

FALSTAFF. Well, if Percy be alive, I'll pierce him. If he do come
in my way, so; if he do not, if I come in his willingly, let him
make a carbonado of me. I like not such grinning honor as
Sir Walter hath. Give me life; which if I can save, so; if not,
honor comes unlooked for, and there's an end.

[Exit.]

[SCENE IV. Another part of the field.]

*Alarum. Excursions. Enter the KING, the PRINCE, LORD JOHN
OF LANCASTER, EARL OF WESTMORELAND.*

KING. I prithee, Harry, withdraw thyself; thou bleedest too much.
Lord John of Lancaster, go you with him.

JOHN. Not I, my lord, unless I did bleed too.

PRINCE. I [do] beseech your majesty make up,
Lest your retirement do amaze your friends.

KING. I will do so.

My Lord of Westmoreland, lead him to his tent.

WESTMORELAND. Come, my lord, I'll lead you to your tent.

PRINCE. Lead me, my lord? I do not need your help;

And God forbid a shallow scratch should drive

The Prince of Wales from such a field as this,

Where stained nobility lies trodden on,

And rebels' arms triumph in massacres!

JOHN. We breathe too long. Come, cousin Westmoreland,

Our duty this way lies. For God's sake, come!

[Exeunt PRINCE JOHN and WESTMORELAND.]

PRINCE. By God, thou has deceived me, Lancaster!

I did not think thee lord of such a spirit.

Before, I loved thee as a brother, John;

But now, I do respect thee as my soul.

KING. I saw him hold Lord Percy at the point

With lustier maintenance than I did look for

Of such an ungrown warrior.

PRINCE. O, this boy

Lends mettle to us all!

Exit.

56. carbonado: meat scored across and grilled.
58. an end: i.e., to Falstaff's catechism and to life.
4. make up: bring up your troops.
5. retirement: retreat; amaze: bewilder.
12. stained: with blood and dishonor.
14. breathe: pause for breath.
21. lustier maintenance: more vigorous endurance.

[Enter DOUGLAS.]

DOUGLAS. Another king? They grow like Hydra's heads.

I am the Douglas, fatal to all those

That wear those colors on them. What art thou

That counterfeit'st the person of a king?

KING. The king himself, who, Douglas, grieves at heart

So many of his shadows thou hast met,

And not the very king. I have two boys

Seek Percy and thyself about the field;

But seeing thou fall'st on me so luckily,

I will assay thee. So defend thyself.

DOUGLAS. I fear thou art another counterfeit;

And yet, in faith, thou bearest thee like a king.

But mine I am sure thou art, who'er thou be,

And thus I win thee.

They fight. The KING being in danger, enter PRINCE OF WALES.

PRINCE. Hold up thy head, vile Scot, or thou art like

Never to hold it up again. The spirits

Of valiant Shirley, Stafford, Blunt are in my arms.

It is the Prince of Wales that threatens thee,

Who never promiseth but he means to pay.

They fight. DOUGLAS flieth.

Cheerly, my lord, how fares your grace?

Sir Nicholas Gawsey hath for succor sent,

And so hath Clifton. I'll to Clifton straight.

KING. Stay and breathe awhile.

Thou hast redeemed thy lost opinion,

And showed thou mak'st some tender of my life

In this fair rescue thou hast brought to me.

PRINCE. O God, they did me too much injury

That ever said I hearkened for your death.

If it were so, I might have let alone

The insulting hand of Douglas over you,

Which would have been as speedy in your end

As all the poisonous potions in the world,

24. Hydra: the nine-headed monster of Greek mythology that grew two new heads for each one cut off.

26. colors: i.e., the king's coat of arms.

29. shadows: likenesses.

32. luckily: by chance.

33. assay thee: put you to the test.

36. mine: my prize.

43. Cheerly: a cry of encouragement.

46. breathe: get my breath back.

47. redeemed: recovered; opinion: reputation.

48. thou . . . of: you have some regard for.

51. hearkened for: hoped to hear of.

53. insulting: scornfully triumphing.