

SHAKESPEARIENCE!

Swords, Scenes & Soliloquies

HAMLET

Horatio Act I, scene 2

Two nights together had these gentlemen, Marcellus
and Bernardo, on their watch, in the dead vast and
middle of the night, been thus encounter'd.

A figure like your father, armed at point exactly,
Appears before them, and with solemn march
Goes slow and stately by them:

thrice he walk'd by their oppress'd and fear-surprised
eyes,
Within his truncheon's length; whilst they, distilled
Almost to jelly with the act of fear,
Stand dumb and speak not to him.

This to me in dreadful secrecy impart they did;
And I with them the third night kept the watch;
Where, as they had deliver'd, both in time, form of the
thing, each word made true and good,
The apparition comes:

I knew your father; these hands are not more like.