

King Henry VIII

By

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INT. PALACE - DAY

Here, the carpet is red with fancy gold patterns on it. The arched ceiling is 30 foot high with chandeliers hanging from it, and the room is equally wide. Huge stained glass windows are on both sides. In the centre of the room is a lengthy oak table with 20 oak chairs on each side. KING CHARLES (74) is alone. He wears regal robes and paces up and down the room with his hands behind his back.

KING CHARLES
(to himself)
What the flip am I going to say in my
upcoming speech? Hmmm. Tough one.
How about...

A six foot 2 green ball emerges from nothing on top of the table. The KING stares at it.

KING CHARLES
Not this again...

Out of the ball, KING HENRY VIII jumps down on the floor and scratches his head. The ball fades to nothing. He coolly asks CHARLES a question.

KING HENRY VIII
Do you know what that was about?
Where am I?

KING CHARLES
Seems like you've been teleported
from another dimension, to me.

KING HENRY VIII
I don't know what that means...

KING CHARLES
It's hard to explain. Really you need
to watch at least one sci-fi film.

KING HENRY VIII
Speak English! What is a foreigner
doing in my palace?? Guards!!!

KING CHARLES
Actually, you're the foreigner.

KING HENRY VIII
Really? I mean 'good'.

KING HENRY VIII says a Tudor expletive aimed at CHARLES.

KING CHARLES

That was very offensive. But don't worry, I'm not going to cut your head off.

KING HENRY looks down and mumbles.

KING HENRY VIII

I'd cut your head off.

KING CHARLES

What was that?

KING HENRY VIII

Nothing.

KING CHARLES

No really, what was it?

HENRY looks through CHARLES.

KING HENRY VIII

I'm just saying... if someone emerged from a scary green blob, walked on my favourite table and didn't even say 'hello', then I'd be pretty mad.

KING CHARLES

Well that really isn't how we do things anymore.

KING HENRY VIII

Anymore? What does that mean?

KING CHARLES

You're King Henry VIII, right?

KING HENRY VIII

Yes I am.

KING CHARLES

Well... the thing is... you've been dead for centuries and times have changed.

KING HENRY sheds a tear.

KING HENRY VIII

I'm dead?

KING CHARLES rolls his eyes.

KING CHARLES

Hm. I'm trying to think of a film I can show you that will clarify things in about 90 minutes. Back To The Future will at least partially help you. This situation also kind of reminds me of Crocodile Dundee. Oh never mind.

KING HENRY VIII

Look, I am NOT dead. Never have been. You on the other hand will be dead.

KING CHARLES

Is that a threat?

KING HENRY VIII

Yes!

KING CHARLES'S mobile rings from inside his robes. It plays Greensleeves.

KING HENRY VIII

I wrote that! What pixie in your coat is performing it?

KING CHARLES coughs awkwardly.

KING CHARLES

Actually most people nowadays say you probably didn't write it.

KING HENRY stamps his foot.

KING HENRY VIII

LIES!

KING CHARLES

Wikipedia says it's a traditional folk song.

KING HENRY VIII

Say one more weird word, I dare you!

KING CHARLES

Fine. PEOPLE are saying it's a traditional folk song.

KING HENRY VIII

That I wrote.

KING CHARLES

Nope.

KING HENRY VIII

What else have people been saying about me?

KING CHARLES

That you were an arrogant idiot. Sorry, got to take my call.

KING HENRY VIII goes red. CHARLES retrieves the device and talks into it.

KING CHARLES

Hello... I see. Well things here are far weirder. Now King Henry VIII has teleported in front of me. Yep, if the great King Arthur wasn't strange enough. I'll tell you one thing about King Arthur - he wasn't a liar.

KING HENRY VIII

Why are you talking to the magical pixie?

KING CHARLES

Hang on a second, Henry wants to speak with you.

KING CHARLES hands his mobile to HENRY VIII. The latter talks into it.

KING HENRY VIII

You know I wrote that song you just played, right?... What song? The one you just played! Greensleeves!... I can play guitar actually... Shred? What's shred mean?... Yes, I can shred!

