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THE FIRST EDITION
OF THE
TRAGEDY
OF
HAMLET,
BY
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

LONDON.
PRINTED FOR N.L. (NICHOLAS LING)
AND JOHN TRUNDELL
1603.

REPRINTED AT THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS,
BY WILLIAM NICOL,
FOR PAYNE AND FOSS, PALL-MALL.
1825.
The present Edition of Hamlet is an accurate reprint from the only known copy of this Tragedy as originally written by Shakespeare, which he afterwards altered and enlarged. It is given to the world under the impression of rendering an acceptable service to literature. Some variations in the plot, as compared with the received Text, will be perceived; but its chief value consists in bringing to light several lines of great beauty subsequently omitted, and in many new readings of passages which have been the subject of much controversy among the critics. The typographical errors and even negligent omissions in the Text are common to all the Editions published during the life time of Shakespeare, who, it is believed, never superintended the publication of any of his works, excepting the Poems of Venus and Adonis, and Tarquin and Lucrece.

The last leaf is wanting; but as the Play is perfect to the death of Hamlet, the loss is of comparatively small importance.
THE
Tragical Historie of
HAMLET
Prince of Denmarke

By William Shake-speare.

As it hath beene diverse times acted by his Highnesse ser-
uants in the Cittie of London: as also in the two V-
niuersities of Cambridge and Oxford, and else-where

At London printed for N. L. and Iohn Trundell.
1603.
The Tragicall Historie of

HAMLET

Prince of Denmarke:

Enter two Centinels.

1. S Tand: who is that?
2. Tis I.
1. O you come most carefully vpon your watch,
2. And if you meete Marcellus and Horatio,
The partners of my watch, bid them make haste.
1. I will: See who goes there.

Enter Horatio and Marcellus.

Hor. Friends to this ground.
Mar. And leegemen to the Dane,
O farewell honest sooldier, who hath releued you?
1. Barnardo hath my place, giue you good night.
Mar. Holla, Barnardo.
2. Say, is Horatio there?
Hor. A peece of him.
2. Welcome Horatio, welcome good Marcellus.
Mar. What hath this thing appear'd againe to night.
2. I haue seene nothing.
Mar. Horatio sayes tis but our fantasie,
And wil not let beliefe take hold of him,
Touching this dreaded sight twice seene by vs,
Therefore I haue intreated him along with vs
To watch the minutes of this night,
That if againe this apparition come,
He may approoue our eyes, and speake to it.

_Hor._ Tut, t'will not appeare.
2. Sit downe I pray, and let vs once againe
Assaile your eares that are so fortifid,
What we haue two nights seen.

_Hor._ Wel, sit we downe, and let vs heare _Bernardo_ speake
of this.
2. Last night of al, when yonder starre that's westward from the pole, had made his course to
Illumine that part of heauen. Where now it burnes,
The bell then towling one.

_Enter Ghost._

_Mar._ Breake off your talke, see where it comes againe.
2. In the same figure like the King that's dead,
_Mar._ Thou art a scholler, speake to it _Horatio_.
2. Lookes it not like the king?
_Hor._ Most like, it horrors mee with feare and wonder.
2. It would be spoke to.
_Mar._ Question it _Horatio_.

_Hor._ What art thou that thus vsurps the state, in
Which the Maiestie of buried _Denmarke_ did sometimes
Walke? By heauen I charge thee speake.

_Mar._ It is offended. _exit Ghost._
2. See, it stalkes away.

_Hor._ Stay, speake, speake, by heauen I charge thee
speake.

_Mar._ Tis gone and makes no answer.
2. How now _Horatio_, you tremble and looke pale,
Is not this something more than fantasie?
What thinke you on't?

_Hor._ Afore my God, I might not this beleue, without
the sensible and true auouch of my owne eyes.

_Mar._
Prince of Denmarke.

Mar. Is it not like the King?
Hor. As thou art to thy selfe,
Such was the very armor he had on,
When he the ambitious Norway combated.
So frownd he once, when in an angry pale
He smot the sleaded pollax on the yce,
Tis strange.

Mar. Thus twice before, and jump at this dead hower,
With Marshall stalke he passed through our watch.
Hor. In what particular to worke, I know not,
But in the thought and scope of my opinion,
This bodes some strange eruption to the state.

Mar. Good, now sit downe, and tell me he that knowes
Why this same strikt and most observant watch,
So nightly toyles the subject of the land,
And why such dayly cost of brazen Cannon
And foraine marte, for implements of warre,
Why such impresse of ship-writes, whose sere taske
Does not diuide the sunday from the weke:
What might be toward that this sweaty march
Doth make the night ioynct labourer with the day,
Who is’t that can informe me?

Hor. Mary that can I, at least the whisper goes so,
Our late King, who as you know was by Forten-
Brasse of Norway,
Thereto prickt on by a most emulous cause, dared to
The combate, in which our valiant Hamlet,
For so this side of our knowne world esteemed him,
Did slay this Fortenbrasse,
Who by a seale compact well ratified, by law
And heraldrie, did forfeit with his life all those
His lands which he stood seiz’d by the conqueror,
Against the which a moity competent,
Was gaged by our King.
Now sir, yong Fortenbrasse,
Of inapprov’d mettle hot and full,
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Hath in the skirts of Norway here and there,
Sharkt vp a sight of lawlesse Resolves
For food and diet to some enterprise,
That hath a stomachke in't: and this (I take it) is the
Chiefe head and ground of this our watch.

Enter the Ghost.

But loe, behold, see where it comes againe,
Ile crosse it, though it blast me: stay illusion,
If there be any good thing to be done,
That may doe ease to thee, and grace to mee,
Speake to mee.
If thou art privy to thy countries fate,
Which happily foreknowing may preuent, O speake to me,
Or if thou hast extorted in thy life,
Or hoorded treasure in the wombe of earth,
For which they say you Spirites oft walke in death, speake
to me, stay and speake, speake, stoppe it Marcellus.

2. Tis heere. exit Ghost.

Hor. Tis heere.

Marc. Tis gone, O we doe it wrong, being so maiestical,
to offer it the shew of violence,
For it is as the ayre invelmorable,
And our vaine blowes malitious mockery.

2. It was about to speake when the Cocke crew.

Hor. And then it faded like a guilty thing,
Vpon a fearefull summons: I haue heard
The Cocke, that is the trumpet to the morning,
Doth with his carely and shrill crowing throate,
Awake the god of day, and at his sound,
Whether in earth or ayre, in sea or fire,
The straungent and erring spirite hies
To his confines, and of the trueth heereof
This present obiect made probation.

Marc. It faded on the crowing of the Cocke,
Some say, that ever gainst that season comes,
Wherein our Saviouris birth is celebrated,
Prince of Denmarke.

The bird of dawning singeth all night long,
And then they say, no spirite dare walke abroade,
The nights are wholesome, then no planet frikes,
No Fairie takes, nor Witch hath powre to charme,
So gratious, and so hallowed is that time.

Hor. So haue I heard, and doe in parte beleue it:
But see the Sunne in russet mantle clad,
Walkes o're the dew of yon hie mountaine top,
Breake we our watch vp, and by my advise,
Let vs impart what wee haue seene to night
Vnto yong Hamlet: for vpon my life
This Spirite dumbe to vs will speake to him:
Do you consent, we shall acquaint him with it,
As needefull in our loue, fitting our dutie?

Marc. Lets doo't I pray, and I this morning know,
Where we shall finde him most conueniently.

Enter King, Queene, Hamlet, Leartes, Corambis,
and the two Ambassadors, with Attendants.

King Lordes, we here haue writ to Fortenbrasse,
Nephew to olde Norway, who impudent
And bed-rid, scarcely heares of this his
Nephews purpose: and Wee heere dispatch
Yong good Cornelia, and you Voltmar
For bearers of these greetings to olde
Norway, giuing to you no further personall power
To businesse with the King,
Then those related articles do shew:
Farewell, and let your haste commend your dutie.

Gent. In this and all things will wee shew our dutie.

King. Wee doubt nothing, hartily farewel:
And now Leartes what's the newes with you?
You said you had a sute what i'st Leartes?

Lea: My gratious Lord, your favorable licence,
Now that the funerall rites are all performed,
The Tragedie of Hamlet

I may haue leaue to goe againe to France,
For though the fauour of your grace might stay mee,
Yet something is there whispers in my hart,
Which makes my minde and spirits bend all for France.

King. Haue you your fathers leaue, Lear?
Cor. He hath, my lord, wrung from me a forced graunt,
And I beseech you grant your Highnesse leaue.

King. With all our heart, Learstare thee well.

Lear. I in all loue and dutie take thy leaue.

King. And now princely Sonne Hamlet, Exit.
What means these sad and melancholy moods?
For your intent going to Wittenberg,
Wee hold it most vnmeet and vnconuenient,
Being the Ioy and halfe heart of your mother.
Therefore let mee intreat you stay in Court,
All Denmarke hope our coosin and dearest Sonne.

Ham. My lord, it's not the sable sute I weare:
No nor the teares that still stand in my eyes,
Nor the distracted hauior in the visage,
Nor all together mixt with outward semblance,
Is equall to the sorrow of my heart,

Ham. This shewes a louing care in you, Sonne Hamlet,
But you must thinke your father lost a father,
That father dead, lost his, and so shalbe vntill the
Generall ending. Therefore cease lamentes,
It is a fault aginst heauen, fault aginst the dead,
A fault aginst nature, and in reasons
Common course most certaine,
None liues on earth, but hee is borne to die.

Que. Let not thy mother loose her praiers Hamlet,
Stay here with vs, go not to Wittenberg.

Ham. I shall in all my best obey you madam.

King. Spoke like a kinde and a most louing Sonne,
And there's no health the King shall drinke to day,

But
But the great Canon to the cloudes shall tell;
The rowse the King shall drinke into Prince Hamlet.

*Exit all but Hamlet.*

*Ham.* O that this too much grieu’d and sallied flesh
Would melt to nothing; or that the universall
Globe of heauen would turne all to a Chaos.

O God with in two moneths, no not two: married,
Mine uncle: O let me not thinke of it,
My fathers brother: but no more like
My father, then I to Hercules.

Within two moneths, ere yet the salt of most
Unrighteous teates had left their flushing.
In her galled eyes: she married, O God, a beast
Deuoyd of reason would not haue made
Such speede: Frailtie, thy name is Woman.
Why she would hang on him, as if increase
Of appetit had growne by what it looked on.
O wicked wicked speede, to make such
Dexteritie to incestuous sheetes,
Ere yet the shooes were olde.

The which she followed my dead fathers corse
Like Nyobe, all teares: married, well it is not.
Nor it cannot come to good:
But breake my heart, for I must holde my tongue.

*Enter* Horatio and Marcellus.

*Hor.* Health to your Lordship.

*Ham.* I am very glad to see you, (Horatio) or I much
forget my selfe.

*Hor.* The same my Lord, and your poore seruante ere.

*Ham.* O my good friend, I change that name with you:
but what make you from Wittenberg Horatio?

*Marcellus.*

*Marc.* My good Lord.

*Ham.* I am very glad to see you; good even sirs;
But what is your affaire in Elsenoure?

Weele teach you to drinke depe ere you depart.

*Hor.*
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Hor. A truant disposition, my good Lord.

Ham. Nor shall you make mee truster
Of your owne report against your selfe:
Sir, I know you are no truant:
But what is your affaire in Elsenoure?

Hor. My good Lord, I came to see your fathers funerall.

