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FTLN 0854	HORATIO/MARCELLUS	Ay, by heaven, <my lord.>	
	HAMLET		
FTLN 0855		There's never a villain dwelling in all Denmark	
FTLN 0856		But he's an arrant knave.	
	HORATIO		
FTLN 0857		There needs no ghost, my lord, come from the grave	
FTLN 0858		To tell us this.	140
FTLN 0859	HAMLET	Why, right, you are in the right.	
FTLN 0860		And so, without more circumstance at all,	
FTLN 0861		I hold it fit that we shake hands and part,	
FTLN 0862		You, as your business and desire shall point you	
FTLN 0863		(For every man hath business and desire,	145
FTLN 0864		Such as it is), and for my own poor part,	
FTLN 0865		I will go pray.	
	HORATIO		
FTLN 0866		These are but wild and whirling words, my lord.	
	HAMLET		
FTLN 0867		I am sorry they offend you, heartily;	
FTLN 0868		Yes, faith, heartily.	150
FTLN 0869	HORATIO	There's no offense, my lord.	
	HAMLET		
FTLN 0870		Yes, by Saint Patrick, but there is, Horatio,	
FTLN 0871		And much offense, too. Touching this vision here,	
FTLN 0872		It is an honest ghost—that let me tell you.	
FTLN 0873		For your desire to know what is between us,	155
FTLN 0874		O'ermaster 't as you may. And now, good friends,	
FTLN 0875		As you are friends, scholars, and soldiers,	
FTLN 0876		Give me one poor request.	
FTLN 0877	HORATIO	What is 't, my lord? We will.	
	HAMLET		
FTLN 0878		Never make known what you have seen tonight.	160
FTLN 0879	HORATIO/MARCELLUS	My lord, we will not.	
FTLN 0880	HAMLET	Nay, but swear 't.	
FTLN 0881	HORATIO	In faith, my lord, not I.	
FTLN 0882	MARCELLUS	Nor I, my lord, in faith.	
	HAMLET		
FTLN 0883		Upon my sword.	165

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FTLN 0884 MARCELLUS We have sworn, my lord, already.

FTLN 0885 HAMLET Indeed, upon my sword, indeed.

FTLN 0886 GHOST *cries under the stage* Swear.

FTLN 0887 HAMLET

FTLN 0887 Ha, ha, boy, sayst thou so? Art thou there,

FTLN 0888 truepenny? 170

FTLN 0889 Come on, you hear this fellow in the cellarage.

FTLN 0890 Consent to swear.

FTLN 0891 HORATIO Propose the oath, my lord.

FTLN 0892 HAMLET

FTLN 0892 Never to speak of this that you have seen,

FTLN 0893 Swear by my sword. 175

FTLN 0894 GHOST, 「*beneath*」 Swear.

FTLN 0895 HAMLET

FTLN 0895 *Hic et ubique?* Then we'll shift our ground.

FTLN 0896 Come hither, gentlemen,

FTLN 0897 And lay your hands again upon my sword.

FTLN 0898 Swear by my sword 180

FTLN 0899 Never to speak of this that you have heard.

FTLN 0900 GHOST, 「*beneath*」 Swear by his sword.

FTLN 0901 HAMLET

FTLN 0901 Well said, old mole. Canst work i' th' earth so fast?—

FTLN 0902 A worthy pioner! Once more remove, good friends.

FTLN 0903 HORATIO

FTLN 0903 O day and night, but this is wondrous strange. 185

FTLN 0904 HAMLET

FTLN 0904 And therefore as a stranger give it welcome.

FTLN 0905 There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,

FTLN 0906 Than are dreamt of in your philosophy. But come.

FTLN 0907 Here, as before, never, so help you mercy,

FTLN 0908 How strange or odd some'er I bear myself 190

FTLN 0909 (As I perchance hereafter shall think meet

FTLN 0910 To put an antic disposition on)

FTLN 0911 That you, at such times seeing me, never shall,

FTLN 0912 With arms encumbered thus, or this headshake,

FTLN 0913 Or by pronouncing of some doubtful phrase, 195

FTLN 0914 As “Well, well, we know,” or “We could an if we  
FTLN 0915 would,”  
FTLN 0916 Or “If we list to speak,” or “There be an if they  
FTLN 0917 might,”  
FTLN 0918 Or such ambiguous giving-out, to note 200  
FTLN 0919 That you know aught of me—this do swear,  
FTLN 0920 So grace and mercy at your most need help you.  
FTLN 0921 GHOST, 「*beneath*」 Swear.

HAMLET

FTLN 0922 Rest, rest, perturbèd spirit.—So, gentlemen,  
FTLN 0923 With all my love I do commend me to you, 205  
FTLN 0924 And what so poor a man as Hamlet is  
FTLN 0925 May do t’ express his love and friending to you,  
FTLN 0926 God willing, shall not lack. Let us go in together,  
FTLN 0927 And still your fingers on your lips, I pray.  
FTLN 0928 The time is out of joint. O cursèd spite 210  
FTLN 0929 That ever I was born to set it right!  
FTLN 0930 Nay, come, let’s go together.

*They exit.*

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「Scene 1」

*Enter old Polonius with his man ⟨Reynaldo.⟩*

POLONIUS

FTLN 0931     Give him this money and these notes, Reynaldo.

FTLN 0932     REYNALDO     I will, my lord.

POLONIUS

FTLN 0933     You shall do marvelous wisely, good Reynaldo,

FTLN 0934     Before you visit him, to make inquire

FTLN 0935     Of his behavior. 5

FTLN 0936     REYNALDO     My lord, I did intend it.

POLONIUS

FTLN 0937     Marry, well said, very well said. Look you, sir,

FTLN 0938     Inquire me first what Danskers are in Paris;

FTLN 0939     And how, and who, what means, and where they  
FTLN 0940     keep, 10

FTLN 0941     What company, at what expense; and finding

FTLN 0942     By this encompassment and drift of question

FTLN 0943     That they do know my son, come you more nearer

FTLN 0944     Than your particular demands will touch it.

FTLN 0945     Take you, as 'twere, some distant knowledge of him, 15

FTLN 0946     As thus: “I know his father and his friends

FTLN 0947     And, in part, him.” Do you mark this, Reynaldo?

FTLN 0948     REYNALDO     Ay, very well, my lord.

POLONIUS

FTLN 0949     “And, in part, him, but,” you may say, “not well.

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FTLN 0950	But if 't be he I mean, he's very wild,	20
FTLN 0951	Addicted so and so." And there put on him	
FTLN 0952	What forgeries you please—marry, none so rank	
FTLN 0953	As may dishonor him, take heed of that,	
FTLN 0954	But, sir, such wanton, wild, and usual slips	
FTLN 0955	As are companions noted and most known	25
FTLN 0956	To youth and liberty.	
FTLN 0957	REYNALDO As gaming, my lord.	
FTLN 0958	POLONIUS Ay, or drinking, fencing, swearing,	
FTLN 0959	Quarreling, drabbing—you may go so far.	
FTLN 0960	REYNALDO My lord, that would dishonor him.	30
	POLONIUS	
FTLN 0961	Faith, (no,) as you may season it in the charge.	
FTLN 0962	You must not put another scandal on him	
FTLN 0963	That he is open to incontinency;	
FTLN 0964	That's not my meaning. But breathe his faults so	
FTLN 0965	quaintly	35
FTLN 0966	That they may seem the taints of liberty,	
FTLN 0967	The flash and outbreak of a fiery mind,	
FTLN 0968	A savageness in unreclaimèd blood,	
FTLN 0969	Of general assault.	
FTLN 0970	REYNALDO But, my good lord—	40
FTLN 0971	POLONIUS Wherefore should you do this?	
FTLN 0972	REYNALDO Ay, my lord, I would know that.	
FTLN 0973	POLONIUS Marry, sir, here's my drift,	
FTLN 0974	And I believe it is a fetch of wit.	
FTLN 0975	You, laying these slight sullies on my son,	45
FTLN 0976	As 'twere a thing a little soiled (i' th') working,	
FTLN 0977	Mark you, your party in converse, him you would	
FTLN 0978	sound,	
FTLN 0979	Having ever seen in the prenominate crimes	
FTLN 0980	The youth you breathe of guilty, be assured	50
FTLN 0981	He closes with you in this consequence:	
FTLN 0982	"Good sir," or so, or "friend," or "gentleman,"	
FTLN 0983	According to the phrase or the addition	
FTLN 0984	Of man and country—	

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FTLN 0985 REYNALDO Very good, my lord. 55

FTLN 0986 POLONIUS And then, sir, does he this, he does—what

FTLN 0987 was I about to say? By the Mass, I was about to say

FTLN 0988 something. Where did I leave?

FTLN 0989 REYNALDO At “closes in the consequence,” (at “friend,

FTLN 0990 or so,” and “gentleman.”) 60

FTLN 0991 POLONIUS

FTLN 0992 At “closes in the consequence”—ay, marry—

FTLN 0993 He closes thus: “I know the gentleman.

