

**Book three: The Ill-Made Knight**

**Chapter 1**

1. How is the boy Lancelot characterized in this chapter? What might his characterization foreshadow?

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2. What does Lancelot mean when he speaks of Fort Mayne?

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**Chapter 2**

1. What effect does the comparison between Lancelot and Bradman and Woolley (well-known cricket players) create?

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2. How does the description of Lancelot's training regimen further develop his character?

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**Chapter 3**

1. How is Uncle Dap likened to Merlyn and Sir Toirdealbhach?

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2. How does Merlyn's appearance at King Ban's castle advance the plot?

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**Chapter 4**

1. The author employs a brief aside directly preceding the joust between Lancelot and the black knight: “The first time you do a thing, it is often exciting. To go alone in an airplane for the first time used to be so exciting that it nearly choked you.” What effect does this anachronism create?

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2. How does Lancelot’s attitude toward Guenever evolve in this chapter?

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## Chapter 5

1. Describe the tone the author employs when discussing the Roman war. How does this tone affect the novel's thematic development?

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**Chapter 6**

1. How does this chapter foreshadow tragedy for King Arthur?

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2. How is Lancelot's character further developed in this chapter?

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## Chapter 7

1. What do the presence of Sir Carados and Sir Turquine contribute to the plot? What do their characters imply about knighthood?

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**Chapter 8**

1. How do Lancelot's adventures in this chapter help to define Arthur's new ideas of chivalry and morality?

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2. How do Lancelot's responses to his encounters in this chapter further develop his character? The motif of chivalry?

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**Chapter 9**

1. How do the events in this chapter indicate a change in the relationship between Lancelot and Guenever?

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2. How have the knights made a fetish of the Round Table, and what theme does this develop?

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3. What effect does Arthur's worry about the Orkney faction create?

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## Chapter 10

1. How does this chapter further develop the conflict within Lancelot? What theme does this chapter develop, and how?

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**Chapter 11**

1. Why does Lancelot’s adventure in this chapter have such a “dreamlike quality?” How does this quality affect the tone of the chapter?

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**Chapter 12**

1. How are the events in this chapter a turning point for Lancelot?

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### Chapter 13

1. How does the long description of “the seventh sense” help to characterize Guenever?

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2. How does this chapter drive the plot forward?

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**Chapter 14**

1. How does Lancelot and Guenever's interaction in this chapter further develop both of their characters?

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**Chapter 15**

1. What does Guenever's jealousy reveal about her character?

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**Chapter 16**

1. Describe the contrasting characteristics of Guenever and Elaine presented in this chapter.

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2. How does this chapter further establish Arthur's status as a tragic hero? What theme does this develop?

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**Chapter 17**

1. What does Lancelot's response to Galahad reveal about his character?

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**Chapter 18**

1. How is Lancelot's madness inevitable?

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**Chapter 19**

1. How is the conversation between King Pelles and Sir Bliant an effective device at this point in the novel?

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**Chapter 20**

1. How is Lancelot depicted as both pathetic and noble in this chapter?

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## Chapter 21

1. How has Elaine changed in the two years since Lancelot's madness began?

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### Chapter 22

1. Elaine chooses to call her new home with Lancelot the Joyous Island. What does this reveal about her character?

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2. In this chapter, Lancelot finally takes up the moniker he chose as a boy. How does this further develop his character? What might it foreshadow?

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## Chapter 23

1. What is the predominant tone of this chapter, and how does it emphasize Elaine's feelings?

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**Chapter 24**

1. Degalis asks Lancelot, “Do you seriously think you can stay here incognito with this wench, and still be yourself?” What theme does he develop with this question?

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2. What effect does the detailed description of Lancelot’s armor create?

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**Chapter 25**

- 1. How does the narrator account for the fact that Arthur, Guenever, and Lancelot have become legends in their own time?

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- 2. What is the primary effect of the contrast between the two descriptions of England in this chapter?

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- 3. How does the tone of this chapter change with the last paragraph?

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**Chapter 26**

1. How does this chapter foreshadow the fall of Arthur's table?

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2. How is Mordred's character developed in this chapter?

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**Chapter 27**

1. How does the allusion to Richard III further contribute to Mordred's characterization?

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2. How does this chapter further develop the theme of might and right?

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3. How does Arthur's plan to send his knights on a spiritual quest further develop the motif of questing?

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**Chapter 28**

1. What effect does the narrator produce as he tells the reader to seek the details of the quest for the Holy Grail in Malory's work?

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2. What effect does Sir Gawaine's heavy dialect produce?

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3. What does Gawaine's story of his failed attempt to find the Holy Grail suggest about who will ultimately find it?

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## Chapter 29

1. How does this chapter reveal that adhering to the moral standard required to find the Grail is an extremely difficult task?

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**Chapter 30**

1. What does Arthur's defense of the Orkney clan reveal about his character?

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2. What causes Guenever to doubt Sir Percivale's inclusion on the holy boat? What does this reveal about the characteristics necessary to reach the Holy Grail?

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### Chapter 31

1. What does the narrator's description of Lancelot, at his return to Camelot, suggest about his quest?

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**Chapter 32**

1. What is Lancelot's tone towards Galahad as he describes him? What does this reveal about Galahad as a character?

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2. How do Lancelot's experiences in this chapter relate to the theme of the conflict between love and duty?

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### Chapter 33

1. How has Lancelot matured during his quest for the Grail?

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**Chapter 34**

1. How does the narrator attempt to dispel the myths associated with Guenever's character?

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2. Is Guenever a sympathetic character in this chapter? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

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## Chapter 35

1. How does this chapter further define Lancelot's internal conflict?

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**Chapter 36**

1. How does the changing atmosphere of Camelot make the setting dangerous for Guenever?

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2. How does this chapter advance the plot?

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**Chapter 37**

1. How does this chapter further develop the theme of might and right?

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2. Why does Lancelot return to fight for the queen, and what does this reveal about his character?

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### Chapter 38

1. How does this chapter further define Guenever's character?

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**Chapter 39**

- 1. The narrator makes a point of leaving out the details of the tournament, referring again to Malory’s work instead. What might this suggest about the narrator’s attitude toward the tournament?

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- 2. How does Elaine’s characterization set her apart from Guenever?

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## Chapter 40

1. How does Elaine's final act exacerbate the conflict between Lancelot and Guenever?

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**Chapter 41**

1. How does the tournament in this chapter show “the true tension at court?” How does it advance the plot?

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2. What does the image at the end of the chapter—of Lancelot putting on his armor and Arthur assisting him—reveal about both characters?

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**Chapter 42**

1. Where is the irony in Guenever's response to Lancelot when he rescues her?

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**Chapter 43**

1. How is this planned second trial by combat for Guenever's life less honorable than the first? What does it reveal about Lancelot's character?

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## Chapter 44

1. How do Lancelot's actions toward Meliagrance during the trial by combat further develop his character?

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**Chapter 45**

1. What is the tone of this final chapter of book three? How does this tone help bring the book to a close?

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2. What does Lancelot's response to his miracle reveal about his character?

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