

Graphic of the Narratives of Hamlet, King Claudius, Queen Gertrude, Horatio, Ophelia, and Laertes
prepared for use with

Character Narratives from Shakespeare's HAMLET

edited by Charles Adams Kelly and Dayna Leigh Plehn

The full text* of HAMLET						HAMLET	CLAUDIUS	GERTRUDE	HORATIO	OPHELIA	LAERTES
Q2	Folio	(Red indicates passages unique to Q2 or the Folio text)	From	To	# Lines	Pg**	Beginning with:				
1		Sentinels report seeing Ghost to Horatio	1.1.1	1.1.39	39	1-2	Bar.	Whose there?			
2		Ghost appears - looks like old King Hamlet - refuses to speak	1.1.40	1.1.52	13	2-3	Mar.	Peace, breake thee...			
3		Horatio recounts combat with Fortinbras and threat of young Fortinbras	1.1.53	1.1.107	55	3-4	Mar.	Tis gone...			
3b		Horatio discusses "the mightiest Julius fell" and "prologue to the Omen coming on"	1.1.108	1.1.125	17	4	Hor.	Julius fell...			
4		Ghost reappears and again refuses to speak	1.1.126	1.1.146	21	5	Hor.	But soft, behold...			
5		Horatio discusses ghostly superstitions - determines to tell Prince Hamlet	1.1.147	1.1.176	29	5	Bar.	It was about...			
6		King (Claudius) recalls old Hamlet and recounts Queen's remarriage	1.2.1	1.2.16	16	6	King.	Though yet...			
7		King assesses threat of young Fortinbras and instructs ambassadors	1.2.17	1.2.41	25	6-7	King.	Now follows...			
8		King allows Laertes to return to France	1.2.42	1.2.63	22	7-8	King.	And now Laertes...			
9		Queen encourages Hamlet to cast off his grief, which he finds impossible to do	1.2.64	1.2.86	23	8	King.	But now my cousin...			
10		King criticizes "unmanly grief" - notes Hamlet is "most immediate to throne"	1.2.87	1.2.109	23	8	King.	Tis sweete and...			
11		King & Queen insist Hamlet not return to Wittenberg, then depart to celebrate	1.2.110	1.2.128	19	9	King.	And with no less...			
12		Hamlet (soliloquy): Depression, mention of suicide, mother's hasty re-marriage	1.2.129	1.2.159	31	9-10	Ham.	O that this too too...			
13		Hamlet and Horatio discuss King's funeral and haste of Queen's remarriage	1.2.160	1.2.188	29	10-11	Hor.	Hail to your Lordship.			
14		Horatio reports seeing ghost, and Hamlet decides to seek encounter with it	1.2.189	1.2.257	68	11-13	Hor.	My Lord I thinke...			
15		Laertes warns Ophelia to guard her virtue in her relationship with Hamlet	1.3.1	1.3.51	51	13-14	Laer.	My necessities are...			
16		Polonius gives detailed fatherly advice to departing Laertes	1.3.52	1.3.87	36	14	Laer.	O feare me not,			
17		Polonius warns Ophelia not to believe in Hamlet's love though it seems true	1.3.88	1.3.136	49	15-17	Polon.	What is't Ophelia...			
18		Hamlet, Horatio, and Marcellus meet on ramparts, note King's celebrations	1.4.1	1.4.16	16	17	Ham.	The ayre bites...			
19		Hamlet comments on "vicious mole of nature" (tragic flaw)	1.4.17	1.4.38	22	17-18	Ham.	This heavy headed...			
20		Ghost appears - Hamlet asks if it brings "airs from heaven or blasts from hell"	1.4.39	1.4.57	19	18	Hor.	Looke my Lord...			
21		Hamlet follows Ghost, overruling Horatio and Marcellus's objections	1.4.58	1.4.92	35	18-19	Hor.	It beckins you...			
22		Ghost reveals that his death was murder, and demands revenge	1.5.1	1.5.28	28	19-20	Ham.	Whither wilt thou...			
23		Hamlet agrees to "sweepe" to his revenge - Ghost names Claudius as murderer	1.5.29	1.5.41	13	20	Ham.	Hast me to know't,			
24		Ghost describes Queen's seduction and to let heaven deal with Queen	1.5.42	1.5.91	50	21	Ghost	Ay that incestuous...			
25		Hamlet recognizes sin of revenge ("shall I couple hell") and Queen's weakness	1.5.92	1.5.112	21	22	Ham.	O all you host...			
