my lords, this humble supplication?
Your master is become an orator, ... [IV.1.30]
but tell him Edmund is not lunatic,
so like a woman to be won with words.

EDRICUS: This cottons [not] according to my mind.
The king is angry. See, he faceth me;
his color comes and goes. I hold my life
he knows me. Would I were well away.

EDMUND: Hark ye, my lords, what would you say
if yon plain fellow should be Edricus?

ALFRIC: I think not so, my lord..

EDMUND: ~~~ I'll quickly know. ... [IV.1.40]
Come hither, fellow. Tell thy master thus --
[He pulls the velvet patch off his face.]
what, Edricus, is't you? I thought no less.
You meant some good, no doubt. Tell me the truth:
what was the reason you came thus disguised?

EDRICUS: Now wit, or never, help. Poor naked truth
hath ta'en away suspicion of deceit.
I need no art; art cannot help me now.
Then plainly thus. Renowned sovereign,
I came thus plainly to your majesty
disguised in clown's attire to sound the truth -- ... [IV.1.50]
what opinion, if good or bad,
you had of me; and if I found it good,
I had determined to bewray myself;
if otherwise, I meant with secret speed
to leave my native country and to exile
myself from England, sailing into Spain,
whereas I meant in contemplation,
in pilgrimage and prayers for your grace
to end my life. *[Enter a messenger, running.]*

MESSENGER: Haste, haste, King Edmund, to relieve thy land, ... [IV.1.60]
which is oppressed by multitudes of Danes.
They swarm along thy coasts like little gnats
over a river in a summer's night,
or like to bees when they begin to flight:
so comes these Danes prepared fit to fight.
Their battle-main of three-score thousand men
with bristle-pointed spears which upright stand

shows like a new-shred grove of ashes tall
or else a wood of pines and cedars small.
Their flags and banners, yellow, blue and red, ... [IV.1.70]
resembles much the weeds in ripened corn.
Their drums and trumpets, with a dreadful sound
of clashing armor and fire-breathing steeds,
sounds like the fearful thunder sent from heaven,
mixed with Aeolus' boist'rous northern breath.
They prey upon thy subjects cruelly,
like hungry tigers upon silly kids,
sparing not ancient men for reverence,
nor women for [their] imbecility,
nor guiltless babes for their unspotted life, ... [IV.1.80]
nor holy men, their madness is so rife.

EDMUND: A sunshine day is quickly overcast.
A springing bud is killed with a blast.
I see my state is fickle and unsure;
there is nothing in this world can firmly dure.
Yet courage, lords, we were and are the same;
our hearts are sound, our bodies are not lame;
then let not fear dismay your warlike might.
God fights for us, God will defend the right.
Base Edricus, thou wert the fatal crow ... [IV.1.90]
that by thy horrid voice this news did show
thou cam'st to gain with cursed treachery
the surname of vild nickname -- 'Policy'.
Right did I think whenas the fox did preach,
he meant to get a goose within his reach;
right did I guess, when with thy oily speech,
thou did'st my pardon and my grace beseech,
some mischief was abroach. But God above
doth always at a pinch my patron prove,
and we have now learned, though to our bale, ... [IV.1.100]
not to believe each smooth-face forged tale.

EDRICUS: Now, my most gracious lord, as God shall help me,
my coming was only for this intent:
to unfold Canutus' coming and bewray
matters of secret to your majesty,
counsels of great avail, rare stratagems
plotted by Canutus, which now shall die with me
if you seem any whit suspicious.

EDMUND: I prithee hark, let me hear some of them.
[*Edricus talketh with Edmund secretly. Alfric pulls him back.*]

ALFRIC: Traitor, darst thou presume ... [IV.1.110]
to speak unto thy sovereign? Good my lord,
as God shall help me, you will be entrapped.

EDRICUS: Traitor? Remember this: malice hath a perfect memory.

EDMUND: Alfric, you are to blame: you do forget yourself.
Age makes ye dote, know I not what to do
without your telling? Go to, hold your peace.

AYLWARD: Alfric, your comb is cut, yet will I speak.
King, I am sworn to counsel thee aright;
and though I die, I will not hold my tongue.
Remember he hath often broke his faith ... [IV.1.120]
and fled away from you; remember too
he comes from Canutus, thy utter enemy;
remember he is a traitorous flatterer,
a villain, and a damned hypocrite.

EDMUND: Peace, Aylward, hold your tongue:
my youth in some things overruns your age;
'tis policy to grant him audience,
nay further, grace, may further, if he craves
perhaps the leading [of] our army too.
For thus I think it stands: he hath promised Canutus, ... [IV.1.130]
having the leading of our forces
to yield to him, seeming as though compelled,
having first given an onset on the foe
for color's sake. But we will over-match him,
for whilst the force of Canute, on policy
retires by Edric's drift, then we will take
the opportunity and rush with speed
upon his troops, who unprepared to fight
and trusting upon Edric's policy, ... [IV.1.140]
shall all come prey unto our soldiers.
How like you this?

ALFRIC: ~~~ It cannot hap amiss.

