

# KING ARTHUR PART THREE The Quest For The Grail



**JANVIER 2023**

5 man version

## **CAST**

Actor 1: Merlin, Sir Perceval

Actor 2: Guinevere, Morgan Le Fay, Sir Galahad

Actor 3: Arthur, The Green Knight, The Fisher King

Actor 4: Sir Kay, Mordred

Actor 5: Lancelot

Dark red = voice over

Blue text = stage directions

Green text = songs

FILM – entrance of public / atelier preparation (LX up in salle)

MERLIN ENTERS WITH AN ARMFUL OF PARCHMENTS. HE STANDS CENTRE STAGE, RIFLES THROUGH HIS PAPERS AND BEGINS.

FILM - BLACK SCREEN

MERLIN

Bonjour, guten tag, hola, bon giorno ou d'utiliser ma langue maternelle ... hi everyone! Je suis Merlin le sorcier et je vous souhaite à tous la bienvenue à la conférence des sorciers 2023. Je suis ici pour rapporter les résultats de mes recherches sur les potions financées par le gouvernement. Si quelqu'un peut activer la présentation power point -

Actor 3 and Actor 2 ENTER. MERLIN GESTURES WITH HIS WAND AS IF EXPECTING A POWER POINT SIDE TO COME UP. NOTHING HAPPENS.

ARTHUR

Err Merlin?

MERLIN

Oui, jeune homme?

ARTHUR

Ce n'est pas la conférence des sorciers. Je pense que tu as mélangé tes dates. Ces gens ne sont pas des sorciers. Regarde autour de toi.

MERLIN

En êtes-vous sûr ? Que dire de celui-là?

ARTHUR

Certainement pas un sorcier.

MERLIN (suspicious)

Hmmm. Mais celle-ci, c'est sûrement une sorcière!

Actor 2

Not a witch, Merlin.

MERLIN

Alors qui sont ces gens et que font-ils ici ?

ARTHUR

Tu nous as magiquement convoqués pour raconter à ces jeunes gens l'histoire de l'audacieux roi Arthur et la recherche du Saint Graal.

Actor 2

Oui Merlin. Nous avons besoin de ta puissante magie pour donner vie à l'histoire.

Actor 2 (CONT'D)

Mais avant tout ça, peut-être serait-il judicieux de donner quelques mot de vocabulaire utiles à nos amis ?

## ACTOR 2 AND ACTOR 3 GO DO A SHORT VOCABULARY WORKSHOP WITH THE PUBLIC

### FILM - SPARKLE

#### MERLIN ENTERS

MERLIN

Par ma baguette magique et mes pentacles, bien sûr. L'histoire du Graâl.

Nous nous retrouvons sous le règne du bon roi Arthur. Bienvenue au Moyen Âge ! Dites bonjour au courageux roi Arthur, à la puissante reine Guenièvre et au fidèle chevalier de la table ronde, Sir Kay.

### FILM - OPENING SONG

MERLIN

Welcome to Great Britain!

ALL

We've come here to tell a new story of Arthur

The search for the grail by his noble brave knights

They'll be lots of singing and acting and laughter

And some of the men they might even wear tights

ARTHUR

I play King Arthur, I know what I'm after

The grail will bring powerful magic to me

KAY

And I am Sir Kay his most loyal of servants

I fight all the villains and make all the tea

ALL

Yes he is King Arthur

The story gets dafter

We're all on a quest for the grail

Yes he is King Arthur

Our King and our master

So gather to hear our new tale.

## GUINEVERE

I know that it seems in the far middle ages  
That women had plenty of nothing to do  
Whilst men could be fighters and masters and sages  
We girls had to stay home and cook up a stew  
But that's not the story we've come here to tell you  
There's plenty afoot when the boys are away  
I'm playing the heroine, also the villain  
We won't see who wins till the end of the play.

## ALL

King Arthur King Arthur  
Let's all sing it faster  
We must now get on with the play  
King Arthur, King Arthur  
Good luck or disaster  
It's time to set off on our way  
King Arthur King Arthur  
Yes he is our master  
His bidding we do without fail  
King Arthur King Arthur  
His kingdom grows vaster  
But still we will search for the grail  
But still we will search for the grail!

## ALL EXCEPT MERLIN EXIT

## MERLIN

Ainsi, il y a longtemps, le brave roi Arthur de Grande-Bretagne a envoyé ses chevaliers à la recherche du Saint Graal magique. Depuis lors, les années ont passé et il n'y a toujours pas eu de nouvelles d'eux. Mais pour Arthur et sa charmante reine Guenièvre à Camelot, ce fut une période de paix et de bonheur parfait...

**FILM - BANNER: CAMELOT.**

ARTHUR AND GUINEVERE ARE AT HOME. ARTHUR HAS HIS FEET IN A PLASTIC BOWL. GUINEVERE IS WEARING CURLERS.

ARTHUR

It's so perfect to be here at Camelot with you, my dear wife.

GUINEVERE

Yes, perfect indeed.

ARTHUR

I don't miss Kay and Lancelot and the other knights at all.

GUINEVERE

Neither do I. It's such fun being here with you, my love.

ARTHUR

I don't miss Merlin and all our adventures. I love the quiet life.

GUINEVERE

The time simply flies by.

ARTHUR

Why it seems only moments ago that it was breakfast time. What time is it now?

GUINEVERE

It's 8.05.

ARTHUR (hopeful)

In the evening?

GUINEVERE

No.

ARTHUR

Aaaarghhh!

GUINEVERE

How about another game of "throw the horseshoe in the bucket"?

ARTHUR

Didn't we play that yesterday?

GUINEVERE

Only for three or four hours.

ARTHUR

What time is it now?

GUINEVERE

It's 8.06.

ARTHUR (through gritted teeth)

It is just all so perfect being here with you, I'm so glad I didn't go on the stupid old quest for the Holy Grail.

GUINEVERE

How about helping me with one of my tapestries. I'm working on a new one. This one is going to be a unicorn, but with the face of a handsome knight.

**SHE HOLDS IT UP IT'S BASICALLY A UNICORN WITH LANCELOT'S FACE ON IT**

ARTHUR

Looks like Lancelot.

GUINEVERE

Lancelot? Does it? I mean, well, that never crossed my mind.

ARTHUR

I mean it really does look a lot like him.

GUINEVERE

Is it the rippling muscular chest?

ARTHUR

No, that's not it.

GUINEVERE

The handsome firm jaw.

ARTHUR

No.

ARTHUR

I think it's the horn.

GUINEVERE

The horn?

ARTHUR

Does Lancelot not have a magnificent single horn in the centre of his forehead?

GUINEVERE

He most certainly does not!

ARTHUR

Well, I must say you seem to have a very clear memory of him. I can hardly remember his face. The knights have been gone so long. I wonder how the quest is going?

**A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.**

ARTHUR (thrilled and excited)

Visitors! Come in my friends. We shall have dancing and feasting and games of a most manly kind!

GUINEVERE COLLECTS BOWL AND CURLERS AND EXITS.  
AN OLD MAN ENTERS IT IS MERLIN THE WIZARD.

ARTHUR

Merlin welcome back to Camelot!

MERLIN (pulling up a chair)

I'm getting too old for this wizarding game. How goes the grail quest, Arthur?