FTLN 0994 I saw him yesterday,” or “th’ other day”

FTLN 0995 (Or then, or then, with such or such), “and as you 65

FTLN 0996 say,

FTLN 0997 There was he gaming, there (o’ertook) in ’s rouse,

FTLN 0998 There falling out at tennis”; or perchance

FTLN 0999 “I saw him enter such a house of sale”—

FTLN 1000 *Videlicet*, a brothel—or so forth. See you now 70

FTLN 1001 Your bait of falsehood take this carp of truth;

FTLN 1002 And thus do we of wisdom and of reach,

FTLN 1003 With windlasses and with assays of bias,

FTLN 1004 By indirections find directions out.

FTLN 1005 So by my former lecture and advice 75

FTLN 1006 Shall you my son. You have me, have you not?

FTLN 1007 REYNALDO

FTLN 1008 My lord, I have.

FTLN 1009 POLONIUS God be wi’ you. Fare you well.

FTLN 1010 REYNALDO Good my lord.

FTLN 1011 POLONIUS

FTLN 1012 Observe his inclination in yourself.

FTLN 1013 REYNALDO I shall, my lord. 80

FTLN 1014 POLONIUS And let him ply his music.

FTLN 1015 REYNALDO Well, my lord.

FTLN 1016 POLONIUS

FTLN 1017 Farewell. *Reynaldo exits.*

*Enter Ophelia.*

FTLN 1018 How now, Ophelia, what’s the matter?

OPHELIA

FTLN 1015 O, my lord, my lord, I have been so affrighted! 85

FTLN 1016 POLONIUS With what, i' th' name of God?

OPHELIA

FTLN 1017 My lord, as I was sewing in my closet,  
FTLN 1018 Lord Hamlet, with his doublet all unbraced,  
FTLN 1019 No hat upon his head, his stockings fouled,  
FTLN 1020 Ungartered, and down-gyvèd to his ankle, 90

FTLN 1021 Pale as his shirt, his knees knocking each other,  
FTLN 1022 And with a look so piteous in purport  
FTLN 1023 As if he had been loosèd out of hell  
FTLN 1024 To speak of horrors—he comes before me.

POLONIUS

FTLN 1025 Mad for thy love? 95

FTLN 1026 OPHELIA My lord, I do not know,  
FTLN 1027 But truly I do fear it.

FTLN 1028 POLONIUS What said he?

OPHELIA

FTLN 1029 He took me by the wrist and held me hard.  
FTLN 1030 Then goes he to the length of all his arm, 100  
FTLN 1031 And, with his other hand thus o'er his brow,  
FTLN 1032 He falls to such perusal of my face  
FTLN 1033 As he would draw it. Long stayed he so.

FTLN 1034 At last, a little shaking of mine arm,  
FTLN 1035 And thrice his head thus waving up and down, 105  
FTLN 1036 He raised a sigh so piteous and profound

FTLN 1037 As it did seem to shatter all his bulk  
FTLN 1038 And end his being. That done, he lets me go,  
FTLN 1039 And, with his head over his shoulder turned,  
FTLN 1040 He seemed to find his way without his eyes, 110  
FTLN 1041 For out o' doors he went without their helps  
FTLN 1042 And to the last bended their light on me.

POLONIUS

FTLN 1043 Come, go with me. I will go seek the King.  
FTLN 1044 This is the very ecstasy of love,  
FTLN 1045 Whose violent property fordoes itself 115

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FTLN 1046 And leads the will to desperate undertakings  
 FTLN 1047 As oft as any passions under heaven  
 FTLN 1048 That does afflict our natures. I am sorry.  
 FTLN 1049 What, have you given him any hard words of late?

OPHELIA

FTLN 1050 No, my good lord, but as you did command 120  
 FTLN 1051 I did repel his letters and denied  
 FTLN 1052 His access to me.

FTLN 1053 POLONIUS That hath made him mad.  
 FTLN 1054 I am sorry that with better heed and judgment  
 FTLN 1055 I had not coted him. I feared he did but trifle 125  
 FTLN 1056 And meant to wrack thee. But beshrew my jealousy!  
 FTLN 1057 By heaven, it is as proper to our age  
 FTLN 1058 To cast beyond ourselves in our opinions  
 FTLN 1059 As it is common for the younger sort  
 FTLN 1060 To lack discretion. Come, go we to the King. 130  
 FTLN 1061 This must be known, which, being kept close, might  
 FTLN 1062 move  
 FTLN 1063 More grief to hide than hate to utter love.  
 FTLN 1064 Come.

*They exit.*

⟨Scene 2⟩

*Flourish. Enter King and Queen, Rosencrantz and  
 Guildenstern ʀand Attendants. ʀ*

KING

FTLN 1065 Welcome, dear Rosencrantz and Guildenstern.  
 FTLN 1066 Moreover that we much did long to see you,  
 FTLN 1067 The need we have to use you did provoke  
 FTLN 1068 Our hasty sending. Something have you heard  
 FTLN 1069 Of Hamlet's transformation, so call it, 5  
 FTLN 1070 Sith nor th' exterior nor the inward man  
 FTLN 1071 Resembles that it was. What it should be,  
 FTLN 1072 More than his father's death, that thus hath put him



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FTLN 1073	So much from th' understanding of himself	
FTLN 1074	I cannot dream of. I entreat you both	10
FTLN 1075	That, being of so young days brought up with him	
FTLN 1076	And sith so neighbored to his youth and havior,	
FTLN 1077	That you vouchsafe your rest here in our court	
FTLN 1078	Some little time, so by your companies	
FTLN 1079	To draw him on to pleasures, and to gather	15
FTLN 1080	So much as from occasion you may glean,	
FTLN 1081	[Whether aught to us unknown afflicts him thus]	
FTLN 1082	That, opened, lies within our remedy.	
	QUEEN	
FTLN 1083	Good gentlemen, he hath much talked of you,	
FTLN 1084	And sure I am two men there is not living	20
FTLN 1085	To whom he more adheres. If it will please you	
FTLN 1086	To show us so much gentry and goodwill	
FTLN 1087	As to expend your time with us awhile	
FTLN 1088	For the supply and profit of our hope,	
FTLN 1089	Your visitation shall receive such thanks	25
FTLN 1090	As fits a king's remembrance.	
FTLN 1091	ROSENCRANTZ	Both your Majesties
FTLN 1092	Might, by the sovereign power you have of us,	
FTLN 1093	Put your dread pleasures more into command	
FTLN 1094	Than to entreaty.	30
FTLN 1095	GUILDENSTERN	But we both obey,
FTLN 1096	And here give up ourselves in the full bent	
FTLN 1097	To lay our service freely at your feet,	
FTLN 1098	To be commanded.	
	KING	
FTLN 1099	Thanks, Rosencrantz and gentle Guildenstern.	35
	QUEEN	
FTLN 1100	Thanks, Guildenstern and gentle Rosencrantz.	
FTLN 1101	And I beseech you instantly to visit	
FTLN 1102	My too much changèd son.—Go, some of you,	
FTLN 1103	And bring these gentlemen where Hamlet is.	
	GUILDENSTERN	
FTLN 1104	Heavens make our presence and our practices	40
FTLN 1105	Pleasant and helpful to him!	

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FTLN 1106	QUEEN	Ay, amen! <i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern exit</i> 「with some Attendants.」	
		<i>Enter Polonius.</i>	
	POLONIUS		
FTLN 1107		Th' ambassadors from Norway, my good lord,	
FTLN 1108		Are joyfully returned.	
	KING		
FTLN 1109		Thou still hast been the father of good news.	45
	POLONIUS		
FTLN 1110		Have I, my lord? I assure my good liege	
FTLN 1111		I hold my duty as I hold my soul,	
FTLN 1112		Both to my God and to my gracious king,	
FTLN 1113		And I do think, or else this brain of mine	
FTLN 1114		Hunts not the trail of policy so sure	50
FTLN 1115		As it hath used to do, that I have found	
FTLN 1116		The very cause of Hamlet's lunacy.	
	KING		
FTLN 1117		O, speak of that! That do I long to hear.	
	POLONIUS		
FTLN 1118		Give first admittance to th' ambassadors.	
FTLN 1119		My news shall be the fruit to that great feast.	55
	KING		
FTLN 1120		Thyself do grace to them and bring them in.	
		<i>「Polonius exits.」</i>	
FTLN 1121		He tells me, my dear Gertrude, he hath found	
FTLN 1122		The head and source of all your son's distemper.	
	QUEEN		
FTLN 1123		I doubt it is no other but the main—	
FTLN 1124		His father's death and our <o'erhasty> marriage.	60
	KING		
FTLN 1125		Well, we shall sift him.	
		<i>Enter Ambassadors &lt;Voltemand and Cornelius 「with」 Polonius.&gt;</i>	

