

INTRODUCTION

ROBIN HOOD'S ENGLAND

Most people know the name of Robin Hood. He was an outlaw when Richard the Lionheart was King of England.

But King Richard was not in England now. He had gone to fight in Palestine and his brother, Prince John, was on the throne. John was a bad man who loved money. Often he took people's lands and money for himself. Then these people went into the forests as outlaws. 5

In those days England was full of forests. Everything there was the king's — all the trees and all the animals. The biggest animals were the deer. Sometimes hungry men or women would kill a deer for their children to eat. But if Prince John's soldiers found them, they would hang them. So people like this became outlaws too. 10

Prince John's men became rich and fat, and King Richard's friends lived in the forests as outlaws. When would the king come home?

One day, people heard that Richard was a prisoner. Another king wanted money to set him free. Prince John laughed at this. "I will not send money for my brother," he said. "So he will never come home ... England is mine now!" 15

CHAPTER 1

HOW ROBIN BECAME AN OUTLAW

In the middle of England was Sherwood Forest. It was the biggest forest in the land, and near it was the town of Nottingham.

Here, in the castle, two men were sitting — the Sheriff of Nottingham and Prince John, who was the king's brother. 20

Prince John smiled. "No! My brother Richard will never come home!" he said. "England is mine now!"

"Wonderful!" said the Sheriff. "Soon you will be king!"

Suddenly a man came running in. He fell to his knees and cried,

“My Lords, I have news for you!”

The Sheriff looked at him angrily. “What is it? Tell us!” he said.

“My Lords, I work for Lord Robert of Huntingdon ...”

“Lord Robert?” said Prince John. “But I took his house and lands last year!
5 One of *my* men is Lord of Huntingdon now.”

“Yes,” said the Sheriff. “But the people here still call him ‘Lord Robert’. Go on, man!”

“Lord Robert still has a house near here. And now he is going to marry Lady Marian Fitzwalter. Tomorrow evening there will be a big feast. And at
10 that feast ...” The man stopped.

“Yes?” said Prince John.

“At that feast, Your Majesty, you would hear about — Robin Hood!”

“Robin Hood?” said Prince John. “I know that name. He steals from my friends and helps the people who fight me. *And* he kills the deer in my
15 forests!”

“Yes, he does,” said the Sheriff.

Prince John looked at him. “Tell Sir Guy of Gisborne to come here,” he said quietly. “I want him to visit this feast — *and* the wedding!”

It was two days later, in the little church by Sherwood Forest. The feast was
20 over and everything was ready for Lord Robert to marry Lady Marian. The fat abbot was waiting to begin the wedding. All the guests were there, and Lady Marian too, together with her father.

But where was Lord Robert?

Now men came into the church. They were all in green, like the forest,
25 and each man had a bow over his shoulder. At the front was Lord Robert.

The fat abbot saw the bows and wanted to protest. But it was too late. The men in green were all in the church and Lord Robert was standing there with Lady Marian.

The fat abbot began. Suddenly, the people in the church heard shouting
30 outside, and horses. Then a tall man came in, and everyone looked around.

with his friends. On the other side stood hundreds of people who had come to see the archers. There was a lot of cheering and clapping, for many archers were really good.

But by the middle of the afternoon, only the three best were still in the contest. One came from the West of England, the second came from the North, and the third was tall, with the brown hood of a man from Nottingham. This was the most difficult part. Who would win the silver arrow? 5

“Put the target at two hundred yards!” cried the Sheriff. “Now each man will have only one shot!”

The man from the West was the first to shoot. Carefully, he drew his bow, and there was a shout when the people saw his arrow hit the gold, in the middle of the target. 10

Now the man from the North slowly drew his bow and shot his arrow. The people clapped. He too had hit the gold!

Then the tall man from Nottingham was there, bow in one hand, arrow in the other. Only a second later, his long arrow hissed through the air. 15

Gold! There was a cheer and loud clapping from the crowd!

The Sheriff talked quietly to Sir Guy of Gisborne and Prince John. Then he stood up and cried, “These archers are all excellent! In the middle of the gold ring, we will put a white spot, as big as an eye. The man that comes nearest to it will win the contest — and the silver arrow!” 20

The crowd was quiet as the man from the West drew his bow and shot.