Ham. O I pre thee do not mocke mee fellow student,
I thinke it was to see my mothers wedding.

Hor. Indede my Lord, it followed hard vpon.

Ham. Thrift, thrift, Horatio, the funerall bak't meates
Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables,
Would I had met my dearest foe in heauen
Ere euer I had seene that day Horatio;
O my father, my father, me thinks I see my father,

Hor. Where my Lord?

Ham. Why, in my minde's eye Horatio.

Hor. I saw him once, he was a gallant King.

Ham. He was a man, take him for all in all,
I shall not looke vpon his like againe.

Hor. My Lord, I thinke I saw him yesternight,

Ham. Saw, who?

Hor. My Lord, the King your father.

Ham. Ha, ha, the King my father ke you.

Hor. Cease your admiration for a while
With an attentiue eare, till I may deliuer,
Vpon the witnesse of these Gentlemen
This wonder to you.

Ham. For Gods louse let me heare it.

Hor. Two nights together had these Gentlemen,
Marcellus and Bernardo, on their watch,
In the dead vast and middle of the night.
Beene thus incountered by a figure like your father,
Arm't to poyn't, exactly Capapec
Apperees before them thirshe, he walke's
Before their weake and feare oppressed eies.
Within his tronchions length,
Prince of Denmarke

While they distilled almost to gelly.
With the act of feare stands dumbe,
And speake not to him: this to mee
In dreadfull secrsies impart they did.
And I with them the third night kept the watch,
Where as they had deliuered forme of the thing.
Each part made true and good,
The Apparition comes: I knew your father,
These handes are not more like.

Ham. Tis very strange.

Hor. As I do liue, my honord lord, tis true,
And wee did thinke it right done,
In our dutie to let you know it.

Ham. Where was this?

Mar. My Lord, vpon the platforme where we watched.

Ham. Did you not speake to it?

Hor. My Lord we did, but answere made it none,
Yet once me thought it was about to speake,
And lifted vp his head to motion,
Like as he would speake, but euen then
The morning cocke crew lowd, and in all haste,
It shruncke in haste away, and vanished
Our sight.

Ham. Indeed, indeed sirs, but this troubles me:
Hold you the watch to night?

All. We do my Lord.

Ham. Armed say ye?

All. Armed my good Lord.

Ham. From top to toe?

All. My good Lord, from head to foote.

Ham. Why then saw you not his face?

Hor. O yes my Lord, he wore his beuer vp.

Ham. How lookt he, frowningly?

Hor. A countenance more in sorrow than in anger.

Ham. Pale, or red?

Hor. Nay, verie pal

C               Ham.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Ham. And fixt his eies vpon you.

Hor. Most constantly.

Ham. I would I had beene there.

Hor. It would a much amazed you.

Ham. Yea very like,very like,staid it long?

Hor. While one with moderate pace

Might tell a hundred:

Mar. O longer, longer.

Ham. His beard was grisled, no.

Hor. It was as I haue seene it in his life,
A sable siluer.

Ham. I wil watch to night, perchance t'wil walke againe.

Hor. I warrant it will.

Ham. If it assume my noble fathers person,
Ile speake to it, if hell itselfe should gepe,
And bid me hold my peace, Gentlemen,
If you haue hither cosealed this sight,
Let it be tenible in your silence still,
And whatsoeuer else shall chance to night,
Gieue it an understanding,but no tongue,
I will requit your loues,so fare you well,
Vpon the platforme, twixt eleuen and twelue,
Ile visit you.

All. Our duties to your honor. exeunt.

Ham. O your loues,your loues, as mine to you,
Farewell, my fathers spirit in Armes,
Well, all's not well. I doubt some soule play,
Would the night were come,
Till then,sit still my soule, foule deeds will rise
Though all the world orewhelme them to mens eies. Exit.

Enter Leartes and Ofelia.

Leart. My necessaries are inbarkt, I must aboord,
But ere I part, marke what I say to thee:
I see Prince Hamlet makes a shew of loue
Beware Ofelia, do not trust his vowes,
Perhaps he loues you now, and now his tongue,
Prince of Denmarke.
Speakes from his heart, but yet take heed my sister,
The Chariest maide is prodigall enough,
If she vnmaske hir beautie to the Moone,
Vertue it selfe scapes not calumnious thoughts,
Belieue Ophelia, therefore keepe a loofe
Lest that he trip thy honor and thy fame.

Ofel. Brother, to this I haue lent attentive eare,
And doubt not but to keepe my honour firme,
But my deere brother, do not you
Like to a cunning Sophister,
Teach me the path and ready way to heauen,
While you forgetting what is said to me,
Your selfe, like to a carelesse libertine
Doth giue his heart, his appetite at ful,
And little recks how that his honour dies,

Lear. No, feare it not my deere Ophelia,
Here comes my father, occasion smiles vpon a second leaue.

Enter Corambis.

Cor. Yet here Lear, ahoord, ahoord, for shame,
The winde sits in the shoulder of your saile,
And you are staid for, there my blessing with thee
And these few precepts in thy memory.

"Be thou familier, but by no meanes vulgare;
"Those friends thou hast, and their adoptions tried,
"Grapple them to thee with a hoope of steele,
"But do not dull the palme with entertaine,
"Of euerie new vnfleg'd courage,
"Beware of entrance into a quarrell, but being in,
"Bare the it that the opposed may beware of thee,
"Costly thy apparell, as thy purse can buy,
"But not exprest in fashion,
"For the apparell oft proclaims the man.
And they of France of the chiefe rancke and station
Are of a most select and generall chiefe in that:
"This aboue all, to thy owne selfe be true,
And it must follow as the night the day,

C 2

Thou
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Thou canst not then be false to any one,
Farewel, my blessing with thee.

Lear. I humbly take my leave, farewell Ofelia,
And remember well what I have said to you. exit.

Ofel. It is already lock't within my hart,
And you your selfe shall keepe the key of it.

Cor. What is't Ofelia he hath saide to you?

Ofel. Somthing touching the prince Hamlet.

Cor. Mary wel thought on, tis giuen me to vnderstand,
That you have bin too prodigall of your maiden presence
Vnto Prince Hamlet, if it be so,
As so tis giuen to mee, and that in waie of caution
I must tell you; you do not vnderstand your selfe:
So well as befits my honor, and your credite.

Ofel. My lord, he hath made many tenders of his love
to me.

Cor. Tenders, I, tenders you may call them.

Ofel. And withall, such earnest vowes.

Cor. Springes to catch woodcocks,
What, do not I know when the blood doth burne,
How prodigall the tongue lends the hearet vowes,
In briefe, be more scanter of your maiden presence,
Or tendering thus you'll tender mee a foole.

Ofel. I shall obey my lord in all I may.

Cor. Ofelia, receive none of his letters,
"For louers lines are snares to intrap the heart;
"Refuse his tokens, both of them are keyes
To vnlocke Chastitie vnto Desire;
Come in Ofelia, such men often proue,
"Great in their wordes, but little in their loue.

Ofel. I will my lord. exit.

Enter Hamlet, Horatio, and Marcellus.

Ham. The ayre bites shrewd, it is an eager and
An nipping winde, what houre i'st?

Hor. I think it lacks of twelue, Sound Trumpets.

Mar. No, tis strucke.

Hora.
Prince of Denmarke.

Hor. Indeed I heard it not, what doth this mean my lord?

Ham. O the king doth wake to night, & takes his rowse,
Keepe wassel, and the swaggering vp-spring reeles,
And as he dreames, his draughts of renish downe,
The kettle, drumme, and trumpet, thus bray out,
The triumphes of his pledge.

Hor. Is it a custome here?

Ham. I mary'st and though I am
Natiue here, and to the maner borne,
It is a custome, more honourd in the breach,
Then in the observance.

Enter the Ghost.

Hor. Looke my Lord, it comes.

Ham. Angels and Ministers of grace defend vs,
Be thou a spirite of health, or goblin damn'd,
Bring with thee ayres from heanen, or blasts from hell:
Be thy intents wicked or charitable,
Thou commest in such questionable shape,
That I will speake to thee,
I le call thee Hamlet, King, Father, Royall Dane,
O answere mee, let mee not burst in ignorance,
But say why thy canonizd bones hearsed in death
Haeue burst their ceremonies: why thy Sepulcher,
In which wee saw thee quietly interr'd,
Hath burst his ponderous and marble Iawes,
To cast thee vp againe: what may this meane,
That thou, dead corse,againe in compleate steele,
Reuisseth thus the glimses of the Moone,
Making night hideous, and we fooles of nature,
So horridely to shake our disposition,
With thoughts beyond the reaches of our soules?
Say, speake, wherefore, what may this meane?

Hor. It beckons you, as though it had something
To impart to you alone.

Mar. Looke with what courteous action
It waues you to a more remoued ground,
The Tragedie of Hamlet

But do not go with it.

_Hor._ No, by no meanes my Lord.

_Ham._ It will not speake, then will I follow it.

_Hor._ What if it tempt you toward the flood my Lord.

That beckles ore his bace, into the sea,
And there assume some other horrible shape,
Which might deprive your soueraignty of reason,
And drive you into madnesse: thinkes of it.

_Ham._ Still am I called, go on, ile follow thee.

_Hor._ My Lord, you shall not go.

_Ham._ Why what should be the feare?

I do not set my life at a pinnes fee,
And for my soule, what can it do to that?
Being a thing immortall, like it selfe,
Go on, ile follow thee.

_Mar._ My Lord be rude, you shall not goe.

_Ham._ My fate cries out, and makes each pety Artificial

As hardy as the Nemeon Lyons nerue,
Still am I cald, vnhand me gentlemen;
By heauen ile make a ghost of him that lets me,
Away I say, go on, ile follow thee.

_Hor._ He waxeth desperate with imagination.

_Mar._ Something is rotten in the state of Denmarke.

_Hor._ Haue after; to what issue will this sort?

_Mar._ Lets follow, tis not fit thus to obey him. exit.

Enter Ghost and Hamlet.

_Ham._ Ile go no farther, whither wilt thou leade me?

_Ghost_ Marke me.

_Ham._ I will.

_Ghost_ I am thy fathers spirit, doomd for a time

To walke the night, and all the day

Confinde in flaming fire,

Till the foule crimes done in my dayes of Nature

Arepurged and burnt away.

_Ham._ Alas poore Ghost.

_Ghost_ Nay pitty me not, but to my vnfolding

Lend
Prince of Denmarke.

Lend thy listning eare, but that I am forbid
To tell the secrets of my prison house
I would a tale vnfold, whose lightest word
Would harrow vp thy soule, freeze thy yong blood,
Make thy two eyes like stars start from their spheres,
Thy knotted and combined locks to part,
And each particular haire to stand on end
Like quils vpon the fretfull Porpentine,
But this same blazon must not be, to eares of flesh and blood
Hamlet, if euer thou didst thy deere father loue.

Ham. O God.

Gho. Reuenge his foule, and most vnnaturall murder:
Ham. Murder.

Ghost Yea, murder in the highest degree,
As in the least tis bad,
But mine most foule, beastly, and vnnaturall.

Ham. Haste me to knowe it, that with wings as swift as
meditation, or the thought of it, may sweepe to my reuenge.

Ghost O I finde thee apt, and duller shouldst thou be
Then the fat weede which rootes it selfe in ease
On Lethe wharffe: briefe let me be.
Tis giuen out, that sleeping in my orchard,
A Serpent stung me; so the whole eare of Denmarke
Is with a forged Proses of my death rankely abuses:
But know thou noble Youth: he that did sting
Thy fathers heart, now weares his Crowne.

