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Farewell, king! staging the Middle Ages in nineteenth-century London performances of Shakespeare's "Richard II"

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Farewell, King!

Staging the Middle Ages in Nineteenth-century
London Performances of Shakespeare's *Richard II*

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For my parents

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*Those friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
Grapple them unto thy soul with hoops of steel,
[...]
This above all: to thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.*

(Hamlet, Act I, Scene 3)

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*Our revels now are ended. These our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits and
Are melted into air, into thin air:
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Ye all which it inherit, shall dissolve
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff
As dreams are made on, and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep.*

(The Tempest, 4.1.146-158)