

... he said to himself, "Today he's coming! I know it!"

## Reading Notes

<b>June, 1294</b>	date the story begins
<b>The Abbey of St. Alban</b>	monastery built on the site of St. Alban's martyrdom
<b>Roger Quartermayne</b>	Adam's father; a skilled minstrel
<b>Adam Quartermayne</b>	the main character; Roger's son; wants to be a minstrel
<b>Perkin</b>	Adam's friend at St. Alban's school
<b>Nick</b>	Adam's cocker spaniel

## Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each **bold** word or phrase.

1. disappointed but not **daunted** \_\_\_\_\_
2. sons of **franklins** and burgesses \_\_\_\_\_
3. a length of cloth for a **surcoat** \_\_\_\_\_

## Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Why is Adam at the Abbey School, and where is his father? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What do the boys of St. Alban's do while they are eating dinner? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What language is spoken by all the boys at the Abbey? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name the three things that comfort Adam as he waits for his father to return:  
1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_
5. There are three languages spoken in England at this time. Name them and tell who spoke them.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

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1. Who says the quotation? \_\_\_\_\_ Who is coming? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Contrast Roger Quartermayne with “ordinary minstrels.”
3. Why is Adam well-liked at school?
4. Why is Perkin so serious about his education? What are his career plans?

## Enrichment

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1. Look at the picture preceding Chapter 1. Identify the characters, place, and what is happening.
2. Memorize the Norman kings from England’s Sovereigns in Verse in the Appendix.
3. Chapter 1 describes Adam’s life at the Abbey. Imagine that you could tell Adam about your day. Write a letter to Adam and tell him about your daily routine. To help him understand, explain what you are doing during each of the seven hours of the **Divine Office**. The **Divine Office** refers to special hours of each day at which the monks would say prayers, read the Bible, and sing the Psalms.



### — The Divine Office —

- **Matins** - 4:00 a.m. (This service was named many years after it was first practiced.)
- **Lauds** (Praises) & **Prime** - 6:00 a.m. (The first hour after sunrise)
- **Terce** - 9:00 a.m. (The third hour after sunrise)
- **Sext** - 12:00 noon (The sixth hour after sunrise)
- **None** - 3:00 p.m. (The ninth hour after sunrise)
- **Vespers** - 5:00 p.m. (Also called “evensong,” this service involves singing the Psalms.)
- **Compline** - 7:00 p.m. (The final service of the day is quiet and contemplative.)