

What Happens Before the Play?

In a series of protracted civil wars known as the Wars of the Roses, the royal houses of Lancaster and York battle for the English throne. The three sons of the Duke of York achieve victory, and the oldest son becomes King Edward IV as the Yorkists celebrate. Queen Margaret, the former Lancastrian queen, is banished to France after the death of her husband, King Henry VI, and her son, also named Edward. Lady Anne, widow of Margaret and Henry's son, is left in England to mourn.

What Happens in the Play?

As the royal family celebrates the end of war, Richard, Duke of Gloucester lays plans to eliminate those who stand between him and the throne. His first target is his brother George, Duke of Clarence, whom he convinces King Edward to imprison.

Richard woos Lady Anne, widow to the former Prince of Wales.

Battling factions vie for power as King Edward sickens. Richard accuses Queen Elizabeth and her supporters of plotting against him. Queen Margaret returns from exile to curse those who have done her wrong. Richard hires two murderers to kill Clarence in the tower where he is imprisoned.

King Edward dies after a short illness. After Edward's death, Richard and the Duke of Buckingham suggest that his son, Prince Edward, come to London to be crowned king.

When Prince Edward arrives, Richard has him, along with his younger brother the Duke of York, taken to the tower of London, and will not allow anyone to see them.

In a council meeting to discuss the coronation of the young prince, Richard accuses Lord Hastings of conspiring against him, and has Hastings arrested, demanding his immediate execution.

Richard takes the crown, supported by his ally, the Duke of Buckingham.

Queen Elizabeth, the Duchess of York, and Lady Anne attempt to visit the princes in the tower, and are refused. Lord Stanley arrives to tell Anne she must come to be crowned queen.

Having taken the throne, Richard seeks to maintain his power by ordering the deaths of the young princes, but finds his ally Buckingham reluctant to help him.

With his supporters abandoning him, Richard becomes more desperate, and plots to be rid of Anne so that he can marry Princess Elizabeth, the daughter of King Edward.

Queen Elizabeth and the Duchess of York seek aid from Margaret, their former enemy, in cursing Richard.

The Earl of Richmond mounts a challenge to Richard, coming from France with an army determined to put Richmond on the throne.

Hauntings, nightmares, deceptions, betrayals, and the rise of the House of Tudor ensue in this performance of *Richard III*.

The Cast

The Royal Family

King Edward IV — Kristopher Arnold
George, Duke of Clarence, his brother — Kat Hermes
Richard, Duke of Gloucester, his brother, later King Richard III — Scott Lange
Queen Elizabeth, Edward's wife — Katherine Mayberry
Prince Edward, the king's son — Kat Hermes
Richard, Duke of York, the king's younger son — Seraphina Zorn
Princess Elizabeth, the king's daughter — Kat Hermes
Duchess of York, the king's mother — Ashley Normand
Son and Daughter of Clarence — Chaz Albright and Seraphina Zorn

In the Royal Court

Duke of Buckingham — Riley Van Ess
Lord Stanley, Earl of Derby — Scott Wright
Lady Anne, widow of the Lancaster prince — Kimi Griggs
William, Lord Hastings, the Lord Chamberlain — Chaz Albright
Catesby, Ratcliffe, and Lovell, lords attending Richard —
Kristopher Arnold, Seraphina Zorn, and Kimi Griggs
Grey and Dorset, sons to Queen Elizabeth by a previous marriage —
Kat Hermes and Kimi Griggs
Margaret, the former queen — Kathleen Bode

Others

Earl of Richmond, a claimant to the throne — Ashley Normand
Oxford, Herbert, and Blunt, lords attending on Richmond —
Katherine Mayberry, Riley Van Ess, and Chaz Albright
Brakenbury — Ashley Normand
James Tyrrel — Kristopher Arnold
Bishop of Ely — Kat Hermes
Two Murderers — Kimi Griggs and Scott Wright
Messengers, Pages, Cardinals, Priests, Guards — The Ensemble

Production Staff

This performance is based on a production that original toured to multiple venues in 2019.

Director — Aili Huber	Stage Manager — Treva Wyman
Fight Choreographer — Scott Wright	Musical Directors — Scott Lange and Scott Wright
Costume Coordinator — Kat Hermes	

“The Red Rose and the White” — lyrics adapted from Shakespeare's *Henry VI* plays,
musical composition by Scott Lange.