



Castle Wall Productions

Introduction & history of the age

To understand the history of England circa 1194 one must go back over a hundred years to William the Conqueror a Norman who defeated the Saxons and became king of England. The Saxons are by enlarge, an oppressed peoples and this continued into the time of “Robin Hood.” This hatred between Norman and Saxon runs deep, so deep in fact, that many of them consider the other a separate race. This division sometimes runs even within those peoples of the island such as Dane and Celt some historians dispute this, but records of the time show that marriages were for the most part kept separate. The second aspect of life in this time is religion, which is so important that almost every moment of life is touched by it. The crusades are proof of this and those people that are not ‘Christian’ are often considered less than people, such as the Jews, Muslims and Gypsies. Theses peoples are often referred to as infidels. The third fact to note is politics, which is rife throughout the church, and the state there is so much political maneuvering going on it would be impossible to name examples of it, every body’s life from the lowliest peasant to the highest king is affected by the maneuverings of politics.

Dates particular to the story

| | |
|------------|--|
| 09/08/1157 | Richard is born |
| 1160 | Robin is born |
| 12/24/1166 | John is born |
| 07/06/1189 | King Henry II Dies |
| 07/20/1189 | Richard crowned Duke of Normandy |
| 09/03/1189 | Richard crowned King of England |
| 12/1189 | Richard names his nephew Arthur heir in case he dies |
| 07/1190 | King Richard leaves for the Third Crusade |
| 1192 | Eleanor returns to England |
| 09/02/1192 | Richard / Saladin agree to a truce |
| 1192 | Robin returns from the crusade |
| 1192 | Tournament in Acre, Ivanhoe’s “death” |
| 12/1192 | Richard captured and imprisoned in Austria |
| 02/1193 | John learns of Richard’s imprisonment |
| 1193 | Gilbert returns from the crusades |
| 02/04/1194 | Richard is released from imprisonment |
| 1194 | Prince John’s coronation tournament (the time of our show) |

Notes

Our version of the Robin Hood legend or the story of Ivanhoe is by no means supposed to be an accurate historical portrayal of the era in question. Its sole purpose is for entertainment and enjoyment.

In the writings of bios, some of the original English spelling is used to preserve the flavour of the time.

In a similar vein many of the Norman names are in their original French to preserve the ambiance of the era.

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Character Bios (Dramatis Personae)

updated 03/06/2009

Normans

King Richard (Richard the Lion Hearted, Richard I, Couer de Lion, Melech Ric)

The true historical Richard spent only six to eight months of his reign in England the rest of his time was spent either in France or the Holy land on crusade.

During the Third Crusade Richard hearing of his brother's treachery negotiated a truce with Saladin, and left for England. Richard was captured while returning to England by the forces of King Leopold V of Austria, with the help of King Philip II of France and **Prince John**, Richards own brother, and Richard was imprisoned in Germany and eventually found by the troubadour **Blondel**. Richard's chancellor **William Longchamp** secretly affected his ransom with the help of Richards mother **Eleanor of Aquitaine**.

Richard is fair and honorable and has compassion for friend and foe alike; he is an excellent swordsman and trained in the martial skills. Richard is a master tactician, a negotiator, and is also trained in the courtly arts. Richard is considered a good king but cares little for governing, and more for the thrill of battle, despite this he truly cares for his people. Richard actually believes that the nobility should not oppress the peasant or the infidel.

Berengaria of Navarre (Queen of England)

Wife of Richard I spent most of her life in France and historically did not set foot in England until after Richards death. She loves Richard and currently does not believe the rumors that John and his court perpetuate.

Prince John (Prince John Lackland, Soft sword, the future King of England)

Prince John received his nickname from the fact that he received no fief from his father Henry II, John plotted with his brother **Richard** to usurp the throne from their father and Richard rewards John with lordships in France and England. John marries Isabel of Gloucester in 1189 and remained with her for ten years. John became angered at Richards choice of an heir their nephew Arthur, and plotted against his brother while he was away at the Third Crusades. This plot was almost successful when Richard I was imprisoned in Germany and that is the time of John's coronation tournament (circa 1194).

John lusts for power and tends to be a delagative leader, giving favors and lands to subordinate nobles to gain loyalty and to many these makes him seem weak. While a God fearing man John has no problems using whatever method gains him more power, such as a pagan advisor or an unscrupulous mercenary. John has absolutely no love for the Saxons and considers them second-class citizens, even the Saxon nobility. Of note is that John is a lech and often has amorous motives when it comes to a pretty face, John's single driving force is his quest for the Crown of England and the power that it brings him, everything else is secondary to that goal. John tends to be calm but is known to have fits of rage if things don't go his way. He is trained in the martial skills; he is also skilled in many courtly arts.

Queen Isabel (Isabel of Gloucester, Avis, Hawise, Joan, Elenore)

Isabella is a woman of stature; she is of Norman nobility and carries herself as such. She married **Prince John** in 1189 and came with quite a few extras in her dowry such as her brother's allegiance to John and several county fiefs under her control. Her close kinship with John meant that they needed to get special permission from the church (the pope in particular) to get married.

While not being as power hungry as her husband Isabella enjoys the privileges that her station gives her. She has no particular dislike for the Saxon, but is defiantly pro Norman. Queen Isabella has a temper and is very much a spoiled brat. She has no compunction about speaking her mind, and will often have a terse comment that will quiet all conversation, Isabella's bodyguard **Lady Gwen** is her first line of defense on a physical level.

