

## Knights In History And Legend

Looks at questions and mysteries about the legends of King Arthur, the roundtable and his knights.

A celebration of all things chivalrous, this fascinating book features 127 colorful pictures of heroic knights, plus captivating true tales of Richard the Lionheart and the legends of Camelot. Sorely used by Fate, the Redcross Knight and his Lady Una must quest against evil wizards, dark sorceress', pagan knights, and monstrous beasts. Fighting to be reunited, only the grace of God can hope to save her kingdom and regain his honor. Stand witness to their trials in Book One of this prose adaptation of Edmund Spenser's epic poem the Faeire Queene.

The beloved tutor Alchir has vanished! And a dangerous criminal with a grudge against Alchir has just escaped from prison. Kaye is determined to find the tutor and earn a fine reputation as a knight. The search leads Kaye, Reggie, and Beau to a sinister manor house at the edge of a dark forest where nearby villagers live in terror of a deadly monster. As they investigate the mystery of the forest beast, they uncover a terrible plot that could destroy Knox. When there's no one to turn to for help, can they save the kingdom-and their lives-by themselves?

A magisterial history of the origins, reality, and legend of the knight Born out of the chaos of the early Middle Ages, the armored and highly mobile knight revolutionized warfare and quickly became a mythic figure in history. From the Knights Templars and English knighthood to the crusades and chivalry, *The Knight in History*, by acclaimed medievalist Frances Gies, bestselling coauthor of *Life in a Medieval Castle*, paints a remarkable true picture of knighthood—exploring the knight's earliest appearance as an agent of lawless violence, his reemergence as a dynamic social entity, his eventual disappearance from the European stage, and his transformation into Western culture's most iconic hero.

For more than eight centuries, poets and writers have been telling stories about King Arthur. From lost legends and scraps of history, from facts and folklore, has been fashioned one of the greatest epics in all literature, full of the world's splendours, heroic loves and spiritual quests. This anthology is a celebration of the magical and mysterious world founded on the figure of an obscure Welsh princeling, of Arthur's exploits in literature, of his far-famed knights and their ladies, of all the high trappings of romance. Here for the first time is a single volume which gives the reader an idea of the power and range of Arthurian literature from its beginnings to the present day. All the great Arthurian writers are represented, from France, Germany and England, and the text is complemented by a superb selection of full colour illustrations.

History, legend and conspiracy meet in the tales of the Knights Templar. Warriors, bankers, magicians and heretics, they were officially disbanded in 1314, but they continue to influence the world to the present day. Within these pages, readers will discover not only the warrior monks of the Crusades, but also the legends and rumors of later ages. What secret did the Templars uncover beneath the Temple of Solomon, and how did it make them so powerful that kings and Popes feared them? What is their link to the Holy Grail - and what is the Grail's true nature? What became of their legendary treasure? What role did they play in the birth of America? How do they continue to manipulate governments worldwide? Where were they active historically, and where might they be found today? The answers to these and other questions are found here.

Provides information on the actual life of King Arthur along with the development of the legends that surround his life.

AFTER several years of contemplation and of thought upon the matter herein contained, it has at last come about..., that I have been able to write this work with such pleasure of spirit that, if it gives to you but a part of the joy that it hath afforded me, I shall be very well content with what I have done. For I believe that King Arthur was the

most honorable, gentle Knight who ever lived in all the world. And those who were his fellows of the Round Table... made, altogether, such a company of noble knights that it is hardly to be supposed that their like will ever be seen again in this world... So in the year of grace one thousand nine hundred and two I began to write this history of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table and, if I am able so to do, I shall endeavor, with love of that task, to finish the same at some other time in another book and to the satisfaction of whosoever may care to read the story thereof.

