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GONERIL from KING LEAR

Act 1 Scene 3

Character's age: 20+

- 1 Did my father strike my gentleman for chiding of his fool?  
By day and night he wrongs me; every hour  
He flashes into one great crime or other,  
That sets us all at odds. I'll not endure it.
- 5 His knights grow riotous, and himself upbraids us  
On every trifle. When he returns from hunting,  
I will not speak to him; say I am sick.  
If you come slack of further services,  
You shall do well; the fault of it I'll answer.
- 10 Put on what weary negligence you please,  
You and your fellows; I'd have it come to question.  
If he distaste it, let him to our sister,  
Whose mind and mine are one,  
Not to be over-ruled. Idle old man,
- 15 That still would manage those authorities  
That he hath given away! Now, by my life,  
Old fools are babes again; and must be used  
With checks and flatteries, - when they are abused.  
Remember what I have said.
- 20 And let his knights have colder looks among you:  
What grows of it no matter. Advise your fellows so.  
I'll write straight to my sister to hold my course.  
Prepare for dinner.

[To return to lists of speeches, exit this page](#)