Eleanor Of Aquitaine (Queen Mother)

Eleanor is the mother of both Richard and John although it was no secret that her favorite was Richard she still loved all of her children. Eleanor's past is filled with events that most women of her time don't even attempt to think of, she married a French King, she raised a company of women to go to the Holy Land, the Queens Guard, was courted by a Saracen Emir, divorced and married a Norman noble (one day to be King of England) in one of the grandest ceremonies England had ever seen. She bore nine children, was placed under "house arrest" for 16 years, and became the first power of England before Richard was crowned, and reformed many English laws. Eleanor is a force to be reckoned with and fears little.

Black Knight (The Mercenary)

The mercenary known as the black knight is a warrior whose sword owes allegiance to the highest bidder and that knows no mercy. The Black knight has a dire reputation and for Prince John to have him in his camp as the Norman champion is a coup for the future king.

Sheriff of Nottingham (Robert de Rainault, Constable of Nottingham Castle)

Robert de Rainault is the brother of **Abbot Hugo** and is the most dangerous enemy that **Robin Hood** has. Robert inherited the station of Sheriff from his father and since he is constable of a royal castle has the ear of **Prince John**.

The sheriff first ran across Robin Hood when it became obvious that his cousin **Guy of Gisbourne** could not catch Robin Hood on his own. The Sheriff has many resources available to him so the bandits of Sherwood Forest have become his problem. The Sheriff lusts after Marion and realizes that her heart belongs to Loxley and it goads at him unbelievably. The Sheriff believes that if he can eliminate Loxley, Marion's attention will turn to him. The Sheriff gaining Marion as a ward has put some strife between himself and his brother the Abbott, but they still plot to bring down Loxley and his band of men. The Sheriff enjoys the attention Ranora shows him but is leery of her motivations, the sheriff has a unique relationship with **Lady Alicia**, that of student and lover The sheriff truly likes **Friar Tuck** believing him to be a kindred spirit, at least in the ways of wenching, but Tuck uses his position to aid Robin and Marion's cause. The Sheriff's strongest ally is the Knight Templar **Brian des Bois de Gilbert**, while their goals are not the same but their methods are similar.

Robert is an arrogant, pompous, and enjoys what his position brings, wealth, good food wine and women, he is secure in his position and the privileges it gives him. He is well trained in the use of the sword and several other weapons. He is given to fits of rage and has a temper several shires wide. He is calculating and uses almost every opportunity to his advantage if at all possible. He does not look on failure kindly unless it his own.

Brian De Gilbert (Brian des Bois de Gilbert, The Raven Templar)

The man known as Brian Desboise de Gilbert is a Knight Templar, a holy soldier of the church, almost to the point of being a zealot, and a Norman through and through. He is not enamored with **Lady Rowena** as she was **Ivanhoe's** love and he covetous all of Ivanhoe's possessions real or imagined, she is as his ward by order of the **Abbot Hugo**. After returning from the crusades Gilbert brought the news of Ivanhoe's treachery and the death of **King Richard**. He assumed wardenship over Rowena through the auspices of the church and Abbott Hugo. Gilbert has no feelings for Rowena and her heart only belongs to **Ivanhoe**. At a tournament in the holy land Gilbert was defeated by Ivanhoe during a joust, this embarrassment was too much for Gilbert; later Gilbert was able to deal a near fatal blow to Ivanhoe. Gilbert has attempted to frame Ivanhoe for the death of King Richard, according to Gilbert, Ivanhoe had been captured by Saladin's forces and he told them where to find King Richard, this led to Richards capture and the death of both Richard and Ivanhoe. Gilbert has a strong hatred for Ivanhoe and if he were ever to see him again he would probably be consumed with nothing less than Ivanhoe's death.

Gilbert while being a knight of the church uses his position to the utmost to gain whatever advantage he can. He is calculating, cunning; he rarely shows any emotion except bravado toward opponents and is well trained in the use of weapons.

Red Knight (Demonic Knight)

Whether this "knight" is human, demonic or something in between, no one knows and the knight is not telling. This knight, supposedly summoned by **Ranora** or possibly **Baron Isambart** revels in the chaos that surrounds him and uses it to his advantage. The "knight" is truly evil and will win by any means and defiantly has dark powers behind his helmet

Lady Ranora La Noire (Priestess, Ranora the Dark, Ranora the Pagan, The Black Witch)

Ranora is priestess of dark powers of which no one should speak, a caster of spells, a brewer of potions, and a consorter of things that dwell in darkness.

She hails from far off lands and appeared at Prince Johns court at the behest of **Baron Isambart De Belame** court and became one of his prince John's advisors. She travels with the prince and is currently residing at Nottingham Castle. Ranora has feelings for **Robert de Rainault, the Sheriff**, but he lusts after **Marion**, and this infuriates Ranora who takes her frustrations out solely on Marion. The only reason that she doesn't attempt to outright kill Marion is because Marion is under the Sheriffs protection. Ranora has some issues with **Lady Alicia** as she has designs on the Sheriff and he on her. Ranora uses her feminine wiles to get what she wants and her sex is her greatest weapon.

Ranora has the ability to cast spells of varying degrees, she is precognitive, she is accused of consorting with demons and rumors of a demonic **Red Knight** persist.

Ranora is wild, she does what she wants when she wants and usually gets away with it (since she is under Prince John's protection). She is EVIL and not a woman to be crossed. Ranora will do almost anything to gain the Sheriffs attention; unfortunately the Sheriffs concerns lie with Marion whether this changes remains to be seen.

