

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Hamlet Scenes

ACT III, Scene 4: Hamlet, Gertrude

HAMLET

Now, mother, what's the matter?

QUEEN GERTRUDE

Hamlet, thou hast thy father much offended.

HAMLET

Mother, *you* have my father much offended.

QUEEN GERTRUDE

Come, come, you answer with an idle tongue.

HAMLET

Go, go, you *question* with a *wicked* tongue.
What's the matter now?

QUEEN GERTRUDE

Have you forgot me?

HAMLET

No, you are the queen, your husband's brother's wife;
And--*would it were not so!--you are my mother.*

QUEEN GERTRUDE

Nay, then, I'll set those to you that can speak.

HAMLET

Come, come, and sit you down; *you shall not budge.*

QUEEN GERTRUDE

What wilt thou do? thou wilt not murder me?
Help, help, ho!

(LORD POLONIUS)

What, ho! help, help, help!

HAMLET

How now! a rat? Dead, for a ducat, dead!
(Stabs Polonius through the curtain)

(LORD POLONIUS)

O, I am slain!
(Falls and dies)

QUEEN GERTRUDE

O me, what hast thou done?

HAMLET

Nay, I know not: Is it the king?

QUEEN GERTRUDE

O, what a rash and bloody deed is this!

HAMLET

A bloody deed! almost as bad, good mother, as kill a king, and marry with his brother.

QUEEN GERTRUDE

As kill a king!

HAMLET

Ay, lady, 'twas my word. Peace! sit you down, and let me wring your heart!

QUEEN GERTRUDE

What have I done, that thou darest wag thy tongue in noise so rude against me?

HAMLET

Look here, upon *this* picture, and on *this*.
See, *this* was your husband. Look you now, what follows: *Here* is your husband; Ha! have you eyes? You cannot call it love!

QUEEN GERTRUDE

O Hamlet, speak no more: Thou turn'st mine eyes into my very soul;

HAMLET

Nay, but to live In the rank sweat, stew'd in corruption...

QUEEN GERTRUDE

O, speak to me no more; these words, like daggers enter in mine ears;
No more, sweet Hamlet!

HAMLET

A murderer and a villain...

QUEEN GERTRUDE

No more!

HAMLET

A king of shreds and patches,--

QUEEN GERTRUDE

Hamlet, *thou hast cleft my heart in twain!*