

Drama: The Knight's Quest

This drama is written to be as flexible as possible to suit many different settings and teams. You can run this drama with a skeleton team of three (relying on props for some characters) or really fill the stage with 10 or more (if you want a full cast of villagers).

Characters:

Perceval the Brave / Joan of Lanark – our Knight. Ideally a young person the kids can relate to.

Bill the Pony – comedy horse: could be someone in costume, a stick-horse or a horse cut-out carried by someone.

Bob/Barbara the Bard – more comedic figure, dressed in bright colours, carries a guitar or other instrument, ideally someone who can play and is willing to sing!

Wise Old Sage – a mysterious older figure in a big cloak, maybe with a staff

Villagers – any amount of “extras” who all speak over each other in a babble. All their lines should be said at once, and feel free to let them ad-lib! If you don't have enough people, Bob the Bard can double as a single villager and take their lines.

Dragon – the dragon is a real baddie, and should try and be a tiny bit scary! You can make a large dragon cut from cardboard, or you can have someone in a dragon costume. You can make large tongues of fire from cardboard to simulate dragons breath.

(setting) – a medieval peasant village – anything farm related. You could project the image of a thatched roof village behind if you have

**A Tale
of
Two Kings**

A Bible based holiday club

Day 1 – Anointed

Bob the Bard –

Come gather round and hear the tale / Of Percival the Brave

Though small and young / he is the one/ Chosen to slay the dragon

Bob the Bard and villagers are milling about minding their own business – may have rakes or hoes or baskets they are carrying. One of them points and yells out “dragon!” – our dragon “flies” on stage and chases the villagers and Bob around, burning everything with dragons breath, knocking things over and generally being terrible! The villagers run back and forth, dropping and throwing things and screaming and shouting things like “dragon!” “calamity!” “save us!” etc – the more silly and over-the-top this is, the better.

Eventually all the villagers and Bob run off stage, with the dragon chasing them. If the stage area is too messy, someone can come tidy it up a bit.

(Bob the Bard walks across holding a sign – “one week later”)

The Sage enters and all the villagers/Bob sit down to listen to him

The Sage- *(speaking to the assembled villagers or to just the kids, reading from a scroll) –* word has reached his majesty the king that an evil dragon has been terrorizing your village! *(pauses)*

Villagers – He’s terrible / it’s scary / I don’t like dragons anymore / it burned my chicken coop!

Sage - ...So, by royal decree, a brave knight shall be chosen to hunt down and slay the beast!

Villagers – Hooray! / Its about time! / I always did like the king.

Sage – Would all the strong and brave young people of the kingdom please assemble so a knight can be chosen? Would any of you like to be chosen?

(villagers stand up in a line, the Sage should also invite maybe three kids from the holiday club to line up)

Villagers *(grumbling and afraid)*– Oh, not me, couldn’t possibly, too scary, no thank you. I don’t like dragons.

(Percival the Brave also appears for the first time and lines up unassumingly)

(The Sage walks along the line, generally commenting on the candidates. He asks Bob the Bard to sit down first, then the villagers, finally commenting that the children from the club are very strong and brave looking, but it’s not them. Only Percival is left.)

Sage – What is your name, young squire?

Perceval (looks left and right) – Me?? Well I'm called Percy, or Perceval I guess. But there's nothing too special about me!

Sage – Perceval, you are the knight that the King has chosen for this quest, for your heart is true! Kneel now and be knighted.

Perceval – are you sure? I, well, I've never fought a dragon before... but I want to protect our kingdom, and so I will try to be brave!

(Perceval kneels down and the Sage brings out a sword and taps him on each shoulder)

Sage – In the name of our great King, I dub thee Sir Perceval... the Brave!

(Perceval rises – applause!)

Perceval – I have a question though... is it alright if I bring my pony Bill along? He's my best friend... I don't think I could make this journey without Bill.

(Bill the Pony enters and gets a pat from Perceval)

Sage – Of course – every knight needs a noble steed!