Lady Rose (Rose Evelyn Siney)

Lady Rose is an enigma to say the least. She is one of the queen's ladies in waiting, brought to the court by Ranora and allowed to stay by **Prince John's** decree. She is usually found near Ranora or Ranora's apprentice **Elspeth**. What her motives are and why she is here she is not saying. Lady Rose is extremely self centered and considers herself the equal of any man; she chafes at the sexist attitudes of the men at the time. She is versed in martial weapons, it is rumored that she was a peasant raised to court level by Ranora, others say she was married at one time to a royal guard or minor noble but none of these can be verified.

Lawrence De Languedoc (Lawrence the Lady-killer)

Lawrence a Norman, born in France moved to England under suspicious circumstances. The son of a minor noble he came to **Prince John's** court several months ago and things have never been the same. Lawrence has trained in melee combat but the fact is he is a coward, on several occasions he has backed down from combat or cheated to win. It soon became obvious the reason he left France was the blatant murder of a Norman peasant woman. Lawrence has gained a reputation of battling only women, and if they are winning defeating them by cheating. Lawrence often kills his opponents after they yield; he usually has several knives or a dagger hidden on his person, which he uses to deadly effect. In John's court he has gained the nickname "Lady-killer" and some measure of tolerance. The only reason he is not in a dungeon is his father holds a bit of political influence in France.

Lawrence is a knave of the worst sort, a coward, and perverse in his pleasures, the most alarming thing is he is quiet and unimposing a deadly combination. He does not like strong women, they intimidate him, who is why he dislikes the **Queen, Gwen, Ranora** and **Marion** and the feeling is mutual (probably the only thing the later two will ever agree on). Of note is that the female peasant population where ever Lawrence is tends to drop drastically, and it will be probably only a matter of time before he is forced to move on or stopped.

Sir Guy of Gisbourne (Steward of Sherwood Forest)

Guy is the right hand man of **Abbott Hugo** and was knighted and appointed by the church and it was under orders from the Abbott that caused **Robin of Loxley** to become an outlaw. On numerous occasions he has attempted to capture Robin and failed, this is when the **Sheriff** was brought in under the direct orders of **Prince John**. Guy is an adequate warrior but tends to have more bravado when he has his men backing him up when he is alone he is less than brave. Guy is cousin to the Sheriff and has no problem using the Sheriffs name to gain favors or intimidate. Guy despises the peasants and lords his position over them when at all

possible, he is known as a man not to cross because he will have his men beat you senseless if you do.

Guy is not beyond cheating or lying to gain the upper hand but he often does not think he is for acting and this often causes him problems. He has failed in a few tasks given to him and has taken the derision heaped upon him by the Sheriff. The Abbott tolerates him (he is an excellent spy in Prince John's court) and since he is technically the Abbott's man he is protected in so much as his life is concerned. Guy is madly in love with Fair Ellen who was promised to him by the Abbot Hugo, but is oblivious to Lady Ilene's advances.

Lady Ilene (Lady Ilene of Derby)

Lady Ilene is the daughter of Lord William, the Earl of Derby, a trusted advisor to **Prince John**. She is one of the **Queen Isabella's** ladies in waiting and has been trained by **Lady Gwen** in combat skills. Lady Ilene has her heart set on marriage to **Guy of Gisbourne**, cousin to the **Sheriff of Nottingham**. Guy however, is madly in love with **Fair Ellen**, his former betrothed who was "kidnapped" by **Alan a Dale** and **Robin Hood** and now with the Merry Men. She staunchly defends Guy and any one who attacks him is an enemy, She does not like it when the Sherriff starts to berate Guy, thus there are some tensions between her and the Sheriff. Lady Ilene is always on the lookout for any of Robin's men, as she knows her rival (as she sees Fair Ellen) cannot be far behind. Reared in Prince John's court, Ilene is no stranger to intrigue and is not above scheming, deception and even armed combat to get what she wants. Ilene is a very single minded woman, that goal is to spend her rest of her life with Guy, and what ever it takes will be done to make that happen.

Sir Morris Hugh de Bracy

Mercenary knight and friend to **Gilbert** returned from the crusades with Gilbert. The "knight" de Bracy is anything but, he is a liar, a cheat, and a criminal of the basest sort all hiding behind the masque of knighthood. De Bracy is a good fighter though and has survived many battlefields and has much martial skill with a sword. De Bracy has been friends with Gilbert for some years now and both benefit from the relationship, De Bracy by having the "ear" of the church, and Gilbert by having someone close to him whose hands are not tied by church politics. De Bracy is staunchly Norman and is firmly seated in the court of **Prince John**. De Bracy looks out for Gilbert and vice versa they would be considered shield brethren.

Sir Philip De Malvosian (Captain of the Ten Companies)

Mercenary knight and ally to **Gilbert**, he has tasked himself with watching out for Gilbert's interest particularly since he is associated with the church (which has deep pockets). He sees opportunity at every turn and is always looking for a way to turn a situation to his favor. Malvosian also is enamored with Rowena.

