

## **ILL COMES FORTH**

By Rachael Carnes

### **CHARACTERS**

Richard III

Age 31 — Or thereabouts — Dark-haired.  
He wears a black/gold bathrobe trimmed in fur, a black turban on his head, with a brooch on it. He's barefoot — wears a giant ring on the last knuckle of his right pinkie and carries with him/experiments with/ashes/plays with a Fleshlight™ throughout the play. (Google it.)

(The character is played by a woman.)

## **WESTMINSTER ABBEY INSIDE A SHOPPING MALL IN AMERICA**

**1493**

## ILL COMES FORTH

*Lights up on RICHARD III, posing in a backroom for his King/Presidential portrait, just before his coronation/inauguration.*

### RICHARD

Are you ready? This is ermine. Right or left? You need water? Or a beer? How's this? My base is stronger than it's ever been! "villainous character" — fact — hashtag me! Move to the window — Sure! (*Smiles.*) I look good in this light. "Approval rating" — My way to the throne! Oil paints — Totally Great — Great guy here! Hashtag killed Edward — Hashtag killed Henry — Sad! They love me. I'm their *uncle*. Pee break — Turn around — No I will. (*He pees in a flower vase.*) That's real gold! Gold plate. Taco bowl? I can order you one! Hashtag — the best. No collusion. Committees! What's going on — what it's done is — My base is stronger than it's ever been! Loyalty, people! Favors and — The good reputation of my private life — Hashtag powerfully attracts the attention of strangers. No more summary charges or exactions or impositions — My 1484 parliament's gonna have lots of impressive legislation — Everybody loves me. I have Absolute Right. You golf? It's too bad Jeff recused himself. I like Jeff — For purposes of hopefully thinking I'm going to be treated fairly, I've stayed uninvolved with this particular matter. In those particular positions — I just don't want a poor person. Does that make sense? If you insist — I'll do it — but I like better this way. Why are we having all these people from shithole countries come here? The biggest thing for me is my status in the North. Rugged country — Hard men — They love me! I'm the man that they go to. I'M SUPPRESSING ILLEGAL FISH TRAPS! I don't want to get into— But I will tell you that — I will say this — when you look at the whatever — when you look at all of the tremendous, ah, real problems they had, not made-up problems like Russian collusion, these were *real* problems. I know more than any president that's ever been in office. Popular! I can get men to fight for me — I have associations — millions and millions of people. People have no idea how big that is. So that's all done. I am your King! — I have the love and respect of this nation. We're going to win another four years because our country is starting to do well again and we're being respected — again.

*End of play.*