Then they heard, “Half in the gold, half in the eye!” and everyone clapped again.

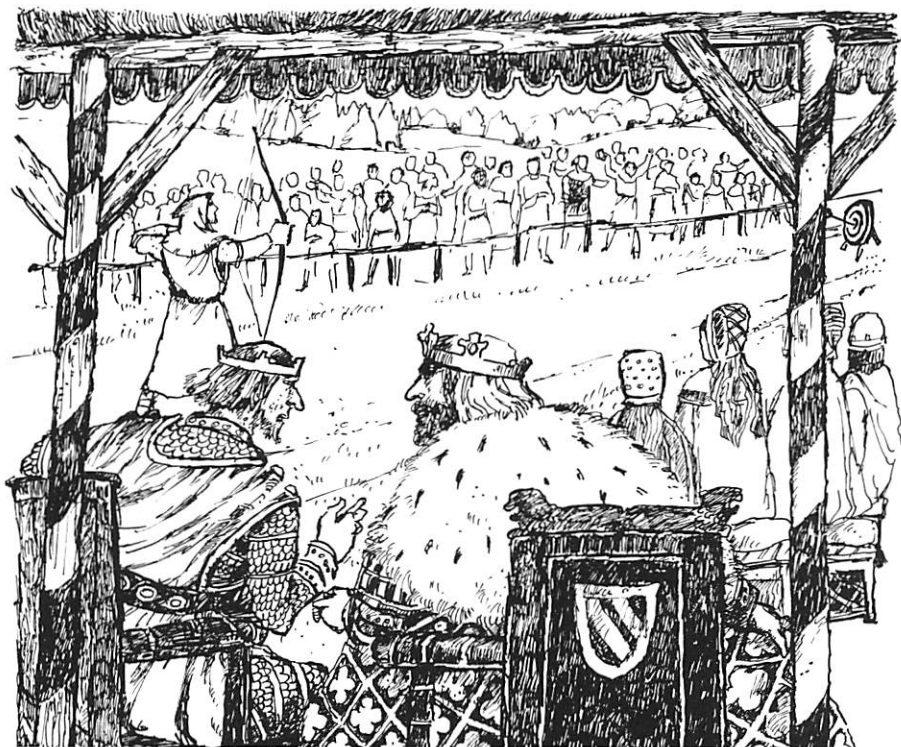
Now the man from the North had to shoot. He waited until everything was quiet. Then everyone heard the sound of the bow. 25

“Half in the gold, and half in the eye!” The crowd cheered and clapped.

The tall man in the brown hood came out, and Guy of Gisborne said quietly to Prince John, “Now, Your Majesty, we will see if our plan was good!”

The man in the brown hood drew his bow quickly. A second later, his arrow hissed through the air and hit the target. 30

“In the eye! Right in the middle!”



The man in the brown hood drew his bow quickly.

The people cheered and cheered. The man from Nottingham had won, and now he came up to take his prize.

He knelt down in front of Prince John, his face under the brown hood.

“Take off your hood, man!” said the Sheriff, and a soldier pulled the hood
5 back.

Prince John stood up slowly and turned to the crowd. “I give this silver arrow,” he said loudly, “to the winner of the contest!”

He looked at the man in front of him. “What is your name?” he asked.

“Robert of Huntingdon, Your Majesty,” the man said.

10 Now Sir Guy spoke. “This man has another name too. It is Robin Hood!”

The short man looked at him nervously. "I was going — to the market in Nottingham," he said. "I wanted to sell my meat there."

Suddenly Robin had an idea. "Would you like to sell me your meat?" he asked. "Lend me the cart and your clothes too, and I'll give you ten pounds!"

Ten pounds? The butcher thought this was an excellent idea, and lay down under a tree to sleep. His clothes were really too small for Robin, but Robin put them on. And off he walked towards Nottingham with the horse and cart. 5

Nottingham market was full of people. Everywhere there were women doing their shopping. 10

"Fresh meat! Three pence a pound! Fresh meat!" called the butchers from their stands.

"Fresh meat! A penny a pound!" called Robin from his cart. Soon there was a crowd of women around him.

