



— MONTENGARDE —
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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE BARONY OF MONTENGARDE

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This is the May 2026, issue of the Minotaur Monitor, the official newsletter of the Barony of Montengarde. Montengarde is with the Kingdom of Avacal and is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, inc., and the Minotaur Monitor is published as a service the SCA's membership. This newsletter is available online at <https://www.montengarde.org/Welcome/montengarde-newsletter/>
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IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE BARONY

Castelain
Master Bjar the Blue
castelain@montengarde.org

Knight Marshal:
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branchmarshall@montengarde.org

Captain of Armored Combat:
Vladimir of Montengarde

Captain of Archers:
Lordship Sigfuss Thorwulfsson
archery@montengarde.org

Chatelaine:
HL Custance Frideswide Featherstonehaugh
chatelaine1@montengarde.org

Chronicler:
Odilia Mae Winter
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Herald
Lord Alexander Blackadder
herald@montengarde.org

Exchequer:
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exchequer@montengarde.org

Minister of Arts and Sciences:
HL Custance Frideswide Featherstonehaugh
arts-sciences@montengarde.org

Seneschal:
Lordship Quon Jien
seneschal@montengarde.org

Events Deputy:
Mistress Kathryn inghean Ui Mhaonaigh
deputy-events@montengarde.org

Webminister:
Master Mordecai Salzer
webmaster@montengarde.org



The Sign Post

Facebook Links

Unofficial Barony of Montengarde

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/17RdqSpoig/>

Fighters of Montengarde

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1BvAtVzwsS/>

Archers of Montengarde

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1Ckux4v9yq/>

Bard Hard with Montengarde

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1BHK7jGzgP/>

Avacal-Group

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/17fNN7Rxfc/>

The Kingdom of Avacal Page

<https://www.facebook.com/KingdomofAvacalSCA>

Avacal Buy/Sell, Trade/Barter

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/14GTzeqrsAb/>

While these are the key Facebook groups, there are many more that can be found by searching keywords such as Montengarde, SCA and Avacal

Website Links

Barony of Montengarde

<https://www.montengarde.org/Welcome/>

Kingdom of Avacal

<https://avacal.org/>

Society for Creative Anachronisms

<https://www.sca.org/>

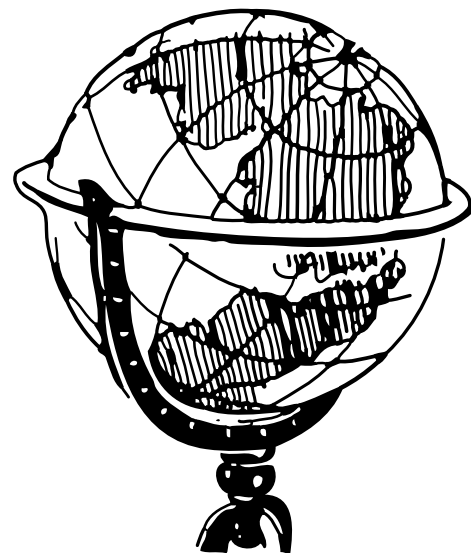
Addresses

The Rehabilitation Society of Calgary

7 11 St NE Calgary, AB T2E 4Z2

Archery World

106 - 3420 12th ST NE Calgary



Monthly Festivities

Tavern Night

April 7th at The Rehabilitation Society of Calgary from 7pm-10pm

A social evening with friends featuring a mix of dancing, medieval gaming, and arts & sciences Beverages and sometimes food are provided for a nominal cost. Tavern is a “in garb” event but if you are without garb then have no fear! There is often loaner clothes curtesy of the Gold Key!

Montengarde Council

April 15 via Discord from roughly 7pm - 8pm

Open to any interested in the business side of the Barony! Here you will hear reports from all the officers and will include updates on upcoming events.

Martial Practice

Every Thursday at The Rehabilitation Society of Calgary from 6:30pm-9pm

Our warriors participate in tournaments for individuals and teams, tactical melees involving dozens of combatants, and even large-scale wars with thousands of participants! Thus, these practices allow our fighters to keep their skills sharp. There is a \$6 fee for fighters and by donation for non-combat attendees.