(Bill whinnies)

Sage – Now come follow me, Sir Perceval, and I will show you the last place the dragon was seen.

Drama 2 – Faithful

Sage and Perceval walk on stage – around them is the burned remains and mess of a village! They survey the scene.

Sage – this is the last place the dragon was seen – you can see how much he’s destroyed.

Perceval – Oh dear, this is awful. I didn’t realize just how bad the dragon was! So... how big is the dragon?

Sage – at least 20 feet tall.

(Percy and Bill shiver and moan in fear)

Perceval – And how much does the dragon weigh?

Sage – At least 500 lbs

(they shiver and moan more!)

Perceval – And does the dragon breathe... fire?

Sage – Yes, and his claws are a foot long each!

(Percy and Bill clutch each other in fear!)

Perceval – Oh no, Bill what have we gotten into... I’m shaking like a leaf! How can I face an enormous scary dragon?! I think... I want to go home now! Someone else can do it!

Sage – Remember that the king chose you for this great quest, Perceval! Have faith in Him - The king will give you everything you need.... *(dramatic pause as Sage reveals a shield that says FAITH and gives it to Perceval)*...he has sent you this shield to protect you.

Percy – Wow – a shield from the king! Well if the king sent me, and gave me this shield of faith... I feel braver already. Maybe I can face a dragon?

Bob the Bard *(suddenly runs on stage waving his arms in the air)* – Run! Run for your lives! The dragon is coming!!

(the dragon follows him, with big scary growls. Sage and Bill run as well, Perceval starts to run too...)

Sage – Perceval! Remember your shield!

(Perceval remembers his shield and holds it up to protect all four of them)

Perceval – back foul beast! You can’t get past my shield of faith!

(The dragon dramatically tries to scratch and breathe fire on the shield, but is rebuffed every time. The dragon flies away the way he came)

Bob the Bard (*comes up from where he's crouching*) – Amazing! Incredible! I've never seen such bravery – you must be the greatest knight in the whole kingdom!

Perceval – well, it wasn't really me... it was this amazing shield of faith that the king sent me! What a gift!

Bob the Bard – Oh nonsense, I can tell that you are going to be a hero!

Perceval – Well, I don't know... I was about to give up a few minutes ago...

Bob the Bard (*getting excited*) – Oh oh, can I come with you on the quest? Please please please?

Percy – Uh, why??

Bob the Bard (*dramatically, like a Shakespearean actor*)- Every bard needs a hero to write about, to record your mighty deeds! I'll write epic poems about your noble quest to rid us of the rancid beast! Songs that will make the villagers weep!

(the villagers can weep and applaud from backstage if you want)

Perceval (to the sage)– Well, it's really up to the King... Sage, do you think Bob would be allowed to come along with me and Bill?

Sage (*to Bob*) – Yes, anyone can join Percy on the journey, but don't be surprised if things don't turn out like you expect. Perceval was chosen by the king for the bravery and goodness in his heart – but no one is the perfect hero.

Perceval – whew, you've got that right... I'm still shaking in my boots. Thank goodness and thank the King for this shield!

Sage – Its time for your quest to begin now, Perceval. I will leave you here, but remember the king will always give you everything you need for the quest! Remember.... (*The Sage exits*)

Perceval – well, come on Bob, and follow us Bill! The dragon went this way!

(the band of three exit the stage, following where the dragon went)

Drama 3 – Obedient

Bob Bill and Percy walk in a line, following a map. Play heroic music behind them as they make a loop around the room, occasionally stopping and pointing, covering their eyes to peer ahead, stumbling and helping each other up, consulting a map, as if they are on a long journey.

Bob (*slumps down at the front of the stage*) - Ugh, I'm absolutely cream crackered! Stick a fork in me... I'm done!

Bill the pony could poke Bob with a fork, Bob jumps up and says ow!

Percy – Let's have a rest – we've been searching for days and days and no sign of the dragon! Do you think its hiding from us?