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FTLN 1126	Welcome, my good friends.	
FTLN 1127	Say, Voltemand, what from our brother Norway?	
	VOLTEMAND	
FTLN 1128	Most fair return of greetings and desires.	
FTLN 1129	Upon our first, he sent out to suppress	65
FTLN 1130	His nephew's levies, which to him appeared	
FTLN 1131	To be a preparation 'gainst the Polack,	
FTLN 1132	But, better looked into, he truly found	
FTLN 1133	It was against your Highness. Whereat, grieved	
FTLN 1134	That so his sickness, age, and impotence	70
FTLN 1135	Was falsely borne in hand, sends out arrests	
FTLN 1136	On Fortinbras, which he, in brief, obeys,	
FTLN 1137	Receives rebuke from Norway, and, in fine,	
FTLN 1138	Makes vow before his uncle never more	
FTLN 1139	To give th' assay of arms against your Majesty.	75
FTLN 1140	Whereon old Norway, overcome with joy,	
FTLN 1141	Gives him three-score thousand crowns in annual	
FTLN 1142	fee	
FTLN 1143	And his commission to employ those soldiers,	
FTLN 1144	So levied as before, against the Polack,	80
FTLN 1145	With an entreaty, herein further shown,	
	<i>「He gives a paper.」</i>	
FTLN 1146	That it might please you to give quiet pass	
FTLN 1147	Through your dominions for this enterprise,	
FTLN 1148	On such regards of safety and allowance	
FTLN 1149	As therein are set down.	85
FTLN 1150	KING                                It likes us well,	
FTLN 1151	And, at our more considered time, we'll read,	
FTLN 1152	Answer, and think upon this business.	
FTLN 1153	Meantime, we thank you for your well-took labor.	
FTLN 1154	Go to your rest. At night we'll feast together.	90
FTLN 1155	Most welcome home!	
	<i>「Voltemand and Cornelius」 exit.</i>	
FTLN 1156	POLONIUS                            This business is well ended.	
FTLN 1157	My liege, and madam, to expostulate	
FTLN 1158	What majesty should be, what duty is,	

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FTLN 1159	Why day is day, night night, and time is time	95
FTLN 1160	Were nothing but to waste night, day, and time.	
FTLN 1161	Therefore, <since> brevity is the soul of wit,	
FTLN 1162	And tediousness the limbs and outward flourishes,	
FTLN 1163	I will be brief. Your noble son is mad.	
FTLN 1164	“Mad” call I it, for, to define true madness,	100
FTLN 1165	What is ’t but to be nothing else but mad?	
FTLN 1166	But let that go.	
FTLN 1167	QUEEN                      More matter with less art.	
	POLONIUS	
FTLN 1168	Madam, I swear I use no art at all.	
FTLN 1169	That he’s mad, ’tis true; ’tis true ’tis pity,	105
FTLN 1170	And pity ’tis ’tis true—a foolish figure,	
FTLN 1171	But farewell it, for I will use no art.	
FTLN 1172	Mad let us grant him then, and now remains	
FTLN 1173	That we find out the cause of this effect,	
FTLN 1174	Or, rather say, the cause of this defect,	110
FTLN 1175	For this effect defective comes by cause.	
FTLN 1176	Thus it remains, and the remainder thus.	
FTLN 1177	Perpend.	
FTLN 1178	I have a daughter (have while she is mine)	
FTLN 1179	Who, in her duty and obedience, mark,	115
FTLN 1180	Hath given me this. Now gather and surmise.	
FTLN 1181	<i>‘He reads.’ To the celestial, and my soul’s idol, the</i>	
FTLN 1182	<i>most beautified Ophelia—</i>	
FTLN 1183	That’s an ill phrase, a vile phrase; “beautified” is a	
FTLN 1184	vile phrase. But you shall hear. Thus: <i>‘He reads.’</i>	120
FTLN 1185	<i>In her excellent white bosom, these, etc.—</i>	
FTLN 1186	QUEEN    Came this from Hamlet to her?	
	POLONIUS	
FTLN 1187	Good madam, stay awhile. I will be faithful.	
	<i>‘He reads the’ letter.</i>	
FTLN 1188	<i>Doubt thou the stars are fire,</i>	
FTLN 1189	<i>Doubt that the sun doth move,</i>	125
FTLN 1190	<i>Doubt truth to be a liar,</i>	
FTLN 1191	<i>But never doubt I love.</i>	

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FTLN 1192	<i>O dear Ophelia, I am ill at these numbers. I have not</i>	
FTLN 1193	<i>art to reckon my groans, but that I love thee best, O</i>	
FTLN 1194	<i>most best, believe it. Adieu.</i>	130
FTLN 1195	<i>Thine evermore, most dear lady, whilst</i>	
FTLN 1196	<i>this machine is to him, Hamlet.</i>	
FTLN 1197	This, in obedience, hath my daughter shown me,	
FTLN 1198	And more ⟨above,⟩ hath his solicitings,	
FTLN 1199	As they fell out by time, by means, and place,	135
FTLN 1200	All given to mine ear.	
FTLN 1201	KING But how hath she received his love?	
FTLN 1202	POLONIUS What do you think of me?	
	KING	
FTLN 1203	As of a man faithful and honorable.	
	POLONIUS	
FTLN 1204	I would fain prove so. But what might you think,	140
FTLN 1205	When I had seen this hot love on the wing	
FTLN 1206	(As I perceived it, I must tell you that,	
FTLN 1207	Before my daughter told me), what might you,	
FTLN 1208	Or my dear Majesty your queen here, think,	
FTLN 1209	If I had played the desk or table-book	145
FTLN 1210	Or given my heart a ⟨winking,⟩ mute and dumb,	
FTLN 1211	Or looked upon this love with idle sight?	
FTLN 1212	What might you think? No, I went round to work,	
FTLN 1213	And my young mistress thus I did bespeak:	
FTLN 1214	“Lord Hamlet is a prince, out of thy star.	150
FTLN 1215	This must not be.” And then I prescripts gave her,	
FTLN 1216	That she should lock herself from ⟨his⟩ resort,	
FTLN 1217	Admit no messengers, receive no tokens;	
FTLN 1218	Which done, she took the fruits of my advice,	
FTLN 1219	And he, repelled (a short tale to make),	155
FTLN 1220	Fell into a sadness, then into a fast,	
FTLN 1221	Thence to a watch, thence into a weakness,	
FTLN 1222	Thence to ⟨a⟩ lightness, and, by this declension,	
FTLN 1223	Into the madness wherein now he raves	
FTLN 1224	And all we mourn for.	160
FTLN 1225	KING, 「to Queen」 Do you think ⟨’tis⟩ this?	

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FTLN 1226 QUEEN It may be, very like.  
 POLONIUS  
 FTLN 1227 Hath there been such a time (I would fain know  
 FTLN 1228 that)  
 FTLN 1229 That I have positively said "'Tis so," 165  
 FTLN 1230 When it proved otherwise?  
 FTLN 1231 KING Not that I know.  
 POLONIUS  
 FTLN 1232 Take this from this, if this be otherwise.  
 FTLN 1233 If circumstances lead me, I will find  
 FTLN 1234 Where truth is hid, though it were hid, indeed, 170  
 FTLN 1235 Within the center.  
 FTLN 1236 KING How may we try it further?  
 POLONIUS  
 FTLN 1237 You know sometimes he walks four hours together  
 FTLN 1238 Here in the lobby.  
 FTLN 1239 QUEEN So he does indeed. 175  
 POLONIUS  
 FTLN 1240 At such a time I'll loose my daughter to him.  
 FTLN 1241 「*To the King.*」 Be you and I behind an arras then.  
 FTLN 1242 Mark the encounter. If he love her not,  
 FTLN 1243 And be not from his reason fall'n thereon,  
 FTLN 1244 Let me be no assistant for a state, 180  
 FTLN 1245 But keep a farm and carters.  
 FTLN 1246 KING We will try it.

*Enter Hamlet (reading on a book.)*

QUEEN  
 FTLN 1247 But look where sadly the poor wretch comes  
 FTLN 1248 reading.  
 POLONIUS  
 FTLN 1249 Away, I do beseech you both, away. 185  
 FTLN 1250 I'll board him presently. O, give me leave.  
*King and Queen exit 「with Attendants.」*  
 FTLN 1251 How does my good Lord Hamlet?  
 FTLN 1252 HAMLET Well, God-a-mercy.