EDMUND: Come hither, Edricus. [*They whisper. Edmund saith*]
~~~~~ I'faith, you lie. [*They whisper again.*]  
Tut, tut, it cannot be. [*They whisper again.*]  
If this be true, I pardon thee for all  
and will reward thee with deserved grace.  
I will not doubt it, faith, I think 'tis true  
though it were not, in hope thou wilt amend.

Go, let us in and let all quarrels end, ... [IV.1.150]  
for now I mean indeed to credit thee  
by being captain-general of my army.

EDRICUS: Duty and thanks I give, 'tis all I have.  
[*Aside.*] See what dissimulation brings to pass,  
how quickly I can make the king an ass. [*Exeunt.*]

## Scene IV.2

[*Enter Emma, her two sons Alfred and Edward in each hand,  
Gunthranus going before.*]

EMMA: Sweet boys, born to be crossed before your time,  
oh let me kiss you ere you go away.  
Cursed be the cause of your departing thus,  
the persecution of these bloody Danes,  
whose unrelenting eyes delight to see  
the full conclusion of our tragedy.

ALFRED: Good mother, sorrow not though we depart:  
we shall be welcome to our uncle Richard  
and safer there than in this troubled isle,  
which like the reeling sea is tossed with war. ... [IV.2.10]  
Here we are ever in continual broils;  
there in tranquility, in peace and rest;  
here in the midst of unknown enemies;  
there in the arms of true-approved friends;  
here danger imminent doth compass us;  
there friends and friendly counsel shall defend us;  
therefore rejoice we are escaped the Danes,  
whose greedy maws devours the Saxons' blood  
like hungry lions, void of any good.

EMMA: Good boy, in whom thy father's feature lives, ... [IV.2.20]  
though death hath seized him in his wasteful arms.  
If I could moderate my grieved mind  
without remembrance what ere now I was,  
then should my grief diminish with my tears;  
but memory, the afflicter of the soul,  
bids me remember how I was a Queen,  
how Ethelredus was my lawful lord,  
how Normand's Duke was my renowned sire,  
how England was my pleasure's paradise,  
and how time was when time did wait on me. ... [IV.2.30]  
All these are but bellows to the fire  
to burn my heart, consumed afore with sighths.

Alfred, Ned, is a child: thou art of age  
to take example by my misery  
not to believe foul fortune's flattery.

EDWARD: Good mother, weep not; if ye do, I'll cry.

EMMA: Ah, my pretty heart,  
hast thou a feeling of my passion?  
Then I will weep the more to ease my heart;  
I'll mourn for thee, for him, and for myself, ... [IV.2.40]  
for England and for Edmund Ironside,  
whose part God prosper, heaven defend the right.

GUNTHRANUS: Madam, your helpless tears are but a means  
to draw more tears from us to drown our hearts.

EMMA: Why, man, I weep to ease and not to load.  
I trow the more I shed, the less I have;  
and as my tears waste, so my cares consume.  
To dam my eyes were but to drown my heart  
like Hecuba, the woeful Queen of Troy,  
who having no avoidance for her grief, ... [IV.2.50]  
ran mad for sorrow 'cause she could not weep;  
but, good Gunthranus, to omit vain talk,  
since I have heretofore approved thy faith,  
I make a choice of thee amongst the rest  
of many friends to guide my little boys  
and to conduct them into Normandy.  
Entreat my brother for to entreat them well;  
they are his nephews and his sister's joy.  
If anything amiss should light on them,  
the same on me should be redoubled. ... [IV.2.60]

GUNTHRANUS: Madam, even by the living God I vow  
I will attend and watch them as my soul,  
knowing Duke Richard will accompt of them  
as nigh of blood unto his royal self.

EMMA: Then farewell, boys, the comfort of my life.  
[*They offer to depart.*]  
Yet come again, ye shall not so depart.  
If that we die, we'll choose to die together:  
dying or living, we will be together.  
Fond woman, bless them and then let them go;  
that is the safest way to keep them safe: ... [IV.2.70]  
then farewell again. God bless you both. [*They offer to depart.*]

But soft awhile, I have not said my mind.  
First let me wash your face in mother's tears,  
then sob out sighs to overload the earth  
and cast a misty fog upon the air, [*She embraceth them.*]  
that no inquiring foe may find you out.  
Oh let your sanctuary be my lap,  
[*She sits down, setting Edward on her knee and Alfred on her arm*]  
your refuge, your sepulchers and your graves.  
A cradle fits you better than a ship.

GUNTHRANUS: See, see Dame Nature's operation, ... [IV.2.80]  
what force it breeds within a mother's mind.  
None feels a mother's sorrow but a mother.  
This Queen hath not her peer upon the earth  
for wisdom, suffering, and for patience,  
for cloaking sorrow and dissembling grief  
and bearing all things with a constant mind;  
yet can she not conceal affection so,  
but that it breaketh forth like hidden fire. [*Emma riseth.*]

EMMA: Fie, fie, hide Nature's fond indulgency.  
Depart, sweet boys. God keep you in your way. [*They offer to depart.*]  
Come hither, Alfred. Ned, I prithee, stay. ... [IV.2.90]  
I will go with you to the foaming haven  
and take my farewell of my darlings there. [*Exeunt omnes.*]

### Scene IV.3

[*Enter Canutus with a letter in his hand, with him Uskataulf, Swetho, Southampton, Archbishop of Canterbury, Egina, with soldiers.*]

CANUTUS: Courage, brave captains, conquest is at hand.  
This letter comes from trusty Edricus  
and certifies me that he is in grace  
with Edmund Ironside, and how he leads  
the vanguard of the prince's army.  
Now he assures me of the victory  
without the loss of many soldiers,  
for he will disappoint the warlike youth  
and flee to us, leaving him desolate;  
wherefore, brave soldiers, put forth all your might ... [IV.3.10]  
to quail their stomachs at the first approach.  
He that doth take the prince in fight or flight  
shall have his ransom and [be] dubbed a knight.

1 SOLDIER: I'll venture hard to make Joan my wife a lady.

2 SOLDIER: The king shall 'scape my fingers narrowly.

1 SOLDIER: Mass, if I had steel sides as he hath Ironsides,  
I would gore him then, that I would.

4 SOLDIER: What if [I] miss the king, I'll have a duke,  
an earl, a lord, a knight or gentleman.

SOUTHAMPTON: Or nobody, and then you'll hit it. ... [IV.3.20]

Tell not your chickens, sirs, ere they be hatched,  
perchance the eggs are rotten in the nest;  
then all your brooding hopes is cast away,  
and you remain as rich as new-shorn sheep.

I never loved to gain by treachery,  
for that again was lost by treachery.

I do remember hardy Hannibal  
did use these words at won Tarentum's loss:

*Eadem arte qua prius coepimus  
Tarentum omisumus ...* [IV.3.30]

Fraud won Tarentum, fraud Tarentum lost,  
so Hannibal reaps his labor for his cost.

[*The drums sound afar off.*]

CANUTUS: So, Edmund, so thou comst unto thy cost.

Thy roaring drum presageth thy mishap,  
ringing thy soul's knell with a hollow voice.

As thine doth mourn, so let our drum rejoice.

[*The drums sound. Enter Edmund with Edricus, other  
lords and soldiers. They fight, Canutus gives et exeunt.*]

#### **Scene IV.4**

[*Enter at one door Canutus and at th' other Edricus.*]

CANUTUS: Edricus!

EDRICUS: My lord! Hie, cheer your flying troops  
and bid them stay a while for victory.

Whenas you see me lead my men aloof,  
then take occasion and assail the prince;  
and I'll be absent when he needs me most  
and present for your best avail. Make haste.

CANUTUS: How much I love thee, Edricus, heavens do know,  
and I with gifts one day will manifest. [*Exit Canute.*]

EDRICUS: So, Edric, now thy plotform is afoot, ... [IV.4.10]  
and one shall die; it skills no matter which.  
If Edmund, Canute shall quickly follow him;  
If Canute, then Edmund shall not stay behind.  
Whilst they with eager blows assail each other,  
I here remain a neuter, free from fear,  
not taking part with Canute, not Ironside,  
before I see who gets the victory.  
Yet had I rather have Canutus conquer  
and privily will aid him with supplies  
rather than Edmund should escape the field. ... [IV.4.20]  
*[Alarm. Enter Edmund chasing off Canutus. Edricus backs Canutus.  
Edmund flies. Exeunt and return, Canutus with Edricus.]*

CANUTUS: Thanks, worthy Edric, for this victory.  
This day had made an end of me and mine,  
hadst thou not backed us with thy warlike troops.  
Know ye Edmund be escaped or no?

EDRICUS: Edmund is gone, and I must after him.  
To stay long here would breed suspicion.  
Then mighty Canute, live long a conqueror;  
and when thou hast the crown, remember me.

CANUTUS: If I forget thee, God forget my suit  
when like a sinner I do humbly pray. ... [IV.4.30]  
Forget thee, Edric? God above doth see  
how good a heart I ever bore to thee.

EDRICUS: Then, noble Canutus, I pawn a soldier's faith.  
By my best blood and by my after-hopes,  
I will remain to thee and to thy heirs  
as true, as false to Edmund Ironside.  
Let us not linger here. Muster your men  
and make them ready for a new assault.  
I will to Edmund and excuse myself,  
and how I served him now I'll serve him then. *[Exeunt.]*

## ACT V

### Scene V.I

*[Enter Edmund Ironside, Alfric, Ulfkettle, Godwin, others.]*

EDMUND: Vild Edricus, all this proceeds from him;  
I saved his life, and he doth thirst for mine.

Ungrateful wretch, hellish incarnate devil!  
For sure no man was ever so unkind  
unto his king and loving countrymen.  
Disloyal and unfaithful sycophant,  
it grieves my vexed soul to think on thee.

ALFRIC: Let it not grieve you, rather joy to think  
you are escaped from the hands of him  
that sought like Judas to betray his lord ... [V.1.10]  
into the hands of bloodthirsty Danes.

ULFKETTLE: Surely, my lord, you are highly favored  
of God, who sees each human action,  
that he hath given you warning with small loss  
of the contagious mind of Edricus.  
[*Enter Edricus with his hand in a scarf, halting, with him Stitch.*]

STITCH: Master, I would not wish you halt.

EDRICUS: Why so?

STITCH: Marry, sir, you know Alfric is a cripple and  
the proverb is *'tis ill halting before a cripple.*  
*He'll perceive it.* ... [V.1.20]

EDRICUS: Had he as many [eyes] as Juno's bird,  
or could pierce millstones with his searching sight,  
he (by his leave) should not my halting find.  
I halt not in the thigh but in the mind.  
-- All hail unto my gracious sovereign!

STITCH: Master, you'll bewray yourself, do you say  
'all hail' and yet bear your arm in a scarf? That's hale indeed.

EDRICUS: All hail unto my gracious sovereign!

EDMUND: Judas, thy next part is to kiss my cheek  
and then commit me unto Caiaphas. ... [V.1.30]

EDRICUS: I understand not what your highness means.

EDMUND: Oh heavens, oh impudent, ungodly wretch!

EDRICUS: I hope your grace doth not exclaim on me.

EDMUND: On thee? Hence, graceless wretch, grace me no more.  
Is there none here that will lay hold on him?  
His sight, his breath, his fell infectious tongue  
is venomous than is the Basilisk's.

EDRICUS: Is this a guerdon for my scars and hurts,  
for all my bruises and my broken joints?  
Is this a hire for my hardiness ... [V.1.40]  
and valiant onset on the enemies?  
Are these my wages which I won with blood,  
blood of myself and proudest Dane that fought?  
Doth Edmund thus reward his followers  
that pawn their lives for him and in his cause?  
Then bootless have I skirmished so long  
and sent so many Danes unto their graves;  
in vain have I lift up my wasting arm  
and brandished my falchion o'er thy foes;  
in vain this curtle-axe was reared aloft, ... [V.1.50]  
which made a lane throughout thy foemen's troops;  
in vain my lance did overthrow and spoil;  
in vain I live, to be requited thus.

STITCH: In vain -- what a vain vein my master is in!

EDMUND: Did'st thou not fly, vild traitor, to my foe?

EDRICUS: Who, I?

EDMUND: Even thou.

EDRICUS: Thus forward friends are quitted with suspect;  
thus envy blasts the well-deserving wight;  
thus the unskillful blames the warrior; ... [V.1.60]  
thus, thus, detraction hinders virtuous course.  
Fled I, my lord? Canutus can report  
'twas he that should have fled had succor come.  
Fled I, my lord? Your eyes were witnesses  
how far my heart was free from dastard flight;  
but this it is to be a man-at-arms  
when his desert is recompensed with hate  
and resolution wronged with ignorance.  
For shame, my lords, spurn not against the truth;  
thirst not to drink the blood of innocents. ... [V.1.70]

EDMUND: Why, Edricus, can'st thou deny thy flight?

EDRICUS: No, gracious lord, I must confess I fled,  
forced from Canutus, not to him, for aid;  
and that 'tis true, I by your grace's leave  
will prove on him that dares affirm a no.

EDMUND: I saw thee flee myself with these my eyes.

ULFKETTLE: And I, my lord, am witness to the same.

GODWIN: And I, my lord, will prove it, by your favor.

EDRICUS: I would the king would give me leave to speak.

STITCH: And you will prove them blind, I hold my life. ... [V.1.80]

EDMUND: I give thee leave: speak for thyself and spare not.

EDRICUS: Seeing your grace so forward to the fight,  
viewing the Dane to march so bravely on,  
pricked forth with shame, I as the foremost man  
(not suffering the Dane to set on us  
or to approach your grace without a blow)  
stepped forth intending to encounter them  
and to assail the rearward with my band  
till you upon the forefront held them play;  
but see how good intents are ever thwarted. ... [V.1.90]  
Ere I could get the wind to compass them,  
your drums' retreat did cause your forces flee;  
yet fled not I a foot until such time  
as quite bereft of hope I was compelled.  
Witness this arm, this serviceable arm,  
that in despite of death did save my life:  
witness these scars, which if your grace will see,  
they'll tell my foes unto their face they lie.

STITCH: Oh horrible scars, scars like blazing stars,  
well counterfeited, master. ... [V.1.100]

EDMUND: If this be true, I was too credulous.

EDRICUS: If it be true, my lord? Assure yourself  
your grace was misinformed if otherwise,  
and that my man can verify.

STITCH: Take heed what ye say, master: I can verify nothing. Marry, I can verify anything. If you'll say so, I'll swear to it, that 'tis false, I mean.

EDMUND: Then, Edricus, 'twas I that wronged thee and I that will in all things make amends.  
Bury unkindness in oblivion ... [V.1.110]  
and ne'er remember our suspicion.

EDRICUS: 'Twas not your highness but some fawning mate that put mistrust into your grace's head, hoping by my downfall to raise himself; but heavens defend the wronged innocent.

EDMUND: Let this suffice, thou hast confirmed our love, and Edricus, we mind to honor thee with public notice of thy loyalty.

EDRICUS: See, see, what wit and will can bring about. Canutus pays me for my villainy, ... [V.1.120]  
and Edmund loves me for my treachery.

STITCH: Give a man luck and cast him over the gallows. [*Exeunt omnes.*]

## Scene V.II

[*Enter Canutus reading of letter. With him Southampton, Archbishop of Canterbury, Egina, Uskataulf and Swetho with soldiers.*]

CANUTUS: My lord, my heart is firmly bound to you, and I am pressed to do you any service; but Edmund is grown strange to me of late, and I am not familiar with his thoughts. When I have once regained opinion, I will not fail to be your faithful agent; in meantime make ye strong to hold him play, for he is coming with a mighty power. By'r lady, this goes hard, these news are naught. Is Edmund now grown wary? Then I doubt ... [V.2.10]  
I ne'er shall see the day I long have sought; but I must bear a semblance of good news, lest these perceive our hopes to falter; and that would clean discourage all their hearts, for all presume on Edric's policy.

SOUTHAMPTON: Son, is't good news?

CANUTUS: ~~~ My lord, exceeding good.

EGINA: Give me the letter.

CANUTUS: ~~~ Not for all the world.  
I dare not trust myself with reading it ... [V.2.20]  
lest I, o'er-cloyed with joy, should play the blab.  
Let this suffice: I am now confident  
upon sure-grounded confirmations  
that Edmund is my own. He writes to me  
that he is coming with a mighty host,  
but [saith he] be not you discomfited,  
for were they millions, half should fight for you  
and turn their weapons upon Ironside.

SOUTHAMPTON: 'Tis strange the prince should be so credulous.  
[*The drum sounds far off.*]

CANUTUS: Yon drum doth tell us Edmund Ironside, ... [V.2.30]  
unwitting of his overthrow at hand,  
comes gallantly attended on by troops  
of horse and footmen to his funeral.  
Oh that thou knewst thy dying day so nigh,  
That thou mightest make thee fit to go to God.  
In faith it grieves [me] at the very heart  
to see him come so unprepared for death.  
[*Enter Edmund, Emma, Archbishop of York, Edricus, Alfric,  
Godwin, Aylward, Ulfkettle, Leofric and Turkillus.*]

EDMUND: Behold where Canute comes marching bravely on.  
Methinks yon sight would make a sick man sound. ... [V.2.41]  
[*They march along the stage, one after another.*]  
Canutus!

CANUTUS: Edmund!

EDMUND: The ground thou standst upon is Ironside's.

CANUTUS: The ground I stand on, Edmund, is mine own,  
fallen to me not successively indeed,  
but by forfeiture as copyhold,  
rent-run and wanting reparations,  
falls to the lord. Even so thy father's land,  
for want of tribute-paying long since due,  
I seize upon as lord to thee and that.

EDMUND: But for thou shalt perceive that Edmund can ... [V.2.50]  
temper the unruly stomach of his rage  
and moderate his lusty youthful blood,  
which springs through every vein to fly at thee,  
not half these words without controlling strokes  
should from thy lips have vomited their spleen.  
Oh, how my heart beats! Much ado I have  
to make it quiet till I answer thee.  
Art thou the lord of me and of my land?  
Uncivil Canutus, knowest thou to whom thou speakest?  
This heart scorns all subjection, ... [V.2.60]  
and this head looks o'er the world; these feet  
were made to tread o'er kings, Canutus, over thee.  
Nay, storm not, Canutus. Learn how to mix thy speech  
with more beseeching terms, and govern thou  
thy surly terms with reason, not with rage.  
I say I am a king: so art not thou;  
therefore I am thy better. I say more --  
I have a kingdom: this I stand upon  
is mine. Thou standst upon my ground.  
I say this land is mine, Canutus, it is mine. ... [V.2.70]

CANUTUS: By usurpation thine, by conquest mine.  
Who knows not conquest is inheritance?

EDMUND: So rape and theft is true possession  
if malefactors go unpunished.

CANUTUS: It seems indeed possession is of force,  
for by possession you withhold my crown.

EDMUND: Nay, you and Sveyn your gripple-minded dad,  
by treason, not by force of valiant arms,  
against all justice, law and equity,  
did first intrude yourselves and then extrude ... [V.2.80]  
our woeful subjects from their native home,  
and that I come to prove, and therefore thus -- [*He draweth.*]

CANUTUS: Then to confute thy forged argument,  
thus argue I; my sword is reason's proof. [*He draweth.*]

EDMUND: That is, of force to put back reason's proof,  
which proves you, like your sword, unreasonable.  
[*They train their soldiers (about) the stage. Edricus speaketh.*]

EDRICUS: Edmund is strong, Canutus is weak in [part],  
Edmund gracious in the people's eyes;  
Canutus is not so, what had I best to do?  
Fain would I have Canutus win, and he is weak; ... [V.2.90]  
I would have Edmund lose, and he is strong.  
Oh gracious stars, inspire my nimble wit  
with some device, and as I ever have,  
I will employ it to some villainy.  
Soft, let me see -- oh, it is excellent!  
Fountain of wit, the spring of policy,  
the flower of treason and of villainy.  
How much undecent is it that this cap,  
this homely cape should overload this crow  
when thou deservest a crown of beaten gold. ... [V.2.100]  
But to the matter. So it needs must fadge,  
for can I bring them to a single fight,  
whosoever hath the better, yet shall I  
be gracious in his eye, as who should say  
I was the causer of his victory.  
Besides, I shall insinuate myself  
into the bosom of opinion  
and be esteemed my country's buckler.  
Well, I'll about it, meaning no man good  
but that my speech may shed king Edmund's blood. ... [V.2.110]  
*[The armies make towards one another when Edricus standing  
between sayeth]*

EDRICUS: Renowned Edmund, first I speak to thee.  
Let these my words, proceeding from true zeal,  
beg at thy ears a little audience;  
and worthy Canutus, sheathe up thy slaught'ring sword  
till I have spoke my mind, that all may see  
my words proceed from perfect piety.

EDMUND: Edricus, be brief.

CANUTUS: Go to, I'll stay a little, but be not tedious.

ALFRIC: When the fox preaches, then beware the geese.

EDRICUS: What strive you for, imperious Ironside? ... [V.2.120]  
Renowned Canutus, what do you level at?  
We daily to appease your mortal wars  
offer our slaughtered bodies to the sword,  
yet neither of you have the upper hand.  
Today he that was foiled tomorrow foils;

he that even now did faintly sound retreat  
renews again the fight with double force:  
thus in quandaries hangs the victory  
and wavering fortune frowns and smiles on both.  
Canutus is not to be overcome ... [V.2.130]  
because his brother Sveyn doth succor him;  
and Edmund likewise is invincible,  
for force and valor hews him through his foes.  
What then is the' end of this your endless grudge?  
None other but when all your men be slain,  
