



**BRAVE SPIRITS THEATRE
ARCHIVE**

DRAMATURGY: PACKET
Henri IV: The Re-Gendered Henry IV Repertory
2015

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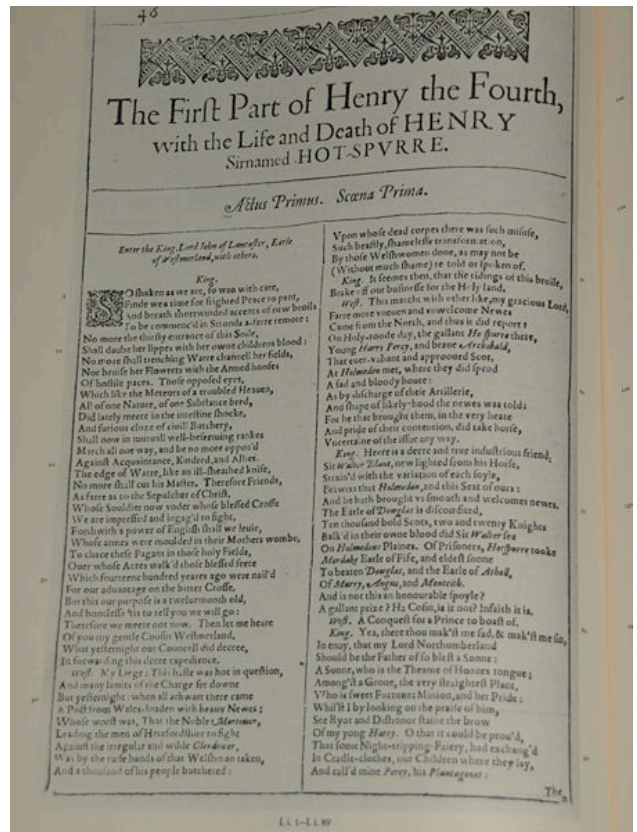
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Henry the Fourth Part One was published first in quarto form in 1598, under the original title

“The Historie of Henrie the Fourth; With the batell at Shrewsburie, *between the King and Lord Henry Percy, surnamed Henrie Hotspur of the North. With the humorous conceits of Sir John Falstaffe.*”

The play was one of the most popular of Shakespeare’s works in print, with eight separate quarto editions in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. As a further testament to its popularity, it is one of only twelve texts published in England before 1642 to have a second edition in the same year as the first. It is, of course, also included in the First, Second, Third and Fourth Folios. Surprisingly, there is little to no textual variation, and it appears that Q1 was used as the source text for all subsequent editions. The incomplete “Qo” has only three of the play’s scenes, but even those three scenes lack substantive variation from Q1. As Shakespearean texts go, *Henry the Fourth, Part One* is quite stable.



Interestingly enough, the play’s quarto title makes no mention of Hal, only of Henry, Falstaff and Hotspur. (The Folio sub-title, above, also gives Hotspur top billing.) The evidence indicates that when the play was new, it was Hotspur who was the selling point- indeed, when the play was performed in 1612 for Princess Elizabeth’s wedding, the play was called “*The Hotspurre*” and *Part Two* was called “*The Falstaffe.*”

The central themes *Henry IV Part One*; the tension between Hal and his Father figures, the duality between Hotspur and Hal, and political strife, are writ large across the theatrical history of the last four hundred years.

1612- London, The court of King James (Princess Elizabeth's wedding feast)
This production of *Part One* and *Part Two* is perhaps most notable for its title changes. The two halves were referred to as *The Hotspurre* and *The Falstaff*, respectively.

1660-London

Henry the Fourth, Part One was one of the first plays produced in London after the re-opening of the theaters.

1746-London, Drury Lane

David Garrick actor-managed this production, as Hotspur.

1896-London Haymarket Theater

Herbert Berrbohm Tree, (famous for his *Midsummer* with live rabbits) played Falstaff in a preposterously large fat suit.

1951- Stratford

Dir:

Featuring: Michael Redgrave, Richard Burton

This cycle of the second and first tetralogies marked a sea change in the theater's approach to the play generally, and Hal specifically. This production emphasized the young prince's journey to adulthood and the competition between Henry and Falstaff for Hal's soul.