Bob – I don't know, but it's not the swashbuckling quest I thought I'd be on. The only song I could write now would be about how bad Bill smells!

(Bill whinnies indignantly and pushes Bob, Bob pushes back and they start to tussle)

Bob – come on then, you reekin' animal, put em up...

Percy – Stop, stop, stop you two! We are on a quest for the king himself, we can't start fighting each other! (*he pulls them apart*) Look there's a cave on the map just over there, we'll spend the night there and we'll all feel better tomorrow.

(the three heroes move to the opposite side of the stage and unfurl sleeping bags and pillows – a comedy moment for Bill the Pony. They settle down to sleep)

Percy – Goodnight Bob, good night Bill.

Bob – Sleep tight, don't let the horse flies bite! (*Bill whinnies and kicks at Bob*)

(just as they start to settle down, the dragon walks into the cave and also lies down to sleep, curling up like a doggie)

Percy (*sees the dragon and sits up in a fright, then whispering loudly*) – psssst Bob, Bill! Dragon! Dragon!

Bob (*sits up and scootches back*) – Oh my giddy aunt!

(all three are now sitting side by side, looking in horror at the sleeping dragon, their sleeping bags tucked up to their chins like frightened kids! All their conversation is in a loud whisper)

Percy (*looking side to side*) – what do I do? What do I do? I don't have anything to fight it with!

Bob (*nudges Bill*) – Bill... go kick it with your hooves!

(Bill whinnies his dissent)

Percy – No! I'm not sacrificing Bill! I need to face the dragon myself! I just need something to challenge it with...

Bob - You don't need anything, just attack while its sleeping! You have the element of surprise!

Percy – That doesn't seem very knightly or brave. It sounds downright... cowardly! I can't attack it while it's asleep!

Bob – Who cares, as long as you win?

Percy – The King cares, that's who. The Sage said the King would send help whenever we needed it.

Bob – Aw, forget the King.

(Bill and Percy gasp and look at him horrified)

Bob *(mollified)* – Okay I take it back, I take it back

Percy – Bob, I have to do this like the King would want me to. He's the one who chose me for this quest! He's in charge.

(the dragon lets out a big roaring yawn, stretches and yawn. The three companions all lay down and hide in their sleeping bags! The dragon looks around as if it's heard something, but then gets up and leaves the cave)

Bob – ...well now you've missed your chance! That was the perfect opportunity!

Percy – Sorry Bob... it just didn't feel right, I'd rather do things the King's way...

(the Sage suddenly appears! This should be unexpectedly from behind something, if possible. The three companions gasp and hide in their sleeping bags again, before realizing who it is)

Sage – Perceval the Brave, you have done very well.

Bob *(incredulous)* – ...done well!? He just let the dragon go! He...

Sage – You showed great wisdom and obedience today – waiting for the right moment and waiting for help from the King. Come kneel.

(Perceval Kneels before the Sage)

Sage - For the next stage of your quest the King has sent you these gifts *(brings out a sword and belt)*... the belt of truth and the sword of the spirit... now that you have proven you know how and when to use them.

(Perceval stands up, buckles on the belt, unsheathes his sword and holds it up heroically. You could play some heroic music here)

Percy – Now I'm ready to face the dragon!

(all exit)

Drama 4 – Repentant

Perceval swaggers on stage, Bob and Bill following. He has his new sword out and is thrusting, swiping and pretending to fight imaginary dragons.

Percy (*to himself*) – Back evil dragon! Take that! And that! Haha, my sword is too powerful, you'll never escape!

Bob and Bill watch from the sidelines arms crossed, as Percy showboats

Bob (*to Bill*) - He's really let that sword go to his head, hasn't he? (*Bill nods*)

Percy (*goes over to Bill and Bob*) - Well, where are we headed next lads? I'm itching for a fight with this dragon, I'm sure we must be close! (*he swings the sword and nearly hits Bob and Bill, who have to jump back!*)

Bob – Whoa whoa, careful with that thing Percy!

