

Walter Reed Middle School Library

Medieval Themed Literature

Compiled by Mark Bobrosky, LMT March 2004



Titles with a “•” are in the Reed Library collection

Alder, Elizabeth - King's shadow, The (1995) Young Adult

New York, Farrar Straus Giroux, 1995 259 Pages.

After he is orphaned and has his tongue cut out in a clash with the bullying sons of a Welsh noble, Evyn is sold as a slave and serves many masters, from the gracious Lady Swan Neck to the valiant Harold Godwinson, England's last Saxon king.

Amoss, Berthe - Lost magic (1993) Children's

New York, Hyperion Books for Children, 1993. 184 Pages.

In the Middle Ages, orphaned Ceridwen learns the art of herbal healing and gains the protection of the local lord until she is accused of witchcraft.

• **Avi - Crispin : the cross of lead** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Hyperion Books for Children, c2002., RL 5.3, 262p
Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

• **Avi - Midnight magic (1999)** Children's

New York, Scholastic Press, 1999. 249 Pages.

In Italy in 1491, Mangus the magician and his apprentice are summoned to the castle of Duke Claudio to determine if his daughter is indeed being haunted by a ghost.

Baer, Ann. - Down the common : a novel {IL AD, 823}-- M. Evans and Co., c1996., 234p

A month-by-month account of the life of Marion, a wife and mother living in medieval England who manages to find the beauty around her in spite of hunger, cold, and back-breaking work.

Baer, Ann - Down the common (1996) Adult

New York, M. Evans, 1996 234 Pages.

Gifted with the ability to see beauty when others only see hunger, brutal work, and disease, Marion becomes her medieval English village's salvation, in an evocative celebration of "Everywoman"

• **Barrett, Tracy - Anna of Byzantium** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Delacorte Press, 1999., 209p

In the eleventh century the teenage princess Anna Comnena fights for her birthright, the throne to the Byzantine Empire, which she fears will be taken from her by her younger brother John because he is a boy.

Beaufort, Simon - Head for poisoning, A (1999) Adult

New York, St. Martin's Press, 1999. 378 Pages.

In a medieval mystery, Geoffrey de Mappestone tries to uncover who in his family might be a traitor, loses his father to murder, and finds out that the danger reaches all the way to the king

Beaufort, Simon - Murder in the Holy City (1998) Adult

New York, St. Martin's Press, 1998. 280 Pages.

When Sir Geoffrey de Mappestone returns from a desert patrol near Jerusalem during the Crusades, he discovers a murdered soldier in a baker's bedchamber.

Bradshaw, Gillian Wolf hunt, The (2001) Adult

New York, Forge, 2001. 380 Pages.

Marie Penthiáevre of Chalendrey, a young Norman woman at the court of Brittany, falls for Tiarnâan of Talensac, who marries another, but when Tiarnâan mysteriously vanishes and his "widow" seizes control of his lands, it is up to Marie to rescue him.

Browne, N. M. - Warriors of Camlann {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Bloomsbury , Distributed to the trade by Holtzbrinck Publishers, 2003., 398p

Armed with their respective powers as warrior and magician, Dan and Ursula attempt to return to their own time through the Veil but instead find themselves in the turbulent era of the early Middle Ages in the service of Artorius Ursus, War Duke of Britain.

Bujold, Lois McMaster - Spirit ring, The (1992) Adult

Baen Books, 1992. 369 Pages.

When her father, a goldsmith and master mage, dies during the siege of their Italian village, fifteen-year-old Fiametta finds her own fledgling magic tested in the ensuing battle against the evil Lord Ferrante.

• **Cadnum, Michael. - The book of the lion** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Viking, 2000., 204p

In twelfth-century England, after his master, a maker of coins for the king, is brutally punished for alleged cheating, seventeen-year-old Edmund finds himself traveling to the Holy Land as squire to a knight crusader on his way to join the forces of Richard Lionheart.

Cadnum, Michael. - Daughter of the wind : a novel {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Orchard Books, 2003., RL 5.8, 266p

In medieval times as various groups of Vikings fight for supremacy of the northern lands and waters, Hallgerd, Gauk, and Hego, three young people from the quiet coastal village of Spjothof, find their fates intertwined as a series of events take them into danger far from home.

• **Cadnum, Michael. - Forbidden forest : the story of Little John and Robin Hood** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Orchard, 2002., RL 6.1, 218p

Profiles Little John, from his quiet life before joining Robin Hood through his adventures protecting a beautiful lady when she is wrongfully accused of murdering her husband.

• **Cadnum, Michael. - The leopard sword** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Viking, c2002., 195p

Hubert, a young knight's squire sailing back to England from the Crusades, must take up arms again when infidels attack the ship, and he discovers his fight is not over when he finally reaches home only to find a friend facing execution.