you then must fight alone or else accord,  
and he that then is king shall rule no men  
nor govern nations, for consuming war  
will quite devour this solitary isle,  
not leaving any over whom to rule ... [V.2.140]  
nor to resist foreign invasions.  
If love of kingdoms be the cause of this,  
suppress the boiling of your haughty minds;  
you have approved your soldiers' forwardness,  
then now at last shake hands and join in league;  
agree like noble kings and part the land;  
have now compassion of this little isle,  
whose soil is manured with carcasses  
and made a sea with blood of innocents;  
but if your emulation be so great ... [V.2.150]  
that either scorns to have competitors  
and brook not equals in your dignities,  
fight then alone that would be kings alone:  
let not all perish for the wills of two,  
but let your swords decide whose title's best.

EDMUND: Edric, thou hitst the mark I level at.  
Thy counsel, coming from a zealous heart,  
fits in all points our expectation.  
Know I accept thereof and offer here  
to prove even hand in single fight ... [V.2.160]  
which of us two shall wear the diadem.

CANUTUS: Edmund, *Report shall never whet her tongue  
upon Canutus to eternize thee.*  
I scorn to stain my reputation  
with abject titles of pale cowardice  
to make thee famous in opinion's mouth.  
I here accept thy challenge and his speech,  
glad of so fit a time to be revenged  
for all those foul dishonors thou hast done

and glad for sparing of that guiltless blood ... [V.2.170]  
which in our quarrels this day had been shed.  
Oh, had this day been but a year ago,  
many a tall man had been now alive,  
many a salt tear had been now unshed  
by father's for their son's unhappy deaths,  
by mothers for their children's wretched ends  
and widows for their husbands' timeless want;  
but I am glad this long-expected hour  
at last is come.

EGINA: ~~~ My lord, you shall not fight. ... [V.2.180]

CANUTUS: My lady, but I will. Will you fight for me?  
Give her my sword and shield.  
[*Edmund and Emma talks together. Edmund turns away.*]

EMMA: Yet hear me, good my lord.  
Will you on whom the state doth sole depend  
our welfare, all the realm's, your friends, and kinsfolk,  
hazard the loss of all upon the chance  
of fickle fortune, since the better man  
is sooner killed by over-hardiness  
than an advised coward? Good my lord,  
it is undecent you should fight with him, ... [V.2.190]  
being no king nor having aught to lose.

EDMUND: Madam, his life is even to him as dear  
as mine to me. Besides, he is a prince  
of noble blood and high-resolved spirit;  
and if he were not, yet my cause being good  
and justice on my side, I would not fear --  
nay, could not with my honor but accept  
the speech of Edric and in single fight  
approve my title lawful, good and right.  
Then madam, be content, and you shall see ... [V.2.200]  
the God in whom I trust will succor me.  
Were he Goliath, I the little king,  
I would not fear, him on his knees to bring;  
but he hath rather cause to doubt of me,  
I being big and far more strong than he.  
[*Egina talks with Canutus, Canutus turns away.*]

CANUTUS: I had rather fight with him than scold with you.

EGINA: I cannot speak but straight you say I scold.

CANUTUS: Then, sweeting, you must learn your tongue to hold.  
Nay, now you'll blubber. Go to, take this kiss  
and pray for me. Why stay you, Ironside? ... [V.2.210]

EDMUND: Because I think thou art not fit to die,  
but rather with Egina fit to cry.  
My lords, I do command you, for your lives,  
None be so hardy as to succor me  
or to approach us ere the fight be done;  
but if I die to make my sepulcher  
even in the place whereas I took my death,  
setting my crown upon Canutus' head  
and do to him as to your sovereign.

CANUTUS: Even so, brave followers, I will you do ... [V.2.220]  
to Edmund here if Edmund conquer me.  
Sound drums and trumpets with your warlike noise!  
Either begin my joy or end my joys.  
*[The trumpets sound. The armies do compass the two  
kings in the midst. They fight.]*  
Stay, hold thy hand, I prithee, breathe awhile.

EDMUND: Not till thou yieldst or dies.  
*[Edmund draws Canutus about.]*

CANUTUS: Stay, Edmund,  
'tis not for I fear thy fortitude  
that thus I crave thee stay, but that I want  
the use of breath to prosecute the fight.

EDMUND: Then breathe awhile: I give thee leave to rest. ... [V.2.230]

EDRICUS: I fear Canutus will be overcome;  
then shall I wish my tongue, the cause thereof  
had been cut out when it began to speak,  
for I desire to drink king Edmund's blood  
because he ever sought to do me good.

SOUTHAMPTON: Egina, be content. I warrant you, aye  
Canutus will do well enough.

EGINA: ~~~ I fear him much.

EDMUND: What, are ye ready?

CANUTUS: ~~~ Aye, to be thy death. ... [V.2.240]  
[*They fight again. Edmund drives Canutus back about the stage.*]  
Stay, Edmund, stay, Canutus yields to thee.

EDRICUS: What, will he basely yield? The devil forfend.

CANUTUS: Take which of these thou wilt, my hand or sword:  
my hand brings friendship firm, immovable;  
my sword brings enmity irrevocable.

EDMUND: Brave Canutus, in yielding thou hast won.  
That which thy sword could never do,  
thy tongue hath brought to pass by gentle speech.  
Canutus, take my hand; here lies my sword.  
Edmund is thine, his thine, himself and all; ... [V.2.250]  
now let us strive who shall demerit best  
by mutual kindness who shall be termed a friend.

CANUTUS: How pleasant are these speeches to my ears,  
Aeolian music to my dancing heart,  
Ambrosian dainties to my starved maw,  
sweet-passing Nectar to my thirsty throat,  
rare cullises to my sick-glutted mind,  
refreshing ointments to my wearied limbs,  
and heavenly physic to my earth-sick soul,  
which erst was surfeited with woe and war. ... [V.2.260]

EDMUND: Let me embrace thee, war-begotten friend. [*They embrace.*]  
God grant as brothers we may long embrace  
and, sweet Egina, for thy husband's sake,  
in sigh of love, this kiss from Edmund take. [Edmund kisses Egina.]  
But, lords, why stand you still, grieve you to see  
Canutus and your king so well agree?

ALFRIC: The inward solace which our hearts conceive  
to see peace grow where foul debate was sown,  
to see sweet concord spring from discord's womb,  
to see war bring forth love and amity, ... [V.2.270]  
to see two mortal foes prove faithful friends,  
and Mars drink milk instead of purple blood,  
doth force our tongues, our hearts' chief orators,  
to show with silence joy unspeakable.  
Yet, lords, behold, even as you do embrace,  
so in dumb shows we all unite our hearts. [*The lords embrace.*]

TURKILLUS: Remember, Leofric, our children's loss.

LEOFRIC: Turkillus, I do, and must serve the time  
and wait upon occasion for revenge.  
A day of mirth begins a woeful year, ... [V.2.280]  
as sudden storms do follow sunshine clear.

EDMUND: Now, noble lords, let us like friends consult  
upon partition of this noble isle.  
Yourself shall choose which part you think is best:  
the east or west, the right hand or the left.  
My court is yours, my counselors are yours,  
my friends your friends, thy foe my enemy,  
my people yours, my treasure and myself  
all are your own, for you shall all command.

CANUTUS: Thanks, noble brother and my second self. ... [V.2.290]  
In all thy acts thou dost excel thyself.  
Foul shame on them that are thy enemies,  
and vengeance light on them that think thee ill.

EDMUND: Go [we] unto our coasts and feast us there,  
and there conclude an everlasting peace.  
Sound drums and trumpets! Here ends [woeful war].  
Thus hand in hand and heart in heart we go.

EDRICUS: And I for one. 'Tis meet it should be so.  
[*Aside.*] Thus wise men can dissemble what they think,  
and till occasion fits them, sleeping wink. ... [V.2.300]  
But I have sworn and I will keep my vow,  
By heaven Ill be revenged on both of you.

[*They go hand in hand out of the stage, Edricus leading the drum.*]

FINIS

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## Glossary & Appendices

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### APPENDIX I - Glossary

(FS means found in Shakespeare; NFS means not found in Shakespeare)

**abroach** (a): astir. FS (2-Rich3, R&J); Lodge Wounds; Harvey Sonnet 8; (anon.) Ironside, Locrine, Weakest Goeth to the Wall.

**affiance** (n): trust, confidence. FS (2H6, H5, Cymb); (anon.) Ironside.

**basilisk** (n, adj): A fabulous reptile, ... alleged to be hatched by a serpent from a cock's egg; ancient authors stated that its hissing drove away all other serpents, and that its breath, and even its look, was fatal. FS (5-2H6, 3H6, Rich3, WT, Cymb); Watson Hek; Lodge Wounds; Lyly Woman ... Moon; Nashe Penniless , Anatomy of Absurdity; (anon.) Locrine, Arden, Ironside; (disp.) Greene's Groat; Chettle Kind Hart; etc. Note also the striking use by Kyd in Sol&Per, in which a major coward, braggart and back-stabber is named Basilisco.

**bewray** (v): reveal. FS (7); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Watson Hek; Edwards Dam&Pith; Gascoigne Jocasta; Greene Orl Fur, Fr Bacon, James IV, Pandosto, Maiden's Dream; Kyd Sp Tr, Sol&Per; Marlowe Massacre, Jew/Malta; Lyly Campaspe, Gallathea, Endymion, Midas, Bombie, Whip; Pasquil Return; Drayton et al Oldcastle; (anon.) Marprelate; Locrine, Ironside, Arden, Willobie, Penelope, Leic Gh.

**brewis** (n): meat broth. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Mucedorus, Fam Vic, Ironside; Munday More.

**brook** (v): put up with, bear with, tolerate. Usually in negative or preclusive constructions. FS (many); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside; many others.

**bruit**: rumor, fame (n); spread rumor (v). FS (6-3H6, 2H4, T&C, Timon, Ham, Q2, Edw3); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Sundrie Flowers (E/N); Lyly Bombie; (anon.) Ironside, Arden; Harvey Pierce's Super; Chettle Kind Hart.

**brustle/brustling** (v): raise the feathers; show off, bluster. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside. Per OED 1st use of brustle (v) in 1648. 1st use as a noun in 1600.

**buckler** (n): shield. (4-1H4, Ado); Lyly Midas; Greene Fr Bac; (anon.) Fam Vic, Woodstock, Ironside . Common.

**cog** (v): deceive, as by tricks or flattery, cheat. FS (6-LLL, Rich3, MWW, Ado, Timon, Corio); Lyly Sapho, Bombie; Harvey 4 Letters; Greene Cony, James 4; (anon.) Ironside, Cromwell; Nashe Absurdity (1st of 2 OED citations) (disp.) Greene's Groat.

**comb** ... cut (v): comb is cut: to cut (rarely to cast down) the comb of, lower the pride, tame, humiliate. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside. OED cites: 1536 Tindale Expos; 1545 Udall Erasm; 1548 Hall Chron.

**commodity** (n): profit or gain, benefit. FS (2-Pericles); Oxford letter; Anon. Ironside; Pasquil Apology (OED missed citation).

**conceit** (v): imagine, devise. FS (2H4, MWW); (anon.) Ironside.

**contumelious** (a): insolent, full of contumely. FS (3-2H6, 1H6, Timon); (anon.) Ironside; Harvey Pierce's Super.

**cope of heaven** (n): over-arching canopy or vault of heaven. FS (1-Pericles); Spenser M. Hubbard, Hymn Hon. Love; (anon.) Ironside; Chapman Iliad. OED cites: 1380 Wyclif Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 3; 1385 Chaucer L.G.W.; 1460 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems; 1489 Caxton Sonnes of Aymon; 1549 Compl. Scot. Ded. 3; 1571 Campion Hist. Irel. 1591 Spenser M. Hubberd; 1611 Chapman Iliad.

**cornegraph** (n): not in OED. Apparently an inkhorn. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**corsive** (n): corrosive. Cf. Kyd Sp Tr; Greene? Selimus; (anon.) Ironside, Lochrine.

**cottons** (v): suits, goes well. NFS. Cf. Lyly Campaspe; (anon.) Ironside; Troublesome Raigne.

**crake/crack** (v): brag. (LLL); Golding Ovid; Edwards Dam&Pith (n, crackers); Peele Edw I; Greene Alphonsus; (anon.) Ironside, Willobie (n); (disp.) Greene's Groat (out-cracked); Munday More.

**crozier** staff (n): pastoral or bishop's staff. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**cullis** (n): strong broth, esp. nourishing for the sick. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; Lyly Campaspe; (anon.) Ironside.

**curtle axe** (n): cutlass, short sword. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Fam Vic, Ironside, Lochrine; Marlowe T1.

**cutter** (n): one eager to fight, bully, bravo, also cutthroat, highway robber. NFS. Cf. Lyly Pap; (anon.) Fam Vic-as a last name, Arden, Willobie, Penelope.

**descry** (v): reveal, discover, perceive. FS (14); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Gascoigne Jocasta; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lodge Wounds; Greene James IV, ? Selimus; Watson Tears; Nashe Saffron; Peele Wives; Sidney Antony; (anon.) Ironside, Willobie, Penelope; Harvey Pierce's Super.

**dick** (v): meaning unknown, not in OED. NFS.

**discover** (v): reveal. FS (many); (anon.) Ironside. Common.

**dismount** (v): unmount, throw from that on which he/she has been mounted. FS (2-12th (1st use per OED), Lov Comp); Kyd Sol&Per; (anon.) Ironside .

**distempered** (v): ailed, bothered. FS (4-John, 12th, Ham); Lodge Wounds; Marlowe Jew/Malta; (anon.) Ironside; Sidney Antony.

**drab** (n): slut, prostitute. FS (8); (anon.) Fam Vic, Ironside, Cromwell, Yorkshire Tr; Pasquil Return; Drayton et al Oldcastle; Marston Malcontent.

**ear/earring** (n, a, v): plow/plowing. FS (3-Rich2, AWEW, A&C); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside.

**exordion/exordium** (n): introduction. Cf. (anon.) Ironside; Chettle Kind Hart.

**extrIBUTE** (v): redeem, repair. not in OED. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**fadge** (v): fit; suit. FS (2-LLL, 12th); Lyly Endymion (as fodge) Bombie; (anon.) Ironside. 1st OED citations: 1578 Whetstone Promos & Cass; 1599 Marston Sco. Villanie.

**falchion** (n): broad sword. FS (8); Golding Ovid; Gascoigne Supposes; Kyd Sp Tr; (anon.) Arden, Ironside.

**forfend** (v): forbid, prohibit. FS (8), Golding Ovid; Lodge Wounds; Udall Erasmus; Greene Alphonsus; (anon.) Woodstock; Ironside.

**gloze/glose** (n, v): specious, over-expansive talk, flattery. glozers (n): flatterers. FS (6-LLL, Rich2, H5, TA, T&C, Pericles); Golding Ovid; Gascoigne Supposes; Edwards Dam&Pith; Watson Hek; Lyly Campaspe; Kyd Cornelia, Sol&Per; Marlowe Edw2; (anon.) Ironside, Arden, Willobie; Nashe Menaphon, Summers, Absurdity; Harvey Pierce's Super; (disp.) Greene's Groat, Maiden's. Cf. (anon.) Nobody/Somebody (v).

**gravel** (v): confound, embarrass, perplex, puzzle. FS (1-AsYou); (anon.) Ironside; Marlowe Faust. OED contemp citation: 1548 Detect. Unskil. Physic. ; 1566 Drant Horace's Sat.

**griple** (a): gripping, greedy. NFS. Cf. Golding Ovid; Spenser FQ; (anon.) Ironside. OED contemp. citations: 1574 Rich Mercury & Soldier; 1589 Warner Alb. Eng.

**grout-head** (n): blockhead, thickhead, dunce. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside; Nashe Almond, Lenten Stuff. OED contemp citations: 1550 Bale Eng. Votaries ; 1573 Tusser Husb; 1597-8 W. Haughton Englishm. for money

**guard** (n): decorative border. FS (1-MM); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Mucedorus, Ironside.

**guerdon** (n, v): prize, recompense. FS (4-2H6, LLL, Ado, Edw3); Golding Ovid; Lyly Woman ... Moon; Lodge Wounds; Kyd Sp Tr; Marlowe Massacre; Munday Huntington; (anon.) Ironside, Leic Gh.

**hind** (n): fellow, servant. FS (4-1H6, Errors, LLL, Cymb); (anon.) Ironside, Arden, Dodypoll; (disp.) Greene's Groat; Chettle Kind Hart; Munday More.

**hire** (n): payment, reward. FS (8); Golding Ovid; Brooke Romeus; Watson Hek; Lodge Wounds; Kyd Sol&Per; (anon.) Dainty Devices, Ironside, Willobie.

**iwis** (adv): surely. FS (4-Rich3, Shrew, MV, Pericles); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside, Penelope, Nobody/Somebody, Cromwell; Nashe Almond; (disp.) Harvey 4 Letters. Common.

**loiter** (v, trans.): postpone getting or giving something. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**lowering** (a): gloomy. FS (Edw3); Golding Abraham; (anon.) Ironside.

**malapert** (a): presumptuous, saucy. FS (3-3H6, Rich3, 12th); Lyly Endymion, Woman ... Moon; (anon.) Ironside, Dodypoll. OED contemp citation: (1567) Drant Horace.

**mate** (n): lackey, servant. FS (1H6, 2H4); Gascoigne Supposes; (anon./Greene) G a G; Greene Alphonsus, Orl Fur, James IV; (anon.) Ironside; Nashe Almond; Harvey Pierce's Super; (anon.) Willobie.

**maugre**: (fr) in spite of. FS (3-12th, Titus, Lear); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Brooke Romeus; Lyly Midas; Kyd Sol&Per; Greene Orl Fur, Alphonsus; (anon.) Mucedorus, Lochrine, Ironside, Nobody/Somebody, Penelope, Leic Gh; Pasquil Countercuff; Harvey Sonnet, 3d Letter.

**Perillus** (n): Athenian who fell victim to his own device: a brazen bull in which condemned men were roasted to death. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside. Lyly, in *Sapho and Phao*, refers to a completely unrelated, and apparently invented, perillus stone.

**pince** (v): pinch. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**pitch** (n): highest point in a falcon's flight. FS (2-1H6, Titus); Marlowe T2; Harvey Pierce's Super; (anon.) Ironside; Nashe Saffron; Munday More; Chapman D'Ol.

**pitiful** (a): merciful. FS (11+); Gascoigne Jocasta, Supposes; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Midas, Love's Met; (anon.) Ironside, Cromwell; Harvey 4 Letters; Drayton et al Oldcastle.

**platform** (n): plan of action, platform. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**policy** (n): trickery, cunning. FS (many); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside; many others. A major Shakespeare preoccupation, i.e.: 1H4: Neuer did base and rotten Policy / Colour her working with such deadly wounds.

**pretense** (n): purpose, plan, design. (5-TGV, AWEW, WT, Lear, Mac); Lodge Wounds; Pasquil Apology; (anon.) Ironside, Mucedorus.

**quean** (n): hussy, strumpet. FS (4-R&J, 2H4, MWW); Golding Ovid; Gascoigne Supposes; Edwards Dam&Pith; (anon./Greene) G a G; Lyly Midas; (anon.) Ironside, Arden, Willobie, Penelope, Yorkshire Tr; Harvey Sonnet Palace/Pleasure, 2d Letter; Peele Wives; (disp.) Maiden's.

**sconce** (n): (1) head, skull; (2) ability, wit. FS (6-Errors, Ham, Corio); Cf. Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Endymion, Bombie (OED missed citation); Greene Cony; (anon.) Ironside. G. Harvey New Let. OED contemp citation: 1586 A. Day Eng. Secretary (1625) Master B. found Socrates in my Letter, and sent to seeke out your well reputed skonce to expound it.

**shake-rag** (n): ragged disreputable person, beggar. NFS. OED contemp citation: 1571 Golding Calvin on Ps. lxi. 13. 259 It is no maruell that shakerags [orig. sordidos homines] (which haue no regarde of honestie) did ...

**sheep-biter** (n): petty thief. FS (2-MM, 12th); (anon.) Mucedorus, Woodstock, Ironside. Nashe Penniless. See Connections.

**sibert-asking** (n): bans. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**sift** (v): question, examine; also understand, comprehend. FS (3-Rich2, Ham Q2, AWEW); Golding Ovid; Edwards Dam&Pith; Lyly Gallathea, Woman ... Moon; Greene Never too Late, Pandosto; (anon.) Ironside, Weakest.

**skills** (v): matters. FS (3-Shrew, 12th, 2H6); Golding Ovid; Lyly Campaspe, Endymion, Love's Met, Gallathea; Greene Fr Bac; Chettle Kind Hart; (anon.) Fam Vic, Ironside, Leic Gh; (disp.) Greene's Groat.

**sluggly** (a): lazy. FS (3 present tense v.); Golding Ovid; (anon.) Ironside.

**sooths** (n): truths, sometimes flattery. The meaning in Ironside may be, ironically, 'untruths'. FS (Rich2, Pericles); (anon.) Ironside; many others.

**speed** (v): fare, succeed. FS (19+, ); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Kyd Sol&Per; Marlowe Edw2; (anon.) Ironside, Willobie, Leic Gh; Peele Wives. Common.

**stomach** (n): temper, pride. FS (1-H8); Golding Ovid; Lyly Endymion; Greene G a G; Alphonsus; (anon.) Marprelate, Ironside, Weakest; Spenser FQ; Harvey Pierce's Super; Sidney Antony. OED current citation: 1575-85 Abp. Sandys Serm. x. 169 Zeale without knowledge is not zeale but stomacke.

**stout** (a): bold, resolute. FS (1-2H6); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Brooke Romeus; Greene Fr Bacon; Sidney Arcadia; (anon.) Ironside, Arden, Willobie, Penelope, Leic Gh.

**trencher** (n): serving plate or dish [usually with connotation of trencher-knight or freeloader]. FS (7-2H6, TGV, R&J, A&C, Tempest, Corio, Timon); (anon.) Ironside; many others.

**troiting** (a): loitering, idling (dial.). NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside. Not in OED.

**trow** (v): think, believe confidently. FS (16); Golding Ovid, Abraham; (anon.) Ironside; many others.

**unadvised** (a): unconsidered: FS (many); Golding Abraham; Brooke Romeus; Lodge Wounds; (anon.) Ironside; Greene's Groat.

**unportable** (a): intolerable. NFS. Cf. (anon.) Ironside.

**untutored** (a): crude, boorish. FS (5-2H6, 3H6, Pericles, Sonnets dedication, Lucrece); (anon.) Ironside. OED cites 3H6 as first use.

**vengeable** (a): very, intensely. NFS. Cf. Lyly Bombie; (anon.) Ironside.

**wight** (n): living being. FS (8-H5, LLL, MWW, Pericles, Oth); Golding Ovid, Abraham; Oxford poem; (anon.) Ironside; many others.

**wot** (v): know. FS (30); Golding Ovid, Abraham; (anon.) Ironside. Common.

Length 15,084 words

## Major Sources

Grafton, Richard. *A Chronicle at Large* (1569)

