

Life In A Medieval Castle

The reissue of Joseph and Frances Gies's classic bestseller on life in medieval villages. This new reissue of *Life in a Medieval Village*, by respected historians Joseph and Frances Gies, paints a lively, convincing portrait of rural people at work and at play in the Middle Ages. Focusing on the village of Elton, in the English East Midlands, the Gieses detail the agricultural advances that made communal living possible, explain what domestic life was like for serf and lord alike, and describe the central role of the church in maintaining social harmony. Though the main focus is on Elton, c. 1300, the Gieses supply enlightening historical context on the origin, development, and decline of the European village, itself an invention of the Middle Ages. Meticulously researched, *Life in a Medieval Village* is a remarkable account that illustrates the captivating world of the Middle Ages and demonstrates what it was like to live during a fascinating—and often misunderstood—era.

DK Eyewitness Medieval Life is a unique and compelling introduction to the people and culture of the Middle Ages. Superb colour photographs of artefacts, costumes, furniture, and buildings, bring daily life in Medieval Europe vividly to life. Help your child discover the magnificent tournaments of the royal court, the

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bustling streets of a developing town, how the feudal system worked and much more. Great for projects or just for fun, make sure your child learns everything they need to know about Medieval Life. Find out more and download amazing clipart images at www.dk.com/clipart.

Make a thrilling escape from a medieval castle using logic, problem-solving, and critical thinking! BEWARE! You've been imprisoned in a medieval castle, and may be trapped forever! Can you escape the fortress walls? It is 1389, and you are locked in a tower of a medieval castle. The door is guarded. The castle bustles with nobles, servants, craftspeople, and entertainers. But it is also a mighty fortress fiercely defended by soldiers. The castle's massive walls protect it from enemy attack, while inside there is a maze of dark passageways. Stay calm, use your wits, and consult the heraldic wheel on the front cover. If you follow the clues, solve the riddles, and decode the puzzles, you will make your escape! CHOOSE! Use all the clues to make your choices wisely and escape the castle. SPIN! Turn the heraldic wheel on the front cover to reveal the next step of your journey. LEARN! Filled with facts about life in a castle in medieval times. Authenticated by experts. THRILL! The story is a page-turner, full of suspense and drama. SCENE SETTER Stunning design with authentic artifacts and evocative backdrops to set an adventurous mood.

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A lively, detailed picture of village life in the Middle Ages by the authors of *Life in a Medieval City* and *Life in a Medieval Castle*. "A good general introduction to the history of this period."--Los Angeles Times

"Some particular books I found useful for *A Game of Thrones* and its sequels deserve mention... *Life in a Medieval Castle* and *Life in a Medieval City*, both by Joseph and Frances Gies." —George R.R. Martin, author of the series *A Song of Ice and Fire*

Medieval history comes alive in Joseph and Frances Gies's *Life in a Medieval Castle*, used as a research resource by George R. R. Martin in creating the world of *A Game of Thrones*. Newly reissued for the first time in decades, *Life in a Medieval Castle* is the bestselling classic that has introduced countless readers to the wonders of the Middle Ages. Focusing on a castle called Chepstow on the border between England and Wales, acclaimed Medievalists Joseph and Frances Gies offer an exquisite portrait of what day-to-day life was actually like during the era, and of the key role the castle played. The Gieses write eloquently about the many people whose lives revolved around the castle, from the lord and lady to the commoners of the surrounding village. We discover what lords and serfs alike would have worn, eaten, and done for leisure; the songs sung; and the codes of sexual conduct that maintained order. We learn of the essential role of honor in medieval culture, the initiation process undertaken

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by knights, and how castles attempted to keep the constant threats of outside violence at bay. Exhaustively researched and as engaging as any novel, *Life in a Medieval Castle* is the definitive text for anyone wishing to learn more about this fascinating era.