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FTLN 1253	POLONIUS	Do you know me, my lord?	
FTLN 1254	HAMLET	Excellent well. You are a fishmonger.	190
FTLN 1255	POLONIUS	Not I, my lord.	
FTLN 1256	HAMLET	Then I would you were so honest a man.	
FTLN 1257	POLONIUS	Honest, my lord?	
FTLN 1258	HAMLET	Ay, sir. To be honest, as this world goes, is to	
FTLN 1259		be one man picked out of ten thousand.	195
FTLN 1260	POLONIUS	That's very true, my lord.	
FTLN 1261	HAMLET	For if the sun breed maggots in a dead	
FTLN 1262		dog, being a good kissing carrion—Have you a	
FTLN 1263		daughter?	
FTLN 1264	POLONIUS	I have, my lord.	200
FTLN 1265	HAMLET	Let her not walk i' th' sun. Conception is a	
FTLN 1266		blessing, but, as your daughter may conceive,	
FTLN 1267		friend, look to 't.	
FTLN 1268	POLONIUS, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	How say you by that? Still harping on	
FTLN 1269		my daughter. Yet he knew me not at first; he said I	205
FTLN 1270		was a fishmonger. He is far gone. And truly, in my	
FTLN 1271		youth, I suffered much extremity for love, very near	
FTLN 1272		this. I'll speak to him again.—What do you read, my	
FTLN 1273		lord?	
FTLN 1274	HAMLET	Words, words, words.	210
FTLN 1275	POLONIUS	What is the matter, my lord?	
FTLN 1276	HAMLET	Between who?	
FTLN 1277	POLONIUS	I mean the matter that you read, my lord.	
FTLN 1278	HAMLET	Slanders, sir; for the satirical rogue says here	
FTLN 1279		that old men have gray beards, that their faces are	215
FTLN 1280		wrinkled, their eyes purging thick amber and	
FTLN 1281		plum-tree gum, and that they have a plentiful lack of	
FTLN 1282		wit, together with most weak hams; all which, sir,	
FTLN 1283		though I most powerfully and potently believe, yet I	
FTLN 1284		hold it not honesty to have it thus set down; for	220
FTLN 1285		yourself, sir, shall grow old as I am, if, like a crab,	
FTLN 1286		you could go backward.	
FTLN 1287	POLONIUS, 「 <i>aside</i> 」	Though this be madness, yet there is	
FTLN 1288		method in 't.—Will you walk out of the air, my lord?	

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FTLN 1289 HAMLET Into my grave? 225  
 FTLN 1290 POLONIUS Indeed, that's out of the air. 「*Aside.*」 How  
 FTLN 1291 pregnant sometimes his replies are! A happiness  
 FTLN 1292 that often madness hits on, which reason and  
 FTLN 1293 〈sanity〉 could not so prosperously be delivered of. I  
 FTLN 1294 will leave him 〈and suddenly contrive the means of 230  
 FTLN 1295 meeting between him〉 and my daughter.—My lord,  
 FTLN 1296 I will take my leave of you.  
 FTLN 1297 HAMLET You cannot, 〈sir,〉 take from me anything that I  
 FTLN 1298 will more willingly part withal—except my life,  
 FTLN 1299 except my life, except my life. 235  
 FTLN 1300 POLONIUS Fare you well, my lord.  
 FTLN 1301 HAMLET, 「*aside*」 These tedious old fools.

*Enter Guildenstern and Rosencrantz.*

FTLN 1302 POLONIUS You go to seek the Lord Hamlet. There he is.  
 FTLN 1303 ROSENCRANTZ, 「*to Polonius*」 God save you, sir.  
 「*Polonius exits.*」  
 FTLN 1304 GUILDENSTERN My honored lord. 240  
 FTLN 1305 ROSENCRANTZ My most dear lord.  
 FTLN 1306 HAMLET My 〈excellent〉 good friends! How dost thou,  
 FTLN 1307 Guildenstern? Ah, Rosencrantz! Good lads, how do  
 FTLN 1308 you both?  
 ROSENCRANTZ  
 FTLN 1309 As the indifferent children of the earth. 245  
 GUILDENSTERN  
 FTLN 1310 Happy in that we are not 〈overhappy.〉  
 FTLN 1311 On Fortune's 〈cap,〉 we are not the very button.  
 FTLN 1312 HAMLET Nor the soles of her shoe?  
 FTLN 1313 ROSENCRANTZ Neither, my lord.  
 FTLN 1314 HAMLET Then you live about her waist, or in the 250  
 FTLN 1315 middle of her favors?  
 FTLN 1316 GUILDENSTERN Faith, her privates we.  
 FTLN 1317 HAMLET In the secret parts of Fortune? O, most true!  
 FTLN 1318 She is a strumpet. What news?  
 FTLN 1319 ROSENCRANTZ None, my lord, but 〈that〉 the world's 255  
 FTLN 1320 grown honest.



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FTLN 1321 HAMLET Then is doomsday near. But your news is not  
 FTLN 1322 true. (Let me question more in particular. What  
 FTLN 1323 have you, my good friends, deserved at the hands of  
 FTLN 1324 Fortune that she sends you to prison hither? 260

FTLN 1325 GUILDENSTERN Prison, my lord?

FTLN 1326 HAMLET Denmark's a prison.

FTLN 1327 ROSENCRANTZ Then is the world one.

FTLN 1328 HAMLET A goodly one, in which there are many confines,  
 FTLN 1329 wards, and dungeons, Denmark being one o'  
 FTLN 1330 th' worst. 265

FTLN 1331 ROSENCRANTZ We think not so, my lord.

FTLN 1332 HAMLET Why, then, 'tis none to you, for there is  
 FTLN 1333 nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it  
 FTLN 1334 so. To me, it is a prison. 270

FTLN 1335 ROSENCRANTZ Why, then, your ambition makes it one.  
 FTLN 1336 'Tis too narrow for your mind.

FTLN 1337 HAMLET O God, I could be bounded in a nutshell and  
 FTLN 1338 count myself a king of infinite space, were it not  
 FTLN 1339 that I have bad dreams. 275

FTLN 1340 GUILDENSTERN Which dreams, indeed, are ambition,  
 FTLN 1341 for the very substance of the ambitious is merely  
 FTLN 1342 the shadow of a dream.

FTLN 1343 HAMLET A dream itself is but a shadow.

FTLN 1344 ROSENCRANTZ Truly, and I hold ambition of so airy  
 FTLN 1345 and light a quality that it is but a shadow's shadow. 280

FTLN 1346 HAMLET Then are our beggars bodies, and our monarchs  
 FTLN 1347 and outstretched heroes the beggars' shadows.  
 FTLN 1348 Shall we to th' court? For, by my fay, I cannot  
 FTLN 1349 reason. 285

FTLN 1350 ROSENCRANTZ/GUILDENSTERN We'll wait upon you.

FTLN 1351 HAMLET No such matter. I will not sort you with the  
 FTLN 1352 rest of my servants, for, to speak to you like an  
 FTLN 1353 honest man, I am most dreadfully attended.) But,  
 FTLN 1354 in the beaten way of friendship, what make you at  
 FTLN 1355 Elsinore? 290

FTLN 1356 ROSENCRANTZ To visit you, my lord, no other occasion.

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FTLN 1357 HAMLET Beggar that I am, I am ⟨even⟩ poor in thanks;  
 FTLN 1358 but I thank you, and sure, dear friends, my thanks  
 FTLN 1359 are too dear a halfpenny. Were you not sent for? 295  
 FTLN 1360 Is it your own inclining? Is it a free visitation?  
 FTLN 1361 Come, come, deal justly with me. Come, come; nay,  
 FTLN 1362 speak.

FTLN 1363 GUILDENSTERN What should we say, my lord?

FTLN 1364 HAMLET Anything but to th' purpose. You were sent 300  
 FTLN 1365 for, and there is a kind of confession in your looks  
 FTLN 1366 which your modesties have not craft enough to  
 FTLN 1367 color. I know the good king and queen have sent for  
 FTLN 1368 you.

FTLN 1369 ROSENCRANTZ To what end, my lord? 305

FTLN 1370 HAMLET That you must teach me. But let me conjure  
 FTLN 1371 you by the rights of our fellowship, by the consonancy  
 FTLN 1372 of our youth, by the obligation of our ever-preserved  
 FTLN 1373 love, and by what more dear a better  
 FTLN 1374 proposer can charge you withal: be even and direct 310  
 FTLN 1375 with me whether you were sent for or no.

FTLN 1376 ROSENCRANTZ, 「*to Guildenstern*」 What say you?

FTLN 1377 HAMLET, 「*aside*」 Nay, then, I have an eye of you.—If  
 FTLN 1378 you love me, hold not off.

