

## Side 26: Hamlet & Marcellus

	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	Your lordship is right welcome back to Denmark.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	I humbly thank you, sir.
	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	My lord, his majesty bade me signify to you that he has laid a great wager on your head: sir, this is the matter,-- here is newly come to court Laertes; believe me, an absolute gentleman, for you shall find in him the continent of what part a gentleman would see.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	I take him to be a soul of great article.
	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	I mean, sir, for his weapon; but in the imputation laid on him by them, in his meed he's unfellowed.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	What's his weapon?
	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	Rapier and dagger.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	That's two of his weapons: but, well.
	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	The king, sir, hath laid, that in a dozen passes between yourself and Laertes, he shall not exceed you three hits: he hath laid on twelve for nine; and it would come to immediate trial, if your lordship would vouchsafe the answer.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	How if I answer 'no'?
Coolly; he is no longer a friend to HAMLET.	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	I mean, my lord, the opposition of your person in trial.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	Sir, I will walk here in the hall: if it please his majesty, 'tis the breathing time of day with me; let the foils be brought, the gentleman willing, and the king hold his purpose, I will win for him an I can; if not, I will gain nothing but my shame and the odd hits.
	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	Shall I re-deliver you e'en so?
	<b>HAMLET</b>	To this effect, sir; after what flourish your nature will.
Bowing himself out	<b>MARCELLUS</b>	I commend my duty to your lordship.
	<b>HAMLET</b>	Yours, yours.