

In a world lit only by fire, the dream of an age has come to an end.

Mary, Holy Mother of God, purge these visions of death from my soul. The memory of that day at Slaughter Bridge burns to the very core of my being.

Blessed Virgin, there is so much blood on my hands. I beg you to remove the weight of these deaths from my conscience. This veil of doubt endlessly overshadows my actions and my ability to rule.



Holy Mother, I pray for the
souls of all those who died with
Arthur that day.

All the great Knights
are with you in Paradise
now, Mother...

IN NOMINE
PATRIS ET FILII
ET SPIRITUS
SANCTI...



Sir Gwain, from the Northern lands...

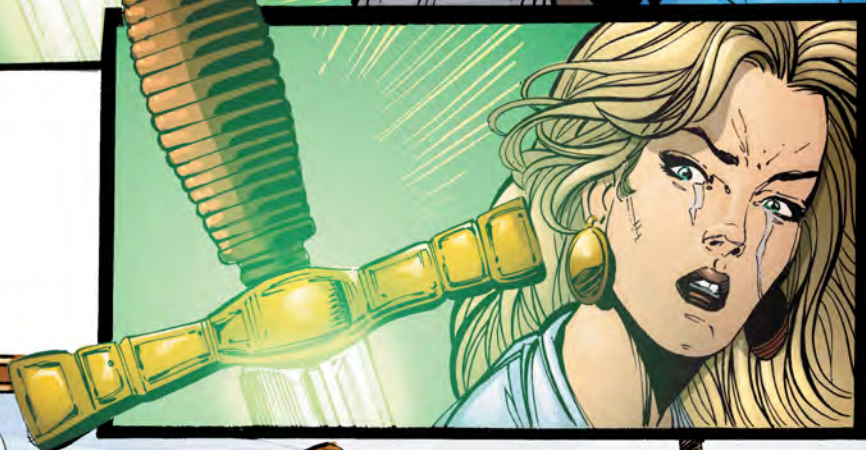
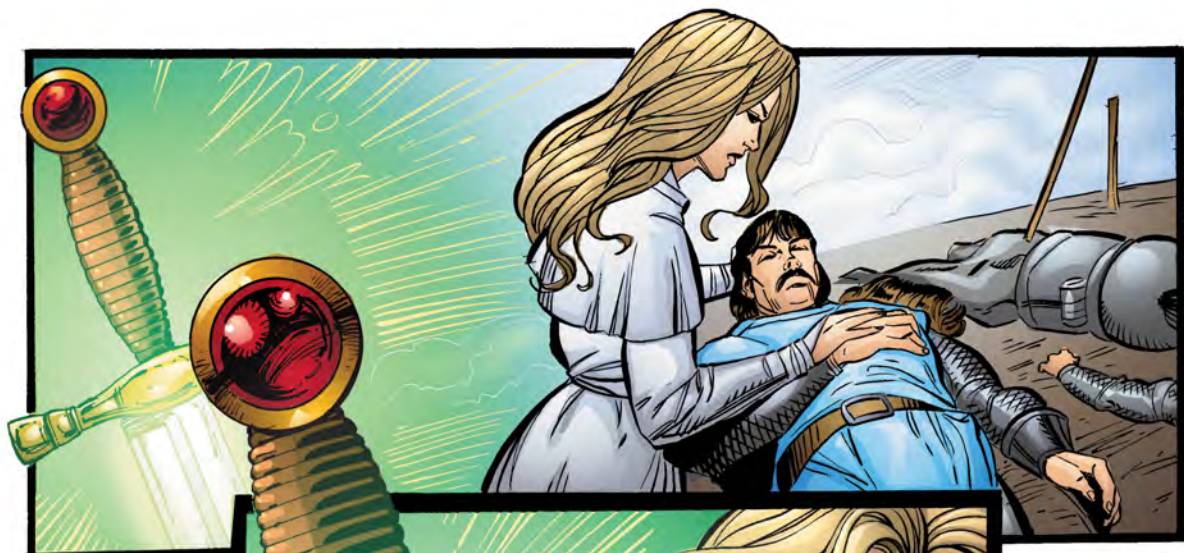
... Sir Kay, Arthur's foster brother and faithful Seneschal...