ARTHUR

No word from my fine, brave and clever knights. Or Sir Kay.

MERLIN

Oh well. I bid you good day, then.

MERLIN GETS UP TO LEAVE

ARTHUR

No, wait Merlin! What did you come here for?

MERLIN

Oh bless my cloak and bicycle. I bring grave news.

ARTHUR (excited)

Grave news that requires me to leap into action?

MERLIN

Well, could be, I suppose.

ARTHUR

Grave news that compels me to pick up my sword and ride out to fight?

MERLIN

Well, yeah I suppose, in that ballpark.

ARTHUR

Then great news I call it! D'you see? *Great* news. Not *grave* news.

MERLIN

Now listen Arthur, as you know the knights of the round table have been on the quest to find the holy grail for many years now. Why, when they left I could still bite into an apple without leaving a tooth behind.

MERLIN STARES WISTFULLY INTO SPACE

MERLIN (Contd/..)

Those were my great crunching years. Now I can barely chew porridge.

ARTHUR

Concentrate Merlin. You came here with important news, remember.

### FILM - RECAP

MERLIN

Well as you know you had a powerful enemy, your half-sister Morgan le Fey who I accidentally taught to be a brilliant magician, then she transformed herself, tricked you into thinking she was your wife and gave birth to a son she called Mordred who she hoped one day would grow up to fight you and become King of Britain in your place.

ARTHUR

Well, yes, of course I remember all this Merlin, but I suppose it doesn't do any harm to recap.

MERLIN

Well, so much time has gone past that Mordred is now a fully grown man of 15.

ARTHUR

Fifteen?

MERLIN

Magnificent they say he is. A full head of hair. A full head of teeth. They say he can bite through a day-old baguette. They say if he drops a handkerchief on the floor he can simply bend down and pick it up.

MERLIN DROPS HIS STICK, ARTHUR PICKS IT UP FOR HIM.

ARTHUR

And Mordred means to fight me?

MERLIN

I fear so Arthur. It cannot be long now before Mordred moves against you. You must hope that the knights of the round table return in time to save you.

ARTHUR

Let's see what Morgan and Mordred have to say for themselves. Take this message to them: King Arthur commands that they present themselves at Camelot. And be quick Merlin.

MERLIN

Of course your majesty. With all speed.

MERLIN BEGINS TO MOVE INCREDIBLY SLOWLY ACROSS THE STAGE

ARTHUR

Good luck Merlin. I look forward to your speedy return.

MERLIN (STILL GOING VERY SLOWLY)

Fast as a cheetah I shall go.



ARTHUR

Great.

MERLIN (GRINDING TO A HALT)

Fast as the cold north wind that blows across the battlements.

ARTHUR

Right.

MERLIN (SITTING DOWN NOW)

Fast as a magical horse that has been bewitched by the spell of going even faster.

ARTHUR

You've forgotten the message already, haven't you?

MERLIN

I have yes. Perhaps you better write it down.

ARTHUR GIVES A PARCHMENT TO MERLIN AND EXITS.

MERLIN

Alors Morgan et Mordred ont été convoqués à Camelot. Arthur était déterminé à découvrir quel mal sa demi-sœur préparait contre lui. Et rencontrer Mordred, son propre fils illégitime, et voir quel genre d'homme il était devenu. Et maintenant, je m'attends à ce que vous vouliez que je vous raconte mon voyage passionnant pour livrer la lettre ?

ARTHUR COMES BACK.

ARTHUR

Was it an exciting journey, Merlin?

MERLIN

Well, depends on what you mean by exciting I suppose. I nearly twisted my ankle.

ARTHUR

But you didn't?

MERLIN

No, I saw the little step just in time.

ARTHUR

Why don't you use your powerful magic to show us how my brave knights of the round table are getting on.

MERLIN

Oh no, I'm sure everyone will be much more interested in my epic journey. Day 3 I had to face a light drizzle. Day 4 I had a most unpleasant soup. Such marvels! Why on day 5 -

ARTHUR

It is time you showed us my brave knights, Merlin.

MERLIN (SULKY)  
As you wish my King.

### FILM - MERLIN + COUNTRY ROAD

*«Ainsi, pendant que je me lance dans mon voyage passionnant pour transmettre le message, voyons ce qui est arrivé aux braves chevaliers d'Arthur. N'oubliez pas qu'ils ont cherché le Graal pendant de nombreuses années.»*

### SIR KAY, SIR LANCELOT, SIR GALAHAD AND SIR PERCEVAL MARCH IN

LANCELOT  
Left, right, left-right-left! At ease! Let us rest awhile my brave knights.

LANCELOT  
Sir Galahad, why don't you show us some of the marvelous new dance moves you've learned during our journey?

GALAHAD  
Sure! Everybody, follow me. 5, 6, 7, 8...

### GALAHAD SHOWS THE OTHER KNIGHTS HER NEW DANCE MOVES.

LANCELOT  
Great! So how should we name our group, then?

GALAHAD  
How about «Be The Supers»?

LANCELOT  
«Be The Supers»... «B.T.S»!

KAY  
That will never catch on...  
I'll make some tea.

PERCEVAL  
Oh Lancelot, another weary day draws to its end and still not a sign of the magical holy grail.

LANCELOT  
Come Sir Perceval, don't be downhearted. Tomorrow could be the day we find it.

GALAHAD  
It won't be though, will it? We've been looking for years now and there's no sign of it anywhere. No-one's even heard of it!

LANCELOT  
Come now Sir Kay. It's not like you to be so quiet. What's wrong?

KAY  
I don't really want to say.

PERCEVAL

Come come Kay. We have been on this quest together for years now. You can tell us anything.

KAY

It's a bit embarrassing.

LANCELOT

Nothing could be embarrassing among such good friends as us.

GALAHAD

Nothing indeed. Go ahead Sir Kay.

KAY

It's about the grail.

PERCEVAL

The *holy* grail!

LANCELOT

Well?

KAY

It's just, well... I don't know what it is.

GALAHAD

You don't know what the holy grail is?

KAY

No. I've got no idea.

PERCEVAL

The magnificent holy grail that we have been searching for all these years?

KAY

Yep, that one.

LANCELOT

The marvellous and perfect holy grail that King Arthur wants us to find?

KAY

Yes. I don't know what a holy grail is. That's what I'm saying.

LANCELOT

Oh Kay, you are such a joker.

KAY

I'm not though. I don't know what it is.

PERCEVAL

You could have asked at any time and why, Lancelot would just have told you.

LANCELOT

Yes, although I mean, I'm just saying it probably would have been better coming from Sir Galahad.

GALAHAD

Oh, no no I couldn't. I mean Lancelot is really the leader so he should be the one who –

KAY

Hang on! Nobody knows?

PERCEVAL

Don't be ridiculous. I mean, *I* don't know, but the other knights are all over it. Definitely. And anyway, it doesn't matter as long as Lancelot knows.

LANCELOT

Right. Well this is a bit awkward.

KAY

You don't know what the holy grail is?

