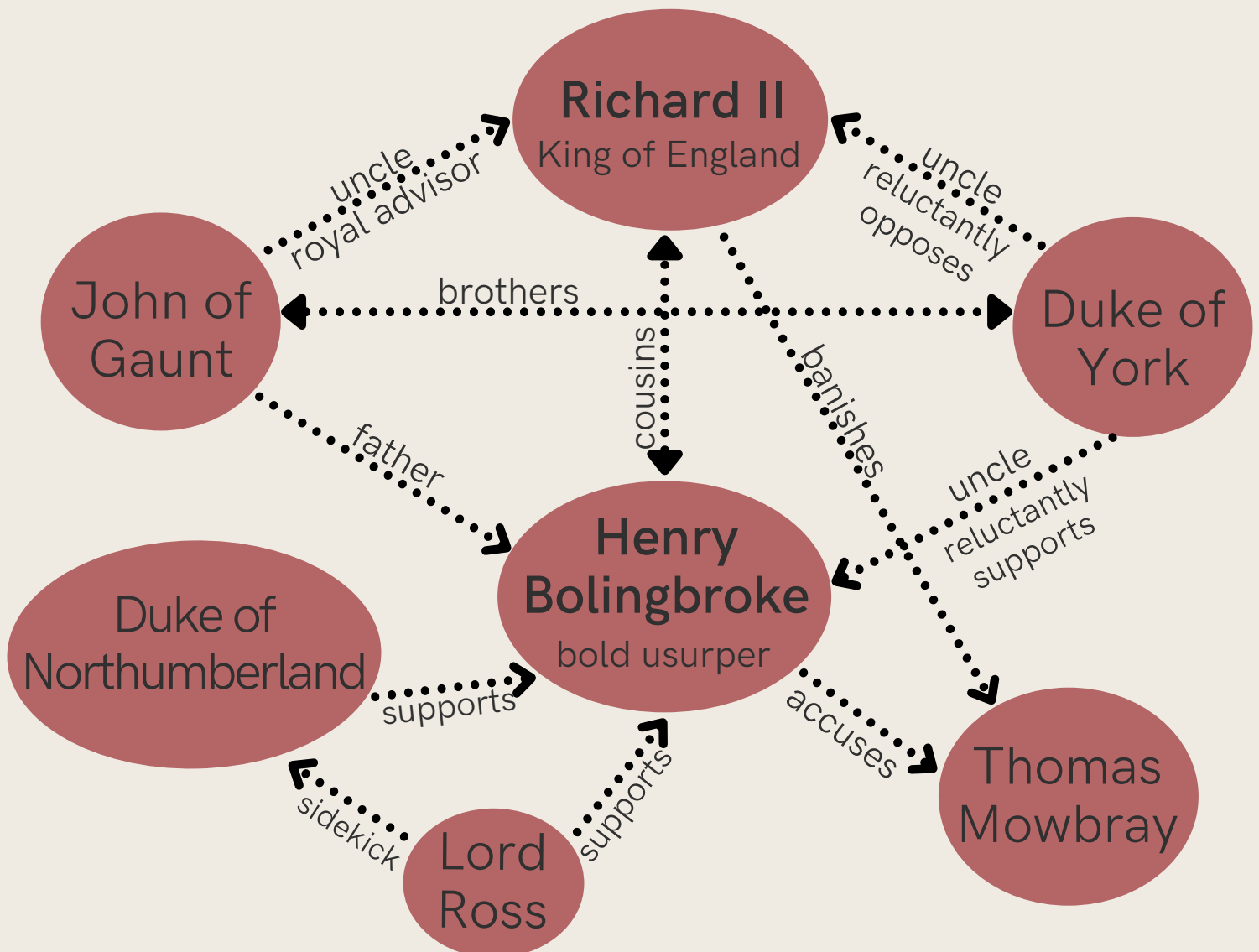


# ABOUT RICHARD II

*Richard II* is a Shakespearean history play about the first time in European monarchical history that a king was deposed by the will of the public. King Richard II was considered by many to be an incompetent, performative, and tyrannical ruler, but nobody questioned his authority because of divine right. He was believed to be God's chosen representative on Earth. Who would dare go against God?



## THE CHARACTERS



# TIMELINE

1398

INT. WINDSOR CASTLE, ENGLAND

Before King Richard, Henry Bolingbroke accuses Thomas Mowbray of various crimes, including murdering the Duke of Gloucester (Henry and Rich's uncle). Mowbray denies it, and they challenge each other to a duel to the death. Richard reluctantly allows it.

SEPT 1398

INT. ARENA IN COVENTRY, ENGLAND

Just before Henry and Mowbray fight, Richard calls the whole thing off and banishes them instead; Henry for 6 years and Mowbray for life.

MAY 1399

IRELAND / FRANCE

Richard II leaves to fight rebels in Ireland, arriving in June. In exile in France, Henry raises an army to take back his rightful inheritance from Richard II.

FEB 1399

INT. LEICESTER CASTLE, ENGLAND

John of Gaunt (Henry's father/Richard's uncle) dies, and Richard seizes his estate (Henry's inheritance) to fund a war to put down a rebellion in Ireland.

JULY 1399

EXT. GLOUCESTERSHIRE WILDS, ENGLAND

While Richard is away, Henry's army lands in Ravenspur and marches southwest to Wales, rallying supporters and executing adversaries along the way.

AUG 1399

EXT. COAST OF WALES

Richard II returns to England. When he learns of Henry's actions, he plunges into despair and self-pity, seemingly certain the kingship has been lost to him. He sends his troops home and retreats to Flint Castle in Wales.

SEPT 1399

INT. WESTMINSTER HALL, LONDON

In London's Parliament, Richard II officially abdicates the throne. After ceding the throne, Richard is taken away, heading for prison.

AUG 1399

EXT. FLINT CASTLE, WALES

Henry and his troops travel to Flint Castle. Henry and Richard II send messages back and forth across the parapets. Richard eventually comes down and surrenders to Henry.

OCT 1399

INT. A PALACE IN LONDON

Offstage, Henry was crowned King Henry IV of England. Onstage here, other characters discuss how the public cheered for him.

FEB 1400

INT. DUNGEON IN POMFRET CASTLE, ENGLAND

Richard II is killed in prison.