Sir Reginald Front De Boeuf (the Bull)

A Norman knight and a friend to Gilbert, originally loyal to King Richard, he switched his loyalty to Prince John when John made a grab for the throne of

England. He is a man of quick action and of little thought, and no mercy. He has anger, and control issues and believes if he wants something he should take it. His opinion of women is that they are possessions, although in his eyes he is Christian and a good man. Supposedly Front De Boeuf got his nickname by singly taking down a bull that rushed he and his horse while in the holy land. Front De Boeuf is also a skilled hunter. He owns a castle that sits on the edge of Sherwood Forest

Ralf De Vipont

Templar knight of St. John and ally of **Gilbert**.

Blondel

King Richard's bard Richard was imprisoned in Germany Blondel searched for him by going to every castle and singing the first lines to a song that he and Richard composed, and waiting for the second line from Richard. He then reported to Richards mother Eleanor and she contacted **William Longchamp**.

The Headsman (The Executioner, The Axe man)

Prince Johns Headsman is a somber, menacing individual used to intimidate those that disagree with Pr John's decisions. He never shows his face (some say he is horribly scarred, some say to give him anonymity but the truth is not known. If any one presents too much problem they are sent to Johns axe man to be dealt with quickly and permanently.

Lady Alicia de Vere (Black Rose of Oxford)

Norman noblewoman, and a member of **Prince Johns** court, her husband left for Crusades and returned unscathed, only miles from home he and **Will Scarlet** ran afoul of one another with Will Scarlet being the victor. When Lady Alicia heard about this incident, she became obsessed with only one thing, the death of Will Scarlet. She is training in the fighting arts as would a man, casting aside most of the trappings of the courtly female. She originally went to the knights of the court but they saw Alicia as a joke. She has been taken under the wing of the **Sheriff of Nottingham** and they share a unique relationship that of student/teacher and lovers. The Sheriff gains a level of respectability if he marries a noble woman and Alicia gains the fighting skills of the sheriff. Lady Alicia is truly a woman possessed and will stop at nothing for vengeance; she cares nothing for Prince John's tournament, she only knows that such a big event will probably cause Will Scarlet to appear, so she will be ready to enact her vengeance.

Lady Gwen (The Queens Shield)

Settling in England, Gwen's grandparents were of Norse noble heritage. Gwen has been brought up in the ways of a shield maiden and can hold her own against any man in battle. She has been held in the court of **Prince John** to insure her family's compliance with John's policies and is **Queen Isabel's** bodyguard. Gwen is an honorable warrior and is somewhat mystified by the intense hatred between Norman and Saxon and the dislikes heaped upon her because of her heritage. She believes that ones deeds should prove ones worth and dislikes the methods used by the members of John's court, she does not voice her opinion to loudly for fear of the repercussions it will have on her family. Lady Gwen is honest, to the point, noble, courageous, and she has a warrior heart. While she is

honor bound to protect the Queen she is starting to believe that she is on the wrong side of this conflict.

Abbot Hugo of St Mary's (Hugo de Rainault)

The religious leader of Nottingham shire and the primary reason **Robin** became an outlaw. The Abbot is a dangerous man in a position of power and often pays as a puppeteer, pulling strings where no one can see him, he is in collusion with **Baron Isambart**. The abbot is the brother of the **Sheriff of Nottingham**

Wrennok of Donne

A Norman assassin

Prior Aymer of Jorvaulx (Prior of Jorvaulx Abbey)

Abbots henchmen within the church.

Prioress of Kirklees Abby

Robin's Cousin and a staunch supporter of **Abbot Hugo** she is nun of the church but has a tendency to be outspoken and to the point, probably due to her station as the head of the Abbey and her ties to **Eleanor of Aquitaine**. The Prioress has been sent to **Prince John's** court under the auspices of watching Prince John's flirting with dark magic's, particularly with **Ranora** being Prince John's personal advisor.

Tepus

Norman archer.

Baldwin de Oyley

Gilberts squire

Sir Hugh De Grantmesuil

Norman knight, and ally of **Gilbert** and the **Sheriff**.

Baron Isambart De Belame

Pagan Landowner and ally of **Abbot Hugo**, Baron Isambart dislikes **Robin** and attempts to capture him on several occasions. A rumor persists that he has some dealings with dark magick but this has not been proven. His reputation is such that his castle is known as Evilhold. There is rumor that he had **Little John** under some sort of magic and **Robin Hood** broke the spell.

Sir Roger "The Cruel" Of Doncaster

Norman noble who has taken the task of ridding the word of **Robin Hood** himself. He is known for his brutal tactics and for having absolutely no mercy. Sir Roger is a vassal of Baron Isambart so the vile plots he hatches are dangerous to be sure.

Ravensgrim (Jonas, Jonas of the East)

Viking mercenary possible a (Rus or Hun) employed by the **Sheriff** to assist in the shire. Jonas was born an illegitimate child to his mother Mariella. Living in Sherwood Forest, Jonas grew up with his mother. His mother taught him skills on survival and tracking from a very young age and from there, he began pick pocketing and eventually began breaking in and stealing goods. Jonas has only one goal in mind and that's to protect and provide for his mother. Jonas has respect for Robin's renegade lifestyle exploits with his merry men. Due to living a life as an outlaw, Jonas is very bitter about many things and comes off being cold and uncaring when actually, deep down, he is a very caring when it comes to his mother. After the abduction of his mother by Front De Boeuf, Jonas did his

best to find his mother and recently found she was kidnapped by Reginald Front de Boeuf. Jonas enters Prince John's Coronation Tournament as the Sheriff's hired mercenary named Ravensgrim in hopes of getting closer to Front De Boeuf, obtain information on his mother's whereabouts and possibly gain revenge Front De Boeuf for taking her.