A magisterial history of the origins, reality, and legend of the knight Born out of the chaos of the early Middle Ages, the armored and highly mobile knight revolutionized warfare and quickly became a mythic figure in history. From the Knights Templars and English knighthood to the crusades and chivalry, *The Knight in History*, by acclaimed medievalist Frances Gies, bestselling coauthor of *Life in a Medieval Castle*, paints a remarkable true picture of knighthood—exploring the knight's earliest appearance as an agent of lawless violence, his reemergence as a dynamic social entity, his eventual disappearance from the European stage, and his transformation into Western culture's most iconic hero.

From acclaimed historians Frances and Joseph Gies comes the reissue of their classic book on day-to-day life in medieval cities, which was a source for George R.R. Martin's *Game of Thrones* series. Evoking every aspect of city life in the Middle Ages, *Life in a Medieval City* depicts in detail what it was like to live in a prosperous city of Northwest Europe in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The

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year is 1250 CE and the city is Troyes, capital of the county of Champagne and site of two of the cycle Champagne Fairs—the “Hot Fair” in August and the “Cold Fair” in December. European civilization has emerged from the Dark Ages and is in the midst of a commercial revolution. Merchants and money men from all over Europe gather at Troyes to buy, sell, borrow, and lend, creating a bustling market center typical of the feudal era. As the Gieses take us through the day-to-day life of burghers, we learn the customs and habits of lords and serfs, how financial transactions were conducted, how medieval cities were governed, and what life was really like for a wide range of people. For serious students of the medieval era and anyone wishing to learn more about this fascinating period, *Life in a Medieval City* remains a timeless work of popular medieval scholarship.

In this challenging new book Charles Coulson overturns many of the traditional assumptions about the nature and purpose of castle-building in the middle ages. He demolishes the traditional belief that castles were overwhelmingly military in their function, showing how this was simply one aspect of a more complicated whole. He sets out to recreate the medieval understanding of castles as symbolically fortified places of all kinds, from ancient walled post-Roman towns and prestigious religious enclaves to transitory campaign forts. Going back to the original sources, Dr Coulson proposes a new and more subtle understanding of the function and symbolism of castles as well as vivid insights into the lives of the people who inhabited them. Fortresses were only occasionally caught up in war, but constantly were

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central to the ordinary life of all classes: of the nobility and gentry, of widows and heiresses, of prelates and clergy, of peasantry and townspeople alike. Castles in Medieval Society presents and explores this broad social panorama.

From acclaimed historians Frances and Joseph Gies comes the reissue of this definitive classic on medieval castles, which was a source for George R.R. Martin's Game of Thrones series. "Castles are crumbly and romantic. They still hint at an age more colorful and gallant than our own, but are often debunked by boring people who like to run on about drafts and grumble that the latrines did not work. Joseph and Frances Gies offer a book that helps set the record straight—and keeps the romance too."—Time A widely respected academic work and a source for George R.R. Martin's Game of Thrones, Joseph and Frances Gies's bestselling Life in a Medieval Castle remains a timeless work of popular medieval scholarship. Focusing on Chepstow, an English castle that survived the turbulent Middle Ages with a relative lack of violence, the book offers an exquisite portrait of what day-to-day life was actually like during the era, and of the key role the castle played. The Gieses take us through the full cycle of a medieval year, dictated by the rhythms of the harvest. We learn what lords and serfs alike would have worn, eaten, and done for leisure, and of the outside threats the castle always hoped to keep at bay. For medieval buffs and anyone who wants to learn more about this fascinating era, Life in a Medieval Castle is as timely today as when it was first published. Castles are perhaps the greatest symbol of the Middle Ages. But what was life like inside these mighty fortresses? This book examines the rise of castles as the center of noble life and provides information on the men, women, and children who lived within the castle walls. Every aspect of life in a prosperous thirteenth-century city is explored in this representative

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study of Troyes in 1250 A.D.

