



KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE



A GRAPHIC NOVEL



BY HALL & RICHARDS

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ABOUT KING ARTHUR

The story of King Arthur is an ancient legend that storytellers passed down for many generations. The story was first told sometime before the 11th century. Finally, in the 15th century, Sir Thomas Malory wrote down his version of these stories. He titled the collection *The Book of King Arthur and His Noble Knights of the Round Table*.

People know little about Malory's interest in the stories of King Arthur. He likely heard different versions of these stories when he was growing up. Perhaps his life experience as a knight helped him better understand the King Arthur stories.

The stories of *King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table* take place in Britain during the Middle Ages, a time period that lasted from the 5th to the 15th century CE. This was a period of unrest in Britain and Europe as people fought many wars for control of the land. Britain wasn't a united country at the time. Kings and lords throughout what is now England, Wales, and Scotland ruled over small regions scattered across the countryside.

Many people wonder if the legends of King Arthur are real and if the places in the story really existed. Some historians believe that the castle Camelot and the island of Avalon are based on real places in England. For example, some people believe that Arthur is buried beneath the town of Glastonbury. Visitors still travel to England to retrace the supposed steps of King Arthur and his knights.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

**King
Arthur**



Lancelot



Guinevere





CHAPTER 1



Long ago, in a dark time,
two mighty armies fought.



Uther Pendragon, King of Britain,
fought Gorlois, the Duke of
Cornwall. Uther wanted to marry
the duke's beautiful wife, Igraine.

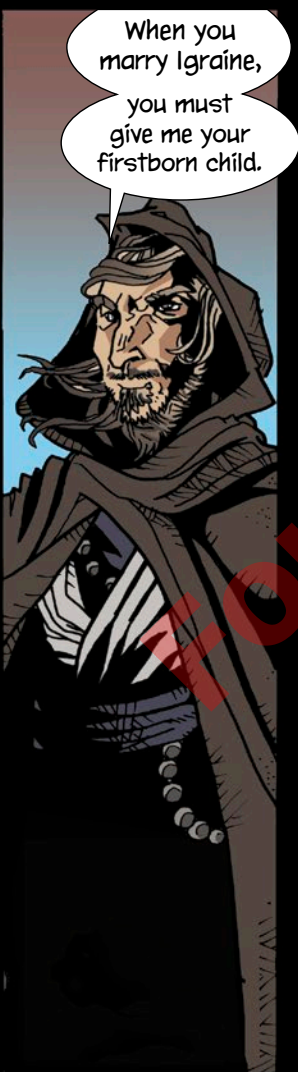


I would give
anything to beat
my enemy.



Anything,
my lord?





Uther Pendragon won the battle. Gorlois was killed, and Igraine became the new Queen of Britain.



Nine months later, a child's cry is heard through the darkness.



And in the darkness, Uther's promise is remembered.



A man in a grey tunic and brown boots (Merlin) is handing a small infant wrapped in a red cloth to a woman in a brown robe. A young boy in a white tunic stands to the left, looking up at them. A figure in a grey hooded cloak stands to the right, holding a golden harp. They are in a stone-walled room.

Merlin gave the infant to another family to raise and protect as their own.

A dark, dramatic scene showing a figure lying on the ground in a stone-walled room. A large, dark, hooded figure stands over them. A speech bubble from the hooded figure is visible.

Two years later, King Uther died.

Bury the king beneath these stones. Let no one tell his final resting place.

A dark, dramatic scene showing silhouettes of soldiers with spears and shields in a field of red, suggesting blood or fire.

The kingdom was torn apart. Battles were fought to decide who would be the next ruler of Britain.

A woman with blonde hair (Morgana) is looking out from behind a stone wall. A speech bubble from her is visible.

One day, we shall tell him about his great father.

You're his father now, my dear.

Twelve years later,
Merlin left his hidden
valley and traveled to
the royal city of London.

It's the
wizard!

Why is he
here?



All the knights of the
kingdom must gather here
on Christmas Day!



On the chosen day . . .



... a sword appeared in front of the church.

What does it mean?

Where did it come from?

WHOSOEVER
PULLETH THIS SWORD
FORTH IS THE TRUE
BORN KING OF ALL
THE ISLES OF BRITAIN

Whoever pulled the sword from the magic stone would become the King of Britain.



I'll pull it out!

No! I will be the trueborn king!

It's impossible to pull out that sword.

Maybe our king is not here yet.

Oh yes, he is very near.