Holinshed, Raphael. *Chronicles* (2d. ed. 1587).

Lambarde, W. *Archaionomia* (1568).

## Historical Background

Quoted from Winston S. Churchill, *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples: Vol. One, The Birth of Britain*. New York: Bantam Books, Inc., 1963, p. 102.

'... It suffices to note that in 1013 Sweyn, accompanied by his youngest son, Canute, came again to England, subdued the Yorkshire Danes and the five boroughs in the Danelaw, was accepted as overlord of Northumbria and Danish Mercia, sacked Oxford and Winchester in a punitive foray, and, though repulsed from London, was proclaimed King of England, while Ethelred fled for refuge to the Duke of Normandy, whose sister he had married. On these triumphs Sweyn died at the beginning of 1014. There was another respite. The English turned again to Ethelred, 'declaring that no lord was dearer to them than their natural lord, if he would but rule them better than he had done before.'

'But soon the young Danish prince, Canute, set forth to claim the English crown. At this moment the flame of Alfred's line rose again in Ethelred's son, Edmund -- Edmund Ironside, as he soon was called. At twenty he was famous. Although declared a rebel by his father, and acting in complete disobedience to him, he gathered forces, and in a brilliant campaign struck a succession of heavy blows. He gained battles, he relieved London, he contended with every form of treachery; hearts of all men went out to him. New forces sprang from the ruined land. Ethelred died, and Edmund, last hope of the English, was acclaimed King. In spite of all odds and a heavy defeat he was strong enough to make a partition of the realm, and then set himself to rally his forces for the renewal of the struggle; but in 1016, at twenty-two years of age, Edmund Ironside died, and the whole realm abandoned itself to despair.'

[note: Edmund Ironside was the son of Ethelred by his first wife. By his second wife Emma (sister of Duke Robert of Normandy), Ethelred had two other sons, Alfred and Edward. Upon the death of Ethelred Emma married Canute, by whom she had a son Hardacanute. When Canute died, two of his sons ruled England, but neither lived long. The English then turned to Edward ('Edward the Confessor,' the younger son of Ethelred and Emma), the last English king directly descended from the male line of Alfred. A granddaughter of Edmund Ironside married Malcolm of Scotland, Today's royal family of England traces its ancestry back to Alfred (and to Edmund) through this marriage.]

## Suggested Reading

Spurgeon, Caroline F.E., *Shakespeare's Imagery and What it Tells us*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1958 [pb, originally pub. by Cambridge University Press].

William Kozlenko, ed., *Disputed Plays of William Shakespeare*. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 19074.

Sams, Eric. *Shakespeare's Lost Play, Edmund Ironside*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1985.

Scoufos, Alice-Lyle. *Shakespeare's Typological Satire*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1979.

Shaheen, Naseeb. *Biblical References in Shakespeare's Comedies*. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1993.

----*Biblical References in Shakespeare's History Plays*. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1989.

----*Biblical References in Shakespeare's Tragedies*. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1987

## APPENDIX II: Connections

### Themes

#### The Dogs of War

(V.2.138-149) EDR: nor govern nations, for consuming war  
will quite devour this solitary isle,  
not leaving any over whom to rule  
nor to resist foreign invasions.

If love of kingdoms be the cause of this,  
suppress the boiling of your haughty minds;  
you have approved of your soldiers' forwardness,  
then now at last shake hands and join in league;  
agree like noble kings and part the land;  
have now compassion of this little isle,

whose soil is manured with carcasses  
and made a sea with blood of innocents;

#### Relationship of Military Commanders/Common Soldiers:

(I.3.1-2) EDM: But are ye sure, my lord, that all is fit ... to make them rich and gallant to the eye. Contrast with Sir John Falstaff's recruiting and treatment of his soldiers. Professor Scoufos deals extensively with this aspect of Falstaff and with Shakespeare's typological purpose in commenting on this matter. Also compare to Falconbridge's (King John) great speech on commodity.

#### Patriotism, Loyalty:

(I.3.36-47) EDM: I more esteem the life of one true subject  
... when thy right hand shall make thy heart away.  
John (V.7.122) BAST: 'If England to itself do rest but true.'

#### Exchange of Identity:

Ironside (III.5.179) EDR: My will is that you will uncase, for I mean to change apparel.  
STITCH: Why sir, you'll not turn wise-man, will you?  
EDRICUS: Yes, fool, for this once. Come, I say, when?  
Shakes Hamlet (I.2) HORATIO: The same, my lord, and your poor servant ever.  
HAMLET: Sir, my good friend; I'll change that name with you.

#### Reflections on the Jewish Race:

(I.1.135-41) USKA: You may, my lord, yet be remembered now  
against what nation you are bound to war,  
a generation like the chosen Jews:  
stubborn, unwieldy, fierce and wild to tame,  
scorning to be compelled against their wills,  
abhorring servitude as having felt  
the overloading burden of the same.

These lines could suggest a reconsideration of Shakespeare's intent in *The Merchant of Venice*.  
Also see *Richard II* (2.1.55-56).

See Exodus 33.3-5: For the Lord had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiffnecked people, I will come up suddenly upon thee, and consume thee: therefore now put thy costly raiment from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee.

#### Relations between Church and State:

The relationships between the two prelates closely reflect a similar situation during the reign of Henry II, when the Archbishop of York championed the cause of English Henry, while the rebellious Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, received the protection of the King of France.

#### Danger from Abroad:

Although Canute is a Dane and many of his soldiers (but not the most valiant) are also Danes, the play displays little anti-foreign paranoia or consciousness of danger from abroad; in the final scene Edmund even 'gives' part of his kingdom to Canutus and 'wills' it to him in case of death,

notwithstanding his foreign origins and the claims of his Saxon half-brothers Alfred and Edward. There is a complete lack of the kind of nationalistic hubris that distinguishes those plays written during and immediately after the Armada scare, a possible indication of a somewhat early dating of the play for the youthful playwright from Stratford.

### View of Royalty

Note the surprising bargain struck before battle: if Edmund falls, the crown shall go to Canutus. Here, even with no claim whatever to the crown (except that of descent from Sveyn Forkbeard, who had conquered a good deal of English territory), Edmund seems to cede the right to inherit to Canutus on the basis of royalty alone -- although foreign and with no claim of direct descent. Hamlet's ceding of the crown of Denmark to Fortinbras reflects the same thinking: that royal blood takes precedent over nationality and/or collateral rights. A Shakespearean concept but alien to the otherwise nationalistic tone of the play.

### Villainy, Malevolence

Edricus may be the first of the great Shakespearean villains, addressing the audience directly in the style of Aaron, Richard III, and Iago. Like Richard III he is definitely the star of the play: he has 71 speeches; Canutus 70; Edmund 42. He completely dominates the action; both Edmund and Canutus serve as foils to his villainy, neither having a distinctive personality although the English-born Atheling Edmund is certainly portrayed as the more magnanimous and valiant.

Edricus, however, is a wonderful creation, as is his brother Stitch, a base and servile copy of his brother, fawning in the presence of power, malevolent when he speaks his mind. In neither is the malevolence 'motiveless'; it proceeds directly from low birth, fear of discovery, ambition thwarted and envy; traits deserving contempt in the viewpoint of the nobility, perhaps quite natural to anyone who has felt similar emotions (such as William Shaksper of Stratford). In character he is cowardly, unlike the valiant Richard or the competent soldier Iago; even Aaron was physically selfless, especially in defense of his own child. Edricus is a wonderful counterfeit gentleman; Stitch his revolting, churlish counterpart; the scene in which they exchange identities rings with both comedy and irony, a masterful conceit in the inexperienced author.

Edricus' threat to flee to Spain if necessary, historically unsupported, could well reflect the actions of traitors such as Charles Arundel who did, upon imminent discovery, flee to their patron and spiritual mentor the Catholic king of Spain.

### Did the author plan a sequel?

Edricus' wonderful, characteristic final speech indicates a continuation of the story (perhaps telling of Edmund's tragic death)?

(V.2.298-301) EDRICUS: And I for one. 'Tis meet it should be so.  
[*Aside.*] Thus wise men can dissemble what they think,  
and till occasion fits them, sleeping wink.  
But I have sworn and I will keep my vow,  
By heaven Ill be revenged on both of you.

On the Writing Profession?

(III.4.141-53) EDRICUS: Ah, fool, how hard it is to write for life! ...

## References to Other Works, Writers

Sheep ... Bite: sheep-biter in cant meant petty thief.

**Hatton** Letter (Christopher Hatton to the Queen about Oxford, 1573): God bless you forever; the branch of the sweetest bush I will wear and bear to my life's end: God witness I feign it not. It is a gracious favor most dear and welcome unto me: reserve it to the Sheep [Hatton], he hath no tooth to bite, where the Boar's [Oxford] tusk may both raze and tear

**Anon.** Mucedorus (II.4.15-16) MOUSE: Yes, forsooth, I warrant you: come on, sir.

A, so like a sheep biter a looks!

Woodstock (III.3) NIMBLE: ay, ay. we will follow. come, ye sheep-biter.

Ironside (II.2.41) EDRICUS: Wherefore comes you, sheep-biter?

**Nashe** Penniless (McK p. 175) : he casts his tail betwixt his legs, & steals away like a sheep-biter

**Shakes** 12th Night (II.5) SIR TOBY: rascally sheep-biter come by some notable shame? ...

MM (V.1) LUCIO: show your sheep-biting face, and be hanged an hour! ...

## APPENDIX II continued: Functional Connections

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### Legal term: Free consent

**Shakes** 3H6 (IV.5-6.36) CLARENCE: And therefore I yield thee / my free consent.

**Kyd** Sol&Per (I.4.1) CYPRUS: Brave Gentlemen, by all your free consents,

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.4-5) CAN: and how his son Prince Edmund

wears the crown / without the notice of your free consent

Willobie (XXII.2): Excepting him, whom free consent / By wedlock words hath made my spouse;

(XXIX.5): Till fancy frame your free consent,

(LXVI.5): With free consent to choose again:

(Res.10): With free consent to live in holy band.

(Res.12): When I had given my heart and free consent,

**Munday** Huntington (XII.133): With free consent of Hubert Lord York,

### Proud contempt

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.21) CANT: and merely nothing but a proud contempt

**Shakes** John (II.1.88): Their proud contempt that beats His peace to heaven

**Nashe** Absurdity: argueth a proud contempt of the magistrate's superiority.

The phrase is used in some (not Geneva) versions of the Biblical Psalms.

### Quiet ... Peace

**Shakes** 1H6 (IV.1) K. Henry 6: Quiet yourselves, I Pray, and be at peace.  
**Rich2** (I.3) K. RICH: Might from our quiet confines fright fair peace.  
**Edw3** (V.1) K. EDW: That peaceful quietness brings most delight,  
**Shrew** (V.2) PETRUCHIO: Marry, peace it bodes, and love and quiet life.  
**Othello** (II.1) IAGO: And practicing upon his peace and quiet Even to madness.  
**Anon**, **Lochrine** (III.441) CORIN: Sometime in war, sometime in quiet peace,  
(V.4.271) ATE: In quiet peace and sweet felicity;  
**Ironside** (I.1.25) CANTERBURY: for peace, for quiet and utility,  
**Nobody** (419-420) NOBODY: For he is only held peaceful and quiet  
That quarrels, brawls and fights with Nobody.  
**Marlowe** **Edw2** (IV.2.58) KENT: For England's honor, peace, and quietness.  
**Drayton** et al **Oldcastle** (PRO.4): The peaceful quiet of your settled thoughts.  
**Bible** 1 Chr 22.9... therefore his name is Solomon, and I will send peace and quietness upon  
Israel in his days.; Isa.32.17 And the work of justice shall be peace; even the work of justice and  
quietness and assurance for ever.; Ecclus 47.13 Solomon reigned in a peaceable time, and was  
glorious: for God made all quiet round about ...; 1 Tim.2.2 For Kings, and for all that are in  
authority, that we may lead a quiet and a peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

### Quiet ... State

**Golding** **Ovid Met.** (II.482): My lot (quoth he) hath had enough of this unquiet state  
**Gascoigne** et al **Jocasta** (I.1.460) CHORUS: What careful toil to quiet state it brings,  
(II.2) CHORUS: Of our estate that erst in quiet stood.  
(IV.1.317) CREON: A quiet end of her unquiet state.  
**Watson** **Hek I** (XCVI): live secure and quiet in estate,  
**Greene** ? **Selimus** (21.13-14): CORCUT: But here no fear nor care is harbored  
But a sweet calm of a most quiet state.  
**Anon**. **Ironside** (I.1.28) CANUTUS: I plant you in your former quiet states.  
**Nashe** **Summers** (1316) WINTER: But living loosely in a quiet state,

### Legal terms: Stood/stand in question (for the crown)

**Anon**. **Ironside** (I.1.49) EDRICUS: you ne'er had stood in question for the crown  
**Munday** **Sir Thomas More**, add D (30-31): stood in such a question

### Fouly scandalized

**Anon**. **Ironside** (I.1.61) EDR: and for that fact rest fouly scandalized.  
**Shakes** 1H4 (I.3.154) WORC: Live scandalized and fouly spoken of.

### Feign sickness

**Golding** **Ovid Met** (IX.902): The time, oft feigning sickness, oft pretending she had seen  
**Holinshed** **Chronicles** (709): earle Edricke feigned himself sick.  
**Anon**. **Ironside** (I.1.64-65) EDR: Did not I, I pray, / feign sickness, weakness, disadvantages  
**Shakes** **Cymb** (III.2) IMO: Go bid my woman feign a sickness; ...

## Right my wrongs

**Gascoigne** et al *Jocasta* (II.1.588) POLY: Since from my right I am with wrong deprived.

**Anon.** *Woodstock* (I.3.276) WOODSTOCK: Come, brother York, we soon shall right all wrong,

*Iron* (I.1.99) COUNTRYMEN: Where is the king, that he may right our wrong?

*Penelope* (XXVI.2): Who would a widow stay so long, / And nature of her right thus wrong?

*Cromwell* (II.3.37) MRS BANISTER: If God did ever right a woman's wrong,

**Shakes** *Titus* (II.3) TAMORA: Your mother's hand shall right your mother's wrong.

(III.1) TITUS: And swear unto my soul to right your wrongs.

(V.2.4) TAMORA: To join with him and right his heinous wrongs.

Note: Titus first use (per Sams).

Note also several plays on words:

**Disp.** *Greene's Groat* (160-161): ... the threadbare brother here

who, willing to do no wrong, hath lost his child's right:

**Chapman** *D'Olive* (I.1.62-63) VAUMONT: The truth is, I have done your known deserts

More wrong than with your right should let you greet me,

And in your absence, which makes worse the wrong,

(I.1.80) VAUMONT: That she should nothing wrong her husband's right,

(I.1.125-26) VANDOME: Virtue is not malicious; wrong done her

Is righted ever when men grant they err.

## Spirit ... of my father

**Golding** *Ovid Met.* (XV.511): The bodies which perchance may have the spirits of our brothers,

**Anon.** *Woodstock* (II.1.68-69) KING: examples such as these

will bring us to our Kingly grandsire's spirit.

*Ironside* (I.1.122) CANUTUS: for yet the spirit of my father Sveyn

*Willobie* (Gentle/Courteous): I commit you to the good government of God's spirit.

**Shakes** *AsYou* (I.1.) ORLANDO: and the spirit of my father, which I

think is within me, begins to mutiny against this / servitude:

(I.1.73) ORLANDO: the spirit of my father grows strong in me.

**Bible** *Matt.* 10.20 ... but the spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

## Legal term: Break faith (Command ... rite; In common)

**Brooke** *Romeus* (2029): Have kept my faith unbroke, steadfast unto my friend.

**Golding** *Ovid Met.* (VI.445): The water? Nature doth to all in common water send.

(VII.1076): For breaking faith; and fretting at a vain surmised shame,

**Gascoigne** et al *Jocasta* (II.1.437) JOCASTA: Of friendly faith which never can be broke.

**Shakes** *LLL* (I.1) BIRON: If I break faith, this word shall speak for me;

(IV.3) FERDINAND: You would for paradise break faith, and troth;

*Rich3* (IV.4) Q ELIZ ... If thou hadst fear'd to break an oath by Him,

... If thou hadst fear'd to break an oath by Him,

... Thy broken faith hath made a prey for worms.

*Rich2* (III.2) RICHARD II: ... They break their faith to God as well as us:

*Edw3* (II.1) WARWICK: That he hath broke his faith with God and man,

*K. EDW.*: (IV.4) Which if thysself without consent do break,

Thou art not charged with the breach of faith.

*King John* (II.1) BASTARD: ... That broker, that still breaks the pate of faith,

That daily break-vow, he that wins of all, ... / Since kings break faith upon commodity,  
2H4 (4.2) ARCHB OF YORK: Will you thus break your faith?  
MND (II.1) OBERON: And make him with fair Aegle break his faith,  
MV (V.1) ANT: My soul upon the forfeit, that your lord / Will never more break faith advisedly.  
T&C (V.3) HECTOR: I must not break my faith.  
Pericles (I.2) PERICLES: I'll take thy word for faith, not ask thine oath:  
**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.120): AYLWARD: Remember he hath often broke his faith  
Willobie (XXXVII.2): Your words command the lawless rite  
Of Plato's laws that freedom gave, / That men and women for delight  
Might both in common freely have; Yet God doth threaten cruel death  
To them that break their wedlock faith.  
(LIIII.2): And for their fancy broke their faith:

### Falsely bred

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.158): degenerate bastard, falsely bred,  
**Lyly** MB (II.3) MOTHER BOMBIE: Falsely bred, truly begot,  
(V.3) SILENA: my mother bore me not: falsely bred, truly begot.

### Flattering ... base, insinuating sycophant

**Greene** James IV (V.6.37) K. SCOTS: Ah, flattering brood of sycophants, my foes!  
**Shakes** IH6 (II.4.35): base insinuating flattery  
**Titus** (IV.2.38): basely insinuate.  
**Anon.** Woodstock (I.1.148) WOODSTOCK: Lulled and secured by flattering sycophants;  
(I.3.218) LANCASTER: Be thus outbraved by flattering sycophants?  
Ironside (I.1.157) USKATAULF: Base, vild, insinuating sycophant,  
(II.3.226) CANUTUS: Gross flattery, all-soothing sycophant,  
Nobody: A major theme, based especially on the character named Sycophant, who appears to be identified in several speeches as a composite of Sir Christopher Hatton (Exchequer) and Lord Cobham (the Cinque Ports, see above).  
Notable are speeches such as: (510-11) SOMEBODY: Those subtle sly insinuating fellows  
Whom Somebody hath sent into the country  
(1639) QUEEN: You are welcome; what new flatteries  
Are a coining in the mint of that smooth face?  
**Nashe** Summers (472-280) SUMMER: My Lord, this saucy upstart Jack,  
That now doth rule the chariot of the Sun, / And makes all stars derive their light from him  
Is a most base insinuating slave, / The son of parsimony and disdain,  
One that will shine on friends and foes alike,  
That under brightest smiles hideth black showers,  
Whose envious breath doth dry up springs and lakes,  
And burns the grass, that beasts can get no food.

### Dunghill ... and Courtiers

**Greene** Alphonsus (V.3.64) AMU: Into the hands of such a dunghill Knight?  
(V.3.70) ALPH: 'Villain,' sayest thou? 'Traitor' and 'dunghill Knight?'  
**Anon.** Willobie (XII.1): Thou beggar's brat, thou dung-hill mate,  
Thou clownish spawn, thou country gill,

My love is turned to wreakful hate, / Go hang, and keep thy credit still,  
 Gad where thou list, aright or wrong, / I hope to see thee beg, ere long.  
 Ironside (I.1.222-29) LEOFRIC: Oh what a grief is it to noble bloods to see each base-born  
 groom promoted up, each dunghill brat arreared to dignity,  
 (III.5.1-3) CANUTUS: A plague upon you all for arrant cowards! Look how a dunghill cock, not  
 rightly bred, doth come into the pit with greater grace,  
 Cromwell (I.2.68) CROM: And from the dunghill minions do advance  
 Weakest (XVI.158) BRABANT: Never begot but of some dunghill churl.  
**Harvey** (1593): Pierce's Supererogation: ... there is a cap of maintenance, called Impudency:  
 and what say to him, that in a super-abundance of that same odd capricious humor, findeth no  
 such want in England as of an Aretine, that might strip these golden Asses out of their gay  
 trappings, and after he had ridden them to death with railing, leave them on the dung-hill for  
 carrion?  
**Shakes** 1H6 (I.3): Shall I be flouted thus by dunghill grooms?  
 2H6 (I.3): Base dunghill villain and mechanical,  
 (IV.10): Unto a dunghill which shall be thy grave,  