Mariella Leveaux

Mariella was the daughter of a Norman nobleman named Markus Leveaux and his wife Mariella Leveaux. She had one brother named William who was 2 years older than her. In 1173 her family and a group of hired hands, set out to explore areas for the potential exploitation trade with England under directions from King Richard. In 1174, the group, while trekking far across Eastern Europe, was attacked by Mongolian Raiders. Everyone in the group was killed except for Mariella. Mariella was raped but managed to escape and using her skills of survival and tracking, she managed to make her way back to England. By the time she got back, she discovered she was pregnant and without a father to the child she knew she would be outcast. Fearing death and persecution, she retreated to Sherwood Forest where she gave birth to her son, Jonas. Together they lived a secluded life until Jonas was 5 and she began teaching him the skills her father taught her about survival and tracking. Mariella is quite beautiful for her age. In 1194, she haphazardly decided to return to Nottingham Shire to shop for supplies several years ago, when heading back home she was abducted by Front De Boeuf to be added to his castle servant staff. Her current whereabouts are unknown. Now her last hope is her son, Jonas who has vowed to find her.

Bishop Of Hereford

Bishop robbed by Robin's men.

Hugh du Puiset (Bishop Of Durham)

Ousted co-justicar of England, he hates **Longchamp** and considers him an enemy, because he seeks revenge for being ousted.

Waldemar Fitzurse

Prince John's political advisor, and a personal friend of the **Sheriff**, any where that Prince John is Fitzurse is not far behind, as he truly has Prince John's ear on all things political. Like all politicians he has agendas and most of his involve raising Prince John to the level of King.

Matty

Matty is nephew of **Robert De Rainault, Sheriff of Nottingham** and his apprentice. The sheriff constantly threatens **Guy of Gisbourne** with Matty stating that he will replace him with Matty if he continues to blunder. Matty is small but not afraid of larger opponents.

Elsbeth

An apprentice to the pagan sorceress **Ranora**, Elsbeth is learning the dark arts as well and while her ability does not equal that of her mentor she still has some power, and a want to use it. She has an evil streak in her and is a good apprentice to the priestess Ranora.

Lady Jocelyn

A young woman in **Prince John's** court who is trouble, she is spoiled, bratty, for some reason she has a chip on her shoulder and does not seem to care for any one. She like Lady Ilene, has a dislike for Fair Ellen exactly why is unknown but some believe it has to do with Alan-A-Dale

Caitlyn

The daughter of a Norman noble that was orphaned by the crusades she has been unofficially adopted by **Lady Gwen** and has learned weapons quite well. Caitlyn is very forward.

Roger De Lacy

Norman supporter of Richard and an ally of **William Longchamp** and thus an enemy of **Pr. John**

William Longchamp (Bishop of Ely, Chancellor of England, Justicar of England)

Sir William Longchamp is the only individual to hold both a state and religious position at the same time. Longchamp was also Justicar of England until he was exiled due to his exceeding power. It was Longchamp that assisted in the negotiations that led to the release of **Richard** from the German keep Trifels; he arrived in England preparing for the Kings return. Although he has a somewhat chequered past he is loyal to Richard to a fault. Longchamp silently gives aid to all those who oppose Prince John and his court.

Longchamp is an adequate swordsman, but an excellent statesmen, and politician thus his positions. Longchamp has many enemies the foremost being the ex Justicar **Hugh du Puiset** Bishop of Durham who longs for revenge for being ousted by Longchamp. The **Sheriff** has accused Longchamp of aiding Robin Hood and his men, but so far has been unable to prove it and thus has been hounding him relentlessly.

Joquemo (the Jester, the Fool, King of Jesters - Jester of Kings)

The court jester to **King Richard** and now **Prince John**, gets away with much toward prince John that many would not be able to probably because he is a fool, The queen mother, **Eleanor** adores him which probably ensures his longevity but he usually suffers under the **Sheriff, Ranora** and in particular **Guy of Gisbourne** who really seems to take out much of his frustrations on the jester and for some reason dislikes him immensely.

Saxons

Ivanhoe (Wilfred of Ivanhoe)

Ivanhoe is a thoroughly honorable individual whose sense of duty is his driving force and this sometimes causes him problems. This sense of duty is what caused him to become disinherited by his father **Cedric**. His father was angry that Ivanhoe followed a Norman off to the crusades instead of staying in England and helping there. After receiving a grievous wound at a tournament in the holy land by the hand of the Knight Templar **Brian Desboise de Gilbert** many thought Ivanhoe dead. The Jewess **Rebecca** helped Ivanhoe to health and a relationship began. With the help of Rebecca's father Isaac, Ivanhoe travels back to England and the turmoil there, hoping to reconcile with his father and his one true love the **Lady Rowena**. Ivanhoe is a knight whose word is his bond; he is loyal to the Crown of England and to England itself. He is a loyal subject of King Richard and respects that he is a warrior despite being Norman. The one fault in Ivanhoe's

“armour” is Rebecca, while in the holy land feelings began to blossom even though he still loved Rowena, and it is this fact that that has caused him much guilt. Ivanhoe bears no Norman malice except one, Gilbert, who has slandered him in the worst way possible, calling him a traitor. Ivanhoe is the penultimate hero being loyal honorable and chivalric to a fault, if one person can be counted on to do the right thing it is Ivanhoe.

