

Prince Valiant

IN THE DAYS OF KING ARTHUR
by Harold R. Foster



Our Story: SIR GAWAIN LOLS COMFORTABLY IN THE SHADE BUT PRINCE VALIANT PACES THE DECK, GAZING ACROSS THE SPARKLING WAVES FOR THE FIRST GIMPSE OF THE MISTY ISLES, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE SEVERAL DAYS OF FAIR SAILING AWAY.



THEN, ONE DAY, A SHIP COMES QUIETLY TO THE HARBOR ENTRANCE AND RECEIVES PERMISSION TO ENTER.....



.... TWO STALWART WARRIORS IN TRAVEL-STAINED GARMENTS STRIDE UP THE STREET, AND BY THEIR NOBLE BEARING THE PEOPLE GUESS WHO THEY ARE; FIRST ONE BELL AND THEN ANOTHER RINGS OUT AND SOON ALL THE BELLS IN TOWN ARE RINGING A GLAD WELCOME.



THEN THE PRINCELY ONE GIVES A GREAT SHOUT, DROPS HIS SHIELD AND HELMET AND RACES LIKE A SCHOOLBOY TOWARD A SMALL FIGURE ON THE PALACE STEPS.



LONG AFTERWARDS THE PEOPLE TELL OF HOW THE GREAT PRINCE OF THULE AND THEIR QUEEN GREETED EACH OTHER. IT IS NOT A ROYAL MEETING WITH POMP AND SOUNDING TRUMPETS BUT A HEART-WARMING AFFAIR THAT WINS THE POPULACE FOREVER TO THEIR SIDE.



IN THE NOISY CONFUSION OF THE NURSERY VAL IS REUNITED WITH HIS BROOD. AND SOMETIMES HE IS FILLED WITH WONDER THAT HE, AN ORDINARY PRINCE, SHOULD BE BLESSED WITH THE MOST INTELLIGENT, MOST BEAUTIFUL, WONDERFUL AND WHOLLY ADORABLE CHILDREN EVER TO BE BORN ON THIS EARTH.



ALETA TENDS TO BUSINESS. IT IS THE SPRING EQUINOX AND TIME FOR THE GRAND CONCLAVE, WHERE THE FUTURE OF THE KINGDOM IS DISCUSSED WITH THE LAWMAKERS.

NEXT WEEK--The Conclave