 LLL (V.1): Go to; thou hast it ad dunghill, at the fingers'  
 O, I smell false Latin; dunghill for unguem.  
 KING JOHN: Out, dunghill! darest thou brave a nobleman?  
 MWW (I.3): Then did the sun on dunghill shine.  
 2H4 (V.3): Shall dunghill curs confront the Helicons?  
 H5 (IV.3): Dying like men, though buried in your dunghills,  
 As You (I.1): which his animals on his dunghills are as much  
 LEAR (III.7): Upon the dunghill. Regan, I bleed apace:  
 (IV.6): Out, dunghill!  
**Nashe** Will Summers (449): How base is pride from his own dung-hill put!  
**Chapman** D'Olive (V.2.100) D'OLIVE: raked like old rags out of dunghills by candlelight,

### Cannot speak but ... straight

**Brooke** Romeus (1904): But with unwonted boldness straight into these words she brake.  
**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.82-83) CAN: I cannot speak, but some or other straight / misconsters me.  
 (I.2.207) EGINA: I cannot speak but straight you say I scold.  
**Shakes** T&C (V.2.101) CRESS: one cannot speak ... But it straight starts you.

### Fat of this land

**Anon.** Woodstock (V.3.85) LANCASTER: the soil is fat for wines, not fit for men,  
 Ironside (I.1.106) 1 COUNTRY: and dwelt among the fattest of this land.  
 Cromwell (IV.2.51-52) CROM: They neither plow, nor sow, and yet they reap  
 The fat of all the Land, and suck the poor:  
**Shakes** 2H4 (IV.4.54) HENRY IV: Most subject is the fattest soil to weeds; ...:  
**Bible** Gen. 45.18 ... and ye shall eat of the fat of the land.

### Necks (stubborn)

**Golding** Ovid Met. (VII.279): And caused their unwieldy necks the bended yoke to take.  
**Watson** Hek(I): Cupid hath clapt a yoke upon my neck,  
**Lyly** Campaspe (I.1.42-43) TIMOCLEA: We are here now captives, whose necks are yoked by

force but whose / hearts cannot yield by death.

Sapho (I.1.35-36): I will yoke the neck that never bowed, ...

**Anon.** Woodstock (I.1.55) LANC: Would not throw off their vild and servile yoke

(II.1.512) KING: but time shall come, when we shall yoke their necks.

(II.1) TRESILIAN: and hath shook off the servile yoke of mean protectorship.

Ironside (I.1.108-09) 1 COUNTRY: We then did yoke the Saxons and compelled their stubborn necks to ear the fallow fields.

(I.1.135-41) USKA: a generation like the chosen Jews: stubborn, unwieldy, fierce and wild to tame, scorning to be compelled against their wills, abhorring servitude as having felt the overloading burden of the same.

Leic. Gh. (179-180): As Numa, when he first did seek to draw / The Roman people underneath his yoke,

**Shakes** 1H6 (II.3.63) yoketh your rebellious necks

Edward III (I.1.) KING EDW: Able to yoke their stubborn necks with steel

**Bible** Exodus 33.3-5: For the Lord had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiffnecked people, I will come up suddenly upon thee, and consume thee: therefore now thy costly raiment from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee. See also Deut. 31.27, 2 Chron. 36.13, Pss. 75.5, Jer. 17.23, Bar. 2.33

### Wish ... against himself

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.183) USKA: in wishing him so much against himself.

**Shakes** Cymb (V.4) 1 GAOL: I speak against my present profit, but my wish hath a preferment in't.

### Pacify yourselves

**Greene** James IV (I.1.248) ATEUKIN: ...Tut; pacify your Grace.

**Anon.** Weakest (XIII.172) EPERNOUNE: Pacific yourselves, not one of you

Ironside (I.1.126) CANUTUS: Go in, good friends, and pacify yourselves.

**Shakes** 2H4 (II.4.78) pacify yourselves

Edw3 (V.1) K. EDWARD: No more, Queen Philippa, pacify yourself.

### Bridle their wills

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (II.1.463) JOCASTA; Yet can not rule his own / unbridled will,

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.142) EDR: Curb them, my lord, and bridle but their wills

Nobody/Somebody (40) VIGENIUS: Bridle your spirit.

Willobie (LXIII.1): ... But blame the Hawk's unbridled will.

**Shakes** Errors (II.1.13) LUCIANA: O, know he is the bridle of your will

ADRIANA: There's none but asses will be bridled so.

### Legal: Witnesses of worth

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.178) USKA: with many other witnesses of worth.

**Shakes** Titus (V.1) AARON: Well, let my deeds be witness of my worth.

### Cold water ... Coal ... Heat ... Quench

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (1458-59) EUBULUS: No prayer can move when kindled is the ire; The more ye quench, the more increased is the fire.

**Anon.** Ironside: (II.3.98-99) CAN: Look how cold water cast on burning coals doth make the fire more fervently to flame;  
Willobie (XXXI.1): There is a coal that burns the more, / The more ye cast cold water near,  
Like humor feeds my secret sore, / Not quenched, but fed by cold despair: ...  
Note: Canol coal found in many places of England.  
Nymphaus locus Leonicus de varia Histor. fol. 28.  
By the Ionian sea there is a place that burns continually,  
and the more water is cast into it, the more it flames.  
(XXXI.2): In grace they find a burning soil / That fumes in nature like the same,  
Cold water makes the butter broil, / The greater frost, the greater flame:  
doth make the fire more fervently to flame;  
**Bible** Song of Sol. 8.6-7 (6) ... the coals thereof are fiery coals, & a vehement flame; (7) Much water cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

### Water ... Quench ... Desire/Love

**Brooke** Romeus (210): That only death and both their bloods might quench the fiery heat.  
**Lyly** MB (III.4) RIXULA: You mean knavishly, and yet I hope foul water will quench hot fire as soon as fair.  
Love's Met. (II.1) NISA: If he were fire, the sea would quench those coals or the flame turn him into cinders.  
**Shakes** 3H6 (II.1.83-84): quench my furnace-burning heart  
TGV (II.7.19-20): quench the fire of love with words  
Rich2 (5.5.108): That hand shall burn in never-quenching fire.  
(This corresponds to the Biblical passages in Mark.)  
Anon. Ironside (I.1.201): and quench the burning choler of my heart,  
Locrine (I.2.31) STRUMBO: the little sparkles of affection kindled in me towards your sweet self hath now increased to a great flame, and will ere it be long consume my poor heart, except you, with the pleasant water of your secret fountain, quench the furious heat of the same.  
Willobie (XXIII.2): With water quench this hot desire.  
Dodypoll (II.1) ALBER: Down with the battlements, pour water on! I burn, I burn;  
O give me leave to fly Out of these flames, these fires that compass me.  
**Bible** Song of Sol. 8.6-7 (6) ... the coals thereof are fiery coals, & a vehement flame; (7) Much water cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.  
Isa. 66.24 ... for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched, & they shall be ...; similar phrasing in Mark 9.43-48.

### Mirror of majesty

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (Arg.): Fyfigure Creon is King, the type of Tyranny,  
And Oedipus, mirror of misery.  
(V.5.245-46) OEDIPUS: Dear citizens, behold your Lord and King A mirror for Magistrates.  
**Anon** Ironside (I.1.240) LEOFRIC: is rightly termed mirror of majesty.  
**Shakes** Rich2 (IV.1) RICH: Let it command a mirror hither straight,  
That it may show me what a face I have, / Since it is bankrupt of his majesty.

### Close ... Secrets

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (251) STEPH: In close-secret wise still whispering together.

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (III.1.220) CREON: To keep full close this secret hidden grief.

**Anon.** Woodstock (IV.1) KING: but see ye carry it close and secretly,

Ironside (I.2.18) EDRICUS ... whisper close secrets in the giddy air;

be a newsmonger; feed the king with sooths;

Willobie (LIII.2): But closely lies in secret heart:

**Bible** Tob 12.7 It is good to keep close the secrets of a King; 12.11 I said it was good to keep close the secret of a King, ...

### Legal term: Pardon ... Embrace

**Shakes** 2H6 (IV.8): Who loves the king and will embrace his pardon

**Anon.** Ironside (I.3.32) TUR: or else embrace our pardons, which we crave

### Conspire against ourselves

**Anon.** Ironside (I.3.43) we should conspire with them against ourselves!

**Shakes** Sonnet 10: That 'gainst thyself thou stick'st not to conspire.

### Outward/Inward

**Brooke** Romeus (52): And each with outward friendly show doth hide his inward hate,

(360): Yet with an outward show of joy she cloaked inward smart;

(1324): His outward dreary cheer bewrayd his store of inward smart.

(2315-16): That by her outward look no living wight could guess

Her inward woe, and yet anew renewed is her distress.

(2893-94): My conscience inwardly should more torment me thrice,

Than all the outward deadly pain that all you could devise.

**Golding** Abraham (648) SARA: Both outwardly and inwardly alway,

**Lyly** Gallathea (V.2) HAEBE: the content of your inward thoughts, the pomp of your outward shows.

Endy (IV.1) COR: that uttering the extremities of their inward passions are always suspected of outward perjuries.

(IV.3) TELLUS: I could not smother the inward fire but it must needs be perceived by the outward smoke;

Sapho (Pro.): Our intent was at this time to move inward delight, not outward lightness;

**Shakes** Rich3 (I.4) BRAK: An outward honour for an inward toil;

(3.1.10) Than of his outward show, ...

King John (I.1) BASTARD: Exterior form, outward accoutrement,

But from the inward motion to deliver

Pericles (II.2) SIM: The outward habit by the inward man.

A&C (III.13) ENO: A parcel of their fortunes; and things outward

Do draw the inward quality after them,

V&A (71): 'Had I no eyes but ears, my ears would love

That inward beauty and invisible;

Or were I deaf, thy outward parts would move ...

Lucrece (13): Whose inward ill no outward harm express'd:

(221) With outward honesty, but yet defiled / With inward vice: as Priam him did cherish,

Sonnet (16): Neither in inward worth nor outward fair,  
Sonnet (46): As thus; mine eye's due is thy outward part,  
And my heart's right thy inward love of heart.

**Anon.** Ironside (I.3.45) EDM: thank not thy outward foe but inward friend;

Willobie: (XIV.3): Can heart from outward look rebel?

(LV.3): As you pretend in outward show / Where men no outward shows detect

Dodypoll (V.2): Of outward show doth sap the inward stock in substance and of worth ...

L Gh. (364-65): To entertain all men (to outward show)

With inward love, for few my heart did know,

**Bible** 1 Sam. 16.7 For God seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord beholdeth the heart. 2 Sam. Arg ... who came of David according to the flesh, and was persecuted on every side with outward and inward enemies ...

### Blood ... Vital spirit/Life

**Golding** Ovid Met (II.1032): For want of blood and lively heat, to wax both pale and wan.

(IV.297) And so a corse both void of blood and life thou didst remain.

(VII.186): And suddenly both void of blood and lively heat she sate

(X.527): Her color died; her blood and heart did clearly her forsake.

(XI.377): And as she strived for to speak, away went blood and life.

**Gascoigne** ... Jocasta (I.1.246) BAILO: With hideous cries betoken blood and death:

**Oxford** letter (9/72): to admonish you as one with whom I would / spend my blood and life,

**Marlowe** T1 (II.1.41) COSROE: And with my blood my life slides / through my wound,

**Shakes** 12th (II.5.135) MAL: ... let thy blood and spirit embrace them;

**Anon.** Ironside (I.1.261) LEOF: We gave them life; for us they shed their blood.

Locrine (I.1.126) CORIN: I hazarded my life and dearest blood, ...

(I.1.137) And for this gift, this life and dearest blood,

Dodypoll (II.1.129): Shall grow in me to blood and vital spirit, ...

### Hands ... Hearts

**Anon.** Ironside (I.3.35) EDM: Give me your hands and with your hands your hearts.

**Shakes** 3H6 (IV.6.38-400): Give me both your hands ... / and with your hands your hearts.

### Sheep ... Lost/Strayed ... Taint/Sin

**Anon.** Mucedorus (IV.2.21) MOUSE: ... to look out a shepherd & a stray king's daughter: ...

Ironside (I.3.28-29) EDMUND: One sheep that was lost I more rejoice to find than twenty other which I never missed. (This passage seems to derive from the Apostles' parable.

(IV.1.24-25) EDM/letter from Edricus: I come again like to a strayed sheep / tainted, God wot, with naught but ignorance. (This passage conforms well to Jeremiah.)

**Shakes** TGV (I.1) PRO: Indeed, a sheep doth very often stray,

An if the shepherd be a while away.

MV (IV.1) ANTONIO: I am a tainted wether of the flock, ...

**Bible** Jer.50.6 My people hath been as lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, and have turned them away to the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, and forgotten their resting place. 50.7 All that found them, have devoured them, and their enemies said, We offend not because they have sinned against the Lord, the habitation of justice, ...

Similar references to lost sheep, but lacking the consciousness of sin and taint are found in other passages, some Messianic: Pss.119.176, Matt.10.6, Matt.15.24, Matt.18.11, Luke.15.6,

### Partners ... Woes

**Brooke** Romeus (104): That he was fellow of his smart and partner of his care.

(1245): Now choose to have me here a partner of your pain,

(1428): Or else to please thy hateful foes, be partner of their smart?

**Golding** Ovid Met. (XIV.28): I force no end. I would have her be partner of my smart.

**Watson** Hek (LI): And wants not some Comparters of his grief:

**Anon.** Ironside (I.5.65) EDRICUS: we close our eyes as partners of your woes,

(III.5.50) EDRICUS: we are all partners of your private griefs;

Nobody (1748) ELIDURE: Partner in all my sorrows and my joys;

Dodypoll (III.5) FLORES: The living partner of your strange mishaps,

Weakest (VII.124) ORIANA: But to have partners in their misery.

**Shakes** 1H6 (III.2) BEDFORD: And will be partner of your weal or woe.

JC (III.2) ANTONY: What private griefs than have, ...

Lucrece (113): So should I have co-partners in my pain;

And fellowship in woe doth woe assuage,

### Scrupulous ... Stand upon ... Nice

**Anon.** Ironside (II.1.14-16) CAN: I' faith, my lord, you are too scrupulous, too unadvised, too fearful without cause, / to stand upon such nice excuses.

**Shakes** 3H6 (II.7.58-61): stand you/stand upon ... nice ... scrupulous

### Heaven ... Consent

**Anon.** Ironside (II.1.44) CAN: for by that name if heaven and thou consent,

Leic. Gh. (184): Whereby (as if it were by heaven's consent)

(758): But heaven did not consent to work his spoil

(1300): Inaugurate by heaven and earth's consent,

**Shakes** AWEW (II.1) HELENA: ... The help of heaven we count the act of men.

Dear sir, to my endeavors give consent;

Of heaven, not me, make an experiment.

### Spent/spend ... Breath

**Marlowe** Dido (V.1) AENEAS: In vain my love thou spendst thy fainting breath,

**Marprelate** (#7): ... the more violence they use, the more breathe they spend.

**Anon.** Ironside (II.1.70) CANUTUS: what I by some spent breath have compassed.

**Shakes** Edw3 (I.1) PRINCE: Or in a rightful quarrel spend my breath.

Cymb (V.3) POST: On either side I come to spend my breath;

### Ill-favored

**Golding** Ovid Met. (II.592): Her hands gan warp and into paws ill-favoredly to grow,

(XIII.996): A foul ill-favored sight it is to see a leafless tree.

(XIV.110): Into an evil-favored kind of beast, that being none

(XV.418): But like an evil-favored lump of flesh alive doth lie.

**Gascoigne** Supposes (II.4) CLEANDER: An ill-favored name by my troth: ...

**Anon.** Ironside (II.2.8-10) STITCH: I / cannot brook an ill-favored face, ...  
(III.5.22) EDR: Fortune's ill-favored frown shows she will smile  
**Shakes** MWW (I.1) SLENDER: ... they are very ill-favored / rough things.

**Mount a pitch** (probably refers to a hawking term meaning soars to a lofty height)

**Anon.** Ironside (II.2.17) EDRICUS: Whoso desires to mount a lofty pitch  
**Shakes** Titus (II.1) AARON: And mount her pitch, whom / thou in triumph long  
Hast prisoner held, ... (only recorded transitive use of 'mount' (per Sams))

**Logger-headed**

**Anon.** Ironside (II.2.73) EDRICUS: such logger-headed rogues are best for us;  
**Greene** James IV (I.Pro.98) OBER: to loggerhead your son I give a wandering / life and promise  
**Shakes** Shrew (IV.1) PET: You logger-headed and unpolish'd grooms!  
R&J (IV.4) CAPULET: Thou shalt be logger-head. ...

**Guiltless shoulders**

**Shakes** Rich3 (I.2) GLOU: Which laid their guilt upon my / guiltless shoulders.  
**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.17) CAN; and make their guiltless shoulders / bear the burthen.

**Sap/dead root**

Note: As Shakespeare so often compares the wise king to an attentive shepherd, here he is compared to the prudent gardener. It is notable that in Edmund Ironside, as in the following examples from Richard III, Richard II and King Lear, treason and/or betrayal result from inappropriate husbandry.

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.41-47) CAN: A traitor may be likened to a tree,  
which being shred and topped when it is green, / doth for one twig which from the same was cut  
yield twenty arms, yea twenty arms for one, / but being hacked and mangled with an axe,  
the root dies and piecemeal rots away. / Even so with traitors. Cut me off their heads,

**Shakes** Rich3 (II.2) Q ELIZ: To make an act of tragic violence:  
Edward, my lord, your son, our king, is dead.

Why grow the branches now the root is wither'd? / Why wither not the leaves the sap being gone?

Rich2 (III.4) GARD: They are; and Bolingbroke

Hath seized the wasteful king. O, what pity is it

That he had not so trimm'd and dress'd his land

As we this garden! We at time of year / Do wound the bark, the skin of our fruit-trees,

Lest, being over-proud in sap and blood, / With too much riches it confound itself:

Had he done so to great and growing men, / They might have lived to bear and he to taste

Their fruits of duty: superfluous branches / We lop away, that bearing boughs may live:

Had he done so, himself had borne the crown,

Which waste of idle hours hath quite thrown down.

Lear (IV.2) ALB: ... She that herself will sliver and disbranch

From her material sap, perforce must wither / And come to deadly use.

Lucrece (167): ... Ay me! the bark peel'd from the lofty pine,

His leaves will wither and his sap decay; / So must my soul, her bark being peel'd away.

**Bible** John 15.4-6 The branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine ... He is cast forth as a branch, and withereth.

### Ignominy ... Vild

**Marlowe** T2 (V.1) ORCANES: To vile and ignominious servitude.

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.66-67) CAN: rather let us die / than we should suffer this vild ignominy.

**Bible** Prov. 18.3, Isa 34.13 (KJ).

### Legal term: Judgment ... Execution

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.107-08) CANUTUS but you shall see our judgments straight performed. / Do execution on them presently!

(II.3.125-26) 1 PLEDGE: Give me the axe, I'll quickly execute this direful judgment on my guiltless hands.

**Shakes** MM (II.2) PROVOST: ... Under your good correction, I have seen, When, after execution, judgment hath / Repented o'er his doom

**Bible** Exod. 12.12; Num. 33.4; Deut. 10.18, 33.21; 2 Sam 8.15; 1 Kings 6.12; 1 Chron. 18.14; 2 Chron. 24.24; Ezra 7.1; Pss. , 99.4, 103.6, 119.84, 146.7, 149.9; Isa 16.3; Jer 5.1, 7.5, 21.12, 22.3, 23.5, 33.15; Ezek 5.8.10,15, 11.9,12, 16.41, 18.8,18.17, 30.14,19, 45.9; Micah 7.9; Zech. 7.9, 8.16; Wis. 9.13; Ecclus. 20.4, 35.17; 1 Mac 6.22; John 5.27; Jude 1.15.

A connection between the dramatic texts and Biblical passages is tenuous at best.

### Sins of the Father

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (II.2.106-108) ETEOCLES: As for my father, care I not; for if So chance I die, it may full well be said / His bitter curses brought me to my bane.

**Kyd** Cornelia (I.1.166-69) CHORUS: ' The wrath of heaven (though urg'd) we see is slow ' In punishing the evils we have done: / ' For what the Father hath deserv'd, we know, ' Is spared in him, and punisht in the sonne.

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.114) CANUTE: for you must suffer for your fathers' crime.

**Bible** Ex 34.7; Numb 32.14; Deut 24.16; 1 Kings 14.22; 15.26; 2 Kings 3.2, 14.6, 15.9, 21.15; 2 Chron 25.4; Ezra 9.7; Neh 1.6, 9.2, 32; Pss 106.6, 109.14; Isa 43.27; Jer 3.25, 14.20; Lam 5.7; Ezek 18.14; Dan 9.8, 16; Hos. 9.10); 1 Esdr 6.15, 8.76, 77; Tob 3.3, 5; Jdt 7.28, Ecclus 3.3, 14; Bar 2.33.

### God's Judgment/Vengeance

**Brooke** Romeus (2121-22): Now ought I from henceforth more deeply print in mind The judgment of the lord ...

(2854): T'appear before the judgment-seat of everlasting power,

**Gascoigne** Supposes (VIII) PHILO: you should have feared the vengeance of God the supreme judge (which knoweth the secrets of all hearts)

**Golding** Abraham (676-78) ABRAHAM: Is it right

That I so sinful and so wretched wight, / Should fall to scanning of the judgments

**Kyd** Sp Tr (III.12.986-7-87) HIER: God hath engross'd all justice in his hands, And there is none but what comes from him.

(III.13.2-3) HIER: Aye, heav'n will be reveng'd of every ill;

Nor will they suffer murder unrepaid.