The other butchers looked at him. "That's much too cheap!" one of them called. But Robin did not listen to him. "Fresh meat! Only a penny a pound!" he cried. 15

One of the women around Robin's cart was the Sheriff's wife, who was doing her shopping. She looked at the meat, saw it was fresh and cheap, and bought some. Robin had already sold most of his meat, and so he talked politely to her. 20

The Sheriff's wife thought he was a good-looking man, and asked him to have dinner with her and the Sheriff. Robin thanked her and said he would come.

At the Sheriff's house that evening, Robin learned that King Richard was a prisoner in Europe. But Prince John was telling everyone that Richard was dead, so that he himself could become king. 25

Later, they talked about meat. The Sheriff asked if his guest had any cattle to sell.

"Yes, I have, Lord Sheriff," said Robin. "Would you like to see them?" 30



The Sheriff's wife asked him to come to dinner.

The Robin Hood Song

Chorus D A

Ro-bin Hood, Ro-bin Hood, ri-ding through the glen, Ro-bin Hood, Ro-bin Hood,

A7 D G A

with his band of men, Feared by the bad, Loved by the good, Ro-bin Hood,

G D Verse

Ro-bin Hood, Ro-bin Hood. 1. He called the great-est ar-chers to a

A - A7 D

ta-vern on the green, They vowed to help the peo-ple of the king. They han-dled

G A A7 D

all the trou-ble on the En-glish coun-try scene, and still found plen-ty of time to sing.

Chorus

*Robin Hood, Robin Hood, riding through the glen,
Robin Hood, Robin Hood, with his band of men,
Feared by the bad, loved by the good,
Robin Hood, Robin Hood, Robin Hood.*

1. He called the greatest archers to a tavern on the green,
They vowed to help the people of the king.
They handled all the trouble on the English country scene,
And still found plenty of time to sing. (Chorus)
2. He came to Sherwood Forest with a feather in his cap,
A fighter never looking for a fight.
His bow was always ready and he kept his arrows sharp;
He used them to fight for what was right. (Chorus)

THE ROBIN HOOD SONG

This wonderfully bouncy song dates from the 1950s. Back in the days of black and white TV sets, this was the signature tune to the television series which introduced Robin Hood to post-war children in Britain.

Brennan on the Moor

Verse C G7 C

1. 'Tis of a brave young high-way-man a sto-ry I will tell, His
name was Wil-lie Bren-nan and in Ire-land he did dwell, 'Twas
on the Kil-wood Moun-tain he com-menced his wild ca-reer, And ma-nay a weal-thy
no-ble-man be-fore him shook with fear. And it's Bren-nan on the moor,
Bren-nan on the moor, Bold, brave and un-daun-ted was young Bren-nan on the moor.

2. One day upon the highway, as Willie went down,
He met the mayor of Cashiell a mile outside of town.
The mayor he knew his features, and he said, "Young man," said he,
"Your name is Willie Brennan, you must come along with me." (Chorus)
3. Now Brennan's wife had gone to town, provisions for to buy,
And when she saw her Willie she began to weep and cry.
He said, "Hand to me that tenpenny." As soon as Willie spoke
She handed him a blunderbuss from underneath her cloak. (Chorus)
4. Now with this loaded blunderbuss — the truth I will unfold —
He made the mayor to tremble and he robbed him of his gold.
One hundred pounds was offered for his apprehension there,
So he with horse and saddle to the mountains did repair. (Chorus)

Find more verses on the Internet!

BRENNAN ON THE MOOR

Willie Brennan was an Irish Robin Hood in the late 1700s in County Cork, in the South of Ireland. This song has been sung many times, but the classic version is by the Clancy Brothers with Tommy Makem. Find it on YouTube!

knife	You can cut things with a <i>knife</i> .	Messer
stick	long thin piece of wood from a tree	Stock
blow	The boxer gave him a <i>blow</i> on the nose.	Schlag
mercy	He showed no <i>mercy</i> to his enemies.	Gnade; Erbarmen
pardon	forgiving s.o. for a crime (= <i>Verbrechen</i>)	Begnadigung

'ROBIN HOOD' VOCABULARY — BY CHAPTER, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Words from the Introduction are repeated on their first appearance in later chapters.

