

SHAKESPEARE'S  
GLOBE

Writer

William Shakespeare

# HENRY

or Harry England

# V

## VISUAL STORY

To help prepare you for your  
visit to Shakespeare's Globe

Relaxed Performance

Thursday 1 August 2019, 7.30pm



## GETTING TO THE THEATRE

This is the Foyer. If you need somewhere quiet at any time you can come back out of the theatre into the Foyer.



Your ticket will tell you which gallery, bay and row you are in. Once you have found your row you will need to find the part of the bench reserved for you which will match the number on your ticket. If you have a Yard ticket, that means you are standing in the large open-air space. You are free to move around that space freely.







This is the stage. For different plays, designers add pieces of set to make it look different. This is where the actors will be performing.

These are stewards. You can recognise the stewards by their aprons. The stewards are there to help you. If you feel tired, or need to exit please ask a steward. They can also show you where the toilets are. Stewards are good people to go to if you feel worried about anything.



## THE CHARACTERS OF THE PLAY



This is **Henry V.**



This is **King of France.**



This is **Captain Fluellen.**



This is **Dauphin of France.**



This is **Princess Catherine.**



## SHOW NOTES

These are notes of things that may happen during the show, or that you may want to think about for the play.

- The play is approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes long. The first half of the play is roughly one hour and fifteen minutes long. There is then an interval of fifteen minutes.
- The second part is about an hour long.
- A bell will ring in the foyer and on the piazza five minutes before the play starts. A second bell will ring two minutes before the play starts to let you know it is time to take your place in the theatre. After the interval, the same happens before the second half of the show.
- The show begins with the actors walking through the Yard and talking to the audience. The sound of voices will come from all around the theatre.
- Some of the actors will walk through the yard to get to and from the stage.
- There is music and singing in the show. The actors are not electronically amplified.
- There is some stage fighting, none of it is real fighting but it is only pretend, so nobody gets hurt.

- Shakespeare's Globe is an open air theatre, so it is best to wear suitable clothes.
- Because it is an open air theatre sometimes (but not always) you will be able to hear things from the outside (which may be cars, helicopters, or aeroplanes, or maybe nothing at all).
- Pigeons or other birds may, but not necessarily, enter the theatre.
- You are welcome to come and go from the auditorium as you please.
- If you need quiet, you may relax in the piazza or in the foyer.
- There are two bangs in the second half when the English breach the French walls.
- Ear Defenders are available from the information desk in the main foyer.

## SYNOPSIS.

The Chorus invites the audience to use their imaginations in creating the scenes of the play.

The Archbishop of Canterbury tells King Henry V that he has the legal right to lay claim to France. A French ambassador arrives with a mocking gift from the Dauphin of France. The gift is a box of tennis balls. Harry sends back word that the English will march on France.

The Chorus describes the enthusiasm of the English people as they prepare for war.

Harry's former friends prepare for war, too. Nym and Pistol quarrel over Pistol's recent marriage to Hostess Quickly, but between their friend Falstaff's illness and their need to leave for France, Bardolph persuades them to make peace.

The English fleet prepares to embark from Southampton, and the Chorus warns of three traitors in Harry's midst. Harry exposes the traitors and sends them to execution.

In London, the Hostess, Pistol, Bardolph, Nym, and Falstaff's former page mourn Falstaff's death. The men depart for France.

The Chorus imagines the English besieging the French city of Harfleur. Harry tells his men to attack the breached wall. Pistol and the rest are disinclined to do so. The Boy is sad at being stuck in the company of such cowards and thieves. The city of Harfleur surrenders.

At the French court, Princess Katherine asks her lady-in-waiting, Alice, to teach her English.

The French are shocked by the strength of the English army. The French decide to send an even stronger force to destroy them. Fluellen, a Welsh captain, praises the bravery of a soldier he met during a skirmish at a bridge. The soldier is Pistol. Pistol asks Fluellen to plead for Bardolph, who has been condemned to die because he robbed a church. Fluellen refuses. Fluellen reports Bardolph's execution to Harry.

The French herald arrives with news that the French army is approaching. Harry refuses to surrender.

The Chorus describes the two camps as they wait for morning, and battle. The French are impatient to destroy the weak and tired English army. The Dauphin talks about how his horse is the best horse.

Harry walks through the English camp in disguise. He encounters several soldiers. These include Pistol, who curses Fluellen. There are also three soldiers who tell Harry they don't think they should be at war. Harry quarrels with one, Williams, and they exchange gloves and vow to find one another after the battle and conclude the argument. Left alone, Harry reflects on the weight of responsibility that kings bear, despite the fact that they are no different than any other man.

The French prepare eagerly for battle. Harry assures his soldiers that their small numbers mean that victory will only be more glorious. The French herald appears once more, and Harry refuses again to surrender. The battle begins.



Pistol takes a French prisoner, with the Boy's help. The Boy guards the English luggage. The French are stunned to be beaten back, but resolve to charge again and die gloriously rather than surrender. The Duke of Exeter informs Harry that the Dukes of York and Suffolk have been killed in battle. Harry learns that the French are getting stronger again. He orders his men that the French prisoners must all be killed. Fluellen reveals that the fleeing French have attacked the English camp. They have killed the boys and stolen the luggage. Gower believes this is the reason the King ordered the prisoners killed. The herald comes again to tell Harry he has won. Harry asks the name of the field, and learns it is called Agincourt.

Harry switches gloves with Fluellen to trick Williams into fighting with the wrong person. The King ultimately rewards Williams with money for his honesty. Harry learns that the French dead vastly outnumber the English losses. The English sing a song called 'Non Nobis.'

Pistol has continued to insult Fluellen, including mocking Welsh tradition of wearing leeks on Saint Davy's Day. Fluellen finally takes his revenge, beating Pistol and forcing him to eat a leek. Pistol reveals that his wife, the Hostess, has died. He plans to return to England to become a thief, and to lie that the bruises he received from Fluellen are war wounds.

The English and French come together to discuss peace. While the King of France and the English lords negotiate terms, Harry tries to persuade Princess Katherine to marry him, despite the fact that she speaks little English, he little French. The lords return, and the marriage and treaty are resolved. The Chorus undercuts this image of unity by concluding with a reminder that Harry and Katherine's son will lose France, and send England back to war.

## SONIC STORY