Ham. O my prophetike soule, my vnclle! my vnclle!

Ghost Yea he, that incestuous wretch, wonne to his will
O wicked will, and gifts! that haue the power — with gifts,
So to seduce my most seeming vertuous Queene,
But vertne, as it neuer will be moued,
Though Lewdnesse court it in a shape of heauen,
So Lust, though to a radiant angle linekt,
Would fete it selfe from a celestiall bedde,
And prey on garbage: but soft, me thinkes
I sent the mornings ayre, briefe let me be,

Sleeping
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Sleeping within my Orchard, my custome alwayes
In the after noone, ypon my secure houre
Thy uncle came, with iuyce of Hebona
In a viall, and through the porches of my eares
Did powre the leaprous distilment,whose effect
Hold such an emmitie with blood of man,
That swift as quickesiluer, it posteth through
The naturall gates and allies of the body,
And turns the thinne and wholesome blood
Like eager dropings into milke.
And all my smothe body, barked,and tetterd ouer.
Thus was I sleeping by a brothers hand
Of Crowne,of Queene,of life,of dignitie
At once depriued, no reckoning made of,
But sent vnto my graue,
With all my accompts and sinnes vpon my head,
O horrible, most horrible!

Ham. O God!

ghost If thou hast nature in thee, beare it not,
But howsoever, let not thy heart
Conspire against thy mother aught,
Leave her to heauen,
And to the burthen that her conscience beares.
I must be gone, the Glo-worme shewes the Martin
To be neere, and gin's to pale his vneffectuall fire:
Hamlet adue,adue,adue : remember me.

Ham. O all you hoste of heauen! O earth,what else?
And saull I couple hell; remember thee?
Yes thou poore Ghost: from the tables
Of my memorie, ile wipe away all sawes of Bookes,
All triuiall fond conceites
That euer youth,or else obseruance noted,
And thy remembrance, all alone shall sit.
Yes, yes, by heauen, a damnd pernicious villaine,
Murderons, bawdy, smiling damned villaine,
(My tables) meet it is I set it downe,
Prince of Denmarke

That one may smile, and smile, and be a villayne;
At least I am sure, it may be so in Denmarke.
So uncle, there you are, there you are.
Now to the words; it is adue adue: remember me,
Soe t'is enough I haue sworne.

Hor. My lord, my lord.
Mar. Lord Hamlet.
Hor. Ill, lo, lo, ho, ho.
Mar. Ill, lo, lo, so, ho, so, come boy, come.
Hor. Heauens secure him.
Mar. How i' st my noble lord?
Hor. What news my lord?
Ham. O wonderfull, wonderful.
Hor. Good my lord tel it.
Ham. No not I, you' ll reveale it.
Hor. Not I my Lord by heauen.
Mar. Nor I my Lord.
Ham. How say you then? would hart of man
Once thinke it? but you' ll be secret.
Both. I by heauen, my lord.
Ham. There's neuer a villaine dwelling in all Denmarke,
But hee's an arrant knaue.

Hor. There need no Ghost come from the graue to tell
you this.

Ham. Right, you are in the right, and therefore
I holde it meet without more circumstance at all,
Wee shake hands and part; you as your busines
And desiers shall leade you: for looke you,
Every man hath busines, and desires, such
As it is, and for my owne poore parte, ile go pray.

Hor. These are but wild and wherling words, my Lord.
Ham. I am sory they offend you; hartely, yes faith hartily.
Hor. Their's no offence my Lord.
Ham. Yes by Saint Patrike but there is Horatio,
And much offence too, touching this vision,
It is an honest ghost, that let mee tell you,

D For
The Tragedie of Hamlet

For your desires to know what is betweene vs,
Or'emaister it as you may:
And now kind frends, as you are frends,
Schollers and gentlemen,
Grant mee one poore request.
Both. What ist my Lord?
Ham. Neuer make knowne what you haue seene to night
Both. My lord, we will not.
Ham. Nay but sweare.
Hor. In faith my Lord not I.
Mar. Nor I my Lord in faith.
Ham. Nay vpon my sword, indeed vpon my sword.
Gho. Sweare.

The Ghost under the stage.

Ham. Ha, ha, come you here, this fellow in the sellersge,
Here consent to sweare.
Hor. Propose the oath my Lord.
Ham. Neuer to speake what you haue seene to night,
Sweare by my sword.
Gost. Sweare.

Ham. Hic & obique; nay then weele shift our ground:
Come hither Gentlemen, and lay your handes
Againe vpon this sword, vneuer to speake
Of that which you haue seene, sweare by my sword.
Ghast Sweare.

Ham. Well said old Mole, can st worke in the earth?
so fast, a worthy Fioner, once more remote.
Hor. Day and night, but this is wondrous strange.
Ham. And therefore as a stranger giue it welcome,
There are more things in heauen and earth Horatio,
Then are Dreamt of; in your philosophie,
But come here,as before you neuer shall
How strange or odde soere I heare my selfe,
As I perchance hereafter shall thinke meet,
To put an Anticke disposition on,
That you at such times seeing me, neuer shall

With
Prince of Denmark.

With Armes, incombred thus, or this head shake, "
Or by pronouncing some undoubtfull phrase,
As well well, wee know, or wee could and if we wou'd,
Or there be, and if they might, or such ambiguous:
Giving out to note, that you know aught of mee,
This not to doe, so grace, and mercie
At your most need helpe you, sweare

Ghost. sweare.

Ham. Rest, rest, perturbed spirit: so gentlemen,
In all my loue I do commend mee to you,
And what so poore a man as Hamlet may;
To pleasure you, God willing shall not want,
Nay come let's go together,
But sti'l your fingers on your lippes I pray,
The time is out of ioyn,
O cursed spite,
That euer I was borne to set it right,
Nay come let's go together.  Exeunt

Enter Corambis, and Montano.

Cor. Montano, here, these letters to my sonne,
And this same mony with my blessing to him,
And bid him ply his learning good Montano.

Mon. I will my lord.

Cor. You shall do very well Montano, to say thus,
I knew the gentleman, or know his father,
To inquire the manner of his life,
As thus; being amongst his acquaintance,
You may say, you saw him at such a time, marks you mee,
At game, or drinking, swearing, or drabbing,
You may go so farre.

Mon. My lord, that will impeach his reputation.

Cor. I faith not a whit, no not a whit,
Now happily he closest with you in the consequence,
As you may bridle it not disparage him a iote.
What was I a bout to say,

Mon. He closest with him in the consequence.

Cor. I, you say right, he closest with him thus,

D 2 This
The Tragedy of Hamlet

This will hee say, let mee see what hee will say,
Mary this, I saw him yesterday, or tother day,
Or then, or at such a time, a dicing,
Or at Tennis, I or drincking drunke, or entring
Of a howse of lightnes viz. brothell,
Thus sir do wee that know the world, being men of reach,
By indirections, finde directions forth,
And so shall you my sonne; you ha me, ha you not?

Mon. I haue my lord.

Cor. Wel, fare you well, commend mee to him.

Mon. I will my lord.

Cor. And bid him ply his musicke

Mon. My lord I wil. exit.

Enter, Ofelia.

Cor. Farewel, how now Ofelia, what's the news with you?

Of. O my deare father, such a change in nature,
So great an alteration in a Prince,
So pitifull to him, fearfull to mee,
A maidens eye ne're looked on.

Cor. Why what's the matter my Ofelia?

Of. O yong Prince Hamlet, the only floure of Denmark,
Hee is bereft of all the wealth he had,
The Iewell that ador'nd his feature most
Is filcht and stolne away, his wit's bereft him,
Hee found mee walking in the gallery all alone,
There comes hee to mee, with a distracted looke,
His garters lagging downe, his shooes vntide,
And fixt his eyes so stedfast on my face,
As if they had vow'd, this is their latest obiect.
Small while he stoode, but gripes me by the wrist,
And there he holds my pulse till with a sigh
He doth vnclaspe his holde, and parts away
Silent, as is the mid time of the night:
And as he went, his eie was still on mee,
For thus his head ouer his shoulder looked,
He seemed to finde the way without his eies:
Prince of Denmarke.

For out of doores he went without their helpe,
And so did leave me.

Cor. Madde for thy loue,
What haue you giuen him any crosse wordes of late?

Ophelia. I did repel his letters, deny his gifts,
As you did charge me.

Cor. Why that hath made him madde:
By heau'n t'is as proper for our age to cast
Beyond our selues, as t'is for the yonger sort
To leaue their wantonnesse. Well, I am sory
That I was so rash: but what remedy?

Lets to the King, this madness may proue,
Though wilde a while, yet more true to thy loue. 

exeunt.

Enter King and Queen, Rossencraft, and Gilderstone.

King. Right noble friends, that our deere cosin Hamlet
Hath lost the very heart of all his sence,
It is most right, and we most sory for him:
Therefore we doe desire, euen as you tender
Our care to him, and our great loue to you,
That you will labour but to wring from him
The cause and ground of his distemperancie.

Doe this, the king of Denmarke shall be thankfull.

Ros. My Lord, whatsoever lies within our power
Your maiestie may more commaund in wordes
Then use perswasions to your liege men, bound
By loue, by duetie, and obedience.

Guil. What we may doe for both your Maiesties
To know the grieffe troubles the Prince your sonne,
We willindeuour all the best we may,
So in all duetie doe we take our leaue.

King. Thankes Gilderstone, and gentle Rossencraft.

Que. Thankes Rossencraft, and gentle Gilderstone.

Enter Corambis and Ophelia.

Cor. My Lord, the Ambassadors are joyfully
Return'd from Norway.

King. Thou still hast beene the father of good news.

Cor.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Cor. Haue I my Lord? I assure your grace,
I holde my dutie as I holde my life,
Both to my God, and to my soueraigne King:
And I beleue, or else this braine of mine
Hunts not the traine of policie so well
As it had wont to doe, but I haue found
The very depth of Hamlets lunacie.
Queene God graunt he hath.

Enter the Ambassadors.

King Now Voltemar, what from our brother Norway?
Volt. Most faire returns of greetings and desires,
Vpon our first he sent forth to suppresse
His nephews leuiues, which to him appeard'
To be a preparation against the Polacke:
But better look't into, he truely found:
It was against your Highnesse, whereat grieued,
That so his sickness, age, and impotence,
Was falsely borne in hand, sends out arrests
On Fortenbrasse, which he in briefe obays,
Receiues rebuke from Norway: and in fine,
Makes vow before his vnclse, neuer more
To giue the assay of Armes against your Maiestie,
Whereon olde Norway overcome with ioy,
Gives him three thousand crownes in anuell feef,
And his Commission to employ those soouldiers,
So leuiued as before, against the Polacke,
With an intreaty heerein further shewne,
That it would please you to giue quiet passe
Through your dominions, for that enterprise
On such regards of safety and allowances
As therein are set downe.

King It likes vs well, and at fit time and leasure
Weele reade and answere these his Articles,
Meane time we thankes you for your well
Tooke labour: go to your rest, at night weele feast togethier:
Right welcome home.  

\textit{excuss Ambassadors.}

Cor.
Prince of Denmarke.

