

Shakespeare | Hamlet

Fremdsprachentexte | Englisch

William Shakespeare
Hamlet

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The Tragedy of Hamlet,
Prince of Denmark

Dramatis Personae

CLAUDIUS, <i>King of Denmark</i>		
GERTRUDE, <i>Queen of Denmark, Hamlet's mother</i>		
THE GHOST of <i>Hamlet's father</i>		
HAMLET, <i>Prince of Denmark, son to the former and nephew to the present king</i>		5
POLONIUS, <i>chief councillor and Lord Chamberlain</i>		
OPHELIA, <i>daughter to Polonius</i>		
LAERTES, <i>son to Polonius</i>		
REYNALDO, <i>servant to Polonius</i>		10
VOLTEMAND	}	<i>Courtiers</i>
CORNELIUS		
OSRIC		
FRANCISCO	}	<i>Sentinels</i>
BERNARDO		
MARCELLUS		
HORATIO	}	<i>Danish gentlemen</i>
ROSENCRANTZ		
GUILDENSTERN		
<i>A company of Players</i>		20
<i>A group of Sailors</i>		
<i>Two Clowns, gravediggers</i>		
<i>A Priest</i>		
<i>English Ambassadors</i>		
<i>A Norwegian Captain</i>		25

7 **Lord Chamberlain:** Hofmarschall. | 15 **sentinel:** Wache, Wachtposten. | 22 **clown:** Dorfbewohner, Dörfiler; bäurischer Tölpel.

FORTINBRAS, *Prince of Norway*
Councillors, Lords and Ladies of the Court, Attendants,
Soldiers, Crowd

The Scene: the royal Castle at Elsinore and the Danish Coast

2 **attendants** (pl.): Bedienstete, Diener, Gefolge. | 4 **Elsinore**:
Helsingør (dänische Stadt auf der Insel Seeland mit der auf einer
Halbinsel gelegenen Festung Kronborg).

Act I

Scene 1

[Midnight; a platform upon the fortifications of the castle at Elsinore.]

Francisco stands guard; enter Bernardo.

BERNARDO. Who's there?

FRANCISCO. Nay, answer me:¹ Stand and unfold yourself.

BERNARDO. Long live the King!

FRANCISCO. Bernardo?

BERNARDO. He.

5

FRANCISCO. You come most carefully upon your hour.

BERNARDO.

'Tis now struck twelve, get thee to bed, Francisco.²

FRANCISCO. For this relief much thanks, 'tis bitter cold,
And I am sick at heart.

BERNARDO. Have you had quiet guard?

FRANCISCO. Not a mouse stirring. 10

BERNARDO. Well, good night;

If you do meet Horatio and Marcellus,
The rivals of my watch, bid them make haste.

[Turns away.]

Enter Horatio and Marcellus.

[BA] **platform:** Terrasse, Aussichtswarte. | **fortifications** (pl.): Befestigung, Festungsanlage. | 2 **to unfold o.s.:** kundtun, wer man ist, sich identifizieren (*to unfold:* enthüllen, offenbaren). | 8 **relief:** (Wach-)Ablösung. | **much thanks:** *many thanks* (*thanks* wird hier als Sammelbegriff und daher als Singular verstanden). | 13 **rival:** Gefährte.

FRANCISCO.

I think I hear them. – Stand, ho! Who is there?

HORATIO. Friends to this ground.

MARCELLUS. And liegemen to the Dane. 15

FRANCISCO. Give you good night.

MARCELLUS. O, farewell, honest soldier;

Who hath relieved you?

FRANCISCO. Bernardo hath my place;

Give you good night.

Exit.

MARCELLO. Holla, Bernardo!

BERNARDO. Say –

What, is Horatio there?

HORATIO. [*Gives his hand.*] A piece of him.

BERNARDO.

Welcome, Horatio, welcome, good Marcellus. 20

HORATIO. What, has this thing appeared again to-night?³

BERNARDO. I have seen nothing.

