

Audition Side for John and Geoffrey

*The Reception Hall, immediately following. A Christmas tree has been added to the room . JOHN is drinking from a bottle as the lights rise . GEOFFREY enters, calling.*

GEOFFREY

John---there you are.

JOHN

Go find yourself another fool.

GEOFFREY

You're angry: good. Now, here's my plan.

JOHN

You are a rancid bastard. Want to fight?

GEOFFREY

John, use your head. Would I betray you?

JOHN

Why not? Everybody else does.

GEOFFREY

John, I only turned on you to get their confidence. It worked; they trust me.

JOHN

I tell you, your leg could fall off at the pelvis and I wouldn't trust the stump to bleed.

GEOFFREY

If you're not king, I'm nothing. You're my way to power, John.

JOHN

I still don't trust you.

GEOFFREY

Always put your faith in vices. Trust my slyness if you think I'm sly. Make use of me, deceive me, cast me off---but not until I've made you king.

JOHN

You think I can't out-think you, do you? All right, what's your plan?

GEOFFREY

We've got to make a deal with Philip.

JOHN

Why?

GEOFFREY

Because you're out and Richard's in.

JOHN

What kind of deal?

GEOFFREY

A war. If we three join and fight now, we can finish Richard off.

JOHN

You mean destroy him?

GEOFFREY

Yes.

JOHN

And Mother, too?

GEOFFREY

And Mother, too. Well, do we do it? Is it on?

JOHN

I've got to think.

GEOFFREY

We're extra princes now. You know where extra princes go.

JOHN

Down?

GEOFFREY

Very down.

END OF SIDE