

# The First Part of the Contention

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## ADDITIONAL PASSAGES

A. We adopt the 1594 Quarto version of the Queen's initial speech, 1.1.24±±9; the Folio version, which follows, is probably the author's original draft.

### QUEEN MARGARET

Great King of England, and my gracious lord,  
The mutual conference that my mind hath had±±  
By day, by night; waking, and in my dreams;  
In courtly company, or at my beads±±  
With you, mine alder liefest sovereign, 5  
Makes me the bolder to salute my king  
With ruder terms, such as my wit affords  
And overjoy of heart doth minister.

B. For 1.4.39±±40.2 the Quarto substitutes the following; it may report a revision made in rehearsal to cover the Spirit's descent.

*The Spirit sinks down again*

### BOLINGBROKE

Then down, I say, unto the damneÁd pool  
Where Pluto in his fiery wagon sits  
Riding, amidst the singed and parcheÁd smokes,  
The road of Ditis by the River Styx.  
There howl and burn for ever in those flames. 5  
Rise, Jordan, rise, and stay thy charming spells±±  
Zounds, we are betrayed!

C. The entire debate on Duke Humphrey's death in 3.1 is handled differently by the Quarto from the Folio. We retain the Folio version of the debate, but the Quarto version may represent authorial revision. The

following Q lines, roughly corresponding to 3.1.310±±30.1, are of particular interest because they supply Buckingham with speeches for this latter part of the scene.

**[YORK]**

Let me have some bands of chosen soldiers,  
And York shall try his fortune 'gainst those kerns.

**QUEEN MARGARET**

York, thou shalt. My lord of Buckingham,  
Let it be your charge to muster up such soldiers  
As shall suffice him in these needful wars. 5

**BUCKINGHAM**

Madam, I will, and levy such a band  
As soon shall overcome those Irish rebels.  
But, York, where shall those soldiers stay for thee?

**YORK**

At Bristol I will expect them ten days hence.

**BUCKINGHAM**

Then thither shall they come, and so farewell. *Exit* 10

**YORK**

Adieu, my lord of Buckingham.

**QUEEN MARGARET**

Suffolk, remember what you have to do±±  
And you, Lord Cardinal±±concerning Duke Humphrey.  
'Twere good that you did see to it in time.  
Come, let us go, that it may be performed. 15

*Exeunt all but York*

D. We adopt the Quarto version of the confrontation between Clifford and York at 5.3.20±±30; the Folio version, an edited text of which follows, is probably the author's original draft.

**CLIFFORD**

What seest thou in me, York? Why dost thou pause?

**YORK**

With thy brave bearing should I be in love,  
But that thou art so fast mine enemy.

**CLIFFORD**

Nor should thy prowess want praise and esteem,  
But that 'tis shown ignobly and in treason. 5

**YORK**

So let it help me now against thy sword,  
As I in justice and true right express it.

**CLIFFORD**

My soul and body on the action, both.

**YORK**

A dreadful lay. Address thee instantly.

**CLIFFORD**

*La fin couronne les oeuvres.*

10

*Alarms. They fight. York kills Clifford*

**YORK**

Thus war hath given thee peace, for thou art still.  
Peace with his soul, heaven, if it be thy will.

*Exit York*