

# Reading Group Guide



ercival's character unfolds before our eyes throughout the story. What do we know about him at the onset of his journey? How does that view change as the story progresses?

Arthur Pendragon and all but two of the Knights of the Round Table have perished before *The Return of Sir Percival* begins. What role does Arthur play in the story in spite of his physical absence? How important is that role to the outcome?

During a typical “hero’s journey,” the main character is often helped along their quest by a guide. Who plays that role for Percival?

We eventually learn that Bishop Verdino is actually Merlin the Wise. Early in the story Bishop Verdino’s character is painted as being dishonest, a trickster, and possibly even as stealing from the Queen. Cadwyn describes the bishop as a “pompous old thief.” In what ways are the Bishop’s acts misrepresented? And how does he redeem himself?

Sir Percival and Queen Guinevere’s relationship blossoms over the course of the novel. What are some clues early on of Percival and Guinevere’s feelings for each other?

How does Percival's guilt over King Arthur's absence affect his feelings and actions toward Queen Guinevere? Do you think Sir Percival was returning to Queen Guinevere all along?

We see two different versions of Lord Aeron over the course of the story. What are these two different identities and how do they differ? Is Lord Aeron's ending a happy one?

Morgana is an interesting and powerful character. What are her motives and what is her ultimate goal? For example, is she simply seeking vengeance or is it power she desires?

How is the theme of identity woven into the story? How are Sir Percival and Lord Aeron both symbolic of the quest to define and understand one's identity?

Did Sir Percival's recounting of his time in the land of the Moors surprise you? In what ways?

Cadwyn, Queen Guinevere's handmaiden, and Aranwen, Queen Guinevere's spiritual attendant, have an interesting and often humorous relationship. How does this relationship move the plot forward?

What is the significance of Sir Percival's story about Princess Sumayya? How does that story affect Sir Percival's story?

How does Jacob the Healer aid Sir Percival in his quest for the Holy Grail? And how does Jacob the Healer affect the lives of Lord Aeron and Queen Guinevere?