

Reading Notes

Crusades	military campaigns fought between Muslims and Christians to determine who will gain control of the Holy Land
King Richard I	rightful king of England who is often away fighting crusades
Prince John	Richard I's evil brother who rules in the place of Richard when he is away at war
Sheriff of Nottingham	the cruel sheriff appointed by Prince John who carries out John's merciless and unjust orders
bishop	a member of the church clergy who has authority over a group of local churches
abbot	a man who is the head of a monastery
yeoman	a middle-class man who freely owns and farms land
palmer	a religious pilgrim who carries a palm as a token of his visit to the Holy Land
serf	a servant in the lowest feudal class who works under a lord in return for protection and a plot of land to farm
Worman	Robin's steward who betrays him to Prince John
William Scathlock	Will Scarlet; Robin's loyal follower who is second in command

Vocabulary

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

1. his **coffers** must be full of gold! _____ treasure chests
2. Even I his **Steward** do not know that. _____ household manager
3. see the arrow has **transfixed** his heart _____ pierced

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Why did Much the Miller kill one of the king's deer? _____ He killed the deer to feed his starving family. They were hungry because John's men had burned his mill to the ground to make more room for the deer.

2. Who kills Much? _____ Worman, Robin Hood's steward, kills him.

3. How does Robert Fitzooth's steward betray him? Describe the plan he suggests for Prince John to capture Robin Hood. _____
Worman tells Prince John and the Sheriff how they can find and capture Robin Hood. He suggests that they disguise themselves as palmers and show up at Robert and Marian's wedding feast to arrest him there.
4. What does Will Scarlet think is strange about the arrow used to kill Much? _____
The arrow is not from Nottingham but from Locksley Hall. It is the kind of arrow that Robin and his servants use.
5. What happens to Much the Miller's son? _____
He is taken in by Will Scarlet to serve Robin Hood.

Quotations

"Let me come with you and serve your noble master too. I know I am but twelve years old—but sorrow brings us quickly to manhood ..."

Who said this? _____ Much the Miller's son

To whom? _____ Will Scarlet

Who is the noble master that the speaker wants to serve? _____ Robin Hood

What is the sorrow that is spoken of? _____ The boy's father has been killed.

Discussion Questions

1. How did Prince John become the ruler of England, even though Richard was the rightful king? What type of ruler is John?
2. How does Prince John make money? Discuss at least three ways.
3. What is John's real reason for creating such a scene with Much the Miller in the forest?

Enrichment

1. Assign students to play the roles of the Sheriff, the Sheriff's men, Much the Miller, Prince John, Worman, the serfs, Much's son, and Will Scarlet. Act out the story of Much the Miller and the rescuing of Much's son.
2. Rewrite the story as if you were Much the Miller's son.