FTLN 1379 GUILDENSTERN My lord, we were sent for. 315

FTLN 1380 HAMLET I will tell you why; so shall my anticipation  
 FTLN 1381 prevent your discovery, and your secrecy to the  
 FTLN 1382 King and Queen molt no feather. I have of late, but  
 FTLN 1383 wherefore I know not, lost all my mirth, forgone all  
 FTLN 1384 custom of exercises, and, indeed, it goes so heavily 320  
 FTLN 1385 with my disposition that this goodly frame, the  
 FTLN 1386 Earth, seems to me a sterile promontory; this most  
 FTLN 1387 excellent canopy, the air, look you, this brave o'erhanging  
 FTLN 1388 firmament, this majestical roof, fretted  
 FTLN 1389 with golden fire—why, it appeareth nothing to me 325  
 FTLN 1390 but a foul and pestilent congregation of vapors.  
 FTLN 1391 What ⟨a⟩ piece of work is a man, how noble in  
 FTLN 1392 reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving

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FTLN 1393       how express and admirable; in action how like  
 FTLN 1394       an angel, in apprehension how like a god: the 330  
 FTLN 1395       beauty of the world, the paragon of animals—and  
 FTLN 1396       yet, to me, what is this quintessence of dust? Man  
 FTLN 1397       delights not me, ⟨no,⟩ nor women neither, though by  
 FTLN 1398       your smiling you seem to say so.

FTLN 1399   ROSENCRANTZ   My lord, there was no such stuff in my 335  
 FTLN 1400       thoughts.

FTLN 1401   HAMLET     Why did you laugh, then, when I said “man  
 FTLN 1402       delights not me”?

FTLN 1403   ROSENCRANTZ   To think, my lord, if you delight not in  
 FTLN 1404       man, what Lenten entertainment the players shall 340  
 FTLN 1405       receive from you. We coted them on the way, and  
 FTLN 1406       hither are they coming to offer you service.

FTLN 1407   HAMLET     He that plays the king shall be welcome—his  
 FTLN 1408       Majesty shall have tribute on me. The adventurous  
 FTLN 1409       knight shall use his foil and target, the lover shall 345  
 FTLN 1410       not sigh gratis, the humorous man shall end his  
 FTLN 1411       part in peace, ⟨the clown shall make those laugh  
 FTLN 1412       whose lungs are ‘tickle’ o’ th’ sear,⟩ and the lady  
 FTLN 1413       shall say her mind freely, or the ⟨blank⟩ verse shall  
 FTLN 1414       halt for ’t. What players are they? 350

FTLN 1415   ROSENCRANTZ   Even those you were wont to take such  
 FTLN 1416       delight in, the tragedians of the city.

FTLN 1417   HAMLET     How chances it they travel? Their residence,  
 FTLN 1418       both in reputation and profit, was better both ways.

FTLN 1419   ROSENCRANTZ   I think their inhibition comes by the 355  
 FTLN 1420       means of the late innovation.

FTLN 1421   HAMLET     Do they hold the same estimation they did  
 FTLN 1422       when I was in the city? Are they so followed?

FTLN 1423   ROSENCRANTZ   No, indeed are they not.

FTLN 1424   ⟨HAMLET     How comes it? Do they grow rusty? 360

FTLN 1425   ROSENCRANTZ   Nay, their endeavor keeps in the wonted  
 FTLN 1426       pace. But there is, sir, an aerie of children, little  
 FTLN 1427       eyases, that cry out on the top of question and are  
 FTLN 1428       most tyrannically clapped for ’t. These are now the

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FTLN 1429	fashion and so 'berattle' the common stages (so	365
FTLN 1430	they call them) that many wearing rapiers are afraid	
FTLN 1431	of goose quills and dare scarce come thither.	
FTLN 1432	HAMLET What, are they children? Who maintains 'em?	
FTLN 1433	How are they escoted? Will they pursue the quality	
FTLN 1434	no longer than they can sing? Will they not say	370
FTLN 1435	afterwards, if they should grow themselves to common	
FTLN 1436	players (as it is 'most like,' if their means are	
FTLN 1437	no better), their writers do them wrong to make	
FTLN 1438	them exclaim against their own succession?	
FTLN 1439	ROSENCRANTZ Faith, there has been much 'to-do' on	375
FTLN 1440	both sides, and the nation holds it no sin to tar	
FTLN 1441	them to controversy. There was for a while no	
FTLN 1442	money bid for argument unless the poet and the	
FTLN 1443	player went to cuffs in the question.	
FTLN 1444	HAMLET Is 't possible?	380
FTLN 1445	GUILDENSTERN O, there has been much throwing	
FTLN 1446	about of brains.	
FTLN 1447	HAMLET Do the boys carry it away?	
FTLN 1448	ROSENCRANTZ Ay, that they do, my lord—Hercules	
FTLN 1449	and his load too.)	385
FTLN 1450	HAMLET It is not very strange; for my uncle is King of	
FTLN 1451	Denmark, and those that would make mouths at	
FTLN 1452	him while my father lived give twenty, forty, fifty,	
FTLN 1453	a hundred ducats apiece for his picture in little.	
FTLN 1454	'Sblood, there is something in this more than natural,	390
FTLN 1455	if philosophy could find it out.	
	<i>A flourish (for the Players.)</i>	
FTLN 1456	GUILDENSTERN There are the players.	
FTLN 1457	HAMLET Gentlemen, you are welcome to Elsinore.	
FTLN 1458	Your hands, come then. Th' appurtenance of welcome	
FTLN 1459	is fashion and ceremony. Let me comply	395
FTLN 1460	with you in this garb, (lest my) extent to the players,	
FTLN 1461	which, I tell you, must show fairly outwards, should	
FTLN 1462	more appear like entertainment than yours. You are	
FTLN 1463	welcome. But my uncle-father and aunt-mother are	
FTLN 1464	deceived.	400

FTLN 1465 GUILDENSTERN In what, my dear lord?  
 FTLN 1466 HAMLET I am but mad north-north-west. When the  
 FTLN 1467 wind is southerly, I know a hawk from a handsaw.

*Enter Polonius.*

FTLN 1468 POLONIUS Well be with you, gentlemen.  
 FTLN 1469 HAMLET Hark you, Guildenstern, and you too—at 405  
 FTLN 1470 each ear a hearer! That great baby you see there is  
 FTLN 1471 not yet out of his swaddling clouts.  
 FTLN 1472 ROSENCRANTZ Haply he is the second time come to  
 FTLN 1473 them, for they say an old man is twice a child.  
 FTLN 1474 HAMLET I will prophesy he comes to tell me of the 410  
 FTLN 1475 players; mark it.—You say right, sir, a Monday  
 FTLN 1476 morning, 'twas then indeed.  
 FTLN 1477 POLONIUS My lord, I have news to tell you.  
 FTLN 1478 HAMLET My lord, I have news to tell you: when Roscius  
 FTLN 1479 was an actor in Rome— 415  
 FTLN 1480 POLONIUS The actors are come hither, my lord.  
 FTLN 1481 HAMLET Buzz, buzz.  
 FTLN 1482 POLONIUS Upon my honor—  
 FTLN 1483 HAMLET Then came each actor on his ass.  
 FTLN 1484 POLONIUS The best actors in the world, either for 420  
 FTLN 1485 tragedy, comedy, history, pastoral, pastoral-comical,  
 FTLN 1486 historical-pastoral, (tragical-historical,  
 FTLN 1487 tragical-comical-historical-pastoral,) scene individable, or  
 FTLN 1488 poem unlimited. Seneca cannot be too heavy, nor  
 FTLN 1489 Plautus too light. For the law of writ and the liberty, 425  
 FTLN 1490 these are the only men.  
 FTLN 1491 HAMLET O Jephthah, judge of Israel, what a treasure  
 FTLN 1492 hadst thou!  
 FTLN 1493 POLONIUS What a treasure had he, my lord?  
 FTLN 1494 HAMLET Why, 430  
 FTLN 1495 *One fair daughter, and no more,*  
 FTLN 1496 *The which he lovèd passing well.*  
 FTLN 1497 POLONIUS, [aside] Still on my daughter.  
 FTLN 1498 HAMLET Am I not i' th' right, old Jephthah?

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FTLN 1499 POLONIUS If you call me “Jephthah,” my lord: I have a 435  
 FTLN 1500 daughter that I love passing well.  
 FTLN 1501 HAMLET Nay, that follows not.  
 FTLN 1502 POLONIUS What follows then, my lord?  
 FTLN 1503 HAMLET Why,  
 FTLN 1504 *As by lot, God wot* 440  
 FTLN 1505 and then, you know,  
 FTLN 1506 *It came to pass, as most like it was—*  
 FTLN 1507 the first row of the pious chanson will show you  
 FTLN 1508 more, for look where my abridgment comes.