MARCELLUS. Horatio says 'tis but our fantasy,

And will not let belief take hold of him

Touching this dreaded sight twice seen of us; 25

Therefore I have entreated him along

With us to watch the minutes of this night,

14 **ho:** he, heda! | 15 **liegeman:** Lehnsmann, Vasall. | **Dane:** (oberster) Däne, Dänenherrscher, dänischer König. | 16 **Give you good night:** *God give you good night.* | 17 **to relieve s.o.:** jdn. ablösen. | [BA] **exit** (Lat.): er, sie geht ab. | 19 **what:** einleitender Ausruf; wie, nun. | 23 **fantasy:** Einbildung. | 25 **touching:** bezüglich, hinsichtlich. | **dreaded:** furchterregend. | **seen of us:** *seen by us.* | 26 **to entreat:** eindringlich bitten.

That, if again this apparition come,
He may approve our eyes and speak to it.⁴

HORATIO. Tush, tush, 'twill not appear.

BERNARDO. Sit down awhile, 30

And let us once again assail your ears,
That are so fortified against our story,
What we have two nights seen.

HORATIO. Well, sit we down,
And let us hear Bernardo speak of this.

BERNARDO. Last night of all, 35

When yond same star that's westward from the pole
Had made his⁵ course t'illuminate that part of heaven
Where now it burns, Marcellus and myself,
The bell then beating one ...

*Enter Ghost, in armour and bearing a marshal's
truncheon.*

MARCELLUS.

Peace, break thee off, look where it comes again! 40
[*They start up.*]

BERNARDO. In the same figure like the King that's dead.

MARCELLUS. Thou art a scholar, speak to it, Horatio.

BERNARDO. Looks 'a not like the King? Mark it, Horatio.

29 **to approve**: Recht geben. | 30 **tush**: Ausruf der Ungeduld oder Geringschätzung; pah! | 31 **to assail**: bedrängen, bestürmen. | 32 **fortified**: verschanzt, gewappnet. | 35 **last night of all**: *only last night, just last night*. | 36 **yond** (auch: *yon, yonder*): jene(r, -s) dort. | **pole**: *pole star*. | 37 **his**: *its* (vgl. Anm. 5). | **t'illuminate** (poet.): *to illumine*. | [BA] **truncheon**: (Feldherrn-)Stab. | 40 **peace**: still! | **break thee off**: *break off*. | 43 'a (coll.): *he*. | **to mark s.th.**: auf etwas achtgeben.

HORATIO. Most like, it harrows me with fear and wonder.

BERNARDO. It would be spoke to.

MARCELLUS. Speak to it, Horatio. 45

HORATIO. What art thou that usurp'st this time of night,
Together with that fair and warlike form
In which the majesty of buried Denmark
Did sometimes march? By heaven, I charge thee,
speak.

MARCELLUS. It is offended.

BERNARDO. See, it stalks away. 50

HORATIO. Stay, speak, speak, I charge thee, speak!

Exit Ghost.

MARCELLUS. 'Tis gone and will not answer.

BERNARDO.

How now, Horatio, you tremble and look pale,
Is not this something more than fantasy?
What think you on't? 55

HORATIO. Before my God, I might not this believe
Without the sensible and true avouch
Of mine own eyes.

MARCELLUS. Is it not like the King?

HORATIO. As thou art to thyself.

44 **to harrow** (auch: *to harrow up*): (fig.) aufwühlen, ergreifen, quälen. | 45 **It would be spoke to**: *It wants to be spoken to*. | 46 **to usurp s.th.**: sich etwas unrechtmäßig aneignen, sich einer Sache bemächtigen. | 48 **the majesty of buried Denmark**: *the buried majesty of Denmark*. | 49 **sometimes** (auch: *sometime*): früher, vormals, einst. | 50 **to stalk**: schreiten. | 55 **on't**: *of it*. | 56 **might**: *could*. | 57 **sensible**: sinnhaft, fühlbar. | **avouch**: Zeugnis, Gewähr.

