

# KING ARTHUR & THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

## - *SYNOPSIS* -

### **Scene one**

Merlin explains in French who he is and what we are about to see. The actors perform the opening song. Merlin and Arthur explain that the public need to respond to Arthur.

### **Scene two**

Sir Kay, the brave foster brother turned knight has returned from fighting in the north of the country. He wants to sit at the top of the table next to Arthur. Merlin wants to sit there too. Kay and Merlin grumble and argue. Arthur has the bright idea to form a round table so everyone is equal. Merlin says that they need to leave a space for the greatest knight of them all – Lancelot.

### **Scene three**

We now have a round table. They have a meeting to decide what to do about the fearsome Sir Pellinore who is killing knights. Arthur sneaks off. Merlin is suspicious.

### **Scene four**

Arthur fights Sir Pellinore. Sir Pellinore wins. The famous enchanted sword that Arthur took from the stone is broken in two. Merlin freezes Sir Pellinore so he cannot kill Arthur and finally Sir Pellinore kneels to his king. Merlin explains that they need to find Arthur a new sword.

### **Scene five**

Merlin has brought Arthur to a magic lake to meet the Lady of the Lake who has powerful magic. She also has a wonderful sword to give to Arthur. Its name is Excalibur. They return to the castle as it is time to find Arthur a wife.

### **Scene six**

Arthur says he knows who he would like to marry, a girl called Guinevere he met at a banquet. Kay teases him that Arthur likes the girl not because she is from a noble family but that she is 'fit'. Merlin worries that the marriage will end in a terrible betrayal. In the end Kay is excited by the prospect of a fancy royal wedding. He wants to look good in the wedding tapestries.

### **Scene seven**

Merlin and Kay show the wedding tapestries. Apparently Kay caught the bouquet and is now engaged to one of the teachers sat in the first five rows of the theatre. What a lucky lady you are ! Merlin explains he has taken an assistant to train in magic; none other than Morgan the half sister to Arthur.

### **Scene eight**

Morgan is harsh and demanding with Merlin. But her wheedling pays off and Merlin agrees to teach her the practical and ancient magic she desires. It seems Morgan is ambitious and wants to sit at the round table but she is not allowed all because she is a woman.

### **Scene nine**

Arthur and Kay visit Morgan at her invitation. She has a plan to drug Arthur and Kay with the powerful sleeping draft and then tie them up. Leaving her to ride to Camelot and say she will only release Arthur if she is given a seat at the round table. Kay flirts with her but she is really not interested. Kay messes up the cups and eventually it is Morgan who drinks the potion. Kay and Arthur are pleased but Kay drinks the potion by mistake.

### **Scene ten**

A messenger arrives at the Court of King Arthur with a present. A beautiful cape. The messenger says Arthur must put on the cape but he does not. Kay puts it on the messenger who burns to death. Kay realises he cant be Morgan's boyfriend. Arthur realises Morgan is his enemy.

### **Scene eleven**

Morgan traps Merlin in the cave using the magic he himself taught her.

### **Scene twelve**

Morgan has cast a spell on herself to make her look like Guinevere Arthur's wife.

### **Scene thirteen**

Next morning Arthur finds a bracelet in the bed that used to belong to his mother. He realises he has been tricked. He is very remorseful. He explains the family tree.

### **Scene fourteen**

Morgan visits Merlin in his prison to mock him and tell him the news – that she is carrying Arthur's child. She has chosen a name for her son – Modred and he will one day kill Arthur and take the throne.

### **Scene fifteen**

Arthur and Kay sing about how great it is to be a knight. The Lady of the Lake arrives and brings Lancelot du Lac to join the Round Table. People start to wonder where is Merlin.

### **Scene sixteen**

Arthur introduces Lancelot to Guinevere and from the first moment they only have eyes for each other. She goes to show him around the castle. Arthur sings how much he sincerely loves his wife. Kay joins in but is a little less convinced that all is rosy.

### **Scene seventeen**

Incredibly Kay rescues Merlin from the magical cave. He tries to read the spell walking backwards but Merlin realises all Kay has to do is read the spell backwards. It works and Merlin is free at last. He needs a bath though.

### **Scene eighteen**

Guinevere and Lancelot are denying their love for each other and sing about it.

### **Scene nineteen**

King Arthur sends his knights on the quest for the Holy Grail. Guinevere realises that includes Lancelot and so she is sad.

### **Scene twenty**

The end of the show song.