

Part 2: The Power

Narrator: Last time on *The Courageous Knight* we met Conner, Derdra, Patrick and Maeve: four young people searching for the legendary knight Connacht. Instead they found a former knight named Alil Armagh who had been hiding from the Evil King for ten years in the Forest of Rathroghan. Maeve told the knight of his need to be forgiven. It is now two weeks later, and Alil has been giving them lessons...

[Connel ENTERS LEFT, running with sword in hand. Once again he is being chased by Derdra, but this time Alil (looking a bit cleaner and more put-together) also ENTERS shouting:]

Alil: Connel! Boy, stop running away!

Connel: I'm not running away! I'm, ah, "seeking a better defensive position!" Just like you taught me!

Derdra: Ha! You're just afraid I'll chop you into little bits!

Connel: I am not!

Alil: **STOP RIGHT THERE, BOTH OF YOU!** [The two combatants freeze as if someone has hit the PAUSE button on a television remote] Now, Connel, turn around and face Derdra.

Connel: Yes, sir! [Turns]

Alil: Derdra!

Derdra: Sir!

Alil: Can you show a *little* discipline? You will never learn to use a sword properly if you continue to flail about as you do.

Derdra: [Her defiance starting to trickle back] But it's always done the trick so far!

Alil: Only because you have faced untrained and undisciplined opponents, and you've been able to intimidate them by being aggressive! Would you like to see how well your swordsmanship works on me? [Tilts his head and grins, menacingly.]

Derdra: [Realizing that, perhaps, she has some learning to do after all] Ah, well,
maybe you could teach me how to do it right?

Alil: That is exactly what I intend to do. If you're going to be running around with swords,
even wooden ones, you and everyone around you will be safer if you know how to use
one.

[Maeve and Patrick ENTER from REAR of Auditorium. Each carries a basket.]

Patrick: Sir Knight, Connel, Derdra! Good Morning!

C, D, & A: Morning!

Maeve: We've brought you something!

Alil: Food, I hope! [Forgetting all about the fencing lessons and rubbing his hands together]

Patrick: [Feigning confusion] Food? He wants food?

Maeve: [Smacking Patrick on the arm] Oh, cut it out! [To Alil] We've brought you breakfast!

Patrick: And lunch and dinner, too, unless you eat like a hog!

Connel: But what about the fencing lessons?

Alil: Postponed for the moment! An army moves on its stomach, after all!

[Connel and Derdra look at each other and make faces, "moves on its stomach?" Alil
digs into the meal like a man who hasn't eaten well in a long time, which, come to think
of it, is exactly what he is!]

Alil: Mmmmmm!

[Maeve smiles, contentedly. She did well!]

Derdra: You mean we have to crawl? [Derdra finally asks.]

Alil: Huh? Mgufghablderhggae? [He asks around a mouthful]

Maeve: **Some** people haven't learned it's impolite to talk with one's mouth full! [To Derdra]

OR that one shouldn't bother one's elders when they are eating!

Alil: [Finishing the bite] It's OK! I just didn't understand the question!

Derdra: You said: "an army moves on its stomach!" So, Connel and I...

Connel: Not me!

Derdra: Yes you!

Connel: Draw your sword! [Raises sword]

Patrick: Knock it off, you two!

Alil: [A moment's confusion leads to laughter as understanding dawns] No! That just means that an army needs to be well fed! You don't have to crawl.... Usually, that is.

[There is as moment of silence as an amused Alil digs back into his breakfast, until Maeve finally asks a serious question.]

Maeve: What would it take to get your title and lands back?

Alil: [Taken aback by the question] What would it take? Only a miracle!

Patrick: Then maybe we should start praying for a miracle!

[Alil starts to laugh, then notices that the four friends are all taking the statement seriously.]

Alil: Listen, kids. It's nice that you feel the way you do. I mean, no one's cared much whether I live or die for a long time, but you have to realize that it's not going to happen.

Connel: [Innocently] Why not?

Alil: Why... Look, the only one with the power to reinstate me to knighthood, and do the other things, is the King. You may have guessed, the King is not exactly my biggest fan. He wants me dead!

Derdra: He doesn't have that kind of power.

Alil: Of course he does! He's the King! You and I , and everyone else, for that matter, might not like it. We might think he's evil, even *know* he's evil, and he is, but nothing changes the fact that he is the King and can do as he pleases.

Maeve: [Opens her bible and reads] Romans 13:1 "Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established

by God.”

Alil: Are you saying we must obey the King? If you do that then you must turn me in!

Patrick: What *the bible* is saying is that all authority comes from God. Sometimes authority is abused, or evil men do things that God would not want them to do and sin. The point Maeve is trying to make is that you are looking to the wrong place for the power to forgive and to make things right! Only God has that power!

Derdra: Like the power to calm a storm! The King can't do that!

Connel: And the power of the gospel!

Maeve: Which God has made to be the power of salvation! Listen: Rom 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Patrick: So you see: only God has real power. The power to reconcile you to Himself through Jesus.

Alil: Tell me more.

Maeve: Sure!

Narrator: We must leave our friends to talk of the power of God. Your teachers are going to be telling you about the same think today, so listen carefully! We'll see you back here tomorrow for our next adventure.

End: Theme Music