Such was the very armour he had on⁶ 60
When he the ambitious Norway combated,
So frowned he once, when, in an angry parle,
He smote the sledded Polacks on the ice.
'Tis strange.

MARCELLUS.

Thus twice before, and jump at this dead hour, 65
With martial stalk hath he gone by our watch.

HORATIO. In what particular thought⁷ to work I know not,
But in the gross and scope of mine opinion
This bodes some strange eruption to our state.

MARCELLUS.

Good now, sit down, and tell me he that knows, 70
Why this same strict and most observant watch
So nightly toils the subject of the land,

61 **the ambitious Norway**: der ehrgeizige König von Norwegen (die Verwendung des Landesnamens zur Bezeichnung der Person des Herrschers war geläufig; vgl. etwa 1,2,69); gemeint ist hier der ältere Fortinbras, Vater des Prinzen und Bruder des regierenden Königs. | **to combat s.o.**: einen Zweikampf mit jdm. führen. | 62 **parle**: Unterhandlung, Verhandlungsgespräch. | 63 **to smite**: (vernichtend) schlagen. | **sledded**: schlittenfahrend (*sled*: Schlitten). | **Polack**: Pole. | 65 **jump** (adv.): genau, pünktlich. | 66 **martial**: 1. militärisch, soldatisch; 2. kriegerisch, kriegsgewohnt. | **stalk**: Einerschreiten, stolzer Schritt. | 67 **thought**: hier etwa: Lehre, Theorie (vgl. Anm. 7). | 68 **in the gross and scope**: im Großen und Ganzen. | 69 **to bode**: ankündigen, anzeigen. | **eruption**: Aufruhr, Unheil. | 70 **good now**: Ausruf des Bittens oder Drängens; etwa: bitte, sei(d) so gut und ... | 71 **observant**: aufmerksam. | 72 **to toil s.o.**: jdn. plagen. jdm. zusetzen. | **subject** (collect.): Untertanen, Volk, Leute.

And why such daily cast of brazen cannon
And foreign mart for implements of war,
Why such impress of shipwrights whose sore task 75
Does not divide the Sunday from the week –
What might be toward that this sweaty haste
Doth make the night joint-labourer with the day:
Who is't that can inform me?

HORATIO. That can I,
At least the whisper goes so: Our last King, 80
Whose image even but now appeared to us,
Was, as you know, by Fortinbras of Norway,
Thereto pricked on by a most emulate pride,
Dared to the combat; in which our valiant Hamlet
(For so this side of our known world esteemed him)
Did slay this Fortinbras, who by a sealed compact, 86
Well ratified by law and heraldy,
Did forfeit (with his life) all those his lands⁸

73 **cast:** *casting*: Gießen (Metall). | **brazen:** Messing-. | 74 **foreign mart:** Handel, (Kauf-)Verhandlungen im Ausland. | **implements** (pl.): Werkzeug, Gerät. | 75 **impress:** Einberufung, zwangsweises Einsetzen. | **shipwright:** Schiffsbauer. | **sore:** mühevoll, hart, schwer. | 77 **to be toward:** bevorstehen. | **sweaty:** schweißtriefend, -treibend. | 78 **joint-labourer:** Arbeitsgeselle, -gehilfe. | 80 **whisper:** Gerücht. | 81 **even but now:** *only just now*. | 83 **to prick s.o. on:** jdn. anstacheln. | **emulate:** eifersüchtig, ruhsüchtig. | 84 **to dare s.o.:** jdn. herausfordern. | **combat:** Zweikampf. | **Hamlet:** Gemeint ist der verstorbene König Hamlet. | 85 **to esteem:** (für etwas) erachten, betrachten, halten. | 86 **to seal:** besiegeln. | **compact:** Vertrag. | 87 **to ratify:** bekräftigen, bestätigen. | **heraldy:** eigtl.: Heraldik; hier etwa: Sitten und Bräuche des Rittertums. | 88 **to forfeit:** verlieren, einbüßen.