Cor. This busines is very well dispatched.
Now my Lord, touching the yong Prince Hamlet,
Certaine it is that hee is madde: mad let vs grant him then:
Now to know the cause of this effect,
Or else to say the cause of this defect,
For this effect defective comes by cause.
Queene Good my Lord be briefe.
Cor. Madam I will: my Lord, I haue a daughter,
Haue while shee's mine: for that we thinke
Is surest, we often loose:now to the Prince.
My lord, but note this letter,
The which my daughter in obedience
Deliever'd to my handes.
King Reade it my Lord.
Cor. Marke my Lord.
Doubt that in earth is fire,
Doubt that the starres doe moue,
Doubt truth to be a liar,
But doe not doubt I loue.
To the beautifull Ophelia:
Thine ever the most vnhappy Prince Hamlet.
My Lord, what doe you thinke of me?
I, or what might you thinke when I sawe this?
King As of a true friend and a most louing subiect.
Cor. I would be glad to prooue so.
Now when I saw this letter, thus I bespake my maiden:
Lord Hamlet is a Prince out of your starre,
And one that is vnqueall for your loue:
Therefore I did commannd her refuse his letters,
Deny his tokens, and to absent her selfe.
Shee as my childe obediently obey'd me.
Now since which time, seeing his loue thus cross'd,
Which I tooke to be idle, and but sport,
He straitway grew into a melanchooly,
From that into a fast, then into distraction,
Then into a sadness, from that into a madnesse,
The Tragedy of Hamlet

And so by continuance, and weakenesse of the braine
Into this frensie, which now possesseth him:
And if this be not true, take this from this.

King. Thinke you tis so?

Cor. How? so my Lord, I would very faine know
That thing that I haue saide tis so, positively,
And it hath fallen out otherwise.
Nay, if circumstances leade me on,
Ile finde it out, if it were hid
As deepe as the centre of the earth.

King. how should wee trie this same?

Cor. Mary my good lord thus,
The Princes walke is here in the galery,
There let Ophelia, walke vntill hee comes:
Your selfe and I will stand close in the study,
There shall you heare the effect of all his hart,
And if it prove any otherwise then loue,
Then let my censure faile an other time.

King. see where hee comes poring uppon a booke.

Enter Hamlet.

Cor. Madame, will it please your grace
To leaue vs here?

Que. With all my hart. exit.

Cor. And here Ophelia, reade you on this booke,
And walke aloofe, the King shal be vnseene.

Ham. To be, or not to be, I there's the point,
To Die, to sleepe, is that all? I all:
No, to sleepe, to dreame, I mary there it goes,
For in that dreame of death, when wee awake,
And borne before an euerlasting Judge,
From whence no passenger euer retur'nd,
The vndiscovered country, at whose sight
The happy smile, and the accursed damn'd.
But for this, the ioyfull hope of this,
Whol'd beare the scornes and flattery of the world,
Scorned by the right rich, the rich curssed of the poore?

The
Prince of Denmark

The widow being oppressed, the orphan wrong'd,
The taste of hunger, or a tyrants raigne,
And thousand more calamities besides,
To grunt and sweate vnder this weary life,
When that he may his full Quietus make,
With a bare bodkin, who would this indure,
But for a hope of something after death?
Which pules the braine, and doth confound the sence,
Which makes vs rather beare those euilles we haue,
Than flie to others that we know not of.
I that, O this conscience makes cowardes of vs all,
Lady in thy orizons, be all my sinnes remembred.

Ofe. My Lord, I haue sought opportunitie, which now
I haue, to redeliever to your worthy handes, a small remembrance, such tokens which I haue receiued of you.

Ham. Are you faire?

Ofe. My Lord.

Ham. Are you honest?

Ofe. What meanes my Lord?

Ham. That if you be faire and honest,
Your beauty should admit no discourse to your honesty.

Ofe. My Lord, can beauty haue better priuilege than
with honesty?

Ham. Yea mary may it; for Beauty may transforme
Honesty, from what she was into a bawd:
Then Honesty can transforme Beauty:
This was sometimes a Paradox,
But now the time giues it scope.
I neuer gaue you nothing.

Ofe. My Lord, you know right well you did,
And with them such earnest vowes of loue,
As would haue moo'd the stoniest breast aliue,
But now too true I finde,
Rich gifts waxe poore; when giuers grow vnkinde.

Ham. I neuer loued you.

Ofe. You made me beleene you did.

Ham.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Ham. O thou shouldst not a beleueed me!
Go to a Nunnery goe, why shouldst thou
Be a breeder of sinners? I am my selfe indifferent honest,
But I could accuse my selfe of such crimes
It had beene better my mother had ne're borne me.
O I am very prowde, ambitious, disdainefull,
With more sinnes at my becke, then I haue thoughts
To put them in, what should such fellowes as I
Do, crawling between heauen and earth?
To a Nunnery goe, we are arrant knaues all,
Beleeue none of vs, to a Nunnery goe.

Osf. O heauens secure him!

Ham. Wher's thy father?

Osf. At home my lord.

Ham. For Gods sake let the doores be shut on him,
He may play the foole no where but in his
Owne house: to a Nunnery goe.

Osf. Help him good God.

Ham. If thou dost marry, Ile giue thee
This plague to thy dowry:
Be thou as chaste as yce, as pure as snowe,
Thou shalt not scape calumny, to a Nunnery goe.

Osf. Alas, what change is this?

Ham. But if thou wilt needes marry, marry a foole,
For wisemen know well enough,
What monsters you make of them, to a Nunnery goe.

Osf. Pray God restore him.

Ham. Nay, I haue heard of your paintings too,
God hath giuen you one face,
And you make your selues another,
You figh, and you amble, and you nickname Gods creatures,
Making your wantonnesse, your ignorance,
A pox, t'is scurvy, Ile no more of it,
It hath made me madde: Ile no more marriages,
All that are married but one, shall liue,
The rest shall keepe as they are, to a Nunnery goe,

To


Prince of Denmarke.

To a Nunnery goe.            exit.

Ofe. Great God of heauen,what a quicke change is this?
The Courtier,Scholler,Souldier, all in him,
All dashd and splinterd thence, O woe is me,
To a scene what I haue seene,see what I see.    exit.

King. Looke? No,no, that's not the cause, Enter King and
Some deeper thing it is that troubles him.        Corambis.

Cor. Wel,something it is:my Lord,content you a while,
I will my selfe goe feele him:let me worke,
Ile try him euerie way : see where he comes,
Send you those Gentlemen, let me alone
To finde the depth of this,away,be gone.        exit King.
Now my good Lord,do you know me?            Enter Hamlet.

Ham. Yea very well,y'are a fishmonger.

Cor. Not I my Lord.

Ham. Then sir, I would you were so honest a man,
For to be honest,as this age goes,
Is one man to be pickt out of tenne thousand.

Cor. What doe you reade my Lord?

Ham. Wordes,wordes.

Cor. What's the matter my Lord?

Ham. Betweene who?

Cor. I meane the matter you reade my Lord.

Ham. Mary most vile heresie:

For here the Satyrical Satyre writes,
That olde men haue hollow eyes,weake backes,
Grey beardes, pittifull weake hammes, growty legges,
All which sir, I most potently beleue not:
For sir, your selfe shalbe olde as I am,
If like a Crabbe, you could goe backward.

Cor. How pregnant his replies are,and full of wit:
Yet at first he tooke me for a fishmonger:
All this comes by loue, the vemencie of loue,
And when I was yong, I was very idle,
And suffered much extasie in loue, very neere this:
Will you walke out of the aire my Lord?

E 2 Ham.
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Ham. Into my grave.

Cor. By the masse that's out of the aire indeed,

Very shrewd answers,

My lord I will take my leaue of you.

Enter Gilderstone, and Rossencraft.

Ham. You can take nothing from me sir,

I will more willingly part with all,

Olde doating foole.

Cor. You seeke Prince Hamlet, see, there he is. exit.

Gil. Health to your Lordship.

Ham. What, Gilderstone, and Rossencraft,

Welcome kinde Schoole-fellowes to Elsanoure.

Gil. We thank your Grace, and would be very glad

You were as when we were at Wittenberg.

Ham. I thank you, but is this visitation free of

Your selues, or were you not sent for?

Tell me true, come, I know the good King and Queene

Sent for you, there is a kinde of confession in your eye:

Come, I know you were sent for.

Gil. What say you?

Ham. Nay then I see how the winde sits,

Come, you were sent for.

Ross. My lord, we were, and willingly if we might,

Know the cause and ground of your discontent.

Ham. Why I want preferment.

Ross. I thinke not so my lord.

Ham. Yes faith, this great world you see contents me not,

No nor the spangled heauens, nor earth, nor sea,

No nor Man that is so glorious a creature,

Contents not me, no nor woman too, though you laugh.

Gil. My lord, we laugh not at that.

Ham. Why did you laugh then,

When I said, Man did not content mee?

Gil. My Lord, we laughed, when you said, Man did not

content you.

What entertainment the Players shall haue,
Prince of Denmarke.

We boarded them a the way: they are coming to you.

Ham. Players, what Players be they?

Ross. My Lord, the Tragedians of the Citty,

Those that you took delight to see so often. (stie?)

Ham. How comes it that they trauell? Do they grow re-

Gil. No my Lord, their reputation holds as it was wont.

Ham. How then?

Gil. Yfaith my Lord, noueltie carries it away,

For the principall publike audience that
Came to them, are turned to private plays,
And to the humour of children.

Ham. I do not greatly wonder of it,

For those that would make mops and moes
At my vncle, when my father liued,
Now gie a hundred, two hundred pounds
For his picture: but they shall be welcome,
He that playes the King shall haue tribute of me,
The ventrous Knight shall vse his foyle and target,
The lower shall sigh gratis,
The clowne shall make them laugh (for't,
That are tickled in the lungs, or the blanke verse shall halt
And the Lady shall haue leave to speake her minde freely.

The Trumpets sound; Enter Corambis.

Do you see yonder great baby?
He is not yet out of his swaddling clowts.

Gil. That may be, for they say an olde man
Is twice a childe.

Ham. Ile prophecie to you, hee comes to tell mee a the
You say true, a monday last; twas so indeedee.

Cor. My lord, I haue news to tell you.

Ham. My Lord, I haue newes to tell you:
When Rossio was an Actor in Rome.

Cor. The Actors are come hither, my lord.

Ham. Buz, buz.

Cor. The best Actors in Christendome,
Either for Comedy, Tragedy, Historie, Pastorall,

E 3 Pastorall
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Pastorall, Historickall, Historickall, Comickall, Comickall historicall, Pastorall, Tragedy historicall:

Seneca cannot be too heavy, nor Plato too light:
For the law hath writ those are the onely men.

Ha. O Iepha Iudge of Israel! what a treasure hadst thou?
Cor. Why what a treasure had he my lord?
Ham. Why one faire daughter, and no more,
The which he loued passing well.

Cor. A, stil harping a my daughter! well my Lord,
If you call me Iepha, I have a daughter that
I loue passing well.

Ham. Nay that followes not.
Cor. What followes then my Lord?

Ham. Why by lot, or God wot, or as it came to passe,
And so it was, the first verse of the godly Ballet
Will tell you all; for look you where my abridgement comes;
Welcome maisters, welcome all,

Enter players.

What my olde friend, thy face is vallanced
Since I saw thee last, com'st thou to beard me in Denmarke?
My yong lady and mistris, burlady but your (you were:
Ladiship is growne by the altitude of a chopine higher than
Pray God sir your voyce, like a peece of vncurrant
Gold, be not crack't in the ring: come on maisters,
Weele eu'en too't, like French Falconers,
Flie at any thing we see, come, a taste of your
Qualitie, a speech, a passionate speech.

Players What speech my good lord?

