



Falstaff

by Giuseppe Verdi



Sir John Falstaff
an old knight



Bardolfo and Pistola
*crooks and friends
of Falstaff*



Alice Ford
a wealthy lady



Mistress Quickly
Alice's friend



Meg Page
Alice's friend



Ford
*Alice's husband
and Nannetta's father*



Fenton
Nannetta's boyfriend



Nannetta
Alice and Ford's daughter



Dr. Caius
*Ford's choice for
Nannetta's husband*



Sir John Falstaff schemes to make money. He writes love letters to woo Alice and Meg, wealthy housewives.



Alice and Meg compare letters and decide to teach Falstaff a lesson.



Nannetta and her boyfriend, Fenton, meet in secret, as her father is forcing her to marry the older Dr. Caius.



Alice's friend Mistress Quickly visits Falstaff, inviting him to a rendezvous with Alice.



Separately, Ford, in disguise, also begs Falstaff to seduce Alice, wanting to disgrace him.



At Alice's house, the rendezvous is interrupted as Ford and his men barge in.



Falstaff hides in a laundry basket which is tipped out of the window, landing him in the River Thames!



Later, Quickly issues a second invitation, asking Falstaff to meet Alice in Windsor Park at midnight.

Quickly tells Falstaff about the haunted legends of the park.

Fairies and sprites
rise from
the graves



Alice and the others plot how they'll trick Falstaff.



At midnight, Falstaff runs away as ghostly sprites appear — actually Nannetta and the townspeople in costume.



Ford eventually accepts Nannetta and Fenton as Dr. Caius is wed — to Bardolfo in disguise!



After the chaos, Falstaff and the others are finally able to laugh at themselves.