A note on money:

Value Given in Text ¹	2013 value
200 pounds ²	= 540,000 pounds/ 830,000 dollars.
2 shillings and two pence	= 20 pounds/30 dollars
4 pence	= 3 pounds/ 4.5 dollars
5 shillings and eight pence	= 49 pounds/ 75 dollars
2 shillings and six pence	= 23 pounds/ 35 dollars
1 half-penny	= 25 pence/ 38 cents

Pre-Decimalization (1972) British Currency:

Four farthings = one penny
 Two halfpennies = one penny
 Twelve pennies = one shilling
 Twenty shillings = one pound



¹ When calculating the modern value of these monetary amounts, I operated under the assumption that the original values in the text were from ~1599, not ~1403. For all values other than the booty from the Gadshill caper, I used the consumer price index- which is to say, the values listed are what the buying power of 1599 money would be in the year 2013. For the money stolen from Gadshill, I instead used average earnings, which tells us what a person who earned 200 pounds in 1599 would need to make in 2013 to have the same percentage of the gross domestic product of England.

² A “mark” is a unit of value, not a physical coin. It is worth two-thirds of a pound, so 300 marks = 200 pounds sterling.

Prince Hal; Henry of Monmouth (King Henry V)

(1386–August 31, 1422)

Birthplace: Monmouth Castle

House: Lancaster

Father: King Henry IV, (1367-1413)

Mother: Mary de Bohun (1369–1394)

Predecessor : Henry IV

Reign:- March 20, 1413 -August 31, 1422

Coronation: April 9th, 1413

Wife: Catherine of Valois (b.1401; m.1420; d.1437) (the younger sister of Queen Isabella, who had been Richard II's child-bride)

Children:

Henry VI of England

Died in: Paris, of dysentery

Burial: Canterbury Cathedral, Kent

Successor: Henry VI

Major Relationships:

Hotspur- The historical Hal was almost twenty years younger than Henry Percy- a fact Shakespeare conveniently glosses over for thematic purposes. It's unclear if they ever met before the Battle of Shrewsbury- but it seems unlikely.

King Henry- Shakespeare is here, again, guilty of exaggeration. The historical Hal and Henry were not on as tenuous terms as their theatrical counterparts, although there was some tension when Henry became ill in the late 1410's.

Westmorland- Despite his devotion to Henry IV and his continued service on the Scottish border, Westmorland's relationship with Hal appears to have been quite distant. Hal even went so far as to give one of Westmorland's titles to his younger brother John.

Sir John Falstaff

Shakespeare's Falstaff bears practically no resemblance to his historical counterpart(s)- Sir John Oldcastle and Sir John Falstof.

Sir John Oldcastle was a political dissident, a lollard, and martyr for Protestantism. (He is featured in Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*.) He was indeed a friend of the young Hal, who then repudiated him for his Lollardism after he took the throne. Shakespeare's Falstaff was originally named after John Oldcastle, but the man's living descendants, who were both wealthy and politically powerful, objected strenuously to the implication that their ancestor was a drunken, lecherous coward. Even after changing his character's name, Shakespeare felt compelled to further disassociate his Falstaff from the historical Oldcastle, adding in the epilogue to *Henry the Fourth, Part Two* that, "Oldcastle died a martyr, and this is not the man."



Above: a woodcutting of John Oldcastle's execution by (simultaneous) hanging and burning.
Below: a stained glass window commemorating John Falstof's victory at the Battle of the Herrings.



Sir John Falstof served under the Duke of Clarence in Ireland and Henry V in Agincourt, and was considered a brilliant military strategist by all except his political enemies, who labeled him "a cowardly knight." He owned the Boar's Head Tavern in Eastcheap, (which is what most likely prompted Shakespeare to use his name when the descendants of John Oldcastle objected to the use of their ancestors name) but he was never a close friend of Henry V. He lead the English forces in France during Joan of Arc's rebellion, and in his later years he was an advisor to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester.

Hotspur (Sir Henry Percy)

May 20, 1364- July 21, 1403

Birthplace: Alnwick Castle

House: Percy and Lancaster

Father: Henry Percy, first Earl of **Northumberland**

Mother: Margaret Neville (b.?, m. July 12, 1358, d. 1372)

Wife: Elizabeth Mortimer (1371-1417) daughter of Edmund Mortimer III, Third Earl of March

Children:

Henry Percy, Second Earl of Northumberland (1394–1455)

Elizabeth (1395- October 26, 1436) Died in: Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Burial: Whitchurch, Shropshire (After his burial, rumors were circulating that Hotspur had miraculously survived the battle. To end this rumor, Henry IV had his remains exhumed and prominently displayed in the market place in Shrewsbury.)