Ham. I heard thee speake a speech once,
But it was neuer acted; or if it were,
Neuer aboue twice, for as I remember,
It pleased not the vulgar, it was cunay
To the million: but to me
And others, that received it in the like kinde,
Cried in the toppe of their judgements, an excellent play,
Set downe with as great modestie as cunning:
One said there was no sallers in the lines to make the sanory,

But
Prince of Denmark.

But called it an honest methode, as wholesome as sweete.
Come, a speech in it I chiefly remember
Was Æneas tale to Dido,
And then especially where he talkes of Princes slaughter,
If it liue in thy memory beginne at this line,
Let me see.
The rugged Pyrrus, like th'arganian beast:
No t'is not so, it begins with Pirrus:
O I haue it.
The rugged Pirrus, he whose sable armes,
Blanke as his purpose did the night resemble,
When he lay couched in the ominous horse,
Hath now his blacke and grimme complexion smeered
With Heraldry more dismall, head to foote,
Now is he totaly guise, horridely tricked
With blood of fathers, mothers, daughters, sonnes,
Back't and imparched in calagulate gore,
Rifted in earth and fire, olde grandsire Pryam seeke:
So goe on. (accent.

Cor. Afore God, my Lord, well spoke, and with good

Play. Anone he finds him striking too short at Greeks,
His antike sword rebellious to his Arme,
Lies where it falles, vnable to resist.

Pyrrus at Pryam dries, but all in rage,
Strikes wide, but with the whiffie and winde
Of his fell sword, th'unnerued father falles.

Cor. Enough my friend, t'is too long.

Ham. It shall to the Barbers with your beard:
A pox, hee's for a ligge, or a tale of bawdry,
Or else he sleepes, come on to Hecuba, come.

Play. But who, O who had seene the mohed Queene?

Cor. Mobled Queene is good, faith very good.

Play. All in the alarum and feare of death rose vp,
And o're her weake and all ore-teeming loynes, a blanket
And a kereher on that head, where late the diademe stoode,
Who this had seene with tongue-inuenom'd speech,

Would
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Would treason have pronounced,
For if the gods themselves had seen her then,
When she saw Pirrus with malicious strokes,
Mincing her husband's limbs,
It would have made milk the burning eyes of heaven,
And passion in the gods.

Cor. Look my lord if he hath not changed his colour,
And hath tears in his eyes: no more good heart, no more.

Ham. 'Tis well, 'tis very well, I pray my lord,
Will you see the Players well bestowed,
I tell you they are the Chronicles
And brief abstracts of the time,
After your death I can tell you,
You were better have a bad Epitaph,
Then their ill report while you live.

Cor. My lord, I will use them according to their deserts.

Ham. O farre better man, use every man after his deserts.

Then who should escape whipping?
Use them after your own honor and dignity,
The lesse they deserve, the greater credit's yours.

Cor. Welcome my good fellowes. exit.

Ham. Come hither maisters, can you not play the murder of Gonsago?

players Yes my Lord.

Ham. And couldst not thou for a neede study me
Some dozen or sixtene lines,
Which I would set downe and insert?

players Yes very easily my good Lord.

Ham. 'Tis well, I thanke you follow that lord:
And doe you heare sirs? take heed you mocke him not.
Gentlemen, for your kindnes I thanke you,
And for a time I would desire you leaue me.

Gill. Our loue and duetie is at your commaund.

Exeunt all but Hamlet.

Ham. Why what a dunghill, idiote slaue am I?
Why these Players here draw water from eyes:
Prince of Denmarke

For Hecuba, why what is Hecuba to him, or he to Hecuba?
What would he do and if he had my losse?
His father murdred, and a Crowne bereft him,
He would turne all his teares to droppes of blood,
Amaze the standers by with his laments,
Strike more then wonder in the judiciall eares,
Confound the ignorant, and make mute the wise,
Indeede his passion would be generall.
Yet I like to an asse and Iohn a Dreames,
Hauing my father murdred by a villaine,
Stand still, and let it passe, why sure I am a coward:
Who pluckes me by the beard, or twites my nose,
Gие's me the lie i'th throate downe to the lungs,
Sure I should take it, or else I haue no gall,
Or by this I should a fatted all the region kites
With this slaues offell, this damned villaine,
Treachery, bawdy, murderous villaine:
Why this is braue, that I the sonne of my deare father,
Should like a scalion, like a very drabbe
Thus raile in worde. About my braine,
I haue heard that guilty creatures sitting at a play,
Hath, by the very cunning of the scene, confest a murder
Committed long before.
This spirit that I haue seene may be the Diuell,
And out of my weakness and my melancholy,
As he is very potent with such men,
Doth seeke to damme me, I will haue sounder proffes,
The play's the thing,
Wherein I'lle catch the conscience of the King. exit.

Enter the King, Queene, and Lordes.

King Lordes, can you by no meanes finde
The cause of our sonne Hamlets lunacie?
You being so neere in loue, even from his youth,
Me thinkes should gaine more than a stranger should.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Gil. My lord, we haue done all the best we could,
To wring from him the cause of all his grieue,
But still he puts vs off, and by no meanes
Would make an answete to that we exposde.

Ross. Yet was he something more inclin'd to mirth
Before we left him, and I take it,
He hath giuen order for a play to night,
At which he craves your highnesse company.

King With all our heart, it likes vs very well:
Gentlemen, seeke still to increase his mirth,
Spare for no cost, our coffers shall be open,
And we vnto your selues will still be thankefull.

Both In all wee can, be sure you shall commaund.

Queene Thankes gentlemen, and what the Queene of
May pleasure you, be sure you shall not want. (Denmarke
Gil. Weele once againe vnto the noble Prince.

King Thanks to you both: Gertred you'll see this play.

Queene My lord I will, and it ioyes me at the soule
He is inclin'd to any kinde of mirth.

Cor. Madame, I pray be ruled by me:
And my good Soueraigne, giue me leaue to speake,
We cannot yet finde out the very ground
Of his distemperance, therefore
I holde it meete, if so it please you,
Else they shall not meete, and thus it is.

King What i'st Corambis? (done,

Cor. Mary my good lord this, soone when the sports are
Madam, send you in haste to speake with him,
And I my selfe will stand behind the Arras,
There question you the cause of all his grieue,
And then in loue and nature vnto you, he'e le tell you all:
My Lord, how thinke you on't?

King It likes vs well, Gerterd, what say you?

Queene With all my heart, soone will I send for him.

Cor. My selfe will be that happy messenger,
Who hopes his grieue will be reuel'd to her. *exeunt omnes

Enter
Prince of Denmark.

Enter Hamlet and the Players.

Ham. Pronounce me this speech trippingly to the tongue as I taught thee,
Mary and you mouth it, as a many of your players do
I'd rather heare a towne bull bellow,
Then such a fellow speake my lines.
Nor do not saw the aire thus with your hands,
But giue every thing his action with temperance. (fellow,
o it offends mee to the soule, to heare a rebustious periwig
To teare a passion in totters, into very ragges,
To split the eares of the ignoraunt, who for the (noises,
Most parte are capable of nothing but dumbe shewes and
I would haue such a fellow whipt, for o're doing, tarmagant
It out, Herodes Herod.

players My Lorde, wee haue indifferently reformed that among vs.

Ham. The better, the better, mend it all together:
There be fellowes that I haue seene play,
And heard others commend them, and that highly too,
That hating neither the gate of Christian, Pagan,
Nor Turke, haue so strutted and bellowed,
That you would a thought, some of Natures journeymen
Had made men, and not made them well,
They imitated humanitie, so abhominable:
Take heede, annoyde it.

players I warrant you my Lord.

Ham. And doe you heare? let not your Clowne speake
More then is set downe, there be of them I can tell you
That will laugh themselves, to set on some
Quantitie of barren spectators to laugh with them,
Albeit there is some necessary point in the Play
Then to be observed: O t'is vile, and shewes
A pittifull ambition in the foole that vseth it.
And then you have some agen, that keepes one sute
Of iestes, as a man is knowne by one sute of
Apparell, and Gentlemen quotes his iestas downe

F 2

In
The Tragedy of Hamlet

In their tables, before they come to the play, as thus:
Cannot you stay till I eate my porridge? and, you owe me
A quarters wages: and, my coate wants a cullison:
And, your beere is sowe: and, blabbering with his lips,
And thus keeping in his sinkapase of ieasts,
When, God knows, the warme Clowne cannot make a iest
Vnlesse by chance, as the blinde man catcheth a hare:
Maisters tell him of it.

players We will my Lord.

Ham. Well, goe make you ready. exeunt players.

Horatio. Heere my Lord.

Ham. Horatio, thou art euen as iust a man,
As e're my conversation cop'd withall.

Hor. O my lord!

Ham. Nay why should I flatter thee?

Why should the poore be flattered?
What gaine should I receive by flattering thee,
That nothing hath but thy good minde?
Let flattery sit on those time-pleasing tongs,
To glose with them that loues to heare their praise,
And not with such as thou Horatio.

There is a play to night, wherein one Scene they haue
Comes very neere the murder of my father,
When thou shalt see that Act afoote,
Marke thou the King, doe but obserue his lookes,
For I mine eies will riuet to his face:
And if he doe not bleach, and change at that,
It is a damned ghost that we haue seene,
Horatio, haue a care, obserue him well.

Hor. My lord, mine eies shall still be on his face,
And not the smallest alteration
That shall appeare in him, but I shall note it.

Ham. Harke, they come.

Enter King, Queene, Corambo, and other Lords. (a play?
King How now son Hamlet, how fare you, shall we haue
Ham. Y'faith the Camelions dish, not capon cram'd,
Prince of Denmarke.

feede a the ayre.
I father: My lord, you playd in the Vniuersitie.
   Cor. That I did my L: and I was counted a good actor.
   Ham. What did you enact there?
   Cor. My lord, I did act Julius Caesar, I was killed
in the Capitoll, Brutus killed me.
   Ham. It was a brute parte of him,
To kill so capitall a calfe.
Come, be these Players ready?
   Queene Hamlet come sit downe by me.
   Ham. No by my faith mother, heere's a mettle more at-
Lady will you give me leaue,and so forth: (tractiue:
To lay my head in your lappe?
   Ofel. No my Lord.
   Ham. Vpon your lap,what do you thinke I meant con-
Enter in a Dumbe Show, the King and the Queene, he sits
downe in an Arbor, she leaues him: Then enters Luci-
anium with poysen in a Viall, and poures it in his eares,and
goes away: Then the Queene commeth and findes him
dead: and goes away with the other.
   Ofel. What meanes this my Lord? Enter the Prologue.
   Ham. This is myching Mallico, that meanes my chiefe.
   Ofel. What doth this meane my lord?
   Ham. you shall heare anone, this fellow will tell you all.
   Ofel. Will he tell vs what this shew meanes?
   Ham. I, or any shew you'le shew him,
Be not afeard to shew, hee'le not be afeard to tell:
O these Players cannot keepe counsell, thei'le tell all.
   Prol. For vs, and for our Tragedie,
Heere stowpig to your clemencie,
We begge your hearing patiently.
   Ham. I'zt a prologue,or a poesie for a ring?
   Ofel. T'is short my Lord.
   Ham. As womens loue.

Enter the Duke and Dutchesse.

Duke Full fortie yeares are past, their date is gone,

Since
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Since happy time joyn'd both our hearts as one:
And now the blood that fill'd my youthfull veins,
Runs weakely in their pipes, and all the straines
Of musicke, which whilome please mine eare,
Is now a burthen that Age cannot bear:
And therefore sweete Nature must pay his due,
To heauen must I, and lese the earth with you.