Percy – The King gave me this sword you know, so you're perfectly safe! I'm a knight of the kingdom after all.

Bob (*mutters to himself*) – I think I liked you better before you got the sword...

(Villagers run on, interrupting the conversation, speaking over each other. If you don't have a cast of villagers, just have Bob point to the nearest village and spot the dragon)

Villagers – Are you Sir Perceval the Brave? / Are you a knight? / Can you help us? / Oh calamity!

Percy (*deepens his voice, puffs out his chest*) - Yes that's me, Sir Perceval the Brave... how can I be of service to you good people?

Villagers – Thank goodness! / There's a dragon near our village! / Can you fight it? / We have a dragon problem! / Hurry!

Percy – Haha, a dragon? Excellent! Never fear, Perceval the Brave is here! Lead me to your village!

Percy *follows the villagers in a loop around the room and back to the front, where the dragon has now appeared and is growling and shooting flames. The villagers all huddle together. Percy is hunching down, maybe behind something, getting ready to face the dragon.*

Bob – (*kneels next to Percy conspiratorially*) Alright now, what's your plan, Percy? Are you going to aim for the belly or wings, you can't let yourself get hit with flame, so hold up your shield and also watch out for...

Percy (*Percy ignores Bob and runs at the dragon mid-sentence*) – Attaaaaaaack!

Bob – Okay, attack... I guess that's a plan...

Fight Scene - *Percy lunges at the dragon with his sword raised high, but gets hit and stumbles back. Playing some dramatic music throughout the fight scene will help make it more epic – many movie soundtracks have good "fight scene" scores)*

Villagers/Bob (*from the sidelines, like fans at a football match. They should ooh, ahh and cheer throughout the fight. They could even hold up Percy signs or scarves like they are supporters at a match*) - Don't forget your shield! / Watch out for the flames! / Dodge the claws!

(*Percy keeps trying to attack the dragon in dramatic ways for a few minutes, but is always rebuffed with flames, scratches etc. He gets injured several times until he falls down... Bob and Bill grab him under the arms and drag him back to safety. The dragon laughs in victory... could even do a victory dance... and then goes off stage*)

Villagers (*wander off stage, bored now*) – Ugh / Boo! / There's always next season / I paid good money for this ticket / I wonder if there will be a re-match scheduled?

(*Percy sits with his head in his hands, clearly upset*)

Bob – Hey, don't worry, you'll get him next time...

Percy – Next time? I don't think so... I'm clearly not the knight for this job.

(*Bill whinnies and nuzzles Percy*)

Percy – come on Bill, I don't know what the king was thinking, let's go home. (*Percy stands up and starts walking away, not looking back*)

Bob – Go home? You can't, Percy, the King chose YOU for this quest! And remember what the Sage said?

Percy – (*still walking away*) The king will always help us when we need it most... but where was the King today?? He let me lose to the dragon!

Sage (*suddenly appears*) - Have you lost your faith after only one defeat, Perceval?

Percy - (*frustrated, still walking away, but slower*) There YOU are, why didn't you show up sooner, when I needed help?

Bob – You never asked for help, Percy... you just attacked!

Sage – The king didn't forget about you Perceval, and He hasn't given up on you. Are you going to give up on Him? Give up on this quest?

Percy (*stops walking away, thinks, and slowly turns around*) - No, I'm not giving up. I still believe in the King, and in the quest He set me to accomplish.

Sage – Come back and kneel, Sir Percy. (*Percy walks back with new purpose and kneels*). Here the king has sent you the breastplate of righteousness and the shoes of readiness. The next time you face the dragon your feet will be quick and your heart will be protected.

Percy – Thank you for not letting me give up. I'm ready to start again now.

(*they all start walking off stage*)

Bob (*arm around Perceval and Bill*) – Now next time... don't just attack! You know, Bill and I have been thinking of some great strategies about how to defeat a dragon...

