



SÄNDNINGSDATUM: 2013-11-30
PRODUCENT: PAMELA TAIVASSALO WIKHOLM

ENGELSKA
PROGRAMMANUS

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The Legends of King Arthur

The Holy Grail

Script and Word list

Keith Foster:

Once upon a time a Holy Grail needed to be found and the Knights around the Round Table and King Arthur himself had a quest.

The Holy Grail is the sacred cup from which Jesus Christ drank at the Last Supper and which was used by Joseph of Arimathea to catch Christ's blood as he hung on the cross.

And, a little spoiler alert. Until this day, people are still looking for the Holy Grail, but the Holy Grail is yet to be found...

Cliff Eastabrook:

There are connections between King Arthur and Glastonbury Tor. His body was supposedly found here, that he and Guinevere were buried inside a hollow tree at the base of the Tor.

And some say that he is still here, beneath the Tor, waiting for the time when England is in its greatest need, when he will rise again to lead the people.

Pamela Taivassalo Wikholm:

The birds are singing and the grass is green. I'm here at Glastonbury Abbey with Julie Hayes. Welcome to our programme.

Julie Hayes:

Thank you and welcome to Glastonbury Abbey.

quest *söka efter*



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PTW:

How long has this abbey been here?

abbey *klosterkyrka, kloster*

JH:

It's said that the first church here was built by St. Joseph of Arimathea. It's also said, legend says that he came along here with his nephew Jesus.

St. Joseph was a trader in lead, in metals, and he would come here to access lead from the Mendips. And it's said that he built the Vetusta Ecclesia, which is the old church. It was built of wattle and daub.

lead *bly*

wattle, *flätade grenar, flätat ris*
daub *lera*

In Cornwall, they also have a legend that St. Joseph went there for tin, so he would have... Access to the Southwest, this area, was always by sea, so we would have had many seafaring nations here. And in fact, lead from the Mendips was actually found in Pompeii and Herculaneum, so it did get around a little bit.

tin *tenn, bleck, plåt*

PTW:

Was it then when the Holy Grail came to these isles?

JH:

Some people say that the Holy Grail came with St. Joseph of Arimathea. Some people believe this, some people don't. I think it's up to the individual what they believe, but it is said that St. Joseph brought it with him.

KF:

Three angels bear the Holy Grail.
 With folded feet, in stoles of white,
 On sleeping wings they sail.
 Ah, blessed vision! Blood of God!
 My spirit beats her mortal bars,
 As down dark tides the glory slides,
 And star-like mingles with the stars.

stole *lång sjal, skrud*



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Mark Courtiour:

There are all sorts of myths and legends associated with Glastonbury Tor, so... It's important for the druids and it's also very important for pagan people who believe that this was a site of worship for the earth goddess, stretching right back to, you know, the Dark Ages and beyond, really.

pagan *hednisk*

PTW:

Mark Courtiour works for the National Trust and they take care of all castles, parks and British monuments. We take the steep path up to the Glastonbury Tor and hope to stumble upon the Holy Grail.

MC:

Some legends have it that the Holy Grail is buried somewhere down below here. Because there's so much mythical association here, people of all sorts come, so...

Lots of Christian people come because of the associations with Joseph of Arimathea, who came here, or is alleged to have come here. This is supposed to be a site where the Holy Grail may have been buried, so people come with that kind of thing in mind.

allege *påstå, uppge*

It's associated with the abbey down in Glastonbury itself. So it's very important from a Christian point of view, but, as I said also, lots of more perhaps alternative people with different religions come here. And there are druidic celebrations here and they have ceremonies up on the Tor. And then, as I said, going even further back, there is a lot of pagan association as well.

It's also said to be the home of Gwyn ap Nudd, who was the king of the fairies. And he lives in a glass castle below the Tor itself. So yeah, that's another aspect that perhaps people might be interested in coming to see.

Everybody could probably find something here to interest them. But it's also a very special place. I mean, it stands out. The surrounding landscape's very flat and you can see it from virtually all over Somerset. You can see it standing out with a very definitive, iconic tower on the top, so... And it's a very special place for an awful lot of people as well.



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SONG: "HOLY GRAIL" – HEIDI BERRY

*This is the way that you've made it
It's like a desert - you've laid it all bare
Walk if you can through these badlands
Lean on me if you will - if you dare
Look to the sky I stand under
And I suppose you might say I've been blessed
Breathe in the air that is burning your face
Feel the wind that's so heavy with dust
This is the way that you want it to be
Now abide by the rules that you made
Cry to the wind if you want
But you won't be my hope or my Holy Grail*

PTW:

The Holy Grail is the sacred cup from which Jesus Christ drank at the Last Supper. The legend says it was brought to England by Joseph of Arimathea when he preached Christianity there.

The great French poet Chrétien de Troyes was the first to introduce the Grail to the Arthurian legend.

KF:

“An image of the Holy Grail appeared, floating over the Round Table. It was a sign. It was time for Arthur and his knights to seek out the Grail.”

PTW:

Mark Courtiour, where are we now?

MC:

We're at Glastonbury Tor, we've just walked up what's called the Moneybox field and we're just going to head in through a gate onto Tor field with the tower, St. Michael's Tower at the top.



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PTW:

King Arthur was brought here when he got wounded?

MC:

Yes, he was brought here, came by boat. So again, it fits with the idea that this was very flooded. Brought here to have his wounds tended by three maidens, apparently.

And then he died and was buried around here, under the Tor or... As I said, you know, his remains were apparently discovered in the Glastonbury Abbey, although there is some idea that it might have been a bit of a publicity stunt for 12th century tourists, to attract people to come down to Glastonbury, visit the monastery and bring a bit of largesse to the monks there.

PTW:

Maybe he's buried in the glass castle?

MC:

I think I like the idea of him being buried down here in the glass castle, with his twelve knights around him, waiting for our hour of need to re-emerge, sword in hand, Excalibur in hand, ready to save us from whatever dire problem there is.

PTW:

With the Holy Grail?

MC:

With the Holy Grail, yes. I mean, the Holy Grail, again supposed to be, one of the places it's supposed to be buried or hidden. And of course that fits with the...Avalon as a healing place because the chalice is supposed to have had the... One of the legends, it has the blood of Christ and its healing properties in it, so...

PTW:

The Holy Grail could be here? We could actually stand very close to it?

tend *vårda, sköta*

dire *förfärlig, hemsk, ödesdiger*

chalice *bägare, kalk*



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MC:

One of the legends is that the Holy Grail is buried beneath here, in a glass chamber, I think, somewhere down in the Tor, so that... People have often asked you what that is and I say that's the entrance to the underworld up there, so we could go up and open that up. Actually, it's a reservoir, but...

PTW:

Don't spoil the mystery.

MC:

Don't spoil... I did have, a very nice American lady one day came here, walking up there and she said: "Can you tell me where the Holy Grail is?" I thought "I wish I knew," but I did point her to that jokingly and said: "It's in there somewhere."

KF:

In this programme, you heard Cliff Eastabrook, Mark Courtiour, Julie Hayes and myself, Keith Foster. Pamela Taivassalo Wikholm produced the programme. Ingela Håkansson was the sound engineer. And if you wish to know more, please go to UR.se and look for *The Legends of King Arthur*.