Duchesse O say not so, lest you kill my heart,
When death takes you, let life from me depart.

Duke Content thy selfe, when ended is my date,
Thon maist(perchance)have a more noble mate,
More wise,more youthfull, and one.

Duchesse O speake no more, for then I am accurst,
None weds the second, but she kills the first:
A second time I kill my Lord that's dead,
When second husband kisses me in bed.

Ham. O wormwood,wormwood!

Duke I doe beleue you sweete,what now you speake,
But what we doe determine oft we breake,
For our demises stil are overthrowne,
Our thoughts are ours, their end's none of our owne:
So thinkes you will no second husband wed,
But die thy thoughts, when thy first Lord is dead.

Duchesse Both here and there pursue me lasting strife,
If once a widdow, euer I be wife.

Ham. If she should breake now.

Duke Tis deeply sworne,sweete leave me here a while,
My spirites growe dull, and saine I would beguile the tedious time with sleepe.

Duchesse Sleepe rocke thy braine,
And neuer come mischance betweene vs twaine. exit Lady

Ham. Madam, how do you like this play?

Queene The Lady protests too much.

Ham. O but sheele keepe her word.

King Haue you heard the argument, is there no offence
in it?
Prince of Denmark.

Ham. No offence in the world, poison in jest, poison in jest. What do you call the name of the play? (jest.

Ham. Mouse-trap: may how trapically this play is

The image of a murder done in Guyana, Albertus
Was the Duke's name, his wife Baptista,
Father, it is a knavish piece a work, but what
A that, it toucheth not vs, you and I that have free Soules, let the gall'd iade wince, this is one Lucianus nephew to the King.

Ofel. Ye're as good as a Chorus my Lord.

Ham. I could interpret the lone you beare, if I saw the poopies dallying.

Ofel. Ye're very pleasant my Lord.

Ham. Who I, your onlie jig-maker, why what should a man do but be merry? for looke how cheerfully my mother lookes, my father died within these two houres.

Ofel. Nay, tis twice two months, my Lord.

Ham. Two months, weare blacke, For I leve a suite of Sables: Jesus, two months dead, And not forgotten yet? nay then there's some Likelyhood, a gentlemen's death may oultline memorie, But by my faith hee must build churches then, Or els hee must follow the olde Epitithe,

With hoh, with ho, the hofi-horse is forgot.

Ofel. Your iests are keene my Lord.

Ham. It would cost you a groning to take them off.

Ofel. Still better and worse.

Ham. So you must take your husband, begin. Murdred Begin, a poxe, leave thy damnable faces and begin,

Come, the croking rauen doth bellow for revenge.

Murd. Thoughts blacke, hands apt, drags fit, and time Confederate season, else no creature seeing: (agreeing.
Thou mixture rancke, of midnight weeds collected,
With Hecates bane thrise blasted, thrise infected,
Thy naturall magick, and sure propertie,
One wholesome life vsurps immediately. exit.

Ham.
The Tragedy of Hamlet

*Ham.* He poysons him for his estate.

*King* Lights, I will to bed.

*Cor.* The king rises, lights hoe.

*Exeunt King and Lordes.*

*Ham.* What, frighted with false fires? Then let the stricken deere goe weepe, The Hart vnngalled play, For some must laugh, while some must weepe, Thus runnes the world away.

*Hor.* The king is mooued my lord.

*Hor.* I Horatio, i'le take the Ghosts word For more then all the coyne in Denmarke.

Enter Rosencraft and Gilderstone.

*Ross.* Now my lord, how i'st with you?

*Ham.* And if the king like not the tragedy, Why then belike he likes it not perdy.

*Ross.* We are very glad to see your grace so pleasant, My good lord, let us againe intreate (toure To know of you the ground and cause of your distempera-

*Gil.* My lord, your mother craves to speake with you.

*Ham.* We shall obey, were she ten times our mother.

*Ross.* But my good Lord, shall I intreate thus much?

*Ham.* I pray will you play vpon this pipe?

*Ross.* Alas my lord I cannot.

*Ham.* Pray will you.

*Gil.* I haue no skill my Lord.

*Ham.* why looke, it is a thing of nothing,

'Tis but stopping of these holes,
And with a little breath from your lips,
It will giue most delicate musick.

*Gil.* But this cannot wee do my Lord.

*Ham.* Pray now, pray hartily, I beseech you.

*Ros.* My lord wee cannot.

*Ham.* Why how vnworthy a thing would you make of You
Prince of Denmarke

You would seeme to know my stops, you would play vpon
You would search the very inward part of my hart, mee,
And diue into the secreet of my soule.
Zownds do you thinke Iam easier to be pla’yd
On, then a pipe? call mee what Instrument
You will, though you can fret mee, yet you can not
Play vpon mee, besides, to be demanded by a spunge.

Ros. How a spunge my Lord?

Ham. I sir, a spunge, that sokes vp the kings
Countenance, favours, and rewardes, that makes
His liberalitie your store house: but such as you,
Do the king, in the end, best seruise;
For hee doth keep you as an Ape doth nuttes,
In the corner of his law, first mouthes you,
Then swallowes you: so when hee hath need
Of you, t’is but squeesiing of you,
And spunge, you shall be dry againe, you shall.

Ros. Wel my Lord wee’le take our leaue.

Ham Farewell, farewell, God blesse you.

Exit Rossencraft and Gilderstone.

Enter Corambis

Cor. My lord, the Queene would speake with you.

Ham. Do you see yonder clowd in the shape of a camell?

Cor. T’is like a camell in deed.

Ham. Now me thinks it’s like a weasel.

Cor. T’is back’t like a weasell.

Ham. Or like a whale.

Cor. Very like a whale. exit Coram.

Ham. Why then tell my mother i’le come by and by.

Good night Horatio.

Hor. Good night vnto your Lordship. exit Horatio.

Ham. My mother she hath sent to speake with mee:

O God, let ne’re the heart of Nero enter
This soft bosome.
Let me be cruell, not vnnaturall.

G I
The Tragedie of Hamlet

I will speake daggers, those sharpe wordes being spent,
To doe her wrong my soule shall ne're consent.  
exit.

Enter the King.

King  O that this wet that falles vpon my face
Would wash the crime cleere from my conscience!
When I looke vp to heauen, I see my trespass,
The earth doth still crie out vpon my fact,
Pay me the murder of a brother and a king,
And the adulterous fault I haue committed:
O these are sinnes that are vnpardonable:
Why say thy sinnes were blacker then is ieat,
Yet may contrition make them as white as snowe:
I but still to perseuer in a sinne,
It is an act against the vniuersall power,
Most wretched man, stoope, bend thee to thy prayer,
Aske grace of heauen to keepe thee from despaire.

hee kneeles.   enters Hamlet

Ham.  I so, come forth and worke thy last,
And thus hee dies: and so am I reuenged:
No, not so: he tooke my father sleeping, his sins brim full,
And how his soule stoode to the state of heauen
Who knowes, saue the immortall powres,
And shall I kill him now,
When he is purging of his soule?
Making his way for heauen, this is a benefit,
And not reuenge: no, get thee vp agen,  
(drunke,
When hee's at gameswaring, taking his carowse, drinking
Or in the incestuous pleasure of his bed,
Or at some act that hath no relish
Of saluation in't, then trip him
That his heedes may kicke at heauen,
And fall as lowe as hel: my mother stayes,
This phisicke but prolongs thy weary dayes.  
exit Ham.

King  My wordes fly vp, my sinnes remaine below,

No
Prince of Denmarke.

No King on earth is safe, if Gods his foe. exit King.

Enter Queen and Coramis.

Cor. Madame, I heare yong Hamlet comming,
I le shrowde my selfe behinde the Arras. exit Cor.

Queen Do so my Lord.

Ham. Mother, mother, O are you here?

How i'st with you mother?

Queen How i'st with you?

Ham, I le tell you, but first weele make all safe.

Queen Hamlet, thou hast thy father much offended.

Ham. Mother, you haue my father much offended.

Queen How now boy?

Ham. How now mother! come here, sit downe, for you shall heare me speake.

Queen What wilt thou doe? thou wilt not murder me:

Help, hooe.

Cor. Help for the Queen.

Ham. I a Rat, dead for a Duckat.

Rash intruding fool, farewell,

I tooke thee for thy better.

Queen Hamlet, what hast thou done?

Ham. Not so much harme, good mother,

As to kill a king, and marry with his brother.

Queen How! kill a king!

Ham. I a King: nay sit you downe, and ere you part,

If you be made of penetrable stuffe,

I le make your eyes looke downe into your heart,

And see how horride there and blacke it shews. (words?

Queen Hamlet, what mean'st thou by these killing

Ham. Why this I meane, see here, behold this picture,

It is the portraiture, of your deceased husband,

See here a face, to outface Mars himselfe,

An eye, at which his foes did tremble at,

A front wherein all vertues are set downe

For to adorne a king, and guild his crowne,

Whose heart went hand in hand euen with that vow,

G 2

He
The Tragedy of Hamlet

He made to you in marriage, and he is dead.
Murdred, damnably murdred, this was your husband,
Looke you now, here is your husband,
With a face like Vulcan.
A looke fit for a murder and a rape,
A dull dead hanging looke, and a hell-bred eie,
To affright children and amaze the world:
And this same haue you left to change with this.
What Diuell thus hath coosed you at hob-man blinde?
A! haue you eyes and can you looke on him
That slew my father, and your deere husband,
To liue in the incestuous pleasure of his bed?

Queene O Hamlet, speake no more.

Ham. To leaue him that bare a Monarkes minde,
For a king of clowts, of very shreads.

Queene Sweete Hamlet cease.

Ham. Nay but still to persist and dwell in sinne,
To sweate vnder the yoke of infamie,
To make increase of shame, to seale damnation.

Queene Hamlet, no more.

Ham. Why appetite with you is in the waine,
Your blood runnes backeward now from whence it came,
Who'e chide hote blood within a Virgins heart,
When lust shall dwell within a matrons breast?

Queene Hamlet, thou cleaues my heart in twaine.

Ham. O throw away the worser part of it, and keepe the better.

Enter the ghost in his night gowne.

Saue me, saue me, you gratious
Powers above, and houer ouer mee,
With your celestiall wings.
Doe you not come your tardy sonne to chide,
That I thus long haue let reuenge slippe by?
O do not glare with lookes so pittifull!
Lest that my heart of stone yeele to compassion.

And
Prince of Denmarke.

And every part that should assist revenge,
Forgoe their proper powers, and fall to pity.

Ghost Hamlet, I once againe appeare to thee,
To put thee in remembrance of my death:
Doe not neglect, nor long time put it off.
But I perceiue by thy distracted lookes,
Thy mother's fearefull, and she stands amaz'de:
Speake to her Hamlet, for her sex is weake,
Comfort thy mother, Hamlet, thinke on me.

Ham. How i'st with you Lady?
Queene Nay, how i'st with you
That thus you bend your eyes on vacancie,
And holde discourse with nothing but with ayre?

Ham. Why do you nothing heare?
Queene Not I.

Ham. Nor doe you nothing see?
Queene No neither.

Ham. No, why see the king my father, my father, in the
As he liued, looke you how pale he lookes,
See how he steals away out of the Portall,
Looke, there he goes. exit ghost.

Queene Alas, it is the weakesse of thy braine,
Which makes thy tongue to blazon thy hearts griefe:
But as I haue a soule, I sweare by heauen,
I never knew of this most horrible murder:
But Hamlet, this is only fantasie,
And for my loue forget these idle fits.

