

Meet Margaret!

Margaret is a servant at Lord Geoffrey's castle. She lives there with her family. Her mother works in the kitchen and her father is a carpenter. Margaret has lived in the castle since she was born. She has recently started working in the kitchen with her mother. She likes her new job, but sometimes she wishes she could go on adventures and see more of the world. . . .



Meet Henry!

Henry is the son of Lord Geoffrey, who has been in charge of the castle for many years. Like Margaret, Henry has lived in the castle his whole life. Lord Geoffrey is a very strict parent. He thinks it is time for his son to grow up and start on the path to becoming a knight. But Henry is rebellious. He would rather have fun with his friend Margaret. . . .



"Am I doing it right?" Margaret asked her mother. She was mixing up a big batch of bread dough and she wanted it to be perfect. Important guests were going to visit the next day. The castle was filled with activity as everyone got ready for a big feast to welcome them.

"You're doing very well," Margaret's mother replied. "The bread will be delicious!"



A DIVIDED WORLD

Medieval society was based on a strict system of classes. The noble ruler of a castle and its surrounding area was called a lord. He and his family lived in the castle along with other people who worked for him. Some were knights and soldiers who helped protect the castle. Others were servants who cooked, made clothing, and crafted useful items. Outside the castle walls, peasants farmed land that was owned by the lord.



Medieval blacksmiths used tools like these to create armor, swords, and other metal objects.

On the castle's upper floor, Henry listened as his father delivered big news. "When Lord Roger leaves after his visit tomorrow, you will go, too," said Lord Geoffrey. "It is time for you to serve as a **page**." Henry couldn't believe what he was hearing. Before he could reply, his father had already left the room.



A KNIGHT'S PATH

Lords often sent their young sons to live with other lords as pages. Pages served their lords and studied subjects such as reading and religion. When they were a little older, they became squires. Squires helped knights with their armor and did other jobs around the castle. They also learned to fight. As adults, they became knights.



Medieval knights wore heavy metal armor to protect themselves in battles.