

# Henry V, Part One

Act I, sc. 4 (line 23 - intercut)

## **TALBOT**

The Duke of Bedford had a prisoner  
Call'd the brave Lord Ponton de Santrailles;  
For him was I exchanged and ransomed.  
But with a baser man of arms by far  
Once in contempt they would have barter'd me:  
Which I, disdain'g, scorn'd; and crav'd death,  
Rather than I would be so vile esteem'd.  
In fine, redeem'd I was as I desired.  
But, O! the treacherous Fastolfe wounds my heart,  
Whom with my bare fists I would execute,  
If I now had him brought into my power.

## **SALISBURY**

*Yet tell'st thou not how thou wert entertain'd.*

## **TALBOT**

With scoffs and scorns and contumelious taunts.  
In open market-place produced they me,  
To be a public spectacle to all:  
Here, said they, is the terror of the French,  
The scarecrow that affrights our children so.  
Then broke I from the officers that led me,  
And with my nails digg'd stones out of the ground,

To hurl at the beholders of my shame:  
My grisly countenance made others fly;  
None durst come near for fear of sudden death.  
In iron walls they deem'd me not secure;  
So great fear of my name 'mongst them was spread,  
That they supposed I could rend bars of steel,  
And spurn in pieces posts of adamant:  
Wherefore a guard of chosen shot I had,  
That walked about me every minute-while;  
And if I did but stir out of my bed,  
Ready they were to shoot me to the heart.