Ham. Idle, no mother, my pulse doth beate like yours,
It is not madnessse that possesseth Hamlet.
O mother, if ever you did my deare father loue,
Forbear the adulterous bed to night,
And win your selfe by little as you may,
In time it may be you wil lothe him quite:
And mother, but assist mee in reuenge,
And in his death your infamy shall die.

Queene Hamlet, I vow by that majesty,

G 3

That
The Tragedy of Hamlet

He presently without demanding why,
That Hamlet loose his head, for he must die,
There's more in him than shallow eyes can see:
He once being dead, why then our state is free. exit.

Enter Fortenbrasse, Drumme and Souldiers.

Fort. Captaine, from vs goe greete
The king of Denmarke:
Tell him that Fortenbrasse nephew to old Norway,
Craues a free passe and conduct over his land,
According to the Articles agreed on:
You know our Randezvous, goe march away. exeunt all.

enter King and Queene.

King Hamlet is ship't for England, fare him well,
I hope to heare good newes from thence ere long,
If euer thing fall out to our content,
As I doe make no doubt but so it shall.

Queene God grant it may, heau'ns keep my Hamlet safe:
But this mischance of olde Corambis death,
Hath pierced so the yong Ofeliaes heart,
That she, poore maide, is quite bereft her wittes.

King Alas deere heart! And on the other side,
We vnderstand her brother's come from France,
And he hath halfe the heart of all our Land,
And hardly hee'lfe forget his fathers death,
Vnlesse by some meanes he be pacified.

Qu. O see where the yong Ofelia is!

Enter Ofelia playing on a Lute, and her haire downe singeing.

Ofelia How should I your true loue know
From another man?
By his cockle hatte, and his staffe,
Prince of Denmarke

And his sandall shoone.
White his shrowde as mountaine snowe,
Larded with sweete flowers,
That bewept to the graue did not goe
With true louers showers:
He is dead and gone Lady, he is dead and gone,
At his head a grasse greene turfte,
At his heeles a stone.

king  How i’st with you sweete Ofelia?

Ofelia  Well God yeeld you,
It grieues me to see how they laid him in the cold ground,
I could not chuse but weepe:
And will he not come againe?
And will he not come againe?
No, no, hee’s gone, and we cast away mone,
And he neuer will come againe.
His beard as white as snowe:
All flaxen was his pole,
He is dead, he is gone,
And we cast away moane:
God a mercy on his soule.
And of all christen soules I pray God.
God be with you Ladies, God be with you.  exit Ofelia.

king  A pretty wretch! this is a change indeede:
O Time, how swiftly runnes our ioyes away?
Content on earth was neuer certaine bred,
To day we laugh and live, to tommorrow dead.
How now, what noyse is that?

A noyse within.  enter Learstes.

Lear. Stay there vntill I come,
O thou vilde king, giue me my father:
Speake, say, where’s my father?

king  Dead.

Lear. Who hath murdred him? speake, i’le not
Be juggled with, for he is murdred.

Queene  True, but not by him.

H               Learstes
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Lear. By whome, by heau'n I'le be resolved.

king Let him goe Gertred,away, I feare him not,
There's such diuinitie doth wall a king,
That treason dares not looke on.
Let him goe Gertred, that your father is murdred,
T'is true, and we most sory for it,
Being the chiefest piller of our state:
Therefore will you like a most desperate gamster,
Swoop-stake-like, draw at friend, and foe,and all?

Lear. To his good friends thus wide I'le ope mine arms,
And locke them in my hart, but to his foes,
I will no reconcillement but by bloud.

king Why now you speake like a most louing sonne:
And that in soule we sorrow for for his death,
Your selfe ere long shall be a witnesse,
Meane while be patient, and content your selfe.

Enter Ofelia as before.

Lear. Who's this, Ofelia? O my deere sister!
I'st possible a yong maides life,
Should be as mortall as an olde mans sawe?
O heau'ns themselues! how now Ofelia?

Ofel. Wel God a mercy, I a bin gathering of floures:
Here,here is rew for you,
You may call it hearb a grace a Sundayes,
Heere's some for me too: you must weare your rew
With a difference, there's a dazie.
Here Loue, there's rosemary for you
For remembrance: I pray Loue remember,
And there's pansey for thoughts.

Lear. A document in madness, thoughts,remembrance:
O God, O God!

Ofelia There is fennell for you, I would a giu'n you
Some violets, but they all withered, when
My father died: alas, they say the owle was
A Bakers daughter, we see what we are,
But can not tell what we shall be.

For
Prince of Denmarke.

For bonny sweete Robin is all my joy.

Lear. Thoughts & afflictions, torments worse than hell.

Ophel. Nay Loue, I pray you make no words of this now:

I pray now, you shall sing a downe,
And you a downe a, t'is a the Kings daughter
And the false steward, and if any body
Aske you of any thing, say you this.
To morrow is saint Valentines day,
All in the morning betime,
And a maide at your window,
To be your Valentine:
The yong man rose, and dan'd his clothes,
And dupt the chamber doore,
Let in the maide, that out a maide
Neuer departed more.
Nay I pray marke now,
By gisle, and by saint Charitie,
Away, and fie for shame:
Yong men will doo't when they come too't:
By cocke they are too blame.
Quoth she, before you tumbled me,
You promised me to wed.
So would I a done, by yonder Sunne,
If thou hadst not come to my bed.
So God be with you all, God bwy Ladies.
God bwy you Loue. exit Ophel.

Lear. Griefe vpon griefe, my father murdered,
My sister thus distracted:
Cursed be his soule that wrought this wicked act.

king Content you good Leartes for a time,
Although I know your griefe is as a floud,
Brimme full of sorrow, but forbeare a while,
And thinke already the reuenge is done
On him that makes you such a haplesse sonne.

Lear. You have prevail'd my Lord, a while I'll strieue,
To bury griefe within a tombe of wrath,

H.2 Which
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Which once vnhearsed, then the world shall heare
Leartes had a father he held deere.

king No more of that, ere many dayes be done,
You shall heare that you do not dreame vpon.  exeunt om.

Enter Horatio and the Queene.

Hor. Madame, your sonne is safe arriv'd in Denmarke,
This letter I euen now receiv'd of him,
Whereas he writes how he escap't the danger,
And subtle treason that the king had plotted,
Being crossed by the contention of the windes,
He found the Packet sent to the king of England,
Wherein he saw himselfe betray'd to death,
As at his next conversion with your grace,
He will relate the circumstance at full.

Queene Then I perceiue there's treason in his lookes
That seem'd to sugar o're his villainy:
But I will soothe and please him for a time,
For murderous mindes are always jealous,
But know not you Horatio where he is?

Hor. Yes Madame, and he hath appoynted me
To meete him on the east side of the Cittie
To morrow morning.

Queene O faile not, good Horatio, and withall, com-
A mothers care to him, bid him a while (mend me
Be wary of his presence, lest that he
Faile in that he goes about.

Hor. Madam, neuer make doubt of that:
I think by this the news be come to count:
He is arriv'd, observe the king, and you shall
Quickely finde, Hamlet being here,
Things fell not to his minde.

Queene But what became of Gilderstone and Rossencraft?

Hor. He being set ashore, they went for England,
And in the Packet there writ down that doome
To be perform'd on them poyned for him:
And by great chance he had his fathers Seale,
Prince of Denmark.

So all was done without discoverie.

Queene Thankes be to heauen for blessing of the prince,

Horatio once againe I take my leaue,

With thousand mothers blessings to my sonne.

Horat. Madam adue.

Enter King and Leartes.

King. Hamlet from England? is it possible?

What chance is this? they are gone, and he come home.

Lear. O he is welcome, by my soule he is:

At it my iocund heart doth leape for joy,

That I shall liue to tell him, thus he dies.

king Leartes, content your selfe, be rulde by me,

And you shall have no let for your revenges.

Lear. My will, not all the world.

King. Nay but Leartes, marke the plot I have layde,

I have heard him often with a greedy wish,

Upon some praise that he hath heard of you

Touching your weapon, which with all his heart,

He might be once tasked for to try your cunning.

Lea. And how for this?

King. Mary Leartes thus: Ile lay a wager,

Shalbe on Hamlets side, and you shall gaine the oddes,

The which will draw him with a more desire,

To try the maistry, that in twelue venies

You gaine not three of him: now this being granted,

When you are hot in midst of all your play,

Among the foyles shall a keene rapier lie,

Steepe in a mixture of deadly poyson,

That if it drawes but the least dramme of blood,

In any part of him, he cannot liue:

This being done will free you from suspicion,

And not the dearest friend that Hamlet lovde

Will ever haue Leartes in suspect.

Lear. My lord, I like it well:

But say lord Hamlet should refuse this match.

King. Ile warrant you, we'll put on you.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Such a report of singularitie,
Will bring him on, although against his will.
And lest that all should misse,
I'le haue a potion that shall ready stand,
In all his heate when that he calleth for drinke,
Shall be his period and our happinesse.

Lear. 'Tis excellent, O would the time were come!
Here comes the Queene. enter the Queene.

king How now Gertred, why looke you heavilly?

Queene O my Lord, the yong Ofelia
Having made a garland of sundry sortes of flowers,
Sitting vpon a willow by a brooke,
The envious sprig broke, into the brooke she fell,
And for a while her clothes spread wide abroad,
Bore the yong Lady vp: and there she sate smiling,
Even Mermaide-like, twist heauen and earth,
Chaunting olde sundry tunes vncaable.
As it were of her distresse, but long it could not be,
Till that her clothes, being heavy with their drinke,
Dragg'd the sweete wretch to death.

Lear. So, she is drownde:
Too much of water hast thou Ofelia,
Therefore I will not drowne thee in my tears,
Reuenge it is must yeeld this heart releefe,
For woe begets woe, and griefe hangs on griefe. exit.

enter Clowne and an other.

Clowne I say no, she ought not to be buried
In christian burial.

2. Why sir?

Clowne Mary because shee's drownd.
2. But she did not drowne her selfe.

Clowne No, that's certaine, the water drownd'd her.
2. Yea but it was against her will.

Clowne No, I deny that, for looke you sir, I stand here,
If the water come to me, I drowne not my selfe:
But if I goe to the water, and am there drownd,

Ergo
Prince of Denmarke.

Ergo I am guiltie of my owne death:
Y're gone, goe y're gone sir.

2. I but see, she hath christian burial,
Because she is a great woman.

Clowne Mary more's the pitty, that great folke
Should haue more authoritie to hang or drowne
Themselves, more than other people:
Goe fetch me a stope of drinke, but before thou
Goest, tell me one thing, who buildes strongest,
Of a Mason, a Shipwright, or a Carpenter?

2. Why a Mason, for he buildes all of stone,
And will indure long:

Clowne That's prety, too't agen, too't agen.

2. Why then a Carpenter, for he buildes the gallowes,
And that brings many a one to his long home.

Clowne Pretty agen, the gallowes doth well, mary howe
does it well? the gallowes does well to them that doe ill,
goe get thee gone:
And if any one aske thee hereafter, say,
A Graue-maker, for the houses he buildes
Last till Doomes-day. Fetch me a stope of beere, goe.

Enter Hamlet and Horatio.

Clowne A picke-axe and a spade,
A spade for and a winding sheete,
Most fit it is, for t'will be made, he throwes up a shouel.
For such a ghest most meete.