“Dan Jones is an entertainer, but also a bona fide historian. Seldom does one find serious scholarship so easy to read.” – The Times, Book of the Year A New York Times bestseller, this major new history of the knights Templar is “a fresh, muscular and compelling history of the ultimate military-religious crusading order, combining sensible scholarship with narrative swagger” – Simon Sebag Montefiore, author of Jerusalem A faltering war in the middle east. A band of elite warriors determined to fight to the death to protect Christianity’s holiest sites. A global financial network unaccountable to any government. A sinister plot founded on a web of lies. Jerusalem 1119. A small group of knights seeking a purpose in the violent aftermath of the First Crusade decides to set up a new order. These are the first Knights Templar, a band of elite warriors prepared to give their lives to protect Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land. Over the next two hundred years, the Templars would become the most powerful religious order of the medieval world. Their legend has inspired fervent speculation ever since. In this groundbreaking narrative history, Dan Jones tells the true story of the Templars for the first time in a generation, drawing on extensive original sources to build a gripping account of these Christian holy warriors whose heroism and alleged depravity have been shrouded in myth. The Templars were protected by the pope and sworn to strict vows of celibacy. They fought the forces of Islam in hand-to-hand combat on the sun-baked hills where Jesus lived and died, finding their nemesis in Saladin, who vowed to drive all Christians from the lands of Islam. Experts at channeling money across borders, they established the medieval world’s largest and most innovative banking network and waged private wars against anyone who threatened their interests. Then, as they faced setbacks at the hands of the ruthless Mamluk sultan Baybars and were forced to retreat to their stronghold in Cyprus, a vindictive and cash-strapped King of France set his sights on their fortune. His administrators quietly mounted a damning case against the Templars, built on deliberate lies and false testimony. On Friday October 13, 1307, hundreds of brothers were arrested, imprisoned and tortured, and the order was disbanded amid lurid accusations of sexual misconduct and heresy. They were tried by the Pope in secret proceedings and their last master was brutally tortured and burned at the stake. But were they heretics or victims of a ruthlessly repressive state? Dan Jones goes back to the sources to bring their dramatic tale, so relevant to our own times, to life in a book that is at once authoritative and compulsively readable.

Goes into aspects of the daily lives of knights, including their training, armor, battles, and historical circumstances, and includes examples of famous knights from history and legend.

From acclaimed historians Frances and Joseph Gies comes the reissue of this definitive classic on medieval castles, which was a source for George R.R. Martin’s Game of Thrones series. “Castles are crumbly and romantic. They still hint at an age

more colorful and gallant than our own, but are often debunked by boring people who like to run on about drafts and grumble that the latrines did not work. Joseph and Frances Gies offer a book that helps set the record straight—and keeps the romance too.”—Time A widely respected academic work and a source for George R.R. Martin’s *Game of Thrones*, Joseph and Frances Gies’s bestselling *Life in a Medieval Castle* remains a timeless work of popular medieval scholarship. Focusing on Chepstow, an English castle that survived the turbulent Middle Ages with a relative lack of violence, the book offers an exquisite portrait of what day-to-day life was actually like during the era, and of the key role the castle played. The Gieses take us through the full cycle of a medieval year, dictated by the rhythms of the harvest. We learn what lords and serfs alike would have worn, eaten, and done for leisure, and of the outside threats the castle always hoped to keep at bay. For medieval buffs and anyone who wants to learn more about this fascinating era, *Life in a Medieval Castle* is as timely today as when it was first published.

King Arthur is one of the greatest legends of all time. From the magical moment when Arthur releases the sword in the stone to the quest for the Holy Grail and the final tragedy of the Last Battle, Roger Lancelyn Green brings the enchanting world of King Arthur stunningly to life. One of the greatest legends of all time, with an inspiring introduction by David Almond, award-winning author of *Clay*, *Skellig*, *Kit's Wilderness* and *The Fire-Eaters*.