Lady Rowena (Rowena of Newark)

Lady Rowena was a ward of **Cedric**, father of **Ivanhoe**; she is a lady of grace and poise. Rowena’s heart belongs to Ivanhoe, and when the reports of his death reached her she was devastated. Rowena is to be betrothed to **Lord Athelstaine**, heir to the Saxon Crown but has become a ward of **Brian Desboise Gilbert** thanks to the **Abbott Hugo**. This was done despite Cedric’s efforts to stop it in hopes that she would marry Gilbert but she never relented. Rowena has some martial training but she is not a warrior at heart, she has a deep respect for those women who are warriors. Rowena is the classic damsel in distress, she loves Ivanhoe and her life revolves around him, she never gives up hope that some day he will return to rescue her from her current situation. Rowena despises Gilbert and would leave him if she could. Her only friend in Prince John’s court is **Marion** because their situations are so similar.

Sir Richard of Lea (of the Lea)

Upon returning from the crusades Sir Richard a Saxon noble, learned the Normans had taken most of his lands, now destitute he needed money to pay taxes on what was left. **Robin** helped by loaning money to him, which allowed him to retain his title. He became an ally of Robins in his battles against the Norman oppression. Sir Richard is the shining example of what a “knight” should be. He is honorable, forthright, and chivalrous to a fault. He takes a particular dislike to the pagan priestess **Ranora** because she flaunts her evil so openly. Sir Richard is **Maid Marion’s** father, it chafes him to see the situation his daughter is in and there is nothing he can do to fix it. Sir Richard truly fights the good fight and works to thwart **Prince John’s** tyranny.

Lady Marion (Maid Marion, Maiden Marion, Marion of Lea)

The woman known as Marion originally was the figure of the May Queen in the olde English ballads. In our tale she is the one true love of **Robin Hood**...

Marion is the daughter of **Sir Richard of Lea**, a minor noble of Saxon descent. When her father was sent on the crusades Marion became a ward of the church, in particular at Kirklees Abbey. At one point Marion was to be used as trade for soldiers from **Baron Isambart de Belame** to hunt for the outlaws of Sherwood Forest. On the way to the Baron’s castle Marion was rescued by Robin and his men, it was here that Robin and Marion first met and fell in love. It was soon after this that the **Sheriff of Nottingham** forced his hand and Marion became a ward of

Nottingham Castle. Marion has remained a ward of Nottingham Castle since before her father returned from the crusades and she has fended off the amorous intentions of the Sheriff of Nottingham. Marion's heart belongs to Robin and no one else, she knows of Robin's whereabouts and does her best to foil any plans the Sheriff or his men have to catch Robin. Marion often passes messages through **Friar Tuck** who for a while was the Nottingham Castle chaplain, and has access to Robin. Marion and the pagan priestess **Ranora** have a strong dislike for each other exactly why no one is sure. The **Lady Rowena** and Marion have a common bond due to their situations being so similar.

Disinherited Knight (Destichado)

This knight appears at Prince John's Coronation Tournament not revealing his name nor is his face unless he is defeated on the field. He wears the blazon of a disinherited knight (a knight with no lands).

Rebecca (Rebecca of York, Rebecca the Jewess)

Rebecca daughter of **Isaac of York** Banker for his tribe is a lady of composed beauty. She is skilled in the healing arts and helped **Ivanhoe** heal after receiving a near fatal blow during a tournament in the holy land. Rebecca met Ivanhoe through her father when the valiant knight helped save him from some brigands.

Rebecca and Ivanhoe were attracted to one another almost immediately even though Ivanhoe had feelings for **Rowena**. Rebecca has feelings for Ivanhoe but realizes that because she is an infidel and he is Saxon nobility they probably will never be together. This does not stop her though because she accompanies Ivanhoe to England along with her father.

Rebecca is truly a good person but is a bit jealous of the bond that Ivanhoe and Rowena share. Rebecca does not actually dislike Rowena but sees her as unfaithful to Ivanhoe. She believes that if Rowena truly loved Ivanhoe she would be at his side no matter what the situation

Phillip of Cornwall

King Richard's scout and spy, Phillip could always be found at Richards side Phillip was one of the only people who knew the whole story of **Ivanhoe**, **Gilbert** and King Richard; it was he who sent **Blondel** on the trail of Richards imprisonment. Phillip returned to England under orders from **Eleanor**, to keep tabs on **Prince John** and his allies, prior to Prince John's coronation tournament.

William "Willby" of Forbes

William or Willby as his friends know him is a Saxon supporter of King **Richard**. He is a close friend of Richards from when they were much younger. He can usually be found at Richard's side or supporting one of Richard's interests in England. Often he has received criticism from his Saxon peers for ignoring his Saxon heritage and siding with Richard to quickly, especially concerning matters of state.

Cedric of Rotherwood (Sir Cedric)

Saxon Noble and the defender of all things Saxon (at least in his eyes), he is the ward of the Saxon princess **Rowena** and is attempting to marry her to **Athelstaine**, the descendent of Saxon kings. Cedric is the father of **Ivanhoe** and but has disinherited his son for going of on the crusade with **Richard** a

Norman king. Cedric does all he can to oppose Norman rule no matter who it is on the throne.

Lord Athelstaine

Saxon noble of ruling lineage originally **Rowena's** betrothed prematurely thought dead during a battle with Norman knights. Athelstaine is somewhat of a lout; he cares little for ruling and would rather eat and drink.

Sir Gerstog

A Saxon noble and a friend of Lord Athelstaine Sir Gerstog likes to carouse and wench.

