

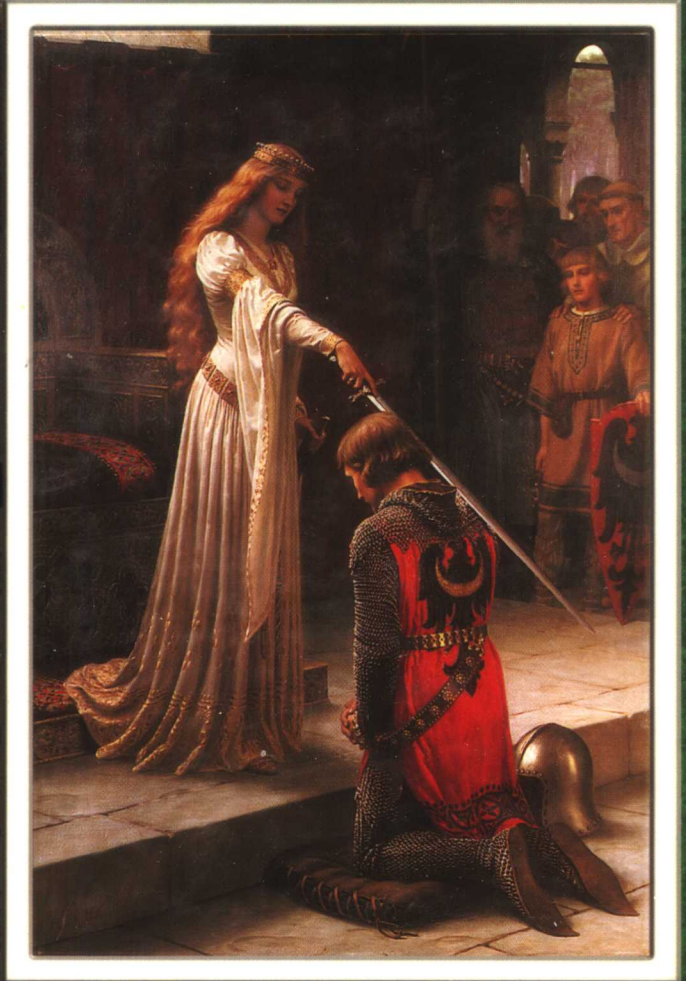
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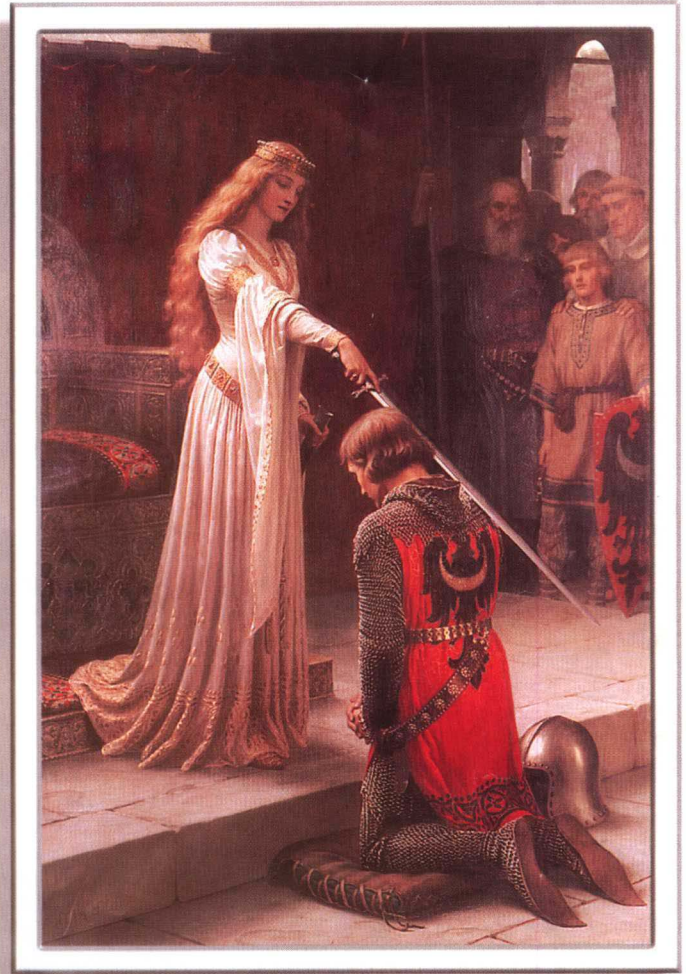
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Letter to Students

Dear Student,

Welcome to *Glencoe Literature: The Reader's Choice*. In this lively collection of classic and contemporary literature, you will find much to amuse, surprise, delight, engage, and inform you. A wide variety of selections—including poems, plays, short stories, essays, autobiographies, and news articles on a broad range of themes—offers you the chance to hear talented authors in all their diversity, as well as to experience and learn about the people, places, and ideas that moved them.

As you explore the literature selections in this book, you will also learn and review key reading and language arts skills. The questions and activities after each selection will help you to check your understanding of what you've read. They will also give you an opportunity to analyze important features of the literature. You will be asked to discuss and write about what you read and to explore how literature connects with your own experiences.

Your book is divided into six units, each focusing on a period of history in British literature from the Anglo-Saxon era to the twentieth century. In addition, each unit is subdivided by theme. With every theme, you will complete an extended project and longer writing assignment along with many other individual, partner, and group activities. Keep your graded, completed assignments in a portfolio or as your teacher directs. Share your progress with your parents or guardians and also talk with them about the literature you are reading. Discuss your thoughts about the characters, themes, and other aspects of your reading.

The state of California has created a set of learning goals, or content standards, for you this year. We have included them on pages x–xv. Take some time to read over these standards with your parents or guardians. Then outline some steps that you can take to help you achieve these standards both inside and outside the classroom.

We hope that you enjoy the selections in *Glencoe Literature: The Reader's Choice* and that the lessons help you to succeed in mastering the content standards set for you.

Sincerely,

The Editors

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