

HORATIO – SIDE ONE

HORATIO My lord, I came to see your father's funeral.

HAMLET I pray thee do not mock me, fellow-student:

I think it was to see my mother's wedding.

HORATIO Indeed, my lord, it follow'd hard upon.

HAMLET Thrift, thrift, Horatio! The funeral baked meats

Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables.

My father, methinks I see my father.

HORATIO Where my lord?

HAMLET In my mind's eye, Horatio.

HORATIO I saw him once; he was a goodly king.

HAMLET He was a man, take him for all in all.

I shall not look upon his like again.

HORATIO My lord, I think I saw him yesternight.

HAMLET Saw who?

HORATIO My lord, the king your father.

HAMLET The king my father?

HORATIO Season your admiration for a while

With an attent ear till I may deliver

Upon the witness of these gentlemen

This marvel to you.

HAMLET For heaven's love, let me hear.

HORATIO Two nights together had these gentlemen,

Marcellus and Bernardo, on their watch

In the dead waste and middle of the night,

Been thus encounter'd. A figure like your father,

Appears before us, and with solemn march

Goes slow and stately

The apparition comes. I knew your father:

These hands are not more like.

HAMLET But where was this?

HORATIO My lord, upon the platform where we watch'd.

HAMLET Did you not speak to it?

HORATIO My lord, I did,

But answer made it none. Yet once methought

It lifted up its head and did address

Itself to motion, like as it would speak:

But even then the morning cock crew loud,

And at the sound it shrunk in haste away

And vanish'd from our sight.

HAMLET 'Tis very strange.

HORATIO As I do live, my honour'd lord, 'tis true;

And we did think it writ down in our duty

To let you know of it.

HAMLET Indeed, indeed, sirs; but this troubles me.

I will watch tonight; perchance 'twill walk again.

HORATIO I warrant you it will.

HORATIO – SIDE TWO

HAMLET So much for this, sir; now shall you see the other:
You do remember all the circumstance?

HORATIO Remember it, my lord?

HAMLET There's a divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them how we will –

HORATIO That is most certain.

HAMLET Wilt thou hear me how I did proceed?

HORATIO I beseech you.

HAMLET Being thus benetted round with villanies –

HORATIO Ay, good my lord.

HAMLET An earnest conjuration from the king,
As England was his faithful tributary,

HORATIO How was this seal'd?

HAMLET Why, even in that was heaven ordinant.
I had my father's signet in my purse,

HORATIO Why, what a king is this!

HAMLET And is't not to be damn'd,
To let this canker of our nature come
In further evil?

HORATIO It must be shortly known to him from England
What is the issue of the business there.

HAMLET It will be short: the interim's is mine,

HORATIO You will lose this wager, my lord.

HAMLET I do not think so: But thou
wouldst not think how ill all's here about my heart, but it is no matter.

HORATIO Nay, good my lord –

HAMLET It is but foolery; but it is such a kind of gain-giving
as would perhaps trouble a woman.

HORATIO If your mind dislike anything, obey it: I will forestall
their repair hither, and say you are not fit.