Major Relationships

Henry Percy, Earl of **Northumberland**: Father.

Elizabeth Mortimer (**Lady Percy**)- married in 1379, when Elizabeth was eight and **Hotspur** was fifteen. There is very little evidence available to characterize their relationship.

Earl of **Worcester**: Uncle; the “brains” of the operation. Does not deliver important information that would have prevented the battle at Shrewsbury.

King **Henry IV**: Third cousin, once removed. King of England. Hotspur and his father, **Northumberland** helped Henry depose Richard II, despite **Northumberland's** contentious relationship with Henry's father, John of Gaunt.

Owen **Glendower** (Owain Glyn Dŵr): First rival, then ally against Henry IV. **Glendower's** daughter is married to his brother in law, Edmund **Mortimer**.

Henry Monmouth, Prince Hal: The historical Hotspur was 23 years older than Hal, but Shakespeare has made them contemporaries. In the first scene, King Henry directly compares the two men, and the action toggles between them until they meet in the climactic battle. Although the Hotspur and the Hal of the play have an eerily prescient knowledge of each other, and appear to have lead a twinned existence, there is little in the historical record to indicate that they knew each other well (or at all) before Shrewsbury.

Elizabeth Percy, née Mortimer (Lady Kate Percy)

February 14, 1371 - April 20, 1417

Birthplace: Usk, Monmouthshire, Wales

House: Percy (by marriage)

Father: Mortimer, Edmund (III), third earl of March and earl of Ulster (1352–1381), magnate.

Mother: Philippa Plantagenet (b. 1355, d. 1380?) daughter of William Montagu, first earl of Salisbury.

Husbands:

Sir Henry Percy, “**Hotspur**.” (b. May 20, 1364; m 1379; d. July 21, 1403)¹

Thomas Camoys, Baron (b. 1350, m. 1406, d. 1421)

Children:

With Hotspur

Henry Percy, Second Earl of Northumberland (1394–1455)

(married Westmorland’s daughter)

Elizabeth b. 1395, d. October 26, 1436

(married Westmorland’s grandson)

With Thomas Camoys

Sir Roger Camoys (?-?)

Died in: Sussex, cause unknown.

Burial: St. George’s Church, Sussex (with Thomas Camoys.)

Major Relationships

Edmund **Mortimer**, (Son of the Third Earl of March) Brother. Shakespeare’s Mortimer is an amalgam of Edmund and his nephew, also named Edmund, who was the fourth Earl of March.)

Henry/Harry “**Hotspur**” Percy: Husband. They were married in 1379, when Elizabeth was eight and **Hotspur** was fifteen. There is very little evidence available to characterize their relationship.

¹ After Hotspur died at the battle of Shrewsbury, he was posthumously declared a traitor, and his lands were seized by the crown. Elizabeth was arrested in October of 1403, also for treason. She married an ally of King Henry and was pardoned. (Although the causality of those two events is unclear.)

Northumberland (Henry Percy, First Earl of Northumberland)

November 10, 1341- February 20, 1408

Birthplace: Alnwick Castle, Northumberland

House: Percy (and Lancaster, by marriage)

Father: Henry Percy, third Lord Percy of Alnwick (1321-1368)

Mother: Mary Percy (daughter of Henry, third Earl of Lancaster, grandson of Henry III)

Wives:

Margaret Neville (b.?, m. July 12, 1358, d. 1372)

Maud de Lucy (b.?, m.1383, d. 1394) (NB: long dead when the events of *2H4* occur)

Children (all with Margaret Neville):

Henry “Hotspur” Percy

Sir Thomas Percy (b. - d. March 1387)

Sir Ralph Percy (b.- d. 1396?)

Died in: Bramham Moor, Yorkshire (in battle, rebelling against Henry IV- again)

Burial place: York Minster, York

(After he died, his body was quartered and his head placed on a pike on London bridge- the customary treatment for traitors. After several weeks, his body was shipped back to York for burial.)

Major Relationships

Henry/Harry “**Hotspur**” Percy: Eldest son.

Earl of **Worcester**: Younger brother, the “brains” of the operation. Fails to deliver important information that would have prevented the battle at Shrewsbury.

King **Henry IV**: Third cousin, King of England. Northumberland helped him depose Richard II, despite his contentious relationship with Henry’s father, John of Gaunt.

Owen **Glendower** (Owain Glyn Dŵr): First rival, then ally against Henry IV.

