
GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS

**KING ARTHUR
AND THE
KNIGHTS OF
THE ROUND TABLE**

Howard Pyle

adapted by
Joshua E. Hanft

Illustrations by
Pablo Marcos Studio



**BARONET
BOOKS**

BARONET BOOKS, New York, New York

Cover Copyright (c) 2008
Waldman Publishing Corp.
New York, New York
All rights reserved.

Text Copyright (c) 2008
Waldman Publishing Corp.
New York, New York

BARONET BOOKS is a trademark of Waldman Publishing Corp., New York, N.Y.

No part of this book may be reproduced or copied in any form without written permission from the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America



The Noble Old King

CHAPTER 1

The Secret Birth

In ancient days there lived a noble king named Uther-Pendragon. He gathered together many brave knights, defeated all his enemies, and became overlord of all England.

In his struggle against his enemies, Uther-Pendragon was aided by two great counselors. One of these men was a powerful enchanter and prophet known to all as Merlin the Wise; the other was a renowned knight called Sir Ulfius. With the aid and assistance of Merlin and Ulfius, Uther-Pendragon made peace in the realm he ruled with justice and mercy.

KING ARTHUR & THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

After a number of years, Uther-Pendragon took as his wife a beautiful, gentle queen named Igraine. Igraine was the widow of Gerlois, the Duke of Tintegal. Before she married Uther-Pendragon she had already borne two daughters, Margaise and Morgana le Fay.

Igraine brought her daughters with her to the court of Uther-Pendragon. The king treated them as if they were his own children, and arranged noble marriages for them. Yet Uther-Pendragon worried who would succeed him as king.

After a time Queen Igraine knew she would have a baby. Uther-Pendragon rejoiced and planned to celebrate the birth of his child. Then Merlin came to him in secret and counseled him to tell no one about the baby.

“My lord,” Merlin advised, “this must be a secret birth. When the child is born, I will tell you more.”

Uther-Pendragon had learned to always follow Merlin’s words, and his heart was sorely



Igraine and Her Daughters