*Enter the Players.*

FTLN 1509 You are welcome, masters; welcome all.—I am glad 445  
 FTLN 1510 to see thee well.—Welcome, good friends.—O ⟨my⟩  
 FTLN 1511 old friend! Why, thy face is valanced since I saw thee  
 FTLN 1512 last. Com’st thou to beard me in Denmark?—What,  
 FTLN 1513 my young lady and mistress! ⟨By ’r⟩ Lady, your Ladyship  
 FTLN 1514 is nearer to heaven than when I saw you last, by 450  
 FTLN 1515 the altitude of a chopine. Pray God your voice, like a  
 FTLN 1516 piece of uncurrent gold, be not cracked within the  
 FTLN 1517 ring. Masters, you are all welcome. We’ll e’en to ’t  
 FTLN 1518 like ⟨French⟩ falconers, fly at anything we see. We’ll  
 FTLN 1519 have a speech straight. Come, give us a taste of your 455  
 FTLN 1520 quality. Come, a passionate speech.  
 FTLN 1521 ⟨FIRST⟩ PLAYER What speech, my good lord?  
 FTLN 1522 HAMLET I heard thee speak me a speech once, but it  
 FTLN 1523 was never acted, or, if it was, not above once; for  
 FTLN 1524 the play, I remember, pleased not the million: 460  
 FTLN 1525 ’twas caviary to the general. But it was (as I  
 FTLN 1526 received it, and others whose judgments in such  
 FTLN 1527 matters cried in the top of mine) an excellent play,  
 FTLN 1528 well digested in the scenes, set down with as much  
 FTLN 1529 modesty as cunning. I remember one said there 465  
 FTLN 1530 were no sallets in the lines to make the matter  
 FTLN 1531 savory, nor no matter in the phrase that might indict  
 FTLN 1532 the author of affection, but called it an honest



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FTLN 1569	<i>So as a painted tyrant Pyrrhus stood</i>	505
FTLN 1570	<i>⟨And,⟩ like a neutral to his will and matter,</i>	
FTLN 1571	<i>Did nothing.</i>	
FTLN 1572	<i>But as we often see against some storm</i>	
FTLN 1573	<i>A silence in the heavens, the rack stand still,</i>	
FTLN 1574	<i>The bold winds speechless, and the orb below</i>	510
FTLN 1575	<i>As hush as death, anon the dreadful thunder</i>	
FTLN 1576	<i>Doth rend the region; so, after Pyrrhus' pause,</i>	
FTLN 1577	<i>Arousèd vengeance sets him new a-work,</i>	
FTLN 1578	<i>And never did the Cyclops' hammers fall</i>	
FTLN 1579	<i>On Mars's armor, forged for proof eterne,</i>	515
FTLN 1580	<i>With less remorse than Pyrrhus' bleeding sword</i>	
FTLN 1581	<i>Now falls on Priam.</i>	
FTLN 1582	<i>Out, out, thou strumpet Fortune! All you gods</i>	
FTLN 1583	<i>In general synod take away her power,</i>	
FTLN 1584	<i>Break all the spokes and 'fellies' from her wheel,</i>	520
FTLN 1585	<i>And bowl the round nave down the hill of heaven</i>	
FTLN 1586	<i>As low as to the fiends!</i>	
FTLN 1587	POLONIUS    This is too long.	
FTLN 1588	HAMLET    It shall to the barber's with your beard.—	
FTLN 1589	Prithee say on. He's for a jig or a tale of bawdry, or	525
FTLN 1590	he sleeps. Say on; come to Hecuba.	
	⟨FIRST⟩ PLAYER	
FTLN 1591	<i>But who, ah woe, had seen the moblèd queen—</i>	
FTLN 1592	HAMLET    “The moblèd queen”?	
FTLN 1593	POLONIUS    That's good. ⟨“‘Moblèd' queen” is good.⟩	
	⟨FIRST⟩ PLAYER	
FTLN 1594	<i>Run barefoot up and down, threat'ning the flames</i>	530
FTLN 1595	<i>With ⟨bisson rheum,⟩ a clout upon that head</i>	
FTLN 1596	<i>Where late the diadem stood, and for a robe,</i>	
FTLN 1597	<i>About her lank and all o'erteemèd loins</i>	
FTLN 1598	<i>A blanket, in the alarm of fear caught up—</i>	
FTLN 1599	<i>Who this had seen, with tongue in venom steeped,</i>	535
FTLN 1600	<i>'Gainst Fortune's state would treason have</i>	
FTLN 1601	<i>pronounced.</i>	
FTLN 1602	<i>But if the gods themselves did see her then</i>	



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FTLN 1603	<i>When she saw Pyrrhus make malicious sport</i>	
FTLN 1604	<i>In mincing with his sword her ⟨husband's⟩ limbs,</i>	540
FTLN 1605	<i>The instant burst of clamor that she made</i>	
FTLN 1606	<i>(Unless things mortal move them not at all)</i>	
FTLN 1607	<i>Would have made milch the burning eyes of heaven</i>	
FTLN 1608	<i>And passion in the gods.</i>	
FTLN 1609	POLONIUS    Look whe'er he has not turned his color and	545
FTLN 1610	has tears in 's eyes. Prithee, no more.	
FTLN 1611	HAMLET    'Tis well. I'll have thee speak out the rest of	
FTLN 1612	this soon.—Good my lord, will you see the players	
FTLN 1613	well bestowed? Do you hear, let them be well used,	
FTLN 1614	for they are the abstract and brief chronicles of the	550
FTLN 1615	time. After your death you were better have a bad	
FTLN 1616	epitaph than their ill report while you live.	
FTLN 1617	POLONIUS    My lord, I will use them according to their	
FTLN 1618	desert.	
FTLN 1619	HAMLET    God's ⟨bodykins,⟩ man, much better! Use every	555
FTLN 1620	man after his desert and who shall 'scape	
FTLN 1621	whipping? Use them after your own honor and	
FTLN 1622	dignity. The less they deserve, the more merit is in	
FTLN 1623	your bounty. Take them in.	
FTLN 1624	POLONIUS    Come, sirs.	560
FTLN 1625	HAMLET    Follow him, friends. We'll hear a play	
FTLN 1626	tomorrow. <i>〔As Polonius and Players exit, Hamlet speaks to</i>	
FTLN 1627	<i>the First Player.〕</i> Dost thou hear me, old friend? Can	
FTLN 1628	you play “The Murder of Gonzago”?	
FTLN 1629	〔FIRST〕 PLAYER    Ay, my lord.	565
FTLN 1630	HAMLET    We'll ha 't tomorrow night. You could, for ⟨a⟩	
FTLN 1631	need, study a speech of some dozen or sixteen	
FTLN 1632	lines, which I would set down and insert in 't,	
FTLN 1633	could you not?	
FTLN 1634	〔FIRST〕 PLAYER    Ay, my lord.	570
FTLN 1635	HAMLET    Very well. Follow that lord—and look you	
FTLN 1636	mock him not. <i>〔First Player exits.〕</i> My good friends,	
FTLN 1637	I'll leave you till night. You are welcome to Elsinore.	
FTLN 1638	ROSENCRANTZ    Good my lord.	

HAMLET

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FTLN 1639	Ay, so, good-bye to you.	575
	<i>「Rosencrantz and Guildenstern」 exit.</i>	
FTLN 1640	Now I am alone.	
FTLN 1641	O, what a rogue and peasant slave am I!	
FTLN 1642	Is it not monstrous that this player here,	
FTLN 1643	But in a fiction, in a dream of passion,	
FTLN 1644	Could force his soul so to his own conceit	580
FTLN 1645	That from her working all <i>⟨his⟩</i> visage wanned,	
FTLN 1646	Tears in his eyes, distraction in his aspect,	
FTLN 1647	A broken voice, and his whole function suiting	
FTLN 1648	With forms to his conceit—and all for nothing!	
FTLN 1649	For Hecuba!	585
FTLN 1650	What's Hecuba to him, or he to <i>⟨Hecuba,⟩</i>	
FTLN 1651	That he should weep for her? What would he do	
FTLN 1652	Had he the motive and <i>⟨the cue⟩</i> for passion	
FTLN 1653	That I have? He would drown the stage with tears	
FTLN 1654	And cleave the general ear with horrid speech,	590
FTLN 1655	Make mad the guilty and appall the free,	
FTLN 1656	Confound the ignorant and amaze indeed	
FTLN 1657	The very faculties of eyes and ears. Yet I,	
FTLN 1658	A dull and muddy-mettled rascal, peak	
FTLN 1659	Like John-a-dreams, unpregnant of my cause,	595
FTLN 1660	And can say nothing—no, not for a king	
FTLN 1661	Upon whose property and most dear life	
FTLN 1662	A damned defeat was made. Am I a coward?	
FTLN 1663	Who calls me “villain”? breaks my pate across?	
FTLN 1664	Plucks off my beard and blows it in my face?	600
FTLN 1665	Tweaks me by the nose? gives me the lie i' th' throat	
FTLN 1666	As deep as to the lungs? Who does me this?	
FTLN 1667	Ha! 'Swounds, I should take it! For it cannot be	
FTLN 1668	But I am pigeon-livered and lack gall	
FTLN 1669	To make oppression bitter, or ere this	605
FTLN 1670	I should <i>⟨have⟩</i> fatted all the region kites	
FTLN 1671	With this slave's offal. Bloody, bawdy villain!	
FTLN 1672	Remorseless, treacherous, lecherous, kindless	
FTLN 1673	villain!	