Westmorland: Nephew. The relationship between the two men before the breach between Northumberland and Henry is unclear, but they were certainly enemies after.

Thomas Percy, Earl of Worcester

1343- July 23,1403

Birthplace: Alnwick Castle, Northumberland

House: Percy

Father: Henry Percy, third Lord Percy of Alnwick (1321-1368)

Mother: Mary Percy (daughter of Henry, third Earl of Lancaster, grandson of Henry III)

Wife: Never married

Children: No known children

Died: Shrewsbury, after beheading on the orders of Henry IV. His head was displayed on London Bridge for six months.

Burial: Church of St. Peter, Shrewsbury

Major Relationships

Northumberland-Older brother, ally against King Henry. Northumberland was the bankroll and the brawn of the operation.

Hotspur-Nephew, ally against King Henry.

Westmorland-Nephew. Uncertain if they were ever friendly or close, but they certainly weren't after the split between King Henry and the Percys.

King Henry-Worcester *hated* Henry- historically and in Shakespeare. It's not clear why, exactly, his vitriol was so much more potent than the other rebels. (Although Shakespeare and the subsequent theatrical tradition has certainly exaggerated it.)

Henry IV, Henry of Derby, Henry Bolingbroke/Bullingbrook

April 3 1367- March 20, 1413

Birthplace: Bolingbroke Castle, Lincolnshire

House: Lancaster

Father: John of Gaunt, 1st Duke of Lancaster (Fourth son of King Edward III) (1340-1399)

Mother: Blanche of Lancaster (1346-1368)

Predecessor : Richard II

Reign: September 30, 1399 – March 20, 1413

Coronation: October 13, 1399

Wives:

Mary de Bohun (Born 1369, married 1381, died in childbirth 1394)

Joan of Navarre (Born 1370, married 1403, died 1437)

Children, all with Mary de Bohun:

Henry V of England

Thomas of Lancaster, 1st Duke of Clarence

John of Lancaster, 1st Duke of Bedford

Humphrey, 1st Duke of Gloucester

Blanche, Electress Palatine

Philippa, Queen of Denmark, Norway and Sweden

Died in: Westminster, London (in the “Jerusalem chamber”)

Burial: Canterbury Cathedral, Kent

Successor: Henry V

*How I came by the crown, O God, forgive;
And grant it may with thee in true peace live.*

Important Relationships in the play-world:

Richard II: Cousin, childhood playmate. Deposed by Henry in *Richard II*.

Henry Percy, Earl of **Northumberland** : A crucial ally of Henry IV during his usurpation of Richard. Due to troubles with parliament and disputes over the Scottish border, as well as perceived personal slights, a rift grew between them during the first few years of Henry's reign, culminating in the Percy Rebellion.

Hotspur (Henry/Harry Percy) Son of Northumberland. Henry begins the play by wishing his own Harry was more like Hotspur.

Ralph de Neville, Earl of **Westmorland**: Key ally during Henry's usurpation of Richard. Remains loyal to Henry until the King's death, and remains an advisor to Henry V.

Thomas Percy, **Earl of Worcester**: Northumberland's brother, former ally and friend of Henry's. The brains behind the Percy rebellion, Worcester fails to deliver the offer of a royal pardon to his brother and nephew that would have prevented the Battle of Shrewsbury. Henry orders his execution at the end of the play.

Prince Hal: Henry's oldest son, heir to the throne. To call this relationship "troubled" would be an understatement.

Prince **John of Lancaster**: Henry's second son (third in real life). Enjoys a much friendlier relationship with his father than Hal.

Prince John of Lancaster, Duke of Bedford, Regent of France

1389-1435

Birthplace: Uncertain

House: Lancaster

Father: King Henry IV, (1367-1413)

Mother: Mary de Bohun (1369–1394)

Wives:

Anne of Burgundy (b.1404, m.1423, d. November 14, 1432) Died of the plague.

Jacquetta of Luxembourg- (b.1416 m. 1433, d. May 30, 1472)

Children:

Mary Plantagenet

Richard Plantagenet (both illegitimate, mother unknown)

Died in: Arras, France (during a negotiation with the French)

Burial: Rouen Cathedral, France. His effigy was destroyed by Calvinists in 1562.

Major Relationships:

King Henry- John appears to have had a good relationship with his father. He was knighted by his father at the age of ten and was a Knight of the Garter before the Battle of Shrewsbury. Between titles and livings granted him by his father and later by Henry V, John quickly became one of the wealthiest men in the country.