Robert Fitzwalter

Saxon Noble and knight who chafes at the rule of **Prince John** and his intentions toward his daughter.

Matilda Fitzwalter

Daughter of **Robert Fitzwalter** and sometimes target of **Prince John's** amorous intentions.

Lady Anne (of Canby)

Saxon noblewoman who retains all of her husband's land and monies despite much pressure from **Guy of Gisbourne**, Norman nobles and the church, she has not relinquished her properties nor her virtue and remains loyal to her true Saxon heritage. She is a staunch ally of **Cedric** of Rotherwood. Her husband, the Earl of Canby died during the Third Crusade. Some believe that Lady Anne helps control the resistance against Pr. John, weather this is true has yet to be proven.

Lord Oswald

A Saxon noble trying to free England of **Prince John's** tyranny.

Lady Ulrica

Originally a Saxon noblewomen who was one of the first victims of **Prince John's** tyranny, she is now a ward of **Cedric's** court.

Hunderbert

Cedric's major- domo and advisor.

Anwold

A member of **Cedric's** house and man at arms.

Katharine

The lady in waiting to **Lady Marion**.

Elgitha

The lady in waiting to **Lady Rowena**.

Rosanna

A Saxon noble's daughter, Rosanna has been trained in martial skills and is an adequate warrior.

Kit O Thirske

A Saxon peddler that meets Robin Hood.

Clorinda (the queen of the shepherdess)

A Saxon heroine that is able with a bow and had amorous intention to Robin

Gurth

Ivanhoe's squire and friend to **Womba**.

Womba

Sir Cedric's fool and spy and friend to **Gurth**.

Merry Men

Robin Hood (Robert Fourth Earl of Loxley, Robin of Loxley, Robin 'o the Hood)

The legend of Robin Hood is one of the most famous of its kind. His origin probably lies in an outlaw that failed to appear before Royal Justices circa 1225. Many Ballads have been written about the legend and this is ours...

After returning from the crusades a young Robin finds his father killed, and his lands under church rule. When it is known that Robin has returned **Abbot Hugo** sends his man **Guy of Gisbourne** after Robin. Robin flees with his friend **Will Scarlet**. This is the beginning of the most celebrated outlaw of legend. Robin gained many allies during this time but also many enemies such as **Sir Roger "the cruel"**, **Baron Isambart**, and foremost the **Sheriff of Nottingham**.

Robin being a Saxon has no love for the Normans, but also does not hate them. His main concern is for that of the oppressed peoples of England. He is often at odds with himself, on seeking vengeance for the wrong doing to his family, and his duty as a knight. Robin is a natural leader, and an excellent tactician; he is charismatic and completely and wholly in love with the **Lady Marion** and would lay his life down for her if need be.

Little John (John Little of Hathersage, Reynold Greenleaf, Mr. Green)

John Little or Little John as he is known, was one of the first bandits in Sherwood Forest. He was ousted from his home by **Prince Johns** taxes and laws. Little John and his wife **Fanny** and their twelve children (eight of which are theirs and four are orphans they have adopted) have made a life, or a least tried too on the run from the law. Little John met **Robin Hood** on that fateful day at the bridge and since then they have been close friends. There is a rumor that Little John was at one time under a spell from the **Baron Isambart De Belame**, but if this is true there is no proof. Little John and his family bring the element to the merry men, that of family. Little John was one of Robin Hood's closest friends and two would easily lay their lives down for the other. Little John is the master of staff and there is no one more skilled at it, one other hand he is not very skilled in the art of the sword. Little John is also skilled (as are most of the Merry Men) with the bow. Little John despite his size has a very calm demeanor about him. He is not one to get mad very quickly, but when he does it is not very pretty.

Fanny Little (Little Fanny)

Fanny is Little Johns wife and is the mother of a total of twelve children **Wulf**, **Hollie**, and **Alan** to name a few (four of which are adopted). She has done her best to keep her family together in the worst of situations. She and her husband were one of the first to suffer at **Prince John's** evil. Her and her family have become a part of the Merry Men and she is a mother figure too many in **Robin's** band. Fanny is well trained in staff by the best in the land, her husband John Little aka. **Little John**. Fanny has a fiery spirit and woe to any who threaten her family like a mother wolf protecting her cubs; she will take on all threats.

Friar Tuck (the Drunk Friar, Michael Tuck)

Michael Tuck the rebel monk of Fountains Abbey is a staunch ally of **Robin Hood** and his men. The Abbot Hugo for questioning the policies of the church, regarding the peasants and their monies and land, ousted Tuck. The incident in question had Tuck brought up on charges before a Church tribunal headed by the Abbot Hugo. When questioned about his loyalties, Tuck in normal fashion for him, had a terse comment, the Abbot attempted to hit Tuck, Tuck ducked and the Abbot fell from his throne in embarrassment and summarily excommunicated Tuck. Tuck joined Robin's band after their fateful meeting at a Swallows River. Tuck is an accomplished warrior skilled both sword and staff. Tuck has a high tolerance for drink but does not advertise this fact. Many say that his drunkenness is only an act, but he's not telling. Friar Tuck is the spiritual leader of the merry men and while not necessarily following the doctrine of the church, he is a good and wise man despite his vices. At one time Tuck was Nottingham Castle's chaplain. He would very often pass messages between **Marion** and Robin Hood without anyone being the wiser. Tuck and the **Sheriff** are openly friendly but this helps further the Merry Men in various ways. Tuck truly despises **Ranora** and her pagan evil and cares little for the Prioress or the Abbott and his henchmen