LANCELOT

Well I suppose I just kind of thought that we'd know it when we saw it. Or something

Film 5 – THE HOLY GRAIL SONG ending on image of Stonehenge and the country road

ALL

Holy grail holy grail

We know that we're searching for this

But we just don't know quite what it is

GALAHAD

It might be a vessel for cooking

But we don't know for what we are looking

KAY

It might be a type of a hat

Or a very rare species of bat

ALL

Holy Grail Holy Grail

It could be the size of whale

KAY

Or perhaps it's an item to wear

Does it grow in the ground or the air

ALL

Holy Grail, Holy Grail

Does it travel by road or by rail

LANCELOT

Is its surface all hairy or smooth

Does it make you feel sad or amused

ALL

Holy Grail, holy grail

Is it shaped like a star or a pail

PERCEVAL

Mysterious forces surround it

But how will we know when we've found it

ALL

Holy Grail, Holy Grail

We know we must search without fail

Holy Grail Holy Grail

Does it taste like ice cream or like kale

Holy Grail Holy Grail

Is it feminine or is it male

Holy Grail Holy Grail

LANCELOT

Is it fast or it moves like a snail

GALAHAD

Is it quiet or blowing a gale

KAY

Does it have great big horns or a tail

Is it covered in dots just like Braille

Is it strong as an ox or so frail

Is it wearing a suit or a veil

Holy Grail.

KAY

Well, I suppose this is good news in one way.

GALAHAD

In what way is it good news?

KAY

Well at least we know now why we haven't found it.

THEY ALL GO TO SLEEP.

LANCELOT

Good night, my brave knights.

FILM - THE NEXT DAY

LANCELOT (waking up)

Right gang. I've had an idea.

GALAHAD

Excellent.

PERCEVAL

I knew we could rely on you.

LANCELOT

Let's fight people!

GALAHAD

Okayyyy?

KAY

And the next part of the plan?

LANCELOT

How do you mean?

KAY

You mean that's the whole plan?

LANCELOT

Yes.

GALAHAD

It's a ridiculous plan.

KAY

Ridiculous like a fox!

PERCEVAL

What does that even mean?

LANCELOT

We're knights, so we should trust ourselves. Do knightly things. And the Grail will come to us.

PERCEVAL AND GALAHAD

Let us fight!

SIR KAY

Yeah, let us fight!

LANCELOT

Onwards, my brave knights! Today we shall fight whoever we meet on the road.

KAY

Like a fox!

PERCEVAL

Why do you keep saying that?

KAY

I'm trying to develop a catchphrase.

LANCELOT

Sometimes Kay I think you are completely crazy.

KAY

Crazy like a fox!

PERCEVAL

It's not going to catch on, Kay.

KAY

We'll see.

## THE KNIGHTS MARCH OFF

### FILM - MERLIN

*«C'est ainsi que les braves chevaliers de la table ronde se mirent à combattre ceux qu'ils rencontrèrent sur la route. Je ne suis pas sûr que la phrase fétiche de Kay fasse son chemin... Mais laissons les chevaliers un instant et voyageons vers la maison de Morgan Le Fay, la demi-sœur maléfique du roi Arthur, et de son fils, le fringant jeune chevalier Mordred, pour voir quels plans diaboliques ils sont en train d'élaborer en ce moment...»*

## MORGAN ENTERS SHOUTING

MORGAN

Mordred! Mordred! Where are you?

MORDRED

I'm still in bed. Leave me alone.

MORGAN

Come down here at once, it's almost midday!

## MORDRED ENTERS. A SULKY TEENAGER.

MORDRED

Yeah? So what d-you want?

MORGAN

Mordred, if I've told you once I've told you a thousand times: get an army together, kill King Arthur, and take your place at the round table. Oh, and tidy your room.

MORDRED

Oh, mummmmmmm!

MORGAN

You just read parchments of anime all day long. You're driving me insane.

MORDRED

No, you're driving *me* insane.

MORGAN

Don't be so childish.

MORDRED

No, don't *you* be so childish.

MORGAN

Stop that!

MORDRED

*Stop that!*

MORGAN

Oh, you are a wretched child. It was my dream that you would grow up to take control of the round table, but I can't even get you out of bed!

## FILM – THE DUET SONG

## MUSICAL INTRO BEGINS. SONG.

MORGAN



Stop playing the clown and just lazing around  
it's beautiful weather outside.

When I was your age we would call on a page  
and go out for a healthy horse ride.

Tidy your bedroom and smarten your hair,  
Why aren't you eating more fruit,  
and stop wearing black and I don't like your friends,  
you used to love playing the lute.

MORDRED

Oh mum can't you see, I'm consumed with ennui  
I'm happier in my bed-room  
My hormones are boiling my armour needs oiling  
I'm troubled with feelings of doom  
My skin is a mess and I have to confess  
I'm feeling all weird and confused  
I hate it at home, but wherever I roam  
There's nothing to keep me amused

TOGETHER

There's an atmosphere a-round here  
Lately it is grim

MORDRED

I would say its cos of her

MORGAN

And I would say it's cos of him

TOGETHER

There's no rest, you're a pest  
Drive me round the bend  
Rant and rage, through the days  
Will it never end?

MORGAN

Turn down the music it's always too loud  
I can't even make out the words  
And finish your homework and take out the trash  
Admit that your clothing's absurd

MORDRED

Oh can't you stop nagging, attention is flagging  
You must be the worst mum in town  
Whatever I'm doing, you're fussing and stewing  
About how it's all going down

TOGETHER

There's an atmosphere a-round here  
Lately it is grim

MORDRED

I would say its cos of her

MORGAN

And I would say it's cos of him

TOGETHER

There's no rest, you're a pest  
Drive me round the bend  
Rant and rage, through the days  
Will it never end?

THERE IS A LOUD KNOCK ON THE DOOR. MORGAN LOOKS EXPECTANTLY  
AT MORDRED WHO FOLDS HIS ARMS AND SULKS.

MORGAN

Merlin! You wrinkled old fool, what are you doing here?

MORDRED

Ugh, smelly old people...

MERLIN

Time is unkind Morgan. Although I must say that you don't look a day older than when I saw you last. You certainly don't look old enough to be Mordred's mother.

MORGAN (flattered despite herself)

Well, of course it's my powerful magic. And also I have had a little bit of work done.

MERLIN

I come with a message from King Arthur.

### MERLIN HANDS OVER THE MESSAGE SCROLL. SHE READS THE MESSAGE

MORGAN (reading)

«King Arthur demands the presence of Morgan Le Fay and Mordred at Camelot.» Of course we will not go. It could be a trap.

MORDRED

Oh mum, it's so boring here. You never let me do anything fun!

MERLIN

It's not a trap, Morgan. I think Arthur is just as bored as young Mordred here since the knights of the round table have been away.

MORGAN (SUDDENLY VERY INTERESTED)

The Knights of the Round Table are away?

MERLIN

Oh yes, for years and years now. I'm surprised you haven't heard.

MORGAN (SLYLY)

Go on.

MERLIN

Well, they set off about 15 years ago to search for the holy grail but since then there has been no word from them. Arthur and Guinevere are rattling about in drafty old Camelot with nothing to do. Just the two of them. Arthur puts a brave face on it but what if the Knights are lost for good? What if they never come back? Or what if someone attacks Camelot whilst the knights are away?

### HE SEES MORGAN'S FACE

MERLIN (cont'd)

Oh, whoops!

MORGAN

You are as much of an old fool as I thought, Merlin. But in one thing you are right. This is an excellent time for an enemy to attack Camelot. You can tell Arthur that Morgan and Mordred will be coming to Camelot very soon.