Westmorland- Westmorland was the young Prince's mentor, and oversaw his first military victory in 1414.

Hal- It's unclear how the two Princes got along before Hal was King, but during Henry V's reign, he leaned heavily on his little brother. He was perhaps the most intellectual of the brothers, and had a mind for administration. He served as Hal's Lieutenant, remaining in England during the battle of Agincourt. He was the regent of France for the young Henry VI.

A Note on Succession:

Shakespeare makes it seem like John was next in line to the throne, after Hal. John was actually the third son- the order of succession was Hal, Thomas, John, Humphrey.

Ralph Neville, First Earl of Westmorland

(1364?–October 21, 1425)

House: Neville

Birthplace:

Father: John Neville, Fifth Baron Neville (1330-1388)

Mother: Maud Neville (?-1378) Second daughter of Henry, second Lord Percy of Alnwick

Wives:

Margaret Stafford

Joan Beaufort (daughter of John of Gaunt and his mistress, Katherine Swynford)

Children:

With Margaret:

John Neville

(father of Ralph Neville, Second Earl of Westmorland, who married
Hotspur's daughter Elizabeth Percy)

Ralph Neville

Matilda

Philippa

Alice

Margaret

With Joan

Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury (1400-1460)

William Neville

George Neville

Robert Neville

Katherine

Eleanor (married Hotspur's son, also named Henry Percy)

Anne (married Walter Blunt's son, also named Walter Blunt)

Cecily (married Richard, Duke of York. Mother of Edward IV and Richard III)

Death: Natural Causes

Burial: St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch

Major Relationships

Westmorland cut his teeth in battle under Thomas of Woodstock, Richard II's uncle. He then supported Richard against Woodstock- and then Bolingbroke against Richard. He remained loyal to **Henry IV** until the King's death, although the peak of his career came relatively early, during the Scroop (Scrope) rebellion. He filled many of the same roles in Henry V's administration that he did in Henry IV, although he was not nearly as close with the son as he was with the father, in fact, the young Henry gave one of Wes

Sir Walter Blount (Blunt)

?-1403

Birthplace: Derbyshire, Barton Blount

House: allied with the Lancastrians

Father: Sir John Blount (?-1358)

Mother: Iseut Blunt (daughter and heir of Thomas Mountjoy)

Wife: Sancha de Ayála (daughter of the favorite lady in waiting of John of Gaunt's second wife, Constance of Castile, and a high ranking Spanish official)

Children:

Sir John Bount (?- 1418)

Sir Thomas Blount (c.1383–1456)

Son #3

Son #4

Son #5

Died: in Battle, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Burial: St Mary in the Newarke, Leicester. (A church, college and hospital endowed by the Lancastrian family. Blount was buried here at his own request.)

Major Relationships

Blunt's allegiance to the Lancastrians- from John of Gaunt, Henry IV, and by extension, Hal, was unwavering. He served John of Gaunt while still a young man, and supported Henry in his campaign against Richard II. Blount was also close to Prince Thomas, Henry's second son, who he cared for and tutored for several years of the young Princes' life. In recognition of Blount's (and subsequently, his sons's) service, Prince Thomas (known as Clarence to fans of *Part Two*) purchased a chantry worth 1000 marks in his name.

A Note on Loyalty and Exaggeration

Shakespeare portrays Blunt as the epitome of loyalty, virtue and selflessness- and he's not exaggerating. Every anecdote about this man's life supports the idea that he was utterly devoted to the Lancasters. He also- and this is truly unusual- seems to have treated his wife and children well. He is a breath of fresh air in a historical moment populated by self-serving schemers.

Glyn Dŵr, Owain; Owain ap Gruffudd Fychan; (Owen Glendower)

c.1359?–c.1416?

Titles: Prince of Wales (the last Welshman to hold that title) and Tywysog of Powys Fadog

Birthplace: Uncertain.

Father: Gruffudd Fychan, Lord of Glyndyfrdwy and Cynllaith

Mother: Elen, daughter of Owain ap Thomas ap Llywelyn. (Scion of a wealthy, land owning family from northwest Wales)

Wife: Marred ferch Dafydd (c. 1370 – c. 1420)

Children: At least ten, possibly more, all with Marred, most of whom predeceased him. At least four illegitimate children with other women. Eldest daughter: Catrin (Catherine) (?- 1413)

Died in: Uncertain.

Burial: Uncertain.