26		Hamlet assumes it is an "honest Ghost," swears Horatio & Marcellus to secrecy	1.5.113	1.5.164	52	22	Hor.	My Lord, my Lord.			
27		Hamlet advises Horatio and Marcellus that he may adopt an "anticke disposition"	1.5.165	1.5.181	17	24	Ham.	And therefore...			
28		Hamlet laments responsibility: "time is out of joint...I was born to set it right."	1.5.182	1.5.190	9	24-25	Ham.	Resti, rest...			
29		Polonius instructs Renaldo to spy on Laertes in France	2.1.1	2.1.71	71	25-27	Polon.	Give him...			
30		Ophelia tells Polonius that Hamlet is deeply distracted	2.1.72	2.1.97	26	27	Polon.	Farewell. How now...			
31		Polonius concludes that denied access to Ophelia "hath made Hamlet mad."	2.1.98	2.1.116	19	28	Polon.	Come, goe with me...			
32		Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are recruited by King to spy on Hamlet	2.2.1	2.2.39	39	28-29	King.	Welcome dear...			
33		Polonius reports return of Ambassadors and his theory of "Hamlet's lunicie"	2.2.40	2.2.55	16	29-30	Polon.	Th' Ambassadors...			
34		Queen advises that cause might be father's death and their hasty marriage	2.2.56	2.2.57	2	30	Que.	I doubt it is no...			
35		Ambassador advises that Fortinbras is diverted to Poland; threat is past	2.2.58	2.2.85	28	30	King.	Well, we shall...			
36		Queen reprimands Polonius for pompous rhetoric	2.2.86	2.2.100	15	31	Polon.	My Liege...			
37		Polonius shares Hamlet's letter, states that love has caused Hamlet's madness	2.2.101	2.2.155	55	31-32	Polon.	Mad let us grant...			
38		Polonius suggests plan to spy on Ophelia and Hamlet (see note on Q1 text)	2.2.156	2.2.167	12	32-33	Polon.	Take this...			
39		Polonius encounters Hamlet's wit and concludes "there is method in't."	2.2.168	2.2.217	50	33-37	Que.	But looke where...			
40		Hamlet deftly finds that Rosencrantz & Guildenstern were sent for by King	2.2.218	2.2.312	95	37-39	Polon.	Fare you well...			
40b		Ham. Denmark's a prison... (31 Folio unique lines within 95 lines)			(31)		Ham.	Let me question...			
41		Rosencrantz & Guildenstern advise they have seen players approaching castle	2.2.313	2.2.336	24	39-40	Ham.	Why did yee laugh...			
41b		Child actors - Folio passage now thought to relate to 1606 events*	2.2.337	2.2.368	32	40	Ham.	Now comes it...			
42		Hamlet tells R&G he is only sometimes mad, he knows a hawk from a hand saw	2.2.369	2.2.379	11	40	Guyll.	There are the players.			
43		Players arrive - Hamlet banters and requests a play	2.2.380	2.2.548	69	40-43	Polon.	We'll be with you...			
44		Hamlet (soliloquy) Is he pidgeon-livered, or is Ghost the devil? The play will tell.	2.2.549	2.2.605	57	44-45	Ham.	...now I am alone...			
45		Rosencrantz reports Hamlet's "crafty madness" to King	3.1.1	3.1.14	14	45-46	King.	And can you...			
46		Rosencrantz advises of players, Polonius advises of performance, King is content	3.1.15	3.1.28	14	46	Que.	Did you assay him...			
47		King and Polonius to spy on Ophelia and Hamlet, King reveals conscience	3.1.29	3.1.54	26	46-47	King.	Sweet Gertrude...			
48		Hamlet To be soliloquy - suffer or take arms - suicide - resolution vs. thought	3.1.55	3.1.87	33	47-48	Ham.	To be or not to be...			
49		Ophelia returns Hamlet's gifts, Hamlet turns on her	3.1.88	3.1.127	42	48-49	Ham.	Soft you now...			
50		Hamlet completes tirade, "...to a nunnery go"	3.1.128	3.1.149	20	49	Ham.	Where's your father?			
51		Ophelia laments that all of Hamlet's great qualities are "quite quite downe"	3.1.150	3.1.161	12	49	Ophe.	Oh what a noble...			
52		King notes that Hamlet's melancholy is a danger. Hamlet will be sent to England	3.1.162	3.1.176	15	50	King.	Love, his affections...			