MERLIN

Oh great. Thanks. Phew. I thought you were up to your old evil ways for a moment there.

MORDRED

Oh for goodness sake Merlin. Work it out. She's saying she's going to attack Camelot.

MORGAN

Shut up Mordred. Merlin, I bid you good day.

MERLIN

Ahh yes. Fast as a running river I shall go.

MORDRED

What's he on about?

MERLIN

Fast as great cart wheel rolls downhill.

MORDRED

What's wrong with him?

### MORGAN MAGICS HIM TO THE DOOR

MORGAN

You wanted something exciting to do? Well how about leading an army to kill King Arthur, and then you can rule Great Britain in his place!

MORDRED

I don't know. Sounds like a lot of paperwork.

MORGAN (SHOUTING IN HIS FACE)

Fetch your sword!

### MORDRED IS GENUINELY FRIGHTENED

MORDRED

Alright alright. Calm down.

### FILM - MERLIN

*«Donc ça ne s'est pas si bien passé. Avec le recul, c'était peut-être une erreur de leur dire qu'Arthur était seul sans ses chevaliers pour le défendre. Mais d'une manière ou d'une autre, elle l'a obtenu de moi. Avec ses questions questions questions. Tout ce que je pouvais faire maintenant était de me dépêcher et de faire savoir à Arthur que Morgan levait une armée. J'y vais. Sur une question de la plus haute urgence. Rapide comme un mouton qui perd pied sur une pente glissante. Rapide comme une glace qui fond dans un plat chaud. Rapide comme ..... oh peut-être une brève sieste alors.»*

### LANCELOT, PERCEVAL AND KAY MARCH ON

LANCELOT

Left, right, left-right-left! At ease. Well this fighting is working out very well, I must say.

PERCEVAL

Very well.

KAY

Is it? I mean we still don't know what the holy grail is. Or where it is. Or *why* it is, even.

PERCEVAL

But the fighting has been fun.

LANCELOT

Yes, I mean we fought some young men.

PERCEVAL

We fought some old men.

KAY

I fought an old woman.

LANCELOT

Yes, I really wish you hadn't done that.

PERCEVAL

Why *did* you do that Kay?

KAY (AS IF EXPLAINING TO A SIMPLETON)

Because it was easier.

LANCELOT

So another fine day of fighting ahead. Let's go!

THEY GO OFF CHANTING, BUT...

FILM - GREEN KNIGHT ENTERS

THE GREEN KNIGHT APPEARS. DRAPED ALL IN GREEN, GREEN GLOVES, GREEN BALACLAVA, AND HOLD UP HIS HAND TO STOP THEM

GREEN KNIGHT

Wait!

THE KNIGHTS STOP TO LOOK AT HIM

LANCELOT

Good day.

GREEN KNIGHT

Good morning, good Knight.

KAY

Blimey, that day went fast!

GREEN KNIGHT (ROARING WITH LAUGHTER)

Ha ha ha! A fine joke. This is plainly a fellow with a sharp wit.

KAY

There's something odd about him. No, I can't put my finger on it.

PERCEVAL

Really?

KAY

But there's definitely something....

LANCELOT

He's green for goodness sake Kay! Is that it?

KAY

Hmmm. Might be.

LANCELOT

Announce yourself, Sir.

GREEN KNIGHT

Know you not that you have trespassed onto the lands of the Green Knight?

KAY

Yes.

GREEN KNIGHT

What do you mean yes?

KAY

Yes, we know not that we have.... I mean no, we know that we have not... I mean errr..... well sort of yes and no, really, I suppose.

LANCELOT

We are the brave knights of the round table.

GREEN KNIGHT

You are far from Camelot.

GALAHAD

We are looking for the Holy Grail.

GREEN KNIGHT

Many have sought the grail but all have perished in the attempt.

ALL KNIGHTS

Perished???

KAY

Sorry? «Perished», did you say?

GREEN KNIGHT

Why yes, perished horribly.

KAY

I see. Shall we call it a day, everyone?

LANCELOT

My brave Knights will not be discouraged by such talk.

PERCEVAL

Indeed not. Let us pass.

GREEN KNIGHT

I do not seek to keep you from the Grail. But I would have you sit awhile in the castle of the Green Knight. Will you refuse my hospitality?

ALL KNIGHTS

«Hospitality»!

KAY

Well, I mean we don't want to be rude. Will there be porridge?

GREEN KNIGHT

I like this little fellow. I find him to be most amusing. And where would we be without a sense of humour?

KAY

Germany?

THE GREEN KNIGHT ROARS WITH LAUGHTER AGAIN

PERCEVAL

Well what harm can it do to visit the castle? And it seems as if he knows something about the Grail.

LANCELOT

Very well. Come. We shall accept the hospitality of the Green Knight.

KAY

Great! I've got a good feeling about this.

FILM – THE CREEPY GREEN CASTLE OF THE GREEN KNIGHT

THE KNIGHTS ENTER THE CASTLE, FOLLOWED BY THE GREEN KNIGHT.

THE GREEN KNIGHT

Welcome to the castle of the Green Knight! Come my fine fellows, and tell me the story of your adventures.

LANCELOT

Well, we have been travelling for many years now in our search for the Holy Grail.

GREEN KNIGHT

Ahh, the Grail.

KAY

Can I just ask you one quick thing: do you know what it is?

GREEN KNIGHT

Of course!

KAY

Great, yeah right me too. But, but, if you had to explain it to someone else, what would you say?

LANCELOT

Yes, brilliant Kay! How would you describe the Grail, my Lord?

GREEN KNIGHT

Any man who does not understand the meaning of the Grail is a fool!

KAY

Oh well, I gave it a shot.

GREEN KNIGHT

But there is nothing that goes with feasting so well as stories.

HE GIVES THE KNIGHTS SOME FOOD.

GREEN KNIGHT (CONT'D)

Fill your glasses and open your ears. The Bible tells us that before Jesus was crucified –

KAY

Woah, hey! Spoiler alert! I'm only up to the nativity. You've just ruined the whole book for me.

THE GREEN KNIGHT LAUGHS INDULGENTLY

GREEN KNIGHT

This one really is a most amusing fellow.

LANCELOT

Yes, he jests of course. Just jokes.

GREEN KNIGHT

Well, at the last supper of Jesus and his disciples they drank wine and ate bread.



KAY

Blimey! Just bread and wine? That's a terrible supper, no wonder they made it the last one.

THE GREEN KNIGHT LAUGHS SOMEWHAT LESS ENTHUSIASTICALLY

GREEN KNIGHT

Anyway. The holy grail is the cup that Christ drank from at the last supper.

PERCEVAL

Go on.

GREEN KNIGHT

And this cup, the grail, was used by Joseph of Arimathea to collect some of Christ's blood as he was on the cross.

LANCELOT

Go on.

GREEN KNIGHT

And this cup, the holy grail, has been lost for a thousand years. Whoever finds it shall attain great powers.

KAY

Go on.

GREEN KNIGHT (IRRITATED)

That's it. There isn't any more.

LANCELOT

Of course not. Right, well so it is a chalice, the cup of Christ. I mean yeah we knew that... always good to hear the story again.

GALAHAD

Yeah, it's all been great thanks.