Who exactly was King Arthur? What is the evidence for him as a historical figure, and how does this relate to the hero of the medieval romances and other legends? This book seeks to answer these and other questions relating to the story of King Arthur. Fifteen hundred years have turned history into legend... Frustrated with living in the shadow of the elder warriors, Gawain dreams of glory in a time of peace. After three generations of struggle against a flood of ruthless invaders, Britain has finally clawed its way back within reach of security and prosperity. Across the sea, Rome is crumbling under an onslaught of barbarian attacks, internal corruption and civil war. Desperate for allies, Rome's last great emperor looks to Britain and the rising fame of her High King, Arthur. Events sweep Gawain along in a tide that takes him far from his home in Britain to a terrible war in Gaul. Intrigue and betrayal vie with loyalty and valour in an epic adventure at the last, bright flash of light before "The Dark Ages." *The Retreat to Avalon* is the exciting beginning of a new Historical Fiction trilogy exploring the origins of the Arthurian legends, anchored in the events of the end of the Roman Empire and the beginning of the Middle Ages. AUTHOR INTERVIEW 1) What inspired you to write this story? After watching the movie, *Excalibur*, my future bride asked me some questions about King Arthur and his knights, so I proceeded to go full history nerd on her. I described some of the theories, including Geoffrey Ashe's, and wondered how it might have played out in history if true. I wished that someone would write a story about it and it occurred to me that I should puzzle it out. 2) What do you find fascinating about King Arthur? I love the mystery of the Dark Ages. The history surrounding Arthur's era is fascinating, with the Roman Empire collapsing in the west, tribal migrations, wars and new nations forming. Most people have never read the original stories about Arthur and his warriors, before the Knights of the Round Table and other later legends developed. Did you know they were more likely to fight giants than dragons? 3) How hard is it to bring real historical events to life in an Arthurian novel? It's not easy. There are very few

records from the time period, and much of what exists is fragmentary or contradictory. Timelines are especially frustrating, partly because everyone used different dating schemes then, or guessed at dates. Historical references to Arthur are very sparse. 4) Did you discover anything about Arthur and the knights of the round table that you didn't expect? There is so much! One is that some of the older legends portray some negative aspects about Arthur. A very surprising bit of research into the legends and backgrounds of different characters showed that some details about St. Illtud, one of Arthur's knights in early legend, might have had some seed of truth to the story. 5) Can you tell us a little about the next book in the series? The consequences of the events of the first book take shape in the second book. While the first book covers a bit over a year and has much to do with the main character's journey, the next story covers many years, is more personal, darker, grittier. Tragic, but heroic, like an epic should be. Recounts the entire history of the Knights Hospitaller (also known as the Knights of Malta), from their beginnings nine centuries ago to the present day.

Four cursed knights. One Warrior Princess. A faerie sword that binds their lives together. The Fifth Knight is a Reverse Harem tale of betrayal and fated love.

Arthurian expert Sir James Knowles brings together fourteen tales of King Arthur and his knights, inspired by Alfred, Lord Tennyson's first four 'Idylls of the King'. Here is a fascinating journey through the land of ancient England where magic, mystery and warring factions come together in cataclysmic fashion. Beginning with the finding of the wizard Merlin, Sir James recounts the discovery of the legendary sword Excalibur, King Arthur's victory over the Saxons and his marriage to the beautiful Guinevere, as well as his battles against armies from Europe and his evasion of Queen Morgan's attempts to kill him with a magic garment. Tales include: • The Prophecies of Merlin and the Birth of Arthur • The Miracle of the Sword and Stone • The Lady of the Lake • The Founding of the Round Table • The Adventures of Sir Gawain Revealing the escapades of the Knights of the Round Table, such as Lancelot, Bedivere, Bors, Modred, Tristram and Galahad, as they seek to protect Arthur's kingdom, we discover how these fabled figures found their destiny. ABOUT THE SERIES: Arcturus Classic Myths and Legends brings together beautiful retellings of mythologies from different traditions, from Celtic to Native American.

