



Edward II

Christopher Marlowe- adapted by LAMDA

Prince Edward is the son of King Edward the Second, who recently died, leaving Prince Edward to be crowned King at the age of fourteen. As Prince Edward learns of his father's death, he is informed that Mortimer and Queen Isabella- his mother- are suspected of murder. Prince Edward orders Mortimer's death, and in this speech he sends his mother to the tower.

PRINCE EDWARD: Forbid me not to weep; he was my father;
And had you lov'd him half so well as I,
You could not bear his death thus patiently:
But you, I fear, conspir'd with Mortimer.
Mother, you are suspected for his death
And therefore we commit you to the Tower,
Till further trial may be made thereof.
If you be guilty, though I be your son,
Think not to find me slack or pitiful.
Away with her! Her words enforce these tears,
And I shall pity her, if she speak again.

(Enter First Lord with the head of Mortimer)

Go fetch my father's hearse, where it shall lie;
And bring my funeral robes. Accursed head,
Could I have rul'd thee then, as I do now,
Though hadst not hatch'd this monstrous treachery!-
Here comes the hearse: help me to mourn, my lords.

(Enter Attendants with the hearse and funeral robes.)

Sweet father, here unto thy murder'd ghost
I offer up this wicked traitor's head;
And let these tears, distilling from mine eyes,
Be witness of my grief and innocence.

Act 5, Scene 6