| **ACT IV SCENE 6** |
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| *HORATIO and a SERVANT enter.* |
| **HORATIO**  Who are the people who want to speak with me? |
| **SERVANT**  Sailors, sir. They say they have letters for you. |
| **HORATIO**  Show them in. |
| ***SERVANT*** *exits.* |
| I don’t know who else would send me a letter from abroad except Hamlet. |
| ***SAILORS*** *enter.* |
| **SAILOR**  Hello, sir. God bless you. |
| **HORATIO**  May He bless you, too. |
| **SAILOR**  He will, sir, if He wants to. There’s a letter for you, sir. It’s from the ambassador, Lord Hamlet, who was going to England—if your name’s Horatio, as they told me it is. *(he hands* *HORATIO* *a letter)* |
| **HORATIO**  *(reading the letter)*   “Horatio,   When you’ve read this letter, find a way to let these guys see the king. They have letters for him. Before we were at sea for even two days, a pirate ship equipped for battle pursued us. We were too slow to escape, so we were forced to stand and fight. In the battle that followed I ended up on the pirate ship. Just then they left our ship behind, so I became the only prisoner on board. They’ve treated me quite mercifully for thieves, but they knew what they were doing. They want me to do a favor for them. |
| Give the king the letters I’ve sent, and come to me as fast as you would run from death. I’ve got things to tell you that will make you speechless, and they aren’t even half the story. These guys will take you to me. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are on their way to England. I have a lot to tell you about them. Good-bye.      Your trusted friend,       Hamlet.”  Come, men. I’ll show you where to deliver these letters as quickly as possible, so that you can take me to the man who sent them. |
| *They exit.* |