Ham. Hath this fellow any feeling of himselfe,
That is thus merry in making of a graue?
See how the slaue joles their heads against the earth.

Hor. My lord, Custome hath made it in him seeme no-

Clowne A pick-axe and a spade, a spade, (thing.
For and a winding sheete,
Most fit it is for to be made,
For such a ghest most meet.

Ham. Looke you, there's another Horatio.

Why
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Why maie it not be the seuell of some Lawyer?
Me thinkes he should indite that fellow
Of an action of Batterie, for knocking
Him about the pate with's shouel: now where is your
Quirkes and quillets now, your vouchers and
double vouchers, your leases and free-holde,
And tenements? why that same boxe there will scarce
holde the conueniace of his land, and must
The honor lie there? O pittiful transformation!
I prethee tell me Horatio,
Is parchuent made of sheep-skinnes?

Hor. I my Lorde, and of calues-skinnes too.

Ham. Ifsaith they proove themselues sheepe and calues
That deale with them, or put their trust in them.
There's another, why may not that be such a ones
Scull, that praised my Lord such a ones horse,
When he meant to beg him? Horatio, I prethee
Let's question yonder fellow.

Now my friend, whose grave is this?

Clowne Mine sir.

Ham. But who must lie in it?

Clowne If I should say, I should, I should lie in my throat

Ham. What man must be buried here?

Clowne No man sir.

Ham. What woman?

Clowne No woman neither sir, but indeede

One that was a woman.

Ham. An excellent fellow by the Lord Horatio,
This seauen yeares haue I noted it: the toe of the pesant,
Comes so neere the heele of the courtier,
That hee gawles his kibe, I prethee tell mee one thing,
How long will a man lie in the ground before hee rots?

Clowne Ifsaith sir, if hee be not rotten before
He be laide in, as we haue many pocky corse,
He will last you, eight yeares, a tanner
Will last you eight yeares full out, or nine.

Ham.
Prince of Denmark

Ham. And why a tanner?
Clowne Why his hide is so tanned with his trade,
That it will holde out water, that's a parlous
Deuourer of your dead body, a great soaker.
Looke you, heres a scull hath bin here this dozen yeare,
Let me see, I euer since our last king Hamlet
Slew Fortenbrasse in combat,yong Hamlets father,
Hee that's mad.

Ham. I mary, how came he madde?
Clowne Ifaith very strangely, by loosing of his wittes.
Ham. Vpon what ground?
Clowne A this ground, in Denmarke.
Ham. Where is he now?
Clowne Why now they sent him to England.
Ham. To England! wherefore?
Clowne Why they say he shall haue his wittes there,
Or if he haue not, tis no great matter there,
It will not be seene there.

Ham. Why not there?
Clowne Why there they say the men are as mad as he.
Ham. Whose scull was this?
Clowne This,a plague on him,a madde rogues it was,
He powred once a whole flagon of Rhenish of my head,
Why do not you know him? this was one Yorickes scull.

Ham. Was this? I prethee let me see it,alas poore Yoricke
I knew him Horatio,
A fellow of infinite mirth, he hath caried mee twenty times
Vpon his backe, here hung those lippes that I haue Kissed a
hundred times,and to see, now they abhorre me : Wheres
your iests now Yoricke ? your flashes of meriment : now go
to my Ladies chamber , and bid her paint her selfe an inch
thicke, to this she must come Yoricke. Horatio, I prethee
tell me one thing, doost thou thinke that Alexander looked
thus?

Hor. Euen so my Lord.

Ham. And smelt thus?

I Hor.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Hor. I my lord, no otherwise.

Ham. No, why might not imagination worke, as thus of Alexander, Alexander died, Alexander was buried, Alexander became earth, of earth we make clay, and Alexander being but clay, why might not time bring to passe, that he might stoppe the bough hole of a beeare barrel? Imperious Caesar dead and turned to clay,

Might stoppe a hole, to kepe the winde away.

Enter King and Queene, Lear, and other lorde, with a Priest after the coffin.

Ham. What funerall's this that all the Court laments?

It shews to be some noble parentage:

Stand by a while.

Lear. What ceremony else? say, what ceremony else?

Priest My Lord, we haue done all that lies in us, And more than well the church can tolerate,

She hath had a Dirge sung for her maiden soule:

And but for fauour of the king, and you;

She had beene buried in the open fieldes,

Where now she is allowed Christian burial.

Lear. So, I tell thee Church, Priest, a ministring Angell shall my sister be, when thou liest howling.

Ham. The faire Ophelia dead!

Queene Sweetes to the sweete, farewell:

I had thought to adorn thee bridal bed, faire maide,

And not to follow thee unto thy grave.

Lear. Forbeare the earth a while: sister farewell:

Lear. leapes into the grave.

Now powre your earth on, Olympus hie,

And make a hill to 're top olde Pellow: Hamlet leapes in after Lear.

What's he that contrives so?

Ham. Beholde tis I, Hamlet the Dane.

Lear. The diuell take thy soule.

Ham. O thou praiest not well,

I prethee take thy hand from off my throate;

For there is something in me dangerous,

Which
Prince of Denmarke.
Which let thy wisedome feare, holde off thy hand:
I loude Ofelia as deere as twenty brothers could:
Shew me what thou wilt doe for her:
Wilt fight, wilt fast, wilt pray,
Wilt drinke vp vessels, eate a crocadile? He doot:
Com'st thou here to whine?
And where thou talk'st of burying thee a liue,
Here let vs stand: and let them throw on vs,
Whole hills of earth, till with the heigth thereof,
Make Oosell as a Wart.

King. Forbeare Lear, now is he mad, as is the sea,
Anone as milde and gentle as a Doue:
Therefore a while giue his wilde humour scope.

Ham. What is the reason sir that you wrong mee thus?
I neuer gane you cause: but stand away,
A Cat will meaw, a Dog will have a day.

Exit Hamlet and Horatio.

Queene. Alas, it is his madness makes him thus,
And not his heart, Lear.

King. My lord, tis so: but wee're no longer trifle,
This very day shall Hamlet drinke his last,
For presently we meane to send to him,
Therfore Lear be in readines.

Lear. My lord, till then my soule will not bee quiet.

King. Come Gertred, we'll haue Lear, and our sonne,
Made friends and Louers, as biffettes them both,
Even as they tender vs, and loue their countrie.

Queene. God grant they may. exeunt omnes.

Enter Hamlet and Horatio

Ham. beleuee mee, it greenees mee much Horatio,
That to Lear I forgot my selfe:
For by my selfe me thinkes I feele his grieue,
Though there's a difference in each others wrong.

Enter a Bragart Gentleman.

Horatio, but marke yon water-flie,
The Court knowes him, but hee knowes not the Court.

I 2 Gen.
The Tragedy of Hamlet

Gent. Now God saue thee, sweete prince Hamlet.
Ham. And you sir: foh, how the muske-cod smels!
Gen. I come with an embassage from his majesty to you.
Ham. I shall sir giue you attention:
By my troth me thinkes tis very colde.
Gen. It is indeede very rawish colde.
Ham. Tis hot me thinkes.
Gen. Very swoltery hote:
The King, sweete Prince, hath layd a wager on your side,
Six Barbary horse, against sixrench rapiers,
With all their acoutrements too, a the carriages:
In good faith they are very curiously wrought.
Ham. The carriages sir, I do not know what you mean.
Gen. The girdles, and hangers sir, and such like.
Ham. The worde had beene more cosin german to the
phrase, if he could haue carried the cannon by his side,
And howe's the wager? I vnderstand you now.
Gen. Mary sir, that yong Learthes in twelve venies
At Rapier and Dagger do not get three oddes of you,
And on your side the King hath laide,
And desires you to be in readinesse.
Ham. Very well, if the King dare venture his wager,
I dare venture my skull: when must this be?
Gen. My Lord, presently, the king and her majesty,
With the rest of the best judgement in the Court,
Are comming downe into the outward pallace.
Ham. Goe tell his maiestie, I wil attend him.
Gen. I shall deliuer your most sweet answer. exit.
Ham. You may sir, none better, for y'are spiced,
Else he had a bad nose could not smell a foole.
Hor. He will disclose himselfe without inquirie.
Ham. Beleeue me Horatio, my hart is on the sodaine
Very sore, all here about.
Hor. My lord, forbeare the challenge then.
Ham. No Horatio, not I, if danger be now,
Why then it is not to come, there's a predestiuate pruidence in
Prince of Denmarke

in the fall of a sparrow: here comes the King.

Enter King, Queene, Lear, Lordes.

King Now some Hamlet, we have lain upon your head,
And make no question but to have the best.

Ham. Your maistie hath laid a the weaker side.

King We doubt it not, deliver them the foiles.

Ham. First Lear, here's my hand and love,
Protesting that I never wronged Lear.

If Hamlet in his madness did amiss,
That was not Hamlet, but his madness did it,
And all the wrong I've done to Lear,
I here proclaim was madness, therefore let's be at peace,
And think I have shot mine arrow o're the house,
And hurt my brother.

Lear. Sir I am satisfied in nature,
But in terms of honor I'll stand aloof,
And will no reconciliation,
Till by some elder masters of our time
I may be satisfied.

King Give them the foiles.

Ham. I'll be your foyle Lear, these foiles,
Have all a laugh, come on sir: a hit.

Lear. No none. Heere they play:

Ham. Judgement.

Gent. A hit, a most palpable hit.

Lear. Well, come againe. They play again.

Ham. Another. Judgement.

Lear. I, I grant, a tuch, a tuch.

King Here Hamlet, the king doth drinke a health to thee
Queene Here Hamlet, take my napkin, wipe thy face.

King Give him the wine.

Ham. Set it by, I'll have another bowt first,
I'll drink alone.

Queene Here Hamlet, thy mother drinkes to thee.

Shee drinkes.

King Do not drinke Gertred: O tis the poysned cup!

I 3     Ham.
The Tragedie of Hamlet

Ham. Learies come, you dally with me,
I pray you passe with your most cunninge play.

Lear. If say you so? haue at you,
Ile hit you now my Lord:
And yet it goes almost against my conscience.

Ham. Come on sir.

They catch one anothers Rapiers, and both are wounded,
Learies falleth downe, the Queene falleth downe and dies.

King. Looke to the Queene.

Queene. O the drinke, the drinke, Hamlet, the drinke.

Ham. Treason, ho, keepe the gates.

Lords. How ist my Lord Learies?

Lear. Euen as a coxcombe should,
Foolishly slaine with my owne weapon:

Hamlet, thou hast not in thee halfe an houre of life,
The fatall Instrument is in thy hand.

Unbated and invenomed: thy mother's poysned
That drinke was made for thee.

Ham. The poysned Instrument within my hand?
Then venome to thy venome, die damn'd villaine:
Come drinke, here lies thy vnion here. The king dies.

Lear. O he is justly serued:

Hamlet, before I die, here take my hand,
And withall, my love: I doe forgive thee. Learies dies.

Ham. And I thee, O I am dead Horatio, fare thee well.

Hor. No, I am more an antike Roman,
Then a Dane, here is some poison left.

Ham. Upon my love I charge thee let it goe,
O fie Horatio, and if thou shouldst die,
What a scandall wouldst thou leave behind? What tongue should tell the story of our deaths,
If not from thee? O my heart sinke. Horatio,
Mine eyes haue lost their sight, my tongue his vse:
Farewel Horatio, heaven receive my soule. Ham. dies.
LONDON:
REPRINTED AT THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS,
BY W. NICOL,
CLEVELAND ROW, ST. JAMES'S.