Looks at English castles and their construction, and tells how castle inhabitants defended themselves, entertained guests, obtained their food, and lived their daily lives

How would you feel if you woke up in a medieval castle tomorrow morning? What would your bed be like? What would you eat? What sights and smells would be around you? Whisking you back in time, this little book will show you exactly what it would be like to be there.

From bestselling historians Frances and Joseph Gies, authors of the classic “Medieval Life” series, comes this compelling, lucid, and highly readable account of the family unit as it evolved throughout the Medieval period—reissued for the first time in decades. “Some particular books that I found useful for Game of Thrones and its sequels deserve mention. Life in a Medieval Castle and Life in a Medieval City, both by Joseph and Frances Gies.” —George R. R. Martin, author of Game of Thrones Throughout history, the significance of the family—the basic social unit—has been vital. In Marriage and the Family in the Middle Ages, acclaimed historians Frances and Joseph Gies trace the development of marriage and the family from the medieval era to early modern times. It describes how the Roman and barbarian cultural streams merged under the influence of the Christian church to forge new concepts, customs, laws, and practices. Century by century, the Gies follow the development—sometimes gradual, at other times revolutionary—of significant components in the history of the family including: The basic functions of the family as a production unit, as well as its religious, social, judicial, and educational roles. The shift of marriage from private arrangement between families to public ceremony between individuals, and the adjustments in dowry, bride-price, and counter-dowry. The development of consanguinity rules and incest taboos in church law and lay custom. The

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peasant family in its varying condition of being free or unfree, poor, middling, or rich. The aristocratic estate, the problem of the younger son, and the disinheritance of daughters. The Black Death and its long-term effects on the family. Sex attitudes and customs: the effects of variations in age of men and women at marriage. The changing physical environment of noble, peasant, and urban families. Arrangements by families for old age and retirement. Expertly researched, master historians Frances and Joseph Gies—whose books were used by George R.R. Martin in his research for *Game of Thrones*—paint a compelling, detailed portrait of family life and social customs in one of the most riveting eras in history.

The influence of the castle, both on the course of history and on the lives of the people who lived in them, has never been fully explored-until now. This fascinating book examines the evolution of the medieval castle, from the rigid social structure of its society to the types of weapons, training, and tactics employed during wartime. Above all, "The Medieval Castle" is a book about the daily life-from clothes and food to recreation and customs-and the people who made their homes inside a military fortress. Looks behind fortress walls to explore how they were built to house hundreds of people and animals, the important rooms, the people who lived in them, and what castle life was like.

Describes the history, purpose, and construction of medieval castles and the life of their various inhabitants.

A 1978 Caldecott Honor Book The word itself conjures up mystery, romance, intrigue, and grandeur. What could be more perfect for an author/illustrator who has continually

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stripped away the mystique of architectural structures that have long fascinated modern man? With typical zest and wry sense of humor punctuating his drawings, David Macaulay traces the step-by-step planning and construction of both castle and town. This delightful information book for early readers, filled with colourful illustrations and simple text, will introduce young children to a medieval castle. See knights prepare for battle and servants and nobles lay on a grand feast for the king in the hall of the medieval castle. Each spread features activities around the border, asking the reader to spot specific objects within the central image, as well as a timeline, quiz, glossary and index. This book is sure to enthral young readers and give them a passion for learning. Describes different kinds of castles, their purposes, how they were built, and what it was like to live in a castle, looking particularly at the roles played by women and children.

Presents an illustrated description of castles in Europe from around 850-1500 A.D., and describes daily life and culture of the people.

An excellent overview of the Middle Ages.