Major Relationships

Catrin (**Lady Mortimer**) - Catrin was Glendower's eldest child (probably). She married Edmund Mortimer "with great pomp and ceremony" after Glendower took him hostage. There is so little information on Catrin, it's difficult to characterize their relationship.

The Other Rebels: **Hotspur, Worcester, Mortimer** and **Northumberland** had all fought against Glendower for King Henry before they defected and joined forces with him. In the space of six months, these men went from his sworn enemies to his most powerful (although not necessarily closest) allies in his seemingly unending struggle against **Henry IV**.

Henry IV- Glendower's revolt against the King began almost as soon as he was crowned, in 1399. The immediate cause of the rebellion (this time) is a bit unclear, although some sources indicate that it began with a land dispute between Glendower and another party, which Glendower lost when the case was brought before parliament. It was most probably not related to the deposition Richard II, as some have suggested, since Glendower and Richard were hardly on good terms. Glendower quickly became a symbol and a leader for his people (contemporary accounts often refer to him as a prophet), and served as a rallying point for the rebellion, who's stated goal was to depose Henry, dispose of his heirs, and then "obliterate the English language."

Catrin ferch Owain Glyn Dŵr (Lady Mortimer)

?- 1413

Birthplace: unknown

House: Mortimer, by marriage

Father: Owain **Glyn Dŵr**, Prince of Wales

Mother: Marred ferch Dafydd (c. 1370 – c. 1420)

Husband: **Edmund Mortimer**

Children:

Lionel Mortimer (?-?)

Daughter #1 (born? died 1413)

Daughter #2 (born? died 1413)

Daughter #3 (born? died 1413)

Died in: Tower of London. Cause uncertain. Catrin and her daughters were captured and taken to the Tower after Mortimer's death. The fate of their son, Lionel, is unknown.

Burial: St. Swithin's in London, with her three daughters.

Major Relationships

Edmund Mortimer- Husband. Catrin married Mortimer after King Henry refused to ransom him from her father.

Owen **Glendower**- Father. Catrin is most likely his eldest child. There is not enough information to accurately characterize their relationship.

A Note on Language

Edmund Mortimer probably spoke Welsh, and she probably had at least a passing familiarity with English. The language barrier is an invention of Shakespeare's.

Mortimer, Sir Edmund IV

November 9, 1376–February 1409

Birthplace: Usk, Monmouthshire, Wales

House: Mortimer, Plantagenet

Father: Mortimer, Edmund (III), third earl of March and earl of Ulster (1352–1381), magnate.

Mother: Philippa Plantagenet (*b.* 1355, *d.* 1380?) daughter of William Montagu, first earl of Salisbury.

Wife:

Catrin¹(**Lady Mortimer**) (*b.*?; *m.* 1402, *d.* 1413)

Children:

Lionel (?-?)

Daughter #1 (born? died 1413)

Daughter #2 (born? died 1413)

Daughter #3 (born? died 1413)

Died in: Harlech Castle, sometime during the siege led by Prince Hal. After his death his wife and daughters were captured and taken to the Tower of London, where they died four years later.

Burial: Uncertain.

Major Relationships

Owen Glendower- Father in Law. Glendower captured him in battle and held him for ransom, but after Mortimer defected to the Welsh side, he married Glendower's daughter.

King **Henry IV**- Mortimer supported King Henry during his campaigns against Richard II and Owen Glendower, but when Glendower captured Mortimer, Henry refused to ransom or rescue him. Rumors began to circulate that Mortimer intentionally allowed himself to be captured, so Henry declared him a traitor and confiscated the Mortimer family lands. Shortly after, Mortimer married Glendower's daughter.

¹ Sometimes recorded as "Catherine" in English sources.

A note on Title and Language

1. Shakespeare confuses this Edmund Mortimer (who was not the Earl of March) with his nephew, also named Edmund Mortimer (who was the Earl of March.) For the most part, the character is the elder Edmund Mortimer, his claim to the throne just isn't *quite* as strong as Shakespeare implies. (His eight year old nephew, the actual Earl of March, technically precedes him in the line of succession.) It is unclear if this is an intentional conflation or if Shakespeare misread Holinshed.
2. The Mortimers were Anglo-Welsh nobility: they traveled (sometimes uneasily) between the two cultures and languages. It is highly unlikely that Mortimer would not have spoken Welsh (and just as unlikely that Catrin would speak no English.) It would appear that this is a deliberate departure from the historical record.