Bard Hard

April 12th via zoom from roughly 5pm - 10pm

A great way to meet with your fellow bards, perform, and listen to all that our talented barony has to offer.

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85062066750>

Meeting ID:

850-6206-6750

Passcode: 1

Archery Practice

Every Friday at Archery World Calgary from 7pm-9pm

As of right now, Montengarde has negotiated a \$17 fee to practice at Archery World (cash). When you get there, just inform the staff that you are with the SCA, and loaner equipment is available for those interested!

A&S Round Table and Social

April 7th and 21st via Discord from 7pm-10pm

These nights are a great way to connect with the talented members of the barony and discuss projects or just work through various ideas with other people. Occasionally, these nights will be hosted in person, and information regarding this will be posted on Facebook or directly on the website.

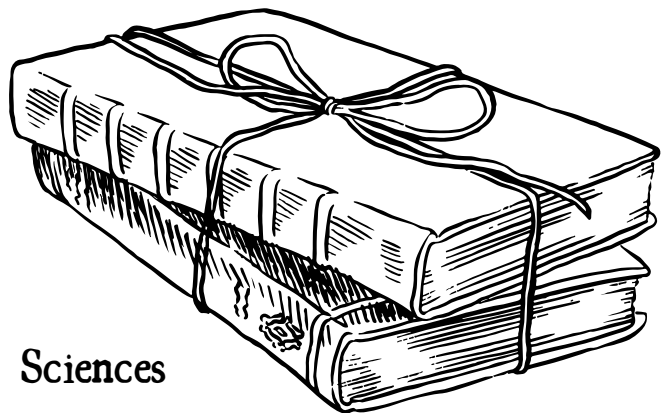
MONTENGARDE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

This amazing Barony functions due to the dedication of individuals who volunteer their time as officers. Without such dedicated service we would grind to a halt. Montengarde has several officer positions that are available to those looking to help our amazing community thrive. Additionally, there are several deputy positions ready for the taking! Deputies assist the current officer while learning aspects of the position and taking on certain responsibilities.

Please contact our Seneschal (seneschal@montengarde.org) if you are interested in any of these rewarding positions!

Current **Deputy Positions** that can be filled

- Deputy Chatelaine
- Demo Co-ordinator
- Gold Key Coordinator
- Deputy Herald
- Deputy Exchequer
- Deputy Minister of Arts and Sciences





NOTES FROM THE CHRONICLER

Good gentles, what strange trickery has been visited upon us by the heavens! Though the calendar proclaims the coming of spring, still does winter cling most stubbornly to our lands, casting down snow and chill winds as if it had not yet wearied of its reign. One day the sun graces us with the promise of warmth, and on the next the skies answer with frost and flurries anew. Yet take heart, for as surely as the snows shall melt, so too does the season of merriment and gathering draw ever nearer.

This edition includes important updates on the status of the Baronial Couple, notices about upcoming events and activities you will not want to miss, and, as a special delight, a couple of Kingdom songs to lift your spirits and perhaps inspire a singalong at your next gathering.

As always, thank you, dear readers, for continuing to support and share in the life of our community. Your enthusiasm, contributions, and presence are what make these pages worth writing and this society so vibrant. Whether you are reading by candlelight, over morning tea, or while hiding from yet another spring snowstorm, I am grateful to have you along for the journey.

Until next time, may your roads be clear, your cloaks warm, and your spirits high.

Odilia Mae-Winter

BARONIAL POLLING UPDATE

The candidates' résumés and letters of introduction will be posted on the montengarde.org website, and each candidate will also have an email address set up through montengarde.org for direct communication. In addition, there will be a Meet the Candidates question session at April Tavern on April 14, and the candidates are also looking forward to meeting members in person at practices and other gatherings.