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FTLN 1674	⟨O vengeance!⟩	610
FTLN 1675	Why, what an ass am I! This is most brave,	
FTLN 1676	That I, the son of a dear ‹father› murdered,	
FTLN 1677	Prompted to my revenge by heaven and hell,	
FTLN 1678	Must, like a whore, unpack my heart with words	
FTLN 1679	And fall a-cursing like a very drab,	615
FTLN 1680	A stallion! Fie upon ’t! Foh!	
FTLN 1681	About, my brains!—Hum, I have heard	
FTLN 1682	That guilty creatures sitting at a play	
FTLN 1683	Have, by the very cunning of the scene,	
FTLN 1684	Been struck so to the soul that presently	620
FTLN 1685	They have proclaimed their malefactions;	
FTLN 1686	For murder, though it have no tongue, will speak	
FTLN 1687	With most miraculous organ. I’ll have these players	
FTLN 1688	Play something like the murder of my father	
FTLN 1689	Before mine uncle. I’ll observe his looks;	625
FTLN 1690	I’ll tent him to the quick. If he do blench,	
FTLN 1691	I know my course. The spirit that I have seen	
FTLN 1692	May be a ⟨devil,⟩ and the ⟨devil⟩ hath power	
FTLN 1693	T’ assume a pleasing shape; yea, and perhaps,	
FTLN 1694	Out of my weakness and my melancholy,	630
FTLN 1695	As he is very potent with such spirits,	
FTLN 1696	Abuses me to damn me. I’ll have grounds	
FTLN 1697	More relative than this. The play’s the thing	
FTLN 1698	Wherein I’ll catch the conscience of the King.	

*He exits.*

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「Scene 1」

*Enter King, Queen, Polonius, Ophelia, Rosencrantz,  
Guildenstern, & Lords.*

KING

FTLN 1699 And can you by no drift of conference  
FTLN 1700 Get from him why he puts on this confusion,  
FTLN 1701 Grating so harshly all his days of quiet  
FTLN 1702 With turbulent and dangerous lunacy?

ROSENCRANTZ

FTLN 1703 He does confess he feels himself distracted, 5  
FTLN 1704 But from what cause he will by no means speak.

GUILDENSTERN

FTLN 1705 Nor do we find him forward to be sounded,  
FTLN 1706 But with a crafty madness keeps aloof  
FTLN 1707 When we would bring him on to some confession  
FTLN 1708 Of his true state. 10

FTLN 1709 QUEEN Did he receive you well?

FTLN 1710 ROSENCRANTZ Most like a gentleman.

GUILDENSTERN

FTLN 1711 But with much forcing of his disposition.

ROSENCRANTZ

FTLN 1712 Niggard of question, but of our demands  
FTLN 1713 Most free in his reply. 15

FTLN 1714 QUEEN Did you assay him to any pastime?

ROSENCRANTZ

FTLN 1715 Madam, it so fell out that certain players

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FTLN 1716	We o'erraught on the way. Of these we told him,	
FTLN 1717	And there did seem in him a kind of joy	
FTLN 1718	To hear of it. They are here about the court,	20
FTLN 1719	And, as I think, they have already order	
FTLN 1720	This night to play before him.	
FTLN 1721	POLONIUS	'Tis most true,
FTLN 1722	And he beseeched me to entreat your Majesties	
FTLN 1723	To hear and see the matter.	25
	KING	
FTLN 1724	With all my heart, and it doth much content me	
FTLN 1725	To hear him so inclined.	
FTLN 1726	Good gentlemen, give him a further edge	
FTLN 1727	And drive his purpose into these delights.	
	ROSENCRANTZ	
FTLN 1728	We shall, my lord.	<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern</i> 30
		<i>「and Lords」 exit.</i>
FTLN 1729	KING	Sweet Gertrude, leave us ⟨too,⟩
FTLN 1730	For we have closely sent for Hamlet hither,	
FTLN 1731	That he, as 'twere by accident, may here	
FTLN 1732	Affront Ophelia.	
FTLN 1733	Her father and myself, ⟨lawful espials,⟩	35
FTLN 1734	⟨Will⟩ so bestow ourselves that, seeing unseen,	
FTLN 1735	We may of their encounter frankly judge	
FTLN 1736	And gather by him, as he is behaved,	
FTLN 1737	If 't be th' affliction of his love or no	
FTLN 1738	That thus he suffers for.	40
FTLN 1739	QUEEN	I shall obey you.
FTLN 1740	And for your part, Ophelia, I do wish	
FTLN 1741	That your good beauties be the happy cause	
FTLN 1742	Of Hamlet's wildness. So shall I hope your virtues	
FTLN 1743	Will bring him to his wonted way again,	45
FTLN 1744	To both your honors.	
FTLN 1745	OPHELIA	Madam, I wish it may.
		<i>「Queen exits.」</i>
	POLONIUS	
FTLN 1746	Ophelia, walk you here.—Gracious, so please you,	

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FTLN 1747 We will bestow ourselves. *['To Ophelia.']* Read on this  
 FTLN 1748 book, 50  
 FTLN 1749 That show of such an exercise may color  
 FTLN 1750 Your *<loneliness.>*—We are oft to blame in this  
 FTLN 1751 (*'Tis too much proved*), that with devotion's visage  
 FTLN 1752 And pious action we do sugar o'er  
 FTLN 1753 The devil himself. 55  
 FTLN 1754 KING, *['aside']* O, 'tis too true!  
 FTLN 1755 How smart a lash that speech doth give my  
 FTLN 1756 conscience.  
 FTLN 1757 The harlot's cheek beautied with plast'ring art  
 FTLN 1758 Is not more ugly to the thing that helps it 60  
 FTLN 1759 Than is my deed to my most painted word.  
 FTLN 1760 O heavy burden!

POLONIUS

FTLN 1761 I hear him coming. *<Let's>* withdraw, my lord.  
*['They withdraw.']*

*Enter Hamlet.*

HAMLET

FTLN 1762 To be or not to be—that is the question:  
 FTLN 1763 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer 65  
 FTLN 1764 The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,  
 FTLN 1765 Or to take arms against a sea of troubles  
 FTLN 1766 And, by opposing, end them. To die, to sleep—  
 FTLN 1767 No more—and by a sleep to say we end  
 FTLN 1768 The heartache and the thousand natural shocks 70  
 FTLN 1769 That flesh is heir to—'tis a consummation  
 FTLN 1770 Devoutly to be wished. To die, to sleep—  
 FTLN 1771 To sleep, perchance to dream. Ay, there's the rub,  
 FTLN 1772 For in that sleep of death what dreams may come,  
 FTLN 1773 When we have shuffled off this mortal coil, 75  
 FTLN 1774 Must give us pause. There's the respect  
 FTLN 1775 That makes calamity of so long life.  
 FTLN 1776 For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,  
 FTLN 1777 Th' oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,



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FTLN 1811	HAMLET	Ha, ha, are you honest?	
FTLN 1812	OPHELIA	My lord?	
FTLN 1813	HAMLET	Are you fair?	115
FTLN 1814	OPHELIA	What means your Lordship?	
FTLN 1815	HAMLET	That if you be honest and fair, <your honesty>	
FTLN 1816		should admit no discourse to your beauty.	
FTLN 1817	OPHELIA	Could beauty, my lord, have better commerce	
FTLN 1818		than with honesty?	120
FTLN 1819	HAMLET	Ay, truly, for the power of beauty will sooner	
FTLN 1820		transform honesty from what it is to a bawd than	
FTLN 1821		the force of honesty can translate beauty into his	
FTLN 1822		likeness. This was sometime a paradox, but now	
FTLN 1823		the time gives it proof. I did love you once.	125
FTLN 1824	OPHELIA	Indeed, my lord, you made me believe so.	
FTLN 1825	HAMLET	You should not have believed me, for virtue	
FTLN 1826		cannot so <inoculate> our old stock but we shall	
FTLN 1827		relish of it. I loved you not.	
FTLN 1828	OPHELIA	I was the more deceived.	130
FTLN 1829	HAMLET	Get thee <to> a nunnery. Why wouldst thou be	
FTLN 1830		a breeder of sinners? I am myself indifferent honest,	
FTLN 1831		but yet I could accuse me of such things that it	
FTLN 1832		were better my mother had not borne me: I am	
FTLN 1833		very proud, revengeful, ambitious, with more offenses	135
FTLN 1834		at my beck than I have thoughts to put them	
FTLN 1835		in, imagination to give them shape, or time to act	
FTLN 1836		them in. What should such fellows as I do crawling	
FTLN 1837		between earth and heaven? We are arrant knaves	
FTLN 1838		<all;> believe none of us. Go thy ways to a nunnery.	140
FTLN 1839		Where's your father?	
FTLN 1840	OPHELIA	At home, my lord.	
FTLN 1841	HAMLET	Let the doors be shut upon him that he may	
FTLN 1842		play the fool nowhere but in 's own house. Farewell.	
FTLN 1843	OPHELIA	O, help him, you sweet heavens!	145
FTLN 1844	HAMLET	If thou dost marry, I'll give thee this plague	
FTLN 1845		for thy dowry: be thou as chaste as ice, as pure as	
FTLN 1846		snow, thou shalt not escape calumny. Get thee to a	