Will Scarlet (Will Gamwell, Will Scathlock, Jock o'Nottingham)

Robin's cousin has a sever hatred for the Normans, which stems from an incident several years ago that involved a serving maid that worked at his brother's tavern. Soldiers of Nottingham assaulted her; Will "accidentally" killed three of the soldiers before escaping into Sherwood Forest. Will is an accomplished swordsman having served **King Richard** as a soldier in Normandy and Scotland. Will is young and headstrong and while being loyal to Robin Hood, often bristles at Robin's leadership. He has a violent streak and often, does not look before he leaps and this many times causes Robin problems. Will's driving force is his dislike for the Normans and what they have done to the Saxons; his people. Will often dreams about England without the Normans and will almost go to any lengths to get the upper hand on a Norman. Of all of Robin Hood's men Will Scarlet is probably the most dangerous because of his unpredictability and possible savagery. Although he does not know this **Lady Alicia** has an all-consuming vendetta for his death since one of the Normans he killed was her husband.

Azzim (Prince Azzim)

Azzim is a Moor (a Muslim from Spain) He was in the Holy Land when he observed atrocities being acted out by his sultan; he spoke up and was imprisoned for this. It is in this prison he met **Robin Hood** they both escaped and made their way to England via Spain. They are good friends and Azzim can often be found at **Robin Hood's**. Azzim brings much to this band of outlaws in the ways of tactics, skills, wisdom, and a different (Middle Eastern) point of view.

Much/Midge

The miller's son, a young merry man who was an ex vassal of **Robin's** father. .

Arthur A Bland (The Tanner of Blyth)

Large man who joined the merry men
Will Stutly

Boisterous, man of wit, one of the first merry men and an accomplished archer, he is credited with naming **Little John**.

Wat the Tinker

An ingenious man originally hired to capture Robin Hood; he was outsmarted by Robin and summarily joined the merry men.

Alan-A-Dale

Bard and troubadour of the merry men, Alan-a-Dale joined after **Robin** helped to rescue Alan's love, **Fair Ellen** from a pre arranged marriage to **Guy of Gisbourne**. Alan is the minstrel of the merry men is well liked by all of them. Very often Alan will attempt to talk one out of a fight before engaging them, this is by no means a show of cowardice it is simply Alan using his skills in speech to avoid unneeded bloodshed. Alan is often found with **Will Scarlet** as the two seem to be totally opposite personality wise but are best friends. There is a sever dislike between Alan-a-Dale and Guy of Gisbourne and this fact is not hidden by either. Alan does not care for the brash, subversive **Lady Ilene** nor her plots, which seem to involve Fair Ellen. Alan is an adapt swordsman, But is somewhat naïve to those who would cheat, he defiantly is more a lover than a fighter.

Fair Ellen

Fair Ellen is **Alan-A-Dales** one true love, rescued by Alan and **Robin** from a pre-arranged marriage to **Guy of Gisbourne**. The Lady Ellen is a Saxon, the daughter of a noble whom suffered under the yoke of Norman oppression. The Abbot Hugo against her will arranged her marriage to Guy; Ellen despises Guy and loves Alan. This situation infuriated **Lady Ilene** who was truly in love with Guy of Gisbourne, Fair Ellen at that point became the focus of all of Ilene's plots and would probably led to Ellen's mysterious death had she not been spirited away on her wedding day by Robin and Alan. She and Alan now live with Robin Hood and his men.

David of Doncaster

A young wise merry man.

William Sayer

A merry man.

Jack Nokes

A merry man.

Adam the Carpenter

A merry man

Gilbert Bolle

A merry man.

John Silke

A merry man.

Gilbert Payne

A merry man.

Will Curstan

A merry man.

Thomas Warren

A merry man.

Ben Frow

A merry man.

Harvey Blueman

A merry man.

Gandeleyn (Gamble Gold)

A merry man.

Pindar of Wakefield

A merry man who originally made a boast to Robin was outsmarted by him and joined his band.

Ruthie

Ruthie is the daughter of a Saxon farmer and merry men **Will Curstan** to be exact captured by **Guy of Gisbourne's** men to gain leverage against **Robin Hood**.

Adam Bell

A contemporary of **Robin Hood** and an outlaw in the Inglewood Forest near Carlisle, two of his men are Clym of the Clough and William Cloudsley

The Black Fox

A mysterious hooded bandit and a contemporary of **Robin Hood**, he is located in the Hafren Forest near Llanidloes Wales, two of his band are Jean and Hawkins. A rumor that it *is* Robin Hood but that is unfounded.

Wulf (Wulf Little, Wolf)

Wulf, the eldest son of **Little John** and **Fanny**, much like his father and mother is willing to take on all opponents. Wulf has much of his mother in him and has a tendency to get him in to trouble. Wulf considers himself protector of his siblings and often will put himself in danger to watch out for them. Wulf is very skilled in the staff. Wulf has a strong dislike of the Normans for what they have done to his family.

Tully

The son of a cobbler who was enslaved for stealing berries on the **Prince's** land.

Hollie

A young girl who is an orphan due to the cruelties of **Guy of Gisbourne** and adopted daughter of the Little's

The Tournament Field

The field likes its place in England, likes the sun and lots of water not to mention the occasional spritzing of blood (it nourishes quite well), It does not however care to be trampled on, but hey what can it do...its grass.

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