• **Cadnum, Michael. - Raven of the waves** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Orchard Books, c2001., 200p

On his first Viking raid, seventeen-year-old Lidsmod sails on the ship Raven, joining his comrades as they destroy and plunder villages in medieval England and take an Anglo-Saxon boy as captive.

Cadnum, Michael - Daughter of the wind (2003) Young Adult

New York, Orchard Books, 2003. 266 Pages.

In medieval times as various groups of Vikings fight for supremacy of the northern lands and waters, Hallgerd, Gauk, and Hego, three young people from the quiet coastal village of Spjothof, find their fates intertwined as a series of events take them into danger far from home.

Carrick, Donald - Harald and the giant knight (1982) Children's

Clarion Books, 1982.

When a group of knights decide to use his father's farm for their spring training, Harald and his family must take desperate measures to get the troublesome knights off their land.

Carrick, Donald - Harald and the Great Stag (1988) Children's

Clarion Books, 1988.

When Harald, who lives in England during the Middle Ages, hears that the Baron and his royal guests are planning to hunt the legendary Great Stag, he devises a clever scheme to protect the animal.

Cohen, Barbara. - Canterbury tales {IL 5-8, 821}-- Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, c1988., RL 5.2, 87p
A prose retelling of four tales from Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," in which travelers on a pilgrimage to Canterbury in the Middle Ages share their stories.

• **Crichton, Michael - Timeline** {IL AD, 813}-- Knopf , Distributed by Random House, 1999., 449p
When a group of scientists learns how to travel through time, they enter life in fourteenth-century feudal France and threaten the history of the world.

• **Crossley-Holland, Kevin. - At the crossing-places** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Arthur A. Levine Books, 2002., RL 5.8, 394p
Thirteen-year-old Arthur, now serving as a squire to Lord Stephen of Holt Castle, turns his attention to fulfilling some of his other dreams, such as meeting his birth mother, marrying the beautiful Winnie, and most of all, becoming a Crusader.

• **Crossley-Holland, Kevin. - The seeing stone** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Arthur A. Levine Books, 2001., RL 5.9, 342p
Arthur, a thirteen-year-old boy in late twelfth-century England, tells how Merlin gave him a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur, the events of whose life seem to have many parallels to his own.

Crowley, Bridget. - Feast of Fools {IL YA, -Fic-}-- M. K. McElderry Books, 2003., 261p
In England in the late thirteenth century, a young chorister at the Cathedral of Saint Aelred, outcast because of his crippled foot, sympathizes with the city's other outcasts, the Jews, and sets out to prove their leader innocent of murder.

• **Cushman, Karen. - Catherine, called Birdy** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Clarion Books, c1994., RL 7.4, 169p
The daughter of an English country knight keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life, particularly her longing for adventures beyond the usual role of women and her efforts to avoid being married off.

• **Cushman, Karen. - Matilda Bone** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Clarion, c2000., RL 6.1, 167p
Fourteen-year-old Matilda, an apprentice bonesetter and practitioner of medicine in a village in medieval England, tries to reconcile the various aspects of her life, both spiritual and practical.

• **Cushman, Karen. - The midwife's apprentice** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Clarion Books, c1995., 122p
In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.

• **De Angeli, Margurite. - The door in the wall** {IL 5-8, -Fic-} --Doubleday, c1949,1989.
A crippled boy in fourteenth-century England proves his courage and earns recognition from the King.

Deveraux, Jude. - The conquest {IL AD, 813}-- Pocket, c1991., 309p
Lovely Zared Peregrine, trained by her brothers in the arts of war and dressed in boy's clothing to keep her safe, is found out by the magnificent Knight Tearle Howard who mounts a quest to win her heart and hand in spite of the feud raging between their families.

Doyle, Debra. - Knight's wyrd {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Magic Carpet Books, 1997., RL 6.9, 308p
Will Odosson sets out on a series of dangerous adventures after a wizard predicts that he will meet his death before a year has passed.

• **Goodman, Joan E. - Peregrine** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Houghton Mifflin, 2000., RL 6.7, 222p
In 1144, fifteen-year-old Lady Edith, having lost her husband and child and anxious to avoid marrying a man she detests, sets out from her home in Surrey to go on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Goodman, Joan E. - The winter hare {IL 5-8, -Fic--} Houghton Mifflin Co., 1996., RL 5.9, 255p

In 1140, with England divided between the supporters of King Stephen and those of the Empress Matilda, twelve-year-old Will Belet, small for his age but longing to be a knight, comes to his Uncle's castle to be a page and soon finds himself involved in dangerous intrigues and adventures.

