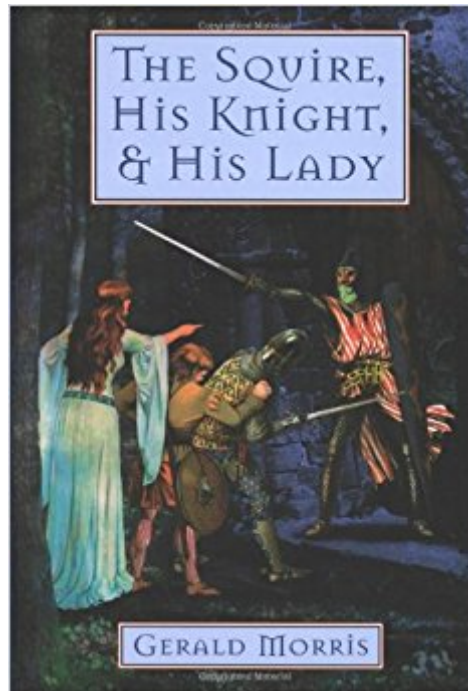


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# The Squire, His Knight, And His Lady (The Squire's Tales)



## Synopsis

Squire Terence and Sir Gawain are off questing again, but this time their journey is overshadowed by their ultimate destination: Gawain is to meet up with the Green Knight in a contest that could easily lead to Gawain's death. Along the way the two have a slew of hair-raising adventures and encounter the usual odd assortment of characters, including the plucky Lady Eileen. Sparks instantly fly between Terence and Eileen as she joins the squire and his knight on their travels. As they weave their way between the world of men and the Other World, Gawain and Terence discover much about themselves. *The Squire, His Knight, and His Lady* is the sequel to Gerald Morris's debut book, *The Squire's Tale*, about which the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* raved, "This Arthurian road trip will have readers wondering why there aren't more books like this one and hoping that Morris will do it again." And so he has.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Of this sequel to *A Squire's Tale*, based on Arthurian legend, PW said, "For those who like their adventures fast and flip, this questing comedy is good sport." Ages 12-up. (June) n Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Young Terence, squire to Sir Gawain, can't deny that things at Camelot are changing--and not for the better. Handsome new knight Sir Lancelot has eclipsed Gawain's star and also has won the heart of Queen Guinevere, sending courtiers into a gossipy frenzy, and beloved King Arthur into a

depression. When the mysterious, otherworldly Green Knight issues a daunting challenge, only Gawain accepts, proving his loyalty to Arthur, though embracing potential tragedy. But the quest proves a soul-searching, ultimately rewarding personal pilgrimage. A sequel of sorts to Morris' *The Squire's Tale* (1998), this delightful interpretation of "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" stands well on its own. The glory days of knights and quests are brought to life with humor, dimensional characters, exceptionally descriptive prose, and fresh, modern dialogue. Although Morris takes some liberties with the story line and characters--explained in a charming, informative endnote--his novel, with a skillful use of wit and drama, illustrates that heroes of life and literature are by no means diminished by human folly. Shelle Rosenfeld

I picked this up on my second pass through the library, because Arthurian legend is not really my niche. And boy am I glad I did! Shortly after the arrival of pretty-boy womanizer Lancelot, who immediately begins an affair with Queen Guinevere, an otherworldly knight called simply the "Green Knight" arrives to challenge one of Arthur's knights. Terence's master Gawain volunteers, and in a year must sacrifice his own life. Along the way to pay Gawain's debt, he and Terence meet up with a bizarre bunch of people, both of this world and the Otherworld. They also pick up a young woman named Eileen, independent and sharp-tongued, before arriving at the Green Knight's abode to be taught a lesson. Terence and Gawain are excellent characters, ironic and fresh and completely loyal to their king and country. King Arthur himself sheds the stuffiness of legend and resembles "Star Trek"'s Captain Kirk. Guinevere and Lancelot make you want to slap them, exactly as they're meant to. Eileen reminded me a great deal of Lloyd Alexander's Eilonwy, with her quick wit and mild disdain for any bumbling. Some references are made to the previous book, which makes it slightly more confusing (first time around I wondered, "Who is Robin?") but not too much. With its mingled drama and comedy, this book is a treasure.

Really, I would never have thought that a children's series would become some of my favorite books of all time. Yet, after my little sister convinced me to read the first book, *The Squire's Tale* (*The Squire's Tales*), my college-student self was fully won over by the lighthearted humor and expert storytelling Morris so deftly uses to bring boring Arthurian stories to life in ways that are more fun, more accessible, and as a result more instructive than the originals. If you've ever read the old classic "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" in high school and were bored out of your mind, this is a retelling of that story that includes most of the major details while adding its own twists and making the whole experience five thousand times better. The fun comes from the side quests that Sir

Gawain and Morris' own main character, Terence, encounter on their way to fulfilling the Green Knight's challenge. Not just a dumbed-down kids version of a classic, folks, this a whole new story that yet somehow keeps familiar elements! Along with the added dimension to the plot, Morris brings his characters to life fantastically. Lancelot is hilariously foppish and French, Gawain is genuine but sarcastic, Guinevere is silly and frivolous; new characters have a charm of their own, and all have a sort of simple depth that a child can understand and an adult can appreciate. Dialogue is always snappy and fun, humor is always in good taste, lessons are taught subtly. Really, I can't praise this literary work enough! I think what really makes this book (and the others in the series) so remarkable is the fact that anyone of any age and any literary experience can appreciate them. Children can enjoy themselves and understand what's going on, adults who don't normally like to read can laugh and enjoy the humor, and English nerds like myself can do all of the above while also appreciating the references the book makes to classical Arthurian works. Worth a buy for yourself, for a friend, for a child, for anyone!

If you love retellings, this is one of my favorites. There's enough there to seem familiar and enough new material to give it a fresh point of view. The characters are lovable and very human with strengths and weaknesses.

I cried when this series ended. It is a fast-paced, witty, intelligent, and fun new take on King Arthur and his round table, the knights, Merlin, and the enchanting world of faeries. Worth a read. Everyone in my family loves these books and recommends them as often as possible.

I read these books when I was in middle school and I absolutely loved them. I'm in college now, and recently decided to reread them just for the fun of it, and they are still just as entertaining. Gerald Morris has a great sense of humor and I often find myself laughing out loud at certain parts. This is a fun, light read.

This book is extremely amazing. You never get tired of it, it's that amazing. And it doesn't matter what age you are because who hasn't heard of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table if you are looking for a great book to read, look no further, you have found the book.

I enjoyed this continuation of Terrance's adventures with Sir Gawain. Gerald Morris writes a charming story, and I love the way he handles the old legends. These Squire's Tales make a great

introduction to King Arthur and his round table, and provide some great role models.

A wonderful follow-up to the story of Terence and Gawain. Even better than the first.

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