➤ INTRODUCTION: ROBIN HOOD'S ENGLAND (10)

king	man from a royal (= <i>königlich</i>) family who rules (= <i>regiert</i>) a country	König
queen	royal woman who rules a country	Königin
Richard the Lionheart	<i>Richard I was King of England from 1189 until he died in 1199.</i>	Richard Löwenherz
Palestine	land in the Middle East	Palästina
throne	special chair for a king or queen	Thron
forest	The <i>Black Forest</i> is in south-west Germany.	(großer) Wald
outlaw	someone who lives apart from other people because he has broken the <i>law</i> (= <i>Gesetz</i>)	Vogelfreier
tree	Many kids love to climb <i>trees</i> .	Baum
animal	Cats, horses and elephants are all <i>animals</i> .	Tier
to kill	Smoking <i>kills</i> thousands of people.	töten
deer	large wild animal that can run very fast, eats grass, and has horns	Reh
to hang	The man <i>hanged</i> himself in his prison cell. (<i>Mit dieser Bedeutung nur regelmäßig: hang, hanged, hanged!</i>)	erhängen; aufhängen
prisoner	someone who is in <i>prison</i> (= <i>Gefängnis</i>)	Gefangene(r)

➤ CHAPTER 1: HOW ROBIN BECAME AN OUTLAW (20)

outlaw	someone who lives apart from other people because he has broken the <i>law</i> (= <i>Gesetz</i>)	Vogelfreier
forest	The <i>Black Forest</i> is in south-west Germany.	(großer) Wald
castle	A long time ago, kings lived in <i>castles</i> .	Burg; Schloss
Sheriff	<i>höchster königl. Beamter einer Grafschaft</i>	Sheriff; Vogt
Richard (the Lionheart)	<i>Richard I was King of England from 1189 until he died in 1199.</i>	Richard (Löwenherz)
king	man from a royal (= <i>königlich</i>) family who rules (= <i>regiert</i>) a country	König

Lord	<i>Titel eines Adligen</i>	Herr Graf, usw.
My Lord	<i>früher als Anrede bei einem Adligen</i>	„Herr“
feast	meal (= <i>Essen</i>) with special things to eat	Festessen
hood	This goes over your head.	Kapuze
deer	large wild animal that can run very fast, eats grass, and has horns	Reh
abbot	the head of a monastery (= <i>Kloster</i>)	Abt
bow	With a <i>bow</i> you can shoot arrows (= <i>Pfeile</i>).	Bogen
horse	big strong animal that people ride	Pferd
sword	very long sharp knife for fighting	Schwert
soldier	person in an army	Soldat
to shoot	Marian <i>shot</i> an arrow to frighten the horse. (<i>to shoot, shot, shot</i>)	schießen
tree	Many kids love to climb <i>trees</i> .	Baum
clearing	place in a forest with no trees	Lichtung
cave	natural hole in a hill, or under the ground	Höhle
robber	someone who steals things	Räuber

➤ **CHAPTER 2: ROBIN MEETS LITTLE JOHN (6)**

fighter	person who fights	Kämpfer
giant	person who is extremely big and strong	Riese
arrow	You can shoot <i>arrows</i> with a bow.	Pfeil
coward	someone who is not brave (= <i>tapfer</i>)	Feigling
stick	long thin piece of wood from a tree	Stock
blow	The boxer gave him a <i>blow</i> on the nose.	Schlag

➤ **CHAPTER 3: HOW ROBIN WON THE SILVER ARROW (8)**

contest	game that people try to win	Wettbewerb
archer	person who shoots a bow	Bogenschütze
prize	what you give to s.o. who has won a contest	Preis (<i>den man gewinnt</i>)
target	what Robin Hood shoots at with his arrows	Ziel(-scheibe)
shot	shooting a bow or a gun	Schuss
to kneel down	Tom <i>knelt down</i> and patted the dog. (<i>to kneel, knelt, knelt</i>)	s. hinknien
friar	wandering monk (= <i>Mönch</i>)	Bettelmönch
Friar Tuck	<i>monk who was one of Robin Hood's men</i>	Bruder Tuck
saddle	seat for a rider on a horse	Sattel

Vocabulary: Page by Page

Introduction: Robin Hood's England (54 items)