Describes the evolution, architecture, and historical function of the medieval castle and the daily life, habits, and relationships of its inhabitants through a detailed study of England's thirteenth-century Chepstow Castle

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As the son of a medieval lord, Henry has lived in a castle all his life. When learns

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that he must leave home to begin training to be a knight, he turns to his friend Margaret for help. But as a worker in the castle's kitchen, Margaret is envious of Henry's opportunity to see more of the world. Get a glimpse into medieval times by following these two friends as they explore the castle and meet a variety of colorful characters

Heir to an earldom, and wife and widow of William de Valence (half-brother of King Henry III), Joan de Valence was an important actor in the volatile political world of thirteenth-century England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Yet, astonishingly, her story of survival, perseverance, and influence has never been told until now. *Joan de Valence: The Life and Influence of a Thirteenth-Century Noblewoman* draws on archival research, as well as tools of historical analysis and gender studies, to peel back the layers of this remarkable noblewoman's life. From her survival of the wars between king and baronage at mid-century to her life as a widow and magnate of the realm, the story of Joan de Valence, as Mitchell argues, exemplifies the range of experiences of noblewomen during the middle ages.

An exploration of both private and public life in the Middle Ages covers material culture and the life cycle as well as daily experiences in villages, castles, monasteries, and towns.

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Humorous illustrations, captions, and sidebars describe the horrible conditions inside a medieval castle that the servants and others endured.

Illustrates what life was like in and around a typical medieval European castle, from daily living to warfare, with the book shaped and somewhat organized like a castle.

The Haynes Medieval Castle Manual explores the background story to castle construction in Medieval Europe, showing that castles had both a domestic and defensive function. It uses the 'new' medieval castle-building project at Guédelon in Burgundy as the centerpiece for the book, examining the construction and anatomy of these awe-inspiring structures, section by section. Life inside the castle walls is explored, from the perspectives of the lowliest servants to the mighty lords and all those ranks in between. Ordinary daily routines to how a castle's inhabitants would have been fed and watered and the building itself heated and furnished are also covered. When it came to survival in times of unrest, the castle presented would-be assailants with a formidable array of defensive measures, some of which were truly frightening in their ability to inflict injury and death.

This collection of 30 detailed illustrations focuses on activities within the castle and how the heavily fortified structure functioned. Included are views of the castle's moat, drawbridge, and other features, plus the Great Hall and dungeons. Also here are ready-to-color scenes of a lady doing needlework, a castle under siege, and more.

"A rousing, funny, feminist workplace fantasy that also takes a frank look at modern poverty." — Kirkus Moxie meets A Knight's Tale as Kit Sweetly slays sexism, bad bosses, and bad luck to become a knight at a medieval-themed restaurant. Working as a Wench—i.e. waitress—at a

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cheesy medieval-themed restaurant in the Chicago suburbs, Kit Sweetly dreams of being a Knight like her brother. She has the moves, is capable on a horse, and desperately needs the raise that comes with knighthood, so she can help her mom pay the mortgage and hold a spot at her dream college. Company policy allows only guys to be Knights. So when Kit takes her brother's place, clobbers the Green Knight, and reveals her identity at the end of the show, she rockets into internet fame and a whole lot of trouble with the management. But this Girl Knight won't go down without a fight. As other Wenches and cast members join her quest, a protest forms. In a joust before Castle executives, they'll prove that gender restrictions should stay medieval—if they don't get fired first.

Illustrations depicting everyday life in the Middle Ages are accompanied by brief text. With this remarkable kit, young history buffs cross the drawbridge and go behind the stone walls of a medieval castle. The clever outer case opens to reveal a realistic 3-D castle where children serve as a page, train to be a squire, and recreate scenes right out of history -- a bloody siege, a magnificent banquet, a thrilling jousting tournament, and even a prisoner's trial. This fun and educational kit comes with everything needed to build models and stage scenes, including instructions, two collectible figures, over 50 press-out models, and an illustrated 24-page book with a captivating historical narrative.

Take an amazing tour through a medieval castle. Examine the development of forts and strongholds from the beginning of the Middle Ages, looking at the motives behind the building of castles and the variety of different people needed to make castle life run smoothly. Take a close look at what problems the castle might face in conflicts, such as siege warfare and bombardment, as well as the kinds of personnel who would be involved. Superb cutaway

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illustrations and pinpoint enlargements accompany the text. Informative captions, maps, a complete glossary and an index make this title an ideal educational text.

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