Drama 5 – Promised

(Bill the Pony is on stage alone, grazing and eating grass, when the dragon appears and grabs him, taking him away! Make sure you gasp and act surprised so the kids react too!)

Bob *(runs on stage)* - Oh no, Bill has been taken by the dragon! Percy! Percy! *(Bob starts running around in a panic – even around the room –shouting: Percy! Bob! Dragon!)*

Percy *(runs on stage)* - Bob, what is it, what's wrong?

Bob *(totally out of breath and gasping, grabbing at Percy)* - Bill... Dragon... Bill the Pony...

Percy – Bob, what do you mean? What's happened to Bill? Pull yourself together man! *(Pretends to slap him in the face)*

Bob *(shakes his head to sober up)* - Percy, its Bill the Pony, the dragon flew in out of nowhere and grabbed him! He flew that way!

Percy *(determined)* – I need to face the dragon again, for the king, and for Bill! Let's do this right though, I'm going to need...

Bob *(holds up each item for the kids to see, encourage them to shout out the names - Percy takes each item and puts them on one by one)*

Bob...the shield of faith!

... The belt of truth!

...The sword of the Spirit!

...Shoes of readiness!

...Breastplate of righteousness!

Bob – alright let's go! *(starts off...)*

Percy – No, wait, wait, there's one more thing we need to do. What is it kids?

(Encourage the kids to answer: Ask for the King's Help!)

Percy *(goes down on one knee)* - Our Lord and King, thank you for choosing me for this quest. I need your help to defeat this dragon, I know I can't do it alone. Please help me to be brave and to save my friend Bill.

Bob *(also goes on one knee, uncertainly)* - King, I've never asked you for anything before, but please help Percy, and protect Bill too!

Sage *(appears suddenly)* - Well done Percy, now is the time to face the dragon, but one thing you lack! The King has given you the Helmet of Salvation – may you, Bill and the whole kingdom be saved from the evil beast! *(places a helmet on Percy's head)*

Percy stands up and the dragon reappears on stage, holding onto Bill, roaring etc. Sage and Bob stand back, the villagers enter quietly to watch too.

Percy (*with gravitas*) – You come before me with fire, wings and claws, but I come before you in the name of our King, who’s kingdom you are defiling! Let Bill go, you foul beast!

Fight Scene - *Percy approaches the dragon more cautiously, circling, holding up his shield to protect himself from flames and hits, and swinging the sword here and there to find an opening. He hits the dragon’s arm, and the dragon releases Bill, who runs over to Bob for a hug. The dragon cries out angrily and lunges at Percy, who steps to one side and delivers the final blow. The dragon falls down defeated, dramatically dying on stage. This can be eked out for comedy effect.*

Everyone breaks into wild applause and cheers, running to Percy and the dragon! Bob, Sage and Bill all run to hug Percy

Villagers - I knew he could do it / amazing! / ding dong, the dragon’s dead/ at last my chickens will be safe!

Sage – well done, Sir Perceval the Brave, knight of the Kingdom!

Bob - Three cheers for Perceval the Brave – hip hip (*hooray!*) hip hip (*hooray!*) hip hip (*hooray!*)

Bob – Now I can finally write my epic ballad about your quest! You’re a hero Percy!

Villagers – Perceval! Perceval! Perceval!

Percy – Stop stop stop, wait! (*everyone hushes*) If it wasn’t for the king, I would never ever have defeated the dragon! I could never have done it alone, it was all him. Let’s all take a moment to thank the king for this victory!

Everyone drops to their knees

Percy - Lord and King – thank you this great victory over the dragon today! You helped us every step of the way and kept us safe – thank you for saving our kingdom, and for making me part of your plan. Please watch after us always!

Everyone cheers

Percy (*to Bob*) - I think you *should* write a song, Bob, but it should be a song more about the King than me!

Bob – Hm, maybe you’re right... how about something like this...?

(finish the drama with the band coming out – if you have one- and all the characters leading the kids in “King of Me” or your choice of Holiday Club song, especially if it focuses on God as Lord and King!)

The End