

RICHARD

Monologue #1: *(To HENRY.)* You've had four sons. Who do you claim?

Not my buried brother, Henry? Not that monument to muck, that epic idiot, oh, surely not. He's dead, let's praise him, then. Who can forget his roquefort smile, his absent brow, those apey eyes, that spoon-edged mind? Why him? Why him and never me? You never called for me. You never said my name. I would have walked or crawled. I'd have done anything. I only wanted you. Keep your kingdom. I hope it kills you.

Monologue #2: *(To ELEANOR.)* You're more beautiful than ever. There is

much that's beautiful in evil when it's absolutely pure. You are so foul you're fair. You stand there looking like a saint in pain when you brought us the knives to do your work. And I'm unnatural? Unnatural, Mummy? You tell me, what's nature's way? If poisoned mushrooms grow and babies come with crooked backs, if dogs go mad and wives kill husbands, what's unnatural? *(Indicating himself.)* Here stands your lamb. Come cover him with kisses; he's all yours. Where do you think I learned this from? How old was I when you fought with Henry first? How many battles did I watch? You've got a mind: you tell me, what was on it when you had your soldiers point their crossbows at him? What were you thinking, Eleanor?