53		Polonius suggests that Queen meet with Hamlet and that Polonius spy	3.1.177	3.1.189	13	50	Polon.	But yet do I...			
54		Hamlet lectures players, mocking certain contemporary players	3.2.1	3.2.45	45	50-51	Ham.	Speak the speech...			
55		Hamlet tells Horatio that the play will reflect murder scene, and to observe King	3.2.46	3.2.89	44	51-52	Polon.	How now my Lord...			
56		Polonius notes that he had acted Julius Caesar and was "killed" by Brutus	3.2.90	3.2.109	20	52-53	Ham.	They are coming...			
57		Hamlet makes lewd comments to Ophelia, mocks Queen's hasty remarriage	3.2.110	3.2.135	26	53	Ham.	No, good mother...			
58		Hamlet deflects Ophelia's questions with banter during Prologue of play	3.2.136	3.2.154	19	54	Ophe.	What means this...			
59		Player Queen swears that she would never re-marry	3.2.155	3.2.228	74	54-56	P. King	Full thirle times...			
60		Hamlet describes play, identifies murderer as Nephew to the player King	3.2.229	3.2.244	16	56	Ham.	Madam, how like...			
61		Hamlet explains player's action of poisoning King and getting the Queen's love	3.2.245	3.2.264	20	56-57	Ophe.	You are as good...			
62		King storms out of the play in anger	3.2.265	3.2.270	6	57	Ophe.	The King rises.			
63		Hamlet tells Horatio that King's reaction to the poisoning confirms his guilt	3.2.271	3.2.295	25	57-58	Ham.	Why let the...			
64		Guildenstern (after some banter) advises that Queen desires to see Hamlet	3.2.296	3.2.333	38	58	Guild.	Good my Lord...			
65		Hamlet notes his lack of "advancement" when questioned by Rosencrantz	3.2.334	3.2.342	9	58-59	Ham.	Have you any...			
66		Hamlet notes that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are trying to play him like a pipe	3.2.343	3.2.373	31	59	Ham.	Sir, but while...			
67		Hamlet plans to "speak daggers (to Queen)...but use none"	3.2.374	3.2.399	26	59-60	Polon.	My Lord, the Queen...			
68		King notes Hamlet's madness is a hazard, Hamlet will be sent to England	3.3.1	3.3.26	26	60-61	King.	I like him not...			
69		Polonius recounts plan to spy on Hamlet's meeting with Queen and to report	3.3.27	3.3.35	9	61	Polon.	My Lord, he's going...			
70		King, at prayer, acknowledges guilt, but still has "Crown and...Queen"	3.3.36	3.3.72	37	61-62	King.	Oh my offense is rank			
71		Hamlet does not kill King at prayer, King struggles with conscience	3.3.73	3.3.98	26	62-63	Ham.	Now I might do it...			
72		Polonius alerts Queen that Hamlet is coming (Polonius will hide)	3.4.1	3.4.7	7	63	Polon.	He will come...			
73		Hamlet is harsh / Queen cries out / Hamlet kills Polonius thinking it is King	3.4.8	3.4.26	19	63	Ham.	Now mother what's...			
74		Hamlet lectures Queen on choice of King, comparing him with Old Hamlet	3.4.27	3.4.88	62	64-65	Que.	Oh what a rash...			
74b		Hamlet has eight additional lines (in two small blocks) within this passage			(8)	65	Ham.	...sense sure...			
75		Queen begs Hamlet to "speak no more," but Hamlet continues	3.4.89	3.4.102	14	65-66	Que.	Oh Hamlet...			
76		Ghost intervenes, reminds Hamlet of purpose, tells him to soothe Queen	3.4.103	3.4.114	12	66	Ham.	A King of shreds...			
77		Queen cannot see Ghost, believes it is "the flame of thy distemper"	3.4.115	3.4.137	23	66-67	Ham.	How is it...			
78		Hamlet chides Gertrude but in a less antagonizing manner	3.4.138	3.4.198	61	67-68	Que.	This is the very...			
78b		Hamlet has eight additional lines (in two small blocks) within this passage			(8)	67	Ham.	That monster...			
79		Hamlet to England soon / distrust of R&G (next), removes Polonius	3.4.199	3.4.217	19	68-69	Ham.	I must to...			
79b		Hamlet's shows overt mistrust of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern			(9)	68	Ham.	Ther's letters...			
