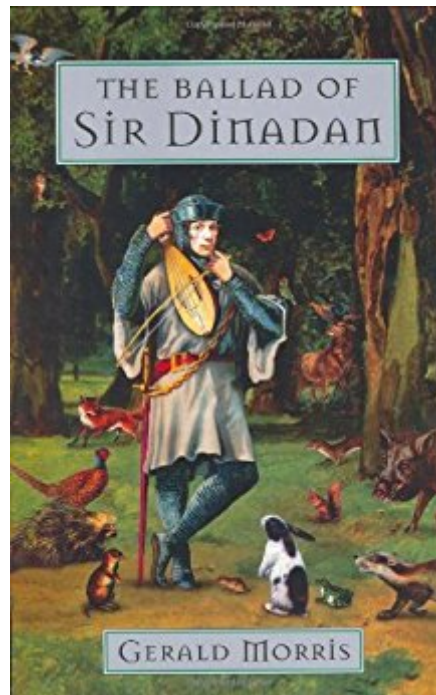




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The Ballad Of Sir Dinadan (The Squire's Tales)



Synopsis

Young Dinadan has no wish to joust or quest or save damsels in distress or do any of the knightly things expected of him. He'd rather be a minstrel, playing his rebec and writing ballads. But he was born to be a knight, and knights, of course, have adventures. So after his father forces his knighthood upon him, he wanders toward King Arthur's court, in the company of a misguided young Welsh lad named Culloch. There Dinadan meets Sir Kai and Sir Bedivere, and the three find themselves accompanying Culloch on the worst sort of quest. Along the way, Dinadan writes his own ballads, singing of honor, bravery, loyalty, and courtly love—and becomes a player in the pathetic love story of Tristram and Iseult. He meets the Moorish knight Palomides, the clever but often exasperating Lady Brangienne, and an elvin musician named Sylvanus, along with an unusual collection of recreant knights and dimwitted defenders of chivalry. He learns that while minstrels sing of spectacular heroic deeds, honor is often found in simpler, quieter ways.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This has always been one of my favorite books in the series, the most-favorite being "The Savage Damsel and the Dwarf". Sir Dinadan isn't your typical knight, and his views on the matter of knighthood are quite different from his peers. There are a lot of atypical characters in this story, such as Brangienne and Palomides, as well as more satirical takes on familiar legends like Cullwch and Olwen and Tristan and Isolde, narrated by Dinadan himself. It's a fun, light read.

I cried when this series ended. It is a fast-paced, witty, intelligent, and fun new take on King Arthur and his round table, the knights, Merlin, and the enchanting world of faeries. Worth a read. Everyone in my family loves these books and recommends them as often as possible.

Dinadan is a magnificent addition to Camelot. He is my favorite character right before Terence and is spectacularly witty.

This is probably one of my favorites in this series

It's become one of my favorite books for its storyline and humor. I have to read it every once and a while.

Short book manages to keep your attention with many laughs. This was my first read of The Squire's Tales and I plan on picking up several more of them.

Another excellent book in one of my favorite series'. Witty, adventurous, and thoroughly enjoyable for all ages. Get them all!

I am reading this series to my 9 year old son. I am a fan of this series and intend to read them all. That said, I found this book to be weaker than the others. Perhaps it was because of the subject matter, the retelling of Tristan and Isolde. The main character, Dinadan, is likable and talented, but the storyline gets tedious and lacks the focus of others in the series. He travels back and forth in various configurations trying to stay out of other people's business but always getting mixed up in it. Most of the other characters are caricatures, some to the point of ridiculousness. Love is portrayed mostly as a foolish endeavor that makes people irrational. These are the weaknesses I perceived, but still Morris writes in an engaging style, and to my 9 year old this was as good a story as the others. Maybe better for all the buffoonery that occurs.

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