

Troilus and Cressida

5.6

Enter Ajax

AJAX

Troilus, thou coward Troilus! Show thy head!

Enter Diomedes

DIOMEDES

Troilus, I say! Where's Troilus?

AJAX

What wouldst thou?

DIOMEDES I would correct him.

AJAX

Were I the general, thou shouldst have my office
Ere that correction.±±Troilus, I say! What, Troilus! 5

Enter Troilus

TROILUS

O traitor Diomed! Turn thy false face, thou traitor,
And pay the life thou ow'st me for my horse.

DIOMEDES Ha, art thou there?

AJAX

I'll fight with him alone. Stand, Diomed.

DIOMEDES

He is my prize; I will not look upon. 10

TROILUS

Come, both you cogging Greeks, have at you both!
They fight.

Enter Hector

HECTOR

Yea, Troilus? O well fought, my youngest brother!

Exit Troilus [driving Diomedes and Ajax in]

Enter Achilles [behind]

ACHILLES

Now do I see thee.±±Ha! Have at thee, Hector.

They fight. [Achilles is bested]

HECTOR Pause, if thou wilt.

ACHILLES

I do disdain thy courtesy, proud Trojan. 15
Be happy that my arms are out of use.
My rest and negligence befriends thee now;
But thou anon shalt here of me again.

Till when, go seek thy fortune.

Exit

HECTOR

Fare thee well.

I would have been much more a fresher man 20

Had I expected thee.

Enter Troilus [in haste]

How now, my brother?

TROILUS

Ajax hath ta'en Aeneas. Shall it be?

No, by the flame of yonder glorious heaven,

He shall not carry him. I'll be ta'en too,

Or bring him off. Fate, hear me what I say: 25

I reck not though thou end my life today.

Exit

Enter one in sumptuous armour

HECTOR

Stand, stand, thou Greek! Thou art a goodly mark.

No? Wilt thou not? I like thy armour well.

I'll frush it and unlock the rivets all,

But I'll be master of it.

[Exit one in armour]

Wilt thou not,

beast, abide? 30

Why then, fly on; I'll hunt thee for thy hide.

Exit