

King Lear

Resources

Aoife O'Driscoll www.aofesnotes.com

Film Versions

- ✦ 2008 TV Movie - Directed by Trevor Nunn and starring Ian McKellan as Lear
- ✦ The full movie with subtitles (helpful when learning quotes) is available on youtube
- ✦ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULoEctufKJI>



1983 TV Movie

Directed by Michael
Elliott and starring
Laurence Olivier as Lear



Audio Versions

- Full BBC audio version of the play is available on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JylxvHvdtA>



SmartPass Audio Guide

Available with or without
commentary

You can download it from iTunes
or audible.co.uk

This version is not free: costs
vary from site to site



Searching the text

- Google 'King Lear entire text' and open any PDF version
- Within that PDF, hit CTRL and F and type in your search term
- This is particularly handy if you only remember a word or two of a quote and want to find the whole quote quickly
- It is also useful if you are researching themes, imagery or symbolism: on the next page is a screenshot of a search I did for the word 'nothing'; you can see it comes up 34 times.



So please your lordship, none.

Putting up the letter

nothing

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GLOUCESTER

Why so earnestly seek you to put up that letter?

EDMUND

I know no news, my lord.

GLOUCESTER

What paper were you reading?

EDMUND

Nothing, my lord.

GLOUCESTER

No? What needed, then, that terrible dispatch of it into your pocket? the quality of nothing hath not such need to hide itself. Let's see: come, if it be nothing, I shall not need spectacles.

EDMUND

I beseech you, sir, pardon me: it is a letter from my brother, that I have not all o'er-read; and for so much as I have perused, I find it not fit for your o'er-looking.

GLOUCESTER

No Fear Shakespeare

- Spark Notes - No Fear Shakespeare version of King Lear puts the Shakespearean language and a modern English version side by side.
- <http://nfs.sparknotes.com/lear/>



CURAN

Nay, I know not. You have heard of the news abroad?—I mean the whispered ones, for they are yet but ear-kissing arguments.

EDMUND

Not I. Pray you, what are they?

CURAN

Have you heard of no likely wars toward 'twixt the two Dukes of Cornwall and Albany?

EDMUND

Not a word.

CURAN

You may do then in time. Fare you well, sir.

Exit CURAN

EDMUND

The duke be here tonight? The better—best!

CURAN

I don't know. Have you heard the latest news?—I mean the whispered rumors, since that's all they are at this point.

EDMUND

No, I haven't. What's going on?

CURAN

You haven't heard of the war brewing between the Dukes of Cornwall and Albany?

EDMUND

Not a word.

CURAN

You may hear about it soon. Goodbye, sir.

CURAN exits.

EDMUND

The duke will be here tonight? All the better—in fact