

KING LEAR

Overview of the play...

Act One

- Scene One:

- Lear **divests** himself of the **cares of state** using a 'love-test'.
- **Cordelia and Kent are banished** for displeasing him.
- The **kingdom is divided** between **Goneril and Regan**

- Scene Two:

- Edmund makes his father **Gloucester** believe that **Edgar** seeks his life

- Scene Three:

- **Gonerill complains** to her steward **Oswald** about Lear and his followers

Act One cont...

- Scene 5: **Lear** sends a **letter** to **Regan**. He fears he is **going mad**.



Act Two

- Scene One

- **Edmund** persuades **Edgar** to flee.

- **Gloucester** issues orders to have him **hunted down**.

- **Regan and Cornwall** arrive at **Gloucester's** castle.

- Scene Two

- **Kent** quarrels with **Oswald** and challenges him to a **fight**.

- He is **punished** by **Cornwall**, who puts him in the **stocks**.

Act two sc three

- Scene three
 - **Edgar** disguises himself as the **mad beggar**, Poor Tom.
- Scene four
 - **Kent** is found in the **stocks** by **Lear**.
 - **Lear** tries to **complain** to **Regan** about **Gonerill**.
 - The sisters **reduce** his train.
 - **Angry and distressed**, Lear rushes out into the storm.

Act three

- Scene one
 - Out on the **heath**, Kent and the Gentleman **search** for **Lear**.
- Scene two
 - Increasingly **mad**, **Lear rants** into the storm.
 - The **Fool and Kent** try to soothe him.
- Scene three
 - Gloucester tells Edmund he **intends to help** Lear.
 - Edmund decides to **betray his father** to Cornwall.

Act three, scene four

- Scene four

- Lear continues to **rant** on the heath.
- **Poor Tom** is **found** in a **hovel**.

- Scene five

- **Edmund** betrays **Gloucester**
- Inside the **hovel**, Lear **conducts a trial** of Gonerill and Regan.
- **Gloucester** brings a **coach** to transport Lear to safety at Dover

Act three, scene four cont.

- Scene seven
 - Cornwall and Regan take out their horrible revenge on Gloucester.

Act four

- Scene One

- Edgar comes across his blind, suicidal father and starts to lead him to Dover.

- Scene Two

- Gonerill and Edmund return to Gonerill's residence.
- Albany accuses Gonerill of cruelty to her father.
- He also learns of the blinding of Gloucester.

- Scene Three

- Kent and the Gentleman speak of Cordelia, and how Lear is too ashamed to see her.

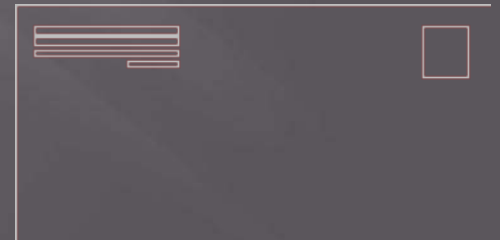
Act Four Scene Four

- Scene Four

- **Cordelia** sends her soldiers to search for **Lear**, who is still wandering around outside.
- She expresses **deep concern** for her father.

- Scene Five

- **Regan** interrogates **Oswald** about a **letter** he is carrying from **Gonerill** to **Edmund**.



Act four, scene six

- Scene six

- Gloucester tries to **commit suicide** at Dover.
- **Lear and Gloucester** meet for the last time.
- **Edgar saves Gloucester's life** when Oswald threatens him.

- Scene seven

- **Cordelia and Lear** are reunited and reconciled

Act Five

- Scene One

- Regan **questions Edmund** about his **feelings** for Gonerill.
- **Edgar gives Albany** the letter **disclosing Edmund and Gonerill's plot** against his life.
- Edmund says he will show Lear and Cordelia **no mercy** after the battle.

- Scene Two

- The **French forces** are **defeated** in battle, **Edgar leads Gloucester** to safety for the **last time**.

Act five

- Scene three

- Lear and Cordelia are sent away to prison.
- Edmund sends a death warrant after them.
- Albany accuses Gonerill and Edmund of treason and Edgar appears to challenge Edmund.
- Edmund is fatally wounded in the fight.
- Gonerill poisons Regan, and stabs herself.
- Lear carries on the dead body of Cordelia and dies, mourning her.

THE END!

Bye bye...