"The Once and Future King" by T. H. White. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

The Holy Grail is an image familiar to us all as an almost unattainable, infinitely desirable goal. The idea has passed into everyday speech and the legends behind it are as current in today's culture as they have ever been. And yet the Grail has no real religious meaning and is nowhere mentioned in the Bible. What is the truth behind this elusive symbol? Here, Barber traces the history of the stories surrounding the Holy Grail. He describes how through a long series of imaginative transformations, the grail has moved from the sphere of romance to religion, and in twentieth century popular culture has become an emblem of mysticism and man's highest aspirations, intimately linked with the central ritual of the Christian faith. The search for the grail has always been described as a quest; in this book, Barber goes on his own quest, brilliantly exploring the richness of the Holy Grail's cultural impact. Barber traces the history of legends surrounding the Holy Grail, from Chretien de Troyes' great romances to the popular bestsellers of the late twentieth century.

There may not be a more fascinating a historical period than the late fourteenth century in

Europe. The Hundred Years' War ravaged the continent, yet gallantry, chivalry, and literary brilliance flourished in the courts of England and elsewhere. It was a world in transition, soon to be replaced by the Renaissance and the Age of Exploration -- and John of Gaunt was its central figure. In today's terms, John of Gaunt was a multibillionaire with a brand name equal to Rockefeller. He fought in the Hundred Years' War, sponsored Chaucer and proto-Protestant religious thinkers, and survived the dramatic Peasants' Revolt, during which his sumptuous London residence was burned to the ground. As head of the Lancastrian branch of the Plantagenet family, Gaunt was the unknowing father of the War of the Roses; after his death, his son usurped the crown from his nephew, Richard II. Gaunt's adventures represent the culture and mores of the Middle Ages as those of few others do, and his death is portrayed in *The Last Knight* as the end of that enthralling period.

Born in the dark days of the great crusades, the warrior monks of the Knights Templar vowed to defend pilgrims traveling to the Holy Land. Yet strangely, there are few historical records of the Templars ever fulfilling this task. Instead, their history is one of bloodshed and conquest, wealth and power, dark secrets and conspiracies. Today, the story of the Knights Templar is intimately linked with the story of the Holy Grail. But what exactly is this ancient artifact, and how has it been used to manipulate history for the last one thousand years? This book, based on the notes of the recently deceased historian, Dr. Emile Fouchet, attempts to unlock the secrets of the Knights Templar. It begins with an examination of their historical origins, their growth in the early middle-ages, and their supposed destruction under the charges of heresy. From there, it uses the clues left by the Templars themselves to reconstruct their secret journeys as they moved the Holy Grail from Europe to the New World and back. It also charts the secret, three-way war that is still being fought between the Templars, the Freemasons, and the Catholic Church. Finally, the book reveals the greatest of all Templar conspiracies, the attempt to found a new world order under the auspices of the European Union.

The Faery Melusine of Lusignan was the subject of a prose romance by Jean d'Arras at the end of the 14th century, swiftly followed by one in verse by Couldrette. This book provides a collection of material from various sources, including translations from French texts, to give an all round picture of the remarkable faery, her town, her church, and the great Lusignan dynasty she founded.

Steinbeck's only work of fantasy literature—in a deluxe edition with a foreword by Christopher Paolini, New York Times bestselling author of *Eragon*, *Eldest* and *Brisingr*. A Penguin Classic Malory's *Le Morte d'Arthur* was the first book that John Steinbeck truly enjoyed reading as a child. Fascinated by Arthurian tales of adventure, knighthood, honor and friendship, in addition to the challenging nuances of the original Anglo-Saxon language, Steinbeck set out to render these stories faithfully and with keen animation for a modern audience. Here then is Steinbeck's modernization of the adventure of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, featuring the icons of Arthurian legend—including King Arthur, Merlin, Morgan le Fay, the incomparable Queen Guinevere, and Arthur's purest knight, Sir Lancelot of the Lake. These enduring tales of loyalty and betrayal in the time of Camelot flicker with the wonder and magic of an era past but not forgotten. Steinbeck's retelling will capture the attention and imagination of legions of Steinbeck fans, including those who love Arthurian romances, as well as countless readers of science fiction and fantasy literature. This edition features a new foreword by Christopher Paolini, author of the number-one New York Times bestselling novels *Eragon*, *Eldest*, and *Brisingr*. It also includes the letters John Steinbeck wrote to his literary agent, Elizabeth Otis, and to Chase Horton, the original editor of this volume. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and

contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators. A poetic translation of the classic Arthurian story is an edition in alliterative language and rhyme of the epic confrontation between a young Round Table hero and a green-clad stranger who compels him to meet his destiny at the Green Chapel. Reprint. 20,000 first printing.

This book examines the traditions attached to the Holy Grail from its first appearance in medieval romance through its transformation into an object of mystical significance in modern literature and film.

Shrouded in myth and conspiracy, the history of the Knights Templar is little understood. Geordie Torr pulls fact from fiction, revealing the astonishing tale of this military-religious order that dominated the politics of the medieval Middle East. Initially created to protect Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land in the wake of the First Crusade, the Templars soon became an institution of incredible power, possessing wealth and influence throughout the courts of Europe. Yet just two centuries later they dramatically fell as its members were accused of heresy and burned at the stake. Set against the dramatic backdrop of the wars between Christians and Muslims, this illustrated book brings to life the legacy of this secretive order and the characters who defined the era.

Amidst the chaos and violence of Europe in the eighth century, Charlemagne became king of the Franks and established a large empire. As Charlemagne's power grew, so did the stories attached to his name. This book explores the myths and legends of the great king Charlemagne, from the stories about his mother, Bertha Bigfoot, and his youthful adventures with the thief, Basin, to his fantastical journeys to Jerusalem and Constantinople. It also retells the stories of his most famous knights, the Paladins. These brave warriors were all heroes in their own right, and included many famous names such as Roland, Ogier the Dane, Oliver, Archbishop Turpin, and Guy of Burgundy. Together with his Paladins, Charlemagne established a court to rival Camelot and led the Christian kingdoms of Europe in their ongoing struggles with the armies of the East. Although this great ruler eventually passed away, quietly in his bed, the legends say that he now sits on his golden throne beneath the mountain, waiting until the need of his people calls him forth again.

The word 'knight' conjures up images of gallant men in gleaming armour galloping along on their noble steeds in search of foes. But how accurate is this picture of knighthood? 'Knights' is a lavish guide to this world of courage and chivalry, when mounted warriors evolved from simple soldiers to defenders of the faith during the Crusades.

Completed in 1136, The History of the Kings of Britain traces the story of the realm from its supposed foundation by Brutus to the coming of the Saxons some two thousand years later. Vividly portraying legendary and semi-legendary figures such as Lear, Cymbeline, Merlin the magician and the most famous of all British heroes, King Arthur, it is as much myth as it is history and its veracity was questioned by other medieval writers. But Geoffrey of Monmouth's powerful

evocation of illustrious men and deeds captured the imagination of subsequent generations, and his influence can be traced through the works of Malory, Shakespeare, Dryden and Tennyson.

Knights In History and Legend Firefly Books Limited

Looks at the origins of knights and chivalry, describes the everyday life of knights, presents information on knights throughout history, and covers the cultural legacy of knights.