PERCEVAL

So we'll be off then shall we? Looking for the holy cup ...

GREEN KNIGHT

Oh no. No one is going to leave.

KAY

Excuse me?

GREEN KNIGHT

Know you not of the curse that sits upon the castle of the Green Knight?

KAY

Yes, we know not.... sorry, no, we do not know.... sorry, what was the question again?

GREEN KNIGHT

I find I grow tired of this fellow and his so-called jokes.

PERCEVAL

Fair.

GREEN KNIGHT

Any traveller who dines with the Green Knight cannot leave the castle until they solve the riddle.

KAY

Oooh, I love riddles! Hit me.

THE GREEN KNIGHT SLAPS HIM AROUND THE FACE

KAY

Ow! That's not what I meant.

GREEN KNIGHT

Yes, I know.

LANCELOT

If we answer this riddle we must win something in return.

GREEN KNIGHT

You win your freedom, is that not enough?

KAY

What about this? I mean this map is pretty. And look, it's got pictures of some of the places we've been: the marsh lands, the great forest, the Green Knight's castle, the cave of the Holy Grail. Ooh, and I think this one here might be a waterpark!

LANCELOT

Wait! Say that again.

KAY

I think this one here might be a waterpark!

LANCELOT

No, before that.

KAY

The cave of the Holy... The cave of the Holy Grail!!!

LANCELOT

Brilliant, Kay. If we solve the riddle then we take the map that will lead us to the Grail.

GREEN KNIGHT

You will never solve the riddle. My dungeons are full of knights who failed.

ALL KNIGHTS (FRIGHTENED)

Dungeons?

GREEN KNIGHT (TERRIFYINGLY)  
Enormous dungeons!

LANCELOT  
We have no fear. Tell us the riddle.

GREEN KNIGHT  
Very well, here is my riddle : «I have three. Take away one and I become stronger. Take away two and I become ten. What am I?»

KAY  
Go on.

GREEN KNIGHT  
That's it, you fool!

LANCELOT  
Right, errr, let us think a moment.

THE FOUR KNIGHTS CIRCLE UP TO FIND AN ANSWER.

GREEN KNIGHT  
So, what is your answer?

LANCELOT  
Right, we're just going to need a little more time.

GREEN KNIGHT  
I will leave you locked in this room for a day and a night. 24 hours. When I return I shall ask for the answer. If you do not give it then –

KAY  
Dungeons?

GREEN KNIGHT  
My very horrible dungeons.

KAY  
Oh my.

THE GREEN KNIGHT ROARS WITH LAUGHTER AS HE LEAVES THEM

KAY (CONT'D)  
Oh well, at least he thinks I'm funny again.

FILM - DUNGEONS  
SMOKE

LANCELOT

Think, Sir Perceval. Think, Sir Galahad. We have only 24 hours to solve the riddle.

KAY

And what shall I do?

PERCEVAL

Just sit down over there and try not to disturb us. You know how annoying you can be.

KAY

Annoying like a fox!

THE THREE OTHERS

Shut up, Kay!

LANCELOT

This is no time for your stupid catchphrase.

«I have 3, take away 1 and I become stronger, take away 2 and I become 10»...

KAY SITS ON THE CHAIR. THE OTHERS GATHER CENTER STAGE.

FILM – CAMELOT WITH A LARGE BUCKET ON THE SCREEN

KING ARTHUR THROWS A HORSESHOE INTO THE BUCKET WHERE IT RATTLES MERRILY.

Film – CAMELOT + SOUND OF “DING”

ARTHUR (to public)

I've played this so many times, Merlin made me these invisible magic horseshoes, so now, impossible for me to miss. Look!

WITHOUT LOOKING, ARTHUR THROWS SIDEWAYS TOWARDS THE BUCKET... IT GOES IN.

Film – CAMELOT + SOUND OF “DING”

ARTHUR

A bit more difficult...

HE CLOSES HIS EYES AND THROWS IT OVER HIS SHOULDER. IT GOES IN.

Film – CAMELOT + SOUND OF “DING”

ARTHUR

Even more difficult...

HE CLOSES THROWS IT OUT INTO THE AUDIENCE ... SLOWLY FOLLOWING IT WITH HIS FINGER (LIKE A BOOMERANG). AS IT LOOPS ROUND TO THE SCREEN AND GOES IN.

### Film – CAMELOT + SOUND OF “DING”

ARTHUR (to public)

It's easy. You try... Grab these invisible horseshoes, and now aim at the bucket. Ready? 1, 2, 3!!

### FILM - SOUND OF MANY «DINGS»

ARTHUR (to a teacher)

Excellent! Now, what is your name? Oh, I'm sorry. Well, take this invisible horseshoe and throw it into the bucket.

### FILM - WINDOW BREAKS

ARTHUR

What did you do??? We'll have to charge you for this, you know!

### MERLIN ENTERS

MERLIN

Oh, Arthur, I have shattered glass all over my beard, now!

ARTHUR

It was him/her!! I had nothing to do with it. I was doing, like, kingly stuff. important things that only kings can do!

So, Merlin, did you bring Morgan and Mordred with you?

MERLIN

No, my Lord. Although they did promise to come soon.

ARTHUR

What do you mean Merlin? What did you say to them?

MERLIN

Well, now, I may have made a teeny-tiny tactical mistake. I may have let it slip that you are here alone without the brave knights of the round table to protect you.

ARTHUR

How long do we have before she gets here I wonder?

### FILM – CAMELOT AND FANFARE

A COURT OFFICER

The Lady Morgan Laffay!

ARTHUR

I think I can see what's happened here. You stopped for a rest here and there, didn't you?

MERLIN (defensive, yawning, rubbing his eyes)

I may have had a nap or two.

## MORGAN SWEEPS IN

MORGAN

You are dismissed, Merlin. I will speak with Arthur alone.

## MERLIN SCUTTLES AWAY

ARTHUR

So, Morgan, what brings you to Camelot?

MORGAN

Our son Mordred has raised an army, Arthur. With my magic and his leadership, you do not have a chance. Where are your Knights of the Round Table? If they were here, then things might be different.

ARTHUR

The Knights would never abandon me; any day now they will return, bringing with them the Holy Grail, and enough power to overthrow your magic and the army of Mordred.

MORGAN

Don't make me laugh!

ARTHUR

You're not laughing.

MORGAN

It's just an expression you fool! So your precious knights will not save you. For all we know they are lost forever. Mordred will be king and I will be the Queen Mother! (laughs)

## MORGAN SWEEPS OUT. ARTHUR THROWS A LAST HORSESHOE IN THE BUCKET.

## FILM - «DING» + MERLIN + GREEN KNIGHT'S CASTLE

## LANCELOT, PERCEVAL AND GALAHAD STILL TRY TO FIGURE OUT THE RIDDLE. KAY WANDERS IN THE ROOM.

GALAHAD

I'm a bucket?

LANCELOT

For god's sake, man! That makes no sense. You're clutching at straws.

PERCEVAL

Straws? Is it straws?

LANCELOT

Of course not. Face it. We have failed to solve the riddle and our time is up.

## THE GREEN KNIGHT BURSTS IN

GREEN KNIGHT

Your time is up. You must now answer the riddle. «I have three. Take away one and I become stronger. Take away two and I become ten.»

