

# The Tragedy of King Lear

## 5.2

*Alarum within. Enter with a drummer and colours King Lear, Queen Cordelia, and soldiers over the stage; and exeunt. Enter Edgar disguised as a peasant, guiding the blind Duke of Gloucester*

**EDGAR**

Here, father, take the shadow of this tree  
For your good host; pray that the right may thrive.  
If ever I return to you again  
I'll bring you comfort.

**GLOUCESTER** Grace go with you, sir.

*Exit Edgar*

*Alarum and retreat within. Enter Edgar*

**EDGAR**

Away, old man. Give me thy hand. Away. 5  
King Lear hath lost, he and his daughter ta'en.  
Give me thy hand. Come on.

**GLOUCESTER**

No further, sir. A man may rot even here.

**EDGAR**

What, in ill thoughts again? Men must endure 10  
Their going hence even as their coming hither.  
Ripeness is all. Come on.

**GLOUCESTER** And that's true, too.

*Exit Edgar guiding Gloucester*