Gordon, Alan (Alan R.) - Jester leaps in : a medieval mystery {IL AD, 813--} St. Martin's Minotaur, 2000., 276p

Theopolis, a member of the Fools Guild whose agents work behind the scenes to maintain a balance of power in thirteenth-century Europe, embarks on a dangerous journey to Constantinople, along with his new wife, Viola, in an attempt to gather information about rumors of trouble in the Byzantine throne.

• **Haahr, Berit I. - The minstrel's tale** {IL YA, -Fic--} Delacorte Press, c2000., 247p

When betrothed to a repulsive old man, thirteen-year-old Judith runs away, assumes the identity of a young boy, and hopes to join the King's Minstrels in fourteenth-century England.

Hamley, Dennis. - Pageants of despair. {IL YA, 823--} S. G. Phillips, 1974., RL 7.1, 175p

A strange encounter transports Peter back to the Middle Ages to take part in a mystery play in which the actors become the characters they portray.

Holman, Sheri. - A stolen tongue {IL AD, 813--} Anchor Books, 1998, c1997., 343p

Story of a pilgrimage filled with danger and adventure as a group of German pilgrims encounter death, murder, and the unexpected while traveling to the Holy Land.

Jakober, Marie. - The black chalice {IL AD, 813--} Ace Books, 2002, c2000., 460p

Paul, an aging monk who once served as squire to Crusader knight Karelian of Lys, sets out to write a cautionary Christian story of how Karelian fell to the forces of darkness, but an encounter with the Otherworld enchants his quill, forcing him to tell the truth about Karelian, the pagan witch he loved, and a man who wanted to rule the world.

Jinks, Catherine. - Pagan in exile {IL YA, -Fic--} Candlewick Press, 2004, c1994., 326p

After fighting the infidels in Jerusalem in 1188, Lord Roland and his squire Pagan return to Roland's castle in France where they encounter violent family feuds and religious heretics.

Jordan, Sherryl - Raging quiet, The (1999) Young Adult

New York, Simon & Schuster, 1999. 266 Pages.

Suspicious of sixteen-year-old Marnie, a newcomer to their village, the residents accuse her of witchcraft when she discovers that the village madman is not crazy but deaf and she begins to communicate with him through hand gestures.

• **Jordan, Sherryl. - The hunting of the last dragon** {IL YA, -Fic--} HarperCollins, c2002., 186p

In England in 1356, as a monk records his every word, a young peasant tells of his journey with a young Chinese noblewoman to St. Alfric's Cove and the lair of a dragon.

Jones, Terry - Lady and the squire, The (2000) Children's

England, Belitha Press, 2000 304 Pages.

Tom and Ann continue their adventures in medieval France as Tom is kidnapped, attacked by a cannibal, hunted by bandits, and befriended by a giant.

Kelly, Eric Philbrook, 1884-1960. - The trumpeter of Krakow {IL 5-8, -Fic--} Macmillan, 1966., RL 5.5, 208p

A Polish family in the Middle Ages guards a great secret treasure and a boy's memory of an earlier trumpeter of Krakow makes it possible for him to save his father.

• **Levitin, Sonia - The cure** {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Silver Whistle/Harcourt Brace, c1999., 181p
A young boy living in 2407 collides with the past when he finds himself in Strasbourg in 1348 confronting the antisemitism that sweeps through Europe during the Black Plague.

Love, D. Anne - Puppeteer's apprentice, The (2003) Children's
New York, M.K. McElderry Books, 2003 185 Pages.
A medieval orphan girl called Mouse gains the courage she needs to follow her dreams of becoming a puppeteer's apprentice.

Malone, Patricia - The legend of Lady Ilena {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Dell Laurel-Leaf, 2003, c2002., RL 7.3, 232p
In sixth-century Great Britain, a fifteen-year-old girl seeking knowledge of her lineage is drawn into battle to defend the homeland she never knew, aided by one of King Arthur's knights.

• **Morris, Gerald - Parsifal's page** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Houghton Mifflin, 2001., RL 6.0, 232p
In medieval England, eleven-year-old Piers' dream comes true when he becomes page to Parsifal, a peasant whose quest for knighthood reveals important secrets about both of their families.
*Gerald Morris has a series of titles that are set in medieval England;
The squire, his knight & his lady; The ballad of Sir Dinadan; The savage damsel and the dwarf; The squire's tale All titles are in the Reed Library.

Morressy, John - Juggler, The (1996) Children's
New York, H. Holt, 1996. 261 Pages.
In medieval England, Beran must decide whether to sell his soul to the Devil to become the world's greatest juggler.