... the gallant Sir Galahad...

... and Lancelot. Oh, Holy Mother, you know I have atoned for that sin, but the guilt...

NO!

... the guilt has never left me.

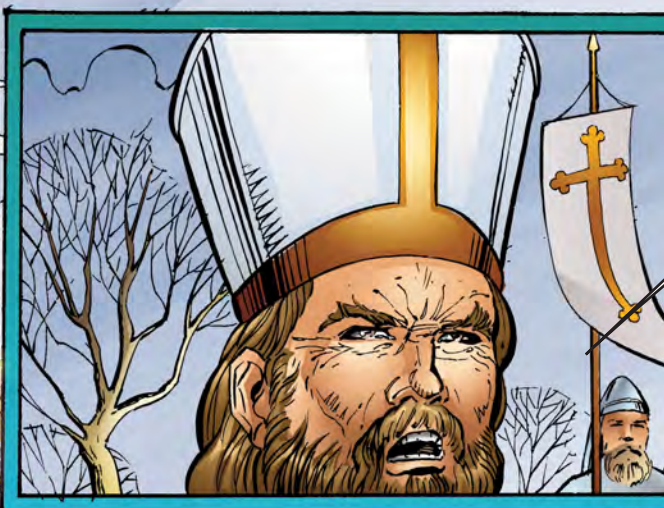


...I was truly born again.



Protect me from my enemies,
Holy Mother. There are those
who would destroy me. Even
some who would do so in the
name of the Lord.

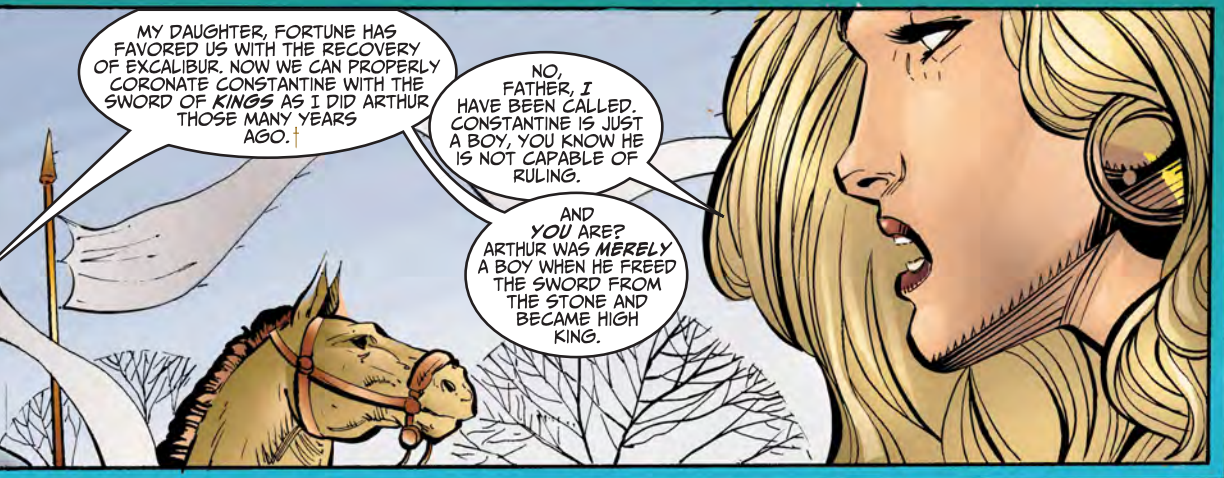
NO,
HEAVENLY
FATHER, THIS
WILL DESTROY
EVERYTHING.



GUINEVERE,
SURELY YOU MUST
REALIZE THAT NONE
OF THE LESSER KINGS
OR THE NOBILITY WILL
FOLLOW YOU. MANY
BELIEVE THAT YOU
ARE THE REASON FOR
THE DEATH OF THE
FELLOWSHIP.

Mother of God, I could not find
the words to tell the Archbishop
Dubricious that I had seen the
other side. That you had revealed
to me the holy path I must follow.