Polling is an opportunity to provide feedback to the Crown, including whether you support the candidates, any concerns you may have, and any general remarks regarding the suitability of each candidate. In-person polling will take place at Fight Practice on April 16 from 7:00–9:00 pm and will be overseen by representatives of the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal. Online polling will also be available from April 14 through 24 via the montengarde.org website through a form that is sent directly to Their Majesties' mailbox. You may also email Their Majesties directly at crown@avacal.org.

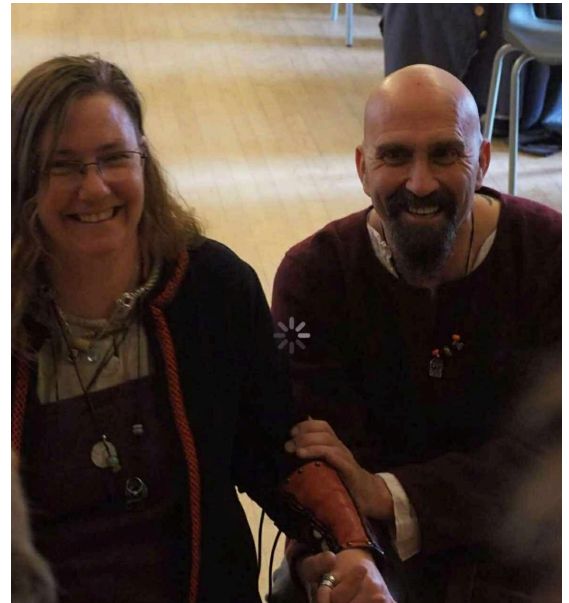
No, you do not need to be a member to participate in the polling; however, having a membership adds weight to your input. Polling is open to the populace of Montengarde, Ayresgarde, Windwyrn, and Sandesend, as these shires and the incipient shire are important parts of the broader Montengarde community. Others are also welcome to share their thoughts, though priority will be given to feedback from members of the Montengarde populace.

Got more questions? Please reach out to your friendly Castellan, Bjar the Blue, at castelain@montengarde.org. Seriously—helping to set up a successful polling process is practically 90% of his job description.

WHO ARE OUR BARONIAL CANDIDATES?



Duke (Sir) Ellias Silver
Duchess (Sir) Kiera



Lordship Sigfuss Thorulfsson
Ladyship Freydis Birthedottir

Timeline:

- April 3: Deadline for Candidates to contact the Crown
- April 14: Meet & Greet at Tavern 8 pm - 9 pm
- April 16: In Person Polling at Martial Practice 7 pm - 9 pm
- April 14 - 24: Online Polling
- May 30: Official Announcement
- July 18: Dragonslayer + Baronial Step Up

Lordship Sigfuss Thorulfsson and Ladyship Freydis Birthedottir

Sigfuss demonstrates strong experience in administrative reporting, written communication, and detail-oriented record management, with a proven ability to maintain accuracy and organization in fast-paced environments. Sigfuss's strengths include clear verbal and written communication, meticulous attention to detail, and effective collaboration with team members, particularly in areas requiring coordination and stewardship. As an active member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), Sigfuss has participated extensively in volunteer initiatives and community-building events that support organizational growth and member engagement. In recognition of these service contributions, Sigfuss was awarded the Baronial Favour (Montengarde) on July 19, 2025 (AS LX) by Adis Ulfsdottir and Refr Bjarnarson.

Freydis is dedicated to Avacal, its baronies, and shires, with a strong commitment to fostering an SCA environment that is fun, safe, and welcoming for all participants. Freydis focuses on strengthening existing community structures while supporting the continued growth of communication and engagement within the organization.

Freydis has held multiple leadership and service roles within the SCA, including serving as Deputy Herald for Windwyrn (2012-2013) and Seneschal for Windwyrn (2013-2018, 2019-2025). In addition to administrative leadership, Freydis is an active Senior Marshal with authorizations in crossbow, bow and arrow, sword and defense (secondary), and melee combat. In recognition of service and contribution, Freydis was awarded the Black Arrow (Avacal) on July 19, 2025 (AS LX) by Ástríðr Arnbjarnardóttir and Hrogn Gunthersson.

