

# Prince Valiant

IN THE DAYS OF KING ARTHUR  
BY HAROLD R. FOSTER



**Our Story:** THE WINTER STORMS ARE OVER, AND EACH DAY MORE RAIDERS COME OVER THE SEA TO JOIN OCH SYNWYN'S ARMY. SOON THIS VICIOUS HORDE WILL BE LOOSED ON PEACEFUL BRITAIN. PRINCE VALIANT MUST ACT FAST.



THE EVIL KING IS PLEASED WITH THE CARTLOAD OF TREASURE HIS TAX COLLECTOR HAS BROUGHT IN, BUT A GREEDY MAN IS NEVER SATISFIED...



"I AM TOLD YOU COLLECTED NOTHING FROM THE VIKINGS." "NO, SIRE," ANSWERS VAL, "HAD I RISKED A FIGHT THIS CART WOULD HAVE BEEN LOOTED DURING THE TURMOIL. WITH YOUR LEAVE I WILL GO BRING THEM TO ORDER."



WITH SOME OF THE YEOMAN GUARD AND THE EVER-PRESENT SPIES, VAL WALKS THROUGH THE CAMP. CRIES OF HATRED, THREATS AND CURSES FOLLOW HIM, FOR IT IS HE WHO COLLECTED THE TAXES; HE WHO PREVENTS THEM FROM SCOURGING THE COUNTRYSIDE!



DOWN BY THE SHIPS HE FINDS A VIKING CAPTAIN. "I WAS BORN IN THULE--I FAVOR THE NORTHMEN. SO I WARN YOU NOT TO RISK DISASTER TO FURTHER THE AMBITIONS OF A MAD KING. WHY SEEK RICHES ELSEWHERE WHEN THE PLUNDER OF MANY COASTS IS GATHERED IN THIS CAMP? AND YOUR SHIPS ARE READY TO SAIL!"



THE NEXT LARGEST GROUP IS THE BOISTEROUS SCOTTI FROM IRELAND, MERRY RASCALS IMPATIENT FOR ACTION. THEY ARE FRIENDLY, FOR VAL HAD EXCUSED THEM FROM THE TAX, ALSO.



AS HE LEAVES HE SAYS:- "YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY IMPATIENT ONES, FOR I HEAR THE VIKINGS ARE ABOUT TO COLLECT THEIR WAGES IN ADVANCE AND SAIL AWAY!"

NEXT WEEK-Payday