### THE KNIGHTS SIT IN SILENCE

GREEN KNIGHT (CONT'D)

Well? Let us have your answer. What am I?

GALAHAD

I'm a bucket?

GREEN KNIGHT

No!

PERCEVAL

Straws. Is it straws?

GREEN KNIGHT

No!!!

LANCELOT

Is it «knights»? There are three of us, and Kay doesn't count?

GREEN KNIGHT

Ha! You have failed. Unless your little jester here is going to give the answer.

### HE LEANS OVER KAY IN A MENACING MANNER

GREEN KNIGHT (CONT'D)

Well? Come on little man. Let's hear your answer. I can tell already it's going to be completely crazy.

KAY (SULKY)

Crazy like a fox!

LANCELOT

Not now Kay. This is no time for your stupid catchphrase.

GREEN KNIGHT (SHOCKED)

What did you say? Like a what?

KAY

A fox! Like a fox! You heard me. Fox!

### THE GREEN KNIGHT PUTS HIS HEAD IN HIS HANDS

GREEN KNIGHT

How can this be? This man is an idiot –

KAY  
Sorry?

GREEN KNIGHT  
An imbecile. And yet he has solved the riddle.

GALAHAD  
Hang on, fox is the answer? But why?

GREEN KNIGHT  
Ask your idiot friend here.

KAY  
Well, I don't have to explain it. The important thing is we've got the right answer, so, if you'll just pass me my map we'll be on our way.

GREEN KNIGHT  
Explanation. Or it's dungeons for you!

PERCEVAL  
That isn't fair. Kay answered the riddle.

GREEN KNIGHT  
My house, my rules.

LANCELOT  
Wait! I've got it. Of course. I have three.

#### FILM - FOX EXPLANATION

LANCELOT (CONT'D)  
Fox has three letters. Take away one letter and you get ox. That makes me stronger. An ox is stronger than a fox. Take away two letters and you just have x. Which stands for 10 in Roman Numerals. Fox. Fox is the answer.

GREEN KNIGHT  
Get out! Get out! You have ruined my game. Where am I going to get another riddle like that?

LANCELOT  
Run everyone! Perceval, Galahad, get our weapons! Kay, grab that map!

THE KNIGHTS EXIT. THE GREEN KNIGHT CRIES AS HE EXITS THE STAGE.

GREEN KNIGHT  
My beautiful game, my beautiful game.

#### FILM - MERLIN + MORGAN'S ARMY + BATTLEMENTS

*«Et donc Sir Kay a résolu l'énigme. Qui aurait cru? Ainsi, avec la carte du chevalier vert, les chevaliers ont commencé à marcher jour et nuit vers la grotte du Saint Graal. Mais en attendant, qu'en est-il de Morgan et de son plan pour amener une armée à Camelot ?»*



ARTHUR, MERLIN & GUINEVERE STARE OUT INTO THE AUDIENCE.

ARTHUR

I can see Morgan's armies at the gates of Camelot, Merlin. Is the attack about to begin?

MERLIN

I fear it is my King. And with the brave knights of the round table still away I fear we have no chance.

GUINEVERE

Can you not use your magic to help us Merlin?

MERLIN

I will do what I can my Queen, but Morgan has become more powerful than I ever imagined.

ARTHUR

You were a good teacher, Merlin!

MERLIN

I fear so.

ARTHUR

Then you and I shall defend Camelot.

MERLIN

Well, I don't know Arthur. I mean I'm over a thousand years old. My knees aren't what they were.

GUINEVERE

I can fight alongside you, my Lord.

MERLIN

A woman?

GUINEVERE

Better than an old man! Nothing wrong with *my* knees.

ARTHUR

You have beautiful knees my love.

GUINEVERE

Shut up Arthur. I can fight as well as the next man.

ARTHUR

But Merlin is the next man.

GUINEVERE

Exactly. We're a team. Bravery, beauty and magic!

FILM - BATTLE SONG

SONG (starts very quietly then goes very big!)

GUINEVERE

Soft-ly, creeping to the castle  
Enemies assemble at our walls  
Slow-ly, the evening passes slowly  
Till we can make out their bugle calls.  
But though the knights of Camelot are gone  
We will rise to face the battle in the morn.  
Fear-less, although we are outnumbered  
Fearless we will face the coming storm  
Let them, try to take the castle  
I will stand against them come the dawn

CHORUS (bigger!)

Come now, let us stand against the world outside  
Come now, we fight for love, for honour and for pride.  
Women and men stand in battle again, but this time side by side

GUINEVERE

We will fight to save King Arthur that's my vow  
I may be a just a girl but let banners all unfurl  
Because nothing is stopping us now.

ARTHUR

Bravely, we three will stand together  
Morgan cannot breach the castle walls  
Upright through arrows spells and weather  
We three will hold our ground and never fall

MERLIN

Calmly, in face of all our troubles  
We will face a battle with our foe  
Swiftly though we are few in number  
We will fight on places high and low

ALL (bigger!)

Come now, let us stand against the world outside

Come now, we fight for love, for honour and for pride.

Women and men stand in battle again, but this time side by side

We will fight to save King Arthur that's our vow

With our banners unfurled we will take on the world

Because nothing is stopping us now.

Nothing is stopping us now.

ARTHUR

Then tomorrow we go into battle my friends. For Camelot!

ALL

For Camelot!!!

ALL EXIT.

#### FILM - MERLIN

*«Alors que la bataille arrive à Camelot, les chevaliers n'en savent rien et sont joyeusement sur la route, suivant la carte vers la grotte du Saint Graal.»*

THE KNIGHTS MARCH ALONG (LANCELOT, PERCEVAL, GALAHAD, KAY)

LANCELOT

Left, right, left-right-left! At ease! Let us sing our marching song that we wrote especially for Sir Kay.

THEY ALL PUT THEIR STUFF DOWN.

PERCEVAL

A most excellent idea, Lancelot.

GALAHAD

Most excellent!

KAY

Oh no, not this again.

LANCELOT

Come on men. Let us sing our holy grail marching song. Perhaps this time Sir Kay will join in on the chorus.

THEY ALL LAUGH

KAY

Oh, very funny!

### FILM - SONG FOR SIR KAY

SONG

ALL: (except Kay)

We've been marching all day

We've been marching so hard

Since we battled the evil Green Knight

It was Kay saved the day

So, we all have to say

That he's really done everything right

So, we wrote him a song

And we all sing along

You might think this problem's absurd

We sing every day

Our song for Sir Kay

But he just can't remember the words

KAY:

I can! It goes:

La la la la la la

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la holy grail.

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la something holy grail

ALL(except Kay)

It's not very long,

it's really great song

With lyrics so clever and smart

We sing it each day

Just in praise of Sir Kay

But he still can't remember his part

Yes we wrote him this song

So let's all sing along

The problem is really absurd  
We sing every day  
Our song for Sir Kay  
But he just can't remember the words

KAY

For the last time, it goes:

La la la la la la

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la holy grail.

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la

La la la la la la something holy grail

LANCELOT

Well Kay, I've never heard you sing better. Unfortunately.

THEY GATHER UP THEIR STUFF.

PERCEVAL

Pass me the map Kay. We must be getting close.

KAY

To the waterpark?

LANCELOT

To the cave of the holy grail!

KAY

Oh yeah right. Bit disappointing.

