

Richard III

3.3

Enter Sir Richard Ratcliffe with Halberdiers taking Lord Rivers, Lord Gray, and Sir Thomas Vaughan to death at Pomfret

RIVERS

Sir Richard Ratcliffe, let me tell thee this:
Today shalt thou behold a subject die
For truth, for duty, and for loyalty.

GRAY *(to Ratcliffe)*

God bless the Prince from all the pack of you!
A knot you are of damneÁd bloodsuckers. 5

VAUGHAN *(to Ratcliffe)*

You live, that shall cry woe for this hereafter.

RATCLIFFE

Dispatch. The limit of your lives is out.

RIVERS

O Pomfret, Pomfret! O thou bloody prison,
Fatal and ominous to noble peers!
Within the guilty closure of thy walls, 10
Richard the Second here was hacked to death,
And, for more slander to thy dismal seat,
We give to thee our guiltless blood to drink.

GRAY

Now Margaret's curse is fall'n upon our heads,
For standing by when Richard stabbed her son. 15

RIVERS

Then cursed she Hastings; then cursed she
Buckingham;
Then cursed she Richard. O remember, God,
To hear her prayer for them as now for us.
And for my sister and her princely sons,
Be satisfied, dear God, with our true blood, 20
Which, as thou know'st, unjustly must be spilt.

RATCLIFFE

Make haste: the hour of death is expiate.

RIVERS

Come, Gray; come, Vaughan; let us here embrace.
Farewell, until we meet again in heaven.

Exeunt