**Shakes** Rich3 (I.4.199-200): Take heed; for he holds vengeance

in his hand, / To hurl upon their heads that break his law.  
 Merchant (IV.1.206): My deeds upon my head!  
 R&J (V.3.62): Put not another sin upon my head.  
**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.135) 1 PLEDGE: Let these my stumps crave / vengeance at thy hands,  
 thou judge of judges and thou king of kings!  
 Woodstock (I.1.28) YORK: high heaven be judge, we wish all good to him.  
 Willobie (To the Reader): Cry to the Lord for vengeance against us,  
 that tremble not at the remembrance of God's judgments  
 (V.3): What sin is that, which vengeance crave  
 (LVIII.1): With vengeance due, the sinful deeds?  
 (LXIII.1): And when I change let vengeance fall.  
 Cromwell (V.3.39) CROMWELL: O let my soul in Judgment answer it:  
 L Gh (2160-61): Yet though my sins pass number as the sand,  
 O mortal men, to Him the judgment leave  
 Yorkshire (IX) KNIGHT: Well, I do not think, but in tomorrow's judgment,  
 The terror will sit closer to your soul,  
**Disp.** Greene's Groat (195-96): ... leaving him that hath left the world to him  
 that censurcth of every worldly man, ...  
 (767-770): ... God warneth men by dreams and visions in the night  
 and by known examples in the day, but if he return not,  
 He comes upon him with judgment that shall be felt.  
**Bible** Ps. 140.10 Let coals fall upon them: let him cast them into the fire, & into the deep pits,  
 that they rise not. Ps. 7.16 His mischief shall return upon his own head.  
 Rom. 12.19 Vengeance is mine, 13.4 to take vengeance on him that doeth evil.  
 Deut. 32.35 Vengeance and recompense are mine: ...

### Tongues ... Filed/Smooth

**Brooke** Romeus (1017): Whether thy sugared talk, and tongue so smoothly filed,  
**Gascoigne** Jocasta (II.1.256) CHORUS: Yet thou O queen, so file thy / sugared tongue,  
**Edwards** Dam&Pith (1726): ... the plague of this court! / Thy filed tongue that forged lies  
**Lyly** Campaspe (IV.2.31) CAMP: Whet their tongues on their hearts.  
 Sapho (II.4.105) SYB: whose filed tongue made those enamored that sought to have him  
 enchanted.  
**Greene** James IV (I.1.236) ATEU: But princes rather trust a smoothing tongue  
 Selimus (3.4) SELIMUS: And feigned complaints his subtle tongue doth file  
 T'entrap the silly wand'ring traveler  
**Shakes** LLL (V.1) HOLO: ... discourse peremptory, his tongue filed, ...  
 Lear (I.4.288): How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is.  
 Pass Pilgrim 19 (2): Smooth not thy tongue with filed talk, ...  
**Nashe** Will Summers (1366): Smooth-tongue Orators, the fourth in place  
**Anon.** Willobie (I.10): A filed tongue which none mislikes.  
 Ironside (II.3.149-50) CAN: Sirs, temper well your tongues and be advised  
 if not, I'll cut them shorter by an inch.  
 (V.2.162) CAN: Edmund, Report shall never whet her tongue / upon Canutus to eternize thee.  
**Bible** Ps. 140.3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent: adder's poison is under their  
 lips.

## Trust ... Princes

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.157-58): 1 PLEDGE: We go thy cruel butchery to ring.

Oh England, never trust a foreign king.

**Shakes** King John (3.1.7-8) I trust I may not trust thee, for thy word

Is but the vain breath of a common man.

H8 (3.2.366-67) O how wretched / Is that poor man that hangs on princes' favors!

**Bible** Ps. 146.3: Put not your trust in princes ...; also Ps. 118.9

## Blot ... Shame ... Dishonor ... Erase

**Golding** Ovid Met. (Pref.30): That all their Gods with whoredom, theft, or murder blotted be.

(VII.199): Of staining of thine honor had not stayed thee in that stead.

(XIII.599): Forbear to touch me. So my blood unstained in his sight

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (I.1.131) SERVUS: How could it be, that

knowing he had done / So foul a blot, he would remain alive?

(I.1.156) JOCASTA: With other's blood might stain his guilty hands,

Supposes (III) DAMON: My daughter is deflowered, and I utterly dishonested:

how can I then wipe that blot off my brow?

**Kyd** Sp Tr (I.1.233-) His colors seized, a blot unto his name;

**Shakes** Rich2 (I.3.202): My name be blotted from the book of life.

Edw3 (I.1) K. EDW: Such as dread nothing but dishonor's blot.

(II.1) COUNTESS: Hath he no means to stain my honest blood

**Anon.** Locrine (V.1.61-72) [V.1.61]THRAS: If princes stain their glorious dignity

With ugly spots of monstrous infamy,

Mucedorus (Pro.10): From blemished Traitors, stained with Perjury:

Woodstock (I.1.190) WOODSTOCK: And shun those stains that blurs his majesty.

Weakest (XIV.20-21) DYANA: Without impeachment of our honest fame,

Debarring wicked lust to blot the same.

(XVI.169-70) EPERNOUNE: Oh wherefore stain you virtue and renown

With such foul terms of ignominy and shame?

Willobie (II.4): Repel the shame that fears a blot

(XLII.8): Then raze me out, and blot my name. (Rev. 3.5)

Ironside (II.3.175: to raze out this dishonorable blot

(this language parallel is almost identical to Willobie, above).

L Gh. (64): My fame is blotted out, my honor scarred,

(1336-67): Can this injurious world so quickly blot / A name so great out of records of fame?

Yorkshire 1 GENT: Still do these loathsome thoughts jar on your tongue?

Yourself to stain the honor of your wife,

KNIGHT: ... From such an honored stock and fair descent,

Till this black minute without stain or blemish.

KNIGHT: The desolation of his house, the blot / Upon his predecessors' honored name!

**Bible** Ex. 32.32-33; Num. 5.23; Ps. 69.28; Rev. 3.5.

## Book of life

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.176) CANUTUS: out of the brass-leaved book of living fame?

(III.4.6-7) EDM: whose valors echo through the mouth of fame

and writes you worthies in the book of life

**Shakes Rich2** (1.3.203, 4.1.274-75) The very book indeed / Where all my sins are writ.  
Bible Rev. 3.5; 20.12, 15; 21.27; also in Rev. 17.8; Phil. 4.3

### Stone ... Roll

Most of the examples below refer to the classical/pagan rolling stone of Fortune/Fate, or to the mythological punishment of Sisyphus.

**Golding** Ovid Met. (IV.569-70): There also labored Sisyphus that drave against the hill  
A rolling stone that from the top came tumbling downward still.

(X.48-49): ... and down sat Sisyphus upon / His rolling stone.

**Oxford** poem (#XVII If care or skill ...): My hapless hap doth roll the restless stone.

**Watson** Hek (LXII): [Comment] Sisyphus rolleth a great round stone up  
a steep hill, which being once at the top presently falleth down amain.

[Verse] By fear, like Sisyphus I labor still

To turl a rolling stone against the hill,

**Kyd** Sp Tr (I.1.316-18)VICEROY: What help can be expected at her hands,

Whose foot is standing on a rolling stone / and mind more mutable than fickle winds?

(IV.1.528-29) GHOST: Let Serberine go roll the fatal stone, / And take from Sisyphus his  
endless moan;

**Greene** Orl Fur (II.2.71) ORLANDO: The rolling stone, the tubs of the Belides --

**Shakes** H5 (III.6) PISTOL: Bardolph, a soldier, firm and sound of heart,

And of buxom valor, hath, by cruel fate, / And giddy Fortune's furious fickle wheel,

That goddess blind, / That stands upon the rolling restless stone--

H8 (V.3) SUFF: ... When ye first put this dangerous stone a-rolling, / 'Twould fall upon  
ourselves.

Anon. Locrine (III.2.50) HUBBA: Or roll the stone with wretched Sisiphos.

Ironside (II.3.197-99) EDRICUS: ... for else in time you might dismount the queen

and throw her headlong from her rolling stone / and take her whirling wheel into your hand.

(III.5.24-25) CANUTUS: What tell'st thou me of Fortune and her frowns,

of her sour visage and her rolling stone?

Willobie (LVI.2): To roll the stone that turns again.

(LVII.3): And shall I roll the restless stone?

### Spotless ... Name

**Brooke** Romeus (109): Thy tears, thy wretched life, ne thine unspotted truth,

(1663): So shall no slander's blot thy spotless life destain,

**Golding** Ovid (XIV.750-51): ... Hail, lady mine, the flower

Unspotted of pure maidenhood in all the world this hour.

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (I.1.451-52) BAILO: The voice that goeth of your unspotted fame,

**Lyly** Endymion (I.4) TELLUS: ... seeing my love to Endymion (unspotted)

cannot be accepted, his truth to Cynthia (though it be unspeakable) may be suspected.

**Shakes** Rich2 (I.1) MOW: The purest treasure mortal times afford / Is spotless reputation: ...

WT (II.1) First Lord: Please you to accept it, that the queen is spotless

Othello (III.3.155) Good name ... / Is the immediate jewel.

I' the eyes of heaven and to you; I mean, / In this which you accuse her.

H8 (III.2) WOLSEY: So much fairer / And spotless shall mine innocence arise, ...

TNK (III.6.196) EMILIA: By your own spotless honor?

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.775) EDRICUS: But as for this flea-spot of dishonor,  
 (IV.1.1282) EDMUND: that you were doubtful of my spotless truth  
 Willobie (gentle/courteous ...): The glory and praise that commends a spotless life  
 ... she stands unspotted and unconquered  
 Abel Emet (commendation of ... ): The glory of your Princely sex, the spotless name:  
 (I.4): Afflicted Susan's spotless thought;  
 (I.24): And yet she holds a spotless fame.  
 (XXXV.5): With spotless fame that I have held, (LIV.2): A spotless name is more to me,  
 Penelope (XIII.3): Shall hateful slander spot my name?  
**Munday** Huntington (XI.67-68) ROBIN: Why? She is called Maid Marian, honest friend,  
 Because she lives a spotless maiden life,  
 Similar Uses: Lyly Woman/Moon; Kyd Sp Tr; Chapman D'Olive  
**Bible** Eccclus 41.12 Have regard to thy name; for that shall continue with thee above a thousand  
 treasures of gold. Prov. 22.1 A good name is to be chosen above great riches .... 1 Peter 1.19 But  
 as the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb, / undefiled and without spot .

### True ... Truth ... Color

**Anon.** Ironside (II.3.233-36) EDRICUS: It stands not with my zeal and plighted faith  
 otherwise to say than as your highness saith: / your grace is able to give all their due  
 to make truth lie and likewise make lies true.  
 CAN: I would it lay in me to make thee true, / but who can change the Ethiopian's hue?  
 (III.5.160) EDR: Truth needs no colors.  
**Shakes** 1 Henry VI (5.1.72-80) To face the garment of rebellion  
 With some fine color that may please the eye. ...  
 And never yet did insurrection want / Such water-colors to impaint his cause.

### Crakes/croaks like a craven

**Lyly** Sapho (III.3.58-59) EUGENUA: I mistrust her not, for that the owl hath not shrieked  
 at the window or the night raven croaked, both being fatal.  
**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.8): crakes like a craven and bewrays himself;  
**Shakes** Shrew (II.1) KATH: No cock of mine; you crow too like a craven.  
**Bible** Matt 26.34... before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice; Matt.26. 75; Mark 14.30, 72,  
 Luke 22.34, 61, John 13.38.

### Cloudy brow

**Marlowe** T2 (II.4.7) TAMB: He binds his temples with a frowning cloud,  
**Shakes** 2H6 (III.1) GLOUC: And Suffolk's cloudy brow his stormy hate;  
**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.18) EDRI: and change the countenance of her cloudy brow.

### Cloudy look

**Marlowe** T2 (I.3.4) TAMB: Whose cheerful looks do clear the cloudy air  
**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.60): EDRICUS: with th' least encounter of a cloudy look,  
**Shakes** PassPil (19): Her cloudy looks will calm ere night:  
**Chapman** D'Olive (V.2.25) VANDOME: Sister, cloud not your forehead;

### Puff ... Words

**Anon.** Ironside (III.1.29-30) Stay, York, and hear me speak. Thy puffy words,  
thy windy threats, thy railing curses, light

**Shakes** 2H4 (V.3) SILENCE: By'r lady, I think a' be, but goodman / Puff of Barson.

PISTOL: Puff! / Puff in thy teeth, most recreant coward base! ...

Corio (II.1) BRUTUS: ... In earnestness to see him: seld-shown flamens

Do press among the popular throngs and puff / To win a vulgar station: ...

(III.2) CORIOLANUS: Let them puff all about mine ears, ...

**Bible** 1 Cor 4.19 ... not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power ...

### Hot coals, hot vengeance ... upon [my] head

**Golding** Ovid Met (I.266-67): ... I overthrew

The house with just revenging fire upon the owner's head,

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (1768): From heaven to send down thy hot consuming fire  
To destroy the workers of wrong, which provoke thy just ire?

**Anon.** Ironside (III.1.38) YORK: So heapest thou coal of fire upon my head

**Kyd** Sol&Per (II.1.114) ERASTUS: Which if I do, all vengeance light on me.

**Marlowe** T2 (IV.1.) JERUSALEM: ... heaven, filled with the meteors

Of blood and fire ..., / Will pour down blood and fire on thy head:

(V.1) TAMB: Where men report, thou sitt'st by God himself,

Or vengeance on the head of Tamburlaine,

Edw2 (IV.5.16) KENT: Rain showers of vengeance on my cursed head,

**Shakes:** 2H 6 (5.2.36): Hot coals of vengeance!

Rich2 (I.2.8): Will rain hot vengeance on offenders' heads.

**Anon.** Locrine (I.1.164-165) BRUTUS: Or let the ruddy lightning of great Jove  
Descend upon this my devoted head.

(IV.1.174-75) CORINEIUS: But if thou violate those promises,

Blood and revenge shall light upon thy head.

(V.1.) THRASIMACHUS: If there be gods in heaven, ...

They will revenge this thy notorious wrong,

And power their plagues upon thy cursed head.

Arden (I.1.336) MOSBY: Hell-fire and wrathful vengeance light on me

If I dishonor her or injure thee.

Ironside (849): YORK: So heapest thou coal of fire upon my head

Willobie (XXXVII.4): What bosom bears hot burning coals.

Cromwell (II.3) MISTRESS BAN: To that same God I bend and bow my heart,  
To let his heavy wrath fall on thy head,

(III.1) CROMWELL: All good that God doth send light on your head;

**Bible** "vengeance fall" invokes Pss. 7.16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his  
cruelty shall fall upon his own page. Ps. 140.10 Let coals fall upon them: let him cast them into  
the fire, & into the deep pits, that they rise not.

### Pelt ... Pate

**Shakes** 1H6 (III.1) MAYOR: Do pelt so fast at one another's pate ...

**Anon.** Ironside (III.1.43) CANT: longs to be pelting that old hoary pate.

### Home-bred countrymen

**Shakes** 3H6 (IV.1) MONT: Would more have strengthen'd this our commonwealth  
'Gainst foreign storms than any home-bred marriage.

Rich2 (I.3) RICH: This louring tempest of your home-bred hate;

V&A (126): A mischief worse than civil home-bred strife,

**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.48) CAN: whenas my home-bred countrymen do run,

### Tongues ... Sugared

**Brooke** Romeus (1017): Whether thy sugared talk, and tongue so smoothly filed,

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (II.1.256) CHORUS: Yet thou O queen, so file / thy sugared tongue,

**Watson** Hek (XCIII): I curse the sugar'd speech and Siren's song,

**Shakes** Rich2 (II.3) NORTH: And yet your fair discourse hath / been as sugar,

Oth (I.3) BRABANT: That, to pay grief, must of poor patience borrow.

These sentences, to sugar, or to gall,

**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.148) EDR: for sugar'd lines and phrases past compare.

**Nashe** Summers (1419) WINTER: Poison wrapped up in sugared words,

### Speed (be thy speed)

**Peele** Old Wives (136) 1 BROTHER: Now, father, God be your speed! What do you

**Anon** Weakest (II.23) BUNCH: Christ his cross be his good speed, Christ his foes to quell,

Ironside (III.6.28) ROGER: Good manners be your speed.

Nobody (1066-67) LADY: A distaff and a spindle, so indeed! / I told you this! Diana be my speed

**Shakes** TGV (III.1) LAUNCE: Saint Nicholas be thy speed.

### Smooth-faced

**Golding** Ovid Met. (VIII.570): Ne let that fair smooth face of thine beguile thee, ...

**Lyly** Love's Met. (I.2) ERIS: It is not your fair faces as smooth as jets ...

**Shakes** Rich3 (V.5) RICHMOND: Enrich the time to come with smooth-faced peace,

John (II.1) BASTARD: That smooth-faced gentleman, tickling Commodity,

LLL (V.2) KATHERINE: I'll mark no words that smooth-faced wooers say:

**Anon.** Woodstock (IV.1) BUSH: we have left that smooth-faced flattering Greene ...

Ironside (IV.1.101) EDMUND: ... not to believe that smooth-face forged tale.

Troub. Raigne K. John (XI.42): A smooth-facte Nunne is all the Abbots wealth.

Nobody (1640) QUEEN: Are coining in the mint of that smooth face?

Leic. Gh. (889): With my fair words and smooth-faced flattering.

**Nashe** Summers (1850-51): And, Winter, with thy writen frosty face,

Smooth up thy visage, when thou look'st on her;

### God sees/directs everything ... Sparrow

**Brooke** Romeus (2187-88): Then go (quoth he), my child, I pray that God on high

Direct thy foot and by thy hand upon the way thee gye [guide]:

(2872-73): But at all times men have the choice of doing good or bad;

Even as the sprite of God the hearts of men doth guide,

**Gascoigne** ... Jocasta (III.2.84) MENECEUS: But God it seeth that every secret seeth

(III.2.164): Who thinks that Jove the maker of us all,

And he that tempers all in heaven on high, The sun, the moon, the stars celestial,  
 So that no leaf without his leave can fall, / Hath not in him omnipotence also  
 To guide and govern all things here below?  
 Supposes (II.8) PHILOGANO: you should have feared the vengeance of God the supreme judge  
 (which knoweth the secrets of all hearts)  
**Greene** James IV (II.I.28-29) IDA: God with a beck can change each worldly thing,  
 The poor to rich, the beggar to the king. / [II.1.30]  
 (III.3.68) SIR BARTRAM: God will conduct your steps and shield the right.  
**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.12): ULF: Surely, my lord, you are highly favored  
 of God, who sees each human action, ...  
 Cromwell (I.3) FRISKIBALL: For God doth know what to myself may fall.  
 Leic. Gh (204-06) For though he may delude the people's sight,  
 It is in vain before God to dissemble, / Whose power the devils know, and knowing, tremble.  
**Shakes** AsYou (2.3.43-44) ADAM: He that doth the ravens feed,  
 Yea, providently caters for the sparrow, ...  
 Hamlet (V.2) HAMLET: Not a whit, we defy augury: there's a special  
 providence in the fall of a sparrow.  
**Bible** Matt. 10.29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing, and one of them shall not fall on the  
 ground without your Father? Luke 12.6: Are not five sparrows bought for two fardings, ...

### Maws, greedy

**Golding** Ovid Met. (III.81): And pierced to his filthy maw and greedy / guts within.  
**Anon.** Ironside (IV.2.18) ALFRED: whose greedy maws devours the / Saxons' blood ...  
**Shakes** Timon (III.4) FLAVIUS: And take down the interest into their / gluttonous maws  
 Edw3 (III.1) MARINER: To satisfy his hungry griping maw.

### Repent ... Late/too late

**Brooke** Romeus (1138): And I that now too late my former fault repent,  
 (2582): To sell the thing whose sale ere long, too late he doth repent.  
**Oxford** letter (1-3-76, to Lord Burghley): Wherefore for things passed amiss to repent them it is  
 to late, to help them, which I cannot but ease them that I am determined to hope for anything I do  
 not, but if anything do happen *preter spem*  
**Golding** Ovid Met. (Ep.73): Repentance when it is too late that all redress is past.  
 (Ep.92): For fear that men too late to just repentance should be driven.  
 (Ep.180): Repentance when it is too late for thinking things amiss.  
 (II.770): Than all too late, alas too late gan Phebus to repent  
**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (V.Ep.28) Who climbs too soon, he oft repents too late.  
**Lyly** Gallathea (III.1) EUROTA: Tush Ramia, 'tis too late to recall it, to repent it a shame.  
**Anon.** Ironside (III.2.34-35) HERALD: I fear your wills will put your wits to pain  
 and you repent it when it is too late.  
 Weakest (I.65): MERCURY: And with repentant thoughts for what is past,  
 Arden (V.5.18-19) ALICE: But now I find it, and repent too late.  
 Willobie (IV.1): Then to repent will be too late  
 (XII.6): I was thy friend, but now thy foe, / Thou hadst my heart, but now my hate  
 Refusing wealth, God send thee woe, / Repentance now will come too late.  
 (XXX.5): Fond women oft repent too late.

**Shakes** Lear (I.4): Woe, that too late repents,--  
Pass.Pil. (19): And then too late she will repent

**Bible** A number of verses combine the thought of repentance and time passing, including: Luke 10.13; Acts 3.10, 17.30; Eph. 5.15-16; and Rev. 2.5, 2.16.

Rev.2.21 And I have her space to repent of her fornication, and she repented not.

### Stomach ... proud, high

**Anon.** Ironside (III.2.39) HERALD: Their answer, good my lord, is negative,  
full of haughty courage and disdainful pride.

This little peace hath brought their stomachs up,

Willobie (LXIII.1): Will not your lofty stomach stoop?

Weakest (I.19-20) KING: Anjou be pacified, and Bullen leave

To feed thy swelling stomach with contempt.

**Shakes** T&C (II.1) ACH: ... That Hector, by the fifth hour of the sun,

Will ... To-morrow morning call some knight to arms

That hath a stomach; and such a one that dare / Maintain -- I know not what...

(III.3) PATROCLUS: I stand condemn'd for this; / They think my little stomach to the war