Duke (Sir) Ellias Silver and Duchess (Sir) Kiera

Ellias has been involved in the SCA since 2002. Staring in Stryingham, Nordmark (Wisby Sweden) He has held many championships in all SCA disciplines as well has served in officer positions and has runs several events. He has provided armor, arrows, garb, and steadfast service for all in Montengarde and Avacal. Mundanely Ellias has worked in film, modeling, acting and serving. He holds two Calgary White Hat Awards (Top Service in the Restaurant Industry) Currently he is a small business owner (Green Solutions Plumbing) where his skills with payroll, filing, customer relations and problem solving allow him to be very successful.

Kiera brings past service experience that spans many years and many levels within the Kingdom of Avacal. While past service began with local positions, Kiera has had the opportunity to serve at high levels within the Kingdom over many years, most recently as Montengarde Baronial Seneschal. Kiera's current mundane work experience brings a firm understanding of professionalism, liability, legislation and procedure which are skills often required in relation to the position of Baroness.

AVACAL SPRING CORONATION

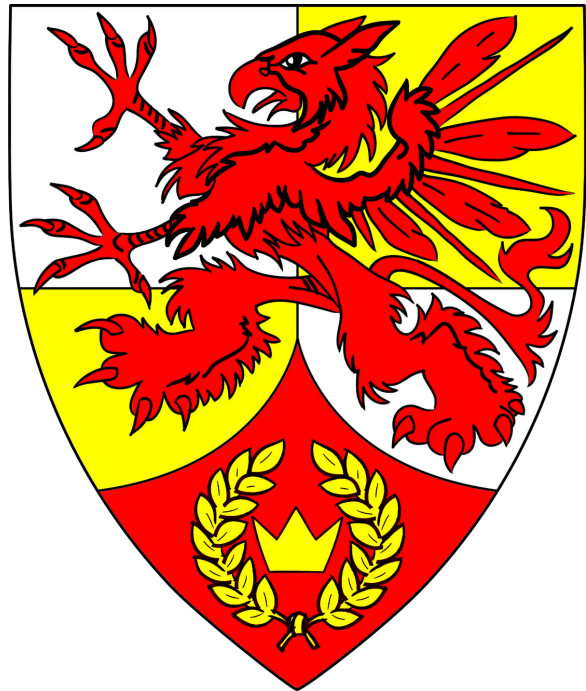
May 15th to May 18th At the Quad War Site

Please join us for Avacal's Spring Coronation where we will celebrate with grandeur and tradition, marking the ascension of the new King and Queen to the Griffin thrones! With elaborate garb, courtly ceremonies, and chivalric displays, you can expect a weekend filled with feasting, tournaments, arts and sciences displays, and opportunities to engage in all that Avacal has to offer.

Adult Registration - \$40
Adult Member Registration - \$30
Youth Registration (Ages 0-17) - Free!

TE Alfheim & Adeline (Stew & Gail Hiar) privately own this amazing land location. All of the buildings and structures have been developed and are privately owned by the owners or the many individuals within our fair kingdom. Walk around and enjoy all there is to see. Please be mindful and leave things just as nice as or better than you found it.

The castle is in need of some repairs. Any individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adults.



When Driving:

- From the West – Wainright, Alberta: Travel East on Highway 14 AB, this becomes Highway 40 SK at the border. Proceed 8km past the border and turn North (left) on Artlan Road (this is opposite of Suffern Lake turn off #680). Travel 4.6km north and turn West (left) on to field road.
- From the East – Battleford, Saskatchewan: Travel West on Highway 40 SK to Marsden, SK. Continue 5km past Marsden and turn North (right) on Artlan Road (this is opposite of Suffern Lake turn off #680). Travel 4.6km north and turn West (left) on to field road.

WATCH OUT FOR....

DRAGON SLAYER 2026

July 17th - 19th 2026 at the Delacour Community Hall Grounds

The Barony of Montengarde invites you to a weekend of revelry, bravery and excellence at
Dragonslayer 2026!