KING CHARLES

You like shred metal, then? What about Yngwie Malmsteen?

KING HENRY VIII

Yngwie Malmsteen? He sounds like a foreigner to me. I must challenge him to a dual.

KING CHARLES

In today's society that's really racist!

KING HENRY VIII

What's that mean?

KING CHARLES

It means you should be nice to people. Many people today would say to you 'Who do you think you are?'

KING HENRY clenches his free fist and grips the phone harder.

KING HENRY VIII

Nice to people?? As I challenge them to fight on horseback??

KING CHARLES raises his head in superiority.

KING CHARLES

There will be no fight. Not from you, not from me.

KING HENRY VIII

But I'm the king! God will protect me! Because I'm his equal!

KING CHARLES

Yeah, I would keep those kinds of thoughts to yourself...

KING HENRY VIII

Why??

KING CHARLES

People will say you're a bit... full of yourself.

KING HENRY VIII

Full of myself?

KING CHARLES

Er... I'm not saying you EAT yourself, but you're full of... rubbish? Did you have that word when you ruled England? I know going from being equal to God to rubbish will be a blow for you, but if you act the way you do now in modern society... I mean... People won't like you.

KING HENRY VIII

I'll force people to like me!

KING CHARLES

Wow. People won't like that at all...

KING HENRY VIII

I don't care!

KING HENRY talks into the device.

KING HENRY VIII
Hello?... Oh the pixie on your
strange device has gone. Good.

KING CHARLES
Now this is what I mean. Say 'pleased
to meet you.' Or 'hello!' People will
respect you a lot more.

KING HENRY VIII
People will respect me when they see
the blood of my enemies.

A BUTLER (50) in a black and white suit enters the room.

BUTLER
King Henry VIII has teleported, this
time?

KING CHARLES
Yes. He's a bit of a fish out of
water, but he speaks his mind. Get
the Borat DVD ready. He'll love it.

KING HENRY VIII
Again, I haven't understood half of
the things you've said.

The BUTLER shakes his fists with joy.

BUTLER
Very niiice!

KING CHARLES
Very niiice!

BUTLER
Niiice!

KING CHARLES skips.

KING CHARLES
Hahaha! Great!

KING HENRY VIII
Modern humour is taking a long time
to say 'nice'?

KING CHARLES
Say it like this: Niiice!

KING HENRY VIII
Niiice.

BUTLER

That's better! It shows you don't take yourself too seriously. Seeing the blood of your enemies and comparing yourself to God like you used to? That's not cool anymore.

KING CHARLES

Exactly what I was trying to say.

KING HENRY VIII

What about boasting about all the women I've had? Six.

KING CHARLES

Well... Some rappers rap about that kind of thing, but...

BUTLER

I think King Henry should be a rapper...

KING CHARLES

You know what? I think you're onto something... Henry? Let me get my special clock necklace!

A day passes.

INT. PALACE - DAY

KING CHARLES and the BUTLER are standing, facing each other in the same room, but KING HENRY VIII has gone.

KING CHARLES

Well... Who'd have thought that King Henry VIII would take part in a rap battle and plagiarise Eminem?

BUTLER

He was very good!

KING CHARLES

That's not the point. Now he's gone back to Tudor era, he's most likely going to introduce rap music and claim he invented it. You know what that means?

BUTLER

What?

KING CHARLES

It means he's going to focus more on his music career and be an even worse king!

BUTLER

I think you should research King Henry VIII on your phone, now...

KING CHARLES retrieves his phone from his robes and gets tapping. He reads from the screen.

KING CHARLES

King Henry VIII invented rap and was a well known psychic who predicted that King Charles would be an idiot. If people disagreed with him, they would be executed as the king watched and said 'Niiiiice'. So people started saying King Charles would be an idiot. Even though a guy called Simon would insist that he isn't he was just trying to write sketch.

BUTLER

Oh no.

KING CHARLES

Yes. Oh no.