PERCEVAL (looking at the map)

Well, this is weird. We should be right on top of it.

THE FISHER KING ENTERS.

FISHER KING

Wait, stop! Nobody move.

THE KNIGHTS LOOK ROUND, PUZZLED.

FISHER KING (CONT'D)

I've been waiting for over a hundred years. The first time I pop out: visitors!

PERCEVAL

Who is this strange shambling creature?

FISHER KING

Hey! I'm standing right here. Know you not that I am the Fisher King?

KAY

Yes! We know not -

LANCELOT

Shut up, Kay!

KAY

Yes...

LANCELOT

We come from King Arthur's court and we seek the grail.

PERCEVAL

The map says it's right here.

FISHER KING

Then come in, come in. Take no notice of the stories that I kill every Knight who seeks the grail.

KAY

Phew. So you don't kill every Knight.

FISHER KING

No, I do.

ALL KNIGHTS

He kills!!!

FISHER KING

I just don't want you to notice. I am the ancient guardian of the cave of the holy grail. I wait until one day a man who is pure will see the grail, and legend has it that that man will ask me a special question and my wound will finally be healed.

LANCELOT

I am Sir Lancelot of the court of King Arthur. We seek the grail.

FISHER KING

Then come, brave knights. Either you will see the Grail, or I will take your lives. Let the Grail be your Judge. Walk this way.

HE LIMPS OFF. PERCEVAL AND GALAHAD FOLLOW HIM. KAY,  
MISUNDERSTANDING, LIMPS BEHIND THEM.

LANCELOT

Stop it, Kay. That's not what he meant.

FILM - INTERIOR OF THE CAVE

FISHER KING

Welcome to the cave of the grail.

THE KNIGHTS LOOK AROUND. THERE IS NOTHING THERE.

LANCELOT

But where is the grail?

FISHER KING

Only the truly pure of heart can see the grail.

LANCELOT

Is this some kind of trick?

FISHER KING

No trick. Open your hearts. If you are pure then you can see the grail. If you are not pure then your very lives are forfeit.

LANCELOT

Perceval can you see anything?

PERCEVAL

No.

LANCELOT

Look everywhere.

GALAHAD (to public)

If you know who is the most likely of us to be pure of heart, please throw a horseshoe at them!

THE PUBLIC WILL “THROW” HORSESHOES AT KAY.

FILM - HORSESHOES ON KAY

KAY GETS HIT BY ONE THEN DOZENS. HE YELLS.

KAY

Hey! Ouch!! Stop it! You meanies...

LANCELOT

Kay? What do you see?

KAY

Nothing!

HE TURNS TOWARDS THE SCREEN. ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE GRAIL APPEARS.

FILM – THE GRAIL IN THE ROUGH CAVE

KAY (CONT'D)

Just that old cup, floating in the air...

LANCELOT

Kay? Kay is the only one of us who is pure of heart?

FISHER KING

The truth of the grail cannot be denied. Kay is pure. And chaste!

KAY

Hey! I've got a girlfriend. She's just in a different play.

LANCELOT

Reach out, Kay, and take the grail.

**FILM - GRAIL VANISHES INTO KAY'S HAND**

**KAY IS HOLDING A TINY GOLDEN CUP: THE HOLY GRAIL.**

KAY

Is this it?

**LANCELOT AND GALAHAD GATHER AROUND KAY TO SEE THE GRAIL.**

KAY

We must now bring it to Arthur!

LANCELOT

So this is it? We can take the grail? I didn't think it would be so easy.

FISHER KING

Nope, that's it. I mean it's never gone this far before. Usually it's pretty straightforward. Enter the cave, can't see the Grail. Then I kill everyone. I'm as surprised as everyone else.

FISHER KING (CONT'D)

Unless... you have a question to ask me? The question that will finally free me from my endless torment of living in this cave with a wound that will not heal.

LANCELOT

Was it a curse that was laid upon you?

FISHER KING

No. That's not the question.

PERCEVAL

Will the grail bring magical powers to King Arthur?

FISHER KING (feeling his leg to check)

No. Nothing. That can't be the question either.



KAY

Oh well sorry about that. But we do need to get going.

FISHER KING

Farewell then, brave knights.

### HE BEGINS TO LIMP AWAY

KAY (to Perceval)

What's wrong with his leg, I wonder?

### THE FISHER KING TURNS

FISHER KING

What was that? What did you say?

KAY

Nothing, my Lord.

PERCEVAL (going center stage)

Apologies, my Lord. Kay is but a simple soul. He wanted to ask what exactly is wrong with your leg? But that is a question that no polite knight would ever ask.

FISHER KING (his hands go to his leg in surprise)

My leg? My leg? Hah! Oh, glorious day! This was the question. The spell is lifted.

### HE LOOKS DOWN AT HIS LEG AND STARTS TO CAPER AROUND.

PERCEVAL

You're welcome. We bid you good day, then.

FISHER KING

Oh no. You are the knight who has finally asked the question. And as such you now take my place as guardian of the cave and the new Fisher King.

### THE FISHER KING PUTS HIS CAPE ON PERCEVAL'S SHOULDERS.

PERCEVAL

But there's nothing left to guard! (suddenly clutching his leg) Ow, my leg! No. No. I don't want to be the Fisher King.

KAY

On the bright side, I mean Fisher *King*! You could look on it as a promotion.

FISHER KING

You will find that the cave's powerful magic will not let you stray more than a mile from here. You can kill any knights that cross your path and must stay until a stranger comes to release you. So that's the handover done. Cheerio then!

### HE CAPERS OFF MERRILY.

LANCELOT

I'm sorry, Perceval, but we must return to King Arthur with the grail.

PERCEVAL

You're leaving me behind?

LANCELOT

We have to get the grail to Arthur. Who knows what is happening back at Camelot?

KAY AND GALAHAD

Bye, Perceval!

#### FILM – MERLIN + CAMELOT BATTLE

*«Alors Lancelot et Kay sont retournés à Camelot. Portant le précieux Saint Graal. Mais trop tard car les armées de Morgan sont déjà là et la bataille fait rage.»*

SOUND FX BATTLE NOISE. GUINEVERE ENTERS SWORD IN HAND.

GUINEVERE

Merlin. Merlin! Where are you? Where is Arthur? The enemy has breached the walls, Camelot is over run!

GUINEVERE EXITS. ARTHUR ENTERS FROM ONE SIDE OF THE STAGE ONLY TO MEET MORDRED COMING THE OTHER WAY.

ARTHUR

Give up your sword! For I am King Arthur of Camelot.

MORDRED

Never! For I am Mordred. Son of Morgan Le Fay, and the new King of Camelot.

THEY FIGHT. ARTHUR TAKES THE ADVANTAGE, BUT MORDRED MEANS TO COUNTER-ATTACK.

ARTHUR

Mordred! I am your father, Mordred. I beg you lay down your sword. There is no need for war. We share a bond of blood. See, I will lay down Excalibur. Come to Daddy.

ARTHUR LAYS DOWN HIS SWORD.

MORDRED

Dad...?