Witness as our heavy armored community battles for the right to call themselves Montengarde's Champion of Armored Combat, the Dragonslayer!

Be amazed as the archers of Montengarde dedicate themselves with deadly precision to a tournament to determine Montengarde's Champion of Archery, the Dragonblinder!

Enjoy revelry, friendship, and Montengarde's legendary hospitality at this camping event held at a site in Delacour, located conveniently only twenty minutes east of Calgary.



Activities (List to be updated as information becomes available to the event team)

- Heavy Armored Combat (Championship)
- Archery (Championship)
- Arts & Sciences
- Fencing
- Cut & Thrust
- Classes & Demonstrations
- Vigils & Elevations

Event Team

Jonker Allert Pierson
Lady Tora Thrandia
Sir Kiera the Shadowed
Sir Kathryn inghean Ui Mhaonaigh

AVACAL TOGETHER WE CONQUER

By Lady Annys Bradwardyn

Written in the reign of Their Highnesses of Avacal, Prince Gunther and Princess Eyoddi, 2005

See the dawn on the rise
Battle line we draw again
For a challenge on our border
Must be met with blood and pain
Gather up your forces
Defend our Sovereign's reign
Avacal, together we conquer

(Chorus)

We will fight we will die
We will do what must be done
We will leave our fields of plenty
Lose our brothers one by one
Our children raised in battle
Daughter as strong as son
Avacal, together we conquer

Through the smoke and the haze
Blade and arrow new blood kissed
Now the enemy is weeping
For their loved ones sorely missed
No traitors and no cowards
We grace the Valkyrie's list
Avacal, together we conquer

(Chorus)

We will fight we will die
We will do what must be done
We will leave our fields of plenty
Lose our brothers one by one
Our children raised in battle
Daughter as strong as son
Avacal, together we conquer

Tempered steel how it shines
Through the slaughter hear it sing
We will fight until the last man
For the glory that we bring
Squired by our fathers
And knighted by our King
Avacal, together we conquer

(Chorus)

We will fight we will die
We will do what must be done
We will leave our fields of plenty
Lose our brothers one by one
Our children raised in battle
Daughter as strong as son
Avacal, together we conquer

Now the sun starts to set
And the battle comes to close
And living men and brothers
Shut our eyes from feasting crows
No regrets or grieving
This is the death we chose
Avacal, together we conquer

(Chorus)

We will fight we will die
We will do what must be done
We will leave our fields of plenty
Lose our brothers one by one
Our children raised in battle
Daughter as strong as son
Avacal, together we conquer

AVACAL ROVERS

Performed by Kataryna Dragonweaver
Sung to the Tune of Overlanders

It's a game you all know well,
It's traveling the known world over
On every trek to war and back,
We're known as Avacal Rovers

Chorus

So pass the billy 'round boys,
Don't let the pint pot stand there
For tonight we drink the health
Of every lord and lady

We come from distant lands,
We'll Feast and Fight and Party
We're a well mixed pack from Ren on back,
They call us lords and ladies.

We come from the Avacal plains,
Where the girls and grass aren't scanty
Creeks run dry or ten foot high,
It's either drought or plenty