They were known as the keepers of the Holy Grail, a sometimes mysterious band of religious warriors whose exploits across Europe and the Middle East have inspired modern-day conspiracy theories and movie plots. From Parzival through Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade to The da Vinci Code, the Knights Templar have had an enduring hold over the popular imagination. At dawn on Friday, October 13, 1307, they went from being one of the most powerful organizations in medieval Europe to prisoners and fugitives. They were questioned under torture and their leaders were executed for heresy. Officially disbanded in 1312, the Knights Templar ceased to exist. The legend of the Templars has proved harder to destroy. Rumors persisted of hidden treasure, of a curse that blighted a dynasty, and of a secret so powerful that it threatened the very basis of the Church. New organizations such as the Freemasons looked back to the Templars and became shrouded in myth and conspiracy theory themselves. The Templars is the first in a series of Colonial Gothic sourcebooks covering secret societies and other organizations. Within these pages, you will find detailed and authoritative information on the activities of the Knights Templar in the world of Colonial Gothic, including their acknowledged and secret histories, their structure and organization, their goals in the Thirteen Colonies, and around the world, and the implications of membership. Although they do not show their hand openly, the Knights Templar remains a force in the world of Colonial Gothic. Their hand is seldom seen, but it pulls on many strings.

A renowned scholar brings to life medieval England's most celebrated knight, William Marshal—providing an unprecedented and intimate view of this age and the legendary warrior class that shaped it. Caught on the wrong side of an English civil war and condemned by his father to the gallows at age five, William Marshal defied all odds to become one of England's most celebrated knights. Thomas Asbridge's rousing narrative chronicles William's rise, using his life as a prism to view the origins, experiences, and influence of the knight in British history. In William's day, the brutish realities of war and politics collided with romanticized myths about an Arthurian "golden age," giving rise to a new chivalric ideal. Asbridge details the training rituals, weaponry, and battle tactics of knighthood, and explores the codes of chivalry and courtliness that shaped their daily lives. These skills were essential to survive one of the most turbulent periods in English history—an era of striking transformation, as the West emerged from the Dark Ages. A leading retainer of five English kings, Marshal served the great figures of this age, from Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine to Richard the

Lionheart and his infamous brother John, and was involved in some of the most critical phases of medieval history, from the Magna Carta to the survival of the Angevin/Plantagenet dynasty. Asbridge introduces this storied knight to modern readers and places him firmly in the context of the majesty, passion, and bloody intrigue of the Middle Ages. The Greatest Knight features 16 pages of black-and-white and color illustrations.

Out of dark and violent centuries, legends of a great leader arose. King Arthur became one of the most famous figures in British literature. During the Dark Ages, Britain was without a king and the land was divided. Death and destruction reigned over the land as power-hungry overlords armed themselves and fought against their fellow countrymen. In MYTHOLOGY OF KING ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS, Evelyn Wolfson examines both legend and historical fact surrounding King Arthur and the Dark Ages in the British Isles. This book is developed from KING ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS IN MYTHOLOGY to allow republication of the original text into ebook, paperback, and trade editions.

This brisk retelling of Le Morte D'Arthur highlights the narrative drive, humor, and poignancy of Sir Thomas Malory's original while updating his fifteenth-century English and selectively pruning over-elaborate passages that can try the patience of modern readers. The result is an adaptation that readers can enjoy as a fresh approach to Malory's sprawling masterpiece. The book's most famous episodes--the sword in the stone, the cataclysmic final battle--are all here, while lesser-known key episodes stand forth with new brightness and clarity. The text is accompanied by an up-to-date bibliography, including websites and video resources, and a descriptive index keyed--like the retelling itself--to the book and chapter divisions of William Caxton's first printed edition of 1485.

The existence of the Holy Grail has long been debated, and many of these debates focus on the intellectualized or psychological aspects of it. This work explores the events that gave rise to the legend of the Holy Grail and pays special attention to the texts that form the body of the legend, as well as historical facts about the life of Christ, the Crusades, and the fall from grace of the Knights Templar. The book examines the legitimacy of the claims made by several present-day believers and also introduces a new theory of multiple grails (and the evidence supporting this theory), which, the author believes, answers many of the otherwise unanswered questions surrounding the Holy Grail.

Chrysanthemum loves her name, until she starts going to school and the other children make fun of it.

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