MORDRED STEPS FORWARD AS IF TO DO THE SAME BUT THEN AT THE LAST MOMENT STRIKES AT THE DEFENCELESS ARTHUR. WOUNDED ARTHUR STAGGERS BACK. MORDRED RAISES HIS SWORD AS IF TO FINISH ARTHUR OFF. BUT SUDDENLY LANCELOT APPEARS AND GRABS MORDRED'S HANDS, THEN ARTHUR PICK UP EXCALIBUR AND STABS MORDRED. MORDRED KNOCKS LANCELOT OUT AND STABS ARTHUR BACK. DYING MORDRED

LEAVES THE STAGE WHILE ARTHUR LIE ON THE GROUND WOUNDED AND GASPING.

MORDRED (exiting)  
Mummy! He killed me!!

MORGAN (from off-stage)  
Mordred! Oh, Mordred!! You will pay for this, Arthur!!!

LANCELOT  
Arthur, my Lord. We are back. Your brave knights have returned.

ARTHUR (weakly)  
Welcome back, old friend.

LANCELOT  
Oh, my King. What do we do now. The enemies are in the castle, can you stand?

ARTHUR  
I don't think so Lancelot, I think this is the end.

KAY RUSHES IN WITH THE GRAIL

KAY (very excited)  
Well, I must say it's great to be back. Although you've let the place get into a terrible mess, and all the noise! Anyway, we had so many adventures. We met a green knight, and I solved a riddle, then we found a map, but we never found the waterpark, but then we met the Fisher King, and Perceval had to stay behind, and I carried the grail all the way home. Turns out it was just this old tiny cup in a cave, but no one else could even see it!

KAY PAUSES FOR BREATH AND REALISES SOMETHING IS WRONG

KAY (cont'd)  
Hello? What's happening? Arthur? Why are you on the floor, with a sword sticking out of you?  
(Realising) Oh!

ARTHUR  
Kay, you have found the grail. Its powerful magic will save the Kingdom, but it is too late for me. Oh Kay, through the mist I can see the Lady of the Lake. The one who gave me Excalibur. I must be dying. I can hear her beautiful voice.

KAY  
No, that's a good sign! It means your ears are working.

LANCELOT  
No Kay. Arthur is crossing over to the other realm.

KAY  
But I've only just got back!

ARTHUR  
I'm sorry Kay.

### GUINEVERE ENTERS

GUINEVERE  
Oh Arthur! Mordred is dead. Morgan and her armies are in retreat. We have won.

ARTHUR  
Yes, thanks to Sir Kay bringing us the grail. But it is too late for me. Lancelot, take Guinevere and look after her. I think you two were always meant to be together. Find Merlin. Tell him Kay has the grail. And Morgan and Mordred are defeated.

LANCELOT  
Yes, my King.

### LANCELOT AND GUINEVERE EXIT HAND IN HAND

ARTHUR  
Kay. My most loyal friend, I need one last thing from you.

KAY  
Anything Arthur.

ARTHUR  
You must take my sword Excalibur and –

KAY  
Polish it carefully?

ARTHUR  
No, you must take Excalibur and –

KAY  
Sell it on Vinted??

ARTHUR  
No. You must take Excalibur and throw it into the lake.

KAY  
Excuse me?!

ARTHUR  
The lady of the lake gave me that sword and we must return it to her.

KAY  
Shall we leave it there till you're feeling a bit better?

ARTHUR

Oh Kay. There is no cure for the wound that Mordred has made. It is time for us old friends to say goodbye.

MERLIN ENTERS OUT OF BREATH AND ON HIS LAST LEGS

MERLIN

I came as swiftly as I could.

ARTHUR

It is right that it should be we three old friends here at the end.

MERLIN

Fast as a river runs down from the mountains in spring, I made my way.

KAY

Not now, Merlin

MERLIN

Fast as a stray dog steals sausages from an unattended counter

ARTHUR

Honestly, Merlin there's no time...

MERLIN

Fast as the sun goes down on a –

ARTHUR AND KAY

Shut up, Merlin!!

ARTHUR

Lancelot and Guinevere must marry.

MERLIN

Of course. And rule the Kingdom together.

ARTHUR

No. That honour must go to another. My one true friend who has been through it all. A man who has been with me since I pulled Excalibur from the stone. A man so wise and true that any man would be proud to have such a friend.

KAY (to Merlin)

I think he's talking to you, Merlin.

ARTHUR

No Kay. Merlin is old and I think it would be best if we took the grail and went on our final journey together.

MERLIN

Of course, my Lord. No, wait, sorry, *what?*

ARTHUR

The Kingdom has seen enough magic, Merlin. Let us pass the crown to a most ordinary man.

ARTHUR PASSES HIS CROWN TO KAY.

KAY

Oh blimey, he *is* talking to me!

ARTHUR

Goodbye Kay.

MERLIN

Farewell Kay. I hope the Kingdom will be safe in your hands.

THEY BOTH DIE ALONG SIDE EACH OTHER. KAY REMAINS NEXT TO THEM, HOLDING BOTH EXCALIBUR AUND THE CROWN.

FILM - ONE WEEK LATER

KAY IS SITTING ON THE THRONE, WEARING THE CROWN.

KAY

Right. Great. So first day of the new Kingdom, then. Probably lots of things I should be doing.

LANCELOT AND GUINEVERE ENTER. THEY KNEEL BEFORE KAY

LANCELOT

My King.

GUINEVERE

My King.

KAY

Well, this is going to take some getting used to!

LANCELOT (to the audience)

Come let us all celebrate our new King. King Kay: will you lead us in celebration?

KAY

Yes, enough of all this work work work. Arthur and Merlin would not want us all to be unhappy. We will sing and dance. Fetch me my stretchy tunic, my softest shoes and a flagon of ale.

FILM - END SONG

LANCELOT

What's the flagon of ale for?

KAY

That's my warmup.

ALL

We've told you today the old story of Arthur  
The search for the grail which brought good things and bad  
But now it is time to bring back songs and laughter  
We don't want you all to home feeling sad

LANCELOT

We'll all miss King Arthur, but time it goes faster  
And life will bring changes to all come what may  
So let us raise drinks to our new King and master  
The fabulous, fun and now royal Sir Kay

GUINEVERE

I can't wait to find that we're leaving behind  
All the fighting and magical things  
With Kay in the crown nothing bad will go down  
He will be the most British of Kings.

KAY

We'll drink pots of tea at a quarter to three  
And then take a walk in the rain  
It's potatoes at home and then outside to roam  
And then it's potatoes again.

(spoken) Break it down!

KAY (RAPPING)

So, gather round and listen,  
I've got big plans for Great Britain  
We'll be famous now for more than our roast beef  
Our people can be charming, even though our food's alarming  
And everyone has terrible teeth  
The kingdom will succeed, there'll be no more rage or greed  
We're all gonna follow my plan  
The round table is no more, but I've got some fun in store  
So let me hear you say I'm the man

OTHERS

You're the man!

ALL

Yes Kay is the King so let's all join and sing

On this super-magnificent day  
It's going to be grand  
We're all safe in his hands  
Now we've come to the end of the play  
So goodbye to you all as we're leaving the hall  
For there is nothing more we can say  
We've come to the end but let's all part as friends  
Thank you so much for watching today

LIGHTS DOWN

FILM - POSTER

Q&A

FILM – HOLY GRAIL SONG WITH THE IMAGES AND TEXT AND THE BOUNCING BALL

FILM – CAVE OF THE GRAIL