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FTLN 1847	nunnery, farewell. Or if thou wilt needs marry,	
FTLN 1848	marry a fool, for wise men know well enough what	150
FTLN 1849	monsters you make of them. To a nunnery, go, and	
FTLN 1850	quickly too. Farewell.	
FTLN 1851	OPHELIA    Heavenly powers, restore him!	
FTLN 1852	HAMLET    I have heard of your paintings <too,> well	
FTLN 1853	enough. God hath given you one face, and you	155
FTLN 1854	make yourselves another. You jig and amble, and	
FTLN 1855	you <lisp;> you nickname God's creatures and make	
FTLN 1856	your wantonness <your> ignorance. Go to, I'll no	
FTLN 1857	more on 't. It hath made me mad. I say we will have	
FTLN 1858	no more marriage. Those that are married already,	160
FTLN 1859	all but one, shall live. The rest shall keep as they are.	
FTLN 1860	To a nunnery, go. <i>He exits.</i>	
	OPHELIA	
FTLN 1861	O, what a noble mind is here o'erthrown!	
FTLN 1862	The courtier's, soldier's, scholar's, eye, tongue,	
FTLN 1863	sword,	165
FTLN 1864	<Th' expectancy> and rose of the fair state,	
FTLN 1865	The glass of fashion and the mold of form,	
FTLN 1866	Th' observed of all observers, quite, quite down!	
FTLN 1867	And I, of ladies most deject and wretched,	
FTLN 1868	That sucked the honey of his musicked vows,	170
FTLN 1869	Now see <that> noble and most sovereign reason,	
FTLN 1870	Like sweet bells jangled, out of time and harsh;	
FTLN 1871	That unmatched form and stature of blown youth	
FTLN 1872	Blasted with ecstasy. O, woe is me	
FTLN 1873	T' have seen what I have seen, see what I see!	175
	KING, <i>「advancing with」</i> Polonius	
FTLN 1874	Love? His affections do not that way tend;	
FTLN 1875	Nor what he spake, though it lacked form a little,	
FTLN 1876	Was not like madness. There's something in his soul	
FTLN 1877	O'er which his melancholy sits on brood,	
FTLN 1878	And I do doubt the hatch and the disclose	180
FTLN 1879	Will be some danger; which for to prevent,	
FTLN 1880	I have in quick determination	

FTLN 1881 Thus set it down: he shall with speed to England  
 FTLN 1882 For the demand of our neglected tribute.  
 FTLN 1883 Haply the seas, and countries different, 185  
 FTLN 1884 With variable objects, shall expel  
 FTLN 1885 This something-settled matter in his heart,  
 FTLN 1886 Whereon his brains still beating puts him thus  
 FTLN 1887 From fashion of himself. What think you on 't?

POLONIUS

FTLN 1888 It shall do well. But yet do I believe 190  
 FTLN 1889 The origin and commencement of his grief  
 FTLN 1890 Sprung from neglected love.—How now, Ophelia?  
 FTLN 1891 You need not tell us what Lord Hamlet said;  
 FTLN 1892 We heard it all.—My lord, do as you please,  
 FTLN 1893 But, if you hold it fit, after the play 195  
 FTLN 1894 Let his queen-mother all alone entreat him  
 FTLN 1895 To show his grief. Let her be round with him;  
 FTLN 1896 And I'll be placed, so please you, in the ear  
 FTLN 1897 Of all their conference. If she find him not,  
 FTLN 1898 To England send him, or confine him where 200  
 FTLN 1899 Your wisdom best shall think.

FTLN 1900 KING It shall be so.

FTLN 1901 Madness in great ones must not (unwatched) go.

*They exit.*

「Scene 2」

*Enter Hamlet and three of the Players.*

FTLN 1902 HAMLET Speak the speech, I pray you, as I pronounced  
 FTLN 1903 it to you, trippingly on the tongue; but if you mouth  
 FTLN 1904 it, as many of our players do, I had as lief the  
 FTLN 1905 town-crier spoke my lines. Nor do not saw the air  
 FTLN 1906 too much with your hand, thus, but use all gently; 5  
 FTLN 1907 for in the very torrent, tempest, and, as I may say,  
 FTLN 1908 whirlwind of your passion, you must acquire and  
 FTLN 1909 beget a temperance that may give it smoothness. O,

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FTLN 1910	it offends me to the soul to hear a robustious,	
FTLN 1911	periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very	10
FTLN 1912	rags, to split the ears of the groundlings, who for the	
FTLN 1913	most part are capable of nothing but inexplicable	
FTLN 1914	dumb shows and noise. I would have such a fellow	
FTLN 1915	whipped for o'erdoing Termagant. It out-Herods	
FTLN 1916	Herod. Pray you, avoid it.	15
FTLN 1917	PLAYER I warrant your Honor.	
FTLN 1918	HAMLET Be not too tame neither, but let your own	
FTLN 1919	discretion be your tutor. Suit the action to the	
FTLN 1920	word, the word to the action, with this special	
FTLN 1921	observance, that you o'erstep not the modesty of	20
FTLN 1922	nature. For anything so o'erdone is from the purpose	
FTLN 1923	of playing, whose end, both at the first and	
FTLN 1924	now, was and is to hold, as 'twere, the mirror up to	
FTLN 1925	nature, to show virtue her <own> feature, scorn her	
FTLN 1926	own image, and the very age and body of the time	25
FTLN 1927	his form and pressure. Now this overdone or come	
FTLN 1928	tardy off, though it makes the unskillful laugh,	
FTLN 1929	cannot but make the judicious grieve, the censure	
FTLN 1930	of <the> which one must in your allowance o'erweigh	
FTLN 1931	a whole theater of others. O, there be players that I	30
FTLN 1932	have seen play and heard others <praise> (and that	
FTLN 1933	highly), not to speak it profanely, that, neither	
FTLN 1934	having th' accent of Christians nor the gait of	
FTLN 1935	Christian, pagan, nor man, have so strutted and	
FTLN 1936	bellowed that I have thought some of nature's	35
FTLN 1937	journeymen had made men, and not made them	
FTLN 1938	well, they imitated humanity so abominably.	
FTLN 1939	PLAYER I hope we have reformed that indifferently	
FTLN 1940	with us, <sir.>	
FTLN 1941	HAMLET O, reform it altogether. And let those that play	40
FTLN 1942	your clowns speak no more than is set down for	
FTLN 1943	them, for there be of them that will themselves	
FTLN 1944	laugh, to set on some quantity of barren spectators	
FTLN 1945	to laugh too, though in the meantime some necessary	

FTLN 1946 question of the play be then to be considered. 45  
 FTLN 1947 That's villainous and shows a most pitiful ambition  
 FTLN 1948 in the fool that uses it. Go make you ready.

*⟨Players exit.⟩*

*Enter Polonius, Guildenstern, and Rosencrantz.*

FTLN 1949 How now, my lord, will the King hear this piece of  
 FTLN 1950 work?  
 FTLN 1951 POLONIUS And the Queen too, and that presently. 50  
 FTLN 1952 HAMLET Bid the players make haste. *⟨Polonius exits.⟩*  
 FTLN 1953 Will you two help to hasten them?  
 FTLN 1954 ROSENCRANTZ Ay, my lord. *They exit.*  
 FTLN 1955 HAMLET What ho, Horatio!

*Enter Horatio.*

FTLN 1956 HORATIO Here, sweet lord, at your service. 55  
 HAMLET  
 FTLN 1957 Horatio, thou art e'en as just a man  
 FTLN 1958 As e'er my conversation coped withal.  
 HORATIO  
 FTLN 1959 O, my dear lord—  
 FTLN 1960 *⟨HAMLET⟩* Nay, do not think I flatter,  
 FTLN 1961 For what advancement may I hope from thee 60  
 FTLN 1962 That no revenue hast but thy good spirits  
 FTLN 1963 To feed and clothe thee? Why should the poor be  
 FTLN 1964 flattered?  
 FTLN 1965 No, let the candied tongue lick absurd pomp  
 FTLN 1966 And crook the pregnant hinges of the knee 65  
 FTLN 1967 Where thrift may follow fawning. Dost thou hear?  
 FTLN 1968 Since my dear soul was mistress of her choice  
 FTLN 1969 And could of men distinguish, her election  
 FTLN 1970 Hath sealed thee for herself. For thou hast been  
 FTLN 1971 As one in suffering all that suffers nothing, 70  
 FTLN 1972 A man that Fortune's buffets and rewards  
 FTLN 1973 Hast ta'en with equal thanks; and blessed are those  
 FTLN 1974 Whose blood and judgment are so well  
 FTLN 1975 commeddled