PAGE 3

most	Most people go on holiday in the summer.	die meisten
people	How many <i>people</i> were at the concert?	Leute; Menschen
to know	1. Do you <i>know</i> my friend Jim? 2. Who <i>knows</i> the answer? (<i>to know, knew, known</i>)	1. kennen 2. wissen
outlaw	someone who lives apart from other people because he has broken the <i>law</i> (= <i>Gesetz</i>)	Vogelfreier
Richard the Lionheart	<i>Richard I was King of England from 1189 until he died in 1199.</i>	Richard Löwenherz
now	If we go <i>now</i> , we will catch the bus.	jetzt
to fight	Millions of people <i>fought</i> in World War I. (<i>to fight, fought, fought</i>)	kämpfen
Palestine	land in the Middle East	Palästina
brother	I have to take my little <i>brother</i> to school.	Bruder
throne	special chair for a king or queen	Thron
bad	<i>opp. good</i>	schlecht; schlimm
who	1. <i>Who</i> can help me with this homework? 2. He's the man <i>who</i> lives next door to us.	1. wer 2. der; welcher
money	Pounds, dollars and euros are <i>money</i> .	Geld
often	Her dad <i>often</i> works at the weekend.	oft; häufig
to take	Someone has <i>taken</i> a book from my bag. (<i>to take, took, taken</i>)	nehmen
himself	He wanted the chocolates for <i>himself</i> .	sich (selbst)
forest	The Black <i>Forest</i> is in south-west Germany.	(großer) Wald
in those days	Things were different <i>in those days</i> .	in jenen Tagen; damals
everything	<i>Everything</i> is fine at the moment.	alles
tree	Many kids love to climb <i>trees</i> .	Baum
animal	Cats, horses and elephants are all <i>animals</i> .	Tier
big, bigger, biggest	Our house is <i>big</i> , but theirs is <i>bigger</i> . Los Angeles is the <i>biggest</i> city in California.	groß, größer der/die/das größte
to kill	Smoking <i>kills</i> people.	töten
deer	large wild animal that can run very fast, eats grass, and has horns	Reh

to hang	1. <i>In dieser Bedeutung: hang, hanged, hanged</i> 2. I <i>hung</i> the clothes on the washing line. (<i>to hang, hung, hung</i>)	1. erhängen 2. aufhängen
sometimes	We <i>sometimes</i> have a lot of homework.	manchmal
hungry	He was cold, tired and <i>hungry</i> .	hungrig
man (<i>pl. men</i>)	There were two <i>men</i> and a boy in the car.	Mann (Männer)
woman (<i>pl. women</i>)	She was the first <i>woman</i> president.	Frau (Frauen)
child (<i>pl. children</i>)	There are thirty <i>children</i> in our class.	Kind (Kinder)
to eat	A small girl was <i>eating</i> an ice cream. (<i>to eat, ate, eaten</i>)	essen
if	<i>If</i> it rains, we'll stay at home.	wenn; falls
soldier	person in an army	Soldat
to find	Oh no! I can't <i>find</i> my homework! (<i>to find, found, found</i>)	finden
so	I was hungry, <i>so</i> I made myself a sandwich.	deshalb; also
like	She looks <i>like</i> her mum.	(so) wie
to become	Slowly the weather <i>became</i> warmer. (<i>to become, became, become</i>)	werden
too	There is <i>too</i> much salt in the soup.	zu (<i>viel, lang, usw.</i>)
rich	Someone who is <i>rich</i> has a lot of money.	reich
fat	She was reading a <i>big fat</i> book. <i>Opp.</i> thin	dick
friend	My best <i>friend</i> is called Jerry.	Freund(in)
to live	He <i>lived</i> in America when he was little.	wohnen; leben
when	1. <i>When</i> is your birthday? 2. He lived in America <i>when</i> he was little.	1. wann 2. als
home	After school we all go <i>home</i> .	nach Hause
to hear	My grandmother can't <i>hear</i> well now. (<i>to hear, heard, heard</i>)	hören
prisoner	someone who is in <i>prison</i> (= <i>Gefängnis</i>)	Gefangene(r)
another	1. They moved to <i>another</i> city. 2. I'm going to have <i>another</i> sandwich.	1. ein(e) andere(r, s) 2. noch ein
to want	What do you <i>want</i> for Christmas?	wollen
to set s.o. free	to allow a person or an animal to be <i>free</i> (<i>to set, set, set</i>)	frei lassen
to laugh	That film really made me <i>laugh</i> .	lachen