80		King is suspicious, Queen reports madness and slaying of Polonius	4.1.1	4.1.12	12	69	King.	There's matter...			
81		King notes the danger of Hamlet's madness combined with his liberty	4.1.13	4.1.31	19	69-70	King.	Oh heavy deed...			
82		King tells R&G to retrieve Polonius's body, admits "discord and dismay"	4.1.32	4.1.45	14	70	King.	Ho Guildenstern...			
83		Hamlet refuses to disclose location of body, insults R&G, proceeds to King	4.2.1	4.2.30	30	70-71	Ham.	Safely stowed...			
84		King notes that Hamlet is dangerous yet popular, and that he must be dealt with	4.3.1	4.3.11	11	71	King.	I have sent...			
85		King seeks body of Polonius, Hamlet banters and refuses to disclose	4.3.12	4.3.39	28	71-72	King.	How now...			
86		King announces Hamlet's departure for England, banter including "purposes"	4.3.40	4.3.52	13	72	King.	Hamlet, this...			
87		King (in soliloquy) will not be happy until the "present death of Hamlet"	4.3.53	4.3.68	16	72-73	King.	Follow him...			
88		Fortinbras announces permitted march across territory of Denmark	4.4.1	4.4.8	8	73	For.	Go, Captain...			
89		Hamlet: "thinking too precisely" on revenge, and "honour's at the stake"	4.4.9	4.4.41	22	73	Ham.	Good sir...			
91		Hamlet (continuing) cites example of great sacrifice for nothing but "honor"	4.4.42	4.4.66	25	74	Ham.	A thought which...			
92		Queen discovers that Ophelia has gone mad	4.5.1	4.5.36	36	74-75	Que.	I will not...			
93		King sees Ophelia's madness, including Ophelia's "my brother shall know"	4.5.37	4.5.73	37	75-76	Que.	Alas, look...			
94		King notes that Laertes has returned in secret from France	4.5.74	4.5.96	23	76-77	King.	Follow her...			
95		Messenger reports rebellion with clamor for Laertes to be King	4.5.97	4.5.111	15	77	King.	Where are my...			
96		Laertes bursts in, but King is fearless and sizes control of the conversation	4.5.112	4.5.125	14	77-78	King.	The doors are...			
97		King assures Laertes that he is guiltless in the death of Polonius	4.5.126	4.5.153	28	78	King.	...Tell me Laertes...			
98		Laertes comprehends Ophelia's mad scene	4.5.154	4.5.202	49	78-79	Laer.	Let her come in...			
99		King and Laertes plan Polonius' funeral, hints that Laertes will have "due content"	4.5.203	4.5.220	18	79-80	King.	Laertes, I must...			
100		Horatio receives letter from Hamlet, Hamlet is well, and has letters for King	4.6.1	4.6.34	34	80-81	Hora.	What are they...			
101		King tells Laertes that they both have both been wronged by Hamlet	4.7.1	4.7.35	35	81-82	King.	Now must...			
102		King and Laertes learn of Hamlet's safe return	4.7.36	4.7.53	18	82	Mes.	Letters my Lord...			
103		Laertes welcomes a chance to have revenge on Hamlet	4.7.54	4.7.61	8	82	Laer.	I'm lost in it...			
104		King tells Laertes that plan will seem to be an accident even to Hamlet's mother	4.7.62	4.7.67	6	82-83	King.	To thine own...			
105		Laertes requests to be "the organ" of Hamlet's death	4.7.68	4.7.70	3	83	Laer.	My Lord...			
106		King tells Laertes that Hamlet's envies his swordsmanship	4.7.71	4.7.107	37	83-84	King.	You have been...			
107		King confirms determination of Laertes	4.7.108	4.7.133	26	84	King.	Laertes, was...			
107b		King has 10 unique lines within this passage: "There lives within the very flame..."			(10)						
108		Laertes adds the idea of poisoning the sword	4.7.134	4.7.147	24	84-85	King.	And wager...			
109		King further adds idea of poisoning the drink	4.7.148	4.7.162	15	85	King.	Let's further...			
110		Queen announces that Ophelia has drowned	4.7.163	4.7.184	22	85-86	Queen.	One woo...			
111		Laertes departs, his anger compounded by Ophelia's death	4.7.185	4.7.195	11	86	Laer.	Too much...			
112		Clowns debate the circumstances of Ophelia's death (suicide or not)	5.1.1	5.1.28	28	86-87	Clown.	Is she to...			
113		Clowns tell riddles to one another and sing while digging a grave	5.1.29	5.1.64	36	87	Clown.	...come my...			
114		Hamlet banters with Clowns and speculates about skulls	5.1.65	5.1.117	53	88-89	Ham.	Has this...			
115		Hamlet asks who the grave is for, but Clowns do not give a straight answer</									