(IV.5) AJAX: You may have every day enough of Hector / If you have stomach;

H8 (IV.2) KATH: ... Of an unbounded stomach, ever ranking / Himself with princes

### Fortress ... Rock ... Bulwark

**Shakes** 1H6 (II.1.26-27) God is our fortress, in whose conquering name Let us resolve to scale  
their flinty bulwarks. H8 (3.2.197) As doth a rock against the chiding flood.

**Anon.** Ironside (III.4.1-2) EDM: Praised be the eternal bulwark of this land,

The fortress of my crown, in Whom I trust,

Willobie (IV.2): You sprang belike from Noble stock, / That stand so much upon your fame,

You hope to stay upon the rock, / That will preserve a faultless name,

**Bible** (2 Sam. 22-3) The Lord is my rock and my fortress, and he that delivereth me. God is my  
strength ... my high tower and my refuge. Matt. 7-24-25 Hath builded his house on a rock ...

### Men ... Big-boned

**Kyd** Sol&Per (I.2.59) ERAS: The sudden Frenchman, and the big-boned Dane,

**Greene** (attrib) Selimus (I.50) BAJAZET: Of big-boned Tartars, in a hapless hour ...

**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.1047) CAN: ... even so my big-boned Danes, / addressed to fight,

**Shakes** Titus (IV.3) TITUS: No big-boned men framed of the Cyclops' size;

**Nashe** Penniless: Danes: who stand so much upon their unwieldy burly-boned soldiery,  
where this big-boned Gentleman should pass

Saffron Waldon: (being a lusty big-boned fellow, & a Goliath or behemoth ...)

a great big-boned thresher

### Brinish Tears

**Marlowe** T2 (IV.2.9): OLYMPIA: And since this earth, dewed with thy brinish tears,

**Greene** Alphonsus (V.3.88) FAUSTA: If that the salt-brine tears ... (inexact)

? Selimus (14.105) AGA: Or rain a brinish show'r of pearled tears,

**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.65) EDRICUS: and all our force lies drowned in brinish tears

**Shakes** 3H6 (III.1) HENRY VI: To hear and see her plaints, her brinish tears.  
Lucrece (174): And wiped the brinish pearl from her bright eyes,

### Alls well ... Ends well ... Crown

**Kyd** Sp Tr (II.6.448) REVENGE: The end is crown of every work well done.

**Shakes** 2H6 (V.2) CLIFFORD: #La fin couronne les oeuvres.

2H4 (II.2.47): Let the end try the man.

AWEW (IV.4): All's well that ends well. Still the fine's the crown.

What's over the course, the end is the renown.

(V.3.334-35): All yet seems well; and if it end so meet, / The bitter past, more welcome is the sweet.

(V.3.337): All is well ended if this suit be won ...

T&C (IV.5): The end crowns all

**Anon.** Woodstock (IV.3) WOODSTOCK: and bloody acts, I fear, must crown the end.

Ironside (III.5.75) EDR: Praise the event, my lord: the end is all.

**Greene** Geo a Greene (III.2.44) GEORGE: Nay the end tries all; but so it will fall out.

**Disp.** Greene's Groat: Acta Exitus probat: The end tests/proves the deeds (all).

**Lyly** MB (III.4) MOTHER B: All shall end well, and you be found cozeners.

**Oxford** letter (Jan, 1602, to Sir Robert Cecil): #Finis coronat opus  
(The end crowns the work).

**Bible** Eccclus. 11.27: In a man's end, his works are discovered. Job 34.36.

Tilley proverb E116: The end crowns all.

### Fire from heaven

**Edwards.** Dam&Pith (567-69) STEPH: Seest thou this injustice, and wilt thou stay any longer  
From heaven to send down thy hot consuming fire

To destroy the workers of wrong, which provoke thy just ire?

**Anon.** Ironside (III.5.135) EDR: Fetch fire from heaven and mix it with thy ink,

**Shakes** Lear (V.3) LEAR: He that parts us shall bring a brand from heaven,  
And fire us hence like foxes.

PPT (II.4) HELICANUS: A fire from heaven came and shrivell'd up / Their bodies, ...

**Bible** Gen 19.24; Ex 9.23, Rev. 20.9; 2 Kings 1.10, 12, 14; 2 Kings 2.11; 1 Chr 21.26; 2 Chr 7.1;  
Job 1.16, Pss 18.12, 13; Eccclus 48.3, 2 Mac 2.10; Luke 9.54, Luke 17.29; 2Pet 3.12; Rev. 13.13.

However, Shaheen identifies the Lear quotation with Judges 15.4-5: Samson ... took three  
hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned them tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the middes  
between two tails. And when he had set the brands on fire, he sent them out into the standing  
corn. The Lear passage seems to be a mixture of Biblical images.

### Knight ... Carpet, Trencher

**Golding** Ovid Met. (XII.673): Was by that coward carpet knight bereaved of his lyfe, ...  
(XIII.123): Of Rhesus, dastard Dolon, and the coward carpetknyght

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (46) Aristippus: The king feeds you often from his own trencher.

**Anon** Fam. Vic. (844-45) ARCH: Meaning that you are more fitter for a tennis court  
Than a field, and more fitter for a carpet then the camp.

Mucedorus (Epi.): And weighting with a Trencher at his back,

Ironside (III.6.5): ye trencher-scraping cutters, ye cloak-bag carriers, ye sword and buckler

carriers,

Penelope (XXX.3): These trencher flies me tempt each day,

(XXXV.5): Than taking down such trencher-knights.

**Shakes** 2H6 (IV.1) SUFFOLK: Obscure and lowly swain, ...

Fed from my trencher, kneel'd down at the board.

TGV(IV.4) LAUNCE: ... and I came no sooner into the dining-chamber but he

steps me to her trencher and steals her capon's leg:

LLL (V.2) BIRON: ... Some carry-tale, some please-man, some slight zany,

Some mumble-news, some trencher-knight, some Dick, / That smiles his cheek in years ...

... Holding a trencher, jesting merrily?

Much Ado (V.2) BENEDICK: ... Troilus the first employer of panders, and / a whole bookful of these quondam carpet-mongers, ...

12th (III.4) TOBY: He is knight, dubbed with unhatched rapier and on carpet consideration; ...

Tempest (II.2) CALIBAN: ... Nor scrape trencher, nor wash dish ...

R&J (I.5) First Servant: Where's Potpan, ... He / shift a trencher? he scrape a trencher!

Timon (I.1) Old Athenian: And my estate deserves an heir more raised

Than one which holds a trencher.

(III.6) TIMON: ... You fools of fortune, trencher-friends, time's flies, ...

A&C (III.13) ANTONY: I found you as a morsel cold upon

Dead Caesar's trencher; nay, you were a fragment / Of Cneius Pompey's; ...

Corio (IV.5) CORIO: Ay; 'tis an honest service than to meddle with thy mistress. Thou pratest, and pratest; serve with thy trencher, hence!

**Nashe** Summers (793): take / not up your standings in a nut-tree, when you should be waiting on my Lord's trencher.

**Munday** Huntington (XIII.246) LEICESTER: This carpet knight sits carping at our scars, ...

### Death ... Woe

**Gascoigne** Jocasta (II.1.441) JOCASTA: By wrathful woe, or else by cruel death.

**Anon.** Locrine (IV.1.71) ESTRILD: To end their lives, and with their lives their woes!

(V.2.30) GWENDOLINE: O no, his death will more augment my woes.

Mucedorus (V.2.1) KING: Break, heart, and end my paled woes.

Woodstock (IV.3) KING: I fear, even here begins our woe:

her death is but chorus to some tragic scene

Ironside (IV.1.28) EDMUND: kill me yourself! Death is the end of woe

Nobody (930) ARCHIGALLO: Death is the happy period of all woe.

Willobie (LXVII.2): Swear thou my death, work thou my woe,

**Shakes** Rich2 (II.1) YORK: Thou death be poor, it ends a mortal woe.

**Bible** (possible) Rev. 12.11-12 ... and they loved not their lives ... unto the death. ... Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, and of the sea: ... for the devil is come down unto you ...

### Flowers ... Weeds

**Oxford** (poem: dedication of Cardanus): He pulls the flowers, he plucks but weeds.

**Lyly** Sapho (I.1.97-99) SYBILA: anyta, which being a sweet flower at the rising of the sun becometh a weed if it be not plucked before the setting.

**Greene** James IV (II.1.22-25) IDA: ... Some men like to the rose

Are fashion'd fresh; some in their stalks do close

And born, do sudden die; some are but weeds, / And yet from them a secret good proceeds.  
Anon. Ironside (IV.1.71-72) MESS: Their flags and banners, yellow, blue and red,  
resembles much the weeds in ripened corn.

Arden (III.5.142-43) ALICE: Flowers do sometimes spring in fallow lands,  
Weeds in gardens, roses grow on thorns;

Willobie (X.1): Well then I see, you have decreed, / And this decree must light on me;  
Unhappy Lily loves a weed, / That gives no scent, that yields no glee:

Thou art the first I ever tried, / Shall I at first be thus denied?

**Shakes** Sonnet (94): The basest weed outbraves his dignity:

For sweetest things turn sourest by their deeds; / Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds.

Oth (IV.2) OTHELLO: O, ay; as summer flies are in the shambles,

That quicken even with blowing. O thou weed, / Who art so lovely fair and smell'st so sweet  
That the sense aches at thee, would thou hadst / ne'er been born!

### Corn ... Blast

**Golding** Ovid Met (V.601-02): The stars and blasting winds did hurt,  
the hungry fowls did eat / The corn to ground:

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (I.1.453-54) BAILO: Is like a tender flower, that with the blast  
Of every little wind doth fade away.

**Kyd** Sp Tr (IV.2.17-18) ISA: An eastern wind, ..., / Shall blast the plants and the young saplings;  
(III.13.12-07-8) HIER: But suffer'd thy fair crimson-color'd spring  
With wither'd winter to be blasted thus?

**Greene** Orl Fur (V.1.63-64) SACREPANT: Parched be the earth, to drink  
up every spring: / Let corn and trees be blasted from above:

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.1.82-83) EDMUND: A sunshine day is quickly overcast.  
A springing bud is killed with a blast.

**Lyly** Love's Met (I.2)NISA: Of holly, because it is most holy, which lovely green  
neither the sun's beams nor the wind's blasts can alter or diminish.

(IV.1.194-97) MELOS: May summer's lightning burn our autumn crop,  
And rough winds blast the beauty of our plains,

Nashe Summers (660-61) AUTUMN: They vomit flames, / and blast the ripened fruits;  
(1770) BACK-WINTER: O that my looks were lightning to blast fruits!

**Shakes** Hamlet (III.4.64-65): Here is your husband, like a mildewed ear,  
Blasting his wholesome brother

**Bible** Gen. 41.5-7 ... seven ears of corn grew on one stalk, rank and goodly ... seven thin ears, &  
blasted with the East wind, sprang up after them: ... and the thin ears devoured the seven rank  
and full ears. Gen. 41.22-24 (similar version of above)

### Speech ... Oily

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.1.96) EDM: right did I guess, when with thy oily speech,  
thou did'st my pardon and my grace beseech,

**Willobie** (LVIII.5): Their lips with oil and honey flow,

**Shakes** Lear (I.1) CORDELIA: I yet beseech your majesty,--

If for I want that glib and oily art, / To speak and purpose not; ...

TNK (III.1.105-06) PALAMON: be rough with me and pour / This oil out of your language.

### Malice ... Memory

**Marlowe** T2 (I.30) NAVARRE: To stop the malice of his envious heart,

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.1.113) EDR: Traitor? Remember this: malice hath / a perfect memory.

**Shakes** Corio (IV.5) CORIO: ... a good memory, / And witness of the malice and displeasure  
Which thou shouldst bear me: only that name remains;

### Consume ... Sighs

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.2.32) EMMA: to burn my heart, consumed afore with sighs.

**Shakes** Ado (III.1) HERO: Therefore let Benedick, like cover'd fire, Consume away in sighs,  
waste inwardly:

**Bible** Pss 31.10.

### Hecuba ... Sorrow ... Troy ... Tears/Weeping

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.2.48-49) EMMA: To dam my eyes were but to drown my heart  
like Hecuba, the woeful Queen of Troy, / who having no avoidance for her grief,  
ran mad for sorrow 'cause she could not weep ...

**Shakes** See Hamlet, speech of the Player King

### Sheep, new-shorn (rich)

**Peele** Old Wives (219-220) LAMPRISCUS: ... as / poor as a sheep new-shorn, ...

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.3.24) SOUTH: and you remain as rich as new-shorn sheep.

**Bible** Song of Sol. 4.2 Thy teeth are like a flock of sheep in good order, which go up from the  
washing; which every one bring out twins, and none is barren among them. (KJ uses "shorn,"  
Geneva does not; presumably another Bible was used).

### Breed ... Suspicion/Suspect

**Kyd** Sp Tr (III.1.217) LORENZO: ... For Bel-Imperia breeds suspicion,

**Greene** Orl Fur (II.1.82) SACRE: Which well may breed suspicion of some love.

**Shakes** 2H6 (I.3) GLOU: Because in York this breeds suspicion ...

H8 (III.1) CARD: I am sorry my integrity should breed ... so deep suspicion.

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.4.26): EDRICUS: To stay long here would breed suspicion.

Weakest (V.107) ODILLIA: If this may breed suspicion of my love,

Dodypoll (V.2.135): Ere I'll offend your Grace or breed suspect [suspicion].

Leic Gh (1522): And breed suspicion in the prince's heart.

### Geese ... Fox

In his commentary on Edmund Ironside, Eric Sams cites the 'fox/geese' passages, and passages in Shakespeare, showing a similar relationship, stating: 'That would be an argument, if one were needed, for the common authorship of 2 and 3 Henry VI; and the same argument applies to Ironside.' (p. 282). The examples below also show close parallels between the 'fox/geese' passages in #Ironside and #Willobie.

**Anon** Ironside (IV.1.95-96): Right did I think whenas the fox did preach,  
he meant to get a goose within his reach.

(V.2.119) ALFRIC: When the fox preaches, then beware the geese.

Cromwell (IV.5.4-5) GARD: Bid them come hither, and stay you without:--

For by those men, the Fox of this same land, / That makes a Goose of better than himself,

Willobie (XIX.1): Methinks I hear a sober Fox, / Stand preaching to the gagging Geese;  
And shows them out a painted box / And bids them all beware of cheese:  
Your painted box and goodly preach / I see doth hold a boxly reach.

(XXXIX.1): ... When sharp-set Foxe begins to preach, / Let goslings keep without his reach.

**Lyly** Midas (I.2) PETULUS: ... foxes, that stand so near a goose and bite not?

**Shakes** MND DEMETRIUS: Not so, my lord; for his valor cannot / carry his discretion;  
and the fox carries the goose.

THESEUS: His discretion, I am sure, cannot carry his valor; for the goose  
carries not the fox. It is well: leave it to his discretion, and let us listen to the moon.

T&C (V.4) THERSITES: cheese, Nestor, and that same dog-fox, Ulysses, is

Comment: Similar allusion to a fox in #Greene's Groatsworth of Wit has been interpreted to refer  
to Lord Burghley, Oxford's father-in-law. Possibly the word here might also be used as a proxy  
for puritans or extremist reformers, perhaps drawing on a mental reference to Foxe's #The Book  
of Martyrs. Willobie in several places uses the puritan code-word 'precise'.

The passage from Troilus tellingly combines 'fox' and 'cheese' with Ulysses, often cited as a  
portrait of that selfsame Lord Burghley.

These numerous references may well also derive from the

**Bible** - Matthew 7.15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's  
clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. (See Henry VIII (I.1.158-60).

### Forged truth (lies, dissimulations)

**Brooke** Romeus (321): With forged careless cheer, of one he seeks to know,

**Golding** Ovid Met. (V.13): Upholding that Medusa's death was but a forged lie:

(IX.167): Through false and newly-forged lies that she herself doth sow),

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (1726): Away, the plague of this court! Thy filed tongue that forged lies

**Watson** Hek (XLVII): No shower of tears can move, she thinks I forge:

So forge, that I may speed without delay;

**Greene** Alphonsus (IV.Pro.21) VENUS: Did give such credence to that / forged tale

**Kyd** Sp Tr (I.2.92) VIL: Thus have I with an envious, forged tale ...

Sol&Per (II.1.117) PER: ... Ah, how thine eyes can forge alluring looks,

**Shakes** TA (V.2) TAMORA: ... Whate'er I forge to feed his brain-sick fits,

1H6 (III.1) EXETER: Burns under feigned ashes of forged love

(IV.1): VERNON: ... For though he seem with forged quaint conceit

Rich3 (IV.1) FITZWATER: ... And I will turn thy falsehood to thy heart, / Where it was forged,

Hamlet (I.5) ... the whole ear of Denmark

Is by a forged process of my death / Rankly abused: ...

V&A (132): Love is all truth, Lust full of forged lies.

Sonnet 137: Why of eyes' falsehood hast thou forged hooks, ...

AWEW (IV.1): 2d Lord: ... and then to return and swear the lies he forges.

Othello (IV.2): OTHELLO: I should make very forges of my cheeks, ...

**Anon.** Ironside (IV.1.101) EDM: not to believe each smooth-face forged tale.

(V.2.83) CANUTUS: Then to confute thy forged argument,

Arden (III.5.56) MOSBY: To forge distressful looks to wound a breast

**Drayton** et al Oldcastle (Pro.14): Since forged invention former time defaced.

**Bible** Pss 119.69, Job 13.4, Eccles 51.2.

### Argus ... hundred eyes ... peacock ... Juno

**Golding** Ovid Met (XV.426): Or Junos bird that in his taylor beares starres,  
or Joves stowt knyght

**Calvin** on Psalms, to the reader.

Greene Fr Bac (V.1.225) BACON: If Argus lived and had his hundred eyes,  
They could not o'r-watch Phobator's night.

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.21) EDRICUS: Had he as many [eyes] as Juno's bird,  
or could pierce millstones with his searching sight,  
he (by his leave) should not my halting find. / Juno's bird, the peacock, with as many eyes as  
Argus.

**Shakes** T&C (I.2) ALEX: or purblind Argus, all eyes and no sight.

### Religious Theology: Grace me no more

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.34) EDM: On thee? Hence, graceless wretch, / grace me no more.

**Shakes** LLL (IV.1.21-22): See, see, my beauty will be sav'd by merit,  
O heresy in fair, fit for these days!

Rich2 (II.3.87) YORK: Grace me no grace, nor uncle me no uncle: ...

MM (I.1.24-26): Grace is grace, despite of all controversy; as for example,  
thou thyself art a wicked villain, despite of grace.

**Munday** Huntington (XIII.102) ELY: Why dost thou grace Ely with / styles of Grace,

**Bible** Rom. 11.6 And if it be of grace, it is no more of works: or else were grace no more grace:  
but if it be of works, it is no more grace: or else were work no more work.

### All Hail ... Betrayal ... Judas

**Shakes** 3H6 (V.7) GLOUC: ... And cried 'all hail!' when as he meant all harm.

Rich2 (IV.1) KING RICH: Did they not sometime cry, 'all hail!' to me? / So Judas did to Christ:

TNK (III.5.102) SCHOOLMASTER Thou doughty Duke, all hail! ~~~ All hail, sweet ladies.

**Bible:** Shaheen points out that no English translation uses the phrase 'all hail' and that  
Shakespeare seems to derive the phrase from the medieval play #The Agony and the Betrayal.

**Lyly** Campaspe (II.1) PSYLLUS: All hail, Diogenes, to your proper person.

Endymion (II.2) SAMIAS: Sir Tophas, all hail!

(V.2) SAMIAS: All hail, Sir Tophas, how feel you yourself?

**Kyd** Sol&Per (II.1.30) BASILISCO: All hail, brave cavalier.

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.25-29) EDR: -- All hail unto my gracious sovereign!

STITCH: Master, you'll bewray yourself, do you say  
'all hail' and yet bear your arm in a scarf? That's hale indeed.

EDRICUS: All hail unto my gracious sovereign!

Mucedorus (III.5.6-7) MESSENGER: All hail, worthy shepherd.

MOUSE: All reign, lowly shepherd.

Leic. Gh. (1935): Even they betrayed my life that cried, 'All hail!'

**Nashe** Summers (305-06): SOLST: All hail to Summer, my dread / sovereign Lord. Judas' Kiss

### Judas' kiss ... Caiphias

**Shakes** LLL (V.2) BIRON: A kissing traitor. How art thou / proved Judas? ...

DUMAIN: The more shame for you, Judas. ...

BOYET: To make Judas hang himself. ...

BIRON: Well followed: Judas was hanged on an elder.

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.10) ALFRIC: That sought like Judas to betray his lord

(V.1.29-30) EDMUND: Judas, thy next part is to kiss my cheek

and then commit me unto Caiaphas.

Weakest (XVI.179) BRAB: Hath Judas-like betrayed his master's life,

**Disp.** Greene's Groat (908-09): this betrayer of him that gave His life for him inherited the portion of Judas,

**Munday** Huntington (I.55) SKELTON: Who Judas-like betrays his liberal Lord

Into the hands of that relentless Prior,

**Bible** Matt 26.49 Mark 14.45, Luke 22.47

### Tongues ... Poisoned

**Golding** Ovid Met. (II.970): And all bevenomed was her tongue. No sleep her eyes had seen.

Watson Hek (Dedication to Oxford): or the poison of evil-edged tongues

**Shakes:** 3H6 (I.4.112): Whose tongue more poisons than the adder's tooth!

Hamlet (I.5.35): A serpent stung me.

Oth (III.3.451): For 'tis of aspics' tongues.

**Disp.** Greene's Groat (628-29): The Viper's tooth is not so venomous,

The Adder's tongue not half so dangerous,

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.37) EDM: His sight, his breath, his fell infectious tongue is venomer than is the Basilisk's.

Willobie (To constant Ladies): many men in these days / whose tongues are tipped with poison

(L.3): In greenest grass the winding snake, / With poisoned sting is soonest found,

A coward's tongue makes greatest crack, / emptiest cask yields greatest sound,

Leic. Gh (286-87): ... antidote most strong / Against the poison of a venom'd tongue.

**Bible** Ps. 140.3: They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent: adder's poison is under their lips

### Pawn ... Lives

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (825) PITHIAS: Take me, O might king! / My life I pawn for his.

