

**King of France (5)**

From our brother England?

**Exeter (3)**

From him; and thus he greets your majesty.  
He wills you, in the name of God Almighty,  
That you divest yourself, and lay apart  
The borrow'd glories that by gift of heaven,  
By law of nature and of nations, 'longs  
To him and to his heirs; namely, the crown.

*(sound of papers changing hands)*

Willing you overlook this pedigree:  
And when you find him evenly derived  
From his most famed of famous ancestors,  
Edward the Third, he bids you then resign  
Your crown and kingdom, indirectly held  
From him, the native and true challenger.

**King of France (5)**

Or else what follows?

**Exeter (3)**

*(ominously)*

Bloody constraint; for if you hide the crown  
Even in your hearts, there will he rake for it:  
Therefore in fierce tempest is he coming,  
In thunder and in earthquake, like a Jove,  
That, if requiring fail, he will compel.

He bids you deliver up the crown, to take mercy  
On the poor souls for whom this hungry war

opens its vasty jaws.

Or on your head are the widows' tears, the orphans' cries,  
The dead men's blood that shall surely follow.

This is his claim, his threatening and my message;  
Unless the Dauphin be in presence here,  
To whom expressly I bring greeting too.

**Dauphin (6)**

For the Dauphin,  
I stand here for him: what to him from England?

**Exeter (3)**

*(With relish)*

Scorn and defiance; slight regard, contempt,  
And anything that may not misbecome  
The mighty sender, doth he prize you at.  
Thus says my king.

**Dauphin (6)**

*(angrily)*

If my father render fair return,  
It is against my will; for I desire  
Nothing but odds with England: to that end,  
As matching to his youth and vanity,  
I did present him with the Paris balls.

**Exeter (3)**

He'll make your Paris Louvre shake for it.  
Be assured, you'll find a difference,  
As we his subjects have in wonder found,  
Between the promise of his greener days and those he masters now.