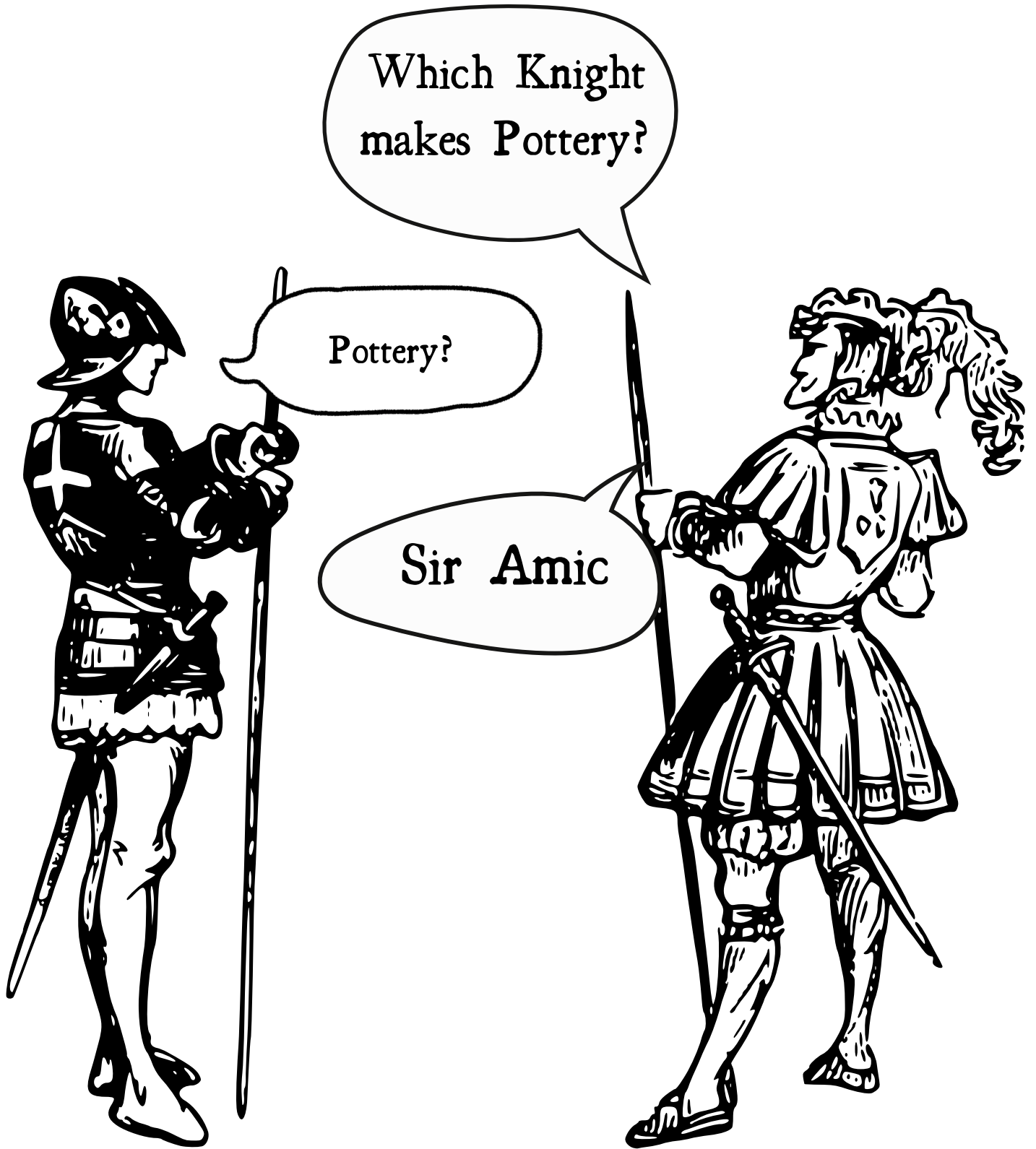
If a Tavern's at the site,
We live like pigs in clover
And a whole damn check
Goes down the neck of many an Avacal rover

When I pass along the road,
The children raise my dander
Crying, "Mother dear take in the clothes
Here comes a Shakespeare actor
(Person in really funny clothes...
guy/gal in a play
a weirdo
one of those Shakespeare guys...)

The Avacal Rovers
Lyrics: Kataryna Dragonweaver

It's a game you all know well,
it's tra-veling the Knowne world o - ver O - n ev-ery trek
to war and back, we're known as Av - a - cal Ro - vers
So Pass the bil - ly 'round boys, don't let the pint
pot stand there For to - night we drink the health
of ev - ery lord and la - dy

The image shows a musical score for the song 'The Avacal Rovers'. It consists of seven staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The background of the score has a faint, repeating watermark of a circular seal with a dragon and the text 'Dragonweaver'.



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(Thank you for reading)