Morson, Ian. - Falconer and the face of God {IL AD, 823}-- St. Martin's Paperbacks, 1997, c1996., 203p
Medieval investigator William Falconer, in the midst of research on alchemy for his exiled mentor Roger Bacon, unhappily becomes the protector of Stefano de Askeles, the hated leader of a traveling acting troupe, after he witnesses the murder of de Askeles's stand-in during a rehearsal.

Napoli, Donna Jo - Breath {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2003., 260p
Elaborates on the tale of "The Pied Piper," told from the point of view of a boy who is too ill to keep up when a piper spirits away the healthy children of a plague-ridden town after being cheated out of full payment for ridding Hameln of rats.

Newman, Sharan. - The outcast dove {IL AD, 813}-- Forge, 2003., 432p
Catherine LeVendeur's family and fortune is in danger when her relationship to Soloman, whom holds the key to her family's fortune, is revealed, along with a decades-old family secret.

O'Brien, Patrick - Making of a knight, The (1998) Children's
Watertown, MA, 1998.
Traces James' journey during the Middle Ages in England from inexperienced page at the age of seven to knighthood at the age of twenty-one.

Osborne, Mary Pope, adapter - Favorite medieval tales (1998) Children's
New York, Scholastic Press, 1998. 86 Pages.
A collection of well-known tales from medieval Europe: Finn Maccoul, Beowulf, Sword in the stone, Island of the lost children, Song of Roland, The werewolf, Sir Gawain and the green knight, Robin Hood and his Merry Men, Chanticleer and the fox. Includes notes on the stories and the period.

Patterson, James. The jester : a novel { IL AD, 813}-- Little, Brown, c2003., 457p
An innkeeper just back from the First Crusade disguises himself as a court jester to save his wife, who has been abducted by an evil duke searching for a holy relic.

Sauerwein, Leigh. - Song for Eloise {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Front Street, c2003., 133p

In twelfth-century France, fifteen-year-old Eloise, newly and unhappily married to the rough, ambitious, much older but devoted Robert of Rochefort, finds it difficult to adjust to her new life and unwisely falls in love with the young troubadour who comes to sing at her husband's castle.

• **Scott, Walter, Sir, 1771-1832. - Ivanhoe** {IL AD, 823}-- Tor, 2000., 534p

Sir Walter Scott's classic tale in which Wilfred of Ivanhoe, a warrior just returned from the Crusades, embarks on adventures both treacherous and romantic in his quest to foil Prince John's plan to take Richard the Lion-Hearted's throne.

Springer, Nancy. - Lionclaw : a tale of Rowan Hood {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Philomel Books, c2002., RL 7.1, 122p

Young Lionel, minstrel in the outlaw band of Rowan Hood, daughter of Robin, tries to find his courage when she is abducted from Sherwood Forest.

Springer, Nancy. - Rowan Hood, outlaw girl of Sherwood Forest {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Philomel Books, c2001., RL 7.1, 170p

In her quest to connect with Robin Hood, the father she has never met, thirteen-year-old Rosemary disguises herself as a boy, befriends a half-wolf, half-dog, a runaway princess, and an overgrown boy whose singing is hypnotic, and makes peace with her elfin heritage.

Tarr, Judith. - Kingdom of the grail {IL AD, 813}-- ROC, c2000., 456p

In this novel inspired by the legendary wizard Merlin and the epic poem "Song of Roland," a brave knight and warrior named Roland, mentored as a boy by Merlin, must face his greatest challenge when Merlin's old enemy arrives seeking the Holy Grail.

Temple, Frances. - The Ramsay scallop {IL YA, -Fic-}-- HarperTrophy, 1995, c1994., 310p

Thirteenth century couple, Elenor and Tom, overcome their reluctance to marry after they are sent on a pre-nuptial journey to Spain and learn more about the world and each other.

• **Twain, Mark, 1835-1910. - A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's court** {IL AD, 813}--

University of California Press, 1983, c1979., 479p

Nineteenth-century mechanic Hank Morgan suffers a blow to the head and wakes up in King Arthur's Court where he tries to introduce modern technology and political ideas to the inhabitants.

• **Vining, Elizabeth Gray, 1902- - Adam of the road** {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- Viking, c1970, c1942., RL 6.1, 317p

The adventures of an eleven-year-old boy in 13th century England as he searches for his father and his dog.

Williams, Laura E. - The executioner's daughter {IL 5-8, -Fic-}-- H. Holt, 2000., RL 7.5, 134p

Thirteen-year-old Lily, daughter of the town's executioner living in fifteenth-century Europe, decides whether to fight against her destiny or to rise above her fate.

Yolen, Jane. - Sword of the rightful king : a novel of King Arthur {IL YA, -Fic-}-- Harcourt, c2003., 349p

Merlinus the magician devises a way for King Arthur to prove himself the rightful king of England--pulling a sword from a stone--but trouble arises when someone else removes the sword first.