

# Hamlet Wordless Play

## Part of the Shakespeare in the Classroom Series

### at [‘Let Him Roar Again’](#)

#### **Hamlet, Act III, Scene ii -**

*Enter a King and a Queen very lovingly; the Queen embracing him, and he her. She kneels, and makes show of protestation unto him. He takes her up, and declines his head upon her neck: lays him down upon a bank of flowers: she, seeing him asleep, leaves him. Anon comes in a fellow, takes off his crown, kisses it, and pours poison in the King's ears, and exit. The Queen returns; finds the King dead, and makes passionate action. The Poisoner, with some two or three Mutes, comes in again, seeming to lament with her. The dead body is carried away. The Poisoner wooes the Queen with gifts: she seems loath and unwilling awhile, but in the end accepts his love*

#### **Step by Step Instructions:**

1. As a whole class, read through the above description of the players actions in *Hamlet* Act III, Scene ii.
2. Place students into groups of three (taking on the roles of King, Queen and Poisoner). If needed students may work in groups of 4 with the additional role of the director to act as an outside eye.
3. Students work in these groups to rehearse the scene and then perform for the class.
4. Extension Option: Have the students develop their performances of this scene in a range of different theatrical styles (eg. Melodrama, Realism, Musical Theatre, Absurdism etc).