



This is the tale of Yorrick, bastard son of Richard III, hunchback extraordinaire. Scholar, poet, lover, husband, adventurer and warrior. A dab hand at Latin, he has quite a way with words, usually in verse across a tawdry bar.

Yorrick is captured and indentured into the King's forces, where he serves in the Battle of Saint-Mathieu, becoming legend as the British Beast who brought down two Breton Ships. There he rekindles an old school friendship with Edward of Wokingham. They serve together under Henry VIII at the Battle of the Spurs. The King offers to knight the hunchback for his bravery, yet he refuses, asking instead to resume his life as a Latin Master. The wish is granted and Yorrick returns to Eton, eventually becoming Head Master. His life, while not fulfilled romantically, is fulfilling, until his lineage is discovered and the hunchback is sent before the King.

Making the most of his deformity and uncanny resemblance to his father, Yorrick sits for a portrait - as Richard III, before playing jester and mocking his family line. King Henry is suitably pleased and grants Yorrick a pardon, as long as he can amuse the Court. The Sweating Sickness returns, consuming the Lady Anne Boleyn. Yorrick saves his neck again by becoming physician, returning the Lady Anne to health. Pardoned again, he is banished to a monastery where he uses his learning and writing skills to decorate illuminated manuscripts and create indulgences for the wealthy wicked. He is far from a monk, often playing jester at the local inn, The Spraint Otter, between dalliances with the local bar maids. The dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII returns Yorrick to the world. He fulfils three promises in wending his way to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage, where he meets two young knights; one who becomes a lifelong friend, while the other hunts him as he has for many years... an enemy to all the offspring of Richard III. Yorrick's demise is bloody, yet his story does not end, his two books - Tales of Yorrick and Richard III - become the object of a young man from Stratford, who robs Yorrick's grave with his accomplice Horatio. Not everyone agrees who wrote William's work, perhaps he was inspired by a character such as this. Alas, for poor Yorrick, we may never really know.