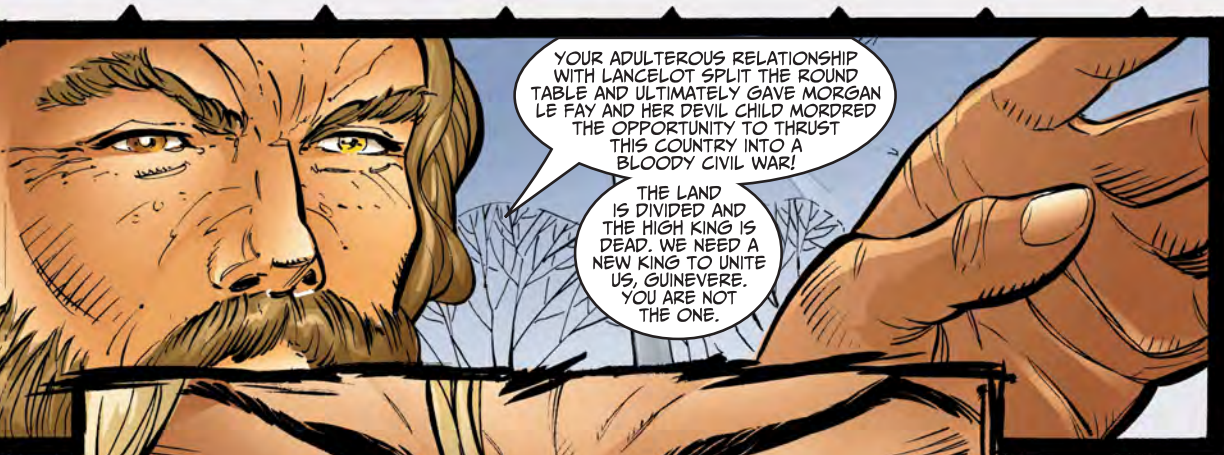
† A TWENTY YEAR PERIOD
UNDER ARTHUR'S KINGSHIP
WHERE THERE WAS NO WAR,
FAMINE, PESTILENCE OR NEED.



MY DAUGHTER, FORTUNE HAS FAVORED US WITH THE RECOVERY OF EXCALIBUR. NOW WE CAN PROPERLY CORONATE CONSTANTINE WITH THE SWORD OF KINGS AS I DID ARTHUR THOSE MANY YEARS AGO. †

NO, FATHER, I HAVE BEEN CALLED. CONSTANTINE IS JUST A BOY, YOU KNOW HE IS NOT CAPABLE OF RULING.

AND YOU ARE? ARTHUR WAS MERELY A BOY WHEN HE FREED THE SWORD FROM THE STONE AND BECAME HIGH KING.



YOUR ADULTEROUS RELATIONSHIP WITH LANCELOT SPLIT THE ROUND TABLE AND ULTIMATELY GAVE MORGAN LE FAY AND HER DEVIL CHILD MORDRED THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRUST THIS COUNTRY INTO A BLOODY CIVIL WAR!

THE LAND IS DIVIDED AND THE HIGH KING IS DEAD. WE NEED A NEW KING TO UNITE US, GUINEVERE. YOU ARE NOT THE ONE.

He struck me with words harder than steel that day, Holy Mother. Words that shattered my resolve and would have worked... had it not been for Percival.



PERCIVAL LIVES!

MY LADY PENDRAGON.

ARTHUR, WITH HIS DYING BREATH HE SENT HIS LOVE FOR YOU, MY QUEEN... AND SAID... THAT HE WOULD WALK BESIDE YOU IN THE HEREAFTER.



I -- I SAW THE FATES COME AND TAKE HIS BODY AWAY.

Holy Mother, thank you for sending Percival to me. Bless him and anoint him, Mother of God, for he has been faithful and honest...



...A TRUE MAN OF GOD. HIS WOUNDS HAVE HEALED FROM THAT DAY, BUT THERE STILL SEEMS TO BE AN UNEASINESS ABOUT HIM, HOLY MOTHER. I PRAY YOU GRANT HIM THE PEACE AND SERENITY THAT ONLY COMES WITH YOUR NAME.



... Excalibur.

Forged when the world was young.

Empowered by the will of the gods.

The sword of destiny has risen in times of great need.

