

(Book Preview)

**Laughing Your Way
Out of the Doghouse**

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**LAUGHING YOUR WAY OUT OF THE DOGHOUSE:
The Wacky Adventures of Sir Wantsalittle Morethanjustnooky**

Rated PG-13 (some strong language/some sexual inferences)

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Prologue

*Barnes & Noble Booksellers;
Caresville, California; November 15, 2011*

SOME 200 PEOPLE WERE ON HAND for my scheduled book-reading and book-signing engagement at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Caresville, California. Almost every seat in the bookstore's spacious public-events room was occupied.

Richard Johnson, the bookstore manager, who had been sitting beside me before the proceedings began, stood up and announced, "Good morning, everyone! Today, it is my pleasure to introduce all of you to a very special guest. As many of you already know, this young man is from Camelot. He has recently been visiting a number of bookstores all across our country and throughout the world. His autobiography, *The Wacky Adventures of Sir Wantsalittle Morethanjustnooky*, has been at the top of the *New York Times* Best Seller list for the past fourteen weeks. We are both privileged and honored that he has accepted our invitation to come here and speak to us in person. Ladies and gentlemen, let's show our utmost appreciation and extend our warmest welcome to *Sir Wantsalittle Morethanjustnooky!*"

As I walked up to the podium, I received a thunderous, standing ovation. I tried to relax and better prepare myself to address the highly receptive audience. Except for my helmet, which I had placed under the chair when I first sat down, I was dressed in my full suit of armor.

After the applause died down, I said, "Thank you! And I'd like to thank Mr. Johnson, the store manager, for inviting me here today. Indeed, I am from the Land of Camelot. I'm one of the surviving members of King Arthur's exalted 'Knights of the Round Table.'

“Many of you may be asking how Sir Wantsalittle Morethanjustnooky or any other medieval knight could still be living. Obviously, I’m not 1,500 years old. But the answer is simple: I accidentally discovered a time machine, which has made it possible for me to travel, among other times and places, to twenty-first century America.

“Lately, I’ve had to remind myself, at times, that I *really am* from Camelot. However, it’s been easy for me to adapt to your time and culture. I’m already spoiled by numerous modern-day conveniences.

“Take the Post Office, for example. Just last night, I started to write a letter to a friend of mine in Camelot. After scribbling a few lines, I paused and asked myself, ‘How am I going to get a letter delivered to someone who lives approximately *fifteen centuries* from here?’ And when I stopped to think about it, I knew that I would have a problem with *postage*. After all, how much would it cost for a *stamp* to send a letter as far as 1,500 years into time? Needless to say, I gave up on the idea of writing a letter to my friend.

“In case you haven’t heard about me up to now, I’m not too surprised. Sir Thomas Malory didn’t bother to write about me in his *Le Morte d’Arthur*, the most popular account of the Arthurian legend.

“I can’t blame Malory for not making mention of me in his historical epoch. During Arthur’s reign as King of England, I wanted to stake my claim to fame. But I never really did anything that gave me any public notoriety. More prominent and romantic figures such as King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, and Sir Lancelot captured the lion’s share of Malory’s attention. Those three characters hogged most of the glory from the Golden-Age-of-Chivalry era in England.

“Shortly after the quirky and peculiar ‘life and times’ of King Arthur, I found my way under the spotlight. But when the bright beam finally shined on me, the illumination put me in the limelight among onlookers who lived in the future—people from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. I didn’t think that any of my friends or knightly colleagues in England would really understand the time-travel-remote device that I found or the freakish chain of events that swept me off my feet and altered the course in my life.

So I haven't told anyone who lives back in the Land of Camelot about my mostly amusing or whimsical episodes, except for Spirit, my loyal talking horse.

“Now that my autobiography has been published and has been so readily received, I am anxious to talk about my generally wacky but personally enlightening adventures with people everywhere. Perhaps millions of teenagers and young adults will be entertained and individually benefit, in one way or another, from my recent travels and personal experiences. In any case, I'd like to share my extraordinary and hopefully inspirational story with you . . .”