

L'apparizione dello spirito del Re di Danimarca

Act I scene ii

*[Enter Ghost]*

*MARCELLUS*

Peace, break thee off; look, where it comes again!

*BERNARDO*

In the same figure, like the king that's dead.

*MARCELLUS*

Thou art a scholar; speak to it, Horatio.

*BERNARDO*

Looks it not like the king? mark it, Horatio.

*HORATIO*

Most like: it harrows me with fear and wonder.

*BERNARDO*

It would be spoke to.

*MARCELLUS*

Question it, Horatio.

*HORATIO*

What art thou that usurp'st this time of night,

Together with that fair and warlike form

In which the majesty of buried Denmark

Did sometimes march? by heaven I charge thee, speak!

*MARCELLUS*

It is offended.

The protagonist of *Hamlet* is Prince Hamlet of Denmark, son of the recently deceased King Hamlet. After the death of King Hamlet, the King's brother Claudius hastily marries King Hamlet's widow (and Prince Hamlet's mother) Gertrude. In the background is Denmark's long-standing feud with neighbouring Norway, and an invasion, led by the Norwegian prince Fortinbras, is expected. The Reigns of England and Denmark had been deeply interconnected since the year 900, in which the first Viking tribes had invaded England, up to, at least, the marriage of James I Stuart to Anne of Denmark, the daughter of the King.