(834) DION: Thou seemest to trust his words that pawnest thy life so frankly.

**Shakes** Edw3 (II.1) WAR: To pawn thine honor rather than thy life.

Lear (I.1) KENT: My life I never held but as a pawn ...

(I.2) EDMUND:... I dare pawn down my life / for him ...

See also Merchant of Venice, the major plot

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.44-45) EDR: Doth Edmund thus reward his followers

that pawn their lives for him and in his cause?

**Lyly** Love's Met. (III.2) PROTEA: Let me, as often as I be bought for money / or pawned for meat,

### Free ... Heart

**Golding** Ovid Met. (I.634): That made this wound within my heart that heretofore was free.

(V.348): The wicked Tyrant Pyren still: my heart is yet scarce free

(V.621): And have your heart more free from care, which better serve me may

(VIII.88): A God as in their own behalf, and if their hearts be free

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.65) EDR: how far my heart was free from dastard flight;

Dodypoll (IV.3.83): O brave free-hearted slave, ...  
**Lyly** Love's Met (II.1) CERES: in token that my heart is as free  
from any thought of love as these from any blemish,  
**Munday** Huntington (VIII.13) FITZ: An argument of my free heart, my Lord,  
**Shakes** Timon (I.2) VENT: I am bound to your free heart.  
Macbeth (I.3) MAC: Let us speak our free hearts each to other.  
Lov. Comp (28): Kept hearts in liveries, but mine own was free.

### Innocent/Guilty blood ... Drink blood

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (796-97) DAMON: ... whereas no truth my innocent / life can save,  
But that so greedily you thirst my guiltless blood to have,  
(1472) EUBULUS: Who knoweth his case and will not melt in tears?  
His guiltless blood shall trickle down anon.  
**Anon.** Fam Vic. (814) ARCH: Not minding to shed innocent blood, ...  
Woodstock (V.1) LAPOOLE: ... and my sad conscience bids the contrary  
and tells me that his innocent blood thus spilt heaven will revenge.  
Ironsides (V.1.70) EDRICUS: thirst not to drink the blood of innocents.  
(V.2.159) EDRICUS: and made a sea with blood of innocents;  
(V.2.170) CANUTUS: and glad for sparing of that guiltless blood  
**Kyd** Sp Tr (III.11.25-29) HIER: A habitation for their cursed souls,  
There, in a brazen cauldron, fixed by Jove, / In his fell wrath, upon a sulfur flame,  
Yourselves shall find Lorenzo bathing him / In boiling lead and blood of innocents.  
**Shakes** 1H6 (V.iv.44): Stain'd with the guiltless blood of innocents.  
Rich2 (V.6) BOLING: The guilt of conscience take thou for thy labour, ...  
That blood should sprinkle me to make me grow:  
Rich3 (I.2.63) O earth! Which this blood drink'st, revenge his death!  
Matt. 27.24 ...washed his hands ... of the blood of this just man  
Macbeth (2.2): Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood ...  
Titus (V.2.183): The basin that receives your guilty blood.  
Willobie (IX.5): A guilty conscience always bleeds  
(XIII.2): I rather choose a quiet mind, / A conscience clear from bloody sins,  
Than short delights, ...  
**Bible** Deut. 21.9: The cry of innocent blood.; Deut. 32.35  
Jer. 2.34: In thy wings is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents.

### Hold ... play

**Marlowe** T2 (III.3.24-25) THERIDAMAS: And over thy Argins and covered ways  
Shall play upon the bulwarks of thy hold  
(III.3.63-65) TECHELLESÊÊTrumpets and drums, alarum presently,  
And soldiers play the men, the hold is yours.  
**Greene** Orl Fur (I.1.223) RODAMANT: And hold thee play till Mandricard return. --  
Fr. Bac. (II.4.23) BURDEN: Bacon, if he will hold the German play,  
**Anon.** Ironsides (V.1.89) EDRICUS: till you upon the forefront held them play;  
(V.2.7) CAN: in meantime make ye strong to hold him play,  
**Munday** Huntington (XV.78) SCATHLOCK: I pray thee, Friar, hold him play.  
**Shakes** H8 (V.4) CHAMBER: A Marshalsea shall hold ye play these two months.

**Feigned love, Treachery, Flattery:** a Major theme of Edmund Ironside:

Flattering courtiers/lovers

**Kyd** Sol&Per (I.5.56) HALEB: Why, his highness gave me leave to speak my will;  
And, far from flattery, I spoke my mind, / And did discharge a faithful subject's love.  
Thou, Aristippus-like, did'st flatter him,

(I.5.75-78) HALEB: Your highness knows I spake at your command,  
and to the purpose, far from flattery.

AMURATH: Thinkst thou I flatter? Now I flatter not.

(II.1.68) ERASTUS: They will betray me to Philipppo's hands, / For love, or gain, or flattery.

Sp Tr (III.1.9) HIER: Sith fear or love to kings is flattery.

**Greene** James IV: A treacherous courtier also moved the action.

(Pro) BOH: No, no; flattering knaves that can cog and prate fastest, / speed best in the court.

(I.1.53) KING ENG.: Make choice of friends, ... / Who soothe no vice, who flatter not for gain,

(I.1.187) ATEUKIN: Most gracious and imperial majesty ...

A little flattery more were but too much.

(I.1.277) ATEUKIN: Did not your Grace suppose I flatter you,

There are 16 similar uses of "flatterer" in James IV.

**Shakes** V&A (69): Dismiss your vows, your feigned tears, your flattery;

**Anon** Willobie (XI.3): For who can trust your flattering style,

(LVII.3): With flattering tongues, & golden gifts, / To drive poor women to their shifts.

(LVIII.5): Their tongues are fraught with flattering guile;

(LXVI.3): Though flattering tongues can paint it brave,

## Fawn, Fawning

**Watson** Hek (XXXIX): Conjoined with fawning heaps is sore oppressed,

**Kyd** Sol&Per (I.3.180) BASILISCO: Better a dog fawn on me than bark.

**Shakes** This image is a major theme of a many Shakespeare works, involving betrayal by such figures as Iago, Iachomo, and Parolles. The words fawning, feigned flatterer et al form the basis for a major Shakespeare word cluster. Edricus, in the Apocryphal Edmund Ironside, is the perfect model of such a courtier

1H6 (V.3): That Suffolk doth not flatter, face, or feign.

Errors (IV.2) DROMIO/SYR: ... A back-friend, a shoulder-clapper, one that 1H6 ((IV.4)

SOMERSET: ... And take foul scorn to fawn on him by sending.

3H6 (IV.1, IV.8); Rich3 (I.3); Rich2 (I.3,(III.2,V.1); IH4 (I.3)

Comedies: TGV (III.1); LLL (V.2); MND (II.1); MV (I.3); AsYou (II.7)

Tragedies: JC (I.2, III.1), Ham (III.2); Timon (III.4); Coriolanus (I.6, 3.2)

Poetry: Venus & Adonis (144); Sonnets (149)

**Marlowe** Jew of Malta (II.3.20): We Jews can fawn like spaniels when we please: ...

**Anon:** Ironside (V.1.112) EDRICUS: Twas not your highness but some fawning mate  
that put mistrust into your grace's head, ...

Willobie (I.16): Disdain of love in fawning face.

(VI.4): A fawning face and faithless heart

(III.5): Whose fawning framed Queen Dido's fall,

(LXIX.2): Whose fawning features did enforce

**Oxford** letters: (10-31-1572, to Lord Burghley): But yet, least those (I can not tell how to term them) but as back-friends unto me.

(September 1596, to Sir Robert Cecil): Enemies are apt to make the worst of every thing, flatterers will do evil offices, and true and faithful advice will seem harsh to tender ears.

Willobie Feigned love: (VIII.5): Still feign as though thou godly art,

(IX.6): To bear a show, and yet to feign,

(XI.6): To faithless heart, to lie and feign,

(XXX.1): How fine they feign, how fair they paint,

(LV.II): Assure yourself, I do not feign, / Requite my love with love again.

**Bible** II Sam. Arg: ... what horrible & dangerous insurrections, uproars, & treasons were wrought against him, partly b false counselors, feigned friends & flatterers, and partly by some of his own children and people and how by God's assistance he overcame all difficulties, and enjoyed his kingdom in rest and peace. In the person of David the Scripture setteth forth the Christ Jesus the chief King, who came of David according to the flesh, and was persecuted on every side with outward and inward enemies, as well as in his own person, as in his members, but at length he overcometh all his enemies and give his Church victory against all power both spiritual & temporal: and so reigneth with them, King for evermore.

### Wit ... Will

**Brooke** Romeus (2296): And said that she had done right well by wit to order will.

**Oxford** poem (Fain would I sing): Till Wit have wrought his will on Injury.

**Gascoigne** et al Jocasta (III.2) MENECEUS: ... Yet evil it were in this / to yield your will.

CREON: Thy wit is wily for to work thy woe.

**Watson** Hek (XXXVIII): And for whose sake I lost both will and wit,

(LXXVIII): That wit and will to Reason do retire:

**Kyd** Sp Tr (IV.3.307) HIERON: Erasto, Soliman saluteth thee,

And lets thee wit by me his Highness' will,

**Shakes** TGV (II.6.12) PRO: And he wants wit that wants resolved will

To learn his wit t'exchange the bad for better.

LLL (II.1.49-50) MARIA: Is a sharp wit matched with too blunt a will,

Whose edge hath power cut, whose will still wills ...

12th (I.5.29) FESTE: Wit, an't be thy will, put me into good fooling!

Hamlet (I.5.44-46) GHOST: O wicked wit and gifts, that have the power

So to seduce -- won to his shameful lust / The will of my most seeming-virtuous queen.

Corio (II.3.27-28) 3 CIT: Nay your wit will not so soon out as / another man's will, ...

Lucrece (1230:) What wit sets down is blotted straight with will;

**Anon.** Ironside (V.1.119) EDR: See, see, what wit and will can bring about.

Willobie (XXXII.2): If wit to will, will needs resign,

(LIII.1): If fear and sorrow sharp the wit, / And tip the tongue with sweeter grace,

Then will & style must finely fit, / To paint my grief, and wail my case:

(LVII.5): Can wit enthralled to will retire?

(Auth. Conc. 1): Whom gifts nor wills nor force of wit / Could vanquish once with all their shows:

Penelope (I.4): For what my wit cannot discharge, / My will surely supplies at large.

**Lyly** MB (I.3) SPERANTUS: He hath wit at will.

**Nashe** Summers (498-99) WINTER: Let him not talk; for he hath words at will,

And wit to make the baddest matter good.

### Legal term: Reason ... Proof; Confute ... Argument

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.83-84) CAN: Then to confute thy forged argument,  
thus argue I; my sword is reason's proof.

**Shakes** Caesar (II.1) BRUT: I have not known when his affections sway'd  
More than his reason. But 'tis a common proof, / That lowliness is young ambition's ladder

### Sword ... Reason

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.84) CANUTUS: ... my sword is reason's proof.

**Shakes** A&C (III.13) ENO: ... when valor preys on reason, / It eats the sword it fights with.

T&C (II.2) TROILUS: You know a sword employ'd is perilous,

And reason flies the object of all harm: / Who marvels then, when Helenus beholds

A Grecian and his sword, if he do set / The very wings of reason to his heels

### Fountain of wit

**Edwards** Dam&Pith (956) STEPH: But such as thou art, fountains of squirrility ...

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.96) EDRICUS: fountain of wit, the spring of policy ...

**Bible** Baruch 3.12 Thou has forsaken the fountain of wisdom.

### Manure ... Blood

**Golding** Ovid Met. (XIII.515-16): Against the place where Ilion was,  
there is another land / Manured by the Biston men. ...

**Kyd** Sp Tr (IV.2.15-16) ISA: Barren the earth and blissless whose'er  
Imagines not to keep it unmanur'd.

Sol&Per (I.5.35-36) HALEB: After so many Bassows slain,  
Whose blood hath been manured to their earth, ...

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.148) EDRICUS: ... this little isle, / whose soil is manured with carcasses

**Shakes** Rich2 (4.12.137): The blood of English shall manure the ground

### High-resolved

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.194) EDM: of noble blood and high-resolved spirit

See also Locrine (II.1.60) HUMBER: Kingly resolved, thou glory of thy sire.

**Shakes** Titus (IV.4) AEMILIUS: High-resolved men, bent to the spoil, ...

### Goliath ... Weaver's beam (spec. ref. to weaver's beam)

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.202) EDM: Were he Goliath, I the little king,

I would not fear, him on his knees to bring; / but he hath rather cause to doubt of me,

I being big and far more strong than he.

**Shakes** Edw3 (IV.6) PHILIP: An arm hath beat an army; one poor David / Hath with a stone  
foil'd twenty stout Goliaths;

MWW (IV.1.22): I fear not Goliath with a weaver's beam.

**Nashe** Summers (1025) BACCHUS: ... were every beam as big as a weaver's beam.

**Bible** 2 Sam. 21.19 Goliath the Gittite: the staff of whose spear was like a weavers beam. See  
also 1 Chron. 20.5, same text and 1 Sam 17.7.

### Honey ... Surfeit

**Lyly** Sapho (Pro.): and in Hybla (being cloyed with honey) they account it dainty to feed on wax.

Endymion (V/1) ENDY: for bees surfeit sometimes with honey and the gods are glutted ...

**Anon** Ironside (V.2.253-59) CANUTUS: How pleasant are these speeches to my ears, Aeolian music to my dancing heart, / Ambrosian dainties to my starved maw, sweet-passing Nectar to my thirsty throat, / rare cullises to my sick-glutted mind, refreshing ointments to my wearied limbs, / and heavenly physic to my earth-sick soul, which erst was surfeited with woe and war.

**Shakes** 1H4 (3.2.71-73): They surfeited with honey and began

To loathe the taste of sweetness, whereof a little / More than a little is by much too much.

**Bible** Prov. 25.16 ... eat (honey) that is sufficient for thee, lest thou be over-full, and vomit it.

### Tongues ... Orators

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.273) ALFRIC: doth force our tongues, our hearts' chief orators,

**Shakes** Errors (III.2) LUCIANA: Be not thy tongue thy own shame's orator;

Edw3 (I.2) K. EDWARD: What needs a tongue to such a speaking eye,

That more persuades than winning Oratory.

**Nashe** Will Summers (1366): Smooth-tongue Orators, the fourth in place

### Wink ... Sleep

**Brooke** Romeus (366): Not half a wink of quiet sleep could harbor in her bed;

**Golding** Ovid Met. (VII.204-05): By force of chanted herbs to make the watchful dragon sleep, Within whose eyes came never wink,

**Lyly** Campaspe (V.4.4) ALEX: Be of good cheer; though I wink, I sleep not.

Sapho (III.4.58-59) PHAO: Yet Medea made the ever-waking dragon to snort when she (poor soul) could not wink.

**Anon.** Ironside (V.2.300) EDR: and till occasion fits them, sleeping wink.

Willobie (XXX.2): But you can wake, although you wink,

Penelope (XXXII.2): But you can wake, although you wink,

**Shakes** Cymb (III.4) PISANIO: I have not slept one wink.

## Appendix III: Vocabulary, Word Construction

Wordplay:

(V.i.1669) STITCH: In vain -- what a vain vein my master is in!

(Note use of OX signature word/expression.)

**Distinctive Words, Phrases** (\*unusual):

arreared, beg at thy ears a little audience, brustling his feathers, causer (similar to OX WS word 'partaker'), consuming war ... devour, controlment, demerit best (merit?), exordion, extrIBUTE (v), for color's sake (to deceive), good manners be your speed, hollow voice, if that, I hold my life (bet my life), inheritance, logger-headed (a), manured with carcasses, newsmonger, oily speech, platform (plan), sea of blood, sheep-biter (n), sluggy (a), spurn not against the truth, -claimed traitors), thieves of time, time comes in time, roying (a)\*, venommer (a), your comb is cut

**Compound Words** (\*surely unusual): 80 words. (1 verb, 25 nouns, 54 adj, ).

after-age (n), after-hopes\* (n), all-conquering (a), all-daring (a), all-soothing (a), base-born (a), battle-main (n), best-loved (a), big-boned (a), block-headed (a), blue-coated (a), brass-leaved\* (a), brave-minded\* (a), bristle-pointed\* (a), cloak-bag (n), cousin-german (n), curtle-axe (n), dear-bought (a), deep-reaching\* (a), down-weighed\* (a), dry-shod (a), dull-pated\* (a), earth-sick soul (a), English-born (a), fire-breathing (a), flea-spot\* (n), gripple-minded\* (a), grout-head (n), hair's-breadth (n), hard-hearted (a), heir-apparent (n), high-resolved (a), home-bred (a), honest-meaning\* (a), horn-grafter\* (n), horse-heels (n), ill-favored (a), late-espoused\* (a), logger-headed (a), long-expected\* (a), loose-brained\* (a), man-at-arms (n), March-beer\* (n), marking-stall\* (n), mother-killing\* (a), mother-wit (n), never-heard-of (a), new-married (a), new-shred\* (a), new-shorn (a), nothing-fearing (a), over-cloyed (a), over-hardiness (n), over-light (a), over-match (v), rare-conceited\* (a), rash-seeming\* (a), rent-run\* (a), sending-for (n), serving-man (n), shake-rag (n), shirt-band (n), sheep-biter (n), sibert-asking (n), sick-gluttled\* (a), smooth-face (a), stony-hearted (a), stout-hearted (a), sure-grounded (a), sweet-passing\* (a), three-score (a), trencher-scraping\* (a), tribute-paying (n), true-approved (a), true-born (a), war-begotten\* (a), well-deserving (a), windy-headed (a), wing-footed (a), wise-man (n)

**Words beginning with 'con'** (\*surely unusual): 37 words. (19 verbs, 12 nouns, 9 adj).

conceal (v), conceive (v), concern (v), conclusion (n), concord (n), conduct (v), confess (n), confident (a), confirm (v), confirmation (n), confute (v), conjoined (a), conquer (v), conqueror (n), conquest (n), conscience (n), consent (n, v), considered (v), conspire (v), constable (n), constant (a), consult (v), consume (v), consuming (a), contagious (a), contain (v), contemplation (v), contempt (n), contend (v), content (v, n, a), continue (v), continual (a), contradict (v), controlling (a), controlment (n), contumelious\* (a), convert (v)

**Words beginning with 'dis'** (\*surely unusual): 33 words (17 verbs, 10 nouns, 8 adj).

disadvantage (n), disappoint (v), discomfited (v), discontent (a, n), discontented (n), discord (n), discountenanced\* (n), discourage (v), discourse (n), discouraging (v), discover (v), discredit (v), disdain (v), disdainful (n), disgrace (v), disguised (n), disguise (n), dishonor (n), dishonorable (n), disloyal (n), dismay (v), dismount (v)\*, dispatch (v, n), disperse (v), dispose (v), dissemble (v), dissembling (n), dissimulation (n), distempered (v)\*, distilled (v), distraught (n), disturb (v), disturbance (n)

**Words beginning with 'mis':** 7 words (3 verbs, 4 nouns).

mischief (n), misconsters (v), misery (n), mishap (n), misinform (v), mistress (n), mistrust (v)

**Words beginning with 'over'** (\*surely unusual): 11 words.

(6 verbs, 2 nouns, 4 adj).

overcast (a), o'er-cloyed (a), overcome (v), over-hardiness\* (n), over-light (a), overload (v), overloading (a), over-match (v), overruns (v), oversee (v), overthrow (n, v)

**Words beginning with 'pre':** 11 words (5 verbs, 3 nouns, 2 adj, 1 adv).

prelate (n), prepare (v), presageth (v), presence (n), present (a), presently (adv), presume (v), presuming (v), presumptuous (a), pretense (n), prevented (v)

**Words beginning with 're':** 49 words (30 verbs, 18 nouns, 3 adj).

rebel (v), rebellion (n), rebellious (a), recall (v), receive (v), recite (v), recompense (v), redeem (v), redoubled (v), refrain (v), refreshing (a), refuse (v), refuge (n), regain (v), regard (n), rejoice (v), relieve (v), religion (n), rely (v), remain (v), remember (v), remembrance (n), remorse (n), renews (v), renovate (v), renowned (a), reparation (n), repent (v), repentance (n), repetition (n), reply (v), report (v), reputation (n), request (n), requited (v), resemble (v), resist (v), resistance (v), resolution (n), resolved (v), resist (v), resistance (n), retire (v), retreat (n), return (n, v), revenge (n, v), revenging (n), reverence (n), reward (v)

**Words beginning with 'un','in'(\* surely unusual):** 72 words (29/41/2)

(13 verbs, 14 nouns, 39 adj, 1 adv, 2 conj, 4 prep).

incarnate (a), incur (v), indeed (conj), indulgency (n), infectious (a), inflames (v), influence (n), ingratitude (n), inheritance\* (n), injury (n), innocent (n), inquiring (a), insinuate (v), insinuating (a), inspire (v), instead (adv), instigation (n), instrument (n), intelligence (n), intend (v), intending (v), intent (n), intention (n), interest (n), into (prep), intrude (v), invasions (n), invincible (a), inward (a)

unadvised (a), unawares (a), uncase\* (v), uncivil (a), uncover (v), undecent (a), undeserved (a), unfaithful (a), unfit (a), unfold (v), unfriended\* (a), ungodly (a), ungrateful (a), unhappy (a), unheard (a), unhurt (a), universal (a), unkind(a), unkindness (n), unknown (a), unless (conj), unmarried (a), unportable\* (a), unprepared (v, a), unprovided (a), unpunished (a), unreasonable (a), unrelenting (a), unruly (a), unshed\* (v), unskillful (a), unspeakable (a), unspotted (a), unsure (a), until (prep), unto (prep), untoward (a), untutored (a), unwelcome (a), unwieldy (a), unwitting (a)

under (prep), understand (v)

**Words ending with 'able'** (\*surely unusual): 11 words (all adj).

answerable, honorable, immovable, irrevocable, notable, serviceable, tractable, uportable\*, unreasonable, unspeakable, vengeable\*

**words ending with 'ize':** 2 verbs -- eternize, scandalize.

**Words ending with 'less':** 13 words (12 adj, 1 conj).

bootless, causeless, endless, graceless, guiltless, headless, helpless, lawless, matchless, needless, spotless, timeless, unless (conj)

**Words ending with 'ness':** 15 words (1 verb, 15 nouns).

business, cleanliness, forgiveness, forwardness, gentleness, [over]hardiness, highness, kindness, madness, mightiness, rashness, sauciness, sickness, weakness, witness (n, v)